

An independent local paper, published every Wednesday at Reynoldsville, Jefferson Co., Pa., devoted to the interests of Reynoldsville and Jefferson county. Non-political, will treat all with fairness, and will be especially friendly towards the laboring class.

Subscription price \$1.50 per year, in advance. Communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the writer's name, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. Interesting news items solicited. Advertising rates made known on application at the office in Reynoldsville.

Lengthy communications and change of advertisements should reach this office by Monday noon.

Address all communications to C. A. Stephenson, Reynoldsville, Pa.

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Report of Com. on Pensions to the 27th National Encampment, G. A. R.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Sept. 7, 1893.

Your Committee on Pensions beg to submit the following Report and Resolutions on the subject.

"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 not able to see; speaking to, for and by the authority of the American People, concerning one of the supreme duties of the hour and the future, when entering for the second time upon the discharge of a trust committed to him by that people.

Within a few short weeks that end 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, charged with all the trusts that the condition implied and required; 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 the honors they had so well and hardily 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 they little needed 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 and broken constitutions were pretty 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 into premature old age, and youth passed into riper years with galloping 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 as the result of premature 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 those who had "borne the battle."

A quarter of a century had elapsed. 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 had proved a burden upon the aging soldier greater than he could bear; and the cry went abroad that in 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, had in want fallen by the wayside, 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 a human 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 fully come when the name of every honorably discharged survivor should be placed upon the pension roll. Other's, denying the right that they should receive sought from their country through the pension roll, stoutly resisted the demand.

It was under such circumstances and dealing with the conflicting opinions, that Congress enacting the disability law of June, 1890. This act was accepted by the surviving soldiers and by the people in general as a settlement of the question. Under the administration of that law, the poor-house gave up its veteran—he who had borne the battle was cared for, and thus the sacred trust accepted and left as a legacy to 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 has been changed, and the regulations and rules in regard to proof and ratings, under which more than three hundred thousand claims have been allowed and paid, have been revoked, and another construction of

the law has been established, and new regulations for 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 all these adjudicated claims 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 dropped from the 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 it is within their legal 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 this in a country of law, where from the very infancy of the government 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 person shall have the right to face his accuser.

To emphasize the viciousness of the situation and accusation, we learn that it is said, as though by authority, that "it is expected that many of the pensioners so summarily suspended or dropped will be able 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 that the government which they had 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 pitiful 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, in the language of Lincoln, the immortal, have "borne the battle."

We deny that the Secretary of the Interior and Commissioner of Pensions have any such power. We insist that the adjudicating division of the Pension Office, acting under the direction and supervision of the Commissioner of Pensions and Secretary of Interior, are tribunals established by authority of law for the settlement of pension claims, and that their decisions are entitled to full faith and credit, and cannot be legally impeached when a change of administration occurs, except for fraud, upon charges preferred and evidence adduced in support thereof. We insist that where changes are made in the construction of the law, rules of evidence and schedule of ratings, unfavorable to claimants, they must and should be limited in their operation to the future work of the office, and not the past. An *ex post facto* regulation is as repugnant to our sense of justice as an *ex post facto* law, and we protest against the adoption and enforcement of any such regulations in the matter of pension claims.

Therefore, the Grand Army of the Republic, in National Encampment assembled, speaking for that great army of beloved comrades, many of them too poor, too bruised, too broken, to withstand the strong arm of the government when administered with an unfriendly hand, proud of the good name and fair fame of the American Volunteer Soldier, interested far beyond any other person or organization that the pension roll shall in truth be what it is in theory—a "roll of honor," and ever mindful of its cardinal principle, "To preserve honor and purity in public affairs," scouts and denounces these indiscriminate charges of universal fraud and resent the imputation that because some unworthy survivors may be found, that discredit shall be cast upon the entire roll, and this great body of brave and patriotic citizens shall stand disgraced before the country. We demand that there shall be no backward step in pension legislation or administration; that no pensioner shall be deprived of his property without due process of law; that the presumption shall be in favor of honesty and fair dealing; that the poor and lowly shall not be put to unnecessary, expensive or oppressive process to preserve their meager pittance; that the sacred trust in favor of those who "have borne the battle" shall be sacredly observed and sacredly administered; and we do now solemnly and deliberately

RESOLVE, That the Grand Army of the Republic looks with solicitude, not to say alarm, upon the proposition, that after sufficient tribunals have been established by law before which questions have been presented and adjudicated, upon evidence submitted and examined, and upon which a grateful nation has accorded pensions in this their hour of need to those who in its hour of need stood between it and death, the officers of that nation, administering a public trust, have arbitrarily deprived, without notice or an opportunity to be heard, our needy and distressed comrades of the rights thus solemnly adjudged and confined to them.

WE DECLARE, That every presumption should be made in favor of such records so made; that no presumption of fraud shall be indulged in against them, and that no change be made in the pensions so accorded until after charges have been made and evidence in support thereof has been produced, of which charge each pensioner has had full notice and a full and complete opportunity to be heard in support of the pension so accorded to him; and it is further

RESOLVED, That as the Commissioner of Pensions, by his recent withdrawals of the obnoxious rulings which had been so generally condemned, has virtually acknowledged the incorrectness of such rulings, we deem it his further duty to at once restore to the rolls the thousands of pensioners now standing illegally suspended.

I. N. WALKER, Committee  
A. M. WALKER, on  
J. W. BURST, Pensions.  
A. R. GREENE,  
H. E. TAINTOR.

Buy your new shoes while the styles are fresh. Reed's shoes are nobby.

Buy your shoes where the dealer does as he agrees. Reed does.

Those laced bluchers at Reed's are easy as an old shoe.

Do unto others as you would have them do to you. Deal fairly. That is Henry A. Reed, "the shoe man's," motto.

Final Extraordinary Inducement.

Commencing October 20th, and continuing until Sunday, October 29th inclusive, excursion tickets to Chicago will be placed on sale, and will be good on all trains except the Pennsylvania Limited from York, Harrisburg, and points west on the main line, including the branches, Frederick Division, Cumberland Valley Railroad, Lewistown Division to Selingsgrove, Tyrone Division to Lock Haven, Altoona, Cambria and Clearfield, West Penn Division, Monongahela and Bedford Divisions.

\$16.00 from York, \$16.00 from Frederick, \$15.75 from Harrisburg, \$14.50 from Altoona, and proportionately low rates from other stations.

This arrangement is a most unexceptional one, and will undoubtedly be the cause of many visiting the great Exposition during the closing days, who would not otherwise undertake the journey.

All who can do so are advised to see the Fair, as it is highly improbable that another of its immense magnitude will be seen by the readers of these lines. A liberal education in itself is to be obtained by an inspection of the incomprehensibly large collection of wonderful inventions and sights incorporated in this mighty effort of the American people.

Fifteen hundred dollars worth of English woollens just arrived at Bell's for fall suits. Why?

Decorated lamps at Schultze's.

Why pay rent any longer? Walter Spry has three good houses for sale, two on Jackson st. and on Worth st., at bargains.

Owens the Earth.

When a girl of sweet 16 appears on the street she has a cute, pretty way of walking and tossing her head as though she owned the earth and was going to the middle of the next block to get it. After she is 18 the world she owns is about as far away as the World's Fair is to most of us, and at 20 she gives up all hope of getting it at all.—Kittanning Globe.

Something new in rubbers at Robinson's.

It needs no special message of the President to tell the people of Reynoldsville where Reed's shoe store is.

We can't blame a man for being watchful of his dollars, but all are not watchful; if they were, they would trade at Reed's.

Have you seen Reed's \$3.00 shoe?

Good in Any County.

[Brookville Democrat.]

The marriage law of this state has been changed by a law that went into operation on the first of October, by which a license taken out in any county in Pennsylvania is good in all the other counties. Formerly a marriage license was void if presented to a minister in a county other than the one in which the license was taken out. The more liberal law makes the license good in any county of the state.

At King & Co.'s you will find baled hay, salt, flour and a full line of general merchandise.

New fall and winter millinery goods just received at Mrs. Kate Smeltzer's on Jackson street.

Think on It.

The young men who stand along the street in the neighborhood of the post-office and fill the air with oaths from their foul mouths no matter who is passing by, are not gentlemen. Gentlemen will not swear in the presence of ladies, and no true gentleman will swear at all.—Big Run Echo.

Prices very low at Robinson's shoe store.

Go to Riston's for ammunitions of all kinds.

"Fire! Fire! Fire!"

REYNOLDSVILLE, PA., July 5, 1893.

To all whom it may concern:

My dwelling house on Hill street, Reynoldsville, Pa., was struck by lightning on June 25th and was insured in N. G. Pinney's agency, Brookville, Pa., by Walter Spry, solicitor. The loss was paid Thursday and I can recommend Pinney's agency as prompt and reliable.—10-6. JOHN WILLIAMS.

A new surrey and buggy for sale by A. L. Peters, Hopkins, Pa.

A good many men will have to "foot it" this winter. We wish all such had a pair of Reed's \$3.00 shoes.

Robinson's for children's high cut shoes.

Drifting with the Tide.

HAUSTER—CAYLOR—On Wednesday, Oct. 18th, 1893, by W. W. Ford, J. P., at his office in Reynoldsville, Lewis Hauser and Rosa Caylor, both of Sandy Valley, Pa.

HEITZENRATER—DEPP—At the M. E. parsonage, Brookville, Pa., October 17, 1893, by Rev. J. W. Blaisdell, W. S. Heitzenrater, of Punxsutawney, Pa., and Anna A. Depp, of Clayville, Pa.

SWINEFORD—MCANINCH—At the residence of the bride's parents in Knox township, on Oct. 19th, by Rev. Jas. H. Jelbart, E. E. Swineford and Rosa McAninch, both of Knox township.

SHERWOOD—BEEBE—On Oct. 23, 1893, by Rev. Jas. H. Jelbart, at the residence of Fred. Starr in Brookville, H. A. Shorwood, of Winslow township, and Dora Beebe, of Sandy Valley, Pa.

The time has come to try your soles. If you wear Reed's \$4.00 shoe, your soles will stand the test well.

Reed sells a handsome shoes at \$3.00.

You must wear shoes if the times are close. Fit your shoes to the times and buy of Henry A. Reed, "the shoe man."

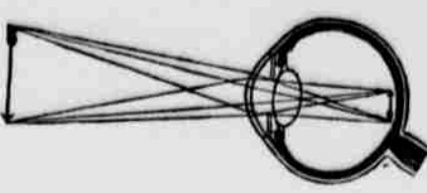
CAUTION NOTICE.

All persons are hereby cautioned against purchasing or in any way meddling with the following property now in the possession of W. E. Brumbaugh, of Winslow township, Jefferson county, Pa., viz: All household goods, one horse, one cow, one two-horse wagon, one buggy, one pair sleds, one sleigh, harness, double and single, grain of all kinds, farming implements, lumber and railroad ties, &c., as I bought the same on the 14th day of October, 1893, and said property is left with said D. L. Brumbaugh subject to my order at any time. D. L. BRUMBAUGH, Oct. 16 1893.

Every Woman  
Sometimes needs a reliable monthly regulating medicine.  
Dr. PEAL'S  
PENNYROYAL PILLS,  
Are pleasant, safe and reliable in results. The pills are Dr. Peal's own discovery. Sent anywhere \$1.00. Post Office Order, Accepted. U. S.  
Sold by H. Alex. Stoke, druggist.

Bargains! \*  
\* Bargains!  
—AT THE—  
PEOPLE'S  
Bargain Store.  
We make a specialty of Gents' and Ladies' Furnishing Goods and Shoes, and Boys' Clothing.  
Quick Sale! - Small Profit! One Price!  
A. KATZEN, Prop'r.

CALL ON  
C. F. HOFFMAN,



Specialist in  
Lenses for the Eyes.

SCIENTIFIC EXAMINATION FREE.

COME AND SEE!  
New Goods for Winter!

—A complete line of—

DRESS - GOODS!

New Weaves and Shades, a Great Variety. You will be surprised to see such a stock in our city, but we have them and at

Prices to Please all.

Call and see for yourself. We have a nice line of Notions, Ladies' and Children's Underwear and Ladies' and Children's Coats.

BING & CO.

DENTISTRY!

Dental plates mended while you wait, and you need not wait longer than 20 minutes.

Full or Partial Sets of Teeth

put in the mouth as soon as your gums cease bleeding after extraction. Result, you need not be seen at all without teeth.

Crown and Bridge Work!  
or Teeth Without Plates!

All branches of dentistry performed by modern methods and with the least possible discomfort to the patients. Consultation and examination Free.

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DUBOIS. REYNOLDSVILLE.

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DEALERS IN

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TIN, SHEET IRON - AND - COPPER WARE,  
AMMUNITION, - FISHING TACKLE OF ALL KINDS, - HOUSE  
FURNISHING GOODS, - WOOD AND IRON PUMPS.

And everything kept in a First-class Hardware Store.

Roofing and Spouting Done to Order.  
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Jeweler, Optician,  
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