

NOTED PAPERS

Found Among the Archives of the Pension Office at Washington.

How Blaine's Great-Grandmother Got a Pension—A Look at the Land Warrants of U.S. Grant, Abraham Lincoln, and William T. Sherman—How Jefferson Davis and Frank Pierce Got Land Claims for Their Mexican War Records—Gen. Schuyler's Revolutionary Ledger—Logan's Application for a Land Claim.

BY FRANK G. CARPENTER. (Copyright, 1891.)

OWN in the Pension Office building at Washington, the files and records have been removed from above to the vast...

Among the Revolutionary records I came across the papers which granted a pension to Blaine's great-grandmother, the wife of Col. Ephraim Blaine...

Whether his gifts crippled him I do not know, but on the 4th of May 1818, his widow was granted a pension of \$600 a year.

It will be a surprise to many that Grant once received a land warrant of 160 acres for his services as Second Lieutenant and Regimental Quartermaster...

Abraham Lincoln and William T. Sherman also received land warrants. Capt. William T. Sherman's claim was made in 1818, his date is about the same as that of Grant's.

President Lincoln's papers were filed in 1855. They called for a land warrant for his services in the Black Hawk war, which he entered for an indefinite period...

It was at about the same time that Jefferson Davis, then Secretary of War under Franklin Pierce, got some land for his services as an officer in the war with Mexico...

The Revolutionary records of the Pension Office contain many old orderly books and diaries. I once found packed away in the stairs about a double barrel basket full of diaries...

Among the diaries are all sorts of curious things. Some record the daily doings of the soldiers at the time of the Revolution...

Gen. Scott got bounty land for his services in the war of 1812. This was granted him while at the head of the United States Army.

An orderly book containing the full workings of Benedict Arnold's expedition to Canada another curious work. It has a paste-board cover, and is about 10 inches square and an inch thick.

It was found among the account books the ledger of Maj.-Gen. Schuyler, Alexander Hamilton's father-in-law. This account book was kept from 1775 to 1777.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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Matters have been made worse by the declaration of the State of Illinois, which in Wales that they will close their works for a fortnight in December and a fortnight in January. The reason given for this action is that the owners of the works are unable to obtain the necessary capital to absorb the stocks now on hand...

Agents of the Chicago people who bought John Brown's Fort Harper's Ferry have bargained with the owners of the land on which the fort stands in Washington county, Md., for the purchase of the farm-house. The price said to be offered is \$25,000. This house is situated on a mountain, near Maryland Heights, opposite Harper's Ferry. John Brown, under the name of Smith, rented this farm from Jacob Ferry. He made the house his headquarters and here collected his arms and munitions...

Work of the Pension Office. During the week 6,551 claims were received, of which 50 were original invalids, 233 invalids, 8 bounty land, 14 navy, 17 old war, 128 casual, and 5,989 applications for increase; and of these, 1,194 original invalids, 483 invalids, prior application under old acts, 1,905. Number of claims received to date under act of June 27, 1890, 739,423. Claims disposed of to date under said act, 294,364. Number of rejected claims received, 1,532. The names and postoffice addresses of 1,591 comrades were furnished for the use of claimants. There were 106,136 pieces of mail matter received, of which 10,000 were blanks sent out. Number of cases detailed to Special Examiners, 202; reports and cases from Special Examiners, 207; cases on hand for special examination, 4,710. Report of certificates issued: Original, 3,408; increased, 1,817; duplicate, 32; accrued, 148; total, 5,565. Total number of claims pending, 105,935.

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FOSTER'S WEATHER FORECASTS.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Dec. 4.—December weather will average cold till about the 15th, and from the middle of December to about Jan. 10 will be the warmest part of the winter, on an average, but that period will be remarkable for extremes of heat and cold, severe storms, deep snows and sudden changes. The most severe storm of the month will occur after the 15th. The Eastern States will have had weather for Christmas, while it will generally be clear and cold west of the Mississippi. In the lake region and the Ohio Valley will be mixed weather generally, clearing and growing colder on that holiday. Severe storms on the Atlantic coast about the 25th.

A storm wave will be due to leave the Pacific Coast about Dec. 4, cross the central valleys from 5th to 7th, and reach the Atlantic coast about the 25th. It will be at its greatest force when near the State of Maine on the 9th and ocean gales will be quite severe at that time. A wave of cold weather will follow this disturbance about one day in its rear.

The second December storm wave will move down the Atlantic coast about the 9th, and will be the warmest part of the winter, on an average, and it will decrease in force as it moves eastward across the continent. It will cross the Rocky Mountains about the 10th, the great central valleys from 11th to 13th, and reach the Atlantic coast about the 14th. The cool wave will come into the upper Missouri Valley about the 12th, and move southward, reaching the Atlantic coast about the 15th.

The Chilean Situation. While all is quiet in Chile at present it would not seem that the authorities at Washington have accepted as literal truth President Montt's statement that the forces of the Chilean army and navy will be materially reduced. This is due to advice from our naval officers in Chile, coupled with information from Europe. There appears to be considerable inconsistency between what the Chilean say they intend to do and what they are doing.

Representatives of the new Chilean Government are now in Germany making a special study of the latest and greatest tactics of the German army. There is also talk in Chile of making war service compulsory, as it is in the Fatherland.

Chilean officers have been sent to other countries to study the latest and greatest tactics of the German army. There is also talk in Chile of making war service compulsory, as it is in the Fatherland.

Is the Emperor of Germany Insane? A correspondent writing from Berlin states that the rumors which regard Emperor William's mental health, it being supposed that the Kaiser is insane, various recent events giving rise to the fear that the imperial mind is unbalanced. Something strange and shifty looking has been noticed in the eyes of the young sovereign for some time past, which is said to remain persistently strongly of the late King of Bavaria. The Emperor's growing taste for the drama is thought to be a sinister analogy between the two monarchs. Everything relating to the stage seems to fascinate him, and some months ago he ordered a general officer to teach the ballet at the opera house a military dance. The Kaiser's well known mania for changing his uniforms is considered another odd symptom, he having been seen in 11 different military and civilian costumes in one day, and on one occasion he donned an Admiral's uniform to go out boating. The most serious part of the matter is his tendency to extend his frolics to German politics. He recently said "It is the duty of Germans to follow their Emperor blindly and everywhere," which sentiment does not find echo in the breast of many of his subjects. Having the greatest of all the perils to his German empire exposed by William's restlessness, lie in his conduct of foreign affairs, and they are in constant dread that he will involve the Fatherland in bloody war with both Russia and France.

Agents wanted. Comrades preferred. See page 4.

Another Mexican Outrage. The official report of the stabbing of Private Barrett, of Troop G, 3d U. S. Cav., by the guard at the entrance to the barracks at Fort McIntosh, Tex., says that "Barrett, being boisterous, was arrested by the municipal police of Nuevo Laredo while on his way to and near the bridge leading to the barracks. He was taken to jail and put under charge of a guard of Mexican soldiers acting in a civic capacity as jailers. About two hours later, under the aggravation of maltreatment, he was subjected to the cruellest of native converts, who were put to death with feroocious cruelty. Children of tender years were seized by the savages, hacked with knives and roasted at a huge fire. A worse fate still befell the children, who were strangled by the most indolgent, and afterward buried them with massive clubs. The Belgian priests were cruelly tortured, but met their fate with Christian heroism. The movement, together with several mandarins. 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