

The Soldiers' Journal.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOV. 2, 1864.

THOS. V. COOPER, --- Editor and Publisher.
AMY M. BRADLEY, --- Proprietor.

OUR VOLUNTEER AGENTS.

The following persons are announced as our agents at the places standing in connection with their names, and are authorized to receive subscriptions and contributions for THE SOLDIERS' JOURNAL:
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MR. G. T. CRAWFORD, Camp Agent.
We still invite the co-operation of our friends everywhere, to increase the circulation and influence of our paper.

Contributions, intended for publication, must be accompanied by the name of the author to insure insertion.

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
BENDEZVOUS OF DISTRIBUTION, VA.,

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.

Important to Discharged Veteran Soldiers.

Heretofore soldiers who had re-enlisted as veterans and received their discharges, have only received transportation to the place where they were re-enlisted into the service, and not to their home or original place of enlistment; and consequently much dissatisfaction has been given to the veteran soldiers who have been discharged, who expected to receive their transportation and subsistence to their homes. Many of the veterans re-enlisted in the field and are discharged where they re-enlisted and consequently get no transportation or allowances whatever. As a matter of course much distress was occasioned to discharged veterans. The attention of Mr. J. B. Abbott, Chief Assistant, Special Relief Office, U. S. Sanitary Commission, was finally called to the matter. He at once adopted the only proper plan—that of appealing to the higher authorities, and the brilliant success of his effort is witnessed in the following interesting correspondence, which we gladly publish for the benefit of all discharged veterans. Mr. Abbott is entitled to, and will receive the thanks of his "blue-bloused" proteges for his efforts in their behalf in this and many other matters of importance to them:—

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
"SPECIAL RELIEF" OFFICE, 389 H Street,
Washington, D. C., Sept. 2d, 1864.
Hon. J. M. Brodhead, Second Comptroller,
Treasury Department—SIR:—I have the honor to

submit to you, for decision, the case of Orris A. Bishop, saddler, company B, 8th Ill. Cavalry, who joined the company on its original organization at Sycamore, Illinois, and mustered into the service of the United States at St. Charles, Illinois, on the 18th day of September, 1861; was re-mustered into the service as a veteran, January 1st, 1864, at Culpepper, Va., and on the 27th day of August, 1864, discharged from the service of the United States by reason of Surgeon's certificate of disability. He now claims transportation and subsistence from the place of his discharge to the original place of enrollment, but there is a question whether he is entitled to it to his original place of enrollment, or only to Culpepper, Va., the place of his re-muster into the service as a veteran.

Your decision on the point in question will confer a great favor upon many veteran soldiers and
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) J. B. ABBOTT,
Chief Assistant Special Relief Office.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
SECOND COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,
Oct. 21, 1864.

J. B. Abbott, Esq., 389 H Street, Washington—SIR:—I am this day in receipt of the decision of Secretary of War stating that "the free transportation of veteran volunteers to and from their homes, upon occasion of their re-enlistment furlough, was one of the conditions of their re-entering the service and, like the bounty then paid, to be considered a gratuity."

I enclose herewith the discharge and final statements of Orris A. Bishop, whose case comes within the scope of the decision.

Very respectfully yours,
J. M. BROADHEAD,
Comptroller.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
PAYMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, Oct. 21, 1864.

J. B. Abbott, Esq., 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.—SIR:—The papers in the case of Orris A. Bishop, saddler, company B, 8th Illinois Cavalry, forwarded by you to this office, having been submitted to the Second Comptroller, he decides that "A volunteer discharged to re-enlist as a veteran, under Order No. 191, (dated 25th June, 1863), is, in effect, only transferred to another organization in the same service, and when finally discharged is entitled to his travel, pay and allowances to his place of original enrollment, and not to the place where he re-enlisted. The Secretary of War having decided that the transportation to be furnished, under General Order 376, (dated Nov. 21, 1863), to veteran volunteers going on furlough to and from their respective homes after discharge from their original enlistment, was designed to be a gratuity. No deduction on account of such transportation will be made from their pay, &c., when they shall be finally discharged, or at any other time."

The papers are herewith returned.
Very respectfully, your ob't servant,
(Signed) B. W. BRICE,
Acting Paymaster General.

The test case above mentioned, it has been seen, is of a man belonging to Illinois, and re-enlisting at Culpepper, Va. By the decision he derives benefit more than equivalent to a month's pay. But suppose the case of one re-enlisting at New Orleans and living in New England, (and there are many such) if transportation were not furnished to his original place of enlistment, he would be greatly the loser in money and convenience, and it would take three months' pay, or the best portion of his bounty, to again get home. We might enumerate hundreds of cases in exemplification of this matter, but the great good it will do the soldier can be seen at a glance. It seems to be the especial province of the Sanitary Commission, watchful as it is of the interests and comfort of the soldier, to get them speedy justice on all questions of doubt, whether of small or great importance, and their mission in this instance, "by and with" the skill of their agent, Mr. Abbott, has been performed in a manner that will render our soldiers even more grateful than ever.

EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

—Rebel song of the future:—"My Navy Land."
—France has received forty millions of dollars as the first fruits of her intervention in Mexico.

—Sherman is constantly threatening Hood, and a battle must soon come.

—The rebel force in Western Virginia has been defeated and driven into the mountains.

—Election riots are reported in Philadelphia, and the excitement is very great in all States regarded doubtful.

—Richmond papers complain that the rebel cavalry is good for nothing, Sheridan having proved that they can be easily whipped.

—While Gen. Custar was on his way to Washington, bearing the battle-flags and trophies of the 9th ult., his commission as Major General passed him on the up-train.

—The insurrection of the Arabs in Algeria is again spreading. Engagements on the 29th and 30th of Sept. resulted in 800 Arabs and 150 French soldiers being killed and wounded.

—Austria and Italy are both making ready for war, and so long as Austria holds Venice they will maintain the same threatening attitude, which may result in blood any day.

—Slavery challenged the United States of America to mortal combat. It impaled itself upon the bayonets of its adversary, and writhes and twists there in the agony of a death that promises soon to close the struggle.

—We have a report from Brazos Santiago that Gen. Cortinas surrendered his forces to the Imperialists and accepted a Brigadier General's commission in Maximilian's army.

—Price is flying from Missouri, routed, disorganized and with but one gun. Cavalry Sheridan was Early's bane, Cavalry Pleasanton was Price's ruin. Price always did fizzle out in his plans, but the last has been the greatest fizzle of all.

—Some muddled and unimportant news comes from Kentucky—that once gallant State now shivering before the revolvers of a few hundred outlaws, and lacking the nerve and apparently the desire to drive the marauders out.

—Gen. Birney died in the delirium fever. His last words have a value that should make them a war-cry throughout the loyal States. Rising suddenly in his bed, his eyes blazing with the fire that consumed him, he cried with a trumpet voice, "Boys, keep your eyes on that flag!" and fell back dead.

—Here is the way President Lincoln thanks Sheridan for his recent victory:—"With great pleasure I tender to you and your brave army the thanks of the nation and my own personal admiration and gratitude for the month's operations in the Shenandoah Valley, and especially for your splendid work of Oct. 19." Short and sweet, and all richly merited.

—We learn that Sheridan's captures in prisoners in his late battle, amount already to 3,600, and our cavalry are picking up more every day. We have more than 300 officers. The entire loss of the rebels in killed, wounded and captured, is now reckoned at about ten thousand. Kershaw's Division went into the fight with 22 new brass cannon just finished at Richmond. Sheridan bagged 20 of the guns, leaving the rebels a couple for specimens. About 12,000 stand of small arms have been gathered from the field.

—One of the greatest civil wars of modern times has just been brought to a close in China. For several years the cause of the rebels had been steadily declining. They lost one stronghold after the other, and for some time Nanking, the ancient capital of China, had been the only important place remaining under their control. There the Tien-Wang, the rebel Emperor and founder of a new religion, and the Chung-Wang, their ablest general, defended with obstinacy their sinking fortunes. But Nanking fell, and the war is supposed to have closed.

An enthusiastic political meeting was held in the chapel of Augur Hospital on Monday night last. Addresses were delivered by Dr. Sutton, Mr. Uniac and others, all sustaining the Union candidates. The object of the meeting was to have a social political chat with the men about to go home on furlough.