LETTERS FROM VISITOR'S TO THE ST. CLOUD COLONY.

The Wife of a Veteran Gives Her Impression of a Summer Trip to Florida—Was Delighted With all She Saw and Heard.

A Comrade's Wife Writes of the Trip to St. Cloud.

Editor National Tribune: A party of 42 excursionists started from Baltimore for Florida on the steamship Cretan, of the Merchants and Miners' Transportation Co., at 6 o'clock p. m., June 18. It was still daylight as we sailed down Chesapeake Bay, passing Fort McHenry, where the Stars and Stripes still wave. Next morning, after a pleasant night's rest, we passed out between Capes Charles and Henry into the broad Atlantic, but were seldom out of sight of land during the entire journey. Saturday evening we passed noted Cape Hatteras, with its lightship, where the sea was a little rough—and a few of the party felt it.

Sunday was a quiet day and seemed to be going like the others on ship board till about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, when our excursion manager suggested to those in the Social Hall that we might have a little service in observance of the Sabbath. He read an address, which was followed by talks, prayers, hymns, and recitations by other members of the party. Capt. Chauncey Holt, of Jersey City, made some good suggestions regarding the necessity of establishing a church at St. Cloud, a Union Church, where all might worship in one house without creed or prejudice. Capt. J. K. Penfield, of Delhi, N. Y., said we must have a church, but it would be better to have it in connection with some regular organization, so that we might have a first-class preacher. Various remarks were made on the subject by Mr. Toepper, of Washington, and others, and a church census taken. The meeting closed with singing "God be with you till we meet again." Altogether it was a very pleasant and profitable occasion.

Monday morning found us at Savannah, Ga., where a special trolley car took us to interesting parts of the city. At the Hermitage, an old Colonial mansion, prominent at the time of the civil war, we walked down a lane bordered by live oaks, planted a hundred years ago. The old homestead was vacant, as were the little brick huts once occupied by negro servants and slaves. A half dozen little black boys and girls came out to sing and dance for us and then scrambled in the dust for pennies. We drank at the old spring under the trees and saw sugar cane growing in the inclosure where the blooded horses of Maj. McKalpin had been kept when the plantation was one of the famous homes of the South.

Crossing the city the lecturer pointed out numerous places of interest, historic or otherwise. We made our second stop at beautiful Bonaventure Cemetery, where the sublimity of "God's acre" was felt in the quiet shade of tall trees with weird, gray moss hanging nearly to the ground. Passing Thunderbolt Park we next halted for a short stay at Isle of Hope, a watering place and resort, then back to the city by another route, stopping once to have a picture taken of our car and party. In the afternoon we visited stores and walked around in the pretty parks and tree-bordered streets of the city.

During the day our boat served as hotel and resting place. About 6 o'clock we steamed down the Savannah River and reached Jacksonville next morning, after a delightful ride up St. Johns River. At Florida's metropolis Mr. Moses Folsom looked after the party's comfort, as he had from the start, and saw all safely aboard the train for St. Cloud. Melons, pineapples and peaches were bought and sampled along the way, and all agreed that they were much better than those bought at much higher prices in our Northern home markets. Mr. Wilbur McCoy, Agricultural Agent for A. C. L. Railroad, gave us some valuable information regarding the possibilities of the farmer in the State, and pointing out from the car windows orange, grape-fruit, camphor, umbrella, magnolia, orleander, and other kinds of trees, also sweet potato vines, and corn four and five feet high growing where a crop of potatoes had been planted and marketed this Spring. We had to remember that June was not the most favorable time of the year to see Florida, as the market truck gardens had been mostly cleared, the rains of Summer had not begun, and most of the commercial fruits were out of season.

Reaching Kissimmee at 4 p. m., we were met by Senator W. H. Lynn, President of the Seminole Land and Investment Co., and I guess half of the population of the town were at the depot. The car was transferred to the St. Cloud line, or Sugar Belt Railroad, and we were soon crossing "the promised land."

One veteran, 78 years old, had already pitched his tent and raised the flag, but said he was ready to move when his own lot was assigned him. The night was passed at Runnymede, a neighboring station, where a spacious clubhouse had been opened and prepared for our entertainment. Mrs. Morrison, from Kissimmee, proved an agreeable hostess. We heard no complaint of heat or mosquitoes.

Next morning automobiles and carriages came to take all those interested over the land belonging to the Colony. We found good roads and surveyors and clearers working hard and the land just what our printed matter had said it was, bordered by Lake East Tohopekaliga and the canal leading to Lake Tohopekaliga. The pronunciation is "To-hope-ka-li-ga. It is a Seminole Indian name and said to resemble the notes of a bird once common in the country. The streets of the new town are numbered, while the avenues are named for the States of the Union. Florida Avenue, 90 feet wide, runs to the lake, as do all the avenues. Along them we could imagine in the near future beautiful flowering shade trees growing, and pretty cottages nestling among vines and shrubbery, with broad porches to be used twelve months of the year, instead of four or five, as is the case in the North.

Roses blossom from November to February and there is none of the hard work so well known to Northern flower lovers, such as covering late blooms for fear of early frost, banking roots to keep them from freezing and housing the tender plants thru Winter months to rest them for a few short months of bloom. The oleander here is a tree and not a tub plant as in the North.

Then the fresh fruits that are things of luxury to us of the North can be had in plenty at all times of the year with no canning time for the housewife. Strawberries from December to May, vegetables fresh from the garden, whenever we choose to have them, and oranges and grapefruit, the real thing, for months. In fact, a man with an ordinary amount of foresight, energy and "gumption" can make his home in Florida just what his fancy or finances dictate. Prof. S. V. Godden, who has had wide experience in horticulture and nursery work, is on the ground ready to answer questions and assist in a practical way all newcomers. It now remains with the purchasers of St. Cloud lots and land to make their city and community whatever they will.

The bungalow type of house is well adapted to Florida. I saw one that pleased me very much. It had three rooms below and two above, half plastered and finished in Georgia pine, with a large fireplace, and 10-foot porches in front and back. It cost $850. Of course, comfortable houses can be built quite cheaply. Lumber ranges from $12 to $20 a thousand feet.

There is a Shaker Colony a couple of miles from St. Cloud made up of people who settled there 15 years ago from Mt. Lebanon, N. Y. They are very successful farmers and truck growers, and do well raising pine apples, bananas, and other fruits. Their display of pineapples took first prize at the Jamestown Exposition. Their methods and success will prove an object lesson to the St. Cloud Colonists.

On our return trip we left some of our party at Runnymede, and some at Kissimmee, where we spent half a day enjoying the progressive spirit so noticeable everywhere. Its Mayor, once a Union soldier, has been elected three times, and everybody seemed ready to welcome people to their country.

We stayed a night and a day at Jacksonville, a city largely made up of Northern people. The streets are clean, the buildings and residences fine and they are rapidly restoring the portion destroyed by fire some time ago. Those who left Jacksonville June 25 sailed on the S. S. Indian and reached Baltimore, Monday evening, June 28, well pleased with the way the excursion was managed, and with what we saw and learned at St. Cloud, where Northern soldiers and their families and friends can live the year round in comfort, and have no concern about coal bills and expense for overcoats and overshoes, and no worry about shoveling snow off the sidewalks and thawing ice out of the garden pump.—Mrs. Grace W. Cooper, Fisher's Island, N. Y.

Speaks for St. Cloud.

Editor National Tribune: I notice that the comrades who went on the excursion to St. Cloud are writing up their experiences and impressions of the Florida country and climate. I do not believe I can add much to what has already been said. I can heartily indorse all that has been written.

At first thought it seems quite an undertaking for us old fellows to start a home in another part of the country. It would be out West or in any part of the North, but down in Florida, with its genial climate, it will not be so much of a task. Life anywhere is what we make it, but in Florida, where there is no harsh Winter winds and cold to combat, and its outdoor weather in all seasons, where flowers, fruits, and vegetables can be had in every month, life ought to resolve itself into an easy problem.

The situation at St. Cloud pleased me. We ought to be able to build up a fine community. The presence there of so many comrades will make it easy to start things agreeably and continue so. It will not be like settling among strangers in a strange land. It is "up to us," as the saying goes, to make St. Cloud a great credit to the boys who wore the blue. We were the right stuff in war, and now in peace we have a chance to do something out of the common, to build up a prosperous community in a section of country where we once went to destroy. "There are victories of peace no less renowned than war." Now let us go at it and win a great victory of peace.

Florida is a favored land in many ways. It is the strategic point in the coming great trade with the West Indies and South America. Its ports are nearest Panama. On account of its resort advantages it has fine railroad facilities. No State has better direct car service with the chief cities of the North, a fact easily recognized in the number of railroad announcements which advertise trains as the "Florida Limited," the "Florida Express," the "Florida Air Line," the "Florida and West Indian Limited," etc. In uniformity of temperature, from what I can learn, it leads all the other States. It produces the corn of the North and the cotton of the South. It produces all of the staples of the North, except wheat, but this is offset by fruits and a great variety of the other products not possible in the North. I understand, too, that it is one of the best watered States, that is good, fresh water, easily had in wells, besides its fine lake and river systems. Besides this it has the longest seacoast line of any of the States, and it is this proximity to salt water that makes its fine climate.

St. Cloud has fine navigable lakes all around it, lakes of clean water, full of fish. I saw no stagnant pools with green scum on them. I think The National Tribune people made a wise selection, and if those who go there to live take hold with half the zeal and energy necessary to keep things going in the North, the town will be a great success.—John T. Zais, Westernport, Pa.

Progress at St. Cloud.

Special correspondence.

Things begin to look very town-like. The work of laying out and grading the avenues and streets is well in hand. The Agricultural Experiment Station ground is in order and the planting of seasonable crops will be a school of instruction for new comers. Arrangements are being made by which purchasers can have their holdings cleared, planted and cared for, preparatory to their coming. A packing house will be built for handling products, and shippers will be given the advantage enjoyed by the regularly organized shipping associations. The railroad company is putting in a side track, and we hope soon to report the completion of a depot and freight house. The saw-mill will soon be ready for business.

Veterans and their wives are daily visitors and contracts for the building of houses have been let by a number of them. Plans have been completed for important buildings by the Colony Company. The printing material for the new paper, The St. Cloud Tribune, has not yet arrived, but we hope soon to have it here. The Editor, B. F. Knapp, well known as the editor of the first paper at the Fitzgerald Colony Company, is here ready to take hold. He says St. Cloud starts under more favorable auspices than did Fitzgerald, besides it has a much more desirable location. Fitzgerald has no water privileges, while St. Cloud is delightfully situated in that respect.

St. Cloud fronts as pretty a lake as can be found anywhere. The lake has a sandy bottom and never freezes, and affords as fine boating and fishing all the year around and bathing facilities as could be desired. The water is clear and good for drinking purposes. It can be made a source of supply for a town water system for house use and protection against fire. During the Winter season, the lakes adjoining the Colony lands are alive with ducks and other migratory acquatic birds from the North. Quail and rabbits abound in the neighboring timber and remote from the settlements deer and bear are found.

Visitors who have had years of experience in Florida do not hesitate in saying that St. Cloud is one of the ideal spots in the State. The Kissimmee Valley is perhaps the largest body of continuously good land to be found in the State. It is alternated with prairie, timber and lakes and singularly exempt from malaria, musketos and flies. The excursion party here in June noted with surprise the freedom from insect pests.

The healthfulness of this region is without question. The mortality records of Kissimmee prove this. There has never been an epidemic of any kind in this section. New comers during the Summer season by exercising a little caution until acclimated need have no trouble. There is often a tendency among new comers to overeat, and they can hardly be blamed, for there are many tempting things, particularly in the way of fruits, that are not found in the North. A little discretion in this direction is recommended, until one is accustomed to the new conditions of flood, water, etc.

We are now in the midst of the rainy season. By this is not meant a succession of dreary and cloudy days, but alternating showers and clearing weather each day. Some of the showers have the accompanyments of thunder and lightning, but no one has ever experienced thunder storms in Florida which equal in severity those of the Northern Lake States and the Mississippi Valley, so those who dread thunder and lightning need have no fear on that score by coming to Florida.

We are having a good many visits from Northern born people, who now live in other parts of Florida, and some have purchased property and will come here to live. It is evident the character of the enterprise is being more and more appreciated. It is only necessary to see the country and investigate personally the plans and methods of the Seminole Land and Investment Co. to convince the most skeptical of the splendid future in store for "Old Soldiers' Colony."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A Word to Correspondents.

Please do not write on both sides of your letter paper. Sign your full name, (not necessarily for publication,) and write it and all proper names very distinctly. Do not abbreviate your words. Give your postoffice and State. We get letters occasionally in which either the name or postoffice address has been overlooked. Do not mix business questions and correspondence. Use separate sheets of paper. All letters will be given prompt attention, ether by mail or in The National Tribune.

J. F. C., Lexington, Ky.: It is claimed by the United States Agricultural Department that the losses due to the depredations of rats run into hundreds of millions of dollars annually thruout the world. It is the worst mammalian pest known to man. The Biological Bureau of the Agricultural Department recently issued a Bulletin, No. 38, which gives much data relating to rats, and how to get rid of them. It is sent free to any address by writing to the Department at Washington, D. C.

T. L. P., Boardman, O.: There are 18 pension agencies located in various parts of the country, from which pensions are paid quarterly. Pensioners living in foreign countries are paid from Washington.

S. E. H., Syracuse, N. Y.: Soldiers can file through agents for claims in the drawings for the Montana and Idaho Indian reservation lands, to come off Aug. 9. An agent can only file one name. Those who advertise to file names for a certain fee, $15 to $25, must get persons living near the reservations to do the filing. Soldiers who have friends living in the same vicinity can do this themselves.

B. C. T., Salem, O.: The John Morgan raid took place in July, 1863. He crossed the Ohio River into Harrison County, Ind., July 8, with 5,000 cavalry. He committed many depredations as he crossed the southern part of Ohio, gradually losing his men, until he and a remnant of his force were captured July 29 in your county of Columbiana. Morgan was put into the penitentiary at Columbus, from which he escaped on Nov. 27, 1863.

B. A. L., Albert Lea, Minn.: The making of bottles to deliver milk in is already an important business. A factory at Alexandria, Va., just below Washington, makes and ships them by the carload. It is something of a job to take care of the milk bottles at a dairy having considerable city trade. With the most intelligent help possible to hire and expensive machinery especially prepared for the work to wash bottles, one will occasionally get one, though, that should not be filled. In order to assist in the delivering of strictly sanitary milk the consumer should always wash the bottle immediately after it is emptied. It is not difficult to clean a bottle before the milk dries and germs gather.

L. C. M., Helena, Ark.: The only unlimited legal-tender money in this country is gold coin, and it is discounted when worn. When handled in large amounts it is weighed, and if it falls below standard weight, the loss through abrasion or otherwise, it is discounted to the amount of the reduction in weight.

J. L. B., Newton, O.: It is 170 miles from Jacksonville to St. Cloud. Tampa is 94 miles from St. Cloud. Tampa is planning to give a Panama Exposition, in which Florida will be given a big showing. Florida has a promising agricultural future.

H. W. S., Lenox, Mass.: The President of the Board of Managers of the National Volunteer Soldiers' Homes is Maj. J. W. Wadsworth, 346 Broadway, New York City, N. Y. Write to him and give him particulars concerning your service and condition, and he will send you blank application and give you necessary information if you meet all requirements. There are ten Homes for volunteers, located in various parts of the Union.

M. O. L., Mexico, Mo.: We have not heard much about denatured alcohol lately. Several experts employed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in connection with experiments with denatured alcohol have been "separated from the service," and after all the talk made a few years ago the Department has concluded that the manufacture and use of denatured alcohol by farmers and everybody for general purposes is not practical. Several years ago Congress reduced the tax on denatured alcohol and it was generally asserted that within a few years this product would become generally used as a means of power on farms and elsewhere. It was claimed that denatured alcohol could be made very cheaply from potatoes and many other products of the farm. It may be made cheaply and extensively used in the future, when the Standard Oil Co.'s supply of gasoline runs out.

C. L. F., Jefferson City, Mo.: The war with the Seminoles in Florida was perhaps the longest and most expensive the Government ever had with any of the Indian tribes. The Seminoles refused to remove from Florida, and they can hardly be blamed, for they did not want to leave a good country and go to the lands provided for them west of the Mississippi. A good many battles were fought. Near Tampa Bay, Dec. 28, 1835, parts of two companies, under Maj. Dade, were destroyed, except three men. Their best known chief was Osceola, for whom the County in which the St. Cloud Colony is located was named. He was an intelligent and daring savage, who didn't propose to give up his country to white men without a struggle.

C. M. F., Spokane, Wash.: The riot against the draft in New York City began on July 13, 1863, and lasted four days. Soldiers were beaten, negroes were hung, and much property destroyed. There were nearly 200 person killed.

B. T. F., Stockville, Mass.: The battleship Maine was blown up in Havana harbor, Cuba, about 10 p. m., Feb. 15, 1898, and 266 sailors lost their lives. A searching investigation followed without fixing the responsibility. It anchored in accordance with instructions from the harbormaster. A New York passenger steamship belonging to the Ward Line was anchored not far away from the Maine. The ship is slowly sinking into mud and remains an obstruction to navigation.

L. C. B., Bluffton, Ind.: The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., will send you bulletins about the different breeds of cattle and what they will do. Your State experiment station at Lafayette can be of help in this matter and others relating to farm life in your State.

Lincoln Centenary.

The centenary of Lincoln's birthday was observed in a particularly impressive manner at the Baptist Temple of Philadelphia by the Grand Army Association of Philadelphia. Gen. Louis Wagner, Past Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, presided, and addresses were delivered by Hon. Hampton L. Carson and Hon. John E. Reyburn, Mayor of Philadelphia. A report of these proceedings has now been published in a richly gotten up booklet, with the Grand Army badge embossed on its cover, and illustrated with fine pictures of Lincoln, the speaker's and others. The pamphlet is a fine specimen of the best typographic and artistic work.

PEOPLE.

What might be called a relapse to the Dark Ages occurred in Montreal, Province of Quebec, last week. J. A. Laland had visited a Roman Catholic church in that city, and, having failed to kneel, was ordered by a constable to do so. Because he refused to obey the constable and drop to his knees he was placed under arrest and locked in a cell in the police station for about half an hour. About that time the chief of police discovered who was there and what he was there for and turned him loose without a hearing or reprimand. Mr. Laland has promised to sue the city for damages incurred through the humiliation and false arrest. It is said that the arrest forms a precedent in town and police circles in the Province of Quebec. Laland says that he could not have kneeled if he wanted to because of the tremendous crowd.

J. W. Ely, Point Marion, has just received a check for $1,000 from the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission for his heroism in saving the lives of two men in the Cheat River some time ago.

Sometimes things happen which hark us back to days of romance and tradition, and show us that after all there is nothing so romantic as the real happenings of life. In Wetzell County, W. Va., near the Marion County line, United States Marshals with a force of revenue men the other day captured a "moonshine" distillery. That was not so remarkable as the fact that this particular distillery had been in charge of this particular man, Christopher Brewer, for more than 43 years, and when Brewer began "moonshining" he was quite a young man, being now just 72 years of age. Brewer is said to have lived in a cave in the mountains and was known thruout the country as "Julep." After all these years one moonshiner might have ended his days without having been molested but for the fact that a big fight took place at the still week before last and a half dozen men were wounded. A duel was fought with knives. In rounding up the fighters the Sheriff and posse surrounded the place and corralled not only the men who did the stabbing and killing, but the distiller as well. The abject squalor and poverty of Brewer and his son can hardly be realized by us, and their illiteracy and ignorance must have gone clear thru the bone and clinched on the other side, for neither Brewer, nor his son, who is 47 years of age, had ever seen a steam engine or a trolley car, nor a train of cars, and when some waggish person spoke of an automobile they thought he was crazy. Just think of all the rotten stuff that was turned out from that distillery! Brewer said that for 43 years he had been using rhubarb and potatoes. He scalded them, placed them in a mill bag and crushed all the juice out of the mixture, and then sweetened it with sugar or molasses and put it in barrels. For nearly half a century this man and his son had been poisoning the inhabitants of that neck of woods with that vile concoction. The authorities say that it is the worst drink they have ever captured in a raid. Brewer had plenty of money on his person and was able to give the necessary security, but when they were carried before the Grand Jury at Wheeling they were nearly frightened to death. Old Brewer himself was afraid to walk the street just because of the strange noises and sights and clung to the hand of the Marshal all the way. When placed on board a train he nearly had a collapse from fear.

Senators Scott and Elkins and the five Representatives in Congress from West Virginia are actively interesting themselves in the suggestions of a fitting celebration of the Semi-centennial of West Virginia, which will occur June 20, 1913.

Another pretty American girl is about to marry a foreign Count. Miss Fernanda Wanamaker, granddaughter of the dry-goods prince of Philadelphia, has been betrothed to Arturo Heeren, son of the Count and Countess Heeren, of Paris. Miss Wanamaker, who is said to be very charming, will probably be one of the richest women in the world if she outlives the elder Wanamakers and other heirs. It is said that the Heerens are eminently "respectable," and that Miss Wanamaker will be doing very well in marrying M. Heeren, who, with a number of brothers and sisters, spends most of his time at Baretes, where the family have their principal home.

It will be remembered that when Peary came back from his North Pole expedition some years ago he brought with him a tiny Eskimo lad, whom he named Mene Wallace. He sent this youngster to school and in every way tried to advance the interests of the young Eskimo and make a man of him. There is an old saying that "you cannot make a "silk purse out of a sow's ear," and this is absolutely true of this Eskimo boy. He was rather a bright little fellow and rapidly acquired a good education, but he has had a grouch on ever since he was old enough to understand things. He seems to feel as tho Peary had done him an injustice in trying to make something out of him. For a year or more now he has been howling to be sent back to his home in Eskimo-land. It was thought once that he had started, but for some reason there was a halt in the plans. The boy seems to be mean by nature as well as by name, and we will be better off if he is sent back to the hovel of his ancestors, where it is said he intends going right away.

There died in Varease in Lombardy, one day last week, Don Carlos of Bourbon, the Pretender to the throne of Spain, and immediately there was banished from Paris Don Jaime, his son. One would think that some day or other these old feuds would die out, but this is one which will probably last until no more of that blood are left alive. Don Carlos of Bourbon was a son of Archduchess Maria Beatrix, of Austria, and her husband, Don Juan, who was the brother of Charles IV of Spain, who belonged to the Carlist reign in Spain, and claimed to be the legitimate King of Spain, under the Spanish law of succession established by Philip V. Four years of war, which ended in January, 1876, was carried on by the Carlists, and after their defeat they sought refuge on French territory. With the birth of the present King of Spain all the bloodshed of the years in between went for naught, and it was known that there never again could be any hope of a Carlist coming to the throne. However, Don Jaime, being the eldest son of his father, Don Carlos, may be supposed to carry on the pretention and so will be banished from his home in Paris, that country being on the most pleasant terms with Spain, hence unable to shelter a pretender to the throne.

Tom Mauger, a resident of Hammond, Ind., has had a costly experience in trying to gratify his appetite. One small hunk of cheese has cost him $150. It was Limberger, and his wife would not have it in the house, so he tied a string to it and hung it outside of his window. Then a tremendous streak of hot weather came on and you can guess the fell consequences in that neighborhood. The hunk of cheese ran neck and neck with a gasoline motor and the gas works for smell, and Mauger's wife and the neighbors thought it was unsanitary plumbing that was causing all the disturbance. Mauger had forgotten the cheese, and when his dreams were disturbed by the awful smells on hot nights he readily consented to having the plumbing torn out of his house and new instituted. When the last screw had been driven and the last lead pipe cinched Mauger remembered the cheese, but he paid $150 for the new plumbing just the tame.

The London suffragists have gone former President Roosevelt's African starvation party one better. The Roosevelt crowd was starved to a "stagger" in a period of 26 hours without food or water. A lot of suffragists who were incarcerated in Holloway Jail for disturbances on the street perpetrated a hunger strike and declined both food and drink until their jailers were scared into giving them their freedom. One of them, Miss Elsie McKenzie, went without food and water 124 hours, and was in a critical condition when released. Really and truly one wonders if the fool killer would not find a fruitful field for his labors among these howling dervishes of women, who are trying to obtain suffrage for their sex. It is not conceivable that any sane man would ever grant them what they want so long as they keep up this rabble attack showing themselves so ill dispositioned for real business methods.

We often read of the twin brother in romantic novels, but don't often meet up with him in real life. He has come to the front within the last two months. One of him is A. D. Oliver, former President of the Bank of Climax, Ga., who says that he has a twin brother who is his exact counterpart, and he seems to be possessed of the devil. At least this twin brother has gotten into trouble in various States, so Oliver says, and signs contracts and presumably checks with Oliver's name instead of his own. Meantime, Oliver is suffering and the twin brother is not.

The omnipotent Jenkins time and time again has made mistakes, and is at it again. He discussed at some length an entertainment that was alleged to have been given Count Boni Castellaine to Mrs. Geo. Gould and her daughter, Marjory, and followed it with a statement that Count Boni was a suitor for Miss Marjory's hand, and that his suit was looked upon with favor by George Gould and his wife. The only bit of truth in the story is that a Castellaine did entertain the Goulds, but it was a cousin of Count Boni, who does not sympathize with him in the least, and does not approve of anything that he has done, and he is not eligible for marriage until the present wife dies.

Miss Whitridge is a young society woman who has found work of real value in life. Her father, who was once appointed Special Envoy to Spain to attend the wedding of the King, is now the receiver of the Third Avenue Street Railway in St. Louis. He has a most beautiful home and Miss Whitridge and her mother are the center of a large social circle, but Miss Whitridge sees an opportunity to do good work among her father's employes, without on the one hand the ostentation that comes from the patronage of the wealthy and on the other the fraternity which sinks all social distinction. She has established a club for the street railway employes, and with her girl friends takes great delight every week in superintending the affairs of the club and presiding at the very agreeable social functions which make the lives of the employes and their wives and sweethearts much brighter.

Mrs. Lillian M. Hollister, of Detroit, who has been elected President of the National Council of Women, is represented to be quite democratic in society affiliations. She is a Maccabee, and has been Supreme Commander of the order. Mrs. Kate Wallerbach Barrett, of Washington, D. C., was elected President; Mrs. Flo Jameson Miller, Wilmington, Ill., Corresponding Secretary; Dr. Emma E. Bower, Detroit, Recording Secretary; Treasurer, Mrs. M. Josie Nelson, Union City, Ind.

Cora D. Harvey, who is the Secretary of the National Committee for the Unemployed and International Brotherhood Welfare Association, is the Recorder of Logan County, Okla. She claims to be the first woman elected to such an office and her eligibility was contested in the courts for 13 months. She held the office, however, all the time that the courts were considering the question. She lives at Guthrie, Okla.

Pension and Post Routes.

Editor National Tribune: Some of the newspapers are making a great howl about the appropriation of money for pensions to the men who saved this country and made it what it is today. What would it be now if it had not been for the men who enlisted and went to the front from no other motive than pure patriotism and love of country — leaving everything behind? We spent the best part of our lives protecting this glorious country of ours. Those who stayed at home and got rich under our protection are the first to howl about the pensions—both Democrats and Republicans alike—but they don't say anything about the Post Office Department, or rural route free delivery, which is getting to be about as big an expense as pensioning the old soldiers. The people were very well satisfied before rural free delivery was established. I was postmaster at this place about 15 years—until Cleveland was elected President—then I was turned out with the rest of the rascals. I heard no kicking among the people about getting their mail in those days, but now it must be brought right to the door, however distant, tho I know one man who prefers the old way of getting his mail and comes to the postoffice, three miles, every morning for his mail. He says he gets his papers and has them read before the rural carriers gets to his house. This pension business I consider as a just debt from the Government to the old soldiers. I know a great many old soldiers who are not able to work and make a dollar, and if they were they are so old now no one would employ them, and they must live on their pensions. The price of living is so high the little pension we get does not go a great way, and sometimes the soup is awfully thin.—Joseph Jones, Co. C, 11th Mo., Loomis, Ill.

A Good Woman Gone.

The City of Toledo mourns with our comrade, Capt. W. G. Alexander, over the loss of his estimable wife, to whom Mrs. Sherwood pays a most deserved tribute in the Toledo Daily Blade. Mrs. Alexander was, for many years, an earnest and efficient worker in G. A. R., D. R. C., and church circles, and wherever she was her influence was strong for the good. Mrs. Sherwood says of her:

"She was a woman of great courage and heroism, of marked executive ability, hospitality and public-spiritedness, and literally gave her life in the discharge of public and private duties, tho never aware of approaching infirmities until a few weeks ago. She was a member of the Progress Club and Educational Club, and active in the Central Congregational Church.

The President of the National Veterans' Drum Corps.

E. J. Freeman, of Macomb, Ill., the President of the National Veterans' Drum Corps, served thru the war in Co. A, 16th Ill. He was so short of legs that he held his place on the extreme left of the company, but he was always there with a bright, well cleaned Springfield musket, ready for duty. After the war he went to reside in Audubon, Iowa, where he still lives as a prosperous citizen, and there organized the drum corps, which will lead the parade of the National Encampment at Salt Lake City.

New Gold Camp.

The latest discovered gold camp is on the Innoko River, a tributary of the Yukon, and probably 1,500 men have visited the camp since the first discovery of placer deposits in 1906. The diggings are accessible in Summer by way of the river, but this requires an overland haul of 35 miles. The Winter routes are much shorter. The first year $85,200 was taken out and last year, $72,100. Four claims have produced more than $10,000 each in a single season. About 1,200 claims have been recorded so far.

The 97th Pa.

Editor National Tribune: Please give a short sketch of the 97th Pa.—J. R. Montgomery, Co. K, 97th Pa., Hancock, Md.

The 97th Pa. was organized at West Chester, Pa., Aug. 22, 1861, and the veterans and recuits were retained in service until Aug. 18, 1865. Its first Colonel was Galusha Pennypecker, who was brevetted Brigadier-General, and succeeded by Col. Henry R. Guss. Col. Wainwright was in command when the regiment was mustered out. It belonged to Ames's Division, Tenth Corps, and lost 136 killed and 186 died from disease, in prison, etc.—Editor National Tribune.

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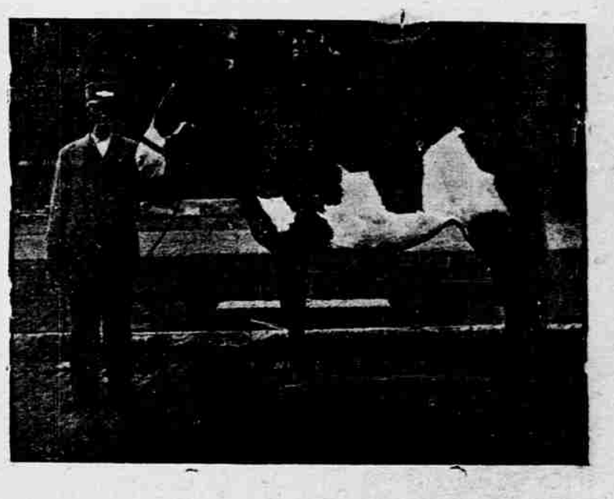

Spot.

Comrade Simpson Loveless, of Co. B, 32d Ohio, now carrier of Rural Free Delivery Route, No. 2, at Mattoon, Ill., up to June 20, 1909, had driven the pony Spot for nine years and traveled 58,100 miles. Her original cost was $30, and he has spent $108 for shoes, and she is still in good condition. Comrade Loveless was with Sherman in his march to the sea, and was wounded at Pocotaligo, S. C. He has missed very few trips during his nine years of service, and feels that with Spot he is good for many more years of usefulness.

Reunion at Washington, Iowa.

Invitations are out naming Sept. 29 and 30 as the dates for the Annual Reunion of the 19th, 25th and 8th Iowa at Washington, Iowa. Gen. J. B. Leake, of Chicago, will be present. Col. Leake was in command at Sterling Plantation, Louisiana, Sept. 29, 1863, when the battle was fought, and was taken prisoner with us, and, altho wounded, he marched with the boys thru to Tyler, Tex., and was ever ready to aid and assist in every way to help such as needed it. He was Colonel of the 20th Iowa.—J. E. Houghland, Eldon, Iowa.

Meeting of Union Ex-Prisoners of War.

The annual gathering of the Minnesota Union Ex-Prisoners of War was held in the old State Capitol Thursday, June 10. It was attended by comrades from St. Paul and many different parts of the State. After the business was transacted the comrades and their Ladies' Auxiliary attended a banquet at the Willard Hotel, and all those present enjoyed themselves. The officers for the ensuing year were chosen: H. Roth, Commander, St. Paul; J. C. Price, Senior Vice Commander, Minneapolis; Capt. J. D. Wood, Adjutant and Quartermaster, St. Paul.

29th Ohio Reunion.

The 42d Annual Reunion of the 29th Ohio will be held in the G. A. R. rooms at the Court House in Warren, O., Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, Aug. 11, 12 and 13.—Wm. L. Wood, Co. A, 29th Ohio.

2d Ohio H. A.

The 20th Reunion of the 2d Ohio H. A. will be held in Franklin County Memorial Hall, Columbus, O., on Wednesday, Sept. 1. Comrades who have not received notice of the Reunion and the secretary's annual report will please write to Thos. M. Sechler, Secretary, Moline, Ill.

COMRADE J. W. LONG,

Of the Department of New Mexico.

At the 27th Annual Encampment, held at Alamogordo, June 8-9, J. W. Long, of Tularosa, was elected Department Commander. He enlisted April 22, 1861, at Keokuk, Iowa, in the 2d Iowa, for three months, and re-enlisted in the same regiment for three years. He veteranized in December, 1863, and was discharged at Louisville July 12, 1865, having served four years and three months. He was one of six of the original company who went thru the entire war. His first fight was at Fort Donelson, where the regiment made one of the most famous charges during the war, which settled the fate of the garrison. The regiment lost 243 killed and wounded. Comrade Long is in the real estate business, and trying to induce his old comrades to settle in the Tularosa Valley. He has appointed D. M. Sutherland Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General, and Lee H. Rudisill as Inspector and Chief Mustering Officer. Edward Johnston is Patriotic Instructor. The headquarters of the Department will be at Alamogordo.

The 1st Mo. Engineers.

Editor National Tribune: Will you kindly state in your next issue that I shall be pleased to meet any comrades of my old regiment and company — 1st Mo. Engineers — at the Missouri headquarters in the Cecil Hotel. Our St. Louis special will arrive in Salt Lake City on Monday morning, Aug. 9, and we will remain until Saturday, Aug. 14.—Henry Fairback, Past Department Commander, St. Louis, Mo.

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