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# HISTORY

OF THE

Satterlee U. S. A. Gen. Hospital,

AT

WEST PHILADELPHIA, PA.,

From October 8, 1862, to October 8, 1863,

BY THE

Rev. NATHANIEL WEST, D. D.,

CHAPLAIN TO THE HOSPITAL.

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1863.

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## HISTORY

OF THE

SATTERLEE U. S. A. GENERAL HOSPITAL.

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A "sketch" of our already famous Hospital was published last year including the period from the 9th day of June—the day when the first patients were received into it—to Wednesday October 8th, 1862, the day of the elevation and dedication of our splendid flag, presented by the noble-hearted merchants of Philadelphia. That day will long be remembered! This historical sketch will include the period of one year, *i. e.*, from October 8th, 1862, to October 8th, 1863. We will begin

### I. *With the name of the Hospital.*

Its name now is, "The Satterlee U. S. A. General Hospital," at West Philadelphia. The name "Satterlee" was added as a prefix, in honor of Surgeon Satterlee, because he is the oldest surgeon in the service of the U. S. A., and because of his distinguished character in that service. He has been for many years past, and is now, Medical purveyor at New York.

### II. *Its Location.*

Its location is very fine. It is close to the intersection of 44th and

Pine streets. It occupies an eminence as elevated as any other portion of the city of Philadelphia. It commands a lovely view of the adjacent country, and possesses all that could be desired as to pure air, and other natural helps to the procurement of sound health, and for every sanitary purpose. It covers twelve acres of ground, and is enclosed with a fence fourteen feet high. This noble institution is removed far enough from the tumult of the crowded parts of the city. It is free from mephitic odors or pestilential malaria, and is every way salubrious. The ground and buildings are in possession of the government, and are intended to be permanent.

### III. *Its Extent, Accommodations, &c.*

There were twenty-eight wards 167 feet by 24 feet wide when our "sketch" of October, 1862, was published. Since then fourteen of those have been largely extended, and six new ones erected. To call the extensions separate wards, the number would now be forty-eight; but allowing the extension to be a part added to the ward where it occurs, then we have, with the new ones, thirty-four in all. The ventillation of all the wards is as nearly perfect as can be. Additional buildings are on the ground for other purposes, viz: three cooking kitchens, guard barracks, commissary stores, clothing stores, sutler's store, baggage-room, knapsack-room, dairy-room, smoking-room, laundry, carpenter shop, printing-room, dispensary, laboratory, &c., &c., &c.; there are also 150 hospital tents on the ground, to serve in case of emergency, sufficient to accommodate nine hundred patients, so that altogether the hospital can, if necessary, take in and wait upon forty-five hundred sick and wounded, together with all the requisite attendants for ministering to their wants. Beside all this a beautiful chapel for the worship of Almighty God, capable of seating 400 hearers, a chaplain's room, and

a capacious and tastefully arranged reading-room, have been provided during the past year. But of these, more anon.

The wards are a series of one-story buildings running back, north and south, from two corridors, each of which is 875 feet long, which are occupied by the soldiers at meal-time. The transverse two-story building connecting the two corridors is termed the head-quarters. Officers rooms are on the second story. The space between the corridors, is the hospital plateau or place for promenade, having erected on it the domicile of the surgeon in charge, Dr. Hayes, engineer buildings, and two picturesque and most useful gushing fountains, one in front and one in rear of head-quarters. Near post No. 1. *i. e.*, (the entrance gate,) on each side are offices for surgeons, and for the commander of the fatigue party. On the right, coming in, is the guard-house, and on the left are sheds for carriages, and stabling for horses. The neatness, cleanliness, and system of arrangements of the whole, form themes for the admiration of all visitors. The officers and attendants of each ward, are a resident assistant surgeon, a medical cadet, a wardmaster, a sister of charity, and a sufficient number of nurses.

*IV. The Surgeon in Charge, and Commandant of the Hospital is,*

ISAAC I. HAYES, M. D.

The Chiefs of departments and members of his staff are :

Nathaniel West, D. D., U. S. A., Chaplain.

J. H. Porter, Act. Ass't Surg. U. S. A., Executive Officer.

J. Williams, Act. Ass't Surg. U. S. A., Ass't Executive Officer.

Capt. Wm. Brian, Commander of the Guard.

G. H. Dick, Act. Ass't Surg. U. S. A. Commander of Fatigue.

S. S. Fries, M. D., Chief Pharmaceutist.

A. Berg, Hospital Steward, U. S. A., Quartermaster.

J. L. Kite, Hospital Steward, U. S. A., Commissary.

## HISTORY OF THE

C. H. Thomas, Hospital Steward, U. S. A. Police Inspector.  
 D. W. Martin, Hospital Steward, U. S. A. Chief Clerk.  
 Sister Gonzaga, (Lady Superior,) Chief Matron.  
 H. F. Butler, Chief Wardmaster.  
 H. Lamborn, Chief Printer.  
 J. Fletcher. Chief Carpenter.  
 M. McA. Field, Chief Engineer.  
 A. Thomas, Act. Hospital Steward, U. S. A., Baggage-Master.  
 W. A. Bulkley, Hospital Steward, U. S. A., Postmaster.

*Surgeons of Wards and Medical Cadets.*

Surgeons.	Wards.	Cadets.
Dr. S. G. Minassian,	A.	
" J. W. Moore,	B. & L.	D. B. Ingersoll.
" D. Kennedy,	C. & D.	W. D. Harrison.
" G. H. Dick,	E. & 4, 5, 6.	J. F. Rose.
" Thomas G. Morton,	F.	C. L. Hart.
" C. P. Tutt,	G.	
" M. J. Grier,	H. & M.	J. A. Stayman.
" E. A. Smith,	I. & OK.	Jas. W. Hall.
" H. West,	J. & K.	
" E. Dyer, (Oculist)	M.	W. W. Shapley.
" M. Lampen,	N.	Louis Schneider.
" F. L. O. Røhrig,	O.	E. B. Bingham,
" L. K. Baldwin,	P. & Q.	W. H. Lathrop.
" R. M. Girvin,	R. & U.	Jas. A. Downey.
" J. H. Hutchinson,	S.	Geo. F. Knorr.
" W. C. Dixon,	T. & 2.	A. A. Smith.
" E. Crowell,	V.	
" M. S. Perry,	W. & X.	A. F. Stayman.

Dr. L. Shoney,	Y.	
“ M. C. B. Richardson,	Z.	S. McCullom.
“ Edward Storer,	XX.	
“ J. Roberts,	1.	
“ Joseph B. Roe,	3.	

Thus it will be seen, by comparing our “sketch” of part of last year with this, that we had then forty-one surgeons, but now only twenty-five; then we had thirty-three medical cadets, now but fifteen; making sixteen fewer in surgeons, and eighteen fewer in cadets. We need five cadets yet to fill up the present *hiatus*, but even then we should have thirteen cadets fewer than formerly. Now when it is considered that our patients have been proportionally more in number, their wounds more severe, and the medical staff fewer than before, it speaks volumes in favor of the advance made in the science of surgery, in medical treatment, in economy, and in the improvements of the sanitary condition of the Hospital. A competent mind at the head of any complex establishment will work wonders.

#### V. *The Dispensary Department.*

This department consists of a dispensary, where the prescriptions are compounded and dispensed to the different wards, and a laboratory, or room where chemists work, wherein the pills, plasters, tinctures, syrups, &c., are prepared. The medical store has undergone many alterations and improvements during the past year, and now presents an appearance equal to many of the first-class city drug stores. An idea can be formed of the vast amount of labor and skill required in this department, where from three to five hundred prescriptions are compounded and dispensed daily throughout the Hospital.

This department is under the entire charge of Dr. Samuel S. Fries, U. S. A., an experienced pharmacist. There are nine persons



in this department ; five in the dispensary and four in the laboratory, viz :

*Dispensary.*—Elijah S. Morell, Hospital Steward, U. S. A. ; George Hansell, Druggist, U. S. V. ; Theodore St. Clair, Hospital Steward, U. S. A. ; Richard Mauss, Druggist ; James Caldwell, Druggist.

*Laboratory.*—Edward B. Beaty, August Williams, James Gilbert, Thomas Gallagher.

The arrangements to prevent mistakes in administering medicine to the patients, especially at night, need only to be seen to be admired. No visitor should leave the Hospital without visiting the dispensary and laboratory. The judgment and taste of the presiding officer, Dr. Fries, to render his department attractive and adapted to the end designed, form a commendation well deserved.

#### VI. *The Post Office.*

Wm. A. Bulkley is the present postmaster. He went into office Sept. 19th, 1863, under some discouragements, but he soon began to make improvements. One wise alteration made by the Surgeon in Charge was, that the post-office was changed, both as to location and adaptation. It is now at head-quarters, and enlarged and rendered secure and accommodating. This alteration very much needed is handsomely executed and gives great pleasure and satisfaction. Mr. Bulkley writes in good spirits to the chaplain, whose business it is to frank the letters and attend to the general management of this department. He says :

“ I have made several improvements on the old system of distributing letters in this Hospital ; first, a register is now kept of all soldiers leaving the Hospital, and their letters are re-directed immediately on receipt of them at this post-office. Second. The surgeon in charge, chaplain, surgeons, cadets, stewards and officers of different departments in the Hospital, are provided with separate boxes for

their letters, and printed tickets, bearing their name and number, have been issued. Third. All letters remaining in the office one week are advertised in the "Hospital Register," every week, thus saving much time and trouble, and in addition, giving a more certain method for the patients to see the list, as many are from time to time unable to leave their beds to read the names on the bulletin board for themselves. Fourth. A file of the guard has been ordered to attend the mail carrier, in his delivery of letters in the several wards," &c.

This order for a file of the guard to attend the carrier was necessary, and is a good thing for this simple reason, namely: Large numbers of our hospital soldiers are excellent chirographers. They write much and well, as will soon be seen. Every one who writes to parents, brothers, sisters, lover or friends, expects an answer. Their eagerness is so great to have a letter in return, that to see them sometimes one would think all the letters in the carrier's pigeon-holed-box would be gone in a moment. But now "the boys" have to stand off, and not crowd the box, or the sentinel will, if they break through, though they, dear fellows, mean no harm by it, be very apt to invite the transgressors to accompany him to that handsome temporary residence, commonly called "the guard house." And this is just the place to insert the caution following, namely: that all persons sending money to the soldiers in letters, should be careful to have their money-letters registered in the post-office where they mailed them, and take the postmaster's receipt for the same. Should the money be lost, the proof of registration will recover it. Soldiers should apprise their friends of this fact. It is a good deal better to pay ten cents for a registration receipt, than lose a ten-dollar green-back, for want of it. "It is better to throw a sprat to catch a mackerel, than to throw a mackerel to catch a sprat."

The vastness of the correspondence carried on with the Saterlee U. S. A. General Hospital will now be briefly alluded to. The chaplain,

Dr. West, keeps a letter-register, so does the postmaster. For every day the number of letters, newspapers and packages, which leave the Hospital, a record is entered in both registers. The letters franked are distinguished from those stamped and their numbers separately preserved. From August the 12th, 1862, to October 8th, 1863, say 14 months, wanting four days, the account is the following :

Letters mailed (stamped), - - - - -	117,109,
Do. do. (franked), - - - - -	8,841,
Total, - - - - -	<u>125,950.</u>
Newspapers mailed, same period, - - - - -	19,512,
Packages mailed, - - - - -	43.

But this is only for one way, and the postmasters have repeatedly assured me that nearly as many letters and newspapers arrive at the post-office as depart from it, and this cannot be doubted. But supposing we say eighty thousand for return letters, twelve thousand for newspapers, and fully forty-three packages, then the amount would be in total, letters, two hundred and five thousand nine hundred and fifty ; thirty-one thousand five hundred and twelve newspapers, and eighty-six packages. And all this the product of but one hospital. Who ever heard of such a correspondence carried on in one hospital, whether civil or military ? Who ever met with such an unlooked for inwrought argument in favor of common and select schools ; yea, for all grades of learning ? " Knowledge is power." No wonder our present secretary of state, in one of his penetrating speeches, twenty years ago, should exclaim, " knowledge makes one man a master, ignorance makes another man a slave !" The free states may well be proud of her army, on the ground of intelligence: for such truths as these never stood in connection with any other army since the world had a history. Several interesting facts are seen in our Hospital post-office affairs.

First, The chirography or hand-writing of our patients is generally of the first character, proving that the free States attend to the work of general education.

Second, Two printing presses would be required to keep the mental appetites of the inmates of our hospital in a plenitude of intellectual sustenance.

Third, Great honor generally accompanies knowledge. Our brave fellows make an exhibition very beautiful in this respect. When they get paid very few letters have to be franked, as long as their money lasts. They have too much high-minded honor to allow their parents and friends to pay for their letters.

Fourth, Knowledge is not only power, but is terrible also. The Russian soldiers on the ramparts of Sebastopol watched, as well as did their officers, the British making the railroad from Balaklava to within range of the fortress with astonishment. But when they beheld the cars on the track, run up the nine miles with such speed, and having the heavy seige guns attached, the men ran to their commanders, and report at the time said, they declared "that it was no use to fight any longer, for the soldiers who could do what they saw the British and French do, were able to conquer the world."

Fifth. Not any city of 5,000 inhabitants, perhaps in the world, can be found to exceed, in written correspondence, "the Satterlee U. S. General Hospital post-office". The southern rebellion may rely on this, that unless God Himself curses the free states, the end of the rebellion will be the end of slavery, and of southern domination on this continent.

#### VII. *The Chapel, Covered Way, and Chaplain's Room.*

The communication conveyed in the following letter is very satisfactory and sufficiently explanatory:—

"DOCTOR,—I have received your report in relation to the fitting up

of the chapel; which duty was assigned to you upon the completion of the building. It gives me much pleasure to state that I am highly gratified with the result of your labors. The subscriptions you received from private citizens, do credit alike to their liberality and your zeal, and merit my cordial thanks. The funds placed at your disposal, have, it seems to me, accomplished wonders; and they have been most judiciously expended. Indeed, I am surprised that you should have done so much. The whole work is very satisfactory to me, and is creditable to your taste, as well as to your energy.

If possible, I should be glad if you will have a few of the settees cushioned for the use of the soldiers most sick, and it will also be well, if you can have the board-walk leading to the chapel, covered.

I am Doctor, very respectfully,

You obedient servant,

I. I. HAYES,

*Surgeon in Charge.*

U. S. A. Hospital, West Phila., Feb. 6th, 1863.

REV. NATHANIEL WEST, D. D., Chaplain U. S. A., West Philada. Hospital."

Means were found early in March, 1863, to cushion eighteen settees, for the soldiers needing them most and who might desire to attend the worship of God. We should have cushioned all the settees, seventy in number, had we had enough of money, but we thought better not to run in debt. Early in June following, lumber was procured and the "board-walk" was covered. It is with pleasure the following testimony of satisfaction on this subject is presented:—

Satterlee U. S. General Hospital, West Phila., June 6, '63.

"DEAR SIR,—I have the pleasure to state that the board-walk to the chapel, has been completed in a manner entirely satisfactory to me. The lumber supplied by the liberality of your friends was found to be ample.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. I. HAYES,

*Surgeon in Charge.*

REV. N. WEST, D. D., Chaplain U. S. A.

Thus we are provided with a beautiful house for the worship of God, capable of seating four hundred hearers, with seats all new, pulpit built and cushioned, pulpit-books, pulpit-chairs, large table, window shades, &c., &c. Also the *covered* way leading to "the Hospital Sanctuary," and the bills of cost for the lumber and furniture all paid, from private sources, for the Government could not make any appropriation for building places of worship. To make our brave soldiers happy, to help the Government all we could, in its dreadful trial; hold up the hands of our Surgeon in Charge and his excellent medical staff, and elevate the character of our noble Hospital, and the nation, was the governing intention in making this effort! Greatly has a gracious Providence blessed us in return!

The house for God being completed, the next important event was the transfer of *two* of the three Chaplains to other stations. The Rev. Alex. McLeod, D. D., and the Rev. J. B. Crane, were transferred from the chaplaincy of this hospital; the *former* to Wilmington, Delaware, June 25th, the *latter* to Memphis, Tenn., but no record has been found of the date of his transfer. The senior Chaplain, Rev. Dr. West, was retained. Hitherto no room had been set apart for the chaplain. The whole of the buildings were occupied. At the east end of the chapel, however, and in the same apartment, space was found, 18 feet by 18, lumber was procured by subscriptions from private friends, and a room was formed, at once! LADIES, members of the "first Ladies Association of West Philadelphia, for the relief of our brave soldiers who have fallen in battle, &c.," met at the room, and having engaged a paper-hanger, and procured paper, carpet, tape, tacks, thread, &c., had the walls beautifully papered, the carpet made and laid, and a handsome collation spread out, and as handsomely *participated in*; and all this in less than half a day!—The furniture had to come next. Having heard of "the Room for the

Chaplain," one gentleman sent up a new writing desk and towel-rack, another, a large eight-day clock, another, a profile of General Washington, and a photograph of the old hero, General Jackson, to hang upon the wall each side of the clock, another, an elegant cushioned, pivot arm-chair, to stand before the desk for the chaplain, and a lady sent a *large, double lounge*, (because the chaplain is a large man,) to afford re-invigoration when exhausting labors call for "nature's sweet restorer." All these appurtenances were supplied in the spirit of christian munificence, and made over to the writer as personal gifts; which acts both demand and deserve his thanks, which, without prevarication, evasion, or mental reservation, are hereby tendered! A "contribution box" for donations from "all visitors," &c., is placed in the room with an aperture from the outside of the room, through which to pass the offering, and drop any communication (privately) to the chaplain, from sick and wounded soldiers, or others. The aperture is surrounded with the colors, "white, red and blue," with a superscription which tells its own story. Some other little unimportant things are yet wanted, which will be forthcoming in due time. And here to God's honor, the Chaplain would record, that when God's house was completed, His gracious providence soon provided a room, and "hard joining to the synagogue" too (Acts, xviii, 7,) for "God's man," proving that if God's house and service be attended to *first*, then the accommodations for his own waiting and working servants will not be forgotten! HAGGAI, I. 4, 9. MATT. xi., 33.

#### VII. *The Chaplaincy.*

The *spiritual* labors are *stated*. Performances in the wards must necessarily be subject to the Surgeon of each ward. The *incidental* services must always be governed by circumstances. The distribution of books, pamphlets, tracts, newspapers, &c., has been very

abundant ever since the first patients were received into the hospital. A few references will be given to show the absorbing interest taken in this department of hospital work.

1. The important book, "The Accepted Time," by the Rev. Dr. L. H. CHRISTIAN, Pastor of the North Presbyterian Church, Phila. Of this excellent work the author sent eighty volumes. These were, by the writer, carefully labelled and directed to the Surgeons and Medical Cadets of the West Phila., 24th and South sts., 22nd and Wood streets, and Summit House hospitals. Well were they received, as we shall see. This method was adopted with the *doctors* of the hospitals named, because, 1st, in our Lord's first public intercourse with men, he was "found amidst the doctors, both hearing them and asking them questions." These were not doctors of physic, but doctors of the law; but they were DOCTORS! LUKE II, 46. Because, 2nd, of the example left to ministers by the holy Apostle who took *special* pains to communicate saving knowledge to those "of reputation."—GAL. II, 2. Because 3rd, those in official stations, when well instructed themselves, have the greatest influence, and the best opportunities of instructing others. And lastly, because of the intrinsic value of the excellent doctrinal and practical work called "The Accepted Time." A few short extracts from letters received will be interesting to the reader:—

"MY DEAR SIR:—I have to thank you very sincerely for the copies (between thirty and forty) of the Rev. Dr. Christian's excellent book entitled "The Accepted Time," which you were kind enough to present to this hospital, in behalf of the learned Author, for the use of the Medical Staff.

The liberality and christian zeal manifested by Dr. Christian, in this particular, claims my hearty acknowledgments, and I have to ask that you will communicate my wishes to him.

I am, Doctor, very sincerely, your friend and servant,

I. I. HAYES, *Surgeon in Charge.*

REV. DR. WEST, Chaplain U. S. A., &c., &c.



From Winthrop Sargent, M. D., Surgeon in Charge, Summit House  
U. S. A. Hospital:

"MY DEAR DR. WEST,—Allow me to thank you on behalf of the Surgeons and officers of the Summit House Hospital for your generous politeness in presenting each of us a copy of "The Accepted Time," by Rev. Dr. Christian. It is read by all of us, and by the patients, to whom we lend our copies with much pleasure, and we hope with much profit.

We all need to have our hearts impressed with such wholesome doctrines and glorious truths, and can only respond to your earnest prayers that we may be made better men and truer soldiers by it, with a hearty Amen!

With sincere respect and esteem, I remain, Sir,  
Your friend and humble servant,  
WINTHROP SARGENT,

*Surgeon in Charge of Summit House U. S. A. Hospital.*

From Caleb W. Hornor, M. D., U. S. Vols., Surgeon in Charge of  
the Government Hospital, 22nd and Wood streets, Phila.

U. S. A. Hospital, Wood st., Phila., Feb. 2nd, 1863.

REV. AND DEAR DOCTOR,—You will please accept my sincere thanks for the copies of Dr. Christian's "Accepted Time," which you so kindly presented myself and staff. It has been read by us all and afforded a relief from the tedium of hospital routine. I beg you will convey my grateful acknowledgments to the learned divine who has garnered such precious food for the soul, whose wants are too often neglected and forgotten amid the exciting scenes through which we are now passing.

I am, Rev. Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
CALEB W. HORNOR,

*Asst. Surg. U. S. Vol., in charge of Hospital.*

A desire for more copies of this valuable book, presented in a note, which also gave information of its reception in the hospital elicited from its esteemed author the response following—

"MY DEAR DOCTOR,—Freely and cheerfully presenting the books, and with unlimited confidence in the worthy Chaplain to whose care they were entrusted, I felt no more responsibility in the case. I gave forty volumes to Chaplain McFarland, from whom I have heard nothing. \* \* \* I certainly am thankful to hear so favorable an account of them as you intimated in your note, and for all the interest you have taken in their distribution. If this great result (*i. e.*, good to souls) is secured, I trust I shall be able heartily to subscribe your—*Soli Deo Gloria!*

Respectfully and fraternally, &c., &c.,  
L. H. CHRISTIAN.

I will now add, that I heartily wish that as Doctor Christian owns the stereotyped plates of his book, his wealthy friends would put money sufficient into his hands to print 5000 copies more, for all the hospitals in Philadelphia; providing that at least 1500 are sent to Dr. West for distribution in "the mammoth hospital at West Philadelphia," and that the whole edition be bound in flexible binding.—The print might be a size smaller, and the book by these mechanical emendations be more portable for the knapsack.

We shall now go forward with the supplies for hospital reading from other sources.

With great pleasure, satisfaction, and heartfelt gratitude to God and to the worthy donors, we present the following record—

1. From the *Presbyterian Board of Publication*, up to May, 1863, —Books, 550 vols.; Tracts, 22,238 pp.; sol. series, 100; "Just as I am," 300; Devotional Poetry, 100; and *Soldiers' Pocket Book*, 300 copies!

2. From the *American Sunday School Union*,—100 Prayer Meeting Hymn Books; 84 do.; 24 do., large, with tunes appended. Very beautiful!

3. From the *Episcopal Church*, per *Rev. Dr. Vaughan*,—100 prayer books for soldiers; and 400 tracts for *ward* distribution; Roll-Call.

50 copies ; Story of *Lucknow*, 50 copies. The latter were *snatched up* with an eagerness seldom equalled. I made the distribution myself. "More" is promised. Some copies of "The Parish Visitor" have been given. We want 25 copies per week of the latter lovely paper, and six or a dozen copies of the "Episcopal Recorder," weekly. No doubt they will be granted.

4. From the *Christian Commission*, per American Tract Society Store, 600 copies per month, (on an average) of that unrivalled paper, the "American Messenger." This is 7,200 copies during the year, or 28,800 pages of the choicest reading!

5. From the *Baptist Church, Boston*.—17 copies of the "Watchman and Reflector," (weekly, post paid) a paper of high order in evangelical teaching, and very ably conducted. Our Baptist friends at Boston had better *double* the number, for we have a fair proportion of their communion in our great healing establishment.

6. From *Mrs. Atwell*—30 volumes of bound books. Excellent!

7. From *Mrs. Charles Roberts*,—a large bundle of excellent newspapers.

8. From *Rev. Dr. West*, Hospital Chaplain, frequent contributions of choice pamphlets, books, tracts, &c. All select works.

9. The *Philadelphia Bible Society* has given to *this* hospital from its beginning, 252 Bibles, and 1767 New Testaments, and New Testaments with Psalms.

In addition to the foregoing, frequent donations have been made by members of the "Society of Friends," and by benevolent ladies and gentlemen passing through the hospital, so that we cannot enumerate the whole. We much wish a donation *weekly*, of "The Methodist," "The Christian Advocate," of the M. E. Church. Of "The Wesleyan," (Syracuse, N. Y.,) of the *English Lutheran* church paper, of the Reformed Dutch church paper, ("The Intelligencer," N. Y.,)

the "Presbyterian," the "American Presbyterian," and the "New York Observer." The editor of "The Standard,"—Rev. Dr. Nevin,—has sent us four copies weekly, of his excellent paper for the past year. We want tracts and books of sound religious character, in French and German; and we wish all sent, to be *post-paid*, and addressed to the Chaplain. Now is the time to do good to our heroic soldiers and sailors; to our government, and our whole country.

Never has an army been so industriously and perseveringly cared for, by any nation in any age of the world, in all its essential wants, whether intellectual, spiritual or temporal, as has been the army of these United States, since the present destructive and unprovoked rebellion commenced. Nor can any hospital in our entire country, in these respects, take precedence of the Satterlee U. S. A. General Hospital, at West Philadelphia.

The Chaplain in Charge, has to make a *weekly* report of his services, to the Surgeon in Charge, and a report on the last day of each month, of his station, post-office address, and monthly services, to the office of the Adjutant General at Washington. Faithful performance of duty in an army hospital will soon convince the incumbent, whether Surgeon in Charge, Chaplain, or any other officer, that the place is no sinecure!

#### VIII. *Reading Room.*

We now introduce to the courteous reader, the **READING ROOM** of the Satterlee U. S. A. General Hospital, West Philadelphia, with the following polite note from one of the *twelve* estimable ladies who conduct affairs in our famous *military lyceum*!

TO THE REV. DR. WEST, CHAPLAIN, &C. :—REV. AND DEAR SIR,—In considering more fully my offer of Tuesday, to write out a statement of the instituting and conducting of the Reading Room, I recollected that a much better account than I am capable of furnishing, was

published in the "Register" of May 16, 1863, which I enclose. Should you need any information not contained in this sketch, it will give me much pleasure to furnish it, if in my power. With best wishes for your success in the undertaking, I remain,

Yours truly,  
SOPHIE R. PURDON,  
4115 Walnut street.

September 10th, 1863.

The following is the description in the number of the "Register" referred to:—

"The Reading Room of the Satterlee U. S. A. General Hospital, at West Philadelphia, is so far as we know an original attempt to facilitate the more physical and mechanical remedies of the physician. Those who, in the pursuit of medical science have attentively and intelligently considered the various ailments of their patients, know that very frequently, "the diseases of the body proceed from the soul. So far as the power of unassisted thought could carry a man, Plato had advanced as far as the most accomplished Savan of the present generation in the metaphysical department of therapeutics. But no historic records remain from which we might conclude that the School of Coos Pergarnus or Alexandria had appreciated the high philosophy of the Academic, or reduced his theory to practice.

It was seriously debated at San Souci by Frederick the 2nd, if it were possible for a man to die of ennui. Without attempting to decide the matter we will simply state that among the household troops, as they are called, on duty in London and at the various royal residences, one of the principal predisposing causes of death is *weariness*, an apathetic condition induced by the constant and invariable succession of unvarying duties, and positions.

Taken almost exclusively from the professions and pursuits of civil life, the routine of the garrison is almost unendurable, what then must be the effect when it is heightened by the weakness and depression of disease or injury? The inauguration of the reading room materially detracts from this morbid tendency. Those who have cultivated the pleasures of the intellect are there supplied with the materials for thought, and to the great majority of mankind, the

tale, the ballad, and the play will bring a temporary self-forgetfulness, an abnegation of their own maladies and sufferings, whether mediate or immediate, most desirable, and efficient in the process of a cure. The Reading Room of this hospital, was, upon its first construction, called the south kitchen and dining room, and fed the patients in last summer's encampment. It has been made into an apartment by knocking away its partitions, the ceiling completed, the walls whitewashed and adorned, a piano, and billiard table placed therein, and a library attached, (mostly furnished by the philanthropic and charitable citizens of Philadelphia.)

In this library, upon whose door the motto, ["Medicine for the Mind,"] described by Polybius as being engraved over that of Alexandria, might be appropriately placed, are during the week, twelve ladies, who relieve each other two by two each day. The various games and volumes are distributed by them upon the application of the soldiers; they listen as only women ever do listen to their complaints, and give them that which is far better than physic, sympathy and consolation.

Nearly three thousand volumes are already upon the shelves of the library, consisting of books of every character, most calculated to interest and instruct. Chess, Checkers, Dominoes, and Stereoscopic views are to be had by all who apply, and in the reading room itself many ladies are kind enough to sing and play, upon the piano, before a most gratified audience.

Seated upon the settees, or by the tables, upon which is found an ample supply of newspapers, a respectable proportion of the inmates of the establishment, who, if it were not for the rational and agreeable means of amusement afforded by the Reading Room, would either be lounging wearied and complaining in their wards, or perhaps seeking other, and far less desirable sources of pleasure without the limits of the hospital.

The attractions of the Reading Room for the soldiers being thus set forth, it remains only to re-assert our conviction, that as a sanitary measure alone there could be nothing better devised; we have already stated some reasons for this opinion, and we think sufficient ones.—During the long drowsy days of the coming summer the patients will

find in the cool, curtained, and quiet apartment, a most delightful retiring place. Removed from the noise, and unceasing activity of the main body of the Hospital, they can read, play, or while away the "leaden-footed hours," in those bright and enervating visions, which are called "day dreams," and which, like the angels in the Eastern legend, spring into existence, expand their golden wings in celestial sunshine for a season, and then fly away, leaving the audience transported with pleasure, until the visit is repeated!

We believe that in the army, and among those in civil life, who have thought upon the subject, the institution has met with favorable consideration. So far as the experiment has been tried here, its success has been perfect, and the amount of good accomplished is much more than was at first expected to accrue from its establishment."

I will only add, that when the supply of reading, fresh and various, is limited in wards, all who are able and willing to attend at the Reading Room, will there find an abundant amplitude for mental repast. Still, the distribution in the wards must be kept up, else those unable to attend at the Reading Room, will be left to "mark, learn, and digest," upon nothing! Both ought to be attended to, the one "should be done, the other not left undone."

The Reading Room was established one year ago by the Surgeon in Charge, assisted by the following ladies of West Philadelphia:— Mrs. Townsend, Mrs. Malery, Mrs. Crane, Miss Egner, Miss Goodwin, Miss Purdon, Miss S. W. Jones, Miss A. Jones, Miss Wurtz, Miss Baynard, Mrs. Field and Miss Garrett. Mrs. Siter fills the place made vacant by the retirement of Mrs. Crane.

These ladies have contributed largely from their own means, and have obtained abundant material aid from the liberal citizens of West Philadelphia. The original nucleus of the library was a collection of books donated by the Manayunk Library Association, and some small private collections presented by Dr. Hayes and Mr. Henry C. Carey. These were arranged by Mrs. McAmmon, and during the summer of 1862 the entire library was conducted by that kind-hearted lady.

IX. *The Sisters of Charity.*

First, I will answer one oft-repeated main question about these Sisters:—

*Question*—Where, when, and under what patron or patroness, did the Sisters of Charity become a distinct order in the Catholic Church?

*Answer*—1. A noble virgin, named LOUISA LE GRAS, organized a Society of ladies at Paris, in France, named *Filles de la charite*,—i. e., “Daughters of Charity.” *Gob. vie de Madams le Gras, Fondatrice des Filles de la Charite*,—Paris, 1576.

2. It appears that a remarkable man, named VINCENT DE PAUL, took his idea from the “Daughters,” and founded the order of “Sisters of Charity.” A. D., 1660.

3. This Society was approved by Pope Clement IX, in 1660, now over 200 years since.—*Mosh. Eccles. History*, vol. 11, page 190. Glas. & Edin. ed., 1827.

4. Madame LE GRAS, also founded four monasteries, and Vincent de Paul, obtained the title of *Saint*!

5. “The “Sisters of Charity” had for their office, to attend the poor, who “were sick, infirm, and confined to their beds!” But no pecuniary remuneration for their services.

6. This is just what they do in our hospital, and in all hospitals, and infirmaries where they are found. They appear never to have changed, but to have *semper idem* written upon them from first to last. Day and night, hot or cold, whether the duty be pleasant or disagreeable, it is ever with them, *semper idem*—i. e., *always the same!*

They are forty-two in number, being subject to a “Lady Superior,” Sister GONZAGA, to whom, as “obedient children,” they all bow with profound submission. They are alike amenable to the



commandant of the hospital as any others. They have their own place of worship—their own ministers—their own ordinances, and in religious matters, are altogether a separate people. In fine, *they* are certainly *Catholics*, as certainly as *we* are *Protestants!* The “Lady Superior” has charge of the Donation Room, and receives and distributes on the requisition of the Sisters, one of whom is attached to each Ward, all donations received from citizens, whether of eatables, drinkables, or clothing. She has the Secretaryship of her “Donation Room” performed by a competent and polite gentleman, MR. FINNEY, who is himself a Protestant, and who in manners, is eminently *sauviter in modo*.

The donations are all recorded in a book kept for the purpose, and in it the names of donors, and all material circumstances are entered. Any one can go and see for himself,

Several other questions of almost daily occurrence are asked, such as these:—“Do the Sisters prescribe medicine for the sick and wounded?” No, they do not. They carry the medicine to the patients when prescribed by the Surgeons and prepared by the Apothecaries. They distribute also, to the patients sick in bed, the extra diet prescribed for them. Another question which I often have to answer, is: “Do not the “Sisters,” under pretence of doing good to the sick and wounded, receive a large government salary for their services?” The Sisters individually get nothing but their expenses paid. There is an allowance granted for their services, paid over to their *order*, as “Sisters of Charity,” but the Sisters receive nothing, and if they received what is allowed, would not accept it as compensation at all. “But do they not try to make converts to their church, from amongst our soldiers in the hospital?” If they do and succeed, this kind of conversion is not confined to the Sisters alone. Who will blame a Protestant for making

a Protestant out of a Catholic? But as these questions and many others are asked by divers persons, it is proper now to state, that it is most firmly believed that better nurses, better attendants on the sick, more noiseless, ceaseless, performers of services in the hospital, could not be found. And it is in this light these self-denying ladies are viewed. No matter what the character of their services is, they are ever at their post. The work assigned must be done, whoever does it, and it must be done in the manner required. And it will be hard to find, any establishment of equal magnitude to the Satterlee United States Army General Hospital, where neatness, cleanliness, arrangement, order, and adaptation to the end designed, are better contrived and observed; and by all employed, irrespective of religious creeds and ceremonies. This is that which has raised the character of the hospital, and of him who holds the charge over it, to their present exalted elevation. The Sisters were placed in the hospital, by order of the Surgeon General on the reception of the first patients, and there is probably not an hospital in the public service that would not be glad to have them, if the supply was equal to the demand.

#### X. *Guard Barracks.*

In answer to my request to Captain Stewart, then commanding officer of the Hospital Guard, to favor me with an account of the Guard under his command, he politely furnished the following soldier-like and lucid statement:—

“I have the honor to report that there are twenty-five (25) sentries posted in and around this hospital, which make one hundred and fifty (150) men on stand-post on the two divisions.

“In addition there are, *one* acting Sergeant-Major, *two* Sergeants, *six* Corporals, *five* Musicians, *three* Turnkeys; *seven* Orderlies, and *two*

Clerks—making in all, including myself, one hundred and seventy-seven (177) men.”

I have the honor to be  
Your obedient servant,  
WILLIAM STEWART,

*Captain commanding the Hospital Guard.*

In reference to the foregoing report, I remark—

1. That none but a well trained and well disciplined military officer, could draw up a report, inclusive of so much, in such *multum in parvo* style.

2. That twenty-five sentinels “in and around the hospital,” offer a very decided intimation to all *night-thieves* and other *strollers* to keep at a respectful *military* distance from the hospital!

3. That any kind of mischief meditated against the hospital, or happening undesignedly, is likely to be detected. “Watchman, what of the night?”

N. B.—Since this report was drawn up, CAPTAIN STEWART has been transferred to the Provost Guard, and succeeded by CAPTAIN BRIAN, who now commands the Barrack Guard; and who appears to be an amiable officer.

#### XI. *Printing Department.*

This very important department was instituted October 4th, 1862, Local blanks, and all the printing of the Hospital, comprising thirty different forms are printed here.

The paper termed the “Hospital Register,” was first printed at the hospital press, February 16th, 1863.

The contributions are, as a general thing, from the pens of soldiers. There is one column set apart as “CHAPLAIN’S CORNER.” It could not be imagined that our noble Hospital could be complete without the employment of the incomparable art of printing, which called out the inventive genius of Coster, Genfleisch, Guttenberg, and

Schœffer, to bring it to perfection. Be proud, ye men of typographical skill!—*Origines Typographicæ*, &c.—A. D., 1440.

There are now employed eight printers. Frequently they are called upon to do printing for other hospitals, as well as for the different military departments.

Many donations of paper, &c., have been received, which enable us to distribute the "Hospital Register," *gratis*, to some extent in the hospital. We want every man to have it.

This Department is superintended by HADLEY LAMBORN, a *soldier* and a practical printer.—JAS. K. SPENCE,—SERGT. F. S. DAVIS,—W. J. COOPER,—THOS. V. COOPER,—CORP. H. C. KENDALL,—SERGT. J. D. LEMMON, are compositors, and A. P. OTTEY, Clerk—all of whom are convalescent soldiers.

#### XII. *The Commissariat.*

The officer at the head of this department is MR. JOHN L. KITE.—He furnished the following items in answer to request. The importance of such statistics, as a part of the *history* of the Satterlee U. S. A. General Hospital, will appear manifest to every *reader*, in the amplitude and variety of provisions made for the "sick and wounded." STEWARD KITE is a highly respected, and reliable officer. The whole of his department shows his competency for the office he holds.

"Satterlee U. S. A. General Hospital, West Phila., Sept. 1863."

"REV. DR. WEST, CHAPLAIN, U. S. A."—"The amounts of various articles of Food consumed in this Hospital, during the past twelve months, are as follows:—"

"Of bread, 803,418 lbs.; beef and mutton, 540,519 lbs.; pork, 41,052 lbs.; chickens, 37,420 lbs.; hams, 28,200 lbs.; fish, 95,250 lbs.; potatoes, 490,388 lbs.; mixed vegetables, 283,420 lbs.; beans and peas, 12,780 lbs.; hominy, 7,242 lbs.; rice, 7,450 lbs.; corn meal, 16,662; flour, 15,664 lbs.; coffee, 23,635 lbs.; tea, 4,425 lbs.; sugar, 74,325

lbs.; molasses, 11,280 quarts; milk, 334,222 quarts; butter, 16,640 lbs.; eggs, 27,272 dozen; dried fruits, farina, gelatine, &c., 13,600 lbs.; ice, 416,000 lbs.;—costing the United States government \$167,-731 39—one hundred and sixty-seven thousand seven hundred and thirty-one dollars and thirty-nine cents."

"Your obedient servant,  
JOHN L. KITE,  
*Hospital Steward.*"

#### XIII. *Quartermaster's Department.*

MR. AUGUST BERG holds the office of *Hospital Quartermaster*. His duty is to keep charge of the medical and hospital stores, issue medicines for the dispensary, clothing to the soldiers, articles of extra diet to the kitchen, bedding to the wards, hospital furniture to the ward-masters. He is an *Hospital Steward*, and a soldier in the United States army. Fidelity, capacity, and efficiency, have marked his character hitherto.

#### XIV. *Carpenters and Painters.*

At the head of this department stands MR. JOHN W. FLETCHER, *master carpenter*. He has charge of all alterations, additions, repairs, &c., according to direction furnished and the supervision of painting. He has at present fifteen assistants, or mechanics, under him, including *four* painters.

#### XV. *Engineer Department.*

MR. MALCOLM MCA. FIELD is *Chief Engineer*. He has charge of all machines, machinery, water-pipes, water-tanks, water-closets, gas, gas-pipes, steam-pipes, kettles, boilers, fire-apparatus, lightning-rods, &c., &c. In fine, Mr. Field is one of the most busy, industrious, useful, and every-way competent mechanics in or about the hospital. He has *thirty* operating assistants under him.

#### XVI. *The Three Kitchens.*

The arrangements of these cooking *restaurants* are so perfect, as to

attract constant admiration from visitors. There are two accomplished French cooks, M. M. DARAN and CHAMIN in charge of the kitchens. They are very polite, sociable and affable, and masters in their line.

#### *XVII. The Milk Department.*

The chief of the dairy is the man we call "Honest JOHN MARSHALL." His milk-house is a deep, well paved new cellar, cold in summer—warm in winter! 950 quarts per day in the winter, of the precious fluid, and 1700 quarts per day in summer, on an average, pass through his hands to the hospital. He is a generous, open, and true-hearted man!

#### *XVIII. Officers' Mess-Room.*

This elegant saloon is opposite the Reading Room. This is *apropos* so far as location is concerned: the one for corporeal supplies, the other for intellectual repasts. MR. JOHN McLAUGHLIN, "Clever John," as he is sometimes termed, is head Steward of "the officers mess."

#### *XIX. The Band.*

The members of this musical corps are mostly German as to original nationality. They are a fine set of fellows. The head musician is MR. TH. HERRMANN. This band performs every afternoon from 2 to 4 o'clock, weather permitting. Both soldiers and visitants are very much delighted with such performances.

#### *XX. Surgical Operating Room.*

This is an appropriate fitted-up apartment for the amputation of limbs, and other formidable acts of surgery. To have a distinct and separate place for such performances is a very *wise measure*. Whether the suffering patient, the patients in the wards, medical cadets, convenience, &c., are considered, a separate building for lectures *on*, and the operations of Surgery, is both wise and necessary.

*XVI. The Examining Board of Surgeons.*

This is a very important Board. Its work is—

1st. To determine upon such patients as are proper to return to their several regiments.

2nd. To recommend those no longer fit for service, for discharge.

3rd. To assign those not fit for the field, and yet fit for light duty, to the Hospital Invalid Corps.

4th. To detain those for further treatment whose cases obviously demand it.

The Surgeons of the Board are—

*President*, DR. DAVID KENNEDY—an experienced Surgeon, who has seen and done much good service. Dr. Alfred Stille, the celebrated writer on *Materia Medica*, was Dr. Kennedy's immediate predecessor.

*Recorder*, DR. E. A. SMITH—a Surgeon of high reputation.

The remaining members of the Board are DR. RØHRIG, DR. GIRVIN, and DR. GRIER—all men of unblemished character, and professional and scientific attainments.

*XVII. Baggage and Knapsack Room.*

This apartment is located immediately opposite the west end of the transverse corridor. There is stored up in this large room, baggage, the property of soldiers, amounting in number to *fifteen hundred*, and capacity for as much more. Acting Hospital Steward, AUGUSTUS THOMAS, has the charge, and is assisted by two clerks and one orderly. The *Record* of deaths and funerals is also kept here.

*XVIII. Additions and Improvements.*

1. *Headquarters*.—This principal section of the Hospital has undergone a new and beautiful construction and improvement. The only defect is, that the office of the Surgeon in Charge is too confined.

2. *Extension of Wards, and new Wards*.—Fourteen of the wards

have been extended nearly one half, and six new ones built. The north and south corridors have been extended nearly 100 feet.

3. *Observatory*.—This new *addition* answers a double purpose.—  
1st. Its location, being on the roof of the transverse building, affords facilities for a fine and extensive observation. 2nd. The observatory answers for an *orchestra*. This was the name of the place amongst the ancient Grecians, prepared for the musicians. It serves the same purpose at our great Hospital now! And from this elevation the Band can be heard half way to Market Street Bridge, if the wind be favorable :—a distance of three miles.

4. The preparation of the Chapel is new, and comes within *additions* of the past year. See SEC. VII. Also the covered way.

5. So is the Chaplain's Room, and its furniture.

6. The *improvements* in the Dispensary are all *new* and additional.—  
SEC. V.

7. The fitting up of the Post-Office is *new*. SEC. VI.

8. The Reading Room is *new*. SEC. VIII.

9. The Dairy, or Milk-House, is *new*.

10. The alterations in the Printing Office are additional.

11. The improvements in the Kitchens are very important, and they are new.

• 12. The Sutler's Store is additional.

13. The Commissary Store-room, (kept by Mr. Hill,) is so arranged into compartments as not to retain its former identity. It is now very convenient.

14. Several improvements have been made in the Laundry, where *thirty-two* of the working ladies are at present kept as busy as so many "busy bees," in a bee-hive, and they are under the direction of a "queen-bee" too! Sometimes this *corps* increases, sometimes the contrary ;—just as the hospital fills up or *depletes*.



15. The Officers' Mess-Room is *new*, and in arrangement and *taste*, although without much profusion of ornament, beautiful; especially is it so, when the product of the "bill of fare," is set in order by "CLEVER JOHN."

16. A large *new* coal-house has been built for winter supply, in the west-end of the hospital yard.

17. A side-entrance gate at post No. 1, has been completed for the egress and ingress of the hospital inmates and visitors. The large gate remains for carriages and wagons.

18. The operating room is new and additional.

I will conclude this section of our history by the following *summary*:—

Sick and wounded admitted to the hospital from Oct. 8th,

1862, to Oct. 8th, 1863,	- - - - -	5,847
Deaths in same period,	- - - - -	110
Greatest number admitted in any month was in July, 1863,	- - - - -	4,062
Greatest number of deaths was in August, '63,	- - - - -	25
Number of nurses same month,	- - - - -	150
Number of ward-masters,	- - - - -	40
Greatest number employed in Laundry,	- - - - -	150
Number in Band—1 master and 16 musicians,	- - - - -	17

#### XXIV. *Religion—Character of the Hospital.*

After all we write and say, a record of what others express in relation to our great institution for healing "the sick and wounded" of our valiant army, who in the providence of God, may come under our care, is calculated more or less to make us sorrowful, or cause us to rejoice.

In the latter part of the summer of 1862, a lady of superior address and modest appearance, was seen seated by the bed of her suffering son, in one of the wards of our Hospital. The writer soon found who she was, and where she came from. She remained in de-

vout attention to her son, who also appeared worthy of such a mother, until his discharge was procured, and then returned, rejoicing over her prize, to her home in the far North. I have pleasure in presenting the reader with a few extracts from her own account of her sojourn at our Hospital. Extract from Mrs. Stewart's letter to Rev. Dr. West, Chaplain:—

"The few weeks I was at Philadelphia left many pleasant reminiscences. I really feel that the poor sick soldier has much cause for gratitude when the winds and the waves waft him to your Hospital. Such perfect order, neatness and quietude pervades the whole establishment; and more than this, a man at the head, with so large and good a heart as has DR. HAYES. The kindness and sympathy of DR. IDDINGS, when I was oppressed with so much care and anxiety, will ever hold a sacred place in my memory. I often read the sentiment you penned in my note-book—"Read much, study more, but pray most of all!" Please accept my heart-felt thanks for your kind words to DR. HAYES, on behalf of my son. I am under much obligation and gratitude to you for the assistance you rendered me, and the good counsel you were sure to impart on all occasions," &c., &c.

Another case: Mrs. Dr. G. L. Reid, of Binghamton, N. Y., came to visit her son ELWIN, who was a patient in the Hospital. He was much reduced—a mere skeleton; but she watched him, and ministered to him with a mother's love! ELWIN thought he drew near his end, and never having received the Sacrament of Christian Baptism, expressed an earnest desire to be baptized. His mother ardently and with weeping concurred, and united in the request. All things being prepared, the soldiers who felt interested were kindly invited to come *near*. Several did so. The ceremony proceeded.—Solemn was the scene! The mother wept—the big, silent, glistening tear, rolled down the faces of more than one soldier! ELWIN looked pallid, the picture of expiring humanity. He was calm, collected, and announced his faith in Christ as the only Saviour, and as *his* Saviour. He was baptized, before and after which solemn instruction was given and prayer offered. After five weeks' visit, Mrs. Reid returned home, and had the satisfaction of having with her, the company of her son. The following short extracts will be read with interest:—

"You know he was but a mere frame when he left the Hospital. He now weighs 130 pounds. I feel quite sure you would not know him." \* \* \* "The scenes of the five weeks I spent in Philadelphia are ever present with me. I assure you the impression on my mind is deep and lasting. The long wards—the patient faces of the poor sufferers—the calm "Sisters"—and the kindness I received. I am certain that the kindness of the people of Philadelphia cannot be surpassed! We feel grateful for your kindness. Our prayer to God is, that he will bountifully reward you and bless you; that the span of life may be lengthened. and that you may be the instrument in God's hand of doing much good."

It is very pleasant to have such facts to relate. But the foregoing are not solitary cases. From the voluntary, unasked-for declarations of many visitors, from distant parts, and of notable character, the highest encomiums have been lavished upon the Hospital.

*Our Religious Services.*—Sermon every Sabbath at 3 p. m. Soldiers' Prayer-Meeting, every Monday at 2 p. m., the Chaplain conducting. Lecture, every Wednesday at 3 p. m, and Bible-Class every Friday at 2 p. m. These services are well attended. Especially are the Sabbath services interesting, and the congregations large and remarkably attentive. It is a grand sight, at the Monday Prayer Meeting, which has for its main object, prayer for the PRESIDENT AND HIS CABINET—to see and hear as many as *nine* soldiers pour out their souls in the most fervent manner, in prayer to God, to bless the President, his Cabinet, our Army, our Navy, and Naval Commanders, and our Whole Country! But this has been seen! A chapter, or part of a chapter of God's word, read and expounded, frequent singings, nine prayers, earnestly and powerfully offered up to God in the name of "THE LORD JESUS, THE GRAND MASTER OF REQUESTS," for the salvation of our *common country* from the merciless Rebellion now wasting it—and all within one hour and a-half—is a very glorious thing! Visitation of the sick in their wards is attended to. I do not think, neither believe, that the righteous God will ever turn a deaf ear to true and earnest prayer, when offered in the name of JESUS for a true and righteous end. And I fully believe He will in His own time, overthrow the rebellion, cleanse the nation from her crying sins, and raise her in the eyes of the whole world more glorious than ever.

To *conclude*, the character of our Hospital has not diminished in excellence for the past year. Its fame has increased at home and abroad. No Hospital in the whole service, of equal magnitude, has been conducted with more propriety, greater public favor, less disappointments or disasters, larger curative success, or less mortality than the Satterlee U. S. A. General Hospital! Its SURGEON IN CHARGE and Medical Staff deserve high respect, and, under a gracious Providence, will receive it!

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