

Other Senators took kindred views, and on the vote this abomination of Bentley's was rejected by a decisive majority—yeas 28, nays 37.

The following-named Senators voted in the negative: Barnum, Bayard, Blaine, Butler, Cockrell, Coke, Conkling, Conover, Davis of Ill., Eaton, Edmunds, Eustis, Garland, Gordon, Grover, Hamlin, Harris, Hill, Jones of Florida, Kernan, Lamar, McCreery, McDonald, McPherson, Maxey, Merrimon, Mitchel, Morgan, Oglesby, Randolph, Ransom, Saulsbury, Shields, Spencer, Thurman, Voorhees, and Wallace.

And yet Bentley has the coolness, the audacity, to proclaim before an audience of soldiers that none but claim agents oppose his bill. We are astonished! No, we change the phrase; we are not astonished at any of his speeches or actions.

The great, the crying need now is that the head of the Pension Office should be a soldier, one who has been with them in the field and hospital, and can understand, appreciate, and sympathize with them, *John A. Bentley never was a soldier—not even a sutler.*

Philadelphia's Mayor.

Philadelphia has a proud record as a lover of Union soldiers, and her Mayor certainly is a very unfitting representative, if the following, which we clip from a Philadelphia paper, is reliable:

A few years ago, a delegation from the Grand Army of the Republic waited upon Mayor Stokley, and asked him to give their representative an official reception in Independence Hall. In reply, the Mayor snubbed the Committee by telling them it was no part of his official duty to receive people in Independence Hall, and he would not do it. Last Friday, when the representatives of the rebel Southerners arrived in this city, the Mayor was exuberant in his protestations of welcome, received them in Independence Hall with open arms, and slobbered them all over with fulsome adulation. He smeared them over with soft soap by telling them "there were brave men on both sides," but might have told them he took good care not to expose himself to danger while the rebellion lasted, though he was big enough and strong enough to have done his country good service in the field. Union soldiers should bear all this in mind when Stokley comes up for re-election.

A Touching Story.

Recently Charley Cochrane who was for many years Goldsmith Maid's groom, arrived from California, and wishing to see the grand old trotting mare and her colt, called on Mr. Smith, her owner, to obtain his permission to visit Fashion Stud Farm, in New Jersey. Mr. Smith accompanied Cochrane to the farm, and on arriving there remarked: "Charley, the Maid is very jealous of her colt, is very cross, and will permit no one to approach it." Cochrane arranged that Goldsmith Maid should hear his voice before seeing him, and although they had not seen each other for two years, a loud whinny presently assured the visitors that the mare had recognized the man's voice. Cochrane next showed himself, when a touching scene occurred. The queen of the turf, who would not allow any one to approach her, making use of both heels and teeth if it was attempted, rushed with a bound to her old friend, forgetting her colt, and rubbed her head upon his shoulders, her nose in his face, played with his whiskers, and showed by her every action that her heart was full of joy to see him. Directly the colt came up to them, and the old mare was delighted when Charley placed his hand on the little fellow. When Cochrane left the place the mare followed him to the gate, whinnying for him even after he had passed out of her sight.

The Last Day of the Lost Cause.

Gen. George H. Sharpe, in his decoration day address, gave the following dramatic account of Lee's surrender at Appomattox, the leading of which carries one back to heroic and historic days:

"I remember—and it was recalled to me to-night in conversation when the name of Gen. Grant came up in the course of conversation—the wonderful scene that transpired in that little place in Virginia on the 9th of April, 1865. It was late in the afternoon when it became known that Gen. Lee had sent for Gen. Grant to surrender to him. It was between two and three o'clock when we met in the little room in the house where the surrender of Lee's army took place. I know there is a belief that the surrender took place under an apple tree, where Grant and Lee met and exchanged a few words.

The surrender took place in the left-hand room of that old-fashioned double house. The house had a large piazza which ran along the full length of it. It was one of those ordinary Virginia houses with a passage-way running through the center of it. In that little room where the meeting took place, sat two young men—one the great grandson of Chief Justice Marshall of the Supreme Court, reducing to writing the terms of the surrender on behalf of Robert E. Lee; the other a man with a dusky countenance—a great-nephew of that celebrated chief, Red Jacket—acting under Gen. Grant. The two were reducing to writing the terms of the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia to the Army of the Potomac. Gathered around the room were several officers, of whom I was one.

At some distance apart sat two men; one the most remarkable man of his day and generation. The larger and older of the two was the most striking in his appearance. His hair was as white as the driven snow. There was a speck upon his coat; not a spot upon those gauntlets that he wore, which were as white and fair as a lady's glove. That was Robert E. Lee. The other was Ulysses S. Grant, whose appearance contrasted strangely with

that of Lee; his boots were nearly covered with mud; one button of his coat—that is, the button off was not where it should be—it had clearly gone astray; and he wore no sword, while Lee was fully and faultlessly equipped. The conversation was not rapid by any means. Everybody felt the overpowering influence of the scene. Every one present felt they were witnessing the proceedings between the two chief actors in one of the most remarkable transactions of this nineteenth century. The words that passed between Grant and Lee were few.

Gen. Grant—endeavoring to apologize for not being fully equipped, and noticing Lee's appearance—while the secretaries were busy, said: "Gen. Lee, I have no sword; I have been riding all night." And Lee, with that coldness of manner and all the pride—almost haughtiness—which, after all, became him wonderfully well, never made any reply, but in a cold, formal manner, bowed. And Gen. Grant, in the endeavor to take away the awkwardness of the scene, said: "I don't always wear a sword, because a sword is a very inconvenient thing." That was a very remarkable thing for him to say, considering that he was in the presence of one who was about to surrender his sword. Lee only bowed again. Another, trying to relieve the awkwardness of the occasion, inquired: "Gen. Lee, what became of the white horse you rode in Mexico? He might not be dead yet, he was not so old." Gen. Lee bowed coldly and replied: "I left him at the White House on the Pamunkey river, and I have not seen him since. There was one moment when there was a whispered conversation between Grant and Lee, which nobody in the room heard.

The surrender took the form of correspondence; the letters were all signed in due form by the chief actors, in the presence of each other. Finally, when the terms of surrender had all been arranged, and the surrender made, Lee arose, cold and proud, and bowed to every person in the room on our side. I remember each one of us thought he had been especially bowed to. And then he went out and passed down the little square in front of the house, and bestrode that grey horse that carried him all over Virginia; and when he had gone away we learned what that whispered conversation had been about. Gen. Grant called his officers about him and said: "You go to the Twenty-fourth, and you to the Fifth," and so on, naming the corps, "and ask every man who has three rations to turn over two of them. Go to the commissaries and go to the quartermasters, &c. 'Gen. Lee's army is on the point of starvation!' And 25,000 rations were carried to the Army of Northern Virginia."

A Religious Card Player.

A private soldier, by the name of Richard Lee, was taken before the magistrate of Glasgow, Scotland, for playing cards during divine services. The account is thus given in an English journal:

A sergeant commanded the soldiers at the church, and when the parson had read the prayers he took the text. Those who had bibles took them out, but this soldier had neither bible nor common prayer book, and, pulling out a pack of cards, he spread them before him. He first looked at one card and then another. The sergeant of the company saw him and said:

"Richard, put up the cards; this is no place for them."

"Never mind that," said Richard.

When the services were over the constable took Richard prisoner, and brought him before the mayor.

"Well," said the mayor, "what have you brought the soldier here for?"

"For playing cards in church."

"Well, soldier, what have you to say for yourself?"

"Much, sir, I hope."

"Very good; if not I shall punish you severely."

"I have been," said the soldier, "about six weeks on the march. I have neither bible or common prayer book. I have nothing but a pack of cards, and I hope to satisfy your worship of the purity of my intention." Then, spreading the cards before the mayor, he began with the ace: "When I see the ace it reminds me that there is but one God. When I see the deuce it reminds me of the Father and Son. When I see the threes it reminds me of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. When I see the four, it reminds me of the four Evangelists that preached Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. When I see the five it reminds me of the wise virgins that trimmed their lamps; there were ten, but five were wise and five were foolish, and were shut out. When I see the six it reminds me that in six days the Lord made heaven and earth. When I see the seven it reminds me that on the seventh day God rested from the great work he had made, and hallowed it. When I see the eight it reminds me of the eight righteous persons who were saved when God destroyed the world, viz: Noah and his wife, his three sons and their wives. When I see the nine it reminds me of the nine lepers that were cleansed by our Saviour. There were nine out of the ten that never returned thanks. When I see the ten it reminds me of the ten commandments which God handed down to Moses on the tables of stone. When I see the King it reminds me of the Great King of heaven, which is God Almighty. When I see the Queen it reminds me of the Queen of Sheba, who visited Solomon, for she was as wise a woman as he was a wise man. She brought with her fifty boys and girls, all dressed in boy's apparel, for King Solomon to tell which were boys and which were girls. The king sent for water for them to wash. The girls washed to the elbows, the boys to the wrist; so King Solomon told by that."

"Well," said the mayor, "you have described every card in the pack except one."

"What is that?"

"The knave," said the mayor.

"I will give your honor a description of that one if you will not get angry."

"I will not," said the mayor, "if you do not term me to be the knave."

"The greatest knave that I know of is the constable that brought me here."

"I do not know," said the mayor, "that he is the greatest knave, but I do know he is the greatest fool."

"When I count how many spots there are in a pack of cards I find 365 spots, as many days as there are in a year. When I count the number of cards I find 52, the number of weeks in a year. I find there are 12 picture cards in a pack, representing the number of months in a year, and on counting the tricks I find 13, the number of weeks in a quarter. There are also four suits in a pack, which represent the number of seasons in a year. So you see a pack of cards serves for a bible, an almanac and a common prayer book."

Correspondents' Column.

JAS. T. W., ANDERSONVILLE, TENN.—We answer such of your inquiries as we comprehend. 1. If you have based a claim to pension on three different disabilities, and can furnish proof to sustain only two of them, you can waive the other for the present and have your case decided on the two disabilities which you can prove. 2. We know of no reliable guides for prosecuting pension claims, but experience and a thorough familiarity with the pension laws and the multitude of rulings and decisions. 3. If you have not received 25 cents a day as commutation of rations for the time held a prisoner of war, you are entitled to such allowance. The law granting this allowance was enacted in 1863. 4. In order to learn the condition of a claim filed in the Pension Office, the number of the claim and name of claimant should be furnished. 5. Where there is no official record of a soldier's service, and the muster-in rolls have been destroyed, he cannot obtain an "office muster" unless he adduces the original enlistment papers. In the absence of such papers, his only recourse is to a special relief act of Congress. 6. For impairment of vision a pensioner may be rated all the way from \$1 to \$72 a month, the latter amount being the allowance for total blindness of both eyes. \$4 a month is the allowance for total loss of sight in one eye, the other eye being sound.

D. S. HAVANA, ILL.—If your right arm is off below the elbow \$18 a month is full pension; if off at or above the elbow, \$24 a month is the allowance. If you are receiving \$24 your pension cannot be increased unless you are permanently disabled in such manner and to such extent as to require the aid and attendance of another person. If you are receiving \$18 a month for loss of right arm below the elbow, you cannot obtain an increase on account of wound of left arm unless it causes a disability equivalent to the loss of a hand, or unless you are wholly incapacitated for the performance of any manual labor.

J. H. BURLINGTON, VT.—We cannot inform you how long it will be after a case is "coiled up" in the Pension Office before a reply will be received. We are reliably informed that it takes several months at the present time to get a reply to a communication addressed to the Commissioner of Pensions, inquiring the status of a claim. The Committees on Invalid Pensions of the Senate and House of Representatives have absolute power to report favorably or unfavorably upon a bill to grant pension by special act of Congress. If the committee reports favorably, the bill generally passes; if unfavorably, the bill is, as a rule, defeated.

ALFRED S., WEST WINDHAM, N. H.—We cannot inform you whether you are entitled to arrears or increase of pension unless you furnish us with a full history of your case. We must have all the facts.

A. L. H., MT. HOLLY, N. J.—I have served in the United States Navy, and am now out of a berth and sick. Q. Can I be admitted to any Government hospital, and be cared for without expense? A. Yes; and you should apply to the surgeon in charge of the Marine Hospital at Trenton, N. J., or New York City, those hospitals being the most convenient to you. If you have rendered ten years' service in the Navy, you are eligible to admission into the Naval Asylum at Philadelphia.

A. O. M., PETERSBURGH, ILL.—I married a lady whose former husband had obtained a divorce from her. Q. In the event of my death from disability incurred in the service, will my widow and children be entitled to a pension? A. Your widow will be entitled to \$8 a month as long as she remains a widow, provided her first husband obtained the divorce before you married her. If he had not, then your marriage should be legalized. Your widow would also be entitled to \$2 a month extra for each of your children, by her, who were under 16 years of age at the date of your death, said extra pension to cease when the children should severally attain the age of 18.

W. A. S., FINDLEY'S LAKE, N. Y.—Your pension cannot be increased beyond \$24 a month unless you are rendered so permanently helpless by your disabilities, contracted in the service, as to require the aid and attendance of another person. Of course, if an increase were allowed on a new disability, the same would date from discharge, if the new disability existed at that time in a pensionable degree.

S. M. S., AUBURN, N. J.—1. Subscriptions to THE TRIBUNE will commence from the next issue after the receipt of the subscription; 2. All claims for arrears of pension have not been settled. 3. We cannot inform you why it should take so long to adjust a claim for arrears of pension. The party to whom you refer, just having filed a claim for arrears three months since, will doubtless hear from it soon. He may hasten its settlement by writing to the Commissioner of Pensions, giving number of pension certificate and stating that he claims arrears.

MRS. H. A. C., PHILADELPHIA, IND.—If your husband died during the war, and you have been in receipt of a pension during a period of only eight years, you are entitled under the Arrears of Pension law to receive pension from the date of your husband's death to the date at which your pension commenced.

G. W. M., PITTSFIELD, MASS.—Q. What pension is allowed a soldier who almost entirely lost his hearing during the late war? Is \$2 a month the proper rating? A. Under "Ruling 117," of the Pension Office, only three degrees of deafness are recognized, to wit, slight, severe, and total.

1. Slight deafness of both ears, or severe or total deafness of one ear and slight deafness of the other, rated one-eighth "total disability." 2. Severe deafness of both ears, or total deafness of one ear and severe deafness of the other, rated one-fourth "total disability." 3. Entire loss of hearing of both ears rated "total disability." For total deafness of both ears an enlisted man is allowed \$13 a month.

L. M. D., ITHACA, MICH.—The widow of a soldier (an enlisted man) who died prior to July 25, 1865, is entitled to \$8 a month pension, to commence from date of soldier's death; also \$2 a month extra for each child by the soldier who was under sixteen years of age July 25, 1865, said extra pension to commence from that date and continue until the children severally attain the age of sixteen; provided, of course, that she shall not remarry before the youngest child becomes sixteen and has the custody of the children. If the soldier died subsequent to July 25, 1865, the \$2 a month extra commences from the date of his death.

MRS. P. S., McARTHUR, OHIO.—1. Without a full knowledge of your case we cannot inform you why your pension filed ten years since has not been allowed. 2. The Government will furnish headstones for the graves of deceased union soldiers. Apply by letter to the Quartermaster of the army in this city. 3. No person can draw two pensions, but may elect which they may receive.

SAM'L J. T., NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO.—My wife drew a pension as the mother of a soldier. Her pension did not commence until 1870. Q. Am I not entitled to the arrears? A. No; you as the father of the soldier did not acquire any title to pension until the mother died. Your pension could only commence from the date of her death, she being the party having prior right.

S. J. G., SEDALIA, MO.—If your claim for pay for the property taken from you by the Union Army should not be filed in the proper department of the Government before the first day of January, 1890, it will be forever barred.

G. L. McM., HOBOKEN, N. J.—My brother died in the army when I was only seventeen years of age, and depending on him for support. Q. Am I not entitled to a pension? A. No; because not under sixteen years of age at the date of his death.

MRS. S. J. L., PHILADELPHIA, PENN.—My husband died in 1868. He had never applied for a pension. I drew a pension from the date of his death, and applied for the arrears of pension but was rejected. Q. Am I not entitled to pension from the date of his discharge to the date of his death? A. No; because he had not applied. If he had had an application pending when he died you would have received his pension from the date of his discharge to the date of his death.

MRS. MARY K. D., NEW BEDFORD, MASS.—The Commissioner of Pensions has rejected my claim for arrears of pension. My husband died in December, 1861, and I have only drawn the extra pension of \$2 a month for my children from the 25th day of July, 1866. Q. Was my claim properly rejected? A. Yes; the extra pension for children can only be drawn from the date of the act. (July 25, 1866,) granting same.

OLD Mr. E—B— was a very wealthy farmer. Hard-working, penurious, and worldly, he had reached his ninety-sixth year, but still persisted in working hard every day. One of his neighbors, an excellent man, himself over ninety years old, met him one day and said: "Well, Mr. B—, we are getting to be pretty old men."

"Not so very old—not so very old," said the farmer gruffly.

"But don't you think," persisted the other, "that we ought to be considering about the next world, and what our life will be there? We must very soon die, you know."

"Don't know about that—don't know about that—," retorted the farmer. "Very few men die at my age."