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

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JOHN McELROY, Editor.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 4, 1907.

Mr. Harriman says that he wants to get closer to the people. Doubtless, to the small investor, who has lately been showing a decided offishness.

The Italians in New York are catching on very promptly. They know who is boss in that city, and generally wore shamrocks on last St. Patrick's Day.

The people of the Ohio Valley have had an Old Testament judgment on the wickedness of stripping the hills of their forests. A tide of water 60 feet high rolling down the valley has a savor of the Book of Genesis to it.

It is convenient for the Wall Street "financiers," who have been blowing bubbles with other people's soap, to denounce the State Legislatures for puncturing their inflations. It is the old, old fashion of blaming everybody but themselves.

Few professions seem more profitable than that of "Friend of the Workingman." That distinguished champion of labor, Abe Ruef, of San Francisco, gathered more than $1,000,000 into his bank in a few years by the indefatigable labor of his tongue.

Uncle Shelby Cullom is not given to loose talk. Far from it. No man ever knows better what he is talking about. And when he says that Harriman should be in the penitentiary it goes for a heap more than many pages of sensational scribbling.

The senior Vice President of the New York Railroad implores the public "to be fair with the railroads." That is all that any man of sense wants to be. The railroads have no reason to fear anything else. Only the professional wind-jammers, whom nobody regards very seriously, propose anything but absolute fairness.

The venerable Senator John T. Morgan, of Alabama, is opposed to Bryan and is out for Judge George Gray, of Delaware. Senator Morgan says:

"In my opinion, Judge Gray is the best equipped man in the United States to lead the Democratic Party to a successful result next year. As a Democrat no man has lived since the organization of the Government who has clearer views and principles of the creed of the Democratic Party."

Comrade C. H. Seilig has been unanimously nominated for Mayor of Eldorado, Kan., at a great mass meeting. It is claimed for him that he is the youngest Union ex-soldier in Kansas, having enlisted at the age of 13 and served four years. He was one of the early settlers of Eldorado, and is a leading business man there.

Realizing the absolute dependence of the battleship upon coal, the naval officials have begun the building of the largest collier in the world. Her name is the Vestal, and she will be 450 feet long, 62 feet beam and 26 feet draft, with a speed of 16 knots an hour, so that she will be able to keep up with a fleet of cruisers or battleships. She will carry four three-inch guns to beat off torpedo boats, and have a crew of 150 officers and men.

The next thing we shall have the corporations making a wild appeal to be saved from the courts. Judge Sutton, of Omaha, recently gave Samuel E. Howell, President of the Omaha Coal Trust, the limit of the law, which was six months in jail and a fine of $2,000. The Judge also rubbed it in on Howell by telling him that he was "no better than a common highwayman who put a revolver to a man's face and made him give up his money." If it had not been for money and good lawyers Howell would have been "in jail long ago, where he belonged."

The report of the corn crop for 1906 is startling in its immensity. The total product reached the incomprehensible figure of 2,927,416,991 bushels, or nearly 35 bushels apiece for every man, woman and child in the country. Iowa led all the rest of the States, with a production of 373,275,000 bushels, closely followed by Illinois, with 347,168,585 bushels. These two States produced nearly one-fourth the total crop. Nebraska came next with 249,782,500 bushels. The Pacific Coast produced comparatively little corn, California having less than 2,000,000 bushels, with Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Utah falling down under the half-million figures.

ADDITIONAL BOUNTY.

Before writing to the Auditor of the Treasury for the War Department, with relation to additional bounty, every veteran should examine his discharge and see if it has not a stamp upon it showing payment of such bounty. Let it be remembered that to those who enlisted before the bounty was raised, there was only $100 additional due. That is, the Government did not undertake to make up to $300, which it was paying the recruits after October, 1863. Those who enlisted prior to that time were only entitled to $100 bounty, and the Government merely gave such another $100. Nearly all of these have received this additional bounty, and there is only coming to the small number who did not get it another $100. Look over your discharges carefully before writing.

THE OKLAHOMA CONSTITUTION.

There is a rapid fire from all quarters upon the Oklahoma Constitutional Convention and its work. In this is sharp criticism of the character of the delegates. It is claimed that the whites sent to represent them "chin whiskers for honesty, windy little lawyers for oratory and a few bartenders here and there to direct manipulation." These went to the convention with the intention of at once capturing and controlling it, in which they were disappointed, as they met there some very intelligent Indians, who had been educated in the East, and had also paid much attention to politics of the higher grade. They at once outclassed the cheaper material representing the whites, and from first to last dominated the convention. An Indian was selected for President, and everywhere the Indians were in control. As to the Constitution which was formulated after months of flatulent oratory, the Guthrie State Capital denounces "the foolhardy ultraism, the dogged sectionalism, the beastly partisanism" that characterizes it. Other papers in the State denounce it less scathingly, but believe that the desire for Statehood is so great that the people will overlook its manifest imperfections. The Constitution will come before the people for adoption Aug. 6, and as it is estimated there are about 100 Democrats to every 12 Republicans, its chances for adoption are believed by many to be quite good.

The main provisions of the Constitution are thus summarized:

"The initiative and referendum; direct nomination of all officers by the people; prohibition of succession in State offices; prohibition of the sale or introduction of liquor into the State; 2-cent railroad fare; partial woman-suffrage; prohibition of ownership in any productive agency of a natural commodity by a railroad; prohibiting corporations from owning more land than is absolutely necessary in the operation of their business; prohibiting corporations from dealing in real estate outside of incorporated cities; prohibiting the issuance of watered stock, and requiring the books of all corporations to be open for inspection at all times; provision for the State ownership of the segregated mineral lands in Indian Territory; a compulsory and separate school system; commissions to deal with charities, labor and arbitration, insurance, railroads, agriculture, gas, coal, oil, and mines; defining the term negro; prohibiting the marriage of negros with whites; and finally, providing that the Constitution may be amended by a majority vote."

This brief resume does not present anything that strikes the average reader as particularly repugnant. The initiative and referendum has to be tried somewhere before people will be satisfied, and Oklahoma is as good a State as any to try it on.

The direct nomination of all officers is an experiment that can only be determined by its practical workings, which, however, we are sure will bring about as many objections as the present method.

Prohibition of the sale or introduction of liquor is another experiment for practical trial.

The two-cent railroad fare would seem decidedly early for a community which is in the market to have railroads built and should give them all encouragement.

The prohibitions upon railroads and other corporations are not prima facie wholly objectionable, and the requirement that the books of all corporations should be open for inspection is in line with the thought of today.

Ownership by the State of mineral lands is another experiment which may as well be tried.

The final clause providing for the amendment of the Constitution at any time by a majority vote seems quite comical. What is the use of framing a Constitution which has no permanent binding force, but can be amended at any election? Why not turn everything over to the Legislature at once? This facility of change reconciles us to the incongruities and empiricisms in the document. In other States it has been a matter of great difficulty to amend the Constitution, even where the provisions have proved to be ill-judged and onerous, but no great harm can come if the Constitution is made much more responsive to the wishes of the people even than the Legislature, and at any election an objectionable provision may be annulled and another one substituted.

We therefore look upon the adoption of the Constitution and the admission of Oklahoma as a State with much complacency.

RECRUIT THE G. A. R.

Everyone should make it his business to bring at least one recruit into the Grand Army of the Republic. Let him fix in his mind some man who is yet outside the ranks, but who should be in, and then appeal to him to come into camp and help his comrades take care of those veterans who need assistance, and of their widows and orphans. If this is presented to the recruit as a matter of duty to those who stood by him in the great hour of the Nation's trial, it cannot help being effective. If every present member of the Grand Army of the Republic will make up his mind to bring in at least one recruit this Summer, we can soon have every eligible veteran inside the ranks, and the power of the Grand Army for good will be immensely increased. The Order should have a solidarity in this way that will make its influence overwhelming for good, not only to the veterans generally but for the country. Never has the country been more needful of a solid, united, forceful Grand Army of the Republic than at present, when all sorts of seditions and dissensions are weakening the influence for loyalty and good Government. The high standard which the Grand Army has always maintained as to the duties of those in office is of incalculable importance in these days of graft, self-seeking and general slackness as to official responsibilities. Such lamentable exhibitions as we have had in San Francisco, particularly, would not be possible if the Grand Army there was built up to its utmost strength and exerted its influence strongly in the direction of its fundamental principles.

THE KANSAS FLAG LAW.

Ever since Gov. Hoch, of Kansas, entered upon his office there has been a marked increase in the number of the men who sighed whenever reminded that they had voted for him. There has, it is true, been little or none of the fierce charges that have been made against other Governors, but rather a sadness and weariness that a sub-caliber piece should have been mounted where there should be ordnance of weight and power. We have never really appreciated this feeling of Kansans until reading his veto of the Flag law. From the intellectual poverty of the paper it suggests that the Governor's mentality is one of the stunted products of the arid region. His first objection is to the expense of providing each school house with a flag. Possibly, including the staff, this would cost $15 or even $25 for each school house. Kansas is now building very fine school houses as a rule, and wisely spending a liberal amount of money to give them an attractive appearance. She has gotten past the time when any kind of a shabby shed would do—would have to do—for a school house. In the sod-house period any sort of shelter for the scholars was better than nothing. Now that Kansas has pushed herself forward into the ranks of such solid, well-to-do States as Ohio, New York and Pennsylvania, she is erecting handsome, substantial school buildings and scanting nothing to make them attractive. Next to a good coat of paint nothing adds so much to the appearance of a building at so little expense as a fine large flag flying from it. The Governor's first objection, therefore, would have just as much pertinence against painting the school house or setting out shade trees or laying sod.

Next, the Governor fears that the morning flag salute will have a tendency to bore the children and engender a feeling of aversion rather than love for the banner of the country. People who differ markedly from the Governor in knowing what they are talking about are confident that the flag salute is a most agreeable feature of the daily routine, and that the children take to it with a relish as they do to singing and other pleasant variations of the course of hard study.

Even if they did not it would not be a strong reason against the morning salute.

Grammar, arithmetic, penmanship, geography are all at times quite boresome to little students. They do not thereby conceive a lifelong distaste for them. They are much more likely to look back upon the hours they were obliged to spend upon these as among the happiest in their lives, and the direction then given their minds as their very choicest possession.

The Legislature wasted no time on the Governor's musty-minded veto, but promptly passed the bill over it.

GOV. HUGHES'S TROUBLES.

The sympathy of the public inside and outside New York State is strongly with Gov. Hughes in his present battle with the Legislature and the New York political leaders. Gov. Hughes was elected, after a bitter fight, to make certain reforms and to carry out positive ideas which he developed in the course of the insurance investigation, and which greatly commended him to the people of the State. As an honest man and duly regardful of the pledges he made before election, he is now trying to make good, but he encounters an opposition which threatens to break him down and bring his plans to naught. The first struggle is over the Superintendent of Insurance. It is so plain as to require no demonstration that the incumbent of the office of State Superintendent of Insurance was an absolute defeat of the purpose for which his office was created. The plan was made to have a capable man, who would exercise a vigilant supervision of the great insurance companies and properly safeguard the interests of the hundreds of thousands who had intrusted those companies with their savings, as a provision against old age and misfortune. He did nothing of the kind, knew nothing whatever of the operations of the companies, and his first intimation of the scandalous proceedings in all the great companies was obtained thru the publications in the newspapers. These were brought about by the intestine quarrels among the high officials, and were as much of a surprise to the State Superintendent of Insurance as they were to any other reader of the daily papers. Gov. Hughes, who had shown in the course of the investigation that he had very positive and proper ideas in regard to the management of insurance companies, attempted to remove the State Superintendent of Insurance, a man named Otto Kelsey, and appoint to the place somebody who would give greater promise of competence. He at once encountered the whole political machine, of which Mr. Kelsey was a prominent part. Senator John Raines is the leader of this most in evidence and he has so far controlled the Senate as to prevent the removal of Mr. Kelsey. If the Governor cannot carry out his wishes in this conspicuous instance, his usefulness is gone, and it will be impossible for him to accomplish anything else that he desires for the benefit of the people of the State. It scarcely seems wise for the machine leaders to provoke this struggle, since Hughes is not a man to compromise or to accept defeat. If he is as wise as we think him, he will make a fight to a finish, and appeal to the people of the State. So far they seem to be with him. The machine dare not carry their struggle to the point of provoking an appeal to the voters.

Next to the insurance question is that of railroad regulation. Gov. Hughes is the champion of a bill to regulate the issues of stock in accordance with the value of the property, which is strongly opposed by the gambling interests on Wall Street. In this again he has probably the sympathy and support of the people, tho this is not at present so clearly manifest. The people of New York are investing largely in railroad stocks, and it is desirable that they be encouraged to do so. The wiser of the railroad men understand this. They want the people's money for purposes of improvement and extension, and it is legitimately within the power and the duty of the State to safeguard the investments of the people precisely as it safeguards, to a certain extent, their deposits in the savings and other banks. We are confident that Gov. Hughes is a man of so much firmness in the pursuit of what is right that he will adhere to his program and carry it thru, even tho it shatter the machine.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS' PREFERENCE.

That indefatigable comrade, Patrick H. Coney, Commander of the Department of Kansas, G. A. R., succeeded in getting the Legislature to pass the following act:

"Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

"Section 1. That section 6509, General Statutes 1901, be amended so as to read as follows: In grateful recognition of the services, sacrifices and suffering of persons who served in the army and navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion, and have been honorably discharged therefrom, they shall be preferred for appointments and employed to fill positions in every public department, and upon all public works of the State of Kansas, and of the Counties, cities and towns of this State, if competent to perform such services; and the person thus preferred shall not be disqualified from holding any position in said service on account of his age or by reason of any physical disability, provided such age or disability does not render him incompetent to perform the duties of the position applied for, and when any such ex-soldier or sailor shall apply for appointment to any such position, place or employment, the officer, board, or person whose duty it is or may be to appoint a person to fill such place shall, if he be a man of good reputaton and can perform the duties of the position applied for by him, appoint said ex-soldier or sailor to such position, place or employment.

"Sec. 2. That all acts and parts of acts in conflict with this act be, and the same are, hereby repealed.

"Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force on and after its publication in the official State paper.

"Published and became a law Feb. 13, 1907."

This looks comprehensive and satisfactory. The next question, and one of the highest importance, is as to how it will be executed. It will be observed that the law contains no penalty, but Commander Coney says:

"Any State officer or any board composed of State officers, County or city officers, or any board who have been appointed and have charge of the penal and charitable institutions of the State, who shall willfully disobey or neglect to obey the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and subject to impeachment as provided by law, and prosecuted as other cases of misdemeanor; and in either of said cases, upon conviction, shall be adjudged to have forfeited his or her office.

"In making any reduction of force in any of the departments, cities, or towns of this State, the officers of such department, city or town shall retain those persons who may be equally qualified who have been honorably discharged from the military or naval service of the United States, and the widows and orphans of deceased soldiers and sailors.

"Any person knowingly and willfully violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction, fined not less than $5 nor more than $25 for each offense."

Prof. Frank Parsons has been making a study of Government ownership of railroads in Germany. He finds that there are many economies in this, as the President of a Railway Division gets but $2,750 a year and the Minister of Public Works, who is the head of all of them, gets but $9,000, with the use of a house. The safety of the railroads has been raised to a high point, and only one-sixth as many are killed and but one twenty-fifth as many injured on the railroads as in the United States. While the quality of the service is far from being as good as ours, it is yet the best in Europe. The average passenger rate is less than one cent a mile, but the freight rates are higher than in this country. On the other hand, into freight rates enter the higher charges which are made on such goods as in this country are sent by express, fast freight or private car lines. The employees have a share in the management of the roads thru a voice in the election of Railway Councils. They are pensioned for old age, and a provision is made for the care of their widows and orphans.

In spite of all that has been said about Temperance in France, that country is suffering quite as much from alcoholism as others, and the temperance movement is making marked progress there. The more conspicuous evil is that of absinthe drinking. Absinthe is a body and brain destructive form of alcohol, in which wormwood is distilled with the alcohol. Much has been said about the deadliness of this beverage, and the admixture of wormwood has been pronounced particularly destructive. This is probably incorrect. When a man gets pretty far along in alcoholism he wants something still sharper to jade his dulled palate, and the bitterness of the wormwood is the necessary spur. The real evil is, as it is in all other forms of drinking, in the alcohol, and probably absinthe is not much worse than beer, which loads up a man's circulating system with a whole mass of semi-decomposed starch and clogs all his organs and faculties. The Committee on Hygiene of the French House of Deputies has reported a bill in favor of the total prohibition of the distillation, importation and sale of absinthe in France. The bill proposes that the manufacture of absinthe shall cease in one year, and in two years all sale of it shall be declared illegal. This is all right as a starter, and it is to be hoped that it will be followed by other legislation.

Mr. Bryan shows that he has not that martyrlike devoton to principle that he seeks to be credited with. He has climbed away down from the perch he took in regard to Government ownership when he came back from Europe. He is not for it immediately, but at some time in the dim future when the people are readier for it than at present. He throws a sop to the States Righters by saying that in any event he only advocates Government ownership of trunk lines, with the subsidiary lines controlled by the States. At present, however, he will be content with Governmental regulation of the roads, and then proceeds to befog the situation with a lot of claptrap about limiting the profits on investments in railroads to four per cent. We call this claptrap, because the last thing that this Government should do would be to try to hamper enterprise by a limitation of profits. There is no reason why an investment in railroad stocks should be discriminated against. Railroads are absolutely necessary, and everywhere men should be encouraged to put money into enterprises that the community needs. Mr. Bryan proposes something that the worst tyranny in Europe would shrink from. We fear that the screws in his thinking machine are getting looser and looser.

Another one of the last survivors of the famous Louisiana Tigers appears in the person of John Moran, of Liberty, Clay County, Mo. As we have before remarked, there probably never was an organization that was completely killed off so many times on so many different battlefields in such widely-separated portions of the country as the Louisiana Tigers. In his reminiscences Mr. Moran gives some facts which we think will be a revelation as well as of decided interest to our readers, particularly in his statement that at Manassas the Louisiana Tigers "won imperishable fame by charging the 69th N. Y., a crack regiment, with their bowie knives. The Federal regiment was captured and driven prisoners into the Confederate camp." While we have studied the history of the battle of Bull Run pretty carefully, we have to admit that this striking incident has heretofore escaped our notice. The next feat of the Louisiana Tigers was at Gaines's Mill, where they charged across a mill dam and captured a battery of guns on a hill beyond, but were exterminated in the hour of their triumph. It seems that there were some left, however, to be taken prisoner at the Second Bull Run, but they made their escape from Fort Delaware in a manner quite as thrilling as anything in the Louisiana Tigers' history.

An Ex-Prisoner's Narrative.

Editor National Tribune: Abram Storms, who has resided in Bakersfield, Cal., for the past 15 years, where he has also served as Quartermaster of Hurlbut Post, G. A. R., relates the most thrilling narrative of personal experiences and observations ever recorded by any veteran of the civil war. From his statements made to me the following facts have been obtained:

He served in the Army of the Potomac from the first battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861, to the three-days' engagement at Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863. In that fierce battle he and his two brothers were captured, one of the latter being wounded and paroled on the battlefield. The other brother was captured July 1, and he himself on the next day, and both were held as prisoners of war until the surrender of Lee's and Johnston's armies at Appomattox and Raleigh. He is the sole survivor of the three brothers. He was taken prisoner in what was known as "The Devil's Den," corresponding to the "Hornet's Nest" at Shiloh, or "The Triangle" at Atlanta, in which the fighting was as fierce as in Pickett's famous charge on Cemetery Ridge. He suffered all the horrors of imprisonment for 23 months and 28 days on Belle Island, in Libby, Andersonville, Millen, Savannah and Blackshear, from which last place he was taken back to the foul prison house of despair in Andersonville. The highest honor ever earned by the men who gave everything to save their country was won by the 35,000 prisoners at Andersonville. In 1864, when Stoneman made his unfortunate raid against the Confederates for the purpose of releasing the men held at Andersonville. In order to prevent the success of that movement a force was sent out to meet Stoneman, which succeeded in capturing his command. At the same time the prisoners were removed to Millen, where they were led out of the stockade and formed in line to receive from the Confederate authorities an offer of release on condition of taking the oath of allegiance to the Richmond Government. Full rations, uniforms and garrison duty were the inducements held out. Those who were willing to take the oath were asked to step out of the line, but not a man did so; none of those brave men were willing to accept life, liberty and plenty to eat, drink and wear at the cost of honor. One old man of three-score years, who was unable to walk and had been carried out of the stockade by his comrades, promptly replied to the Confederate authorities: "If that is all you want you may as well open the gates and let us go back to prison life. I have five sons in the army who will avenge my death." Such an instance of devotion to a cause has no parallel in history, except that afforded by the Christian martyrs who freely gave their lives for the right of personal freedom of thought and action. The narrative of Comrade Storms not only takes in his long prison experience and his service in the Virginia campaign, but also his later experience of 40 years. He was a member of Co. K, 4th Mich., and a fellow-prisoner of Comrade John McElroy at Andersonville.—M. D. Gage, Bakersfield, Cal.

The Fleet Off Fort Sumter.

Editor National Tribune: As the only correspondent of a Northern newspaper—The New York World—who was present at the bombardment of Fort Sumter with the naval forces, sent down with men and supplies for Maj. Anderson, I desire to call your attention to the fact that John McElroy, in his very interesting series of articles in The National Tribune, in Chapter X., "Surrender of Fort Sumter," ignores the presence of the steamer Harriet Lane, Capt. John Faunce, a Revenue Cutter that had been turned over to the Navy after she left New York on her way to join the fleet at Charleston. McElroy also is in error when he says the Powhatan was of that fleet. It was supposed she was to join us off Charleston, but she was sent to Pensacola, and never even communicated with us off the harbor of Charleston. The only reliable story of that memorable event, as seen from outside the harbor, was published in The New York World April 19, 1861. The story is elaborately told in "A Sailor of Fortune," written by Capt. B. S. Osbon and published by McClure, Phillips & Co., New York, 1906. If I remember right, Mr. Felix Fontaine, of The New York Herald, represented that paper in the city of Charleston during the fight, but left immediately after, and was nearly as long reaching Washington as we were in the Baltic, for I left the Harriet Lane and came home with Maj. Robert Anderson and his gallant garrison, and to-day have a remnant of the flag that waved over the historic old fort during the fight that began the civil war. I am writing this in the interest of correct history.—B. S. Osbon, 132 East 23d Street, New York City.

It was stated that the Powhatan had been detached by Seward's interference, but no mention was made of the Harriet Lane.—Editor National Tribune.

Editor National Tribune: Have received the Chart of the Army of the Potomac and am well pleased with it. Thank you very much.—George K. Mead, 6th Ohio Cav., Salem, Ohio.

PICKET SHOTS

From Alert Comrades Along the Whole Line.

Gen. John Morgan.

C. W. French, late Captain U. S. Vols., sends the following incident in the life of Gen. John Morgan:

In the Winter of '63-'64 John Mell, of an Ohio regiment, was on duty at Columbus, O., as guard of Gen. Morgan and those confined with him. Comrade Mell, in the kindness of his heart, granted many small favors to the Confederate General, such as cigars, tobacco, papers, etc., and in many ways sought to ameliorate the rigors of his confinement. A few days before Morgan's escape he told Comrade Mell that if he would bring him paper, pen and ink he would write him a letter which might be of service to him some day. Comrade Mell did this, and the General wrote as follows: "To Whom It May Concern: This certifies that John Mell, of Co. —, — regiment, O. V. I., has acted as my guard in the Ohio Penitentiary for several weeks, and that he has shown me many little acts of kindness, as far as he could consistently in the performance of his duties. If ever by the fortunes of war he should find himself a prisoner in the hands of the Confederates, any Confederate officer who does him a favor or in any way mitigates his sufferings, will thereby confer a special favor on yours respectfully, John H. Morgan, Major-General, C. S. A." Comrade Mell went to the front, was captured, and thrown into one of the vile pens of the South, where he remained several months, half starved and enduring all the horrors of prison life. One day when a Confederate officer came into the pen this letter of Gen. Morgan flashed into his mind, and he determined to show it. Approaching the officer, he presented the letter, asking him to read it. The officer complied, then looked at Comrade Mell and said, "Come with me!" The officer took him outside into the city, gave him a good roll of Confederate money, put him on parole, and for two months he never lived better nor was more kindly treated. By his solicitation he obtained paroles for several of his comrades in affliction. Of course, he kept the letter, and now has it framed and hanging on the wall of his home, and would not take $1,000 for it.

Surprised and Pained.

J. B. Hoffman, Second Lieutenant, Co. H, 10th N. J., Shiloh, N. J., was both surprised and pained at J. B. Shoemaker's article, published in the Jan. 17 issue of The National Tribune. That a man who had worn the blue and battled for the right and his country's flag should have used language so ungentlemanly is something all the comrades should deplore. While everyone has the right to his honest opinions, no one has the right to express himself in the rude and unbecoming manner Comrade Shoemaker did. That any man, comrade or otherwise, should be willing for a few paltry dollars to traffic in that which benumbs the brain, deadens the sensibilities, makes of men a menace to society and leads them to ruin and destruction passeth the understanding. Comrade Hoffman bids Comrade Shoemaker pause and think what he is doing in trying to stab a paper that has done and is doing more for him and his comrades than any other paper extant.

Port Gibson.

S. E. McGee, Co. A, 22d Iowa, Lima, Mont., says he sees that some comrades claim that their regiment overpowered the rebels at Port Gibson. If he is not mistaken the 22d Iowa was in advance that night, and when the pickets fired on them they were ordered to halt, open ranks and let the 16th Ohio Battery pass by, which they did. There was a rebel battery at the top of the hill which had full command of the road and opened fire on the 22d as soon as their pickets gave the warning. The 16th Ohio Battery flew by and located themselves to the right of the Johnnies' battery, which was known as the "Mississippi White Horse Battery," and in about 20 minutes after the 16th opened on them they didn't know that they ever had a battery. Comrade McGee is thankful for the relief the McCumber bill will bring, and thinks all the comrades should thank The National Tribune for all the good it has done and is still doing for the old soldiers.

The Longest March.

Jasper Malone, Co. H, 21st Mo., Lemoore, Cal., cannot concede to Comrade Childres, 11th Kan. Cav., the truth of his claim that his regiment made the longest march during the war. This honor should be given the Sixteenth Corps, to which Comrade Malone's regiment belonged, and he gives us in detail an account of what he claims to be the longest march made during the war. Comrade Malone says: "We broke camp for St. Louis, to head off 'Pap' Price, at Memphis, Tenn., about Sept. 15, 1864, who was marching up from Arkansas. We beat him, getting there in good time after having marched 500 miles. From St. Louis we marched south to De Soto, 40 miles and then back, making 80 miles in all. Price, finding he could not take St. Louis, started for Kansas City with us at his heels. We followed him as far as Harrisonville, when we were ordered to turn back, and when we reached St. Louis again we had marched 665 miles. We then marched to Nashville, Tenn., to reinforce Thomas, who was hard prest by Hood, arriving there in time to fix Hood in grand shape—a distance of 480 miles. This was Dec. 16, just three months from the time we left Memphis, without a single day's rest. We then followed Hood as far as Columbia, where our corps turned to the right for Eastport, Miss., distance, 150 miles. We thought we were going to get rest here, but we were mistaken. We marched and scouted around, also built a line of breastworks, and after we had finished these we were ordered to Mobile, Ala. This was Feb. 1, 1865. Distance from Eastport to Mobile, 798 miles. From Mobile we went to Montgomery and back—380 miles. This was made in April. We started from Fort Blakeley the 12th of April, I think. This ended the longest march made without rest during the war, beginning April 15, 1864, and ending in May, 1865. Seven and a half months we were on the almost constant go, covering a distance of 3,053 miles. If any comrade can beat this, let him speak up."

That Longest March.

W. H. Rickman, Co. L, 4th Iowa Cav., Doland, S. D., gives an account of the Sixteenth Corps's long march, corroborating all that Comrade Malone has said except in a few instances. He says when they got to Elgin Mills on their march north to head off Price they found the heat and drinking water terrible. When they reached Westport they had then marched over 1,000 miles, and this is where the 11th Kan., who claim to have made the longest march during the war, started from. The 11th Kan. scarcely did anything but run and dodge around to keep out of the way of Price. If Moonlight had done what he was sent to do he would have been in front of Price and stopt him till they got up, and had taken Price, but instead Moonlight was four or five miles away at Mound City. There he stayed until the Sixteenth Corps fought the battle of Mine Creek, drove the rebels back, and took all of the prisoners. Then when Moonlight saw that they had done the work he came marching down, and it is a wonder he wasn't court-martialed. The 11th Kan. man could not have known that the Sixteenth Corps was after Price all the way from Little Rock, or he would not have claimed for his regiment the longest march of the war. The Sixteenth Corps beat him about 1,400 miles. They were in the saddle nearly four months before they made a stop of any account.

"Five-Fingered Jack."

H. E. Seelye, Co. A, 9th Minn., Anoka, Minn., says he was a prisoner of war at Cahaba, Ala., at the time John Thorp, Co. F, 59th Ill., and his comrades were brought in. Seelye and the other prisoners heard that there was an arrival of fresh fish, and went to see who they were. Found "Five-fingered Jack," Duffy, Ducat and others. Now, if John Thorp is "Five-fingered Jack," he remembers him well, and if Thorp will take the trouble to write Comrade Seelye he will doubtless remember him, as he was one of the police of the prison. A comrade by the name of Pat Kelly was also on the prison police force. Seelye and Kelly bunked together and came to Benton Barracks together. He has never seen Kelly since, and would be so glad to know of his whereabouts. Would also be pleased to hear from any comrade who knew him.

The 16th Ky. at Franklin.

James T. Morris, Co. I, 16th Ky., Portsmouth, O., says he has never seen anything about the part taken by the 16th Ky. in the Franklin fight. When they were being paid off in Pulaski, Tenn., they became aware that old Hood was trying to cut them off at Columbia, so they started on a foot race to see who would get there first. They won, and held Hood at Columbia two days, then fell back to Franklin via Spring Hill, where they had a scrap with Wheeler's Cavalry. At Franklin they fought one of the fiercest battles of the war. They then crost the Dick River, and went to Nashville, where they paid old Hood a compliment by running his traitorous ragamuffins. Comrade Morris was with "bully Pap Sherman" in the Atlanta campaign to its finish.

Relics.

A. S. Brooks, 410 Barcelona St., Pensacola, Fla., is greatly interested in relics, and says he can go Frank Young and Dr. Wade Price two better when it comes to a question of old coins. He has one coined in 1794, the second issue coined by the United States and called "Liberty Cap." These old cents were coined from 1793 to 1857. In 1856 the United States began coining the flying eagle cent of white metal which ran three years. Those of 1856, good date, he will give a dollar for. In 1859 we began coining another white cent, which ran six years. He has them all. In 1864 we began the coining of the little red cent now in use. He has one of each date at his home. Comrade Brooks has also his last cartridge, but no teeth to tear it; his soldier candle-stick, his knife, fork and spoon, and two cartridges he picked up at White House Landing.

The Oldest Soldier.

It is claimed for Amos Martin, of New Castle, that he is the oldest soldier living. He was born in Scotland in 1798, and came to this country when a child. He served in the Mexican War in the 12th U. S., and after his discharge settled in Pennsylvania, enlisting from that State in the war of the rebellion. He celebrated his 109th birthday recently, and is sufficiently active to walk to the Squire's office and execute his pension voucher.

Wants to Hear.

D. W. Payne, Co. G, 133d Ind., Mason, Ill., wishes to hear from some of the boys of his company.

Our Old Commanders.

One of the very prettiest fads that has possessed the feminine soul in many a day is that of "passe par touting" of all kinds of pictures. It has, in fact, become the veriest craze. The magazines print such beautiful pictures these days that one hates to consign them to the limbo of old magazines, and picture frames cost money—a heap of money, to tell the truth. The "passe par tout" picture comes in to save these pictures, and looks chic and up-to-date. The National Tribune, with an eye to pleasing its readers and to help them to preserve the very best pictures extant of the old Commanders of the War of the Rebellion, has secured, and will place in the hands of those who desire them, steel engraving productions in soft, life-like tints, the pictures of all the celebrated leaders of the world's greatest war. These passe par touts are 5 x 7 inches, and will be bound in either red or blue, as may be desired, in the very best style of the art. The pictures are made from those accepted as the best in existence of the men whose name and fame filled the land forty years ago.

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