

A TRUE SOLDIER'S LETTER.

Written by a Man Who "Wouldn't Sell His Soul for Any Amount of Dirty Dollars."
(Read in the House of Representatives at Washington, at the request of Gen. Bragg, of Wisconsin.)

SOLDIERS' HOME,
HAMPTON, Va., July 3.

GENERAL—I like your sentiments on the "business method of coining patriotism," and chill penury having frozen out modesty, as well as all other softer virtues, I am bold enough to write you to request a special favor which has no relation to "spot cash."

My discharges show that I enlisted April 22, 1861, and was finally discharged in November, 1865. During my re-enlistment service the rolls will show "bounty declined" in the column of remarks every time an installment was due, for I am an American, and would as soon take hire to resent a personal indignity as hire to defend my country. I took my wages, which were my due; but I knew the state was entitled to the services and lives of any of its citizens whenever needed for its safety.

I am only one of many similar cases of the officers and men of the early army who never took bounties or applied for any equalizations, or arrearages, or bounties back pay; and I think we deserve some record or recognition to show the youngsters growing up that there were men who fought for their flag alone, and not for their flag and so many dollars.

Couldn't Congress have a list made from the rolls in the A. G. O. and printed by authority? Or couldn't they give those of us who are living a little nickel medal, something like the two-cent one the Navy Department gives to sailors who risk their lives to save their shipmates from drowning? Those of us who are dead don't need any, as the Recording Angel has their record, and will marshal them to front seats, which greenbacks can't purchase. [Laughter and applause.]

When the war was over I went to work and made my living as well as I could until some months ago, when infirmities compelled me to quit work and seek the shelter of the home which my country has provided for disabled soldiers. I am thankful for it, and don't propose to send in a bill besides for pensions, bounties, arrearages, back pay, clothing, rations, or equalization, or anything else. It ain't in the power of Congress to reduce me to the equality of a \$1,300 patriot; but some things here look very strange; for instance: A small tobacco ration is allowed to non-pensioners, and it worries me to see brave old George H., who saved our colors at Chantilly, marching in the line of paupers for his weekly dole, which he straightway shares with fellows who draw pensions for a valorous diarrhea or glorious piles [laughter]—for many of our pensioners depend upon their hospital record rather than their army record, as claimants for their country's generosity.

Carl E., here, has been twice commended in General Orders for gallantry in action, and twice promoted specially, but he has no hospital record, no dashing rupture for awkwardly falling off a horse, no chivalric blindness from too much commissary whisky to show, and no brilliancy in his army record will gain him a pension, though bent double by pains. Nothing but a neat hospital record or perjury will do it.

For myself (but I've blown my own horn so much that I dislike starting a new tune) I will say that it is lucky for the Treasury that I can't frequently connect my present pains and aches and general used-upness with a bad cold I got sleeping in the snow among the Safford Hills after our bloody repulse at Fredericksburg, or a certain thumping I remember under my ribs when I saw (twenty-three years ago to-day) Pickett's column advancing against the blazing crest of Round Top; but, in truth, though my most troublesome pain is in my pocket, I don't propose to soil my soul for any amount of dirty dollars.

If there is any acknowledgment can be made by Congress that we fought for our country without bounties, I for one would be very glad of it, and will always remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS MAY, of Maysville.

To General Bragg, Member of Congress.

By way of preface to the above letter, and before it was read, General Bragg said:

"Mr. Speaker, I am glad that at last we have in the Executive Mansion a man who has the nerve and courage to place his hand upon legislation when he thinks it improper, whether it be pension legislation or railroad legislation. [Applause.] We have gone a great way, and in my judgment altogether too far, in this matter of pension legislation. There is a large class of soldiers for whom there is never a voice raised in this House. They are the men whom a Confederate General had in his mind when he indorsed his approval upon an application for leave of absence that the soldier might go to see his family. He said: 'It was proper such men be permitted to go to their families, for from such men the Nation breeds the soldiers who will defend it in the future.' In speaking of this class of soldiers I do not speak of those who were in the service in only fourteen days, or sixty days, or ninety days, and for whom many of your pension bills provide. But I mean that class of men who in April, May, June, and July, 1861, actuated by patriotic desire to sustain the national flag, filled the ranks of your army—a class of men but few of whom ever afterward joined it—the men who did not wait to be bought, but who entered the service from the pure dictate of duty, recognizing the fact that the Government had a right to its blood-tax from its citizens when its necessities demanded it, just as much as it had a right to tax their property for the support of the Government—those men who, if they survived three years' fighting, re-enlisted for three or five years more, or as long as the war might last. There is but a small band of them; they have no medals to commemorate their service; they have no recognition from the friends of the three months' soldiers.

"This House, before it proceeds further in picking out the dead-wood, the trash, the men who followed in the wake of the army, and pensioning them, ought to make some provision for the men who fought at the front, who have no hospital records, no such claims for pensions as are ordinarily presented here. Some of these men I have the honor to know; and from one of this class I received a few days ago a letter which I send to the Clerk's desk to be read that it may go into the Record as a part of my remarks."

AFTER President Cleveland had vetoed bills for the erection of large and unnecessary public buildings in several small Northern towns, the Republican organs

began to cry out that he hated the North and was exercising his veto as he did on the pension bill—because he hated the Union soldier. But now that the vetoes on buildings in Southern towns begin to fall the organs are significantly silent. They haven't even the chance to feel as the people of Asheville, North Carolina, did when they sent a message to the President as follows: "While your veto of the Court House bill is generally regretted, the confidence of the public in your wisdom and justice remains unshaken, and should you visit North Carolina at any time, you would receive a cordial welcome at Asheville."—*Detroit Free Press*.

CLEVELAND'S PENSION VETOES.

The Executive Warmly Defended by Mr. Springer, of Illinois.

During the debate in the House of Representatives, on the motion to refer the message of the President vetoing the bill granting a pension to Joseph Romiser from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, Mr. Springer, of Illinois, said he would not discuss the pending bill and the veto message of the President thereon, except to call attention to the fact that it was first vetoed in the Pension Office in 1882 by Commissioner Dudley. But gentlemen on the other side of the chamber had taken advantage of the discussion to attack the President and the Democratic party, and to charge that they were opposed to granting pensions. Nothing could be further from the truth. During the entire eight years of General Grant's administration, only 542 private pensions were granted. During the Forty-seventh Congress, which was Republican in both branches, only 151 private pension bills were passed, but during the last, or Forty-eighth Congress, which contained a majority of Democrats in this House, and when the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. Matson) was Chairman of the Committee on Invalid Pensions, 552 of such bills passed and became laws, and during this session, since December last, Congress had passed 665 private pension bills, of which about 575 had either been signed by President Cleveland or had become laws without his action. He had vetoed about ninety private pension bills; but thirty-three more had passed and become laws during his administration up to this time than were passed during the eight years of Grant's administration. Gen. Black, Commissioner of Pensions, had granted over 110,000 certificates to pensioners since he assumed the duties of his office, being 10 per cent. more than he had ever before been issued by any of his predecessors during the same length of time. The Treasury of the United States attested the effect of Gen. Black's increased efficiency in the administration of the Pension Office. The payment to pensioners during the fiscal year just ended exceeded those of the previous fiscal year by \$8,000,000. But notwithstanding this increase in pension payments, there had been a net reduction of expenditures during the last fiscal year of over \$16,000,000 as compared with the fiscal year of 1885. Excluding pensions, the reduction of ordinary expenses for 1886 as compared with 1885 amounted to \$24,500,000. This statement was made from the Treasury Department. Mr. Springer asserted that the Pension Office had been, previous to General Black's administration, run in the interest of the Republican party. During the last Presidential year the number of claims of applicants for pensions considered by the examining surgeons in certain States was very significant. In Maine, a contested State, there were 779 cases considered in each Congressional district. In Massachusetts, reliably Republican, where no special political efforts were required, the number so considered was only 291 in each district. In Pennsylvania, reliably Republican, there were only 332 considered in each district, but in Ohio, where there was a great contest, the number was 605 in each district. In Indiana the number considered was 821 in each district, while in Illinois, reliably Republican, the number so considered was only 450 in each district. Thus it would be seen that where there were great political contests during the last Presidential year, the business of the Pension Office was concentrated, to the neglect of worthy applicants who happened to reside in States reliably Republican or hopelessly Democratic.

The Multilateral Lawyers of the Senate.

It is recalled that the brilliant Matt Carpenter, of Wisconsin, once admitted that his being on the Judiciary Committee in the Senate was equivalent to doubling his income from his practice. He afterward said: "I know I am a very successful lawyer and much sought after. But when I left the Senate and was dropped from the Judiciary Committee, I was no longer employed by any of the railroad corporations which have large interests at stake at Washington." That tells the whole story and furnishes an inkling of the motives of the Republican corporation lawyers in the Senate who are laboring so diligently to kill the Beck bill forbidding lawyers in Congress to serve corporations affected by national legislation. Carpenter was a frank man when he uttered the naked truth. The conduct of Edmunds, Evarts et al. in working against this righteous measure is the worst display we have recently witnessed of the subordination of public to private interests.—*Utica Observer*.

The Pledges Must Be Kept.

If the Democratic party is to live—nay, if it is to deserve to live—this desertion must not only be punished but effectively guarded against in the future. Democracy must have one creed—one test of loyalty. Its solemn pledges in national convention must not again be broken and trampled on in the house of its friends. Disguised Republicans must cease to hold seats in Democratic conventions, or to represent nominally Democratic districts. The party had far better be in a minority in Congress than have a nominal majority composed in part of men who will thus join the Republicans to betray the principles and destroy the pledges of Democracy.—*New York Star*.

Sam Randall Must Go.

The Lansing Journal says: "The Democratic party cannot survive half protection and half free trade. It must either declare itself wholly and unreservedly for commercial freedom or else abandon all hope of ever maintaining itself in power in the national Government. Sam Randall and his gang must go. They have no right to remain in the Democratic party, and every true and patriotic Democrat should insist on their going out and staying out."

THE ANARCHIST TRIAL.

The Prosecution Close Their Case—Attorney Salomon Opens for the Defense.

An Interesting Story as to How Capt. Schaack Hunted Down the Conspirators.

[Chicago telegram.]

After the presentation of some purely formal evidence as to the time and place of Officer Degan's death, and the reading of various incendiary articles from anarchist journals, the State closed its case against the bomb-throwers on Saturday. During the reading of the articles, which grew more virulent as the 1st of May approached, the red and black flags and inflammatory banners of the socialists were presented to the jury. When the State had rested, the attorneys for the defense moved that Oscar Neebe be discharged, and followed by a motion that all the defendants except Spies and Fischer be dismissed. These motions were argued at some length, but were overruled by the court, which held that where there is a general advice to commit murder, the time and occasion not being foreseen, the adviser is guilty if the murder is committed.

Mr. Salomon then made the opening statement for the defense. His effort was not remarkable in any way except in that it practically admitted very much that was claimed by the prosecution. His chief arguments centered upon two points: First, there cannot be accessories without a principal; second, the defendants did not throw the bomb. Upon the first of these points he held that the State must prove that somebody was a principal in committing the murder before it could convict the defendants as accessories. The manufacture of bombs, the intent to use dynamite, and the preparation for a revolution by force were admitted by Mr. Salomon, who made fully as many points for the State as for his clients.

At this stage of the case a brief and authentic record of the clever work of Captain Schaack and his assistants will be of interest. Captain Schaack has only six detectives in his district or under his control. These are Schuttler, Lowenstein, Whalen, Hoffman, Stift, and Rehm. These are the men that gathered the evidence that hung Mulkowski, and it was these same men who gathered practically all the evidence against the anarchists. Acting under the general direction of Captain Schaack, they worked night and day and left no stone unturned until every fact was laid bare. The morning of May 5, the day after the massacre, Captain Schaack had a consultation with Chief Ebersold. "I want to work independently in this case," said Schaack; "I want no help from the Central Station. Your detectives here can work by themselves, and I and my men will work by ourselves." Chief Ebersold agreed. At that time Lieutenant Shea, chief of the detective department and its force of thirty men, had arrested Spies, Parsons, Schwab, Fielden, Fischer, and several others openly identified with the anarchists or connected with the anarchist publications, and had seized the stuff in the *Arbeiter-Zeitung* Building.

Schaack called in his six men and gave them their instructions. The second morning afterward (May 7) he had learned of bombs having been made in one or two houses on Sedgwick street, and also in a certain place in the lumber district. In those two days, it might be stated, the whole city was practically scoured by those six men in their search for a bomb factory. The work had not been completed, but had merely narrowed down to certain districts and had resulted in certain pointers from which that information of May 7 was gathered. Schuttler and Lowenstein and some officers in uniform were sent to the two houses on Sedgwick street, one of which was Seliger's (No. 442), and the other a few doors off on the opposite side of the street. Oppenheimer, the escaped informer, said that when the officers were going toward Seliger's he and Lingg were standing on the opposite sidewalk and that they discussed the feasibility of making a rush for the house and getting in time to arm themselves and kill the officers in case they were actually bound for Seliger's. But the informer, but it was some days before he willingly told anything. His talk the first night, however, regarding Seliger's lodger, Lingg, and Seliger's talk on the same subject, led Schaack to believe that Lingg was an important factor in the case. Schuttler and Lowenstein then bent all their energies to Lingg's capture. They tracked him first by an express wagon he had hired to deliver his tool-chest at Twelfth and Clark streets. Then they traced him to Canal street, and then to the lumber district, frequently losing the trail and then catching it again. Finally, the 14th, they located him in the little cottage on Ambrose street, where they arrested him. Lingg was an unconscious informer. He was defiant; he desired to conceal nothing regarding himself, and in his reckless mood he disclosed many things that were valuable. Then Thielen squealed. A host of conspirators were hunted down by these six detectives and arrested. Assistant State's Attorney Furthman, whom Schaack describes as better than any two detectives in the city, interviewed the prisoners daily and nightly in their native tongue, and kept a record of all their statements.

A LAWYER walked down the street recently, with his length of arms to hold a lot of law-books. To him a friend, pointing at the books, said: "Why, I thought you carried all that stuff in your head?" "I do," quickly replied the lawyer, with a knowing wink: "these are for the judges."

POSTOFFICE AFFAIRS.

Some Interesting Statistics—Resignations and Removals for the Year—New Offices Created.

[Washington special.]

The following table shows the casualties among Postmasters in several States during the year ending June 30 last:

STATES.	Resigned, or com-mission expired.	Removed, or sus-pended.	Died.	Net Increase.
Dakota.....	187	157	6	86
Illinois.....	382	938	20	41
Indiana.....	441	531	20	23
Low.....	314	467	25	107
Kansas.....	465	291	15	107
Michigan.....	982	308	18	44
Nebraska.....	166	11	6	33
New York.....	265	143	7	74
Pennsylvania.....	451	915	29	33
Wisconsin.....	656	1,003	41	17
	179	233	22	46

*Decrease.

The following are some of the figures for the country at large:

	June 30, 1881.	June 30, 1882.	Increase
Post offices established during the year.....	2,121	3,482	1,361
Post offices discontinued.....	686	1,120	234
Net increase over previous year.....	1,235	2,262	1,127
Whole number of post offices.....	51,252	53,614	2,362
Number filled by appointment of the President.....	2,233	2,265	32
No. filled by appointment of the Postmaster General.....	49,019	51,349	2,326
Appointments made during the year.....			
On resignation and commission expired.....	6,204	9,112	2,908
On removals and suspensions.....	810	9,576	8,766
On deaths of Postmasters.....	412	587	175
On establishment of new post offices.....	212	3,482	1,361
Total.....	9,547	22,747	13,200

Of the newly established post offices in the six New England States had 51, with 1 discontinuance. The five Middle States and the District of Columbia had 261 establishments and no discontinuances. The twelve Southern States and Indian Territory had 1,444 new offices; the Pacific slope 114 and 8 discontinued; the remaining States and Territories of the West and Northwest 523 new establishments and 23 offices discontinued. The largest number of new offices were necessary in the State of Virginia. During the last fiscal year they were 127. The entire number of Presidential offices is 2,265, an increase of 32 during the year. Of these the largest numbers are in New York, 216; Illinois, 182; Pennsylvania, 158; Ohio, 133; Massachusetts and Iowa, 121 each. The total number of money-order offices at the close of the year was 7,356, an increase of 227 over the previous year. Of these Illinois holds the largest number, 590; Iowa is next with 522; New York, 496; Ohio, 468; Pennsylvania, 402; Michigan, 344; Kansas, 342; Indiana, 318; Missouri, 213; Wisconsin, 271. The greatest increase in any State was 25 in Kansas.

REVENUE RETURNS.

Statistics from the Report of the Head of the Revenue Bureau.

[Washington telegram.]

The Hon. Joseph S. Miller, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, has made a preliminary report of the operations of the internal revenue service during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1886, of which the following is an abstract: The total collections for the year were \$116,902,845. The total collections for the previous fiscal year were \$112,421,121, showing an increase of \$4,481,724. The increase was made up as follows: On spirits, \$1,581,055; on tobacco, \$1,500,274; on fermented liquors, \$1,445,949. This amount was reduced by a decrease of \$25,000 on banks and bankers, and a decrease of \$20,554 in miscellaneous receipts. There was an increase of 252,212,112 in the number of cigarettes; an increase of 151,925,855 in the number of cigars; an increase of 11,010,574 in the number of pounds of tobacco; increase 1,006,108 in