

"To care for him who has borne the battle, and for his widow and orphans."

The National Tribune.

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A gleam of hope comes that the Austro-Hungarian Empire is not to be dismembered, but that a way will be found in which the two halves of the monarchy may get along together amicably. The Hungarians have expressed such a wish, and it is taken as an olive branch to the Germans.

Senator Burkeley, of Connecticut, has come out squarely against Federal control of insurance companies. He believes that the Government has all the business on hand that it can attend to, and that nothing short of complete control would do any good. Limited regulation of insurance companies would be worse than useless.

The "Stand Patters" seem to have won a very decided victory in the stronghold of the Revisionists by securing the nomination of Eben S. Draper for the Republican nomination for Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts. The Revisionists were led in the primaries by Col. A. H. Goetting, who seems to be beaten by a fairly decisive majority.

The statistics of coffee and tea drinking are quite interesting. The American people consume the immense amount of 10.75 pounds of coffee per capita per annum, being exceeded in this only by Holland. The Dutch drink 14.23 pounds per head a year, while the British only use .71 of a pound per person. On the other hand the British drink 6.93 pounds of tea per head per annum, where our people use but 1.23 pounds. The Dutch are also large consumers of tea, drinking 1.45 pounds, and lead the world in the consumption of cacao, consuming 4.26 pounds per annum per head, where we take but .76 of a pound. The Germans are but moderate users of coffee, taking but 6.80 pounds per annum and but .12 pounds of tea and .81 pounds of cacao.

A reminiscence of an old-time tragedy which shadowed the last years of the illustrious Gen. Grant by the loss of his fortune comes in the report that our banking firm, of Grant & Ward, had brought suit against the estate of his first wife to recover \$50,000 put in her hands prior to the suspension of the firm. It seems that Ward tried to lay up something for the rainy day which he saw at hand by putting this sum in the name of his wife, out of reach of his creditors. Mrs. Ward died during Ward's imprisonment, and the money went to her heirs, which Ward is now trying to recover, since the 20-year period which the laws of New York prescribe for a bankrupt have ended.

Even a dyspeptic man may be tempted to smile by the statement given out in Montreal by John F. Gaynor, of the notorious firm of Gaynor & Greene, that "We are now ready to face justice in the United States. We are not afraid to face the courts of the United States." There is no telling how many hundreds of thousands of dollars Messrs. Gaynor and Greene have spent in Canada in trying to beat the extradition proceedings and avoid coming to the United States to be tried. Of course, they were not afraid to face the courts in the United States. They were philanthropists who wanted to enrich the Canadian lawyers and make some fun for the American lawyers.

Georgia is furnishing some instances of the survival of the old semi-civilized conditions preceding the war. At Waycross, David Murray, a prominent citizen, was assassinated as he sat at the supper-table by an enemy shooting through the window. Murray himself does not seem to have been blameless, as he was under indictment for having connection with a recent assassination. In Bryan County W. E. Simms, a rather prominent citizen, and as used to be the case in the South with prominent citizens, a bully, has committed so many murders and other outrages that he has become an outlaw, and the civil authorities are trying to punish him. He had recently the audacity, while the coroner's jury was preparing a verdict of murder against him, to stride into the room, snatch the verdict from the coroner's hands, tear it up and then attempted to join in a similar proceeding against him. He has consequently induced a reign of terror in the country. Such occurrences as these were rather frequent in the South before the war, when the bully and desperado carried things with a much higher hand than they were allowed to in the better-settled regions of the North. Since the war conditions have been rapidly improving in the South, and the reign of the bully has not been so conspicuous. It seems that the Sheriff of Bryan County has been so intimidated by this outlaw that he has asked the Government for troops to restore order, and probably Mr. Simms's career will be cut short by the State taking up the matter. The improvement in this respect in the South has been brought about in this way by the State authorities being led to sharper account before public opinion for the preservation of law and order.

PENNSYLVANIA VETERANS AND POLITICS.

The indications seem unmistakable that the Reform movement inaugurated last Summer with so much eclat in Philadelphia by Mayor Weaver has gone the way that many more promising Reform movements have gone, and all Reform movements are only too likely to go. That is, it has degenerated into a scheme by which unfit and disappointed—disappointed because unfit—aspirants can work themselves into office. The first and greatest danger of any movement toward Reform is that it will fall into the hands of the men who will have chronic office-seekers, but have failed to have their ambitions gratified, for good and sufficient reasons. In some way or another they have lacked the character or qualifications which commended them to the people and the voters. Most frequently they wanted more than their abilities and history warranted. These men are always loud in their claims that their worth has not been recognized, and they are the first to rush to the front of any party insurrection or "Independent" movement. They scruple at nothing to get control of it, usually succeeding, being more experienced politicians than the mass of the plain people and business men who have been beguiled into it, and sooner or later this proves fatal to the new departure. Plain people are not long in discovering the inferior quality of the leadership, and that the only choice that is left is to vote for this flossam and jetsam from all parties, and time and again discredited by all, or for the regular candidates of their own party, who have been tried and tested.

This is precisely what has happened in Pennsylvania. The ticket put up in opposition to the Regular Republican seems like a roll-call of the men whose names we have been seeing in the Pennsylvania newspapers for years as unsuccessful candidates for nomination and "also rans" at the polls. It seems incredible that the voters of Pennsylvania will seriously consider as "Reformers" men notorious for their chronic hunger for office, and who have forced themselves to the head of the Reform movement in hopes of getting purely selfish advantages that they could not secure from the regular organization.

The platform adopted by the regular Republican Convention at Harrisburg, April 20, 1905, strongly commends itself to every veteran in and out of the State. It heartily applauds President Roosevelt and his Administration, and approves of the loyal manner in which the State has upheld his hands. It calls for the upbuilding of the navy, to leave no danger about the enforcement of the Monroe Doctrine, and commends the Legislature for its practical and businesslike legislation to secure a pure water supply; for the proper care of the indigent, afflicted and insane, for a liberal extension of the common-school system; for good roads; for stringent prohibitions against child labor, and for other very necessary enactments for the well-being of every citizen and interest of the State. The State's finances are in a better condition than those of any other in the country, as a result of wise and honest management. The plank relating to pensions is as follows:

"Once more with thankful hearts and keen appreciation we acknowledge our National and individual indebtedness to the soldiers and sailors of our several wars, whose brave and valorous services can never be surpassed. We sympathize with our veterans in their increasing infirmities, due to increasing years, and express the hope that the laws already enacted for their benefit may be so amended or extended that no soldier of the Nation, his widow or child, may ever be dependent upon the charity of the world."

This is sympathetic, gratefully appreciative, and practical. The ticket nominated by the Convention, and which is to be voted for this Fall, has on it two of the best representative veterans of the grand old soldier State of Pennsylvania, a State which lost more men killed upon the battlefield than any other, and which lost a larger proportion of killed to its total enrollment.

At the head of the ticket it is Lee Plummer, of Hollidaysburg. He was too young to enter the army, and his father, an earnest patriot, was prevented from doing so by the loss of a large part of his hands while firing a salute by the militia battery of which he was a member. Mr. Plummer has always been a warm friend of the veterans, and worked untiringly and successfully to elect to office such as were candidates in his County and District. He has a long record of faithful public service to his credit, and he never held an office but to distinguish himself by unusual care for the public interests. As a member of the Legislature he made a reputation by his successful efforts to improve the care of the insane, and to fight that dread scourge, consumption.

Ex-Gov. James A. Beaver is the nominee for re-election for Judge of the Superior Court. No one who enlisted for the defense of the Union, whether from Pennsylvania or elsewhere, was a braver man, a more zealous patriot, or a more faithful officer than Jas. A. Beaver. He prepared himself for the struggle when he forswore it coming on. He enlisted in the militia, studied tactics, and familiarized himself with everything that could fit him for effective service when his country needed him. He went out at once in April, 1861, in the 2d Pa., and upon being mustered out with that regiment set about organizing the 45th Pa., of which he became Lieutenant-Colonel. The next year he fought in the Gettysburg campaign, and he finally got leave from the War Department to do. He speedily made of it a model regiment, and upon being ordered to join Gen. Hancock his first request was that his regiment be assigned to some old brigade, where it could speediest become veteranized. He was from that time on in all the fighting of the Second Corps, and leading his regiment, except when absent recovering from wounds. He was repeatedly and severely wounded, the last time at Ream's Station, where he lost a leg. Gen. Hancock, with whom he was a great favorite, pronounced him "one of the most intrepid, intelligent and efficient young officers in our service during the war." He has been as good a citizen as he was a soldier, and repeatedly

been offered high official positions by his fellow-citizens. He was elected Governor of Pennsylvania in 1886, and made an admirable Chief Executive. No man in Pennsylvania has given higher or stronger demonstrations of his personal worth than Gen. Jas. A. Beaver. Comrade John Stewart, of Chambersburg, the nominee for Judge of the Supreme Court, was one of the sterling, faithful soldiers who made Pennsylvania's military reputation illustrious. Against these men the Democrats and fusionists have nominated candidates who were never in the army, and whose record is blank and silent as to any other acts of service to the public or self-sacrifice for the common good. We have no doubt whatever as to which way the Pennsylvania veterans will cast their ballots. They are too seasoned and experienced in political warfare to be misled by the noise and clamor of guerrillas and bushwhackers on the flanks and rear. They will take their places as of yore, with the main column, under the tried and approved leaders selected by the Republican Convention.

RUSSIAN REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM.

The program adopted by the Zemstvo presided over by Prince Dolgorouki contemplates bringing the Government of Russia up to the plane occupied by the most advanced European Governments. It is as follows: Complete responsibility in the eyes of the law for all private individuals and officials alike. Recognition of complete equality in the personal rights of all citizens of the Empire. Equality of the rights of peasants with those of other classes of society. Liberation of the village population from administrative guardianship. Inviolability of person and domicile. Guarantees of the freedom of conscience, faith, speech, meeting and association, and of the press. Abolition of the passport system. Formation of a National Assembly which shall participate in legislation, institute a regular budgetary system, and have control over the legality of the acts of higher and the lower administration. The attainment of this ideal form of Government cannot be hoped for in any brief period of years, and probably the representatives of the Zemstvos do not expect it. It has taken every people who have secured a less complete democracy than here outlined at least many decades to secure it. It took centuries in England to develop a real Parliament, and then another century more to give that Parliament the power that it now possesses. It took France over a century to educate the people into a republican form of Government, and those of Italy and Austro-Hungary are yet far from being developed up to that point. The Russians, who are centuries behind the rest of Europe in matters of education, must take much longer.

One rather unexpected feature of the program is that it would banish class lines as completely as the French attempted to do at the beginning of their revolution. It wants everything on the basis of universal suffrage, with all men standing equal at the ballot-box and not separated by the strong, clearly-marked class-lines now drawn in Russia. That is, the peasant class must have the same voting weight, man for man, as the manufacturers, the merchants, the professional men and the nobility. This is probably something that will not be secured at the outset and possibly never.

THE HUNGARIAN CRISIS.

The acute question between the Hungarians and the Emperor of Austria is that of the language of the words of command in the army. The Hungarians insist that in the contingent from that Kingdom in the Imperial army the orders shall be given in the Magyar language. This the Emperor has flatly refused to agree to, and the Hungarians have as determinedly demanded. Of course, there are innumerable causes of discontentment of the ruling Magyar element in Hungary with the administration of the Imperial Government by the ruling German caste in the Empire, but the language question is for the moment the principal one to the front. The Emperor insists that German shall be used in orders, and he points out that if all the troops in the Imperial army had to be spoken to in their own languages it would make endless confusion, as there are no less than 13 distinct languages spoken in the Empire and it would be impossible to have officers who could speak all these tongues. The real reason goes still deeper. The Germans have the ascendancy in Austro-Hungary, and not merely the words of command in the army but the words of the Emperor in the Empire, except in Hungary, the court proceedings and all the official records are in German. In Hungary, alone, they are in Magyar. The Bohemians, who are the leaders among the Slavs, have for years been angrily insisting that as the great majority of the people in their ancient Kingdom speak Bohemian, the court proceedings and official records should be in that tongue. Apart from their natural pride in their speech and their desire to have one language for the whole country the Germans, who own the greater part of the property and do most of the business in Bohemia, feel that their interests would be endangered if Bohemian should be made the official language in that little Kingdom. The Germans claim to have suffered much from the adoption of the Magyar as the official language of Hungary, and if the Bohemians succeed in their demand it will make no end of trouble and loss for the Germans residing in other Slav provinces, since each of them will be encouraged to insist upon having its language made the official speech. The question of language, they say, involves that of the Imperial Government being able to manage its affairs throughout the Nation, which it could not do if each part of the country is allowed to have its own particular language.

Table with 2 columns: Rates specified, Number granted. Lists various pension rates and the number of veterans granted them.

This shows that the largest number of all—467, or nearly one-third the total—had their previous pensions raised to \$30 a month, and the next largest number—294, or about one-fourth the whole—had their pensions raised to \$24 a month. Undoubtedly every one of these were cases of great merit, in which the pensioner is suffering from incurable disabilities, which grow worse every year and for which the small sum he receives is a fearfully inadequate compensation.

CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS.

The report of Commissioner Warner as to the criminal side of the Pension Bureau's operations for the year ended June 30, 1905, is a most gratifying contrast to his predecessor, Evans's, whose continual lamentations were over the viciousness of pensioners and pension attorneys and the daily and nightly struggles which his flawless integrity had to make with them. Commissioner Warner reports that he had only 186 cases for prosecution last year. He differs from Commissioner Evans also in the fact that of these 186 new cases indictments were actually found in 164, and of these 113 resulted in conviction, and 61 sentences imposed. Commissioner Evans filled the papers with a great many reports of cases for prosecution of which nothing more was ever heard. Commissioner Warner says: "Of 113 convictions secured only 18 persons are believed to have had any military or naval service, showing that the offenders against the pension laws are not often found among the old defenders of the Government." The small amount involved in these offenses is also surprising. The sum total of cash recovered through criminal and civil suits was only \$3,221.

FOREIGN RECRUITS.

Editor National Tribune: In a book entitled "Civil History of the Government of Great Britain," by J. L. M. Curry, page 152, occurs the words: "Agents were dispatched to Europe to entice by bounties, as many as possible, to enter the Union army. According to official statistics furnished by the Federal Secretary of War, more than 720,000 foreigners came to the United States and were enrolled against the South." How far is the above true?—A. S. Lake, Shenandoah, Iowa.

This is one of the choice fictions which the Southerners cling to and cherish. There is the least possible basis for it. Of course, during the war all things, in a way, happened, and there may have been occasional parties who sought recruits in Europe to fill up companies and get themselves commissioned. This, however, had to be done in the quietest way, because the European Governments were all careful of their neutrality, and did not allow any recruiting for foreign countries. This was particularly true of Great Britain, which sided strongly with the South, and while it winked at shipping sailors for the Alabama and other Confederate pirates, was very vigilant in preventing any recruiting for the Union army. A man who would attempt to enlist men in any part of Great Britain had to do it with the utmost secrecy, because he ran great risk of arrest and imprisonment. The same was true of German Governments, which exercised a paternal supervision of their subjects, and would not, if it could help, allow them to be taken abroad to serve in foreign armies in war time. Anybody can see the truth of this who reflects at all upon the situation at that time. An examination of the muster-rolls shows that three-fourths of the 2,000,000 who served in the Union army were native Americans. Of the 500,000 of foreign birth 175,000 were from Germany; 150,000 from Ireland; 50,000 from England; 50,000 from British America, and from other countries, 75,000. This, again, requires some explanation to prevent its being misleading. In the two decades immediately before the war there had been a large emigration of families from Germany, Ireland, England and British America. These brought with them hundreds of thousands of children, who grew up in this country, and though they were born abroad became as thoroughly American as if they were born here. A boy who gave his birthplace as Germany or Ireland may have been brought to this country as an infant or a child of very young years, and he was to all intents and purposes as much an American as if he had been born in Ohio or Michigan. Considered in a rational light, fully 95 per cent of those who served in the Union army were out-and-out Americans.

COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS.

Report to the 26th National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, Denver, Colo. The following was the report of the G.A.R. National Committee on Pensions, presented at the 26th National Encampment, held at Denver, Colo., July 4, 1905. Commander-in-Chief and Comrades: The following is a comparative statement of the Bureau of Pensions for the past five years:

Table with 2 columns: Certificates Applications issued, rejected. Lists statistics for years 1901-1905 regarding pension applications.

Total number of certificates issued under the Act of June 30, 1904, to June 30, 1905, 612, a large proportion of the same being for increase only. The amount appropriated for pensions during the year 1905 was the sum of \$141,428,613.33, leaving a small balance of the appropriation therefor to be returned to the Treasury. The amount of the heretofore submitted statement of the whole number of pensioners of all wars upon the rolls at the close of the years June 30, 1904 and 1905, respectively:

Table with 2 columns: Pensioners on Roll June 30, 1905, and Revolutionary War. Lists statistics for various war categories and pensioner counts.

JOHN H. MORGAN'S DEFEAT.

The Gallant 25th Mich. Celebrated the Fourth of July at His Expense. Editor National Tribune: It is exceedingly refreshing to read the report by Corp'l William Cross, 13th Ky. Cav., Burnside, Ky., regarding Col. Moore's fight at Tebb's Bend, near Green River, Bridge, Ky., which fight occurred on July 4, 1863. The refreshing part of Corp'l Cross's statement is the fact that in his report he writes history he fails to record a single event correctly. For instance, he says: "But, alas, Col. Moore's ammunition was about exhausted, and he must retreat. Upon this cannon, boys, to the river, dump it, spike it, fire the bridge, and mount your horses." Corp'l Cross tells us that the cannon was carried out and Col. Moore led his boys back to the river, back to Lebanon, and he then adds that Morgan entered the works, passed on to the bridge, extinguished the fire and passed over the river, not seeking another crossing. In the beginning, permit me to say that the command held by Col. Moore was not to write history, but to record a single event correctly. For instance, he says: "But, alas, Col. Moore's ammunition was about exhausted, and he must retreat. Upon this cannon, boys, to the river, dump it, spike it, fire the bridge, and mount your horses." Corp'l Cross tells us that the cannon was carried out and Col. Moore led his boys back to the river, back to Lebanon, and he then adds that Morgan entered the works, passed on to the bridge, extinguished the fire and passed over the river, not seeking another crossing. In the beginning, permit me to say that the command held by Col. Moore was not to write history, but to record a single event correctly. For instance, he says: "But, alas, Col. Moore's ammunition was about exhausted, and he must retreat. Upon this cannon, boys, to the river, dump it, spike it, fire the bridge, and mount your horses." Corp'l Cross tells us that the cannon was carried out and Col. Moore led his boys back to the river, back to Lebanon, and he then adds that Morgan entered the works, passed on to the bridge, extinguished the fire and passed over the river, not seeking another crossing.

PERSONAL.

The funeral of the late Gen. Daniel W. Benham, at Tiffin, O., Sept. 17, was a great public event. He was born in Seneca County near Tiffin in 1837, and grew up in that neighborhood. He was a clerk in an express office, and by ability was promoted until he held the office of cashier in the Cincinnati office, from which he enlisted in the 6th Ohio. At the conclusion of his four months' service he received an appointment in the 13th Mich. in January, 1862; Colonel, 25th Mich., in September, 1862; Major, 6th U. S., April, 1862; retired April, 1864; brevetted Major, U. S. A., for County, N. C. The Order of Sharpshooters and United Spanish War Veterans. He anticipated his death and made every preparation for it, selecting the river for his grave, and the clothes in which he was to be buried, and the bands that were to play at the funeral. He leaves two sons and one daughter. The Mecklenburg (N. C.) Daughters of the Confederacy are collecting money to appropriately mark the birthplace of Andrew Jackson, near Waxhaw, Union County, N. C. The order has been much in dispute about Jackson's birthplace, but the Daughters think they have secured indisputable evidence. The venerable Gen. John McArthur, who commanded a division in the Army of the Potomac in 1862, is now very ill at his home in Chicago, but a letter from him now says that he is convalescing slowly. He received a severe paralysis two years ago, and has since been unable to walk in an easy-chair. He writes to his old Adjutant-General, Judge Wales W. Wood, Belvidere, Ill., that he will be 79 years old on November 1st, and that he expects to hear many more roll-calls.

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