WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

How to Organize and How to Conduct Them.

[*By Mrs. Kate B. Sherwood.*]

Since the issue of a circular by Commander-in-Chief Paul Van Dervoort designating the writer as one who would give information as to the organization of Woman's Auxiliaries, G. A. R., constant communications have been pouring in from the East and the West and the far Southern States, seeking the information desired. Finding it impossible to give satisfactory answers by letter to these replies, the columns of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE are chosen as the medium of communication with many who have applied and who are readers of the same. It is further hoped that at no late day each Post in the various Departments that has not as yet called in the aid of loyal women may be furnished with a form for organization, together with Constitution and By-Laws, for which the following is submitted as a model.

In future articles on the subject the writer will take pleasure in describing more in detail the scope and nature of woman's auxiliary work, and will afford such directions and suggestions in detail as will be found of practical value to those beginning their patriotic and unselfish work:

PLAN FOR ORGANIZATION.

First. Let the Post desiring the formation of a Woman's Auxiliary appoint a Conference Committee to confer personally with certain loyal women, whom they may single out as prominent in works of charity and patriotism, and ask their aid in the organization of such Society.

Second. Let the Conference Committee then issue a general appeal, by letter or through the press, asking all who are willing to lend their aid in the formation of a permanent organization to be present at a general meeting, time and place designated.

Third. When the ladies are assembled, the Chairman of the Conference Committee will call the meeting to order, and state in a few words the objects for which they have come together. A Secretary should be selected to keep the minutes of the meeting. Some lady present should then offer a resolution for organization, something like the following:

Resolved, That the ladies here present, who may leave their names with the Secretary, shall constitute a Woman's Auxiliary to ——— Post, No. —, G. A. R.

Upon the adoption of this resolution the chairman may declare the Society duly organized and ready to turn over to the ladies, and shall report the same at the next meeting of the Post.

Fourth. At a subsequent meeting, the Woman's Auxiliary, after adopting a Constitution and By-Laws, shall proceed to the election of officers, carefully selecting those who shall have the best qualifications for the discharge of their various duties.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This Society shall be called ——— Post Woman's Auxiliary, of ———.

ARTICLE II.

The object of this Society shall be the perfection and furtherance of benevolent and patriotic work, especially as it relates to soldiers and soldiers' families. It shall at all times be in communication with the Post, and shall stand ready for consultation and suggestion whenever called upon for such purpose. Its special work shall be to look after the widows and orphans of soldiers and to aid the Post in devising ways and means to augment and perpetuate a relief fund, which shall furnish the source of charities for both organizations.

ARTICLE III.

Any lady may become a member of this Society by a vote of two-thirds of those present, her name having been presented by a member at a previous meeting. Each member shall pay an initiation membership fee of $1, and enroll her name in a book provided for that purpose, which shall be the pledge of her readiness to work as prescribed by the Constitution.

ARTICLE IV.

The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, to be chosen by ballot at the annual meeting, to serve one year, or until their successors are appointed.

ARTICLE V.

Section 1. The President, or in her absence the Vice-President or some one chosen by the meeting, shall preside at all meetings of the organization, and it shall be her duty generally to look after and superintend the interests of the organization as its chief executive officer.

Sec. 2. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the organization duly recorded in a book provided for that purpose. She shall notify all officers of their election and committees of their appointment, and shall serve a notice upon each new member elected, asking her to fill out the qualifications of membership before the next meeting. She shall serve as the organ of the Society in its conference with the public, conduct the correspondence that may come up, and shall make a report giving a complete outline of the work done throughout the year. This, with the Treasurer's report, the Secretary shall forward to the Post for their inspection and approval.

Sec. 3. The Treasurer shall draw each month from the Post relief fund such amounts as may have been appropriated by the Post for the use of the Woman's Auxiliary. She shall disburse the money thus received under the direction of the Society, paying only such bills as have been audited by the President or the members of committees duly instructed to supply and purchase. She shall make a written report monthly to the Society, and prior to the annual meeting submit her books, with bills and vouchers, for the inspection of an auditing committee, consisting of three members of the Society appointed for such purpose. At the expiration of the year she shall furnish a copy of her annual report to the Secretary to be forwarded to the Post. No money received from the relief fund can be appropriated to defray the incidental expenses of the Society.

ARTICLE VI.

This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the organization present at an annual meeting, providing such alteration or amendment has been first submitted in writing one month previously to being acted upon.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

Section 1. The Society shall hold its monthly meetings at the G. A. R. rooms, on the second Tuesday of each month, at 3 o'clock p. m., and its annual meeting on the second Tuesday of March.

Sec. 2. Special meetings may be called at the request of any twelve members, or whenever the President may direct.

ARTICLE II.

The order of business for the meetings shall be as follows:

1. Reading and approving of the minutes of a previous meeting.
2. Report of Treasurer.
3. Report of committees.
4. Miscellaneous business.

ARTICLE III.

The President, by order of the Society, may appoint the following standing committees:

1. Visiting and Supply Committee.
2. Executive Committee.
3. Home and Employment Committee.

ARTICLE IV.

It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to devise methods for obtaining funds and to aid in carrying into execution all such methods as are approved by the Society. The Executive Committee shall receive all membership fees, and assessments that may be ordered, which shall be used to defray the incidental expenses of the Society, turning over the balance to the Treasurer. The chairman shall present a record of all work done, reporting the same to the society in written form.

ARTICLE V.

It shall be the duty of the Visiting and Supply Committee to find out all families and persons in need of aid and administer to their necessities. No member shall supply more than one family, which she shall visit weekly. She shall purchase supplies as they may be needed, forwarding her bills, properly indorsed, to the Treasurer promptly each month. The chairman shall be the directing officer of the committees to whom each member shall make a report each month in writing. The chairman shall present a detailed report at each monthly meeting of the Society.

ARTICLE VI.

The duties of the House and Employment Committee shall be to secure the admission of soldiers' orphans to the home provided for them by the State, and to provide for the sick and friendless at such hospitals or elsewhere as may be within reach of the Society. Use to secure employment for those who are able. The chairman will also present written reports to the Society.

The writer would earnestly commend to every Post that would organize a strong, efficient, self-sacrificing Auxiliary to call in the aid of every loyal woman who will respond to a patriotic call, independent of her personal relations with the soldiers of the war. It should be your aim to secure individual help, and rally the warm support of every one who is in charitable work. Let there be no antagonisms in women's work, which should be the grand, controlling incentive between the old army and the great hearted womanhood which is as quick to respond to patriotic appeals in behalf of the boys who wore the blue.

KATE B. SHERWOOD,
Pres't Forsyth Post Woman's Auxiliary.
TOLEDO, OHIO.

A Story With a Business Moral.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:

Some months ago I inserted an advertisement in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE asking for the address of a soldier officer. I received my answers promptly and found the man I wanted. One of my comrades came to see me on Sunday last, and, after telling me that he was an applicant for a pension, asked me how he could obtain the addresses of his officers. I advised him to advertise in THE TRIBUNE as the sure way to find what he wanted, and inclosed you will find his advertisment.

Yours, in F., C. and L., CALEB WOOD.
SOUTH NORWALK, CONN., March 7.

How to Organize a G. A. R. Post.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:

Your editorial entitled "The Advance of the Grand Army," prompts me to furnish a copy of the following "instructions" which have been useful in organizing new Posts:

Inclosed find blank application for Post of the G. A. R. Get no less than ten signers and as many more as you wish. When the comrades sign, collect the membership fee, (our Post began with $1.) When you have ten or more names, send to me, inclosing $10 for charter. When received, I will forward to the Assistant Adjutant General of this Department, who will, in a few days, return the same with the order for muster-in. As soon as you send application to me, call a meeting of your comrades and hold a preliminary election for officers of the Post. Select the best man in your Post for Post Commander. He may tell you he does not want the position, or he cannot serve, &c. Put him in, and, my word for it, he will appreciate the honor. For Officer of the Day, select a comrade of good address and military spirit. The Adjutant is appointed by the Commander, whom it will be for the best interest of the Post for the Commander to select as soon as he is elected, that he may have the opportunity of securing a comrade who is prompt, attentive and a good penman. The Quartermaster collects the dues and keeps the books; a comrade who can fill such a position acceptably should be selected. After the above four positions have been provided for, then elect Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Surgeon, Chaplain, and Officer of the Guard. The Sergeant Major is appointed by the Adjutant, and the Quartermaster Sergeant is appointed by the Quartermaster.

After your officers have all been selected, then decide upon a name for your Post. No two Posts in one Department can have the same name; therefore, if you select some local name (of a dead comrade) you will have no trouble in this particular. You will want a committee on constitution and by-laws, (we inclose a copy of our Post's); a committee on hall and furniture; to select night for meeting, and decide upon amount of Quartermaster's bond.

The programme on muster-in night should be:

1. Roll call.
2. Collection of membership fee, (if not already done.)
3. Obligation.
4. Election of officers.
5. Select name of Post.
6. Installation of officers.
7. Open Post muster and closing Post.
8. Committee on constitution and by-laws.
9. Committee on hall and furniture.
10. Select night for regular meeting.
11. Quartermaster's bond.

A Post should be started right; if it is not, it were better nothing had been done towards it. Begin with the best and most influential comrades. When they are secured, success is assured. The rest will certainly follow, no matter what their position in the army. CHAS. H. MYERHOFF.
EVANSVILLE, IND.

That Treacherous Tugboat Once More.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:

With reluctance I reply to the correspondence of "One of the Old Ninth,"—not with intention to criticise; neither was criticism my aim when I first asked the name of the tugboat and its captain at the time she deserted the Monticello when the latter was at the mercies of the rebel guns and the waves of the Atlantic. In regard to the commander of the expedition, I remember now that Stringham was senior officer of the fleet, but still I am under the impression that Goldsborough was commodore of the North Atlantic Squadron. I never stated that the forts displayed the Stars and Stripes, but wrote thus: "That as no flag was displayed by the forts, the commodore considered it as a token of surrender, and therefore, ordered the Monticello inside to communicate with the forts, and the mysterious or rather treacherous tugboat was sent with us for our assistance in case we should run ashore." I must doubt "One of the Old Ninth," until better informed, that a military man had charge of this tugboat, for all the men I saw on board were citizens' clothes, and, therefore, no doubt, as brand a man with cowardice who wore the blue and swore allegiance to our flag. "The Old Ninth" does not remember the Monticello, neither do I remember "The Old Ninth," but I have no doubt whatever that he was there; and, as the Monticello bore the most conspicuous part in the action, he should, by all means, remember her. As for the Harriet Lane, she never went ashore to my knowledge, nor threw a gun overboard, until General Magruder took her off—guns and all—to serve on the other side. Such are the plain facts, as far as I can recall them; but I may reasonably conjecture that John F. Mackey, U. S. N.,—whose eyes these lines may meet,—would answer my question, and also assure "One of the Old Ninth" of the presence of the Monticello and its hero, Captain Braine.

WHITE LAKE, N. Y. CHARLES WINTERS.

The March of the Third Corps.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:

How far is it from Centreville to Culpeper Court House, Va.? How far from Fredericksburg to Gettysburg by the route marched by the Third Corps? Please answer in TRIBUNE, and oblige,

Yours, truly, A. M. SARVEY,
SILGO, PA., Feb. 23. Co. E, 57th Pa. Vols.

[In reply to Comrade Sarvey's letter, we give the march of the Third Corps, Major-General Daniel E. Sickles, from the Rappahannock to Gettysburg. The distance from Culpeper Court House to Centreville is forty-one miles.

Date.	*Miles.*
June 11. Marched from Boscobel, near Falmouth, to Hartwood Church, Va.	8
12. Hartwood Church to Bealton, Va....	20
14. Bealton to Manassas Junction, Va...	20
17. Manassas Junction to Centreville, Va.....	6
19. Centreville to Gem Springs, Va.....	11
25. Gem Springs to Mouth of the Monocacy, Md.....	25
26. Mouth of the Monocacy to Point of Rocks, Md.....	10
27. Point of Rocks to Middletown, Md..	18
28. Middletown to near Woodsboro, Md.	10
29. Woodsboro to Taneytown, Pa.....	23
30. Taneytown to Bridgeport, Pa.....	6
July 1. Bridgeport to the Field of Gettysburg.....	15
	172]

General Carroll's Brigade at Gettysburg.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:

Will you please inform me, through your valuable paper, what regiments composed General Carroll's brigade at the battle of Gettysburg?

And oblige, yours, F. M. B.
WEBRON, LA SALLE CO., ILL., Feb. 27.

[The First brigade, Third division, Second Army Corps, commanded by Colonel Samuel S. Carroll, was composed of the following regiments: Fourth Ohio, Eighth Ohio, Fourteenth Indiana, and Seventh Virginia.—ED.]

What a Soldier Never Forgets.

"I noticed in a recent issue of THE TRIBUNE a letter from a soldier in regard to a lady nurse who attended him while in the hospital during the war. It reminds me of an experience of mine. On the 19th of September, 1863, I was captured by the rebels and taken to Libby, thence to Danville, Andersonville and Florence. From Florence I managed to make my escape, but after wandering about for two weeks I was recaptured. On my return to the prison I fell a victim to the well-known prison fever, but was afterwards exchanged at Wilmington. As soon as I got aboard the boat, on my way to Annapolis, I again fell ill and became unconscious, remaining in that condition for some three weeks. When I at last recovered my senses, I found myself in a ward of St. John's College Hospital at Annapolis, where I was cared for as tenderly as if I had been a baby by my nurse, Miss Harriet Pinkham. She was from the State of Maine. God bless Miss Harriet Pinkham, I say."—W. W. Housley, Longton, Kan.

A Mother's Offering at the Altar of Patriotism.

"Inclosed please find the subscriptions of myself and son-in-law—an ex-soldier—to THE TRIBUNE. I am a widow sixty-nine years of age. I gave three brave boys to preserve the Union. One of them fell in the first day's battle of Gettysburg. His last words were 'Stick to the flag, boys.' Another died two months after his return from disease contracted in the army. The third is still living, but has never enjoyed good health since his return."—Julia M. Treat, Rondout, N. Y.

Twenty-three Rounds of Fixed Ammunition.

"Inclosed please find twenty-three rounds of fixed ammunition. Just two weeks ago I asked for some sample copies of THE TRIBUNE, and this is the result. How do you like it? You say you want 100,000 subscribers. Why don't you make it 200,000? I believe it can be done; at least I shall endeavor to do my best, even if I am a 'Government pauper.' Comrades, let us drop every paper that opposes our rights and rally round THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE. Let us stand by those who stood by us from 1861 to '65, and who still stand by us. I intend to have every old veteran here enrolled as a subscriber. Look out for more ammunition soon."—Robert Anderson, Maple Rapids, Clinton county, Michigan.

Back Might Object.

"Instead of posting the names of our pensioners indiscriminately, let Congress enact a law giving a certain sum to any person who will furnish the necessary evidence to convict any ex-soldier who has maliciously obtained a pension, but at the same time provide funds to give lawyers to pay damages in case the evidence fails to sustain his charges."—G. W. Pease, Walpeton, Dakota.

A Breeze From the Brine.

"Ship ahoy! I send you a hundred-pound rifle shot. Keep a sharp lookout for more. Don't let the enemy sweep your bows, but in case he does, let him have a shot from your pivot gun on the starboard quarter. Split his rudder in two, and disable him, as we did the pirate Florida at San Salvador Bay."—Joseph M. DeVella, late of U. S. sloop of war Wachuseta, Wallace, Kan.

If She Had Only Been a Man.

"I am not a soldier's daughter, but several of my uncles participated in the war, and were wounded in the service of their country. One of them (like THE TRIBUNE, and it delights me, to see how the boys in blue send their shots screaming after Senator Beck. I think tar and feathers would be too good for a man who talks as though our brave soldiers were robbers and villains of the darkest dye. I wonder how he likes THE TRIBUNE which the boys sent him. Does he read it like a martyr, or tear it to shreds? Oh, if I had only been a man when the war broke out, how quickly and with what pleasure would I have gone to the help of my country in the hour of her peril."—Lulu Anderson, Star Prairie, Wis.

CALLING A HALT

On the Newspapers and Politicians that Abuse the Soldier.

"I took the New York *World* for six years, but I could not stand being called a fraud and I shall never be induced to take such a paper again. I am glad to see our old soldiers falling into line."—Cripple, Ludlow, Vt.

"It is no more than right and just that at the brink of the grave and in the decline of life our ex-soldiers should be remembered by our law makers, and that something should be done to give them relief."—J. O. Wren, Bardolph, Ill.

"Inasmuch as every soldier who tries to obtain a pension by fraud is liable to punishment under the law, it seems to me that a law should be passed to punish all who make false charges against the soldier."—Peter W. Shabe, Bossardsville, Pa.

"I hope every ex-soldier will take THE TRIBUNE, not simply because it is the friend of the soldier, but because it supports the principles for which he fought. In fact, every lover of his Government ought to support it."—F. J. Griffith, Chase, Kan.

"I want to see all deserving men obtain pensions, which is just and right, and I will not read any paper that slanders them. Let THE TRIBUNE stick to the soldiers and they will stick to THE TRIBUNE."—E. M. Townsend, Gilbertsville, N. Y.

"It appears that some of those who sympathized with the South during the late war are still hostile to the Union soldier. The fact calls to mind the words of Jesus—'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.'"—W. F. Curtis, Morrison, Illinois.

"Your valuable paper has visited my home weekly for one year, and my only regret is that I did not receive a copy sooner, for the first paper convinced me that it was just what every soldier should have. I bid you Godspeed, for I feel that you are the right man in the right place."—John D. Hall, Kendallville, Ind.

"If the Union army had not been composed of better stuff than the editors who are now abusing the soldier are made of, the Government to-day would be in the hands of rebels. If the list of pensions is ever published it ought to contain the number of battles in which the pensioner participated."—J. McLain, Grand Rapids, Ohio.

"A neighbor of mine—an old soldier—lent me two or three numbers of THE TRIBUNE, and I soon found that it was the very paper that I had been wanting for several years. I took the New York *Sun* for five or six years, but made up my mind several months ago that I would drop it on account of its hostility to the soldier."—John A. Fike, Neapolis, Ohio.

"I have been a subscriber to three of the newspapers which have been slurring our ex-soldiers, namely, the St. Paul *Pioneer Press*, Chicago *News*, and New York *Tribune*, but I have stopped taking them because they did so. Would it not be a good idea to publish a list of the newspapers, as also of the Senators and Representatives, that abuse the soldier?"—J. W. Root, Windom, Minn.

"I would say to the old soldier who was advised by his wife to make THE TRIBUNE his Bible, don't do it. If he is a pensioner he will have occasion to refer often to the book of Job, in order to bear with patience the sneers of those who stayed at home, or had important business on our northern frontier, while our ex-soldiers were fighting."—A Soldier's Wife, Exeter, Me.

"What we want is men like Logan at the head of the Nation. But for such statesmen as he, what would the country do to-day, and what would become of the thousands of brave men who fought its battles? I am glad to hear that our veterans take such interest in THE TRIBUNE. I hope its circulation will soon reach 100,000."—W. A. Full, Washington, Ind.

"How many of the editors who are now raising the hue and cry against our pensioners served in the Union army? It seems to me that every ex-soldier should brand them as cowards, stop taking the papers in which the slanders are published, and come out squarely for the soldier's common-sense paper—THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE. It is reliable, patriotic and loyal."—William H. Lester, Pa.

"I have just written to the editor of the Vermont *Farmer* asking him not to insult me by sending me any more of his papers. Here is an extract from a recent issue: 'Millions of dollars have been spent in shameless river and harbor bills and pension bills that have cost us hundreds of millions of dollars in giving pensions to men who have not the shadow of a just claim to the money.'"—Subscriber, Waitsfield, Vt.

"Every Grand Army comrade should use his whole influence to counteract the effect of the slanders which such papers as the Boston *Herald*, New York *Tribune*, Illinois *State Grange News*, Cape Ann (Mass.) *Bulletin*, New York *Truth*, &c., are publishing against our pensioners. We should make it hot for them. I hope every ex-soldier will take THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, and I shall do all I can to support it."—John A. Peckham, Portville, N. Y.

"I was a member of the Twentieth Maine, was wounded at Little Round Top at Gettysburg, and now draw six dollars a month on account of that wound. I should be proud to have my name posted at every corner in town, with the amount of pension that I receive. I hope the time comes when Senator Beck's mind, but only on condition that the name of every Northern copperhead should be posted in just as conspicuous a place."—L. B. Heald, East Sumner, Maine.

"I have been a close observer since the close of the war, but I have been unable to detect one instance of a pension being obtained through fraud. Those who are so bitterly opposed to our pensioners obtaining what is justly due them would have been properly served had General Lee's army been turned loose upon them, and that night very easily have happened if our veterans had not fought like tigers at the battle of Gettysburg. I fail to see the justice of branding a man as a rascal simply because he seeks to obtain what, under the law, he is justly entitled to."—W. W. Voorhees, Beaman, Iowa.

"Should Senator Beck's proposition to publish the names of all pensioners in the newspapers be adopted, there should be appended to each name giving the length of their service in the army, the number of battles in which they participated, the length of time that they were confined in hospitals or southern prison pens, the promises which were made to them by the Government, the names of the Senators and Representatives who voted for these subsistence, as well as of those who voted themselves back pay, and the name of the President who signed the bills, &c., &c."—Wm. Wallace, Kekoskee, Wis.

"I want to say to the editors of the newspapers which are raising this hue and cry against our pensioners that they will not have our old soldiers alone to fight, but their wives and daughters also. Not long ago I had a conversation with a venerable lady who lost her son during the war. She told me, with tear-dimmed eyes, of the sorrowfulness of their parting and what a kind and loving son he had been to her, and she said she was looking forward to a happy meeting beyond this vale of tears. I could not help thinking that none made greater sacrifices during the war than the patriotic mothers of our country."—Mrs. S. H. Stickney, Newport, Me.

NEW RECRUITS,

And How They Are Being Mustered Into The Tribune's Army.

"Inclosed please find $2 for two new subscribers, making fourteen that I have sent you during the last two weeks. I have started out to get twenty new names at least."—E. H. Mitchell, Sidney, Iowa.

"I send you seven new subscribers. THE TRIBUNE is the advance picket of the cripple that has so long been neglected, and our boys in blue generally. May success attend you."—Volney Trask, Alleyton, Mich.

"Inclosed please find $2 for two new subscribers to THE TRIBUNE. I regard THE TRIBUNE as invaluable to our ex-soldiers. I was in the service nearly four years as a member of the Eighth Wisconsin battery."—Franklin Ensign, Redwood Falls, Minn.

"Inclosed please find $5 for five new subscribers, making eight that I have sent you in the last two weeks. I shall keep up the fire all along the line, and try to send as many recruits to headquarters as possible."—William Rogers, Hartford, Conn.

"Inclosed please find $7 for seven new subscribers, making eighteen that I have sent you within the last two weeks. The paper is liked very much by those who have subscribed, and I think I shall be able to send you some more names."—E. S. Farnsworth, Newtonville, Mass.

"Inclosed please find $2 for two new subscribers, making four in all that I have sent you. While on guard, I found two old comrades without the countersign, namely, THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, and I am going to bring in every straggler that I can find."—Adam Sumerer, Thornton, Mich.

"Inclosed please find $3 for three new subscribers. After reading the sample copies which you sent them, the boys thought they could not march without full rations of hard-tack and sow-belly; so give it to them, if there are supplies enough in your commissary."—John Wheeing, Dry Creek, Neb.

"I have the honor to report four new recruits, making twelve in all that I have sent you. Long live THE TRIBUNE, that it may be able to fully accomplish its noble mission, the full triumph of truth and justice, is the earnest wish of your subscriber and comrade."—R. C. Swan, Linaria, Tenn.

"Inclosed please find $1 for one new subscriber to THE TRIBUNE. It beats all the other papers in the world for the soldier or the soldier's friend. I look for it as I would a letter from my mother or sister, and when it comes I lay all my books and papers aside until I have read it through from one end to the other."—T. J. Parker, Benson, Illinois.

"Inclosed please find $2 for two new subscribers, making thirteen in all that I have sent you. The number looks small compared with clubs that some of the boys have sent you, but, nevertheless, I am working hard. The soldiers all like THE TRIBUNE, and I think it gets better with every number."—C. L. Russell, Newburgh, N. Y.

Cheap at That.

"The editorials are alone worth the price of the paper."—Calvin O. Diffenbacher, Ogdensburg, N. Y.

DARK DAYS IN DIXIE.

Experiences in Southern Prison-Pens. A Sketch of Cahawba.

Something About Cahawba Prison.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:

In your issue of the 1st inst. Francis Wright, of Adrian, Michigan, calls for a "good description of Cahawba Prison." I am not certain that I can fill the bill, but I can describe the prison as I remember it now. I lived there (much against my will) six long weeks in the summer of 1864. I was one of twelve nurses who were sent there from the battle-ground of Tupelo, Miss., through some mistake of one of General Forrest's officers, and our sojourn only lasted until the mistake could be corrected, which—thanks to the kindness of the officer in command of the prison—his name was either Fitzgerald or Fitzpatrick, I have forgotten which—did not take longer than was necessary. The prison was a "cotton shed," standing on the southwest bank of the Alabama River, about thirty feet back from a perpendicular bank or ledge twenty-five feet high, reaching to the water's edge. A stockade of timber started from the northeast corner of the cotton shed, extending to the margin of this ledge; thence down along its brink, nearly to the south end of the shed; thence across a little gully, joining the wall of the cotton shed, about fifty feet from its south end, forming a yard about thirty by three hundred feet. This seems to have been built for the convenience of the guards. At the front or north end a small room had been built in which the "relief" stayed when off duty. The prison proper was about one hundred and fifty by three hundred and fifty feet. Its wall was of brick, about twenty feet high. The north end, for a distance of fifty feet inside, was covered with a roof. A roof about twenty-five feet wide also extended along the east side. The south and west walls were bare. On the outside of these two walls was a walk for the guards about three feet down from the top. Inside, on the ground, about ten feet from these two walls, was the "dead-line," which it was instant death to cross. It was marked by posts set fifty feet apart. Guards were stationed along the north and part of the east wall, and would not allow a crowd to collect near them. At the northeast corner of the prison was built a room, which, as I remember it, was thirty by one hundred feet. This was of boards, built up to the roof. Tiers of bunks were built on the sides and through the centre, extending from ground to roof. In this room all the prisoners were confined at night—as soon as it was dark. Guards walked through the alleys. About one thousand feet west of the north end of this shed was a large artesian well. A six-inch pipe was laid from that, under ground, to a point near the centre of the prison, where it discharged into a sewer, which was open for about fifty feet, running diagonally to the east. The last thirty feet of this sewer was arched over, and had a heavy iron grate where the open and closed part joined. The water in the open part of this sewer was about one-third full at high tide, and came nearly up to the level of the ground. This sewer was built of brick, and the ground was paved with brick for several feet each side of both the open and closed part. Immediately over the place where the closed part went under the east wall of the prison a hole had been cut in the wall and a door put in. On the outside and within the stockade and in the gully spoken of above a one-story shed-roof building, six by twenty-four feet, had been built for the convenience of the prisoners. Outside the wall of this building this sewer took the form of a deep box, two by four feet, and extended through the south wall of the stockade. The boys conceived the idea of making their escape through this sewer. So some old tin or sheet-iron cooking utensils were cut up into strips about an inch wide. Then, just before dark, a crowd would collect about the door of this out-house, and while some were shouting and singing as loud as they could others would make a mock quarrel, or do anything they could to make a noise, while a few skilled workmen would be removing the bricks in the arch over the closed part of the sewer near the grating, and by the use of the tin strips making a sort of movable basket as a cover to a hole large enough to let a man through. It took us just six days to complete the work. Then, while a crowd was round, the six men who could swim, chosen by lot, would pass out through this sewer one after another; then the hole in the sewer would be closed up, but the noise would be continued an hour. The first lot would go out just at dark; then again at about one a. m. another crowd would collect, and six more would pass out. In this way about one hundred got out before my were recaptured. Then the watch became so vigilant that we dare not send any more out. As I left the prison soon after, I never learned what became of the "sewer path." Perhaps Mr. Wright can tell; for if he was blown up on the Sultanna, he must have been in Cahawba after I was.

H. R. ANDREWS,
Late Co. B, 12th Iowa.

How Wirz's Bloodhound was Poisoned.

"You asked me to give the details of the poisoning of that dog at Andersonville. The facts are these: Early in June, 1864, I was taken sick with typhoid fever and removed to the hospital, where I remained about three months, and made a narrow escape from death. When I became convalescent I was detailed as assistant hospital steward, and served quite a long time. I was then assigned to the duty of gathering the medicinal herbs growing near, and was provided with a pass which permitted me to leave the stockade at any time during the day. I was in the habit of going over to the depot, and in that event to visit three boys of company H, of my regiment, one of whom, a Mr. Judd, had his right arm shot off at Fair Oaks. They were on a detail in the commissary department. While visiting them one day, I slipped over and gave a piece of sponge to the dog, as previously stated. I did not dare to mention the fact to anybody while I was at Andersonville; for one could hardly trust his best friend there. I heard a rebel sergeant say the next day that it was a dead Yankee that had done it, and that he would give $100 to find out who it was. The sergeant's name was Smith—Crooked Neck Smith, we used to call him. I wonder if he would give as much now? It was my intention to give the rest of the dogs a similar dose, but I was afraid of being caught. Detection would have meant death to me, beyond a doubt. But for those dogs I would not have staid in that prison hell as long as a whole year, as I did. I always believed I could out-general the rebs but for the dogs."—Ichabod Preston, Eau Claire, Wis.

That Andersonville Spring Once More.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:

In THE TRIBUNE of March 8th, Lieutenant Theo. C. Davis, of the Thirty-eight Illinois, starts off on a skirmish with Comrade R. P. Black, in the manner following: "He must either be trying to make people believe that the spring was a providential affair solely for the benefit of the prisoners, or else his memory must be badly at fault." The Lieutenant locates the spring on the south side of the creek, and one hundred feet from the stockade! Instead of being south of the creek the spring was north of the creek. Instead of being one hundred feet from the dead-line it was at the west dead-line. Its fountain was between the dead-line and stockade. Sergeant 123d New York.

FORT ADAMS, March 8, 1883.

Seven Months in Libby and Andersonville.

"I spent seven months in Libby and Andersonville. At the latter place our rations consisted of one pint of meal—the cob being ground up with the corn—every twenty-four hours. At the time of my capture I weighed 185 pounds. When I was released my weight was only sixty-eight pounds. I suffered from scurvy, rheumatism and other diseases while in prison, and never recovered from the effects. I was shot at twice for getting too close to the dead-line, and I once counted 200 dead bodies, the mortality of a single day. They were thrown into a wagon and carted off like so many sticks of wood. I also had a taste of the stocks, and on one occasion I was bucked and gagged for refusing to give information concerning a tunnel that my comrades were constructing."—George D. Hunter, Viroqua, Wis.

Where Rebel Prisoners were Fattened Up.

"During the war I went to Chicago on the same train with thirty-five rebel prisoners who were on their way to Camp Douglass. They were the most wretched and ragged looking beings that I ever saw. Hatless and shoeless some of them wore coffee sacks in place of coats, with holes cut in them to put their hands through. They were marched into their quarters at Camp Douglass with orders to wash and prepare to eat, and then basket after basket of food was taken into them. How long they remained there I do not now recollect, but when they were exchanged I went to the station to see them off. You would not have supposed that they were the same soldiers. They were then well dressed, clean, and shaved."—Sarah A. Smith, Ill.

Retaliation as to Pie.

"After being confined as a prisoner of war for ten months in Andersonville and Florence, I was paroled March 1, 1865, and on the expiration of my thirty days' furlough reported at Camp Chase, Ohio, where about three thousand rebel prisoners were confined in one corner of the camp. A notice headed 'Retaliation' was stuck up in their barracks, stating that the rebel prisoners would receive the same kind of rations that we received while confined in Andersonville. But to tell the truth both the rebel prisoners at Camp Chase and the Union soldiers stationed there received exactly the same treatment. They did not get any pie for dinner, nor did we, and that is the way our Government retaliated."—George Banner, Perkinsville, Ind.

Does Any Ex-Prisoner Remember Him?

A soldier's wife, who signs herself M. E. B., Baden, Beaver county, Pa., and who has recently had the misfortune to lose four of her children by diphtheria, writes us: "I noticed in the last issue of THE TRIBUNE a soldier's description of his sufferings at Salisbury, N. C. A brother of mine was confined at Salisbury, and died there on the 7th of December, 1864. His name was Hiram Hendrixon, and he was a member of company I, One Hundred and Ninety-first regiment Pennsylvania Reserves. He was captured on the 19th of August, 1864. Do any of his fellow soldiers remember him? If so, I should like to hear from them."

Where There's a Will There's a Way.

"Inclosed please find $4 for four new subscribers to THE TRIBUNE, making twenty-six in all that I have sent you. I realize that I have done but little, but I think if every subscriber to THE TRIBUNE would make it a business to speak to his neighbor, whether that neighbor is a soldier or not, he could obtain a few more readers for THE TRIBUNE without much inconvenience, and thus help on the good work. We must stand shoulder to shoulder for the support of THE TRIBUNE."—George Brenizer, Wooster Ohio.

Is it Sergeant Buck's Gun?

"In your issue of February 22d, I read an article entitled 'The Diary of a Confederate Soldier.' I have a rebel gun, and on the breech is cut in plain letters, 'M. Buck.' The gun came from England, having been taken from the arsenal at London, and I think it is the identical musket which Sergeant Buck speaks of. Can you tell me where Sergeant Buck is living?"—H. H. Ballow, Juniata, Neb.

The Heroism of Boy Soldiers.

[*Horace Bell in Los Angeles Porcupine.*]

A ministering angel of the sanitary commission related the following: She found a boy of tender years shot through the body and gasping for breath on the battle-field. She raised his head to give him a draught of water, which he refused, pointing to an old man wounded and wearing the rebel gray, and insisted that he should have the first drink, the two having thus become friends even in death. A surgeon was going his rounds, after the gathering in of the harvest of the battle-field, and found a boy terribly wounded, yet suppressing all cries or murmurs of pain. When spoken to by the good doctor the poor boy said in a whisper, pointing to a wounded comrade: "Don't speak so loud, Doctor, poor Jim is asleep." Alas! poor Jim, the taps had sounded the last time for him—he was dead.

The Story of a Pension Claim.

[*From the Philadelphia Press.*]

Frederick Huffnagle, a German butcher, of 1605 North Twenty-third street, who served during the war in the Seventy-second regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers, and Henry Huffnagle, of Nineteenth, who fought for his country with the Two Hundred and Fourteenth regiment, are cousins, but have not met for twenty-five years. Recently both applied for pensions. Frederick's claim was promptly presented to the Bureau at Washington, and not receiving any word in reply to it he applied to the Pension Bureau in this city, when he was told that $900 had been allowed him and paid to another man. An investigation of the matter disclosed the fact that the money had been paid to Henry. Both of the applicants were then summoned to appear before the United States surgeon, when it was ascertained that both were entitled to a pension. The error of paying the money to the wrong man being the fault of the Government, no action will be taken to recover the money, and the claim of Frederick is being pushed to a speedy conclusion.

THE HUE AND CRY.

Echoes of the Rebel Yell in Northern Newspapers.

Perjury by Wholesale.

[*Detroit Post and Tribune.*]

"The frauds committed on the Government under the existing pension laws are said to be enormous. Persons who received no injuries during the war are on the pension rolls. Re-married widows of soldiers remain on the rolls. Arrearers by the wholesale have swelled the amount, and unless something is done to limit the pension list to the proper subjects of Government care the time is not far distant when there will be a reaction from which the worthy subjects of pensions will be the sufferers."

No Government Can Stand It.

[*Rutland (Vt.) Herald.*]

"If this equalization act passes we shall then have an act of special bounty to those who were in rebel prisons, and the door will be again opened wide to fraud. No government on earth can stand the endless drain of debt that we shall impose on ourselves and our children if we do not stop short in this bounty business. The Nation will be fly-blown by a swarm of claim agents and sucked to death by army shirks."

CHRONOLOGY OF THE WAR.

The Leading Events of the War Arranged by Weekly Anniversaries.

1861.

March 7. Evacuation of Ringgold Barracks, Tex., by company A, 3d U. S. inf.
7. Evacuation of Camp Verde, Tex., by company A, 1st U. S. inf.
12. Evacuation of Fort Mclntosh, Tex., by companies F and I, 3d U. S. inf.
15. Evacuation of Camp Wood, Tex., by company K, 2d U. S. cav.
17. Evacuation of Camp Hudson, Tex., by company E, 2d U. S. cav., and company F, 8th U. S. inf.
19. Evacuation of Fort Clark, Tex., by companies D, G, H and K, 3d U. S. inf.
19. Evacuation of Fort Lancaster, Tex., by company K, 1st U. S. inf.
19. Evacuation of Fort Inge, Tex., by company C, 2d U. S. cav.
20. Evacuation of Fort Duncan, Tex., by company B, 3d U. S. inf.
20. Evacuation of Fort Brown, Tex., by company A, 3d U. S. inf.

1862.

March 13. Action at Spring River, Ark., by detachments of 6th Missouri cav. and 3d Iowa cav.
13. Expedition to Beech Creek Bridge, Tenn., by detachment of 5th Ohio cav.
14. Skirmish at Big Creek Gap, Tenn., by companies A, 1st and 2d Tennessee