

ARMY DESERTIONS GROW NUMEROUS

Officers Anxious Over Defection of Recruits.

COURTS-MARTIAL INCREASE

Heavier Penalty, Preaching, and More Pay Recommended as Means to Correct Evil.

A big increase in the number of courts-martial in the United States army will be shown in the annual report from the judge advocate general's office for the fiscal year.

Officers familiar with the conditions in the different divisions say the number of desertions have been a source of great anxiety to the commanders, and that an unusual number of convictions have taken place.

In the department of the lakes, it is understood that the convictions for this offense have increased 25 per cent. The same is true of the department of Missouri and the department of California.

Correction Urged.

In the reports from the various commanders it is said that urgent appeals are made to the War Department to take steps to prevent the number of desertions. Recommendations are made to that end.

As yet no reports have come in from the Philippines. The number of desertions there, it is said, are not as large as in the United States.

This is easily accounted for by the fact that there is no inducement to run away. The soldier prefers staying with his own command rather than seeking the wilds.

The number of courts-martial convictions in 8 per cent of the posts of the United States for the past year is 2,671.

Desertion Record.

For the past five years ended December 31, 1904, the total number of desertions from the army was 27,365. The percentage has kept up steadily since then.

Some officers recommend that a campaign of education be started to encourage a strong public sentiment against the crime of deserting.

The same feeling does not prevail here regarding this offense as in Germany or France. Recruits do not regard it as a serious offense.

The recommendation has been made that the sentence should be much heavier; that officers constantly convey to the minds of their recruits the seriousness of the crime of deserting, and that the pay of soldiers be increased.

YOUNG LEADER OF PROGRESSIVE LODGE



THOMAS A. BYNUM, Grand Vicer of Ascalon Temple, No. 81, D. O. K. K.

PYTHIAN KNIGHTS ARE GREATLY INTERESTED

The special session of the imperial palace, Dramatic Order Knights of Khorassan, at Detroit, Mich., beginning August 15, is attracting the members of the order of Knights of Pythias throughout the country. Washington has a flourishing temple of this order (called, in its short form, the D. O. K. K., Ascalon Temple, No. 81), which meets the second Monday night of each month in the Pythian Temple.

There are more than one hundred temples in the United States. The officers of the local organization are as follows: Warren J. Coffin, royal prince; T. A. Bynum, royal vicer, presiding officer; G. W. Hiley, grand czar; A. J. David, secretary; Albert Kahler, treasurer; C. H. Bredin, mated; W. S. Marquis, sheik; Hugh Red, mokanna; G. Frank Jay, Joe; R. T. Whitling, master of ceremonies; W. C. Deane, sdrap, and Max T. Pines, sabb.

At a recent meeting of Ascalon Temple plans were outlined for representa-

tion at the session of the imperial palace, opening on August 15 and continuing three days. Notley Anderson, past chancellor of Franklin Lodge, No. 2 of this city, the oldest Pythian Lodge in the world, will, as the imperial representative of Ascalon, be present in his official capacity, and among the visitors will be A. J. David, secretary of the local temple, and others. A number of ladies will accompany the party.

Many questions of importance to this body, which is a social organization with a ritualistic ceremony of a dramatic character, for the most part, will likely be considered at the coming session. The meeting in Detroit is a special one, following the regular session in Louisville, Ky., last August, which was largely attended by Washingtonians.

Carrying out the social ideas of the organization, Ascalon Temple, No. 81, has arranged for an excursion to Marshall Hall on next Tuesday, when the members of the order, with their fam-

THREE UNDER KNIFE TO RESCUE SISTER

Skin-Grafting Operation Believed Successful.

GIRL VICTIM OF SOME FIEND

Sleeping When Unknown Person Threw Acid, Which Terribly Scarred Pretty Face.

PATERSON, July 29.—Eighteen square inches of skin have been grafted to the face of Minnie Mertz, the girl who was so terribly disfigured by sulphuric acid thrown by a fiend as she slept in her home in Bloomington, a month ago.

The cuticle was cut off in equal portions from the thighs of Miss Mertz's sisters, Gertrude, twenty-four years old; Annie, eighteen years old, and her brother, fourteen years old.

Operation Successful.

As far as can be learned at present the operation was successful. It was performed in the General Hospital by Dr. J. S. McCoy, the house physician. Many doctors were present because of the great interest felt in the case. The two young women and the boy went through the ordeal without a tremor. They were first taken to their sister's bedside, where they told the suffering girl to bear up and she would be her old self in the end.

Miss Mertz was carried to the operating pavilion, and when a cloth had been taken from her scarred face the older sister submitted to the knife. In a few minutes several bits of cuticle had been transferred to the raw flesh of the patient, and then Annie was brought in to cover further the aching wounds.

The boy also bore the pain of the operation like a stoic, and when the blade was cutting his flesh he was speaking encouraging words to his sister, who was prostrate on the operating table. Dr. McCoy expressed great satisfaction with the operation as far as it has gone, but says it will be several days before the result would be known. Miss Mertz was resting easily this evening, and to one of her relatives she said that for the first time the pain in her wounds had begun to lessen.

Relatives and friends, will enjoy the day. A match game of baseball between two teams of Pythians has been arranged, and with amusing races, contests, prize waiting and other features, the temple promises to carry out its motto which has made it so successful, "Laugh and the world laughs with you." The general committee in charge of the event is as follows: W. S. Marquis, chairman; Thomas A. Bynum, A. J. David, C. H. Bredin and Max T. Pines. Various sub-committees will look after the comfort of all and the amusement features of the occasion.

HUGE CANNON BALL FOR THE INSPECTOR

Relic One Hundred Years Old to Be Added to Mr. Ashford's Highly Prized Collection of Antiques—Was Discovered by Contractor Gifford.

Building Inspector Ashford is the recipient of many relics of the by-gone days of Washington. Frequently when an old building is demolished antiques are brought to light, and the contractor generally turns them over to Mr. Ashford. His collection contains several valuable souvenirs.

A few days ago Contractor Gifford, who does most of the work of tearing down old buildings in the District of Columbia, walked into Mr. Ashford's office with a huge cannon ball in his hands, and presented it to the Building Inspector for addition to his relic shop. This cannon ball is nearly a hundred years old and was taken from the foundation of the building which up to a short time ago stood on G street, just east of the Epiphany Church, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets. This property was recently purchased by Thomas F. Walsh, who will erect there on a business house.

The cannon ball in question is a solid shot weighing twenty-five or thirty pounds. It is of the style used in the war of 1812, and was evidently cast for use in that struggle.

Was an Old Foundry.

Before the Colorado building was erected, the Foundry Methodist Church occupied the corner of Fourteenth and G streets northwest. At the beginning of the nineteenth century, when Washington was yet an infant city, an old iron foundry was operated on this corner. The specialty of the proprietor was cannon balls of all kinds and weights. The building which was recently destroyed was erected about ninety-six years ago, and was the only building in the block. It is believed that the cannon ball was placed in the walls as a cornerstone. The house was occupied, it is said, by the superintendent of the foundry, and he doubtless conceived the idea of placing the cannon ball in the foundation.

Another interesting souvenir in Mr. Ashford's possession, and one which he keeps on his desk, is a massive key, used by the late W. W. Corcoran in opening and locking his vault in the ancient Riggs National Bank building. The key is nearly a century old. About two years ago, when the old bank building was torn down to make way for the present structure, this key was found under the floor, where it is supposed to have been lost.

In the same building another valuable antique was found. Down in the southeast corner of the building the workmen came across a one-half cent piece bearing the date of 1804. It is doubtful if there are more than a half dozen coins like this in existence, and Mr. Ashford keeps it in his pocket all the time. It is a copper coin, with a figure of the

goddess of liberty on the face, below which is the date mark, plainly visible. On the other side appear the fractional figures 1-200.

Looking for More Relics.

Mr. Ashford expects to find many valuable relics in the old Police Court building when it is torn down. The work of demolishing this structure will begin next week, under the supervision of the Building Inspector's contractor. Until the new building is completed, Police Court will be held in the temporary quarters on Fifteenth street, between D and E streets.

The present Police Court building is fully one hundred years old, and was formerly used by the Unitarians as a church. The rooms in which the crimes of the petty criminals of Washington are told the court, once resounded with the songs of worship and exhortations of ministers. It is said that Daniel Webster, who occupied an office a few yards to the east of the building, was an attendant at this church.

There is supposed to be a cornerstone in the southeast corner of the building, stocked with valuable history and relics. Many applicants have appeared before Judge Kimball, asking for permission to take possession of the things found in the cornerstone, most of them being Unitarians who expect interesting history about the old church. Judge Kimball says that everything found in the walls of the building will be turned over to the District Commissioners with the recommendation that the question of ownership be carefully looked into before a decision is made as to who should get the antiques.

TO WORKHOUSE WHILE WIFE WEARS THE PANTS

CINCINNATI, July 29.—Cabbell Conway, a rather diminutive man, was in police court here to answer to the charge of abusing his wife. Mr. Conway was allowed to state his own case. "She is one of those women," he said, "that wants to wear the pants around the house all the time."

Mr. Conway seemed to think that he had made a favorable impression on Police Judge William Luaders, for he continued: "Your honor, I'm the one that ought to be prosecuting and she ought to be accused of abuse of me. She weighs 160 pounds more than I do. I am the one that needs protection."

"Your wife can't get at you when you are in the workhouse," mused Judge Luaders. "Pay \$10 and costs and go out there and you will be amply protected while your wife is wearing the pants."

U. S. GOOD ENOUGH FOR VERMONTERS

Northern Folk Don't Want to Become Canucks.

SURVEY ANXIOUSLY WATCHED

Much Confusion Would Result if Disputed Territory Belong to Dominion.

ST. ALBANS, Vt., July 29.—All northern Vermont is up in arms over the possibility that Richford, East Richford and Stevens Mills may prove to be Canadian soil.

People simply stand aghast at the idea. They are perfectly satisfied with being American citizens, and refuse to entertain the notion of being tacked on in any way to the British crown.

Strange Tangle.

What the results may be if the survey now in progress should show that to Canada belongs the soil in controversy is only to be conjectured. But, as an illustration of the chaos that would reign in the affairs of the three towns, State's Attorney Warren R. Austin aptly points out that if Richford is in Canadian territory the conviction of Giovanna Viscome for murder must be annulled.

Established by Treaty.

The present boundary is established by the Webster-Ashburton treaty of 1842, and comprises the forty-fifth parallel from the St. Lawrence river east to the intersection of the Vermont and New Hampshire lines.

Neither the United States nor Canadian surveyors will make any authoritative statement in the matter, and the whole community is breathlessly awaiting some word from a reliable source.

However, every indication points to the supposition that this part of the State will remain in the Union. Everybody here refuses to believe that Richford, East Richford or Stevens Mills is a part of Canadian territory until they get an official statement to that effect.

JAMES GRINNELL DEAD; RODE IN FIRST TRAIN

KENT, Ohio, July 29.—James Grinnell, the oldest citizen of Franklin township, is dead at the home of his son, William Grinnell, in Ravenna, aged ninety-four years.

He rode on the first railroad ever constructed in the United States, the Albany and Schenectady, in 1831, being a passenger on the first train that passed the road.

Busily Buzzing Trade-Making Bees

The Bees are buzzing a buzz of thriftiness; a striking contrast with the buzz of business. It has become a custom in most stores for August to be a dull trade-lacking month. To be different is to be distinctive. We've resolved to be busy. Drones with us have no place. Our Busily Buzzing Trade-making Bees are buzzing for patronage. Their tune tells those who come within hearing of great reductions in all lines of Furniture, Floor Covering, Men's and Women's Ready-to-wear Apparel; also that a "charge" account arranged on the liberal payment plan has the buying power of cash. Be frugal as the bee; select summer goods at a sacrifice or prepare for autumn at a saving, arranging for delivery later if desired.

Temptingly Priced

Mattings

30c China Matting, 19c
100 rolls closely woven jointless China Matting, small, neat wear-well patterns, in pretty colors.

40c China Matting, 27c
75 rolls very fine jointless China Matting, handsome block patterns, small neat checks and plain white.

Laid Without Charge

Saving On Each

This heavy White Enamel Iron Bed, brass rails and knobs, extended footboard, strong and durable. Worth \$6.00. Special value, **\$3.89**

Heavy White Enamel Iron Bed, trimmed with brass balls, very strong and exceedingly well finished. Worth \$4.00. Special trade-making value, **\$2.95**

No Better Refrigerators Made Than The Bowen, New Progress and Lenox

25% Discount

We've concluded to continue this great value-giving opportunity. It's the Refrigerator bargain of the season. Bowen, New Progress, and Lenox Refrigerators are perfect in construction and finish.

Our Guarantee Perfect Satisfaction or Money Refunded

Ice Chests Underpriced

\$4.50 Ice Chest.....	\$2.89
\$7.50 Solid Oak Chest.....	\$4.89
\$8.50 Solid Oak, Double Lid Ice Chest.....	\$5.89
\$11.00 Solid Oak Ice Chest.....	\$7.89
\$12.00 Solid Oak, Double Lid Ice Chest.....	\$8.29

Suggestive of Comfort

Large size Couch, oak frame, five rows tufts, full set of springs, upholstered in good quality velour. Worth \$9.50. Special trade-making value, **\$6.89**

Fine Verona Velour upholstered Couch, oak frame, five rows tufts, full spring edge, and head, steel construction and finely finished. Worth \$14.50. Special trade-making value, **\$10.48**

Better Value Than Ever

Selected Oak Bedroom Suite, full size, large bevel-plate glass, neatly carved, well made and finished. Worth \$23. Special trade-making value, **\$13.95**

Solid Oak Bedroom Suite, swell drawer dresser, extra large bevel-plate glass, nicely carved, well made and finished. Worth \$20. Special trade-making value, **\$21.49**

Standard Sideboards But Not Standard Prices

Solid Oak Sideboard, three drawers, one lined, large cupboard, large beveled plate glass, neatly carved and well made. Regularly \$15.00. Special trade-making value, **\$8.98**

Selected Oak Sideboard, swell drawers, one lined, large French plate mirror, prettily carved, good construction and nicely polished. Regularly \$24.00. Special trade-making value, **\$17.69**

Large Quartered Oak Sideboard, extra size French plate mirror, lined silver drawer, highly polished. Worth \$38. Special trade-making value, **\$29.69**

This Maple Rocker 98c

Heavy frame, double cane seat, spindle back, and well finished. A **\$2.25 value.**

Make Your Selection for the Parlor

Large Five-piece Parlor Suite, upholstered in green Verona Velour, heavy frame, well made and finished. Regularly \$30. Special value, **\$21.69**

Very fine Five-piece Parlor Suite, upholstered in fine Verona Velour or Gobelin Tapestry, highly polished and fine construction. Regularly \$54. Special price, **\$41.65**

This Oak Chair 49c

Roman shaped Wood seat, brace arms, spindle back, neatly carved, strong, well finished, and a big value; worth \$1.00.

Such Prices Seldom Quoted

Solid Oak China Closet, French plate mirror top, bent glass ends, French shape legs, well constructed and finished. Worth \$22.00. Special Trade-making value, **\$12.95**

Full Quartered Oak China Closet, bent glass front and ends; French legs, beveled plate mirror top, highly polished and well made. Special trade-making value, **\$19.95**

Highly Polished Quartered Oak China Closet; claw feet; carved top; bent glass ends and front; fine construction. Worth \$38. Special Trade-making value, **\$28.45**

Mayer & Co. 415-417 Seventh St.