



THE CRUTCH.

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THE CRUTCH,

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For the Crutch.

Death.

Say where, on thy slow pinions tarriest thou,
Oh soft celestial breath,
Sent to my spirit from the Infinite?
I will not call thee death!

On my white couch, all day I wait for thee,
And through the dewy night;
Thou the communion of thee to wing to show
And calm, thy solemn flight?

In velvet fields, I know the lambskins play,
And infant violets peep.
Come swiftly, ere my almost parted heart
Return for these, to weep.

While still and pale I fade from hour to hour.
Eyes, keeping watch like stars,
Make earth so dear that still my spirit rests,
Without the crystal bars!

This lower sky is gloriously fair;
I am not tired of earth!
From other spheres I shall look love to thee,
Land of my mortal birth!

But I have caught a vision of the psalms,
Around the mount of God;
That mystic tree, whose branches show the way,
Which Christ the Saviour trod.

And underneath their boughs, my soul must dwell,
With souls beatified.
'Twas whispered to me, in the holy night
By angels at my side.

Then why, on thy slow pinions tarriest thou,
Oh soft celestial breath,
Sent to my spirit from the Infinite?
I will not call thee Death!

ANONYMOUS.

From the Waverly Magazine. Friendship's Fount.

There is a little nook in every heart,
However hard and cold that heart may be,
Whence gushes forth a little fount of love,
Sacred to friendship and sincerity.

Although the little stream may run neglected
Beneath the leaves and overgrowing grass,
Its very presence may not be suspected
By thirsty friendship-seekers as they pass.

Let but the dark deposits of past winters
Be lifted by a kind and friendly hand,
The fountain bubbles up with ancient vigor,
To bless the friend and beautify the land.

The man that covers up this spring of friendship,
Refuses to give forth its wealth of love;
Lives out his lonely life, unknown, unknowing,
Then finds the fount of blessing closed above.

General Hospitals for Officers.

General Orders, No. 127.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, March 29, 1864.

I. Medical Directors of Departments will establish a General Hospital at some convenient point within their respective Departments for the reception and treatment of sick and wounded officers, but no expenditures for the construction of new Hospitals for this purpose, will be incurred without special authority. They will detail a Surgeon-in-charge, who will make requisitions upon the Medical Purveyor for medicines, hospital stores, furniture, &c., according to the standard Supply Table of the Medical Department, and will hire the nurses, cooks and laundresses required. Hospital Stewards assigned to Officers' General Hospitals will be paid on the regular muster and pay-rolls.

II. On the recommendation of the Medical Director of the Department, a commissioned medical officer will be detailed to act permanently as Treasurer for each Officers' General Hospital, who shall not be removed without sufficient cause. The Treasurer shall have the custody of the funds of the Hospital, and shall perform such duties in relation to collecting, disbursing, and accounting for the same, and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Surgeon General.

III. On the last day of each calendar month, and immediately on leaving the Hospital, by return to duty, furlough, or otherwise, each officer shall pay to the Treasurer, the sum of one dollar for each and every day he has been in the Hospital, and for which he has not already paid as herein provided. When an officer has employed a special attendant, he shall pay thirty cents a day additional for each day such attendant was subsisted in the Hospital. Company officers of volunteers while in such Officers' General Hospital shall be considered as "on detached service without troops," for the purpose of drawing their pay and settling their indebtedness to the Hospital, and may be paid on separate pay accounts instead of on the muster and pay rolls.

IV. When an officer is not provided with money and is unable to obtain it, he will give a certificate of indebtedness, in triplicate, to the Treasurer of the Hospital, in such form as shall be prescribed by the Surgeon General, for the amount due him to the Hospital. The Treasurer shall immediately forward, for stoppage, two copies of the certificates to the Chief Paymaster of the pay district in which the Hospital may be located, retaining the remaining copy for his own reference and security. When an officer is discharged from the Hospital to return to a regiment serving beyond the limits of the pay district in which such Hospital is located, the Treasurer shall forward the certificates of indebtedness which the officer may have given, to the proper Chief Paymaster, if known to him; otherwise, to the Paymaster General, for such reference.

V. The Chief Paymaster of the pay district will immediately cause the certificates of indebtedness to be placed in the hands of the Paymaster of the Hospital, (or of the regiment, should the officer have left the Hospital,) with instructions to stop the amounts on the first payment of the officers by whom the certificates were given. The Paymaster will take the receipt of each officer for the full amount of his pay account, and transmit the deducted sums to the Treasurer of the Hospital to which they are due, who will indorse receipt thereof upon the duplicate certificates in the Paymaster's hands, or furnish duplicate abstracts of receipts signed by him, and embracing in one receipt the names of all the officers on whose accounts the sums have been remitted. The Paymaster will also forward monthly an abstract of certificates thus paid, to the Surgeon General.

VI. Officers of the Subsistence Department will make separate abstracts of the sales to each Officers' General Hospital during each calendar month, and will report the same to the Commissary General of Subsistence in the manner provided by regulations in relation to sales to officers. Payment for stores thus purchased of the Subsistence Department shall be made by the Treasurer monthly, and in cash, when practicable; but when

the Treasurer has not the money on hand sufficient to liquidate the entire indebtedness of the Hospital to the Subsistence Department, he shall give to the Commissary accountable for the stores sold, a certificate of indebtedness, in duplicate, for the amount remaining unpaid, which certificate shall be a valid claim against the Hospital, and be paid from the first moneys received thereafter by the Treasurer, and until paid shall be considered as a sufficient cash voucher to the Commissary for the amount stated therein. When the Treasurer pays this certificate of indebtedness, he shall take the receipt of the Commissary for the amount thus paid him, and shall report his action in this matter to the Commissary General of Subsistence, stating the date and amount of each certificate thus cancelled, the name of the Commissary receiving the money thereof, &c.

VII. Medical Directors of Armies in the field, when necessary, will establish temporary Hospitals in the rear of such armies, to be governed by the following regulations:

Medical Directors of armies and of Departments and Medical Inspectors will frequently inspect Officers' General Hospitals, and, in addition to the usual course of hospital inspection, they will investigate the manner in which the Treasurer performs his duties, and promptly report any neglect on his part to the Surgeon General.

VIII. No officer whose certificate of indebtedness to a Hospital remains unpaid by him shall receive pay without deducting therefrom the amount of this indebtedness and leaving it in the hands of the Paymaster, who shall give him duplicate receipts therefor, one of which the officer shall immediately forward to the Treasurer of the Hospital for which the stoppage is made. A violation of this paragraph will subject the officer so offending to court-martial for disobedience of orders.

IX. When an officer dies in Hospital, the Treasurer shall immediately ascertain the amount of his indebtedness to the Hospital, and prepare an account thereof in triplicate, which shall be certified to be correct by both the Treasurer and the Surgeon-in-charge. One copy of this account shall be retained by the Treasurer, and the remaining two copies be forwarded to the Second Auditor of the Treasury, in order that, upon the final settlement of the officer's accounts, the amount of his indebtedness may be deducted from any pay due him, and remitted to the Treasurer of the Hospital.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Employment of Cavalry not Mounted.

General Orders, No. 174.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, April 22, 1864.

Cavalry organizations which cannot immediately be supplied with horses, will be armed and employed temporarily as infantry. They may be used to guard depots and railroads, or be assigned to infantry brigades in the field. When regiments so assigned are partially mounted, the horses will be transferred to others.

Commanders of Departments and separate armies are authorized to dismount and employ as infantry any cavalry regiment which has been neglectful or wasteful of its horses, or has proved inefficient in the field, and transfer its horses to others.

The proportion of cavalry to be temporarily converted into infantry will not exceed forty per cent of any command, unless it be found that the remaining sixty per cent cannot be kept efficiently mounted.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant General.

A Lieutenant on finding a home-sick soldier solitary and alone, weeping like a big booby boy, said: "What's the matter?" "Oh, I wish I was in my father's barn." "And what would you do there?" "I would go into the house plaguey quick!" said the poor fellow.