

# The Soldiers' Journal.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 27, 1864.

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We still invite the co-operation of our friends everywhere, to increase the circulation and influence of our paper.

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Advertising.---A limited amount of advertising inserted at ten for the first and five cents per line for each subsequent publication. The cash must accompany all orders.

All Communications, and other mail matter, intended for THE SOLDIERS' JOURNAL (except such as is prepared in this camp) should be addressed to 244, F Street, Washington, D.C. No notice taken of communications unaccompanied by the name of the author.

## PROSPECTUS.

"THE SOLDIERS' JOURNAL,"  
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY AT  
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RECENTLY  
CONVALESCENT CAMP, VA.

At the subscription price of \$2.00 per annum, payable always in advance. Single copies Five Cents each.

The proceeds resulting from its sale to be devoted to a fund for the maintenance of the orphans of soldiers who have fallen, or may yet fall, in defence of the cause of the Union.

Its primary objects will be to promote the interests of the soldier in the ranks. To this end it will contain all necessary information as to the methods of keeping in good order their accounts with the Government. The soldier in hospital will find in our columns instructions how to procure pay and clothing when entitled to it; what are the requisites exacted by the Government when furloughs are granted; and discharged soldiers will be put in the way of procuring prompt settlements of their accounts without the interference of claim agents.

Aside from this THE SOLDIERS' JOURNAL will contain interesting original and selected reading matter. It is the intention of those engaged in its publication to make its pages lively and readable, and it is believed that the varied talent pledged to its support will enable it to take at least a respectable rank among the journals of the country.

## Rebel Inhumanity.

No event of the war will serve to create so intense a feeling of revengeful animosity in the hearts of the Northern people toward the traitors and rebels who are trying to pull down our national fabric than the recent inhuman conduct of the enemy in their operations against Fort Pillow, Tenn. Their conduct throughout shows to what a degree of desperation the rebels are driven by the waning fortunes of their so-called confederacy. Under the pretext of wishing to negotiate with the garrison by flag of truce, they manoeuvred their forces into the most advantageous positions adjacent to the fort, a proceeding totally at variance with the plainest usages of warfare, and never practiced by other than those who do not presume to be civilized, and we doubt whether the barbarian could be so utterly devoid of the usual characteristics of civilization as to commit such an outrage against his fellow-barbarian. After securing positions in this dishonorable manner, which placed the fort completely at their mercy, demands were made upon its officers which none but men as lost to all sense honor as themselves could entertain for a mo-

ment, and on their refusal the worse than barbaric hordes were hurled against the fort in such overwhelming numbers that, after a heroic and almost superhuman resistance, the noble garrison was compelled to succumb—not surrender. There was no capitulation, no armistice, no negotiation; the order was fight, the ultimatum was fight, and though the blood poured almost to darken the waters of the river that rolled at their feet, the heroic garrison neither faltered nor feared, but when crowded from the ramparts, grappled their foe in hand-to-hand conflict until all had either perished or been borne down by the resistless wave that rolled over them. The negro troops alone showed a disposition to shrink, but then only when the bayonets of vastly superior numbers were at their breasts and resistance seemed madness. Driven to the bank of the river, they could not do more than succumb before their on-coming and desperate foes, whose exasperation was increased by the terrible resistance they had met and the heavy loss they had sustained. Under ordinary circumstances the conquerors would have honored the brave garrison for its heroism, but not so in this instance.—No sooner had they gained undisputed possession of the fort than an indiscriminate slaughter of its inmates commenced. The hospitals were sacked, the patients being in many cases bayoneted in their beds, and burned. Even women and children were, if not murdered, subjected to the most atrocious indignities and abuses. The negro troops, who surrendered, numbering upwards of three hundred, were deliberately shot down; wounded negroes, unable to rise from the ground where they had fallen, were bayoneted in cold blood, and their white officers met the same fate, not a single officer of the entire battalion escaping. Not content with despatching the colored troops at once, a plan was put in operation which for fiendish inhumanity beggars comparison. We refer to the burying of those, the nature of whose wounds, as they supposed, precluded the possibility of their being able to extricate themselves from the confinement of the grave, thus consigning the men who had earned human consideration from their hands by their bravery to the horrible death produced by suffocation. Five of these succeeded in working their way through the fortunately insufficient covering of earth that was thrown upon them, and reached our lines after the enemy had retired, but it will require the expositions of the Great Judgment to develop the whole truth in reference to this transaction.

Of the outrages committed by the rebels during the war this is unquestionably the most appalling, the most inhuman, the most unjustifiable, and that it will meet with the consideration at the hands of the government which its importance demands, we do not entertain a doubt. If the enemymeant to inaugurate a war of extermination, let it be so understood and we shall see who can hold out the longest. If the negro is worthy of bearing arms in defence of the government by the side of the white soldier, we are unable to see why he is not entitled to the same protection awarded by the government to the white soldier, when captured in the line of duty. A committee has been appointed by Congress, whose duty it will be to inquire into the causes which led to the capture, as well as to investigate the facts relative to the butchery of the colored portion of the garrison, and the action of the government will be controlled by the results of that investigation. If it appears, as represented, that the negro troops and their officers were put to death in a manner not justified by the usages of civilized warfare,

then let the principle be "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth," and a life for a life, until the enemy has paid the full penalty of the law which they have so inhumanly violated. Terrible as this war has been in its results upon the nation, it is difficult to foresee what would be the result of a policy of extermination, but if the enemy forces it upon the government, as they seem determined to do, judging from the Fort Pillow tragedy, there remains no alternative but their unequivocal subjugation, and, if necessary, extermination.

## Camp Grant Veteran Rendezvous.

The following Veteran regiments have arrived and gone into quarters in Camp Grant since our last issue, a sketch of each of which we append:

### THE THIRD NEW HAMPSHIRE

was organized at Concord, N. H., under Col. E. Q. Fellows, in September, 1861, and accompanied the expedition under Sherman, to Port Royal and Beaufort in the following November. Participated in the battle of James Island and Pocotaligo in October, 1862. Accompanied Strong's Brigade to Morris Island in July, 1863, being the second regiment to occupy the island. Occupied the advanced trenches during the siege of Wagner and Gregg, and led the storming column in the third assault on Wagner, Major Randlett carrying the colors in advance of the regiment over the rampart of the fort in person. After the occupation of these forts, the regiment performed provost duty on the Island until its re-enlistment.

### THE FOURTH NEW HAMPSHIRE

was organized in September, 1861, under Col. Thos. J. Whipple. Was in the original expeditionary corps under Sherman, and was the first regiment to form in line at the capture of Hilton Head. Left there in January, 1862, under Gen. Wright, landed at Fernandina, Fla., in March and subsequently went on expedition up the St. John's river to Jacksonville, remaining until its evacuation. In March Col. Louis Bell took command, vice Whipple, resigned. September, 1862, found it at Beaufort, and in the battle of Pocotaligo, S. C., Oct. 22. In April, 1863, was in Dupont's first expedition toward Charleston. It was engaged in the capture of Morris Island, and in the column of attack in the capture of Wagner and Gregg. It reinforced Jacksonville after the Olustee (Fla.) fight, and on the 2d of March 400 of its members re-enlisted as veterans.

### THE EIGHTH MAINE

was organized at Augusta, Me., in September, 1861, under Col. L. Strickland, and accompanied the Sherman expedition to Port Royal and Beaufort, in November. Engaged in building batteries on Hilton Head until February, 1862. Col. Strickland having resigned, was succeeded by Col. John D. Rust, under whom the regiment proceeded to Tybee Island in the following March, and bore a conspicuous part in the operations against Fort Pulaski, the colors of the regiment being the first raised on the fort by Capt. William McArthur. Returned to Hilton Head and Beaufort in the following July and there remained until March, 1863, when it proceeded to Jacksonville, Fla., but returned in the same month after a slight skirmish with the enemy, to place of starting, and soon after embarked for Morris Island, and after the return of the expedition performed provost duty at Port Royal till November, when it was assigned to Beaufort, where it remained until February last, when it re-enlisted.