PENSION POINTERS.

Inquiries Answered and Suggestions Made.

J. I. D., Chicago.—For affection of eyes not causing loss of sight of either eye, there is no fixed general law rate of pension. If the sight was so affected that the soldier could not see to do any effective manual labor, a rate of $30 might be allowed. The rate before 1880, however, would be only $20 or $24. The widow of an applicant for invalid pension under the general law can complete his claim and receive the pension thereon up to the date of his death. If his claim was filed before July 1, 1880, the pension would date back to his discharge.

G. P. E., Genoa, N. Y.—If your claim is for increase of general law pension, on disability not covered by the pension certificate, the increase, if granted, will commence from the date of filing application therefor. If, as appears from your statement, your claim is awaiting official action, you cannot change attorneys without the consent of your present attorney.

A. C. P., Stevens Point, Wis.—Your former question is not recalled. The opinion of the Medical Referee of the Pension Bureau practically controls the action of the Bureau on all medical questions. This has been the case for many years. The Medical Referee, however, is but the subordinate of the Commissioner of Pensions, and carries out whatever policy his chief desires as to liberality or illiberality in official actions. If the action of the Pension Bureau on a medical question is unsatisfactory, the question can be appealed to the Secretary of the Interior. There is no "two-thirds" pension. It is difficult to say what rating would be allowed for a hand regarded as two-thirds disabled. The rate for total disability of a hand is $30, and the rate for an estimated two-thirds disability thereof would be unlikely to exceed $17.

J. L. Y., Maxwell, Ohio.—If discharged before two years' service, for reasons other than wound or injury incurred in line of duty, three-years' volunteers of 1861, enlisted after July 21, are not entitled to any original bounty. Applications for bounty on account of military service are made to the Auditor for the War Department.

E. J. S., Brooklyn, N. Y.—The bounty act of July 20, 1888, benefits those three-year volunteers enlisted before July 22, 1861, but not mustered till after Aug. 6, 1861, who were discharged before two years' service for reasons other than wound or injury incurred in line of duty, and who therefore did not become entitled to bounty under the acts of July 22, 1861; March 3, 1863, or March 3, 1865. The bounty act of April 22, 1872, covered those who, having enlisted before July 22, 1861, were mustered before Aug. 6, 1861.

S. H., Hot Springs, S. D.—As the act of June 27, 1890, has been construed, there have been ever since its enactment cases where the disability that would entitle the soldier to a small rating under the general law would not entitle him to any rating whatever under the act of 1890. Disablement as low as "one-eighteenth" is pensionable under the general law, whereas even under the first construction of the act of 1890 not less than six-eighteenths disability was necessary to secure a rating thereunder. Pension under the act of 1890 commences from date of filing the application on which the pension is allowed.

A. H. K., Whitman, Mass.—If your general law claim is rejected simply because of your inability to furnish evidence of continuance of disability for an interval of five years, there ought not to be much difficulty in securing favorable action on appeal to the Secretary of the Interior. An appeal is probably the only action that will secure further consideration of the case in the Pension Bureau, unless you can furnish material evidence bearing on the ground of rejection.

J. M. D., Grinnell, Iowa.—Under an order of the Secretary of War, May 30, 1865, certain returned prisoners-of-war were allowed three months' extra pay. No authority of law existed for such payment, and the allowance was soon discontinued.

L. A. H., Brockport, N. Y.—As you are receiving $24 per month on account of your eye, the order of Dec. 4, 1891, increasing the rate for loss of sight of one eye from $8 to $12 does not benefit you. If your eyesight debars you from manual labor of any sort, probably you can get $30 per month.

Work of the Pension Office.

The report of certificates issued for the week ended June 21 shows:

Army Invalid: Original, 7; increase, 335; reissue, 82; restoration, 3; renewal, 28; supplemental, 9; duplicate, 3; accrued, 119. Total, 556.

Army nurses: Duplicate, 1.

Army widows, etc.: Original, 80; increase, 4; reissue, 9; restoration, 1; renewal, 77; duplicate, 1. Total, 172.

Navy Invalids: Increase, 3; reissue, 2; renewal, 1; accrued, 2. Total, 8.

Navy widows, etc.: Reissue, 1.

Old Wars Invalids: Accrued, 2.

Old Wars Widows: Original, 1; renewal, 1. Total, 2.

Army invalids (war with Spain): Original, 76; increase, 6; reissue, 2; duplicate, 2. Total, 86.

Army widows, etc. (war with Spain): Original, 19; increase, 1; accrued, 1. Total, 21.

Navy invalids (war with Spain): Original, 4; reissue, 1. Total, 5.

Navy widows, etc. (war with Spain): Original, 1.

Army invalids (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 364; increase, 979; additional, 193; reissue, 20; restoration, 2; renewal, 37; supplemental, 4; duplicate, 13; accrued, 148. Total, 1,760.

Army widows, etc. (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 317; increase, 10; reissue, 1; renewal, 3; supplemental, 2; duplicate, 2; accrued, 3. Total, 338.

Navy invalids (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 34; increase, 16; reissue, 1; renewal, 1; accrued, 5. Total, 57.

Navy widows, etc. (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 11; renewal, 1. Total, 12.

Mexican War Survivors: Increase, 9; reissue, 12; accrued, 4. Total, 25.

Mexican War Widows: Original, 10.

Indian Wars (1832-1842) Survivors: Accrued, 1.

Indian Wars (1832-1842) Widows: Original, 8.

Totals—Original, 628; increase, 1,383; additional, 193; reissue, 81; restoration, 6; renewal, 149; supplemental, 15; duplicate, 22; accrued, 285. Total, 3,060.

Colorado and Wyoming G.A.R.

The 23d Annual Encampment of the Department of Colorado and Wyoming met at Rocky Ford, Colo., June 10, 11 and 12 with a large attendance.

A magnificent parade was held on the first day, and the good people of the town gave the veterans a royal welcome.

Flags were everywhere and business houses and private residences were elaborately decorated.

The Encampment was called to order at 9 a. m., June 11, by Gen. L. E. Sherman, Department Commander, and reports from all the officers were presented.

The report of the Assistant Adjutant-General showed gains since the last Encampment of over 300 members. This increase in membership is the result of active and persistent effort on the part of the Department officers.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Com., J. W. Huff, Victor; S. V. C., W. B. Upton, Denver; J. V. C., R. H. Mellette, Arvada; Chap., W. I. Whittier, Monte Vista; Medical Director, G. W. Curfman, Denver.

During the proceedings Gen. Linus E. Sherman was unanimously indorsed as candidate for the office of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief at the next National Encampment.

Cheyenne, Wyo., was designated as the place of the next meeting of the Encampment.

Indian Territory Officers.

The 11th Annual Encampment of the Department of Indian Territory, in session at Muskogee, I. T., June 12, elected the following officers: Com., B. F. Harris, Muskogee; S. V. C., J. A. Rose, Chickasha; J. V. C., Robert Ross, Tahlequah; Medical Director, Dr. R. Robbins, Muskogee; Chaplain, E. G. Bell, Muskogee. Council of Administration, H. T. Estes, Muskogee; W. F. Ransom, Tahlequah; J. D. Bridges, Chilkasha; J. B. Kent, Ardmore; E. Zinnerman, Vinita. Representative to the National Encampment, Dr. D. A. Griffith; Alternate, J. C. Wilkinson. Commander Harris has appointed the following staff: A. A. G. and A. Q. M. G., Samuel H. Smith, Muskogee; Inspector, H. T. Bolen, Nowata; Judge-Advocate, J. P. Grady, Sonin McAlester; Chief Mustering Officer, E. W. Grimsom, Muskogee; Senior Aid and Chief of Staff, H. T. Estes, Muskogee.

PRIVATE PENSION BILLS.

Action Taken by the House of Representatives in Many Claims.

The House of Representatives on June 14 passed the following private pensions bills:

William F. Randolph, pilot, U. S. N.; $12.

Anna May Hogan, widow of John Hogan, Co. C, 34th N. Y.; $8. (Senate Bill.)

John R. Curry, Co. G, 13th Iowa; increase, $30.

Hiram H. Thomas, Co. I, 1st R. I. Cav.; increase, $30. (Senate Bill.)

Timothy Donohoe, Co. B, 69th N. Y.; increase, $17.

Peter J. Osterhaus, Major-General, U. S. Vols.; increase, $50. (Senate Bill.)

John D. Thompson, Co. M, 50th N. Y. Vol. Engs.; increase, $24.

Mary Breckons, widow of Edward R. Breckons, Second Lieutenant, Co. F, 124th Ill.; increase, $15. (Senate Bill.)

Clarence D. Hess, Captain, Co. G, 13th N. Y.; increase, $24.

Emma F. Shilling, widow of John Shilling, First Lieutenant, Co. H, 3d Del.; increase, $17. (Senate Bill.)

John H. Whidden, Co. A, 2d Fla. Cav.; $12.

Cynthia J. Shattuck, widow of George F. Shattuck, Captain, Co. B, 6th Mass.; increase, $20. (Senate Bill.)

James H. Joseph, Co. D, 3d Del.; increase, $40.

Charles Barrett, Co. A, 46th Ill.; increase, $24. (Senate Bill.)

James H. Chedester, Co. E, 4th Tenn.; increase, $17.

Mary Florence Von Steinwehr, widow of Adolph Von Steinwehr, Brigadier-General, U. S. Vols.; $30. (Senate Bill.)

Henry Thomas, Co. G, 130th Ind.; increase, $17.

James E. McNair, First Lieutenant, Co. K, 6th Tenn. Cav.; increase, $24. (Senate Bill.)

Edd Lodge, Acting Third Assistant Engineer, U. S. N.; $12.

Elizabeth Whitty, widow of Edward P. Whitty, alias Park Whittemore, Co. M, 1st Md. Cav.; increase, $12; and $2 additional on account of minor child. (Senate Bill.)

James A. Clifton, Co. F, 46th Pa.; $12.

John J. Southerland, of Capt. Michael M. Gilbreath's Co., Alabama Scouts and Guides; $12.

Lewis G. Latour, Co. H, 14th Conn.; increase, $30. (Senate Bill.)

Benjamin S. Bogardus, Co. H, 170th Ohio National Guards; increase, $20.

Francis M. McAdams, Co. A, 10th Pa. Reserve Inf.; increase, $24. (Senate Bill.)

William W. Anderson, Co. F, 18th Ill.; increase, $24.

Edward N. Goff, Co. H, 1st Conn. H. A.; increase, $30. (Senate Bill.)

Julia McCarthy, widow of Timothy McCarthy, Co. G, 6th U. S. Inf.; $12.

Benjamin S. Harrower, Captain, Battery G, 1st Ind. H. A.; increase, $30. (Senate Bill.)

Joseph Mote, Co. G, 124th Ind.; increase, $30.

William R. Raymond, Co. K, 3d Me.; increase, $20. (Senate Bill.)

William A. Henderson, Co. C, 2d N. C. M't'd Inf.; increase, $24.

Edgar T. Chamberlain, Co. H, 18th Wis.; increase, $30. (Senate Bill.)

John Bruff, 15th N. Y. Engs.; $12.

James Irvine, Co. G, 48th N. Y.; increase, $30. (Senate Bill.)

Jason E. Freeman, Co. C, 6th Vt.; increase, $40.

Lizzie I. Rich, widow of William H. Rich, Co. B, 31st Mass.; increase, $12.

Washington T. Filson, Captain, Independent Company, Caldwell County, Mo.; Home Guards; $12.

David B. Wood, of Thomas Gaskin's Company, Ind. Legion; $12.

Horace Fountain, Co. K, 74th Ill.; increase, $24.

George Kerr, Co. G, 5th Ohio, and First Lieutenant, Co. A, 83d Ohio; increase, $24.

George Heinzman, Captain, Co. B, 82d Ill.; increase, $24.

Benjamin White, Co. E, 35th Pa.; increase, $24.

David S. Taylor, First Assistant Engineer, Ram Mongo, Ellet's Ram Fleet; $12.

John McArthur, Colonel, 12th Ill., and Brigadier-General, U. S. Vols.; increase, $50.

Baley W. Small, First Lieutenant, Co. K, 77th Ind.; increase, $24.

Nelson Brown, Co. G, 109th N. Y.; increase, $12.

Mary E. Lemert (now Adams), dependent mother of Charles C. Lemert, Co. A, 76th Ohio; increase, $17.

John S. Crosser, Co. C, 97th Ohio; increase, $24.

Joseph S. Mess, Musician, 2d Mass.; increase, $24.

Henry Hunterson, Co. B, 88th Pa.; increase, $17.

Ann Comins, widow of John Comins, Acting Third Assistant Engineer, U. S. N.; increase, $12. (Senate Bill.)

Otis A. Barlow, Co. B, 34th N. J.; increase, $20. (Senate Bill.)

Samuel J., Christopher and Jane Vickers, invalid and dependent children of Thomas Vickers, Co. A, 96th Ill.; jointly, $12. (Senate Bill.)

John M. Wheeler, Principal Musician, 27th Ill.; increase, $24. (Senate Bill.)

Jemima McClure, widow of James R. McClure, Co. L, 1st Ind. H. A.; $12, and $2 additional on account of minor child.

Betsey Gumm, widow of Peter H. Gumm, Co. B, 81st N. Y.; increase, $12. (Senate Bill.)

Mary J. Moore, widow of James E. Moore, Troop B, 7th U. S. Cav.; $12.

Adelaide G. Hatch, widow of John P. Hatch, Colonel, 2d U. S. Cav. and Brigadier-General U. S. Vols. (Senate Bill granting $50 amended to grant $20.)

Clara W. McNair, widow of Frederick V. McNair, Rear Admiral, U. S. N.; increase, $40. (Senate Bill granting $50 amended to grant $40.)

Margaret Bell, widow of James Bell, Co. E, 7th U. S. Inf.; $12 and $2 additional on account of minor child.

William G. Miller, of Capt. Harris's Company, Ga. Vols., Creek Indian War; $8.

Ellen F. Pook, widow of Samuel H. Pook, Captain, U. S. N.; $30.

Mary A. E. Scott, widow of James H. Scott, of Captain Sledge's Company, Ga. Vols., Creek Indian War; increase, $12.

John W. Huckelberry, Co. D, 4th Ill., War with Mexico; increase, $20.

Martin Greeley, Co. B, 9th U. S. Inf.; $8.

William H. Ruggles, Co. H, 1st Pa., and Battery G, 2d U. S. A., War with Spain.

James A. Chaifant, Co. F, 18th U. S. Inf.; $8.

Mary E. Aitken, mother of Thomas F. Aitken, Co. K, 14th N. Y., War with Spain; $12.

Julia Lee, mother of George D. Lee, Co. B, 11th U. S. Inf., War with Spain, $12.

Cappa King, helpless and dependent daughter of John W. King, Co. D, 8th Ill.; $12.

Jane Brosnan, widow of Timothy Brosnan, Co. I, 37th N. Y.; increase, $12.

Johnniken L. Mynatt, of Capt. Gideon H. White's Company, National Guards of East Tennessee; $20.

Mary A. Peters, widow of Augustus C. Peters, Second Lieutenant, Co. K, 16th Me.; $15.

Monora Stimson, widow Charles P. Stimson, Captain, Co. I, 46th Ill.; increase, $20.

Henry P. Macloon, Second Lieutenant, Co. K, 25th Mo.; increase, $20.

Luman Fuller, Co. C, 124th Ohio; increase, $40.

Albert H. Phillips, Co. A, 34th Ill.; increase, $36.

Charles M. Grainger, First Lieutenant, Co. B, 88th N. Y.; increase, $20.

Hiram A. Holber, 12th Ind'p't Battery, N. Y. L. A.; increase, $24.

Jonathan Walbert, Co. F, 72d Pa.; increase, $20.

Samantha Yant, former widow of Thomas Cox, Co. D, 170th Ohio; $12.

Alonzo Carpenter, Co. I, 1st N. J., and Co. F, 185th N. Y.; increase, $24.

Jennett Stewart, widow of Alfred Stewart, Co. L, 7th Ill. Cav.; increase, $20; provided that in case of the death of the helpless child on whose account the pension of Jennett Stewart is increased, the said pension shall continue only at the rate of $8.

Hiram Janes, Co. A, 1st Wis. H. A.; increase, $30.

R. Sherman Langworthy, Co. B, 117th N. Y.; increase, $24. (Senate Bill.)

Daniel Ridinger, Co. A, 93d Ind.; increase, $30. (Senate Bill.)

Henry W. Tyron, First Lieutenant, Co. G, 27th Mass.; increase, $24. (Senate Bill.)

William H. Thomas, Second Lieutenant, Co. I, and First Lieutenant and Adjutant, 5th Ohio; increase, $30. (Senate Bill.)

Joshua Weaver, Co. D, 88th Ill.; increase, $24. (Senate Bill.)

Edwin Young, Co. A, 2d N. H.; increase, $30. (Senate Bill.)

Joseph W. Robertson, Co. K, 1st Mass., and Co. H, 4th Mass. Cav.; increase, $24.

Susan E. Duncan, widow of Alexander P. Duncan, Lieutenant-Colonel, 4th Pa. Cav.; increase, $20.

James B. Mahan, helpless and dependent son of Dempsey Mahan, Co. B, 3d Ark. Cav.; $12.

John H. Roberts, Co. B, 6th Tenn.; $12.

John W. Craine, Co. A, 8th N. H.; increase, $30. (Senate Bill.)

Albert M. Scott, Co. B, 2d Me. Cav.; increase, $30.

Freeman R. Gove, Co. K, 4th Vt.; increase, $30.

John J. Cross, Co. H, 8th Ind. Cav.; increase, $30.

Dudley Cary, Co. D, 46th Wis.; increase, $30. (Senate Bill.)

George Riddle, Co. I, 39th Ill.; increase, $30.

Mary E. Fleming, widow of John P. Fleming, Co. G, 101st Ohio; increase, $15.

Fannie Frost, widow of Robert Frost, Co. B, 7th N. Y. H. A.; $12. (Senate Bill.)

Henry Hale, Co. D, 25th Mich.; increase, $40.

John A. Ridley, Co. B, 1st Battalion Fremont's Rangers, Mo. Home Guards; $12. (Senate Bill.)

Newton W. Elmendorf, Co. C, 6th Pa. Reserves; increase, $24.

Eberhard P. Lieberg, Co. H, 4th Minn.; increase, $24.

Hester A. Farnsworth, dependent mother of Edward Farnsworth, Co. C, 12th U. S. Inf.; $12. (Senate Bill.)

Alexander Curd, Co. B, 20th Ky.; increase, $30.

John H. Everitt, Co. F, 1st Regiment Potomac Home Brigade (13th Md. Vols, Inf.); increase, $20. (Senate Bill.)

William Burke, Co. K, 115th Ill.; increase, $20.

Queen Esther Grimes, widow of William H. Grimes, Co. H, 11th Md.; increase, $12. (Senate Bill.)

Abner D. Ritherford, Co. F, 6th Tenn.; $12.

Maggie L. Reaver, widow of Henry A. Reaver, Co. C, 1st Regiment Potomac Home Brigade, Md. Vol. Cav.; increase, $12. (Senate Bill.)

George W. Mathews, Co. H, 76th Ohio; increase, $14.

Robert Lemon, Co. H, 78th Pa.; increase, $30. (Senate Bill.)

John Wright, Co. K, 108th N. Y.; increase, $20.

William Kelley, Cos. A and B, 16th Pa. Cav.; increase, $24. (Senate Bill.)

Elizabeth A. Nalley, helpless and dependent daughter of William H. Nalley, Captain, Co. A, 5th D. C. Battalion; $12.

Margaret Brennan, widow of Robert Brennan, of Capt. Quinlan's Engineer Company, 69th N. Y. State Militia; $8.

Lillie V. Ball, widow of Charles H. Ball, Second Assistant Engineer, U. S. N.; increase, $12.

Anson Greenman, Co. B, 84th Ind.; increase, $24.

John Downing, Co. E, 5th N. Y. H. A.; increase, $12.

John C. Clarke, Co. K, 69th N. Y.; $8.

Herman J. Miller, Co. L, 11th Tenn. Cav.; $12.

Edmund Likes, Co. F, 118th Ill.; increase, $24.

Daniel J. Byrnes, Co. D, 35th Mass.; increase, $30.

Benjamin F. Barrett, Co. I, 3d Mo. S. M. Cav.; increase, $24.

Rebecca L. Chambers, widow of William R. Chambers, Co. B, 6th Tenn.; $8.

Eliza A. Richards, widow of William Richards, jr., Colonel, 29th Pa.; increase, $30.

Calvin W. Clark, Co. G, 30th Ill.; $12.

Francis M. Beebe, Co. G, 114th N. Y.; increase, $36.

James J. Wilson, Co. E, 87th Ill.; increase, $50.

Anne M. Luman, widow of Theodore Luman, First Lieutenant and Adjutant, 2d Regiment, Potomac Home Brigade Md. Vol. Inf.; increase, $15.

Mary J. Markel, widow of John Markel, Co. E, 53d Pa.; $8.

John A. Wright, Co. F, 11th Iowa; increase, $30.

Lambert Johnston, Co. F, 10th Mich. Cav.; increase, $12.

Emily S. Barrett, dependent mother of William H. Barrett, Co. F, 16th Vt.; $12.

James W. Young, Co. B, 2d Wis. Cav.; increase, $20.

Warren C. Plummer, First Lieutenant, Co. C, 15th Me.; increase, $30.

John Q. A. Rider, First Lieutenant, Co. E, 91st Ill.; increase, $30.

John D. Binford, Co. C, 2d Iowa Cav.; increase, $20.

Mary V. Scriven, widow of Gardner R. Scriven, Acting Surgeon, U. S. V.; $12.

Nelson W. Wade, Co. G, 21st N. Y.; $12. (Senate Bill.)

William D. Stites, Co. M, 8th Ill. Cav.; increase, $20. (Senate Bill.)

Thomas Hannah, Co. F, 15th Ill.; increase, $24. (Senate Bill.)

William Mennecke, Co. C, 1st Mass.; $12.

George W. Edgington, Co. H, 8th Iowa Cav.; increase, $30.

Allen C. Davis, Co. G, 113th Ill.; increase, $40.

Parmenus F. Harris, Co. I, 100th Ohio; increase, $12.

James Wilkinson, Co. F, 93d N. Y.; increase, $17.

Charles H. Webb, Co. B, 2d Cal. Cav.; increase, $24.

Absolum Maynard, of Capt. Thomas Damaron's Independent Co. Va. Vol. Inf.; $12.

Samantha A. Newcomb, former widow of Arrian Newcomb, Co. D, 66th Ohio; $12.

Joseph Stonesifer, Co. I, 87th Pa.; increase, $24.

Charles Meyer, Captain, Co. F, 73d Pa.; $12.

James P. Thomas, Co. I, 5th Iowa Cav.; increase, $24.

Thomas D. Utter, Co. B, 59th Ohio; increase, $20. (Senate Bill.)

Esther D. Haslam, widow of Thomas Haslam, Second Lieutenant, Co. K, 26th Pa.; increase, $20. (Senate Bill.)

Linda W. Slaughter, widow of Benjamin F. Slaughter, Surgeon, 55th Ky.; increase, $35. (Senate Bill.)

James S. Myers, Co. F, 118th Ind.; increase, $30. (Senate Bill.)

Charles A. Scott, Cos. M and F, 18th N. Y. Cav.; increase, $20.

Martha E. Kendrick, widow of William H. Kendrick, Second Lieutenant, Capt. E. E. Mizell's Company, Fla. Vols., Seminole Indian War; $12.

Clayton P. Van Houten, Captain, Co. D, 1st S. Dak., War with Spain; increase, $50. (Senate Bill.)

Henry Loor Reger, Co. K, 11th U. S. Inf., war with Mexico, and Co. H, 85th Pa.; increase, $12. (Senate Bill.)

Frederick Seymore, widow of George Seymore, Co. F, 20th U. S. Inf.; $8, and $2 additional on account of each minor child.

Elizabeth A. Turner, widow of James A. Turner, Co. B, 4th U. S. Art., Seminole Indian War. (Senate Bill granting $16 amended to grant $12.)

Louisa A. Crosby, widow of Pierce Crosby, Rear Admiral, U. S. N.; increase, $50. (Senate Bill.)

Oceana B. Irwin, widow of John Irwin, Rear Admiral, U. S. N.; increase, $50. (Senate Bill.)

Isabella H. Irish, widow of Joseph E. Irish, Post Chaplain, U. S. A.; $20. (Senate Bill.)

Grace M. Read, widow of Frank D. Read, Lieutenant, U. S. N.; increase, $25.

Maria M. C. Smith, widow of Charles H. Smith, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A., War with Mexico; $8.

Michael Conlon, father of John Conlon, Co. D, 19th U. S. Inf.; $12.

Susan B. Lynch, widow of George Lynch, of Capt. Irby's Company, 1st Battalion Ala. Vols., War with Mexico; increase, $12.

Helen Olivia Leckie, widow of Henry Leckie, Co. E, 3d La., War with Mexico; increase, $16.

Huldah A. Clark, widow of William L. Clark, Co. B, 1st Ind., War with Mexico; $8.

Encampment of Maryland Division, S. V.

At the Encampment of the Maryland Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. at Chautauqua Beach (Bay Ridge), Md., June 24 and 25, the following officers were elected and installed for the ensuing year: Com., F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.; S. V. C., William T. Whitley, Baltimore, Md.; J. V. C., Charles F. Hastings, Washington, D. C.

Division Council, Edgar Allan, Jr., Richmond, Va.; Miles W. Ross, Baltimore, Md.; George S. Whitmore, Washington, D. C. Quartermaster, E. K. De Puy, Washington, D. C. Delegates to National Encampment, F. E. Cross, Washington, D. C., and F. A. Kearney, Phoebus, Va.; Alternates to Delegates, B. J. Northcott and O. H. Budlong, Washington, D. C.

Commander-in-Chief E. R. Campbell, accompanied by Adj't-Gen. Charles S. Davis and Ass't Adj't Gen. Clay G. Collette, of his staff, were in attendance.

The Commander-in-Chief spoke encouragingly of the prospects of the Order, especially with reference to the National Memorial University, and also referred to the enthusiasm shown in connection with the National Encampment to be held in Washington during the session of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Division decided to hold its next Encampment at Richmond, Va.

North Dakota G.A.R. and W.R.C.

The Annual Encampment of North Dakota G. A. R. was held in Fargo, N. D., June 20. Commander-in-Chief Torrance was present. The following officers were elected:

Com., J. C. Gipson, Valley City; S. V. C., James Carpenter, Park River; J. V. C., U. L. Roberts, Wahpeton; Medical Director, J. H. Johnston, Lisbon; Chap., M. H. Kiff, Tower City. Delegates, F. W. Wright, Jamestown; Adolph Bessle, Wahpeton; Council of Administration, W. Ackerman, Grand Forks; Smith Stimmel, Fargo; D. Elemater, Minnewaukan; A. J. Ames, Towner; E. Tibbitts, Bismarck.

The W. R. C., which held its sessions during the Department Encampment, elected the following officers: Pres., Mrs. Fannie A. Valkar, Wahpeton; S. V. P., Florence Pettes, Devil's Lake; J. V. P., Ella J. Ryman, Lisbon; Treas., Susan R. Morrill, Wahpeton; Delegates, Jessie Tracey, Bismarck; Agnes Comstock, Minnewaukan.

The 1903 Encampment will be held at Lisbon.

A FRIEND WITH THE COUNTERSIGN.

(Continued from first page.)

For a long time neither spoke. The sun was in midheaven; the place was cool; we rested. York had clung to his sack through all the scramble; we ate a little, but had no water.

"How far have we come from Showalter, York?"

"Only about two miles, suh."

"I ought to have waited for night."

"Yes, suh; that would have been betteh."

I was not quite sure of it, however. If Scranton had seen me, the game would have been lost by the day's delay.

"How far is it to White House?"

"White House itself is on the otheh side of the riveh; perhaps 10 miles from heah, suh."

"How far to the river on this side?"

"About nine miles, suh."

"How far do these woods extend?"

"A long distance, suh; neahly to the riveh."

"Have we been going toward the river?"

"Not direckly, suh; we ah going down it."

"How far to our right is it?"

"Three miles, suh, about."

"Don't you think we ought to get near the river?"

"Hahdly, suh; the river is so crooked that we'd lose time by following it."

"But we'd be safer?"

"I can't say, suh; the Confederates cross it when they wish."

I was for going on; York argued for remaining where we were till night. While we were debating this matter, a shot was heard at our rear and left, seemingly a quarter of a mile away.

"What do you suppose that means, York?"

He did not reply at once; he was listening. Now he stood up, looking and hearkening toward the big road at the left, in which we had seen the renegades. He waved his hand at me to keep quiet, and disappeared in the bushes, going toward the road.

What the shot had meant I could not think. Was it a signal? A signal of what? Perhaps our escape had been learned, and the force was gathering for a new effort to surround us. I was wishing we had not stopped. I wished York had not left me. We ought to go on.

I heard footsteps, and York stood before me. The rascal was grinning. "They've got Bahton, suh," he said.

"Who is Barton?"

"One of the men who set the woods afiah, suh."

"And who's got him?"

"The home-gynahds, suh. Got him and his hoss. I reckon they'll hang him."

"And what has become of the others?"

"I don't know, suh; they've run away, I suppose."

"You seem very glad that a man is in danger of being hanged, York."

"Yes, suh; I wish they'd hang eve'y one of 'em."

Although I did not wish that any man should be hanged, yet I felt immense relief.

"We can go on now, York?"

"Oh, yes, suh; theah is no longeh any dangeh, at least f'om those men."

"But from other men?"

"Yes, suh; the home-gynahds ah yo' enemies."

"We must risk them," said I, rising.

York led the way rapidly straight through the woods, his course guided by nothing whatever, so far as I could see. An almost sleepless night had been followed by a forenoon of intense anxiety and of actual suffering, and I was compelled to ask York to lessen his speed; but even a slower progress was hard on me, and before a great while I demanded rest. The negro encouraged me to keep on going for a short distance more; we should soon reach good water, and then we might rest till dark, if I wished—a good spring, he said.

"Near anybody's house?" I asked, with some fear.

"No, suh, at de ole chu'ch; chu'ch done gone, but spring dah yit," he said, in the affectionate manner of a negro giving comfort.

"Public place, York?"

"No, suh; theah is a crossroad and an old graveyahd, but the spring is on this side. We'll be all right."

A few hundred yards farther on York stopped.

"Stay heah, suh, till I go and see," he said. "The spring is right theah," pointing to a little hollow not more than 50 feet away, surrounded by undergrowth. I told him to be careful and not go in sight of road or house. He went on, and I at once found the spring and drank and drank; then I stripped off my coat and bathed my hands and face, and took off my shoes and put my feet in the cold stream below, and let them sink in the wet sand and stay and soak. You know what a delight it is to wade in the water, and to feel your feet make connection with Mother Earth; it does you good through and through.

When York returned, he found me lying flat on my back, with my legs in the water and my feet on the sand at its bottom.

"Nothing to feah up theah, suh," he said.

It was now 3 o'clock, and I was sure that a few hours' rest would be well spent.

We found a hiding-place some 200 yards farther down the branch; then I tried to sleep, and at last did sleep, York promising to remain awake.

About sunset I awoke. York had been faithful to his promise; he was sitting on the ground, some 10 steps away, watching toward the road. We set out again, making for the river, where York thought he could find a boat. We were soon on the edge of an opening. York halted, and pointed to an object pendent over the public road. Just where the roads crossed, a great oak spread its limbs far and wide. From one of these limbs dangled the Milford outpost, hatless, coatless, and shoeless. It was not 20 yards from the spot where I was standing.

"I tole you they got Bahton, suh!" said York.

I said nothing.

On the bole of the tree a board had been nailed, and with a piece of charcoal had been rudely lettered:

WORNING TO TRATORS

CHAPTER XXIII.

WATER.

"The posts come tiring on,
And not a man of them brings other news."
—Shakspere.

York's hope of finding a boat at the river was realized. Concealed by some negro above the mouth of a small creek, it might have remained unnoticed indefinitely, but my companion had used it on a former occasion by the consent of the owner, and now took liberties which he professed to be easily able to settle for. The bateau was full of water; York used his hat and emptied it. He left me awhile to fetch a paddle, knowing where it had been hidden. We got in and pushed into the edge of the Pamunkey, and on down the stream under the trees curving overhead. The night was very dark, and our progress was slow; through fear of enemies on the south bank we would not venture into the open current, and the overhanging trees gave us much trouble. I sat in front, and moved the branches that obstructed us; York was using the paddle. The night was yet young, and there would be no moon before 2 o'clock; by that time we were hoping to be in wide water below, and near the Federal fleet. We talked but little, and in low whispers.

"How far is it yet, York?"

"About eight miles, suh."

"You mean by the river?"

"Yes, suh."

"How far by land?"

"About five miles, suh."

"How fast are we going?"

"Ve'y slowly, suh; I feah the bateau is getting full of wateh, suh. It leaks badly, suh."

We landed and again bailed the water from the boat, but darkness prevented us from even trying to stop the leaks. We had come not more than a dozen rods. A fresh start was made, and again we were compelled to stop.

"York, what sort of a country is it below?" I asked.

"Good country, suh."

"Many people?"

"Not many now, suh; big plantations, suh."

"Do you think we'd better try it by land?"

"I think we'll have it to do, suh, unless we make a light and stop the leaks."

"Are you not afraid to risk that?" I asked.

"I don't think theah would be much dangeh, suh. We are undeh the riveh bank, and nobody could see us, suh, unless from the otheh side."

"But the rebels may be on the other side now."

"Yes, suh."

"We must make a light. We must lose no more time."

"Yes, suh; I had some matches, but they ah ruined."

"I have some in my case. Get some dry wood."

The negro soon had a small heap of sticks and leaves. We knelt on the ground, our backs toward the river, in order to shut off the light from the eyes of any scout or picket on the opposite shore.

My case contained but two matches. Yet they were good ones, to all seeming, and there was no wind. I took out one and drew it deliberately across the rough surface of the match-case.

The match lighted. The leaves kindled, and soon the boat could be seen, lying half sunk in the river's edge. York began to bail, while I kept up the fire. No sound came from beyond the river—there was no sound anywhere except those made by the crackling twigs and the water pouring from York's hat; in my anxious eyes he seemed to make slow progress.

I stepped to him, and ordered him to get out. Then we both seized the chain and dragged the boat out upon the shelving bank.

Even at the instant of pulling, a flash broke the darkness south of the river, a rap was heard on a tree behind us, and the report of a rifle rang out.

I sprang to the fire and stamped on the flame. For an instant the night was pitchy black, except in one small spot where the embers yet glowed.

"We'd betteh wait a little, suh," said York.

He knelt again before the fire, his back to the river; he added a little fuel to the heap. His conduct amazed me.

"Why don't you let that fire go out?" I whispered; "you will draw another shot!"

"No, suh; we must save yo' last match, suh."

"But we can't hope for anything now, York. What are you going to do?"

"I'll show you direckly, suh; we must wait till the boat is 'ficiently dry; then we'll put it on the fiah."

"Put it on the fire!"

"Yes, suh; if we put it on the fiah now, suh, it would put out the fiah."

"What in the world are you driving at, York?"

"I'll show you, suh; that man oveh theah will think we've run away; then we can patch up the boat very easily, suh."

"By putting it on the fire?"

"Yes, suh; upside down, suh; then we can see the cracks."

"York, you're a genius!"

There was no other shot. We waited. Half an hour later we turned the boat, which had ceased to drip water, upside down over a low flame and then thrust more fuel under. The holes were now distinct. York sacrificed his shirt sleeve, and soon pronounced the craft workable.

* * * * * *

When the moon rose we abandoned the river, and took it afoot down the left bank—some 200 yards from the shore. We went slowly and cautiously.

At sunrise we crossed the Nicatawan Creek, and again approached the river, which here was a wider stream flowing eastward for a long distance. York said that just beyond the next bend, which seemed three miles away, was the railroad bridge at White House Station. I had expected that by this time we should see signs of the Federal fleet in the water below us, but no smoke from steamers was visible. I was encouraged, however, to believe that Gen. Smith was even now landing beyond my vision, around the bend below.

At last we could see the railroad bridge around the bend. There were no boats on the river. What had become of Gen. Smith's corps? Was it possible that Gen. Grant's orders had been countermanded, and that my labor had been in vain? Was it possible that the corps had landed and marched away to the lines of Meade's army?

We were afraid to go near the bridge. I knew that it could be crossed on foot, for, although after the 23d, Sheridan's cavalry had destroyed the flooring, yet the sleepers remained. But if Smith's Corps had not yet landed, the Confederate pickets held the station, and it would have been folly for me to venture across the river.

York was lying in the sun, gloomy, and seemingly asleep. All at once he rose to a sitting posture, looking toward the north. Now in the distance I could see a troop of cavalry, so far away, however, that it was impossible for me to tell their uniforms. They were going northwest on the road which York said led to King William Court-House. I believed they were our men, but they rode rapidly, and were soon out of sight, so that even if I had wished to communicate with them I could not have done so.* I asked York if there was any way to procure food. He shook his head, and said that he did not think it possible without returning on our tracks for several miles. It would not do, I thought, to decide to return. I must wait here until I should become sure that Gen. Smith's command had outstripped me and gone on, or else had been delayed and was still coming. How I was to arrive at definite knowledge in this respect I could not know, but it was clear to me that I must wait.

At about 2 o'clock we went forward again, and on reaching a bend from which we could see the wide river below the bridge, to my great joy the stream far beyond was crowded with vessels.

York fell heir to all the money in my pockets, and I wrote a note to Showalter, thanking him for his kindness, and giving due credit to his servant's loyalty. I think that York was very sorry to leave me, for we had been together nearly two days and nights, sharing toils and dangers.

The landing of the troops on the south side took many hours, and it was night before I had succeeded in crossing the bridge, and almost midnight before I could deliver my message.

This time good fortune had befriended me; of the three messengers I had been the first to reach White House, though I had not much to boast of. Capt. Hudson reporting only two hours later.†

On the next day Gen. Smith had me called before him.

"Do you know the road to Newcastle Ferry?" he asked.

"No, sir; I've been near it; I've been at Old