

benefit or injury growing out of the process of leeching.

Drawing "bad blood" out of individuals or large bodies of politicians, clergymen, lawyers, &c., might be efficacious, but drawing the life-blood out of the Treasury might be injurious, if persisted in for a great length of time. These Treasury leeches require no attention whatever from their owners. There is a *General Superintendent of leeches* in the city of Washington, having a very large force to assist him, who attend to the old leeches as they die off and the new ones when they come on. He observes and carefully notes the positions and conditions of all leeches. When their time for sucking has expired, they fall or are cut off. Much of the attention of the General Government is now directed to the nursing and propagation of leeches, and we most respectfully suggest that more care be given to the condition of the leeches. Nations and individuals can only endure the loss of a certain amount of blood, and then the leeches may die with the leeched.

Most Shameful, if True.

There are said to be more than 1,000 ex-Union soldiers in the poor-houses of New York State.—*Batavia (N. Y.) News, June 7.*

We clip the above lines and place them in our columns with mingled feelings of astonishment and indignation. Can the averment be really true, we mentally ask, that the proud State of New York and the United States of America will calmly and complacently permit men who risked everything on behalf of their country to be numbered among the paupers of the land, to dwell in its "poor-houses," often kept in the most vile and wretched manner? It is very easy to talk patriotism; it is very cheap to express gratitude; but what we need is to exhibit our patriotism and gratitude *by works*. There should be "Soldiers' Homes" in half a dozen places in such a State as New York, where soldiers, wasted and worn, could find *real homes*. These places could all be made, in a great measure, self-sustaining. Now, it would appear as if the following old rhyme might be apropos:

"God and a Soldier, all men doth adore
In time of war, and not before;
When the war is o'er and all things righted,
God is forgotten and the Soldier slighted."

Are You Aware of It?

The particular attention of claimants for pensions whose applications *have not yet been filed in the Pension Office* is called to the fact that under the act of Congress approved January 25, 1879, pensions will commence *from the date of the discharge or death of a soldier; but only a few short months are allowed claimants in which to avail themselves of the benefits of said law*, and failing to file their applications within the prescribed period, pension can only commence from the *date of filing the application*. The importance to this class of at once filing their claims is apparent, as Congress may at the next session lessen the period within which claimants may avail themselves of the pecuniary benefits of said law.

Under the law above referred to, a soldier discharged in 1863, and who should be rated in 1879 at \$8 a month, would draw over \$1,500 at first payment; but, if he allow the limited prescribed time to pass by without filing his claim, he loses that amount.

A competent attorney should immediately be written to on the subject, in order that the case should speedily be prepared and filed at the Pension Office.

"No, Sir, I was Too Well Raised for That."

We were both amused and instructed recently, on reading the above answer to the query, "Did you give any aid and comfort to the rebel?" sent by an attorney friend to a lady in Arkansas, who was applying for a pension. The reply is extremely suggestive. The term "well raised," is one very frequently heard, especially in the country, and it implies a great deal more than is usually understood. It refers not so much to physical "raising" as mental and moral training. The lady who gives this answer evidently is not well educated in its scholastic sense, but we doubt not she has been patriotically brought up. She had been trained by parents familiar with the history of their country, and who early

instilled into her mind lessons upon the blessings of a free government, and instruction as to what had been the cost in blood, toil, and sacrifice to establish our institutions. With them treason against such a government was a *crime*. Now, children can be educated to be Christian or infidel, moral or vicious, and they can be educated to be patriotic or traitorous. John C. Calhoun started, forty years ago, schools of treason all over the South. The children grew up under these teachings, and the result has been one of the most terrible wars of modern times. Neither at home nor at school is a child "well raised," unless its training is in accordance with *patriotism*, as well as *religion* and *morality*.

Headstones.

We are frequently in receipt of letters with regard to headstones which the Government provides gratuitously for the graves of soldiers who served in the Regular and Volunteer Army in the war for the Union. To all such we say that the friends of deceased soldiers, desiring headstones should promptly address Capt. A. F. Rockwell, A. Q. M. U. S. A., in charge of National Cemeteries, Washington, D. C. Said headstones will be of American white marble.

Property taken for the Use of the Army.

Numbered among our readers in the South and elsewhere are many citizens who, during the late war, were loyal to the stars and stripes, and paid the penalty of their devotion by being deprived of their property by the United States forces. Under an act of Congress now in force, provided the parties interested resided in States not in insurrection, recovery can be made for the articles seized upon, by proper proof of loss, &c. Thousands of these claims have been paid, and there must be thousands still unsettled—not even filed—but perfectly good. Congress has decided that after December 31, 1879, no claim of the character described can be filed; and there will be no remedy thereafter. In fact, claimants will be forever barred. It is hardly necessary, therefore, to impress upon the interested the importance of having their claims properly prepared according to the provisions of the aforesaid acts, and at once presented, rather than have the money that is honestly due them revert to the United States.

Horses Lost in the Service.

We presume that among our subscribers and their soldier friends, there are hundreds who took into the service during the late rebellion, as private property, their own horses, and from causes incidental to the war, lost the same through surprise, abandonment, disease, or slaughter by the enemy. These claims, up to January 1, 1876, were, on presentation of proper proof, paid by the United States, but since that time, have been barred by limitation. There is no doubt but what the present Congress will extend the time for filing and settling such claims, and we advise all who have outstanding accounts of this nature to "take time by the forelock," and consult some attorney in good standing as to the best method to be adopted in endeavoring to procure settlement.

Our Clock.

The following letters have just come to hand. They speak for themselves:

SACRAMENTO, CAL., April 20, 1879.

DEAR SIR: The clocks and papers arrived all right and in due time. The clocks are elegant and give general satisfaction. They keep perfect time. I could have sold them all from \$2 to \$5 a piece. My friends want me to get up another club. I will when I can spare the time.

Yours with respect,
ALICE KEARNEY.

WEST PENSACOLEE, OCONTO COUNTY, WIS.

The little Tribune Clock was received on Wednesday the 16th instant. It is a beauty and has kept time even, with a first-class thirty day clock ever since it reached here. If I should never see you, I shall think of you whenever I look at it. I think the soldier deserves as true time as anybody, and the Tribune clock affords it.

Yours very respectfully,
E. A. YEATON.

An old lady seeing a sign over the door of an umbrella shop, "Umbrellas re-covered," went in and told the shopman that she would like to have him recover the one that was stolen from her the week previous.

Correspondents' Column.

C. M. K., SPOKESMAN, WASH. TER.—Q. Can an invalid pensioner whose name has been dropped from the pension roll during a period of twelve years, be restored to the rolls?—A. Yes, by proving the continuance of his disability in a pensionable degree.

HENRY O. B., IUKA, MISS.—Soldiers are entitled to twenty-five cents a day for the period they were held prisoners of war, and a like allowance for the period properly absent on furlough, provided they put their furloughs in evidence.

H. M. F., MCVILLE, GA.—If claim has not been filed, there is no present remedy for recovery of value of property taken by the United States Army in Georgia during late war. If property was taken in Kentucky, West Virginia, Maryland or other States not in insurrection, claims may be filed under the act of July 4, 1864, up to December 31, 1879; after which time they are barred.

M. A. F., ATTORNEY, PUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y.—The widow of a deceased soldier can now receive a pension from the date of her husband's death up to the date of her remarriage, without regard to date of filing her application, provided, of course, that the soldier died in service or of a disability contracted in service and she has not already received same; and also provided that the guardian of her children has not drawn pension to cover said period.

JAS. O. H., HUDSON, N. Y.—Q. I enlisted in the United States Navy in 1863. Am I entitled to any bounty?—A. No bounty was provided for enlistments into the Navy or Marine Corps prior to July 18, 1864. If you have prize money due you, same can still be recovered.

MRS. M. A. W., AUGUSTA, ME.—Q. My husband died five years after his discharge, of a disease which he contracted in the Army. I have drawn a pension from the date of his death, and applied to the Commissioner of Pensions for the arrears for the five years intervening between my husband's discharge and his death. My claim was rejected because my husband had not filed a claim before his death. Am I not entitled to the arrears for the five years?—A. No; for the reason stated by the Commissioner of Pensions.

JNO. M. S., GEORGETOWN, OHIO.—Q. General Judah, while in the pursuit of John Morgan, through this State, took from me a valuable horse. Am I entitled to pay for the horse?—A. Yes; provided you file your claim before January 1, 1880. If not filed before that date, your claim will be barred by statute of limitation.

"FURLOUGH" GLENS FALLS, N. Y.—Soldiers on furlough were entitled to twenty-five cents a day for period properly absent, and during which they were not subsisted by the United States Government. If the furlough has been lost or destroyed, they cannot recover this allowance, as the furlough itself is the only evidence of non-payment which the Government will accept.

IRA DEF., ADRIAN, ILL.—A soldier who, after serving nine months, received an honorable discharge, and then re-enlisted for three years in another organization (enlistments into the Veteran Reserve Corps excepted) as a volunteer, between January 1, 1863, and April 1, 1864, is, if not mustered as a veteran volunteer, entitled to an "office-muster" as such. Such muster will entitle the soldier to the difference between veteran and recruit bounty, \$102 or \$202, according to date of enlistment.

Mrs. H., WASHINGTON, D. C.—Q. Is a soldier entitled to a pension on account of deafness and catarrh, incurred in the service and in line of his duty?—A. He is entitled if one-fourth disabled for manual labor, by reason of said disabilities. The Commissioner of Pensions has ruled that deafness in one ear is not a pensionable disability.

MISS EVA STJ., MIDLAND, MICH.—Pension to minor children ceases by law when they severally attain the age of sixteen years. They are allowed until they are twenty-one to apply through a guardian, and draw pension up to the time they reached the age of sixteen. Failing to apply before they are twenty-one, they forfeit all title.

JOHN M. G., CALAMUS, IOWA.—Q. Am I entitled to any bounty under the Equalization of Bounty Bill, which has recently become a law?—A. The Equalization Bounty Bill has not become a law—has simply been introduced and referred to committee. We are at a loss to know where these reports of the passage of said bill originate, or how the impression that it has become a law obtains. The announcement of the enactment of said bill into a law, and all other measures of interest to soldiers and sailors and their heirs, will appear promptly in THE TRIBUNE.

SAMUEL C., EVANSVILLE, IND.—You are not entitled to \$24 a month pension unless wholly incapacitated for the performance of any manual labor. The phrase "any manual labor," which occurs in the law, is construed to include the lighter kinds of labor requiring education and skill; hence, if you are physically (mentally is not meant) able to perform these lighter kinds of labor, your pension would not be increased to \$24 a month.

ALEX. P., MANSFIELD VALLEY, PA.—Parties are writing extensively to ex-soldiers of this section for the purpose of getting possession of their discharges under the pretence that bounty-land has been provided for them. Are ex-soldiers and sailors of the late war entitled to land warrants?—A.—No bounty land has ever been provided for services in the late war, and parties who make misrepresentations as above, have some sinister object in view and soldiers should beware of them.

HARVEY W. E., YORK, NEB.—1. The widow must prove that her husband's death was due to his military service and that the fatal disease was contracted while he was in the line of his duty as a soldier. 2. Only the children of a soldier who were under sixteen years of age at the date of his death, are entitled to a pension.

JAS. B., WHEELING, W. VA.—Congress by act of February 3, 1879, authorized the Secretary of War to erect headstones over the graves of soldiers who served in the Regular or Volunteer Army of the United States during the late war. See article in this number on this subject.

R. R. R., LINDEN, N. J.—The time for paying for horses lost in service expired January 1, 1876, but a bill is now before Congress to extend the time for adjusting and paying such claims.

A. J., ST. PETERS, OHIO.—The Commissioner of Pensions issued a circular immediately after the passage of the Arrears of Pension law, stating that applications under said law would not be acknowledged, nor any inquiry concerning them answered. The first information concerning such claims that the applicant receives is a check for the amount due, or a letter notifying him that he is not entitled.

WM. R., PENSACOLA, FLA.—The mother's claim for pension has priority to the father's; the father has no title to pension while the mother lives.

WM. G. W., PINCKNEYVILLE, ILL.—We do not know to what extent the custom of "shaving" checks issued in payment of pensions prevails, but it is perfectly legitimate for banks to do so. We do not think, however, that a patriotic banker or one who is a friend to the soldier and his heirs would discount these checks.

DAVID O. B., FREMONT, OHIO.—We cannot advise you to apply for an increase of pension, unless your disability has increased in such a manner and to such extent, since your last examination, as to make its progression clearly patent to the examining surgeon.

COL. WM. C. K., LEBANON, IND.—An invalid pensioner, who is in receipt of a pension on one disability, and who applies for increase on a new disability, which was contracted in the service and in line of duty, but not mentioned in the original application, is entitled, under the Arrears of Pension law, to receive pension on the new disability from date of discharge, provided that, at time of discharge, the new disability had developed to a pensionable degree.

J. S. S., INDIANA, PA.—If you have drawn pension from the date of your husband's death in the army, you have no title to arrears of pension under the law of January 23, 1879.

W. B. H., SHARON, IOWA.—You cannot recover the three months' extra pay allowed to those were prisoners of war at the close of the rebellion. Said pay was not provided by any law, but the Secretary of War ordered its payment. This allowance could only be paid at the parole camps.

O. V. B., MACON, GA.—You are not entitled to compensation for clothing and valuables lost in battle or taken from you while a prisoner of war.

MRS. M. E. W., GLENVILLE, N. Y.—Q. My son died in the army and left one child under 16 years of age, who has since died; am I entitled to the pension?—A. No; the fact of the soldier having left a minor child surviving him debars your title to pension. The subsequent death of the child does not give you title.

JAMES A. McD., DECATUR, ILL.—The fact that you re-enlisted after you had been discharged by reason of disability does not, of itself, debar you from receiving a pension.

J. D. A., CRESCO, KANSAS.—We cannot inform you how arrears of pensions are paid further than it is said that claims for this allowance are adjusted with a view to disbursing the appropriation as equally as possible among the various Pension Agencies, so that the same amount of money may be put in circulation in each section of the country.

Sympathetic Sister—Don't be so cross, Billy. What's the matter with you? Billy—Why Tommy Stubbs has got the measles, and I ain't. Sympathetic Sister—Never mind there'll be plenty of measles left when he's done with em; be a good boy and mind all the Sunday school teacher tells you and perhaps you'll have 'em, too, some day.