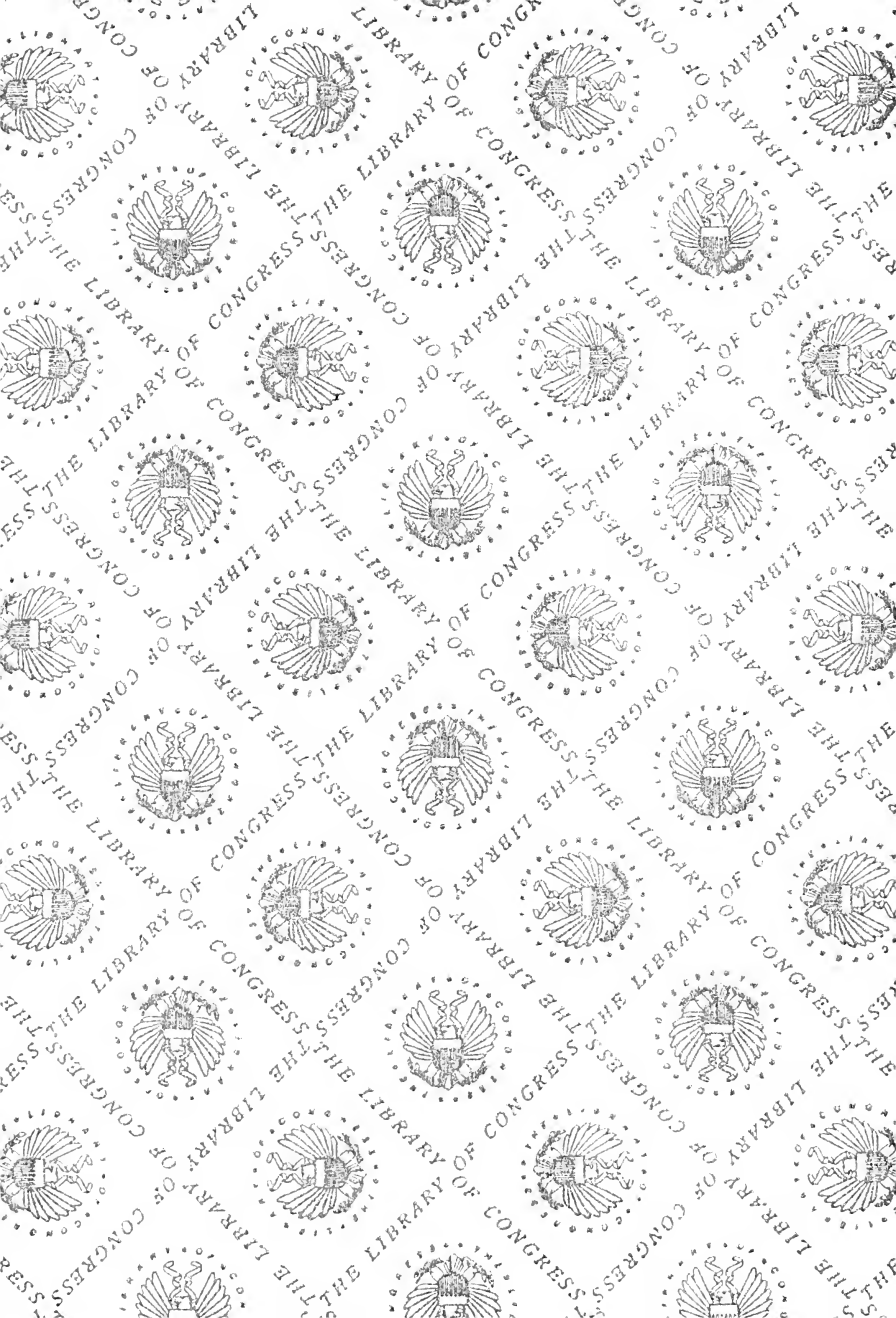
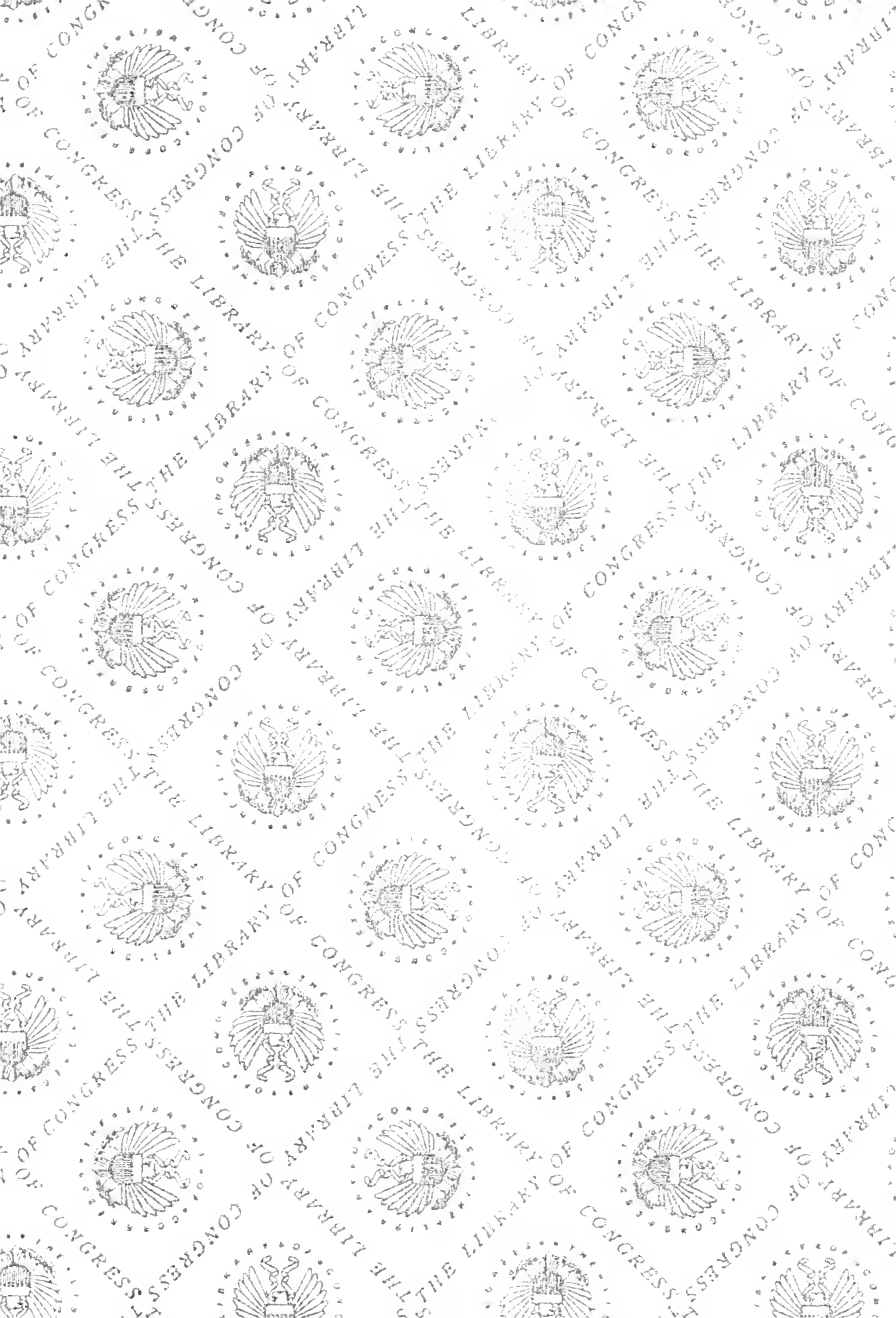


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NEW IPSWICH
IN THE
WAR OF THE REBELLION

What its Men *and* Women Did

BY MRS. L. A. OBEAR

NEW IPSWICH, NEW HAMPSHIRE, JULY 15, 1898

Worcester, Mass.

PRESS OF LUCIUS P. GODDARD
No. 425 MAIN STREET

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

I am indebted to a former resident of New Ipswich, Hon. RODNEY WALLACE of Fitchburg, Mass., for a generous donation toward the publication of the book.

Also to Capt. MICHAEL DONLEY — than whom New Ipswich sent no braver soldier, or truer man — for collecting, largely, the names of the men who “went to the front.” L. A. O.

Introduction.

The War of the Rebellion has become a matter of history. The participants in its scenes who are left to us are growing gray and bent, and as they thread our streets, we notice that their steps are less vigorous than in their prime.

The men and women, no less patriotic and ardent, who did what they could to aid and encourage those who went to the front, are also "in the sere and yellow leaf," and will soon be blown from life's tree, or have already passed on to a "Land of eternal peace."

It is due to each of these classes, that what they did and bore for the Union should go down to their posterity. It is due to their posterity that they should receive such a legacy. That they may do so, this little book has been written.

The author dedicates it to the citizens of the town in which she has had happy citizenship for more than half a century.

MRS. C. H. OBEAR.

The Part New Ipswich took in our Civil War.

Chapter I.

The War of the Rebellion is hastening to take its place beside the War of the Revolution. Before it ceases to exist in the memory of the living, one who was actively engaged in the work of what has been styled "The Home Regiment," would like to rescue from going into oblivion the records of that regiment, detailing its part in the Civil war, from 1861 to its close in 1865.

These records are contained principally in the books and papers of the "Soldiers' Aid Society," and in the daily journal of a private citizen. This citizen, from his earnest sympathy with, and interest in the struggle going on with the slave power in the South, kept especial record of what was being done by New Ipswich in this fight for the perpetuity of the Union of the states, from its beginning to its close. The possession of these two sources of information, together with her own memories of the stormy times, give her courage to devote a winter's leisure hours to a detail of the service of the "Boys in Blue" who went into the war from New Ipswich, and the service rendered by their fathers, brothers, mothers, wives, sisters, and sweethearts, left behind them.

This home service began simultaneously with the recruiting of the company from this, and the neighboring towns of Temple, Rindge, Peterboro, and Sharon, for field service.

Of the men from New Ipswich in this and other companies, I propose to speak later. These first pages I shall devote to recalling the work of "The Soldiers' Aid Society."

Few towns began earlier than New Ipswich or continued more perseveringly till the end of the war, to send such stores as were needed in field, hospital, and camp. The strong anti-slavery sentiment of the town, which had existed for many years, had prepared her people to enter heartily into this conflict with the slave power. Love of the Union and opposition to human bondage combined to make earnest fighters in the field, and earnest workers at home.

Politicians may claim that a difference of opinion in reference to state-rights caused the dissatisfaction in Congress and out, that led to our civil war. Those who look back on the struggle know that back of the discussion of state-rights was the ever growing conviction on the part of the North and West, that they were being forced into complicity with an institution which belied our most solemn protestations of the right of all men to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Few towns in New Hampshire sympathized more keenly in this feeling than New Ipswich. Early in the thirties, she had had her "Emancipation Society;" then, "Anti-slavery," and "Abolition" societies.

On the death of the Whig party in the early '40s, a "Liberty Party" had been organized. The first five men who cast their votes for that party in New Ipswich were prominent anti-slavery men. Among those who were the readiest to give assistance to the women who met weekly to prepare and send supplies to the Sanitary and Christian Commission, they ever stood as walls of strength. Perhaps the names of these five men may be mentioned. They were Esq. John Preston, Nathan Sanders, Clark H. Obear, Wm. W. Johnson, and John P. Clark. The votes and the influence of these men continued till the death of each, to be cast into the party which they believed would best advance universal freedom, whether it was Liberty party, Free-soil, or Republican.

The first mention of our civil war made by Mr. Obear in his journal is made under date of "April 15th, 1861." It reads thus :

“News arrived Saturday that war has really commenced between the North and South, by the southern rebels firing into and taking Fort Sumter. The President has called for 75,000 men. God grant that the call may be fully responded to, and the government carried safely through the perils of rebellion and civil war!”

The next record shows the prompt and loyal readiness with which the faculty and students of Appleton Academy and our citizens responded in patriotic action. Its date is a week after the reception of the news from Sumter,

April 20th.

“Attended a meeting of students of Appleton Academy and citizens, to witness the raising of two flags on the Academy, purchased by the citizens. Bells rung, and cannon fired. The news from the South that civil war has actually begun seems to stir up the old spirit of '76 in old and young.”

The next record—not two weeks later—is dated

May 2nd, 1861.

“Town meeting in afternoon. Voted to raise \$50 each to uniform a company; also to raise \$2000, as it shall be needed, to provide for the families of those who shall enlist in the service of their country; also \$100 to prosecute traitors. A committee of five was appointed to look after them.”

No further mention is made of the war in this journal till October 1861—when the company previously mentioned was enlisted from this and the neighboring towns—except these two.

“Sept. 2nd, 1861. Got home from Amherst at 8 o'clock. Found the village all out with the engines and companies, some thoughtless fellows having rung the town bell, on receiving a false report that Jeff Davis, the President of the rebels, was dead. Engine company pretty mad.”

“Sept. 26th. Fast Day throughout the country, appointed by the President. Meeting at the Congregational Church, and in the evening at the “Chapel.”

As this Chapel is mentioned often in the records of the Soldiers' Aid Society, I will say here, it was a building used by the Congregational Church as a chapel, which was afterward burned. It stood on or near the spot now occupied by the engine-house and selectmen's room.

SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY.

The first record of the Soldiers' Aid Society, we copy :

New Ipswich, Oct. 14th, 1861.

Agreeably to notice, the citizens of New Ipswich met at the Chapel to organize a Soldiers' Aid Society. Hosea Eaton was chosen chairman, and Mrs. E. T. Quimby, clerk. An appeal was read from the U. S. Sanitary Commission to the loyal women of the country, in behalf of our soldiers.

It was then voted to form a Society, and the following persons were appointed to prepare a constitution :

Mrs. Abby M. Cummings,
Mrs. C. H. Obear,
Mrs. E. T. Quimby.

Adjourned to meet Wednesday, Oct. 16th.

"Oct. 16th, 1861. Met according to adjournment. The meeting was called to order by the secretary. Chose Mrs. C. H. Obear president for the evening. The records of the last meeting were read by the secretary, and the report of the committee on preparing Constitution was read, and the Constitution as reported by them was adopted and signed. The following officers were chosen :

Mrs. STEPHEN THAYER, President,
Mrs. EPHRAIM FOX, Mrs. JAMES BENNETT, Vice Presidents,
Mrs. NEWTON BROOKS, Secretary.

"One or more from each of the school districts were chosen as Executive Committee. Another generation may like to read their names :

"Dist. No. 1, Miss Louisa Pratt, Miss Fanny King; No. 2, Mrs. Horace Brown; No. 3, Miss Margaret Pierce; No. 4, Mrs. Dr. Jones, Mrs. John U. Davis, Mrs. George Gibson; No. 5, Mrs. Jonas Nutting, Mrs. Dea. Hildreth; No. 6, Miss Ellen Brown; No. 7, Miss Maria Bagley, Mrs. Dana Locke; No. 8, Mrs. Chas. Walton; No. 9, Mrs. Walton Brooks; No. 11, Mrs. James Spaulding, Mrs. James Eaton; No. 12, Mrs. N. Y. Oliver, Mrs. ——— Wright; No. 13, Mrs. E. A. Barrett.

"Voted to adjourn to meet in one week."

The subsequent meetings of the Society were regular and frequent for the next month. From the records of the secretary we will transcribe only the important items, giving side by side with them, quotations from Mr. Obear's Journal that throw light on the action of the Soldiers' Aid Society and the town, in aid of the Civil War.

"Oct. 24th, 1861. Met at Union Hall. Meeting called to order by the president. Prayer offered by Rev. J. Eaton, Methodist. This meeting

was an informal one to discuss measures to arouse a general interest in the objects of the S. A. Society. The records of the previous week were called for, and the reading of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society.

(Both the secretary and the journal reported a very full attendance.)

“A committee of three, consisting of P. H. Clark, C. H. Obear and E. T. Quimby was chosen to solicit names to the Constitution, and secure the admission fees of those who had already become members of the Society. Meeting adjourned for one week.”

We will here introduce the Constitution and By-Laws of this organization which was so generally enlisting the attention of our citizens, male and female. The enthusiasm kindled by a common cause—resistance to the dissolution of the union between the states of our country, and to the aggressions of the slave-power—broke down the walls of partition between sect and sect, party and party, and it is believed, helped to bind more firmly the union of the 1st and 2nd Congregational churches, which had led a separate existence as churches for several years.

PREAMBLE.

Whereas, our country has become involved in an unhappy war, we, the undersigned, ladies of New Ipswich, feel called upon by our patriotism and love of our free institutions, to unite our efforts to promote the comfort and well-being of the soldiers who have left friends and homes to fight our battles. We do therefore freely form ourselves into a society, to be called the Soldiers' Aid Society.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1st. Any lady may become a member of this society by giving her name to the executive committee or the secretary, and paying ten cents, and gentlemen who pay twenty-five cents will be considered members for one year.

ART. 2nd. The officers of this society shall be a president, two vice presidents, a secretary, treasurer, and an executive committee, to consist of one or more from each school district.

ART. 3d. The duties of the officers shall be such as usually pertain to such offices in similar organizations, together with such special duties as shall hereafter be specified.

ART. 4th. The executive committee shall solicit in their respective districts, members for the society, and collect and deliver to any place the president may designate, such articles as the Sanitary Commission shall

specify, as are needed by our soldiers. They shall also perform such other duties as shall be directed by the president.

ART. 5th. The president, vice presidents, secretary and treasurer, shall constitute a Board of Directors, to purchase material and arrange work for the society.

ART. 6th. The annual meeting of the society shall be held the third Wednesday in October, at which time the officers shall be elected by ballot for the ensuing year.

ART. 7th. There shall be a meeting of the society each week to do such work as will best advance the object we have in view, the time and place of meeting to be decided by the society.

ART. 8th. Each meeting shall be opened by prayer.

ART. 9th. No money shall be paid from the treasury except by written order of the president.

ART. 10th. This constitution may be amended by a vote of two thirds of the members present at any regular meeting, provided the amendment has been proposed and a copy left with the secretary at a previous meeting.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE 1st. Gentlemen not members of the Society shall be required to pay five cents admission to each of its meetings.

ART. 2nd. The president shall be required to prohibit at the meetings of the Society everything which is not directly advancing our object.

ART. 3rd. The secretary shall furnish each of the executive committee with a copy of the constitution and by laws of the Society, and a list of the articles specified by the U. S. Sanitary Commission as needed by our soldiers.

ART. 4th. These by-laws may be amended by a vote of two thirds of the members present at any regular meeting.

It will be seen that the men and women of New Ipswich were thoroughly in earnest in their intention to give what aid they might, time, labor, and money, to encourage the hearts, and strengthen the hands of those who had gone out to help maintain the struggle for the preservation of the Union.

One hundred and nineteen names were attached to the constitution, at the first meeting, and one hundred and forty-five more were soon obtained by the executive committee, and the three gentlemen chosen to supplement their work.

The district committee, going from house to house, met with cordial response from the women and children — fifty, and

twenty-five cents often being given, instead of the prescribed ten, and the men paying fifty cents, a dollar, or even two, as membership fees.

This money was immediately converted into material with which to make the garments, or purchase the comforts, called for by the two Commissions, or by any especial emergency. "Levees," and other forms of social gathering were held from time to time.

The Clark Troupe gave a concert for the society's benefit; and the writer remembers how our hearts were cheered by a donation of money from Esq. John Preston, which he came out of his office to put into the hands of the president, on her way to the Soldiers' Aid meeting.

At the same time, an elderly woman, not gentle, nor refined, presented herself at the Chapel, with a request for yarn to knit, for the soldiers, at home. Having done her errand, she put two dollars into the hand of the president, naming the donor. We were a little surprised, as the name she gave was that of a man who was supposed not to be in sympathy with our work. We were afterward told that Mrs. Nutting, in whose heart burned love of country, and in whose breast was the milk of human kindness, was seen to come out of her house to intercept the man as he passed her house in a wagon. Laying one hand on the wheel of the wagon, and the other on the knee of the man, as he sat, she made rude but eloquent appeal for "the poor boys away from their homes, tired, and hungry and sick, and wounded; while," she added, "your four boys can go to bed safe in their own homes, and by day, help you earn the money I ask you for." She prevailed to the amount she brought us.

During the first years of the Society's work, the members were cheered by the letters of the women at the head of the "New England Women's Auxiliary of the U. S. Sanitary Commission," in Boston. Their work was largely confined to supplies for field-hospitals, government attending to the gen-

eral hospitals. Boston was the centre of supplies sent from New England, and the noble women of Boston were depended on for the information needed to enable the country societies to give intelligent aid.

The letters coming to us from widely known Boston women commending, as they often did, the supplies sent by us (and always promptly acknowledged), as especially judicious and appropriate in their adaptation to the wants of those we were trying to assist, were an inspiration to us.

I will copy one of the letters, selecting it from many, as it came from a descendant of an old New Ipswich family.

Boston, Apr. 29th, 1862.

Madam: I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of a box, containing most valuable and timely contribution to the Sanitary Commission. You will be glad to know that the greater part of the contents will be sent immediately to help furnish the Floating Hospital before Yorktown. I enclose a short account of them, and also one of the latest circulars we have received from Washington.

I am particularly glad that it falls to *my* lot to write this acknowledgment, for these substantial proofs of the good judgment, as well as the patriotic devotion of your Society, make me more than ever proud to consider myself, if not a native, a descendant of New Ipswich.

Very respectfully yours,

F. Appleton, for Ex. Committee.

I find among the papers of the Society, other letters expressive of satisfaction with the contents of boxes and barrels sent, and complimentary to those who had prepared them.

Among these none deserved more praise than the first vice president of the Society, Mrs. Helen M. Fox. Early in the year, Mrs. Stephen Thayer became unable to attend, and Mrs. Fox assumed the duties of president. Indefatigable in her efforts to obtain a knowledge of what was most needed, and through what sources such stores could most immediately and most economically be sent to the front, Mrs. Fox with patriotic ardor and untiring zeal, devoted herself unsparingly to the work of aiding the soldiers.

One overwhelming subject of interest, "How best to serve those who had been called to take arms for the Union," so

pervaded the public mind that personal jealousies and petty animosities were laid aside, and superior ability in any direction, or opportunities for information, were gladly utilized.

During the first six months there would sometimes seem to be rival claims on the resources of the society.

Government was generous, but had yet to learn how to provide for her soldiers. General hospitals were early provided liberally, but there was much unrelieved suffering in field hospitals remote from centers of supplies. To these the United States Sanitary Commission were admitted, and allowed to go on to the battlefields to render assistance, when to wait for it would be fatal.

They established in the cities on the route from the seat of war to their homes, Soldiers' Relief Rooms. Persons appointed to the duty, met at the stations nearest them, the convalescent or worn out "boys in blue," and entertained and supplied their most urgent needs, and bade them God speed on their way to the anxious ones awaiting their coming in their homes.

Our first supplies were sent to the New Hampshire regiments about Washington. The State had an agent there to look after the comfort of her troops especially.

A valuable box was sent to Kansas, in response to an appeal from Mr. Lyman Chandler, in behalf of a field hospital in imperative need. The sympathies of our people had been called to that state during the agitation of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and the attempts of the so-called "border ruffians" to force slavery into the constitution of the new coming state.

Mr. Chandler was a native of New Ipswich, and John Brown of Ossawatimie, was in the minds of the Soldiers' Aid when they voted to respond to this appeal, as well as the needs of the distant hospital, and we sent at what we later found was a heavy freight bill of twenty-six dollars, the only unwise investment of our money. We soon found that the greatest good of the greatest number was subserved, and sup-

plies more economically and expeditiously forwarded through the Sanitary Commission, and later also through the Christian Commission, gotten up by the Young Men's Christian Association of New York City, the headquarters at Philadelphia. This association supplied, in addition to the physical comforts and sanitary aids of the other, religious and secular reading, and through chaplains and others, whose services were given free of charge, rendered essential aid in giving religious instruction, attending the dying, helping them communicate with friends by letters they were unable to write themselves, etc., etc. Some of us recall how one of these chaplains from a neighboring town, Rev. Bancroft Hill, fell at the post of duty in the southwest. Mr. Hill had gone down from the Christian Commission tent to a train which was expected to bring in wounded men. He was run over by a car and his arm taken off. The wounded Christian hero said, raising the remaining arm, "Thank God, I have still one arm left to serve God and my country with!"

Among the letters in the hands of Miss Nancy Chandler, nearly three years secretary and treasurer of the New Ipswich society, I find letters to herself and to Mrs. Quimby, the first secretary, acknowledging the receipt of boxes of articles, received by an agent of the New Hampshire Soldiers' Relief, at Washington, D. C., during the first year of work, and more than one box or barrel sent to the Soldiers' Relief Rooms, established by the Sanitary Commission in Boston; beside those sent through the N. E. Women's Auxiliary of the Commission.

With the women at work in Boston, a constant correspondence was kept up, and the society at New Ipswich responded promptly with the articles which were said to be most needed. For example, a letter would reach us calling for woollens—shirts, drawers, stockings. The letter would read thus:

"While I was in Washington many boxes of articles were received, but they contained few woollens. Not enough to meet the wants of the hospitals in which they were distributed, and the wants of these same hospitals may be greater now than then; for patients as they improve

are sent into convalescent camps, or eastward, as soon as their condition will admit of it, to make way for others from the army who generally come in a destitute condition."

Immediately on the receipt of this letter the officers of the society particularly, and members generally, would begin to devise ways and means. Woven socks, especially those made of woolen yarn, had not come into use. They must be knitted by hand. Notice would be given that yarn would be provided for any who were willing to knit, and from all sides would come the offer to knit. Many, too aged or too feeble to come to the meetings at the chapel or at Union Hall, took yarn to knit at home, and at the meetings of a young people's organization to work for the soldiers, knitting was the regular work.

An incident occurs to me in connection with these cadets. The name they bore was "Cadets' Relief Society." They for a time occupied a part of the chapel, their seats being at right angles with those occupied by the older society. One of the young ladies came to the president's table, and asked information in regard to some socks, intended to be paired, which were *unpaired*—it may be *impaired*—by mistakes in knitting. The president went directly to the seat of the two girls who had the intended pair, and, a little amused by their evident chagrin, she said, "Don't be troubled, girls. No doubt some of these socks will go to poor fellows with only one leg. They will be just as useful for that." The suggestion was taken with, "Oh, you are a jewel, Mrs. Obear."

The sock want supplied, the shirts and drawers must be obtained. But the treasury was depleted. Then the question of *means* must be settled. A social gathering of some kind with admission fee would be arranged. The money obtained, material purchased, and an extra meeting or two, with help from two or three sewing-machines—the only ones in town—would supply the needed garments.

Another letter would say :

"The slippers made of carpeting, with soles of the same, will be very acceptable. They are much used in the hospitals."

Straightway numbers of housekeepers might be seen hunting drawers, boxes, and bundles for bits of carpeting. The intimations that our brave boys, fighting for the Union, could be served, had reached them, and they were ever ready to respond to even an intimation of that character. The slippers would be forwarded.

The directors held many meetings for the preparation of work, besides the regular meetings of the society, and work was often taken home by members, when needs were urgent at the front.

At the end of the first year, the secretary made the following report :

Oct. 16th, 1862. Meeting called to order by the president. Opened with prayer by Mrs. Sanderson. Proceeded to choose officers for the ensuing year. The following were chosen :

President, Mrs. C. H. OBEAR.

Vice Presidents, Mrs. LOOMIS, Miss LOUISA PRATT.

Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Dr. EMERSON.

District executive committee for No. 1: Mrs. Chas. Chickering, Mrs. Caroline Sanders, Miss Elmira Sanders.

The other districts need not be named. The treasurer's report of the year's work was as follows :

Oct. 16th 1862. The Soldiers' Aid has numbered the last year 112 gentlemen and 189 ladies, making in all 301 members. The Society has met 45 times, and has sent to relieve the wants of our soldiers the following articles :

44 bedquilts,	40 caps,
8 flannel blankets,	6 bed sacks,
220 handkerchiefs,	12 pairs of gloves,
30 pairs of drawers,	1 linen coat,
7 dressing gowns,	84 small bags tea,
282 towels,	8 boxes of lint,
47 pillows,	4 cans of blueberries,
110 sheets,	5 bottles of wine,
109 pillow-sacks,	20 coats,
134 pairs of woolen socks,	6 vests,
20 pairs of cotton socks,	14 pairs pants,
8 cushions,	3 cravats,
3 bed-gowns,	12 patent leather needle-cases.
11 pairs slippers,	23 thread cases,
13 pairs mittens,	90 cotton shirts,
6 mattress covers,	bandages, papers,
12 flannel shirts,	pamphlets, tin-wares, etc.

It will be borne in mind that this was not in days of sewing-machines, for these, introduced about 1845, had not come into general use, so that the work required for these various articles was almost wholly done by hand.

Ready-made garments, and woven or machine-knit socks were not on sale, even if the society had had funds for their purchase. Woolen goods had to be bought at high prices, and cotton material was yet higher.

The meetings of the Society had only been suspended for about six weeks, during the extreme bad traveling of February and March. Previous to this adjournment, provision was made that notice should be given to the president, if any officer should become acquainted with facts that should seem to call for an immediate renewal of labor; and public notice thereof be given to call the Society together at the usual place of meeting, should exigences seem to demand it.

The second-hand clothing was donated by citizens for the use of the men sufficiently recovered from illness or wounds to wear such garments, but not yet ready to resume their uniforms and place in their respective companies. The little bags of tea were sent for the men on the march. Laid on the tongue in small quantities, it relieved extreme thirst.

The country was unused to war. It had burst upon us suddenly, and without expectation. During the first months of this year, lint from linen cloth must be *scraped* with a knife. Bandages were called for rolled evenly and hard for the use of the surgeons. Various lengths and widths were prescribed; the length pencilled on the roll. Attics were ransacked for rags, put away for sickness by old-fashioned and thrifty housewives. These treasures, contained in boxes, bags, and bundles, were seized as almost priceless things, especially if they were linen. Were they not treasures, when they might stanch the flowing blood, and heal the bleeding wounds of those who were fighting our country's battles?

Children caught enthusiasm from their elders, and joined in the work of preparing lint and bandages. I recall a scene witnessed one day just after the battle of Fredericksburg. From the garret of an old house, week after week, had been brought out stores of pieces, laid by by a housekeeper of another generation. On this bright autumn day, an old champagne basket had been discovered packed with linen pieces and old linen garments, worn, no doubt, before cotton-gins had been invented or cotton machinery put in use so as to make cotton supersede linen—perhaps worn by one who had gone through the War of the Revolution.

An urgent call had been sent out for lint to use in the hospitals, whose patients had been largely increased by the late battles. This was before manufactured lint had been imported by government, and no way had been provided to prepare it except by scraping with a knife. These rolls of worn linen were given out in suitable scraps to some school children in the neighborhood, to be converted into lint.

Passing a grape-vine arbor and hearing voices within, a pause was made for observation through the leafy screen. Seated on chairs, boxes, and crickets, were six or eight boys and girls, none of them over ten, bending each over his knee, on which was a piece of linen cloth, and vigorously plying a jack-knife, a case-knife, or an apple knife. As they assiduously scraped the lint, they were singing with apparent gusto,

“ We'll hang Jeff Davis on a sour apple tree,
 We'll hang Jeff Davis on a sour apple tree,
 We'll hang Jeff Davis on a sour apple tree,
 As we go marching on.”

And as the voices joined in a lusty chorus of,

Glory, glory, hallelujah! etc.,

the boys sprang to their feet, and brandished their knives like a parcel of young Mohawks, thus giving vent to their patriotic inclinations, and obtaining relief from the cramped position in which their employment had left them.

At the chapel, the young men who were attending the academy, and others, spent the evenings of the Soldiers' Aid in the same employment, at the expense of whitening the knees of their best pants. No doubt the young ladies whom they escorted home, considered these whitened knees an honorable badge of distinction.

Alas! some of these brave boys were ere long to lie stark on the battle-fields of the South-land, or sigh for freedom in Libby or Andersonville, or suffer with awful wounds in camps and hospitals!

John Worcester of Hollis, attaining to the office of lieutenant, a leg shot off, and bleeding to death, after the fight at Fort Wagner; Lindsay of Laconia, Braman Wilson of ———, Payson Locke, and Abner Craigin of New Ipswich; the former to return from a southern prison to die as a consequence of its deprivations; the latter, wounded at Gettysburg, lying in a drenching rain, from the 3d to the 4th of July, '63. Under arms without respite seventeen days in "the Wilderness." Wounded in the thigh at Bethesda Church, June 3d, '64, but able to proceed with his regiment. That night, resting behind breastworks, his head on his knapsack, the shot of a rebel sharpshooter finished his life. "No man knoweth the place of his burial to this day."

We cannot name them all, but Appleton Academy was nobly represented in the New England regiments, and he who during the war stood at the head of Appleton was ready to do any and all service in the "Home Regiment," and later spent a part or the whole of two summer vacations in the Christian Commission service at Murfreesboro, Tenn., and in Alabama.

Chapter II.

EFFORTS OUTSIDE OF THE SOLDIERS' AID.

Scarcely had the guns fired at Sumter ceased to reverberate among the New Ipswich hills, before her sons began to respond by enlistment to the call of government for volunteers. The earliest action of the town has been quoted from Mr. Obear's journal.

The town continued to offer inducements to enlist. Following the notices copied from the journal up to the date of the formation of the ladies' society are notices of events connected with a company ready to go into the war under the command of Capt. Jonas Nutting—captain of militia, 1st lieutenant at the front. Men had been enlisting in this company during the summer and autumn months from the neighboring towns of Peterborough, Rindge, Temple, and Sharon.

Captain Nutting, in the midst of obstacles, one of which was having become of an age beyond what was allowed to enter the military service, showed a zeal and pluck—if it may be so called—that inspired the confidence of our young men, and the company was ready to go into camp to await orders in November 1861.

Our middle-aged men, then boys, will recall the days when Captain Nutting would come into town and drill his soldiers on the meeting-house common, or march them through the streets. Thoughtful men and women looked upon these husbands, sons, and brothers, with other feelings than those with which they had looked on the muster fields on which were

enacted mimic battles. These men were equipped for real service in defense of a principle — the “preservation of the Union.”

One afternoon’s drill is especially recalled. The company was parading in front of the church. Stephen Sylvester and Moses Wilkins were the fifer and drummer. The church steps were occupied by interested lookers on. One aged man stood leaning against one of the stone posts that partly enclose the church at the front; others scattered about watching the maneuvering of the company. The ever observant Peter Clark was watching the old white-haired man leaning against the post. He noted the fire that came into his eye, the straightening of the figure, the foot vigorously beating time, and taking the fife from Mr. Sylvester’s hand with a brief explanation, he approached the aged man, and putting it in his hand, said, “*Play*, Uncle Jo, as you used to on the muster field, when you were a boy!”

Then the drummer’s eye, no longer young, kindled anew above his flowing beard, and there followed such rendering of “Yankee Doodle,” “Moll Brooks has gone to the army,” and the “White Coekade,” as none of the present generation had ever heard from fife and drum. The drum-sticks were thrown into air and caught again without the loss of a beat. The fife sent out notes that were indeed music, and drummer and fifer forgot apparently that they were not vieing with other drummers and fifers on the scenes where war was wont to be played in their youth, and the old thrill of the “Great Training Day,” was in their aged hearts again.

For a time they played, till Mr. Clark, with his customary thoughtfulness, saw that Mr. Craigin was getting weary, and took the fife and returned it to Mr. Sylvester. The spectators had given little heed to the evolutions that were going on under the spirited playing, as they watched the aged musicians. Colonels, lieut-colonels, and captains of the “Old Militia” found themselves again playing part on the muster fields of

their youth, whose distinctions and honors were so highly prized during the first fifty years following the War of the Revolution.

The New Ipswich men who enlisted under Captain Nutting were Jonas Nutting, David Le Roy, John Pike, Albert A. Davis, William B. Frizzel, James Garland, Paul Greenleaf, Charles H. Hull, James H. Marvin, Jonathan N. Mansfield, William E. Mansur, Patrick Ready, William Simonds, George Smith, James Simpson, Benson Gates.

These names are all obtained from a "History of the New Hampshire Sixth, Co. K." This regiment was divided, a part with Gen. Burnside acting on the coast from Roanoke Island to Georgia. The other division was sent out into Ohio and Kentucky, but was among the troops who in '64 engaged in many a fight around Petersburg and Richmond under Grant. Captain Nutting was discharged in 1862.

I have before me a copy of the oath to which these soldiers put their names, when they enlisted. It is the paper bearing the signature of Charles S. Nutting, one of the four sons of Captain Nutting, who went into the Union army in the early days of the war. I transcribe this paper.

State of New Hampshire.

I, Charles S. Nutting, do solemnly swear and affirm that I will bear true allegiance to the State of New Hampshire and to the United States of America; and that I will serve honestly and faithfully against all their enemies and opposers, whomsoever; and observe and obey the orders of the Governor of this State, and of the President of the United States; and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to the rules and articles for the government of the armies of the United States.

(Signed), CHARLES S. NUTTING.

State of New Hampshire,
Hillsborough, ss.

On this twenty-ninth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, the said Charles S. Nutting took and subscribed to the above oath.

Before me,

FRANK W. PRESTON, Justice of the Peace.

Chapter III.

During the year's work of the society formed in aid of soldiers, which we have reviewed in our first chapter, the following records of the war and the part New Ipswich took in it, are found in Mr. Obear's journal.

Oct. 31st, 1861. Attended town meeting in the p. m., called to raise funds for the families of enlisted soldiers. Voted to pay each family \$12 per month.

Nov. 14th, 1861. Attended soldiers' meeting under the Congregational church. John A. Rollins of Concord addressed the meeting. The enlisted soldiers of Peterborough, New Ipswich, and Rindge, were treated by our citizens to a turkey supper. There were about 100 of them. They expect to go into camp at Keene in a few days.

Nov. 20th. Soldiers' Aid Society in the evening.

Nov. 24th. Mr. Cutler—Rev. Calvin Cutler—addressed the soldiers yesterday—Sunday afternoon.

Mr. C. had become the pastor of the united 1st and 2nd Congregational churches of the town the March before the breaking out of the war. He was solid rather than brilliant, yet when stirred by patriotic or other deep emotion, capable of fervid and thrilling eloquence, we can imagine what the address of the young pastor may have been on this occasion. The next entry of the journal bears date

Feb. 7th, 1862. Attended funeral of Francis Nutting, son of Ezekiel N. He died of measles at Annapolis, Maryland, where he was left when on his way to Washington with the 6th N. H. regiment. His age was 16. He was buried "under arms." Two from the same company, who died from the same cause, were buried at Rindge.

Feb. 12th, 1862. Attended Sol. Aid with wife. Only twelve present. Voted to adjourn till traveling improved, unless some emergency should occur.

Feb. 22nd, 1862. We went to Academy Hall to a celebration of Washington's birthday. Washington's Farewell Address was read, and the Declaration of Independence. Speeches by Esq. Preston, Hosea Eaton, Wm. D. Locke, and C. H. Obear; music and singing by the Clark Troupe.

April 21st, 1862. Attended the funeral of Mrs. Jonas Nutting. She has been sick about three weeks. Her husband, Captain Nutting, and three sons are still in the army, Charles, the fourth, having died in the hospital at Fortress Munroe, several weeks since.

Returning from the Soldiers' Aid Society one afternoon, a friend in the carriage with Mrs. N. made some remark about the discouraging aspect of the war. It was at a time when all the war news—so anxiously waited for, and read aloud at the Post Office, where old and young waited for the New York Tribune, or the Boston Herald or Journal—was, "All quiet along the Potomac." She replied in a voice betraying deep feeling, "This curse of slavery has got to be wiped off the soil before the war will close." "But *you* seem to be bearing a heavy part in the cause, Mrs. Nutting." "Somebody's boys had got to go. It might as well be mine, as another mother's."

The intelligence of their son Charles' death came during her illness. She was not informed of it.

We extract from her obituary notice: "With a patriotism which would not have shamed a mother of the Revolution, and a cheerful, hopeful courage few could imitate, Mrs. Nutting gave her husband and four sons to fight their country's battles; and to the last, no regretful word passed her lips that this sacrifice had been made.

Again the journal:

May 7th, 1862. The funeral of Charles Nutting was attended at the church at two o'clock. There was a large attendance. The two Fire Companies were out in uniform (he was a member of the Mill Village Company). Captain Nutting arrived home from Roanoke Island with the remains of his son, on Monday. An original hymn was sung by the choir to the tune of America.

The opening stanza read:

They bring us from afar,
 Where rolls the tide of war,
 Our young and brave,
 They who with drum and fife
 Marched forward to the strife,
 In manhood's strength and life,
 Robed for the grave. L. A. O.

As was said in one of the papers sustained by the Academy students, when the news of the death of John Worcester reached his fellow students,

“ Another costly sacrifice
 Is on the altar laid ;
 Another portion of the price
 Of Liberty is paid.
 Another eye has lost its fire,
 Another cheek its bloom.
 Another home on northern hills
 Is wrapped in sorrow’s gloom.
 Alas ! the southern soil is red
 With blood of Northmen slain !
 Our young and brave go proudly forth,
 But ne’er return again.”

L. A. G.

The age of Charles Nutting was 23.

I copy again from the journal :

June 9th, 1862. My wife and sister went with horse to south part of town to solicit supplies for soldiers. Several other ladies who could command teams went to other parts of the town on the same errand. Asked particularly for pillows, worn sheets for bandages, linen for lint, etc.

Aug. 12th, 1862. Town meeting in p. m. Voted unanimously to pay those who should enlist for three years \$100, to those enlisting for nine months \$50 each.

Oct. 26th, 1862. The funeral of William Mansur was attended, afternoon, after the usual service. He was mortally wounded in battle at Bull Run.

The principal events of the town, connected with the war, have now been detailed up to the time of the first annual meeting of the Soldiers’ Aid Society. That Society, having again chosen its officers, and gathered in through its new executors from each school district, the membership fees, started anew in its work.

DRIED APPLES.

The hospitals at Washington and elsewhere were filled with wounded and sick men from the battle-fields of Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, etc. Scurvy was prevalent, for which fruits and vegetables were an antidote. The canning of these had only begun, and that in tin cans, and often a failure. The Society had learned that dried apples were in demand. It set to work to provide them.

This second year of its existence was commenced with apple-bees. The audience-room of the Congregational Church had been, some years before, removed from the ground floor, leaving a large unfurnished room—unless the unremoved square pews all around its three sides could be called furniture—and the two furnaces which heated, or rather partially warmed the new room above. This was the field of action.

The new secretary's first report recorded :

Wednesday, Oct. 22d, 1 o'clock p. m. Soldiers' Aid met in the basement of the church, according to appointment. Listened to the annual report of secretary and treasurer. Prepared about 100 bushels of apples for drying.

This in brief is the report of the secretary as recorded in the book. Memory and the journal supply a fuller account.

An appeal had been made from the pulpit the previous Sabbath to all orchardists to send apples to the church. E. T. Quimby and others procured of Mr. Sanders, the tinman, a large number of cutters to quarter the apples expeditiously, and long wire needles with large drilled eyes, to receive the cord on which to string the apples.

The long table running across the whole length of the room, consisting of boards resting on barrels, was put in readiness, with its balls of wrapping twine, and baskets of "quarterers," and wire needles at the upper end. The paneled doors of the old square pews were unhinged or wrenched off, that the pews might, for the time, be converted into apple-bins. This was to be the scene of the evening's achievement.

All the afternoon, as the ladies of the Society worked in the upper vestibule, teams were coming with their small or large gratuitous contributions of apples of unusual excellence. So called "railroading" and "spalt" had not at that day made their appearance.

The ladies adjourned their afternoon meeting, feeling that all things were in readiness for a successful evening's campaign, if there should be a full attendance. An early hour had been named, and promptly the workers came. Apple-parers had not come into general use. (Alas! they have nearly passed away with the incoming of the deterioration of our fruit!) But a goodly number of men came armed with these implements, and Mr. Quimby, who fastened his to the upper end of the table, detailed a party of his students to bring the baskets of apples from their temporary bins.

There were a hundred workers present. It was a busy scene. The officers of the society, at the head of the table, stood ready to "give out" the work. Eager young people crowded to the spot to obtain "quarterers" or knives to "trim." Others asked for the twine being measured off in equal lengths, and the wire needles. Then taking the apples as fast as they fell from the apple-parers, a group here and another there triumphantly sent one of their number to swell the growing piles, ready to be hung up to dry.

Sober talk of the war, laughter and jesting, strife to see whose parer could do most work, and calls for more apples or applications for more strings, made a noisy but cheerful hum. Children's voices mixed with the rest. On boards laid across the pews these sat "Turk fashion," their young fingers stringing the sections of apples, their young hearts learning the pleasure of doing kindly deeds for others, their young souls training to serve their country and its defenders.

This apple-bee was Oct. 22d, 1862. The next evening this was the entry in the journal :

Oct. 23d. Putting up nails to hang apples.

The next :

Oct. 24th. My horse and wagon went to Preston's mill to get slabs to dry apples for the hospitals.

In addition to his generous donation of fruit, Esq. Preston offered to give the fuel to keep fires in the furnaces at church, to dry the fruit so liberally bestowed by various citizens besides himself. Other citizens drew the fuel from the mill, free of charge.

There was another busy scene the next day in driving nails into the floor-joists, still unceiled, of the large basement room where the apples had been prepared, and men and women hanging the festoons of apples from them. Fires were kept for several days, and the result of this and other "bees" was 700 lbs. of dried apple. The secretary's book reports another meeting of the society at the church, Nov. 6th, at which meeting thirty bushels were prepared for drying, and another meeting the evening of the 9th November, with thirty more bushels.

Afternoon of Dec. 3d. Soldiers' Aid met at the church. Got apples ready for packing. Voted that the meetings this winter be alternately held afternoon and evening; the afternoon meetings to commence at 1:30, the evening at 6:00 o'clock.

Woolen shirts and under-drawers and socks occupied the hands of those who met for the next meetings for several weeks, with the addition of hospital slippers, and at the Academy hall an afternoon spent in quilting.

Jan. 12th, 1863. The society sent to-day to Hon. L. D. Mason, for the relief of N. H. soldiers, a barrel containing about 20 lbs. dried apples, 23 pairs of socks, 2 pairs flannel drawers, 12 flannel shirts, 9 napkins, 1 quilt, 1 blanket, 1 sheet, 2 cushions, and a lot of books and papers.

This box was sent especially to soldiers from N. H. regiments, in response to a report made by the agent sent by the governor of New Hampshire to inquire of the needs of N. H. soldiers in the hospitals at Washington.

Chapter IV.

For the next two or three months the Soldiers' Aid Society and the Cadet Relief Association held their regular meetings, sometimes at private houses, at Academy hall, and at Smith Village engine house. Apples were sent; socks, flannel shirts, hospital slippers, dressing-gowns and quilts were being constantly made.

Social gatherings were held a few times to increase funds. At these the Clarks sang, and the best speakers of the town—and long training at our Academy had qualified our most intelligent men to make effective speeches—intensified the patriotism of the citizens.

Mr. Obear's journal records:

Jan. 26th, 1863. Gathering at Academy Hall in aid of our soldiers—C. H. Obear, toastmaster. In response to sentiments, Rev'ds Eaton and Cutler, Hosea Eaton, E. T. Quimby, Dr. Marshall of Greenville, and Esq. John Preston spoke, the Clark Troupe sung. Net proceeds, one hundred dollars.

In his customary "remarks" at the end of the month, Mr. O. adds:

Almost every kind of merchandise is on the advance. Cotton sheeting, 40 cts., common calico, 25 cts., de lains, 30 cts., sugar 14 cts. per lb., coffee 35 to 40 cts., flour 10 dollars, gold \$1.60.

The journal has this recorded,

Feb. 14th, 1863. Met at Hosea Eaton's and with twelve other republicans, formed a Union League for the protection of the Union.

April 26th, 1863. Attended prayer meeting for the country.

May 12th, 1863. Mr. John Pike, drummer in N. H. sixth regiment, buried with funeral honors. Died in Virginia.

June 24th, 1863. The funeral of Allan A. Nutting was attended at the Congregational Church. About 450 present. He was mortally wounded on the Rappahanock, June 9th. He had been in the service from the first, and had been in many hard-fought battles.

Allen A. Nutting was the youngest of the four sons of Capt. Jonas Nutting, who had enlisted at the beginning of the war, 1861. He was absent from his home at the time of his enlistment in a Massachusetts regiment. His parents, when they became acquainted with the fact of his enlistment, were surprised on account of his youth. Mrs. Nutting said, "We will not let him go without our blessing," and they visited and took leave of their young soldier boy—only eighteen years old—after he had gone into camp at Camp Andrew. On parting, his mother presented Allen with a pocket Testament with his name and her own, with residence. This testament was the means of his identification.

As has been said, he had fought in many battles, had been appointed corporal in Nov. 1862, and sergeant in May 1863, just before his fatal wound. June 9th he received a mortal wound, and being carried into a hospital he died the 10th. In his vest pocket was found the Testament, his mother's last gift, which had been struck by a ball. A letter came to our post office directed to "Mrs. Lucy Nutting, mother of corporal Nutting, New Ipswich, N. H." The young soldier had been unable to give his name or family. The testament revealed them.

He was brought home to be laid where the winds that fanned his brow in boyhood might whisper among the trees, and in the grasses above his grave. At the church a thoughtful, sympathetic crowd paused as they entered the large vestibule, to look upon all that remained of this boy who had so worthily worn the "blue." The flag he had died defending was draped around the casket. On the top lay a cross of white flowers, the marred testament, and his picture. Beneath them the plate that read, "Allen A. Nutting, aged 20 years, 8 months."

In the audience room above, the young pastor with quivering lips spoke to a tearful audience, and the choir sung to

“Pleyel’s Hymn” verses written for the occasion. Hymns suitable for the burial of a soldier were absent from our hymnals, and from the hearts of members of the Soldiers’ Aid they burst forth. We subjoin this one :

Rest thee, soldier, nevermore
 Waked by tramp of coming foes !
 Loved ones on the other shore,
 Beckon thee to long repose.

Folded in thy country’s flag,
 We have laid thee down to rest,
 With thy mother’s latest gift
 Laid above thy pulseless breast.

Rest thee, soldier, troubled dreams,
 Or noise of battle’s rude alarms,
 Will break no more thy peaceful sleep,
 Nor bugle notes, that call to arms.

Soldier, when thy country called,
 Thou didst bravely join the strife,
 For the Union that we love,
 Laying down thy glad young life.

Rest thee, soldier, in our hearts,
 When the coming years are fled,
 Thou shalt have abiding place
 With our country’s honored dead.

L. A. O.

During the spring months the two societies for aid of soldiers, continued in active operation. The older society notes, under date of

April 1st, 1863. Sent to relief of soldiers through the Auxiliary at Boston, a box containing 6 bed-quilts, 4 small and 1 large pillow, 1 sheet, 8 pillow-cases, 3 handkerchiefs, 6 towels, one box of lint and bandages, 2 flannel shirts, 13 pairs of slippers, 36 pairs of socks, and 3 dressing-gowns.

It is not surprising that this general interest and enthusiasm sometimes broke into action unwisely or unlawfully; but the occasions when they did so were very infrequent, and though the Union League had frequent meetings, and the very few

in the town whose sympathies were with the South were under close surveillance, the right to personal opinions was respected if not obnoxiously proclaimed.

The students of the Academy and others would come to the window of the town bell-ringer and urge to have the key to the church, that they might get in and send out a joyful peal over the rumored death of Jeff Davis or the surrender of a southern general. They would be persuaded to wait till the report should be confirmed by the morning's papers, and *generally* were so persuaded.

On one occasion several men whose ages, some of them, would hardly give their indiscretion the plea of the natural want of thought and hastiness of youth, heard of traitorous words from one they called in the significant language of the times, a "Copperhead," living near the Temple line. Late in the evening they proceeded—from forty to fifty of them—to the house of the man who had made himself obnoxious, and made some demonstration that aroused the wife, who raised the window and demanded what they wanted.

When they answered "that her husband should come out and drink Abraham Lincoln's health with them in his new cider," she replied, "Mr. B. is an awful sot man, I don't believe you'll ever git him to *du* it." I do not remember the sequel, but one is reminded of Mrs. Grant's reply when asked if she thought her husband would take Richmond. "Mr. Grant is a pretty *set* man, he won't be likely to give up till he *does* take it."

COMFORT BAGS.

1863, May 9th, Prof. ^CT. Quimby notified the president of the society that he had decided to spend his summer vacation in aiding the army, as a delegate of the Christian Commission. Mr. Quimby said he should be glad to take with him anything the Soldiers' Aid Society should send. He suggested the getting ready of some "comfort bags" for the personal conven-

ience of soldiers in camps and convalescent hospitals. A few individuals had already sent these bags to especial soldiers. They were made of any pretty and strong fabric; were about nine inches long and six wide when finished. In them were put a double fold of thick cloth, holding six No. 2 needles; flat pasteboard cards, on which were wound black linen and white cotton thread; a dozen shirt and pant buttons; yarn, pins; rolls of bandages for slight wounds or cuts; a piece of ginger-root; a half pencil; three or four envelopes; the same number of small sheets of paper; a Christian Commission leaflet, and, if possible, a letter written to the soldier who should receive the bag.

Measures were immediately taken to procure as many of these bags as possible in the eight or ten days remaining before Mr. Quimby's departure. The day following Mr. Quimby's interview with the president of the society, notice was given in Sabbath-school (during the larger part of these four years there was but one church and Sabbath-school). The noon between the two services then held in all churches was spent in securing the immediate making of bags to be filled by the Soldiers' Aid Society.

Monday the schools of the town were notified that children or families who desired to aid the work could send or bring to the chapel on Wednesday afternoon any bags they might contribute to be packed with those of the society.

It was a busy week for the women and children of the town. Sewing machines—the three or four in the village—were put into use for the common cause; and all kinds of pretty pieces which had not been given for quilts were sent to Mrs. J. U. Davis, Mrs. Barrett and Mrs. Wright and others, to be converted into bags for the society.

The stores of the town were not sufficient for the demand for No. 2 needles, pencils, ginger-root, etc. Fitchburg was called upon for these, and pant buttons.

Wednesday the school children came to the chapel in troops,

notwithstanding the rain, with their contributions. To many of their bags had been added a little cake of soap, a bag of tea, a tiny box of salve, a needle-book instead of the square of thick cloth, etc.

The number of workers at the chapel being too small to fill the bags from the supplies made ready from the funds of the Soldiers' Aid Society, when the meeting adjourned, it was voted to resume work on Saturday at the chapel.

Saturday, May 16th.

The Soldiers' Aid Society met in the chapel according to appointment. Received a large number of comfort bags. Also filled many more for those who could not conveniently do it at home, but were willing to pay for them. Packed the bags together with other articles to go to the Christian Commission.

NANCY CHANDLER,

Secretary of S. A. Society.

Arrangements were made to forward our stores to Mr. Quimby the 20th, he having been obliged to leave Monday the 18th. On that day Mr. Obear writes :

My wife has spent all her leisure time for a week in filling comfort bags, and especially in writing letters to put into them, for Mr. Quimby to distribute in Rosecrans' division of the army in Tennessee.

May 18th. Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. J. U. Davis, Mrs. Col. Gibson, Mrs. Dana Locke and Mrs. Cutler here in afternoon, putting up the things for Mr. Quimby.

In this old house were found many packages of a well known application for burns and sores. These, having been donated by the owner, were cut into inch lengths and added to the bags filled that day. If the cook found slow progress from her pantry to the kitchen next morning, it was attributed to the bits of "Hardy's Plaster," which in cutting for the bags had been distributed over the floor, and proved a sticking plaster for shoe soles. Again from the secretary's book :

Tuesday p. m., May 19th, 1863.

The Soldiers' Aid Society met at the chapel. Received many more comfort bags. Finished packing the boxes for the Christian Commission. The boxes contained 280 comfort bags, 36 pairs socks, 2 large bundles of lint, 2 cotton sheets, 2 handkerchiefs, 31 bottles of blackberry-cordial and

wine, jellies, pickles, etc., and a large lot of pamphlets and papers. Of these articles, the sheets, handkerchiefs and lint, 10 pairs of socks, and 10 bottles of wine and jelly, were contributed by the ladies of Temple, and 8 pairs of socks by the Cadets' Relief.

Owing to Miss Chandler's absence from town, and other causes, the next ten meetings are not recorded in full.

Of the comfort bags sent through Mr. Quimby, we got a report through the replies to letters which they contained, and from Mr. Q. himself. That they were appreciated by the army, aside from their intrinsic value, there is abundant evidence. Prof. Quimby gave a report of his work with the Commission in Tennessee, at the church, Sept. 6th, at five o'clock p. m. 300 persons were present.

He described the eagerness with which the soldiers who came to the Christian Commission tent, seized these tokens of the thoughtfulness of the members of the homes they had left behind them. They would go away from the tent opening them, and he who found no letter in his would come running back to ask that it "might be exchanged for one that contained a letter." In less than ten days after they were distributed, there came to New Ipswich post office seventy-five letters which bore the post-mark "Nashville, Tennessee."

From several of these I take extracts. In writing to the unknown recipient of the bag, the writer would often give the name of Mrs. So-and-so, of the elderly women who had knit socks of the society's yarn. The replies from the army gave them great delight, and quickened their enthusiasm in the cause.

Chapter V.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS FROM THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

Murfreesboro, Tenn., July 10th, 1863.

Dear Madam:

I was at the Christian Commission store this morning. They were issuing those comfort bags, of which I received one filled with various articles which are very useful to the soldier, and which came very handy to me.

I feel truly thankful that we have friends in the north. We have numerous enemies in our front, and considerable of a foe in our rear (in the way of Copperheads), which is worse than the enemy in front, but I hope your state is free from all such enemies; my state (Ohio) is full of them. In the little bag which I received, I found among numerous other articles a written epistle, which I read with delight. Although I am not a professor of religion myself, I was raised by pious parents who died in the faith of Jesus. My mother died when I was a small child—19 years ago—but I can call to mind her kind admonitions, as if 't were yesterday. My father lived to see all his children raised to man- and woman-hood, and died two years ago, after I entered the service of my country. I have been in the service ever since the rebellion broke out, and have underwent many hardships, privations, and hairbreadth escapes, and I know it was through the mercy of God that I was spared to live through.

Madam, if you feel disposed to write, I would like to hear from you when you get this, for it is a few letters we get in this army, as nearly all my relatives are in their graves.

I have but two brothers and one sister living, and am living in single blessedness. I do not know whether you are married or single, but be that as it may, I should be glad to hear from you, and think letters are the life of the soldier. I will give you my address, and if you can find time to drop me a few lines, I should be much comforted.

Direct to Murfreesboro, Tennessee; John T. Ratcliff, care of Capt. Osgood, Co. E, 40th Ohio regiment (to follow the regiment).

With these few remarks I will close, wishing you all the happiness in the world, for it is little that I see.

Yours with respect,

To Miss L. A. Obear.

J. T. RATCLIFF.

Camp near Murfreesboro, Tenn., July 10th, 1863.

Mrs. Obear:

I think it my duty as a soldier to write a few lines in return to those received from you. I am happy to think we haf frends in difernt Parts of hour country an ones that takes such an intrest in the soldier's wellfair, that is now in the field coutending for hour Rites and Liberty. I am a soldier that is a member of the 21 Kentucky Regt. vol. I haf ben in the survis for 2 years, an has dun my duty as a soldier. I am 14 (possibly it is 18) years of age. I came out in the servis as one of those to defend my country, the constitution, an hour Libertys, an to hold up the star spangled Banner of hour country. I hope that it wont be long until we haf this weaked Rebellion put down, an the stars an strips may wave over hour land a gain.

I don't suppose you are acquainted with a soldiers life. We see a good dele of trouble, an hardships in camp, but we don't mind that. We do intend to Restore the Union, let it cost what it will. If you wish to write to me Direct your letter to Co. R, 21 Reg. Kentucky Vol., 3 Brigade, 3 Division, Murfreesboro, Tenn.

I would be very glad to hear from you, an from that country.

(I will not give the name.)

After these many years, on reading this letter from a very young, and partly in consequence, a very illiterate Kentuckian, I recall the fact that Kentucky was, with Maryland, considered as "sitting on the fence" at the beginning of the Civil War, doubting which side to jump: the Union side, or the Southern Confederacy. The "states" decided as *states*. There were probably many hearts that beat true to the Union in them all; and we should not rank them *all* as traitors, who were below what was "Mason and Dixon's line."

Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 9th, '63.

My Friend:

As such you must allow me to call you. . . . Perhaps you will pardon me for my boldness in replying to your note without a request. However I could not think of allowing so worthy a note to go unanswered.

I must thank you for your nice contribution which I received a short time since. Such presents, so pleasantly given, gladden the hearts of many brave and patriotic soldiers. Alas! the fortunes of war have caused many of us to think of our mothers, sisters and friends.

Dark is the future. Notwithstanding the hardships incident to our life, I, for one, would be a soldier the remainder of my days, rather than submit to the cruel control of traitors. This national government which our fathers so nobly preserved and handed down to us, may we ever be true to it, and the banner that sheltered us in youth. Ah! we will protect it now. I have been soldiering a long time. The endearments of home are many, but I pursue cheerfully my regular routine of duties as a soldier. However we all anticipate a bright future, and would hail the return of peace and the restoration of the Union, with delight. Allow me to compliment the generous and patriotic ladies of New Hampshire. May their path ever be strewn with peace and happiness! I have long since commended our just cause to the all-wise and true God. He is my only friend except my old musket, while amid traitors. But my letter is getting longer than interesting. I remain with respect,

JNO. W. TURNER.

A friend who, when she wrote the letter to which this is a reply, was a young girl, gives me leave to copy the following:

Murfreesboro', July 10, 1863.

Friend E——: Your note of April 16th arrived at its destination this morning: it was accompanied with a few notions that was very thankfully received. My regiment is on the march pursuing Bragg and his followers. I fill the all important office of Quartermaster-sergeant, consequently I remain at Murfreesboro' in charge of the company property. . .

I do not think the prospect is very favorable at present for the speedy close of the war. If these little notions is all I need in the army, there is another article of household furniture which I need after I am out of the service, and that is a companion for life. If you are a single lady, you of course, like all other women, expect to be bound in the holy bonds of wedlock with some man, at some future time. I am twenty-seven years

old, five feet, five inches high, dark complexion, dark hair, and blue eyes; was born and raised in Franklin Co., Ohio, near Columbus. I have been in the army two years, and expect to remain in it till the last rebel has laid down his arms, if it is necessary. If you think of committing matrimony at the end of the war, and if you think a Buckeye farmer would suit please write and let me know.

From a friend and well-wisher.

Address, R. H. ———, Co. K, 1st O. V. Cavalry,
2d Cavalry Division, 2d Brigade, Murfreesboro, Tenn.

I introduce this letter and parts of the two following it, to which the comfort bag led, as a specimen of the innocent pleasantries that passed between the boys shut out from all the pleasures of home and the young people of the other sex, with whom they would have naturally been associated in those homes.

Point Rock, Dec. 22, '63.

Friend E——: I will not attempt to give you a history of our marches and our counter-marches since I wrote you last summer. But we have roamed over mountains, and crossed floods, and there has a number of my comrades crossed the river of death, since that time.

Our regiment participated in both the great battles near Chattanooga. Our Co. lost more than any other Co. in the Reg't, it being in the hottest of the fight, supporting a battery. We are stationed at present on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad in Ala., guarding a bridge over Point Rock river and patrolling the Tennessee river.

Our Col. has an order to re-enlist the Reg't for the war. I expect to remain in the army as long as there is a rebel in arms. It would be very little enjoyment to visit home, as my father and the majority of my relations are copperheads, and my old sweet-heart, it is said, wears Val's miniature for a breastpin. Now don't you think that is too bad?

Tell your brother I *have* a "good-looking sister," and I would like to exchange her for some other fellow's pretty sister. You wished me to inquire of some fellow if *I* was good looking. I asked my messmate; he says I am passably good-looking, and that my eyes are blue. Now if you can't take his word for it, send me your picture and I will send you mine in return, and you can judge for yourself. We have had no cold weather here yet, and the health of the army is good. I will now close hoping to

hear from you again. If we do not meet on earth, I hope to meet you in Heaven, where there is no war.

Yours in the bonds of friendship,

R. K. R ———.

Address, Co. K, 1st O. V. C., Stevenson, Ala.

A year later the following letter was received, dated from an Ohio town. Evidently the soldier had not resumed his former relations with his "sweet-heart."

L. W. C., Ohio, December 24th, 1865.

Friend E — : It is a long time since I have heard from you. I wrote you one year ago the first of this month. I was promoted to 1st lieutenant about that time, and had command of my company until we were mustered out of the service, which occurred the 27th of September, 1865, and since that time I have been living at my home in W. C., Madison Co., Ohio. I have been enjoying civil life as well as most any old Batch in this country. I have gone into the stock business since I left the army. I am feeding a lot of cattle and sheep this winter, and from appearances I will stand a chance to loose some money. As I have no news of importance to communicate, after wishing you a merry Christmas and happy New Year, I close by asking you to write to me soon.

Yours with respect,

R. K. R.

It will be seen that these seemingly unimportant little bags were not trifles in this drama of the Civil War. Between five and six hundred of them were sent from New Ipswich. We have read how they were received. The effect on those who sent them was to quicken patriotic sentiment, and call out sympathy for the men whose privations called for such supplies.

The eagerness which the children of the town evinced in this work may have led Mr. Cutler—the only minister in town in these years—and Prof. Quimby, to devise the organization

of a society whose object should be "to implant and foster among the children the habit of giving for benevolent objects." The result was that unique institution "The Children's Fair for Benevolent Purposes," which was first held in October, 1862, and has continued to be held every year since to the present time—an annual source of pleasure and pride to the town. For thirty-five years its little rills of beneficence have been gladdening the various institutions that have been trying to make the waste places of the earth green. Its contributions to the soldiers' cause were large during its first years.

There were reports from time to time of the death in the army of one and another of our New Ipswich boys, many of whom had enlisted in Massachusetts regiments.

Among the earliest killed—in his first engagement—was John, son of Wm. Walker. He was among the first from the town to enlist, going over to Fitchburg to do so; joined the 15th Mass. regiment, Co. B; was killed at, or just after the battle of Ball's Bluff. He had escaped unhurt, but jumped into the Potomac to rescue a comrade from drowning, and while still in the water, a ball struck him, and floating down to Georgetown, his body was taken from the river and identified by his name, sewed on his shirt by his mother, previous to his departure.

James Boyce, George, son of Ezekiel Nutting, and many more were killed. These reports served to quicken our interest, especially as their families belonged to our Soldiers' Aid.

Chapter VI.

The Soldiers' Aid took no vacation during the summer of '63.

Abby W. May and Ann G. Loring wrote to us, expressing thanks for judiciously chosen supplies, and saying that "it was good to see Aids going straight along," and wishing "every society had as good record in this respect." These women of the Boston Auxiliary always stood ready to give needed information. Their circulars urged steady and persistent effort.

"There were two factors," they wrote, "in our sum. First, sick and wounded soldiers, by thousands; second, our ability to serve them. When by diligent ciphering we have made one equal the other, the sum will prove satisfactory."

There was sent from New Ipswich a box containing 200 comfort bags, with many other needed things, in July, and the work and contributions went steadily on, though the meetings were not so fully attended. These were hard times financially, but there was no faltering or flagging.

Twenty-five dollars were sent to the Christian Commission for the prisoners who had been liberated by exchange, from the prisons of the south. Of these a chaplain wrote in a letter acknowledging aid sent by us, describing in moving terms the condition of these men. Starving, diseased, emaciated, pitifully destitute, they came, the larger part of them, into our hospitals to die. Others needed long and careful nursing, and if they recovered, must be clothed and sent on their way to the friends who were anxiously awaiting their coming.

Another donation of money was reported by the secretary, later, with still continued supplies. So the work went on through the second year of the society's life. Monthly con-

tributions were also collected at church through the second and third years and sent directly to the Christian Commission.

At the annual meeting in October, 1864, Mrs. C. H. Obear was again chosen president; vice-presidents, Mrs. Calvin Cutler and Mrs. Helen M. Fox; secretary and treasurer, Miss Nancy Chandler. The usual soliciting committee from each school district was also chosen.

It was voted that during the winter months meetings should be held only once a month, unless it was demanded by the urgent needs of the soldiers. During the months of May and June fifty-four thousand men had fallen in Grant's command, and there had been pressing want of supplies for the wounded. But the end seemed drawing near, and the taking of the Confederate capital a question of time only. We were getting tired. The secretary reported 192 members, and there had been thirty-eight meetings of the society during the year.

Socks, pillows, handkerchiefs, ring cushions, slippers, dressing-gowns, sheets, quilts, bandages, jellies, and dried apples, were forwarded each month, and twelve gallons of blackberry cordial, so much in demand for dysentery, had been made in the berry season, largely through the efforts of Mrs. Helen Fox. The secretary reported fifteen dollars sent to relieve prisoners at Richmond, and again twenty-five dollars in money, to be used by the Christian Commission at discretion. During this third year of our existence, there had been sent, "45 yds. bandages, 175 handkerchiefs, 15 towels, 29 lbs. of assorted pieces for wounds, 20 pairs of socks, 20 pairs of slippers, besides the 12 gallons of cordial, divided between the Sanitary and Christian Commissions. The Clark Troupe gave a concert in May and contributions were taken at church for the Christian Commission."

We will return again to Mr. Obear's journal.

May 20, 1864. Posted bills for a concert to be given by the Clarks, next week, in aid of the soldiers lying sick and wounded in the hospitals—to be given at the Academy hall.

The two Clark families always made a cheerful and ready response to any call for their services in efforts to increase the funds of our Soldiers' Aid. Their voices often found the materials to be manufactured by our hands.

June, 1864. Spent two hours helping pack things for soldiers.

July, 1864. "*Remarks.*" Goods of all kinds advancing in price: corn-meal, \$3.90 per bag; brown sugar 25 cts. per lb.; black tea \$1.40 per lb.; cotton cloth 55 cts. per yd.; gold worth \$2.56—has been as high as \$2.80. The president has issued a call for half a million more of men. Fast day appointed by the president.

Aug. 4th, 1864. Town meeting in the afternoon to see about raising money to pay volunteers to fill our quota of the draft. Voted to authorize the selectmen to borrow money necessary, not exceeding \$15,000. They expect we shall have to pay about \$550 to each man in addition to the \$300 offered by the state, and \$300 from the U. S. government.

Sept. 6th. Funeral of John Shattuck. Died in the army.

Frequent notices of meetings of the Union League occur during these months. The president had sent out his proclamation of intention to liberate all slaves in September, 1862, and Jan. 1st, 1863, he signed his name to the paper that converted the slaves of the south into citizens of the United States.

THE EMANCIPATION ACT.

Previous to the passage of this act, the Soldiers' Aid Society had considered it a part of its duty to extend relief to those who had come into the Union lines, "contrabands of war." Their especial need of clothes, with winter approaching in the autumn of 1862, had called for relief in the way of second hand garments, and they had been sent. On later pages we shall relate, as growing out of the Civil War, our work for the freedmen before and after the war was ended.

Prof. E. T. Quimby gave a part of his summer vacation a second time, in 1864, to the Christian Commission work, and 200 more comfort bags were sent through him. These went to East Tennessee and Alabama. In reply to letters sent in these bags, many letters came to New Ipswich. A few of

these I copy, as showing the patriotism of those who were fighting the battles of the Union, and entire absence of sectional feeling, and giving further proof, also, of the encouragement which these tokens of sympathy from home gave these men, banished from home enjoyments and family sympathy.

Before I give them we will look at the situation. Grant's special division was before Richmond and Petersburg, and from May 8th to June 15th over 50,000 were killed and three or four times that number wounded. These were calling for our aid. Sherman's division, further south, had won a victory, and the journal records:

Sept. 3d, 1864. Thanksgiving for Sherman's victory.

This victory was not won without accessions to the hospitals. The Battle of the Wilderness, lasting from June 26th to July 1st, alone added 7,700 to the hospitals, and though government could now do more, we could do no less. The New Hampshire 6th, in which so many of our boys had enlisted, was in ten battles in 1864, and some of these were continued running skirmishes without opportunity to lay down their arms for rest, for days. So with diminished numbers, the Soldiers' Aid labored on.

Now, our soldiers' letters from Sherman's division.

Chattanooga, Oct. 30th, 1864.

Kind Miss, or Mrs., it may be:

To-day I was down to the Christian Commission, writing to my dear sister. Just as I finished, there was a box of goods came in. The agent, being anxious to see what was in it, opened it immediately, and lo and behold! it contained a quantity of useful articles for us poor toil-worn soldiers. And I am pleased to say I was presented with a package which contained a good note, and knowing it to be no harm, I concluded to answer it. It is true we are far from friends, but it seems we have some friends in the North who are engaged in a good cause.

My kind and only sister is a good and pious girl. I had just finished reading a letter from her, when I received yours.

In the late battles of this Department I done my first fighting. Many of my comrades fell around me, but through the mercy of God, I am spared thus far.

I thank you for your kind missive, and the articles I received through your kindness. I was very much pleased with the reception. I should like to see the kind face of a lady engaged in such good works. God be with you, now and forever!

Your true friend and soldier,

ALBERT DAVIS,

Co. F. 35th Regt. Ohio Volunteers.

Via Nashville, Tenn.

General Field Hospital,
Bridgeport, Ala., May 16th, 1864.

Mrs. L. A. S. OBEAR,

Kind Friend: Our chaplain has just been distributing comfort bags through the hospital, and we have had a merry time examining their contents, and reading the letters that came with them. I will not attempt to describe the feelings of the boys after reading the letters and looking over the other needful things, for it is impossible. It is not the value of the comfort bags that revives them so, but it convinces them that they are not forgotten at home by those that they hold dearer than life.

There have been a great many of those comfort bags sent to this Department, but the one you sent is the first I ever had the pleasure of obtaining, and I must say that I sincerely thank you for the interest you take in our welfare.

I have been in the army of the Cumberland ever since the war commenced, and have had good health till about three months ago. I was taken sick with the erysipelas and have had a very severe time of it, but I am now convalescing slowly. I belong to the cavalry command, and we have never had the privilege of laying camp but very little, for there was always plenty of scouting for us to do, and we were kept on the move nearly all the time. We never had the opportunity of receiving those little comforts that the infantry and artillery do, for they are in camp often, for months at a time; but by the newspapers and letters sent by our friends, we have always been satisfied that the better part of the North were interested in the soldiers' welfare.

True, there are a great many Copperheads in my state (Ohio), but we consider them the ignorant part of the community, and do not allow them to discourage us in the least. But we do feel under many obligations to the patriotic ladies of the North, and especially to the ladies of New Ipswich, for the interest they have taken in our welfare; also for the encouraging letters sent with the comforts.

Our army is now on the move, and we have just received intelligence from it that is favorable; and also from Gen. Grant.

I now close, thanking you for your kindness. If this poorly written letter is worth answering, I should like to hear from New Ipswich again, for I have formed a good opinion of the place. I remain

Yours with thanks,

J. C. McDOWELL,

Co. G, 3d Ohio Cavalry.

My address is—General Field Hospital, Bridgeport, Alabama.

To this letter a reply was sent, which elicited the following :

General Field Hospital,
Bridgeport, Ala., June 10th, 1864.

Dear Friend: Yours of May 25th was duly received, and I was a little surprised when I saw who it was from, for I had given up the idea of ever hearing from you again, it being so great a distance, and thinking all your attention would be drawn to the Army of the Potomac, as nearly all the New Hampshire soldiers are there, and I supposed your friends would be with them; and I thought you would hardly take the trouble to write to a Buckeye so far away and that you have never seen. But I am satisfied now that you are really a soldiers' friend that does not hold a prejudice to either army, as a great many do.

I was delighted in reading what an interest your Aid Society has taken in the poor soldier. You said I might take a walk with you in imagination to one of your meetings. I have done so, but I would rather it would be a real, instead of an imaginary one. True, I am but a young man yet (in my twenty-third year), but I can always enjoy myself in the society of ladies, young or old. I have always had a respect for the ladies, for the best friend I ever had was a woman (my mother), but I lost that friend the year before I came into the army, and when we see the ladies take such an interest in our welfare, we can't but feel encouraged.

And yet a soldier will have some gloomy times, and it is a gloomy time to me now, for I have just received the sad news of a good many of my friends in the late battle of Chickamauga. When I enlisted, there were seventeen of us out of the same neighborhood that went into the army at the same time and in the same regiment and company. We had been schoolmates ever since we were children. And ever since we have been in the service there was only one died, until this late battle.

We began to think we were a lucky crew, and would get through all safe. But while I was down to the depot this forenoon, there was a train came in, and there were three of them on the train; and that was not all. They told me that we had lost twenty-five out of our company, and twelve of them were my best friends. So now there are only four of us left out

of the seventeen, and three of them very badly wounded. And now you can imagine what my feelings are at the present.

But I don't feel in any way discouraged, for they have fallen in a good cause, and if I should fall next, I shall feel that I was doing my duty. There are two regiments of 100 days men came here from Indiana to-day for railroad guards; and the old soldiers have made so much fun of them for coming out for a hundred days, to keep from being drafted, that they got ashamed of it, and nearly all of them enlisted for three years.

I received a letter from home yesterday stating that the young ladies of the city had turned out and offered to take the place of the clerks in the stores, so that they can go into the army, giving them the privilege of drawing their pay from the government and at home also. But some of these Copperheads (I should say *cowards*), for we have a great many of them in Ohio, refused.

Such patriotic ladies in the North we feel proud of, and I shouldn't be surprised if I should fall in love with one of them, if I ever get home from the army. But I suppose, being a married woman, such nonsense does not interest you. Perhaps your husband is in the army? If so, I would like to know in what regiment. If you feel inclined to answer this letter, I should be very happy to hear from you. Direct as before.

I am very respectfully yours,

J. C. McDOWELL.

The secretary's book has no record after the annual meeting for choice of officers, Oct. 21st, 1864, but the society continued its work, as the treasurer's report and other documents and receipts show. The monthly meetings continued, but sympathy and aid were called for by the "contrabands," and divided our labors, and Government was now better able or had learned better how to supply the helps demanded by war.

Sometime during the year the following articles were sent to the company which had enlisted from New Ipswich and neighboring towns, as tokens of regard: 40 Florence caps, 12 pairs gloves, 8 pairs mittens, 12 quilts, 12 patent leather needle and thread cases.

Chapter VII.

Succeeding the Annual Meeting of October 1864 the work of the Aid is not found in regular records. The ill health of some of the most active members, and the absence from town of others, prevented the accustomed regularity of its meetings, but material was supplied to those who could work at home and many boxes were sent, principally through the Christian Commission. The papers of the society show that supplies continued to be sent as long as there were men in the hospitals who needed them. Here is a letter dated

Frederick City, Jan. 11th, 1865.

Mrs. L. A. Obear of Ladies' Aid Society, New Ipswich, New Hampshire: I have the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of an acceptable donation from the ladies of your society. A box containing as follows: 200 yds. of bandages, 8 lbs. of assorted pieces, 1 shirt, 2 prs. drawers, 8 prs. slippers, 8 prs. socks, 65 hdkfs., 6 lbs. dried cherries, currants, raspberries and strawberries, and 8 comfort-bags, was received by me from the home office at my agency. I thank you in the name of the boys in our hospital. What would they do without your Aid Societies? Though far from their homes they never forget the friends left behind, and feel sure that they are praying for them.

GIDEON BANTY, Agt. of Christian Commission.

Another letter dated

July 10th, 1865. U. S. Gen'l Field Hospital, Annapolis, Md.

Soldiers' Aid Society: In behalf of the Christian Commission, I have the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of a box of hospital stores from you. They will immediately be distributed in the various wards of the hospital. The children and others who have aided in the preparation of the box, may be assured that their labor and kindness are appreciated by our suffering heroes. It would gratify you to hear the heartfelt expressions from the lips of these men who partake of your gifts. During the arrival of the 10,000 exchanged prisoners we have been so fully occupied with the care of the suffering that it has required our incessant attention.

It would touch your kind hearts with profound sympathy could you look upon the men in these hospitals who have lately come from the prisons of the enemy. Starved, emaciated, wounded, diseased, multitudes of them only come to this place to linger a few days, and to die. Three hundred and fifty have died in the last thirty days. It will gratify you to know that many of them became Christians in the prisons of the south, and found the consolations in religion that enabled them to bear their deprivations hopefully, and are enabling them to meet death with calmness and resignation.

Agent of Christian Commission.

This letter was sent to us after the war was over. Yes, the war was over, but there were suffering men in the hospitals, and the Soldiers' Aid Society was not disbanded, but continued its interest in the sick and wounded men who had helped to win the victory, even after it was merged in the "Freedman's Aid and Educational Societies." These had been formed the winter or spring before. As contrabands of war, their extreme destitution was a consequence of the war. We had been relieving that destitution in connection with our work for the army. When they became citizens of the United States by the passage of the Emancipation Act, we of the free states owed them new duties. They must be taught to care for themselves; educated to their duties as citizens. New Ipswich, I shall show, promptly and generously responded to this call for further work.

Petersburg and Richmond had been taken! How did New Ipswich receive the glad tidings? Who shall describe the joy over the fall of Richmond? Mr. Obear says in his journal under date of

April 4th, 1865. There are demonstrations of joy in all directions, ringing of bells, firing of cannon, etc. Several houses are illuminated. News came this morning that our troops had entered Richmond and Petersburg.

April 10th, 1865. News came this morning of the surrender of Lee's army. A great time here, ringing of bells, firing cannon, illuminations; Richmond and Petersburg taken Monday.

One picture of this time of rejoicing presents itself to me. The bell-man, on receipt of the news, hastened to the church to ring the glad peal that should tell the town the tidings.

Around the corner of the road, at an upper window of a house in sight, is an old lady, leaning far out, her gray locks loosened by the wind, and in her hand the apron she has caught off. The glad news has just reached her, and she watches for the glad peal that shall proclaim it wider and farther. The man comes in sight, and she, vigorously waving the apron in her hand, with a swing that belongs to youth, and her voice trembling with emotion, cries out, "Praise the Lord! Ring! ring!" The woman is "Aunt Orpah Stearns" Davis, an early teacher of the town; the bell-man, once her pupil. *He* thinks of "Barbara Frietchie."

Another woman expressed her joy—or tried to—in an imitation of the Huguenot song of "Henry of Navarre."

THE FALL OF RICHMOND.

All glory to the Lord of Hosts! His arm salvation brings.
How shall the tidings of this day sound through the halls of kings!
The strong-holds of oppression fall, when He his arm makes bare,
And they who fight for Truth and Right His wondrous works declare.

Our victor hosts march down the streets with joyous, gallant tread,
Where lately strode defiant foes, with proud and lofty head.
From halls where tyrants gave command, and bondmen bowed the knee,
There floats afar the Stripes and Stars, that tell all men are free.

Now glory to the Lord of Hosts, who reigns from sea to sea!
Like chaff before the whirlwind swift, the proud oppressors flee —
They, who with sneering, mocking lips the "Higher Law" denied,
And Justice's aims, and Mercy's claims, alike with scorn denied.

The prison doors are opened wide, where starving Northmen lie;
And comrades stride with quickened step, to save them ere they die.
While grim Want sits upon the seats where once sat Wealth and Power,
And those they sold like brutes for gold, have made their proud hearts
 cower.

All glory to the Lord of Hosts! tell distant lands the story!
Our haughty foes the Lord o'erthrows. To Him be all the glory.

L. A. O.

If there seems to be asperity in this overflow of feeling, it must be remembered that boastful Congressmen had sneered

at the "higher law" of humanity; called northern men "mud-sills;" and talked of the time coming when the "slave-driver's roll-call should be heard at the foot of Bunker Hill monument." Our Union boys were, week by week, coming from the prison-pens of the south, the victims of starvation; and empty chairs in thousands of homes missed the strong, brave men who never more would fill them. In such circumstances, one does not feel charitable.

In how few days was this throb of universal joy to be succeeded by sobs of universal sorrow, all over the land!

From the journal I copy:

Apr. 15th, 1865. Went to Fitchburg. Got there at 11:30 o'clock. On entering the city, found the stores all closed, and learned that news had come that Abraham Lincoln was assassinated at Ford's Theatre, at 10:30 o'clock last night (the 14th), and died this morning at 7:30 o'clock. They had a large meeting at the Town Hall in the afternoon at three o'clock. The services consisted of singing two hymns, reading of select passages of scriptures, and prayers by the several clergymen of the place. A deep gloom seems to have settled down on every countenance, and all seem to feel that they have lost a dear father and friend. An attempt was also made to assassinate Secretary Seward, but he was alive at last accounts.

The mail containing the news of the President's death had not reached Boston when the train for New Ipswich came out. The news came to us by Fitchburg in the afternoon, and was confirmed by our evening mail. At a late hour on that night, the pastor's light was shining from his study. The next day's sermon on the death of the President, told how profoundly the young pastor's heart had been stirred by the event.

Early Sunday morning C. H. Whitney came to the church from his store with his arms full of mourning goods, to be arranged about the gallery and pulpit, to express our sorrow at the universal loss. At noon a prayer meeting took the place of the Sunday-school.

Wednesday, 19th, Mr. Obear wrote:

The funeral of the President took place at Washington at twelve o'clock today. There has been tolling of bells and firing of cannon all over the country. The bell was tolled and cannon fired here, from 12 to 1 o'clock. A meeting was held at the church from 12 to 1:30 o'clock. The house was nearly filled, and the services very impressive. Doubtless there has been no president so devotedly loved by the people since Washington. The mourning is like the mourning for Father and Friend.

As has been seen, material aid had been extended to the freedmen, in connection with the aid of soldiers, as soon as the Emancipation Act was passed, or even before, when they came into our camps.

Mr. Obear writes under date of

Feb. 3d, 1865. Helping prepare for the levee. We all attended in the evening. Got home at 11:00 o'clock. Mr. Davis (a prominent anti-slavery man of Fitchburg) and Dr. Andrews spoke. Singing of three original songs by the Clark family; a large attendance and a good time. Net proceeds \$124.78.

Feb. 9th. Self and wife attended meeting at Union hall to settle up in regard to levee; also to form a Freedmen's Education Society, which we did on the stock plan—shares \$1.00 each. Rev. Calvin Cutler was chosen president, C. H. Obear, secretary. Chose committee in each school district to solicit stock. Also chose a committee to draft a constitution for a Freedmen's Aid Society.

Feb. 10th. Carried my wife over to Mr. Stephen Thayer's to get up the constitution for Freedmen's Aid.

12th—Sunday. Sabbath-school concert at noon; subject, "What can be done for the freedmen?" Committee chosen to report.

16th—Thursday. Attended meeting at Union hall to organize Freedmen's Aid. Report on constitution presented by Mrs. Obear and accepted; and the society was organized.

As the books and papers of these two societies for the aid of freedmen cannot be found, the journal and memory will have to be the historians. Only what is known to be reliable will be recorded. As a record speaks of "carrying the women to Soldiers' and Freedmen's Aid Society" March 8th, it is evident that the work for the relief of both soldiers and freedmen went on together.

The committee chosen at the Sabbath-school concert of the previous month to report on "What can be done for the freedmen?" reported the following plan to the school for raising money toward supporting a teacher, viz., that the children take shares of 10 cts. each, for which they will receive certificates.

This plan was successfully carried out. I have a certificate before me. No doubt others in town have them laid away among their possessions.

COPY.

This certifies that ——— has taken — S. S. Shares in the Stock of the Society for the support of a teacher among the Freedmen, for the year 186 .

CALVIN CUTLER, President.

CLARK H. OBEAR, Secretary.

The "plan" was a success. The "grown-up children" of the Sabbath-school, many of them, took five or ten shares of the stock, and almost every child proudly carried home his "certificate."

It will be borne in mind that there was, at this time, no regular church service or Sabbath-school maintained in town except at the Congregational church; therefore the efforts of the united town are being recorded. There had been objections made, when the first meeting was called in the interests of freedmen, to having the proposed teachers sent out under the auspices of the American Missionary Association. The objectors were few, but that there should be no genuine friend of the freedman "left out," the Freedmen's Educational Society was instituted, and for three successive years teachers were supported in the field, by the payment of \$200 a year. This, after all the contributions to the army support — yes, while they were yet being called for — and in the midst of the high prices consequent on war!

Miss Sarah Thayer and Miss Frances Campbell were the young ladies sent as teachers — Miss Thayer, first, to Atlanta, Georgia; Miss Campbell to Fortress Monroe, Virginia. Miss Thayer took with her \$100 to the Am. Miss. Association. She

started the morning of the day after our troops entered Richmond. It is not remembered which of these teachers was in the field two years. One succeeded the other. Mrs. Elisabeth Preston sent valuable contributions, both material and educational, through another channel, which were continued many years till her death.

We will now return to the levee held for the freedmen Feb. 3d. The "settlement" of the proceeds of this levee had been deferred an account of a proposed reunion of Appleton Academy students, to bid Mr. Quimby farewell, before his departure to a professorship at Dartmouth College. He had been at the head of Appleton thirteen years. A silver tea-set was presented to Mr. Q., Rev. Perley Davis making the presentation speech. In a review of the thirteen years, Mr. Quimby said 1350 students had been under his instruction. He paid a warm tribute to the memory of those who had fallen in defense of their country. This is a digression, but may not be uninteresting to Mr. Quimby's former students. In the journal it was found between two records of the Freedmen's Aid.

The more than \$125, which had been ordered into the hands of the treasurer, was drawn from the treasury and applied to the relief of freedmen, as soon as the meeting could be called to vote on the subject. The meeting was held at Union hall, Feb. 9th, the evening of the formation of the "Educational Society."

The next morning after this meeting, Mrs. Stephen Thayer and Mrs. L. A. Obear—with her husband—left town to purchase material for skirts and sacques—Mrs. Thayer for Fitchburg, to obtain gray flannel for the proposed skirts; Mrs. Obear for Greenville, where denim was purchased of the Columbian Manufacturing Company.

Women from every part of the town gathered as soon as notice could be given, in the upper vestibule of the church, with three sewing-machines, and in an incredibly brief time, about one hundred garments were manufactured and sent to

the half-frozen women and children, who were largely dependent for food on the benevolence of our army.

The interest, the *enthusiasm*, excited by this levee had been awakened by the most unsparing preliminary efforts on the part of the Soldiers' Aid Society, whose work was not yet done. There was put into the levee, the sympathy for the slave of the anti-slavery portion of our people, the patriotism that prompted to any service for the country of those that loved the Union, and common humanity.

We will copy one of the original songs sung on that evening by the Clarks. And *how* they sang! The song was an attempt to express the sentiments of such ex-slaves as had enlisted in Col. Shaw's, and other colored regiments.

FREEDMEN'S SONG.

All our bitter tasks are ended;
 All our unpaid labor done;
 Our galling chains are broken,
 And our onward march begun,
 For our cry has reached the temple
 Of the High and Holy One,
 And our God is marching on.

Glory, glory, hallelujah!
 Glory, glory, hallelujah!
 Glory, glory, hallelujah!
 Our God is marching on!

Down in the house of bondage
 We have watched and waited long,
 The oppressor's heel was heavy,
 The oppressor's arm was strong;
 A Great Deliverer leads us out,
 We'll sing a joyful song,
 As we go marching on.

Glory, etc.

Not vainly have we waited,
 Through the long and darkened years;
 Not vain the patient watching,
 'Mid our groans, and blood, and tears.
 For when the poor and needy cry,
 The Lord Jehovah hears,
 And our God is marching on!

Glory, etc.

We must travel through the wilderness
 To reach the goodly land,
 But our hearts shall never falter,
 And our feet like rocks shall stand;
 Our trust is in the Mighty One,
 We're led by His right hand,
 And His Truth is marching on.

Glory, etc.

If like "de ole time people"
 We must in the desert die,
 Yet on the plains where freemen fell,
 Our whitening bones shall lie;
 And wives and children never more
 Shall lift the bondman's cry,
 For our God is marching on.

Glory, etc.

Then swell again the anthem;
 Let it sound from sea to sea!
 Like chaff before the whirlwind swift,
 Our proud enslavers flee.
 Jehovah's arm has triumphed
 And the sons of Ham are free,
 And His Truth still marches on. L. A. O.

Chapter VIII.

The four years' conflict was ended. The Union flag, that had been dragged in the dust, was proudly floating over every part of our vast heritage.

No poet could longer tell that our Stripes and Stars were "Emblems of the negro's scars." None but free *men* were in all our borders. Was there more for the men and women of New Ipswich to do? Our ex-slaves must be helped into manhood and citizenship; must be aided in taking care of themselves, till they learned the lesson. Then the Educational and the Freedmen's Aid Societies must be kept up.

The brave boys who were yet lying in our hospitals must be encouraged by our gifts till the state and national governments made permanent provision for their welfare; and the memory of those who had fallen must be perpetuated by monuments that should speak their devotion to the coming generations. Co-operation and help must be extended to the comrades who, year by year, would gather in our cemeteries to deck the graves of those who had been brought home from the battle-fields of the south, or would be laid there from their ranks. All these duties New Ipswich has performed with fidelity.

THE MONUMENT ASSOCIATION

was formed soon after the close of the war, and held various fairs, sociables, and other gatherings, to collect funds; solicited contributions of money, etc.

One ingenious conception of Mr. W. A. Preston's is recalled. A cluster of miniature tents, floating from one of which was a flag. On the others were empty flag-staffs. The flag was a

\$100 bill, placed there by his father Esq. John Preston. Himself, and other men — C. H. Whitney, Hosea Eaton, etc.— supplied the flags to adorn the other staffs.

The erection of the monument was at length secured, and its dedication was held June 17th, 1878. A large concourse of spectators listened to a dedicatory prayer by the Rev. Horace Parker, an oration by Gen. Griffin, and two poems written for the occasion by citizens. Mr. Wm. D. Locke, who had lost a son in the service, was the author of the first one, Mrs. C. H. Obear, the second, which was read by Rev. H. Parker, a New Ipswich pastor.

WM. D. LOCKE'S POEM.

To the New Ipswich boys, who died defending the Union.

Oh, patriot spirits, passed away,
We dedicate this shaft today!
Not this shall make a full return —
The chiseled stone is cold and stern.

No laurels carved, or fresh flowers strown,
Could make your worth more truly known,
Your deeds untold will brighter glow,
As years transpire, and blessings flow.

But on the granite bosom fair
Your names recorded, shall appear:
Entrusted to the rock to tell,
That in your country's cause you fell.

And down to distant years shall go
A cherished fragrance of the brave;
These shaft-engraven names shall show
How precious were the lives they gave.

Oh, Nation, when thy perils came,
What numbers rushed to meet thy call!
The kindlings of a quenchless flame,
Spread far abroad, inspiring all.

Wide battlefields, where rest the dead,
Attest the love thy sons have borne.
Truly the choicest blood was shed! —
Peace to the graves of those we mourn!

MRS. OBEAR'S POEM.

They sleep in peace, whose blood was shed,
 That this broad land, from sea to sea—
 The land for which their fathers bled—
 Might one united nation be.
 No bugle-note, calling to arms,
 No distant tramp of coming foes,
 Nor listening watch for war's alarms,
 Disturbs their deep and long repose.

They sleep in peace—the Boys in Blue,
 Who scorning peril, wounds and scars,
 Rallied to claims of country true,
 To save from stain our Stripes and Stars.
 The flag by traitors trampled on,
 Was lifted to its home on high:
 Its stars undimmed, its slave-blot gone.
 For this dear boon 'twas sweet to die.

They sleep in peace—while June's blue skies
 Bend laughing down, o'er waving grain,
 And summer sunshine softly lies
 On fields that drank their blood like rain.
 And where were horses riderless,
 And dead and wounded, pile on piles,
 Are verdant grass, and flowers that bless
 The peaceful earth with their glad smiles.

They sleep in peace—the patriot dead,
 Whose names are carved on yonder stone.
 Some, borne by men with silent tread,
 Their martial foot-steps stilled, alone
 Came home to rest in dreamless graves,
 'Neath skies, whose arch their childhood spanned,
 Where flower that whispers, tree that waves,
 Is stirred by winds that boyhood fanned.

Others, afar, as peaceful sleep
 Where for the flag they fought and fell;
 No gathering comrades o'er them weep,
 Nor deeds of manly valor tell.

Their requiem blue Potomac sings,
 And stern Atlantic's heaving tide,
 And southern birds with strange bright wings —
 In lone graves scattered far and wide.

Sleep on, brave heroes! we have linked
 To-day your memory with those
 Whose lives were given to buy the land,
 You saved from its intestine foes.
 Not vain the blood for Freedom spilt:
 The consummation may be slow,
 But fruitage certain it shall bring
 In the hereafter—this we know.

Sleep on! you shaft will speak your fame
 To unborn freemen. And its page
 As they shall con it, name by name,
 Shall tell what cost their heritage,
 These states united—theirs to hold
 Against all traitorous, false device,
 For equal laws and equal rights;
 Eternal vigilance, the price.

Chapter IX.

With the account of the erection and dedication of the soldiers' monument, it was intended that this history of "What the Men and Women of New Ipswich did in our Civil War," should close.

The author had narrow means of ascertaining what the sons of New Ipswich had done who went into the field, and she proposed to confine herself to a detail, principally, of the work done by the sons and daughters of the town who remained at home. But a letter of inquiry addressed to Capt. Michael Donley, now of East Rindge, in regard to the Company which enlisted from this and the neighboring towns, elicited a reply so full of interest, and later so much information was obtained from the Captain, that an extension of the volume was resolved on. His ready and valuable assistance in gathering, at a large expense of time and labor, the names and record of his comrades from the town, many of whom served with him through the entire war, made it possible to preserve what will be of value to the families of those who have fought for their country in the war of the rebellion. It may be sought for by coming generations, as has been the history of those who took part in our war for independence.

In gathering the history of our enlisted soldiers from the tabulated reports of adjutant generals, and the histories of the several regiments that have been written, facts came to light that led to inquiry in regard to the personal record of some of our men. No doubt many whose personal experiences are just as worthy to be narrated will not be noted; but those whose worthy deeds have come to my knowledge should not go unrecorded because the others are unknown. It is to be

feared that many returned and took their places in our ranks as private citizens, whose war records deserved, and should have won, the honorable recognition of citizens. Among these names stands prominently that of Capt. Michael Donley.

A copy of a letter has fallen into my hands addressed "To the Selectmen of New Ipswich," of whose existence I think few, if any of our citizens have known. I give but a few extracts from it. It was dated

Fort Clark, Texas, April 6th, 1884.

To the Selectmen of the Town of New Ipswich, N. H. :

In perusing the published records of our state, and the so called History of the 3d New Hampshire Volunteers during the "War of the Rebellion," I find that the services of Capt. Michael P. Donley of your town, who marched and fought with the regiment from the commencement to the close of its brilliant career, have not received that fullness of honorable mention so richly deserved. . . . He was early known throughout his regiment as "Little Mike Donley," when serving as private, teamster, musician, corporal, sergeant,—for through all these grades he served before attaining his captaincy. He was observed by all, as with cheerfulness, fidelity, and courage, he responded to any call; and while any of the "old ones" survive, he will always be remembered as among the truest and bravest who fought in our ranks. . . . He was with the regiment in its every march, and mustered with it in its every battle. . .

JAMES F. RANDLET,

Capt. of 8th Cavalry, U. S. Army, late Lieut. Col. 3d Reg't N. H. Vols.

Knowing that no knowledge of Capt. Donley's personal deeds could be obtained from himself, his answer to any solicitation always being, "I never blow my own horn," I wrote to Wm. H. Trickey, now *Rev.* Wm. H. Trickey, but formerly Major 3d N. H. Volunteers, and received the following reply to my inquiry in regard to Capt. Donley's war record.

Claremont, N. H., July 14th, 1898.

Dear Madam: Your letter regarding my esteemed comrade and much-loved friend is just at hand, and I hasten to say a few words that come readily from my heart. If they will help you any in placing a brave man in the place where he belongs, I shall be very glad. Should you desire a more elaborate paper than this, I will see what can be done. Perhaps you may think a short notice, and to the point, is quite as well. Wishing you abundant success in your work, I am

Sincerely yours,

W. H. TRICKEY.

Major Trickey says :

Captain Donley was as brave a man as ever shouldered a musket or drew a sword. His six promotions were made on merit alone. He had no friends of influence at home to help, but *fought* his way from a private soldier to the command of a company.

I think he was in every one of the twenty-eight battles emblazoned on the colors of the old N. H. 3d. Certainly he fought with great gallantry throughout the entire Fort Wagner and Morris Island campaign, soon after which he re-enlisted for three years. He was soon made orderly sergeant, and for the grandeur of his deeds of daring, his high spirit of loyal devotion, and conceded ability at Drury Bluff, Brandon Bridge, Chester Station, and Wier Bottom Church, he received a commission.

In the desperate struggle at Flussel's Mills, Aug. 16th, '64, where the regiment lost nearly half its officers and men, our hero was wounded, though he remained in the fight till our flag, which was pierced by sixty shots, was brought in triumphant from an abandoned field.

In front of Petersburg, at New-Market Heights, Laurel Hill, Charles City Roads, Darbytown Roads — wheresoever shot and shell and leaden hail fell — there was found Mike Donley. And in the final severe struggle of his regiment it is not too much to say he covered himself with glory.

At the notable assault on Fort Fisher, he was among the very bravest of the three thousand brave men who won imperishable honor there. At the very front of the fire-line he proved himself the incarnation of manly valor and lofty heroism, coupled with true ability and a spirit of chivalry.

In his struggle to carry messages between his commander and Generals Ames, Abbot and Terry, his services were beyond estimate. Indeed I can hardly see how the regiment could have performed the great work it did on that eventful day, without his noble action. It has fallen to the lot of few men of equal rank to do so great a work as did Lieutenant Donley at Fort Fisher, for which he was made captain, and might have fittingly been given a much higher commission. The town that sent him to the war may well feel honored. There is no man of the old Third, from the highest to the lowest in rank, who is not glad to have served with so gallant a soul.

That we stood shoulder to shoulder throughout the four years of crimson strife, will ever be one of the proudest memories of my life; that now, a generation after the close of the mighty struggle, I have the abiding friendship of the kindly, generous, brave, true-hearted, manly man, is to me among the glories of living.

Glorious old New Hampshire in all her proud history has sent no *braver* man to the field, and but *few* have carved their names higher on her scroll of lofty action.

Maj. WM. H. TRICKEY.

Chapter X.

Here is another New Ipswich boy. Five of these boys, sons of our resident citizens, none of them but a little more than sixteen years of age, enlisted in September 1861. They were Edward Sanders (son of George), William Weston (son of Cyra L.), Edward Thayer, Fred Edwards (his mother a widow), and the other is not recollected.

Among these was Edward A. Thayer, son of our long and well known citizens, Stephen and Joannah P. Thayer.

“He enlisted and mustered in Co. B, 3d Mass. Cavalry, as private; went south with General Butler, camped on Ship Island for a long time, and went to New Orleans on its evacuation by the Confederates; commissioned as 1st lieutenant in the 1st Louisiana Cavalry, August 1862. He was at Donaldsonville in October 1862; at Labidouz the same month, where 100 men were lost, but 500 of the enemy were taken prisoners. In December was engaged in destroying the rebel gun-boat, Cotton, in Bayou Tesche; in 1863 assisted in destroying a fort on Dead Bayou, the fight lasting two days; then marched to Indian Bend to guard a bridge for Union soldiers to cross, and was daily engaged in skirmishing. Had a horse shot from under him at or near Opelousas, and in a week another shot from under him at Carrion Crow Bayou, while on a charge.

He was at Port Hudson on the staff of Col. Flemming, commanding brigade, and raised a company for 2d Louisiana Cavalry at New Orleans, and was commissioned captain. Soon after, he resigned on account of ill health, and returned home — this boy of eighteen or nineteen years!”

From History of Thayer Family.

We do well to remember what our boys suffered, as well as what they dared. I here give no extreme case. I have it from the pen of his sister.

Warren Payson Locke enlisted from Carlisle, where he was at work, in Co. B, 32d Mass. Reg't of Volunteers, Nov. 1861, for three years. For some months the regiment was stationed

at Fort Warren, but in the spring of '62 they joined the army of the Potomac. When warm weather came, Payson was prostrated with typhoid fever, followed by severe abscesses, which kept him a long time in the hospital.

In July, 1863, the regiment participated in the battle of Gettysburg, and Payson was wounded in the thigh during the day of July 3d. He lay upon the field through a drenching rain on the 4th, until the morning of the 5th, when an ambulance removed him to a temporary hospital, where he had surgical treatment. He was in the hospital till December, when he was granted a furlough of thirty days, and in January rejoined the regiment at Camp Liberty, Virginia.

April 30th the 32d broke camp, and May 1st crossed the Rappahannock river for the fifteenth time, and encamped at Brandy Station. May 3d they left Culpepper and continued marching through "the Wilderness." May 5th they were hotly engaged in battle for several hours. May 21st they camped near the Fredericksburg and Richmond R. R., at Guinness Station, and had the first quiet rest since May 4th. During seventeen successive days and nights the regiment had been under arms, without an hour's respite and in the front ranks always.

From May 21-27 they marched fifty or sixty miles, continually skirmishing with the enemy. May 30th, at Mechanicsville, they had a running fight all day.

The battle of Bethesda Church occurred June 3d. Here Payson was wounded in the thigh, but was able to keep with the regiment. At night as they were behind breastworks, and Payson was resting with his head on his knapsack, the enemy made a flank movement, and a shot from a rebel sharpshooter struck him in the temple, killing him instantly. Buried in his blanket; "He sleeps in peace, but we know not where." No effort succeeded in finding him, when the war was over, but his comrades marked the spot where he lay, and he was probably removed to one of the national cemeteries.

And thus they sleep, brave men from New Ipswich, and from every village and hamlet of the North-land, in graves that no mother wets with tears, and no comrade decks with flowers.

Each Boy in Blue in silence lies,
 Where mocking-birds and orioles sing,
 In green tents 'neath fair southern skies,
 Unheeding birds, or flowers that fling
 Their petals o'er the waving grass,
 Or summer winds that idly pass.

Not distant far, the boys in Gray,
 Wrapped in their blankets, too, repose.
 Mistaken, they had gone astray;
 Brothers estranged had met as foes;
 The same brave blood flowed through each vein,
 Both fell as brave men, with the slain.

Both sleep in green graves scattered wide—
 In cypress swamps, on hill-sides steep,
 In tangled woods, where streamlets glide,
 In mountain gorges, 'neath the deep.
 Long years both Blue and Gray have slept,
 Alike by sorrowing loved ones wept.

Peace to your ashes, Boys in Blue!
 And peace to yours, who wore the Gray!
 Your sons beneath one flag stand true,
 Shoulder to shoulder in the fray,
 While nations watch. For in their might,
 The Blue and Gray henceforth unite.

The following table contains the names, etc., as far as they could be obtained, of all the soldiers who could properly be claimed by New Ipswich as her contribution to the army which saved the Union, and blotted chattel servitude from her escutcheon. The names marked with a star (*) belonged by birth or residence, but were not credited to New Ipswich,

having enlisted from other towns or cities, in or out of New Hampshire. The names of substitutes are not given. They nearly all were of foreign birth and not really residents of the United States. Twenty-seven of these were accredited to New Ipswich, few of whom were a "credit" to themselves or the army. Enlistments were for three years, unless otherwise noted.

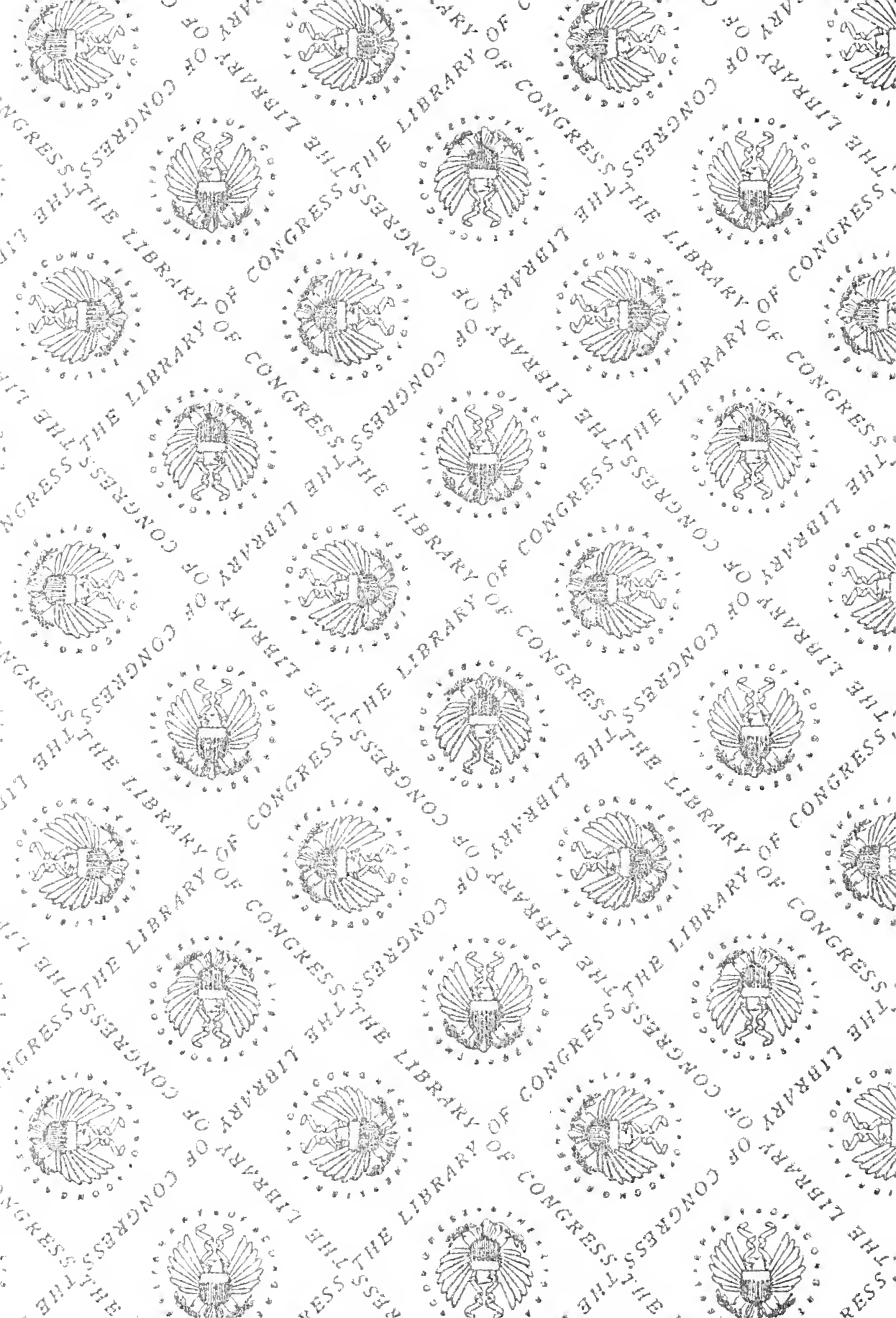
NAMES	Age	Enlisted	Co.	Regiment	Rank when Discharged
Chandler, James O.	24	May '61	I,	2d N. H.	Captain
Wright, Edward	38	"	G,	"	
Gould, Charles S.	24	"	G,	"	
Donley, Michael P.	24	July '61	E,	3d N. H.	Captain
Nutting, Geo. P.	25	Aug. '61	E,	"	1st Sergeant
Robinson, Chas., 1st,	45	"	E,	"	
Eddy, John C.	38	Sept. '61	3d class,	4th N. H.	Musician
Knowlton, Wm. R.	38	Aug. '61	I,	"	Corporal
Nutting, John C.	28	Sept. '61	I,	"	2d Lieut.
Nutting, Chas. B.	24	Aug. '61	C,	"	
Shattuck, John B.	26	Nov. '61	I,	"	
Wheeler, Josiah P.	28	Aug. '61	I,	"	
Nutting, Jonas	56	Nov. '61	K,	6th N. H.	1st Lieut.
Nutting, Chas. S.	23	Oct. '61	K,	"	
Nutting, James F.	16	"	K,	"	
Mansfield, Jona'n F.	43	"	K,	"	
Mansur, Wm. E.	45	"	K,	"	
Marvin, James H.	28	Nov. '61	K,	"	
Frizzell, Wm. B.	36	"	K,	"	1st Sergeant
Gardland, James	24	Oct. '61	K,	"	Sergeant
Hull, Chas. H.	27	"	K,	"	2d Lieut.
LeRoy, David	34	"	K,	"	Drummer
Shattuck, Geo. W.	18	"	K,	"	Corporal
Pike, John	45	"	K,	"	Drummer
Simonds, Willard	25	"	K,	"	
Simpson, James	30	"	K,	"	
Swallow, Andrew S.	37	"	K,	"	
Reddy, Patrick	36	Nov. '61	K,	"	Corporal
Walton, Charles	45	Oct. '61	K,	"	Corporal
Wright, Albert F.	19	Nov. '61	K,	"	
Wright, Charles A.	19	"	K,	"	Sergeant
Davis, Albert H.	24	"	K,	"	
Smith, George	19	"	K,	"	Corporal
Gates, Benson E.	21	"	K,	"	
Hardy, Wm. H.	20	Oct. '61	K,	"	
Appleton, Eugene F.	24	"	G,	13th N. H.	
Avery, James E.	23	"	G,	"	
Blood, Luther	26	"	G,	"	
Blanchard, Thos. W.	18	"	G,	"	Corporal

- J. O. Chandler* enlisted in 2d N. H. Infantry for three months; was discharged for disability; re-enlisted; appointed Captain Co. C 1st N. H. Heavy Artillery September 1864.
- E. Wright* wounded at Williamsburg, Va., May 1862.
- M. P. Donley* enlisted as Wagoner; resigned; appointed Corporal, then Sergeant; re-enlisted in February 1864; wounded at Deep Bottom, Va., appointed 1st Sergt. May '64; 2d Lieut. Co. C June '64; 1st Lieut. Oct. '64; appointed Captain of Co. E April 1865.
- G. P. Nutting* enlisted as private; was appointed Sergeant October 1862.
- John C. Eddy* mustered out with the 4th N. H. Regiment Band at Hilton Head, S. C.
- William R. Knowlton* enlisted as Corporal; discharged for disabilities at St. Augustine, Florida; enlisted in Co. E Veteran Reserve Corps Aug. 1864; discharged 1865.
- J. C. Nutting* re-enlisted February 1864; appointed Sergeant; promoted to 2d Lieutenant August 1865; not mustered in—war closed.
- Charles B. Nutting* wounded at Petersburg, July 1864; term of service expired.
- John B. Shattuck* died at Morris Island.
- J. P. Wheeler* captured at Drury's Bluff May 1864; accidentally killed on cars en route from Andersonville to Savannah prison.
- Jonas Nutting* resigned in 1862; had four sons in the army.
- C. S. Nutting* died of disease at Roanoke Island, N. C.
- J. F. Nutting* at Annapolis, Md.
- J. F. Mansfield* killed at Petersburg.
- W. E. Mansur* died from wounds received at Bull Run August 1862, in Fairfax General Hospital, Va.
- W. B. Frizzell* appointed Corporal November 1861; wounded August '62 at Bull Run; appointed Sergeant; wounded December 1862 at Fredericksburg; transferred; discharged as 1st Sergeant at termination of service.
- C. H. Hull* appointed Sergeant November 1861; 1st Sergeant 1862; wounded at Bull Run, August 1862; appointed 2d Lieut. September 1862.
- D. LeRoy* re-enlisted in 1864 in 13th N. H.; discharged 1865.
- G. W. Shattuck* enlisted for two years; re-enlisted in December 1863; transferred to Veteran Relief Corps; discharged in New York.
- J. Pike* died of disease at Winchester, Kentucky.
- Andrew S. Swallow* died of disease at Newberne, N. C.
- Patrick Reddy* appointed Corporal November 1861; wounded August 1862 at Bull Run; died of disease at Milldale, Miss.
- A. F. Wright* with his twin brother enlisted Nov. 12, 1861; discharged for disability; re-enlisted in a Massachusetts regiment December 1863.
- C. A. Wright* re-enlisted January 1864; captured May 1864 in the battle of the Wilderness; released; appointed Corporal June 1865; Sergeant July 1865; mustered out with the regiment.
- George Smith* appointed Corporal November 1861.
- Benson Gates* died of disease at Annapolis, January 1862.
- T. Blanchard* promoted to Corporal; wounded severely at Fort Harrison.

Boodry, Augustus	18	Oct. '61	G,	13th N. H.	
Carr, Edward J.	19	"	G,	"	
Cragin, Abner C.	23	"	G,	"	
Fletcher, Benjamin	35	"	G,	"	
Sherwood, Freeman	23	"	G,	"	
Fuller, Andrew C.	29	"	G,	"	
Knowlton, John F.	19	"	G,	"	
McDonald, Jonathan	38	"	G,	"	
Nicholas, Warren C.	28	"	G,	"	
Nutting, George H.	25	"	G,	"	
Pratt, Charles H.	24	"	G,	"	
Pratt, David F.	22	"	G,	"	Sergeant
Proctor, Amos J.	31	"	G,	"	
Oliver, Lucius C.	22	"	G,	"	1st Lieut.
Wilson, William H.	21	"	G,	"	
Whitney, John H.	23	"		"	
Hubbard, George H.	22	Sept. '62	H,	10th N. H.	Captain
Isaacs, Charles E.	18	Mch. '65		1st N. H. Cav.	
Peavy, Wallace	19	" '64	M,	"	
Ray, Walter	18	Dec. '61	M,	"	
Sheldon, Charles B.	30	"	M,	"	Corporal
Hildreth, Hartwell A.		"		4th N. H. Hv. Art.	
Smith, Augustus	22	"	M,	1st N. H. Cav.	
Smith, Gideon	21	"	M,	"	1st Sergeant
Boyce, James L.	20	"	E,	16th N. H.	
Blanchard, Edw. F.*	19	Aug. '64		4th Mass. Hv. Art.	
Sanders, Edward A.	16	Nov. '61		3d Mass. Cav.	
Weston, William L.	16	"		"	
Thayer, Edward	16	"		"	Captain
McDonald, Michael	20	"		"	1st Lieut.
Edwards, Geo. Fred.	16	"		"	
Weston, Frank					
Walker, John K.	25	July '61	B,	15th Mass.	
Locke, W. Payson*	22	Nov. '61	B,	32d Mass.	
Judkins, Samuel	22	July '61	G,	21st Mass.	
Hickock, Thomas	20	June '61	K,	11th Mass.	
Fisher, Albert G.	23	Oct. '61		2d U. S. Sh. Shoots.	1st Lieut.
Fowler, John H.*	41	Sept. '62	F,	47th Mass.	
Fowler, Arch'd C.*	19	"	F,	"	
Bolton, Charles S.	23	July '61	H,	17th Mass.	
Porter, George H.*		"	H,	7th Mass. Lt. Art.	
Wilkins, Tracy*		May '61		"	
Hubbard, W. H.*		"		"	
Tolman, Charles*		"		"	
Whittemore, Charles	16	1861	E,	2nd Mass.	
Nutting, Allen A.	18	"	D,	"	Sergeant
Potter, George E.*	26	July '63	H,	16th Mass.	
Chapman, Edward		"		Record not obtained	
McConnell, Jonath'n		"		"	
Davis, Edward E.*		"	F,	1st Minn.	
Lee, Samuel W.*	16	Aug. '63	F,	6th Ill. Cav.	
Stratton, Jesse*	28				
Stratton, Henry,				Record not obtained	
Kehue, George	38	Aug. '62			
Baxter, Albert F.			G,	2d N. H.	
Chas. H. Grainger,	39	1862	B,	36th Illinois,	

- A. Boodry* wounded severely at Fort Harrison, Virginia, January 1864; appointed Corporal; transferred to Veterans' Reserve Corps.
- E. J. Carr* wounded severely at Cold Harbor, June 1864.
- A. Cragin* discharged from Camp Rowen, Virginia; in prison too long to rally. Died at his mother's in New Ipswich.
- John F. Knowlton* died at Newport News, Virginia, 1863.
- W. C. Nicholas* killed at Cold Harbor, Virginia, 1864.
- Geo. H. Nutting* died of wounds received at Cold Harbor, Virginia; died in Washington, D. C.
- L. C. Oliver* appointed 2d Lieutenant, May 1863; 1st Lieut. March 1865.
- J. Whitney* served as Wagoner in the 13th through the war.
- Charles E. Isaacs* became totally blind from spotted fever.
- W. Peavy* wounded November 1864 at Middleton, Va.
- W. Ray* killed at Lacy's Springs, Va.
- C. B. Sheldon* captured in June 1863; re-enlisted in 1864; appointed Corporal; again captured in 1864.
- A. Smith* killed at Columbia, Tenn.
- Edward F. Blanchard* enlisted for one year.
- E. Thayer* promoted to 1st Lieutenant Co. B 1st Louisiana Cavalry, August 1862; to Captain 1863.
- Michael McDonald* promoted to 1st Sergeant; re-enlisted February 1864; appointed 1st Lieutenant August 1864; mustered out at close of war.
- F. Weston*, son of Cyra L. Record not obtained.
- J. Walker* killed at Ball's Bluff.
- W. P. Locke* killed by a rebel sharpshooter.
- John H. Fowler* enlisted for nine months.
- Archibald C. Fowler* enlisted for nine months.
- C. S. Bolton* wounded March 1865; discharged for wounds.
- Allen A. Nutting* killed at Fredericksburg 1862.
- G. E. Potter* wounded June 1864; transferred to Co. F 11th Massachusetts.
- Edw. E. Davis* wounded at Fair Oaks June '62; taken prisoner by Gen. Lee; paroled; died at Fortress Monroe of wounds neglected when in prison.
- Samuel W. Lee* enlisted for the war.
- Henry Stratton* enlisted in a Connecticut regiment; was a good soldier.
- Jesse Stratton* (his brother, sons of Seth Stratton), was in the Confederate States, engineer on a railroad. When General Terry entered Wilmington, No. Carolina, he ran his engine into the Union lines. Gen. Terry made him foreman of a locomotive shop in Wilmington. "A true Union man to the backbone," a soldier says. (In New Ipswich he has been supposed a "Confederate.")
- George Kehue* mustered in as Corporal; discharged June 1865.
- Albert F. Baxter* enlisted for 3 months; re-enlisted for 3 years; wounded.
- J. Louis Hildreth* (now Dr. J. L. Hildreth of Cambridge) served on guard when Washington was threatened, and afterward went into the service of United States Sanitary Commission in New Orleans.

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