

ITEMS—GENERAL AND LOCAL.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of the *Finley Hospital Weekly*. We are happy to place the same upon our list of exchanges, and wish the spicy little sheet all success.

The usual issue of the *Knapsack* was read at the Lyceum on Tuesday evening, we noticed that it contained several interesting and valuable articles. A press of matter from other quarters prevent us from making a selection for this week's *CAUTION*.

In our hospital (Div. No. 1.) the most of our patients are doing well. We have some few cases, lingering along—baffling with the efforts of hard treatment in Richmond. Few deaths have occurred within the last two weeks. We are daily looking for and anxiously waiting to welcome a boat load from the prisons of rebeldom.

A. B. Chapin, Ass't Surgeon U. S. V., ordered by special order No. 5, Adjutant General's Office, to report to Commanding General of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, left for that post January 12th. H. Loewenthal, Act. Ass't Surgeon U. S. A., reported to Act. Medical Director of Hospitals at Annapolis, and to the Surgeon in Charge of this Hospital for duty, Jan. 12th.

Those fond of skating have had an admirable opportunity to satisfy their desire during the last week. Ice formed in sufficient thickness, and the ponds around the city have given footing for almost any number. Of course all those desiring the luxury of ice during the summer months, are anticipating such times, by filling their ice houses. Very good solid ice of six to eight inches in thickness is being cut and deposited in the ice house of this Hospital.

Nothing of special local interest has occurred in the past week, apart from the session of the Maryland Legislature which has continued its sittings without interruption. A preamble and resolutions representing "that General Birney in command of the Negro encampment at Benedict St. Mary's County, was seizing upon slaves on the plantations and forcing them to enlist, denouncing such acts as an outrage on the rights and property of the citizens of Maryland, perpetrated without the knowledge or consent of the President, and proposing the appointment of a joint committee to wait upon the President at Washington and ask such redress and protection as the necessity of the case requires, was submitted," and passed by the Senate, and rejected by the House of Delegates.

We hope an exchange of prisoners will soon be effected. Just now the number in the Hospitals at this post is comparatively small. The Rebel authorities at Richmond are not inclined to enter upon any reasonable terms by which our men in their hands, may be given up in return for an equal number held by our government. This may be taken as a strong evidence of the desperate state of affairs in the Rebel Confederacy. Confidence in our attempts to accomplish any purpose gives rise to honorable, manly intercourse and arrangements for mutual benefits. When failure stares us in the face we are apt to become desperate and reckless; all feelings of humanity seem to be leaving the minds of the usurpers in the South. We may hope therefore that the time of their discomfiture is near at hand.

The war news is rather meagre. It presents nothing of any great interest. Very little has been lost, or gained since our last report. All our positions are sustained. Moseby with four hundred men, attacked Major Cole in command of the Battalion of Maryland Cavalry in Loudon County Va., at four o'clock of the 10th inst., but after a severe fight of four hours he was repulsed leaving his killed and wounded on the field. Among the killed were four commissioned officers. Our loss was two killed and eleven wounded. General Early's recent attempt with the Brigades of Lee, Walker, and Rosser, under the immediate command of Fitzhugh Lee, to capture the Union garrison at Petersburg and take possession of Cumberland and New Creek has proved a failure. The enemy was completely discomfited. General Banks is continuing his march through Texas, meeting with constant successes. The bombardment of Charleston is still going on, with unabated activity. A number of shells charged with Greek fire have been thrown into the city producing conflagrations in numerous places.

Report of Changes in Divisions No. 1 and 2.

DIVISION NO. 1.

B. A. VANDERKIEFT, SURGEON IN CHARGE.

Admitted:

Rufus King, 1st Lieut 4th U S Inf Jan 10th
Alphonzo Manzer, Private 1st U S S S Jan 10th
J C Baily, Ass't Surgeon, U S A Jan 12th
L M Hamilton, Lieut 3d U S Inf Jan 13th
G B Hammer, Capt 12th Pa Cav Jan 13th

Returned to Duty:

A T Lee, Major 2d U S I Jan 11th
Levi E Metcalf, Corp Co L 5th U S Art Jan 11th
Alonzo Beelaws, Lieut 14th U S I Jan 11th
John D Heritage, Ass't Surgeon 11th N J Vols Jan 11th
Frederick Vogle, Private Co M 7th Pa Cav Jan 11th
John H Langdon, Sergt Co G 2d Wis Vols Jan 11th
Edwin A Ausin, Private Co C 6th Mich Cav Jan 11th
James M Jones, Private Co B 1st Va Vols Jan 11th
Harrison H Holland, Private 6th Va Bat Jan 11th
Charles Kennedy, 2d Lieut 28th Pa Vols Jan 12th
T H Carpenter, 1st Lieut 17th U S Inf Jan 12th
Charles W Biden, Private Co D 2d Md Cav Jan 9th

On Furlough:

John S Stannard, Corp Co G 14th Conn Vols 15 days
John W Taber, Private Co F 104th N Y Vols 20 days
Geo A Conrad, Private Co D 17th Pa Cav 20 days
Charles Crelin, Private Co C 8th N J Vols 20 days
C N Marfin, Sergt Co F 101st Ohio Vols 25 days
Henry Smith, Private Co K 100th Ohio Vols 20 days
Samuel Bialkey, Private Co K 100th Ohio Vols 20 days

Returned from Furlough:

Joseph Abrams, Private Co C 14th N Y S M Jan 11th
Daniel McKenzie, Private Co G 1st Mass Vols Jan 13th

Returned from Deserion:

D Monk, Private Co C 20th Me Vols Jan 8th

Transferred:

W P Miller, Private 1st Va Cav to U S Gen Hospital, Grafton, Va Jan 12th

Discharged:

J C Marion, Lieut 10th Corps D Afrique Jan 8th
Emory C Turner, 1st Lieut 120th N Y Vols Jan 10th
W H Hill, Capt 110th Pa Vols Jan 10th
William Ebenan, Private Co D 72d N Y Vols Jan 11th
George Swift, Private Co B 100th N Y Vols Jan 12th

Died:

H K Campbell, Private Co C 145th Pa Vols Jan 8th
Henry E Davis, Private Co B 1st N J Art Jan 11th
James Higgins, Private Co A 173d N Y Vols Jan 13th
W H Clark, Private Co G 2d Mich Vols Jan 13th

DIVISION NO. 2.

G. B. PARKER, SURGEON IN CHARGE.

Returned to Duty:

Frank Schick, Private Co E 9th Ohio Vols
Charles Schlier, Private Co G 82d Ill Vols
Hiram Nicoll, Corp Co A 25th Ohio Vols
John E Wilson, Private Co B 2d Md Cav

On Furlough:

Andrew J Tenbrook, Private Co C 137th N Y Vols

Returned from Furlough:

Ass Dilleby, Corp Co A 18th Conn Vols

Transferred:

P H Walters, Private Co D 68th Ind Vols to Indianapolis, Ind
H H Rayburn, Sergt Co C 75th Ind Vols to Indianapolis, Ind
Alphonzo Manzer, Private Co K 1st U S S S to Div 1
Stephen S Sturgeon, Corp Co A 17th U S Inf to Fort Preble, Maine

Deserted:

William Morrow, Private Co F 9th Md Cav

Paroles.

(General Orders, No. 49.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

WASHINGTON, February 28, 1863.

I. The following rules in regard to paroles, established by the common law and usages of war, are published for the information of all concerned:

1. Paroling must always take place by the exchange of signed duplicates of a written document, in which the name and rank of the parties paroled are correctly stated. Any one who intentionally misstates his rank, forfeits the benefit of his parole, and is liable to punishment.
2. None but commissioned officers can give the parole for themselves or their commands, and no inferior officer can give a parole without the authority of his superior, if within reach.

3. No paroling on the battle-field; no paroling of entire bodies of troops after a battle; and no dismissal of large numbers of prisoners, with a general declaration that they are paroled, is permitted, or of any value.

4. An officer who gives a parole for himself or his command on the battle-field is deemed a deserter, and will be punished accordingly.

5. For the officer, the pledging of his parole is an individual act, and no wholesale paroling by an officer, for a number of inferiors in rank, is permitted or valid.

6. No non-commissioned officer or private can give his parole except through an officer. Individual paroles not given through an officer are not only void, but subject the individuals giving them to the punishment of death as deserters. The only admissible exception is where individuals, properly separated from their commands, have suffered long confinement without the possibility of being paroled through an officer.

7. No prisoners of war can be forced by the hostile government to pledge his parole, and any threat or ill-treatment to force the giving of the parole is contrary to the law of war.

8. No prisoner of war can enter into engagements inconsistent with his character and duties as a citizen and a subject of his State. He can only bind himself not to bear arms against his captor for a limited period, or until he is exchanged, and this only with the stipulated or implied consent of his own Government. If the engagement which he makes is not approved by his Government, he is bound to return and surrender himself as a prisoner of war. His own Government cannot at the same time disown his engagement and refuse his return as a prisoner.

9. No one can pledge his parole that he will never bear arms against the Government of his captors, nor that he will not bear arms against any other enemy of his Government not at the time the ally of his captors. Such agreements have reference only to the existing enemy and his existing allies, and to the existing war, and not to future belligerents.

10. While the pledging of the military parole is a voluntary act of the individual, the capturing power is not obliged to grant it nor is the Government of the individual paroled bound to approve or ratify it.

11. Paroles not authorized by the common law of war are not valid till approved by the Government of the individual so pledging his parole.

12. The pledging of any unauthorized military parole is a military offense, punishable under the common law of war.

13. This will be published at the head of every regiment in the service of the United States, and will be officially communicated by every General commanding an army in the field to the commanding general of the opposing forces, and will be hereafter strictly observed and enforced in the armies of the United States.

By order of Major General H. W. Halleck:

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant General.

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