

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE (ESTABLISHED 1877)

TO CARE FOR HIM WHO BORE THE BATTLE, AND FOR HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN.—ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO THE VALUE OF THE PUBLIC DEBT OF THE UNITED STATES, AUTHORIZED BY LAW, INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF PENSIONS AND BOUNTIES FOR SERVICES IN SUPPRESSING REBELLION OR REBELLION, SHALL NOT BE QUESTIONED.—SEC. 4, ART. XIV, CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY. One Dollar per Year.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—INvariably cash in advance.—Money forwarded otherwise than by REGISTERED LETTER, POSTAGE GUARANTEED BY THE POST OFFICE WILL BE AT THE RISK OF THE BENEFICENT, AS ALSO ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID TO AGENTS.

RENEWALS.—SUBSCRIBERS CAN ALWAYS ASCERTAIN THE DATE WHEN THEIR SUBSCRIPTION WILL EXPIRE BY ADDING TO THE NUMBER ON THE WRAPPER OF THEIR PAPER, WHICH IS THE SAME AS THAT OF THE "WHOLE NUMBER" OF THE LAST ISSUE WHICH THEY ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—ADVERTISERS WILL BE CHARGED AS SET OUT AS DEERED, BUT SUBSCRIBERS SHOULD IN ALL CASES REFER TO THE WRAPPER OF THEIR PAPER, WHICH IS THE SAME AS THAT OF THE "WHOLE NUMBER" OF THE LAST ISSUE WHICH THEY ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE.

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, 615 FIFTEENTH ST., WASHINGTON, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C., JUNE 28, 1883.

WE PUBLISH, this week, another installment of replies to THE TRIBUNE'S circular concerning the practicability of organizing a National Union of Women's Auxiliaries.

The number of pension certificates issued and signed during the week ending June 20th, was as follows: Original, 1,164; increase, 306; re-issue, 31; restoration, 22; duplicate, 11; arrears, 5; accrued pensions, 48; pensions under act of March 3, 1883, 60; total, 1,657.

IN ANOTHER column, this week, will be found some entertaining reminiscences of the siege of Morris Island. The importance of military operations on the Atlantic seaboard has never been fully recognized by the historians of the war, and THE TRIBUNE will be very happy to publish any contributions that may be sent it in regard to these movements.

WE NOTE with pleasure that there seems to be an active revival of interest throughout the country, this year, in the celebration of Independence Day, attributable largely to the influence of the Grand Army. It is but natural, indeed, that it should be so. Every Grand Army Post is a center of patriotic inspiration and a mainspring of patriotic action.

IS ANOTHER column of THE TRIBUNE will be found an interesting chat with General Rosecrans touching the traits of character which General Phil Sheridan displayed in the early days of his career while serving with the former's command. As General Rosecrans very justly observes, "if dashed had been all the quality he [Sheridan] possessed, he would never have got beyond a brigadier-general's commission."

THE Monticello (Ill.) Bulletin, in speaking of the establishment of a new Post of the Grand Army at that place, says: "The Republicans of Monticello organized," &c. Whether it is in ignorance or malice that the Bulletin speaks of the Grand Army as if it were a political organization we do not know, but our comrades should not permit such a mis-statement to stand uncorrected. The Grand Army has no connection with any political party whatever, and all honorably discharged Union soldiers and sailors of the civil war, no matter what their politics, are eligible to membership. The Monticello Bulletin owes it to its readers to go state.

ACCORDING to the Chagrin Falls Express, the Rev. Mr. Hathaway, of Bedford, in announcing from his pulpit that the services on Memorial Day would be conducted by the Grand Army Post at that place, took occasion to denounce the Order as "an out-bound society" and declare that he did "not consider it the duty of any Christian to attend memorial services under its auspices." There is nothing more humiliating than the spectacle of ignorance and bigotry and ingratitude masquerading in a pulpit, and the Rev. Mr. Hathaway should be invited to step down and out. No man who entertains such sentiments is fit to preach the Gospel of Him who died to make men holy as our veterans to make them free.

ON our first page, this week, will be found a graphic description of the battle of Cedar Creek, Va., taken from Volume XI of Scribner's Sons' "Campaigns of the Civil War," entitled "The Shenandoah Valley in 1862," by George E. Pond, Esq. In many respects the battle of Cedar Creek resembled that of Stone River. Beginning in the defeat and rout of a large portion of the Union forces, it ended in glorious victory to their arms. In each case the presence of the commanding general was the omen of victory. With the country to the rear covered by panic-stricken troops, with lines disorganized and plans disarranged, with a victorious enemy pressing on to complete the destruction of their armies, Rosecrans at Stone River and Sheridan at Cedar Creek stand in history the incarnation of victory, exhibiting the sublimity of personal courage.

Their coolness in combination and rapidity in execution turned defeat into victory.

A Vital Issue. Among the communications which appear in the present number of THE TRIBUNE, are two which deserve special consideration. The first, which will be found among the correspondence in the department of "Loyal Woman's Work," comes from a lady residing in a Kansas town, and the second from a well-known Michigan comrade, viz the office of Commander-in-Chief Van Dervoort, who forwards it to us with his indorsement for publication. The theme of these letters is the danger that threatens the Grand Army through the unrestricted use of intoxicating liquors at the social and business meetings of some of the Posts, and the facts which they recite are so conclusive as to the necessity of prompt action being taken, that no apology is needed for their presentation. It is far from the purpose of THE TRIBUNE to make a political issue of the temperance question, but the control or regulation of the use of intoxicating drinks at Grand Army gatherings is a matter that so closely concerns the welfare of the Order, that we should be faithless did we not speak out boldly and plainly in regard to it. We do not believe that temperance is any more prevalent in the Grand Army than in any other secret organization. On the contrary, we feel sure that it is the exception to the rule when Post hospitality is thus abused. But it should be remembered that every such breach of good conduct tends to make the Order as a whole the object of suspicion, and to prejudice public sentiment against it. It is by just these lapses from decorum, rather than by the general propriety and dignity of action, that it is apt to be judged.

Not do we imagine that under ordinary circumstances any special harm could result from adding beer to the baked beans, hard-tack and coffee, which are usually served at a Post Camp-fire, but there must always be danger that some comrade of a naturally convivial turn will drink to excess, and thus bring shame upon the Order as well as grief and distress upon his family.

The fact is that the Grand Army was never intended to be a convivial society, and while the rules and regulations contain no prohibitive clause, they do not, in our judgment, warrant any such diversion of its purposes. Fraternity is a very different thing from mere conviviality, and certainly it cannot be claimed that it is only to be found at the bottom of a beer keg. Indeed, the weight of all experience is quite on the other side—the more beer, the less fraternity.

But it may be said, perhaps, that among the members of the Grand Army are many soldiers of German extraction, who, without any departure from sobriety, are habitual beer-drinkers, and that it would be unjust, simply because some of their comrades are intemperate, to deprive them of their usual ration. It is a sufficient answer to this objection to say that there is a plenty of other places beside a Post-room in which they can quench their thirst, and that the exclusion of liquor from Camp-fires and similar gatherings, no more than from churches, theaters, or lecture halls, would be a personal hardship. The truth is that the Post-room is not a fit place for a bar or anything approaching it. Considering how many a soldier's home has been ruined by drink, how many a soldier's family has been impoverished by it, and how many a soldier has himself become a charge upon his comrades by reason of his enslavement by it, it is really a direct perversion of the objects of the Grand Army to contemplate it in any form. We should be the last to approve any attempt to fetter the liberty of the individual, but this is a question which concerns the welfare of the entire Order—may, more, its ability to accomplish the objects for which it was established—and it should be decided with regard to what the interests of the organization itself demand, rather than what personal wishes may dictate. We hope this issue will be brought up at the coming National Encampment, and that steps will be taken to exclude spirituous liquors forever from the Post-room. It should be the aim of the Grand Army to hold up and strengthen the weak and tempted and set such an example of temperate living as will inspire respect and confidence. That is true fraternity—that is the very essence of comradeship.

The War Governors. COMRADE EDWIN E. APPLIGATE, Commander of Conover Post, No. 63, Freehold, N. J., writes us as follows: "As the Rules and Regulations at present stand, no 'War Governor' can be admitted to membership of the G. A. R. In this as it should be, I think not. Within the jurisdiction of the Post we have his Honor Joel Parker, perhaps the most faithful and popular of the executives of any of the Northern States during the war. He had the welfare of the soldiers and their families deeply at heart, and left nothing undone that would promote their comfort. He was not a man who mistook the United States service, but who should be not, with other living 'War Governors,' be permitted to wear the badge of the Grand Army? I am a Republican, and ex-Governor Parker is a Democrat, but I am a great admirer of a fellow-citizen, and desire that he should be a member of the Grand Army. I hope the subject will be brought up at the coming National Encampment.

Comrade Appligate's suggestion is not without force. The war Governors, of whom the most illustrious were, probably, Oliver P. Morton, of Indiana, and John A. Andrews, of Massachusetts, unquestionably contributed as much, by their patriotic support of the President and their spirited efforts to raise the quota of troops called for, to the suppression of the rebellion, as those who actually commanded our armies, but so did many of our Senators and Congressmen, the members of our State legislatures, private citizens, like George H. Stuart, the President of the United States Christian Commission, orators like Wendell Phillips, and clergymen like Henry Ward Beecher. The truth is, that unless the line is drawn, as now, so as to admit those only who ac-

tually served in the war and were honorably discharged, it cannot be drawn at all short of a point at which all loyal citizens would be eligible to membership. But, on the other hand, we see no reason why the National Encampment, the supreme authority of the Order, should not, if it chose, by a special vote admit to honorary membership, any war Governor, Senator, Representative, or person in public or private station, whose services, in its judgment, entitle him to such a mark of its favor. There would be no impropriety in so doing, and providing the power to confer such a distinction were retained absolutely in the hands of the Encampment, it would not be likely to be abused.

So far as we know, the following are the only War Governors now living: Sprague, of Rhode Island; Parker, of New Jersey; Curtin of Pennsylvania; Ramsey, of Minnesota; Robinson and Carney, of Kansas, and Stanford, of California.

Is This Ignorance or Malice? It is astonishing how gross ignorance men of average intelligence display concerning the pension laws and the practice of the Pension Office. We observe, for instance, in the editorial columns of the Indianapolis Republican, which is published at Warsaw, Ind., and of which General Reub. Williams is one of the proprietors, an attack upon the methods of adjudicating pension claims, which is so far without warrant in fact as to be really absurd. After remarking, as if the mere act was a crime, that he receives not less than a letter a day from ex-soldiers reminding him that they were with him at the time of receiving their disability, and inasmuch as their commissioned officers are all dead, asking for a statement under oath in their behalf, the editor makes this preposterous assertion: "The facts are that the expense made on which pensions are given—that is, if the papers are right on their face, the pension will be granted—for it is argued, with truth, too, that the examiner of the claim will not go behind the papers before him, and inquire into the credibility of those making the testimony, has been like holding up a premium for perjury."

So far from this being the case, the truth is that the examiner of the claim in all instances does go behind the papers, and it is notorious that the cross-examination of witnesses as to their credibility is of the most rigid description, as the most casual inquiry into the practice of the Pension Office will conclusively show. As a matter of fact, the law is all on the side of the Government so far as the detection and punishment of perjury is concerned. The claimant is without recourse, if out of spite or other unworthy motive, false testimony is given against him. If General Williams will take the trouble to apply to Commissioner Dudley for information on this point, he will discover that the effect of the method at present employed in adjudicating claims is to throw out many worthy claims, rather than to encourage the presentation of bogus ones. Take the Rizer case, for instance, the particulars of which were published in our issue of the 7th inst. Here was a claimant who was unable to secure the pension to which he was obviously entitled, simply because he happened to be with a strange command when he was wounded, and could not, therefore, furnish the names of the officers who were present at the time. Fortunately, the evidence elicited through the publication of the case in these columns and the personal interest which Commissioner Dudley has taken in this, as in all doubtful cases, will probably lead to the establishment of his claim, but he is only one of thousands who find themselves shut out from pension, though legally entitled to it, by the death or disappearance of witnesses essential to the formal proving of their case.

But still more glaring even, is the ignorance of the pension laws which the editor of the New York Mercantile Journal displays. In a recent issue he gives currency to an alleged statement by a clerk in the Pension Office, that as "the law takes no notice of any irregular relations" into which they may enter, there are as many as 10,000 cases, whose soldiers' widows are leading immoral lives in order to retain the pension of which, in the event of their actually remarrying, they would be deprived—an assertion that is as false in fact as it is monstrous and hideous in conception. The act of August, 1882, expressly provides "that the open and notorious adulterous co-habitation of a widow who is a pensioner shall terminate her pension from the commencement of such co-habitation," and if the editor of the Journal will consult the supplement to the Digest of Decisions by the Secretary of the Interior in regard to pension cases, he will find in the Williams case an application of the law which entirely and absolutely refutes the statement that it "takes no notice of irregular relations." We shall be very much obliged, indeed, to him if he will give us the name of the clerk in the Pension Office who is alleged to have made this reckless and malicious assertion.

Take It Coolly. The controversy which has been going on in our columns over the comparative importance of the services rendered by the Eastern and Western troops which composed the army that achieved the victories of the Atlanta campaign, has reached a stage where a little advice may be profitably bestowed upon all parties to it. Many errors of statement have manifestly been made on both sides—errors which the editor of THE TRIBUNE might easily have corrected in the manuscripts themselves, had he not foreseen that, coming from the hands of his contributors, the corrections would have a more salutary effect in impressing upon these writers the importance of verifying their assertions by consulting official authorities, and particularly when describing military movements of which they had no personal knowledge—and we regret to say that more feeling has been exhibited than the occasion called for. We feel it incumbent upon us,

therefore, to say that while we shall continue to give place to discussions concerning important military campaigns, battles, and maneuvers, we shall exact from our correspondents a strict adherence to facts with which they have a personal acquaintance, and an avoidance of anything in the nature of a disparagement of the valor or prowess of rival corps, divisions, brigades, or regiments. It is twenty years too late for any exhibition of petty jealousy between the men who furnished the bone and sinew of her armies.

A Debt that Must be Paid. The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, the leading Republican newspaper in Missouri, in the course of an editorial alleging that a systematic movement is to be made upon the next Congress to secure an increase of pensions, and denouncing it as the scheme of "a set of bloodsuckers," gives utterance to the following remarkable sentiment: "The debt [to the soldier] can never be paid in dollars and cents, and that is precisely the reason why the attempt should not be exhaustively made." Queer sort of reasoning this. "It is true," says Uncle Sam, "that I engaged to provide for your support in case you were disabled while in my employ, but money, you know, can never repay you for the loss of that leg of yours, so it's of no use for me to try, my good fellow." If that be sound logic, why should the Government pay any pensions at all?

To the cries of the widows and orphans for the aid which this Government solemnly promised to render to those whom war might deprive of their natural protector, why not return this heartless answer: "The debt can never be paid in dollars and cents?" To the armless and the legless veterans of the war, the blind and the deaf, the hobbling rheumatic and the tottering infirm, men whose persons bear the outward marks of suffering, and men whose wounds lie hid from the public eye, physical wrecks and battered hulks, some plainly showing the source of their injury, and others explainable only by the aid of pathological science—to all these miserable applicants for pension why not make this cold reply: "The debt can never be paid in dollars and cents?"

Is the Treasury empty? Not at all. It is full and running over. Is the financial credit of the Government in jeopardy? Not in the slightest. Its bonds command an enormous premium.

Is the burden of U. S. taxation too heavy for the country to bear? Far from it. It sits so lightly on its shoulders that no one feels it.

Is the claim of the soldier excessive or exorbitant? No; he only asks to be paid what he was promised.

Why, then, cannot the debt be paid in dollars and cents? It is a just debt, for even the Globe-Democrat admits that "not a single old soldier or soldier's widow should be permitted to suffer. It is a debt of honor, for the contract was sealed with the blood of the Republic's defenders. Why, then, should it not be paid? Justice and honor alike require that it should be discharged to the uttermost penny, and were it true that it could never be paid in dollars and cents that would not release the Government from its obligation to extinguish it to the extent of its resources. The demand of our ex-soldiers for the equalization of bounties, the extension of the arrears act, and other legislation of like purport, does not, as the Globe-Democrat asserts, proceed from a "set of bloodsuckers," but is based upon considerations of equity and justice, and sooner or later Congress will be compelled to recognize its righteousness.

Said Senator Hampton, in the course of his speech—printed in another column—on the dedication of a Confederate soldiers' monument, the other day: "The great questions which were at issue between the North and the South, and which were left to the arbitration of war, were decided against us, but the sword never has decided and never will decide a question involving a great principle." As a matter of fact this is not so, for the sword has settled nearly all the great political controversies of which the history of the world affords a record; but, supposing the South Carolina orator to be correct in his assertion, it occurs to us that to maintain the righteousness of secession at this late day is to sow in the minds of the coming generation the same seeds of disunion that were so deliberately planted by John C. Calhoun. If by attempt to overthrow the Union is still justifiable in the eyes of the South, why should not the sons renew the effort which their fathers were forced to abandon?

A Hermit in a Big City. [From the Albany Evening Journal.] Among the oldest families in the neighborhood of Townsend Park, on Capitol Hill, are those of McNabb and Cumming. These two families have resided on the same premises, and the other on Knox street, beyond the recollection of most of the inhabitants. Nearly half a century ago the young men of the families were closely together. They were, as the story goes, full of practical jokes, and played many a one at the expense of the old "night watch." Whatever was the incentive, it is well authenticated that both entered into a hermitage as close and confined as a monk's cloister, out of which neither was known to have ever emerged. This occurred about thirty-five years ago.

Several years afterward Mr. Wm. Appleton, lately deceased, owned buildings on the north of Central avenue, west of Lark street. The Cumming house is situated on the same side of the street, on the northeast corner of Lark street. One day Mr. Appleton, looking out of the window, saw John Cumming's head bob at the window of his house. Since that time no one has seen the family have been seen. His brother William, who keeps a grain store, as he has for years, on the corner of Lark and Washington avenues, is uncommunicative on the matter. Residents in the vicinity of a quarter of a century standing have heard of the recluse, but none have ever seen him. When the census was taken, in 1880, Mr. William Cumming gave the name of his brother as still living. Mr. McNabb, up to the time of his death, several years ago, kept a record of the residence of his home on Knox street, just south of Washington avenue. Once in a while neighbors could see an old gray-haired man walking up and down the street, but he never appeared on the street.

VETERAN REUNIONS.

The Great Preparations that Are Making for the Columbus Gathering. The National Reunion of ex-soldiers and sailors of the late war, which will take place in Columbus, Ohio, on the 24th, 25th, 26th and 27th of July, promises to be the greatest event of its kind ever held in this country. The General Assembly of Ohio has granted the use of the State House and Capitol grounds to the Reunion committee. The department officers of the Grand Army of the Republic are making extensive preparations for a grand gathering of comrades, and on Thursday, July 23, which will be known as Grand Army Day, a State Reunion will be held at the Department Command Charles T. Clark—David Lanning, A. G.—has issued a general order on the subject, which directs each Post in the State to take action on the matter and report whether or not any members will attend. A letter has been received by Henry M. Neil, Commander-in-Chief, National Reunion, from J. M. Dalzell, president of the National Reunion established in Columbus, Ohio, by General Wm. Maynes, and others in 1876, and since continued by successive annual Reunions, to the effect that that association has decided to hold no National Reunion in 1883, but to unite with the National Reunion at Columbus. A special committee was sent to this city last month to renew the invitation to the President of the United States, the Cabinet, and other distinguished statesmen, to attend. The President and Cabinet, Assistant Postmaster-General Hutton and others gave the committee positive assurance that they would be present. The committee also conferred with the National Reunion at Columbus. A special committee was sent to this city last month to renew the invitation to the President of the United States, the Cabinet, and other distinguished statesmen, to attend. The President and Cabinet, Assistant Postmaster-General Hutton and others gave the committee positive assurance that they would be present. The committee also conferred with the National Reunion at Columbus. A special committee was sent to this city last month to renew the invitation to the President of the United States, the Cabinet, and other distinguished statesmen, to attend. The President and Cabinet, Assistant Postmaster-General Hutton and others gave the committee positive assurance that they would be present. The committee also conferred with the National Reunion at Columbus.

Several of the "doubtful States" are understood to be in line, as Indiana, who is declared to be very interested in her pretensions in the matter of Democratic candidates for the Presidency. She has assumed that no other State has any available timber, and, worse than all, has assumed that the West will admit it. It is a game of bluff the others would submit to, but so far she talks so fast about first one favorite son and then another, the balance of the family cannot sandwich in a word anywhere. As soon as she steps to catch her breath Delaware, Massachusetts, and Illinois will certainly nip the names of Bayard, Butler, and Bill Morrison, and perhaps a whisper will come from Gramme Park.

Durbin Ward, the hard-headed old Democrat who was defeated at the Ohio State convention for the nomination for governor, was a gallant soldier. A veteran who knew him well, from the fact that they commanded regiments in the same brigade, gave me some reminiscences of the man yesterday. Said my informant: "Old Durbin was a good one in a fight, but he could not drill his regiment, which was the Seventeenth Ohio. He never got far before he had them all mixed up together. The rest of us would laugh at him, and he would have to let the men straighten themselves out behind the best they could. When it came to a fight, though, he was in his element, and no officer had to a larger degree the confidence of his men."

"After the battle of Shiloh I was present when old Durbin and 'Jake' Thompson talked the whole war question over under a flag of truce. It happened this way: A flag came in from the Confederates in front of our brigade headquarters. 'Have forgotten you what it was about, but a question arose, and they had to send a messenger back, which caused a delay of about three hours. That gave the opportunity for the discussion. For this reason, on our side, besides Ward, 'Bob' McCook, who commanded the brigade, Steadman, Geo. P. Estey, lieutenant-colonel of Steadman's regiment, and several others. Estey was present on the matter by the way, is chief of police of Toledo. They all knew Jake Thompson well. He had been Buchanan's Secretary of the Interior, and became famous from his embezzlement of the Indian trust funds, after which he went over to the Confederacy, and was at that time colonel of a Mississippi regiment."

"Ward was a red-hot Union man, but still a Democrat, and it was very amusing to hear him and Thompson discuss the whole matter of the rebellion as politicians. Durbin failed to make much impression on his antagonist, but he could not be shaken in his own position, and they had it hot and heavy for several hours. The other Confederates did not join in the talk, for we were not acquainted with any of them. It would be interesting now to hear old Ward's recollections of that interview."

Said a Southern Senator to me this morning: "I am just dreading the result of the next election, because I think we shall win it. 'Why so?' I asked; 'that sounds improbable.'"

"Is true, though. Life will be a burden. I hope the law will be so fixed by that time with respect to the civil service that it will be a perfectly well established custom that Senators will have nothing to say about these little appointments to petty offices. Do you know, Hayes came running us. He began, you know, by throwing out a little bait to the Southern Democrats, and gave them a few offices. I saw at once it was going to break us all up. Every where I heard men who wanted places say: 'Well, I don't see what the members with this man; I would just as soon have him as Tilden, after all.' The Southern papers jumped on to Hayes, and made him take the back track. If they had not, we were gone, as it was, I was believing, day and night, and had scores of people after me to go to Hayes and get them places. Finally, I had to shut down on the thing, and happily for us, Hayes went down on his knees, and said that he would retire from public life before I will submit to being controlled, as we will be, should we come into control of the Government, without a strict civil service law prohibiting political interference. For this reason, I am a staunch civil service advocate, and hope to see the law passed, lest session carried out, and given wider scope. Oh, I am a civil servant, and I shall stick to it."

I took all this with a grain of allowance. An Illinoisan gave me a scrap of personal history yesterday about Andy Sherman, late lieutenant governor of his State, the shows how great oaks from little acorns grow. Said he: "Andy came to Chicago, like many another man, without a dollar. S. R. Founds, who is now the Governor of that State, was publishing then the first Sunday paper ever printed in the city. He hired Sherman at \$5 a column to do his editorial work. The paper was called the Sunday Leader, and Sherman worked on it at this rate for a year, and then Charles Wilson took him on the Journal. He afterwards got an interest in the paper, and has been there ever since."

The little tug Pinta, which was condemned as not being able to navigate in Chesapeake Bay, has been ordered on a trip around the world to Alaska. It is reported that the officers expect to beach her before the coast of Patagonia and come home overland.

A Hermit in a Big City. [From the Albany Evening Journal.] Among the oldest families in the neighborhood of Townsend Park, on Capitol Hill, are those of McNabb and Cumming. These two families have resided on the same premises, and the other on Knox street, beyond the recollection of most of the inhabitants. Nearly half a century ago the young men of the families were closely together. They were, as the story goes, full of practical jokes, and played many a one at the expense of the old "night watch." Whatever was the incentive, it is well authenticated that both entered into a hermitage as close and confined as a monk's cloister, out of which neither was known to have ever emerged. This occurred about thirty-five years ago.

Several years afterward Mr. Wm. Appleton, lately deceased, owned buildings on the north of Central avenue, west of Lark street. The Cumming house is situated on the same side of the street, on the northeast corner of Lark street. One day Mr. Appleton, looking out of the window, saw John Cumming's head bob at the window of his house. Since that time no one has seen the family have been seen. His brother William, who keeps a grain store, as he has for years, on the corner of Lark and Washington avenues, is uncommunicative on the matter. Residents in the vicinity of a quarter of a century standing have heard of the recluse, but none have ever seen him. When the census was taken, in 1880, Mr. William Cumming gave the name of his brother as still living. Mr. McNabb, up to the time of his death, several years ago, kept a record of the residence of his home on Knox street, just south of Washington avenue. Once in a while neighbors could see an old gray-haired man walking up and down the street, but he never appeared on the street.

REUNION OF THE NINTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY.

The fourteenth annual Reunion of the Ninth Pennsylvania Cavalry was held on the 14th inst. at Huntington, Pa. The members assembled in Grand Army hall, at 2 P. M., and headed by the city band, marched to the Castilian Garden, where a sumptuous repast was provided by the ladies of the town. After this they adjourned to the residence of the Rev. Dr. Schenk, of Lancaster. After a prayer by Rev. Dr. Schenk, the Rev. Dr. Schenk, of Lancaster, delivered an address of welcome, to which the chairman responded. The roll was then called by Lieutenant J. D. Landis, of Coatsville, and showed thirty-nine present, which number was increased to fifty-one by old veterans joining the association during the Reunion. Resolutions of regret were passed concerning the deaths of Major George Smith and Sergeant Lewis W. Myer, deceased. On motion, Duncanson was selected as the place of holding the next annual meeting. The following officers were then elected: President, Captain O. B. Smith, of Wilkesbarre; Vice-Presidents, Captain E. S. McClure, of Chambersburg, and Jacob H. Heibel, of Lancaster; Secretary, Lieutenant J. D. Landis, of Coatsville; Treasurer, Captain J. F. Brantley, of York; and a committee, E. H. Branden, R. McCann, Jas. Harney, Samuel Boyer and James M. Graybill. Exercises were also held in the evening, at which Rev. Dr. K. Freeman offered a prayer and A. F. Schenk read a full and interesting history of the regiment.

The Reunion at Cawker City, Kan. A grand Reunion of the ex-soldiers of north-western Ohio, and their families, was held at Cawker City, on the 5th and 6th insts. On Tuesday, the opening day, the incoming early train brought large numbers of comrades from the surrounding section of Ohio, and at the Lincoln Park station, while others went through to Cawker City, where committees of Reynolds Post escorted them to Grand Army hall. After the usual exercises, a grandly marshalled Reynolds Post, a procession, headed by the Jewell City band, and led by Colonel Tucker, marched through the principal streets and thence to Lincoln park. Then the boys were divided into regiments, and the bands and others, and a beautiful repast supplied at Colonel Whitney's restaurant. A Camp-fire was held in the evening. On Wednesday, after the usual exercises, a grandly marshalled Reynolds Post, again proceeded to the Park, where addresses were delivered by prominent speakers. Returning to the city, the veterans were entertained at the Hotel of the Sons of Veterans, bearing a flag inscribed "The Sons of Veterans," and commanded by Comrade Lewis.

Where Washington Refused a Crown. A centennial celebration was held at New Windsor, New York, on the 22d inst., commemorating the landing up of the British and Washington's army at the termination of hostilities with Great Britain. The survivors of the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Regiment of New York volunteers also held a Reunion at New Windsor at the same time. Among the guests were several grandsons of General Jas. Clinton. Five thousand persons attended the celebration. A flag was raised over the site of the famous battle of Red Bank, the second annual military Convention held in February, 1882, with practical and useful papers.

Reunion of the 8th Iowa V. V. L. There will be a Reunion of the Eighth Iowa veteran volunteer infantry at Oskaloosa, Iowa, on October 17, 1883.

The Indiana Military Encampment. James R. Carnahan, brigadier-general and commander, has issued a circular, which contains the following: "The second annual military encampment of Indiana will be held at the city of Indianapolis, August 13 to 17, inclusive. The more to encourage military organizations, both within the State of Indiana and from other States, to take an interest in this encampment, and to insure a large attendance, the amount of prizes and the number of officers to be much in excess of those of the former year. The prizes offered by the executive committee are as follows: First prize—infantry—free for all, \$1,500; second prize—infantry—free for all, \$750; first prize—artillery—free for all, \$1,500; second prize—artillery—free for all, \$750; first prize—cavalry—free for all, \$300; first prize—cavalry—free for all, (three entries to fill), \$300; first prize—four gun batteries of artillery, (two entries to fill), \$1,500; second prize—four gun batteries of artillery, (two entries to fill), \$750; first prize—Indiana Legion."

THE MAGAZINES.

Lippincott's Magazine for July is published as a mid-month number, and the table of contents is an attractive one, including, among others, an illustrated paper, by S. H. M. Byers, United States Consul at Zurich; "British Land-Owners and American Competitors," by Arthur Granville Bradley, one of the Deans of Westminster; "New York Clubs," by C. B. Todd, and "My Asylum Life," by a Physician. Dr. J. Shille, late professor of the University of Pennsylvania, describes the condition of "Women in Ancient Greece and Rome" with reference to the much debated subject of female education. "Reminiscences of the Gettysburg Battle," by a company officer, is a simple and pleasing narrative, and "Monsieur and Marguerite," an illustrated story in five chapters, by the author of "Phyllis," "Molly Davis," etc., will be one of the chief attractions of this issue. A number of best readers of the Tinker's serial, "The Jewel in the Lotus," maintain its high interest, and "A Good Fellow," by W. O. Bates, is a well-written and pathetic story, which, under the number, "Love Has Deceived Me," by Stuart Serjes, exhibits remarkable talent.

Especially notable in St. Nicholas for July is an admirably written and wonderfully illustrated article on the Brooklyn Bridge. The pictures show the great bridge daily through the eyes of the artist, and the story opens the number with a characteristically amusing story of "How Johnnie's Men Struck Work," and George Enos Thorne contributes "A Story of the Old Shaver's mansion in Albany. There is an interesting paper by H. H. Ballard on the last convention of the National Amateur Press Association, and T. Trowbridge tells how the Tinshans' motto, 'The best is the enemy of the good,' was carried out by Maurice Thompson in the 'Story of Robin Hood.' Edward S. Ellis continues "Sweep Away," and there is another "Drummer-boy" paper, and a story of the number is the appearance of the prize compositions on "Robert Burns" and "A Shark in Sight." And there is much besides in the magazine that is timely, entertaining, and amusing.

NEW PUBLICATIONS. In the "History of the Seventy-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry of the Mounted Lightning Brigade," recently published by Vator & Co., LaFayette, Ind., Comrade B. F. Metcalf, sergeant of company I, has given a faithful record of the achievements of that famous regiment, and its part in the grand march, in camp, in battle and in prison. Apart from its value as a history, the work is one of peculiar interest from the fact that the author has especially devoted himself to giving the reader a definite knowledge of the career of the common soldier in the late war. This feature renders the narrative more graphic and causes it to appeal directly to the hearts and feelings of old soldiers, and the work has been so successful in depicting the everyday life of the common soldier, its incidents and events, is easily explained by the fact that he himself was of the ranks, faithfully carrying his gun and marching through the smoke of war, and, also, that he depended largely upon the diaries of private soldiers for his history. Many of the words which were created by the war, such as "Yanks," "Bobs," "sons of a-bitch," "skedaddle," &c., are retained, and, though, perhaps, not strictly elegant, yet convey powerfully and accurately facts and ideas. The work is a strongly edited by Wm. L. Jewell, lieutenant of company G. We trust it will have a large sale.

Fords, Howard & Hulbert have recently issued a valuable contribution to the literature of the rebellion, entitled "Bull and Shell: War as the Soldier Saw It." It is from the pen of George H. Knapp, a New York volunteer, and is a personal experience from Big Bethel to Appomattox, during which time he rose by well-earned promotion to the rank of major. He belonged to the Fifth and One Hundred and Forty-sixth regiments, New York volunteers, and was war correspondent with the army of the Potomac, Army of the Shenandoah, and Army of the Cumberland. He is also a New York journalist of some note, and has been associated with a multitude of spirited engravings from sketches by Edwin Forster, whose brilliant series of etchings—"Life-Studies of the Great Army"—gained him the applause of both soldiers and civilians, and through the French Etching Club. The work is one which will strike a responsive chord in the breast of every old veteran.

A. Brentano & Co., publishers of this City, have just issued an attractive little work entitled "Hints and Recipes for the Days of Moral, Economical and Agricultural Maxims and Reflections of Hesiod." It includes, also, a translation of Horace's "Praesae of Rural Life." The book, which is dedicated to the husbandman Knapp, will be found to be a store-house of valuable precepts, maxims and reflections for the young farmer, mechanic and laborer just commencing active life.

E. R. Polton & Co., New York, have recently published a work entitled "The New Departure," which is a practical and useful instruction in penmanship. We have examined it closely, and feel satisfied that the system which it teaches is complete and admirable. By following the rules a good hand can be formed in a short time, and the work is full of orthography and grammar and the use of capitals and punctuation points.

An interesting relic of prison-life, made by Charles A. Cook while a prisoner at Richmond and Andersonville, has recently been photographed and copied by the Messrs. D. W. Jones & Co., of Kansas. A graphic account of how the relic was made from what and with what tools—accompanied by the photographs, on the sale of which Mr. Daniels brook no competition, is dependent for the means of existence.

We are indebted to Clinton Babbitt, Esq., secretary of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, for a handsomely gotten-up volume of the transactions of that body for '81-'82, including the proceedings of the State Agricultural Convention held in February, 1882, with practical and useful papers.

Sharing by Piecemeal. [From the Trenton Times.] A commercial drummer, with several heavy cases in hand, passed into Wirth's barber shop, adjoining the State Street House, to-day. One of the barbers began to adjust a close shaven whiskers, while the other side was perfectly smooth. He threw himself into a chair. "Shave me," he said brusquely. The astonished barber began to adjust a close shaven neck, looking at the drummer's face meanwhile with eloquent curiosity. "Boo in the barber chair on this morning haven't you?" queried the barber. "Twice," said the stranger, correcting him; "once in Philadelphia and once at Bristol. Got my face lathered in Philadelphia and then saw I couldn't make my train unless I started. Got the barber to wipe off my face, and I ran and got on just as the train was moving. At Bristol I thought I'd have time to do some business and get shaved and catch the next train. Got through with my business, ran into a barber shop, got lathered again and got half my face shaved, when I heard the train coming. Jumped up and paid the barber, and again had my face wiped off, and struck for the depot and got the train. The barber thought I was a close shaven fellow at me and then turned away and whispered. He thought I was an escaped lunatic. I went a close shave, please, and take your time to it. You can't get a close shave unless you skelter business in the morning."