PENSION POINTERS.

Inquiries Answered and Suggestions Made.

L. B., Rose City, Mich.—If you can furnish testimony showing to the satisfaction of the Pension Bureau that you were pensionably disabled under the act of 1890, at and from the time of the filing of your first application for pension under the act of 1890, you can get the pension back to the date of filing of said application. The trouble is to obtain satisfactory testimony.

G. H., St. Louis, Mo.—You will find the bounty act of July 29, 1888, on page 274 of The National Tribune Soldier's Handbook. All communications received in the Pension Bureau relating to cases on file there are preserved in the file jacket of the particular cases to which they relate.

H. A. M., Buffalo, N. Y.—If the pensioner's wife is adjudged entitled to half his pension, she will be entitled to half of any increase awarded him. The National Tribune Soldiers' Handbook, price 25 cents, gives all the pension laws and important decisions appertaining thereto.

W. G. H., West Middleton, Ind.—All records of medical and surgical treatment of the soldier in the service are considered in his pension claim under the general law. In claims under the act of June 27, 1890, of course, such records are not necessary as evidence. There is no fixed rate of pension for bowel trouble, stomach trouble, rheumatism, etc., etc.

W. M. D., Haverhill, Mass.—If the widow is barred from pension under the act of June 27, 1890, because her income exceeds the prescribed amount (act of May 9, 1900), the children of the pensioner are equally barred.

G. H. J., Palmer, Mass.—The Senate in the last Congress declined to accept the amendment of the House of Representatives increasing the helpless soldier pensioned under the act of June 27, 1890, from $12 to $30 per month.

W. G. M., Martin's Ferry, Ohio.—The act of July 14, 1862, forming the basis of what is now known as the general pension law, is quite voluminous. Consult the U. S. Statutes at Large; or, you will find the act embodied in the Revised Statutes of the United States.

H. S., Vevay, Ind.—If the wife of the soldier is divorced from him, of course, she could not be considered his legal widow when he is deceased. His children, however, are still his children under the pension law, even though the court granting the divorce gave the wife the custody of the children.

E. L. W., Montesano, Wash.—If an appealed pension case does not appear to have been fully and properly considered on the appeal, a motion for reconsideration would be in order. Consult your attorney. Further evidence may be filed in the Pension Bureau, if desired, before a reconsideration is asked.

W. C. T., Malaga, Ohio.—No person is entitled to child's pension unless under 16 when the soldier died, no matter how helpless. Such a case might be a good one for special act of Congress.

G. W. S., Oakland, W. Va.—Widow's pension under the general law dates back to the date of the soldier's death. Such pension as the widow has drawn under the act of 1890 previous to the date of allowance of pension under the general law would be deducted from her general law pension. If the evidence as to deathcause is not only positive in terms, but is unimpeachable, there would seem to be no difficulty in establishing the case under the general law. The Washington Pension Agency pays pensioners residing in the District of Columbia, Delaware, Virginia, Maryland and West Virginia, and all foreign countries, and all navy pensioners residing in North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas. The pensioner is at liberty to hold his checks for a year or longer if he wishes. The same rules that apply to a Justice or Notary Public in executing a pension voucher are applicable to a fourth-class Postmaster taking a pensioner's acknowledgment to his voucher. Probably an inmate of any of the Soldiers' Homes is entitled to his pension and discharge papers promptly on leaving the Home. Consult the regulations of the particular home you have in mind.

W. A. P., Waynesboro, Pa.—It is difficult to say what rate would be awarded by the Pension Bureau in a case where the pensioner is receiving $17 per month and the Examining Surgeons hold him to be "three-fourths disabled." It is certain that he will not get an increase to the next rate, $24 per month, unless the Pension Bureau considers that he is disabled from pensioned causes in a degree equivalent to the loss of a hand or foot.

L. R. H., Manaattan, Kan.—Invalid pension under the general law, whether original or on new disability, commences only from date of application, if the disability was not claimed on till after June 30, 1880. If you got arrears from discharge on the disability which you never claimed on till 1891, it was evidently error, and if discovered by the Pension Bureau you would be called upon to refund the money erroneously paid.

A. C. W., Pascoag, R. I.—The probabilities are that you returned your furlough certificates to the proper officer when you returned from furlough, and received at the time, or at next payment by the Paymaster, the money equivalent to your rations while on furlough. You might obtain information on the subject by addressing the "Commissary-General of Subsistence, U. S. A., Washington, D. C."

Subscriber, Garber, Okla.—Your condition is very likely due to pensioned disability. "Manual labor" in the pension law is construed to mean any "labor performed with bodily exertion or muscular effort." If you are unable to perform any effective physical work, probably you can get an increase to $30 per month. Effective physical work would be understood as work for which a person would be willing to pay you without considering that he was paying you out of charity.

I. F., Upland, Neb.—The letter of April 10, last, was in error. If the widow is appointed guardian of the children, of course she can draw the pension for them; but as guardian, not as widow. Her disbursement of the pension would be under the direction of the court the same as though she were not related to the children. There is no objection to the appointment of a guardian for the children at any time.

G. D. K., South Norwalk, Conn.—If the soldier's death can be satisfactorily proven due to the service and line of duty, and the child was under 16 at the soldier's death, pension can be obtained under the general law from the date of the soldier's death until the child became 16; provided, of course, the widow's rights do not conflict. The child's title does not depend upon either the soldier or the widow being pensioned under any law, if title can be shown as indicated.

T. C. B., Pacific, Mo.—It does not matter when the parties were married or how long they lived together, to entitle the deserted wife of a pensioner to one-half of his pension.

R. A. N., Tampa, Fla.—Both the Indian war service pension laws make title to widow's pension thereunder dependent upon the widow not having remarried. The laws which you perhaps have in mind, restoring the pension right of certain remarried widows, apply only to cases where the widow's pension is granted under the general law, the soldier's death having been shown due to the service and line of duty.

H. C. S., Philmont, N. Y.—The act of May 9, 1900, amending the act of June 27, 1890, did not change the limitation as to date of marriage in widow's cases under the act of 1890. Children of marriages entered into after June 26, 1890, are entitled to pension under the act of 1890, even though the widow is still living and unmarried.

H. L., Pueblo, Colo.—If you wish to know just how your name appears on the records of the War Department, ask one of the Senators of your State, or your Representative in Congress, to secure for you from the War Department the desired information.

Classified Advertisements.

MUSIC—MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

180 SONGS FOR 15 CENTS.—THIS COLLECtion contains all the favorite American war songs, negro melodies, etc.—such as "Sherman's March to the Sea," "My Mother-in-Law," "Ben Bolt," etc. Each page measure 9 by 11 inches. Order this collection. Price 15 cents. C. F. Clarke, LeRoy, N. Y.

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Work of the Pension Office.

The report of certificates issued for the week ended Oct. 10 shows:

Army Invalids: Original, 1; increase, 378; reissue, 8; restoration, 1; renewal, 36; supplemental, 4; duplicate, 38; accrued, 134. Total, 600.

Army Widows, etc.: Original, 66; reissue, 3; restoration, 1; renewal, 69; supplemental, 2; duplicate, 12; accrued, 1. Total, 145.

Navy Invalids: Increase, 5; accrued, 2. Total, 7.

Army Invalids (war with Spain): Original, 78; increase, 14; reissue, 5; restoration, 6; duplicate, 2; accrued, 1. Total, 106.

Army Widows, etc. (war with Spain): Original, 19; accrued, 1. Total, 20.

Navy Invalids (war with Spain): Reissue, 1.

Army Invalids—Regular Establishment: Original, 10; increase, 7; reissue, 3; duplicate, 2. Total, 21.

Army Widows, etc.—Regular Establishment: Original, 2.

Navy Invalids—Regular Establishment: Original, 1; increase, 2; reissue, 1; duplicate, 2. Total, 6.

Navy Widows, etc.—Regular Establishment: Original, 1.

Army Invalids (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 299; increase, 596; additional, 127; reissue, 11; restoration, 13; renewal, 23; supplemental, 5; duplicate, 57; accrued, 183. Total, 1,665.

Army Widows, etc. (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 310; increase, 1; reissue, 3; restoration, 2; renewal, 3; supplemental, 4; duplicate, 18; accrued, 5. Total, 346.

Navy Invalids (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 16; increase, 74; additional, 2; reissue, 1; restoration, 1; renewal, 3; accrued, 5. Total, 102.

Navy Widows, etc. (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 5.

War of 1812 Widows: Original, 1; duplicate, 1. Total, 2.

Mexican War Survivors: Original, 1; reissue, 21; supplemental, 6; duplicate, 2; accrued, 4. Total, 34.

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

Indian Wars (1832-42) Survivors: Original, 20; accrued, 4. Total, 24.

Indian Wars (1832-42) Widows: Original, 9.

Totals—Original, 809; increase, 1,467; additional, 129; reissue, 58; restoration, 24; renewal, 125; supplemental, 21; duplicate, 136; accrued, 340. Grand total, 3,109.

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