

THE SOLDIERS' JOURNAL.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL ITEMS.

BOSTON, MASS., July 18, 1864.

COL. SAMUEL MCKELVY—*Dear Sir*:—On the 15th I sent you another case of books for your camp. Please let me know if they came safely to hand.

Very truly yours,
JESSE A. LOCKE.

We are directed to acknowledge the receipt of the case of books referred to in the foregoing communication, and to express to Mr. Locke and the friends contributing through him to the Soldiers' Library of the camp, the thanks of the commandant of the post, to whom they were consigned, and the earnest gratitude of the soldiers, who, during their temporary sojourn here, will have the privilege of their perusal. This is the third case of books contributed to the library of this camp by this gentleman and his friends, for either of which they would have been entitled to the lasting remembrance of the soldiers, who have derived profit and pleasure therefrom. We trust that the example of Mr. Locke will have the effect to arouse the latent generosity of our people, and that many may be found to emulate his interest in and zeal for the welfare of the soldier. It is owing to the friendly co-operation of such persons that this camp is now supplied with a library containing upwards of ten thousand volumes, and may now be considered to be about complete. We hope our friends will not forget that Augur General Hospital is making an effort to collect a library, and although eminently successful thus far, it is still open and invites contributions.

SURG. E. A. VANNORT.—On Wednesday last this gentleman left for home, the enfeebled condition of his health being such as to incapacitate him for the further performance of his duties. He was assigned to the position of Surgeon-in-charge of Distribution Camp over two years ago, and continued in the uninterrupted exercise of the functions of that office during the time that it was distinct from and after that camp was merged into Convalescent Camp, and when the latter was discontinued he was placed in charge of the Medical department of the Rendezvous of Distribution. In this position he continued until a short time previous to his late illness, when Surg. G. L. Sutton, being the ranking medical officer, superseded him as Medical Director of the post. His inimitable cottage he presented to Capt. John A. Ellison, A. Q. M., in whose care, we doubt not, it will long be preserved as a memorial of the architectural taste and mechanical ingenuity of its donor. We note the departure of Surg. Vannort with sincere regret, and join with his friends in wishing him an early restoration to health and a long life of success and prosperity.

ANOTHER NEW FLAG STAFF.—A flag-staff about seventy-five feet in height was raised on the parade ground of the Veteran Reserve camp on Tuesday evening last, from which a splendid garrison flag flaunts saucily in the breeze. Augur Hospital, Veteran Reserve camp, Sanitary Commission, Transportation Department, (and SOLDIERS' JOURNAL office, we were going to say, "but could not see it"—i. e., the flag,) have all exhibited their colors, and should the rebs pass this way at any time before "retreat" we opine they would not experience much difficulty in defining the position of Rendezvous of Distribution. By-the-way, why has the beautiful banner which floated so proudly, for a time, over the transportation department disappeared?

A FATAL ACCIDENT—ALMOST.—A few evenings since, while the post string band was on its way to the city, a circumstance occurred which for a time threatened the safety of the entire party. In passing down the steep hill near Fort Albany some part of the harness gave way, causing the vehicle to run forward upon the team, which, taking fright, dashed down the declivity at a full run, and was only prevented from demolishing the vehicle and perhaps seriously injuring the passengers by the driver losing his right check, (for he had previously lost his presence of mind) which had the effect to bring the team in collision with the bank on the left side of the road. A few minutes sufficed to dig the coach out of the bank and adjust matters generally, after which the party remounted and went on their way. Although none were injured, all admit that they were dangerously frightened.

FATAL STABBING AFFRAY.—On Tuesday evening of last week, two men named John McCauliff and Thomas Bently, both citizen employees in the camp transportation department, the former as teamster and the latter as watchman, fell into a dispute about rations, which soon developed itself into active hostilities, and Bentley being unable to cope with his antagonist physically, drew a small penknife, and in his efforts to defend himself stabbed McCauliff in the abdomen, inflicting a wound from which he died on the following day. From what we can learn McCauliff was the aggressor, having attacked Bentley without provocation while in the performance of his duty, and that the latter resorted to his knife only when all physical expedients had failed. Bently is now in confinement awaiting the operations of the law.

MAJ. C. W. WINGARD, Paymaster U. S. A., visited Augur General Hospital on Tuesday of last week and relieved the gloom and anxiety which his protracted absence had created by distributing a plentiful supply of greenbacks among the patients and convalescents. This money is now on the way to, and much of it has already reached, the homes of the soldiers, and who will undertake to estimate the degree of relief, confidence and security it will carry with it? Only those who have been compelled to deny themselves comforts which they should have had, by reason of the absence in the army of unpaid husbands, fathers, brothers, and sons, can fully appreciate the worth and conveniences of these remittances.

THE NORTHERN MONTHLY FOR JUNE has been received. Its contents are as follows:—Our Painters, A Week in Scotland, Springs in the Desert, A Mountain Sketch, Six Weeks with the Soldiers, The Overseer's Story, The Betrothed, The Theater in Portland, State Normal School, Jennie Wade, the Heroine of Gettysburg, Sir Walter Raleigh's Religious Opinions, Our Boston Letter, Fruit Culture, The State Prison at Thomaston, Military Matters, &c. Published by Bailey & Noyes, Portland, Me., at \$2.00 per annum.

THE LATEST NEWS.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8, 8 P. M.

To Maj. Gen. Dix, New York:—Maj. Gen. Sheridan has been assigned temporarily to the command of the Middle Military Division, consisting of the Department of Washington, the Middle Department, and the Department of the Susquehanna, and Northwest Virginia. He transmits the following intelligence: HEADQUARTERS MIDDLE DEPARTMENT, HARPER'S FERRY, Aug. 8, 4.10 P. M. Brig. Gen. Kelley reports that a scout has just arrived at New Creek, and reports that Gen. Averill overtook the enemy at Moorfield, yesterday,

and attacked him, capturing all his artillery and five hundred prisoners. Nothing official has been received from Averill, however.

P. H. SHERIDAN, Major General Commanding.
EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8, 9 P. M.—The following account of the successful operations against Mobile appears in the Richmond *Sentinel* of Aug. 8, and is transmitted by Gen. Butler to the President:—

MOBILE, August 5, 1864.

"Hon. J. A. Seddon, Secretary of War:—Seventeen of the enemy's vessels, (fourteen ships and three iron-clads) passed Fort Morgan this morning. The Tecumseh, a monitor, was sunk by Fort Morgan.

"The Tennessee surrendered after a desperate engagement with the enemy.

"Fleet Admiral Buchanan lost a leg and is a prisoner. The Selma was captured. The Gaines was beached near the hospital.

"The Morgan is safe, and will try and run up to-night.

"The enemy's fleet has approached the city. "A monitor has been engaging Fort Powell all day. D. H. MAURY, Major General."

WASHINGTON August, 1.—Since the late unsuccessful assault on Petersburg nothing has occurred to mar the quiet which succeeded it.—Now and then a gun is fired, but, with the exception of the explosion of the rebel mine in front of the 5th corps, the utmost tranquility prevails.

The following is a semi-official report of our losses on the occasion referred to:

Ninth corps, First Division—Ledlie.....	687
Second division—Potter.....	800
Third division—Wilcox.....	600
Fourth division—Ferrero.....	1,700
Tenth corps—Turner.....	350
Eighteenth corps.....	200
Second and Fifth corps.....	200
Total.....	4,537

A court of investigation is now sitting—General Hancock presiding—which, it is trusted, will throw the responsibility of the late failure on the right shoulders.

DEATHS.

The following deaths occurred at Augur General Hospital during the week ending August 6th, 1864:—
July 30—John Lynch, private, Co. M, 1st N. Y. Cav.; of typhoid fever.
July 30—Wm. W. Gray, deserter, 139th N. Y. Vols., of chronic diarrhoea.
July 31—John Boone, private, Co. M, 6th Ohio Cav.; of remittent fever.
July 31—Clark Haywood, private, Co. G, 11th N. Y. Cav.; of typhoid fever.
August 1—G. R. Hunt, private, Co. E, 8th Mich.; of remittent fever.
August 2—John McCauliff, citizen teamster; of incised wound of abdomen.
August 3—David Myers, private, Co. A, 132d Ohio; of bilious fever.
August 4—H. C. Durham, unknown; of general debility.
August 5—Orange Aldetch, Co. I, 17th Vermont; of typhoid fever.
August 5—John C. Newbury, Co. M, 14th N. Y.; of typhoid fever.

AUGUR GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT, FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 6TH, 1864.

No. of beds.....	671
" admitted during the week.....	270
" returned to duty.....	30
" transferred.....	279
" on furlough.....	11
" discharged.....	13
" deserted.....	10
" deceased.....	10

REMAINING IN HOSPITAL.
From Rendezvous of Distribution..... 538
G. L. SUTTON, Surg. U. S. V., in Charge.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT

Of men received and sent to their respective regiments during the week ending Saturday, Aug. 6th, 1864:—

Men received.....	1,753
Number of men sent to their regiments.....	2,413
W. J. SHELDRAKE, Serg't Major.	

DESERTERS' DIVISION.

List of men received for the week ending Aug. 6,	687
Sent away.....	520
Discharged.....	0
In Camp.....	117

F. T. STEWART,
Lieut. 29th Ohio Vol., in Charge,
Geo. Henderson, Rep. Clerk.