

The whole number of claims for compensation on account of the enlistment of slaves in the service of the United States, filed with the boards, in both the above States, is three thousand nine hundred and seventy-one.

Compensation, varying in amount, was awarded upon seven hundred and thirty-three of these claims; two hundred and ninety-four have been rejected by the commissions as not being well founded; and the remainder are still before the board. The total amount of compensation awarded loyal owners is two hundred and thirteen thousand eight hundred and eighty-three dollars. Twenty-five claims have been paid, amounting in the aggregate to six thousand nine hundred dollars, leaving seven hundred and eight claims unpaid, amounting to two hundred and six thousand nine hundred and eighty-three dollars. Nineteen thousand nine hundred and thirty dollars and forty cents have been expended in salaries of members of boards, and to defray the current expenses of the same, including rent of rooms, purchase of fuel, stationery, &c.; making the total expenditures to this date twenty-six thousand eight hundred and thirty dollars and forty cents.

In closing this report it affords me pleasure to acknowledge the important services rendered the bureau by Major F. W. Taggard, assistant adjutant general volunteers, in charge of rolls and returns, and Major A. F. Rockwell, assistant adjutant general volunteers, general assistant and disbursing officer. To their efficient and cordial co-operation may be attributed whatever of success has been attained in the management of the bureau.

The employes of the office, all originally detailed from the volunteer service, have zealously and faithfully discharged the duties assigned them.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. W. FOSTER,

Assistant Adjutant General Volunteers.

Brevet Brig. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND,

Ass't Adj't Gen. U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

REPORT OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL.

WAR DEPARTMENT, PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL'S BUREAU,
Washington, D. C., November 8, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to submit my annual report of the operations of the bureau of the Provost Marshal General of the United States for the year ending November 1, 1865.

On the 1st day of November, 1864, the date to which my last annual report 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
To be obtained.....	234,327

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
Total.....	188,172

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
Number of substitutes for enrolled men.....	29,584
Total.....	84,291

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—

Viz: Volunteers.....	130,620
Volunteers, (colored).....	10,055
Regulars.....	6,958
Seamen.....	9,106
Marine corps.....	319
Total.....	157,058

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

Viz: Number held to personal service.....	12,566
Number of substitutes for drafted men.....	12,014
Number of substitutes for enrolled men.....	12,997
Total.....	37,577

Whole number raised under December call..... 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 order from 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, up to the 14th day of April, 1865, at which time drafting and recruiting ceased, by order of the Secretary of War, were..... 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, in fact in excess, 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 one hundred and twenty thousand (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 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.

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 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.

COMMUTATION MONEY.

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.....	658, 117 53
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.....	9, 514, 893 45

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

VETERAN RESERVE CORPS.

The regiments of the veteran reserve corps have been performing the same duty during the past year as those specified in my last annual report, viz:

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.

DESERTERS.

The number of deserters arrested since my last annual report is 18,120, nearly all of whom were arrested prior to April 30.

The discharge of the deputy provost marshals and special officers, the stoppage of payment of rewards, and the reduction of the army, have occasioned the reduction of this branch of the business of this office.

DISBURSEMENTS ON ACCOUNT OF VOLUNTEER RECRUITING SERVICE.

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 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.

The amount expended from the appropriation for pay of bounty was \$6,648,302 53. The balance of this appropriation remaining in the treasury is \$11,145,392 24. None of this fund remains in the hands of disbursing officers; the several amounts left in their possession, when recruiting for the volunteer forces was discontinued, has been covered into the United States treasury.

DISBURSEMENTS ON ACCOUNT OF ENROLMENT AND DRAFT, AND APPREHENSION OF DESERTERS.

Amount disbursed on account of enrolment and draft, from November 1, 1864, to November 1, 1865, was.....	\$3, 175, 744 06
The balance of this "draft and substitute fund" remaining in the treasury is.....	9, 514, 893 45
And about \$250,000 in the hands of disbursing officers, which is needed to pay outstanding accounts and current expenses of the bureau.	
Amount disbursed by officers of this bureau from appropriation for incidental expenses of quartermaster's department for apprehension of deserters.....	12, 158 58

RETRENCHMENT OF EXPENDITURES.

At the date of my last annual report, the number of officers and employes of this bureau was 4,716, at a cost per month of \$311,868 60. The number now on duty, and in the employ of the bureau, is 383, at a cost per month of \$35,050 32.

As fast as the exigencies of the service permitted, I have reduced the force employed. 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.

ESTIMATES.

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

I have in course of preparation a full report of the operations of this bureau, which will contain much statistical and other valuable information, and which I beg leave to submit when completed.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES B. FRY,
Provost Marshal General.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

REPORT OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, November 8, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the annual report of operations of the Quartermaster's department during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1865.

On the 1st July, 1864, the balance of appropriation in the treasury undrawn was.....	\$8, 699, 768 16
Appropriation for fiscal year ending 30th June, 1865.....	199, 250, 000 00
Deficiency bill, March 2, 1865.....	83, 181, 137 00
Appropriation for fiscal year ending 30th June, 1866.....	168, 500, 000 00
Total.....	459, 630, 905 16
Requisitions on treasury in fiscal year ending 30th June, 1865.....	431, 706, 057 44
Balance remaining 30th June, 1865.....	27, 924, 847 72

A financial statement in detail will be found in a table at the end of this report.

This department is charged with the duty of providing means of transportation by land and water for all the troops and for all the material of war. It furnishes the horses for artillery and cavalry, and the horses and mules of the wagon trains; provides and supplies tents, camp and garrison equipage, forage, lumber, and all materials for camps and for shelter of the troops. It builds barracks, hospitals, and storehouses, provides wagons and ambulances, harness, except for cavalry and artillery horses; builds or charters ships and steamers, docks and wharves, constructs and repairs roads, railroads and their bridges, clothes the army, and is charged generally with the payment of all expenses attending military operations not assigned by law or regulation to some other department.

While the Ordnance department procures and issues arms and ammunition and the Subsistence department supplies provisions, and the Medical department medical and hospital stores, the Quartermaster's department is called upon to

transport the stores of all these departments from the depots to the camps, upon the march and to the battle-field, where they are finally issued to the troops.

These duties have been efficiently performed during the year.

In the last, as in former years of the war, under the energetic and liberal administration of the War Department, the wants of the troops have been regularly supplied, their comfort, health, and efficiency have been amply and regularly provided for. The army itself does justice to the wise and enlarged administration which has enabled it to move successfully in a field of warfare constantly widening.

Atlanta, the key of the rebel defence, was secured after a campaign involving a line of operations of 300 miles in length, maintained for months through a hostile country so effectually as to enable an army of 90,000 men, with over 40,000 animals, to subsist not only while advancing, but what is much more difficult, while laying siege for weeks to that advanced position.

The enemy's army driven from Atlanta, but still formidable in numbers and in courage, threw itself upon this long line of operations—two slender rods of iron, crossing wide rivers, winding through mountain gorges, plunging under the mountain ranges, and everywhere exposed to the raids of an enterprising enemy, favored by the thick forests which bordered the railroad throughout nearly its whole extent.

The guards of the posts upon the line of communication did their duty, and the railroad construction corps of this department, thoroughly organized, strong in numbers, in skill and in discipline, repaired broken bridges and railroads. New engines from the workshops of the north replaced those which torpedoed or broken rails threw from the track. Trains loaded with timber, with iron, with water and fuel for the engines, preceded the trains of subsistence and ammunition, and scarce was the communication broken before it was re-established.

The conquering army followed the desperate garrison of Atlanta, and drove him off the lines of communication. The railroad was worked night and day to its full capacity; supplies for a new campaign for an army of 90,000 men were poured into Atlanta. All surplus stores, all sick and all enfeebled men were sent by railroad to the rear, and the army of General Sherman with its 3,000 wagons, full loaded with every material of war, accompanied by droves of many thousand beef-cattle, re-enforced by the return of those who disabled in the earlier events of the campaign, had been recruited in the hospitals of Nashville, 300 miles to the rear, and forwarded by railroad to resume their places in its ranks, marched out of Atlanta, blew up that depot, destroyed all the railroads which made that city of value in the war, and bent its steps towards the ocean.

In no other country have railroads been brought to perform so important a part in the operations of war. Scarce in any other country could be found the workmen to perform the feats of construction which have illustrated this campaign.

At no time during the march from Chattanooga to Atlanta were the railroad trains five days behind the general commanding.

The reconstruction of the bridges over the Etowah and the Chattahoochie are unparalleled feats of military construction.

The Etowah bridge, six hundred and twenty-five (625) feet long, seventy-five (75) feet high, was burned by the rebels, and was rebuilt by the labor of six hundred (600) men of the construction corps in six (6) days.

The Chattahoochie bridge, six miles from Atlanta, is seven hundred and forty (740) feet long and ninety feet high, and was built in four and a half days by six hundred (600) men of the construction corps.

The army under General Sherman moved southeast from Atlanta; it plunged into the forests and sands of Georgia, and was lost to our view. The rebel army moved into Tennessee, and advanced upon Nashville, to be dashed in pieces against the army of Major General Thomas, and thus perished the last great army of the rebellion in the central south and west, east of the Mississippi.

The rebel press reported defeats, disasters, repulses to the army, with which we had no communication. No anxiety as to their fate oppressed the minds of

those who had in the War Department directed the measures and provisions for their equipment for this bold and decisive march. A bare possibility that, by the abandonment of all eastern positions, the rebel army of Virginia might throw itself across Sherman's path, induced the department to order supplies to Pensacola, to relieve any immediate wants should the army be obliged to move southward; but the great work of preparation to meet and refit this army upon the southeastern Atlantic coast was at once commenced and steadily prosecuted. While a few vessels went to Pensacola to await orders, a great fleet of transports was collected at Port Royal, laden with everything that experience indicated as necessary to repair the consumption and the losses of this adventurous march. Clothing, shoes, shelter tents, forage, provisions, spare parts of wagons, wagons complete, harness, leather, wax, thread, needles, and tools for all the trades which are plying on the march and in the camp, were collected in the harbor of Hilton Head.

All this was done in the dead of winter. Light-draught, frail river steamers trusted themselves, under daring Yankee captains and crews, to the storms of the stormiest coast of the world, and all arrived safely at their destination. And here let me pay a tribute to those gallant seamen of the merchant shipping of the nation, who in war entered its transport fleet. No service has been so difficult or so tedious—none so dangerous as to discourage or to daunt them.

No call for volunteers has ever failed to meet a ready response, whether to tempt the shoals and storms of a tempestuous coast, the hidden and mysterious dangers of the dark bayous of the south, strewn with torpedoes by the devilish ingenuity of deserters from our own military and naval service, or to run in frail river steamboats the batteries of the Potomac, the James, and the Pamlico, or the still more formidable works of Vicksburg. Urged by the spirit of adventure, supported by the patriotism of freemen, they have always stood ready, and have cheerfully obeyed every order, incurred every risk.

On the 13th December Fort McAllister fell before the assault of General Sherman's veterans. The transport fleet was ordered at once to the mouths of the Ogeechee and of the Savannah. The city of Savannah was carried within a few days, and a wrecking party, then employed upon the coast of Florida, with all the ingenious equipment which modern science has contrived for submarine operations, was towed by a steamer to the Savannah river and set to work to remove the formidable obstacles to its navigation. These for four years seemed to have employed all the ingenuity and mechanical skill of a people who had torn up the pavements of their commercial streets to supply material to obstruct the channels of their harbor.

In a few days a passage was cleared, and the steamers and vessels of the transport fleet discharged their cargoes at the long disused and dilapidated wharves of Savannah, and sailed for the north richly freighted with captured cotton.

On the 22d January General Sherman again moved northward.

A division of the railroad construction corps had been ordered from the Tennessee to the Savannah to meet him. It had crossed the Alleghanias in mid-winter and was promptly at the rendezvous with men and officers, and all tools, materials, and machinery for rebuilding the railroads of the coast.

It was decided not to operate directly against Charleston, the great stronghold of the rebellion, which had for four years defied our ships and the forces we could spare for its siege. The wiser and more daring plan of marching inland, cutting of its means of supply, capturing the capital, and devastating the agricultural portion of the State, was pursued.

Charleston soon fell, and the construction corps was moved to Morehead City, there to open up the railroad from the harbor of Beaufort, North Carolina, toward Kingston, at which point General Sherman, when I parted from him in January, his army reloaded, reshod, supplied and ready to resume its march, told me to look out for him next.

His chief quartermaster, General Easton, who had accompanied the army in its march from Chattanooga to Savannah, remained on the coast, taking charge of the fleet loaded with supplies. The fleet and supplies were transferred to the harbor of Beaufort; Fort Fisher fell in January, and the Cape Fear river was opened to our transports. The troops which had captured, with the aid of the navy, the defences at the mouth of this river, re-enforced by the 23d army corps, which, in January, was transferred from the Tennessee to the Atlantic, captured Wilmington, and advanced toward Goldsboro'. The two railroads, each ninety-five (95) miles in length, from Wilmington, and from Morehead City to Goldsboro', were repaired by the construction corps. They were stocked with cars and engines, and when the right wing of General Sherman's army entered Goldsboro' on the 22d March, it met supplies of provisions brought by the railroads from the transport fleet on the coast, and found Goldsboro' occupied by a corps which, on the 15th January, had been encamped on the banks of the Tennessee.

Again was the army supplied with full equipment of clothing, shoes, and of all the various articles of necessity for itself and its trains, worn out in the long march from Savannah, and by the 10th of April, the appointed day, fully equipped, it moved against the enemy at Raleigh.

Upon the surrender of the rebel armies in Virginia and North Carolina, the armies of General Sherman and of Lieutenant General Grant marched for Washington, where they were reviewed by the President and cabinet, after which they went into camp on the heights surrounding the capital, and the preparations for their transfer to other fields of operation, and for their disbandment, were made.

While the coast was the scene of the efforts of the department to support and supply the army of General Sherman, the armies in front of Richmond also required a vast expenditure. These armies were stronger in numbers than General Sherman's. Their equipment for march, as well as for siege, was constantly kept in the highest state of efficiency. The country in which they lay furnished no supplies, and food and forage and all stores were brought by rail and by sea from the north and northwest. The shipments of forage alone to the armies on the James averaged over \$1,000,000 per month throughout the winter.

The tables at the end of this report give information as to the strength of the fleet and the magnitude of the operations involved in the supply from distant ports, of an army over 100,000 in strength, with, at times, over 5,000 wagons to keep in repair, and over 65,000 animals, horses and mules, to be fed.

From the depots in the west, under the general direction of Brevet Major General Robert Allen, senior quartermaster in the Mississippi valley, the wants of the armies on the Tennessee, the Cumberland, the Mississippi, the Missouri, the Arkansas, and the Gulf of Mexico were supplied.

The northwest was the storehouse from which were drawn subsistence, forage, and all other material, which, by steamboats and railroad trains, were distributed to the posts.

Lists of steamers employed on the Atlantic, upon the Gulf, and upon the western rivers are attached to this report.

The transport fleet exceeded a thousand vessels of every variety of construction, impelled by sail or steam. Details of this fleet and its cost will be found in another part of this report.

Great movements of troops continued to be made. The army of General Thomas having dispersed the rebel army in the campaign which culminated in the battle of Nashville, on the 15th and 16th of December, 1864, and the pursuit which followed it, was divided. The 23d corps, under General Schofield, 15,000 strong, was, in January, as hereinafter detailed, transported to the coast of North Carolina, to co-operate with General Sherman, expected at Kinston. The 16th corps, under General A. J. Smith, 17,000 strong, with artillery and baggage trains, was sent to New Orleans to co-operate with the troops then under General Canby, in the reduction of Mobile.

The cavalry, under Major Gen. Wilson, was refitted, remounted, equipped, and launched into the interior of Alabama, to capture the principal interior cities of Alabama and Georgia; Selma, Montgomery, Columbus, and Macon fell before them.

In all these movements the troops were kept well supplied with the necessary material; horses, forage, food, and clothing were promptly delivered at the appointed rendezvous and depots, and steamers were ready, on river and coast, to move the troops and their supplies promptly.

During the whole year—I believe I may say during the whole war—no movement was delayed, no enterprise failed, for want of means of transportation, or the supplies required from the Quartermaster's department.

The close of hostilities made even greater exertions on the part of this department necessary; 233,000 men were distributed from Washington alone to their homes in the north, carried to every hamlet, and village, camps of discharge being established in every State, at which the regiments rendezvoused until paid off, when the men dispersed.

Sixty thousand men of the army of General Sherman were moved from Washington to Louisville, from which place, after a short time, they were put in motion for their homes, and discharged; 25,000 men were moved from the James river to the Rio Grande; 7,000 were sent from the Potomac to Savannah. Sixty thousand prisoners of war, released, were sent to their homes in the southern States.

Regiments were brought from the Gulf and South Atlantic coasts, and sent to their States to be discharged. Their places were in some cases supplied by the transfer to the south of the regiments which had longer to serve. A large force of cavalry was moved from the Potomac to the Arkansas and to the western plains.

The activity of the transportation branch of this department has never been greater than since the cessation of hostilities; its duty embracing the transportation to their homes of the greater part of an army of a million men, the collection and transportation to depots, for storage or for sale, of the animals and stores surplus from the rapid reduction in the forces employed.

Officers were sent to inspect the various depots and posts to report what stores should be sold and what preserved. Stringent orders were issued directing reductions in purchases, in lists of persons employed, ordering the sale of surplus material, the reduction of the strength of the trains, and the sale of all surplus animals of the cavalry, artillery, and trains, the discharge or sale of transports not needed for the returning troops. Reports in detail, herewith, contain such information as to these operations as can be collected at this time and embraced within the limits of this report.

The examination, collation, and analysis of the records of this department are not complete. The material is abundant, and I propose, with your approbation, to establish a board of officers, whose business it shall be to collect from the official reports full statistics of the vast operations which, during the last four years, have taxed the fullest energies of every officer of ability and experience in this department.

The work has been accomplished, the record is in possession of the office, but the labors of execution have not left leisure for that examination and comparison of the records which is necessary for a full statistical report of operations of this department during the four years of war.

In the last annual report I had the honor to make nominal report of the officers who held the most important and responsible positions in this department during the previous year, and to call attention to their merits and their worth. Many of these officers have received the promotion which they have so well deserved, and which they so highly prize as the recognition by their government of faithful service. I am grateful for the recognition of the service and success of the department under my control, thus given to its officers.

The general distribution of duties has not materially varied during the year.

The officers had, in the course of three years of active service, generally found the positions in which their respective qualities made them of the greatest service to their country.

Brevet Major General Robert Allen continued to exercise the authority and control with which he had been invested as senior and supervising quartermaster in the valley of the Mississippi; his duties have remained the same as during the previous years. His annual report is herewith. Had it been more full in detail, it would have given a better idea of the magnitude of his responsibilities, his labors, and his merits. There passed through his hands, during the fiscal year, \$33,933,646 45.

Brevet Major General Rufus Ingalls continued in the field to control the service of the Quartermaster's department, with the armies operating under Lieutenant General Grant against Richmond.

The admirable manner in which the duties of his post were performed is shown in the efficiency of the operations which supplied the troops during the long siege and the rapid marches which, after the enemy was driven from his works, resulted in the capture of his entire army. The disbursements have been (under his direction) \$1,636,759 08, principally for wages of workmen. The supplies for this army were purchased under direction of this office, and shipped to it from the depots at the north, as required.

Brevet Major General D. H. Rucker has continued in charge of the great depot of Washington, the depot through which a great part of the supplies of the armies before Richmond and upon the Atlantic coast passed. Here the animals and the clothing for these armies were collected. To this point their worn-out and disabled animals and equipment were returned for recuperation or repair, or to be disposed of and replaced.

Upon this depot, after the fall of Richmond, 250,000 troops were concentrated, and here were made all the arrangements for their transportation to the west and north, before their final dispersion. The expenditures of the year, under his direction, have been \$8,822,065 33.

Brevet Major General James L. Donaldson has continued in charge of the great base of supplies of the armies of Sherman and Thomas. He is now supervising quartermaster of the military division of the Tennessee, and is engaged in the supply of the troops still quartered in the south, and in returning them, as discharged, to their homes, and in disposing of the vast accumulation of stores no longer needed since the cessation of hostilities and consequent reduction of the army. He has controlled the expenditure of \$24,821,005 79.

Brevet Brigadier General Thomas Swords, senior quartermaster in the department of the Ohio, assisted by Colonel Moulton, has been in charge of the operations of the department at the important depot of Cincinnati, which has furnished nearly one-third of the clothing for the armies of the United States. He has received and distributed to other officers or disbursed during the year \$17,402,501 95.

Brevet Brigadier General G. H. Crosman, who had been on duty in Philadelphia from 30th of August, 1861, to the 24th of August, 1864, in charge of the Philadelphia depot and the providing of clothing and equipage, was then temporarily relieved by Colonel A. J. Perry, chief of the division of clothing and equipage. He has since been engaged in preparing a manual of the service of the Quartermaster's department, intended to fix the forms, sizes, and construction and qualities of the various articles of equipment which are supplied by the Quartermaster's department, in order that the experience gained in all these details may not be lost, but may be at hand to instruct the officers of the department in future operations. The records and details of these models should be preserved. They have enabled our armies to make unexampled marches with less suffering, privation, sickness, and loss, than we find recorded in the history of the campaigns of other nations. His disbursements have been during the year \$6,274,278 55.

Brevet Brigadier General D. H. Vinton has continued at the head of the depot of clothing and equipage at New York. No officer has more thoroughly and efficiently performed his duty. He has received and expended \$34,637,511 11.

Brevet Brigadier General L. C. Easton, chief quartermaster of the army of General Sherman, accompanied that army in its campaign from Chattanooga, and during the siege of Atlanta superintended its outfit for and accompanied its march to the sea. At Savannah he took charge of the transport fleet, and of the stores sent to meet the army on the coast, conducted them to the coast of North Carolina, and sent forward the supplies which, by the 10th of April, enabled it again to march against the rebels at Raleigh. After the dispersion and reduction of the army he was assigned to duty as chief quartermaster at the headquarters of the major general commanding the military division of the Mississippi, with his post at St. Louis, where he exercises a general supervision and control. He has received and accounted for \$981,822 27.

Brevet Brigadier General Charles Thomas, Assistant Quartermaster General, has aided me in the management of the business of this office, having charge of the finances and accounts of the office.

Brevet Brigadier General William Myers, as chief assistant to General Robert Allen in the Mississippi valley, has been in charge of the depot at St. Louis. His responsibilities have been great, and have been met to the satisfaction and approbation of his senior officers. General Allen, in his report, speaks of him in the highest terms. He reports the receipt and expenditure or transfer of \$49,871,975 35.

Brevet Brigadier General Stewart Van Vliet has continued at New York in charge of the operations of the department at that important post. His disbursements and transfers during the year have reached the sum of \$20,170,162 60.

Colonel C. W. Moulton has been, during a portion of the fiscal year, in charge of the clothing and equipage depot at Cincinnati. He reports the receipt and expenditure of \$31,287,324 49.

Brevet Brigadier General George S. Dodge, chief quartermaster of the army of the James, accompanied the naval and military expedition which reduced Fort Fisher, on the coast of North Carolina. He displayed great energy and skill in disembarking upon an open coast men and material for the siege and assault of that formidable work, and was specially rewarded by brevet promotion for signal services on that occasion. He has since been actively employed in extensive inspections, both north and south, which have been most efficiently performed, and have aided this department in enforcing great reductions of expenditure. He is a most deserving officer.

Colonel William W. McKim, for some time in charge of the depot of Cincinnati, has been in charge of the depot of Philadelphia, including the operations of the great depot of clothing and equipage at the Schuylkill arsenal, since the 15th of February last. He is a most efficient and deserving officer. He reports an expenditure during the year of \$24,986,188 16.

The depot of Baltimore has been in charge of Colonel R. M. Newport since the 24th of September, 1864. In the earlier part of the fiscal year it was under charge of Major C. W. Thomas, Quartermaster's department. Colonel Newport's expenditures and transfers are reported at \$8,167,971 73.

Colonel S. B. Holabird has continued on duty at New Orleans, where his long experience and his business capacity have made his service most valuable. He accompanied the army of General Banks to Louisiana when that officer first assumed command in the southwest, and has always been zealous and successful in the discharge of the heavy duties which have been imposed upon him. His receipts, transfers, and expenditures during the year were \$15,290,396 67.

Colonel C. G. Sawtelle, as chief quartermaster of the command, first of General Canby, and lately of the troops and military division under Major General Sheridan, has rendered most valuable service. As chief quartermaster of Gen-

eral Canby's army, he directed the operations of the Quartermaster's department in the movements against Mobile. After the fall of Mobile, and the assignment of Major General Sheridan to command in the southwest, he was attached to his staff as chief quartermaster of the military division, and forwarded the army which was sent from New Orleans to Texas, including the later movements of the 25th army corps which, embarking on the James, rendezvoused on the northern coast of the Gulf of Mexico, before proceeding to Texas. He reports the receipt, transfer, and expenditure during the fiscal year of \$684,857 45.

The principal disbursements in the command to which he is attached have been made by officers at depots.

The limits of this report will not permit me to notice here all the officers of the department who have held important positions during the extended operations of the last year of this most active and eventful war. I mention the names merely of some of the officers whose merits have promoted them to most important positions.

Lists of officers of the Quartermaster's department who have served as chief quartermasters of armies, of great territorial divisions, and in charge of important depots, and of those who have been specially noted in the records received at this office for good service, are attached to this report.

The officers who have been my personal assistants in charge of the several divisions of this office are noticed in referring to the branches of the service in which they have had special control.

HORSES AND MULES.

The purchase and supply of the animals of the army pertains to the First Division of this office, of which Brevet Brigadier General James A. Ekin, of the Quartermaster's department, has charge.

He reports purchases of cavalry horses during the year ending June 30, 1865.....	141, 632
Total from January 1, 1864, to May 9, 1865, at which time purchases ceased.....	193, 388
Of artillery horses, from September 1, 1864, to June 30, 1865, purchases having ceased May 9.....	20, 714
Of mules, from July 1, 1864, to June 30, 1865, purchases having ceased May 9.....	58, 818

The earlier purchases of horses delivered in Washington at the beginning of the war were at \$125. Subsequently, for a time, horses were delivered here as low as \$100. The price gradually advanced until the close of the war.

The prices of cavalry horses during the last fiscal year have varied from.....	\$144 to \$185
Of artillery horses.....	161 to 185
Of mules.....	170 to 195

There have been sold at the depots since January 1, 1864, of cavalry horses.....	40, 070
There have died at these depots.....	38, 277
Artillery horses reported as having died at the depots, September 1, 1864, to June 30, 1865.....	434
Mules sold September 1, 1864, to June 30, 1865.....	13, 479
Died at depots in same time.....	7, 336

The deaths reported occurred at depots principally among animals sent in from the field as broken down and unserviceable.

The destruction in the field was greater, probably nearly equalling the number supplied by purchase and capture, as neither the trains nor the cavalry of

the armies have been materially increased during the last year of the war, and the purchases have been almost entirely to supply losses.

The issues of cavalry horses to the army of the Shenandoah, actively engaged under Major General Sheridan, have been at the rate of three remounts per annum. The service of a cavalry horse under an enterprising commander has therefore averaged only four months.

Of the animals which are sent to the depots for recuperation, about sixty per cent. recovered, and becoming serviceable, have again been issued.

SALES.

There have been sold, so far as reported, to October 17, and since May 8, 1865, and in accordance with General Orders No. 28, of the Quartermaster General's office, dated May 8, 1865, 53,794 horses and 52,516 mules, for the sum of \$6,107,618 14. It is probable that when the full returns are received the total amount of sales from May 8 to October 17 will prove to exceed \$7,000,000.

With few exceptions these sales have been made by persons employed at fixed daily rates by the Quartermaster's department. In a few cases officers who have failed to receive the general order of the Quartermaster General, prescribing this mode of sale, have employed local auctioneers at various rates of compensation. The results in most cases have been less satisfactory than when the sales have been made in the first mode; and such sales have given rise to some complaints of excessive fees. All the officers of the department now, it is believed, have received General Order No. 42, Quartermaster General's office, 1865, and understand their duty in this respect.

General Ekin names the officers who have acted under his orders in the business of providing and disposing of animals of the army, and bears testimony to their good service, for which I respectfully refer to his report, herewith.

He reports the expenditures of the fiscal year as follows:

On hand July 1, 1864, and received during the fiscal year	\$8, 501, 078 84
Expended	\$3, 719, 070 13
Transferred to officers	4, 295, 963 72
	<hr/>
	8, 015, 033 85
Remaining to his credit June 30, 1865	<hr/> <hr/> 486, 044 99

Estimates of quartermasters for purchase of horses, submitted to and approved by him during the year:

For horses	\$23, 600, 456 66
For mules	6, 434, 637 66
Total	<hr/> <hr/> 30, 035, 094 32

CLAIMS FOR ANIMALS.

Under the law of July 4, 1864, 4,174 claims for animals have been filed in the first division of the Quartermaster General's office; of these 2,792 have been acted on, leaving 1,382 not acted on. This business is increasing rapidly.

General Ekin states, succinctly, some of the difficulties attending just decisions upon these claims. Generally when the animals have been taken by officers of this department, reference to the official records shows that they have been properly reported and accounted for.

But when officers' papers have been captured by the enemy or destroyed, and where the seizure has been made by officers not of the Quartermaster's department, as many of the officers have been discharged from the service, it is difficult

to communicate with them by letter, and to ascertain whether the signatures and memorandum receipts offered in evidence are true or forged. To arrive at certain conclusions upon evidence entirely *ex parte*, and without cross-examination, is impossible, and this department will be unable to arrive at that conviction necessary to enable it to report many claims, some of them no doubt just, without some further action. It may, after a time, become expedient to create boards of officers to visit the localities in which most of these claims originate, and there take testimony as to the facts, the truth of the documentary evidence presented, and especially as to the loyalty of the claimants and witnesses. Judging from the papers presented with these claims, there are few persons unable to present certificates of loyalty.

Copies of the more important orders regulating the mode of purchasing and disposing of public animals accompany this report.

They are the result of the experience gained during a great war, in which the consumption of horses and mules has been very large. The specifications have been amended from time to time as experience has shown defects.

Under the system which these orders and regulations set forth, the army has been well supplied with animals adapted to the military service. The order, regularity, and abundance of supply, the correctness and clearness of the record of this branch of the service, since the organization of the first division of this office, are most creditable to Brevet Brigadier General James A. Ekin, who has been at its head.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPAGE.

The clothing and equipage of the army are provided by contract, by purchase, and by manufacture at the several principal depots, which during the fiscal year have been:

New York depot, under charge of Brevet Brigadier General D. H. Vinton, Quartermaster's department.

Philadelphia depot, under charge, successively, of Brevet Brigadier General G. H. Crossman, Colonel A. J. Perry, Colonel and Brevet Brigadier General H. Biggs, and Colonel W. W. McKim, who is still in charge.

Cincinnati depot, under charge of Brevet Brigadier General Thomas Swords, Colonel C. W. Moulton, Colonel W. W. McKim, who on his transfer to Philadelphia was relieved by Colonel C. W. Moulton.

Saint Louis depot, under charge of Brevet Brigadier General William Myers, Quartermaster's department.

There are several branch depots established at points at which the war had collected many destitute women either of the families of refugees or of soldiers, whom employment in making up army clothing relieved from dependence upon public charity.

These depots were supplied with material from the three principal depots of New York, Philadelphia, and Cincinnati, and their operations were confined to the making up of such material into garments.

Such depots are established at Quincy, Illinois, and Steubenville, Ohio.

The quality of the clothing and equipment furnished to the army has been excellent; very few complaints of inferior quality have been made, considering the immense quantity of material which has been issued to the troops. The marches made from Atlanta to Savannah, and from Savannah to Goldsboro', by armies which during their marches had no opportunity to replace articles of equipment worn out, are evidence of the good quality of the shoes and clothing with which the army is supplied.

Of the principal articles of clothing and equipage, the following quantities have been purchased and manufactured at the three principal depots during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1865:

Uniform coats	311,597	Blouses	2,617,374
Uniform jackets	410,667	Shoes, pairs	1,688,017
Uniform trousers	3,463,858	Boots, pairs	959,543
Drawers	3,708,393	Stockings	5,684,572
Shirts, flannel	3,268,166	Hats	442,832
Greatcoats	873,289	Caps	1,151,948
Blankets, woollen	1,746,034	Knapsacks	958,287
Blankets, water-proof	625,624	Haversacks	1,066,647
Canteens	1,163,347	Guidons	1,293
Hospital tents	10,265	Picks	42,446
Wall tents	8,412	Axes	108,196
Wedge or common tents	1,412	Spades and shovels	150,931
Shelter tents	698,187	Hatchets	88,054
Bedsacks	19,610	Mess pans	169,296
Regimental colors	1,321	Camp kettles	73,895
Camp colors	4,167	Bugles	3,795
National colors	760	Drums	16,330
Flags	4,185	Fifes	1,400

The stock on hand ready for issue on the 30th June, 1865, but not transferred to the armies for issue, was:

Uniform coats	462,105	Knapsacks	868,578
Uniform jackets	504,811	Haversacks	522,621
Uniform trousers	1,185,234	Canteens	845,209
Drawers	1,166,541	Hospital tents	6,121
Shirts, flannel	1,542,294	Wall tents	15,672
Greatcoats	929,725	Wedge or common tents	53,902
Blankets, woollen	1,009,106	Shelter tents	791,254
Blankets, water-proof	384,975	Bedsacks	167,037
Blouses	1,410,059	Regimental colors	789
Shoes, pairs	1,582,156	Camp colors	7,270
Boots, pairs	435,032	National colors	609
Stockings, pairs	1,803,719	Flags	7,697
Hats	397,595	Guidons	2,039
Caps	926,922	Picks	103,228
Axes	90,548	Bugles	3,893
Spades and shovels	152,523	Trumpets	3,869
Hatchets	111,247	Drums	5,865
Mess pans	364,086	Fifes	11,747
Camp kettles	106,417		

For further details of the supply of clothing, camp, and garrison equipage, during the fiscal year, and during the whole war, I respectfully refer to the tables accompanying this report. They give information as to the quantities of the various materials purchased, as well as of the articles manufactured therefrom, or purchased ready-made, in a compact form and with greater precision than is possible in this narrative.

There have been purchased during the fiscal year—

Cloth and other materials to the value of	\$21,416,858 84
Clothing	70,087,282 20
Equipage	13,515,301 09
The expenditure for all objects relating to clothing and equipage, including payment of rents, compensation to workmen, clerks, and others, at the principal depots, has been during the year ending June 30, 1865	105,019,406 13

Two of the tables herewith give approximately the quantities of material and of ready-made articles of clothing and equipage, which the three principal depots have supplied during the war.

At the commencement of the war the department had but one depot for the supply of clothing and equipage, the Schuylkill arsenal, at Philadelphia. This was organized for the equipment of an army of 13,000 men. The material was purchased by contract from manufactories, and the clothing, shoes, &c., were made up at the arsenal.

The sudden increase of the army made it necessary to greatly enlarge the operations of this depot, and to establish new ones, and also to accept the aid of State authorities in providing the clothing of the numerous regiments of volunteers organizing in every district in the country. Eight or ten thousand work-people were employed in Philadelphia in the manufacture of clothing and equipage. The new depots established at New York and Cincinnati went into operation early in 1862, under energetic and able officers. Contracts were made for the supply of clothing ready-made. The manufacturers of the loyal States were urged to turn their machinery upon army goods. The clothing merchants who had, before the war, supplied the southern markets, made contracts with the department for the supply of army clothing, and in a few months the industry and manufacturing power of the country were turned into the new channel, and the difficulties at first experienced in procuring a sufficient supply for the immense army which sprang into being ceased.

The only domestic branch of manufacture which has not shown capacity to supply the army is that of blankets. The department has been obliged throughout the war to use a considerable proportion of army blankets of foreign manufacture.

The condition of the property stored at the Schuylkill arsenal, at Philadelphia, is a source of apprehension. About \$20,000,000 of property are in store there, and it is recommended that alterations and additions be made in the buildings, or within the walls, to enable the department to remove much valuable property now stored in temporary sheds, and exposed to danger from fire, into proper fire-proof buildings.

The prices of clothing and equipage have constantly advanced during the war. A table of the lowest and highest prices paid accompanies this report. It will be seen that, towards the termination of the war, the prices of many important articles had more than doubled; of some articles the price has quadrupled.

The Second Division of this office has charge of the provision and distribution of clothing and equipage. It has been under the charge of Colonel A. J. Perry, of the Quartermaster's department, who has in this office had charge of this branch of its business since the commencement of the war. He is an officer of rare merit, and I have taken occasion heretofore to ask that he receive promotion, as a testimony that his services have been recognized and appreciated by his country, as they are by the chief of this department.

Although in the active operations of the past four years, and especially during the unprecedented movements of the last year, very heavy demands have been made upon this branch of the department, it has been able to place the material needed at the right places and at the right moment.

During the last year large armies have changed their bases. The army of General Sherman from the Tennessee and Ohio to the Atlantic coast, at Savannah; then again to the harbor of Beaufort, North Carolina, several hundred miles distant. Yet, at each of these new bases, this army, from 70,000 to 100,000 strong, found the supplies for a complete new outfit ready for issue. Most of the clothing and equipage for this purpose was sent from New York. Details of the operation are found elsewhere in this report.

So armies of 15,000 to 25,000 men have been during the past year suddenly

moved from the Tennessee to the Atlantic; from the Tennessee to the Gulf coast; from the James to the Rio Grande; but from none of these new fields and bases of operation, in the midst of these sudden and gigantic movements, has the complaint been made of suffering for want of any of the supplies which it is the duty of this department to provide or to transport.

OCEAN TRANSPORTATION.

Colonel George D. Wise, in charge of the Third Division of this office, reports that, during the first month of the fiscal year, the office work of the division—that of ocean and lake transportation—was embarrassed by the absence of most of the clerks and officers, who were called to active service in the field during the demonstration and attack on the capital by the rebel army under Early and Breckinridge. During this time, however, the necessary steamer transportation was assembled at City Point, and moved to Washington and Baltimore the 6th army corps in time to meet the advancing enemy at the battles of the Monocacy and the attack on Washington. The 19th army corps was also brought from the Chesapeake, where it was arriving by sea from New Orleans, and reached Washington in time to take part in the operations for its defence and in the pursuit of the baffled enemy.

During the month of July, also, the army of Major General Canby was moved by sea from New Orleans to Mobile bay, co-operating with the navy in the reduction of the fortifications at its entrance.

From August to December no great movements of troops by sea were made, but a large fleet was constantly employed in supplying the armies before Richmond and the troops at the various stations along the coast from the Chesapeake to New Orleans.

In the inclement month of December the approach of General Sherman's army to the coast required a large fleet to be employed in readiness to supply and refit that army after its long march from Atlanta.

Transports were despatched to Pensacola with supplies to await the arrival of the troops, should unexpected opposition compel General Sherman to change his course to the south.

The greater part of the stores intended for his use, however, were sent direct to Port Royal harbor, there to await his arrival at some point on the coast of the Carolinas or Georgia.

When he appeared in rear of Savannah, and, capturing Fort McAllister by a *coup de main*, communicated with the naval squadron, the transports were sent round to the mouths of the Ogeechee and Savannah rivers, and light-draught steamers, fitted for river and bay service, which had been despatched upon the first news of his approach, arrived in time to transfer to the river landings the clothing, camp and garrison equipage, quartermaster's stores, and forage and provisions which had been of necessity sent in sea-going vessels, both sail and steam, and which were of too heavy draught to enter the Ogeechee or pass through the opening first made in the artificial obstructions of the Savannah.

The army was quickly reclothed, reshod and refitted; its wagons filled with rations and forage.

A large portion of the army was transferred by steamers from the Savannah to Beaufort, South Carolina, or Port Royal harbor, at which place the vessels of heavy draught could land their stores without the labor of transshipment.

After a short and much needed rest, the army, re-equipped, left the coast, and the transports and fleet of light-draught steamers repaired to the harbor of Morehead City, where they awaited the arrival of the troops, who, after a march of five hundred miles through a hostile country, without communication with their

base of supplies, depending solely upon the stores in their wagons and the resources of the enemy's country for their subsistence, were certain to arrive in a condition to require an entire renewal of their clothing and shoes, and a new supply of provisions.

When I parted with General Sherman at Savannah, on the 19th January, he told me to look out for him at Kingston, and also to be prepared for him lower down the coast, should the rebel army of Virginia, abandoning Richmond, unite with the troops in the Carolinas, and succeed in preventing his passage of the Santee.

During the month of December, also, an expedition was embarked at City Point and Fortress Monroe, which made an unsuccessful attempt, in co-operation with the navy, upon Fort Fisher, at the mouth of Cape Fear river. The troops failing to attack were re-embarked, and returned to Hampton roads. The transportation by sea, the landing and return, were successfully performed.

In January the expedition was re-embarked with a larger force, and successfully landed above Fort Fisher, which place, with the aid of a naval bombardment unexampled in severity, they carried by assault.

The troops of the 23d army corps, under General Schofield, having borne their part in the campaign in Georgia and Tennessee, after the battle of Nashville, which took place on the 15th and 16th December, and the termination of the pursuit of the rebel army on the Tennessee, were moved by rail and river to Washington and Baltimore, where, amid many difficulties from the severity of the season, ice entirely suspending for a time the navigation of the Potomac, they were embarked on ocean steamers and despatched to the Cape Fear river, and to Beaufort, North Carolina, to move, in co-operation with the victors of Fort Fisher, upon Wilmington and Kingston, North Carolina.

In anticipation of the arrival of General Sherman's army, I had ordered to Savannah a portion of the military railroad construction corps. Two divisions of the corps, as organized, with tools and materials, and officers, were brought from Nashville to Baltimore by railroad. At Baltimore they were re-enforced, and embarked on ocean steamers, and were promptly at the rendezvous.

As the army moved, however, without depending upon railroad communication, destroying instead of repairing railroads in its march, the construction corps was transferred to Wilmington and Beaufort harbor, and the railroads which, starting from Wilmington and Morehead City, meet at Goldsboro', were repaired and stocked with engines and cars, either captured or sent from the north.

Two hundred miles of railroad were thus repaired and stocked, under the protection of the troops of Generals Schofield and Terry; and when, after the battle of Bentonville, the right wing of General Sherman's army, under Howard, marched into Goldsboro', on the 22d March, ragged from their struggles with the thickets and swamps, and blackened by the smoke of the burning forests of Carolina, they met these railroad trains from the Atlantic, loaded with three days' rations for their immediate wants. I met General Sherman at Morehead City, on the 25th March, when he advised me that he desired to move again on the 10th April.

This army, of nearly 100,000 men, needed to be entirely reclothed and reshod, the troops were to be fed while resting, for as soon as the army ceased its march it ceased to supply itself by foraging, and depended upon the supplies from the coast. Nevertheless, on the 7th April I was able to inform General Sherman that the necessary supplies were in his camps.

Every soldier had received a complete outfit of clothing, and had been newly shod. The wagons were loaded with rations and forage, and each of the three thousand wagons, whose canvas covers had been torn on the march from Chattanooga, was supplied with a new cover. The army moved on the appointed day against the enemy, interposing between it and the army of the Potomac, then holding the principal rebel army fast behind the lines of Richmond.

A tug-boat of this department, under the command of Captain Ainsworth, had reached Fayetteville by the Cape Fear river on the 12th March, and first bore greeting to the army of the west, from their comrades whom they had left on the banks of the Tennessee, and who, joined with others of the army of the Potomac, were then forcing a communication with them, from the new base which they sought on the Atlantic coast.

The demands upon the department at this time compelled it to take into its service not only the fleet which it had gradually acquired by purchase, but nearly every new steam vessel that had been built in the United States to navigate the ocean.

A fleet of powerful propellers, vessels of 900 to 1,100 tons, swift and staunch, burning twelve to sixteen tons of coal per day, with a speed of 8 to 10 knots, had been created during the war, and nearly the whole of them were at this time in the service of the department.

Large sailing-ships were also employed, loaded with forage and subsistence, and compelled to anchor on the exposed coast of Carolina, where they rode out the winter storms.

A large quantity of railroad engines and cars were shipped to Beaufort harbor for the railroads in North Carolina, most of which were on the termination of hostilities sent to the James river to be sold.

To aid in the rapid supply of General Sherman, while at Goldsboro', and relieve the railroad, and also to enable the department to supply him at Winton by the shallow waters of North Carolina, in his northern march, a large number of canal-boats and barges was sent to Newbern; some of them were used in the Trent river, carrying supplies to Kingston bridge, but the greater part of them were released from service by the surrender of the rebel armies, and have been returned to the Chesapeake and to their owners, or sold.

In all the active movements by sea during the fiscal year, employing a fleet in which nearly all the sea-going steamers of the country have been employed, but three vessels have been lost while in the service of this department.

The *North America*, a chartered side-wheel steamer of the first class, perfectly new, went down in a gale off Cape Hatteras, the *General Lyon* was burned, and the *Admiral DuPont* was run down at sea.

After the surrender of the rebel armies, orders were given to discharge all the chartered steamers, and to sell those which were the property of the department as fast as they could be spared; very heavy movements, however, ordered before much progress in the reduction was made, have delayed the discharge and sale of some of the transports.

In May the 25th army corps was ordered from City Point to Texas. The corps numbered about 25,000 men, with artillery and baggage. Its guns, ambulances, wagons and harness, subsistence and ammunition, went with it; about 2,000 horses and mules also accompanied it. The greater part of its artillery, cavalry and team horses were left behind. This movement required a fleet of fifty-seven ocean steamers, one of which made two voyages. The entire tonnage of the fleet was 56,987 tons. The vessels were all provided for a twelve days' voyage, consuming 947 tons of coal, and fifty thousand gallons of water daily.

The daily expense of this fleet amounted to \$33,311.

The vessels were fitted with bunks for the troops, and with stalls for 2,139 horses and mules, which formed part of the expedition.

The vessels were all rigidly inspected before sailing, and all reached their destination in safety. No accident to any of them has been reported. A list of the vessels accompanies this report.

While this expedition of 25,000 troops was afloat, another, of seven thousand troops, was sent by sea from Washington to Savannah, and 3,000 rebel prisoners were sent from Point Lookout, on the Chesapeake, to Mobile. Besides this,

large numbers of convalescent and discharged men were then returning from the southern ports, and recruits were forwarded to the regiments on the coast.

There were, therefore, more than 30,000 troops and prisoners afloat upon the ocean, in steam transports, at the same time.

The last annual report of this department gives information as to the army transport fleet owned and employed on the 15th October, 1864.

This list omitted to give the names of the western river steamers, of which the department then owned a large number.

There were in the employment of the department of ocean and lake transportation, in the spring of 1865, owned by the department—steamers, 106; steam-tugs, 29; sailing vessels, 15; barges, 21—total, 171 vessels, with a tonnage of 49,358 tons. The department also had under charter at that time—steamers, 275; tugs, 91; sailing vessels, 75; barges, 171, with a tonnage of 191,149 tons.

Total number of vessels employed, 783; tonnage, 240,507 tons. Average daily expense of this fleet, \$97,500.

On the 1st of July, 1865, the fleet owned consisted of—steamers, 115; tugs, 23; sail-vessels, 12; barges, 20; tonnage, 55,496 tons.

The chartered fleet consisted of—steamers, 177; tugs, 69; sail-vessels, 74; barges, 100; tonnage, 138,440 tons.

Total number of vessels, 590; tonnage, 193,936 tons; daily cost, \$82,400.

During the fiscal year the average size of the transport fleet was—

351 steamers.....	171,081 tons.
111 steam-tugs.....	13,262 "
89 sail-vessels.....	17,738 "
168 barges.....	22,903 "

Total, 719 vessels, of..... 224,984 tons.

Its average daily cost was \$92,414.

The report of Colonel Wise, who is in charge of this branch of the Quartermaster General's office, contains some important observations upon the construction and management of steam ocean transports.

At the beginning of the war the department was imposed upon. Officers and agents had little experience, and inferior vessels were sometimes chartered, and excessive prices were paid for steamers chartered from the regular trade, not then entirely and hopelessly broken up by the war.

Stringent measures of reform were adopted; a scale of prices for the different classes of vessels was fixed, by the order of the Quartermaster General.

The examination and audit of all accounts for charter of vessels was brought to this office; all charters contained provisions to enable the United States to purchase the vessels at a reasonable price, provided that should prove advantageous; and system, order, and regularity were introduced into the service.

This branch of the service, on the reorganization of this office under the law of 4th July, 1864, was assigned to the Third Division of the office, under the direction of Colonel G. D. Wise. The safety, efficiency, despatch, and punctuality with which its affairs have been conducted do him high honor.

At one time 40,000 men have been afloat. The fleet has averaged 719 vessels of all classes, with a burden of 225,000 tons. But three vessels have been lost during the year, though the greatest and most important movements were made during the inclement months of the winter, from January to May.

Very full tables which accompany this report give details in reference to the transport fleet and the operations of the department upon the ocean and upon the waters of the coast.