

THE SOLDIERS' JOURNAL  
LOCAL AND PERSONAL ITEMS.

**LET US NOT DISHONOR THE DEAD.**—We recently visited the Soldiers' National Cemetery at Arlington Place, where some five thousand Union and Rebel soldiers have already been interred. Its general appearance is good, and the graves and head-boards very neat. But one feature struck us as singular. Under the names and dates of the Confederate soldiers, in every case, is painted the word "Rebel." It is a principle as old as human nature not to cast reproach upon the dead, nor to carry their faults to their tombstones. The word "Rebel" is a term of reproach when used by our lips or painted by our hands, and as a cemetery of this kind is designed for long use as a resting place for the dead of the war, it were not good—when our Union is restored, and the old friendliness of the States is returned—when the friends and relatives of the dead visit this place—to know that censure was carried so far. Other words and letters can be used to distinguish the dead, such as "Union," or "U. S. A.,"—"Confederate," or "C. S. A."—terms adopted and honored by the parties claiming them, and they will neither be painful to the eye or repugnant to the finer feelings of the heart. However we may hate the rebels and their rebellion, we cease fighting or condemning a man after his death, and although no astute or philosophical reason can be given for the fact, we are prone to look with reverence upon a tombstone, and forget the faults of the one whose remains it marks. It is very easy to change these head-boards, and the party having charge of them would consult public taste, without outraging any national feelings, by doing so.

**THE ELECTION IN CAMP.**—On Tuesday, of last week, election poles were opened in this camp for the Pennsylvania and Ohio troops, who, under their State laws, are allowed to vote in the field. The tickets mainly voted were for Congress, State Senate and Assembly, though many counties had their full county tickets on hand. The soldiers from those States belonging to Augur General Hospital and the 14th Vet. Res. Corps, voted at the same polls, the law allowing those within a circuit of one mile so to do.—Everything passed off with the utmost good-humor. Noisy political discussions and complaints, so usual at home on election day, were unheard of here. The election passed off fairly and quietly, and the result was as follows:

PENNSYLVANIA.

Union.....365  
Democratic..... 61

OHIO.

Union..... 96  
Democratic..... 6

**BEAUTIFUL SODDING.**—The sodding of the large and steep bank fronting on the Second Division, and separating it from the central causeway of the camp, was last week completed, and is as neatly sodded as any we have ever seen. The whole bank reflects great credit upon all engaged in beautifying it, and forms one of the most pleasing features of our camp.

**DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.**—On Saturday last our camp was visited by Secretary Seward, Maj. Gen. Doyle, of the British army, and a distinguished London lawyer whose name we did not learn, all of whom expressed themselves highly pleased with the general appearance, improvements, and sanitary condition of our camp.

**A PRESENTATION.**—On Tuesday evening last Andrew Mahoney, Captain commanding Co. E 14th Regt. V. R. C., was the recipient of a splendid gold watch worth \$150, which was presented to him in behalf of the enlisted men of his company by 1st Sergt. R. L. Lurvey, who made a short but appropriate speech, as follows:—

*Capt. Mahony—Sir:*—I have been selected by the non-commissioned officers and privates of your company—of which I have the honor to be a member—to present you this gold watch as a testimony of our appreciation of you as an officer and gentleman. Although but thirteen months ago we came under your command as perfect strangers to you, we have learned to love and respect you as our commander, and we feel proud in presenting you with this testimonial of our respect, and may it ever prove itself as correct for time as you have proved yourself true to us and our country.

Capt. Mahony replied as follows:

*Sergt. Lurvey:*—Through you, I most sincerely thank the non-commissioned officers and privates of my company for this beautiful present, and rest assured that nothing shall be left undone on my part for a continuance of that kind feeling which seems to exist at the present time between the enlisted men and me, their commanding officer. Having met for the first time some thirteen months ago as strangers, and under many trying difficulties, and having had to enforce that system of discipline which is required in order to make the soldier all that is noble, and worthy of his country, I am now proud to say that in this company, which I have the honor to command, all this has been accomplished, and rest assured that I shall always prize this beautiful present with the fondest recollections of my life. I now thank you again and bid you good night.

**LOOKING OUT FOR WINTER.**—A sufficient quantity of stoves were last week furnished by Capt. G. M. Chester, Quartermaster, to heat all the barracks of the camp. We are preparing for the winter, and the cold snap of last week came as a timely reminder of Virginia weather. The roofing of the barracks has also been revised, and wherever needed, repaired by the company having the contract. Everything will be done to insure the comfort of the soldiers while here, and our camp will be as cozy as possible for a large military camp to be.

**THE U. S. SERVICE MAGAZINE FOR OCTOBER** has reached us, and is replete with information for the soldier, and all interested in military matters. It is emphatically the best magazine of its class known to this country, and perhaps the world. It is edited by parties of the largest military and scientific knowledge, and is excelled by no magazine in appearance. The publisher's building was recently destroyed by fire, but he recovered with true Yankee pluck, and has again opened at 441 Broadway, N. Y. Subscription price to the Magazine, \$5.00 per annum; 50 cents for single copies.

**THE NORTHERN MONTHLY FOR OCTOBER** is on our table, and is rapidly taking rank among the first Magazines in the country. Its articles are well written, full of interest, and contributed by some of the best writers of New England. It is to be enlarged in January next. Published by Bailey & Noyes, Portland, Maine, at \$3.00 per year.

**CONVALESCING.**—Lieut. Col. Boyd, commanding the 14th Reg. Vet. Res. Corps, on duty at this camp, has been quite ill for the past four weeks, and confined to his quarters in consequence thereof. We are glad to learn that he is convalescing, and will soon be able to resume his duties.

**TRANSFERRED.**—A large number of men were transferred on Monday last from Augur General Hospitals to the hospitals in Alexandria.

**STAGE ACCIDENT.**—On Wednesday evening last as the six horse stage connecting this camp with Washington, was about entering the long bridge, the leading horses took fright at an approaching locomotive. Two of the horses ran into the locomotive and were injured, the others succeeded in breaking their gearing and the tongue of the stage by a short turn, and ran off. The passengers were doubtless greatly frightened, but none were injured. When will the rails be laid on the new bridge, and these accidents prevented?

THE LATEST NEWS.

Hood Retreating, Closely Pressed by Sherman.

Another Fight in the Valley.

Mosby Defeated—His Guns Captured.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17, 9:40 P. M.

Major General Dix, New York:

Advices from General Sherman to the evening of October 16 indicate that Hood, after having struck the railroad in the neighborhood of Dalton and Resaca, has fallen back before Sherman without fighting, abandoning his great movement upon our line of communications. He has torn up some fifteen miles of the road from Resaca north, but the injury will be repaired without difficulty.

The interruption will cause no inconvenience to Sherman's army, as his stores of supplies, south of the break as well as north of it, are ample.

Hood has retreated towards the southwest.—His rear left Dalton in haste at 6 o'clock on Sunday morning.

General Sheridan reports that the rebel army lately under Early, but now apparently under Longstreet, having appeared in the vicinity of Strasburg, his forces moved to attack them on Saturday.

Crooks, who had the advance, found the rebels drawn up in four lines of battle, but upon his charging them with his accustomed impetuosity they broke and withdrew in considerable disorder, without giving the opportunity for any serious conflict.

Sheridan reports them as continuing their retreat in haste far up the valley.

Colonel Gansevoort, commanding the 13th New York cavalry, has succeeded in surprising a camp of the outlaw and freebooter, Mosby, in the Blue Ridge mountains, capturing his artillery, consisting of four pieces, with munitions complete.

C. A. DANA,

Acting Secretary of War.

Reliable information places Hood precisely where Sherman wants him and has been trying to get him.

Everything is quiet at Petersburg.

DEATHS.

The following deaths occurred in Augur General Hospital for the week ending Oct. 15th, 1864:—  
Thos. Bloomer, Co. H, 4th R. I. Vols., remittent fever.  
Joseph Boncher, Sub. Vt. Vols., typhoid fever.

AUGUR GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCT. 15TH, 1864.

No. of beds.....	671
" admitted during the week.....	265
" returned to duty.....	34
" transferred.....	41
" on furlough.....	18
" discharged.....	2
" deserted.....	5
" deceased.....	2

REMAINING IN HOSPITAL.

From Rendezvous of Distribution..... 641  
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, Oct. 15th, 1864:—

Men received.....	1,702
Number of men sent to their regiments.....	1,768

W. J. SHELDRAKE, Serg't Major.

DESERTERS' DIVISION.

List of men received for the week ending Oct. 15,	65
Sent away.....	90
Discharged.....	5
In Camp.....	17

F. T. STEWART,

Lieut. 29th Ohio Vol., in Charge.  
CHAS. A. EVANS, Rep. Clerk.