

## THE VASE.

At the close of the Fair last evening the vote upon the \$5,000 silver vase stood as follows: Union League 324, A. Lincoln 180, John Welsh 111, Admiral Farragut 50, General Meade 31, General Hancock 30, Governor Curtin 26, Dr. Bellows 15, S. P. Chase 12, General Grant 12, Bishop Wood 16, Bishop Simpson 46, Bishop Potter 6, General McClellan 12, General Sherman 6, John Bright 6, Union Volunteer Refreshment Saloon 3, Scott Stuart 31, Admiral Dupont 4, E. M. Stanton 2.

## THE SWORD.

At ten o'clock the sword vote stood as follows: General Meade 1,644, General Hancock 1,356, General McClellan 155, General Grant 104, scattering 62—total 3,321.

### HOW THE SANITARY IS WORKING IN THE FIELD.—No. 4.

[From our Correspondent with the Army of the Potomac.]

WHITE HOUSE, VA., June 6, 1864.

I propose to present in this letter some account of the "Auxiliary Relief Corps," which is a very important arm of the Sanitary Commission service. It is organized in accordance with the following idea: As all the work of the Commission is supplementary, it must, in the construction of its several departments, correspond as nearly as possible with the army arrangements. For example, at this base there are seven corps-hospitals, and there must, therefore, be seven corps-stations of the Commission, if each hospital is furnished with suitable care. You will not understand me to mean dwelling-houses or barracks when I speak of hospitals, as there are but few houses within sight of this place, and they are rude, dilapidated log huts. A hospital here, is, wherever there are sick and wounded men, whether they are under shelter or not. As soon as practicable they are covered with some sort of defence from the sun or rain, but hundreds of them are oftentimes obliged to remain out of doors during the night. Such was the case last night.

Those who are not able to be sent away, or those who will recover here as readily as they would in a Northern hospital, are kept in camps which represent, by name and number, the several corps of the army. Along the line of battle there are camps of *well* men, divided into separate corps, under corps commanders. At the "water-base" there are camps of *sick* and *wounded* men, divided into separate corps, under the command of surgeons. There are thus seven corps hospitals, and seven supply stations of the Commission—one for each hospital, and, beside these, two feeding stations to supply the wants of soldiers who are on their way to hospitals, or who do not need more than rest, nourishment and surgical dressing, before being taken on board steamers for Washington. To these stations there is assigned a squad of relief agents, with a supply of stores for the use of the hospital, and any others who may chance to pass by

and need care and comfort. One or more competent "dressers" are associated with the squad, whose duty it is to be always ready with bandages, lint, &c., to dress wounds. Hundreds and hundreds are thus, day by day, made more comfortable, and their recovery hastened.

The relief is thus given to the men directly in every emergency, and the store or supply sent is always on the spot, and open to meet the current daily want.

An idea may be formed of the contents of a Commission Corps tent, by the following statement, which I copy from a requisition just now filled:

200 pounds sugar, 192 cans milk, 240 cans beef, 144 cans tomatoes, 48 cans peaches, 10 gallons pickles, 1 barrel bandages, rags and lint, 6 dozen splints, 80 pairs slippers, 100 pairs socks, 114 shirts, 140 pairs drawers, 1 ream paper (writing,) 100 envelopes, 30 candles, 5 boxes lemons, 1 cask porter, 4 boxes whiskey, 2 boxes brandy, 1 box blackberry cordial, 2 boxes sherry, 25 feeding tubs, 1 roll patent lint, 1 box Jamaica ginger, 60 pairs crutches, 10 pounds castile soap, 100 towels, 96 handkerchiefs, 12 lead pencils, 2 stretchers, 1 rubber blanket, 2 haversacks, 1 pound candles.

A two-horse wagon is kept for transporting supplies from the supply boat (which you know is a barge on the Pamunkey) to and from all the corps and feeding stations, that every want may be met, so far as it may be practicable to do so.

In addition to the supplies distributed to the hospitals, &c., here, I present the following transcript of a requisition filled this day for the front. The goods will be placed in the hands of the Relief Agent there, who will send them to the different hospitals, and cause them to be suitably divided:

1600 shirts, 1200 pairs drawers, 24 boxes milk, 8 boxes brandy, 16 boxes Jamaica rum, 8 boxes sherry, 400 pounds smoking tobacco, 8 boxes lemons, 800 tin cups, 800 towels, 8 half barrels bandages, 8 half barrels rags, 48 pounds pepper, 8 gross matches, 8 gross Jamaica ginger, 8 barrels soft crackers, 40 pounds chloroform, 48 bottles morphine. Four days forage for each team.

These are for the General Hospitals on the battle field, but in order that there may be no drain upon them, to meet the wants of wounded men who are forwarded to this place, a special train is sent to supply them, and special agents accompany it with empty bottles, canteens, and other conveniences, that any who may be found by the way shall be served, as well as those who may be met at the field; the object being chiefly to furnish milk punch, and crackers in the wagons. The last load consisted of the following:—10 boxes of Whiskey; 10 boxes of Milk; 10 barrels Crackers; 50 lbs. Sugar; 2 boxes Jamaica Ginger; 1 doz. Shirts; 1 doz. Towels; 1 doz. Handkerchiefs and 3 Buckets, besides a large quantity of Cups, Ladles, Slings, Cushions, Reading Matter and Stationary. The reading may be enjoyed on

the way, and stops and rests furnish opportunities for writing a few lines to friends at home, which are forwarded by the Commission free of expense.

This leads me to notice the Post Office department, which has proved to be of such magnitude as to require much of the time of one man. An average of from two to three bushels of mail matter, (mostly letters), are accumulated at the various offices every day. At each feeding station, and each supply tent, it is arranged to have a post office, and the person in charge acts as postmaster. The letters, &c., are accumulated daily, and sent to the central office, where they are put in charge of a special messenger, and sent to Washington daily. At the office of the Commission there, they are stamped and forwarded without cost to the soldiers. Imagine a hospital with a thousand patients in it. They are visited daily. Dressers bind up their wounds, nurses administer cordials and comforts, write for them, or furnish them with the means of writing; they find a post office within their own camp, through which they may send letters free, and then think that this opportunity is furnished to every hospital in the field, and to every man in the army, and that these are all distributing points for letters to the soldiers from their homes, and you may judge of the value of the postal arrangements of the Commission, both as a supplementary service, and as a great individual benefit to the soldier and his friends.

The more I see of this work the more I am satisfied with the wisdom of its conception, the completeness of its plan, and the broad Christian benevolence which inspires its labors. It has its faults. Its chief fault lies in the imperfection of its laborers. So few men are capable of measuring themselves by the standard of an unselfish reality in what they do, that when human infirmity attempts to grasp the great, the broad, the Divine genius which moves to generous effort, they find themselves unequal to the work. It is the experience of all true men who engage in the Commission with a determination to *know* it, that it grows upon them, and that they must grow with it. Those who complain of the imperfections of a great and good cause are those who find most reason for self-complaint, over their own imperfect conceptions of the true and comprehensive. The history of the Sanitary Commission, when it shall be written, will be a grand demonstration of the fact, that the noblest impulses of human nature, and the purest teachings of Christianity have been joined in a league of benevolence and love, which has only failed to reach its climax of good because of the imperfections which are the inheritance of our race.

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