

THE SCHOOL FOR IDLERS.

BY SIMON PURE.

The School for Idlers is suddenly "played out." I have arrived at the end of the Records. Bro. Penn, whose letters have enlightened the wondering community upon the subject of sea voyages towards the sunny South, came to an untimely end. He arrived at Port Royal and landed without a proper pass, (a change of Post Commandants having just taken place,) and as he was taking notes on one of the principal streets, was arrested as a spy, and sent North on the return of the "Diogene's Tub." So chagrined was he, that he did not report to the School, and was expelled by the members. He had many friends in the School, who at once took offence at so summary a proceeding, and voted themselves no longer Idlers. A new draft taking place at this time, swept what remained of the institution into the ranks of the disabled, &c. The President, willing to stand his chance, refused to commute, but was rejected on account of not being able to masticate "hard tack" satisfactorily; several trials were made, but the venerable man was obliged to stifle his patriotism. Several members of the School immediately remembered that they were British subjects and adopted a foreign accent in their speech, a few had pressing business in Canada, and only one, unable to pay the commutation fee or procure a substitute, went willingly into the ranks of the Union army, and is now serving the country gallantly, in one of those fine little offices at the Provost Marshal's. This is all I have to relate of the final termination of the School. A dozen pages following the regular Records are taken up with Brother Shorthand's essays on Phonography, which are too dull to be repeated here. The final thing is a short poem, which, the marginal notes say, Bro. Penn picked up in a Restaurant at Port Royal. See if you like it:

HAM AND EGGS.

The latter portion of a swine,
The produce of a hen,
Combined and cooked with proper care,
Will please the most of men.
John Bull may eat his fill of beef,
And Pat his mutton legs,
But all I eat from week to week
Is simply ham and eggs.
Perhaps it isn't just my choice,
But down here where I board,
We get the best of ham and eggs,
The country can afford,
So, quite contented, every day,
I stir my luscious pegs,
For fear some interloper get
My share of ham and eggs.
The other day we had a change,
Some thought it rather good
To leave their wonted ham and eggs
For any other food;
So I submitted to the risk
As meekly as a lamb,
And when we took the cover off,
'Twas simply eggs and ham.
How much of these I've taken in,
I'm sure I hardly know,
But every morning now I feel
Inclined to grunt and crow.
I've drank the cup of pleasure dry,
And sucked its very dregs,
But, oh! I fear there's never an end
To Jones's ham and eggs.

BELLE BOYD, the eccentric and over-loyal female, who was captured on the blockade-runner *Grayhound*, and who has been discharged from custody by orders from Washington, has left Boston for Canada. She is good-looking, smart and 22.

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[Official.]
HEADQUARTERS, DEPT OF THE SOUTH,
HILTON HEAD, S. C., June 24, 1864.
GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 100.

I. ASSISTANT COMMISSARIES OF MUSTERS in this Department, will forward to these Headquarters, through the Commissary of Musters, D. S., the discharge papers of any enlisted men, (forwarded to them for muster-out,) whose term of service may expire, accompanied by a certificate that such discharge is correct, that the order for discharge may be printed thereon, before being signed by the Mustering Officer.

Great inconvenience has been felt at these Headquarters, in having these papers brought by officers and enlisted men for the final order of discharge, and they will not be attended to in future, unless forwarded through the proper channels.

II. The attention of Regimental and Company Commanders is called to General Orders No. 81, current series, from these Headquarters, and Commandants of those Regiments whose terms of service will soon expire, are cautioned to have all their records and original musters in good order, and where any are missing, to have them replaced by making application for copies to the Adjutant General, U. S. A., in due time to have a reply, before the Regiment leaves the Department, in order to facilitate the muster-out of the Regiments on the arrival in the respective States to which they belong. After the arrival of Volunteers in the State, as well as during their transit thereto, it is the duty of the commissioned officers to look closely after the comfort and interests of the enlisted men, in all respects, and to remain constantly with them, so as to have them under control. Officers who are negligent in this respect, will be reported to the War Department, and prompt measures will be taken to punish the guilty parties.

III. The Chief Mustering Officers of the respective States, report that Veteran Volunteers, recently re-enlisted for three years, and recruits whose terms of service have not expired, and who are therefore not entitled to discharge, are being sent, and arriving in the States, for the purpose of muster-out and discharge. This indicates great neglect on the part of subordinate officers, particularly Regimental and Company Commanders, and must at once be stopped. The Commissary of Musters of this Department, will see that Circular No. 36, from the War Department, as re-published in General Orders No. 81, current series, from these Headquarters, be strictly complied with.

By Command of MAJOR-GEN. J. G. FOSTER,
W. L. M. BUNGER,
Asst. Adj. General.

OFFICIAL:
THOMAS J. ROBINSON,
1st Lieut. 21st U. S. C. T.,
Act. Asst. Adj. General.

[Official.]
HEADQUARTERS, DEPT OF THE SOUTH,
HILTON HEAD, S. C., June 28, 1864.
GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 104.

THE FOLLOWING ORDERS ARE HEREBY re-published for the information of all concerned:

WAR DEPARTMENT,
SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJ. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 216. } WASHINGTON, June 22, 1864.
(Extract.)

30. By direction of the President, 1st Lieut. John I. Satter, Company "K," 8th Minnesota Volunteers, is hereby dishonorably dismissed the service of the United States, with loss of all pay and allowances, for gross and unpardonable neglect of duty, in not properly preparing and signing the muster and pay rolls of his company, thereby working prejudice to the interests of the enlisted men of his command, by preventing them from receiving their pay, prior to their starting on a distant expedition.

Commanding Generals of Armies and Departments will promulgate this Order to their respective commands.

By order of the Secretary of War:
E. D. TOWNSEND,
Asst. Adj. General.
By Command of MAJOR-GEN. J. G. FOSTER,
W. L. M. BUNGER,
Asst. Adj. General.

OFFICIAL:
THOMAS J. ROBINSON,
1st Lieut. 21st U. S. C. T.,
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The first number of the above Newspaper was published on the 3d day of March, 1864. It will continue to be issued on **THURSDAY**

of each week, and will aim to be, in all things proper for publication, a truthful record of what occurs in the Department of the South, and among the fleets of the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron.

Each issue will contain the **LATEST NEWS** from the various Military Posts in South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, together with such General and Special Orders from Headquarters of the Department, or from the Adjutant General's Office at Washington, as may interest the readers of this command. The gist of Northern news, as given by our Regular Correspondents at New York, Boston and other points, will also constitute a regular feature of the sheet.

Keeping aloof from whatever may tend in any way to aid our enemies, or to sow dissensions among our troops, it will be the constant purpose of **THE PALMETTO HERALD**, by all means in its power, to strengthen our Army and Navy in their labors, and to help them on to a speedy, glorious and final success.

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