Washington in War Time.

THE GREATEST OF MILITARY NATIONS.

The Military Power of the United States as Shown During the War of the Rebellion.

BY THOMAS M'CURDY VINCENT,
Brigadier-General by Brevet, U. S. Army.

In April, 1861, the Government of the United States was, for the purpose of war, paralyzed. It had not, practically, an army to maintain its authority, and was far from being able to attack the "accessible quarter" of an internal enemy, in conspiracy over an area of 733,144 square miles, connected with a shore line of 25,144 miles, a coast line of 3,522 miles, and an interior boundary of 7,031 miles. Had the people of the United States through Congress, been more thoughtful concerning the object of and necessity for the military arm, paralysis would have been avoided through the availability of a suitable force to crush the initial of the rebellion, and the State, in combat with its own children, would have been spared a great sacrifice of human life—including that of the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy—aside from a debt of $2,718,656,173.13 incident to and arising from the war.

Early in the struggle, the question was not: What will it cost? but, Can the Government be saved, at any cost?

Powerless, however, as the Government then was to overcome the gigantic attack, there was, fortunately, a grand latent power, awaiting for its development only the demand of the National heart and the Regular Army to educate it and prepare it for service. After seven months of preparation that power was manifest, under an organization numbering 640,637 officers and enlisted men—the Volunteer Army of the United States, with its elements of patriotism, wisdom, courage and moderation.

MOBILIZATION, 1861.

On Jan. 1, the authorized Army of the United States consisted of two regiments of dragoons; two regiments of cavalry; one regiment of mounted riflemen; four regiments of artillery; and 10 regiments of infantry—aggregating, present and absent, 16,402 commissioned officers and enlisted men, inclusive of the general officers and general staff.

On April 14 it was officially promulgated by the President of the United States that revolutionary combinations existed in certain States, and 75,000 militia, for three months' service, were called to suppress said combinations and to cause the laws to be duly executed. In addition, all loyal citizens were appealed to that they might favor, facilitate, and aid the effort to maintain "the honor, the integrity, and the existence of our National Union and the perpetuity of popular Government, and to redress wrongs already long enough endured." The President deemed it proper to add that the first service of the forces would, probably, be to repossess the forts, places and property which had been seized from the Union, and directed that in every event, consistently with the objects he had referred to, care should be taken to avoid "any devastation, any destruction of or interference with property, or any disturbance of peaceful citizens in any part of the country."

When the President took this

FIRST DECIDED ACTION

against the rebellion, the danger threatening the seat of Government will be indicated in the following:

"Headquarters of the Army,
"Washington, April 26, 1861.

"General Orders
"No. 4.

"I. From the known assemblage, near this city, of numerous hostile bodies of troops, it is evident that an attack upon it may soon be expected. In such an event, to meet and repel the enemy, it is necessary that some plan of harmonious co-operation should be adopted on the part of all the forces, regular and volunteer, present for the defense of the Capital—that is, for the defense of the Government, the peaceable inhabitants of the city, their property, the public buildings, and public archives.

"II. At the first moment of attack every regiment, battalion, squadron, and independent company will promptly assemble at its established rendezvous (in or out of the public buildings) ready for battle, and wait for orders.

"III. The piquets (or advanced guards) will stand fast till driven in by overwhelming forces; but it is expected that those stationed to defend bridges—having every advantage of position—will not give way till actually pushed by the bayonet. Such obstinacy on the parts of piquets so stationed is absolutely necessary to give time for the troops in the rear to assemble at their places of rendezvous.

"IV. All advance guards and piquets driven in, will fall back slowly to delay the advance of the enemy as much as possible, before repairing to their proper rendezvous.

"V. On the happening of an attack, the troops lodged in the public buildings, and in the Navy Yard, will remain for their defense, respectively, unless specially ordered elsewhere; with the exceptions that the 7th N. Y. regiment and the Massachusetts regiment will march rapidly toward the President's Square for its defense; and the Rhode Island regiment (in the Department of the Interior) when full, will make a diversion, by detachment, to assist in the defense of the General Post-office Building, if necessary.

"WINFIELD SCOTT."

On May 3 the President deemed it indispensably necessary to

FURTHER AUGMENT THE FORCES

by 42,034 three-years volunteers (39 regiments of infantry and one of cavalry); and 22,714 officers and enlisted men of the Regular Army (eight regiments of infantry and one of artillery). The augmentation was confirmed by the act of Congress approved Aug. 6, 1861.

Thus the forces, exclusive of the Navy, authorized "for the protection of the National Union by the suppression of the insurrectionary combinations" then existing, were:

Regular Army (Jan. 1, 1861)	16,402
Militia (April 15, 1861)	75,000
Regulars and Volunteers (May 3, 1861)	64,748
Total	156,150

It must be remembered that while it was intended that the Regular Army should aggregate 39,116 (16,402+22,714) it fell far short of that number, and did not reach the authorized standard at any time during the war, as will appear from the aggregate strength—present and absent—at various dates, as follows: July 1, 1861, 16,422; Jan. 1, 1862, 22,425; March 31, 1862, 23,308; Jan. 1, 1863, 25,463; Jan. 1, 1864, 24,636; Jan. 1, 1865, 22,019; March 31, 1865, 21,669.

THE CALL FOR MILITIA

was more than met; 91,816 were furnished—but the force was hardly mustered in when terms of service found their expiration. The call for 40 regiments of volunteers was more than met—71 regiments of infantry, one of heavy artillery, and 10 batteries of light artillery were accepted and mustered into the service before July 1.

In July the magnitude of the unlawful violence had fully dawned and it was clearly apparent that the measures authorized for the impartial enforcement of constitutional laws, and for the speedy restoration of peace and order, had failed. Congress assembled, and by the acts approved, respectively, July 22 and 25, authorized the President to accept 500,000 volunteers for three years or the war. Extended latitude, as to the acceptance, was conferred by the act approved July 31, in that "previous proclamation" was done away with, and that the volunteers were authorized to be accepted "in such numbers, from any State or States as in his (the President's) discretion the public service may require."

The recruitment was so energetically pressed by the people that on Jan. 1, 553,492 men were in active service, and on March 31 the number had been increased to 613,813. With such a force—believed by the people sufficient to overcome the rebellion—there were necessarily vast expenditures, and consequently the Government was pressed to discontinue the recruiting service; and it was, on April 3, discontinued for every State—officers with their details joined their respective regiments, and the public property belonging to the service was sold. At this time, had any one said that it would require 2,600,000 enlistments, from first to last, and an increase of the volunteer forces, in service at one time, to 1,000,000, in order that armed resistance to the Government might be overthrown, the assertion would have been considered as marking insanity. An officer, with fame now world-wide, early in 1861, urged the calling out of 300,000 men; and more than one person alleged him to be under a visitation of insanity—a subject fit for an institution having for its object "the most humane care and enlightened curative treatment of the insane of the Army."

Fortunately,

THE ERROR OF NON-RECRUITMENT

for the forces was soon forced to the observation of the Executive, and June 6 the recruiting service was ordered to be resumed.

The blighting effect of the discontinuance had influence over future attempts to recruit the armies.

On June 30, the volunteer forces were as follows: Cavalry, 76,844; artillery, 30,467; infantry, 514,723. Grand aggregate, 622,034; inclusive of 15,007 three-months men furnished in May and June, under special authority.

The entire number of volunteers furnished under the calls of May 3, 1861, and the acts approved, respectively, July 22 and 25, 1861, was as follows:

Three years, 657,868; two years, 30,950; one year, 9,147; six months, 2,715; a total of 700,680.

A comparison of this with the strength of the forces in service at various dates points to the rapidity with which they were depleted, and the large numbers required to meet casualties.

On June 28, the Governors of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Michigan, Tennessee, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio, Minnesota, Illinois, and Wisconsin—also the President of the Military Board of Kentucky, requested the President to call upon the several States for such number of men as might be required to fill up all organizations in the field, and to add to the armies then organized. The request was based on a desire that the recent successes of the Federal armies might be followed by measures which would secure the speedy restoration of the Union, and the belief, in view of the important military movements then in progress, that the time had arrived for prompt and vigorous measures, thus to speedily crush the rebellion. The decisive moment seemed near at hand, and the people were desirous to aid, promptly, in furnishing all needful reinforcements to sustain the Government.

THE PRESIDENT CONCURRED

in the wisdom of the views expressed in the request, and on July 2 called for 300,000 men for three years. He was enabled to do this under the extended authority conferred by the act approved on July 31, 1861. This call for volunteers was on Aug. 4 supplemented by one, throught a draft, for 300,000 militia for nine months' service. These efforts secured 421,465 three-years volunteers and 88,588 nine-months militia. By Sept. 17, 212,488 of the numbers had been furnished and were mainly in the field; on Nov. 21, the aggregate was 370,349; and on the same date the strength of the volunteer armies of the United States was:

Grand aggregate, officers and enlisted	790,197
Sick, wounded and absent	124,012
Leaving present for duty	666,185

1863.

On Jan. 1 the volunteer forces numbered 892,728. From that date, notwithstanding that musters out and casualties would soon heavily reduce the armies, there was a marked lethargy in the recruitment of the forces, and, to Oct. 1 the volunteers and militia mustered into service only numbered as follows:

For New Organizations—		
Three years	49,069	
One year	1,059	
Nine months	917	
Six months	12,787	63,832
For Old Organizations—		
Three years	19,174	
One year	72	
Nine months	149	
Six months	15	19,410
Unassigned—		
New	2,570	
Old	1,921	
Colored	970	5,461
Grand total		88,703

A number far from sufficient to maintain the necessary strength. While 100,000 militia were called for by the President's proclamation of June 15, only 16,361 were furnished.

FORTUNATELY FOR THE GOVERNMENT,

on March 3, 1863, the act of Congress, "for enrolling and calling out the National forces, and for other purposes," was approved by the President; and thus the people were to become familiar with conscription.

DEBIT AND CREDIT.

Under the enrollment act the subjects of "credit" for men furnished to the military service, was realized as one of great importance, and it became necessary to know how the respective States stood in account with the General Government. The following exhibit served as the working basis for quotas under future calls:

STATE.	DEFICIENCY.	EXCESS.
Connecticut	1,748	.....
Delaware	473	.....
Illinois	.....	60,171
Indiana	.....	25,511
Iowa	.....	13,897
Kansas	Not determined	.....
Kentucky	Not determined	.....
Maine	2,822	
Maryland	14,392	.....
Massachusetts	5,851	.....
Michigan	.....	5,238
Missouri	Not determined	.....
Minnesota	.....	2,535
New Hampshire	388	.....
New Jersey	12,5 3	.....
New York	.....	5,517
Ohio	.....	28,429
Pennsylvania	15,407	.....
Rhode Island	.....	1,198
Tennessee	Not determided	.....
Vermont	None	None.
West Virginia	.....	3,373
Wisconsin	.....	3,578
Total	52,565	149,593

The aggregate deficiency, under all calls, at the termination of the war was 68,648; the number would have been obtained in full had recruiting and drafting been continued.

On Oct. 1 the strength of the volunteer armies was, present and absent, 812,578.

On Oct. 17 the President called for 300,000 volunteers for three years' service, and directed that any deficiency that might exist on Jan. 5, 1864, should be filled by draft. At the same time he addressed himself to the people, invoking them to lend a willing, cheerful and effective aid to the measures thus adopted, "with a view to reinforce our victorious armies in the field, and bring our needful military operations to a prosperous end, thus closing forever the fountains of sedition and civil war."

1864.

On Jan. 1, the volunteer forces aggregated 836,101.

On Feb. 1, a draft for 500,000 men was ordered, but owing to the allowance of "credits by enlistment and draft," the call, practically, was only for 200,000.

Under the calls of Oct. 17, 1863, and the draft of Feb. 1, 1864, 317,092 men were obtained for three years and 52,288 paid commutation.

Soon after, on Feb. 24, by act of Congress approved that date, the President was authorized, whenever he deemed it necessary during the war, to call for such number of men for the military service of the United States as the public exigencies might require, it established "the will of the President as the authority for raising troops," and conferred a delicate and mighty power.

On March 14 a call was made for 200,000 men for three years; 259,515 were furnished, and 32,678 paid commutation.

On July 18 there was a further call for 500,000; the volunteers were accepted for one, two, or three years, as they desired, and the States were given 50 days in which to raise their quotas, in accordance with section 2 of the enrollment act approved on July 14. 386,461 men were supplied, and 1,298 paid commutation.

From April 23 to July 5 inclusive, several calls for troops, to serve not exceeding 100 days, were made. Under them 95 regiments, two battalions, and 26 independent companies were furnished—mainly infantry.

On Dec. 19 there was a call for 300,000 men to serve for one, two, or three years; but after 194,635 had been raised under it—active military operations having ceased—April 13, 1865, orders were promulgated to discontinue recruitment.

(To be continued.)

THE WAR DEPARTMENT AS IT APPEARED DURING THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

Nine National Capitals.

(National Magazine.)

How many readers could tell offhand the number of National Capitals this country's Congress has sat in, and give the names? Not many, probably. Well, there have been nine of them—Washington, D. C.; Baltimore and Annapolis, in Maryland; Trenton and Princeton, in New Jersey; Philadelphia, Lancaster and York, in Pennsylvania, and New York City. The first session of the Continental Congress was held in Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, Sept. 5, 1774. Thereafter the American Congress was for a long time something like the Philippine Congress while the latter was dodging the American troops—and for much the same reason. Fearing to remain in Philadelphia after the defeat on Long Island, Congress went to Baltimore and voted George Washington dictatorial power for six months. Congress returned to Philadelphia two months later, Feb. 27, 1777. Lancaster and York got their sessions after the defeat at Brandywine, Congress again retreating. Nine months the lawmakers remained in York; the news of Burgoyne's surrender was received there. Then six months in New York and another term in Philadelphia. Menaced by unpaid troops, Congress went over to New Jersey. Sessions were held in Princeton College Library. Annapolis next, where Gen. Washington resigned his commission. Trenton had a trial then, with Henry Lee as President. Here Lafayette took leave of his American allies.

SERVICE PENSION.

Views of Comrades Interested in the Proposed Legislation.

John H. Lagle, Co. D, 19th Iowa, Elmer, Mo., served three years, and was severely wounded at Spanish Fort, Ala., March 26, 1865. Besides he was a prisoner at Tyler, Tex., nine months and 25 days. As the result of his army service and advancing years, having reached 72, he is totally incapacitated for labor, but can secure a pension of only $14. Comrade Lagle thinks that a graded service pension should be given in addition to disability pension.

C. L. Hubbs, Co. F, 1st Minn., Co. A, 9th U. S. V. V. (Hancock's Corps), Commander of Heintzelman Post, 33, Department of California and Nevada, San Diego, Cal., writes: "It would be just as reasonable to pay the man of like ability the same amount per day, who only worked one hour, as is paid the man who works 10 hours at the same kind of employment, as it would to enact into law a service pension wherein the man who underwent all the hardships of years of hard campaigning and exposure to the enemy's compliments is put on an exact equality with the '90 days' man who never smelled burnt powder, heard the ring of a minie bullet or 'cocked a cannon.' Such action would be nothing short of rank injustice. This is not a question of sentiment—it is one of right and justice. There are thousands of these 90 days men who enlisted under the first excitement in '61 who concluded they knew when they had had enough, and served their country no more. Is it just that they should stand side by side, in dollars, with the four years man? The per diem pension proposition is the only rational legislation in this line yet submitted."

C. C. Welch, Co. D, 7th Ill., Rockford, Ill., is a veteran of 23 battles, and has been a subscriber to The National Tribune since 1882, with the exception of two years, when he was unable to read the paper. Now, his wife reads it to him. Comrade Welch believes that Congress should grant a service pension of $12 in addition to disability pension.

The service pension bill is indorsed by R. T. Cahill, Co. G, 3d Del.; Wm. D. Hancock, Co. D, 20th Me., and U. S. N.; James Wooters, Co. C, 1st Eastern Shore (Md.); Ed. Wilson, Co. G, 7th Del., all of Farmington, Del.

Mrs. Mary E. A. Vanscyoc, widow of Comrade Vanscyoc, Co. F, 49th Pa., Eureka, Ill., favors a $12 service pension to all honorably-discharged soldiers, and the placing upon the rolls at $12 all widows.

Gordon Granger Post, 7, Department of New York, G. A. R., of Clifton Springs, N. Y., has by an unanimous vote, passed a resolution favoring the $12 per month service pension as advocated by The National Tribune. The Post has a membership of 40. C. A. Gillett, Adjutant, 707 Grape St., San Diego, Cal.

Frank Hobart, Co. F, 17th Iowa, Ventura, Cal., writes: "I enlisted on April 16, 1861, and was in the service almost continually until June 26, 1865. Was a prisoner of war twice—seven months in Andersonville. Was at Wilson's Creek, Mo., Aug. 10, 1861. Gen. Lyon lost his life while leading our regiment—1st Iowa. I favor a $12 per month service pension for all honorable service during the rebellion for the reason that I receive that amount and there is tens of thousands of comrades just as worthy as myself that are not getting it."

Comrades of Lerna, Ill., seem to pretty generally favor a $12 service pension. The following have sent their names as indorsing the bill proposed by The National Tribune: John W. Cain, Co. F, 53d Ind.; J. H. Gamil, Co. F, 53d Ind.; W. B. Niece, Co. A, 123d Ill.; W. W. Balch, Co. E, 5th Ill. Cav.; Wm. Cheny, Co. B, 54th Ill.; J. Rogers, Co. F, 62d Ill.; Wm. Bass, Co. C, 127th Ill.; John W. Rogers, Co. I, 125th Ill.; Wm. Highland, Co. I, 20th Ohio; S. D. Fread, Co. C, 143d Ill.

Robert A. Bradley, Adjutant, Fremont Post, 23, Department of Idaho, Sweet, Idaho, writes that that Post has indorsed the $12 service pension bill.

Hays Watkins Post, 21, Lebanon, Ky., indorses the $12 service pension bill. L. A. Pipes, Commander; J. W. Walls, Adjutant.

F. McClure, Co. K, 117th Ill. (three years), National Military Home, Kan., thinks that the enactment of the $12 service pension law would result in a great saving to the Government along certain lines, such as clerk hire, medical examinations, special examinations, etc. The bill has his unqualified approval.

Wm. H. Cooper, Co. C, 1st Ohio H. A., Soldiers' Home, Danville, Ill., thinks that Congress should grand a $12 service pension in addition to disability pension, or give a per diem service pension.

J. K. Merrifield, Co. C, 88th Ill., a member of Ransom Post, 131, St. Louis, Mo., writes: "I am in favor of a service pension of $12 per month, and will join in asking my Congressman from this District to support same. The enemies of service pension are claiming it will increase the pension roll, as far as money is concerned. That may be true for a very few years. But the high priced Examiners and clerks in the Pension Office could be reduced then, to make the expense less in Pension Office and offset the increase in money on pension roll. If it were left to a vote among the old comrades, the service pension for $12 a month (in my opinion) would carry 10 to 1 in favor of it. Why not let the Posts throughout the country vote on the proposition and send vote to Congress?"

C. W. McLaughlin, Nevada, O., writes: "Let us unite on the $12 service pension, in addition to disability pension. The bullet that would kill a veteran of four years would just as quickly kill a 90 days man. Life is as sweet to a 90 days man as any other, so let us rally around the $12 standard."

W. D. Boydston, Co. C, 1st Ohio H. A., Given, O., writes: "The service pension bill has been much discussed in this village. We have concluded to be satisfied with anything from a $5 per month service pension up, although we believe that a per diem bill would come nearer doing justice to the veterans than any other proposition that has been brought forward."

R. I. Smith, Co. E, 32d Ill., advocates a graded pension, and suggests $8 per month to those who served a year or less, and for each day over one year one cent per month additional.

Henry F. Royce, Quartermaster, Francis S. Long Post, 30, Willimantic, Conn., writes: "You are entitled to much praise for your advocacy of a service pension of $12 per month. It is a good thing. Push it along. We should all unite on this."

Stoddard H. Roosa, Co. K, 12th Mich., Bingham, Mich., writes: "I indorse the $12 service pension in addition to disability pension. All widows should be pensioned at $12."

Comrade Bienvenue, Co. D, 5th Me., Coos, N. H., indorses the $12 service pension. Comrade Bienvenue would not be benefited by the bill, as he is already drawing $12 per month.

Robert Shields, Co. H, 7th Ill. (three months), Co. C, 106th Ill. (three years), Foosland, Ill., writes: "I have talked with many comrades, and nearly all favor the $12 per month service pension advocated by The National Tribune. It is much better to pay a 90 days man $12 per month, and at the same time secure that rating for the three years man, than to divide our forces, and as a result get nothing."

Edgar Trempfer, Co. K, 2d Wis. Cav., Rice Lake, Wis., writes: "The National Tribune of Dec. 25, editorial, 'A $12 per Month Pension,' sounds the keynote; so rally on the Flag, boys. I served four years and four months. Comrade Henry M. Rankin, Los Angeles, Cal., in The National Tribune of Feb. 19, stated the pension red tape just as it is. I, too, have been through 25 years of red tape, with the best or evidence, and only get $6 per month."

THE AMERICAN-SPANISH WAR

(Continued from first page.)

holes under water in the hull—were rove and kept standing. The purport of my own orders and instructions was that we should consider the Maine in a position requiring a well-sustained routine both by night and by day."

THE CATASTROPHE.

Capt. Sigsbee says that until the night of the explosion nothing whatever developed to show that there was any special need for extreme vigilance, yet every sentence of his story shows that he was on the alert for just such an accident.

"I did not expect she would be blown up, either from interior or exterior causes, although precautions were taken in both directions. Nevertheless, I believed that she could be blown up from the outside, provided a sufficient number of persons of evil disposition, and with the conveniences at hand, were free to conspire for the purpose. It was necessary to trust the Spanish authorities in great degree for protection from without."

Capt. Sigsbee says that he was writing a letter to his wife at "Taps"—10 minutes after 9 o'clock, and had laid down his pen to listen to the notes of the bugle, which were singularly beautiful in the oppressive stillness of the night. The marine bugler, Newton, he says, was a very fine one, and given to adding flourishes and fanciful effects. He seemed to be doing his best that fateful night, and Capt. Sigsbee remarked that the echoes floated back to the ship with singular distinctness, repeating the strains of the bugle fully and exactly. A half hour later, Newton was dead. The Captain had completed and was inclosing his letter in an envelope when the explosion came.

Of this awful moment, Capt. Sigsbee says: "To me, in my position, well aft, and within the superstructure, it was a bursting, rending and crashing sound or roar of immense volume; largely metallic in character. It was followed by a succession of heavy, ominous, metallic sounds, probably caused by the overturning of the central superstructure and by falling debris. There was a trembling and lurching motion of the vessel, a list to port, and a movement of subsidence. The electric lights, of which there were eight (in the Captain's cabin) where I was sitting, went out. Then there was intense blackness and smoke. The situation could not be mistaken—the Maine was blown up and sinking."

The Captain groped his way out, and in the passageway came in violent contact with "Private" William Anthony, the orderly, who reported that the ship was sinking. Anthony did not salute, the Captain says, and had he done so it could not have been seen in the pitch dark of the passageway. Capt. Sigsbee says that dramatic effect could not have added anything to the heroism displayed by Anthony, who did his whole duty at great personal risk, at a time when he might have evaded the great danger without question. "He hung near me with unflagging zeal and watchfulness that night until the ship was abandoned," writes the Captain.

He says that he has often been asked if he believed that the Maine was blown up from the outside, and that his answer to this is that his first order on reaching the deck was to post sentries about the ship. "I knew that the Maine had been blown up, and I believe that she had been blown up from the outside. * * * There was the sound of many voices from the shore, suggestive of cheers."

Lieut. Holman related in last week's National Tribune how the officers left the Maine, Capt. Sigsbee last. Of this sad chapter in the life of the ship he loved the Captain says: "It was a hard blow to be obliged to leave the Maine; none of us desired to leave while any part of her poop remained above water. We waited until satisfied that she was resting on the bottom of the harbor. Lieut.-Commander Wainright then whispered to me that he thought the forward 10-inch magazine had been thrown up into the burning material amidships and might explode at any time with further disastrous effects. He was then directed to get everybody into the boats, which was done. * * * Virtually, all left 'last.' The fine conduct of those who came under my observation that night was conspicuous and touching. The heroism of the wounded men I did not see at the time, but afterward good reports of their behavior were very common. The patient way in which they bore themselves left no doubt that they added new honors to the service when the Maine went down."

After looking to the wounded, requesting that patrol boats ply about the vessel, and issuing a few other simple orders, Capt. Sigsbee proceeded to write the memorable dispatch which so startled the world. It was written on a sheet of paper of the New York and Cuba Mail Steamship Company, and was as follows:

"Seewar, Washington, D. C.: Maine blown up in Havana Harbor at 9:40 tonight and destroyed. Many wounded and doubtless more killed or drowned. Wounded and others on board Spanish man-of-war and Ward Line steamers. Send lighthouse tenders from Key West, for crew and the few pieces of equipment above water. None have clothing other than that upon him. Public opinion should be suspended until further report. All officers believed to be saved. Jenkins and Merritt not yet accounted for. Many Spanish officers, including representatives of Gen. Blanco, now with me to express sympathy.

"SIGSBEE."

(To be continued.)

Woman's Relief Corps of Missouri.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Our Department has been very successful the past year, new Corps organized and old dead ones reorganized. Our Department President, Mrs. Hollen E. Day, and Department Secretary, Mrs. Alma Day, have proved themselves very capable in conducting all the affairs of the Department. All their acts have been as clear as "day." It is a little odd that both bear the same name, but no relationship exists between them.

The Department Convention will be held in Booneville, May 13 and 14, and promises to be quite interesting. Five candidates are in the field for the Department Presidency, all capable, lovely ladies, between whom it will be hard to choose. Mrs. Laura Lear, Department Senior Vice-President, who has worked faithfully and well for Missouri and the Order at large for nearly 19 years. She has held nearly every office in Corps and served in the Department also. She is a resident of St. Louis, a member of Ransom Corps, 6. Another candidate from St. Louis is Mrs. Frankie Van Slyke, also an old member and formerly Department Secretary, and has held other Department offices as well. She is a member of Frank P. Blair Corps, 3. Still another candidate is in the field from St. Louis, the present Department I. and I. Officer, Mrs. Julia Hengelsberg, the youngest of all the candidates, the daughter of an old Corps worker and comrade. She has grown into the work. She is a member of Gen. Lyon Corps, 138. Mrs. M. M. S. Gillson, of Appleton City, a present member of the Department Executive Board and Past Department Chaplain is another candidate. She is a member of J. B. Steedman Corps, 104. And still another is the present Senior Aid, Mrs. Mattie E. Rich, of Moberly. She has also held other Department offices and is a member of James F. Howe Corps, 50. Each of these ladies has given perfect satisfaction in the performance of all duties in the Order, and all are deservedly popular, and Missouri will willingly accept whoever gains the position. The National President, Mrs. Lodusky J. Taylor, will attend the Convention. Past Department President, Mrs. Carrie R. Sparklin, has been appointed as National Trustee and Chairman to attend to all matters for the W. R. C. in connection with the World's Fair of 1904 in St. Louis. Mrs. Sparklin is also heartily indorsed by Missouri as a candidate for National President at the next Convention to be held in San Francisco, Cal.—DEPARTMENT PRESS CORRESPONDENT.

How Some of Our Readers Can Make Money.

Having read of the success of some of your readers selling Dish-washers, I have tried the work with wonderful success. I have not made less than $9.00 any day for the last six months The Mound City Dish-washer gives good satisfaction, and every family wants one. A lady can wash and dry the dishes without removing her gloves and can do the work in two minutes. I got my sample machine from the Mound City Dish-Washer Co., of St. Louis, Mo. I used it to take orders, and sold 12 Dish-washers the first day. The Mound City Dish-Washer Co. will start you. Write them for particulars. Ladies can do as well as men. JOHN F. M.

Doerflinger Artificial Limb Co.,

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Where McKinley Served Under Fire.

The spot on the battlefield of Antietam where Commissary Sergeant William McKinley stood on the evening of Sept. 19, 1862, under fire and served hot coffee and rations to his comrades, is to be marked by an appropriate monument. The Ohio Antietam Battlefield Commission has awarded the contract for its erection. The cost will be $5,000.

Oregon W.R.C. Convention.

The Annual Convention, Department Oregon, W. R. C., will be held in Portland, June 25-27. Preparations are being made to make it a very pleasant and profitable Convention. The attendance of a large number of delegates is expected. Julia A. Lawton, Department President, Portland, Ore.

Encampment of the Department of Arizona.

The following officers were elected and installed at the Annual Encampment of the Department of Arizona, held April 15 and 16, at Phoenix:

Department Commander, Geo. W. Sanders, J. W. Owen Post, 5, Phoenix; S. V. C., I. M. Christy, J. W. Owen Post, 5, Phoenix; J. V. C., R. K. Farnsworth, Sedgwick Post, 10, Williams; Medical Director, C. D. Belden, J. W. Owen Post, 5, Phoenix; Chaplain, Winfield Scott, J. W. Owen Post, 5, Phoenix; Delegate to 37th National Encampment, J. L. Burrows, Phoenix; Alternate, B. K. Greene, Phoenix.

Council of Administration—R. H. G. Minty, Negley Post, 1, Tucson; A. J. Doran, Barrett Post, 3, Prescott; W. H. Pierce, Ransom Post, 4, Flagstaff; W. H. Dunham, Col. Alexander Post, 6, Globe; D. F. Phelan, Sedgwick Post, 10, Williams.

Appointments—W. F. R. Schindler, J. W. Owen Post, 5, Phoenix, Assistant Adjutant-General and Assistant Quartermaster-General; N. S. Fulmer, Negley Post, 1, Tucson, Inspector; James H. Creighton, J. W. Owen Post, 5, Phoenix, Judge Advocate; A. J. Doran, Barrett Post, 3, Prescott, Chief Mustering Officer; W. H. Dunham, Col. Alexander Post, 6, Globe, Chief Aid-de-Camp.

Department Chaplain Winfield Scott was indorsed as candidate for Chaplain-in-Chief. The $12 service pension bill was also indorsed.

The Woman's Relief Corps gave a very enjoyable Campfire at the close of the Encampment.

Next Encampment at Prescott, Wednesday, May 19, 1904.

Dedication of the Hooker Statue,

At Boston, Mass., June 25-26, 1903.

All members of Hooker's Old Brigade (1st, 11th and 16th Mass. Regts., 2d N. H. Regt. and 26th Pa. Regt.), who have not received notice, are requested to send their address at once to the undersigned. 300 men of the Brigade have already stated their intention of being present. The Brigade will hold a Camp Fire in historic Faneuil Hall on the afternoon of the 25th, to which all comrades of the Third Army Corps are invited. The Society of the Army of the Potomac will meet on June 26. ALBERT S. AUSTIN, Secretary Brigade Committee, 68 Cornhill, Boston, Mass.

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ROOSEVELT BOOKS.

These are the last of the popular edition of the President's books. We are informed that future editions will sell for high prices—something like $10 a volume. We believe this report, because plenty of people will buy the President's books at whatever cost.

It is a good business move on the part of the publisher in his own interest, as well as in the interest of the distinguished author.

Heretofore, we understand, the President's profits have not been nearly commensurate for his labors as an author. He is an open-handed man who probably cared little about royalties. We will all be glad to learn that his labors will be liberally rewarded. Meanwhile, and for a little while only, we have these ten volumes of the President's books for sale at $5—only 50 cts. a volume. When they are all gone these volumes will be apt to double and treble in value.

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