



The Texas Union Herald



Colonel E. E. Ellsworth Camp #18
Department of Texas
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Volume iii Number 5 May 2018

Rattling Sabres

by

Glen E. Zook

I have been trying to think of a topic for this month's editorial. Of course, Memorial Day is at the end of the month and that is always a timely topic. However, I wrote on that subject last month and was really looking for something else to write about for the May column. Then, the fact that the last battle of the Civil War happened in May and that battle took place in Texas.

Many people believe that the Civil War ended on 9 May 1865 when Robert E. Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia to Hiram Ulysses Grant, a.k.a. Ulysses Simpson Grant, at Appomattox Court House. However, that was only the start of the end of the war. Joseph E. Johnston did not surrender, to William T. Sherman, until 26 April 1865 at Durham's Station, North Carolina. Even then, there were occasional skirmishes between Union and Confederate forces until what is considered to be the final battle of the Civil War, The Battle of Palmito Ranch.

In early 1865, the Union and Confederate forces began honoring an unofficial truce because both sides recognized that things were going bad for the Confederacy and that the war would soon be over. As such, both sides agreed that to continue fighting would only result in the loss of life, on both sides, which would have been for naught.

By early May 1865, both the Union commander and the Confederate commander knew that both Lee and Johnston had surrendered and, that for all practical purposes, the war was over.

In late December 1864, a brigade of Union troops consisting of the 34th Indiana, 87th U.S.C.T., and the 62nd U.S.C.T. was transferred to the Port of Brazos Santiago at the mouth of the present-day ship channel of the Port of Brownsville. The 62nd U.S.C.T. was commanded by colonel T. H. Barret who had no actual combat experience.

There are different reasons presented as to just why Barret attacked the Confederate forces. Some people say that Barret needed horses for the approximate 300 of his U.S.C.T. cavalry who were dismounted and he decided to take the horses from the Confederates. Others say that Barret just wanted some glory, in battle, because he had not had any combat experience. Still others say that it was because of a large store of cotton that was waiting to be transported to the Mexican side which, in turn, would have brought a small fortune to whomever took possession of the cotton.

The Confederates were commanded by Colonel John S. Ford who said that he would never capitulate to "a mongrel force of Abolitionists, Negroes, plundering Mexicans, and perfidious renegades"...Ford was not about

to surrender to invading black troops.... Even more important was the large quantity of Richard King and Mifflin Kenedy's cotton stacked in Brownsville waiting to be sent across the river to Matamoros. If Ford did not hold off the invading Federal force, the cotton would be confiscated by the Yankees and thousands of dollars lost.

Union Lieutenant Colonel David Branson wanted to attack the Confederate encampments commanded by Ford at White and Palmito ranches near Fort Brown outside Brownsville. Branson's Union forces consisted of 250 men of the 62nd U.S.C.T. in eight companies and two companies of the (U.S.) 2nd Texas Cavalry Battalion. The 300-man 2nd Texas, like the earlier-formed 1st Texas Cavalry Regiment, was composed largely of Texans of Mexican origin who remained loyal to the United States.

At first Branson's expedition was successful, capturing three prisoners and some supplies, although it failed to achieve the desired surprise. During the afternoon, Confederate forces under Captain William N. Robinson counterattacked with less than 100 cavalry, driving Branson back to White's Ranch, where the fighting stopped for the night. Both sides sent for reinforcements; Ford arrived with six French guns and the remainder of his cavalry force (for a total of 300 men), while Barrett came with 200 troops of the 34th Indiana in nine under-strength companies.

The next day, Barrett started advancing westward, passing a half-mile to the west of Palmito Ranch, with skirmishers from the 34th Indiana deployed in advance. Ford attacked Barrett's force as it was skirmishing with an advance Confederate force along the Rio Grande about 4 p.m. He sent a couple of companies with artillery to attack the Union right flank and the remainder of his force into a frontal attack. After some confusion and fierce fighting, the Union forces retreated toward Boca Chica. Barrett attempted to form a rearguard, but Confederate artillery prevented him from rallying a force sufficient to do so. During the retreat, which lasted until 14 May, 50 members of the 34th Indiana's rearguard company, 30 stragglers, and 20 of the dismounted cavalry were surrounded in a bend of the Rio Grande and captured.

What is considered to be the last casualty of the Civil War, one Private John J. Williams, of the 34th Indiana, was the final soldier, on either side, killed as the direct result of battle.

Also, in May 1865, Jefferson Davis was captured at Irwinville, Georgia, on the 10th. Davis' capture, along with the Battle of Palmito Ranch, signified the real end of the War.

If possible, attend the Memorial Day services in McKinney and make plans for the Department encampment in Waco.

Until next month

The Texas Union Herald

The Texas Union Herald is published monthly by the **Colonel E.E. Ellsworth Camp #18, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**. For official business, including editorial and article submission, the mailing address is as follows:

Glen E. Zook
The Texas Union Herald
410 Lawndale Drive
Richardson, Texas 75080

E-Mail: texasunionherald@sbcglobal.net

Telephone: (972) 231-3987
(972) 231-5011

Articles, news items, features, and the like are welcomed for publication in **The Texas Union Herald**. Deadline is normally the 1st of the month of the cover date of publication. Submissions may be handwritten, typewritten, or submitted in any of the popular computer formats (Microsoft Word, Open Office, Word Perfect, and ASCII). Please contact the editor for details.

All material herein is copyrighted by either the original author or the Ellsworth Camp #18, Department of Texas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. However, it may be reproduced by any non-profit organization unless the article **specifically indicates that it is not to be reproduced or that permission must be given in writing** by the original author **provided that the following is complied with:** No changes are to be made in any manner to the original article or news item (this includes any editing, etc.); full credit is given to the original author and **The Texas Union Herald**; and a copy of any publication incorporating such excerpts is immediately provided to both the original author and the editor of **The Texas Union Herald**.

Articles Needed!

If the members of the **Colonel E.E. Ellsworth Camp #18** do not want to be inundated with articles that were chosen by the editor (what he wants to see in the newsletter) then they need to start inputting items for inclusion in **The Texas Union Herald**. Tidbits about the Civil War, stories, articles, current news items, photographs, even commentaries are most welcome.

Don't worry if you are not an accomplished author. Get the idea onto paper (computer, etc.) and get it to the editor. He really can edit (rewrite, etc.) and you'll be surprised at just how well you can write!

If you have E-Mail capabilities, you can either include the information in the body of the message or put it in either Word format or ACSII ("txt") format. If, for some reason, you cannot do either, contact the editor to see if your particular word processor format can be handled.

If "hard" copy, make sure the copy is legible (can be read by someone else!). Typewritten, computer printed, even in Crayon on "Big Chief" tablet is acceptable. Just get the information in!

Even small (1 or 2 paragraphs) material, or photographs, can be used. That makes editing and publishing the newsletter easier since "fill" material is available for those little areas that seem to happen whenever an article is included in the publication.

Mailing Address:

Editor
Texas Union Herald
410 Lawndale Drive
Richardson, Texas 75080

E-Mail: texasunionherald@sbcglobal.net

April Meeting

The May 2018 meeting of the
Colonel E. E. Ellsworth Camp #18
SUVCW

Will be held on
Tuesday 15 May 2018
At the
Heritage Farmstead Museum, Plano, TX.

The following is the text of the revised Camp #18 SUVCW bylaws to be voted upon at the May meeting:

**By-Laws of the
Sons of Union Veterans of the
Civil War
Department of Texas Including
Louisiana & New Mexico
Colonel Elmer E. Ellsworth,
Camp 18**

PREAMBLE

We the descendants of soldiers, sailors or marines who served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Revenue Cutter Service of the United States of America during the American Civil War of 1861 to 1865, have formed this patriotic and fraternal order, for the purpose and objects in these by-laws set forth; and in so doing pledge ourselves to commemorate our father's deeds; to render loyal service to our country, and to promote the maintenance of unqualified American citizenship with respect and honor to the flag.

ARTICLE I Organization

The camp shall be constituted and remain constituted as provided by the Constitution and Regulations (C&R) governing the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and shall be known as the "Colonel Elmer E. Ellsworth, Camp 18, Department of Texas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The camp is organized as an unincorporated association under the laws of the State of Texas. The organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code. The camp is located in McKinney, Texas. The camp was named in honor of the Colonel Elmer E. Ellsworth, GAR Post 18 in McKinney, Texas.

ARTICLE II Camp Operations

Section 1. The camp shall meet on the third Tuesday of each month except June of each year. Meetings will be held at the Heritage Farmstead Museum located at 1900 West 15th Street in Plano, Texas. Meetings will commence at 7 PM.

Section 2. The camp shall conduct itself with regards to all matters of business, duties of officers, elections, etc. in accordance with the Constitution of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Department / Camp Job Descriptions and other guidance as provided by the National Encampment.

Section 3. In addition to national guidance, the following items shall apply to Camp Officers:

- a) The terms of Camp Officers shall be approximately one year, running from the second meeting of each year through the first meeting of the next year. Installation of new officers shall take place during the first meeting of each year.
- b) Associate Members may be elected to any camp office.

Section 4. In addition to national guidance, the following items shall apply to Camp Membership:

- a) The camp shall recognize all forms of membership permitted by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War's National Constitution and Regulations, including Associates, Junior Members and Junior Associates.

Section 5. Activities not in furtherance of exempt purposes: No part of the net earnings, if any, of this unincorporated association, shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers or other private persons, except that the unincorporated association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes described in section 501(c)3. No substantial part of the activities of the unincorporated association shall be the carrying on of

propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the unincorporated association shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these by-laws, the unincorporated association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on:

- a) by an unincorporated association, exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or
- b) by an unincorporated association, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)2 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

ARTICLE III Camp Regulations

Section 1. In addition to national guidance, the following regulations shall apply to Camp:

- a) The name of the Camp Newsletter shall be at the discretion of the Commander but shall not conflict with the name of the Department Newsletter or any other newsletter published by a camp in the department. It shall be published as close to quarterly as possible in the most expedient way possible. Publication of the newsletter, shall be the responsibility of the Commander. He shall at his discretion appoint an editor to handle the day to day operation and publication of the newsletter.
- b) Dues were established at \$16.00, per regular or associate member and \$5.00, per additional family or junior member. Dues may be adjusted annually by vote of the Camp.

ARTICLE IV Separation, Dissolution and Disposition of Assets

Section 1. In the case of the surrender or forfeiture of the Camp Charter, all camp property and assets shall be turned over to the National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War via the Commander of the Department of Texas acting as his duly authorized representative to collect and hold all such property in trust for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, an organization exempt from taxes under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 2. All property of the camp shall be held for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, as a charitable trust that is held and used for the purpose for which the Order exists. Any such transfer or disposal within six months of disbandment or surrender of the Camp Charter without the written consent of the National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is prohibited. The property and funds of the camp shall not be divided among its members.

Section 3. In the event the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, no longer exists, said

property and funds shall revert to the benefit of the first and any remaining organization of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic or in their absence, to the State archives of the State of Texas.

Section 4. Notwithstanding the above language, upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose.

ARTICLE V **Amendments of these By-laws**

Section 1. Amendments to these By-laws may be made by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a scheduled camp meeting, providing that prior to the meeting, the camp membership has been informed that amendments will be proposed at the meeting. No amendments shall be made which are in conflict with "Constitution of the National Organization of the Sons of Union Veterans" or other rules and regulations the thereof.

Section 2. The following amendments have been made to these by-laws.

- a) Article II, Section 3(b) was edited to be in compliance with General Order #16, SERIES 2009-2010 following the changes to the Department Bylaws approved at the 2011 Department Encampment, McKinney Texas, June 4, 2011.
- b) The camp meeting location was changed to Heritage Farmstead Museum in September 2012.
- c) The Preamble was revised to match changes to the preamble of the National Constitution following the changes approved at the 2013 Department Encampment, San Antonio, Texas June 8, 2013.
- d) Article I was completely revised and section 5 was added to Article II. Article V was renumbered to be Article VI and Article IV was renumbered to be Article V. A new Article IV was added entitled "Separation, Dissolution and Disposition of Assets". All revisions were made pursuant to General Order #18, SERIES 2017-2018, and Department Order #2, SERIES 2017-2018.

ARTICLE VI **Acceptance**

In accordance with CHAPTER I Camps, ARTICLE IX By-laws, of the Constitution of the National Organization of the Sons of Union Veterans these By-laws are accepted by the Department of Texas, at the Department Encampment on the 6th day of June, 2009 in Fort Worth, Texas.

Edition Date: This document was last reviewed and confirmed by a unanimous vote of the members present at a regular meeting on May 15, 2018.

Attested by:

John Schneider
Commander
Colonel Elmer E. Ellsworth, Camp 18

Donald L. Gates, PDC
Secretary-Treasurer
Colonel Elmer E. Ellsworth, Camp 18

The following continues the serialization of the History of the Grand Army of the Republic as transcribed by Donald E. Darby Past Commander in Chief of the SUVCW. Some of the formatting does not come through all that well, so please ignore those places where the formatting is not exact!

CHAPTER II

VETERAN SOCIETIES

The parting of the veterans at their places of final discharge from the service inspired the desire that the friendships formed should be maintained through life, and, but few regiments failed to arrange for future meetings at times that should commemorate some important event of their past history.

It is impracticable to here make special reference to such regimental reunions that even now, after nearly a quarter of a century has passed, are red-letter days in the lives of the participants. We can but note the corps and army and naval societies, representing important and particular parts of branches of service, whose members find a still broader field for the cultivation of this fraternity in the organization that embraces all who, on land or sea, honorably served their country- THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

The THIRD ARMY CORPS UNION was the first army society organized during the rebellion. The Third Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, was formed March 16, 1862. General Daniel E. Sickles was assigned to its command on February 8, 1863, and so served until disabled by the loss of a leg at Gettysburg.

The First Division, after the death of General Kearny, at Chantilly, September 1, 1862, was commanded by General D.B. Birney, at whose headquarters a meeting of officers of the Corps was held September 2, 1863, to form association, the main object at that time being to secure funds for embalming and sending home for burial the bodies of officers killed in battle or dying in hospitals at the front.

General Sickles was elected President; General D.B. Birney, Vice-President; Captain Jos. Briscoe, New York, Recording Secretary; Major H.E. Tremaine, New

York, Corresponding Secretary; and General Gershom Mott, Treasurer. General Mott served as Treasurer until his death, November 29, 1884.

On September 30, 1863, another meeting was held, and General Birney was elected President, as the disabled condition of General Sickles prevented his serving. On July 4, 1864, another meeting was held; General Sickles was elected President; General D.B. Birney, Vice-President. General Birney died October 18, 1864.

On February 5, 1864, Surgeon Edward Welling, New Jersey, was appointed Corresponding Secretary, and on October 24, 1864, Recording Secretary, and served continuously since in this position.

The last meeting held prior to their final muster-out, was on June 3, 1865. General Sickles, President; General Mott, Vice-President; Colonel E.L. Welling, Recording Secretary, and Colonel Chas. P. Mattocks, of Maine, Corresponding Secretary.

Meetings have been held annually since the war on May 5, the anniversary of the battle of Williamsburg. The following have served as Presidents of the society since their muster-out of service: General Gershom Mott 1866-67; General D.E. Sickles, 1868-69-70; General C.K. Graham, 1871-72; Colonel Clayton McMichael, 1873-74; General H.E. Tremaine, 1879-80; General E. R. Biles, 1881; Major W.P. Shreve, 1882; Major Willard Bullard, 1883; Major John Barclay Fassitt, 1884; Colonel Bankson T. Morgan, 1885; Colonel Thos. Rafferty, 1886; Colonel A. Judson Clark, Newark, New Jersey, 1887.

The twenty-fifth anniversary was held in New York City, May 5, 1888, and after the business meeting and banquet, adjourned to meet at Gettysburg, July 1-3, for the purpose of laying the cornerstone of a monument for the Third Corps.

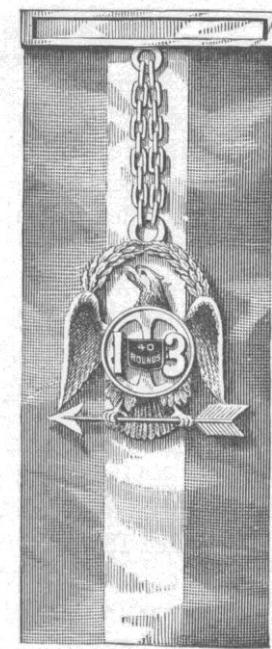
The present officers are: President, Major-General Daniel E. Sickles, New York City; Vice-President Brevet Major-General C.H.T Collis, New York City; Recording Secretary, Colonel E.L. Welling, Pennington, New Jersey; Treasurer, Major Wm. P. Shreve, Boston.

All officers or enlisted of the Third Corps, or who participated in the battles of the Corps, are eligible to membership.

SOCIETY OF THE ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE

This was the second society organized during the rebellion.

The preliminary meeting for the formation of the society was held in the Senate Chamber, at the State Capitol, Raleigh, North Carolina, April 14, 1865.



BADGE,
ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE.

Brevet Brigadier-General W.B. Woods presided, and Major L.M. Dayton acted as Secretary.

Major-Generals Frank P. Blair, Jr., John A. Logan, and A.J. Smith; Brevet Major-General Giles A. Smith and Brevet Brigadier-General W.B. Woods were appointed a committee to prepare a plan of organization.

Lieutenant Robt. M. Woods, a year later the first Adjutant-General of the Grand Army of the Republic, and Captain George R. Steele, Adjutant of the first Post of the Grand Army of the Republic, participated in these meetings.

General Blair reported the plan or organization at an adjourned meeting, held in the same place, April 25. Membership in the society was restricted to officers who had served with the "Old Army of the Tennessee."

The objects were stated as follows: "To keep alive and preserve that kindly and cordial feeling which has been one of the characteristics of this army during its career in the service, and which has given it such harmony of action and contributed in no small degree to its glorious achievements in our country's cause. The fame and glory of all officers belonging to this army, who has fallen, either on the field of battle or in the line of their duty, shall be a sacred trust to this society, which shall cause proper memorials of their services to be collected and preserved, and thus transmit their names with honor to posterity. The families of all such officers who shall be in indigent circumstances will have a claim upon the generosity of the society, and will be relieved by the voluntary contributions of its members whenever brought to their attention. In like manner the suffering families of those officers who may hereafter be stricken by death shall be a trust in the hands of the survivors.

Major-General John A. Rawlins was elected President of the society. He was then serving as Chief of Staff to Lieutenant-General Grant, and the committee, in recommending his election, reported that they had agreed upon his name "in consideration of his eminent service in connection with the "Army of the Tennessee," and also because of his ability and fitness for the position.

At the next meeting, in Cincinnati, November 14, 1866, the following officers were elected: President, General John A. Rawlins; Vice-Presidents, Major-General John A. Logan, E.P. Blair, Jr., R.J. Oglesby, Giles A. Smith, W.W. Belknap, Brigadier-General Cassius Fairchild; Recording Secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel L. M. Dayton; Corresponding Secretary, Brigadier-General A. Hickenlooper; Treasurer, Major-General M.F. Force.

General Rawlins remained President of the society until his death, September 6, 1869.

General Sherman was then elected President, and is so serving at this date. The Recording Secretary has held that office from the first meeting, and the Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer since 1866.

By an amendment to the constitution, any member may designate by will the relative to whom such membership shall descend, and in default of such declaration, the eldest son shall inherit his father's title to enrollment in the society.

The Society of the Army of the Tennessee erected in Washington, at a cost of \$50,000, a handsome equestrian statue of Major-General Rawlins, and has also placed an appropriate memorial, costing \$23,000, over the grave of Major-General James B. McPherson, at Clyde, Ohio, and an equestrian statue of General McPherson, in Washington.

A monument in memory of General John A. Logan, will also be erected in Washington.

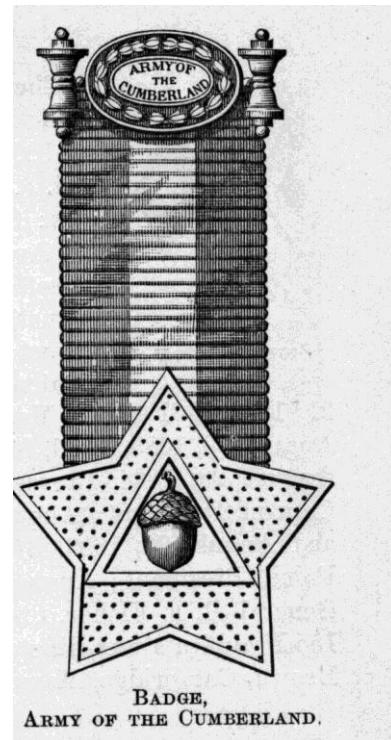
SOCIETY OF THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND

This society was organized in Cincinnati, February 16, 1868. Membership is open to all officers and enlisted men who served in the Army of the Cumberland.

Major-General Geo. H. Thomas was President until his death in 1870, when General W.S. Rosecrans was elected, who served during 1870-71. In 1872 General Philip H. Sheridan was elected President, and is still (June 1888) serving in that position.

The badge of the society was formally adopted at a meeting of officers and soldiers, held at Artillery Corps Headquarters, Nashville, June 10, 1865. Brevet Brigadier-General J.L. Donaldson, Brevet Brigadier-General E. Opdycke, Brevet Colonel W.H. Greenwood, Lieutenant-Colonel W.L. Foulke, and Captain R.N. Litson, served as Committee on the Badge.

The fact of the adoption of this badge was published by General Geo. H. Thomas in General Orders No. 41, dated Headquarters Department of the Cumberland, Nashville, Tennessee, June 19, 1865, "to signalize and perpetuate the History of the Army of the Cumberland."



BADGE,
ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

The Five-pointed Star was the badge of the 20th Army Corps, the Triangle of the 4th Army Corps, and the Acorn of the 14th Army Corps.

The equestrian statue of General Geo. H. Thomas in Washington, was erected by this society in 1879, as an enduring tribute to the memory of their great leader. The statue cost \$35,000. The pedestal was provided by Congress. In May, 1877, the society erected a monument in memory of General James A. Garfield.

The Society of the ARMY OF THE OHIO, Major-General John M. Schofield, President, and the Society of the ARMY OF GEORGIA, Major-General Henry W. Solcum, President, was organized at Chicago, December 15, 1868, when a reunion of these Western societies was held.

General Grant, then President-elect of the United States, so intimately associated by service with them, was present, the central figure of a notable group: GRANT, SHERMAN and THOMAS.

General Thomas presided over the meeting, and General Sherman made the address of welcome. Orations were delivered by representatives of each society as follows:

Army of the Tennessee
General W.W. Belknap

Army of the Cumberland
General Chas. Cruft

Army of the Ohio
General J.D. Cox

Army of Georgia
General Wm. Cogswell

SIGNAL CORPS

The United States Veteran Signal Corps association was organized at Boston, November 14, 1867, Lieutenant J. Willard Brown, President. Annual meetings have been held as follows: September 1, 1877; September 6, 1878 and August 29, 1879, at Revere Beach, Massachusetts, Captain F.R. Shattuck, President; August 26, 1880, Rocky Point, Rhode Island; August 25, 1881, Point of Pine, Massachusetts, Lieutenant J. Willard Brown, President; August 31, 1882, Fall River, Massachusetts, John F. Ridley, President; August 30, 1883, Hull, Massachusetts, F.W. Marston, President; August 28, 1884, Crescent Beach, Massachusetts, Major A.B. Capron, President; August 25, 1885, Silver Spring, Rhode Island, and August 26, 1886, Brighton Beach, New York, Colonel J.C. Paine, President; August 25, 1887, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, General ZB.F. Fisher, President. Secretary, Chas D.W. Marcy, 155 Franklin Street, Boston, Massachusetts; Historian, J. Willard Brown, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

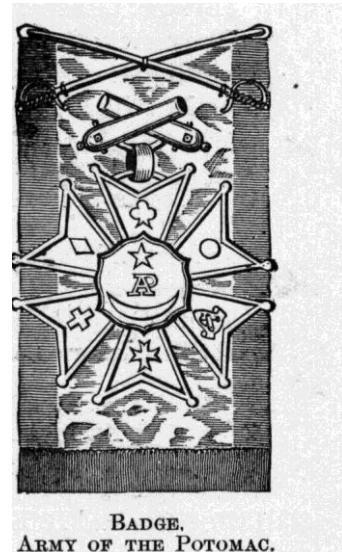


THE SOCIETY OF THE ARMY OF THE JAMES

Was organized in Boston, September 2, 1868, General Chas. Devens, Jr., President. Meetings were held in 1871, 1874, and 1876. and the society then became incorporated with the Society of the Army of the Potomac.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

The Society of the Army of the Potomac was organized in New York City, July 5, 1869, and has held annual reunions since that date. All officers and soldiers who served in the Army of the Potomac and in the 10th and 18th Army Corps, Army of the James, are eligible to membership.



BADGE,
ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

The officers are a President, one Vice-President from each Army Corps, the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Ninth, Eleventh, Twelfth, eighteenth, Nineteenth, Artillery Corps, Cavalry Corps, Signal Corps, and from the General Staff; a Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary.

Meetings have been held and Presidents of the society elected as follows:

- 1869, July 5, New York City, Lieutenant-General P.H. Sheridan.
- 1870, April 9, Philadelphia, Major-General Geo. G. Meade.
- 1871, May 12, Boston, Major-General Joseph Hooker.
- 1872, May 7, Cleveland, Major-General A.E. Burnside.
- 1873, May 14, New Haven, Major-General Irwin McDowell.
- 1874, May 12, Harrisburg, Major-General W.S. Hancock.
- 1875, no meeting
- 1876, June 6, Philadelphia, Major-General John F. Hartranft.
- 1877, June 27, Providence, Rhode Island, Major-General W.B. Slocum
- 1878, June 5, Springfield, Massachusetts, Major-General W.B. Franklin
- 1879, June 18, Albany, Major-General Daniel E. Sickles
- 1880, June 16, Burlington, Vermont, Major-General H.G. Wright
- 1881, June 8, Hartford, Brevet Major-General Chas. Devens, Jr.
- 1882, June 10, Detroit, Major-General A.A. Humphreys
- 1883, May 16, Washington, D.C., Brevet Major-General John Newton
- 1884, June 11, Brooklyn, New York, General Ulysses S. Grant
- 1885, May 7, Baltimore, General Ulysses S. Grant.
- 1886, August 2, San Francisco, Brevet Major-General M.T. MaMahon
- 1887, June 22, Saratoga Springs, Major-General John C. Robinson.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel Truesdell, New York City, is Treasurer; Brevet Colonel Horatio C. King, New York City, Recording Secretary; Brevet Major-General Geo. H. Sharpe, Rondout, New York, Corresponding Secretary.

THE SOCIETY OF THE ARMY AND NAVY OF THE GULF

Was formed by officers who served in the Department of the Gulf, at a meeting held in Long Branch, New Jersey, July 8, 1869. Admiral D.G. Farragut was President until his death, when General Sheridan was elected.

THE SOCIETY OF THE ARMY OF WEST VIRGINIA

Was organized in Moundville, West Virginia, September 22, 1870. General R.B. Hays was the first President of the society. Large and interesting reunions were held each year.

Officers: President George Cook; Vice-Presidents, General R.B. Hayes, General W.H. Powell, General I.H. Duval, General B.F. Kelley, General W.S. Rosecrans, General H.F. Devol, General W.H. Enochs, General R.H. Milroy, General Van H. Bukey, Major B.M. Skinner, Colonel H.B. Hubbard, General N. Goff, Colonel John A. Turley, Colonel Robert Bruce, Colonel Thayer Melvin, Colonel J.F. Charlesworth, Colonel J.M. Schoonmaker, Colonel D.D. Johnson, Major J.M. Overturf, Captain J.P. Hart, Captain N.R. Warwick.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION



The "Loyal Legion" was the first society formed by officers honorably discharged from the service.

On the day after the assassination of President Lincoln, Colonel S.B. Wylie Mitchell, Captain Peter D. Keyser, M.D. and Lieutenant-Colonel T. Ellwood Zell, met at the office of the latter, in Philadelphia, to arrange for a

meeting of ex-officers of the army and navy to adopt resolutions relative to the death of President Lincoln.

The subject of a permanent organization was discussed, and these gentlemen agreed to consult other army friends and be prepared to take more definite action at a meeting to be held on April 20.

On the latter evening, after the adoption of the resolutions referred to, it was decided to effect a permanent organization, an adjourned meeting was held for this purpose, in the hall of the Hibernia Fire Company, in Philadelphia, May 3, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Cook presided, with Captain Chas. S. Greene, Secretary. The following were elected officers: President, Lieutenant-Colonel T. Ellwood Zell; 1st Vice-President, Lieutenant-Colonel H.A. Cook; 2nd Vice-President Major Casper M. Berry; Secretary, Colonel S.B. Wylie Mitchell, M.D.; Treasurer, Captain Peter D. Keyser, M.D.

During the month of May, 1865, a constitution and by-laws were adopted, in part.

The officers provided for were: Commander, Senior and Junior Vice-Commanders, Recorder, Correspondent, Treasurer, Chancellor, Chaplain and Council.

The organization provided for District (or local) Commanderies, Grand (State) Commanderies, and a Commandry-in-Chief. A full corps of officers was elected November 1, 1865.

COMMANDERS OF THE LOYAL LEGION

Lieutenant-colonel T. Ellwood Zell, May to November 4th, 1865.

Major-General George Cadwalander, Acting Commander-in-Chief, November 4th, 1865, until the date of his death, February 3d, 1879.

Major-General Winfield S. Hancock, Acting commander-in-Chief, June 5th, 1879-October 21st, 1885; Commander-in-Chief October 21st, 1885 to February 9th, 1886, when he died.

Brevet Major-General Rutherford B. Hayes, Acting Commander-in-Chief, February 9th to October 20th, 1886.

General Philip H. Sheridan, was elected Commander-in-Chief October 20th, 1886.

RECORDERS

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel S.B. Wylie Mitchell, Secretary, May 17th-July 20th, 1865; Acting Recorder-in-Chief, July 21st 1865-August 16th, 1869, the date of his death.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel John P. Nicholson, Acting Recorder-in-Chief, August 21st, 1879-October 21st, 1885, Recorder-in-Chief, October 21st, 1885.

State Commanderies are located as follows:

N o.	State of	Headqua ters	Institut ed	Record er	Address
1.	Pennsylva nia	Philadelp hia	April 15, 1865	Brevet Lieuten ant- Colonel John P. Nichols	139 S. 7 th Street, Philadelp hia

				on	
2.	New York	New York City	Jan. 17, 1866	Lieutenant Loyall Farragut	New York City, N.Y.
3.	Maine	Portland	April 25, 1866	First Lieutenant and Adjutant Edw'd M. Rand	93 Exchange Street, Portland
4.	Massachusetts	Boston	March 4, 1868	Colonel Arnold A. Rand	19 Milk Street. Boston
5.	California	San Francisco	April 12, 1871	Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel W.R. Smedberg	316 California Street, San Francisco
6.	Wisconsin	Milwaukee	May 15, 1874	Captain Charles King	Milwaukee
7.	Illinois	Chicago	May 8, 1879	Lieutenant-Colonel Charles W. Davis	P.O. Box 543, Chicago
8.	District of Columbia	Washington	Feb. 1, 1882	Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Jas. A. Bates	Washington, D.C.
9.	Ohio	Cincinnati	May 3, 1882	Captain Rob't Hunter	Cincinnati
10.	Michigan	Detroit	Feb. 4, 1885	Brevet Major George Chandler	No. 2 Merrill Block, Detroit
11.	Minnesota	St. Paul	May 6, 1885	Brevet Major George Q. White	86 Western Ave, St. Paul
12.	Oregon	Portland	May 6, 1885	Captain Gavin E. Caukin	P.O. Box 773, Portland
13.	Missouri	St. Louis	Oct. 21, 1885	Captain William R. Hodges	304 N. 8 th Street, St. Louis
14.	Nebraska	Omaha	Oct. 21, 1885	Major J. Morris Brown	Fort Omaha
15.	Kansas	Leavenworth	April 22,	Colonel J.P.	Fort Leavenworth

			1886	Martin	orth
16	Iowa	Des Moines	Oct. 20, 1886	Major Hoyt Sherman	Des Moines
17	Colorado	Denver	June 1, 1887	Colonel D.K. Cross	Denver

The Grand Army of the Republic adopted in part the titles of the officers and general plan of organization of the Loyal Legion. A part of the "Objects" of the G.A.R., Sec. 3d, Art. II, Chap. I, "Loyalty," was copied from the constitution of the Loyal Legion by the Encampment at Indianapolis, November, 1866.

The essential difference in the two societies is in their terms of eligibility to membership, the Loyal Legion restricting membership of the first class to officers.

THE CINCINNATI SOCIETY OF EX-ARMY AND NAVY OFFICERS

Was organized in Cincinnati, Ohio, October 2, 1874, "to preserve a feeling of friendship and cordiality among those who served in our National forces during the struggle for the preservation of the Republic, and also to keep a record of its members."

Colonel Stanley Matthews was the first President. Meetings are held quarterly with an annual meeting followed by a banquet, on the 3d Thursday in January.

PENNSYLVANIA RESERVE ASSOCIATION

This association was formed by representatives of the fifteen Pennsylvania regiments organized in 1861, by Governor Curtin, in anticipation of a call for troops to serve for three years, under the title "Pennsylvania Reserves Corps," and were in active service during the whole period of the war, from the date of their muster-in.

A preliminary meeting of representatives was held in Philadelphia, July 3d, 1866, when it was resolved to call a meeting at Lancaster, September 14, 1866, to effect a permanent organization, "to cherish the memories, perpetuate the friendships, and continue the association formed in the field." Governor A.G. Curtin was elected President, and has so continued to serve by election annually since. General H.G. Sickel, Vice-President; Colonel J.P. Taylor, Treasurer; Jno. C. Harvey, Recording Secretary; Colonel Jno. H. Taggart, Corresponding Secretary.

The present officers are: President Ex-Governor Curtin; one Vice-President each regiment; Recording Secretary, Captain John Taylor, Philadelphia; Corresponding Secretary, Colonel Chill W. Hazzard, Monogahela City; Treasurer, Wallace W. Johnson, Philadelphia.

Pennsylvania Reserve Post No. 191, Philadelphia, is composed exclusively of members who served in the Reserve Corps.

VETERANS OF THE NAVY

The following associations are composed exclusively of men who served in the Navy during the rebellion:

The Farragut Veteran Association of Philadelphia-Commander George L. Varnick, 215 North Tenth Street; Secretary, William Simmons, 1432 Wharton Street.

Connecticut Naval Veteran Association-President Chas. A. Stillman, Hartford, Connecticut; Secretary Sherman W. Adams, Hartford, Connecticut.

The Farragut Veteran Association of Port of New York-Commander, S.L.B. McCallmount, 237 Willoughby Avenue, Brooklyn; Secretary J.P. Holland, 225 Eleventh Street, Brooklyn.

Farragut Veteran Association of the West-Commander J.W. Page, 14 Ashland Block, Chicago, Illinois; Secretary, T.H. Burke, 14 Ashland Block, Chicago, Illinois.

The Naval Veteran Legion of California-President Martin Murray, 215 Sutter Street, San Francisco; Secretary, E.G. King, 215 Sutter Street, San Francisco

The Essex Association of Naval Veterans, of Essex, Massachusetts-Commander, E.A. Winn, Salem, Massachusetts; Secretary E.A. Brown, Salem, Massachusetts; Assistant Secretary, Paul Phalen, Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Naval Veteran Association of the Gulf, of New Orleans-President, T.J. Woodward, 40 and 42 Canal Street, New Orleans; Secretary Geo. J. Pinckard, 40 and 42 Canal Street, New Orleans.

Commodore Foote Naval Veteran Association, St. Louis, Missouri-Commander, J.C. Parker, 507 N. Third Street, St. Louis, Missouri; Secretary, Joseph Brown Jr., 3611 Cass Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri.

The "Kearsarge" Association of Naval Veterans, of Boston, Massachusetts-Commodore, P.H. Kendrick, 46 Millmount Street, Boston, Massachusetts; Secretary, Chas. R. Curtin, 46 Millmont Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

The "Monitor" Association of Naval Veterans, of Camden, New Jersey-Commander, R.A. Pierson, 564 Berkley Street, Camden, New Jersey; Secretary, D.A. Carter, 733 Federal Street, Camden, New Jersey.

On January 13, 1887, representatives from a number of these associations met in New York City, and formed the "National Associations of Naval Veterans." Chas. W. Adams, Chicago, was elected Commodore, and William Simmons, Philadelphia, Secretary.

The second annual meeting was held in the quarters of Naval Post No. 400, Philadelphia, in January, 1888, and the following officers were chosen: Commodore, Joseph Hadfield, New York; Commander, George L. Varnick, Philadelphia; Paymaster, F.H. Grove, New York; Surgeon, J.D. Murray, New Jersey; Secretary, William Simmons, 1432 Wharton Street, Philadelphia.

Officers or enlisted men of the United States Naval, Revenue or Marine service, who served between April 12, 1861, and August 25, 1865, are eligible for membership.

Distinctively Naval Posts have been formed as follows:

No. 400, Philadelphia, William Simmons, Commander

No. 516, New York City, F.H. Grove, Commander
No. 104, Hoboken, Louis Richards, Commander.

Reference will be made in a closing chapter to other societies and in the records of Departments to local or State societies forming the nucleus for the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic.

VETERANS POLITICAL CLUBS.

In referring to the political tendencies of the Grand Army of the Republic in the early years of its existence, it is necessary to recall, briefly, the political situation during that period.

The reconstruction of the States in rebellion, when peace should be established by the surrender of the Confederate forces, was one that necessarily occupied the earnest attention of President Lincoln.

His last public speech, when receiving the congratulations of the people after the surrender of Lee, was devoted mainly to this question, and he had previously stated to a delegation of Virginians in Richmond, who had there called upon him after the occupation of the city by Union troops, that his policy would be magnanimous, forgiving, and generous.

The act that deprived the nation of his priceless services was a terrible blow to the people of the South, for it choked and retarded for years the magnanimous feeling that had developed in the North the moment that victory was assured.

Andrew Johnson, who as Vice-President succeeded to the Presidency on the death of Mr. Lincoln, was one of the notable men of the South. He had boldly and consistently opposed secession, and was the only Senator from the Seceding States who remained true to his oath of fealty to the Union. Upon the earnest request of the President he had, in 1862, accepted the post of Military Governor of Tennessee, and in this trying position had loyally maintained his devotion to his country.

Assuming the Presidency under circumstances so appalling as the assassination of President Lincoln, it was but natural that he should strongly share the all-pervading horror of that crime. He lost no opportunity of expressing his convictions that traitors should be condignly punished. "To the conscious, intelligent, influential traitor who attempted to destroy the life of a nation I would say, on YOU be inflicted the severest penalties of your crime." Such sentiments created general apprehensions that a revengeful, retaliatory policy, more severe than was deemed necessary to secure the results settle by the war, would now be pursued.

It is unnecessary to follow in detail the events, which soon produced a radical change in the sentiments of President Johnson, which widely separated him from his party, and involved the country in bitter, rancorous political discussions.

The Thirty-ninth Congress assembled in December 1865, and entered vigorously upon the consideration of reconstruction measures. The debates and action of Congress culminated in the adoption, over veto of the President, among other important measures, of the Civil Rights Bill. In public discussions and in the Republican papers Mr. Johnson was bitterly assailed for his alleged change of opinions. He answered in kind, and publicly

denounced by name prominent Senators, Representatives, and citizens who differed from him on these questions.

The political campaign of 1866 was fought mainly upon the issues involved in the disputes between President Johnson and the majority in Congress. In such a contest the veteran soldiers and sailors could not but feel and evince a deep interest. Many thousands who at the outbreak of the rebellion had affiliated with the Democratic Party were, at its close, in accord with the party, which had made the vigorous prosecution of the war against rebellion its dominant principle. There were others, and in large numbers, too young to have taken any part in politics before the war, who were naturally influenced by their associations in the Service. The great mass of the soldier vote was Republican in 1863, but it was not by any means a unit, for large numbers of gallant soldiers who had ably served their country in the field, were then, and have remained, Democrats in their political belief.

During this period quite a number of influential soldiers identified with the Republican Party espoused the cause of President Johnson, and those but added fuel to the flame, and inspired both parties to redouble efforts to secure or retain the "soldier vote."

POLITICAL VETERANS SOCIETIES.

The events referred to excited alike all classes and parties, and induced among the veterans the formation of hundreds of political clubs, under such titles as "Boys in Blue," "Soldiers and Sailors Leagues," "White Boys in Blue," "Conservative Army and Navy Union," Colored Soldiers Leagues," etc.

Both parties were represented in National Conventions of Soldiers and Sailors held in September, 1866.

THE CONVENTION AT CLEVELAND.

Representative soldiers, members of the Democratic Party, assembled in large number at Cleveland, Ohio, September 17, 1866. General John E. Wool was chosen president of the convention. Generals George A. Custer, Gordon Granger, J.B. Steadman, Lovell H. Rousseau, John A. McClelland, Thos. Ewing, Jr., Thomas L. Crittenden, Thomas E. Bramlette, E.S. Bragg, and Thos. A. Davies were among the influential members of the convention. Resolutions strongly endorsing the course of President Johnson were adopted.

THE CONVENTION AT PITTSBURG.

The Soldiers and Sailors Republican Convention held in Pittsburg, September 25, was also a large and notable assemblage. General John A. Logan had been agreed upon for president of the convention, but was prevented from attending, and General Jacob D. Cox was chosen. General B.F. Butler was chairman of the committee on resolutions.

General Grant had up to this time taken no part in politics, and his political views were not publicly known, but he took pains to rebuke a fellow-officer who claimed to know that he was in sympathy with President Johnson's policy. On the other hand, in response to an invitation to attend the Pittsburg convention, General Badeau wrote, "General Grant instructs me to say that it is contrary to his

habit and to his conviction of duty to attend political meetings of any character whatsoever, and he sees with regret the action of any officer of the army taking a conspicuous part in the political discussions of the day."

It is not our purpose to refer to the work of these conventions further than as they seem to affect the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Department of Indiana was the only department represented distinctly as such in the Pittsburg Convention, having representatives from 138 Posts, in response to a circular from department headquarters, which said, "NO convention of a similar character has ever been held, and it becomes us as loyal soldiers to cordially respond to the call. The American volunteer army, though disbanded, is yet a unit, and the same high emotions which knit its members together when hardship came and the conflict raged still actuate the mass of our soldiers."

Major O.M. Wilson, Assistant Adjutant-General of the Department of Indiana, was exceedingly active during this convention in interviewing leading representatives relative to the Grand Army of the Republic, urging the organization of Posts, and for this purpose he "obliged" quite a number from the East, instructed them in the "work," and gave them copies of the rules and of the ritual.

Under a resolution of the convention a committee was appointed for the purpose of consolidating all veterans' societies "in sympathy with the principles of the Union Republican Party."

General Henry A. Barnum, New York, was appointed president of the executive committee to act with the following representatives of the societies named: Grand Army of the Republic, General T.S. Allen, Wisconsin; United States Service Club, Connecticut, Colonel E. Blakeslee; Maryland Boys in Blue, General A.M. Denison; Michigan Boys in Blue, General R.A. Alger; Soldiers and Sailors Union, Washington, D.C., Major H.A. Hall.

This action resulted in the formation of a national organization of "Boys in Blue" for the presidential campaign of 1868. The Grand Army of the republic was not further officially identified with that movement.

The formation of these clubs, while in a great measure the natural result of the exciting discussions of that period, was also largely controlled and directed by another motive. The general sentiment of the patriotic people was that the men who had given up chances for advancement at home, and of making provision for their families in the many avenues of trade and commerce stimulated by the war, who had returned with a good record of service, or wounded or disabled, should be entitled to consideration in the distribution of offices under the local, State or national governments.

They had been led to believe during the war that the able-bodied men who had remained at home would cheerfully concede places of honor and profit to the veterans whose services and sacrifices had 'preserved us a nation.'

However prettily this theory sounded in a newspaper leader for encouraging enlistments, it did not work when applied to "practical politics." Politicians entrenched in positions were not willing to surrender them to gratify merely sentimental whims, and strongly objected to interference with plans which had always one leading object- the retention of place and power by themselves or by others selected to succeed them because of political service.

The returning veterans, who desired to take an active part in politics in 1865-6, were looked upon by those most directly interested in pursuing a contrary course, as intruding upon a domain in which they had no right to enter. They were expected to be satisfied with the glories of their past martial life, and leave "politics" to those who better understood that science.

These veteran clubs were therefore, at his time, an absolute necessity for the protection and advancement of the soldiers and sailors in and to positions of trust and emolument. They could thus concentrate their efforts and command the attention of manipulators of conventions. That mistakes were made, that often-times unworthy men were pushed forward in the over-zeal of comradeship, is true; nevertheless many a worthy soldier was benefited by the organization of the "Boys in Blue" and similar societies. The hearts of the loyal and patriotic people were with them and sustained their action.

In the East, after the fall elections of 1866, these clubs were ready to disband; their work was practically over for a time, but the warm feelings of comradeship led to inquiries for a better and more permanent organization.

No Post had been established east of Ohio prior to October, 1866, but when a beginning was effected in any of the Eastern States, these clubs, which were composed only of those eligible to membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, naturally formed the nucleus for the Posts which were thereafter, rapidly formed, in many instances, wholly from "Boys in Blue," or similar associations.

Secret political societies may have had a reason for their existence in time of actual war, but they were generally looked upon as unnecessary, if not a public menace, in times of peace. The strong underlying sentiment on this subject certainly militated against the Grand Army of the Republic, and it required years to remove the prejudice then created.

It could hardly be expected that the public should be able at first to distinguish between Post of the Grand Army and clubs of Boys in Blue, when composed largely of the same individuals and sometimes officered by the same persons, and, in excited condition of political affairs, members of the Grand Army of the Republic were not at all careful to maintain the distinction in the widely different objects of these societies. When, therefore, Posts of the Grand Army attended political meetings wearing the army caps or badges, or aided in sending delegates to a convention on behalf of some favored friend or comrade, the public was not far wrong in believing the Order had decided partisan proclivities.

But there were instances where Posts went further than this, and directly presented names for nomination of offices, with the threat, implied if not uttered, that failure to so nominate would drive them into the ranks of the opposition. Such action soon created internal dissensions in the struggle for control and advantage, and this was skillfully fomented from without by those whose personal interests were jeopardized by the adverse action of these Posts.

While such action was mainly local, and confined to a small area, the Order at large was held responsible, and the public distrust of political methods by a secret society, grew so strong, that it became almost impossible to establish Posts in new fields, while others surrendered their charters or became defunct without that formality.

Other causes, however, aided during this period in the almost total disruption of the Order. Many thousands of veterans were unsettled as to their future, their places had been filled by others, and even those physically capable of competing for work were compelled to seek new fields of employment. To these the political campaigns were only a diversion, and then they drifted somewhat mechanically into the Grand Army, and when their curiosity was satisfied, allowed their names to be dropped from the rolls. Large numbers of the younger men were devoting attention to other matters- was getting married and raising families. They were building for the future and did not desire to be hampered with other work than that affecting their own direct interests.

It would be unfair to hold officers of either the National Encampment or of the Department in any degree responsible for this condition of affairs in the Grand Army of the Republic. The whole people were equally excited and unsettled, and the causes so strongly affecting the Grand Army were beyond the control of any of its officers.

There were, however, many who recognized the power for good existing in such an organization of veterans, and who believed that it could be maintained if placed upon a purely non-partisan basis, and that it could not be maintained on any other.

In January, 1868, the National Encampment declared that while it was the purpose of the Grand Army "to secure the rights of these defenders of their country by all moral, social and political means in our control," "yet this association does not design to make nominations for office, or to use its influence as a secret organization for partisan purposes."

In 1869, the following Article was added to the Rules and Regulations:

"No officer or comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic shall in any manner use this organization for partisan purposes, and no discussion of partisan questions shall be permitted at any of its meetings, nor shall any nominations for political office be made."

This has continued to be the law of the Grand Army of the Republic, and under it the organization has grown to be a powerful influence for good, a grand conservator of peace.

The Grand Army has used this influence to secure legislation for the care and education of orphans of dead comrades, for increased pensions for widow and orphans and dependent parents, and for homes for homeless veterans upon whom the hand of adversity has heavily fallen. It has urged an increase of pensions for the disabled to help them in their advancing years and increasing infirmities, and has sought to remove from the nation the shame of permitting men who served its life to live, die, and be buried as paupers in the land they help to save.

While asking State and Nation for needed aid for the unfortunate, they have not been unmindful of their own obligations to suffering comrades. As will be shown by the official reports, hundreds of thousands of dollars have been annually disbursed by the Grand Army for charity, in addition to the personal donations of members that must amount to fully as much more.

And by what account shall be taken of fraternal visits to homes of afflicted comrades- a work shared in later years by the Women's Relief Corps, and the Ladies' Aids under different names; of the comfort given the dying veteran in the assurance that wife and children should be

cared for and not left to the cold charity of a heedless world?

The work of the Grand Army has been carried on without distinction of party or creed, rank, or color, and very largely for those who have remained outside the organization and have contributed nothing for its support.

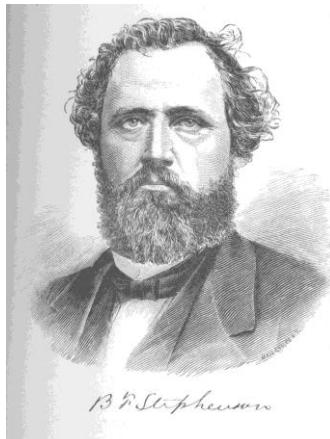
The Grand Army of the Republic has long outgrown the mistakes of its infancy. With a membership drawn only from the limited numbers who were privileged to wear the uniform of their country in the days of its great peril, the growth of the Order for some years past has been phenomenal.

In examining the statistic of membership elsewhere presented, it should be borne in mind that each year brings an ever-increasing death-rate among the survivors.

It is now over twenty-two years since Dr. Stephenson formulated the plans for this organization of veterans of the war against rebellion. His body has long lain in that beautiful cemetery on the banks of the Sangamon River, but his work goes grandly on.

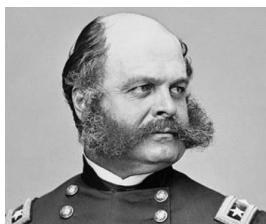
The cultivation of fraternity in this, the grandest association of soldiers and sailors ever formed, the exemplification of charity to the distressed have been only portions of the work of the Grand Army of the Republic.

It has countenanced nothing of personal animosities against those who, a quarter of a century ago, so wrongfully arrayed themselves against their country, but has sought to more deeply impress upon rising generations the lessons to be drawn from the history of the past, and which have been indelibly impressed upon the heart of the Nation at such great cost of life and treasure- that the highest duty of the citizen is LOYALTY to his country and its flag!



To be continued next month

May Birthdays



Ambrose Burnside
23 May 1824