

VOICE OF THE GRAND ARMY

Its Committee on Pensions Against the Unfriendly Hand of the Government.

MUST RESTORE SUSPENDED PENSIONERS

A Volunteer Remuneration-Seeking Pensioner Claims—Something About Big Battle Ships of the Future.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Sept. 7.—Your committee on pensions beg to submit the following report and resolutions on the subject of pensions: "To bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and orphan." Thus spoke Lincoln the great, Lincoln the just, standing reverently, with uncovered head, in the immediate presence of a cruel and devastating war, that had already lasted four years, the end of which, although so near, his prophetic vision was able to see; and when, in the face of the authority of the American people, concerning one of the human duties of the hour and the future, when entering for the second time upon the discharge of a trust committed to him by the people, with a few short weeks that not so long hoped for had come; but his dying eyes were not privileged to see the full fruition of his labors, and the work so well begun and carried on by him fell into other hands, and those who had borne the battle after so many days "turned their happy feet toward their long-deserted homes."

A grateful nation met and received them, and gladly showered upon them the plaudits and honors they had so well and hard earned. These "bearers of the battle" were then, in the main, in the prime and vigor of young manhood, with all the honors and possibilities of life before them, with all the hopes, born of lofty courage and patriotic and successful achievement beating high in their bosoms; and their little needs, and still less cared for material aid from the country they had preserved and made free, save where loss of life or limb, or impaired health or broken constitutions were presently visible; and for such, in the main, ample and prompt provision was made by that country.

But as the years passed by middle life, too frequently developed upon premature old age, and youth passed into riper years with gallant feet; and alas! too soon the exultant and hearty soldier found that in the race of life there were weights upon his feet and burdens upon his shoulders, and the rest that fell upon him and over-heavy draughts upon his vitality, that sadly interfered with successful competition in the crowd and jostle of the fierce struggle for advancement. And still the nation sought to keep abreast of the necessities of her heroes, and by additional enactments to measurably make provision for the necessities of those who "had borne the battle."

A quarter of a century had elapsed, the young had become old, the middle-aged had become feeble, and the old had crossed the river. Time, with its ruthless fingers, had joined hands with the ravages of war, and the two combined and proved a more potent enemy to the soldier greater than he could bear, and the cry went abroad that too many instances for the credit, honor or good name of the nation, many who had followed the flag and faced the fiery furnace of battle, and who had not been made, and in the poor houses were looking longingly for the relief and comfort of the grave.

Their sympathizing comrades and a patriotic people, with one accord, voiced the sentiment that such was not the humane administering of the sacred trust recognized and announced by Lincoln. As to what the remedy should be, men's minds differed. Many, possibly a majority of the survivors of the war, believed that the time had come when the name of every honorably discharged survivor should be placed upon the pension roll. Others, denying the right that they should receive aught from their country through the pension roll, stoutly resisted the demand.

It was under such circumstances and dealing with these conflicting opinions that congress enacted the disability pension law of June, 1892, which act was signed by the president, and was accepted by the people in general as a settlement of the question. Under the administration of that law the poor house gave up its veteran—the hero who had borne the battle and the nation's honor, and the nation was faithfully administered.

Within a few months we hear with profound sorrow and regret that all this must be changed; that the construction of the law had been changed by the regulations and rules in regard to proof and ratings, under which more than 300,000 claims have been allowed and paid, have been revoked and another construction of the law has been established, and now regulated and proof and ratings, less favorable to claimants, have been adopted; that a board of revision has been organized in the pension office, charged with the duty of revising and adding to the pension roll in accordance with this new construction, and such changed regulations as to proof and ratings; that under these changes thousands of pensions have been suspended without notice and thousands of pensioners have been thrown upon their rolls. It is claimed that an adjudication of a pension settles nothing; that the secretary of the interior and commissioner of pensions are invested by law with absolute power over the pension roll, and that they are authorized by authority to reopen and revise pensions allowed by their predecessors under regulations adopted by them, whenever they see fit to change the rules of evidence and the scale of ratings under which the allowance was made, and in a country of law, where from the infancy of the government of the United States, by its organic law, is in terms denied the right to deprive any person of property without due process of law, notice and an opportunity to be heard, and where in every other relation and condition in life fraud is never presumed, but must be clearly proved, and every man is held to be innocent until he is accused. To emphasize the viciousness of the situation and accusation, we learn that it is expected that many of the pensioners so summarily suspended will have the right to go to court to prove that they are still entitled to the pension of which they have been deprived," thus saying in no uncertain voice that the burden is not upon the party alleging the fraud, but upon the government, which they have preserved shall first brand with infamy by the charge, then sentence, and after the stigma has been effective, then concede to them, whose barriers and support of character have been thus undermined, the privilege of moving for a new trial upon the ground of newly-discovered evidence; and this not upon strangers, aliens or foes, but upon our own flesh and blood, our comrades, the saviors of the nation—those who,

THE BURGALAR UP TO DATE

Safe Crackers Keep Well Abreast of the Safe Makers.

MODERN TOOLS OF THE TRADE

Implements of Those Who Work in the Dark, and Some of the Men Whose Ingenuity Has Been Used to the Detriment of Their Fellow-Citizens.

The aristocratic cracksmen of the east are just now engaged in laughing at the clumsy but well meant efforts of their less skillful brethren in the wild and woolly west, who have been distinguishing themselves by spending much time and large quantities of dynamite in endeavors to get the contents of safes aboard Adams express cars, to the rilling of which the cream of the profession would have devoted about ten noiseless minutes. Burglary is a delicate art and to do a job in an artistic manner is not the privilege of every gang of novices in crooked deeds. Many qualifications are necessary, but above all proper tools, convenient and powerful, must be at hand, for few men can open a locked steel fireproof safe with nothing but their fingers, although this has been accomplished.

To the eye of an honest man no tool is a burglar's tool, says the Philadelphia Times. Were he to find a most appropriate he would merely think that a mechanic had lost his hand. The trade, Drills, punches, bits and ordinary jimmies have each almost a counterpart in open daylight work, and only to the sophisticated would it appear that the bits and steel implements of crime. To those who know, however, the burglar's tools are the sectional jimmy and nippers, the first being a steel bar so arranged that it can be unscrewed into several pieces for convenience in carrying. The other, like a pair of curling tongs, the clutching one being armed with little teeth, and is used in turning keys in doors from the outside.

The manufacture of these tools is not, as has been supposed, confined exclusively to a few men, but is a business of obtaining a kit, will go to a hardware store and purchase drills, brace and bits, punches and wedges, these latter being in a series, from those the thickness of a knife blade to others the thickness of a man's hand. By a assortment of seemingly innocent tools he takes to a mechanic with instructions to temper them to a certain hardness. To another blacksmith he goes, and drawing a diagram has a piece of iron made to accordance. Still another makes him a second part, and finally the thief has a "drag," the most powerful and perhaps the most useful tool, from his standpoint, that can be used in opening a safe. It consists of a long, narrow, flat iron bar, one end of which is attached by a link to the knob of the door. A hole is bored through the front of the safe by means of a bit, a block is adjusted on the inside, and in this is placed the point of the screw, which is turned by means of a handle. The screw, as it penetrates further and further until the block is reached. Then, as the tremendous pressure continues, something has to give, the front generally being ripped off. This apparatus, in addition to its simplicity and quick work, has the advantage of being noiseless.

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Neither of these three men was the inventor of the new way to force a safe, the doubtful honor lying between T. G. Moran, a burglar located near Buffalo, and "French Gus" LeRoy. Whoever he was he made a few sets and parted with the surplus ones to his trusted cronies. One of these was captured from Walsh's "mob." This man and Dollard went to England in 1883 and "fell," that is, were caught at work. They were sentenced to five years each and on being released returned to this country, when they committed a \$30,000 robbery at Norfolk. For this they were sent to prison. Since their release they have committed several big robberies.

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COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Nothing Helped the Wheat Market Yesterday and Last Prices Were Down.

SOME OF THE WEAKENING FEATURES

Cables Were So Indifferent as to Be Positively Bearish—New York Messages Were Discouraging About Fresh Reports.

Chicago, Oct. 21.—Nothing helped the wheat market today and last prices were 1 1/2 cents lower than the night's figures. Corn is 1/2 cent and oats 1/4 cent off. Provisions are about unchanged. Everything was at hand to make a weak market in wheat. Cables were so indifferent as to be positively bearish. New York messages were discouraging about fresh exports. Washington news was no better and reports as to the movement of wheat were not very encouraging. There was nothing in sight except prospect of an enormous increase in the visible supply for Monday. The local receipts of cars were up 92 Friday to 150. Minneapolis receipts of wheat and rye were up 1,300 cars at the two points for the day. Dispatches also said the demand for cars was more than doubled. The opening was about even with yesterday's closing, and with some slight fluctuations prices further fell off to 1/2 cent, closing comparatively steady.

The fine weather for drying the new crop, the quite good receipts and the easiness in other grain markets were the chief reasons for the indifference of the speculators as a rule sold freely, while the outsiders were chiefly on the long side. The market opened rather easy at from 1/2 to 3/4 cent, and gradually receded from 1/2 to 3/4 cent. Toward the close a little more steadiness prevailed and prices rallied from 1/2 to 3/4 cent. There was a moderate trade in oats, with prices receding 1/4 cent, and closing with about the same. The depression in wheat and the light cash demand caused the decline.

The business in provisions was scarcely worth reporting. There was a change of 2 1/2 cents in the price of pork for the week. The October price was marked up in all products, but this was to represent the cash business. The price of corn was quoted 25c up, and 1/4 cent up and the live up. Estimated receipts for Monday: Wheat, 100 cars; corn, 600 cars; oats, 300 cars; hogs, 25,000 head.

Table with columns: Articles, Open, High, Low, Close. Lists prices for Wheat, Corn, Oats, Pork, Lard, etc.

OMAHA LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Cattle Coming to the Yards in Numbers that are Record Breaking. Receipts of all kinds of stock have been fairly liberal the past week, and the prospects are that October cattle receipts will be far in excess of any other month of the year. Nothing of unusual note has occurred, and the general situation is practically the same as it was a week ago, the exception being the fact that the receipts of hogs were slightly in excess of last week, but fall sharply short of the year's average. There has been a very active demand for the fresh meat trade and a good inquiry from shippers for eastern beef. The market for hogs is very active, but has never been smaller at this season of the year. Buyers simply had so many cattle to make their selections from that they were enabled to pound out a 10c and 15c decline on the less desirable grades. The slump here, however, was comparatively insignificant and shippers who thought they were getting a bargain in Chicago found this out to their cost. It is a fact worthy of note that less than 2 per cent of the big cattle receipts of the past two weeks have been sent through Chicago, either in first hands or by speculators. The 2 per cent that went to Chicago lost big money. On Tuesday morning many of the cattle here from Sheridan, Wyo. Local buyers bid \$4.25 for the entire seven loads and the commission man wanted to sell, but the buyers would not take it. The buyers went on a Chicago. They sold there Thursday for \$4, a loss to the owner of over 50c per cwt. On the same day there was another sale of Wyoming cattle here on which buyers bid \$3.85 for the steers and \$2.50 for the cows. The commission man begged the buyers to take the cattle at \$2.50, but the result that the steers sold there Thursday for \$3.65 and the cows for \$2.60.

Trading Steady to Strong. There were, perhaps, 1,000 more cattle here today than were here on last Saturday. All that were offered, nine double decks of beef were received. With average supplies for the next 10 days, the month's receipts will run about 100,000 head, which is about 10 per cent in excess of the year's history. Last October 90,000 head were received, which was the heaviest on record. The market today was slow, but compared with Friday's trade, there was no material change. Offerings were liberal and very common as a rule. Choice grade beef, extra good, brought \$4.05 and there were no western cattle here that would grade better than fair to common stuff, especially, was slow and in many cases easier, and the general run of range cattle changed hands at from \$3 to \$3.40. Business was slow, but steady. The market was slow, but compared with Friday's trade, there was no material change. Offerings were liberal and very common as a rule. 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