

sions, hitherto, have been conferred only by promotion from the ranks. But to secure the requisite number of competent officers, a board has been appointed to examine applicants and determine their relative merit. From the list selected by the board, and in the order of merit, appointments are to be made. Two years' actual service in the war is indispensable for appointment.

The establishment of a well-organized militia system is one of the most important subjects that will demand the attention of Congress. This subject has already received careful consideration, and it is believed that, after conference with the appropriate committees, a practical system may be agreed upon.

Measures for the establishment of homes, and some provisions for the aid and relief of wounded and disabled soldiers, is also a subject that will commend itself strongly to every patriotic heart. Whether this duty, which the country owes to patriots who have suffered in the national defence, can best be performed by the national government or administered by the respective State authorities, and whether relief can best be afforded by an increase of pension, or by establishing homes, are points on which opinions differ, and which can only be settled by the wisdom of Congress.

The Board of Visitors to the Military Academy at West Point, in June last, made an elaborate report, which is herewith submitted. They recommend a reorganization, and a number of measures which, in their opinion, will enhance the benefits of that national institution. To these the attention of Congress is respectfully invited, with the recommendation that the number of cadets be increased, as recommended, and that the superintendence of the institution be no longer confined to the engineer bureau. It is believed that the Military Academy is at present well conducted, and that their responsible duties are efficiently performed by the officers, professors, and instructors charged with the institution.

The war appropriations at the last session of Congress, as has been stated, amounted to the sum of \$516,240,131 70. The estimates for the next fiscal year, commencing June 30, 1866, are \$33,814,461 83.

These estimates are based upon a standing force of fifty thousand men, so organized as to admit of an increase, without additional organizations, to 82,600 troops of all arms.

This estimate has been made after conference and careful consideration, and is believed to be adequate for any national exigency, if the country should be blessed with peace. The reduction of the national military force, in its rapidity and numbers, is without example, and if there be any alarm in the public mind because this reduction is made while grave questions at home and abroad are unsettled, a brief consideration of the subject will show that there is no cause for apprehension.

The force to be retained is small compared with that which was organized to subdue the rebellion. But the only reasons demanding greater force are—1st, renewal of the insurrection; 2d, a foreign war. For either or both emergencies the national resources remain ample. The chief demands for war, as shown by our experience, are, 1st, troops; 2d, arms and ammunition; 3d, clothing; 4th, transportation; and 5th, subsistence supplies.

The troops disbanded were chiefly volunteers, who went to the field to uphold the system of free government established by their fathers, and which they mean to bequeath to their children. Their toils and sufferings, their marches, battles, and victories, have not diminished the value of that government to them; so that any new rebellion would encounter equal or greater force for its reduction; and none can ever spring up with such advantages at the start, or be conducted with superior means, ability, or prospect of success. A foreign war would intensify the national feeling, and thousands, once misled, would rejoice to atone their error by rallying to the national flag. The question of *time* in which armies could be raised to quell insurrection or repel invasion is, therefore, the only question relating to troops. Our experience in this point is significant. When Lee's army surrendered, thousands of recruits were pouring in, and men were discharged from recruiting stations and rendezvous in every State. On several occasions, when troops were promptly needed to avert impending disaster, vigorous exertion brought them into the field from remote States, with incredible speed. Official reports show that after the disasters on the Peninsula, in 1862, over eighty thousand troops were enlisted, organized, armed, equipped and sent into the field in less than a month. Sixty thousand troops have repeatedly gone to the field within four weeks. And ninety thousand infantry were sent to the armies, from the five States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin, within twenty days.

When the rebellion commenced, the nation was a stranger to war. Officers had little experience, privates had none. But the present generation of men in this country are now veteran soldiers. For the battle, the march, or the siege, they are already trained. They are as much at home in the tented field as in the farm-house, the manufactory, or the shop. No time is required to train them; and the speed of the railroad and telegraph determines the time required to raise an army in the United States.

Second. As to arms and ammunition. The disbanded armies were allowed to take home their arms at a nominal price. Rust is not likely to gather on the musket or sabre borne through the campaigns of 1864 and 1865. The government retains in its arsenals more than a million of the best quality of arms and equipments. The artillery on hand tasks the department for its means of storage. The manufacture of ammunition requires materials for which we have in some degree relied upon other countries, because they could be had cheaper. For this reason, and to guard against any mischance, three years' stock of material for ammunition has always been kept in store, and the supply on hand is ample for any war that can be waged against us by any nation.

Third. Clothing, transportation, and subsistence. After selling or distributing among freedmen and refugees all damaged or irregular clothing, the stock of clothing and material in the quartermaster's depots is sufficient for any armies that may be called into service. The water transports and rolling stock, mules, wagons and horses held by the government were adequate to the movement and supply of larger forces, in less time, than had heretofore been known in war. The government has disposed or is disposing of this transportation, but it remains in this country, and can answer any exigency.

Army subsistence is derived from the country in which military operations are carried on, or supplied from other markets. During the war this most vital branch of the service never failed. It answers to the demand, and is ever ready to meet the national call.

It is plain, therefore, that the abundance of our means for war enables the government of the United States to reduce the standing force to a lower degree than any other nation. Unless war be actually raging, the military force can be brought within very narrow limits. However sudden the exigency calling for an exhibition of military power, it can be promptly met. With our education, habits, and experience, the nation, while in the midst of peace, is prepared for war.

The present military organization comprehends nineteen departments, embraced in five military divisions, as follows:

1. The department of the East, Major General Joseph Hooker to command, to embrace the New England States, New York, and New Jersey. Headquarters at New York city.
2. The middle department, Major General W. S. Hancock to command, to embrace the States of West Virginia, Maryland, (excepting the counties of Montgomery, that part of Anne Arundel lying south of the Annapolis and Elk Ridge railroad, and excluding the city of Annapolis, Prince George's, Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's,) the county of Loudon, and the Shenandoah valley as far south as and including Rockingham county, in Virginia, the States of Delaware and Pennsylvania. Headquarters at Baltimore.
3. The department of Washington, Major General C. C. Augur to command, to embrace the District of Columbia, the counties of Montgomery, that part of Anne Arundel lying south of the Annapolis and Elk Ridge railroad, and including the city of Annapolis, Prince George's, Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's, in Maryland, and Alexandria and Fairfax counties, in Virginia. Headquarters at Washington.
4. The department of the Ohio, Major General E. O. C. Ord to command, to embrace the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Michigan. Headquarters at Detroit.
5. The department of the Tennessee, Major General George Stoneman to command, to embrace the State of Tennessee. Headquarters at Knoxville.
6. The department of Kentucky, Major General John M. Palmer to command, to embrace the State of Kentucky, and Jeffersonville and New Albany, in Indiana. Headquarters at Louisville.
7. The department of the Missouri, Major General John Pope to command, to embrace the States of Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas, and the Territories of Colorado, Utah, Nebraska, Dakota, New Mexico and Montana. Headquarters at St. Louis.
8. The department of Virginia, Major General Alfred H. Terry to command, to embrace the State of Virginia, excepting Alexandria, Fairfax and Loudon counties, and the Shenandoah valley as far south as and including Rockingham county. Headquarters at Richmond.

9. The department of North Carolina, Major General J. M. Schofield to command, to embrace the State of North Carolina. Headquarters at Raleigh.
  10. The department of South Carolina, Major General Daniel Sickles to command, to embrace the State of South Carolina. Headquarters at Charleston.
  11. The department of Georgia, Major General James B. Steedman to command, to embrace the State of Georgia. Headquarters at Augusta.
  12. The department of Florida, Major General John G. Foster to command, to embrace the State of Florida. Headquarters at Tallahassee.
  13. The department of Mississippi, Major General Thomas J. Wood to command, to embrace the State of Mississippi. Headquarters at Vicksburg.
  14. The department of Alabama, Major General C. R. Wood to command, to embrace the State of Alabama. Headquarters at Mobile.
  15. The department of Louisiana, Major General E. R. S. Canby to command, to embrace the State of Louisiana. Headquarters at New Orleans.
  16. The department of Texas, Major General H. G. Wright to command, to embrace the State of Texas. Headquarters at Galveston.
  17. The department of Arkansas, Major General J. J. Reynolds to command, to embrace the State of Arkansas and the Indian Territory. Headquarters at Little Rock.
  18. The department of the Columbia, Brigadier General F. Steele to command, to embrace the State of Oregon, and Territories of Washington and Idaho. Headquarters at Fort Vancouver.
  19. The department of California, Major General Irvin McDowell to command, to embrace the States of California and Nevada and Territories of New Mexico and Arizona. Headquarters at San Francisco.
1. The military division of the Atlantic, Major General George G. Meade to command, to embrace the department of the east, midâite department, department of Virginia, department of North Carolina and department of South Carolina. Headquarters at Philadelphia.
  2. The military division of the Mississippi, Major General W. T. Sherman to command, to embrace the department of the Ohio, department of the Missouri and department of Arkansas. Headquarters at St. Louis.
  3. The military division of the Gulf, Major General P. H. Sheridan to command, to embrace the department of Louisiana, department of Texas and department of Florida. Headquarters at New Orleans.
  4. The military division of the Tennessee, Major General G. H. Thomas to command, to embrace the department of the Tennessee, department of Kentucky, department of Georgia, department of Mississippi and department of Alabama. Headquarters at Nashville.
  5. The military division of the Pacific, Major General H. W. Halleck to command, to embrace the department of the Columbia and department of California. Headquarters at San Francisco.
- Indian hostilities upon the plains and the overland routes to the Pacific coast have given much annoyance, required the employment of many troops, and occasioned great expense to the military department. Several Indian councils have been held during the past season, and large military expeditions sent out

against hostile tribes and bands. What has been accomplished by treaty or by fighting will doubtless be exhibited in the official reports of the Indian campaigns, which have not yet reached the department.

Disbanding the troops reduces at once the amount to be expended in some items of appropriation, but in others requires larger immediate expenditures. Upon their discharge the soldiers became entitled to all the instalments of bounty which would have fallen due at later periods, and in many cases exceeding a year's pay. The transportation of large armies from the field, in southern States, to their remote homes in the west, or in eastern and northern States, made extraordinary drafts on the quartermaster's department, beyond what would be required for armies marching or encamped. The vast amount of live stock on hand requires forage until sales can be made. These are effected with the utmost diligence; but still this large item of expenditure continues through a large part of the fiscal year. The financial effects, therefore, of the reduction of the army and retrenchment of expenditures can only operate to any great extent on the next fiscal year.

To accomplish the great object of promptly reducing the military expenditures, the following general order was made by the Secretary of War on the 28th of April:

*For reducing expenses of the military establishment.*

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 77.—Ordered—I. That the chiefs of the respective bureaus of this department proceed immediately to reduce the expenses of their respective departments to what is absolutely necessary, in view of an immediate reduction of the forces in the field and garrison, and the speedy termination of hostilities, and that they severally make out statements of the reduction they deem practicable.

II. That the Quartermaster General discharge all ocean transports not required to bring home troops in remote departments. All river and inland transportation will be discharged except that required for necessary supplies to troops in the field. Purchases of horses, mules, wagons and other land transportation will be stopped; also purchases of forage, except what is required for immediate consumption. All purchases for railroad construction and transportation will also be stopped.

III. That the Commissary General of Subsistence stop the purchase of supplies in his department, except for such as may, with what is on hand, be required for the forces in the field, to the first of June next.

IV. That the Chief of Ordnance stop all purchases of arms, ammunition, and materials therefor, and reduce the manufacturing of arms and ordnance stores in government arsenals as rapidly as can be done without injury to the service.

V. That the Chief of Engineers stop work on all field fortifications and other works, except those for which specific appropriations have been made by Congress for completion, or that may be required for the proper protection of works in progress.

VI. That all volunteer soldiers (patients) in hospitals, except veteran volunteers, veterans of the First Army Corps (Hancock's) and enlisted men of the Veteran Reserve Corps, who require no further medical treatment, be honorably discharged from service, with immediate payment.

All officers and enlisted men who have been prisoners of war, and now on furlough or at the parole camps, and all recruits in rendezvous, except those for the regular army and the First Army Corps (Hancock's,) will likewise be honorably discharged.

Officers whose duty it is, under the regulations of the service, to make out rolls and other final papers connected with the discharge and payment of soldiers, are directed to make them out without delay, so that this order may be carried into effect immediately. Commanding generals of armies and departments will look to the prompt execution of this work

VII. The Adjutant General of the army will cause immediate returns to be made by all commanders in the field, garrisons, detachments and posts, of their respective forces, with a view to their immediate reduction.

VIII. The quartermaster's, subsistence, ordnance, engineer, and provost marshal general's departments will reduce the number of clerks and employees to that absolutely required for closing the business of their respective departments, and will, without delay, report to the Secretary of War the number required of each class or grade.

The Surgeon General will make similar reductions of medical officers, nurses, and attendants in his bureau.

IX. The chiefs of the respective bureaus will immediately cause property returns to be made out of the public property in their charge, and a statement of the property in each that may be sold, upon advertisement and public sale, without prejudice to the service.

X. The commissary of prisoners will have rolls made out of the name, residence, time and place of capture and occupation of all prisoners of war who will take the oath of allegiance to the United States, to the end that such as are disposed to become good and loyal citizens of the United States, and who are proper objects of executive clemency, may be released upon the terms that to the President shall seem fit and consistent with public safety.

The administrative details of the department during the great military operations that have been mentioned, and what has been done towards a reduction to a peace establishment, will appear in the reports of the respective chiefs of bureaus.

*Adjutant General's Report.*—From the report of the Adjutant General, it will be seen that the recruiting service of the regular army is progressing favorably; the number of recruits enlisted for all arms, from October 31, 1864, to October 1, 1865, having been 19,555. The regiments comprising it have been distributed to stations, and their ranks are rapidly filling up, thus enabling the department to relieve regiments of volunteer troops. The present authorized strength of the regular regiments is 1,570 officers and 41,819 enlisted men. This estimate is made on the basis of 42 privates to a company, the number now allowed by law at all except frontier posts.

It is recommended in the report that the maximum standard be fixed at 100 enlisted men to a company.

The Adjutant General recommends that provisions be made by law for enlisting one hundred boys, not under twelve years of age, as musicians, as was done before the laws of 1864 and 1865 prohibited the enlistment of minors under the age of sixteen years; that the laws by which one-half of their pay, during the period of absence, is lost by officers absent with leave for more than thirty days in one year, except from wounds or sickness, be repealed; and that an act be passed providing for the enlistment of meritorious disabled soldiers as superintendents of the national cemeteries, numbering about forty, each to receive the pay and allowance of an ordnance sergeant.

Eight volumes of reports of battles, with maps and indexes, prepared under the resolution of Congress of May 19, 1864, have been completed and sent to the government printing office. The publication of the greater part of the remaining reports is only deferred until the receipt of others not yet rendered, and which are required to preserve the chronological order observed in the

preparation of the volumes already completed. The register of volunteer officers called for by resolution of June 30, 1864, and embracing some 200,000 names, will be completed by the time Congress assembles.

The aggregate of volunteers, drafted men, and substitutes ordered to the field between the 1st of November, 1864, and 30th of April, 1865, was 202,117. The number of volunteers, drafted men, and militia mustered out and discharged within the same period was 61,000. In disbanding the forces no longer required after the cessation of hostilities, the same machinery of mustering officers and depots has been used as in recruiting. Regiments have been sent home as fast as they could be transported and paid, the officers being held responsible for the good behavior of the men. Instances have been rare of any disorders. Much credit is due to mustering officers, paymasters, and railroad companies, through whose efforts troops, numbering in the aggregate 800,963 men, have been transported, mustered out and paid.

On the 28th of April, 1865, it was ordered that returns be made of the volunteer forces in the field, with a view to their immediate reduction, and in connexion with this order regulations were prepared and promulgated for their muster out and discharge. In executing this work, promptness and a proper protection of the interests of the government and the troops were held in view; and among other measures necessary to its completion, rendezvous were established in the field, as well as in most of the States. At the field rendezvous all surplus property was taken possession of by the staff officers of the respective supply departments, and the muster-out rolls and other discharge papers prepared under the direction of corps commissaries of musters and their assistants. Corps and department commanders were instructed to see that the work was pushed with energy, using for that end the division and brigade commanders, with their respective staff officers to superintend it. As soon as a regiment or other organization had its muster-out papers prepared, it was placed *en route* to its State for payment and final discharge. At the State rendezvous was located the chief mustering officer of the State, or one or more of his assistants, with paymasters, quartermasters, commissaries of subsistence and ordnance officers, whose duties were with the payment and final discharge of the troops; their care whilst awaiting the same; the reception of the public property turned in by them, and their transportation to their homes after discharge.

By the foregoing arrangements the entire force of commissaries and assistant commissaries of musters for troops in the field have been made available for the work, in connexion with the chief and other State mustering officers. The most experienced mustering officers and those most familiar with the regimental records were secured; the records from which the mustering out data was to be obtained were readily accessible, and the loss of records, (so common through the neglect of regimental officers,) whilst the regiments were *en route* from the field to their States, was avoided. Regimental officers have been held to a rigid accountability in preparing the records, and the interests of the enlisted men thus protected. Order and discipline has been maintained whilst troops were

*en route* to the States and after arrival therein. Troops have been comfortably cared for up to the moment they were paid off and ready to start for their homes. Dissatisfaction among them has been obviated and causes for complaint removed, and all public property has been easily secured and readily accounted for.

The arrangements for the care of discharged troops being completed, orders to muster out and discharge the forces from service were issued as follows:

April 29.—All recruits, drafted men, substitutes, and volunteers remaining at the several State depots.

May 4.—All patients in hospitals, except veteran volunteers and veterans of the first army corps, (Hancock's.)

May 8.—All troops of the cavalry arm whose terms of service would expire prior to October 1.

May 9.—All officers and enlisted men whose terms would expire prior to May 31, inclusive.

May 17.—All organizations of white troops in the army of the Potomac whose terms of service would expire prior to September 30, inclusive.

May 18.—All organizations of white troops in Major General Sherman's command, whose terms of service would expire prior to September 30, inclusive.

May 29.—All light artillery in the army of the Potomac, ninth army corps, army of Georgia, and army of the Tennessee.

May 29.—All organizations of white troops whose terms of service would expire prior to September 30, inclusive, in armies and departments, except departments of the east, New Mexico, Pacific, and northern.

June 2.—All surplus light artillery; that only absolutely required by the necessities of the service in the respective armies and departments to be retained.

June 5.—All dismounted cavalry, all infantry in the northern department and department of the east, and all cavalry in the department of the east.

June 16.—All troops in the department of the Pacific whose terms of service would expire prior to October 1.

June 17.—All enlisted men of the veteran reserve corps who would have been entitled to their discharge had they remained with their regiments.

June 28.—18,000 veterans (infantry) of the army of the Potomac; 15,000 of the army of the Tennessee, (then consisting of the remaining regiments of the army of Georgia and army of the Tennessee;) and 7,000 of the middle military division.

June 30.—All surplus troops, except in the department of the Gulf, army of the Tennessee, provisional corps army of the Potomac, and 1st army corps. Strength of commands, for all arms, to be reduced to the minimum necessary to meet the requirements of the service.

July 1.—All remaining veteran regiments of the army of the Tennessee and provisional corps; army of the Potomac, (that corps was the remnant of the army of the Potomac.)

July 6.—The remainder of the army of the Tennessee.

July 7.—The remainder of the provisional corps army of the Potomac.

July 21.—All cavalry in the department of Virginia except two regiments, all in the department of North Carolina except one regiment, and all in the middle department except one regiment.

August 1.—All white troops, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, in the department of Texas, which, in the judgment of Major General Sheridan, could be dispensed with.

August 3.—The same order was extended to the department of Louisiana.

August 14.—Additional infantry and heavy artillery (white) in military departments, as follows: Virginia, 5,000; North Carolina, 8,000; Washington, 8,000; Mississippi, 2,000; Kentucky, 5,000; middle, 6,000.

August 21.—3,000 additional white troops in the department of Arkansas.

September 8.—All surplus troops in the department of Washington, so as to reduce that command to 6,000 officers and men of all arms.

September 8.—All organizations of colored troops which were enlisted in northern States.

October 9.—All the remaining forces (white) of the cavalry arm east of the Mississippi.

October 9.—All troops on the Pacific coast, as many as possible immediately; the remainder on the arrival of the last battalion of the fourteenth United States infantry.

October 10.—All troops in New Mexico; one regiment immediately, the remainder on the arrival of certain regular troops.

In addition to the foregoing, and from time to time, as the services of the troops could be dispensed with, sixty-eight regiments, seven companies, and six battalions were ordered mustered out.

The rapidity with which the work has been executed will be apparent from the fact that to August 7, 640,806 troops had been mustered out; August 22, 719,338; September 14, 741,107; October 15, 785,205; November 15, 800,963.

The command of Major General Sherman (army of the Tennessee and army of Georgia) and the army of the Potomac were first to complete their musters-out entirely. Regiments commenced leaving General Sherman's command, then numbering, present and absent, 116,183 officers and men, from the rendezvous, near Washington, on the 29th of May, and on the 1st of August the last one of the regiments mustered out left Louisville, Kentucky, to which point the command (after the musters-out therefrom were partly completed,) was transferred, and the armies composing it merged into one, called the army of the Tennessee. The work of mustering out the troops was not continuous, it having been interrupted and delayed by the transfer of the two armies from this city to Louisville, and their subsequent consolidation.

Regiments commenced leaving the army of the Potomac (when numbering, including 9th corps, 162,851 officers and men, present and absent,) from the rendezvous near this city on the 29th of May, and about six weeks thereafter

(July 19) the last regiment started for home. During the interval the work, like that from General Sherman's command, was not continuous, it being interrupted and delayed by the movement of the 6th corps from Danville, Virginia, to Washington, and the consolidation, by orders of June 28, of the remaining portion of the army into a provisional corps, numbering, present and absent, 22,699 officers and men.

Thus, for the two commands in question, and between the 29th of May and the 1st of August, (two months,) 279,034 officers and men, present and absent, were mustered out and placed *en route* to their homes. Including other armies and departments, the number was increased by August 7 (two months and seven days) to 640,806 officers and men.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the mass of the forces discharged were mustered out by September 14, or within two and half months from the time the movements of troops homeward commenced. The average per month during that time is 296,442.

By reference to the report of the officer in charge of the bureau for the organization of colored troops, it will be seen that the increase in the number of these troops since his last annual report is 49,509, of which 4,244 were recruited in the States in rebellion, and credited to the loyal States, under the provisions of the act of July 4, 1864. The whole number of colored men enlisted into the service of the United States during the rebellion was 178,975. The largest number in service was on the 15th of July, 1865, viz., 123,156. The loss during the war from all causes, except muster out, was 68,178. There have been 33,234 colored troops mustered out. The number remaining in service after existing orders for muster-out shall have been executed will be 85,024. The number of applicants for commissions in colored troops amounted to 9,019, of which 3,790 were examined. Of this number 1,472 were rejected, and 2,318 received appointments. The number of soldiers discharged from regiments, etc., of white troops to accept appointments in organizations of colored troops, was 1,767. It is ascertained, from the reports of inspecting officers, that the *morale* of the organization is good.

*Provost Marshal General.*—On the 1st day of November, 1864, the date to which the last annual report of the provost marshal general was brought up, the business of recruiting and the draft under the call of July 18, 1864, was in progress:

The number called for was.....	500,000
Reduced by credits on former calls.....	265,673
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To be obtained.....	234,327
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The whole number of voluntary enlistments under that call was 188,172, viz:

Volunteers, (white).....	146,392
Volunteers, (colored).....	15,961
Regulars.....	6,339
Seamen.....	17,606
Marine corps.....	1,874
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>188,172</b>

The whole number of drafted men and substitutes obtained under that call was 54,707, viz:

Number held to personal service.....	26,205
Number of substitutes for drafted men.....	28,502
	<hr/>
	54,707
Number of substitutes for enrolled men.....	29,584
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>84,291</b>

Whole number obtained under the July call.....272,463

On the 19th of December, 1864, a call was made for three hundred thousand (300,000) men.

Under this call the whole number of voluntary enlistments was 157,058:

Volunteers, (white).....	130,620
Volunteers, (colored).....	10,055
Regulars.....	6,958
Seamen.....	9,106
Marine corps.....	319
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>157,058</b>

The whole number of drafted men and substitutes under that call was 24,580:

Number held to personal service.....	12,566
Number of substitutes for drafted men.....	12,014
	<hr/>
	24,580
Number of substitutes for enrolled men.....	12,997
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>37,577</b>

Whole number raised under December call was.....194,635

The suspension of active military operations occurred while the business of the draft, under this call, was in progress, and orders were issued on the 13th

of April, 1865, to discontinue the business of recruiting and drafting; and on the next day all drafted men who had not been forwarded to general rendezvous, were ordered to be discharged, and soon after all who had not been forwarded to the field were discharged by orders through the Adjutant General.

The aggregate quotas charged against the several States, under all calls made by the President of the United States, from the 15th day of April, 1861, to the 14th day of April, 1865, at which time drafting and recruiting ceased, was.....2,759,049

The terms of service varying from three months to three years, as shown in detail by the books of the Provost Marshal General's office.

The aggregate number of men credited on the several calls, and put into service of the United States in the army, navy, and marine corps, during the above period, was.....2,656,553

Leaving a deficiency on all calls, when the war closed, of.....102,496

Which would have been obtained in full if recruiting and drafting had not been discontinued.

This number does not embrace the "emergency men" put into service during the summer of 1863, by the States of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, nor those furnished by the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, during the "Morgan raid," amounting in all to over 120,000 men, who served periods of about two or three weeks.

In estimating the number of troops called into service, it has been the rule of the department to take into account the whole number of men mustered, without regard to the fact that the same persons may have been previously discharged, after having been accepted and credited on previous calls.

Under the different calls, volunteers have been accepted for various terms of service, viz: three, six, and nine months, and one, two, and three years respectively; and a large number of persons who had served under one call have subsequently enlisted under another. Thus a portion of those who enlisted under the call in April, 1861, for 75,000 three-months men, again enlisted under the succeeding call in July following for three years; others re-entered the service for nine months, or for one or two years, and at the expiration of these periods again re-enlisted for three years, and the entire "veteran volunteer" force consisted of those who, having served two years, re-enlisted for three years more.

It will be observed, therefore, that a large portion of the number counted in filling calls has been furnished, first, by the re-enlistment of those in service, and, second, by those who have re-entered the service after a discharge from a former enlistment under which they had been credited; that is, the different calls were filled by crediting each accepted enlistment, instead of limiting the credit to the actual number of persons who entered the service anew; and hence to determine the number of men actually entering the service for the first time,

under the different calls, the number credited should be reduced in the same ratio that the enlistments of the same persons have been repeated. The extent of this reduction cannot be calculated at this time, or even estimated with sufficient accuracy to be useful.

It follows, therefore, that on account of a necessary repetition of credits, incident to enlistments, the tax upon the military basis of the country has been less than would appear by considering simply the number of men embraced in the different calls for troops, or the number of credits allowed upon these calls.

The amount of commutation money received from November 1, 1864, to November 1, 1865, was:

On account of draft and substitute fund.....	\$317,130 00
On account of sick and wounded soldiers (from non-combatants, under section 17 of the act of February 24, 1864).....	340,987 53
Total.....	<u>658,117 53</u>
The total amount of "draft and substitute fund" received under the act approved March 3, 1863, is.....	
	\$25,902,029 25
The total amount expended.....	
	16,387,135 80
Balance remaining in treasury to credit of this fund.....	
	<u>9,514,893 45</u>

There are just claims still outstanding which have to be met from this fund.

The regiments of the veteran reserve corps have been performing garrison duty in Washington and its defensive works, at the various depots for recruits and drafted men, at the provost marshal's rendezvous, escorting recruits to the field, and more recently performing garrison duty at the several rendezvous for muster-out of the volunteer forces.

Since the termination of active operations no transfers have been made to this corps, nor have any officers been appointed.

The amount expended from the appropriation for "collecting, drilling, and organizing volunteers," from November 1, 1864, to November 1, 1865, was \$1,422,281 73.

The balance of this appropriation remaining in the treasury is \$12,163,386 09, and about half a million dollars is still in the hands of the disbursing officers, which is needed to pay outstanding accounts and expenses incurred in mustering out the volunteer forces of the United States.

As fast as the exigencies of the service permitted, the force employed has been reduced. The surgeons and commissioners of boards of enrolment in all the districts, 370 in number, have been discharged. The different districts have been consolidated, and but thirty-three provost marshals are now in service, all of whom will be discharged as soon as their services can be dispensed with.

No appropriation of money will be required for the support of this bureau during the next fiscal year.

The full report of the operations of the Provost Marshal General's bureau will contain much statistical and other valuable information, which will be submitted when completed.

*Paymaster General.*—The Paymaster General reports that during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1865, \$7,839,225 47 were paid to the regular army, while \$300,738,635 95 were paid to volunteers, and that the total disbursements since June 30, 1864, to the date of his report, amount in the aggregate to \$524,054,946 37. Payments amounting to \$270,000,000 have been made to about 800,000 mustered-out troops. The highest number of additional paymasters in service during the fiscal year was 447; the number now in service is 210. All the troops retained in service have been paid to June 30, 1865, and many organizations to August 31, 1865, and to all discharged troops in full to date of discharge.

The anticipated payments of bounties to soldiers, and three months' additional pay to officers mustered out that has fallen due by reason of muster out, amount to ninety-one millions seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars, (\$91,750,000.)

The whole sum disbursed by the pay department since the commencement of the war, viz., from July 1, 1861, to July 1, 1865, amounts to one thousand and twenty-nine millions two hundred and thirty-nine thousand dollars, (\$1,029,239,000.)

The total losses and defalcations during the same period, if nothing should be recovered, amount to the sum of five hundred and forty-one thousand dollars, (\$541,000,) and it is believed that not less than half of this amount will be recovered. The total expenses of disbursement, including all pay and allowances, commutation of quarters, fuel, and travelling expenses, for four years and four months, amount to six millions four hundred and twenty-nine thousand six hundred dollars, (\$6,429,600.)

Thus it is seen that the costs of disbursement to armies in the field, and amid all the hazards of unexampled war, and including all losses and expenses, are less than three-fourths of one per cent.

*Commissary General of Subsistence.*—The subsistence stores required during the year for distribution to the armies in the field, have, as during the earlier years of the war, been purchased in the principal markets of the northern States. The facilities and cost of transportation to the various points where they were required for issue, the relative prices of the different markets, and a due regard to the general commercial interests of the country, have governed the subsistence department in apportioning those purchases among the several market centres of the country. As New Orleans is gradually resuming a healthy commercial condition, a considerable portion of the supplies required for distribution from that point can be obtained in that market. Although the present general condition of the southern States is not such as to afford a large amount of supplies, still subsistence officers are able, in some parts of those States, to enter into contracts for the partial supply of the troops serving therein.

The principal purchasing officers have exhibited much ability in the performance of their duties, and great fidelity to the interests of the country. The principal commissaries immediately responsible for the subsistence of the several armies in the field have discharged the important and often difficult duties of receiving, protecting, and distributing the supplies forwarded to them with commendable efficiency and success. They have also, by great energy, been able to a considerable extent to subsist the troops upon the resources of the country in which the armies were operating, or through which they were passing. It is believed that during the entire war no campaign, contemplated movement, or expedition has failed on account of the inability of the subsistence department to meet its proper requirements, and that the troops, wherever stationed or operating, have, with rare exceptions, been supplied with rations in good and wholesome condition.

The muster-out of a large part of the army, consequent upon the sudden close of active military operations, unavoidably left on hand in some of the depots an excessive supply of subsistence stores. These have been sent to other points where they were required. Surplus and damaged stores will be disposed of by sale. A sufficient quantity of hard bread and other articles have been kept from earlier sale with the view of meeting, in an economical manner, the wants of those people, white and colored, who, by the events of the war, have been reduced to a suffering condition.

Under orders of June 29, 1865, the whiskey ration was discontinued, and the sale of the supply on hand has already taken place at many points, and will soon be completed.

During the past year, as in previous years of the war, a very considerable income has been derived from the sale of the hides, tallow, and other parts of beef cattle not issuable as beef to the troops.

Prisoners of war, held at thirty-two forts, prison-barracks, camps and hospitals, have been well subsisted, having received a sufficient portion and variety of the ration to insure health, leaving in the hands of the several issuing commissaries, as "savings," that portion of the ration not deemed necessary for persons living in entire idleness. The pecuniary value of these "savings" has constituted a prison fund, available, under the instructions of the commissary general of prisoners, for the purchase of articles necessary for the prison-barracks and hospitals, and for meeting other necessary expenses of the prisons. There has been transferred to the subsistence department a "savings" credit of the amount of \$1,507,359 01, and there remains yet to be transferred an amount not less than \$337,766 98, making a total amount of \$1,845,125 99.

Under section 3 of the act of July 4, 1864, 1,470 claims have been submitted, of which 50 have been approved for payment, and 413 disallowed; 650 are awaiting explanation, and 357 remain to be examined.

It is proposed to ascertain and exhibit, in a tabular form, the total quantity of each article of subsistence stores purchased for the use of the army during each year of the war, from 1861 to 1865, inclusive. Such a statement, it is be-

lieved, would prove an interesting addition to the commercial statistics of the country.

The officers of the subsistence department, regular and volunteer, have, with but few exceptions, discharged their duties with fidelity and success.

*Surgeon General.*—The surgeon general reports that the receipts from all sources and available for the expenses of the medical department during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1865, were \$20,489,680 47. Disbursements during the year, \$19,328,499 23, leaving a balance in the treasury on June 30, of \$1,161,181 24.

The ample provision for sick and wounded existing at the date of the last annual report was increased during the ensuing months until a maximum of 204 general hospitals, with a capacity of 136,894 beds, was reached.

Upon the termination of active military movements, immediate measures were taken to reduce the expenses of the medical department. Of the 201 general hospitals open on January 1, 1865, 171 have been discontinued. Three of the sea-going hospital transports have been discharged; the fourth is now constantly engaged in transfer of sick and wounded from southern ports to the general hospitals in New York harbor. All of the river hospital-boats have been turned over to the quartermaster's department, and but a single hospital train is retained in the southwest. The vast amount of medicines and hospital supplies made surplus by the reduction of the army has been carefully collected at prominent points, and is being disposed of at public auction, most of the articles bringing their full value, and in some instances their cost price.

Two hundred and fourteen surgeons and assistant surgeons of volunteers have been mustered out, and of the 265 hospital chaplains appointed during the war 29 only are still in commission.

The returns of sick and wounded show that of white troops 1,057,423 cases have been treated in general hospitals alone, from 1861 to July 1, 1865, of which the rate of mortality was 8 per cent. In nearly all sections of the country, the health of the troops has been fully equal to that of preceding years, though military movements of unprecedented magnitude have been pushed to successful termination, without regard to seasons. An epidemic of yellow fever prevailed at Newbern, N. C., in the fall of 1864, and the released or exchanged prisoners arriving at Wilmington, N. C., from rebel prisons, suffered from an epidemic of typhoid fever. With these exceptions no serious epidemics have appeared, and it is interesting to note that quarantine regulations, strictly enforced by military authority, have proven, during the occupation of southern seaports and cities by our troops, to be an absolute protection against the importation of contagious or infectious diseases. In view of the apprehensions entertained in regard to the Asiatic cholera, now devastating the shores of the Mediterranean, this becomes a significant fact.

In addition to the alphabetical registers of dead, not yet fully completed, the records of the medical department contain 30,000 (thirty thousand) special reports of the more important forms of surgical injuries, of diseases and opera-



tions. These reports, with statistical data, and a pathological collection numbering 7,630 specimens, furnish a mass of valuable information, which is being rapidly arranged and tabulated, as a medical and surgical history of the war, for the publication of the first volume of which an appropriation will be asked.

In this connexion, and as illustrating more in detail the importance of this work, the Army Medical Museum assumes the highest value. By its array of indisputable facts, supported and enriched by full reports, it supplies instruction otherwise unattainable, and preserves for future application the dearly bought experience of four years of war. Apart from its great usefulness, it is also an honorable record of the skill and services of those medical officers whose contributions constitute its value, and whose incentive to these self-imposed labors has been the desire to elevate their profession. A small appropriation has been asked to continue and extend this collection.

For recommendation of measures tending to the greater efficiency of the medical department, reference is made to the special report from the Surgeon General's office, which will be submitted to the appropriate congressional committees.

*Quartermaster General.*—The report of the Quartermaster General contains a statement of the operations and expenditures of the department under his control during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1865. The principal movement of troops by the quartermaster's department during that time are described. They have been made promptly and with few accidents, and are striking illustrations of the improvements in the art of war which have been developed during the late contest.

The twenty-third army corps, after fighting at Nashville, in the midst of ice and snow in December, 1864, was, on the conclusion of the campaign in the west, transferred from the valley of the Tennessee to the banks of the Potomac, moving by river and rail down the Tennessee, up the Ohio, across the snow-covered Alleghanies, a distance of 1,400 miles, and in the short space of eleven days was encamped on the banks of the Potomac, then blocked up with the ice of a most severe winter. Vessels were collected to meet this corps, the obstacles interposed by the ice were overcome, and early in February the troops composing it were fighting before Wilmington, on the coast of North Carolina.

The transfer of the eleventh and twelfth corps, under General Hooker in 1863, from the Potomac to the Tennessee, is the only parallel to this movement. That was an almost unexampled operation at the time. General Hooker's command contained 23,000 men, and was accompanied by its artillery and trains, baggage and animals, and accomplished the distance from the Rapidan, in Virginia, to Stevenson, in Alabama, a distance of eleven hundred and ninety-two miles, in seven days, crossing the Ohio river twice. The twenty-third army corps moved 15,000 strong.

Other important operations are described, among which are the supply of the army of Lieutenant General Grant before Richmond; of the army of General Sherman at Atlanta, preparatory to his march to Savannah; of the same army

at the depots on the Atlantic, on his communicating with the coast, first at Savannah and afterwards at Goldsborough, at both of which places depots were established, and his army re-enforced and equipped with everything necessary to make successful campaigns.

The transfer of the twenty-fifth army corps, 25,000 strong, in the month of May, from the James to the coast of Texas, is fully described, and the extent and cost of the fleet used in this movement are set forth in full.

Transportation was promptly supplied from all parts of the south to their homes in the north, for the immense army which has been disbanded, and the organization of the department which has made it possible to meet these demands so promptly is believed to have been at least as perfect as that of any other nation.

The report gives tables of the quantities of the principal military supplies, clothing, forage, fuel, horses, mules and wagons, which have been purchased, transported, and used during the fiscal year. It contains full statements of the vessels which have been in the service during that time upon the western rivers and upon the ocean and bays. Many of them have now been discharged from service or advertised for sale, orders for the reduction of the transport fleet having been given as soon as hostilities ceased.

The return of the armies from the south, the transportation of the discharged soldiers to their homes, the transfer of troops to Texas, the return of refugees expelled from the south by General Sherman, and of rebel prisoners released at the termination of the war, have, however, taxed the resources of the quartermaster's department heavily during the last spring and summer.

The transport service has been most satisfactorily performed. Upon the ocean a fleet of over 700 vessels has been constantly employed, with the reported loss by storm, by collision, and by fire, of only three; one steamship was destroyed in each of these modes.

The repair of the railroads from Chattanooga to Atlanta by the military railroad branch of the quartermaster's department, under the charge of Brevet Brigadier General D. C. McCallum, was referred to in the last annual report. Upon the advance of General Sherman from Atlanta, he destroyed the railroad in his rear, blew up all the railroad buildings at Atlanta, sent back his surplus stores and all the railroad machinery which had to that time supplied his army. The stores and the railroad stock were safely withdrawn to Nashville, and after the dispersion of the army of Hood, which had broken the railroad in Georgia and Tennessee in its advance, the railroad construction corps again took the field, and reopened railroad communication with Chattanooga, Atlanta, and Decatur. After the fall of Macon and Augusta it became necessary, in order to supply the army of Major General Wilson, to open railroad communication between Augusta and Atlanta, and Macon. This was successfully accomplished.

A division of the construction corps, fully organized, under the command of Colonel Wright, with tools and equipments, was transferred, in December and January, from the Tennessee to Savannah, by way of Baltimore. As General

Sherman did not repair the railroads of Georgia and South Carolina, but marched northward, lightly equipped, living upon the supplies in his wagon trains, and by foraging upon the enemy, this division of the construction corps was transferred to Beaufort, North Carolina, and after its fall to Wilmington, where it repaired and restocked the railroads from these ports to Goldsborough and to Raleigh. General Sherman's army was thus quickly provisioned, re-clad, reshod, and equipped for a march to the James.

The surrender of the rebel armies and pacification of the southern States have enabled the quartermaster's department to return to their former possessors most of the railroads which have been in military possession during the war. The department, in transferring them to their boards of directors—reorganized upon a loyal footing—delivers up the roads and bridges in whatever condition they may be at the time of the transfer.

The great accumulation of railroad engines and cars upon the western military railroads is being disposed of to the railroads of the southwest, which have suffered severely from the operations of both armies during the war. Under the orders of the Executive this stock is being delivered to the companies, who are to pay for it within two years, at a valuation fixed by a board of officers and experts, assembled by the government.

The reconstruction of these roads and their successful operation are of great importance, not only to the districts in which they are located, but to the general commerce and prosperity of the country; and the liberal policy pursued towards them will react favorably upon the revenue and credit of the nation.

The agreement made early in the war with the railroad companies of the loyal States, fixing reduced rates of military transportation, remains in force, and has been extended to the railroads in the southern States since the termination of hostilities.

Full reports are given of the quantities of clothing, camp and garrison equipment furnished to our armies during the past year, and also during the war. The tables accompanying the quartermaster general's report give information on these points, which shows in a favorable light the manufacturing power of the country.

The vast supplies of forage required for the armies have been promptly furnished and transported to the depots. While moving through the southern country the armies found ample quantities, and it was only when lying still in camp that they had any difficulty in supplying themselves.

During the year over 29,000,000 bushels of grain and 400,000 tons of hay have been provided by the depots of the quartermaster's department; 336,000 cords of wood and 832,000 tons of coal have also been supplied by the depots. Troops in the field have supplied themselves with fuel from the forests in which they have operated. The depots of the quartermaster's department have, during the war, furnished the army with 23,000,000 bushels of corn, 78,000,000 bushels of oats, 93,000 bushels of barley, 1,500,000 tons of hay, 20,000 tons of straw, 550,000 cords of wood, and 1,600,000 tons of coal, all of which have

been purchased, measured, transported, issued and accounted for by its officers and agents. At the depot of Washington alone there have been issued during the year 4,500,000 bushels of corn, 29,000,000 bushels of oats, 490,000 tons of hay, 210,000 cords of wood, and 392,000 tons of coal.

The supply of horses and mules for the army has been regular and sufficient. There were purchased during the fiscal year 141,632 cavalry horses; from September 1st, 1864, to 30th June, 1865, 20,714 artillery horses; and from 1st July, 1864, to 30th June, 1865, 58,818 mules. Prices of horses varied during the year from \$144 to \$185; of mules, from \$170 to \$195.

The reduction of the army has enabled the quartermaster's department to dispense with large numbers of horses and mules, and to the 17th October the sales of animals are estimated to have produced \$7,000,000.

The teams and animals of the armies have, as during previous fiscal years, averaged about one wagon to twenty-four men in the field, and one horse or mule to every two men.

The burial records of the quartermaster's department, which do not include the names of those who fell in battle and were buried immediately on the field by their comrades, show the interment in cemeteries of 116,148 persons, of whom 98,827 were loyal, 12,596 disloyal, and of whom 95,803 were whites and 20,345 colored persons.

The military cemeteries at Washington, Alexandria, Arlington and Chattanooga, have been carefully tended and decorated.

An officer, with material and men, to mark the graves of our brethren who fell victims to rebel barbarity at Andersonville, was despatched from Washington as soon as the country was opened to us, and reports that he has enclosed the cemetery and marked the graves of 12,912 soldiers buried therein. Of these the captured records of the prison hospital enabled him to identify 12,461, and their names were recorded upon head-boards, painted white, and planted at the head of their graves. On 451 graves he was compelled to put the sad inscription, "*Unknown U. S. soldier.*" The list of these names is in course of publication. The names of those who have been interred in the military cemeteries of the District of Columbia and at Arlington have already been published and distributed to State authorities and public institutions, as well as to newspapers which publish official advertisements, so as to be made accessible to their friends.

The military organization of the operatives and agents of the quartermaster's department, referred to in the last annual report, was kept up until the close of the war. It did good service in the fortifications, at the attack on Washington in July, at the attack on Johnsonville in the fall, and bore a part in the battle of Nashville, on the 15th and 16th of December, 1864, which gave the final blow to the rebellion in the west. Upon the cessation of hostilities this organization was disbanded, its arms restored to the arsenal, and most of its members have returned to peaceful pursuits.

The employment of colored men in the quartermaster's department, in connexion with the trains of the army, as laborers at depots and as pioneers of the