

INSULTING THE SOLDIERS. For sixteen years "the soldier element" has had everything pretty much its own way.

OUR CRUISERS AS THEY ARE. Attached to the report of the Naval Advisory Board, are valuable memoranda on the present condition, cost of repairs, and lifetime after repair, of the cruisers now in service.

First Rates.—Niagara, worthless; Franklin, Colorado, Minnesota, and Wash, obsolete, but can be put in condition for service to last four years, at costs, respectively, of \$140,000, \$195,000, \$150,000, \$195,000; Tennessee, good for ten years—expensive to maintain and unsatisfactory; Connecticut and Florida, worthless; New York, worth finishing, good for twenty years, at cost of \$550,000; Iowa, Java, Antietam, Pennsylvania, all worthless, rotten.

Second Rates.—Susquehanna, worthless; Powhatan, good for transport and towing service; Trenton and Lancaster, good for twenty years; Congress and Worcester, worthless, rotten; Brooklyn, Hartford, and Richmond, good for twenty years; Pensacola, good, with \$100,000 repairs, for twenty years; Alaska, good for fifteen years; Benicia, Omaha, Plymouth, Lackawanna, and Ticonderoga, all good for fifteen years, but requiring repairs at \$175,000, \$299,000, \$255,000, \$150,000, \$150,000; Vandalia, new, and with \$20,000 repairs, good for twenty years; Canandaigua, worthless; Monongahela, good for fifteen years, \$135,000 repairs; Shenandoah, good for ten years.

Third Rates.—Juniata and Ossipee, good for twenty years, and Quinnebaug, Swatara, Galena, and Marion, new and good order, fifteen years; Mohican, repairing at \$50,000, and Iroquois, at \$25,000, good for twenty-five and fifteen years, respectively; Wachusett, good, twelve years; Wyoming, should be condemned; Tuscarora, repairing, \$65,000, fifteen years; Kearsarge, Adams, Alliance, Essex, all good, fifteen years; Enterprise, new, needs \$40,000 repairs, fifteen years; Nipisic, Ashuelot, and Monocacy, good order, twenty years; Narragansett, worthless; Alert, Ranger, Yantic, in good order, twenty years; Kansas, Saco, Nyack, Shawmut, unfit for repairs.

Recapitulation.—Available, with ordinary expenditures, 1 first rate, 9 second rates, 21 third rates, 1 fourth rate—total, 32; with extraordinary expenditures, 5 first rates, 6 second rates—total, 11.

LOOKING FOR PENSIONS. The Mexican War Veterans met recently in New York to perfect an organization and to discuss the bill to be presented to the Legislature by Senator Jacobs, which promises pensions for services in the conflict of 1846-8. A permanent organization was effected, Jacob R. Riley being chosen president, Colonel Kerrigan, vice-president, and E. H. Johnson, secretary. The bill that the veterans resolved to push is entitled "An act for the relief of the surviving members of the First Regiment of New York Volunteers." It calls for the appointment of a commission, to consist of the Governor, the Comptroller, and State Treasurer, which shall decide upon all applications for the pensions. This commission, the bill provides, shall give a certificate to all persons now residing in the State, who, on due evidence, are shown to have been members of the First regiment in the Mexican war, on which the Comptroller shall order to be paid \$12 per month, in quarterly installments, for two years from the passage of the act. The certificates are not to be assignable, nor is the money due thereon to be attached. The gross amount of the claims is to be inserted in the general appropriation bill after the same has been appropriated.

THE DEATH OF GENERAL KILPATRICK. The consul at Valparaiso telegraphs to the State Department that Minister Judson Kilpatrick died at Santiago on Sunday last. He was born in New Jersey in 1838 and graduated at West Point in April, 1861. He served as captain at the battle of Big Bethel, and in the autumn of the same year became a lieutenant-colonel of cavalry. In 1862 he took part in various operations of the Army of the Potomac. He was appointed a brigadier-general of volunteers in May, 1863, after which he engaged in a raid to release the Federal prisoners in Richmond. He commanded the cavalry of Sherman's army on the march from Atlanta to the sea. After the war he took an active part in politics, being minister to Chili during Grant's first term. In 1872 he supported the nomination of Horace Greeley. He was appointed minister to Chili by President Garfield soon after his accession last March. He has been ill for some time and his death has been expected.

ALBERT H. FROST POST, G. A. R. At a regular meeting of Albert H. Frost Post, Department of Maine, G. A. R., at Winthrop, Me., December 2, 1881, the following named comrades were elected for the ensuing year: Commander, Franklin Wood; Senior Vice-Commander, Sewell Pettingill; Junior Vice-Commander, Jesse Jeffrey; Quartermaster, G. W. Wood; Surgeon, Everett Lindsay; Chaplain, Harlow Murch; Officer of the Day, Thomas Dealy; Officer of the Guard, Frank Davis; Delegates to Department Encampment, E. O. Kelly and C. E. Wing; Alternates, J. Jeffrey, B. F. Maxim. After the election the following resolution was unanimously adopted. "Resolved, That it is the sentiment of this Post that the Arrears of Pension Act should be so extended as not to limit the time of application; and should apply to all pensioners at the same rate at which they are now entitled to a pension."

There have been two Mussulman revolts during the last four months against the Chinese garrison at Yang-Hissar. Two hundred Chinese were massacred. Four hundred rebels were subsequently beheaded.

AN EYE TO BUSINESS. The following extract from the testimony in the Guiteau case explains itself:

The next witness was Edmund A. Bailey, the stenographer who accompanied the District Attorney to the jail on the 3d of July and subsequent days, and took short-hand notes of the prisoner's statements. He was asked to produce his notes, but he said that he had destroyed them, because their substance had been embodied in a transcript which he had handed to the District Attorney. Mr. Scoville called upon the District Attorney to produce the transcript, which Mr. Corkhill declined doing on the ground that it was got up for his private information. The witness decried that he had been introduced to Mr. Scoville or the prisoner as a reporter of the New York Herald.

The Prisoner—"You came to me and said that your name was Nordhoff, and I supposed that you were a relative to Mr. Nordhoff, the regular correspondent of the Herald. The whole thing was a trick and a lie.

Mr. Davidge (to the witness)—"Tell us about that."

The Witness—"I was at my office on Sunday afternoon when Mr. Corkhill telephoned for me. He said he was going out to the jail to see Guiteau and asked me if I would go along. I was not in his employment in any way. When we got to Guiteau's cell he was in bed. Mr. Corkhill introduced himself as the District Attorney and me as a young friend of his."

The Prisoner—"He said, 'This is a correspondent of the New York Herald, sent by Mr. Connery to get your statement.'"

The Witness—"I deny that emphatically."

The prisoner repeated his assertions and added, "I was anxious to get the truth out before the American people; and I supposed that you were the man to do the work, and you did not do it."

The Witness—"The prisoner said he was anxious to have his statement published and Mr. Corkhill said: 'Mr. Bailey is taking notes for my guidance; but I will make such portions of them public, at the proper time, as I may see fit.' Subsequently Guiteau asked me in what paper I proposed to publish them and I said that I preferred the Herald. That was about ten days after I first saw him, and after I had received a communication from Mr. Bennett.

The Prisoner—"You showed me a false telegram, signed J. G. Bennett. That is the kind of man you are."

Mr. Scoville, to witness—"Did you sell that report to the Herald?"

The Prisoner—"Yes; and he got \$500 for it."

The Witness—"Mr. Bennett fully understood the circumstances under which that report was written. Mr. Connery looked over the manuscript and said that he did not want more than seven columns. Not a word was said about pay at that time. He asked me to name a price and I would not do it. Two weeks afterward he asked me if the Government had not paid me. I said it had not, and he sent me a check for \$500."

The Prisoner—"Just as I supposed. I did not know a word about it. It was a mere guess on my part."

AMERICAN GRIT. The New York Herald says: Captain George Butler is a fine specimen of American manhood. He fought very bravely in the war between the North and the South, and was severely wounded at Gettysburg, losing his right arm. He now resides at Rome, and is a painter by profession. He is as clever with the sword as with a brush, notwithstanding that he has only his left hand available. Captain Butler, the other day, was walking out with a brother artist, also an American, when Signor Mosso, an Italian, accosted Captain Butler's friend. Captain Butler said, "Do not answer him, for he is tipsy," and immediately received a slap in the face. A challenge followed. The antagonists met at a quarter past five on the afternoon of the 18th, at a spot outside Porta Cavaleggiera. They were attended by their respective seconds and surgeons, and fought with long Italian rapiers, terrible weapons in the hands of strong and skillful men, being very thin, and sharp at the point as a razor. They penetrate with wonderful facility, and are rarely used in duels unless mischief is meant. Signor Mosso is the son of an Italian officer and is employed in the Government Tobacco Department. He wears eyeglasses. Although an excellent fencer, and possessing the advantage of a right arm, it soon became evident that he was no match for his antagonist. After a few passes Captain Butler aimed a thrust at Signor Mosso, striking and smashing his eyeglass, breaking the steel rim. The rapier glanced a little aside, and penetrated the flesh between the eye and nose. The wound was not dangerous, but it gave an excuse to the seconds and surgeons to terminate the conflict.

GENERAL SHERMAN'S OPINION. Desiring to show our distinguished visitor some attention, a very small man, with a large mustach, representing an alleged morning paper of this city, sidled up to General Sherman as he was viewing the cotton patch near the Exposition grounds. "General," yawned the little man, "do you think cotton can be successfully raised on such soil as that?" "Humph!" remarked the General, "yes, I think it can." "What else can be raised on it?" asked the little reporter, smiling on William Tecumseh in a genial sort of way. "What else?" replied the General. "Oh, anything else can be raised there. Why, I raised h— on this very spot myself 17 years ago!"

The Russian army is distinguishing itself. A dispatch states that twenty-two soldiers of the regiment of Hussars of the Guard are being tried by court-martial this week for strangling one of their officers. A Caucasian, Prince Chervachidse, lieutenant of the same regiment, is being tried for sabering, last July, a shopkeeper who had accidentally entered a room he had reserved at a restaurant. Another prince, also in the Hussars of the Guard, who last week playfully put a bullet into his servant and nearly killed him, will probably be brought before a court before long.

Work has stopped on the Washington Monument for the winter, so far as laying stone is concerned, but the stone-cutters will continue preparing the stone as fast as it is received.

SENT BEFORE JAN 1, SECURES THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE FOR ONE YEAR. VETERAN VOLUNTEERS ATTENTION! THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE will furnish full reports of all such Congressional Proceedings, and in addition contain other matters well worthy of the attention of the public.

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WHAT ENGLAND SAYS OF IT. London Daily News: "We wish we could point out its equal in our own periodical literature."

The Spectator: "It is the best of all children's magazines."

Literary World: "There is no magazine for the young that can be said to equal it," etc., etc.

BRILLIANT FEATURES OF THE COMING YEAR. The ninth volume, which begins with the November, 1881, number, will contain a new

SERIAL STORY, By Mrs. Mary Mapes Dodge, editor of St. Nicholas, author of "Hans Brinker, or the Silver Skates," etc., etc. A second serial story, full of lively incidents.

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Answers to Correspondents.

We are obliged to answer certain inquiries of the same nature in each issue of our paper. While we cheerfully furnish information to subscribers in this column, we suggest that much labor, time, and expense may be saved both to ourselves and to our correspondents, if the latter and other subscribers would keep a file of the paper. They could then, at any time, turn to the file and probably find the very inquiry answered about which they would have written to us. We trust that each and every subscriber will profit by this suggestion.

D. C. JEWETT CITY, CONN.—A letter addressed to George Cowie, Jr., Past Assistant Engineer U. S. Navy, care Navy Department, Washington, D. C., will reach him.

P. G. H. NORTH CRAFTSBERG, VT.—Ordinarily, pension claims are taken up for preliminary action according to dates when filed. For final examination upon the facts they are considered in order of completion—that is, claims in which the testimony is first filed will be first acted upon. The claim is acted on, all the same, whether the surgeon's report be favorable or unfavorable. No more precise rules as to consideration of claims than those above indicated can be given.

Mrs. S. A. J. ECONOMY, IND.—The facts, as you state them, entitle you to pension from date of soldier's death until your remarriage, providing your claim had been filed prior to July 1, 1880. Now your title is barred by the statute.

If there should be a change in the law it will be noted in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

POST No. 321, G. A. R., NEW FLORENCE.—You can get a good second-hand trumpet in this city. We will obtain one for you if duly authorized to do so.

The present post-office addresses of the following-named persons are desired by subscribers to THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE. Any one able to give information touching their whereabouts will confer a favor by corresponding with us:

Of Captain W. H. Williams, Co. F, Fourth New York Cavalry.

Of Captain William H. Oliver, Co. B, Fourth New York Cavalry.

Of Lieutenant Joseph Carroll, Co. L, Fourth New York Cavalry.

Of Captain Murphy, of Battery F, Lieutenant James Marr, afterwards Captain of Battery K, or Lieutenant Mathias, afterwards Captain of Battery C, First Missouri Light Artillery, or any other officers or men of Battery F of said regiment.

Remaining answers next week.

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