PENSION POINTERS.

Inquiries Answered and Suggestions Made.

J. L. B., Beaver Dam, Wis.—There is no law limiting the pension rating for "rheumatism and varicose veins" to "eight dollars." You must have misunderstood the Pension Bureau notice of rejection in your case.

J. A. R., Ashland, Ohio.—In applying for invalid pension under the act of June 27, 1890, the applicant should allege the specific causes of his inability to "earn a support by manual labor."

Philadelphia, Pa.—The widow's title to pension or the amount of her pension does not depend upon what the soldier was pensioned for or at what rate. If his death can be shown due to the service, his widow will be entitled to general law pension, that rate being $12 per month (she being married to him before March 19, 1886) if he was an enlisted man at the time of origin of the fatal disability. If his death cannot be shown due to the service (and she being married to him before June 27, 1890), she will be entitled to pension under the act of June 27, 1890, at $8 per month, unless her financial situation is such as to debar her from pension under this act.

A. D. C., Tallmanville, Pa.—The rate of invalid pension under the general law for total disability of an arm is now $46 per month.

F. Y., Rochester, N. Y.—There is now no law debarring a person in the civil service of the U. S. from drawing pension.

J. S. C., Pinegrove, Ohio.—If a pensioner dies after executing his voucher, and the check is mailed, payment is regarded as made. This is by the act of March 2, 1895. The check becomes a part of the estate of the deceased, and should be indorsed by the executor or administrator in his representative capacity and forwarded through local bank for collection. A certified copy of the letters testamentary or letters of administration should be attached to the check. If there be no executor and nothing aside from the check to occasion appointment of an administrator, apply to "Auditor for the Interior Department."

J. W. S., Brooklyn, N. Y.—There has been no law passed fixing the lowest rate of pension under the act of 1890 at $8 per month. The lowest rate remains $6. When a pension claim is completed as to all requirements aside from medical examination, it should ordinarily be heard from within a month or two after medical examination. At present the Board of Review of the Pension Bureau is several months in arrears with work.

W. I. C., Rochester, N. Y.—The children under 16 of an 1812 war soldier, it would seem might complete his service-pension claim left pending at his death.

W. B., Marion, Ind.—If the pensioner's wife had in fact deserted him before he entered the National Home, it would seem that she has no just claim to half his pension under the act of March 3, 1899.

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

DIVISION OF PENSION—DIVORCE—PARENTAL OBLIGATION.

In the case of guardian of Freddie Dunn, minor, for division of pension of Charles H. Dunn, the Pension Bureau rejected the application on the ground that "pensioner is not chargeable with desertion of his child, there being record evidence herewith that the care, custody and education of said child are, by decree of court, given to divorced wife of pensioner." On appeal from this holding it is held (Asst. Secretary Miller, May 28, 1903):

"It is the legal duty of the parent to provide for the maintenance of his minor child. Such is the rule of the common law and the English and American statutes. (1 Cooley's Bl. Com., 447 and notes; 2 Kent Com. (12 ed.), 189-190 and note b; 21 Am. and Eng. Ency. (2 ed.), p. 1050, note 2.)

"The father is primarily liable for the maintenance of his minor child, and when, through his own fault, he is deprived of its custody, his liability in that regard is not discharged, although the rule is otherwise when he is deprived of the custody through the wrongful act of the wife who voluntarily assumes exclusive care, custody and control of the child, as in the case of Buzick v. Buzick (12 P. D., 143). See, also, Cowls v. Cowls (3 Gil., 111, 435; 44 Am. Dec., 708 and note); Hewitt v. Long (76 Ill., 399-409); Buck v. Buck (60 Ill., 105); Plaster v. Plaster (47 Ill., 290, and 53 Ill., 445), and Steele v. People (88 Ill. App., 186).

"As stated by Schouler, in his work on Domestic Relations (12 ed.), par. 237:

"'But a father, as against the public and his children, cannot, it is well settled, escape the duty of providing for the children's support, even if remaining with their mother after divorce.'

"In the case under consideration the pensioner is shown to be the party in fault; he abandoned and deserted his minor child, who was, at the date of said application, under 16 years of age. This desertion has been continuous.

"The fact that pensioner's wife, and mother of said minor child, procured a divorce from pensioner in 1898, on the ground of desertion, and was by the court awarded the 'care, custody, and education' of their said child, does not break the continuity of pensioner's desertion of the child or relieve him from his parental duty to aid in its maintenance and support, he being the party at fault. The child is therefore shown to be entitled to one-half his father's pension under the act of March 3, 1899, and the action rejecting his claim, on the ground stated, is therefore reversed."

LEGITIMACY OF CHILDREN—VOID MARRIAGE.

In the pension case of guardian of minors of Harvey Perkins (colored) the Pension Bureau held that the evidence failed to show that the minors are the legitimate children of the soldier, as the death or divorce of the mother of the children from her first husband had not been shown. The decision on appeal from this holding says (Asst. Secretary Miller, May 26, 1903):

"Accompanying the papers in this case is the following from the chief officer of the Law Division of the Bureau:

"'The action of the Bureau in rejecting the claim upon the ground that the minors were not the legitimate children of the soldier and the law applicable thereto has been exhaustively considered by the Department in the case of the alleged minors of Jonas W. Pulver, 10 P. D., 227.'

"The Pulver case came from the State of Wisconsin, where the statute relating to the legitimacy of a child born of a void marriage is identical with that of the State of Missouri, and is as follows:

"'The issue of all marriages decreed null in law or dissolved by divorce shall be legitimate.'

"The Department held in that case that the minors of such a marriage, 'were unquestionably legitimate under that statute.' But the question of a pensionable status of said minors was quite another matter.

"That the title of minors to a pension depended upon the title of their mother. If she has no title to a pension, it was impossible for her children to have title; claiming it to be impossible to successfully claim a right through a title that never could have existed.

"This case has been in effect overruled, the Department holding more recently that the minor of a soldier had title to a pension in his own right not dependent upon but independent of the mother's title.

"That it is of right in himself and the basis thereof is, Is he the legitimate child of the soldier? See cases of minors of Allen B. Pierson and James R. Graves (13 P. D., 148 and 151).

"The minor's title not being dependent upon the mother's, his source of title must be in the father and comes directly from him.

"If it is to be presumed in this case that the marriage of these parents was not legal, even in that event, these minors are the legitimate children of the soldier, because they are made so by provision of the statute of the State of Missouri from where the case comes and where they were born and still reside.

"The court held in the case of Joseph S. Buchanan v. Adeline Harvey (35 Mo., 276), in a case where a father had children by two different Indian women, that they were legitimate and could inherit his property—that the statute precludes the necessity of inquiring into the legitimacy of the children.

"The Supreme Court of that State in another case said 'upon an issue of legitimacy, the inquiry is limited to the mere fact of a marriage de facto.' (Lucy Johnson v. Administrator of John W. Johnson, deceased, 30 Mo., 72.)

"In the case of Dyer et al. v. Brannock (66 Mo., 391) it was held under the same statute that children born of illegal marriages could inherit and transmit by descent the same as if born of a lawful marriage.

"In the case of Green v. Green et al. (126 Mo., 17) it is declared, where the defendant married the decedent in good faith believing him competent to enter into such contract, their children are legitimate under the statute, though at the time of the marriage he had a wife living, such children being capable of inheriting.

"It is clear that the law of the State of Missouri has made the minor claimants in this case the legitimate children of the soldier.

"The action of the Bureau in rejecting the claim of the guardian of the minor children of Harvey Perkins, deceased, is accordingly hereby reversed, and the papers in the case are herewith returned for further adjudication upon the holding that said children are the legitimate children of the soldier."

VETERINARY SURGEON—PENSIONABLE STATUS.

In the general law pension case of the widow of Michael J. Treacy, late Veterinary Surgeon, 8th U. S. Cav., the Pension Bureau held that the claimant was not entitled to pension, "claimant's husband not having been an enlisted man or officer in the United States service, but served as a civilian employe." The decision on appeal from this holding says (Ass't Secretary Miller, May 26, 1903):

"Congress created the office of Veterinary Surgeon, and under the Regulations of the Army, the Secretary of War is authorized to appoint the officer, hence an appointment thus made may be readily distinguished from a contract between the Secretary of War and a civilian.

"After a careful review of all the facts in this case in connection with the laws creating the office held by Michael J. Treacy at the time of his death, the Department is of the opinion that he was not a civilian employee, as indicated in the official action of rejection of this claim, but an officer within the meaning of paragraph 1, section 4693, Revised Statutes of the United States.

"The papers are herewith returned for readjudication. Rejection reversed."

INSTRUCTIONS OF APRIL 22, 1903.

It is understood that the liberal practice in pension cases, as set out in instructions of the Commissioner of Pensions dated April 22, 1903, and appearing in The National Tribune of June 11, is to be continued indefinitely. If fairly administered and intelligently applied, as they seem likely to be, the instructions will greatly facilitate the prompt settlement of claims in which required evidence is furnished.

Wisconsin Annual Encampment.

At the Annual Encampment of the Department held in Chippewa Falls, Wis., June 9 to 11, the following officers were elected:

Commander, Jos. P. Rundle, Milwaukee; S. V. C., E. E. Clough, Chippewa Falls; J. V. C., J. M. Whitley, Depere; Medical Director, Dr. Hugo Philler, Waukesha; Chaplain, Stanley E. Lathrop, Ashland.

Representatives to National Encampment—At large, Louis Sholes, Milwaukee; B. S. Miller, Wausau; First District, John Meehan, Darlington; Second District, J. E. Jones, Kilbourn; Third District, J. P. Smelker, Dodgeville; Fourth District, F. A. Walsh, Milwaukee; Fifth District, Henry Hase, Milwaukee; Sixth District, John W. Ganes, Lowell; Seventh District, C. H. Henry, Eau Claire; Eighth District, C. L. Wood, Oshkosh; Ninth District, John P. Dousman, Depere; Tenth District, N. J. White, Colby; Eleventh District, J. W. Thomas, Chippewa Falls; Trustee of Encampment (three years), Phil Cheek, Baraboo. Trustees, Wisconsin Veterans' Home—Dr. H. E. Mann, Marinette; D. G. James, Richland Center; B. F. Bryant, La Crosse. Council of Administration—James H. Agen, West Superior; A. H. Hollister, Madison; M. Herrick, Hudson; R. A. Scott, La Crosse; D. J. Ryan, Appleton.

New Jersey W.R.C. Convention.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: The 19th Annual Convention, Department of New Jersey, W. R. C., was held at Atlantic City, N. J., June 11 and 12. The retiring President, Matilda S. Vickery, had served the Department faithfully for two successive years.

A very harmonious Convention was enjoyed.

The following named officers were duly elected: President, Maggie Fitzpatrick, Trenton; S. V. P., Mary A. Decker, Jersey City; J. V. P., Susan E. Russell, Bloomfield, N. J.; Treas., Augusta M. Ladd, Roselle Park, N. J.; Chaplain, Susie Briggs, Hoboken, N. J.

Executive Board—Jennie D. Smith, Plainfield; Sarah J. Bancroft, Bloomfield; Esta B. Hann, Atlantic City; Rebekah Howell, Trenton; Carrie H. Norton, Jersey City.

Appointed Officers — Sec., May J. Wilks, Trenton; Counselor, Sarah A. Reed, Long Branch; Inspector, Mary Tulley, Jersey City; I. and I. Officer, Cornelia P. Leach, Bloomingdale.

The officers were installed by Emma J. Southwick, Past Department President—JENNIE B. ATWOOD, Past Department President.

Reunion of Naval Veterans.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: There will be a General Reunion of Naval Veterans of the civil war at San Francisco during the National Encampment, Aug. 17 to 22.

The Committee of Management has kindly provided a hall situated at 121 Eddy street for our headquarters and for meeting purposes, where Naval Veterans will please report and also register on arrival.

The Committee thus recognizes the service rendered by our Navy in the civil war, and will warmly welcome the gallant survivors of our victorious squadrons. Appreciating this recognition, let there be a large representation of the brave men who along the coast and on the ocean carried our Flag to victory.—WILLIAM SIMMONS, The Naval Post, 400, Department of Pennsylvania, G. A. R., Philadelphia, Pa.

Reunion of the 11th Pa. Cav.

The Ninth Annual Reunion of the 11th Pa. Cav. was held in Easton, Pa., June 3 and 4. About 75 members of the regiment were present, most of them accompanied by their wives. Capt. D. S. Orcutt, of Pittsburg, Pa., was re-elected President; Col. John L. Roper, of Norfolk, Va., Vice President; G. W. Coles, of Philadelphia, Secretary, and C. C. Headrick, of Johnston, Treasurer. Gettysburg was the place selected for the next meeting, in June, 1904. The Association is in good shape; has paid for regimental history, and is very proud of it; out of debt, and money in the treasury.

The Naval Veteran Memorial Committee.

The following are the officers of Naval Veteran Memorial Committee, an organization recently formed in Philadelphia: Commander, Daniel F. Kelley; Secretary, William Simmons; Treasurer, Norman E. Schraud. Executive Committee—A. F. Donegan, Charles W. Karsner, R. J. Linden, Ferdinand Koenig, William Eisenbrown.

Headquarters at Naval Post Hall, 304 N. Broad street, Philadelphia, Pa.

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INVALID PENSIONERS DRAWING LESS than $12 should address, sending stamp for answer, Capt. J. M. Alderman, Pension Attorney, 1041 Walnut Street, Elmira, N. Y.

ALL U. S. WAR PENSIONS, BOUNTIES, PAY, desertion removed, land, damage claims. L. D. Immell, Pension and Claim Attorney, 810 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo.

YOUR PENSION BUSINESS PROMPTLY ATTENDED to by an old soldier 15 years a Pension Attorney. Address Ira W. Booton, Gallipolis, Ohio.

J. P. L. WEEMS, Att'y, Vincennes, Ind., gets pensions, increase and new discharges. Write him.

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PATENTS. INVENTOR'S GUIDE BOOK MAILED FREE. This book contains 68 pages of valuable information for Inventors, Patentees and Mechanics. Tells How to Obtain a Patent. The Cost of a Patent. What to Invent for Profit and How to Sell a Patent. Illustrates 100 Mechanical Movements and contains a History of the most Famous Inventions, with portraits of the Inventors.
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Everybody who has one says would not take $5.00 for it if could not get another. Suitable for any house, church, or anywhere. Try one. You will never regret it. We will send with it one of our novelties called our Age Revealer, a very cute thing and a puzzler to all who see you tell their age. For 25 cents we will send both postpaid.
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BOYS' SUITS FREE! WE GIVE BOYS AND Children's suits, air rifles, ladies and gents' gold rings, gold watch chains, ladies' bracelets, watches, base ball outfits, ladies and gents' pocketbooks, harmonicas, dominoes, jackknives, wrist bags, cuff buttons, brooches, etc., for selling our New Gold Eye Needles at 5 cts. a package. They are of Best Quality and Quick Sellers. With every two packages we give Free a Silver Aluminum Thimble. Send no money in advance, just name and address, ordering two dozen needle papers and one dozen thimbles. We send them at once postpaid with Large Premium List. When sold send us $1.20 and we will send premium which you select and are entitled to. National Supply Company, Jamestown, Pa.

SEND FOR OUR FAMOUS NEEDLE CASE. Contains 100 Sewing Needles, 1 Steel Bodkin, 4 Yarn Darners, 4 Cotton Darners, 2 Wool Darners, 2 Short Darners, 2 Looping Needles, 2 Crewel Needles, 2 Milliner's Needles, 2 Button Needles, 1 Chenille Needle, 1 Tapestry Needle, 2 Bonnet Pins, 2 Hat Pins, 2 Shawl Pins, 2 Cloak Pins, 6 Toilet Pins, 6 White Pins, 1 Crochet Needle. Case sent postpaid for 25 cents. National Supply Co., Jamestown, Pa.

BROTHER ODD FELLOWS, SEND 10 CENTS and get one of my new burlesque buttons, and prices on same. You can sell them in your lodge and make big money. Send to-day. H. S. Stovall, Weatherby, Mo.

DON'T LOSE YOUR KEYS—SEND 25 CENTS and get, by return mail, a key ring and Aluminum key check with your name and address on it. (Comrade) Thad. K. Miller, Angola, Ind.

FOR KODAKS EXTRA CHEAP WRITE ME. Henry Stovall, Weatherby, Mo.

Eloquent Tribute to the G.A.R.

Hon. James M. Beck, former Assistant Attorney-General of the United States, at a dinner in New York lately made an eloquent reference to the members of the Grand Army of the Republic, who paraded at the National Encampment in October last:

"One of the most pathetic sights I ever saw was last Autumn, when on a beautiful day all that was left of the Grand Army of the Republic marched down Pennsylvania avenue. I stood upon the sidewalk and looked at these old men, making their last march along the great thoroughfare of the Capital, and I could not but think how invisible Death hovered upon their flanks as the Cossacks hovered upon the flanks of the Grand Army of Napoleon on its retreat from Moscow, and how few years remained to those who had participated in that great struggle, and who again, and probably for the last time, marched the streets of the National Capital to salute the Nation which they had saved with their lives; and, if that thought of the living impressed me, who that saw it could forget or be oblivious of that unnumbered dead who had sacrificed everything that a man could sacrifice; men who had gone out in the springtime of their lives to surrender it for the country that they loved; men who had felt in the great conflict sweat like unto great drops of blood, and had ascended their Calvary and made the supreme sacrifice of their lives. [Applause.]

"Whence came these men? They came from the counting-rooms; they came from the shops; they came from the fields. They were not trained or professional mercenaries; they were the men of America, who had left the pursuits of peaceful industry, and who if commercialism had sapped their manhood would have refused to have made this supreme sacrifice of their lives for the best and the noblest Republic that God has yet given to mortal man." [Great Applause.]

Reunion of the 98th N. Y.

The 98th N. Y. held its Reunion at Alton, N. Y., June 7. This regiment did good service at Cold Harbor, Malvern Hill, Seven Pines, Fair Oaks, Petersburg and elsewhere.

Work of the Pension Office.

The report of certificates issued for the week ended June 13 shows:

Army Invalid: Original, 6; increase, 457; reissue, 28; restoration, 4; renewal, 29; supplemental, 3; duplicate, 9; accrued, 153. Total, 695.

Army Widows, etc.: Original, 56; reissue, 5; renewal, 31; duplicate, 3; accrued, 1. Total, 96.

Navy Invalids: Original, 2; accrued, 2. Total, 4.

Navy Widows, etc., 2.

Army Invalids (war with Spain): Original, 35; increase, 2; reissue, 3; duplicate, 1. Total, 41.

Army Widows, etc. (war with Spain): Original, 70; duplicate, 1; accrued, 1. Total, 72.

Regular Army Invalids: Original, 8; increase, 5, duplicate, 1; accrued, 2. Total, 16.

Regular Army Widows: Original, 10.

Regular Navy Invalids: Original, 1.

Army Invalids (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 507; increase, 1,000; additional, 160; reissue, 24; restoration, 35; renewal, 57; supplemental, 3; duplicate, 20; accrued, 250. Total, 2,041.

Army Widows, etc. (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 369; increase, 1; reissue, 2; restoration, 8; supplemental, 1; duplicate, 3; accrued, 1. Total, 385.

Navy Invalids (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 7; duplicate, 3; accrued, 3. Total, 66.

Navy Widows, etc. (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 7.

Mexican War Survivors: Increase, 5; reissue, 54; supplemental, 6; accrued, 6. Total, 75.

Mexican War Widows: Original, 9; accrued, 1. Total, 10.

Indian Wars (1832-42) Survivors: Original, 30; accrued, 1. Total, 31.

Indian Wars (1832-42) Widows: Original, 23.

Totals—Original, 1,168; increase, 1,479; additional, 161; reissue, 117; restoration, 47; renewal, 118; supplemental, 18; duplicate, 42; accrued, 406. Total, 3,556.

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THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WALTZ PUBLISHED is "The Pansy Blossom," by Willis; five pages, sheet music size. Postage, prepaid, 25 cents. W. R. Willis, Warsaw, Ohio.

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PERSONAL.

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And would be pleased to hear from anyone who could put me in the way of employment in any growing town west of the Mississippi; am 35 years of age; married; served five years in the Signal Service, U. S. Army; five years in the U. S. Weather Bureau; six years as military instructor in the employ of the Soldiers' Orphans' Schools Commission of this State; have read law some and have the degree LL.B.; am author and inventor of a system of shorthand, which I have taught, and am a competent stenographer, typewriter, and general clerk, and have some knowledge of telegraphy. Wish to finish law and engage in practice. Best of references from seven States.
W. J. WAMBAUGH, Jumonville, Pa.

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GRAND ARMY JEWELRY AND WATCHES a Specialty. Sure cure for dropsy sent for $2. Comrade W. A. Rose, Jeweler and Druggist, Almond, N. Y.

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MONUMENTS.

PETOSKEY, MICH., MARCH 17, 1899.—M. C. Barney, Flint, Mich. Dear Sir: The granite monument you set for us last November, weighing nearly 12,000 pounds, is highly satisfactory, both in material, workmanship and price. Yours truly, J. H. and Wm. Atkin. Reference: Bank of Flint City, Mich. M. C. Barney, Flint, Mich.

CIGARS.

50 CIGARS, GENUINE GOOD SMOKES, $1.00; 25 g od 5c. cigars, guaranteed, 65c.; 12 good 5c. cigars, guaranteed, 35c.; Florodora cigars 3 for 10c.; Cremo cigars 5c.; Cheroots, Stogas, etc., by mail prepaid. Will please you or refund money. By mail prepaid; stamps accepted. H. H. Chapman, Cigar Dept., Gratiot Sta., Zanesville, Ohio.

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MEN'S ALL-WOOL CASSIMERE SUITS FOR $5.50 and $6.50; fine all-wool suits, $8 and $10; extra fine suits at $12 and $14. Do not write for samples, but state color wanted and send weight, height, breast, waist, inseam and sleeve measures, with $1 deposit. Balance C. O. D. at express office. Frank Leonard, Claysville, Pa.

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