THE FAMILY.

By SENORA SARA.

So many people have an idea that coffee has to be boiled to get the strength out of the crushed berry. On the contrary, boiling gives the liquid a peculiar bitter taste that is foreign to really good coffee. Besides that, it ruins the flavor. "Drip" coffee is supposed to be the very best coffee that is made, but even that is spoiled sometimes by letting the liquid boil up over the strainer, thus loosening the oil that makes the coffee bitter. If you have not a regular coffee strainer, make three or four cheesecloth bags of a size large enough to accommodate the amount of coffee that you use, allowing for swelling of the grain and for a drawstring to tie. Wash and boil the bags after making, so that not a taste of the cloth remains in them. Fill the bag with the coffee, and have in a teakettle, boiling hot, exactly the amount of water you want to use for your coffee. Rinse the coffee pot out with hot water, and put the bag in the pot and pour over it the boiling water. Place the pot on the back of the stove, where it will remain just below the bubbling period for at least 10 minutes. The result will give you clear, strong coffee; you need not use a grain more than for the old way—and it will not hurt the weakest digestion. Neither is egg necessary. Empty the bag as soon as the meal is over, as there will be no more good in the coffee, and wash the bag in hot water; shake free of all the grounds and hang in the air to dry. Have at least four such bags, and keep them and the coffee pot scrupulously clean.

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It is a mistake to buy poor coal oil for your lamps or for the little stoves. There is at best but two or three cents difference, and the comfort in the use of the best oil is worth a deal more than that. Then the best oil is safest. It will not explode so easily, and it gives a much better light, a decidedly hotter blaze, than the second-class stuff. All of it is more or less malodorous, but with care it need not smell so very bad. Lamps and stoves should be carefully cleaned every day, and the lips of the burner kept free from burnt particles.

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If you have a sick friend, one who is shut in a greater part of the time from the world, do try and make life pleasanter for her. It may be that your time is precious and you cannot visit, but you can send a blossom or two, a rose or a few carnations, a box of fresh strawberries, a big orange, or a box of nice candy, all things that home folks will probably get, if the patient expresses a desire for them, yet it is so pleasant to be remembered by one's friends in that delicate way. Maybe you have a horse and carriage and your friend has none. It would be a gracious thing to ask her to take a drive on fine days, and would cheer her greatly, yet people who can tender such little courtesies are neglectful of them, tho they could widen their sphere of usefulness a great deal if they would, and at no cost to self.

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A lot of missionary work could be done in great lonely cities among the young ladies who earn a mere pittance to help needy ones at home, and who live in little hall bed rooms, eating but one good meal a day and living on "lunches" the other two meals. They know almost no one, and are dependent on strangers for any little attention. If they get acquainted with the wrong kind of people there is no one to tell them till it is too late. There are plenty of societies to take them in and care for them when they have gone wrong, but it would be much more Christianlike to help them in their hour of loneliness and need. Take these young ladies into your pew at church. Invite them to dinner informally. Give them occasional tickets to good lectures, show them in delicate little ways that you are interested in them, and maybe the list of those who stray into forbidden paths will shorten. It is worth the trial, anyhow.

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The doctor came and examined her pulse, her tongue, her respiration, the color of her skin, the whites of her eyes, and heard her declare that she had headaches all the time, and no end of indigestion. Then he wrote out a prescription, and, with the remark that it was a drastic dose, but she would be a well woman in a week if she took it, he went off, and when she opened the piece of paper he left in her hand she read: "Onions three times a day, and between meals if you like." She was pretty mad, but she took the dose, and now she says that she believes that onions will cure any kind of disease, even a love-sick swain if he gets a whiff of onion-scented breath in a kiss. It is true as gospel, however, that onions are a great cure-all. They stimulate the liver, they help the circulation, and they do clear up the skin wonderfully. The girl who wants to get rid of her sallow, muddy complexion can do so by eating an onion sandwich every night just before retiring. Two thin slices of bread, well buttered, and finely chopped onion sprinkled thick between, with a dressing of salt and a little pepper, is the very best way, and, while they make one sleep well, they also go right to work on the thick, sluggish blood, and clear it up.

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It isn't much wonder that men grow tired of their wives, when they so soon forget to be pleasing objects to look at. A woman in a draggled, soiled morning gown, her bangs stringing down over a not too clean face, her slippers ripped and worn, but "easy," no collar, and corsetless, isn't an object to please anybody, not even herself, and she is unnecessarily ugly, for a little time would make her as wholesome as ever she was in her primiest days. It is true that a woman who has household cares cannot always be "dressed up," but she can wear a clean dress, and she can always have soap and water and a comb. When you hear a man who has been married for 15 years and more declaring that his wife doesn't seem to get a day older, you can just be sure that she is keeping herself well groomed, and well in hand, and has never let her husband forget the little courtesies of life which go far to keep the heart young. No man likes a frump, and least of all is he overjoyed to find that his wife is that most objectionable thing.

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A novel "pocket-lamp" can be made as follows: Get an ounce vial, a small piece of phosphorus that will go in the vial, and some olive oil. Heat the oil to the boiling point, fill the bottle one-third full and cork it tightly. When you wish to use the "lamp" pull out the cork and admit the air, then cork the bottle again. All the space above the oil will glow with a soft bright light, which will last from two to five minutes. When the glow fades, if you want more light, at once pull out the cork again. As soon as fresh air is admitted, the light will be as bright as ever. By this light you can see objects two or three feet distant, and it is perfectly safe, as there is no possibility of flame. This is the kind of light that is carried by the watchmen in English and continental cotton mills, and in powder mills, and they carry no other. They are carried in all manufactories where inflammable explosives are handled; this light, only on a larger scale, is used.

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The seductive "sandwich" was named for a gambler nobleman of that name. After a 15-hour sit at a game of cards he found himself very hungry, and not wishing to leave the game, ordered some bread and some cold meat, which, for convenience, he placed between the slices of bread, and ate as he played. The thing was so palatable that he recommended it to his friends, and its popularity never waned.

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One part of turpentine to three of linseed oil well shaken together will make an excellent furniture polish.

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The softest and nicest dusting cloth for a piano or any highly-polished furniture is an old silk handkerchief. "Old" is used advisedly, because use and washing softens silk. The dust cloth should be washed frequently, for even the tiniest particle of "grit" will scratch the polished wood.

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The man or woman who has always a tale to tell of "how he suffered that way himself" should be kept out of the patient's room. His sympathy will do harm every time. In the sick chamber, if the patient can see company at all, there should be only bright, cheery talk, and the creature with "symptoms" can talk a man into having any and every disease on earth in less than half an hour. A sick man should be led to forget his ills, and not to rehearse them or compare notes.

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If you want a bright, hot fire in the grate, range or base burner, keep the ashes cleaned up. Ashes absorb enormous quantities of heat, and add to the consumption of coal. One bucket of "black diamonds" will do the work of two if the grates are kept clear of dead ashes.

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What to do with waste paper is a conundrum in many households, but one of the things "not" to do is burning it in the cook stove. A quantity of it will kill the fire, and it packs down in a most annoying fashion. There is danger, too, on a windy day, of firing the soot in the chimney. The best thing to do is to stuff the waste paper in a bag kept for the purpose and on a dry day, free from wind, take it to the alley or some spot in the back yard and burn it.

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One of the cleanest and nicest play things in the world for a little child is sand. In Summer a load of it dumped in a clean spot in the back yard will amuse the little ones for hours each day. They love to shovel it, build miniature forts, make gardens, with grass for plants, and dig wells. Washt sand is as clean as sawdust, and a child can play in it in its white frocks and not soil its clothes. For winter playing a bushel of sand can be kept just outside the door. A shallow box of a few inches in depth and two or three feet square can easily be made. Spread a lot of newspapers on the floor, set the box in the middle, fill it with sand and turn the children loose. Teach them not to get off the newspapers with it, and they will play all day in it and not litter the house half as much as tho they had cut paper or scattered toys.

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The woman who wants to keep from getting fat should walk a great deal and walk as tho she meant it. She should wear a fairly loose corset and a dress that escapes the ground. Both arms should be free to swing, and if a weight of a pound or a little more were carried in each hand it would be a great help. The movement should be fairly quick, the stride considerably longer than most women use and the arms should swing freely. Hold the head well up, the stomach in, the shoulders firm, and stride from the hip, not from the waist. American women are said to be the worst walkers on earth, excepting the Chinese women, who do not walk at all.

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If vinegar, milk or anything of that character crusts on the inside of a bottle, don't bother poking rags in it to clean it. Push back the stove hearth and dip into the bottle a spoonful or two of the fine ashes. Pour in some water and shake thoroly, and the bottle will rinse out as clean as a whistle. Some housewives keep a can of fine shot for the same purpose. Sand answers admirably, but the ashes you have always with you.

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A lady whose house linen is exquisitely fine practises an economy that her wealth makes unnecessary, yet is worthy of emulation. When her beautiful great big towels begin to get thin in the middle, she has them cut in half, the fringe trimmed from the ends, and those two ends seamed together, and the seam neatly felled. The worn ends are hemmed, and the towels then do another term of service as second best. It is a splendidly economical idea. Her linen sheets are treated in the same way. When they wear thin in the middle they are carefully cut in half, and the outside selvedge edges "whipt-stitched" together. The sheets wear twice as long. Cotton sheeting can be treated the same way, and the saving will be quite noticeable.

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If the finger marks on your varnished hardwood furniture won't come off, dip a cloth in kerosene and rub the wood vigorously. Afterward rub briskly with a soft piece of flannel. You will be pleased with the result.

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Suppose "he" brings a guest home to dinner some time when, in the exigencies of the day, you have provided for the piece de resistance only a dish of "his" favorite "hash," which may be minced beef, chicken or veal. And suppose the dish that would do nicely for two looks skimped when three are to attack it. What are you going to do if the market is a mile distant? Why, any quick-witted housewife can tell you. She will put three eggs into boiling water and set them cooking. Then she will cut five thin slices of bread and toast them quite brown. In a pie pan or shallow dish she will put a tablespoonful of good butter, a pinch of salt and enough boiling water to moisten the toast, which she dips in it quickly, then places on a hot platter. By that time the eggs are done, and cold water poured over them. Take the hash which has been simmering on the stove, and carefully spoon it onto the slices of toast, so that it does not look ragged. Slice up the eggs and lay them around the edge of the platter, with one slice on each piece of toast. Good? Well, of course, it isn't terrapin or turkey, but it goes right where a man lives, just as surely and almost as satisfactorily, if properly seasoned and neatly dished.

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A nice way to use cold baking powder biscuits is to drop them quickly in a dish of cold water, then put in a pan in a hot oven with another pan fitted over them, leave them so for three minutes, then remove the top pan and leave them to heat thru and dry. You will find them almost as palatable as when first baked. Still another way to use them is to subject them to the just mentioned process. Have ready a hot meat broth or a thickened stew of chopped oysters. If hash is used, split open the hot biscuit, place in a deep dish and pour the hash over them. Set in the oven for five minutes and serve. For the oysters, split the biscuit and scoop out a little of the soft part; then put in a spoonful of the oyster stew and put the halves together. Either dish is excellent.

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The mother who decks her debutante daughter with diamonds is more ambitious for show than sensible. Youth is a girl's highest jewel, and needs no sparkling setting other than the flash of clear eyes, the gleam of white teeth, the cheer of sunny smile, with a soul behind it. Painting the lily defaces it, and diamonds on a young girl seem to suggest that her charms need enhancing because she is not in herself satisfying.

PENSION POINTERS.

Inquiries Answered and Suggestions Made.

Subscriber, Minnesota.—A divorced wife has no title to pension.

C. A. R., Michigan.—Extra pay for officers and enlisted men who served in the War with Spain is covered by the acts of Jan. 12, 1899; March 3, 1899, and May 26, 1900, granting in lieu of furlough two months' extra pay for those who served outside the limits of the United States, and one month's extra pay within the limits of the United States.

Q., Boston.—If you were not regularly enlisted and mustered into the military service, you have no pensionable status. The fact that you took the place of a relative in the service and performed the duties of a soldier, with the consent of the officers of the regiment, would not change the situation.

W. E. C., Topeka, Kan.—No pension law has ever been enacted making pension to commence from the date of the incurrence of the disability. Invalid pension claims for service prior to March 4, 1861, were made to commence from the date of filing in the Pension Bureau of the last piece of material evidence to complete the claim. Prior to March 3, 1879, claimants on account of rebellion service were required to file their claims within five years after the date of discharge, or, in case of a widow, within five years after soldier's death, in order to have their claims commence from date of discharge or date of death; otherwise it would commence from date of filing the last piece of evidence. This law was repealed by the act of March 3, 1879, which required that all pensions allowed for service since March 4, 1861, should commence from date of death or discharge. This law included all pensioners on the rolls, as well as those that were afterward allowed, arrears being paid to a large number of pensioners under this act. The act also provided that unless a claim was filed in the Pension Bureau prior to July 1, 1880, pension, if allowed, would commence from date of filing claim.

The Soldiers' Homes.

Editor National Tribune: I thought that perhaps the comrades would like to hear about the Soldiers and Sailors' Home in Nebraska. There are two Homes in Nebraska, one at Grand Island, the other at Milford. This Home, Grand Island, contains about 500 women and men, about one-fourth women. Col. W. S. Askwith, Commandant; J. W. Bowen, Adjutant; H. L. Randall, Surgeon; Mrs. S. E. Randall, Matron, and Serg't-Maj. John Staley are our officers, and the comrades are well satisfied. It is very hard to find a man among the inmates who voted the Democratic ticket. We have not forgotten the Cleveland Administration yet, but we feel that our Republican legislators have been very tardy and indifferent about our interests, and we hope ere long they will get busy and do something for us. It seems passing strange to think of some of the rulings of the Pension Office, especially those relating to testimony. We are asked for the testimony of doctors who have been dead 25 years; also neighbors who knew us 40 years ago. Our army Surgeons were nearly all of middle age and over in '61, and all are now gone, as well as our old neighbors. There are men here who were in the service four years and are now totally crippled, and this the richest Government on earth gives them the enormous sum of $6 to $12 per month, simply because they were not in some hospital, and cannot prove that their condition is largely due to the hardships and privations of army life, altho it is well known that every man who went thru that four years of mental and physical strain came home with the seeds of disease and premature death in his being. The only equitable way to settle this question is to give every surviving soldier a reasonable pension, unless he should possess an income sufficient to live on. Then dismiss that great army of Pension agents, sharks, surgeons, clerks, etc., and give their wages to the poor, helpless women and children left to our care.

Well do our legislators know that death is depleting our ranks at the rate of 30,000 or 40,000 a year. Their voices are silent; they can't complain any more. I do not know what the poor old comrades would do were it not for the Homes in the different States.—John S. Strain, Co. C, 4th, and Co. B, 15th Iowa, Burkett, Neb.

Stone River Association.

Editor National Tribune: The Association of the Survivors of the Battle of Stone River, Tennessee, will hold their seventh Annual Reunion at Noblesville, Ind., Jan. 2, 1907, day and night. The membership of this Association includes all actual participants in the battle; the annual dues are 50 cents, and certificates of membership are issued to persons giving their name, post-office address, regiment, company or battery, brigade and division, with satisfactory evidence of their eligibility. Comrades who were absent from legitimate reasons and whose command participated may become honorary members on application and being recommended by two members of this Association. Survivors, send me your name, etc., with 50 cents annual dues and 50 cents for certificate of membership, with evidence of your eligibility, and become a member.—Serg't Wm. H. Dryden, Co. E, 15th Ind., Martinsville, Ind.

Monument to Sultana Victims.

The Ohio Legislature passed a bill early last Summer to erect a monument on the State House grounds in memory of the 526 Ohio soldiers who lost their lives on the ill-fated Sultana, and Gov. Harris appointed a commission of three citizens to look after the matter. The commission consists of Dr. W. P. Madden, of Xenia, O., and J. J. Zaisers, of Canton, O., both of whom were survivors of the disaster. The third member is Capt. Cutter, who represents the prisoners of war and was of great assistance in getting the bill thru. The Commissioners met in the Governor's office on Aug. 6, and elected Dr. Madden Chairman and Capt. Cutter Secretary. As Comrade Zaisers is a contractor and builder, his advice contributes greatly to the effectiveness of the organization. The movement was received with enthusiasm all over the State.

Cure for Liquor and Tobacco.

The Kansas Anti-Liquor Society is mailing free a recipe for the cure of the liquor habit. It can be given secretly in food. Also one for the tobacco habit that can be given secretly. The only request they make is that you do not sell recipes, but give copies to friends. Address with stamp, Kansas Anti-Liquor Society, 82 Gray Building, Kansas City, Mo.

Tillman's Speech.

Josephus Rich, 12th Mo. Cav., Dillon, Mont., says that Tillman's speech was wickedly absurd. If slavery had continued with free importation of negros there would have been mulattoes beyond number. God bless our good women, both North and South. They are the mainstays of society. Comrade Rich never knew but one mulatto who had a white mother.

Approves of Our Stand.

R. T. Sparks, Denton, Tex., approves the stand of The National Tribune in advocating the re-election of Roosevelt and a Republican Congress.

UNITED SPANISH WAR VETERANS.

New National Officers to Take Command. Creation of Second Army Reserve Sharpshooters and Other Notes.

The recently elected officers of the United Spanish War Veterans, with Capt. Hamilton Ward, of Buffalo, N. Y., as Commander-in-Chief, will take charge of the organization immediately following New Year Day. It is the announced intention of Capt. Ward and the other National officers to start at once into the work of forming new Camps, it is said, and several prospective Camps in the Southern and Western States will be brought to fruition.

It is proposed to establish a Camp at Fairfax Court House, Va., another at Fredericksburg, in the same State, and correspondence has been entered upon with C. S. Woollard, of Dunn, N. C., with the view of putting in a Camp in "the old North State."

The present National Committee on Legislation will go out with this administration, and a new one will be appointed to take up the work with Congress. The new Commander-in-Chief has already notified the several State Departments to inform him as to what legislation they are interested in, so that the work of the new committee can be carried on along comprehensive lines. In a word, it is said the beginning of the New Year will witness renewed activity all along the lines of the organization from Maine to California.

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Maj. Chas. R. Miller, of Cleveland, O., the present Commander-in-Chief, is preparing to issue his final general orders taking leave of the comrades as the head of the Association. He has already appointed a Board of Officers, of which Col. E. J. Dimmick, a noted rifleman, is a member, for the purpose of carrying out his plan for the formation of a second Army Reserve. This reserve, he proposes, shall be composed of marksmen and sharpshooters as far as possible, and so Congress will be asked to provide the numerous Camps of Spanish War Veterans with model rifles and ammunition for the purpose of forming rifle clubs.

Maj. Miller says he realizes that the wars of the future will be won largely by the side having the best individual shooters. Therefore, he wants all the Spanish War Veterans to become good rifle shots. It is said the War Department looks with favor on his proposition. The National Committee on Rifle Practice is as follows: Taylor E. Brown, of Illinois; Newell Vanderbilt, of California; E. J. Dimmick, of the District of Columbia; Albert S. Jones, of New York.

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Many Members of Congress have received memorials during the past 10 days from both civil war and Spanish War veterans in the States favoring the restoration of the Army canteen. One of the latest memorials came from the soldiers of Danville, Ill., and it will be presented to the House of Representatives by Speaker Cannon, in whose district Danville is located.

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In General Orders Commander-in-Chief Chas. R. Miller announces the new National officers who will take charge of the organization Jan. 1, 1907, as follows:

Commander-in-Chief, Hamilton Ward, Erie County Bank Bldg., Buffalo, N. Y.

Senior Vice Commander, Henry W. Busch, 9 Peninsular Bank Bldg., Detroit, Mich.

Junior Vice Commander, Chas. W. Newton, Hartford, Conn.

Judge-Advocate-General, John Lewis Smith, 458 Louisiana Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Surgeon-General, J. O'Donoghue, Roxbury, Mass.

Chaplain-in-Chief, Rev. A. H. I. Reaney, Hancock Yards, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Paymaster-General, Frank F. Jones, 543 N. Bromley Ave., Scranton, Pa.

Commissary-General, A. M. Brunswick, San Francisco, Cal.

Chief of Engineers, W. H. MacKay, Rutherford, N. J.

Chief Signal Officer, Chas. W. Parker, Elberton, Ga.

Chief of Ordnance, E. L. Evans, Racine, Wis.

Chief of Artillery, J. A. Welch, care of Globe Mfg. Co., Taunton, Mass.

Chief Mustering Officer, Chas. F. Stroud, Sandusky, O.

National Historian, J. Walter Mitchell, care of Evening Star, Washington, D. C.

National Council of Administration—California, John J. West, corner Bush and Gillmore Sts., San Francisco.

Connecticut, Chas. L. Hutchinson, New Haven.

Georgia, Thos. H. Verdel, Elberton, Ga.

Illinois, N. J. Scott, 225 Dearborn St., Chicago; H. N. Geyer, Sterling.

Indiana, M. R. Doyon, Kokomo, Ind.

Iowa, E. R. Hutchings.

Maine, F. J. McCabe, Togus.

Massachusetts, Chas. Berman, 170 London St., E. Boston, Mass.

Michigan, Albert Hartenstein, Detroit, Mich.

Minnesota, Thos. Maguire, 467½ Wabash St., St. Paul.

Missouri, J. H. Lakin, 1117 Missouri Ave., St. Louis.

Montana, E. H. Charette, Anaconda.

New Jersey, J. F. Collins, 22 Alexander St., Norfolk, Va.

New York, W. F. Morgan, 136 Meserole Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.; W. F. Foist, 5116 5th Ave., Brooklyn; John J. O'Rourke, Gadoon St., Stapleton, S. I.

Ohio, C. L. Patton, 2 Appollo Bldg., Cincinnati; Wm. T. Moran, Post Office, Cleveland.

Oklahoma, Carl Holtzshue, Oklahoma City.

Pennsylvania, J. D. Keifer, 433 Penn. Ave., Scranton, Pa.; Col. Christopher T. O'Neil, Allentown, Pa.

Rhode Island, Arthur L. Lake, Providence.

Virginia, Geo. N. Skipwith, Richmond, Va.; Thomas H. Brown, 200 N. Payne St., Alexandria, Va.

Washington, J. Grant Hinkle, care of the Chronicle, Spokane.

Wisconsin, John Check, care of Elver House, Madison.

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"Taps" have been sounded for the following comrades:

Hiram Bagan, Admiral McCalla Camp, 17, Nat. Sol. Home, Cal., died Aug. 10, 1906.

Henry L. Vail, Bennington Camp, 20, San Diego, Cal., died Sept. 8, 1906.

John Kelley, Nelson A. Miles Camp, 10, San Francisco, died Sept. 25, 1906.

Joseph G. Fischer, Cashero Camp, 11, La Crosse, Wis., died Sept. 11, 1906.

Daniel P. Packard, Thomas Evans Camp, 12, Greenville, Pa., died July 21, 1906.

Jas. A. Welling, Waldron Murphy Camp, 29, Chicago, Ill., died June 2, 1906.

Edw. A. Bliss, John A. Logan, Jr., Camp, 17, Danville, Ill., died July 23, 1906.

Andrew R. Forsythe, John A. Logan Camp, 17, Danville, Ill., died Aug. 11, 1906.

Louis J. Orsick, Gen. Jacob H. Smith Camp, 1, Fort Bayard, N. M., died Aug. 6, 1906.

James Ezra Smith, Capt. Frank Rockwell Plamer Camp, 28, Albany, and Senior Vice Department Commander of New York, died Aug. 15, 1906.

Ladislav Valha, Bohemian American Camp, 30, Chicago, Ill., died Aug. 11, 1906.

Charles Bicklam, Gen. Jacob H. Smith Camp, 1, Fort Bayard, N. M.

Edwin Weatherly, John A. Logan, Jr., Camp, 17, Danville, Ill., died Oct. 30, 1906.

Chas. J. Cavanaugh, Manhattan Camp, 1, New York, died Sept. 14, 1906.

Washington Willocks, Manhattan Camp, 1, New York, died Oct. 14, 1906.

John J. O'Neill, Manhattan Camp, 1, New York, died Oct. 16, 1906.

Edw. Hansen, Naval Camp, 49, New York, died Aug. 26, 1906.

Herman A. Trott, John R. Thompson Camp, 1, Tacoma, Wash., died Sept. 11, 1906.

F. W. Hunt, Commander, Department of Idaho, died Nov. 25, 1906.

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Commander Edwin S. Bean, of the Department of California, U. S. W. V., in General Orders just issued, announces that new Camps have been formed at Ocean Park, San Francisco and Santa Ana, all in California. He praises the work accomplished at the recent National Encampment, and announces that the new Commander-in-Chief, Capt. Hamilton Ward, will visit the California Camps early in 1907.

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Capt. Richmond Pearson Hobson, the hero of the Merrimac, which was sunk at the entrance of Santiago Bay to prevent Cevera and his Spanish fleet from escaping at night from the American blockading squadron, has been elected Commander of Admiral George Dewey Naval Camp of Spanish War Veterans at Washington, D. C. Capt. Hobson is now a member-elect of Congress from Alabama.

Dr. Joseph Milton Heller, late Surgeon, U. S. A., has been elected Commander of Henry W. Lawton Camp, also of Washington, and Capt. William Peacock, late of the 4th U. S. Vols., has succeeded to the command of the Fourth Immune Camp.

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Officers have been elected by Naval Camp, 1, U. S. W. V., of Philadelphia, as follows: Commander, Geo. E. Hedges; Lieutenant-Commander, Geo. Meehan; Lieutenant, Otto Newman; Officer of the Deck, Thos. J. Sayers; Officer of the Guard, Eli Lidston; Paymaster, Edward S. Townsend; Chaplain, G. C. W. Lau; Surgeon, W. J. Brennan; Chief Engineer, Henry D. Van Dyke; Trustee, A. C. Imhoff; Relief Committee, Wm. Prettyman, George Meehan.

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The Spanish War Veterans of the Middle States have been invited to come to Washington Jan. 29 next and attend the first anniversary celebration by the United States Historical Society of the birth of the late President William McKinley, who was Chief Executive at the time of the War with Spain. An invitation has also been extended to the G. A. R. The celebration will be held in the historic Metropolitan M. E. Church, which was attended by Gen. U. S. Grant while he was in Washington. The principal address will, it is expected, be delivered by Vice President Fairbanks, and President Roosevelt has been invited to be present as the guest of honor.—Capt. J. Walter Mitchell, National Historian, U. S. W., Washington, D. C.

The Navy During the Civil War.

Editor National Tribune: As a reader and subscriber for The National Tribune, I ask why it is I never see anything said about the part the United States Navy played in the war for the Union. Are they not entitled to some credit, or was the army the whole thing? You should deal fair with all who in any way helped to maintain and save our blessed Union. There are many naval men who take The National Tribune, I among the number, who would like to read the accounts of whatever little the navy did, and I know if it had not been for the navy the rebels would have won many a battle that they lost. Fort Fisher, Mobile, Vicksburg and other points that are but too well remembered with pleasure by the victors. The army did a great deal and deserve great praise for all, but without the navy where would it have been? When the Southern ports were blocked by the navy it began to tell against the rebels and in favor of the North. Are not we that wore the blue all comrades, whether in the army or the navy? Is it right and just that The National Tribune, the paper that claims to advocate our cause, should ignore one branch of the service and favor the other? Be honest and fair with all. I was in both branches of the service, and therefore am as much interested in one side as the other.—Geo. W. Margeaux, Micanopy, Fla.

There is absolutely no discrimination against the Naval Veterans. They have been frequently importuned to write for The National Tribune, but neglect to do so. The only discrimination against them is at their own doors. There were not nearly so many of them as of soldiers, and they have a smaller proportion of writing men among them.—Editor National Tribune.

Has Won in the Fight.

Editor National Tribune: I feel that I cannot keep house without The National Tribune. I do keep house and live on "easy street," and I wish from the bottom of my heart all the old boys did also. I am not living on "easy street," however, because of a fat pension, but because I was a boy when I went into the army in 1861, and almost a boy when they discharged me from the service in 1866, not needing me any longer. I was young enough then to engage in business in competition with the stay-at-homes, and owing to a good constitution, all my father left me, I made my fight for a competence and secured it.

I want to remind you of a promise you made to continue "Si and Shorty," which you haven't made good. It would please the old soldiers to hear more about them, and especially their wives. We have all of us been Judges, Sheriffs and every other old thing but convicts, but tell us how Maria reorganized Shorty. Like some of the rest of us he was a rather difficult proposition, and we would like to know how she made a "High Sheriff" of him. We are waiting to hear from "Si and Shorty" and the boys of '62.—Wm. Moore, Salem, Ill.

G. A. R. Charters.

Editor National Tribune: As all the comrades know, when we joined our Posts we thought little of the future or as to the turning over of the charters to headquarters when the Posts should go out of existence. At our last inspection this matter was brought before the Post by the Inspection Officer. His Post was organized in 1867, with over 200 members. To-day only 24 are left, and in a short time all will be gone. It is the same with all Posts. Now, after all the years that the town has helped us exist, it seems most unwise to turn in our charters after the Post has ceased to Headquarters, where they will be put in some corner, and finally fetch up in the trash basket. What we want is to turn them over to the town, to be kept for future generations to look at and remember the soldiers of '61-'65. If something of this kind is not done the G. A. R. Posts thruout the country will soon be a thing of the past and soon forgotten. I hope The National Tribune will get an expression of feeling from the boys in the different Posts, for they all swear by that paper.—E. S. Heminway, Post 163, G.A.R., S. Framingham, Mass.

A Letter From an Ex-Prisoner.

Editor National Tribune: I am a dear lover of The National Tribune, and I wish that every old comrade of the G. A. R. would become a subscriber to this paper, which has been and is the best friend they have. I know if all the old veterans and Spanish war veterans would become subscribers that the paper then would be a power in aid of their interest, for in the past when The National Tribune advocated the passage by Congress of any important pension legislation it usually was passed and became a law, and now is the time, my comrades, to subscribe, and a word to all ex-prisoners of war: I would like to urge every one of them to become subscribers at once, which will greatly assist us in getting some one of the several bills passed this Winter for our benefit. Let us all give a push and a "yell" for the good old friend of ours, The National Tribune, and we will surely be recognized by the next Congress.—Thos. M. Mozingo, Co. E, 7th Ind., and ex-prisoner of war, Greensburg, Ind.

The Ex-Prisoners' Bill.

Oliver Dyer, 48th Ohio, Thompsonville, Mich., says that he was only a boy when he enlisted in 1861, and he served his country faithfully for four years and eight months in the dear old 48th Ohio, during which time he was six and a half months a prisoner. This was harder on him than all the rest of his service. He only gets $6 a month pension, for which he is thankful, but he believes that every effort should be made to induce Congress to pass the Ex-Prisoners of War Pension bill.

Help for the Prisoners of War.

Mrs. Wm. H. Sogbury, Fowler, Ind., hopes the Government will soon awaken to the fact that something should be done for those who suffered so horribly in the prisons of the South. If they are not rewarded soon it will be too late to do them any earthly good.

Put Them on the Retired List.

John McLain, 111th Ohio, Grand Rapids, O., believes that 40 years is sufficient time to elapse before Congress puts all the veterans on the retired list at $1 a day.

The Army Chart.

Editor National Tribune: I received the Army Chart, and am much pleased with it. I am having it framed, and will hang it in my sitting room, so that I can see it every day until the Lord commands me to answer the last "roll call." I thank you very much for it, and will aid you all I can in sending The National Tribune all over the world, for I think it is one of the best papers in sympathy with the comrades. It also contains good news for all classes of people.—Abel V. Hartman, Dallastown, Pa.

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An Opportunity.

J. H. Willett, Co. I, 12th Ill., Postmaster of Seminary, Miss., asks us to inform the readers of The National Tribune that Seminary, Miss., offers unusual opportunities for some enterprising man to make money in the building of a cotton factory. The town has a river with fine falls and a solid flat rock bottom. Seminary is a thriving town, with two large saw mills, a fine school, 12 good business houses in full blast, a good, healthful locality, a good bank and loads of cotton raised and gathered at its doors. It stands ready to extend a hearty welcome to anyone who will go there and start a factory, and will gladly answer any questions relating to this matter. One thing he can emphatically state: There is no finer water plant in the Union than the one at Seminary. Any communication addressed to J. H. Willett, P. M., Seminary, Miss., will receive immediate attention.

Classified Advertisements.

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HOMESTEADS.

BOYS, IF YOU WANT A HOME, COME TO the Tularosa Valley, New Mexico. No Winter blizzards, no cyclones, no extremes of either heat or cold. As fine land as the sun shines on. Six thousand homesteads. See my letter in The National Tribune, Oct. 25, 1906. J. W. Long, Tularosa, N. M.

WANTED TO BUY OLD SOLDIER'S SCRIP for additional 80 acres of land. Address John Steel, Bee Building, Omaha, Neb.

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ANY COMRADE RECEIVING LESS THAN $12 should inform me of the number of his pension certificate, the rate per month he is getting; also the day and year of his birth. Then I will write him how to get an increase. R. W. SHOPPELL, Pension Attorney, Washington, D. C.

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SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO WIDOWS' claims for pension. Write me at once after death of husband, sending me his pension certificate. I will collect what is due him for you and get you the highest pension allowance for yourself. R. W. SHOPPELL, Pension Attorney, Washington, D. C.

REAL ESTATE.

MARYLAND FARMS.—Twenty-five acres near Glenn Dale, Prince George County; 15 minutes walk from Pa. R. R. station and 10 minutes from station on Baltimore, Washington & Annapolis Electric R.R. now under construction; good house; three road fronts; good garden land; lies well for subdivision; $100 per acre; $1,200 cash. 50 acres at station on the B.W. & A. electric road, which will be in operation by July 4, 1907; in fine state of cultivation; some wood. This land lies well for subdivision, and I believe will bring $100 in five acre lots on completion of electric road. Other properties from $20 per acre up. Glenn Dale is 14 miles from Pa. R. R. Depot in Washington City, and about nine miles from Deanewood station, D. C., where there is electric street car connection with the city. S. B. LEWIS, Glenn Dale, Maryland.

FLORIDA. Houses to Rent—Real Estate Bargains. Boarding-house Rates. Copy weekly paper. Any information write J. C. CROSBY, San Mateo, Florida.

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MEN ONLY— CACTUS CREAM CURES Debility, Restores Vitality, Banishes Weakness, Renews sprightliness and vigor. Cactus Cream is an outwardly applied salve. Has only to be gently rubbed in to benefit. One application positively proves its value. Makes weak men strong and strong men stronger. This is the original and only Cactus Cream, and is sent to all parts of the world, $1.00