

BY D. W. CRAIG.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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The Oregon Argus.

-A Weekly Newspaper, devoted to the Interests of the Laboring Classes, and advocating the side of Truth in every issue.-

Vol. VII.

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No. 24.

RATES OF ADVERTISING: One square (twelve lines, or less, by measure) one insertion..... \$ 3 00

Each subsequent insertion..... 1 00 Business cards one year..... 20 00

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Jon PASTING executed with neatness and dispatch.

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Details of Eastern News.

Martial Law declared in Missouri by Maj. Gen. Fremont.

EAST OF FORT CUMBERLAND, Sept. 9.—The Pony with St. Louis dates to Sept. 5d arrived to-day at 2 p. m.

St. JOSEPH, Sept. 3d.—Official dispatches from East India state that the Flag officer has received orders of Navy Department, for the immediate return of the squadron to the United States; one ship is to be left there, also one on the coast of Africa, and one on the coast of Brazil, after this.

The Lieutenant Fernando Po has been authorized by the Spanish government to receive on that island a certain number of slaves, who may be captured by vessels of the United States, that being free, they may acquire the benefit of civilization.

Advices from Richmond estimate the number now in arms in Virginia, nearly 300,000; the force on the Potomac alone is 180,000.

The following proclamation has been issued by Gen. Fremont:

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST, August 30th. Circumstances, in my judgment of sufficient importance, render it necessary that the Commanding General of this Department should assume the administration of the powers of this State.

In order, therefore, to suppress disorder, and maintain, as far as now practicable, the public peace, and to give security and protection to the persons and property of loyal citizens, I do hereby intend, and declare established, Martial Law throughout the State of Missouri.

The lines of the army of occupation in this State are, for the present, declared to extend from Leavenworth by way of the posts of Jefferson City and Ironton, to Cape Girardeau, on the Mississippi River.

All persons who shall be taken with arms in their hands, within these lines, shall be tried by court-martial, and if found guilty, will be shot.

The property, real and personal, of all persons in the State of Missouri, who shall take up arms against the United States, or who shall be directly known to have taken active part with their enemies in the field, is declared to be confiscated to the public use, and their slaves, if any they have, are declared free men.

All persons engaged in treasonable correspondence, inquiring for and procuring aid to the enemies of the U. S., in exciting tumult or disturbing the public tranquility, by creating and circulating false reports and incendiary documents, are, in their own interest, warned that they are exposing themselves to sudden and severe punishment.

All persons who are led astray from their allegiance are requested to return forthwith to their homes; and any such absence, without sufficient cause, will be held to be presumptive evidence against them.

The object of this declaration is to place in the hands of the military authorities the power to give instant effect respecting laws and supply such deficiencies as the condition of war demands; but it is not intended to suspend the ordinary tribunals of the country, where the law will be administered by the civil authorities in the usual manner, with their customary authority.

The Commanding General will labor vigilantly for the public welfare, and in his efforts for their prosperity, hopes to obtain not only the acquiescence but the active support of the people of the country.

(Signed) J. C. FREMONT. Office Provost Marshal, St. Louis, Aug. 30th.

All persons are hereby forbidden to pass beyond the limits of the City and County of St. Louis, without first obtaining a special permit from this Department.

All steamboat and railroad officers and agents, and all other carriers of passengers, are hereby forbidden to sell or transfer any tickets, entitling the holder to go beyond the limits of his county, to any person, or to carry, or allow to be carried, any persons not exhibiting a permit from this office.

(Signed) J. C. MCKINSTRY, Major U. S. A., Provost Marshal.

A UNION MAN IN NEW ORLEANS.—From the city items of the New Orleans Picayune of 17th, it is plain that there is a Union man in that city who dares to express his mind.

It is in the presence of current events that we can best realize what shadows we were lately pursuing at the behest of party, and how great were the blessings which we have forfeited in such pursuit of objects that at best furnished only questions which ministered to strife rather than to the edification of the Commonwealth.

PARSON BROWNLOW SUPPRESSED.—The Knoxville (Tenn.) Whig, the gallant Parson Brownlow's paper, has been suppressed by the secession military power.

QUESTIONS TO SOLDIERS.—The Board of officers appointed by Gen. Sumner to examine the persons elected as officers of the California volunteers put the following questions to each:

1. What is your age? 2. What is your place of birth and where were you educated? 3. Did you live for any length of time in any other State? If so where?

4. Where did you last reside before you came to California? 5. Have you ever been in the military service of the United States?

6. Have you ever belonged to any volunteer company organization, and if so, in what capacity? 7. Have you ever held office under the General Government?

8. Have you ever held office under any State Government? 9. Of which State do you claim to be a citizen at this time?

10. Do you believe the obligations of loyalty to the General Government are above those due to your native or adopted State? 11. Do you believe in the right of a State to secede from the Union?

12. Do you believe the States calling themselves the Southern Confederacy, were in any way justified, individually or collectively, in their acts of secession? 13. Do you claim to be a loyal citizen of the United States, and are you resolved under all circumstances to remain so?

14. Are you in favor of preserving the National Government? 15. Are you in favor of preserving the National Government by military force if necessary?

16. In seeking a commission in the military service of the United States, are you willing to serve the National Government, as a faithful soldier, against all its enemies or opposers, whenever your services may be required?

17. Will you take the oath of allegiance to the United States, serve her faithfully and to the best of your abilities, without mental qualification or reservation? 18. Have you ever expressed a desire that the attempt to establish a Southern Confederacy might be successful?

19. Have you ever in any way said, publicly or privately, that you would not take up arms and discharge faithfully the duties of a soldier for and in behalf of the United States Federal Government against any of its enemies, who ever and whatever they might happen to be?

I do solemnly swear that the foregoing answers by me are made in good faith and express my convictions on the subject referred to.

The stupendous national emergency we are now confronting has a wonderful effect in clearing up and concentrating the national mind.

The war has in some respects acted upon our politics like a thunder storm upon a languishing atmosphere.

Our readers, says the National Intelligencer, can all readily recall the time when nice discriminations respecting the powers of Congress over the Territories, subtle distinctions on the 'equality of States,' and elaborate arguments, defensive or aggressive, on a paper called the 'Lecompton Constitution,' formed the staple of our parliamentary discussions.

It was a dreary period in our political history when, for the want of practical questions worthy to engage the attention of a rational people, the ingenuity of political leaders seemed to be laid under contribution for the discovery of immaterial 'issues' on which successfully to join an electoral contest.

But petty, and often contemptible, as were these topics of debate, the resources of Congressional eloquence and of 'stamp oratory' were exhausted in the effort to convince a credulous people that the salvation of the country depended upon the triumph or defeat of each successive 'issue' as it arose under the management of party.

Within the last few weeks all these fine-spun theses of a disputations and metaphysical politics have been rudely swept away by the stern realities that now force themselves upon the attention of all.

Who now could gain a listening ear in the attempt to convince the Southern people that their safety and prosperity depended on the vehement assertion of a right to carry a surplus population of slaves (which surplus does not exist) into regions where slaves could not go with comfort to themselves or profit to their owners?

Or who could now with confidence count upon the patience of a Northern audience in the effort to demonstrate the absolute necessity of prohibiting slavery in Territories where it could never find a footing, even under the fostering care of positive protective statutes?

It is in the presence of current events that we can best realize what shadows we were lately pursuing at the behest of party, and how great were the blessings which we have forfeited in such pursuit of objects that at best furnished only questions which ministered to strife rather than to the edification of the Commonwealth.

PARSON BROWNLOW SUPPRESSED.—The Knoxville (Tenn.) Whig, the gallant Parson Brownlow's paper, has been suppressed by the secession military power.

It was the last of the Union papers in the seceded States.

Which causes a girl the most pleasure, to hear herself praised or to hear another girl run down?

THE COLORADO DESERT.—Prof. Blake, in a recent lecture in San Francisco, speaking of the Colorado Desert, pronounced it as fine a specimen of the desert as that of Lybia or Salara.

It extends from the base of San Bernardino southwesterly 180 miles, part of its surface being below our boundary line in Sonora.

Its area is 9,000 square miles; and, excepting the Colorado, which cuts across its lower end, is without river or lake.

It stretches off to the horizon on all sides without one glimpse of vegetation or life.

Its surface is ashy and parched; its frame of mountains rise in pinacles of brown rock, bare even of soil.

Words are unequal to the task of describing its apparent expanse, the purity of its night, the brilliancy of the stars that overhang it, the tints of the mountains at day-break, the looming up of those beyond the horizon, the glare of the midday sun, the violence of its local storms of dust and sand.

Parts are entirely destitute of sand, being smooth, compact, unbanked clay;—other parts are covered with heaps of sand, disposed like snow-drifts in waves of 50 and 80 feet in height.

Near the mountains along the Colorado there is a terrace as flat as the floor, and paved with pebbles of nearly uniform size, of porphyry, jasper, quartz, corneelian, and agate, all rounded by the action of water, and polished till they glisten by the driving sand.

In this respect, again, the porch of our Great Desert is like that which outlines the Lybian Desert. Doubtless the northern part of the desert is the dry bed of an ancient lake of fresh water, whose beveled lines are strongly marked.

Probably, at a comparatively recent period, the water of the California Gulf covered all the clay surface of the desert. It lies below their level now, and if a channel were cut through the natural embankment of the Colorado, it would be doubtless covered again with water.

It is very probable that the Colorado Desert region was uplifted within historic times. Earthquakes occasionally agitate its surface, and in 1852, there were eruptions of mud and hot water in the central parts of the valley.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF GENERAL McCLELLAN.—The Washington Star says: Gen. McClellan's face is not familiar to the public yet, and at the 'press' interview at his quarters on Thursday night he made his entrance among the gathering of newspaper men, and was proceeding in quiet conversational tones to unfold his views of the subject matter of the meeting quite unreservedly by the majority present.

In fact, his five feet five proportions were completely lost in the group, and a widening of the ring was instantly proposed by the outsiders—ostensibly that they might better hear what he was saying, but quite apparently that they might get a fair look at the "coming man."

He is of almost boyish appearance (looking twenty-five, but probably ten years older), is of Napoleonic figure, slightly inclined to fullness about the waistband, has a good head firmly planted on a neck of bovine force upon ample shoulders, hair snugly cropped, but not filled, ruddy and brown complexion, blue eyes, nose springing from his forehead at a sufficient angle to indicate character, clean cut chin, and a mouth the lines of which indicate good humor and firmness in about equal proportions.

In dress he might readily pass for a soldier of the Rhode Island "persuasion," wearing blouse and of blue wool, shoulder strapless, vestless, and with the blue of his blouse so sweated through his linen by the hot day's work, that it was hard telling whether the McClellan shirt was a blue one faded or a white one discolored.

Gen. McClellan is not fluent of speech, apparently, and doubtless does not care to be. That there is some little quiet fun in his composition was apparent at the interview, and on the suggestion being made that the pictorial papers should be severely talked to for giving representations of our military works and operations, he seemed to think that they could be safely left alone, as they are quite as likely to confound as to instruct the enemy.

OUR RELIGIOUS STATISTICS IN 1861.—According to the statistics for 1861, the Congregationalists have in North America 2,735 churches and 260,369 members, of whom 201,569 are residents of New England.

The different bodies of the Presbyterian Church have in the United States 7,606 ministers, 7,928 churches, and 638,932 members; the Old School Presbyterians number 2,693 ministers, 3,592 churches, and 292,877 members; the New School have 1,483 churches, 1,527 ministers, and 134,933 members.

In British North America there are 465 Presbyterian ministers, 625 churches, and 59,284 members. The Baptists in the United States number 8,052 ministers, 12,371 churches, and 1,029,442 members.

In British North America there are 472 Baptist ministers, 676 churches, and 70,725 members.

JEFF DAVIS ON REBELLION.

When Jeff Davis was Secretary of War in 1856, he had the Kansas rebellion to put down. Jeff then had no qualms about coercing a State. The troops sent out by him planted their cannon so as to command the house where the Topeka Legislature was to sit, and by his war-like demonstrations, broke up the Legislature elected by the People.

He had no toleration then for "revolutionary resistance to the Constitution, authorities, and laws of the land." This he regarded as a "proper subject for the employment of a military force."

On September 3d, 1856, he writes from the War Department to Gen. P. F. Smith: "The position of the insurgents is that of open rebellion against the laws and Constitutional authorities, with such manifestations of purpose to spread devastation over the land, as no longer justifies further hesitation or indulgence—patriotism and humanity alike, require that rebellion should be promptly crushed."

On the same day he made a requisition on the Governor of Kentucky for two regiments to be mustered into the service, and be at the call of Gen. Smith.

Then it was all right to put down rebellion by arms, and to march militia from other States to aid in enforcing the laws, and crush legislatures.

Now, Jeff thinks that the use of militia, to put down rebellion, is unconstitutional, despotic, destructive of liberty. Why such a difference between now and then? Have patriotism and humanity changed sides?

TOUCHEY IN THE ROGUE'S GALLERY.—Says the New York Tribune:—

A correspondent asks why the portrait of the Hon. Isaac Toucey of Hartford, Conn., has been placed in the Rogue's Gallery at the Police Headquarters in this city.

Our correspondent is not well read in current history, or he would remember that Toucey was Secretary of the Navy under Buchanan; that his sympathies were always in favor of the extreme Southern treason; that he used his position as a Cabinet officer to give aid and comfort to the Secessionists; that he permitted without rebuke, if he did not encourage, the resignation of important naval officers, knowing that they would take up arms against the Government that had educated and fed them; that so flagrant was this indirect treason, or at least utter imbecility, that the last House of Representatives had a Committee to look into Toucey's proceedings, which Committee reported, and the House passed a strong resolution of censure upon the delinquent Secretary.

Without the boldness of Cobb or the smartness of Floyd, but with quite as deep sympathy with the growing Rebellion, Toucey kept his place to the last moment, and left Washington simultaneously with James Buchanan, the only member of that celebrated Cabinet, except Attorney General Black, who stuck to the fortunes of the President to the end.

Our correspondent asks the crime for which Toucey has been pictured in the Rogue's Gallery? We answer, the highest crime known to law—that of treason; not of overt act, but the baser crime of moral sympathy with Rebellion, and effective favoring of the plans by which traitors have brought the nation to its present peril.

THE PONY EXPRESS RIDER.—The Grass Valley National has the following about the Pony rider on the Plains:—

Each rider is in possession of and has the absolute control over the horses on his beat, and all the trappings thereto. He has them kept in the best of order by the men at the stations (generally two in number.) He said that he could tell within a few minutes of the time when the Pony would be at the end of the route, so that no delay might take place in the changing riders, although as a general thing the rider on an approaching Pony blows a horn when about three quarters of a mile distant, so that all may be in readiness for him on his arrival.

Each rider is provided with a complete lackskin suit of clothes with the same on and forming the outside of the same, so that in the event of a storm, the rain or snow will not penetrate or make the clothes heavy and thus retard the horse; but it runs off down the hair, which is more or less oily. The pockets for the conveyance of the letters, etc., are four in number and are placed immediately under the saddle horn next to the horse.

Four eight inch six shooft Colts are so arranged as to be half cocked, so that with the impression on the hammers they are ready for their deadliest work. These and a knife of some eighteen inches in length, with mercury in a tube formed in the back of the same, so that when used the mercury rushes to the point of the blade, and no doubt would deal a terrible blow, constitute the rider's means of defence.

About one hundred miles is the distance traveled by each rider. He is allowed eleven hours only to do it, and as much sooner as possible; therefore each rider has four hundred miles to ride every week, in the short space of forty hours! The horses used are a Spanish breed, and kept in good order; the riders and men at stations receive their pay (which is good) at the end of every month, and are furnished with provisions by the company at a reasonable rate.

WHO IS HE?—The boy is now living who will be President in 1900. He may be about ten or twelve years of age. His parents are in humble circumstances, but of sterling traits of character; and their son is not one of those dirty, noisy boys, that spend their days and Sabbaths in idleness and rowdiness. One the contrary, he is of a serious cast, is very studious, and withal is well behaved.

NEW BRIGADIER-GENERALS—THEIR PORTAIRES.

The President has appointed as Brigadier-Generals, Col. E. D. Keys, 11th Infantry; Col. Fitz John Porter, 15th Infantry, U. S. A., and Henry H. Lockwood, late of the United States Army, and a Professor at the Annapolis Naval School.

Col. Keys was promoted at the request of Gen. McClellan. He is well known to many of your readers, having served a long time in California. Col. Lucius Blenker and Henry A. Slocum, and Maj. James S. Wadsworth, of the volunteers; Maj. John J. Peck late of the United States Army; and John H. Martingale, and Prof. O. M. Mitchell of the Dudley observatory, both graduates of West Point, have been appointed Brigadier-Generals from New York.

—Wash. Cor. Bulletin. This last batch of generals includes only one man who has not either received a military education, or served several years in the army. The exception is James S. Wadsworth, the well known millionaire of Western New York, who was appointed in consideration of his gallant conduct as aid to Gen. McDowell at Bull's Run and for the war. His appointment was made at the earnest solicitation of Gen. McDowell, who asserts that Wadsworth possesses military talent of a high order.

Col. E. D. Keys is well known in California, having been stationed here several years. Col. E. J. Porter and Henry A. Lockwood are also of the Regular army, the latter recently a professor at the Annapolis Naval School.

Col. Lucius Blenker was an officer in the German army in the revolution of 1848-9. He is a second Sigel, his gallant conduct in covering the retreat at Bull's Run having won for him a high reputation for coolness and courage.

John H. Martingale graduated at West Point in 1835, and resigned his position in the army as lieutenant the following year, since which time he has been employed as civil engineer.

John J. Peck, graduate at West Point in 1843, served during the Mexican war, and was promoted to a Captaincy for gallant conduct in the battles of Contreras and Churubasco, and afterward breveted Major, for meritorious conduct at Molino del Rey. He resigned his commission in 1853, and has since been cashier of the Bancroft Bank in Syracuse, N. Y.

Henry W. Slocum entered a cadet at West Point in 1848, and graduated near the head of his class—was appointed 2d Lieutenant of 4th Artillery, stationed in Florida, and afterwards 1st Lieutenant at Fort Moultrie. He resigned in 1856, and has since been engaged in the practice of law at Syracuse, N. Y. He was chosen Colonel of the 27th Regiment of N. Y. Volunteers, which at the battle of Bull Run, according to the report of Col. Hunter, proved itself one of the most efficient regiments in the field. He was wounded by a grape shot through the thigh, but is rapidly recovering.

To one fact connected with these appointments we desire to direct special attention. We refer to the politics of the new Generals. It has been asserted by Democratic organs and orators throughout the State that the Federal army was being officered almost exclusively by Republicans. A baser lie has never been fabricated by its abettors of treason. Leaders have invariably been chosen by the Administration with a view to their capacity, and without regard to political considerations. Of the appointments, mentioned above—with the exception of those in the regular army, of whose politics we know nothing—all were one and the same. The exception is H. W. Slocum. We invite the particular attention of Douglas Democrats to this fact.—S. F. Mirror.

MYSTERIES OF THE HABEAS CORPUS.—A St. Louis correspondent of an Eastern paper says: Among the applicants for a writ of habeas corpus was one of the Camp Jackson captives, a young lawyer who had adopted an ingenious device to get rid of his parole and oath of allegiance, but it didn't work so beautifully as he expected. He went to the arsenal and renounced his parole, and again surrendered himself a prisoner, and of course was detained as such. He immediately sent for a writ of habeas corpus, to test the legality of the arrest, and make a case for all the rest.—Judge Catron decided that if the promise he made when released from arrest at Camp Jackson was invalid, it did not interfere with his liberty, and it did not cause his present alleged detention, for he voluntarily renounced his freedom, and was now held in obedience to his choice! The captain's predicament was here made so ludicrous the humor of even the secessionists had to give way, and they smiled with the rest. The captain is still at the arsenal, wondering over the mysteries of the habeas corpus act.

GABRIELI.—A Polish refugee, M. Pulitzky, relates a conversation he recently had with Garibaldi at Caprea: "Wherever you are in Europe," said Garibaldi, "a war of independence may break out, I will hasten with my companions as soon as I am called. I never take the initiative. I only act where those who are struggling against tyranny really desire my co-operation!" "And how can you tell that they call on you?" asked Pulitzky. "By the roar of cannon!" was the reply.

THE STEEL PEN DISEASE.—The Boston Journal says: Some of our readers will probably recollect a notice which appeared last February, relative to a theory advanced by President Felton of Harvard, the debilitating, and sometimes paralytic actions of the hand and arm experienced by those accustomed to write much, were attributed to the use of steel pens. Since the appearance of the notice in question, there has been a good deal of speculation regarding the theory it described, and many practical tests of its reliability have been instituted. President Felton has received a great many letters proving the efficacy of resorting to the old goose quill in curing partial and almost complete paralysis of the hand and arm, caused by using steel pens. One instance is very remarkable. An eminent publisher in this city some two years ago found himself unable to steady his hand to write. His hand and arm swelled so that he was forced to employ an amanuensis; and such was his severity, only at very brief intervals until he happened to see a description of President Felton's theory. He adopted the goose quill instead of the steel pen, and in a month thereafter was able to do his own writing, which he continues to do without any trouble. It may save parties the trouble of annoying President Felton with inquiries relative to the basis of his theory when we inform them that he has none to explain.

THE STARS.—Were an inhabitant of this earth to ascend into the air one hundred and sixty millions of miles, the fixed stars would still appear no larger than luminous points. Incredible as this assertion may appear, it is not a chimerical idea, but a fact which is effectually proved; for about the tenth of December we are more than one hundred and sixty millions of miles nearer the northern part of the heavens than we are on the tenth of June; and yet we never perceive any increase of magnitude in the stars.

Those who enlist in the volunteer corps will receive in the shape of regular pay, bonus at the time of discharge, etc., \$185 a year, a quarter section of land, and a pension if they get sick or disabled while in service, in addition to their rations, clothes, etc. This is quite as much as men can make, year in and year out—making allowance for loss of time—by hiring out here and there by the month on ranches and in the woods.—T.V.H.

Critenden's Amendment.

We hear a good deal of saivel now-a-days about Critenden's Amendment.—Mr Critenden has improved since the day in which he went about making compromises. He now goes for making war. In a speech at Columbus, lately, he said of the war:

"We must meet it like men. It is not a war that is to be prosecuted for the sake of war, and ought to be conducted with one of the common barbarities of war.—It must nevertheless be prosecuted by no halfway measures. My friends, we must gather the utmost strength of the country, and gird up the energies of our minds in this momentous contest. And let it be prosecuted only for the purpose that it ought to be carried on, and concluded for the restoration of our Government and the Union."

It becomes, therefore, a duty to maintain this great Government and this magnificent land from the terrible calamity of disunion. This I would aim by all the powers of my life to prevent. Hence it is that I have just come from voting millions of money and hundreds of thousands of men; and in order that the issue may be decided more speedily and our erring brethren united to us once more. For, fellow-citizens, I believe we shall reunite. And I have confidence in the belief that, instead of destroying or even weakening us, this war will make our Union stronger than ever before."

These are the latest and best of Mr. Critenden's amendments.

A FINESTED PIECE OF MILITARY WORK.—We can say most cordially, with a contenting heart, that, in perusing the narrative of Gen. McClellan's triumphant march in Western Virginia, the uppermost impression left in the mind is that it is a thing completely done. It is a finished piece of work. It stands before us perfect and entire, wanting nothing; like a statue or picture just leaving the creative hand of the artist, and embodying his whole idea.—McClellan set out to accomplish a certain definite object. With what precise object he never gathers his forces and plans his campaign. Onward he moves, and neither wind, mountain, nor stream checks his march. He presses forward from skirmish to skirmish, but nothing deters or diverts—forces him from the trail of the enemy, the point after outpost, camp after camp, river after river, the main body falls back, and a at last put to an ignominious and disgraceful retreat. He remains master of the field, and reports that he has accomplished his mission. There is something extremely satisfactory in contemplating what might be called a piece of finished military workmanship by a master hand. It is one thing done. It is, besides, a poetic retort, for it commemorates the martyr day after the bombardment of Sumter.

These we shall go on from one step to another. Eastern Virginia will next be McClellan's in the same finished style.—Louisville Journal.

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Those who enlist in the volunteer corps will receive in the shape of regular pay, bonus at the time of discharge, etc., \$185 a year, a quarter section of land, and a pension if they get sick or disabled while in service, in addition to their rations, clothes, etc. This is quite as much as men can make, year in and year out—making allowance for loss of time—by hiring out here and there by the month on ranches and in the woods.—T.V.H.

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