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Do you realize that it is but a few weeks, until Christmas? You all know what it is to over-look or forget the little remembrance for the children, for friends, and for those who are dear to you until too late to procure them.

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DECIDED INCREASE.—Coburn, Pa., Nov. 17th, 1898.—Nathan D. Hosterman of this place states that he had scrofulous sores on his neck but was cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Army Sick's Hard Times.

Before the war investigating commission, Saturday, Louise L. Kraus, private of Company G, Ninth New York volunteers, complained that over-exertion at drill brought on a nervous affection on June 17. He appealed to the regimental surgeon, Dr. Hubbard, and the doctor said he was shaming.

"Later I was examined by another doctor and he said I had St. Vitus dance," continued Kraus. "He said he had no medicine for me and gave me a prescription to get filled in town. I had no money and went without the medicine."

"Do you mean to say you received no medicine from the doctors in charge?" asked Dr. Conner. "Oh, I got some quinine one day. All the medicine they had was quinine, salts and castor oil. They served it out in turn."

J. Hussey, a private of the Sixty-ninth Regiment, testified that the best of all the food supplied by the Government was appropriated for the use of the officers.

Dr. Monac Lasser, who was in Cuba in medical charge for the Red Cross society, said none of the fever cases was without shelter. Those of the sick who slept in the open air were not suffering from fever, and the night air was good for them.

"Was the supply of food and medicine sufficient for those aboard the Concha?" asked Dr. Conner. "I cannot answer that question. The Red Cross usages do not permit me to criticize the government."

Dr. Albert E. Gallant, chairman of the medical committee of the War Relief association, testified that 2300 men came to the headquarters of the association. Out of this number over 500 were in unfit condition to travel.

Major Summerhays explained that the carrying capacity of each transport had been estimated by the space and that the overcrowding that had been complained of was due to the fact that the men assigned to the lower decks crowded the upper decks for fresh air.

James P. Holmes, who served in the Seventy-first New York Regiment, was examined. He was taken sick in Santiago and is still in poor health. He was allowed to lie on a couch while his feet were paid to the sick on the transport Grand Duchess.

Democratic Watchman. Bellefonte, Pa., Dec. 2, 1898.

651,879 80, leaving a balance of \$3,431,012 99 unexpended on the 30th of June, 1898, which was covered into the treasury. This unexpended balance would have been reduced in the sum of \$700,212 24, representing first payments on 5,581 cases, which were adjudicated during the fiscal year, had it been possible to get them into the hands of the pension agents in time to make payments thereon prior to July 1st, 1898.

"There are about 625,000 claims of all classes pending, of which 200,000 are original claims; the commissioner states that the latter includes many claims for increase or for additional allowance under another law. The claims remaining unadjusted on June 30th, 1898, exceed the number pending on July 30th, 1897, by 56,060. During that time there were filed in the bureau 165,442 claims, original and increase.

A separate division has been organized for the adjudication of claims growing out of the war with Spain. These soldiers will receive their pensions under the general laws for disabilities of a permanent character contracted while in the service. Less than 100 claims had been filed up to the close of the fiscal year and none had been adjudicated.

The Alger whitewashing commission got small comfort from Colonel Roosevelt's day in court. He testified to what he saw and experienced, and made a graphic picture of the preventable outrages on our soldiers under the bright of Algiers. According to the summary of the New York Journal he declared that—

The railway system at Tampa was in a state of absolute congestion. There was much unnecessary delay in securing transports. The men had poor accommodations and the rations were not fit to eat.

The uniforms of the soldiers were cheap, and even inferior to the clothing worn by the Spaniards. The wounded, after having a leg or an arm amputated, were left lying in the mud for thirty-six hours, without medical attention or a drink of water.

There were not enough nurses; the supply of medicines was wholly insufficient, no tents, no blankets, no delicacies for the wounded. Confusion, dismay, suffering everywhere. An utter lack of foresight in the commissary and medical departments.

For further particulars Colonel Roosevelt referred the commission to his suppressed report on the Santiago campaign in the war department under Alger's lock and key. The commission of course sought to break the force of this testimony, and one of them asked:

I judge that the shortcomings you have cited and the unnecessary privations you have told us about were due to the inexperience of officers and men rather than to the wanton neglect or carelessness of anybody? As Colonel Roosevelt had explained why he could not permit himself to draw conclusions, this question was obviously put in the hope of getting a general non-committal answer useful for whitewashing purposes.

But Colonel Roosevelt replied: I would not charge anybody with wanton neglect. I think they (the "shortcomings and privations" of Sexton) were mainly due to the system which procured the inexperienced officers.

The Horse in Battle.

A veteran cavalry horse partakes of the hopes and fears of battle just the same as his rider. As the column swings into line and waits, the horse grows nervous over the waiting. If the wait is spun out, he will tremble and sweat and grow apprehensive.

A man seldom cries out when hit in the turmoil of battle. It is the same with a horse. Five troopers out of six, when struck with a bullet, are out of their saddles within a minute. If hit in the breast or shoulder, if in the leg or foot or arm, they fall forward and roll off. Even with a foot out off by a jagged piece of shell a horse will not drop. It is only when shot through the head or heart that he comes down.

When he has come upon the four riderless steeds, they fall in and keep together, as if for mutual protection, and the "rally" on the bugle may bring the whole of them into ranks in a body.—From the Buffalo Horse World.

A Sailor's Bed.

Jack Tar's hammock is a rather treacherous sleeping place. Jack's bed is a hammock, and it is a folding, portable bed of the most improved kind. People who swing hammocks on verandas in the summer know nothing whatever about Jack's style of bed.

Jack's folding bed is open for use it hangs by these rings from hammock hooks fitted to the beams under the decks. When he goes up on the spar deck and hangs the hammock to one of the stowens, who drops it into the "netting" which are simply troughs in the ships rail. A tarpaulin is hauled in and lashed down to keep the rain out, and there they stay till they are served out again at night. In the meantime, if Jacky desires to sleep, and in war times he does very often need a nap, he must perforce seek the gentle caresses of a steel battle-latch or an oily alleyway, where cooks and marines do break in and coal passers corrupt.

But a paternal government provides the hammock for Jacky, and also allows him the use of the deck.—Scribner's Magazine.

England Warns France to Abandon the Upper Nile.

One of the first acts of Lord Salisbury on returning from his summer vacation was to authorize the publication of the correspondence between the British and French Governments concerning the ownership of the territory bordering the Upper Nile. In this appears a declaration by the English premier that all the territories of the Khalfia now belong to Great Britain and Egypt, by conquest. In other words, the French force under Major Marchand, that took possession of Fashoda, must quit the country.

The correspondence further shows that, in General Kitchener's opinion, nothing would have saved the French expedition from annihilation if he had been a fortnight later in crushing the Khalfia. Nothing remains to be done except for France to discover a reason for withdrawing her forces that will not excite further trouble at home.

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English capital is invested in this country in water and gas companies, cattle and horse raising, breweries, flour mills, street railways, iron manufacturing and mining. In investments other than government loans and railroads it is estimated that the enormous sum of \$9,250,000,000 of England's money has been lent outside of the "right little island."

Governor Hastings has already appointed more judges to office than the ten Governors who preceded him combined. With the retirement of Judge Gordon he has another vacancy to fill and a chance to make a new record. In Philadelphia alone he has appointed four Common Pleas Judges—Judge Audenried, Judge Beiler, Judge McMichael and Judge Wilbank. He appointed Judge W. W. Porter and Judge William D. Porter to the Superior court bench, and at present Judge Wilbank, of the Supreme court, and Judge Reeder, of the Superior court, are both critically ill. As some cynical politicians put it: "Governor Hastings has appointed more judges during his incumbency than there have been criminals hanged during the same time."

He took two columns and brought down the house. Yet men read this to-day who expect to "bring down the house" with an inch ad, when they ought to take two columns.

Medical.

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