

THE SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL HALL AND THE VETERANS  
WHO CALLED IT THEIR HOME

TAKEN FROM THE AURORA BEACON,  
ELGIN DAILY NEWS AND  
ELGIN COURIER-NEWS

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PART FIVE

compiled and transcribed by  
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## 1909

William Howard Taft was now President of the United States. Having won an easy election on the coat tails of Roosevelt, his domestic agenda included trust busting and civil service reform. Aurora was host to the Department of Illinois encampment of the G. A. R. on May 18th. Phillip C. Hayes, of Joliet, was elected department commander. The entire Fox Valley mobilized to attend the parade and associated events in Aurora. The national encampment was held at Salt Lake City on August 12th where Samuel R. Van Sant, of Minnesota, was elected Commander in Chief. Relations with the south and the United Confederate Veterans were improving. The 36th veterans met at Sandwich on September 24th. Martin Wilson and Samuel Hitchcock, both of Aurora, were elected president and vice president. William F. Sylla was re-elected secretary. John L. Walker, commander of Post 20, was instrumental in the successful state encampment at Aurora, and many members of the local auxiliary organizations were honored with appointments to state offices. B. C. Todd was captain of the local Sons of Veterans camp. Emma Goldsmith was president of the Aurora Woman's Relief corps and Mrs. Jerome Phillips was president of the Ladies of the G. A. R. Circle No. 2.

Saturday, May 15, 1909  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### OLD GLORY EVERYWHERE STREETS WELL DECORATED

Unique and Beautiful Scheme,  
Using Street Car Wires and Lamp Posts

Aurora is blossoming out like a rose during the last two days and all downtown is already in holiday attire to welcome the members of the G. A. R. and their allied societies, whose members will begin to arrive in Aurora Monday and will be here in full force during Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

The local committee on decorations have carried out a scheme of their own which is both original and most attractive.

From every cross wire which supports the trolley of the street railway company, hang two handsome American flags. On either end of the same wire and draped to the post are two streamers of red, white and blue bunting.

#### Light Posts Effectively Used

The new ornamental light posts, which are set every fifty feet throughout the business district, are decked with handsome three foot flags, each post bearing as many flags as it has arms, and two shields on either side of the lamp post will complete the decorations.

City employees have been stringing hundreds of electric lights over the city hall, and similar treatment will be given to the G. A. R. hall and the public library. More than a thousand incandescent bulbs will glow on these three structures during the three nights of the encampment.

The great "Welcome" arch being erected across Fox street in front of the city hall will alone carry 600 incandescent bulbs.

#### Merchants Join With Committee

With all these displays and the new ornamental lights that will be in operation on the island and across the east bridge, "the heart of the city" will certainly be resplendent and gorgeous.

Merchants are arising to the occasion in great shape, and several of the east side buildings are already most elaborately decorated. The Egermann store is a fine sample of what the others will be, and the Coulter block, and Wade, Leitz & Grometer store, the Cherry restaurant and the Merchant's bank have assumed their holiday garb in a manner that is a joy to all beholders. A photograph of the Wade, Leitz & Grometer store is herewith produced as a sample of the decorations.

Taking advantage of past experience the committee in charge of decorations has seen fit to go to the extra expense of securing bunting with absolutely fast colors and their wisdom was shown in the fact that the heavy rain of Thursday and Friday morning did not injure the decorations already up in the least.

#### Professional Decorator Here

The street decorating is done by the committee in charge of the general work and paid for out of the funds subscribed for that purpose. The decorating of the store fronts is necessarily a private enterprise and many of the building owners are placing the decorating of their store fronts in the hands of a professional decorator, Mr. Cunningham, who is making his headquarters at the Wade, Leitz & Grometer store.

Mr. Cunningham sizes up the building, tells what it will need, furnishes the bunting and puts it up for a stated price, making the job as elaborate as the owner cares to pay for. He guarantees that the bunting will all be fast colors and stand rain. Samples of his work are shown on the buildings previously mentioned, and he will also decorate the Beacon office.

### Want Householders To Decorate

The committee asks the Beacon to urge upon all householders and residents, as well as the merchants to decorate next week. Every house should have a flag or some bunting hung to the breeze in honor of the thousands of old soldiers who will gather here. Nice flags that will stand rain and sunshine can be bought at any of the local stores from 25 cents up, according to the size.

Saturday, May 15, 1909  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### SERVE MEALS AT G. A. R. HALL ALSO

The banquet hall at the G. A. R. building will be in requisition throughout the convention. Breakfast, dinner and supper will be served Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week, the first day in charge of the Marion avenue Baptist church, Wednesday of the First Baptist and Thursday of the Fourth street Methodist churches.

Monday, May 17, 1909  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### AWAIT COMING OF G. A. R. HOST COMMITTEES FINISH WORK

Advance Guard Arrives this Afternoon and  
Express Themselves as Satisfied

Aurora, decorated in splendor with flags and bunting, awaits the arrival of the delegates and visitors to the forty-third annual department encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and associate societies, which opens tomorrow and continues for three days.

The advance guard of the various societies arrived in this city bright and early this morning and trooped into Memorial hall for information concerning headquarters of their respective societies. There were so many early arrivals that the information tent at the side of Memorial hall was opened this afternoon at one o'clock.

It will be learned with regret that national commander Henry M. Nevius of New Jersey has been taken suddenly ill and will not be able to attend this encampment as announced. He will be represented here by next in command, national Senior Vice Commander J. Kent Hamilton, of Toledo, Ohio. Mr. Hamilton will deliver the principle address at the camp fires at the coliseum and the Grand opera house tomorrow night.

#### Expect Great First Day Crowd

With the promise of the weatherman that bright skies and warm southerly winds will prevail tomorrow it is expected by prominent G. A. R. men who have already arrived in this city that the largest first day crowd that ever attended a department encampment will flood the streets of the city tomorrow. All bring word from their home cities that record breaking delegations have arranged to attend the encampment.

The executive committee, committee on decorations and all other local committees in charge of the encampment have completed their work and announce that all is in readiness for the arrival of the throng. The decorating will have been completed by this evening, arrangements have been made for sleeping and eating quarters for all who remain during the three days and the railroads and interurban lines that enter the city have announced that they will be able to handle the big crowd that will flock to the encampment with dispatch.

#### Springfield Wants Next Encampment

Posts from all sections of the state sent representatives who arrived in the city this morning, to secure headquarters for the three days and to glean all advance information which will be of value to them upon their arrival in Aurora tomorrow. All expressed satisfaction at the very complete arrangements that have been made for their entertainment and comfort by the committees in charge of the encampment.

With the arrival of prominent officers this morning, the usual gossip as to who will be elected at the convention of the various organizations Thursday and to what city the next encampment will be given, was started. The talk was all purely gossip as several of the men who had been mentioned as candidates for office said that they would not become candidates. Freeport and Springfield seem to be the only two cities who want the next encampment with the chances of victory about even.

#### Railroads Prepare For Wednesday

To be ready for the early comers the various hotels and restaurant keepers this morning placed extra help at work. In the hotels cots have been placed in the corridors and parlors as all of the rooms have been secured ahead and will be occupied this evening.

Officials of the C. B. & Q. Railroad announced this morning that they expect that all records would be broken Wednesday, the second and big day of the encampment. Two extra cars will be placed on all trains entering the city from points where special trains have not been arranged for. The A. E. & C. railroad officials expect that 5,000 people will be carried between Chicago and Aurora each day during the encampment.

John L. Walker, chairman of the executive committee, announced this afternoon that a substation of the post office would be opened in the information tent at the east end of the east Fox street bridge. A committee from Post 20 will handle the business.

#### Rawleigh To Head Sons

Mayor W. T. Rawleigh, of Freeport will be elected division commander of the Sons of Veterans to succeed the present incumbent, R. F. Locke, of Rockford, at the annual convention in the Elks' club rooms tomorrow afternoon at two o'clock.

The organization has a membership of 1,500 delegates at the convention tomorrow. Mr. Rawleigh has made a careful canvas of the state and will probably be elected without any opposition. So far no other candidate has been mentioned.

William G. Dustin, present secretary and treasurer, will hold over for two years so that there will be no election for that office tomorrow. All other state officers will probably retire tomorrow and give way to other candidates.

#### Commander-In-Chief Coming

A. F. Tomlinson, of Galesburg, present Senior Vice Commander, was being prominently mentioned for the office of commander, but he has refused to become a candidate. Mr. Rawleigh has been working in the interests of the organization for years and others refuse to become a candidate against him.

Edgar Allen Jr., of Richmond, Va., commander-in-chief of the Sons of Veterans, will arrive in Aurora tomorrow morning and will remain during the three days of the encampment. Dr. George B. Abbott and Frank L. Shepherd, both residents of Chicago and past commanders in chief of the same organization, will also be in attendance.

William G. Dustin, past commander in chief, and present secretary and treasurer of the Illinois division arrived in Aurora this morning and opened the headquarters of the Sons of Veterans in the Arlington hotel. R. F. Locke of Rockford, division commander, arrived in Aurora this afternoon.

#### Camp Fire Programs

Post commander John L. Walker, chairman of the local executive committee, has the following announcement of camp fire programs for Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

The Grand Army encampment open meeting at the Coliseum will begin at eight o'clock, Tuesday evening and will be attended by national senior vice Commander, J. Kent Hamilton, of Toledo, Ohio. An Overflow G. A. R. camp fire in charge of the Daughters of the G. A. R. will be held in the Grand opera house at the same time and Mr. Hamilton will also address the crowd there.

Wednesday evening there will be two Grand Army camp fires, one at the First Methodist church in charge of the W. R. C. and another at the opera house in charge of the Ladies of the G. A. R.

The various programs follow:

### Tuesday Evening

Tuesday evening, May 19, at eight o'clock at the Coliseum:  
Address of welcome, Mayor Fred Fauth.  
Response, Department Commander, Joseph Rosenbaum.  
Music, quartet.  
Address, National Senior Vice Commander, Hamilton.  
Greetings, All auxiliary societies to department commander.  
All delegates making these greetings will report to the chairman of the executive committee, John L. Walker, who will give them seats upon the stage.

Opera house, Tuesday evening, eight o'clock:

Music, military band.  
Address of welcome, Gus Aucutt.  
Song, Illinois Glee club.  
Reading, "The Whistling Regiment." Madame Emmerling.  
Address.  
Song, "Just Mamma and Me," Bessie Covalt.  
W. R. C., Alla F. True.  
Ladies of the G. A. R., Adelaide V. Reed.  
Music, Normal school boy's band.  
Address.  
Violin solo, Hildegard Burkland.  
Sons of Veterans, Archie Sylvester.  
Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, Stella Lewis.  
Song, Illinois Glee club.  
Daughters of Veterans, Alice Chambers.  
Daughters of G. A. R., Dr. Anna Lampmar.  
Music, "America," military band.

### Wednesday Evening

First Methodist church, Wednesday evening, at 8:30 o'clock:  
Music, selected.  
Chorus, medley, Young Ladies' Glee club.  
Three minute talk, representative of Sons of Veterans.  
Ladies' trio, Mesdames Hopkins, Mead and Young.  
Reading, Emma Hutter.  
Music, West Aurora high school boys.  
Three minute talk, representative of W. R. C.  
Illinois quartet.  
Violin solo, Miss. Jessie Liefheit, Miss. Edna Cota, accompanist.

Three minute talk, Adelaide Reed, department president Ladies of the G. A. R.  
Solo, Miss. Alice Stone.  
Reading, Miss. Mayme Segers.  
Three minute talk, representative Auxiliary to Sons of Veterans.  
Music, Miller quartet.  
Piano solo, Mrs. Haggerty of Chicago.  
Three minute talk, Miss. Clara Hoover, Daughters of Veterans.  
Illinois quartet.  
Recitation, Miss. Alice Culp.  
Ladies' trio, Mesdames Hopkins, Mead and Young.  
Three minute talk, representative of G. A. R.  
Solo and chorus, Mrs. Weymuth and Young Ladies' Glee club.  
Three minute talk, Mrs. Harris, Daughter of G. A. R.  
Miller quartet.  
Band boys from Normal home.

#### Wednesday Evening

Grand opera house, Wednesday evening, May 20, 8:30 o'clock:  
Orchestra.  
Ten minute speech.  
Trio, Mrs. Hopkins, Mrs. Mead and Mrs. Young.  
Reading, Miss. Floy Miller.  
Violin, Miss. Inez Harris.  
Ten minute speech.  
Song, Miss. Mabel Wedge.  
Reading, Mrs. McAdams.  
Song, Mrs. Ada Tavereau.  
Drill, Aurora Zouaves.

#### Ready To Celebrate

An echo from the past is of interest here and is found in a letter written by Dr. Volentine, an old time Aurora merchant, to James A. Hinds of this place. Mr. Volentine was in New York on business and wrote the letter May 26, 1863. He wrote of having a check for \$25 ready to send to Charles Hoyt of Aurora to start a celebration over Grant's victory at Vicksburg. He wrote that business was very dull in New York.

#### Up-River Posts' Headquarters

The members of the Grand Army posts of Batavia, Geneva, St. Charles and Elburn have decided to join forces and will march together, about seventy-five strong in the parade on Wednesday afternoon.

Headquarters for these posts will be opened in Sherer hall on the second floor of the Stolp building on the island tomorrow.

The Knickerbocker Printing company is getting out some very neat personal cards bearing a fine half tone cut of the official badge of the encampment. They are very neat and tasty.

Tuesday, May 18, 1909  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## INVADING GRAND ARMY HOST CAPTURES THE CITY OF AURORA TODAY

CITIZENS SURRENDER TO CONQUERORS

FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT OF  
THE SPLENDID ORDER AND ITS AUXILIARIES  
OPENS UNDER FINE CONDITIONS-  
CITY A MASS OF FLAGS

With bright skies and cool refreshing breeze that made the day comfortable for the battle scarred veterans, the forty-third annual department encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and associated societies opened in Aurora today and will continue for three days.

At nine o'clock the veterans started trooping into the city and by noon the hotels were filled with prominent department and national officers of the various organizations.

Steam trains and electric cars poured hundreds of veterans into the city during the day and before late afternoon the streets were swarming with badge adorned delegates and visitors. Many of the visiting posts brought drum corps and a continuous ringing of the drums and fifes awoke the spirit of '61 in the hearts of old and young alike.

Met By Squads From Post 20

Department Commander Rosenbaum and Adjutant General Partridge arrived in the city at 11:30 o'clock, escorted by the famous U. S. Grant Post No. 28, of Chicago, with a membership of 545. With them came the famous Grant Post Fife and Drum corps of nine pieces. The corps is the only one in the state that is composed entirely of veterans and their ages range from sixty-three to seventy-six years.

Aurora Post No. 20, headed by a squad of riflemen and the post fife and drum corps, met the department commander and his staff at the transfer station and escorted them to the Bishop hotel, where they had lunch. The department officers opened headquarters in Room E in the Bishop.

The encampment will be formally opened this evening at eight o'clock with a big reception and camp fire in the Coliseum. An overflow meeting will be held in the Grand theater. In the Coliseum Mayor Fred Fauth will make the address of welcome and will present a silver key to Department Commander Rosenbaum, giving the veterans the freedom of the city during the encampment.

#### Address By Vice Commander

In the absence of Department Commander Henry M. Nevius, who is unable to be present on account of illness, Vice Commander J. Kent Hamilton of New Jersey will make the address at both the Coliseum and the Grand theater. Gus Aucutt will make the address of welcome at the theater.

The greater part of the opening day was spent in renewing acquaintances, arranging headquarters and preparing for the opening sessions of the conventions of the various organizations. This afternoon at four o'clock the council of administration met in the headquarters of the department commander and at two o'clock the Sons of Veterans met in the first session of their annual meeting in the Elks' club rooms. At this session the new ritual of the national organization was exemplified for the first time at a department encampment. Vice-Commander-In-Chief Edgar Allen Jr. of Richmond, Va., was in charge of the work.

While there are already hundreds of visitors in the city, the big day of the encampment will be tomorrow, when it is estimated that there will be 20,000 visitors in the city. Routine business of the various organizations will be transacted tomorrow and officers will be nominated to be elected Thursday afternoon.

#### Parade At Two O'clock

The big parade, the feature of the encampment, will move from Lincoln park at two o'clock promptly, and after parading the streets of the business district will disband at the corner of Fox and Broadway. It is estimated there will be 10,000 people in the line of march.

For the benefit of feeble veterans who will not be able to join their comrades in the parade, the executive committee has had benches erected on the edges of the sidewalk on the streets through which the parade will move. These seats are for the veterans only and they should not be molested.

In front of the city hall has been erected a big reviewing stand from which prominent visitors who will not be able to join in the parade will view the column.

#### Freeport Wants Encampment

Freeport will make a strong bid for 1910 encampment. Headed by a band of thirty pieces the Freeport post arrived in Aurora at noon fifty strong. All were adorned with

badges bearing the inscription "Freeport in 1910." In the parade tomorrow the post will be headed by two men carrying a big banner bearing the same inscription.

#### Parade Comes Tomorrow

The big parade tomorrow afternoon will start promptly at two o'clock. The large cannon will be fired at the appointed time and the feature of the G. A. R. encampment, headed by a platoon of police, will start from the right of line at Fourth street.

Following the police in regular order will be Mayor Fauth and the city council, marshal of parade, department commander and staff, ladies on horses, gentlemen on horses, General Grant and staff in carriages, Companies D and I, I. N. G.; the Aurora Zouaves, the German Krieger Verien, Spanish War veterans and mail carriers. The posts of G. A. R. veterans will form in line at Main and Fourth streets. Following the G. A. R. will come the Ladies auxiliary and the Sons of Veterans.

The line of march will be from Fourth to Spring, in Spring to Broadway, in Broadway to New York, in Walnut to Lake, in Lake to Galena, in Galena to River, in River to Downer, in Downer to lake. in Lake to Holbrook, in Holbrook to River, in River to Downer, east to Broadway where the parade will disband.

#### DAUGHTERS OF VETERANS

National Officers are guests in Aurora

Mrs. Clara F. Hoover, national president, Mrs. Myrtle Cramer, national secretary and Mrs. Man Bowra, national guide of the Daughters of Veterans arrived in Aurora for the encampment this morning, coming from Chicago in the special car with department commander Rosenbaum and staff. Mrs. Rose Dickenson, national treasurer, who was to have attended was obliged to remain at her Chicago home on account of illness. Others present are Lulu Carlin, department senior vice president; Lillian Phillips, past national department president and Gertrude Soderberg, department secretary.

Tomorrow morning at ten o'clock a convention of the Daughters of Veterans will be held in Trinity Parish house. A special meeting will also be held in the same place just after the parade.

In the evening the Aurora Daughters will receive visiting members in the Elks' rooms after which all will attend the military ball to be given by the Sons of Veterans in Sweet's academy.

During the convention Wednesday morning the nomination of state officers for the coming year will be made, and on Wednesday afternoon will occur the election and installation. Mrs. Alice Chambers, 188 South LaSalle street, who has served as president in the state department this year will not be a candidate for re-election.

#### WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS

Find Aurora Fine Place for Convention

"We were never so comfortably situated at any convention as now," said several of the department officers of the W. R. C. this morning. "Jennings seminary is an ideal spot and Mrs. Barber is very kind to us. We appreciate also the fact that the girls gave up

their rooms to us. We can thank Mrs. Mae Lincoln of your city for this privilege," they continued.

Mrs. Elizabeth Morse of Chicago, department president, has been very ill and is convalescent. She was found seated in company with her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Morse Jr., and the department inspector, Dr. Katherine Swartz, on the seminary lawn in sunshine. Mrs. Morse is much better but possibly will scarcely be able to read her address.

Before long, Department Counselor Mrs. Mae G. Lincoln of Aurora appeared and a pleasant talk followed.

The Woman's Relief Corps as everybody knows is the Auxiliary to the Grand Army post. In Illinois there are 226 corps, comprising nearly 12,000 members. The W. R. C. is banded together for aid in every way possible and among the practical work accomplished during the past year, was the distribution of \$5,000 cash, in addition to many hundred dollars' worth of supplies. A full payment was made during the last year upon the lot of 1,400 square feet in Elmwood, Chicago, for the interment of all loyal women, as well as blood kindred of old soldiers.

#### Good Work Done

Formerly the cottage in which were maintained needy comrades and their wives was in Chicago, and the present department president, Mrs. Morse, was president of this cottage for two years. This was obliged to be self sustaining. Largely owing to the efforts of the W. R. C. the legislature last year made an appropriation for the maintenance of a cottage with a capacity of 150 couples at Quincy. The patriotic instructor, Mrs. Ella V. Work, recently caused to be placed in Memorial hall, Chicago a memorial tablet costing \$130. Georgia A. Worker, a department chief of staff, has, during the year procured 150 markers for use on unmarked graves of union soldiers. Every corps in the state has been visited this year by Dr. Katherine Swartz, department inspector, who reports them in a flourishing condition.

Mrs. Mary Gillman of Boston, national W. R. C. president, with her secretary Mrs. Going, were scheduled to arrive in Aurora this afternoon at four o'clock.

Every department officer of the Woman's Relief Corps is present at the convention. It is generally understood that Ella V. Work, department instructor and Ida M. Palmer, past department secretary, are the two strong candidates for department president. Mrs. Edna Walker of Peoria is also a candidate for department president. Lillian Miner of Bloomington is up for senior vice president, with Lyda Lord of Plano for junior vice president. Juliana Hayes of Marseilles is a candidate for chaplain.

Among the distinguished visitors is Mrs. Emma R. Wallace, past national president, well known in Aurora. Both Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Work made ten minute talks on patriotism this morning at chapel at Jennings seminary, where the department officers are quartered in twenty-one rooms.

The credential committee is composed of Mrs. Julia Reilein, chairman, Aurora; Mrs. Elizabeth Shelhamer, Chicago; Mrs. Lucy Rennick, Woodstock and Mrs. Mary Mosjer, Sandwich.

#### S. of V. AUXILIARY

##### First Business Session is Held This Afternoon

The Sons of Veterans Auxiliary has but one national officer present. Mrs. H. Pauline Creighton of Champaign, the national treasurer arrived in Aurora this morning and established her headquarters in the Arlington hotel. Mrs. Molly Donaldson of Paterson, N.J., the national president, who had planned to be in Aurora this week, was unable to come on account of the New Jersey state encampment which was held this week and which she wished to attend.

The first meeting of the auxiliary was held this afternoon in Schoeberlein hall. The meeting was purely of a business nature. On tomorrow afternoon at the second meeting the nomination of state officers will take place. Mrs. Rebecca D. Lewis of this city, who has been division president for the past year, will probably be succeeded by Mrs. Jessie Hale of Decatur, the state vice president. Mrs. Ida Patterson of Rockford, a prominent member of the auxiliary is president.

The auxiliary will after their meeting tomorrow evening attend the Sons of Veterans dance in a body.

#### LADIES OF THE G. A. R.

##### National and State Officers are Arriving

A call at Hotel Arthur this morning and the tender of card, brought from parlor No. 2 used as headquarters for the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic one of the prettiest women, Mrs. Genevieve Hagar L. Lane, the national president, who was busily engaged in a council meeting but who most courteously talked of national circle doings.

Mrs. Lane, it will be remembered, married a wealthy businessman of Portland, Maine, about seven months ago, and while Chicago is Circle headquarters, she really lives in the east. Perhaps a visit to all great gatherings where the Ladies of the Grand Army are represented, can scarcely be called "living in the east" however, for Mrs. Lane is upon her way from visits in Kentucky, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, Chicago, southern Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Utah, Idaho, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Texas, California, Oregon, Washington and Montana.

By the way, National Commander Nevius had been traveling about speaking at the same conventions as were addressed by Mrs. Lane. In Utah his voice suddenly gave out and he is instructed by his physician to remain in the house for a month. As he has a big memorial address to make in New York city, he said to Mrs. Lane as he left, "I wish I had a woman's voice," believing that the feminine vocal chords invincible.

### In The Family

Mrs. Lane is a sister of Mrs. Mary Duddleston, a member of the department council of administration and secretary. They are daughters of Mrs. Mary T. Hagar, who is in Aurora, and who is a past national and past department president. Mrs. Lane has had every honor which the department circle can bestow.

The national convention will be held in Salt Lake City in August, and for the entertainment of delegates \$60,000 has been appropriated.

At the Toledo convention last year the Sons of Veterans were made eligible to the circle, without dues or fees. More than \$1,000,000 has been expended in relief work since 1886. A large number of monuments have been erected and relief work of every sort accomplished.

A remarkable feature of Mrs. Lane's reign is the gain in membership of 8,000. The Ladies of the G. A. R. now number 50,000.

This year the circle is devoting its efforts by request of the commander in chief, largely to the support of the Memorial college established by the Sons of Veterans at Mason City, Iowa. The college is dedicated to the Grand Army men and women and free scholarships are granted to any applying member of the Sons of Veterans. Five hundred dollars has been turned over to the college already this year.

### Press Correspondent

A visitor whom many in Aurora will be glad to see is Mrs. Nellie Underwood, the national press correspondent, a charming woman who has held this appointive office for nine years. Mrs. Underwood lived in Aurora twelve years and many will remember her daughter, Mrs. Jennie Underwood Beckwith. Mrs. Underwood has an enviable standing among newspaper people in the country.

Later an equally delightful interview with Mrs. Adelaide V. Reed of Chicago, department president and her sister, Mrs. Ida E. Boardman, department secretary, brought out many interesting features of the relief work of the state. There are 3,186 active members in Illinois, with 1,327 comrades, 88 Sons of Veterans, and 3 Mothers, making a total of 4,604. The department has spent \$2,876 in relief work, in addition to hundreds of dollars worth of clothing, food, etc. Not the least interesting feature was the fact that 5,400 feet are owned in Arlington cemetery.

Both Mrs. Reed and Mrs. Boardman are wives of soldiers, are daughters and grand daughters of soldiers and are United States daughters of 1812.

Mrs. Harriet Hudson of Chicago and Mrs. Lillian Stewart, also of Chicago and past president Rebekah association, are candidates for department president, and it appears to be generally understood that Mrs. Hudson is the strong candidate. Mrs. Hudson has held a number of department offices. Mrs. Anna Casner, of Fifth street, Aurora, is candidate for senior vice president.

Ida Boardman, department secretary is a candidate for the council of administration. Ida E. Wright, president of Adelaide V. Reed, staff association and

department librarian, is also a candidate for the council of administration. Ella Pitkin, assistant department press correspondent is candidate for national delegate. Anna McEndey is up for department treasurer and Mary E. McClay for national delegate.

The credential committee for the Ladies of the Grand Army is composed of Sarah M. Boyd, Ida E. Boardman and Anna Pomeroy.

#### Notable Visitor Is Captain Elliott

Captain H. T. Elliott and wife of Minneapolis are guests of Dr. Elliott and family during the encampment. Captain Elliot was the first white child born in Aurora, where he lived for many years. Dr. Elliott is a brother of the Minneapolis veteran. Captain Elliott enlisted from Aurora in the 124th regiment I.V. I.

Drummer Dodd of Maple Park will lead the fife and drum corps composed of veterans from the Grand Army posts of St. Charles, Geneva, Batavia, Elburn and Maple Park in the parade tomorrow afternoon.

#### Red Cross Stations

The Red Cross society has issued the following information regarding the arrangements for caring for any injured during the parade:

The Red Cross ambulances and automobiles will be stationed at the following points along the line of march at 1:30 p.m.:

Aurora city ambulance on call. Denny Brothers' ambulance at the corner of Fox street and Broadway.

Automobiles will be located as follows:

Periam Thompson, Walnut and North Lake streets; W. W. Stephens, North Lake and Galena streets; Dr. F. A. Bartlett, North Lake street and Downer Place; William George, River street and Downer Place; Roy McWethy, Merchants' National bank; T. E. Walters, 27 Fox street; H. S. Parker, City hall; Walter Egermann, Fox street; Frank Burton, Fox street and Broadway; Alshuler Brothers, 17 South Broadway; John Schmitz, 26 South Broadway; John S. Atkinson, Main street and Broadway; Dr. Schwingle, 12 South Broadway; R. H. Colby, LaSalle and Benton streets,

By order of his honor, the Mayor, and the chief of police, Red Cross ambulances and automobiles will have the tight of way along the streets, if called into active service, and the police will render all necessary service in case of accident or sickness. --C. D. Mowry, M. D., Chairman Executive Committee Red Cross.

#### Free Street Shows

Walter Egermann, chairman of the entertainment committee of the Grand Army encampment announces a series of free acrobatic specialties on the streets during the encampment.

The Mexican Zamora family is one of the great features. These performers have traveled all over this country and Europe giving trapeze performances and have been with some of the largest circuses and exhibition places.

Another is Rollo, the Lifit, who does a somersault of death. He dashes down a long narrow incline, shoots high in the air, turns a complete back somersault over a yawning gap and lands in safety on the platform. The programs for the acts are as follows:

#### Tuesday

7:30 p.m. -- Rollo in the somersault of death, corner of River and Galena streets.

8:30 p.m. -- The Zamora family, trapeze specialists, corner Main street and Broadway.

#### Wednesday

3:30 p.m. -- Mile Russell, slide for life, west side.

4:00 p.m. -- Rollo, River and Galena streets.

4:30 p.m. -- Monsulla the wire king, Broadway and Fox.

5:00 p.m. -- Zamora family, Main and Broadway.

7:00 p.m. -- Mile Russell, slide for life, west side.

7:30 p.m. -- Rollo, corner River and Galena.

8:00 p.m. -- Monsulla, Broadway and Fox.

8:30 p.m. -- Zamora family, Main and Broadway.

9:00 p.m. -- Mile Russell and Monsulla, New York and Broadway.

#### Thursday Afternoon

3:00 p.m. -- Zamora family, New York and Broadway.

4:00 p.m. -- Rollo, River and Galena.

5:00 p.m. -- Mile Russell

6:00 p.m. -- Monsulla

#### Thursday Evening

Program same as Wednesday evening.

#### Will Have Sing Fest

President Harry Oldham of the Aurora musical club announces that tomorrow night at eight o'clock a sing fest will be held from the front steps of the City hall on the island. The club will lead in the singing of old war songs and a band will assist. The whole town is invited and it is intended to make this one of the features of the encampment.

#### Rockford Veterans To Aurora

Rockford will be represented at the encampment by a delegation of at least sixty members of G. L. Nevius post. Owing to the close proximity of the encampment the delegation will be the largest that has gone from that city for a number of years.

A number of the veterans left Rockford this morning at seven o'clock over the Burlington, but the largest delegations will not leave until Wednesday morning. The drum corps will be taken along to furnish inspiration for any of the veterans who might grow weary on the line of march.

The W. R. C. will send quite a large delegation as well as John A. Logan camp, Sons of Veterans and the Ladies Auxiliary. The Rockford party to the encampment will probably number over 100.

#### War Correspondent At Encampment

Henry Elsey of Hazelhurst, Ill., a well known war and early history correspondent of several Illinois newspapers, is attending the soldiers' reunion and visiting his daughter and family in Blackhawk street.

Mr. Elsey carries in his pocket a battered bullet as large as one's thumb to the first joint, which he carried in his thigh for years. After he was shot he re-enlisted and was four and one half years in the Union service.

#### County Offices Closed

By an agreement among county officials reached this morning, every office in the court house at Geneva will be closed at noon Wednesday, that the county officials and office employees may witness the Grand Army parade Wednesday afternoon in Aurora.

#### Present Play Tomorrow Night

The young people of St. Nicholas church will tomorrow evening present a stirring war drama, "Down in Dixie," in St. Nicholas hall for the visiting veterans. Admission will be free.

#### Beautiful Key To The City

The Aurora Silver Plate Company has prepared a beautiful silver plated key of the city of Aurora which will be presented to Department Commander Rosenbaum by Mayor Faith at the Coliseum tonight. It is a foot long, bears pictures of the Memorial hall and the appropriate dates and is in every way a very handsome piece of work.

#### The Palmer Special

The special train over the third rail which brought Mrs. Ida M. Palmer to Aurora, was one of the handsomest which ever appeared in the city. The train was profusely decorated with flags and bunting. Mrs. Palmer is a candidate for department president of the W. R. C.

Tuesday, May 18, 1909  
The Elgin Daily News

### G. A. R. VISITORS FILLING AURORA

State encampment attracting many veterans and others of the state.  
Ten Thousand men expected to be in line tomorrow.

With a flourish of trumpets and flags gaily flying, the G. A. R. state encampment at Aurora is "on," and to the city down the river life has taken a military color; The G. A. R. holds the boards and veterans and their doings take precedence of all else.

About 1,100 Elginites went down today and got almost lost among 3,000 visitors mostly from Chicago, which forms the vanguard of the army to come. Tomorrow, the great day, the day of the parade and of the elections, Aurora expects from 25,000 to 30,000 visitors to the city.

Tonight the opening exercises and reception will take place at the Coliseum, and national vice commander J. C. Hamilton, of New Jersey will be present and will address the comrades. Department Commander Joseph Rosenbaum, of Chicago has already arrived. The campfire will also be held tonight.

The largest post at the encampment is the U. S. Grant post, No. 545, of Chicago, with Commander Howe at its head. With this post is a drum corps unique among the musical organizations of the world. Nine men ranging in ages from 63 to 76, make up the corps, and it is said, to be a great one.

There will be 10,000 in the parade tomorrow, including large delegations of the Sons of Veterans and other organizations.

Tuesday, May 18, 1909  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### AURORA POST, 34 YEARS OLD COULTER FIRST COMMANDER

Local Organization has been One of the Most Active

Aurora Post No. 20 was mustered into the ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic on the evening of June 10, 1875 in a hall on the second floor of the Evans building at the corner of Main street and Broadway. This hall is now occupied by the exchange of the Inter-State Telephone company.

Of the twenty-three charter members of the post only twelve are living. They are Joseph Boyle, J. M. Conway, J. S. Drake, J. F. Harrall, P. B. Page, T. R. Polglase, M. M. Robbins, T. B. Coulter, H. B. Douglas, E. Perrigo, W. H. Watson and M. D. Yager. Those who have since passed away are E. C. Beardsley, C. M. Ross, F. L. Thayer, Thomas Bexon, A. C. Ferre, T. E. Hornby, J. Kautenburger, L. C. Porter, I. W. Rice, and W. H. Scragg.

The post occupied quarters in the Evans building until 1878 when the present Memorial building on the island was erected by the Aurora Monumental association. In 1879 the building was turned over to the city for a library and an addition was built. The second floor was occupied by the post. Since the erection of the Carnegie library the post has occupied the entire building.

T. B. Coulter was the first commander of the post and he was followed in rotation by H. B. Douglas, J. H. Freeman, Eb. Denny, M. D. Yager, J. M. Kennedy, F. L. Thayer, W. H. Watson, John J. Hubbard, J. F. Harral, Chris Zimmer, John L. Walker, D. B. Lincoln, N. J. Thomas, Gus Aucutt, A. Quinton, O. Wilson, M. Hughes, Melvin Tarble, C. B. Rukgarber, Theodore Howard, G. S. Case and F. E. Westover.

Of the above past commanders, F. L. Thayer, Chris Zimmer, D. B. Lincoln, N. J. Thomas, A. Quinton, Melvin Tarble, C. B. Rukgarber, and Theodore Howard have passed away.

The present officers of the post are:

Commander, J. L. Walker.

S. V. Commander, E. E. Dyer.

J. V. Commander, H. C. Muzzy.

Surgeon, M. J. Tarble.

Chaplain, Eb. Denney.

Adjutant, C. J. McCollum.

Quartermaster, M. D. Yager.

Officer of the day, Morgan Hughes.

Officer of the Guard, G. C. Day.

Sergeant Major, F. E. Westover.

Quartermaster Sergeant, F. H. Bowron.

Inside Sentinel, T. F. White.

Outside Sentinel, Seth Adams.

Tuesday, May 18, 1909  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## REUNION HERE 30 YEARS AGO THOUSANDS VISIT CITY

Governor Collum, John A. Logan and Beveridge  
Were the Speakers of the Day

Thirty years have passed lacking three months, since the battle scarred veterans of the bloody times of '61 to '65 gathered at Aurora at one of the largest reunions ever held in Illinois.

Wednesday afternoon when the big parade moves away from Lincoln park, there will be found a few scattered veterans who thirty years ago marched over the same dust covered streets of Aurora with a firmer step and a cleared eye while thousands of people from over the entire northwest, cheered them until their voices became hoarse.

It was the second reunion of the soldiers of the northwest and during the three days of August 21, 22 and 23, 30,000 survivors of the civil war camped in the old fair grounds east of the city. It was known as Camp Yates and had within its confines some of the greatest men of the civil war.

### Big Crowd Here

Amboy had entertained the veterans at the first reunion, in 1878, but the gathering in that city could not be compared with the one in Aurora twelve months later. Soldiers who had not seen each other for more than a dozen years traveled hundreds of miles to be in Aurora during the three days. It has been said that one company of soldiers tramped 469 miles from Iowa to be in attendance.

The same patriotic spirit was shown by residents of Aurora at that time that is in evidence now. Arches in evergreen and flowers, ten in number, spanned the streets in the business district while the buildings and houses were covered with flags and bunting. The committee in charge of the decorations was Holmes Miller, J. F. Harral and H. A. Judd.

The soldiers began to arrive in Aurora on the morning of August 21 and an armory was opened in the building now occupied by W. S. Frazier & Co., in River street. The soldiers remained there until Thursday noon, when Ordinance Officer H. B. Douglas ordered a hurried move to Camp Yates.

### Aurora Men Prominent

General O. T. Mann was officer of the day and Aurora men who served on his staff during the encampment were H. H. Evans, colonel and assistant quartermaster, M. F. Tarble, major and military secretary, and H. B. Douglas, ordinance officer. B. F. Campbell was adjutant general.

The public exercises were held at the fair grounds on the afternoon of the second day and according to newspaper reports of the time, 75,000 people were in attendance. The speakers were Governor Cullom, General Logan, and Ex-governor Beveridge.

The encampment of thirty years ago was not strictly a Grand Army gathering, but a reunion of all soldiers, a very popular event in those days.

Organized companies of soldiers came from Joliet, Rockford, Elgin, Springfield, Peoria and other cities in this section of the country. During the three days 370 regiments were represented in the camp.

Tuesday, May 18, 1909  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### T. B. COULTER CANNOT COME VERY PROMINENT IN ORDER

Was First Commander In Aurora Post and  
Was Department Commander in 1878

T. B. Coulter, department commander during the year 1878 and the only head officer of the Department of Illinois, Grand Army of the Republic, that Aurora has ever had, will be unable to attend the encampment. He is ill with asthma at his home in Canyon City, Col.

Members of Post 20 of which Mr. Coulter was the first commander and who is one of the twelve surviving charter members, had hoped that he would be in attendance. He has been communicated with and has sent back a reply saying that his health is in such condition that it would be dangerous for him to attempt the long journey.

Following the close of the war Mr. Coulter entered the banking business in Aurora and became cashier at the Union National Bank, at that time one of the leading banks of this section of the state. He was one of the organizers of Post 20 and his election as first commander was unanimous.

#### His Work For State

Following the organization of the post in Aurora, Mr. Coulter became very active in the affairs of the department of Illinois. He with J. S. Reynolds and H. Hilliard, both past department commanders were instrumental in making the state encampment of the Grand Army an annual event.

It was during the encampment which opened in Springfield, January 17, 1878, that his name was mentioned for the office of department commander. When the time for

the election of officers arrived his was the only name that was presented. Of the 866 members who were in attendance at the convention, nearly all voted for him. Major W. H. Watson of Aurora was elected assistant quartermaster general at the same encampment. For the past several years major Watson has been living in Indiana, but is in Aurora for the encampment visiting at the home of William Wilson in Hickory avenue.

In 1880, Mr. Coulter moved from Aurora to Pennsylvania where he remained for three years. Asthma troubled him and he was advised by his physician to move west. He did so, settling in Nebraska. Later he moved to Canyon City, where he is now president of a big savings bank.

Mrs. Lucy Coulter, owner of the Coulter block, is an aunt of Mr. Coulter.

Wednesday, May 19, 1909  
The Elgin Daily News

### AURORA HOST TO GREAT GATHERING

Twenty thousand visitors attending annual

State G. A. R. Encampment.

Many from Elgin there.

Six crowded special cars left Fountain Square at 7:30 this morning.

As cannons boomed their salute over Aurora at exactly 2 o'clock this afternoon, a parade of ten thousand persons swung into line at Lincoln park and marched beneath thousands of fluttering flags through the streets of the down-river city. It was the big feature of the big day of the annual encampment of the Illinois department of the Grand Army of the Republic.

#### 20,000 Visitors Present

Aurora is host today to an estimated delegation of more than 20,000 visitors. Elgin's representation equalled that of any other city. More than 2,000 Elginites were taken to the down-river city this morning over the electric line. Every city in the Fox River Valley sent a delegation.

The city is patriotically decorated for the encampment. Some idea of the extensive scope of the decorations may be gained when it is known that 450 shields, 520 flags and 2,500 yards of streamers not counting the large flags, of which there are but two hundred, are used in the down town street decorations alone.

The flags and shields are placed on the light poles and every post in town is fitted out. The large flags and streamers are suspended from the street railway guy wires.

### Formation of Parade.

The parade was without doubt the feature of the whole encampment. The formation was:

Platoon of police, Chief Michaels commanding.

Members of city council, Mayor Fauth leading.

Department Commander Joseph Rosenbaum and mounted staff. Assistant adjutant and quartermaster general, Charles A. Partridge; chief of staff, Charles S. Bentley; Judge advocate, K. L. Bennett; chief mustering officer, J. M. Vernon; patriotic instructor, Alfred Bayless.

General Frederick Dent Grant and staff in carriages.

Companies D and I, Illinois National Guard.

Aurora Zouaves.

Krieger Verein.

Mail Carriers.

Spanish American War Veterans.

Members of the G. A. R.

Officers of auxiliary societies in carriages.

Sons of Veterans.

Aurora Post G. A. R.

### Line of March

The line of march was: From Fourth to Spring. On Spring to Broadway, on Broadway to Main, on Main to LaSalle, on LaSalle to Benton, on Benton to Broadway, on Broadway to New York, on Walnut to Lake, on Lake to Galena, on Galena to River, on River to Downer, on Downer to Lake, on Lake to Holbrook, on Holbrook to River, on River to Downer, east to Broadway, where the parade disbanded.

The convention met for the first time last night at the Coliseum where the following program was given:

Address of welcome -- Mayor Fred Fauth.

Response -- Department Commander Joseph Rosenbaum.

Music -- Quartette.

Address -- National Senior Vice Commander Hamilton.

Greetings -- All auxiliary societies to department commander.

### Many meetings tonight

The G. A. R. and the auxiliary organizations will hold separate meetings tonight. The program of the G. A. R. gathering is:

Orchestra.

Ten minutes speech.

Trio -- Mrs. Hopkins, Mrs. Mead and Mrs. Young.

Reading -- Mrs. Floy Wilder.

Violin -- Mrs. Inez Harris.

Ten minutes speech.

Song -- Miss. Mabel Wedge.

Reading -- Mrs. McAdams.

Song -- Mrs. Ada Taverneau.

Drill -- Aurora Zouaves

The program was in charge of Comrade Freeman.

Six special cars left Elgin at 7:30 o'clock this morning carrying members of the local post and friends. Half hour service was maintained throughout the day over the entire line and trains ran in six and seven sections toward the south end of the division.

#### Half Holiday Celebrated

Aurora shops and stores closed at noon today, newspapers sent their papers to press at 1 o'clock, and the city spent the afternoon as a holiday. Even at Batavia the shops closed for the Aurora celebration.

By an agreement among county officials reached yesterday morning, every office in the court house at Geneva closed at noon today, that the county officials and office employees might witness the Grand Army parade in Aurora.

#### Present play tonight

The young people of St Nicholas church will tonight present a stirring war drama, "Down in Dixie," in St. Nicholas hall, for the visiting veterans.

#### Beautiful Key to the City

The Aurora Silver Plate Company prepared a beautiful silver plated key of the city of Aurora which was presented to Department Commander Rosenbaum by Mayor Fauth at the Coliseum last night. It is a foot long, bears pictures of the Memorial Hall and the appropriate dates and is in every way a very handsome piece of work.

#### The Palmer Special

The special train over the third rail brought Mrs. Ida M. Palmer to Aurora, was one of the handsomest which ever appeared in the city. The train was profusely decorated with flags and bunting. Mrs. Palmer is a candidate for department president of the W. R. C.

#### Freeport wants encampment

Freeport will make a strong bid for the 1910 encampment. Headed by a band of thirty pieces, the Freeport post arrived in Aurora about noon yesterday, fifty strong. All were adorned with badges bearing the inscription "Freeport in 1910." In the parade today the post was headed by two men carrying a big banner bearing the same inscription.

Wednesday, May 19, 1909  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

BEAUTIFUL JEWELLED BADGE  
PRESENTED TO COMMANDER ROSENBAUM  
BY ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF THE G. A. R.

OPENING SESSION OF THE CONVENTION IS HELD  
GENERAL GRANT AND STAFF HERE FOR THE GREAT PARADE  
PATRIOTIC TALKS AT CAMP FIRES

Escorted by Columbia Post of Chicago of the Grand Army of the Republic, General and Mrs. Frederick D. Grant arrived in Aurora this morning at eleven o'clock. They were met at the transfer station by Post 20 of Aurora and escorted to the residence of Albert J. Hopkins in North Lake street where they took lunch.

With his aide, Captain Bowley, General Grant and wife occupied a carriage in the parade this afternoon. It had at first been the intention of the son of the great hero, General U. S. Grant, to occupy a stand in front of the City hall, but upon arrival in the city this morning, General Grant announced that he would occupy a carriage in the column.

The streets swarmed with people long before noon, five special trains of six cars each bringing 2,000 or more veterans and visitors from Chicago. Elgin and all other up-river towns sent big delegations and all incoming Burlington trains this morning were crowded to the platforms.

Department Commander Joseph Rosenbaum was presented a beautiful past commander's badge at the opening session of the forty-third annual encampment of the department of Illinois, Grand Army of the Republic in the Grand theater this morning at 9:30 o'clock.

Almost every seat in the theater was filled when the session was called to order. The attendance according to the department officers was the largest in years.

Hon. Benson Wood, one of the best known Grand Army men in the west, was seated on the stage, and after department commander Rosenbaum had opened the meeting he called a halt. Stepping to the side of the department commander, Mr. Wood presented him the badge. The gift is a beautiful emblem set with six diamonds and is a token of appreciation for the grand work that he has done during his term as commander.

Audit Officers' Accounts

The board of administration, which is composed of the department officers, official staff and the following five elective officers, William Andrews, of Rockford, A. D. Cadwallader, of Lincoln, A. S. Wright, of Woodstock, R. M. Campbell, of Peoria, and Charles H. Taylor, of Chicago, met yesterday afternoon at the Bishop hotel and

audited the accounts of Assistant Adjutant General and Quartermaster General Charles A. Partridge and recommended that they be accepted and other appropriations made for the coming year. At this morning's session a committee on resolutions and officers was selected.

This afternoon, immediately after the parade, one representative from each congressional district will be selected to represent Illinois in the national encampment in Salt Lake City, Utah. The annual election of officers will be held tomorrow morning.

Mayor Peters of Watseka has been put forth by his post as candidate for commander but is not making active canvas and Gen. P. C. Hayes of Joliet is practically unopposed.

An address of welcome by Mayor Fred Fauth and the presentation of a huge silver key, turned out by the silver plate factory, to department commander Joseph Rosenbaum, was the opening feature of the reception and camp fire in the Coliseum last evening.

The big building was crowded to the galleries when Chairman John L. Walker, of the local executive committee called the meeting to order, and after a few brief remarks introduced Mayor Fauth. The Mayor was followed by city attorney Clyne, Miss. Clara F. Hoover, national president of the Daughters of Veterans, Mrs. Mary Gillman of Boston, Mass., national president of the Woman's Relief Corps, Mrs. Genevieve Hagar L. Lane, of Portland, Maine, national president of the Ladies of the G. A. R., and Mrs. Alice Chambers of Aurora, department president of the Daughters of Veterans and Ex-Governor Van-Sant of Minnesota.

Mayor Fauth's address of welcome was as follows:

"This day marks the inauguration of the forty-third encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic of Illinois. The veterans and their friends are to be congratulated upon the magnificent attendance at this time, and, I am sure, the good people of Aurora have made every effort to make your stay among us a pleasant, delightful and memorable one.

"As patriotic citizens of this great nation, we deeply appreciate the measure of service which you tendered to our country from '61 to '65. As American citizens and as citizens of Aurora, of which we are all proud, we assure you that nowhere does the spirit of patriotism glow with more ardor than here.

"We welcome the members of the Grand Army of the Republic, and their friends and in using the word "welcome" I signify the widest bounds of hospitality. The city will be entrusted to your keeping during the coming days of your encampment, and I sincerely hope that everyone of our visiting friends will feel that all of our citizens truly regard you as our friend and guest.

"And it now affords me great pleasure to transfer to your distinguished officer, the department commander, the key to the city of Aurora. This will symbolize the trust we repose in you and we hope it will be the means of unlocking and securing all that you require for your comfort and pleasure."

### Aurora Keeps Promise

“We veterans who have attended so many encampments realize what it means to be presented with the key to such a beautiful and enterprising little city as Aurora.” Said Commander Rosenbaum in responding.

“Several months ago when chairman Walker and the members of the committee called on the board of administration in Chicago in regard to bringing the encampment of 1909 to Aurora, they promised great things. Now that we have arrived here we found that they have more than kept their promise.”

### Most Beautifully Decorated City

“Aurora, to my mind, and I believe all of you veterans will agree with me, is the most beautifully decorated city that we have visited in years. The encampment will no doubt be one of the largest and most successful that the Grand Army of the Republic, department of Illinois has held in years. Mr. Mayor, I will accept your key, and I thank you.”

City attorney Charles Clyne, Aurora’s capable young orator, was then introduced by chairman Walker, and stirred all present by his eulogy of that great army of soldiers that marched southward and fought through four bloody years to give the United States this great Republic.

“We are glad to have you in our city and I am sure we will show you that for true patriotism, Aurora cannot be beat.” said the city attorney in concluding.

“We realize that this may be our last opportunity to honor so large a body of great men as you members of the Grand Army of the Republic. We are going to show you tomorrow and the next day that Aurora appreciates this occasion and we and you are going to do much during these three days to inspire the patriotic spirit in the hearts of our children.”

### Joke On Commander Rosenbaum

At the conclusion of the city attorney’s talk, Commander Rosenbaum was asked to open the top of his silver key and on doing so pulled out a huge cigar. The commander is an inveterate smoker and the little joke was much appreciated by the “old boys” present.

Mrs. Alice Chambers of Aurora, department president of the Daughters of Veterans, presented to department commander Rosenbaum a huge bouquet of flowers at the conclusion of former Governor VanSant’s speech. The latter who will be a candidate for commander-in-chief of the Grand Army to succeed the present incumbent, Henry M. Nevius, spoke in place of vice commander-in-chief J. Kent Hamilton of New Jersey, who was unable to be present.

Comrades Brown and Wells of Quincy, two veterans who have attended a score of conventions, were called to the stage at the close of the speaking and sang “Greybacks,” a story of army life which brought laughter and cheers from every veteran in the hall.

“No city has ever been more beautifully decorated or proved a more enthusiastic host for G. A. R. veterans than Aurora. Veterans are proud and happy to be in Aurora, and Aurora should be proud that it is now entertaining them,” said former governor VanSant of Minnesota to a crowd that overflowed the confines of the opera house at the camp fire last night.

“In days to come children who attended the meeting last night, who saw veterans of the civil war on the street, who heard their drum corps beating the time they marched to in the days of '61, will look back upon the day when Aurora was the host of warriors and will treasure the memory as one of their fondest recollections,” said the noted statesman.

#### Girl Left Behind Married

“Every man should be proud of American citizenship. There will always be wrongs to right in America as in other countries but this great country for the people and by the people and no one of its citizens can get so far but that its ships and soldiers and guns are reaching out to protect him. No American however humble, could be mistreated in foreign lands while his country had ammunition and money and men,” said Minnesota's former governor.

Governor VanSant spoke briefly but his entire talk was of optimistic trend and he won the interest of his hearers with his first words when he commented humorously upon “The girl the soldier left behind when he marched away.”

“When I came home the girl I left behind had been married, and there are thousands like me” said the speaker. He called upon veterans to stand who had not found the “girl left behind” a married woman when they returned, but either because of shyness or because they had had experiences like the speaker, none stood.

#### Plea For Memorial Day

In his final words, Governor VanSant again praised Aurora for its warm welcome of the veteran soldiers and expressed delight that he had made the trip from Minnesota to attend the Aurora gathering.

Alderman Archie Sylvester made a brief talk, praising the achievements of the G, A. R. heroes, but laid special stress on the duty of sons and grandsons kindred and friends to pay more attention to Memorial day.

Not a few but all should participate in making Memorial day the greatest day of the year.

At the conclusion of Department Commander Mrs. Adelaide V. Reed's talk, giving a history of the Ladies of the G. A. R., a veteran in the audience arose and on his motion a vote of thanks to the Auxiliary was thundered out. Post Commander John L. Walker followed with a suggestion that all of the G. A. R. Auxiliaries be tendered a like vote and it was given with a will by the great audience. Three deafening hurrahs and a tiger for the G. A. R.'s associate societies roared out in response to Commander Walker's suggestion.

### Gus Aucutt Presides

Gus Aucutt of Aurora welcomed the G. A. R. hosts to Aurora in a brief but eloquent talk. He acted as chairman of the meeting. The program was quite lengthy, but not an auditor left the opera house until the last speaker was finished and last bar of music was dying away.

### Program

Music, Western Spring Military Band.  
Address of welcome, Gus Aucutt.  
Violin solo, Hildegard Burkland.  
Reading, "Whistling Regiment." Madam Emmerling, assisted by Illinois quartet.  
Song, "Illinois," Illinois quartet; Charles Lietz, Archie Berry, William Ellis and Charles Clark.  
Song, "Just Mama and Me," Bessie Covalt.  
"Ladies of the G. A. R.," Department Commander Mrs. Adelaide V. Reed.  
Song in costume, "Child at Grandpa's Knee," Miss. May Hobson and Ethel Mooney.  
"Sons of Veterans," Alderman Archie Sylvester.  
Address of former Gov. VanSant.  
Song, "Tenting Tonight on Old Camp Ground," Illinois quartet.  
"Sons of Veterans Auxiliary," Mrs. Stella Lewis.  
"Daughters of the G. A. R." Mrs. Clyde Henry.  
Music, "America," Western Springs and Normal School Boys band.  
Program was arranged by Mrs. Mattie Farwell.

### Hot Fight In Ladies of G. A. R.

#### Real Political Hustling By Two Factions Among Delegates

The Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic at Hotel Arthur are conducting a campaign which to the onlooker appears to be warm, sultry in fact, but it is all so quietly carried on that the outcome is difficult to forecast.

Mrs. Harriet Hudson of Chicago, a candidate for department president, was on the ground bright and early. She is a sweet faced woman who has served as department secretary, department patriotic inspector, is a past president of the president's association and several other things, and is withal delightfully pleasant and affable. She can trace her lineage back to the eleventh generation, John Putnam coming from England in 1632, and has worked faithfully and well for the circle.

While little is said about it, it is gleaned that she is backed by the present department president, Mrs. Adelaide V. Reed.

#### Mrs. Lane Backs Mrs. Stewart

On the other hand Mrs. Lillian Stewart, the second candidate, is a tall, fine looking woman, with a host of friends lobbying with might and main for her. She arrived in

Aurora a little late but lost no time in getting in touch with affairs. The charming national president, Mrs. Genevieve Hagar L. Lane, of Portland, Maine, is the campaign manager of Mrs. Stewart, who is a president of Rebekah association with all the ensuing prestige and is a capable woman for the place. The friends of Mrs. Hudson state that as the head offices have been carried off for a number of years by the members of Mrs. Lane's family, the Hagers of Chicago, it is only right that there should be a change. The Hagers, however, are good politicians and may put Mrs. Stewart over. The contest promises to be an interesting one, and the true American "hustle" is an attribute which seems to count.

Little was done yesterday outside of meetings. This morning's closed session was held at the First Baptist church at eight o'clock, adjourning for the parade.

In addition to Mrs. Mary Hagar, two other past national presidents, Mrs. Agnes J. Winslow and Mrs. Ella Lee Tobey, are in Aurora.

#### W. R. C. National President

#### Mrs. Mary Gilman of Boston Accompanied By Secretary

Mrs. Mary Gilman of Boston, national president of the Woman's Relief Corps, who had been expected all day yesterday, finally arrived at six o'clock last evening and was met by past department presidents May G. Lincoln of Aurora and McClellan of Chicago. With her came her national secretary, Mrs. Maria Going and the national patriotic instructor, Mrs. Nettie McOwen. They are quartered at Hotel Arthur, Room 31.

Yesterday afternoon was given over to council meeting at Jennings seminary and to various meetings, but principally to electioneering. A visit to the Woman's club rooms, headquarters for the corps, disclosed the fact that there was a contest and one which aroused even the attention of the uninformed.

Mrs. Ella V. Work of Chicago, the present department patriotic instructor, is a handsome woman who, with soft abundant hair surmounted by a toque of violets, was holding court in a graceful manner. Mrs. Work has been working for years in the corps and has been an efficient officer.

#### Sympathy Helps Mrs. Palmer

Later she went on down to Jennings seminary to council meeting and a brief chat with Mrs. Ida M. Palmer, the second candidate also of Chicago, brought to light the fact that the Woman's Relief Corps had selected two remarkably interesting candidates. Mrs. Palmer is young, active and enthusiastic and has an able campaign manager in Mrs. Frank L. Hubbard.

Mrs. Palmer is tall and slender, stylish and young. She is a past department secretary. She has, so the ladies say, worked for ten years to make the administration of every department president a success. "They say she is too young," said an enthusiastic backer. "I would like to know when she will be old enough."

Mrs. Palmer has been up for department president twice before and apparently sympathy is pulling hard. There was much whispering and the slipping of feet over soft carpets. There were many remarks about "she" and many nice things said about each

candidate. The contest is a warm one and both have workers out loaded with all the information possible. A general canvas this morning brought to light the fact that Mrs. Palmer was making a strong fight and that it was the general impression that she would win. Both women are charming and both have friends in Aurora. The ladies did their lobbying in a ladylike manner but some feverish sentiments, nevertheless, permeated the air now and then.

#### School Children Give Program

This morning an open session of the convention was held at the First Methodist church. As this is Peace and Arbitration day, children of the Indian Creek school in charge of their principal, Miss. Margaret Dillon, gave a program before the convention.

Later a memorial service was held in honor of the late past president, Elizabeth Means, and of the deceased members, of whom there were a greater number than during any year in the history of the organization. Past department commander A. C. Matthews, major Burst and Col. Scott.

The convention adjourned for the parade and immediately after began election of officers.

#### W. R. C. Gazette

The Illinois W. R. C. "Gazette," a brief little paper, published by Ida M. Trenary, Chicago, and edited by Helen L. Middlekauff, department press correspondent, is one of the interesting bits of printing to be found about headquarters. The May issue is the last to be edited by Mrs. Middlehauff, Mrs. Trenary to carry on the work alone hereafter.

#### Convention Opens Today

Mrs. Fannie B. Henderson, of W. R. C. No. 10 has received one of the convention honors, that of being appointed assistant conductor.

Mrs. Emma Trapp, also of W. R. C. No. 10 was given the honor of assistant convention guide.

Owing to the indisposition of department president Mrs. Elizabeth Morse, Mrs. Blanche Calhoun, senior vice president, presided over the open session this morning, while a fine address was made by Mrs. Mae G. Lincoln, department counselor.

Miss. Stella Lewis of Aurora is official stenographer.

#### Aurora Man National Delegate

Louis A. Duncan of Aurora will this afternoon be elected delegate to the national convention of the Sons of Veterans, which will be held in Washington, D.C., next August. His election will be unanimous as there will be no opposition.

In the opening session of the convention of the Sons of Veterans in the Elk clubrooms yesterday afternoon the committee on resolutions was ordered to draw up a resolution thanking the executive committee in charge of the encampment for the excellent quarters that have been furnished them and the people for the elaborate manner which the city has been decorated in honor of the visiting organizations.

The annual election of officers of the organization will be held this afternoon immediately after the parade, and W. T. Rawleigh, Mayor of Freeport, will be elected department commander without any opposition.

The new ritual of the organization was exemplified for the first time at the meeting in the Elk rooms last evening. The work was put on by Past National Commander Allen and a number of G. A. R. men were in attendance.

The following committees were appointed at yesterday's session:

Committees and By-Laws -- Charles Gilkerson, J. H. Wheat, William Harris, C. H. Trott, L. B. Bolenbaugh.

Credentials -- William G. Dustin, A. M. Reininger, O. B. Schwelder, George S. Pruse, L. A. Duncan.

Resolutions -- W. T. Rawleigh, G. B. Holmes, P. W. Andrews, Marshall Harley, H. P. Spoungston.

Officers reports -- George B. Abbott, H. W. Snow, B. W. Garrett, Henry Cull, O. B. Nelson.

Ritual -- L. E. James, M. G. Slocum, W. H. Bailey, A. H. Clark, R. E. Morehouse.

Freaternal relations -- Charles B. Obermeyer, M. N. Baldwin, Rev. F. C. Sherman.

Press -- A. G. Sylvester, R. C. Clark, W. G. Dustin.

Division By-laws -- Will. T. Jenkins, A. A. Boyer, H. E. Covalt, Charles Webb, J. W. Challacombe.

Legislation -- James H. Paddock, Chester W. Church, G. W. English, Frank L. Shepherd, John Dailey.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home -- Division Commander W. G. Dustin, George B. Abbott, Will C. Creighton, Harry G. Wasson.

#### Sons Of Veterans Auxiliary

The Sons of Veterans Auxiliary was the only woman's organization to hold the first session of the convention yesterday.

At 2:30 o'clock the convention was called to order at Schoenberein hall and it is estimated that with those who will arrive today, the number will be in the neighborhood of sixty.

This morning at 9:30 o'clock the convention was once again called to order and the reading of reports and election of officers proceeded. It is thought that all business will be completed this afternoon.

Mrs. Rebecca Lewis, division president, is entertaining a number of guests during the convention.

#### Exemplify New Ritual

The Daughters of Veterans with an attendance of one hundred delegates, held sway all day yesterday at the Parish house and did little outside of reception of visiting

members. Indeed the delegates are coming in so rapidly that there is doubt whether the Parish house will prove sufficiently large for the sessions.

This morning at nine o'clock a meeting of the council committee was held and at ten o'clock the first convention session was held.

At four o'clock this afternoon the first exemplification of the revised ritual of the organization will be given by Lucy Webb Hayes of tent No. 9.

#### Children Make Hit

An interesting feature of the camp fire last evening at the opera house was the clever number given by Misses Edith Mooney and Mary Hodgson, two young girls from Chicago, the latter being but twelve years of age. The former, in gray beard and soldier coat, was the grandfather, to whom little May sang "I'll take care of you Grandpa." It was very good and enjoyed by the audience.

#### Little Sickness, No Accidents

The Aurora branch of the Red Cross society has been active, but so far no accidents or serious cases have been reported. Dr. C. D. Mowry, director of the society, treated twenty patients in his office yesterday but all were for minor ailments.

During the parade this afternoon members of the society were ready for emergencies. The physicians were stationed along the line of march with automobiles and were ready to care for anyone who might be injured or taken sick.

## TWO HUNDRED TOLL CALLS BY VETERANS

More than two hundred people took advantage of the very generous offer of the Chicago Telephone company of free toll for old soldiers, from six o'clock at night until nine in the morning, last night.

Calls were put in for points all over the state and the visitors were unanimous in praise of the courteous treatment and kind offer of the telephone company.

Manager Conway desires to have it understood that the privilege is to be restricted to veterans.

Thursday, May 20, 1909  
The Elgin Daily News

### GENERAL HAYES NEW COMMANDER

Joliet war officer honored at encampment at Aurora.

W. R. C. Members Contest.

Women have hot fight for leader of Illinois organization.

General P. C. Hayes, of Joliet, was named commander of the Illinois department, Grand Army of the Republic, at the election of officers of the forty-third annual state encampment in Aurora this morning. Although there was little semblance of a contest, the selection of the department commander consumed the morning business session.

#### Other Grand Army Officers.

Other officers of the state organization chosen this afternoon are:

Senior Vice Commander -- John S. Varley, Chicago.

Junior Vice Commander -- E. S. Johnson, Springfield.

Medical Director -- William M. Hanna, Aurora.

Chaplain -- Rev. I. Villars, New Lenox.

Assistant Adjutant general -- Charles A. Partridge, Waukegan.

Counsel of Administration -- R. N. Campbell, Peoria; A. D. Cadwallader, Lincoln; A. S. Wright, Woodstock; William Andrews, Rockford; George F. Dick, Bloomington.

Representing Elgin among those elected was A. F. Alden, who will be alternate to the national convention at Salt Lake City. John I. Walker was elected representative to the convention.

#### Mrs. Walker wins fight

Mrs. Ida L. Walker, of Chicago, was chosen department president of the Woman's Relief Corps at the meeting in the first Methodist church last night. Mrs. Palmer triumphed over Mrs. Ella V. Work, 6914 Chauncey avenue, Chicago, by a vote of 335 to 318, after a heartbreaking day for feminine political leaders and workers.

The fight for the office had been spectacular in the extreme. Many of the delegates had been so wrought up they had neglected to eat at noon or evening though meals were served in the basement of the church.

The women went into convention in the noon hour and impassioned oratorical efforts, pleadings and arguments continued until after 6 o'clock in the evening. Sympathy was the great factor in Mrs. Palmer's election. A woman of exceptional presence and magnetism, she had striven four times unsuccessfully for the honor she finally was given.

#### G. A. R. Ladies in contest

The whole encampment has been stirred by the struggle within the organization of the Ladies of the G. A. R., who are holding a hotly contested election this afternoon. The following officers have been elected:

Department Commander -- Mrs. Harriet Hudson, of Chicago.

Senior Vice Commander -- Mrs. Anna Casner, of Aurora.

Mrs. Hudson received a vote of 99 to 95 cast for Mrs. Lillie Stewart, also of Chicago.

#### S. of V. Auxiliary elects.

The Sons of Veterans Auxiliary elected the following officers this morning.

President -- Mrs. Jessie Hale, Decatur.

Junior vice president -- Minnie Clother, Rockford.

Treasurer -- Jennie Thole, Dwight.

#### Sons of Vet's Officers

Division Commander -- T. W. Rawleigh, Freeport.

Senior vice commander -- H. H. Springston, Peoria.

Junior vice commander -- Archie Sylvester, Aurora.

Secretary and treasurer -- W. G. Dustin, Dwight.

Charles Gilkerson, of Marengo was elected to the district council.

#### Beautiful Badge Presented

Yesterday's session of the encampment was featured by the big parade. In the morning at 9:30 o'clock a business meeting was held, at which department commander Joseph Rosenbaum was presented with a beautiful past commander's badge.

The business meeting was for the presentation of annual reports, the appointment of special convention committees and transaction of other routine business. It followed a meeting at which Mayor Fred Fauth of Aurora welcomed the visiting host and turned over a massive silver plated key to Commander Rosenbaum.

#### Last Night's Program.

The program of the G. A. R. and auxiliary organizations for last night is given below:

G. A. R. -- campfire at the First Methodist church under the auspices of the W. R. C., and campfire at the Grand opera house under the auspices of the Ladies of the G. A. R.

S. of V. -- Reception with S. of V. auxiliary at Sweet's Academy.

W. R. C. -- Public reception at First M. E. church.

Ladies of the G. A. R. -- Reception at the woman's club rooms for the national president.

Daughters of Veterans -- Reception at the Elk's club rooms.

S. of V. Auxiliary -- Reception with S. of V. at Sweet's Academy.

The veterans at the encampment returned late last night, some reaching Elgin not earlier than 1 o'clock this morning. Special cars were operated between the two cities throughout the evening and a majority of those which ran after 9 o'clock were crowded to capacity.

Thursday, May 20, 1909  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

P. C. HAYES, JOLIET ELECTED COMMANDER  
OF THE GRAND ARMY

AUXILIARY SOCIETIES CHOOSE OFFICERS.  
FREEPORT IS FAVORED AS THE NEXT PLACE OF MEETING.  
COMMANDER JOHN L. WALKER OF AURORA POST  
IS CHOSEN A DELEGATE TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

General Frederick Grant to Mayor Fauth

I want to thank you and the citizens of Aurora for the hospitality shown us while here. Your good people, are to be commended for their grand success. I am more than pleased with your beautiful city.

With the election of General P. C. Hayes of Joliet as department commander and other officers and delegates, the forty-third annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of Illinois, came to a close at the Grand theater at noon today. It has been declared the biggest and most successful department encampment that has been held in years. It is estimated that the crowd that lined Aurora thoroughfares during the parade yesterday numbered 45,000.

Aurora was honored at the closing session this morning by the election of two local men, Dr. William M. Hanna as department medical director and John L. Walker of Post 20, one of eighteen delegates who will represent the department of Illinois in the national encampment at Salt Lake City next August.

John L. Walker was prominently mentioned as a candidate for department commander but withdrew this morning in favor of Hayes, whose nomination he seconded. Judge Trimble of Princeton made the nomination speech for the Joliet candidate. Major H. W. Peters, of Watseka, Ill., was given a complimentary vote for department commander, the ballot resulting 392 to 114.

### Partridge Reappointed Adjutant

After he had seconded the nomination of the Joliet candidate for department commander, Mr. Walker was urged to become a candidate for senior vice commander, He refused however, and left the field open to John S. Varley of Chicago, who with E. S. Johnson of Springfield, junior vice commander, was elected by acclamation.

Charles A. Partridge, assistant adjutant general and quartermaster, was appointed by Department Commander Hayes for the fourteenth consecutive time. Mr. Partridge has never made a campaign for the office and each year he has been appointed without opposition.

The real fight of the closing session was for national delegates, there being thirty-six candidates for eighteen offices. The eighteen highest were made delegates while the remaining eighteen were named alternates.

Three trustees were elected, for two years, W. P. Wright of Chicago, for three years, B. R. Heironymous of Bloomington.

### Thanks For Aurora

Before the adjournment this morning a committee consisting of Benson Wood, B. F. Harrington, S. A. Campbell and Thomas H. Gault drew up the following resolution thanking the people of Aurora.

Resolved. That the thanks of the department are hereby extended to the authorities and citizens of Aurora for the generous hospitality and kind treatment given by them to the comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic during its occupation of this city.

The promises made when we fixed upon Aurora as the place of the meeting of the forty-third encampment have been kept in every particular.

We hereby place on record our appreciation of the untiring efforts of this patriotic people, by which the splendid encampment now nearing its closing hours has been made possible.

We carry to our homes the best wishes for the prosperity of the city and citizens and pleasant memories of happy hours while we have here mingled with comrades and friends.

### List of Officers

The following department officers and delegates were elected this morning.

Senior vice commander -- John S. Varley, of Chicago.

Junior vice commander -- E. S. Johnson, of Springfield.

Medical Director -- William M. Hanna, of Aurora.

Chaplain -- Rev. I. Villars of New Lenox.

Assistant adjutant general and quartermaster general -- Charles A. Partridge, of Waukegan.

Elective members of council of administration -- R. M. Campbell of Peoria, A. D. Cadwallader of Lincoln, A. S. Wright of Woodstock, William Andrews of Rockford, George F. Dick, of Bloomington.

Delegates to national convention at Salt Lake City -- George E. Bailey, Rock Island; J. D. McClure, Peoria; D. C. Brinkerhoff, Springfield; George R. Lyon, Waukegan; J. M. Vernon, Chicago; C. B. Wilson, Chicago; Henry Emrich, Galesburg; Henry C. Mead, McHenry; M. F. Hullet, Chicago; B. F. Lee, Rockford; C. Ricasame, Bloomington; A. W. Webb, LaGrange; C. C. Jones, Rockford; Henry S. Wells, Quincy; J. F. Latimer, Abington; R. I. Law, Galesburg; John L. Walker, Aurora; C. C. Duffy, Ottawa.

Alternates -- C. W. Pomeroy, Chicago; J. H. Crowder, Bethany; S. A. Campbell, Mattoon; Delos Hull, Oak Park; L. W. Parkinson, Stockton; I. C. Irey, Chicago; F. A. Hotchkiss, Quincy; Charles W. Demond, Chicago; A. F. Alden, Elgin; Delos Robinson, Sheridan; E. P. Murdock, Chicago; Peter Wright, Clifton; J. M. Moody, Paris; Edward Watson, Chicago; H. B. Doll, Peoria; Thomas H. Gault, Chicago; J. C. Whitney, Barrington; J. H. Colvin, Chicago; Samuel McFeely, Streator.

Most of the morning was given over to business which came up and listening to the reports of the officers. At eleven o'clock Robert Mann Woods, past department commander, gave an address before the convention bringing greetings from the G. A. R.

Following the visit of the commander nominations for the officers of the coming year were made and balloting on the nominations took place immediately afterwards.

#### Commander Hayes Was Congressman

General P. C. Hayes was born in Connecticut in 1833. The following year his family removed to Illinois. In 1855 he entered Oberlin college, Ohio, and after graduating became a tutor of this institute. While pursuing his studies for the ministry the war broke out. In July 1862, in response to the call for troops, he was commissioned to, and did, raise a company which became part of the One Hundred and third Ohio Volunteer infantry. He was mustered out June 22, 1865, taking part in the Battles of Franklin and Nashville.

Comrade Hayes joined the Grand Army of the Republic in Ohio in 1868. Returning to his home in Illinois, he filled the office of commander of Darveau post, No. 329, G. A. R., at Morris for five years.

He was elected to congress in 1876 and again returned in 1878.

#### Mrs. Hudson Wins

Mrs. Anna Casner of Fifth street, Aurora, was unanimously elected senior vice commander of the Ladies of the G. A. R. at the First Baptist church this afternoon. The delegates cheered Mrs. Casner to the echo when her election was announced and some of her less reserved friends kissed her rapturously. Mrs. Casner was deeply affected and could make only halting efforts when called on for a short talk.

Mrs. Harriet A. Hudson, 4223 Indiana avenue, Chicago, was elected department commander of the Ladies of the G. A. R. over Mrs. Lillie Stewart, 10 Frances Place, Chicago. The vote was Mrs. Hudson 195, Mrs. Stewart, 99.

The election of Mrs. Hudson was a triumph for the forces led by Mrs. Adelaide V. Reed, retiring department commander. They determined to overthrow the long time so called "Hagar" supremacy in the Ladies of the G. A. R. and in defeating the candidates of Mrs. Genevieve Hagar Lane, national president, they achieved their ambition. Mrs. Lane is of the Hagar family and it has controlled the Ladies of the G. A. R. for a dozen years, Mrs. Lane, her mother and a sister having held uninterruptedly the highest state and national offices in the gift of the Ladies of the G. A. R.

#### Mrs. Hudson Delegate

Mrs. Hudson was nominated by Mrs. Katherine Lacey, 580 LaSalle avenue, Chicago, president of the Col. James A. Sexton circle No. 43. Mrs. Hudson was a former president of the James A. Sexton circle.

Mrs. Rosa Fife, a little elderly woman of eighty years, a past national chaplain of the Ladies of the G. A. R., and still one of the most vigorous workers for the good of the organization, despite her age, was unanimously chosen as the delegate to the national convention in Salt Lake City. Mrs. Fife is the mother of Mrs. Hudson and the honors given her daughter and herself brought bright tears to the eyes of the popular elderly woman.

Other officers were elected late today.

President Reed would allow no speeches to be made eulogizing either of the candidates and ruled the delegates out of order who attempted to do so. Nevertheless suppressing the talks did not keep down the keen feeling of rivalry among the women and many gave vent to their passions by bursting into tears.

#### W. R. C. ELECTS MRS. PALMER

Wins over Mrs. Ella Work of Chicago in close contest

The open session which marked the beginning of the convention of the Woman's Relief Corps at the First Methodist church yesterday morning, at nine o'clock, drew an enormous audience, which filled the auditorium gallery and choir loft. Indeed it became necessary to clear the aisles in order to carry out the program given by the children of Indian Creek school in observance of Peace and Arbitration day.

It was estimated that nearly seven hundred delegates were present, local corps No. 10 boasting the largest representation. It was no place for mere man. He was not wanted there and the half dozen who dared to take a peep were speedily ousted. The room hummed with the sound of women's voices as the theme of the convention was discussed -- the outcome of the race for the presidency between Mrs. Ida M. Palmer and Mrs. Ella V. Work, both of Chicago.

The session was opened by the department president, Mrs. Elizabeth Morse. The address of welcome was made by Rev. Charles K. Carpenter, pastor of the First Methodist church. Response being made by past president Mrs. McClellan of Chicago, who presented to Mr. Carpenter the badge of the order.

Mrs. Morse who has been very ill, did not attempt to preside, and Mrs. Blanche Calhoun of Decatur, senior vice president, wielded the gavel in an efficient and graceful manner.

The address was made by Mrs. Mae G. Lincoln of Aurora, department counselor, Mrs. Lincoln speaking in a clear voice which carried to all parts of the building.

A convenient feature of the convention was the rest room in an adjacent room where all women, tired or ill, were given every attention by Mrs. Hattie Vaughn and her assistants. Mrs. Vaughn was in charge.

Immediately after the parade the convention began the election of officers, with the result that the presidency went to Mrs. Ida M. Palmer of America corps. No. 31, who secured 335 votes, only seven more than was necessary for election. Mrs. Palmer has been before the state four times, last year withdrawing, however, in favor of a member of her own corps. Mrs. Work polled a vote of 318, which is considered remarkable in consideration of the fact that she has never asked before for the office. The battle was a warm one, and while Mrs. Palmer secured votes from the local corps, there were others who considered Mrs. Work by far the most promising candidate. Mrs. Edna Walker, of Peoria, who was a candidate for department president, withdrew yesterday morning leaving the two candidates in the field.

Lillian Miner of Bloomington was elected unanimously, senior vice commander.

Fannie B. Henderson of Aurora was appointed assistant conductor of the convention, others being Mary E. Gregory, Elgin; Elizabeth Burr, Chicago; Etta Gretter, Chicago; Hulda Larson, Chicago; Cora Alt, Chicago; Sarah Wingate, Quincy; Ella Clark, Sterling; Cora Marshall, Chicago; Kittie Stedden, Ottawa; Vista Hane, Decatur; Margaret Park, Knoxville.

Mrs. Emma Trapp of Aurora was an assistant convention guide, the chief guide being Marie Wilson, Corps 108; Lizzie Hudson, 19; Margaret Wells, 193; Anna Viera, 109; Sarah Collins, 233; Sadie Lilly, 111; Etta Packard, 227; Georgia Eckert, 223; Gertrude Oliver, 227; Nellie Horton, 202; Mary Crow, 4; Lottie McKibbon, 175; Susie Foster, 4.

Miss. Stella Lewis of Aurora is official stenographer and has been for nine years.

Dr. Katherine Slater of Aurora, a picture in lavender, explained that the majority of the children in the Indian Creek school, who gave the Peace and Arbitration day program, could not speak english six months ago.

Many beautiful gifts have been received, among them a cut glass berry dish given to the national president, Mrs. Mary Gillman of Boston, who left Aurora last evening. Her national secretary, Mrs. Maria Going, was given a cut glass dish also. The visit of the national officers was greatly enjoyed. In addition to the golden testimonial presented to the department president Mrs. Elizabeth Morse, by the sixty members of her staff, she received a large picture of her staff. Mrs. Worker, department chief of staff, received from her aides a cut glass pitcher and glasses.

A feature of the convention was the presence of Mrs. H. Hagerty of Riverside, member of Strong Corps, over eighty years of age, of charming personality, who played the piano well. The singing of Comrade Chadwich of Minonk, who composes and sings his own songs, was a feature.

National president Gillman and her secretary have gone to Crawfordsville, Ind., to attend the Indiana state encampment.

A memorial service was part of the proceedings yesterday.

The Peace and Arbitration program given by the Indian Creek school children, in charge of the principal, Miss. Margaret Dillon and her teachers was remarkably good. The children gave every line in a loud, clear voice with gestures, without a failure in one line. Costumes were splendid, especially those representing foreign countries, and all received much applause. The program was as follows:

Marching to tune "Marching Through Georgia."

Illinois song by the school.

"Grater" speech, Eddi Schiltz.

Song, "On Encampment Day," (boys speaking parts)

Song, "There are many flags."

Recitation, "When I'm Big," Harry Kreitz.

"The Blue and the Gray."

"The Old Rusty Gun." Louie Leitz.

"Which General," Joseph Frisch.

"Flags of all Nations," a beautiful drill in foreign costumes and with foreign flags.

SYLVESTER GIVEN OFFICE

Aurora man Junior Vice Commander

S. of V. Encampment closes

The biggest and most successful department encampment that has been held by the Sons of Veterans in years came to a close with the election and installation of officers in the Elk club rooms in South Broadway last evening.

William T. Rawleigh, Mayor of Freeport was elected division commander without any opposition and two Aurora men were honored, Archie Sylvester being elected junior vice commander and L. A. Duncan, delegate to the national encampment in Washington, D. C. next August.

Attorney L. A. Locke of Rockford, Ill., outgoing division commander, was presented a beautiful past commander's jewel as a token of appreciation for the valuable work that he has done during the past year. The presentation was made by past commander in chief Abbott of Chicago.

The recommendations of commander Locke and secretary and treasurer W. G. Dustin were all adopted. The reports of the officers were read and accepted at the session Thursday afternoon.

Said Mr. Locke this morning: "We had four times as many representatives in Aurora as in Quincy last year. We are grateful to the people for the hospitality that they have shown us and also to the Elks for the use of their lodge room for our meetings. The encampment has been a grand success and the people of Aurora have certainly done themselves proud. Ideal weather has been a great factor in the encampment and the beautiful decorations have reminded me of a national encampment."

The following officers were elected and installed yesterday:

Division commander -- W. T. Rawleigh of Freeport.

Senior vice commander -- H. C. Springston of Peoria.

Junior vice commander -- Archie Sylvester of Aurora.

Secretary and treasurer -- W. G. Dustin of Dwight.

Division council -- W. C. Creighton of Champaign; Marshall Hurley of Farmer City; Charles Gilkerson of Marengo.

Delegates to national convention -- George E. Smith of Chicago; Frank W. Clark of Princeton; L. A. Duncan of Aurora; A. M. Reininger of Galesburg.

#### CLOSE CONTEST FOR OFFICE

Ladies of the G. A. R. have exciting Election

Reception last evening

A spirited contest is the expression which might be used in connection with the convention of the Ladies of the G. A. R. The session, held at the First Baptist church, has resolved itself into a close race between Mrs. Harriet Hudson and Mrs. Lillie Stewart.

The reception given last evening at the Women's club room by the Ladies of the G. A. R. to their national president, Mrs. Genevieve Hagar L. Lane was a brilliant affair, more than five hundred including many citizens, passed down the long receiving line, and enjoyed the informal evening.

The receiving line was composed of the national president, local president, Mrs. Mary Phillips, department president, Mrs. Adelaide V. Reed, past national president Mrs. Mary Hagar, national secretary Mrs. Mary Duddleson, national press correspondent, Mrs. Nellie Underwood, assistant national inspector Anne E. Ayers, department inspector Carrie Lu Knox, corresponding secretary Mary Lee, Millie Watson and Eva Watson, and at least fifty others, all beautifully gowned and ready to greet their guests in a gracious manner.

Mrs. Lane will leave today for Crawfordsville, Ind., where she will attend the national encampment, and will go next to Harrisburg, Pa., to attend the encampment June 3.

The address of welcome made by Mrs. Mary Phillips, president of Abraham circle, at the opening session of the First Baptist church yesterday morning was one of the best of the entire encampment, and many compliments were tendered.

The office of department treasurer, one of the most important in the state, brings out two candidates, Mrs. McKendry and Mrs. Kittie Runyan, both of Chicago.

Among the beautiful gifts which have been made during the convention is a large sum of money presented to department president Adelaide V. Reed, from the department. National secretary Ida Boardman received a handsome pair of bracelets from her children in California, and another bracelet from the aides of the Adelaide V. Reed Staff association. The national president, Mrs. Lane, received a historic gavel, composed of wood from the Lincoln homestead at Springfield, tied with many yards of yellow satin ribbon, from the Mary T. Hagar Staff association, also an exquisite battenburg centerpiece from Mrs. Elsie Hudson., president of her circle. The national president and her secretary each received a bag of beautiful bits of lace and handkerchiefs, etc., the handiwork was Mrs. Knox, department inspector. The department treasurer, Mrs. Fortado, also received many fine gifts.

An interesting delegate is Mrs. Rosa Fife, past national chaplain, of over eighty years, mother of Mrs. Harriet Hudson, candidate for department president. Mrs. Fife is one of the most popular delegates in Aurora, and is going to the national encampment in Salt Lake City, as one of the delegates appointed by general acclaim.

The Mary T. Hagar Staff association is one of the noted social organizations, composed of women from Maine to California, who have agreed to meet once or twice each year, at banquet and picnic during the life of past national president Mrs. Mary T. Hagar, mother of national president Mrs. Lane and her sister Mrs. Duddleston.

## TWO CAMP FIRES LAST NIGHT

### At Opera house and First Methodist church

Prof. J. H. Freeman of Aurora was chairman of the camp fire last night at the Grand opera house given under the direction of the Ladies of the G. A. R.

After a selection by the boys' band of Western Springs Military academy, J. Kent Hamilton of Toledo, Ohio, national senior vice commander, who represented the national commander at the Aurora encampment, made a short talk. His remarks were very well received and he was given hearty applause.

The Ladies' trio, Mesdames Hopkins, Mead, and Young sang a number and Miss Floy Wilder recited "The Ballad of the East and the West." Miss. Inez Harris gave a violin solo and Rev. Isiah Villers of New Lenox followed with a ten minute speech. Charles Maloney of the Western Springs Military academy and an honorary member of the U. S. post No. 28, G. A. R., recited "The Bald Headed Man."

Miss. Mabel Wedge of Rockford, daughter of Dan Wedge, and a former Aurora girl, sang "The Trumpeter," by Dix and for an encore gave "His Buttons are Marked U. S. A." Mrs. McAdams read "Company A" and judge Richard Tuthill of Chicago made a stirring address. Mrs. Ada Faverau sang "The Deathless Army." The program closed with a drill by the Aurora Zouaves.

The opera house was packed to the doors by the audience and every number on the program was greatly appreciated.

## L. OF . G. A. R. CAMP FIRE

Last evening was given over almost entirely to receptions and camp fires. In addition to the ball at Sweet's academy given by the Sons of Veterans and the S. of V. Auxiliary, the reception given by the Ladies of the Grand Army to the national president at the Women's club rooms, a reception was given at the First Methodist church by members of the W. R. C. to members of affiliated societies, and a reception at the Elks club rooms by the Daughters of Veterans.

The First Methodist church parlors were thronged with visiting comrades and women from the various organizations. Comrade Eb. Denney presided in his usual jovial manner. The program in charge of Mrs. Anna Reilein was as follows:

Music, selected.

Chorus, medley, Young Ladies Glee club.

Three minute talk, representative of S. of V.

Ladies trio, Mesdames Hopkins, Mead, and Young.

Reading, Emma Hutter.

Illinois quartet.

Violin solo, Miss. Jessie Leifhelt, Miss. Edna Cota accompanist.

Three minutes, Adelaide Reed, department president, L. of G. A. R.

Solo, Miss. Alice Stone.

Reading, Miss. Mayme Segers.

Music, Miller quartet.

Piano solo, Miss. Kate Haggerty of Chicago.

Three minutes, Miss. Clara Hoover, D. of V.

Recitation, Miss. Alice Culp.

Ladies trio, Mesdames Hopkins, Mead, and Young.

Solo and chorus, Mrs. Weymuth and Young Ladies Glee club.

Miller quartet.

### Sons of Veterans Ball

One of the enjoyable events of the convention week was the ball given last evening at Sweet's academy by the Sons of Veterans and the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary. Dancing was enjoyed to the music of Sweet's Orchestra. A large number of delegates of Daughters of Veterans, both local and from out of town attended the ball in a body, after their reception in the Elks club rooms.

### MRS. CARLIN HEADS DAUGHTERS

Election of Officers This Morning.

Receive many Greetings

The Daughters of Veterans held a reception last evening in the parlors of the Elks club. In the receiving line were:

Department president Alice Chambers, department senior vice president Lulu Carlin, national president Miss. Clara Hoover, past national president Mrs. Kramer, past

department president Mrs. Soderberg, past department president Phillips, past president Alice Adair, past department president Mrs. Alice Hanson.

In the greeting committee were; Emma Smith, Linnie Lindsey, Aurora, and Ella Thayer.

The convention has been one of the largest and most enjoyable in the history of the tent. Department treasurer Rose Dickenson of Chicago, who was too ill to attend the first session, but, came out this morning and presented her report.

Election of officers today resulted as follows:

President -- Mrs. Lulu Carlin, Tent 10, Chicago

Senior vice president -- F. Alice Ammen, Tent 5, Chicago.

Junior vice president -- Emma Smith, Tent 2, Chicago.

Treasurer -- Clara Randall, Tent 2, Chicago.

Secretary -- Evelyn Waldon, Tent 10, Chicago.

Chaplain -- Mrs. Emma Slick, of Aurora.

Inspector -- Bertha Heavey, Chicago.

Patriotic instructor -- Eunice Slater, Chicago.

Council -- Alice Chambers, Aurora; Dora Bausch, East St. Louis; Della Moore, Chicago.

Delegate at large -- Anna Rosenow, Chicago.

National delegates -- Mary Flood, Emma Smith, and Emma Rich, Chicago.

Yesterday greetings were received from a committee from the W. R. C., while today the Ladies of the G. A. R., the Sons of Veterans and a large delegation, headed by D. Patten representing the Memorial University of Mason City, Iowa, extended greetings. The National President Mrs. Clara Hoover, has attended all the sessions.

Mrs. Ammen appointed senior vice was department press correspondent last year. Yesterday a committee visited Sons of Veterans in convention, presenting to the commander a bouquet of carnations.

This afternoon the outgoing president, Mrs. Chambers, was given a past president's jewel.

#### S. OF V. AUXILIARY ELECTS

Mrs. Jessie Hale of Decatur Department President

The Sons of Veterans Auxiliary as is its custom, opened convention Tuesday in Schoeberien hall and worked steadily, completely finishing all business, election of officers and completing installation last evening.

Mrs. Rebecca Lewis of Aurora, division president last year, was made past president of the organization, which has no office known as senior vice president.

The presidency went , as was forecast, to Mrs. Jessie Hale of Decatur.

The officers elected are as follows:

President -- Jessie Hale of Decatur.

Past president -- Rebecca Lewis, Aurora.

Junior vice president -- Minnie Clothier, Rockford.  
Council -- Rebecca Lewis, Aurora; Ida Schasia, Naperville; Lottie Covalt,  
Aurora.

Treasurer -- Jennie Thole, Dwight.

Chaplain -- Minnie Garrow, Decatur.

Inspector -- Emma Kline, Naperville

I. and I. officer -- Kittie Boyer, Dwight.

Delegate at large -- Rebecca Lewis, Aurora.

Mrs. Lewis received a handsome gift from the Division of Illinois, in the form of a silver tea set, sugar bowl, cream pitcher and spoon holder. The staff officers of Aurora gave her a solid gold shirt waist set.

Yesterday morning at eleven o'clock the S. of V. Auxiliary adjourned convention and carried greetings to the Sons of Veterans in session in the Elks' club rooms. Mrs. Lewis in behalf of the auxiliary, presented commander Locke with a bouquet of flowers.

National Treasurer Pauline Creighton and Ida Patterson, past division president were the guests of Mrs. Rebecca Lewis during the convention.

#### GRANT ADDRESSES G. A. R. ASSEMBLY

"It certainly made me feel proud as I watched the veterans trooping by the stand." said General Grant to a friend after the parade. "It was one of the grandest showings I believe, that the Grand Army of the Republic has ever made at a department encampment. When I realize that these same men who are gathered in reunion today fought side by side with my father, I feel like throwing my arms around the necks of each one of them.

"The crowd that stood along the line of march today and cheered these heroes of the civil war was one of the most patriotic gatherings of people that I have ever gazed upon. The sight was a magnificent one and one that I will always remember. I am glad that I came to this encampment and I hope that in future years others will be as big and as grand as this one." Mrs. Grant joined her husband in declaring Aurora a beautiful and hospitable place.

"The decorations are beautiful. I was surprised when I gazed from the window of the car that carried me into the city this morning. Everywhere Old Glory was fluttering and almost everyone was adorned with a flag. Aurora has certainly done itself proud in the way it honored these veterans today."

Upon his arrival in Aurora yesterday morning General Grant was escorted to the Grand theater by Columbia Post of Chicago and Post 20 of Aurora, and there he addressed a gathering of more than 1,000 veterans. General Grant told the comrades stories of his experiences during the civil war.

At the time of the war General Grant was but twelve years of age, too young to join the army. He secured a horse however, and was constantly at his father's side in the army of the Tennessee.

During the Vicksburg campaign General Grant was injured while acting as orderly for his father. The boy had made repeated attempts to join the army but could not. He was bound to have his way, however, and it was while charging along at the side of his father that he was shot in the leg. When a nearby officer asked him after the skirmish if he was injured, he replied that he guessed he was killed.

General Grant spent nearly an hour telling stories of his experiences as a boy. At the end of his talk the veterans rose in a body and gave three "Hip, hip, hoorays" in his honor. The entire body then sang "America."

#### Rosenbaum a Grain Dealer

Department commander Joseph Rosenbaum is a Chicago millionaire grain dealer, member of the firm of Rosenbaum & Green, with offices in the Postal Telegraph building. He enlisted in an Iowa regiment early in the civil war against the commands of his foster father, a presbyterian clergyman. He mustered out at the end of the war a private.

Commander Rosenbaum is past commander of Abraham Lincoln Post of Chicago and one of the best known Grand Army men of that city. He bears a remarkable resemblance to Admiral Robley D. Evans and hundreds of people remarked upon this fact during the reviewing of the parade yesterday at the city hall.

#### Reunion At Kendall's

A party of thirty-one veterans of the 124th Illinois volunteer infantry from various parts of the state, present at the encampment yesterday, met last evening at the home of Capt. John Kendall at 621 Main street. The veterans spent an enjoyable evening at the Kendall home,

#### Free Street Acts Entertain

Great interest is being taken in the numerous free acts scattered about the downtown section. A great crowd witnessed the slide for life in River street and the high wire act in Fox street last night. They will be repeated again this evening.

Thursday, May 20, 1909  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## BIG PARADE IS GREAT SUCCESS

### VIEWED BY THOUSANDS

Cheering Throgs Hooray for the Veterans as they March  
about the Streets

Like a statue for more than an hour, George Day, janitor at the post office, stood at parade rest on top of the welcome arch yesterday afternoon, while the long line of veterans marched past the reviewing stand and broke ranks.

Not a muscle flinched. He never wavered, and so far as the spectator could see even failed to wink. It was a trial of physical endurance seldom tried by an old man and the great crowd in front of city hall who were witness to the feat cheered loudly when he gave up his stand and climbed down.

Thousands of visitors thronged Aurora's streets yesterday afternoon and stood for an hour while the long line of veterans wound from Lincoln park around the business streets and disbursed on the island. At the starting point east side school children cheered and greeted the marchers, while in Downer Place from Lake to River street, west side children were massed.

The line of march was the longest and the number of paraders was the greatest in many years. Gray-headed gray bearded men went the long route with head erect and steady step to the time of fife and drum. Nearly every post had its own fife and drum corps. Columbia post of Chicago brought out its own military band which attracted particular attention, and a number of the other posts had bands.

It is estimated that nearly 5,000 people including the militia and civic bodies were in the line of march. At the head rode John L. Walker, marshal of the day, and department commander Rosenbaum, the latter with a cigar in his mouth.

Companies D. and I. headed by Lieut. Col. Green, the Zouaves, mail carriers, girls on horse back, the equestrian squad of men, aldermen and city officers, and the Krieger Verein, veterans of the German army, all added novelty to the parade.

One of the heart touching sights was a blind man, led by his aged wife. Two girls, bearing large flags, were the center of interest as they marched along in front of a Chicago post. They were the children who gave the number, "I'll take care of you Grandpa" at the opera house the night before.

A boy's band from the Soldiers' and Orphans' Home, tiny little fellows, were loudly cheered as they passed by. Western Springs Military academy band, which has been attending conventions for a number of years past, also marched in the line; John

Brown post, composed of negro veterans of Chicago, stepped proudly along in the rear of the wealthy and fashionable Columbia and Mead Posts of the same city. The column was headed by post No. 1, of Rockford, of which Col. Tom Lawler was commander for over forty years, and Post 20 brought up the rear.

Many of the old fellows too feeble to get in the line, stood along the route and cheered and cried as comrades and friends passed by.

General Fred D. Grant rode with an aide in one carriage, while Mrs. Grant, her hostess Mrs. A. J. Hopkins and Prof. J. H. Freeman rode in another. The son of General Grant, who bears a remarkable resemblance to his father, was eagerly looked for and commented upon by the crowd.

One of the aged veterans who was beating a small sized bass drum in a fife and drum corps stubbed his toe and fell. Immediately there was a rush to his side, "Don't mind me," he shouted, "look out that you don't bust in the head of that drum. I carried that drum through the war." In a short time he was on his feet again and beating out the tune.

The photographers were busy during the parade and all along the line of march. The moving picture men were very active and the parade was not disbanded before the films were ready for the machine.

At one place along the line of march where the moving pictures were being taken an aged veteran had been bribed to fall out as though fainting and carried to a nearby lawn and laid there in the view of the machine. But the people didn't know of the scheme and they surrounded the supposed weary comrade about fourteen deep.

As the comrades passed over the New York street bridge they fell in to "route step" which means go as you please only not tramp, tramp. This order is always given to heavy marching bodies across a bridge as the steady tramp shakes it.

#### Benches On Line Of March

Probably no feature of the parade attracted more attention by their appearance, and no more by their usefulness than the benches that were placed on the sidewalk along the line of march. Clarence Putnam, when attending an encampment in Minneapolis saw them utilized there and a few days ago he started out to put the idea into practical effect here. Mr. Putnam solicited dollar bills from business and professional men and secured eighty of them. With this amount he built eighty of the benches. Judging from the remarks along the entire line of march yesterday the benches were the most appreciated of all.

Judge Richard C. Tuthill of Chicago marched in the ranks with his post. Abraham Lincoln, of that City, and Judge Henry B. Willis of Elgin, marched with the Elgin Post.

#### INTERESTING RELICS SHOWN

One Veteran has Order in Grant's Handwriting

Thomas J. Murphy, a visiting veteran from Coal City called at the Beacon office last evening with a war order written by General Grant on the field. Mr. Murphy claims this to be the only order in Grant's own handwriting now in existence. The order reads:

"Chattanooga, Tenn., Nov. 5, 1863.

"Lt. Col. Bowers, A. A. G., Nashville.

"Have Rowley make inquiries if the Cumberland is now navigable to the Big South Fork. If so see quartermaster and commissaries and make arrangements for the transportation to that point, in barges towed by light draft steamers convoyed by gunboats, three hundred thousand rations of salt meat and one million of all other rations. They should be well covered with tarpaulins. Steamers could return immediately leaving the barges until the rations could be removed. Have Rowley attend to this promptly and telegraph me what can be done.

U. S. Grant, Maj. Gen."

At the request of the government Mr. Murphy took the missive to St. Louis for the fair and it was the only thing of its kind there. Fabulous offers have been made to Mr. Murphy for the order, but he refuses to part with it.

Nearly every shop in town has on display relics of war days, many of which date before the civil war. One west side store is showing a coat which was torn from a British soldier during the battle of Lexington in the Revolutionary war, one of the famed "Red Coats." Papers and old guns dating back to revolutionary days and the days of 1812 are numerous.

#### Former Business Man Here

W. F. Wheaton, of Rochester, Ind., a former resident of Aurora, is one of the encampment visitors. Mr. Wheaton was formerly in business in Aurora and while here married the daughter of the late John Hall, husband of "Grandma" Hall, with whom Mr. Wheaton is now staying.

Mr. Wheaton enlisted in Company I, 88th Illinois, and brought with him some curious mementoes of the late unpleasantness. A copy of the "Daily South Carolinian" published December 1865 is a quaint sheet, while in the "Daily Constitutionalist" published in Augusta, Sunday, June 26, 1864, contained many advertisements of negroes for sale. An offer of \$100 for a lost cow is offset by an offer of \$50 for a "runaway negro boy known as Miles."

He also has a copy of the "Daily Citizen," published before the fall of Vicksburg, on wall paper.

#### Visiting Old Home

Frederick Haschel Sr. of Winamac, Ind., is a guest of his brother in law, John Hollering and cousin Fred Hotz in Aurora this week. Mr. Haschel lived in 1860 on the island in the rear of the present location of the Beacon plant. He enlisted in the 156th regiment, Company B, I. V. I., and did not return to Aurora at the close of the Civil War, settling at Winamac, his home since that time.

### Seventeenth Cavalry Reunion

Twelve members of the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry met in a reunion and spent several hours together Tuesday afternoon in the council chambers at the city hall. Plans were made for the regular reunion to the regiment, to be held later this summer. E. P. Phillips of St. Charles is secretary of the organization.

#### Visitor from Forreston

Also at the encampment is Col. Hugh Stanley of Forreston, Ill., foreman of the C. B. & Q. roundhouse at that place and one of the youngest veterans in attendance. Col. Stanley joined the army when but fifteen years of age and was a member of Sherman's corps in the great march to the sea.

#### Free Street Attractions

No. 1 Zamora Family, aerial gymnasts, New York and Broadway, 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

No. 2 Mile Russels, slide for life, North River street, 2:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

No. 3 Monsulla, wire king, Fox street New bridge, 3:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

No. 4 Rollo, the limit, loop the loop on roller skates, Main and Broadway, 4:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

No. 5 The Great Monsulla, novelty aerialists, West River, 5:30 and 7:00 p.m.

#### Acrobat in Drum Corps

Commander D. H. Howe's drum corps, G. A. R., made up of veterans of the Civil War under the leader E. H. Lewis, serenaded Mayor Fauth Tuesday afternoon. Leader Lewis, catching sight of the executive as he stood on the city hall steps. Another veteran, member of the corps, put on an acrobat act that younger men would have difficulty in emulating.

#### Among Other Visitors

Harry M. Plattner, a member of Post No. 1 and Camp No. 26 at Rockford, and soldier editor of the Register-Gazette, is one of the visitors. He put in a camp of Sons of Veterans at Rochelle Monday night.

L. C. Porter denied emphatically to a Beacon reporter that he was dead, having heard from a comrade that his name was among the list of dead at Post 20. He is now engaged in the florist business in Racine, Wis., but from 73' to 79', was employed in the silver factory. He is a charter member of Aurora Post.

### MRS. SYLVIA HALL

Senior Vice President, Ladies of the G. A. R.

My work for the year as Senior Vice President of Illinois has been very pleasant. I have written many letters to sisters of our order and many outside of the order, striving to bring those who were eligible to join us in our work. I have visited many circles, four of which I had the honor and pleasure of attending their inspection in company with our department president. I have made many visits to the needy ones belonging to our order.

Friday, May 21, 1909  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

“FINEST ENCAMPMENT EVER HELD IN THIS STATE,”  
SAYS VAN SANT

EX-GOVERNOR OF MINNESOTA ENTHUSES

W. R. C. and other Societies finish the election of Officers  
Women of the churches served thousands during the three days

“The best state encampment I ever attended,” was the terse sentence used by Ex-Governor Stephen R. Van Sant of Minnesota, candidate for commander in chief of the Grand Army in summing up his impressions of Aurora’s Grand Army encampment. The former governor was present during the three days and could not say enough about the perfection as a whole, of the convention.

The general sentiment is to the effect that at the national encampment in August at Salt Lake City, Ex-Governor Van Sant is the coming man without possibility of doubt, and with his past experience in encampment details, and with an eye to G. A. R. interests in consideration of his prospective high office, there is more than the usual importance attached to his statement.

While with all the care and thought that has been expended for weeks, even months, upon the great event, there were details which had been overlooked or which might have been arranged differently, and while the committee is aware that the unavoidable criticism is not lacking, yet as a whole the state encampment at Aurora was the greatest in the history of the organization in Illinois.

Walker Returns Thanks

As adequate personal thanks to all those who labored to make the week a red letter period is an impossibility. Commander John L. Walker, expresses a portion of the gratitude which he feels as follows:

“To one and all of the citizens of Aurora who gave of their time, thought, money and strength, sacrificing all personal interests during the days of the encampment and for weeks preceding, to make the Aurora G. A. R. convention a success. I wish to tender my sincere thanks, to the citizens committee, to the women who labored unceasingly and uncomplainingly, to the householders who so cheerfully complied with the request to use the patriotic colors in decoration, to those who entertained the visiting host, to one and all who left nothing undone which would forward the effort to place Aurora in the front ranks of convention cities, I am deeply grateful.”

Commander Walker is especially desirous of extending thanks to Col. George Day, who maintained his position on the arch for an hour during the review of the troops. The

admiration of General Grant was unbounded. It had been planned to have two of the young men, one at each side of the Colonel, representing the Sons of Veterans and the Illinois troops but both feared to attempt to hold the posture.

Commander John Walker was appointed delegate at large, while A. F. Alden of Post 49, Elgin is the district delegate.

#### Women Worked Faithfully

The woman's patriotic organizations are especially deserving of praise for their tireless work. The task of Mrs. S. J. Ricker and Mrs. Fannie B. Henderson, and their respective committees on accommodations, was particularly trying. The entertainment of visiting men and women had been carefully mapped out but to hold the delegates to their bargains was another matter. Some failed to come, others returned to Chicago for the night, others failed to report to the committee and went out to seek eating and sleeping quarters.

This caused complaints from the residence district and from the churches which had arranged sleeping quarters. All this was something which was difficult to adjust, but those who visited the accommodation tent can vouch that the women did everything in human power to smooth the troubled pathway.

Mrs. Emma Goldsmith, president of Aurora W. R. C. was tactful and affable, entertaining and keeping an eye on the details. Mrs. Amanda Kuter in charge of decorations at the First Methodist church and Mrs. J. May Ricker of those at the Woman's club rooms are deserving of praise.

#### Meals Fairly Well Patronized

Mrs. Jerome Phillips of the Ladies of the Grand Army worked as president of the local organizations as well as in the Auxiliary. Mrs. Mattie Farwell was an indefatigable worker in the organization, while as a member of the military ball committee and in S. of V. auxiliary matters generally much praise is due. Mrs. Hattie Vaughn, as chairman of the rest room at the First Methodist church was one of the women who assisted toward making everybody comfortable.

Today Mrs. Mattie Farwell and Mrs. John Walker took down the decorations at both the Hotel Arthur and the First Baptist church. Mrs. Arthur Evans is another woman who worked with a will in S. of V. Auxiliary affairs. Mrs. Alice Chambers and her staff were equally careful in assisting in Daughters of Veterans ranks. Indeed all members of women's organizations are deserving of praise.

The meals served during the convention were of varying success. Those served in or near the churches in which sessions were held, came out with flying colors. The same is true of those who served meals the big day. Others were less successful, several losing money, in addition to the hard work.

The ladies of the Swedish Lutheran church were patronized largely by the Ladies of the Grand Army in session in the First Baptist church and now estimate that \$200 was taken in and that more could have been served had preparations been made.

### First Baptist Made Money

The ladies of the First Methodist church where the W. R. C. was in session, served fully 1,800 people breakfasts, dinners and suppers. Several sacks of flour were made into strawberry short cake alone, these being baked in the church kitchen. Other food disappeared in proportion, and as a finish, a supper which had not been planned at all was served on short notice last night to more than two hundred.

The First Baptist church which had Wednesday at the G. A. R. hall fed people until money grew tiresome to behold, and this morning placed over \$300 in the bank.

The New England church had a fair crowd Wednesday noon and the guests, apparently telling friends that this church was among those who knew how to cook, were instrumental in bringing out a fine crowd for supper.

The Marion Avenue Baptist church which served three meals Tuesday had a scattering crowd which hardly represented a convention gathering, and while the dinner attendance was good, the supper left much to be desired.

### Fourth Street Ladies Lost

The Fourth street Methodist church had the worst day of the three, the last, when many of the delegates had gone home, and while the meals were fine and preparation had been made for a large crowd, there was a great deal of food left, and a sale, all home cooked food, was held today at the church building.

The Woman's Guild of Trinity church served meals only to the Daughters of Veterans who held their meetings in the Parish house. The service was splendid and the visitors were loud in their praises. The ladies did not aim to make any money and did not solicit among the people, but they laid aside a neat little sum as it was.

The ladies of Holy Angels' church at the Coliseum had fair attendance. The meals were excellent but a greater number could have been served than appeared.

St. Nicholas hall and Claim street church, where sleeping quarters were provided, proved to be too far out for the visitors and the number taken care of was not as large as anticipated, but this could not be controlled by the accommodation committee.

With the election of officers of the W. R. C. and L. of G. A. R. yesterday afternoon the encampment came to a close. It was evening, however, before the women's auxiliary had completed its task.

The following are lists of officers:

#### Ladies of the G. A. R.

President -- Mrs. Harriet Hudson of Chicago.

Senior vice president -- Mrs. Annie Casner of Aurora; junior vice president, Mrs. Alice Kaufman, Freeport; treasurer, Mrs. Anna McKendry, Chicago; counselor, Mrs. Adelaide V. Reed; members council of administration, Ida E. Wright, Chicago; Ida E. Boardman, Melisa Fortado, Springfield; department secretary, Sarah Devita.

Officers of the W. R. C. are: president, Mrs. Ida Palmer, Chicago; senior vice president, Lillian Miner, Bloomington; junior vice president, Lyda Lord, Plano;

chaplain, Electra Kirk, Sterling; executive board, Mary Hains, Chicago; Lydia Weir, Plymouth; Mary Effner, Galesburg; Flo Tippitt, Peoria; Mrs. Mary Bradley, Decatur; secretary, Mrs. Jennie Johnson, Chicago; counselor, Mrs. Martha K. Baxter, Springfield; I. and I. officer, Mrs. Nettie Lorimer, Chicago.

#### Prizes For Decorations

The committee on prizes for decorations has the following:

“Your committee on decorations beg leave to make the following report: We find many fine decorations and it is the report of your committee that Alshuler Bros. were the best and S. S. Sensenbaugh company the second best.”

Signed W. F. Mead, E. E. Taylor and A. F. Alden.

All these men are from Elgin and were invited by the committee to act. The first prize was a fine silver cup donated by the Aurora Silver Plate company and the second was a handsome American flag, purchased by the committee.

It was distinctly understood that the judges were not to consider any building belonging to a member of the decorations committee, they not being eligible. The show window in the Alshuler store was one of the features. The Sensenbaugh company handled its own decorations.

#### Street Cleaned Early

Street sweepers and cleaners began yesterday morning at three o'clock and were hard put to it to remove even the major part of the debris and dust left in the wake of the big crowd Wednesday.

The street flusher, idle for many months, was also pressed into service and the streets were given a thorough washing.

There were more than ten wagon loads of waste paper scattered in the downtown streets during the rush of Aurora's greatest throngs Wednesday Afternoon.

Miss. Ruth Osborne of 464 Forty-seventh street, Chicago, carrying a small flag and Mrs. Margaret Burkhart, with a larger flag were prominent features in the great G. A. R. parade of Wednesday. Little Ruth accompanied her grandfather, a member of Grant Post No. 28.

#### Present G. A. R. Bills

All those holding bills against the G. A. R. encampment committee are requested to have them at Grand Army headquarters by Saturday afternoon as the committee will meet at that time to settle.

Friday, August 13, 1909  
The Elgin Daily News

### VAN SANT HEADS G. A. R.

Minnesota man is elected Commander In Chief for coming year.

Praise For South

Retiring commander tells of cordial reception given him there.

Salt Lake City, Utah, Aug. 13. -- Samuel R. Van Sant of Minnesota was elected commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic last night.

Van Sant won over Judge William A. Ketcham of Indiana by a vote of 587 to 156.

Mrs. Jennie L. Berry of Des Moines, Ia., won a fight for the national presidency of the Woman's Relief Corps. After three ballots she was elected over Mrs. Belle Harris of Kansas by a vote of 213 to 90.

The Grand Army's order of business did not provide for the election of officers yesterday, but the increasing departures of delegates warned the encampment that an early choice would be necessary to secure a full expression of the will of the majority.

Other officers elected.

In addition to Commander Van Sant the following officers were elected:

Senior vice commander -- W. M. Bostaph, Ogden, Utah.

Junior vice commander -- Judge Alfred Beers, Bristol Connecticut.

Surgeon general -- W. H. Lemon, Lawrence, Kansas.

Nominations for chaplain were made, but the vote upon this position was postponed owing to the lateness of the hour. The election of chaplain and selection of the next meeting place went over until today.

The poll indicates that the chances of St. Louis for the forty-fourth encampment are much brighter. Atlantic City, the other aspirant, does not want the encampment in August and the veterans are loath to change the month of meeting.

Retiring Commander praises South.

No business of public interest except the annual address of the retiring commander, Henry M. Nevius, and the election of officers was transacted at the day's executive session.

Mr. Nevius said in part:

"I have received a warm and cordial greeting wherever I have gone.

"I was greeted with great cordiality upon my visit in the southern departments and in Atlanta, Georgia, where the Grand Army of the Republic held a joint meeting with H. Clay Evans, Commander in Chief of the United Confederate Veterans and his organization. I met the confederate veterans and I am satisfied that, were it not for those who did not participate in the great struggle but who are still laboring to keep alive the

lost cause, there would be no difficulty in cementing the bonds of union between the north and south.

#### Tells statistics of Organization

“On December 31, 1907, the members in good standing of the Grand Army of the Republic numbered 225,157, and there were 13,489 on the suspended list. There were remaining in good standing on December 31, 1908, 220,616 and 8,539 remaining suspended.

“The number of comrades reporting as having died between December 31, 1907 and December 31, 1908 was 10,124. Our gains during the fiscal year by muster, transfer, reinstatement and by gain from delinquent reports total 21,154.

“Investigation will show that there have been many bills introduced in the national congress called pension bills asking for relief for the veterans on different lines, and no prospect of any of them becoming a law. The Grand Army of the Republic, standing united, has in the past years secured and placed upon the statute books such pension laws as are in force and will continue to ask for such relief as shall seem to be equitable and just.

The number of survivors of the civil war at the close of the last fiscal year was 620,895. The number of survivors on the pension rolls May 31, 1909, was 596,411. The amount appropriated for pensions during the year was \$162,000,000.

Saturday, August 14, 1909  
The Elgin Daily News

#### G. A. R. TO ATLANTIC CITY

Salt Lake convention decides upon next session in New Jersey town.

Salt Lake City, Utah, Aug. 14. -- The forty-third national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic ended last night with a fireworks display on Ensign peak.

The final day was devoted to the selection of a meeting place in 1910 and the election of officers by the parent association and allies and auxiliary societies.

By the close vote of 307 to 293 Atlantic City was chosen over St. Louis as the place for the next encampment, after a spirited fight.

Atlantic City was placed in Nomination by Adj. Gen. Burrows of New Jersey, and St. Louis was named by former commander in chief Charles Burton, of Missouri. First one city was in the lead and then the other.

With New York to be heard from, the vote stood 253 to 293 in favor of St. Louis. When New York was called the commander from that department announced the vote as 51 for Atlantic City and 1 for St. Louis. This gave the seacoast city a lead that could not

be overcome. The vote showed the east arrayed against the middle west, with the far west and south more or less divided.

The other contest was for chaplain. The Rev. Daniel Ryan of Columbus, Ind., won the honor from the Rev. Thomas Harwood of New Mexico by a vote of 330 to 233.

After the final details of the convention were disposed of, commander in chief Van Sant and his fellow officers, elective and appointed, were installed.

The Woman's Relief Corps elected Mrs. Fannie W. D. Harden of Denver, Senior vice president and Mrs. Jennie L. Jones of Salt Lake Junior vice president.

Thursday, September 23, 1909  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### 36TH ILLINOIS IN REUNION TODAY

#### G. A. R. VETERANS IN MEETING AT SANDWICH

The annual reunion of the 36th Illinois regiment was held today at sandwich.

The 36th Illinois meets annually on September 23. Last year it held its annual reunion in Elgin and the previous year met in St. Charles. A majority of the regiment was from Kane county, while a few companies were mustered from DeKalb county.

Friday, September 24, 1909  
The Elgin Daily News

#### RE-FIGHT BATTLES AT 36TH'S REUNION

Sixty veterans meet for forty-third year at Sandwich.

Clerk Sylla Re-elected.

Major Sherman acts as Toastmaster.

Meet next year at Aurora.

Gathering in annual reunion for the forty-third time, sixty veterans of the Thirty-Sixth Illinois infantry refought the battles of the civil war yesterday. The affair is the last of a dozen regiment assemblies that have been held in northern Illinois this month and one of the most successful of the number.

### Fight over old Battles.

All day long the comrades climbed Kenesaw Mountain, lay again in the swamps at Vicksburg, marched with Sherman from Atlanta to the sea and plugged rebels at Mission Ridge. Sandwich veterans proved royal hosts and served a remarkably appetizing dinner.

The election of officers resulted in the re-election of city clerk William F. Sylla, of Elgin as secretary. Martin Wilson of Aurora was named as president and Samuel Hitchcock of the same city as vice president, the next assembly will be at Aurora.

The business meeting was devoted to the reading of responses, the transaction of routine business and the passing of resolutions of condolence of the death of those who have succumbed during the last year. The roll of honor, read by city clerk Sylla is:

#### Roll of Honor read.

Elijah Buck, Sacramento, Cal., Nov., 1908.  
Simeon J. Bailey, Co. A, Plano, Ill., Aug. 12, 1908.  
James M. Wells, Co. A, Soldiers' Home, Milwaukee, July, 1908.  
Delos W. Hawkins, Co. A, December, 1908.  
Philo E. Robbins, Co. H, Big Pine, Cal., Oct. 31, 1908.  
N. H. Goodell, Aurora, April 9, 1908.  
Robert H. Starr, Co. K.  
Miller Black, Co. C.  
Thomas Wilson, Co. F, Morris, Ill., September, 1909.  
Robert Galligher, Nebraska.  
Hiram Watkins, St. Charles.

#### Major Sherman Toastmaster.

Major George D. Sherman, of Elgin presided as toastmaster at the banquet and the program was:

Rev. Oglie, pastor Presbyterian church, "Grace at Table."  
Music, selections by quartet.  
Rev. T. P. Brannum, pastor First M.E. church, "Welcome."  
M. E. Cornell, "Response to Greeting."  
Miss. Ethel Fraser, recitations, Sandwich.  
Short speeches.  
Squibs and social visiting.

## 1910

The Illinois department encampment was held in Freeport on May 23rd with James A. Connely, of Springfield, being elected Department Commander. Many of the Fox Valley veterans made the trip by rail to vote on removing the Lee Monument from the Washington hall of fame. The national encampment was held in Atlantic City, New Jersey on September 22nd. John E. Gillman, of Massachusetts was elected the new Commander-In-Chief. Reality was finally sinking in at the convention. The financial problems of the national government, having become more evident, caused the committee on pensions to take a more conservative approach toward future legislation requests. National membership continued to decline and the outgoing commander entreated his organization to take a benevolent posture with their former foes in the south. The 36th held their reunion once again at Aurora in the G. A. R. Memorial hall on September 22nd. As membership declined, the Memorial hall became an ever more popular venue for the 36th veterans. James Shedden, of Dundee was elected president with Frank B. Perkins and William F. Sylla, both of Elgin taking the posts of vice president and secretary/treasurer respectively.

Monday, May 23, 1910  
The Elgin Daily News

### VETERANS OPEN STATE SESSION

Many Grand Army members pass through Elgin en route to Freeport.  
Joliet delegation goes on special car.  
Elgin sends Representatives.

Between ten and twelve hundred veterans of the civil war -- members of the Grand Army of the Republic -- passed through Elgin today on their way to Freeport, where the state encampment of G. A. R. posts is being held today tomorrow and Wednesday.

Included in the number were veterans from Aurora, Batavia, Geneva, St. Charles, Joliet, Plainfield, Chicago and numerous other posts in this vicinity. With the veterans were their wives, children and other relatives.

Joliet's delegation -- 200 strong -- arrived in Elgin just before 12 o'clock. Reinforced by nearly a hundred men from Chicago, the party took dinner at the Elgin hotels and restaurants and resumed their journey at 1 o'clock.

Probably one of the most interesting scenes enacted during the day took place near the Kelley house. Three veterans who had carried muskets up Missionary Ridge amused a large audience when in all seriousness, using their canes as pointers, they graphically described the historic charge.

The battle was progressing well general. No disagreements had been made by the three. A regiment under Colonel -- what's his name, they couldn't remember -- had flanked the Confederate force and the Union soldiers were piling over the bulwarks.

"Our captain sprang forward," exclaimed one of the veterans. "He waved his sword" (the cane went swishing through the air to illustrate, and unfortunately -- most unfortunately -- struck a fair passerby upon the shins).

Confused, the Union line broke for a moment, and then the courteous old gentleman who was the offender swept his hat in a low bow and humbly asked pardon of the young woman. Embarrassed and blushing, the young woman granted pardon and hurried on.

Tuesday, May 24, 1910  
The Elgin Daily News

MARENGO "VETS" ATTEND MEET  
Grand Army men visit Freeport for state encampment.  
Masons entertain at banquet.  
K. of P. to have Ladies Night.

Marengo, May 24. -- The state encampment of the G. A. R. at Freeport this week, has attracted many from Marengo and vicinity. Special cars are being run over the Elgin-Belvidere electric for their use. About twenty left yesterday from Marengo, cars are held at Freeport late enough at night so that the old veterans may, if they choose, return the same night.

Wednesday, May 25, 1910  
The Elgin Daily News

VETERANS TABLE LEE RESOLUTION  
Call Col. Darling's Petition to Taft "Ill-Advised."  
Elect Department Chief  
Springfield man named head officer.  
Joliet gets convention

Freeport, Ill., May 25. -- The Grand Army encampment today laid on the table "as ill-advised," Col. Darling's resolution calling upon President Taft to take the necessary steps to remove the Lee statue from the hall of fame, Washington.

James H. Connelly of Springfield was today elected department commander.

Elgin veterans attending the Grand Army of the Republic convention were pleased yesterday afternoon when a motion that the 1911 convention of the G. A. R. be held in Joliet was carried by an overwhelming majority.

Considerable fight was expected from several cities in the central part of the state. The strength of the G. A. R. in Illinois lies in Chicago and the immediate vicinity and it soon became apparent that northern Illinois would again be given the meeting place.

By a vote of 250 to 238 Mrs. Anna M. Patterson, of Mattoon was elected department president of the Woman's Relief Corps, defeating Mrs. Ella V. Work, Chicago.

The election of officers of the Illinois division, Sons of Veterans auxiliary, resulted as follows:

Division Commander, H. C. Springston, Peoria; senior vice-commander, A. L. Van Ness, Bloomington; junior vice-commander, Henry Cull, Chicago; division council, W. C. Creighton, Champaign; Marshall Hurley, Farmer City and W. C. Gilkerman, Marengo. Retiring commander, W. T. Rawleigh was presented with a jeweled badge.

President, Mrs. Mae Clothier, Rockford; vice president, Mrs. May Dike, Marengo; secretary, Mrs. Ruby M. Little, Rockford; treasurer, Mrs. Jule Thole, Dwight; chaplain, Mrs. Celinda Sylvester, Aurora; inspector, Mrs. Myrtle Pettit, Durand; instituting and installing officer, Mrs. Edna Williams, Freeport, and patriotic instructor, Mrs. M. Holtzbach, Aurora.

Thursday, September 22, 1910  
The Elgin Daily News

VAN SANT OPENS GRAND ARMY MEET  
Commander In Chief of Veterans Convenes National Encampment.  
URGES PENSION INCREASE  
Members, However, go on record against proposed boost.

Atlantic City, New Jersey, Sept. 22. -- With a fine tribute to the soldiers of the confederacy, Commander In Chief Samuel Van Sant today, formally opened business session of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. The Commander spoke earnestly as he expressed his gratification at the increasing fraternization of the "Blue and the Gray."

Death Decreases G. A. R. Roll.

While the roll of the Grand Army is steadily shortening, the commander in chief urged that every effort be made to keep the organization up to its fullest possible strength. He quoted the figures showing that the G. A. R. at the beginning of the present year had still, 213,901 members in good standing, as against 220,600 at the beginning of 1909. The loss during the year was 6,781, of which 5,323 was by death. The commander urged that recruiting measures be taken among the large number of former Union soldiers who are not enrolled as Grand Army members.

The speaker noted a better general observance of Memorial Day than formerly.

"Let us insist and do all in our power," he said, "Memorial day shall be devoted solely and only to the purpose for which it was created. Let it be the one day of the year devoted to honoring our "deathless dead" for in that way we shall teach the rising generation love of country, without which our nation cannot long survive." He also urged the general cooperation of G. A. R. members in inducing a general observance of Flag Day.

Discuss Pension Legislation

Of the more liberal pension legislation recommended by the last annual encampment and urged at Washington by its committee, Commander-In-Chief Van Sant said:

"I regret that nothing was accomplished, but it was no fault of the committee. Congress would not pass any general pension legislation. However, some six thousand private pension bills were enacted. The committee canvassed the matter industriously with senators and representatives, but to no purpose. The government was facing a deficiency in its revenues and retrenchment and the strictest economy was the watchword. This was the reason given for non-action. In my judgement, in view of the changing conditions in our country's financial affairs, if this encampment should again recommend this measure, it would likely pass."

### Fraternization Commended

The Commander-In-Chief expressed himself as particularly gratified at the increasing fraternization of the "Blue and the Gray." He voiced his pleasure at the cordial reception given him during his recent official visit to the southern departments, not only from the former Union soldiers, but from ex-Confederates.

"In all cities when possible," he said, "I urged joint meetings of the Blue and the Gray. We had many gatherings of this character, and no more loyal and patriotic sentiments were ever uttered than by the men who fought on the other side.

"Are you not pleased to learn that our comrades are living in peace and harmony with our late enemies? This is as it should be. Both armies were composed of brave men and they should and do mutually respect each other. We of the north can testify that no braver troops were ever marshaled for conflict than our late enemies--and we now realize that no men ever made greater sacrifices for what they believed to be right than our former foes.

"Comrades, we were the victors, and we can afford to be magnanimous to our old foes. It is easy for the victor to forgive, but when the vanquished absolves himself from all bitterness he has truly gained the most cherished trait of a noble character. We won--they lost. We returned to our homes with the shouts of victory ringing in our ears--our cause triumphant. They were defeated, their cause lost, and they returned to homes destroyed, barns empty, money worthless, slaves free and ruin all about them.

"Any but a brave people would have yielded to these adverse conditions--not so with them. Bravely as they fought during the war, they now fought the battles of life, and the splendid growth and developments of the south since the close of the war is the south's grandest and most enduring monument. United as we are now, our country is destined to make a new era of progress.

### All Glad Union Survived

"We have by our united efforts advanced to the highest pinnacle of fame, and become a mighty world power with our influence everywhere potential. Who does not rejoice that our Union is one and indivisible, and will remain so forever.?"

### Report Against Increased Pensions

The pension committee of the Grand Army today reported to the national encampment condemning the proposition that the congress grant each Union veteran a pension of at least \$1 a day for life. The committee made the adverse report on the ground that such pensions would be too expensive to the government. The report recommends that widows of veterans be given an increased pension and that of the veterans above the age of seventy years be increased.

Friday, September 23, 1910  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

GILMAN ELECTED G. A. R. COMMANDER  
BOSTON MAN IS ONLY CANDIDATE,  
McELROY WITHDRAWING

Van Sant Lauds Gray Army

Retiring Chief Declares no Braver Troops were ever Marshalled  
In Conflict  
6,800 Veterans Die in a Year

Atlantic City, New Jersey, Sept. 23 -- John E. Gilman of Boston was elected commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. for the coming year. John McElroy of Washington was the only other candidate and he withdrew his name before the balloting began.

In opening the business session of the national encampment the retiring commander-in-chief, Samuel R. Van Sant, of Minnesota, gave a comprehensive review of the work of the organization for the past year and outlined what might be accomplished for the good of the order in the future.

The commander spoke earnestly as he expressed his gratitude at the increasing fraternization of the "blue" and the "gray."

When he said that no braver troops were ever marshaled for conflict than the southern soldiers and that the Union veterans now realize that no one ever made greater sacrifices for what they believed to be right than their former foes, the commander was applauded.

Thursday, September 22, 1910  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

THIRTY-SIXTH AT REUNION  
GO TO DUNDEE NEXT YEAR  
James Shedden of that City is Elected  
President for Coming Term.

The forty-fourth annual reunion of the Thirty-Sixth regiment of the Illinois volunteers was held today at the G. A. R. hall. The attendance was one of the largest in years.

During the morning, officers for the coming year were elected as follows:

President, James Shedden, Dundee.

Vice president, Frank B. Perkins, Elgin.

Secretary and treasurer, W. F. Sylla, Elgin.

The next reunion will be held in Dundee.

The officers for 1910 were Martin C. Wilson, Aurora, president; Samuel Hitchcock, Aurora, vice president, and William F. Sylla, Elgin, secretary and treasurer.

The reception committee was composed of J. C. Denison, J. F. Harral, H. B. Douglas, B. Thompson, E. E. Dyer, M. E. Cornell, J. M. Kennedy, C. F. Sweetland, William Donovan and F. F. Henning.

The regiment had part in some of the largest battles of the entire war, the list of which were set forth in the handsome souvenir program furnished.

After dinner with George D. Sherman as toastmaster, the following program was given:

Song, Mrs. J. C. Hopkins.

Welcome, Professor J. H. Freeman.

Song, Mrs. J. C. Hopkins.

Response to greeting, president Wilson.

Song, Mrs. J. C. Hopkins.

Personal experiences and much visiting.

The dinner was served by the Ladies of the G. A. R.

Friday, September 23, 1910  
The Elgin Daily News

ELGIN MEN HONORED AT ANNUAL REUNION OF 36TH  
F. B. Perkins and William F. Sylla named to Office by Veterans  
Dundee man elected head of Organization.  
Meet next in Dundee

At the forty fourth annual reunion of the thirty sixth regiment of Illinois volunteers held at G. A. R. hall in Aurora yesterday, two of the Elgin members were honored with offices in the organization. Frank B. Perkins being elected vice president and William F. Sylla being reelected secretary treasurer.

The reunion was one of the most largely attended of any that the famous regiment has ever held. After the business session in the morning at which the officers for the ensuing year were elected, a dinner was enjoyed. Major George D. Sherman of this city acting as toastmaster. The afternoon was given over to campfire stories in which many of the battles that the regiment took part in were fought over. The officers elected are:

President -- James Shedden, Dundee.

Vice president -- Frank B. Perkins, Elgin.

Secretary and treasurer -- William F. Sylla, Elgin.

Dundee was selected as the next meeting place of the regiment.

## 1911

The year began with the department of Illinois G. A. R. holding its state encampment at Joliet on June 13th. There, Christopher Columbus Duffy, of Ottawa, was elected department commander. The encampments were attended by ever fewer veterans. Illinois was down to 474 posts comprised of 15,363 members. Out of necessity the organizers had been including the conventions of the other allied organizations to help bolster the numbers. It made good sense in that it also allowed for better coordination of the plans of all. It also provided for husbands and wives belonging to different patriotic organs to "vacation" together at these outings. The new department commander, C. C. Duffy could also celebrate his wife's election to V. P. of the W. R. C., quite convenient! The national encampment was held in Rochester, New York where Harvey M. Trimble, of Princeton, Illinois, was elected the new commander-in-chief. The otherwise festive atmosphere was marred by a train wreck which took the lives of two veterans on their way to the encampment. On the fiftieth anniversary of their enlistment, the 36th Illinois Survivors Association held their forty-fourth annual reunion in Dundee. John M. Turnbull was elected president, Samuel Hitchcock, vice president and William F. Sylla, secretary/treasurer. Aurora Post 20 elected Lewis Sylvester the new Commander.

Tuesday, June 13, 1911  
The Elgin Daily News

ELGIN VETS GO TO JOLIET MEET  
Twenty five members of Elgin Post off for State Encampment  
Joliet Mecca For G. A. R.  
Prison City in Gala Array for Host of Old Soldiers

Twenty five members of Veteran Post, No. 49, accompanied by members of their auxiliary and friends, left Elgin this morning in a special car over the Elgin-Aurora line for Joliet, the scene of the forty-fifth annual department encampment, which opened today.

The heavy toll exacted by death from the ranks of Veteran Post, No. 49, was evident to those who witnessed the departure of the veterans at 7:30 o'clock this morning, a much smaller number than that which departed for the annual encampment at Freeport in 1910.

#### Joliet Mecca of Veterans

According to reports little bands of veterans began to arrive in Joliet yesterday afternoon and evening. The large delegations, however, arrived this morning, special cars over the electric roads and in many cases special trains on the steam roads conveying to the encampment the 30,000 veterans and visitors who will attend the three days session. By the edge of the interurban tracks an information tent had been erected. An elaborate filing system, embracing the names of 3,000 residents of Joliet who have offered the veterans home-like accommodations during their three day visit, has been installed under the supervision of Mrs. L. A. Herrick.

Hopes that Governor Deneen would be present during the encampment were shattered when advices received in Joliet last evening confirmed a conviction that he would be unable to attend. John E. Gilman, Commander-In-Chief of the G. A. R., will arrive in time to participate in the Flag Day parade.

#### To Observe Flag Day

This will be the only active exercise to which the veterans will be subjected during the three days. It will begin at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon and will include the representatives from all the different posts, among them Veteran Post No. 49, of Elgin and the Woman's Relief Corps. E. W. Willard, grand marshal of the encampment, will head the parade. The G. A. R. will be divided into three divisions, and between which will be camps of United Spanish War Veterans. The line of march is short and will have along it several rest tents.

The big feature will be the camp fires, three of which will be held by the veterans, one in the Orpheum theatre, to be addressed by the Mayor of Joliet, the presidents of three allied women's organizations, and Benson Wood, past department commander of the department of Illinois G. A. R., another in the Auditorium theatre, and the Ottawa M. E. church, General John C. Black, past Commander-In-Chief of the G. A. R., will address the veterans in the Auditorium theatre.

Elgin's delegation will have no organized body upon their return, but will remain, some during the first two days of the encampment, and others for the entire period.

Elgin veterans refuse to give credence to the conviction retained by many, that this will be the last annual encampment of the G. A. R.

S. J. Gifford, member of Veteran Post, No. 49 said:

"Twenty years ago the cry went up that the veterans were assembling for their last encampment. We are still here."

### List of Veterans at Meet

Following are the names of the Elgin veterans and members of the Woman's Relief Corps who are present at the encampment:

Post Commander J. A. Palmer, W. H. Brydges, Frank B. Perkins, E. Balch, George Colie, William Wilson, W. Carpenter, Chris Ross, Walter Kimball, S. Judson Gifford, R. R. Hunt, Colonel William Smailles, John Hewitt, Joseph Vollar, E. E. Taylor, W. M. Sayer.

President of the Woman's Relief Corps Mrs. W. M. Sayer, delegates, Mrs. D. H. Raymond, Mrs. Minnie Black, Mrs. Mathilda Goddard, and Mrs. Charles Lowry; past presidents, Mrs. E. E. Taylor, Mrs. Ida Hewitt, Mrs. W. H. Brydges, Mrs. Emma Heyford, Mrs. John S. Nicholson, Mrs. Ella Jarvis, Mrs. Ella Crabtree, Mrs. Jennie Stone, Mrs. A. C. Hobart, Mrs. C. E. Gregory and Mrs. R. R. Hunt.

Tuesday, June 13, 1911  
The Elgin Daily News

### LAST ENCAMPMENT? NO, SAY VETERANS Grand Army Host Denies Report That It Won't Assemble Again DUFFY SLATED FOR CHIEF Church Pews along line of March make Parade easy.

(associated press dispatch)

Joliet, June 14. -- Members of the Illinois department of the G. A. R. scout the suggestion heard on all sides that the forty fifth annual encampment will be the last one for the veterans. To offset the idea plans are already being made for the encampment next year and Peoria is making a fight for the meeting.

Pews along line of march.

Preparations were made to prevent any discomfort among the veterans at the annual parade today. The line of march was short and pews were taken from the churches and strewn along the line of march as resting places. Cool weather contributed to the comfort of the marchers and insured many of them being in line.

The election of Christopher Columbus Duffy, of Ottawa, as the new department commander is expected to have little opposition at the annual election late today.

Mrs. Work probable winner

Mrs. E. V. Work is considered the probable victor in the contest for the chief office of the Woman's Relief Corps which also will be held today.

Mrs. Gregory seeks office

Mrs. Mary Gregory, of Elgin, is making a warm fight at Joliet for the treasurership of the organization of the W. R. C., now holding its convention at Joliet in connection with the state encampment of the G. A. R. Her opponent is Mrs. Mary Bradley, of Decatur.

Five auxiliary organizations are holding their state conventions at Joliet simultaneously with that of the veterans. In each there is a lively race for office.

Friday, June 16, 1911  
The Elgin Daily News

ELGIN'S DELEGATION HOME FROM JOLIET ENCAMPMENT  
Pronounce Department G. A. R. Session Highly Successful Assembly  
Officers are named by the W. R. C. after Contested Election.

Elgin's delegation to the department of the Grand Army which closed at Joliet last evening returned to Elgin last night and this morning, tired after the three day session but elated over the success of the meeting.

Elgin's detail in the parade made an excellent showing. Many veterans whose posts were not represented officially, fell in behind the colors of Veteran Post, No. 49.

"It was a great encampment and Joliet did itself proud," said S. J. Gifford this morning. "One of the most impressive features was the part taken by the school children of Joliet who lined the line of march and, waving little flags, sang all the old war songs. It was the most touching thing in the whole encampment."

Joliet, Ill., June 16. -- A full list of officers of the Illinois department of the Woman's Relief Corps elected before adjournment of the encampment here is as follows:

President: Mrs. E. V. Work, Chicago; vice president: Mrs. Emeline Duffy, Ottawa; junior vice commander: Mrs. Ella Godfrey, Rock Island; treasurer: Mrs. Anna Reilein, Aurora.

Thursday, August 24, 1911  
The Elgin Daily News

ILLINOIS MAN G. A. R. HEAD  
Delegates to National Convention generally concede  
Presidency to Harvey M. Trimble of this State.

(associated press dispatch)

Rochester, N.Y., Aug. 24. -- Before the first business session of the forty fifth annual national G. A. R. encampment was held this morning, it was generally predicted that Harvey M. Trimble of Illinois would be elected Commander-In-Chief. In fact, there was a report that the supporters of General John McElroy, editor of the National Tribune, had given up the fight and that their candidate might be withdrawn.

The election of past State Commander Nicholas Day as senior vice commander is conceded. The selection of Los Angeles as the next meeting place of the encampments seems almost assured.

Today's program included the annual address of Commander-In-Chief Gilman and the presentation of annual reports.

Saturday, August 26, 1911  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

CAR LOAD OF COFFINS FOR WRECK VICTIMS  
ON G. A. R. PASSENGER

RIVER RUNS WITH BLOOD AFTER ACCIDENT

NEW YORK STATE OFFICIALS INVESTIGATE HORROR ON THE  
LEHIGH VALLEY ROAD AT MANCHESTER, N. Y., AND DECLARE THAT  
BROKEN RAIL WAS THE CAUSE

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Manchester, N. Y., Aug. 25. -- A car load of rough pine boxes was delivered here today and before day light farmers and villagers began carting them to the temporary morgue, where lay twenty-two bodies of those who were killed yesterday in the wreck of the Lehigh Valley train on the trestle over Canandaigua creek. These twenty-two, with three others in the morgue at Rochester, probably will complete the list of dead unless more deaths occur among the fifty or sixty injured.

It is now believed that the wreck was caused by a broken rail. Three cars out of the train of twelve plunged down the embankment. The train was bound for Jersey City and the majority of those aboard were on their way to their homes in Jersey City and eastern Pennsylvania.

One woman now at Thompson Memorial Hospital at Canandaigua, has a fractured skull and cannot live but so far as known the others injured will recover.

Coroner Eisenline has been making careful efforts to obtain the names of the injured but so many were taken away to various cities that a complete list is almost impossible to compile.

Linemen have strung temporary wires around the wreck and across the creek and inquiries are now being received from anxious persons which it is expected will lead to additional identifications.

At present, at Shortsville, accessible by rail only from a branch of the New York Central, scarcely a dozen refugees from the wreck have come to make bona fide efforts at identification.

#### Number Killed Twenty-five

J. N. Haines, assistant superintendent of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, Buffalo division, made a statement today in which he placed the number of killed at twenty-five and injured at fifty, and says the wreck was unquestionably caused by a broken rail. This derailed nine cars, the first five remaining on the track. Today coaches went over the trestle. The train he says was going at a rate of twenty-five miles an hour when the accident occurred.

John Rickey, of San Antonio, Texas, was in another car, and was one of the first to reach the wrecked cars. He said he examined the broken rail and found an old fracture.

#### Witnessed Accident

Frank Rogers, of Portsville, Mo., was in the street and saw the accident and described the way the cars went over the trestle and said.

“The dead and injured were wedged in together. The interior of the coach was smashed into splinters.

“The first woman to be taken out lay limp and unconscious on the baggage rack. One boy was drowned in the water and the sight was appalling. The blood mingled with the water and it ran red.”

#### Revised List of Dead

(among others, these were the vets)

Bell, D. M., Los Angeles; G. A. R. veteran.

Pangburn, Edgar D., of Brooklyn, G. A. R. veteran.

Friday, September 22, 1911  
The Elgin Daily News

DUNDEE HOST TO 36TH REGIMENT  
Civil War Veterans Gather for Monster Reunion at  
Nearby Town.  
27 NAMES ON HONOR ROLL  
Fiftieth Anniversary of Enlistment Celebrated by Old Soldiers

Dundee, Sept. 22. -- Seventy five veterans of the civil war, old men that long since had passed the zenith of life came miles yesterday to attend the annual reunion of the 36th Illinois regiment.

The following talk at the gathering yesterday by William F. Sylla attests to the kind fidelity of these men to one another:

“Comrades: -- Fifty years ago we stood shoulder to shoulder in line one thousand volunteers and were sworn in for three years of the war. These fifty years have made many changes in our ranks. During the arduous marches and fierce struggles in line of battle these comrades never faltered and when our tent mates and mess mates fell at our side, the courageous line pressed forward ever following the flag we loved so well.

“We miss our fallen comrades, and today as on recurring years, we look and cherish kindly remembrance for those who are kept from this annual gathering by infirmities of age and other difficulties.

“To the friends and families of our deceased comrades we extend cordial sympathy and commend them to the Father of all grace and comfort.”

Roll of Honor Read

These deaths were submitted as the report of a committee for the year of 1911 alone:

Francis Carney, Worth, Ill.  
Robert Fralick, Grand Island, Neb.  
Thomas A. McConnell, Lenox, Ia.  
Francis A. Mossman, Morris, Ill.  
F. J. Thwing, Lieut., Santa Monica, Cal.  
A. H. Sellers, Pasadena, Cal.  
Edward Nute, Alto, Ia.  
John Olson, Ford, Ill.  
John Thompson, Aurora, Ill.  
O. H. Judd, Junction City, Kan.  
C. Coleman, Ia.  
John Blackman, Chicago, Ill.  
R. F. Gillmore, Goodland, Ind.

George England  
Nicholas Hettinger, Aurora, Ill.  
Stephen Winans, Marshalltown, Ia.  
B. F. Griffen, Brookfield, Mo.  
L. Galloway, Aledo, Ill.  
James Hallenbeck, Grant Pass, Ore.  
James Warrenford, Victoria, Ill.  
Capt. J. F. Ferris, San Diego, Cal.  
Charles W. Irish, Danville, Ill.  
John Pfanstiel, Oakland, Cal.  
Henry Smith, Ia.  
Christopher Kingsley, Howard, Kan.  
E. S. Case  
Dr. William P. Pierce, Surgeon, Hoopstown, Ill.

Taken all in all, the program was a complete success. C. F. Hall rendered the address of welcome, which was answered by Brayman Loveless. The male quartet did full justice to themselves with their singing. However, it was the experiences of the veterans as they themselves retold them that drew the attention of a thrilled and listening audience.

The old soldiers fully appreciated the elaborate preparations made by the town for the occasion. One of them, Thomas Welsh of Joliet declared:

“This is something the boys will never forget as long as they live. Everybody, especially the women of the Relief Corps, spent every effort to give us the time of our lives.”

#### To Meet in Monmouth

The place for the next years reunion has already been decided upon and will be Monmouth, Illinois. The officers who are in charge of the preparations for the coming year are:

President -- John M. Turnbull  
Vice president -- Samuel Hitchcock  
Secretary and Treasurer -- William F. Sylla

#### List of Those Who Attended

Those who attended yesterday are:

Name	Address	Company
J. S. Hatch,	Plano, Ill.,	E.
C. A. Tucker,	Belvidere, Ill.,	K.
J. W. Ellis,	Seneca, Ill.,	G.
C. F. Sweetland,	Sandwich, Ill.,	F.

Bergo Thompson, Sheridan, Ill., F.  
James W. Orr, Pontiac, Mich., D.  
E. E. Balch, Elgin, Ill., B Cavalry.  
G. Gunnerson, Herscher, Ill., F.  
Fred W. Sly, Sandwich, Ill., F.  
M. S. Townsend, Elgin, Ill., A.  
F. B. Perkins, Elgin, Ill., A.  
V. O. Wilcox, Elgin, Ill., B Cavalry.  
F. S. Dunklee, Tallapoosa, Ga., A.  
James Shedden, Dundee, Ill., B Cavalry.  
W. F. Sylla, Elgin, Ill., A.  
Lloyd Lathrop, Elgin, Ill., B Cavalry.  
Mathew J. Hammond, Wayne, Ill., K.  
Wm. Browning, Sandwich, Ill., F.  
Rudolph Prager, Alta, Ia., B.  
J. E. Moss, Scranton, Ia., E.  
H. Hennis, Sandwich, Ill., E.  
J. C. Denison, Chicago, Ill., A.  
M. E. Cornell, Chicago, Ill., E.  
F. N. Brown, Oak Park, Ill., B Cavalry.  
A. A. Lee, Elgin, Ill., B Cavalry  
Clark Tucker, Elgin, Ill., B Cavalry  
A. D. Scott, Robertsedale, Ala., K.  
C. F. Dike, Crystal Lake, Ill., H.  
J. K. Perkins, Lake Creston, S. Dak., H.  
O. H. Ford, Bradford, Kan., H.  
M. F. Wettenpaugh, Sumner, Ia., B.  
C. E. Dygert, Algonquin, Ill., H.  
J. R. Gillette, Chicago, Ill., A Cavalry  
Major George D. Sherman, Elgin, Ill., A.  
Thomas Welch, Joliet, Ill., D.  
T. F. White, Aurora, Ill., A Cavalry  
Thomas Robinson, Aurora, Ill., A Cavalry  
W. Smailles, Elgin, Ill., A.  
L. B. Householder, Bonaparte, Ia., A.  
W. W. Gifford, Joliet, Ill., D.  
John Hewitt, Elgin, Ill., A.  
Frank F. Henning (Europe 2 years), D.  
C. N. Rolph, Seneca, Ill., F.  
B. Loveless,, Wheaton, Ill., A.

J. F. McCrosky, Joliet, Ill., A Cavalry  
Robert Eakin, Elgin, Ill., B Cavalry  
H. B. Douglas, Aurora, Ill., A Cavalry  
John A. McQueen, Elgin, Ill., B Cavalry  
Samuel Hitchcock, Aurora, Ill., B.  
W. F. Donovan, Yorkville, Ill., B Cavalry  
Charles Pratt, Rochell, Ill., G.  
A. Manahan, Elgin, Ill., A.  
Willet Richardson, Kaneville, Ill., B Cavalry  
W. W. Kerns, Morris, Ill., G.  
O. H. Johnson, Newark, Ill., D.  
E. H. Young, Fulton, Ill., A Cavalry  
E. H. Strait, Ottawa, Ill., F  
Ferris Johnson, Newark, Ill., F.  
J. Schofield, Morris, Ill., G.  
L. H. Congdon, Chicago, Ill., F.  
James H. Moore, Chicago, Ill., A.  
H. K. Saunders, Chicago, Ill., K.  
Lucian Button, Austin (Chicago), Ill., K.  
John F. Fyfe, Chicago, Ill., B.  
Sydney Kendall, Aurora, Ill., B.  
Joel Wagner, Big Rock, Ill., E.  
Clarence Truex, No. Crystal Lake, Ill., A.  
John Murley, Yorkville, Ill., D.  
James Downey, Normal, Ill., K.  
John Hire, Morris, Ill., D.  
John Larking, Joliet, Ill. D.

List of visiting veterans from other regiments:

George Brooke, No. Crystal lake, Ill., Co. H, 16th Cavalry  
V. N. Ford, Algonquin, Ill., Co. I, 95th Illinois  
E. N. Heath, Leroy, Ia., Co. I, 52nd Illinois  
Mark Burton, Roswell, Idaho, Co. K, 14th Illinois, Infy.  
Jos. Vollor, Elgin, Ill., Co. I, 42nd Illinois  
Thomas H. Kelly, Owatonna, Minn., Co. A, 1st Minn. Vols.  
Benjamin F. Herrington, Yorkville, Ill., Co. D, 11th Mich. Infy.  
W. N. Miller, Dundee, Ill., Co. A, Wis.  
Andy Thompson, Warren Co., O., Co. A, 12th Ohio.

**1912**

The department of Illinois Grand Army met in Peoria on May 22nd and elected Thomas A. Gault, of Chicago, department commander. This was a national election year as well and a Democrat would become president, Woodrow Wilson, of Virginia. However, not much of a difference would be made for the G. A. R. as their membership numbers were rapidly losing any political impact. Besides, Wilson would focus on tariff, banking and business reforms and keeping us out of the war to end all wars. The national encampment of the Grand Army met in Los Angeles, California on September 9, electing Alfred B. Beers commander in chief over that "scoundrel," Daniel Sickles, whose New York support evaporated before the vote was taken. The Thirty-Sixth met way out in Monmouth on September 19th where they were treated to a fine dinner at John Turnbull's home prior to the reunion. J. C. Denison was elected president and William Smailles, vice president. W. F. Sylla began his fifteenth consecutive year as secretary treasurer.

Friday, May 24, 1912  
The Elgin Daily News

### ILLINOIS G. A. R. ELECTS OFFICERS

State Department in Session at Peoria.

Chooses Officers.

### WOMAN SOCIETIES ELECT

Kane and McHenry County Both Get Officers of G. A. R.

Peoria, Ill., May 24. -- Thomas H. Gault, of Chicago, from George H. Thomas Post, was elected department commander of Illinois division G. A. R., this afternoon on the second ballot. Other officers were elected as follows:

Senior vice commander -- Robert M. Campbell, Peoria.

Junior vice commander -- Henry Lamb, Washington.

Medical director -- Dr. W. M. Hanna, Aurora.

Elective members, council of administration -- Charles H. McConnell, Chicago; A. H. Wright, Woodstock; William Andrews, Rockford; A. D. Cadwallader, Lincoln and James H. Wilson, Chicago.

The council of administration is composed of the officers of the department and the five members elected by the delegates.

The result of the election for chaplain and delegates at large to the national convention will be announced this afternoon.

The following were elected by the Woman's Relief Corps:

Department president -- Mrs. Josephine Kelley, Earlville.

Senior vice president -- Mrs. Elizabeth Spellhammer, Chicago.

Junior vice president -- Mrs. Alma Arps, Palatine.

Ladies of the G. A. R. elected as follows:

President -- Mrs. Lizzie Fields, Chicago.

Senior vice president -- Mrs. Sarah McCoughney, Rochelle.

Friday, May 24, 1912

The Aurora Daily Beacon

### MRS. HOLZBACH IN HIGH OFFICE

Former Head of Central W. C. T. U. Elected President  
of State S. of V. Auxiliary

Dr. Hanna of Aurora is also Given Office at State Encampment  
of G. A. R.

Mrs. Catherine Holzbach of Aurora, former president of the Central W. C. T. U. was elected state president of the Sons of Veterans auxiliary yesterday at the G. A. R. encampment at Peoria.

The six allied organizations held separate conventions yesterday, electing the following officers for the coming year:

Women's Relief Corps;

Department president -- Mrs. Josephine Kelley, Earlville.

Ladies of the G. A. R.;

Department president -- Mrs. Lizzie Field, Chicago.

Daughters of Veterans;

Department president -- Mrs. Emma Smith, Chicago.

Senior vice president -- Mrs. Drusilla T. Thayer, Chicago.

Junior vice president -- Mrs. Estella M. Moor, Pullman.

Treasurer -- Mrs. Burnside Howland, Chicago.

Inspector -- Mrs. Clara Randall, Oak Park.

Chaplain -- Mrs. Hattie Grundy, Joliet.

Daughters of the G. A. R.;

Department commander -- Mrs. Mary L. Dawson, Chicago.

Senior vice commander -- Mrs. Zelia Corning, Chicago.

Junior vice commander -- Mrs. Pearl Wolcott, Chicago.

Quartermaster -- Estella Rodenberg, Chicago.

Treasurer -- Miss. Bessie M' Croskey, Chicago.

Auditor -- Mrs. Julia A. Ellis, Chicago.

Patriotic instructor -- Mrs. Eleanor Elkinon, Chicago.

Ladies Auxiliary of the Sons of Veterans;

President -- Mrs. Lillian Holzbach, Aurora.

Vice president -- Mrs. Edna G. Williams, Freeport.

Treasurer -- Mrs. Rose Oren, Decatur.

Chaplain -- Mrs. Leona Kendfick, Rockford.

National delegate -- Mrs. May E. Clothier, Rockford.

Executive council -- Mrs. May E. Clothier, Rockford; Mrs. Maude Lee Seabert, Dwight and Miss. Minnie Darrow, Decatur.

Sons of Veterans;

Department commander -- A. L. Van Ness, Bloomington.

Senior vice commander -- G. R. Holmes, Chicago.

Junior vice commander -- E. O. Kreis, East St. Louis.

Division council -- W. C. Creighton, Champaign; Frank Scholes, Princeton; Marshal Hurley, Farmer City.

Delegates to national encampment -- O. E. Taylor, Chicago; E. F. Buck, Peoria; A. S. Holbrook, Dwight; W. E. Barnum Jr., Chicago.

#### Alton Gets 1913 Encampment

Alton was selected as the place for holding the encampment of the G. A. R. of Illinois. Danville withdrew before the voting began.

More than 5,000 veterans and their allied organizations were reviewed by Governor Deneen, National Commander, H. S. Trimble and other high officials. Seventy-five thousand people are estimated to have witnessed the parade.

Govenor Deneen addressed the session last night.

#### Dr, Hanna Gets Office

Peoria, Ill., May 24. -- Thomas H.Gault of Chicago, was elected department commander of the Illinois division of the Grand Army this afternoon on the second ballot. Dr. W. M. Hanna of Aurora was elected medical director.

The result of the election for chaplain and delegates at large to the national convention will be announced this afternoon.

Monday, September 9, 1912  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### G. A. R. REUNION ON

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Los Angeles, Sept. 9 -- With the arrival today of the last of the special trains bearing veterans to attend the annual reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic, it was stated that at least 10,000 visitors were in Los Angeles from the east and probably as many more from coast points. The first session of the encampment will begin tomorrow.

Wednesday, September 10, 1912  
The Elgin Daily News

### G. A. R. MEMORIAL UP TO ELECTORS Supervisors put Soldier's Monument up to People at Referendum

The Kane County Board of Supervisors in session today voted unanimously to refer to the people of the county at the fall election the proposition of \$25,000 bonded indebtedness for the purpose of erecting a bronze monument in the court house yard at Geneva to the memory of the soldiers and sailors who took part in the Mexican, Civil and Spanish wars.

#### Plan Two Years Old

The plan was proposed two years ago at the picnic of the Kane county veterans association and a committee has been laboring with the end in view of establishing a memorial to the soldiers and sailors of the three wars. It was intended for some months to have bronze tablets placed in the lobby of the building with the names of soldiers and sailors enrolled thereon. The supervisors were first asked to appropriate \$3,000 for the purpose but they suggested a monument with bronze inscription, as well as a bronze leaf book to be kept in the G. A. R. room of the court house.

"The soldiers of the county were slow in asking for the memorial, said Supervisor Chamberlain. "We all feel that it is but a feeble recompense to pay the memory of the men who made great sacrifice for their fellows."

Tuesday, September 10, 1912  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

GEN. SICKLES OUT OF RACE  
WILL NOT BE ELECTED COMMANDER OF G. A. R.  
AT LOS ANGELES ENCAMPMENT

This was soldiers home day at forty-sixth annual gathering  
of civil war veterans.

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Los Angeles, Cal. Sept, 10 -- This was soldiers home day at the forty-sixth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. The principal event was an excursion to the national soldiers home at Sawtello, and open house at Venice, a seashore resort near this city.

The annual meeting of army nurses and their memorial services, the convention of the ex-prisoners of war, followed by a camp fire, a reception to the G. A. R. and allied organizations tendered by the Sons of Veterans, the annual meeting of the Daughters of Veterans and an annual meeting of the national council of Woman's Relief Corps and reunions of the Mississippi Ram Fleet and Marines and of the "Iron Brigade" were among the days events.

At the semi-official opening of the encampment Commander-In-Chief Trimble tonight will deliver his address.

Interest in the selection of the next commander-in-chief was revived today when it became known that the New York delegation had voted 38 to 3 not to support the candidacy of General Daniel E. Sickles. Friends of Judge Albert B. Beers of Bridgeport, Conn., asserted that particularly no opposition now existed to the selection of their candidate.

Thursday, September 11, 1912  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

VETERANS BEAR TORN WAR FLAG  
SEVEN THOUSAND MARCH IN REVIEW AT  
LOS ANGELES G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT TODAY

Few Falter in March  
Ambulances Lemonade and showers of roses  
provided for aged paraders.  
W. R. C. Meets.

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Los Angeles, Cal., Sept. 11 -- Marching with faltering step and tattered battle flags flying, 7,000 veterans of the conflict between the states paraded through the streets of Los Angeles today.

Here and there along the route bands of girls scattered blossoms at the feet of the marchers of quenched their thirst with lemonade.

Ambulances were stationed at intervals and rest stations were established in each block, but few of the old soldiers faltered, and at the end of the one and four fifths mile journey, they passed the reviewing stand with a hearty cheer for the commander in chief.

A feature of the parade was the appearance of the battle flag of Company A., Fourteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was flung to the breeze for the first time since it fluttered in the smoke of the battle of Gettysburg. The colors were borne by Merick Reynolds who carried them in a half a hundred charges.

The opening session of the convention of the Woman's Relief Corps was held today and at 8:00 o'clock tonight the annual camp fire of the G. A. R. will be held at the Shrine Auditorium.

Friday, September 12, 1912  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

NATIONAL G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT ON  
FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL GATHERING  
AT LOS ANGELES

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Los Angeles, Sept. 12 -- The session of the forty-sixth national encampment, G. A. R. opened today with the annual address of Harvey M. Trimble, commander-in-chief. Reports of other officers and committees were heard during the day.

The report of Commander-In-Chief Trimble referred to the work done by the G. A. R. for the reunion of the Blue and Gray for the fiftieth anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg and also took up matters relative to the proposed incorporation of the G. A. R.

Reference was made on the investigation of the old soldiers' home at Dayton, Ohio, the Lincoln Centennial, Legislation, Andersonville prison, Bull Run battlefield and in permanent fund.

The report of Cora M. Davis, national president of the Woman's Relief Corps at today's session of the organization, stated that during the year \$133,563 was expended in relief work.

Friday, September 20, 1912  
The Elgin Daily News

VETERANS CHOOSE ELGIN FOR NEXT ANNUAL REUNION  
Thirty Sixth Regiment to Assemble Here in 1913  
Major Sherman Presides as Toastmaster of Banquet

The veterans of the Thirty Sixth Illinois Infantry are home from Monmouth where they attended the forty sixth reunion and the fiftieth anniversary of the enrollment of the regiment.

The regiment was represented by eighty men who followed the colors of the Thirty Sixth through the south. There was a large number of soldiers of other regiments present as well as many of the leading citizens of Monmouth.

The visitors were met at the depot by a delegation who escorted them to the home of Captain John M. Turnbull where a six course dinner was served.

On the following day the reunion proper was held. Major Sherman, as toastmaster, staged a fine entertainment for the veterans and they were pleased to such an extent that they voted to accept his invitation to attend the next reunion at Elgin. It will be held on the third Thursday and Friday of September.

At the election of officers J. C. Denison, of Chicago, a former Elgin merchant, was elected president; Colonel William Smailles, vice president and W. F. Sylla, secretary and treasurer.

Those who attended from Elgin were: Elgin city clerk, W. F. Sylla; Col. William Smailles, Major G. D. Sherman, M. S. Townsend, John A. Hewitt and F. B. Perkins.

Monday, September 23, 1912

The Aurora Daily Beacon

### SEMI-CENTENNIAL FOR VETS PLANNED

### ALL OLD SOLDIERS SOUGHT FOR BIG REUNION

The semi-centennial reunion of all veterans of the civil war living in and about Aurora, regardless of regiment or branch of service, is being planned by John L. Walker and Gus Aucutt. It is now an average of 53 years since patriots enlisted to help Lincoln save the union. Some of them enlisted 51 years ago when war broke out. Some of them did not enlist until the third or fourth year of the war. However, the average time of enlistment for everybody is now 50 years and the old veterans mentioned of Aurora post think that the time is ripe for a grand semi-centennial reunion.

Time has thinned out the regiments of the "boys in blue" so that the regimental reunions now a days are attended by only a fraction of those who used to turn out. A general reunion would bring all the old boys together once more and would prove a mighty enjoyable occasion.

All those interested in such a reunion should send word to either Mr. Walker or Mr. Aucutt of Aurora post as soon as possible.

## 1913

Alton, Illinois hosted the departmental encampment this year on May 20th, and J. H. Crowder, of Bethany was elected commander.

The 36th held their reunion in Elgin, on September 12th. George D. Sherman, the perennial toastmaster of the city, was elected president. Jephtha C. Dennison, a former Elgin merchant was elected vice president, and William F. Sylla, also of Elgin, was once again secretary and treasurer. A grand slam for the host city. James Harral, Hatch and Moss (the three Jims) were the center of attention with their comrades and pictures were taken to commemorate the very special event. Aurora Post 20 had a new Commander in Wm. M. Hanna, the state Medical Director, but their numbers continued to shrink with only 166 living members on the roster.

At the national level it was once again quite apparent that the ranks were diminishing with a loss of over 11,000 members in 1913. Nevertheless, the leadership still felt that the organ should be entitled to reduced rail fares as well as continued enhancements to the pension laws. This time the encampment was held in the deep south, Chattanooga, Tennessee, on September 18th, where Washington Gardner, of Michigan was elected commander in chief. This was the year of the "semi-centennial reunion." Being the fiftieth anniversary of the battles of Gettysburg and Chickamauga and Chattanooga, celebrations were attended by President Wilson and others.

Tuesday, May 20, 1913  
The Elgin Daily News

ALTON HOST TO WAR SURVIVORS  
Grand Army Assembles for Department Encampment  
and Election.  
WAR FOR HIGH OFFICES  
Distinguished Soldiers to be Among Visitors at Illinois Session

(associated press dispatch)

Alton, Ill., May 20. -- Seven thousand visitors are expected in Alton today for the opening of the annual state encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and the annual meeting of five allied organizations. Ladies of the G. A. R., Daughters of the G. A. R., Woman's Relief Corps, Daughters of Volunteers and Sons of Volunteers.

Interest will center around the election of the G. A. R. and of the W. R. C. J. H. Crowder, of Bethany, and J. M. Schneider of Canton are active candidates for the position of department commander of the G. A. R.

Mrs. Inez J. Bender, of Decatur and Mrs. Edna Walker, of Peoria are campaigning for the presidency of the W. R. C.

Tuesday, May 13, 1913  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### AURORANS ATTEND STATE G. A. R. MEET

Dr. W. M. Hanna, commander of Post 20, G. A. R. left this morning to attend the annual state encampment of the G. A. R. and affiliated societies at Alton, which began today and continues until Thursday. Dr. Hanna was sent as the representative of the local post. Thomas White of Galena boulevard, faithful attendant at G. A. R. encampments also left for Alton today.

Mrs. L. Wilder, Mrs. Mae Lincoln, Mrs. Anna Reilein, Mrs. Ricker and Mrs. Laura Smith with a score of other women will be present as representatives of the W. R. C. No. 10. Mrs. Ames, Mrs. Jennie Fuller, Mrs. Lillian Holzbach are to be delegates from the Sons of Veterans auxiliary. The Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic will be represented by Mrs. Mae Reece and Mrs. C. Broose. This year the Daughters of Veterans sent a large delegation. They were Mrs. Idelia Woods, Mrs. C. B. Wareham, Mrs. G. Berlia, Mrs. F. Blever, Mrs. M. Chamberlain and Mrs. Helen Daily.

Wednesday, May 21, 1913  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### STATE ENCAMPMENT OF G. A. R. AT ALTON

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Alton, Ill., May 21. -- Thousands of visitors from all parts of Illinois poured into Alton today to witness the parade of the Illinois G. A. R. which is holding its annual encampment here. Governor Dunne and staff arrived shortly after noon. The parade was scheduled to start at 2 o'clock.

Thursday, May 22, 1913  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## GRAND ARMY NAMES J. H. CROWDER HEAD

### NEARLY 2,000 VETERANS IN PARADE AT ALTON

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Alton, Ill., May 22. -- The state encampment of the Illinois G. A. R. today elected J. H. Crowder, of Bethany, department commander for the ensuing year. His opponent was John M. Snyder of Clayton.

Nearly 2,000 Illinois veterans of the Union army joined with 3,000 members of auxiliary organizations of women and young men in a parade yesterday as the chief feature of the encampment. Old soldiers who were too feeble to walk the mile route arranged for the parade, had seats in the 250 automobiles which headed the procession.

Col. A. M. Jackson, of the Western Military academy was grand marshal of the parade. The youngest member of the Daughters of Veterans was the color bearer in the parade. She was Miss. Ruth E. Osborne, 16 years old, of Chicago.

Friday, September 12, 1913  
The Elgin Daily News

## 36TH REGIMENT IN REUNION HERE

Comrades of the Civil War Command  
Assemble in Elgin

### 'THREE JIMS' CONSPICUOUS

Trio Who Marched With Broomsticks Years Ago  
March Together Today

Many years ago three boys played "soldier" with broomsticks. The townspeople called them "the three Jims."

When Abraham Lincoln issued his first call for volunteers these same three boys enlisted. They were mess-mates.

Together they became the "color squad" of the Thirty-sixth Illinois Infantry. They were known again as "the three Jims."

At the battle of Stone River the three were wounded. They were taken together to the hospital. One left a leg there.

As the war went on they were taken prisoners together and carried to Andersonville Prison.

Throughout the army of the west their reputation spread until there was scarcely a soldier who had not heard of "the three Jims."

Today in Elgin "the three Jims" marched together, years and years after the days when they paraded with broom sticks.

James F. Harral, of Aurora, James S. Hatch, of Plano and James E. Moss of Scranton, Ia., were perhaps the most conspicuous figures today in the annual reunion of their old command. They posed together for a photograph and every old soldier of the regiment got one.

#### Forty-seventh Reunion.

The Thirty-sixth regiment assembled last night for its forty-seventh annual reunion. Comrades came from near and far. Today occurred the reunion proper.

A business meeting was held this morning and Aurora was chosen as the place of the next meeting. J. F. Harral extended the invitation and stated that he and Mrs. Harral had decided to get up a dinner. Members of the regiment objected to the free dinner, Milton Cornell declared that it was a bad practice, and that just because Major Sherman "had run a bluff" inviting them to dinner and had been "called" by the boys, he did not believe in the practice. He moved the acceptance of the invitation to Aurora with the proviso that each man pay for his own dinner. Everybody voted "Aye" excepting Harral. He shouted no.

Harral, despite his declaration that if he could not treat to the dinners he did not want any office, was unanimously elected president.

James H. Moore, of Chicago, was chosen vice president and William F. Sylla, of Elgin, secretary and treasurer,

#### March To Baptist Church

A banquet was served at 12:30 o'clock at the First Baptist church. The members, wives and friends marched to the beat of Charles Stiles drum from the Y.M.C.A. building to the First Baptist church where Major Sherman was host and the W. R. C. served.

The program following consisted of singing by Mrs. Harriet Joslyn-Hendrickson, an address by Frank W. Joslyn and one by Milton Cornell, of Glen Ellyn. Major Geo. D. Sherman was toastmaster. There were several impromptu addresses in response to requests on certain incidents of the career of the regiment. These were largely of a personal nature.

## List of Deaths Reported

Deaths have been reported as follows:

Company A -- Henry Deill, Sept. 30, 1912; Alexander H. Chambers, Oct. 29, 1912; Daniel B. Hoxie, Nov. 2, 1911; Warfield B. Todd, James Warrenford.

Company B -- William Ott, Jan. 11, 1913; Mathias Allender, Jan., 1911.

Company C -- Capt. John M. Turnbull, May 24, 1913; James Burns, Joseph A. Pollock, J. A. Foster, F. M. McClanathan.

Company D -- Thomas Welch, April 10, 1913; Charles H. Bissell, George Thumb.

Company E -- F. M. Baker, James Herrick, Jan. 26, 1904; Amasa Gage, March 6, 1912.

Company F -- Joseph Markham, John T. Johnson, Benjamin Stevenson, June 20, 1912; Major George W. Mossman, E. N. Lewis, 1913, James W. Olson, Nov. 13, 1912, Capt. Geo. W. Dassalet, Feb. 8, 1913; William H. Gottew, June 3, 1913; Thomas J. Wilson, Casper Combs, Thomas R. Rambo, Thomas Nunn, William McCleary.

Company G -- James Halkyard, Feb. 13, 1912; William M. Kerns, April 5, 1913; Alvah R. Jordan, Henry J. Lavayea, G. B. Munger.

Company H -- William Carl, National Home, Charles B. Crawford, March 15, 1908; Henry H. Dunblazier, May 21, 1913; Frederick Markus, L. D. Pease, M. F. Ellsworth.

Company I -- Hobart Doctor, Aug. 1913; William Martin, June 29, 1913 (age 91 years, 4 months).

Company K -- James Downey, Aug. 10, 1912; John H. Johnson, July 28, 1908; W. D. Moore, Dec. 4, 1910; Capt. John Q. Adams, George Hemmingway, Peter Parquette, H. F. Watkins, David H. Dickinson.

Company A., Cavalry -- David B. Clark, Dec. 8, 1912; Eugene Newell, Thomas W. Flagg, John W. Evarts, Charles Weaver, James M. Allen, Fletcher J. Snow, Richard Larkin, Dec., 1912.

Company B., Cavalry -- Justice J. Stringer, March 3, 1909.

Band -- Frederick J. Harris, Jan. 31, 1913; Alonzo H. Davis, Feb. 10, 1908; Mark D. Flower.

## Many Send Regrets

Regrets were received from the following:

Thomas Malcomb, Co. G, Salisbury, N.D., W. W. Trimble, Glencoe, Okla., J. Wallace Ellis, Co. D, Seneca, Ill., Jas, Madison Kennedy, A Cav., 276 W. Park avenue, Aurora, John Yerlon, Co. B, 3936 Juneau street, Seattle, Wash., W. H. Mossman, F, 619 E. Ocean avenue, Long Beach, Cal., Oliver C. Switzer, A. Cav., Monson, Mass., E. B. Reader, Co. K, 933 Clay street, Oakland, Cal., J. L. Dryden, Co. C, 501 Temple street, Los Angeles, Cal., Arthur W. Wilson, Co. K, Harrisburg, Colorado, Edwin Dopp, Co. F, Remus, Mich., W. H. Beardsley, Band, 309 N. Washington street, Moscow, Idaho, John Poll, Co. K, Lennox, S.D., Jacob Harrison, Co. A, Knoxville, Ill., David Peterson, Co.

B, Morristown, Minn., Robert Jordan, Co. G, RR5 box 10, Elk City, Albert Collins, A Cav., Douglas, Wyo., John H. Ward, Co. C, 128 Baughn street, Council Bluffs, Ia., E. B. Keck, Co. C, RR3, Tonganoxie, Kans., H. K. Saunders, Co. K, Pierre, S.D., Rudolph Brager, Co. B, Alta, Oa., A. B. Tice, Co. A, Omro, Wis., Z. E. Hogue, Co. K, Eskridge, Kans., H. P. Mann, B Cav., Boulder, Colo., David T. Hogue, Co. B, Mount Ayr, Ia., H. D. Carr, Co. E, 19 West Market street, Iowa City, Ia., S. Z. Carver, Co. H, Omro, Wis., Burton Honey, Co. K, Ogden, Kans., Christian Brunnemeyer, Co. B, Nat. Mil. Home, Kansas, Wm. Varner, Co. I, Oswego, Ill., Harry Kellam, Co. D, Nat. Mil. Home, Ohio, James Tripp, A Cav., Independence, Ia., Hamlet Givens, Co. E, Hancock, Minn., Norton Thompson, Co. I, La Rose, Ill., R. M. Northam, Co. I, 122 W. Union street, Circleville, Ohio, James Mecham, Armour, S.D., J. W. Arthurs, Co. C, 1509 S. Market street, Wichita, Kans., J. W. Kitchen, Co. C, 374 E. 14th street, Eugene, Ore., F. S. Dunklee, Co. A, Tallapoosa, Ga., Abel Longworth, Clay City, Ill., C. E. Baker, Nora Springs, Ia., Allen Mowry, Co. A, Cav., Trinidad, Colo., Sante Fe Depot, James E. Johnson, Co. G, 535 Rice street, Springfield, O., D. B. Sager, Morrison, Ill., Geo. H. Knowles, Co. A, Minneapolis, Minn., 2923 California avenue, M. G. Yarnell, Co. G, 2322 Lincoln street, N. E., Minneapolis, Minn., Irwin Benton, A Cav., RR No. 1, Redding, Ia., R. H. Gilmore, Co. C, Osceola, Neb., Eben W. Hulce, Co. G, Cortland, O., H. P. Donnell, Waverly, Kans., G. G. Freeland, Co. D, Burkett, Neb., Isaac Jarnagan, Astoria, Ill., Joseph Carl, Cav. A, Steele, N.D., Frank W Raymond, Aberdeen, S.D., Elias S. Bartlett, Co. H, Marshalltown, Ia., Station A, Robt. A. Henderson, Clearfield, Ia., Albert C. Wagner, Co. D, Linton, N.D., E. Nelton, Co. D, 2309 5th street, Peru, Ill., Geo. Dell, Co. I, RR No. 7, Cresco, Ia., Herbert Dewey, Co. E, 12 S. Main street, Lead, S.D., Geo. F. Roots, Co. F, Seneca, Kansas, Edwin Scafford, 2448 Said street, Denver, Colo., David A. Parks, Co. D, 12 S. Milpas avenue, Santa Barbara, Cal., Francis Phelps, 3791 Vermont avenue, Los Angeles, Cal., Dr. Horace N. Chittenden, Co. H, Long Beach, Cal., John W. Davis, B Cav., 5947 Carlton Way, Hollywood, Cal., E. W. Hume, Co. G, 602 N. Main street, Ottawa, Kans., George E. Lounsbury, Co. E, 823 Liberty street, Elkhart, Ind., Thos. C. Penington, 4012 Drexel Boulevard, Chicago, A. L. Sprang, B Cav., Houston, Tex., J. R. Biddulph, Tiskilwa, Ill., Abijah Prouty, Co. G, Pryor, Okla., Jas. E. Johnson, 530 Rice street, Springfield, O., William Freese, Co. F, Bailey's Harbor, Wis., Joseph Hebert, Co. G, Scott Bar, Cal., Wm. C. Hall, Co. K, Madera, Cal., Daniel Merkhham, Bardolph, Ill., Henry P. Mann, B Cav., 2055 Bluff street, Boulder, Colo., J. C. McPherrren, Co. C, Republic, Kans., Henry C. Scott, B Cav., Folsom, Cal., Joseph M. Comp, Co. I, Winterset, Ia., LaRue P. Southworth, Co. F, Ravena, Neb., Edward Anderson, Co. D, Frankfort, S.D.

#### Son Brings Father's Message

John Turnbull, son of Lieutenant Turnbull, who entertained the regiment at Monmouth, Ill., last year, was present at the reunion today. He came at the request of his

father who has since the last reunion died and who through his son sent his farewell greetings to his companions of the war.

#### Camp Fire Held at Y. M. C. A.

The annual campfire of the regiment was held last evening at the parlors of the Y. M. C. A. and was attended by about forty members. Mrs. Beatrice Wilkins Cowlin read several war time selections and Mr. Paul Gilbert, extension secretary of the Y. M. C. A. rendered vocal selections.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to relating incidents and experiences of the members of the regiment during their long service of the civil war.

The regiment has an unusual number of good story tellers among the survivors, and each has a new yarn at every reunion.

#### Pass Resolutions of Sympathy

The following resolution was passed by a rising vote;

“The years passing since the close of the strife for the maintenance of the union of the states show large increase in the passing away of our comrades, who stood shoulder to shoulder with us who remain, and today shows a long list of brave men who willingly gave heed to their country’s call and went forth to do and suffer all that need be their lot.”

“We express our love and regard for them and express our cordial sympathy for their friends and families.”

Thursday, September 18, 1913  
The Elgin Daily News

### GRAND ARMY ELECTION TO BE CLOSE CONTEST Nebraska and Michigan battle for post of Commander In Chief BIG TENT ERECTED TO STAGE FOOT-RACE OF OLD SOLDIERS

(associated press dispatch)

Chattanooga, Tenn., Sept. 18. -- Election of officers by the Grand Army of the Republic in forty-seventh annual encampment here and by the Sons of Veterans will take place today. Caucuses were held late into the night by both organizations.

While several candidates will appear on the first ballot of the grand Army of the Republic election, indications are that the selection of a commander in chief to succeed Alfred Beers, will be between Col. C. E. Adams of Superior, Nebraska, and Washington Gardner of Michigan.

A spirited contest is being waged by the Sons of Veterans. John E. Sauter of Pittsburgh, Pa., and C. S. Scott of San Francisco, will be the principal candidates for commander in chief, according to pledged votes announced in caucus last night.

A steady downpour of rain, which continued throughout the night, was still in evidence today. For this reason the foot-race, in which union veterans from six states, and a confederate veteran will participate, will be held in a big tent, erected in the heart of the city.

The entries of the two races on the program, one a distance of 100 yards and the other three miles, follows:

Col. H. Smith, Detroit, Mich.; C. W. Howe, Port Huron, Mich., William Heinschen, Cleveland, O.; J. J. Russer, Indiana; J. M. Clayton, Georgia; T. W. Brainard, Ohio; S. C. Barnes, Pittsburgh, Pa.; W. C. Allen, Kentucky; Meredith Wolfe, Chattanooga, a confederate veteran.

The youngest contestant is 68 years old.

Thursday, September 18, 1913  
The Elgin Daily News

**11,000 VETERANS DIE IN ONE YEAR**  
**Report of Grand Army Chief shows fast diminishing Ranks**  
**HITS THE RAILROAD RATES**  
**Says Northern Lines gave no consideration to Old Soldiers**

(associated press dispatch)

Chattanooga, Tenn., Sept. 18. -- More than 11,000 union veterans of the civil war died during the twelve months ending December 31 last, and more than 180,000 such veterans are still on the rolls of the Grand Army of the Republic, according to Alfred B. Beers, commander-in-chief of the organization, who delivered his annual address here today.

The year started with a membership of 191,346, Mr. Beers said, and 14,779 were added to the rolls by muster, transfer and re-instatement. The losses were as follows: by death, 11,328; by honorable discharge, 435; by transfer, 1,764; by suspension, 6,976; by dishonorable discharge, 63; by delinquent reports, 4,283, and by surrender of charter, 1,039, making a total loss, partially offset by gains, of 25, 898. The rate of mortality, based on the membership was 6.28 per cent.

**Charges Railroad Discrimination**

Another topic discussed at some length by Mr. Beers was the alleged discrimination in railroad rates to Chattanooga between the Grand Army and Confederate

Veterans, who held their reunions here in May. "It would appear," he said, "that the services of the veterans of the Union army and the consideration due them are held lightly in the estimation of the railroad authorities." The railroads of the south, however, gave the same rate to both camps of veterans. Mr. Beers added, the alleged discrimination being in the north and against the Union veterans. In this connection, he said:

"The Southern Passenger Association, composed of railroads east of the Ohio River, gave the same rate to the Union veterans that they had given to the Confederate veterans in May of this year, namely, one cent per mile. The remaining associations, except the Trunk Line Association, located in New York, and the Trans Central Lines, fixed the rate at two cents per mile which is, I believe a higher rate than the Grand Army has paid in some years. Included in the associations making the charge of two cents per mile, was the association whose roads operate in Missouri and Kansas and perhaps other states, which made a rate for The Confederate Veterans reunion of one cent per mile. The railroads from New York to Washington made no reduction whatever in rates, but charged the full regular fare to Washington, the gateway to the territory of the Southern Passenger Association, which rate is in excess of the prices regularly charged for excursion tickets good for ten days and largely in excess of mileage book rates good for at least one year."

Mr. Beers urged that the Pension committee present a bill to congress granting a pension of \$75 a month to veterans who are blind. He also recommended that an effort be made to have repealed the law providing that widows of veterans who married after June 17, 1890, should not be entitled to pensions.

"The most of us are conversant with the causes that led to the passage of that law," he said. "It was a necessary and proper law then, but since that time many honorable, kindly and affectionate women have married veterans from the purest of motives and ministered to them in their last hours. It seems an injustice that such noble women should be made to suffer with the irresponsible class that the law was designed to reach. Surely a law can be framed that will separate the wheat from the chaff."

Friday, September 19, 1913  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## DETROIT SECURES G. A. R. MEETING

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Chattanooga, Tenn., Sept. 19 -- Detroit, Michigan, today was selected as the meeting place of the 1914 national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and allied organizations.

## 1914

On June 3rd, the Illinois department of the Grand Army held their encampment, the forty-eighth, in Mattoon with Samuel Fallows being elected department commander. Membership was down to 12,115 in 442 posts. At their peak, 23 years prior, in 1891, there were 32,984 members in 620 posts. Detroit, Michigan was host to the forty-eighth annual national encampment of the G. A. R. Here, David J. Palmer of Iowa was elected commander in chief. National membership stood at 171,335, down another 9,000 vets. As the years passed and the power of the Grand Army of the Republic was on the wane, newspapers could not afford to send their correspondents to every G. A. R. event. To reduce their costs they subscribed to the Associated Press and bought coverage from other papers closer to the action. This created a less personal and sometimes less accurate account of the happenings. The 36th reunions did not suffer from this new development. Local interest ran high as long as the veterans were in town. The Thirty-Sixth held their reunion in Aurora on September 17th. Since their last reunion, the association had lost forty members, the most since the war itself. Milton E. Cornell was elected president with Henry Hennis as vice. Wm. F. Sylla was secretary treasurer. Post 20's new commander was A. C. Van Vlack. Membership this year had dropped to 144, from 166 in 1913.

Friday, June 5, 1914  
The Elgin Daily News

### FALLOWS NEW G. A. R. HEAD Elected President at Session of Illinois Convention

(associated press dispatch)

Mattoon, Ill., June 5. -- Bishop Samuel Fallows of Chicago was today elected department commander of the Illinois G. A. R. The G. A. R. convention closes tonight with a big ball given by the Illinois Sons of Veterans. Mrs. Inez J. Bender, of Decatur was elected department president of the Woman's Relief Corps.

Friday, June 5, 1914  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

AURORA LOSES FIGHT OF 1915 G. A. R. MEET  
NEXT STATE ENCAMPMENT GOES TO MOLINE

Aurora delegates to the state encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic at Mattoon, yesterday failed to land the 1915 encampment. Moline was chosen as the next meeting place, winning over Peoria by a decisive vote.

The state encampment of the veterans was held in Aurora six years ago and for that reason this city did not meet with success in securing the 1915 meeting. Delegates in Mattoon expressed a desire to meet in Aurora in 1916. The following officers were elected yesterday:

Department commander -- Bishop Samuel Fallows, Chicago,

Senior vice commander -- Dr. S. A. Campbell, Mattoon.

Junior vice commander -- A. H. McTaggart, Pana.

Medical director -- W. M. Hanna, Aurora.

Department chaplain -- N. C. Clark, Galesburg.

The commander in chief will be elected late today. The Sons of Veterans elected A. D. Klinessmith, of Peoria, commander and W. L. Barnum, of Chicago, senior vice commander.

Thursday, September 3, 1914  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

GRAND ARMY MEET IN BUSY SESSION  
COMMANDER IN CHIEF GARDNER DELIVERS ANNUAL ADDRESS  
AT DETROIT THIS MORNING

QUESTIONS OF POLICY UP

Organization plans protest to Congress against proposed  
changes at soldiers' homes

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Detroit Sept. 3 -- The Grand Army of the Republic and the several organizations affiliated with it, plunged into routine business today. The principal event of the forenoon session was expected to be the annual address of the commander in chief of the

G. A. R., Washington Gardner of Albion. It was acknowledged that Mr. Gardner was prepared to make several important recommendations.

The meetings of the Grand Army and the Woman's Relief Corps promised to last until late in the afternoon. Questions of national policy concerning each order were to be discussed and probably decided upon before night.

Matters of interest to the old soldiers included a movement to establish national headquarters in a large city, possibly Washington.

#### Protest Home Changes

He also considered quite probable that the encampment would officially protest to congress against any proposed plan to change the present method of management of the soldiers' homes scattered throughout the United States. Those institutions have been managed by war veterans. Grand Army sentiment seems strongly against so-called outside control.

Receptions and campfires and a display of fireworks at Belle Isle were the entertainments arranged for tonight.

Colonel L. J. Smith, of Highland Park, Mich., champion long distance runner of the civil war veterans was called upon to defend his title this afternoon. At the state fairgrounds he was to run 10 miles against a picked relay team of 10 old soldiers, each of whom was to run a mile. Colonel Smith was victor in a similar race at the 1912 and 1913 encampments.

Thursday, September 3, 1914  
The Elgin Daily News

### TALK G. A. R. HEADQUARTERS Veterans in National Session Consider Washington for Location

(associated press dispatch)

Detroit, Sept. 3. -- The Grand Army of the Republic and the several organizations affiliated with it plunged into routine business today. The principal event of the morning session was the address by the national commander, Washington Gardner, of Albion, Mich.

The meeting of the Grand Army and the Woman's Relief Corps promises to last until late in the afternoon. Matters of interest to the old soldiers include a movement to establish headquarters in a large city, possibly Washington.

Friday, September 4, 1914  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

GRAND ARMY RANK'S LOSSES SMALLER  
Annual Report of National Adjutant General Shows Less  
Decrease in Membership.

Societies Allied to G. A. R. Elect Officers for  
coming Year at Detroit Meeting.

Aurora veterans of the civil war who are members of the G. A. R. and also the members of the societies allied to the Grand Army are interested in the report from the national encampment at Detroit that Washington, D. C. may be chosen as the place of meeting next year and that the grand review of fifty years ago at the close of the war may be duplicated.

W. R. C. Election Lively

At the session yesterday the Women's Relief Corps elected officers and the election was marked by several spirited contests. Mrs. Sarah E. Fulton, of Rochester, N. Y. was made president.

The report of Oscar A. Janes of Detroit, adjutant general of the Grand Army of the Republic, showed that on Jan. 1, 1913, there were 180,213 members in good standing in the organization, and on Jan. 1, 1914, there were 171,335, a net loss of 8,878 members, as against a loss of 11,119 for last year. The loss on account of death is 11,187 which is 151 less than a year ago.

Reinstatements in membership and new members during the last year made the annual decrease in membership much less than that of the previous year.

Mrs. Bessie A. Bowser of Indianapolis, today was elected president of the Daughters of Veterans auxiliary. The United States Veteran Signal association has elected George Carr Romel, Manassas, Va., president.

Thursday, September 17, 1914  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

FAMED REGIMENT MEETS IN AURORA  
36TH ILLINOIS, WHICH LOST OVER 700 IN BATTLE  
HOLDS ANNUAL REUNION

DEATH IN RAID ON RANKS

Only about 300 of Original 1,500 are Left  
and Most are in late Seventies

The famous fighting regiment, the Thirty-Sixth Illinois Volunteers, called also the Fox River regiment, held its annual reunion in Aurora today at Memorial hall. Upward of 79 old soldiers coming from as far as Canada were at the camp fire of the civil war veterans.

About 300 of the 1,500 infantry and cavalry mustered in still survive. During the last year close to 40 of the old veterans have been mustered out by death. This is the greatest loss since the war. There is hardly a member of the regiment now but who is in his late seventies. Frank Harral of Aurora, is president of the Association, James Moore, vice president and William F. Sylla, of Elgin, secretary treasurer

During the war the noted regiment lost almost half its men in killed and wounded. Of the 1,500 enrolled, 210 were killed or died of wounds, while the total list of killed and wounded was 739.

It was not long after the regiment left Camp Hammond, just south of Aurora, when it saw active service. It participated in the famous battles of Pea Ridge, Perryville, Stone River, Vicksburg, Lookout Mountain, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Adairsville, Dallas, Little Kenesaw, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Lovejoy, Jonesboro, Pulaski, Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville. The loss in dead at these conflicts was Pea Ridge, 8; Stone River, 67; Missionary Ridge, 5; Adairsville, 6; Kenesaw, 7; Atlanta, 2; Lovejoy, 1; Franklin, 23; Perryville, 23; Chickamauga, 38; Little Kenesaw, 7; Jonesboro, 1; Springhill, 3; Nashville, 3.

General Sill was killed at its right at the battle of Stones River.

General Lytle was killed by its colors at Chickamauga, said to be one of the most heroic charges of the battle.

Company losses were as follows:

A, 25; B, 15; C, 26; D, 24; E, 31; F, 25; G, 16; H, 22; I, 9, and K, 31.

The crowning joy of the regiment was that General P. H. Sheridan chose it for his headquarters guard at New Orleans where they ended their service in October, 1865.

At 1 o'clock the old soldiers sat down to banquet prepared by the Woman's Relief Corps, with president Frank Harral of Aurora as Host.

The menu was as follows:

Fruit Cocktail

Chicken with biscuits and gravy, mashed potatoes and sweet potatoes.

Wafers

cold ham, rolls and butter

Celery

pickles, sliced tomatoes

jelly, pie and cheese

coffee and tea

Montgomery water, Hot of Cold

The following program came after the banquet:

The Rev E. W. Loundsbury, chaplain.

Song --"Battle Cry of Freedom."

Welcome, Capt. J. H. Freeman.

Song, Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson, daughter of the thirty-sixth regiment.

Response to greeting, Milton E. Cornell.

Song.

Reminiscences, J. C. Denison.

Song.

Personal experiences, C. N. Doane, Z. P. Hitchcock and others.

Song.

Social Visiting.

Song, "America." by all.

Reception committee -- H. B. Douglas, C. F. Sweetland, James S. Hatch, Samuel Hitchcock, Charles B. Stiles, J. M. Kennedy, William Donovan, William Coultrip, James E. Moss, Z. P. Hotchkiss.

Committee on resolutions -- Charles F. Sweetland, James S. Hatch, Frederick W. Sly.

Those here today were:

Co. B, Charles E. Strong, Brantford, Ontario, Can.; Co. E, James F. Harral, Aurora; Co. E, C. N. Doane, Newton, Iowa; Co. A, William F. Sylla, Elgin; Co. E, James S. Hatch, Plano; Co. F, Charles F. Sweetland, Sandwich; Co. B, William VanOhlen, Hinckley; Co. A, Jacob Harrison, Knoxville; Co. A, Jephtha C. Denison, Chicago; Co. E, Milton E. Cornell, Wilmette; Co. G, George W. Hulse, Gladbrook, Iowa; Co. B, George Reitz, Gilman; Co. F, G. Gunnison, Herscher; Co. I, William Freese, Payless Harbor, Wis.; Co. B, T. N. Sedgwick, Manchester, Iowa; Co. E, James E. Moss, Scranton, Iowa; Co. F, E. H. Strait, Ottawa; Co. F, Fred W. Sly, Sandwich; Co. G,

Charles Pratt, Rochelle; Co. A, George D. Sherman, Elgin; Co. K, H. W. Blank, Winthrop, Iowa; Co. A, cavalry, Irwin M. Benton, Redding, Iowa; Co. A, cavalry, Joseph Carl, Steel, N.D.; Co. A, cavalry, J. M. Kennedy, Aurora; Co. A, cavalry, J. R. Gillette, Chicago; Co. F, Erasmus Anderson, Leland; Co. F, C. K. Johnson, Badger, Iowa; Co. F, William Browning, Sandwich; Co. B, Thomas Flynn, Morris; Co. E, H. Hennis, Sandwich; Co. D, W. W. Gifford, Joliet; Co. F, Charles N. Rolf, Seneca; Co. F, F. A. Whitney, Sandwich; Co. F, William Coultrip, Somonauk; Co. G, Z. P. Hotchkiss, Oak Park; Co. A, cavalry, Charles H. Odekirk, Baraboo, Wis.; Co. A, cavalry, J. S. Barber, Sandwich; Co. A, William Smailles, Elgin; Co. A, M. S. Townsend, Elgin; Co. B, Sidney Kendall, Aurora; Co. B, E. Mann, Batavia; Co. A, A. Manahan, Elgin; Co. G, F. M. Bradshaw, Chicago; Co. B, cavalry, Willet Richardson, Kaneville; Co. B, cavalry, E. E. Balch, Elgin; Co. K, Daniel B. Hammond, Cornacopia, Wis.; Co. B, cavalry, F. C. Pennington, Drexel; Co. B, cavalry, John A. McQueen, Elgin; Co. H, Charles F. Dygert, Algonquin; Co. B, Vernon O. Wilcox, Elgin; Co. E, Fred Bier, Montgomery; Band, John Mollering, Aurora; Co. D, O. H. Johnson, Newark; Co. F, Terris Johnson, Newark; Co. G, Joseph Schofield, Morris; Co. B, John P. Fyfe, Chicago; Co. A, cavalry, Thomas Robinson, Aurora; Co. B, L. T. Lathrop, Elgin; Co. A, M. J. Hammond, Bartlett; Co. A, Braman Loveless, Glendale, Cal.; Co. A, cavalry, J. F. McCrosky, Joliet; Co. D, John Murley, Yorkville; Co. G, David Boyer, Momence; Co. A, cavalry, E. H. Young, Fulton; Co. E, William Wollenwith, Yorkville; Co. B, cavalry, William F. Donovan, Yorkville.

Letters of regret were read from the following comrades:

W. H. Beardsley, regiment band, Moscow, Idaho; James Wallace Ellis, sergeant major, Seneca.

Company A -- F. W. Ramond, Aberdeen, S.D.; L. M. Kelley, Washington; James H. Moore, Chicago; Albert C. Wagner, Linton, N.D.; Freeman S. Dunkle, Tallaposa, Ga.; Charles G. Cox, Los Angeles; B. Loveless, Glendale, Cal.; John B. Bury, Davenport, Iowa.

Company B -- Charles E. Baker, Nora Springs, Iowa; Thomas N. Sedgewick, Manchester, Iowa; Henry C. Scott, Folsom, Cal.; Christian Brenemeyer, Kansas.

Company C -- Julius Boehm, Detroit; G. G. Vreeland, Burkett, Mo.; H. P. Donnell, Waverly, Kansas; Capt. E. B. Baldwin, Edna, Kan.

Company D -- Eric nelson, Peru; A. L. Schofield, Los Angeles; Edward Anderson, Frankfort, S.D.; Benjamin F. Burgess, Payette, Idaho.

Company E -- Herbert Dewey, Lead, S.D.; John Bush, Table Rock, Nebr.; Hobert D. Carr, Iowa City, Iowa; George E. Lounsbury, Elkhart, Ind.

Company F -- George F. Roots, Seneca, Kan.; Albert H. Wulff, Fredericksburg, Mo.; John W. McClure, Fremont, Nebr.; J. R. Biddulph, Tiskilwa.

Company G -- Robert Jordan, Elk City, Ok.; Eber W. Hular, Cortland, Ohio; Jonathn Foulk, Marion, Iowa; Abijah Prouty, Pryor, Okla.; Joseph Hobert, Scott-Bar,

Cal.; Abe Longworth, Clay City; W. F. Rosemar, Fremont, Nebr.; Lieut. M. G. Yarnell, Minneapolis.

Company H -- Samuel Z. Carver, Omro, Wis.; D. O. Clark, Towanda, Pa.; W. W. Trimble, Glencoe, Okla.; C. F. Dyke, North Crystal Lake; O. H. Ford, Bradford, Kan.

Company I -- Christ Wentz, Belle Plaine, Iowa; William Freese, Bailey's Harbor, Wis.; G. M. Deff, Credco, Iowa; Samuel Malt, Clay Center, Kan.; Joseph M. Comp, Winterset, Iowa.

Company K -- William C. Hall, Madera, Cal.; Sidney O. Wanzer, Pittsburgh; William C. Vandercook, Cherry Valley; Burton Honey, Ogden, Kan.; Edward B. Readen, Oakland, Cal.; J. Henry Hogue, Monmouth; Zenas E. Hogue, Eskridge, Kan.; Charles A. Tucker, Belvidere; Emery W. Pratt, Waukon, Iowa;

Cavalry B. -- T. F. White, Aurora; Giles T. Moser, Redwater, Texas; Oliver C. Switzer, Munson, Mass.; James Tripp, Independence, Iowa; Earl Robinson, Hope, Kan.; John A. McQueen, Elgin; Charles E. Cooley, Farina; John W. Davis, Hollywood, Cal.

Co. B. cavalry, H. P. Mann, Boulder, Colo.; Co. E. cavalry, Judson W. Hanson, Neosha, Mo.; Co. A. cavalry, Capt. W. H. Mitchell, Wilmington, Ill.

Thursday, September 17, 1914  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

THREE "JIMS" SURVIVE 36TH REGIMENT  
FAMED FOX RIVER MILITARY ORGANIZATION  
IN ANNUAL REUNION IN AURORA.

SERVED IN 16 BATTLES

Lost total of 739 in Killed and Wounded during the Civil War.  
One Jim was Taken Prisoner.

Fifty-four years ago while at Lebanon, Missouri, on the way to Pea Ridge battlefield, nine men by the name of James answered the roll call, all members of Company E, Thirty-sixth regiment, Illinois Infantry. Of these, James Baird was killed in the Battle of Stone River, December 31, 1862; James Alston was killed in the works at Franklin, November 30, 1864, and James Carlin was transferred to Battery G, First Missouri Artillery, and served two guns at Chickamauga that fateful Sunday, September 20, 1863. Two were Irish, one English, one Canadian French and the other five were born in New York and Illinois.

At Stone River most of them were present and in the battle of December 31, 1862. An old saying "Politics makes strange bedfellows" -- so does war. December 30, James Brown, James Moss, James Harral and James Hatch lay down in the darkness together, looking anxiously for the coming day. All four were wounded in the battle the next morning. (Company E took 58 men into the battle, 7 were killed or mortally wounded and 24 wounded, and at the close of the day 12 present with the colors), at least two of the James very seriously injured. They had been blanket mates following the battle of Perryville where James Harral had been wounded in the face and now in the hand, which ended his soldiering with Company E.

James Brown carried a badly crippled arm up to his death six years ago. James Moss and James Hatch became blanket mates. At Chickamauga Hatch was wounded and then James Moss and Edward Zellas became blanket mates. His brother William Zellas had been badly wounded at Chickamauga and on the Atlanta campaign was killed in the battle of Resaca. James Moss lost a foot and Edward Zellas an arm the charge on Missionary Ridge near Bragg's Headquarters, where the Thirty-Sixth made the top of the ridge to see the fleeing Johnnies.

Hatch re-enlisted and joined the regiment while home on veteran furlough in Aurora. On the Atlanta campaign he was wounded June 19, 1864, and taken prisoner, passed through Andersonville, and was eight months and ten days in Confederate hands.

#### Were Good Cooks

Moss and Harral were two of the best cooks as well as soldiers, of Company E. As evidence, Hatch ate their cooking and grew fat and tall. Extremes meet, So these three Jims.

James Frank Harral, born in England, came to Illinois, made his home near Hinckley with the Hemenways, acquainted with the Little Rock Tigers, and followed Captain C. D. Fish into camp at Aurora in August, 1861. and became a member of Company E, Thirty-Sixth regiment, Illinois. He has made a success of business in Aurora and is proud of his English birth and American loyalty.

James E. Moss, born in western New York, came to Illinois, attended school in Little Rock and in 1860 was one of the "Lincoln Wide Awakes" and has been wide awake ever since. He too was a "Little Rock Tiger," and followed Captain C. D. Fish into Aurora, and became a member of Company E, Thirty-sixth Illinois, and is now a successful farmer and large land owner in Scranton, Iowa. His father, also named James was a soldier of 1812 and drum major.

James S. Hatch lives at Plano. He was born February 6, 1845. He also belonged to the "Little Rock Tigers" and followed Captain Fish to Aurora, becoming the youngest and tallest in Company E, Thirty-sixth Illinois. His father for 25 years was the supervisor of the Township of Big Rock.

And such is life for the three Jims -- James, James, James, present and accounted for.

Four years ago at the reunion of the Thirty-Sixth regiment in Aurora, James F. Harral invited his "chums" to sit and stand with him in Pratt's gallery. And above is the picture taken.

Thursday, September 17, 1914  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## VETERAN VISITOR AFTER 50 YEARS

C. E. STRONG OF 36TH REGIMENT  
PAYS FIRST VISIT SINCE MARCHING AWAY TO WAR.

Sees Many Landmarks  
Worked as "Devil" at old Beacon plant  
Enlisted at age of Sixteen

One of the old soldiers who came to Aurora today for the reunion of the Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteers was Charles E. Strong, of Brantford, Ontario, Canada, who used to live in Aurora, but had not been here in over 50 years. He enlisted in the Thirty-Sixth Illinois when he was 16 years old.

His father, E. N. Strong was the first photographer in Aurora and the homestead was the frame house which still stands at the Broadway and Benton street corner.

Mr. Strong did not come back to Aurora after going away with the soldiers. He located at Auburn, New York, where his parents had moved. Later he went to Canada where he acquired a comfortable share in this world's goods. Mr. Strong votes at the Canadian elections but has never given up his American citizenship.

"How do you do it," he was asked. "They never asked me whether I was a Canadian or not," he said. "I wouldn't give up my American citizenship for the whole dominion."

### Sees Many Old Buildings

Even though Aurora is 50 years older than when he lived here there are still a number of buildings standing in Main street and Broadway which Mr. Strong remembers, he says "They don't grow out of their clothes here very fast I Guess."

Mr. Strong modestly admits he was the "devil" at the Beacon office before he quit Aurora and he adds that he may be somewhat "devilish" yet. He looks the part of a Kentucky Colonel. His bearing is military, his color high and he has the all important goatee. It is gray as is Mr. Strong's hair, but he is quick moving and vigorous. Just before the Thirty-Sixth regiment left Aurora for the front, Mr. strong broke his shoulder

playing leap frog, so he has always declared he was the first of the troops to be "wounded."

He recalls seeing two women being killed at the Burlington crossing at Broadway and Benton streets and was much interested when he learned that the tracks here are to be elevated. His brother lost an eye, Mr. Strong says, by a flying bit of rock thrown from the east branch of the river near Fox street when rock was being blasted preparatory to the erecting of buildings at the water's edge.

Friday, September 18, 1914  
The Elgin Daily News

THIRTY-SIXTH VETERANS HOLD ANNUAL REUNION  
Ten Elgin Comrades attend Yearly Gathering of Regiment  
Roll of Honor for last year contains Names of Forty

The Thirty-Sixth Illinois Volunteers called the Fox River regiment held its annual reunion at Aurora yesterday.

Sixty-eight soldiers of the regiment were present at the gathering, including ten from Elgin.

Sandwich, Illinois was decided upon as the place for the next reunion, in 1915, and officers were elected as follows at the session last evening:

President, Milton E. Cornell; vice president, Henry Hennis; secretary and treasurer, William F. Sylla.

Those present from Elgin were: Major George D. Sherman, E. E. Balch, John A. McQueen, Alexander Manahan, Vernon O. Wilcox, William F. Sylla, M. S. Townsend, Col. William Smailles, C. B. Stiles and L. T. Lathrop.

About 300 of the 1,500 infantry and cavalry mustered in still survive. During the last year nearly forty of the old warriors have been mustered out by death. This is the greatest loss since the war. There is hardly a member of the regiment now but who is in his late seventies.

The following program was given after the banquet:

Song -- "Battle Cry of Freedom."

Welcome -- Capt. J. H. Freeman.

Song -- Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson, daughter of the Thirty-Sixth regiment.

Response to greeting -- Milton E. Cornell.

Song

Reminiscences -- J. C. Denison.



## 1915

The department of Illinois, G. A. R. held their annual encampment in Moline on June 2nd, where John M. Snyder, of Canton, was elected department commander. Kane County was abuzz with the impending dedication of their soldiers and sailors memorial on the court house lawn in Geneva, to be held on the 17th of June. Members of the 36th played a key part in the celebration. The 36th held their reunion at Sandwich on September 23rd. Milton E. Cornell and Henry Hennis, retained their seats as president and vice president. William F. Sylla as usual was secretary treasurer. This was the fiftieth anniversary of the grand review. And what better place to celebrate it than at the very same place of the original event, reviewed by the Chief Executive again. The national G. A. R. encampment was held in Washington D. C. on September 30th. Elias R. Monfort, of Ohio, was elected commander in chief. In Aurora Post 20 was now commanded by Percy Waite. The Sons of Veterans was headed by E. E. Edwards, the W. R. C., by Elsie Anderson, the L. of G. A. R. by Mary E. Towner, the Daughters of Veterans, by Clara Watkins and The Sons of Veterans auxiliary by Jennie Riddle. All the local allied organizations were stepping up to provide more support for the old vets.

Tuesday, June 1, 1915  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### G. A. R. VETERANS ADVANCE ON MOLINE

### VANGUARD OF GRAND ARMY OF REPUBLIC OF ILLINOIS POURS INTO CITY FOR ANNUAL CONVENTION

Thousands of Members of other Patriotic Organizations  
Also Arrive for Meeting.

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Moline, Ill., June 1, -- Tens of thousands of veterans of the civil war and members of other patriotic organizations of the state are pouring into Moline today for the forty-ninth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, Illinois division, and annual meetings of auxiliary organizations. The session will be formally opened tonight and will continue through Thursday.

The feature of the encampment will be the parade on Wednesday when Governor Dunne of Illinois reviews the veterans on march. With Governor Dunne will be Lieut. Gen. George W. Burr, commandant at Rock Island arsenal; David J. Palmer, national commander of the Grand Army and Bishop Fallows, commander of the department of Illinois.

Tuesday, June 1, 1915  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

AURORANS ATTEND G. A. R. MEETING  
VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF AUXILIARY SOCIETIES  
LEAVE FOR MOLINE

Women Delegates Outnumber Men  
Encampment opens Tomorrow

The annual state encampment of the Grand Army and affiliated patriotic societies, will be held this week at Moline, the first session of the convention being tomorrow morning.

A number of members of Woman's Relief Corps No. 10, left yesterday, others today with various members of Abraham Lincoln Circle, Ladies of the Grand Army, of the Daughters of the Grand Army and the Ladies Auxiliary to the Sons of Veterans.

At Noon today, Comrades Percy Waite, commander of Post 20, William M. Hanna, Seth Adams and William VanOhlen left for Moline. J. H. Hubbard left this morning.

The women who left today for Rock Island were Mrs. Lillian Holsbach, Mrs. Mae Rees, Mrs. Helen Daily, Mrs. Elizabeth Kapferer, Mrs. Mary Britz, Mrs. Fannie Henderson, Mrs. E. Anderson, Mrs. Mrs. J. May Ricker, Mrs. Myra Stolp, Mrs. Amelia Bartholomew, Mrs. J. Mae Lincoln, Mrs. Laura Smith, Mrs. Anna Reilein, Mrs. Minnie Reed, Mrs. Idella Curran, Mrs. Julia Reilein, Mrs. A. Hartway, Mrs. D. Walsh, Mrs. E. Glick, Mrs. L. Wilder and Mrs. E. Adams.

Thursday, June 3, 1915  
The Elgin Daily News

CANTON VETERAN NAMED GRAND ARMY COMMANDER  
Col. John M. Snyder Elected State Chief over  
Rockford Candidates at Moline.

(by the associated press)

Moline, June 3. -- Col. John M. Snyder of Canton, Illinois, one of the two surviving Illinois founders of the G. A. R. was chosen today department commander over William Andrews of Rockford.

Today's session was characterized by disorder. This afternoon the veterans were taken on a boat ride on the Mississippi. Most of them will leave the city tonight.

Officers elected by the Grand Army are:

J. G. Sholes, Moline, senior vice commander; Phillip Smith, Peoria, junior vice commander; Dr. M. H. Hanna, Aurora, medical director; W. L. Libberton, Chicago, medical director.

Sons of Veterans elected:

W. L. Barnum Jr., Chicago, division commander; H. Colby Beckman, Petersburg, senior vice commander; Henry H. Colby, Moline, junior vice commander; George D. Smith, Chicago, Charles Webb, Farmer City, and W. H. Sholes, Camp Council; A. L. Boyer, Dwight, division secretary.

Thursday, June 3, 1915  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

G. A. R. COMMANDER ELECTION BATTLE

Scenes of disorder mark fight to select Illinois head of veterans  
at Moline today.

Col. Snyder of Canton and Wm. Andrews of Rockford leading two factions  
Others chosen.

Moline, June 3. -- Col. John M. Snyder of Canton, Illinois, one of the two surviving Illinois founders of the Grand Army of the Republic was today chosen department commander over William Andrews of Rockford.

Chief interest in the closing session of the Grand Army encampment, Illinois division, here today, was the fight between one faction supporting Col. John M. Snyder of Canton and another favoring William Andrews of Rockford for department commander.

William McConochie, Mayor of Rock Island, was also nominated for the head office. Today's session was characterized by disorder. This afternoon the veterans were taken on a boat ride on the Mississippi. Most of them will leave this city tonight.

Officers elected by the Grand Army are: J. G. Shoales, Moline, senior vice commander; Phillip Smith, Peoria, junior vice commander; Dr. M. H. Hanna, Aurora, medical director; W. L. Libberman, Chicago, medical director. (?)

Sons of Veterans elected William L. Barnum Jr., Chicago, division commander; H. Colby Beckman, Petersburg, senior vice commander; Henry H. Colby, Moline, junior vice commander; George D. Smith, Chicago, Charles Webb, Farmer City and W. H. Shoales, Princeton, camp council; A. L. Boyer, Dwight, division secretary.

#### Decatur Gets 1916 Encampment

Decatur was chosen as the location for the next state encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, and sentiment favored the election of Col. John M. Snyder of Canton as department commander, with William Andrews of Rockford a close second at the session yesterday.

With two old boys in blue coats with brass buttons, and armed with old fashioned rifles, guarding the door, the executive session lasted for nearly three hours during which time eloquent speeches were made by the veterans in favor of their choice for the office of commander.

William McConochie, Mayor of Rock Island, was also nominated for commander and received the support of local posts. Henry Haeselmichel of Bloomington was nominated for the office, but he later withdrew.

#### Some of Fight is Left

The session was a heated one. As the various candidates were nominated numerous comrades rose to the floor and shouted for a hearing, while Bishop Falls, division commander, who presided had difficulty at times in maintaining order.

War records of their favorites were evaluated by the spokesmen of the numerous delegates from various parts of the state, and each of the nominees was lauded for his bravery while fighting to preserve the union.

Decatur, it seems had previously been agreed upon as the place for the next encampment, for no opposition was offered. The Bloomington delegation, which had hoped to take the encampment to their city, joined the Decatur bunch, but, nevertheless put in a bid for the 1917 gathering. The year 1917 marks a half century since the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic.

While Comrade Andrews of Rockford was received favorably as a candidate for commander, when the name of Col. Snyder was presented the comrades became wild with enthusiasm. They applauded loudly. Col. Snyder is one of the two remaining members of the body which organized the Grand Army. He is the hero of every veteran -- not only a war hero, for they are all considered to be war heroes -- but he is a hero in the Grand Army organization.

### Andrews Favorably Known

Comrade Andrews also is favorably known in Grand Army circles. He has for many years been a delegate from Post 1 at Rockford to state and national encampments, and is a man who is intensely enthusiastic over Grand Army matters.

A motion to increase the salary of division commander from \$300 to \$500 annually was almost unanimously voted down.

### Women Delegations Gather

Delegations to the state meetings of the Ladies of the G. A. R. to the number of 214 met yesterday in the Congregational church with the following officers present:

President -- Mrs. James A. Sexton, Chicago.

Secretary -- Miss. Laura Sexton, Chicago.

Assistant secretary -- Mrs. Mary Bell Rous, Chicago.

Counselor -- Mrs. Ida E. Wright, Chicago.

Conductress -- Mrs. Anna Mayell, Peoria.

Assistant conductress -- Mrs. Ruby Taylor.

Mrs. Mary Jamison of Marine City, Mich., national president of the order and Mrs. Genevieve Longfield Lane of Chicago, national secretary, were guests of Mrs. James A. Sexton, department president, at the meeting. Also present were Mrs. Agnes Winslow, past national president; Mrs. Ethel Durfee, Mrs. Harriet Hudson, Mrs. Elizabeth Field, Mrs. Sarah Boyd, Mrs. Amanda Howe, Mrs. Mary Clark and Mrs. Helen Wilson, all past department presidents.

Address of welcome was delivered by the senior vice president, Mrs. Anna Long, of Moline. She greeted the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, and assured the city had been thrown open to them.

Mrs. Matilda Brown, in the name of Gettysburg circle of Moline, presented a bouquet to Mrs. Sexton.

A committee from the Woman's Relief Corps was admitted with greetings. The Rev. P. C. Ladd, pastor of the Congregational church of Moline, was admitted to the convention. The order presented to his church a large silk flag from the Augusta Sexton Staff association. This flag was made by Mrs. Jennie Atkinson, president of Col. A. D. McClure circle, No. 97, Chicago.

Sons of Veterans brought greetings to the Ladies of the Grand Army. National commander in chief, Charles F. Sherman, of Mount Vernon, N.Y., spoke along patriotic lines. Henry Springston of Peoria spoke also.

Friday, June 4, 1915  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

AURORA WOMAN NEW D. OF V. OFFICIAL  
STATE ORGANIZATION ELECTS MRS. FRANK BIEVER  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AT MOLINE MEET

Had Held Junior Office  
Was first Presiding officer of Aurora Camp  
of Organization formed six years ago.

Mrs. Frank Biever of 416 Benton street was elected senior vice president of the Daughters of Veterans of Illinois at the first session of the state encampment at Moline yesterday. She has held the office of junior vice president during the past year.

Mrs. Biever was the first president of Aurora camp No. 9, Daughters of Veterans, and six years ago was re-elected to the same office. She is also a trustee of Aurora camp. She has also been prominent in the work of the state order in Illinois.

She is the wife of Frank Biever, parcel post clerk at the Aurora post office, and is also a member of the Tirzah Rebekah lodge.

Sons of Veterans Auxiliary

At the session of Sons of Veterans auxiliary held in Masonic hall Wednesday morning at Moline, officers elected are as follows:

Division president -- Miss. Lelah Foster, Decatur.

Vice president -- Miss. Kitty Boyer, Dwight.

Council -- Mrs. Edna G. Williams, Freeport; Miss. Lena Graves, Cerro Gordo; Miss. Roxey Packard, Rockford.

Treasurer -- Miss. Jane Brasher, Champaign.

Chaplain -- Mrs. Sarah McCabe, Naperville.

Patriotic instructor -- Mrs. Mattie Crawford, Chicago.

Inspector -- Mrs. Jennie Downs, Freeport.

Division and Installing officer -- Mrs. Lillian Holzbach, Aurora.

Delegate at large to national encampment at Washington -- Mrs. Edna G. Williams; alternate, Mrs. Margaret Wells, Freeport.

Delegate -- Mattie Bennington, Decatur; alternate, Lena Graves, Cerro Gordo.

Secretary -- Mrs. Mary Enlows, Decatur.

Press correspondent -- Miss. Jennie Thale, Dwight.

The auxiliary was honored by having Mrs. Bessie Bowser, the national president, from Indianapolis, as a guest.

The auxiliary presented the retiring division president, Edna G. Williams, with a testimonial and silver badge in appreciation of her services.

The division officers were installed by the national president, Mrs. Bowser.

Saturday, June 5, 1915  
The Elgin Daily News

PLAN GALA FETE FOR DEDICATION  
Patriotic Organizations from throughout county to Meet  
at Geneva June 17.  
ELGIN G. A. R. TO BE PRESENT  
Elaborate Exercises to be held  
To mark completion of Monument to Soldiers

The unveiling and dedication of the Kane County Soldiers and Sailors monument at Geneva on June 17 will be the occasion for one of the largest gatherings of war veterans ever assembled in this vicinity.

Hundreds of the veterans of the civil war, the Mexican war and the Spanish American war will be present and practically every patriotic organization in the country will be represented.

A meeting of the chairmen of the committee in charge of the erection and preparation of the monument was held at Geneva yesterday afternoon. Those attending were L. C. Cline, chairman of the Board of Supervisors; Attorney Frank W. Joslyn, chairman of the Supervisor's committee on arrangements; C. F. Hall, president of the Kane county monument association, and John Rogers, secretary of the association. Attorney Joslyn was appointed director of publicity.

Another meeting of the entire committee on arrangements will be held next Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock in the Geneva court house.

Enthusiasm of patriotic organizations of Elgin has been evidenced in the announcement of members of the Veteran Post, No. 49, Grand Army of the Republic, that they would journey to the scene of the exercises in a body, and that two special cars had been chartered to accommodate them. The members of the Woman's Relief Corps have made like arrangements.

One of the most elaborate programs ever presented at an outdoor meeting has been arranged for the day, Bishop Samuel Fallows of Chicago will be the orator of the day. A big basket picnic has been planned.

In the event of rain or bad weather the exercises will be held in the court house.

Thursday, June 17, 1915  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

KANE COUNTY SOLDIERS' MONUMENT  
IS UNVEILED  
HONORING WAR HEROES

CROWDS GATHER AT GENEVA COURT HOUSE TODAY TO WITNESS  
UNVEILING OF \$25,000 MEMORIAL  
TO ALL WAR HEROES LIVING AND DEAD

BISHOP FALLOWS DELIVERS ADDRESS

Miss. Katherine Wolcott of Batavia, Grand-Daughter  
of Civil War Veteran unveils Heber Monument.  
Survivors of Three Wars Present

Four thousand people thronged the Kane county court house lawn at Geneva today for the unveiling of the soldiers' and sailors' monument dedicated to all veterans who have served in the wars of the United States from Kane county.

Both the interior and the exterior of the courthouse were decorated with flags and bunting and the decorative system was extended to the large trees on the lawn. A speakers' platform 40 feet square was erected between the main entrance to the courthouse and the monument.

Three hundred and fifty girls were taken over from the state home for the exercises, in charge of Supt. Carrie O'Conner and Assistant Supt. Maude Jennings. The girls took their lunch with them, and entertained the crowd by singing a number of songs.

The monument cost \$25,000 and the sum was voted by the people at the general election two years ago to be taken from the county treasury. It was voted to issue bonds, but the finances of the county are in such good shape that this was not necessary.

Two committees were appointed to have charge of the selection and erection of the monument. The committee from the G. A. R. consisted of the following:

C. F. Hall, chairman, J. H. Freeman, John Rogers, H. K. Wolcott, George D. Sherman, Capt. H. H. Patchen, Cullen Keefe, E. E. Rich, J. F. Harral, Fred Hotz, J. B. T. Wheeler, W. H. Kimball, James Shedden.

George A. Fleming represented the Spanish American war veterans.

The committee from the supervisors was as follows:

Frank W. Joslyn, chairman, E. D. Briggs, John Jameson, C. F. Arvedson, Colt Spalding.

### Models Are Received

Models and drawings of monuments were received from many artists. These were placed upon exhibition in the court house more than a year ago. A committee considered all of them and then decided upon the design submitted by Carl Heber of New York City, not only because it seemed best suited to the general plan, but also because Mr. Heber was a former resident of Kane county, having lived at Hampshire. His work had already received wide attention throughout the county, he having designed pieces for the Little Theatre, New York, The London Globe Insurance company building, the Champlain memorial lighthouse at Crown Point and others.

After the design had been accepted the artist went to work upon his model, and after having been cast in bronze, it was just recently put in place.

The monument which is here pictured stands immediately in front of the main entrance to the court house.

A great block of beautiful granite stands upon a handsome base and is surmounted by the bronze figures. These present an officer bearing aloft the stars and stripes, flanked on either side by a private with a musket in his hands and a drummer boy. Large bronze eagles are upon the sides of the granite block.

To the central granite piece and the base below are attached plates of bronze bearing memorial texts and the names of all soldiers and sailors who enlisted from Kane county in all of the wars. There are several hundred of these names.

A great crowd of people gathered this morning for the exercises of dedication.

At noon a basket picnic lunch was served on the court house lawn, a group of ladies from the courthouse offices assisted the various committees in their work.

### Big Crowd at Unveiling

This afternoon at 1:30 the following program of exercises took place:

Assembly.....Fife and Drum Corps, Aurora

Music.....Elgin Military Band

Prayer.....The Rev. James G. Butler of Post 20, G. A. R.

Introductory remarks.....C. F. Hall, Dundee

Unveiling of Monument.....Katherine M. Wolcott, Batavia

Address.....Col. Charles R. E. Koch, Chicago

Introduction of Sculpture of Monument....C. A. Heber, New York

Song.....Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson

Daughter of Late Col. E. S. Joslyn, Elgin

Kane county in the civil war.....Capt. J. H. Freeman, Aurora

Spanish War Veterans....Capt. A. G. Sylvester, Aurora

Sons of Veterans.....Frank W. Joslyn, Elgin

Music.....Elgin Military Band

Address.....Supervisor John J. Jameson, Aurora

“The Union of Today”...Confederate Veteran Capt. W. Creighton, Elgin

Introduction of Mexican War Veterans...Chairman C. F. Hall, Dundee  
 Poe, "The Memoriam"...The Rev. Augustus M. Drahtmas, Past Commander  
 in chief, G. A. R.  
 Oration.....Gen. Samuel Fallows, Bishop of the Episcopal church  
 and Past Department Commander of the G. A. R.  
 of Illinois  
 Quartet.....Sons of Veterans  
 Song, "America".....Audience, led by the band  
 Benediction.....The Rev. Augustus Reimenschneider, Aurora

As little Miss. Katherine Wolcott of Batavia pulled the cord that held the veil about the monument, the draperies slowly fell away, revealing in the bright sun light the beauty of the monument. It was a most impressive sight.

All the speakers devoted their attention to patriotism and Bishop Fallows gave a particularly inspiring and hopeful address.

Kane county has reason to be proud of the splendid memorial to her war heroes. Those who are familiar with similar monuments in other parts of the country declare that this is one of the finest to be found.

Thursday, September 23, 1915  
 The Elgin Daily News

VETERANS OF THE 36TH MEET AT SANDWICH  
 Old Soldiers gather for Annual Reunion  
 Elgin sends Delegation  
 CAMPFIRE OPENS SESSION  
 100 Invitations Returned to Secretary Sylla marked "Unknown"

The famous Thirty-Sixth Illinois Volunteers is holding its annual reunion today in Sandwich. A campfire attended by an advance guard of about sixty, was held last night, the main body attending today.

Only about 250 of the 1,500 still survive. During the past year nearly fifty have been mustered out.

Secretary William F. Sylla sent out 450 invitations to the reunion, but 100 were returned marked "unknown." Milton E. Cornell of Wilmette is now president of the regiment and Henry Hennis of Sandwich, the vice president.

The regiment went into camp for training just south of Aurora and soon after it left there it saw service. It participated in the famous battles of Pea Ridge, Perryville, Stone River, Vicksburg, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Adairsville, Dallas, Little

Kenesaw, Kennesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Lovejoy, Jonesboro, Pulaski, Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville.

The crowning joy of the regiment was that General P. H. Sheridan chose it for his headquarters guard at New Orleans where it ended its service in October 1865.

Several members of the regiment who reside in Elgin are in Sandwich today attending the reunion. Major George D. Sherman is toastmaster for the dinner.

The following song which was written by Corporal James L. Dryden, of Co."C," who was wounded and captured at Chickamauga, was sung at the reunion today:

Come, boys, a song for our own flag,  
Our colors old and dear.  
Each shred and tatter time hath made,  
We every man revere.  
Then fling it once more to the breeze-  
unfold its crimson bars.  
And let our friends know we retain,  
Our galaxy of stars.  
Chorus -- Hurrah! Hurrah!  
For freedom far and wide,  
Hurrah for the dear old flag,  
That fills our hearts with pride.

We've rallied neath its ample folds  
On many a well fought plain;  
And since our Country calls, we go  
To bear it up again.  
And never since by loyal hands  
"Twas placed within our trust,  
Has that old flag dishonored been,  
Or trailed in Rebel dust.  
Chorus -- Hurrah! &c.

At Pea Ridge first mid shot and shell  
    It waved right gloriously;  
And many neath its colors fell,  
    A died for Liberty.  
Then next at Perryville it rose  
    mid shouts of victory;  
And waving over vanquished foes,  
    Kentucky was made free.  
Chorus -- Hurrah! &c.

On Murfreesboro's stubborn field  
    We see it next displayed;  
Though forced by numbers once to yield,  
    Our trust was not betrayed.  
But high aloft mid carnage dire,  
    We bore its flaming bars,  
And three score men there shed their blood,  
    To purify its stars.  
Chorus -- Hurrah! &c.

Next on Chickamauga's plain,  
    It faced Virginia's pride;  
Though driven back, 'Twas borne aloft,  
    And Rebel shells defied.  
And last on Chattanooga's height,  
    In honor was upreared,  
And proudly waved till Mission Ridge  
    Of Dusky Coats was cleared.  
Chorus -- Hurrah! &c.

Then, boys, we'll ever love that flag,  
    Stand by it firm and true;  
We'll wipe out treason from our land,  
    And traitor hordes subdue.  
Then friend at home will look with pride  
    On those time honored bars,  
And bless the men who fought and died  
    To reunite its stars.  
Chorus -- Hurrah! &c.

September, 1915  
The Confederate Veteran Magazine

### WHAT'S IN A NAME

There were nine members in Company E, 36th Illinois Infantry, who answered to the name of "James," and the picture here given shows the three survivors. On the left is James Hatch, the youngest and tallest man of the company. He now lives in Plano, Ill., and is an interested subscriber to the Veteran. About twice a year he comes south to go over the battle fields of Tennessee and Georgia, on some of which his blood was spilt. He was wounded at Stone River (December, 1862), at Chickamauga (September, 1863), and again in the Atlanta Campaign (June 19, 1864), when he was captured and spent a little over eight months in Confederate prisons, being at Andersonville part of the time.

James E. Moss, in the center of this group, was born in New York, but grew up in Illinois; and he is now a successful farmer and large land owner in Scranton, Iowa.

James F. Harral was born in England, but came to America when quite young and located in Illinois. He is a prominent business man in Aurora, Ill., proud of his English birth and American loyalty. He is president of his regimental association.

Of the nine "Jims" in company E, two were Irish, one English, one Canadian-French; the others were born in New York and Illinois; two of them were killed in battle (James Baird at Stones River and James Alston at Franklin); James Brown carried a badly crippled arm until his death, some years ago. On the night of December 30, 1862, four of them -- James Brown, James Moss, James Harral and James Hatch -- lay down in the darkness together, looking anxiously for the coming day; all four were wounded, two of them seriously. Company E took fifty-eight men into the battle, of whom seven were killed or mortally wounded and twenty-four wounded; at the close of the day twelve were present with the colors.

The Thirty-sixth Illinois Infantry was a famous fighting regiment, taking part in the battles of Pea Ridge, Perryville, Stones River, Vicksburg, Lookout Mountain, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Adairsville, Dalton, Little Kenesaw, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Lovejoy, Jonesboro, Pulaski, Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville. Out of the fifteen hundred infantry and cavalry mustered into this command, the loss was more than seven hundred.

Saturday, September 25, 1915  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## VETERANS RALLY IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

### SPECIAL TRAINS ALREADY ROLLING INTO NATIONAL CAPITAL FOR THE LAST ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

Meeting Opens Monday

Particular Honors Paid Those who Marched  
in Last Grand Review Before Lincoln (?)

(Special Correspondence to the Aurora Beacon-News)

Washington, D. C. Sept. 25 -- Special trains have already begun rolling into Washington, bringing to the capital city thousands of veterans to attend what is practically agreed by all department commanders will probably be the last annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. The encampment begins on Monday and continues through the entire week, and, with the strong appeal issued by the department commanders to the members of the various posts throughout the country to come to Washington to participate in this semi-centennial of the grand review of the troops, it is certain that thousands of the veterans who might not otherwise have come to the convention will attend for sentimental reasons. Particularly does this appeal to those veterans who marched in the grand review of the troops by president Johnson following the close of the war. Reports from the various departments the country over indicate that large delegations of veterans, the Woman's Relief Corps, the Ladies of the G. A. R. and other associated organizations, to say nothing of the general visitors, will come to Washington during the encampment. Practically all of the departments will come on special trains and the advance guards in the persons of assistant adjutant-general are already here and have opened headquarters.

Some of the departments are coming with large delegations to boost candidates which they have for the national offices. Some of them have not made public their candidates but two departments will have men in the field for the position of junior vice commander in chief. The department of Louisiana and Mississippi is boosting for its commander, E. K. Russ, and Kentucky is working for their assistant adjutant-general, Levant Dodge.

General David J. Palmer, of Des Moines, Iowa, commander in chief of the G. A. R. will arrive in Washington over the Baltimore & Ohio railroad at the head of the Iowa and other western posts, Monday morning, accompanied by two train loads of veterans. General Palmer will travel over the very road for which the veterans fought so hard

during the war. With the members of his staff he will travel through the territory that saw the bitterest fighting at the close of the war, and will view the old landmarks of strategic advantage of by-gone days. The old soldiers will be given an opportunity to view again the route of General Lee's Army on its way to Antietam, and the point at which the confederate leader crossed the Potomac on the retreat from Gettysburg.

Illinois, the first state to organize a Grand Army post, will be given the place of honor at the head of the parade when the troops pass in review before President Wilson. The trip to Washington will be made in a special train to be known as the Department of Illinois special train. Orders have been issued by the Department Commander, John M. Snyder, from his headquarters in Memorial Hall, Chicago, for the movement of his command to Washington. He has instructed the comrades of the grand Illinois department to assemble at the union station at Chicago in time to depart on the Department of Illinois special train over the Pennsylvania railroad at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon of September 26. The command is due to arrive in Washington the following afternoon at 4:40, when the organization will disembark and proceed immediately to the headquarters which are to be established at the New Ebbitt.

"During the encampment the headquarters of the department of Illinois will be at the "New Ebbitt house," say the orders "Where all will be welcome." "Illinois comrades and their friends are requested to report their arrival to the assistant adjutant-general, Lewis B. Ind, or such other department officer as may be in immediate charge of the headquarters room."

Frank F. Maxwell.

Monday, September 27, 1915  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## FORTY-NINTH NATIONAL G. A. R. REUNION OPENS

Thousands of War survivors Throng Capital City

(By Associated Press leased Wire)

Washington, D. C. Sept. 27 -- The forty-ninth reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic began here today with thousands of battle scarred veterans of the civil war participating.

The celebration which will continue for a week, will be featured by a procession of the survivors of the conquering army from the capitol to the white house in commemoration of the grand review which marked the close of the civil war. Many other

interesting events are on the program. Extraordinary preparations had been made for the event, which promised to rival presidential inaugurations in interest and display. Plans had been perfected for entertaining 100,000 visitors.

The national capital itself is in gala attire. All public buildings including the white house and the capitol and business houses along Pennsylvania avenue, where the grand review is to take place are draped in the national colors.

Veterans and visitors continued to arrive today and each incoming train bore its full quota. Most of them were from the east. Commander in chief Palmer was among the arrivals.

The day's ceremonies began with the formal opening by Commander Palmer of Camp Emery, official headquarters of the reunion, established in the old census building, near the capitol, and the welcoming by the commander and his staff of Lieut-Gen. Nelson A. Miles, retired, who is to be the grand marshal of the parade next Wednesday.

This was the only formal ceremony held, the day being devoted largely to the informal reception of incoming delegates.

Thirty thousand veterans are expected to participate in the grand review Wednesday. President Wilson will review the procession from a grand stand in front of the white house where President Johnson stood in 1865 in review of the conquering army of the north.

Tuesday, September 28, 1915  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## GRAND ARMY SEES PEACE MESSAGE "WIG-WAGGED"

### VETERANS WITNESS SIGNAL FROM DOME OF NATIONAL CAPITOL

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Washington, Sept. 28. -- Veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic in their forty-ninth annual reunion awoke here today to see wig-wagged from the dome of the capitol, a message of peace.

Men who were boys 50 years ago returning again to celebrate a mighty conquest, had climbed during the night the long winding stairs that lead to the statue of justice which crowns the capitol, and had flared to the warring old world a word of hope for peace.

This was the ushering in of the second day of the assemblage which will reach its height Wednesday with the re-marching of the men who returned from Appomattox in 1865 to receive the plaudits of the nation. The survivors who made the climb at the capitol were members of the veteran signal corps and old comrades on Georgetown Heights flashed back an answer.

The veterans had before them a day of sightseeing tours about the defenses of Washington and expeditions to historic spots, the day to be brought to a close with an address of welcome from President Wilson in the reunion headquarters at Camp Matthew G. Emery.

One of the events of the day was a reunion of former prisoners of war, where several hundred survivors of Libby prison assembled. The veterans canvassed their ages and struck an average of 72 years. New England, Oregon, California and Texas and nearly every middle northern state was represented. While the reunion of the Libby prisoners was in progress a man entered the campfire room wearing on his lapel the emblem of the confederacy. He was welcomed with a rousing rebel yell.

A reunion of the Sixth army corps was held on the site of old Fort Stevens, where Lincoln stood on the firing line at the defense of Washington. Exercises also were held at the monument of General Grant in the botanical garden near the capitol.

Wednesday, September 29, 1915  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## LONE VET MARCHES WITH WAR MUSKET

### REMNANT OF GRAND ARMY REPEATS REVIEW OF FIFTY YEARS AGO IN WASHINGTON

Survivors of War and Ravages of Time  
Pass Before Wilson up Pennsylvania Avenue

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Washington, Sept. 29 -- All that remains of the Union Army of 200,000, which fifty years ago passed in review before President Johnson, marched up Pennsylvania avenue from the capitol to the white house today and was reviewed by President Wilson. Thousands banked along the line of march cheered the G. A. R. veterans. There were some confederate veterans in the crowd and they did some hearty cheering too.

Scenes of patriotic enthusiasm marked the passage of the veterans at President Wilson's stand. Frequently the president waved his hat to the old soldiers. The cheering in the stands in front of the white house was almost constant.

As a fife and drum corps of veterans passed playing, "Rally Round the Flag Boys" many on the president's stand joined in singing the chorus. As each contingent swung along applause broke out afresh and many of the old soldiers responded to the president's greeting by waving flags.

#### Wilson Bares Head

The President stood throughout the entire review, removing his hat each time an American flag passed.

The procession was headed by Lieutenant-Gen. Nelson A. Miles, retired, who on his arrival before the white house, dismounted and joined the President in the reviewing stand. Then came detachments of regular soldiers, sailors and militia. Sons of Veterans followed, and directly behind them, led by the United States Marine band, came the first of the old soldiers.

The parade began to move soon after 10 o'clock and was more than two hours passing.

Considering the advanced age of the men there seemed few exhaustions. The weather was clear and breezy.

One corps was followed by a single old soldier marching, equipped just as he had marched 50 years ago, his knapsack and blanket strapped to his bent back. On his shoulder he carried the same musket he used throughout the war.

Several sections of the veterans gave their battle cries, and sang their battle songs as they passed before the president. Others gave him enthusiastic cheers. One section sang, "Marching Through Georgia" as they tramped along.

Seated near the president was Chief Justice White, himself a confederate veteran. Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, and J. J. Jussermand, the French ambassador, were also near the President.

#### Veterans Cheer Wilson

President Wilson, accompanied by military and naval aides, left the white house to take his place in the reviewing stand when guns fired on the mall announced the start of the procession.

The President was greeted with cheers as he entered his box, and took a place on the spot President Johnson reviewed the Union troops at the close of the civil war.

Secretaries Garrison and Daniels occupied seats to the left and right respectively of the president, and behind him were grouped other members of the cabinet. Others in the president's immediate party, were Miss. Helen Woodrow Bones, Col. David J. Palmer, commander-in-chief of the G. A. R.; William F. Gude, chairman of the general citizens committee and Lieut.-Gen. Nelson A. Miles, grand marshal of the parade, who took a place there after the head of the parade had passed.

At the President's reviewing stand was a guard of honor, of soldiers, sailors and marines.

Directly over the president's box a large American flag fluttered and beside it were the flags of the secretary of war and the secretary of the navy. Part of his box was draped with flags used by the secretary of war.

Wednesday, September 29, 1915  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## LAST GRAND ARMY REVIEW IN CAPITAL

### SURVIVORS OF CIVIL WAR MARCH BEFORE PRESIDENT OVER ROUTE OF FIFTY YEARS AGO

BUT 20,000 IN THE LINE

Gen. Nelson Miles Heads Procession.  
Wilson and Cabinet Review Marching Veterans

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Washington, Sept. 29 -- Historic Pennsylvania avenue, up which the victorious Union army marched 50 years ago for review by President Andrew Johnson, was lined today with thousands who braved the sharp wind to see the remnant of that legion march from the capitol to the white house to be reviewed by President Wilson.

The grand parade and presidential review was the crowning event of the annual reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic. It was in commemoration of the grand review after the close of the civil war.

A half century ago President Johnson from a grandstand in front of the white house reviewed 160,000 men of the army of the north. Today, President Wilson from the same spot greeted the survivors. Estimates placed the number of veterans in line from 20,000 to 30,000.

Pennsylvania avenue from the capitol to the white house was thronged with a crowd of spectators that rivaled inauguration times. All departments of the federal and district governments, the public schools and practically all business houses were closed for the occasion.

The line of march was from Peace monument, at the west entrance of the capitol grounds, up Pennsylvania avenue and through a court of honor erected in front of the white house.

### Miles Leads Parade

At the head of the procession was Lieutenant-General Nelson A. Miles, with distinguished army and navy officers as his aides, Col. George A. Holsey, chief of staff and the Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R., was the active marshal of the parade. The U. S. Grant Post of Brooklyn, N. Y. acted as special guard to Commander-In-Chief Palmer.

In addition to the veterans in line, there were Sons of Veterans, various citizens' military organizations, troops of the regular army, marine corps and sailors from the fleet of warships anchored in the Potomac. Veterans marched in their respective Grand Army departments, the line being headed by the department of Illinois, which was first to be organized after the war.

Lieutenant George C. Round, president of the Veteran Signal Corps association gave the signal announcing the start of the parade.

With President Wilson to review the procession were members of the cabinet, distinguished army officers, justices of the supreme court and members of congress.

Other events of the day's program included a drill in blue jackets from the warships on the white lot; a reception in honor of the Commander-In-Chief and national officers of the G. A. R. by the Ladies of the G. A. R. and camp reunion.

Thursday, September 30, 1915  
The Elgin Daily News

**PRESIDENT GREET'S CIVIL WAR HEROES**  
**Wilson holds Reception at White House**  
**for Grand Army Organizations**  
**MEET EX-PRISONERS OF WAR**  
**Camp Reunions and Signal and Medical Drills mark Session.**

(by the Associated Press)

Washington D.C., Sept. 30. -- President Wilson received several thousand members of the various G. A. R. organizations today, including the national association of ex-prisoners of war, the Patterson, N. J. delegation, and the Woman's Relief Corps.

The reception was in the East Room and the president was accompanied by his military aid in full uniform.

Most of the two hundred civil war veterans taken to hospitals yesterday when they became exhausted in the G. A. R. parade, had fully recovered today and were ready for participation in the remainder of the annual reunion program. A majority of the aged men stood the march from the capitol to the White House well, but others were forced to drop out of line because of exhaustion. Hospitals and emergency relief stations established along the route of the parade on Pennsylvania avenue were kept busy, but there were no fatalities. Most of the cases were treated and immediately dismissed.

The veterans had a busy day before them, the program being featured with a reception at the White House by President Wilson to the surviving officers of the civil war, a business session at Camp Emory, headquarters of the G. A. R. and the dedication of a jubilee tablet at Manassas, Va. Among those expected to attend the White House reception were Colonel David J. Palmer, commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. and three surviving commanders in chief -- Major Leo Rossieur, Captain Beers and Lieut, Eli Torrance.

Other interesting events included camp reunions, exhibitions and drills by the signal and medical corps of the United States Army on the White House lawn, campfires and dog watches. The day was to be brought to a close with a meeting of the resolutions committee and a reception to commander-in-chief Palmer by the Daughters of Veterans.

Friday, October 1, 1915  
The Elgin Daily News

OHIOAN NAMED COMMANDER OF GRAND ARMY FORCES  
Elias R. Monfort of Cincinnati Elected Commander In Chief  
at National Encampment

(By the Associated Press)

Washington, Oct. 1. -- Elias R. Monfort of Cincinnati was today elected commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Laying the cornerstone of the new national amphitheater in Arlington cemetery, the feature of today's program, was postponed by a driving rain which enveloped the city.

President Wilson who was to have laid the cornerstone held himself in readiness to go despite the downpour, but the committee in charge postponed the affair to some day next week. The president will attend then but nearly all the veterans will have departed for their homes.

Saturday, October 2, 1915  
The Elgin Daily News

GRAND ARMY HOSTS LEAVE  
Forty-Ninth annual session of Grand Army closes.

(By the Associated Press)

Washington, Oct. 2. -- Today officially closed the forty-ninth annual reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic. Practically all of the veterans had already left for their homes. A few remained, however, to clear up routine business and to attend outdoor events that had been postponed until today on account of yesterday's downpour of rain. These events included an artillery drill at Fort Myer, excursions to nearby battlefields and the unveiling of two monuments at Chantilly, near Fairfax Courthouse, Va., on the spots where Generals Phil Kearney and Isaac Stevens were killed during the civil war.

## 1916

Woodrow Wilson was reelected for his second term on the platform of "He kept us out of the War. How long that would last, nobody knew! What better place to hold the fiftieth department of Illinois annual encampment than Decatur, the place of its founding! The date was May 23rd and W. F. Calhoun, of Decatur, won out over the Chicago machine for department commander. Membership continued to shrink and even Posts, whose members had dwindled, began surrendering their charters. On August 28th, at the national G. A. R. encampment in Kansas City, Missouri, W. J. Patterson of Pittsburgh, PA., was elected Commander-In-Chief. The department commander of Kentucky presented a plan to greatly reduce the size of future encampments. As expected, the idea fell on deaf ears. The 36th held their reunion in Joliet where James S. Hatch was chosen as president. Z. P. Hotchkiss was made vice president, and, William Sylla was unanimously elected to serve the position of secretary treasurer for the balance of his life. Preparedness was on everyone's mind. This reunion was a joint affair with the 100th Illinois. At post 20, G. M. Cronk served as commander.

Wednesday, May 24, 1916  
The Elgin Daily News

GRAND ARMY HEARS OF EARLY HISTORY  
Recall Founding of Veteran Body at  
Fiftieth State Encampment  
11,101 MEMBERS IN ILLINOIS  
1,014 Veterans Die in State during past Year

(By the Associated Press)

Decatur, Ill., May. 24. -- Assistant Adjutant General, Lewis B. Ind of Chicago, in his annual report to the state encampment of the G. A. R. today reported a total of 424 posts and 12,145 members in state on January 1, 1915. During 1915, 132 new members were admitted by muster, 129 by transfer, 252 by reinstatement and 53 delinquents. A total of 821 members were lost through death, 19 by honorable discharge, 100 by transfer, four by dishonorable discharge and 194 were delinquents. On January 1, 1916, there were 401 posts and 11,101 members, a loss of 23 posts and 1014 members. During the year, posts nos. 133, 153, 251, 480, 481, 533, 604, 713, surrendered their charters.

Cash on hand June 4, 1915 amounted to \$3,348.03, collected during the year \$3,803.72; disbursements, \$3,465.27, leaving a balance on hand at present of \$3,686.48. Cash on hand in the posts of the state amounts to \$25,679.50; cash in relief funds, \$1,683.23; total value of real estate and other properties owned by posts in the state, \$110,042.78.

Memories of half a century ago were recalled today by Col. John M. Snyder, commander of the department of Illinois of the Grand Army of the Republic, when he addressed the veterans at the state encampment.

#### Organized at Decatur

Fifty years ago the Grand Army of the Republic was organized at Decatur, and of that day, Col. Snyder, one of a few members of the group of charter members of the first G. A. R. post said:

“The fiftieth encampment of the Grand Army, meeting at the splendid city of Decatur, where the organization had its birth, is to me and no doubt every comrade, one of the most impressive events of life.

“I did not expect to be here. I did not think any of us would be here fifty years after the organization of the Grand Army.

“We were then grown men, we had passed through four years of warfare, through more than two thousand battles and skirmishes, whose percentage of killed and wounded of the troops engaged, has never been surpassed, not even in the present terrible war in Europe, and our expectation of life did not include the year of 1916, but here we are, under the providence of God, radiant in health and spirits to enjoy this brilliant anniversary, and I congratulate my comrades that we are here, that we have had fifty years of the beneficent comradeship of the Grand Army of the Republic.”

Thursday, May 25, 1916  
The Elgin Daily News

### TELLS OF ORGANIZATION OF FIRST G. A. R. POST Founded in Decatur, Ill. April 6, 1866 Recalled by Original Member

(By the Associated Press)

Decatur, Ill., May 25. -- How the Grand Army of the Republic was organized in Decatur on April 6, 1866, was told to the Illinois state encampment of the Grand Army here this evening by Cyrus M. Imboden, of Decatur, a survivor of the original “Post 1.” Mr. Imboden said that the “Cradle of the Grand Army was a Soldier’s tent,” and detailed the founding of the organization as follows:

“On the march to Meridian was born the idea that was to crystalize and finally produce that brotherhood of soldiers, now known as the Grand Army of the Republic. During Sherman’s expedition to that city in February, 1864, Major B. F. Stephenson and Chaplain W. J. Rutledge became tent mates and close friends. The latter suggested that when the troops were finally mustered out of service, it would be natural to suppose that men who had shared so much suffering, privation and danger, would wish to form some sort of association, that they might preserve the friendships and memories of the past. This became the subject of frequent conversation and they agreed to assist one another in development of such a project, if they were spared.

“After the war, considerable correspondence passed between them until they met in Springfield, Illinois in March, 1866, to arrange for compiling the ritual and the organization of a G. A. R. post. Those present and participating in the conference were B. F. Stephenson, Chaplain Rutledge, General John A. Logan, John M. Snyder, Robert Mann Woods and others.

The comrades at Springfield were indifferent and did not entertain the proposition to organize a post and it was then that Stephenson came to Decatur where he found ardent supporters which resulted in organizing that first Grand Army Post on April 6, 1866. The charter members were M. F. Kanan, G. R. Steele, George H. Dunning, I. C. Pugh, J. H. Nale, J. T. Bishop, C. Riebsame, J. W. Routh, B. F. Sibley, I. N. Coultrie, Joseph Prior and A. Toland. All have responded to the final roll call.

“The ritual was put in print by two of the charter members who were printers. Following the first meeting of Post 1, these printers hastened to the printing office and printed large dodgers containing the letters G. A. R. which were posted during the night in all conspicuous places and when our citizens arose in the morning, they were deeply interested as to what it all meant.

“From the date of organization the G. A. R. spread over the entire country, comprising now, forty six departments, each state a department, excepting a few that are consolidated. The high water mark in number was attained in 1894 when there were 7,626 posts and more than 400,000 members. The official report of July 1, 1915, shows the number of posts reduced 5,452 and membership at 159,863.

Thursday, May 25, 1916  
The Elgin Daily News

PICK DECATUR VETERAN FOR G. A. R. COMMANDER  
W. F. Calhoun elected at annual Encampment of  
Illinois Department, Grand Army.

(By the Associated Press)

Decatur, Ill., May 25. -- W. F. Calhoun of Decatur was today elected department president of the Illinois G. A. R., defeating Henry D. Fulton, of Meads Post, Chicago, by more than 200 votes.

Dr. Calhoun is commander of Dunham post No. 141 and has long been prominent in G. A. R. circles. He was formerly postmaster at Decatur.

Sessions of the G. A. R. in the golden jubilee encampment closed here today. The encampment was regarded as the most successful ever held by the Illinois organization.

Monday, August 28, 1916  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

OFF TO ENCAMPMENT

Three members of G. A. R. Post No. 20 of Aurora will leave soon for Kansas City, where the national annual encampment of the G. A. R. is to be held. Several others had planned to go but the distance is great and the trip is arduous and the veterans of the civil war are growing old. The three members that are going are Dr. W. M. Hanna, J. H. D'Lamater and Louis Sylvester.

G. A. R. MEET OPENS

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 28 -- With the calling to order of the executive committee of the national council of administration, the fiftieth national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic was ushered into being here today.

Wednesday, August 30, 1916  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## MAY BE THE LAST G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

### MOBILIZATION OF "OLD GUARD" FOR GOLDEN JUBILEE AT KANSAS CITY SHOWS RAGGED RANKS

Plan to hold Future Reunions by Delegates  
sent from each state.  
One for Each 500.

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 23 -- Mobilization of the Grand Army of the Republic for the golden jubilee encampment continued today, the forces of faded blue pouring through Union station in increasing numbers as the veterans from Kansas and Missouri and other nearby states began to arrive. The first real convention meeting will not be held until tonight and many planned not to get here until then.

With the aid of the Boy Scouts the visiting delegates were handled without a hitch. The Scouts showed parties to hotels and rooms, lugged heavy grips and performed all sorts of errands, winning the hearts of the old soldiers and their companions.

Threats of a Railway strike have kept many of "Lincoln's boys" from attending the encampment. Adjt.-Gen. John Adams of Cincinnati, said, adding that failure of the railroads to grant rates and the unusually hot summer in nearly every section of the Union, has also cut the attendance.

Here, however, the choicest weather prevailed, the maximum temperature yesterday being 68 degrees.

#### New Reunion Plan

Indications multiply that this will be the last national encampment. Gen. D. Brown, commander of the department of Kentucky, proposed hereafter that encampments not be held en masse, but by delegates chosen from each state, proportioned one delegate to each 500 members, their expenses to be paid by the encampment.

Commander Brown said "it was surly a year or two until the majority will cease attending owing to increasing infirmities, and that his plan will put us on a business basis as well as patriotic." He feels sure 500 comrades could do the convention work as well as it is done now, and that the others would be content to stay at home.

Wednesday, August 30, 1916  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## VETERANS IN PARADE AT G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 30 -- Thousands of veterans of the civil war, not a man of them less than 65 years old, marched through the streets of Kansas City in regimental formation behind the tattered flags they had followed as defenders of their country, in the annual parade today of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The annual parade is the climax of the national encampment.

The Illinois department led by W. F. Calhoun, department commander, held the advance guard honor of the parade, being immediately behind Capt. Elias R. Monfort, the commander in chief and his staff.

Wednesday, August 30, 1916  
The Elgin Daily News

## G. A. R. MARCHERS STRICKEN

Twenty-five veterans fall from Parade line at Kansas City

(By the Associated Press)

Kansas City, Mo. Aug. 30. -- Emergency stations along the route of the parade of the Grand Army of the Republic reported at 2 o'clock this afternoon less than twenty-five prostrations among the marchers. None of these, it was said, was serious. At that hour the parade was about half completed.

Wednesday, September 20, 1916  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## VETERANS OF FOX REGIMENT TO MEET

### SURVIVORS OF THE THIRTY-SIXTH AND ONE HUNDREDTH REGIMENTS TO JOLIET TOMORROW

Fiftieth annual Campfire held Today  
W. R. C. To Serve Banquet at end of reunion.

The Thirty-Sixth, the famous Fox River regiment, and the one hundredth regiments of Illinois veteran volunteers, will hold their joint fiftieth annual reunion tomorrow at Joliet. The campfire was held today, but tomorrow is the big day of the reunion. Joliet has prepared a big welcome for the veterans and about 100 are expected to gather at the Masonic temple headquarters. They will be the guests of the Bartleson, G. A. R. post, No. 6. The Woman's Relief Corps and the Daughters of Veterans will serve the banquet.

The Thirty-Sixth Illinois volunteers was organized at Camp Hammond, near Aurora, and mustered into service on September 23, 1861, numbering 965 officers and enlisted men. September 24, they were sent to St. Louis where they were armed. They went into camp at Rolla, September 24th remaining there until January 14, 1862. The time in camp was spent in severe drill, camp and post guard duty. The first battle that the Thirty-Sixth was engaged in was near Bentonville, Arkansas. During the war the regiment lost 700 men who were killed or died of their wounds. They were reinforced by 221 recruits. During the war they marched and were transported by rail and boat over 10,000 miles, and changed commanders during this time, 10 times. They captured 23 stands of colors.

#### List of Their Battles

The battles that they were in were:

Lee Town, Pea Ridge, Perryville, pursuit of Bragg, Murfreesboro campaign, Stone River, Tullahoma campaign, Atlanta Campaign, Rocky Face Ridge, Resaca, Adairsville, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Jonesboro, pursuit of Hood, and Franklin.

The One Hundredth regiment, known as the Will county regiment, was recruited in July and August of 1862, Camp Irwin, Joliet, they were ordered to the front September 2, 1862, and were first under fire at Bardstown, Kentucky. Those that were killed or died of wounds or in rebel prisons totaled 405.

Thursday, September 21, 1916  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### VETERANS AT JOLIET

The veterans of the Thirty-Sixth, the famed Fox River regiment, and the One Hundredth, known as the Will county regiment, left Aurora this morning to attend the fiftieth joint annual reunion, which was held at Joliet today. Almost 100 of the civil war veterans were in attendance and the day was spent in talking over the stirring days of '61 to '65. During the afternoon a literary program was given. There was singing and short talks by the comrades. Reminiscences of the old days and a report of the recent national G. A. R. encampment at Kansas City were the chief topics of the talks.

A banquet was enjoyed during the noon hour served by the Woman's Relief Corps and the Daughters of Veterans of Joliet.

Thursday, September 21, 1916  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### DR. HANNA TELL'S VETS OF NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

Dr. William Hanna gave a short description of the national encampment gathering of the G. A. R. veterans at Kansas City, which he attended yesterday afternoon at the thirty-first annual reunion of the Eighty-ninth Illinois regiment of volunteers known as the "Railroad regiment," at the G. A. R. hall, Post No. 20. Other speakers gave reminiscences of their experiences during the days of the civil war. The speakers were Dr. William Hanna, Charles VanCampen, B. Herrington, Mrs. C. B. Sill, Miss. Phillips, A. D. French, Mrs. Jensen, and A. L. Brown.

Among the Guests who were present during the day were Joseph (?) Hatch, Mr. Hopkins, Charles Smetland, Mrs. Jensen, Mrs. Fred S. Phillips, Terris Jolinson, Oscar Johnson, Clarence Curran, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Sill, William Lynn, J. H. Freeman, John Walker, Miss. Ruth Boomer, Mrs. R. W. Willett, Dr. Nora Willett, Col. H. A. Evans and General Woods.

Friday, September 22, 1916  
The Elgin Daily News

SYLLA SECRETARY OF 36TH FOR LIFE  
Veterans honor Elgin city clerk with permanent position in Regiment.  
STAND FOR PREPAREDNESS  
Pick Aurora for annual reunion of G. A. R. Men in 1917.

City clerk William F. Sylla, secretary treasurer of the Thirty-Sixth Illinois Veteran Volunteer Association has been renamed to that office to serve during the balance of his life.

At the fiftieth reunion of the organization held at Joliet September 20 and 21 a resolution introduced by Mr. Harral and adopted by unanimous vote praised Mr. Sylla for his efficient work and made him an officer for life.

James S. Hatch, Company E, was chosen president. Z. P. Hotchkiss, Company G, was made vice president. Aurora was picked as the place for the reunion in 1917.

Five Elgin veterans were present at the reunion which was held in conjunction with the reunion of the 100th Regiment Illinois Volunteers. They were: William F. Sylla, Charles P. Stiles, Alex Manahan, Frank B. Perkins and Major George D. Sherman.

The regiment held a campfire at the Masonic Temple Wednesday evening. Jephtha C. Denison was chairman of the meeting. Mrs. Mary C. Sullivan, president of the Daughters of Veterans, gave the address of welcome to which the chairman responded. Reminiscence by comrades were interspersed by songs by Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson, Miss. Helen Manning and Albert Hindle, and recitations by Miss. Jessie McCorskey and Miss. Helen Kinsella.

The business meeting of the regiment was held in the Masonic Temple yesterday morning, President Gifford presiding.

The secretary reported twenty of the comrades present were wounded in battle and that 142 in the Thirty-Sixth regiment were killed or wounded in the battle of Chickamauga, September 19 and 20, 1863.

The secretary stated that Fox's statistics of the number killed in battle of the Union regiments in the civil war the Thirty-Sixth regiment Illinois Volunteers stood among the highest with 300.

Z. P. Hotchkiss, of the committee, presented a resolution upon "Preparedness," which was adopted upon motion of J. R. Hatch.

Deaths reported since the last annual meeting were:

Company A -- Milton S. Townsend, John B. Burr, John Yerion.

Company B -- Samuel Hitchcock, John B. Fyfe.

Company C -- John H. Ward, Joseph Barton.

Company D -- Miles H. Murray, Ore H. Johnson, John A. Paige.  
Company E -- John M. Bush, Fred Beyer, Charles N. Doane, Hamlet Livens.  
Company F -- Thomas H. Shannon, Gunner Gunnerson, William Browning.  
Company G -- Joseph F. Saunders, Evan Edwards, Henry Spellman.  
Company H -- Lieut. Charles F. Dyke, Laverne Stanton.  
Company I -- William Freeze, John McCraige, Norton Thompson.  
Company K -- John F. Elliott.  
Company A -- Cavalry -- Capt. Albert Collins, Lucien F. Town, Charles Weaver,  
Jessie Hallenbeck, James Hallenbeck, John Absker, James Tripp,  
Giles T.Moser, Ole C. Pennington.

## 1917

On April 6th, Woodrow Wilson's policy of non intervention came to an end when the United States declared war on the Axis powers. Newspaper coverage would be sparse as every inch of newsprint focussed on the war effort. In Bloomington, the department encampment of the G. A. R. was held on June 6th. C. S. Bentley of LaGrange was elected department commander. On the national level the G. A. R. encampment was held in Boston on August 20th. Orlando A. Somers was elected commander in chief. This year there were 8,000 veterans in line. The last time they were in Boston, in 1904, there were 30,000 of them. The 36th held their reunion at the Soldiers Memorial hall in Aurora on September 19th. There, James E. Moss was elected president and James M. Kennedy, (the two Jims) was elected vice president. William Sylla, secretary/treasurer. Reunions were still a popular event and a large one was held near Cornell Illinois. The Big Bend reunion was held for four days commencing on September 21st, just after the 36th reunion. Certainly some of the boys had plans to attend. Also, in September, Aurora's first draft contingent escorted by Aurora post 20, left for Camp Grant on the 17th. J. H. Freeman was commander of the post. Bert Gould was captain of the S. of V., Radorah M. Griffith, president of the W. R. C. and Mrs. Jerome Phillips was president of the L. of G. A. R.

Wednesday, June 6, 1917  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### VETERANS IN MARCH

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Bloomington, Ill., June 6. -- A spectacular feature of today at the G. A. R. encampment here was the remnants of Company G, Fifty-Second Illinois, 16 strong, marching to the strains of "Marching Through Georgia." Through the streets led by fife and drum corps, which was with Sherman on the march to the sea, they marched to the train and greeted the Chicago delegation which arrived on a special train this noon.

Wednesday, June 6, 1917  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### G. A. R. EXTENDS THANKS

At the regular meeting of Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R. recently held, it was unanimously adopted that a vote of grateful appreciation and thanks be extended to all persons both as individuals and societies, who so generously and ably assisted this post in making our annual Memorial week school exercises and Decoration day services so complete and easier for us.

We feel that we owe a debt of gratitude to so many kind friends that we are compelled to thank them one and all in this manner thru the columns of the Beacon-News who have always generously aided us throughout the many years of our existence as a post of the G. A. R.

J. M. Conway, adjutant.

Tuesday, August 21, 1917  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### GRAND ARMY VETERANS MARCH THRU BOSTON

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Boston, Aug. 21. -- What is left of the Grand Army of the Republic passed in review before the citizens of Boston today. Dense crowds along the route of the parade gave the veterans a demonstrative welcome.

About 8,000 blue coated gray haired men were in line as compared with 30,000 who formed the parade at the last reunion held in this city.

U. S. Grant Post of New York headed the line as guard of honor, carrying the colors of Commander In Chief Patterson, while Illinois led the line of states with a delegation 100 strong.

Wednesday, August 23, 1917  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### SOMERS HEADS G. A. R.

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Boston, Mass., Aug. 23, -- Orlando A. Somers, of Kokomo, Indiana was elected commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic at the closing session of the annual encampment today. There were no other candidates and the election was by acclamation.

Brig. Gen. John L. Clem, U. S. A., retired, of Washington, was elected senior vice commander in chief. He was the only candidate nominated.

The convention formally ratified the selection of Portland, Oregon, as the encampment city for next year.

Wednesday, September 19, 1917  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### 36TH REGIMENT HOLDS CAMP FIRE HERE TONIGHT

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

The 36th Illinois volunteers, who hold their fifty-first annual reunion at the G. A. R. hall tomorrow, will conduct a camp fire in the hall tonight. The camp fire will commence at 7:30.

The camp fire is an informal gathering where "tales of the days of '61 to '65 are told and retold, and the experiences of years ago related. As one of the old vets tersely puts it, "It's a place where Comrade Hatch gets up to tell what happened at Pea Ridge and Comrade Sylla jumps to his feet to tell him he's a liar; that it was at Stone River," etc., etc.

A dozen more vets from Elgin are expected down for the camp fire weather permitting, among them, City Clerk William F. Sylla of Elgin, who is also the secretary treasurer of the organization. The first annual reunion of the regiment, known also as the Fox River regiment, was held in Aurora, Oct. 16, 1867.

Thursday, September 19, 1917  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## FOX REGIMENT VETERANS MEET

FORTY-NINE OF FAMED KANE CO.  
CIVIL WAR FIGHTING UNIT  
GATHER HERE

### ENJOY TALKS AND BANQUET

Despite unfavorable weather conditions, veterans of the 36th Illinois, the Fox River regiment, assembled at the G. A. R. hall today for their fifty-first annual reunion. Forty-nine of the vets had signed the register when they passed into the dining hall to partake of a dinner given them by the Woman's Relief Corps.

J. H. Freeman of Post 20 welcomed them. "In behalf of the citizens of Aurora, and the officers and men of Post 20, G. A. R., I bid you a hearty welcome to the queen city of the Fox River valley," he said.

"Welcome, thrice welcome, to the pleasant homes, the generous hospitality, and the warm hearts of the people of this city. We have read with pride and satisfaction of the brilliant record of the 36th Illinois volunteers. Statistics tell us that this regiment lost more killed in battle and less from disease than any other regiment in the civil war.

"Thanking you for your courteous attention, I again bid you welcome, trusting that your coming together again will have the effect of strengthening the bonds of comradeship which exist among you and renewing and increasing the sympathies to which your regiment is held together.

James Hatch, out going president responded for the regiment. George D. Sherman, major, acted as chairman during the program, which followed the banquet. The program follows:

#### Banquet Program

Toastmaster, George D. Sherman  
Invocation, Rev. E. W. Lounsbury  
Reading, Miss. M. Dolly Bailey  
Song, "Battle Cry of Freedom"  
Welcome, Prof. J. H. Freeman  
Song, "Battle Hymn of the Republic"  
Response to Greeting, James S. Hatch  
Song, Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson  
Reading, Miss. M. Dolly Bailey  
Song, "Marching Through Georgia"

Personal experiences and social visiting.  
Song, "Heavily Falls the Rain," Mrs. Hendrickson  
Recitation, Miss. Dolly M. Bailey  
Song, "America," by all.

Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Joslyn and daughter of the regiment, was received vociferously in her rendition of "Comrades, We Salute You." The words were written by Z. P. Hotchkiss, a member of the regiment. They were sung to the tune of "John Brown."

At the business meeting held in the morning two new officers were elected. Those chosen:

President, J. E. Moss, Scranton, Iowa.  
Vice president, James M. Kennedy, Aurora.  
Secretary treasurer, William F. Sylla, Elgin.

Mr. Sylla will continue in the office of secretary and treasurer for life, as a standing resolution to that effect has been made previously.

#### Has Famous Veterans

The 36th has on its rolls some famous men in civil war history, among them Z. P. Hotchkiss, the author of "Comrades, We Salute You," and Robert Collins of Tampico. Both were present today.

Hotchkiss before the war was a telegraph operator and while sitting at his key upon the day that Lincoln was elected president he was astonished to hear the words telling of Lincoln's election coming over the wire. Hotchkiss enjoys the distinction of being the first one to notify "Abe" that he had been chosen the president of the United States.

At the time Sherman was making his march it was necessary to obtain word of a private nature to Washington at once. Collins was a scout attached to Sherman's regiment, and it fell upon him to carry word to the Admiral in command of the Atlantic fleet. With a couple of others he constructed a dugout canoe and after passing through some tight scrapes with confederate troops, safely delivered the message.

#### Letters Received

Letters of regret were received from:

Company A --- John J. Moulding, Chicago; Leveret M. Kelly, Washington, D. C.; Franklin B. Perkins, Elgin; Frank W. Raymond, Aberdeen, S. D.; Clarence H. Truex, North Crystal Lake; Albert C. Wagner, Linton, S. D.

Company B --- Emery Delos Hazelton, Texarkana, Tex-Ark.; David Peterson, Morristown, Minn.; Henry C. Scott, Folsom City, Cal.

Company C --- Harvey I. Donnell, Waverly, Kas.; John Q. Graham, Minneapolis, Minn.; Robert A. Henderson, Clearfield, Iowa; James C. McPherrren, Republic City, Kas.

Company D --- Edward Anderson, Frankfort, S. D.; Peter A. Johnson, Orange, Cal.; John Murley, Yorkville; Garrett G. Vreeland, Burkett, Neb.

Company E --- Charles W. Doty, Quenemo, Kas.; Dr. J. W. Hanson, Springfield, Mo.; George E. Lounsbury, Elkhart, Ind.; H. E. Dewey, Lead, N. D.

Company F --- James R. Biddulph, Tiskily; John W. McCurren, Fremont, Neb.; T. L. Nune, Eldorado Springs, Mo.; Larue P. Southworth, Ravenna, Neb.; Frank A. Whitney, Sandwich; Albert H. Wulff, Morrison, Neb.

Company G --- F. M. Bradshaw, Oak Park; John Corking, Ames, Iowa; Janathan Foulk, Marion, Iowa; Christ Gimelich, Streator.

Company H --- Benjamin E. Allen, Laurens, Iowa; Elias S. Bartlett, Marshalltown, Iowa; Samuel Z. Carver, Omro, Wis.; Robert Kee, Sanborn, N. D.; William W. Trimble, Glencoe, Okla.

Company I --- George M. Dell, Cresco, Iowa; Joseph M. Comp, Winterset, Iowa; Christ Wentz, Belle Plaine, Iowa.

Company K --- Burton Honey, Ogden, Kas.; James Henry Hogue, Monmouth; William C. Hall, Madera, Cal.; John Polf, Lennox, S. D.; Charles N. Tucker, Belvidere; A. O. Wanzer, Murland, Kas.

Company A, 15th Illinois cavalry, Oliver C. Switzer, Monson, Mass.

Company B, cavalry, Charles G. Conley, Farina, Illinois; Schuyler Rue, Mafin, Ore.; James Shedden, Dundee; Vernon Wilcox, Elgin.

#### Have Answered the Call

Those who have passed away since the last reunion are:

Charles W. Aldrich, Company A, Minneapolis, Minn.; Leman Bartholomew, A, Catarogue, N. Y.; John A. Carns, A, Jacksonville, Fla.; Jacob H. Harrison, A, Knoxville; William Smailes, A, Elgin; Robert H. Gilmore, I, Burkett, Neb.; Charles B. Bailey, C, San Juan, Cal.; Eben Gates, D, Brook, Ind.; H. D. Carr, F, Iowa City, Iowa; John A. Cummings, F, Edina, Mo.; James A. Knott, F, Orland, Okla.; Charles N. Rolph, F, Seneca; Robert H. Morris, G, Boise, Idaho; John M. Gordon, K, Chicago; Henry Beebe, I, Scranton, Pa.; William H. Fix, I, Galesburg; Charles H. Odekirk, I, Barnum, Wis.; Walter S. Clark, K, Sioux City, Iowa; John Frazer, K, Elgin.

## 1918

The newsprint dearth was still in effect and reports of the Department of Illinois G. A. R encampment at Peoria were rare. None the less, Joseph W. Fifer from Bloomington, was elected department commander at the convention which met on June 10th. Aurora boys were still going off to war in June when a grand parade was staged in town. Escorted by Post 20 to the depot, they were headed for Camp Grant. It was a sad year for Post 20 with the passing of M. D. Yager. On August 18th, the Grand Army of the Republic held their national encampment at Portland, Oregon. There is no record that any one from Aurora Post attended. Clarendon E. Adams, from Omaha, Nebraska was elected commander in chief. The 36th held their reunion at Aurora on September 19 and 20. Jephtha C. Denison of Chicago was elected president. E. H. Strait, of Ottawa was elected vice president. William Sylla retained the position of secretary-treasurer. On November 11th, at 11:00 o'clock, Armistice was declared, the "Great War" was over and the "doughboys" would be coming home.

Tuesday, August 20, 1918  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### GREAT G. A. R. PARADE

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Portland, Ore., Aug. 20 -- Thousands of veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic marched today through Portland's streets in a parade that was the big feature of the fifty-second annual encampment now in progress. Orlando A. Somers, of Kokomo, Indiana, commander in chief, led the procession. There were numerous bands in line and the route of march was lined with multitudes of cheering people. A few of the older veterans rode in automobiles, but the great majority walked.

A great picnic was arranged for the afternoon in honor of the veterans.

Wednesday, August 21, 1918  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## OLD RAILROADER AND SOLDIER DIES

SEPTA SLOSSON, LAST MEMBER OF RAILROAD REGIMENT  
IN LOCAL G. A. R. POST DEAD

WAS PIONEER SETTLER HERE

Septa Slosson, one of the oldest railroad men in Aurora, died at his late home, 170 South LaSalle street, last night following an illness of several days. The deceased would have been 78 years of age had he lived until November. His death is attributed to a combination of heart trouble and the intense heat of about 10 days ago when he was nearly overcome while down town.

He was with the Santa Fe as a conductor at the time of his retirement about 10 years ago. He was well known as an admirer of fine horses, always having one or two fast race horses.

### Overcome By Heat

A week ago Saturday the deceased went down town three times during the day in the heat, something he has seldom done. Sunday he complained of being ill and Monday he was forced to his bed in a serious condition. Since then he has been very ill, heart trouble also being another complaint with which he suffered until the end came last night at 6 o'clock.

At the age of 18 he came to Aurora from New York and when 21 years old he returned to New York where he married Miss. Helen Bromley in 1861. With his wife he returned to Aurora soon after being married and has lived here ever since.

Years ago he and his father ran the old Aurora House hotel which was located at the corner of LaSalle and Main streets where the F. E. Royston wholesale grocery now stands.

Mr. Slosson was the last member of Company E, 89th Illinois regiment, and was also a member of the local post G. A. R. and was in the war for three years and four months having entered the service in the second year of the war.

As a member of the local Post No. 20, G. A. R. he spent much of his time at the Memorial hall with the other old soldiers. After the war he took up railroad work and was with the C. & I., later going to the Santa Fe as a conductor and being in the service of that road for 30 years. Upon retiring from active service about 10 years ago he was placed on a pension by the railroad company for his long and faithful service. Altogether he had railroaded for 45 years.

The deceased is survived by his widow, Helen M. Slosser; one daughter, Mrs. William Iliff; one grand-daughter, Mrs. Roy Solfisburg and one grand-son, Roy John Solfisburg Jr.

G. A. R. In Charge

The funeral will be held from the late home, 170 South LaSalle street, tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. The Rev. Mr. Lounsbury will officiate. Internment will be in Spring Lake cemetery.

The services will be in charge of the G. A. R. who will leave the hall at 2:00 o'clock tomorrow afternoon for the house. The Pallbearers, all members of the G. A. R. are: J. H. Freeman, John L. Walker, Peter Krance, A. M. Foster, Gus Aucutt and Fred H. Hotz.

Thursday, September 19, 1918  
The Elgin Daily News

### 35 WAR VETERANS ATTEND REUNION OF THE THIRTY-SIXTH

Thirty-five veterans of the old thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteers of Civil War days were present at the annual reunion which was held in Aurora today. William F. Sylla of Elgin was re-elected secretary of the organization.

Resolutions were passed in honor of Mrs. M. V. Hendrickson of Elgin, a daughter of the regiment, who was unable to be present because of the demands made upon her time by a young son.

Thursday, September 19, 1918  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## 36TH REGIMENT HOLDS REUNION

THIRTY-FIVE COMRADES; ALL WHO COULD BE PRESENT,  
HEAR PROGRAM AND REMINISCENCES

COMING AGAIN NEXT YEAR

The 36th regiment of the Illinois veteran volunteers held its fifty-second reunion at G. A. R. hall today, at which 35 comrades of the regiment were present. A camp fire was held last night in charge of Milton E. Cornell of Wilmette. At the business meeting this morning the following officers for the coming year were elected: President, J. C. Denison of Chicago; vice president, E. H. Strait, of Ottawa, and secretary treasurer, W. F. Sylla of Elgin. J. F. Harral of Aurora, was chairman of the reception committee for the reunion.

The committee on resolutions brought in a resolution of condolence for the families of the members of the regiment who have died during the past year, and recommended that the regimental colors be draped for a period of 30 days in their honor. The comrades who have been mustered out this year are John F. Scott, David Peterson, Christian Brunemeyer, Joseph W. Arthurs, Garrett B. Vreeland, Charles Doty, Lewis H. Congdon, Edward Delph, Capt. Abel Longworth, W. F. Roseman, Orrin H. Benson, Zacheias Linden, Edwin C. Mulinux, John Cooper, and William F. Donovan.

### Meet Here Next Year

William F. Sylla brought in the report of the secretary-treasurer, recommending that the next reunion be held at Aurora September 17 and 18, 1919, those dates being near the anniversary of the Battle of Chickamauga, in which the regiment took a prominent part.

Dinner was served by the Daughters of Veterans. The program which followed was conducted by Major George D. Sherman as toastmaster. The invocation was given by James S. Hatch, followed by "The Faded Coat of Blue," sung by Miss. Marjorie Moss, and the welcome given by Charles A. Alden, pastor of the Peoples church. President James E. Moss responded to the greeting and Miss. Moss gave two other vocal numbers. This was followed by personal experiences and visiting and the singing of "America."

### C. A. Alden Speaks

The welcoming address was made by Charles A. Alden, pastor of the Peoples church. In part Mr. Alden spoke as follows:

"Aurora extends to you a hearty welcome. You will always be welcome not only in Aurora but wherever the American flag floats. But, you are especially welcome in this

year when you stand on the spiritual heights of 1918 and see the flag of the nation you preserved carried by nearly 3,000,000 men who are consecrated to the task of striking from mankind the shackles of autocracy.

“You saved the nation that will save the world. You fixed the stars all in one flag as firmly as the stars of heaven are fixed in their courses. That flag today carries the stars of the world’s Bethlehem to the dawning of a new day. And here is the great lesson of history. Among them that glory in your deeds, none are better pleased than the people of the south whom you defeated. In the days to come there will be none more benefited by the victory of democracy in the world than the free citizens of a Germany which was soundly thrashed for the inhumane greed of their imperialistic government.”

#### A Nation Worth Saving

“You inherited a nation that was worth saving. You showed the world how to save a nation on the basis of justice. You bequeathed to our hands a nation more worth saving than when you saved it.

“You wrote the terms of peace which Pershing carries to the kaiser. They were couched in two words by General Grant. They were: “Unconditional surrender.” You, will notice that the initials of these words are U. S. Unconditional surrender. That’s exactly what the American flag stands for on the battle front of Europe today.

“Said Wilhelm to Woodrow, “Lets talk it over.” Said Woodrow to Wilhelm, “Nothing doing. I’m tired of writing. I’m thru talking. Conferences are adjourned until we call one to order in Berlin.”

“You can’t make peace with a government that does not keep its word. Germany has a government that is a treacherous snake in the grass. It has Judas and Benedict Arnold beaten to a frazzle. It has no truth. It knows no honor. Mortification set in when the kaiser set foot across the boundary line of Belgium. It must be buried from the sight of men. It stinks with spiritual corruption. It refused the heaven of harmony. It shall know the hell of righteous retribution.”

#### Speech By Mayor Hatch

The speech of Mayor Hatch follows;

“The first company of the 36th Illinois regiment went into camp Aug. 18, 1861 at Camp Hammond near Aurora, and the regiment was mustered into U. S. service September 23. The next day they left Camp Hammond for the front. They were mustered out of service at New Orleans, La., Oct. 8, 1865. Then they went to Springfield, Illinois, received their pay and disbanded on October 27.

From first to last the regiment carried 1374 names on its rolls. It was in the service four years, one month and nine days, great days for the regiment, the state and nation. Great things were accomplished, and there was much to be proud of. We that remain can thank God and take courage.

“In the 36th Illinois regiment 965 of the men were from Aurora and of those, 156 were killed or died of wounds, giving a loss of 19.6 per cent. One hundred and two men

were put on the rolls after the fighting days were over and should not be counted in the percentage of loss. This puts the percentage of loss at 17 and with these figures we are ready to compare with the best. Fox, in his book, "Regimental Losses in the Civil War," puts the Second Wisconsin regiment at the head and says, "This regiment sustained the greatest percentage of loss of any in the entire Union army. It served from June 25, 1861 to June 11, 1864, three years. It had an enrollment of 1,265, 238 were killed or died of wounds, giving a percentage of 19.7. The number who died from disease was 77."

#### 1861-66 Report

"The adjutant general for the state of Illinois, gives a report for the years 1861 - 66, (revised up to 1901)" which contains a fine historical statement concerning the 36th Illinois infantry. Fox's book gives a short complete summary of its service and losses, and there is also an interesting item in "The Photographic History of the Civil War" vol. 10, page 123, with pictures of some of the officers. It was printed in 1912. The item follows:

"Of the Illinois regiments the 36th fought in nearly every important battle of the entire war in western territory, and suffered in killed alone a loss of no less than 14.8 per cent, a figure exceeded among Illinois organizations only by the 93rd regiment, with 14.9. No federal regiment lost as much as 20 per cent killed and only 200 out of the 3,559 organizations as much as 10 per cent. The 36th lost 204 men out of a total of 1,275. These figures refer to deaths, excluding wounded and missing in the Battle of Stone River, Tenn., the regiment lost 46 killed, 151 wounded and 15 missing, a total of 212. This was its heaviest loss in any one battle. It fought at Pea Ridge, an early engagement in the west, at Chaplin Hills, at the bloody battle of Chickamauga, and on the corpse strewn slopes of Missionary Ridge. It fought under Sherman from Resaca to Atlanta and when that general marched away on his expedition to the coast, its fourth largest loss in killed at the battle of Franklin and to help Thomas crush Hood at the battle of Nashville. Companies C and K each lost 24 of the men who left Camp Hammond and five each of the recruits. Company A had 17 men killed at Stone River.

#### Those Present

The comrades present at the reunion were as follows:

E. E. Balch, Elgin, Fred W. Sly, Sandwich, E. D. Bartlett, Marshalltown, Iowa, J. C. Denison, Chicago, W. F. Sylla, Elgin, J. F. Harral, Aurora, J. S. Hatch, Big Rock, C. F. Sweetland, Sandwich, Ferris Johnson, Newark, James E. Moss, Scranton, Iowa, E. E. Dyer, Aurora, J. F. McCrosky, Joliet, Andrew Turner, Elgin, M. E. Cornell, Wilmette, E. N. Strait, Ottawa, Z. P. Hotchkiss, Oak Park, George D. Sherman, Elgin, William Van Ohlen, Hinckley, W. W. Gifford, Joliet, H. W. Blank, Independence, Iowa, J. M. Kennedy, Aurora, Joseph Scofield, Morris, F. M. Bradshaw, Chicago, Christ G. Militch, Streator, George W. Raymond, Morris, Charles Pratt, Rochelle, Thomas Flynn, Mooris, E. H. Vomig, Fulton, Henry Hennis, Sandwich, Alexander Manahan, Elgin, John

Murley, Yorkville, David Boyer, Momence, Thomas Robinson, Aurora, William Coulytip, Somonauk and H. B. Douglas, Aurora.

Many Regrets

Regrets were received from the following comrades who could not attend the reunion today:

- Company A Charles G. Cox, Los Angeles  
Leverett M. Kelly, Washington, D.C.  
Frank B. Perkins, Elgin  
Albert C. Wagner, Linton, N.D.  
James H. Moore, Chicago
- Company B Rudolph Brecher, Alta, Iowa  
Emery Delos Hazelton, Texarkana, Ark-Tex  
John J. Moulding, Chicago  
Charles E. Strong, Bath, N. Y.
- Company C James C. Arthurs, Monmouth, Ill.  
Elias B. Baldwin, Oswego, Kas.  
William C. Buchanan, Long Beach, Cal.  
Harvey P. Donnell, Waverly, Kas.  
John Q. Graham, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Robert A. Henderson, Clearfield, Iowa  
Ethan B. Keck, Tonganoxie, Kas.  
William C. McElroy, London Mills, Ill.  
William A. Rodgers, Monmouth, Ill.
- Company D Peter A. Johnson, Orange, Cal.  
Eirck Nelson, Peru, Ill.  
A. L. Scofield, Los Angeles
- Company E Herbert Dewey, Lead, N. D.  
J. W. Hanson, M.D., Springfield, Mo.  
George E. Lounsbury, Elkhart, Ind.
- Company F James R. Biddulph, Tiskilwa, Ill.  
John W. McClure, Freemont, Neb.  
George F. Roots, Seneca, Kas.  
Franklin A. Whitney, Sandwich  
Albert H. Wulff, Morrison, Mo.
- Company G David Boyer, Momence, Ill.  
Dyer O. Clark, Towanda, Penn.  
Jonathan Foulk, Marion, Iowa  
E. W. Hunie, Ottawa, Kas.  
Thomas Matcomb, Salisbury, Md.  
Dana B. Seger, Morrison, Ill.

Company H Benjamin E. Allen, Laurens, Iowa  
 Samuel Z. Carver, Omro, Wisconsin  
 Charles E. Dygert, Algonquin, Ill.  
 William W. Trimble, Lela, Okla.

Company I George M. Dell, Cresco, Iowa  
 Joseph M. Comp, Winterset, Iowa  
 Samuel Mall, Clay Center, Kas.  
 Christ Wentz, Belle Plaine, Iowa  
 Phillip Zimmerman, Blue Hill, Neb.

Company K Burton Honey, Ogden, Kas.  
 James Henry Hogue, Monmouth, Ill.  
 James M. Hogue, Kirkwood, Ill.  
 William C. Hall, Madera, Cal.  
 Emory W. Pratt, Rice Lake, Wis.  
 John Poll, Chancellor, S. D.  
 Charles A. Tucker, Belvidere, Ill.  
 S. O. Wanzer, Hunter, Kas.

Unclassified, W. H. Beardslee, Moscow, Idaho.  
 Company I, 15th Illinois A. Cav.  
 Oliver C. Switzer, Monson, Mass.

B Cavalry John W. Davis, Long Beach, Cal.  
 Henry P. Mann, Boulder, Colo.  
 Earl Robinson, Hope, Kas.  
 Henry C. Scott, Folsom City, Cal.  
 Vernon Wilcox, Dundee, Ill.

Thursday, September 19, 1918  
 The Elgin Daily News

#### G. A. R. PICNIC AT GENEVA TODAY IS ATTENDED BY 200

Veterans of the civil war with their wives and their children and their great grand children, took over the county court house at Geneva and its grounds today for this was their annual picnic, their seventeenth annual picnic in fact. There were people present from nearly every township in Kane county and their program furnishes entertainment for every minute from 9:30 o'clock this morning until 4:15 o'clock this afternoon. There were nearly 200 picnickers. They had a regular picnic luncheon and many of them spent much of their time in inspecting the offices of the court house.

## 1919

On June 17th the Grand Army held their Illinois department encampment in Rockford, where Henry D. Fulton of Chicago was elected department commander. Membership in Illinois was down to 7,625 men coming from 347 posts. At the national encampment held in Columbus, Ohio on September 7th, James D. Bell, of Brooklyn, New York was elected commander in chief. Rumors were circulating that all of the veterans organizations from all of America's wars were going to be combined. Yet, the topic never made it to the executive committee. September was a busy month for the veterans of Aurora. There was the veteran picnic held at Geneva, and the national encampment at Columbus, and now, it was time for the reunion of the 36th. The veterans shared their spot light with the Doughboys at all festivities, but, to be sure, there would be no combination of patriotic organizations. The 36th held their fifty-third annual reunion on September 17th and 18th, at Memorial hall in Aurora. There, Henry Hennis and Charles Sweetland, both of Sandwich, were elected president and vice president respectively. William Sylla was re-elected secretary treasurer. A pattern was developing in the time and place of future reunions. Since 1916, at Joliet all reunions were held at the Memorial hall in Aurora. The event would require two days in that day one was used for a campfire and day two was used for the business meeting and reunion. Finally whereas the earlier reunions were timed to closely coincide with the regiment's muster in date, the members now wanted it to coincide with the dates of the battle of Chickamauga where the regiment sustained it's greatest loss of men. Locally, J. H. Freeman was commander of Post 20 and membership was down to 120. Though their numbers continued to shrink, the Grand Army of the Republic, though it claimed to be non-political, continued to try to influence politics as was illustrated by their rigid stand against the League of Nations.

Sunday, September 7, 1919  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### GRAND ARMY ENCAMPMENT IS OPENED AT COLUMBUS

(By United Press)

Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 6 -- The opening event of the fifty-third National G. A. R. encampment in Columbus will be held Sunday afternoon when thousands of veterans of the civil war assemble in Memorial hall for their annual religious service.

The service will be the opening ceremony of the encampment

Monday, September 8, 1919  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT PARADE ON WEDNESDAY

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Columbus, Ohio, Sept 8. -- Many hundreds of Union veterans of the civil war continued to arrive today for the annual G. A. R. encampment which will be held here this week.

Old soldiers from many states with the west thus far leading the east in representatives are in the city and thousands more, officials in charge of the encampment say, are coming. Special trains and regular trains yesterday brought the vanguard -- thousands who, as boys, wore the Union blue in the days of '61.

A parade in which the veterans and soldiers who fought in the world war are to take part will be held Wednesday as the big feature of the encampment.

Tuesday, September 9, 1919  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### G. A. R. PLANS MERGER WITH AMERICAN LEGION

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Columbus, Ohio. Sept. 9. -- Plans are under way to combine into one patriotic federation all soldiers societies and auxiliaries, according to commander in chief Adams of the Grand Army of the Republic meeting here.

Tentative plans, he said, call for the merging of the G. A. R., the Confederate Veterans, Spanish War Veterans and Veterans of the world war who are members of the American Legion.

The influx of visitors to the fifty-third annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic continued today, special and regular trains bringing members of the G. A. R. and allied organizations from every state.

While there is no way of checking the number of visitors, Commander-In-Chief C. E. Adams said fully 250,000 would be here during the week.

Tuesday, September 9, 1919  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### G. A. R. TO HOLD PICNIC AT GENEVA

The eighteenth annual basket picnic of the G. A. R. will be held on the court house grounds at Geneva, next Thursday, starting at 9:30 o'clock in the morning. All comrades and citizens in general are invited. An excellent program has been arranged for the day. At noon, coffee, cream and sugar will be furnished free for those who bring their lunches and cups. The local W. R. C. will serve lunches for those who wish at reasonable prices.

#### To Have Special Car

A special car will leave Aurora at 8:30 Thursday morning for the benefit of the Aurora veterans, their friends and families. The car will leave from the front of Memorial hall and returning will leave Geneva at 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon. The round trip fare will be 60 cents.

Should the weather be cold or stormy the exercises will be held in the court house.

Tuesday, September 9, 1919  
The Elgin Daily News

### 125,000 VETERANS ATTEND COLUMBUS SESSION OF G. A. R.

By Lillian Welling

Civil war veterans are back in Columbus, Ohio, for a G. A. R. encampment. From every part of the United States, the boys in blue, every where as young in spirit, as when they sprang from plow and store and shop and took up the rifle and pack at the call of the Emancipator, are thronging Ohio's capital city.

Thirty-one years ago, just twenty-three years after the close of the war they were in Columbus for one of the greatest encampments the Grand Army of the Republic ever has held. Hundreds who are attending this years reunion were present then, but for thousands "taps" have been sounded.

Dressed in the army blue, hallowed in the memory of every true American as a symbol of the indivisibility of the Union, their locks thin and gray, their steps halting and eyes dimmed, their proud breasts bearing medals telling of deeds of valor and days of sacrifice, the veterans swarm Columbus streets.

Every train has brought hundreds of soldiers. Some there were who faltered in their step, but all were exuberant in their delight at seeing comrades once more. A special train of sixteen cars came in from Boston and from other cities, equally far away, came similar "specials." And all it seemed brought not aged veterans, but boys, boys eager to skylark and swap yarns, anxious to fall in step with their fellows and show the fellows just returned from overseas that they have not forgotten how to march.

The big day for the "boys" themselves, and for all their friends as well, will be Wednesday. Not only G. A. R. men but soldiers of all wars, including the last one, and Sons of Veterans will march in the parade Wednesday.

Another "grand review! Its the proudest day of the year for the civil war survivors. Then is when the old boys are most happy. Swinging down the street, behind the shrill tone of a fife in the ringing strains of "The Girl I Left Behind Me." or "Marching Through Georgia," the years that have passed since 61' drop as if by magic, and they step off in quick time.

Conservative estimates place the number that are in attendance at 125,000. Four hundred Union soldiers who endured the squalor of Libby, Andersonville, Salisbury and other Confederate prisons are present. Dr. Charles H. Evans, of Nampa, Idaho, aged 90 years, thinks enough of Old Glory to travel all the way to Ohio to attend the reunion. Evans has nine children living, sixty grandchildren and thirty great grandchildren, according to the latest count. He went to school until he was 7 years old. At 18 he started to study veterinary medicine.

Under the flaming emblem of the Red Cross hundreds of white haired veterans, their uniforms dusty from long traveling, mingled with youths in khaki at the Union station canteen.

"I'll tell you boys there was never anything like this when we marched with Sherman." said one veteran as he put away the last bite of brick ice cream. "When we got anything it was a box that mother tied up."

And his eyes glistened with appreciation!

"I'm not belittling the service of these youngsters," said another gray haired veteran, "but you'll have to admit, the boys of 61' did some fighting."

There was none who doubted him.

In four hours one evening women of the canteen served 800 veterans and overseas men at the same time. One veteran was so feeble that one of the women fed him. He was alone.

"I think some of them are dazed," said a canteen worker. "The crowd keeps them moving."

Several elderly women visited the canteen also yesterday. They too were alone and had come from great distances for the encampment.

But the veterans are as cocky -- just as much so as the day they stepped off for the front and just as much so as the khaki lads that have been bustling into Union station for

the last two years. In a "special" car more than 200 "vets" arrived from Kansas wearing big yellow sunflowers to distinguish them from other soldiers.

"Hello," you old Pennsylvania Dutchman," shouted one newly arrived veteran to another, "Remember the day."

He was off on the old story and the crowd gathered around.

Wednesday, September 10, 1919

The Aurora Daily Beacon

### VETERANS OF FOUR WARS IN GRAND ARMY REVIEW

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 10 -- Veterans of four American wars today joined in the victory parade of the Grand Army of the Republic which is holding its national encampment here.

In the line of marchers were several aged Mexican War veterans, riding in automobiles. Hundreds of civil war veterans also rode in machines, but thousands of them marched proudly behind their flags and fife and drum corps. Heroes of the Spanish-American and European wars, glad of the opportunity of doing homage to the fast dwindling ranks of the civil war fighters, paraded behind the battle flags they carried on foreign fields.

The marchers ranged from mere youths who served in France, to the grizzled veterans, many of whom have passed the allotted four score and ten.

Thursday, September 11, 1919

The Aurora Daily Beacon

### G. A. R. ELECTION TODAY

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Columbus, Sept. 11 -- Delegates to the fifty-third encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will begin their business session this morning which probably will last through tomorrow. Election of officers, selection of next year's encampment city and adoption of resolutions will be the main business of the session.

Thursday, September 11, 1919  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## COUNTY G. A. R. HOLDS REUNION

### VETERANS OF CIVIL WAR AND WORLD WAR ENJOY ANNUAL PICNIC AT GENEVA

#### MANY FROM AURORA ATTEND

A special car bearing 20 members of Aurora Post 20, G. A. R., left this morning for Geneva where the eighteenth annual G. A. R. Kane county picnic and reunion was held today.

The regimental parade was held at 9:30 o'clock. A basket picnic was enjoyed at noon on the court house grounds. Coffee, cream and sugar were served free. The reception committee was in charge of the Geneva Woman's Relief Corps, which was also prepared to serve luncheon to those who desired. Veterans of both civil and the world war, with members of patriotic societies, home guards, city council, etc., joined in the parade which started from the monument in the court house grounds.

#### The Day's Program

The program of the day was as follows:

9:30 a.m. -- Bugle calls and general assembly at the monument.

10 a.m. -- Parade led by State Home band; G. A. R.; W. R. C.; W. W. W.; home guards; city council; Cadets and school children, etc.

11 a.m. -- Assembly at Monument; bugle calls by Sherman Huntley, son of civil war veteran.

11:30 a.m. -- Song by school children; music by band, etc., and drum corps.

12 noon -- Lunch.

1 p.m. -- Assembly and address of welcome by Mayor Oscar Nelson, Response.

1:30 p.m. -- Invocation -- The Rev. J. I. Backus, civil war veteran. Song; "Star Spangled Banner." Everybody led by Mrs. Maude Ellis and Mrs. William Raftree.

1:40 p.m. -- Five minute address -- D. R. Beebe, civil war veteran.

1:45 p.m. -- Five minute address -- B. F. Herrington, civil war veteran.

1:50 p.m. -- Five minute address -- Capt. William Creighton, ex-confederate soldier.

1:55 p.m. -- Five minute address -- W. L. Grimes, son of civil war veteran.

2 p.m. -- Song. Selected. Miss. Viola DeVol, granddaughter of civil war veteran and brother in navy.

2:10 p.m. -- Five minute address -- John L. Walker, civil war veteran.

2:15 p.m. -- Ten minute address -- J. H. Freeman, civil war veteran.  
2:25 p.m. -- Recitation; M. D. Bailey, brother in world war.  
2:35 p.m. -- Song; "Illinois" by Mrs. Raymond Ellis and Mrs. William Raftree.  
2:45 p.m. -- Ten Minute address -- Gen. C. M. Raphun, world war veteran.  
2:55 p.m. -- Song. Selected Mrs. Maude Ellis and mrs. William Raftree.  
3 p.m. -- Address, Dr. C. A. Alden, Subject, "International Nationalism."  
3:40 p.m. -- Address; Judge C. F. Irvin, son in world war.  
3:50 p.m. -- Song; "America." Everybody.

Thursday, September 11, 1919  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### KANE COUNTY G. A. R. PICNIC AT GENEVA

ABOUT 500 CIVIL WAR VETERANS,  
FRIENDS AND FAMILIES GATHERED  
FOR OUTING TODAY

Geneva, Ill., Sept. 10 -- About five hundred civil war veterans and their families were in attendance at the annual county G. A. R. picnic held at the court house lawn. The speaker of the afternoon was Dr. C. A. Alden of the Peoples church, Aurora.

Each year the G. A. R. picnic has become more popular, and now comrades who rarely see each other except at this picnic plan to meet on this day and recall old times. This year relatives and friends of the veterans joined with them and the members of the court house force were also served a picnic luncheon.

Thursday, September 11, 1919  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### SYLLA HERE TO PLAN FOR REUNION OF OLD SOLDIERS

William F. Sylla, city clerk of Elgin for almost 40 years, was down to Aurora yesterday to make arrangements for the reunion of the Fox River Regiment, the 36th Illinois civil war veterans. The encampment is to be held here next Thursday. Mr. Sylla is secretary and treasurer of the organization.

While in town he played a round of golf at the country club. He took dinner with J. F. Harral and J. S. Hatch of Little Rock.

Mr. Sylla's friends in Aurora are legion. He is one of those men of sunny disposition who love other men and they can't help liking him.

Friday, September 12, 1919  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### G. A. R. TO ATLANTIC CITY FOR 1920 ENCAMPMENT

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Columbus, O., Sept. 12. -- With Atlantic City chosen as the 1920 encampment city, Grand Army of the Republic delegates today will elect officers for the coming year and vote on resolutions to be submitted by the executive committee. Adjournment is expected to be taken tomorrow.

### NATIONAL G. A. R. OPPOSES TREATY

BULLETIN

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Columbus, Sept. 12. -- Resolutions opposing ratification by the United States of the peace treaty in its present form were adopted almost unanimously here today by delegates attending the annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic.

### COL. BELL HEADS G. A. R.

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Columbus, Sept. 12. -- Col. James D. Bell of Brooklyn, today unanimously was elected commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic which is holding its annual encampment here.

Tuesday, September 16, 1919  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## FOX RIVER VALLEY REGIMENT COMING

### VETERANS OF THIRTY-SIXTH ILLINOIS MEET IN ANNUAL REUNION IN AURORA TOMORROW

Veterans of the Fox River Valley regiment, the 36th Illinois volunteers of the civil war, will hold their fifty-third annual reunion at the Grand Army hall, Aurora, on Wednesday evening, September 17, a campfire and Thursday the reunion of the regiment.

The 36th regiment Illinois volunteers was among the 300 of all regiments during the civil war which lost the highest number killed in battle.

“Over Top” at Mission Ridge

At the battle of Mission Ridge, Col. Silas Miller of Aurora led the 36th regiment. Major George D. Sherman, of Elgin, in command of companies A, B and F, was sent forward deployed as skirmishers. The 36th regiment, under these leaders went “over the top” at Mission Ridge.

The latest list of members has 118 names of survivors still living June 20, 1919, located from Maine to California and North Dakota to Florida.

Coming from California

An old comrade of Company B, cavalry, 77 years old, comes from Folsom City, California to attend the reunion with his army messmates.

Letters have been received from comrades aged 89, one; aged 88, two; aged 87, three. Three are blind.

Lunch will be served at campfire and dinner at the reunion by the Woman’s Relief Corps, Daughters of Veterans and Ladies of the Grand Army.

Wednesday, September 17, 1919  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## CAMPFIRE OPENS 36TH REUNION

### FOX RIVER VALLEY SURVIVORS HERE FOR ENCAMPMENT

#### LIEUT. TURNER IS COMING

The advance guard of the 36th Illinois volunteers, known as the Fox River Valley regiment, is to arrive in Aurora this evening for the encampment to be held at G. A. R. hall, preceding their fifty-second (?) annual encampment here tomorrow.

The campfire is a gathering place for these veterans of the civil war, who utilize the evening talking over battle days, and comparing experiences with former comrades of the line. Lunch is to be served at the campfire this evening, and dinner at the reunion tomorrow by the Woman's Relief Corps, the Daughters of Veterans and the Ladies of the Grand Army.

#### Tomorrow's Program

The program for tomorrow is as follows:

Major George D. Sherman, Elgin.

Invocation -- James E. Moss, Company E.

Song -- "The Faded Coat of Blue," Miss. Marjorie Moss.

Welcome -- Rev. R. H. Claxon.

Battle Hymn of the Republic -- Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson, Daughter of the regiment.

Response to greeting -- President Jephtha C. Denison.

Song.

Personal experiences and visiting.

Song -- "America," assembly.

#### Lieutenant Turner Expected.

Among those who are expected to be present tomorrow is Lieut. Andrew Turner of Company I, who was in Aurora on a recruiting mission in 1864, in company with Day Elmore of Company H, now deceased.

Members of the regiment take a great deal of interest in a photograph of these two men, taken at Aurora at that time, and appearing on the front of their program for tomorrow. The photograph shows the men flanking two flags of the regiment which were carried aloft during the battles of Pea Ridge, Stone River, at Vicksburg, Chickamauga and Mission Ridge.

Losses were so heavy during these engagements that it was necessary to secure replacements, and the two men, Lieutenant Turner and Day Elmore came to this city for

the purpose of recruiting strength for regiment, carrying the two regimental flags with them.

At the time the balance of the partially destroyed regiment was at Blaine's Cross Roads, East Tennessee, during one of the coldest winters ever experienced there.

#### Suffered Hardships

William F. Sylla, of Elgin, one of only two city clerks that the city of Elgin has ever had, and secretary treasurer of the regiment, tells some interesting tales of the experiences of the men at that time. It was so cold that men going to the stream to wash found ice half an inch thick on the water. They had no shoes, scarcely any clothes, and but little to eat. Strips of blankets were used by some of the men, when they could be obtained, to wrap about their feet. These served as shoes.

Charles B. Stiles, drummer boy, who enlisted at the age of 16, and who answered his final roll call September 10 this year, wrote in his diary at the time:

"The veteran enlistment papers were filled out and signed this afternoon. No rations today. Two ears of corn were issued this evening to each man."

It gives a clear insight into the conditions which surrounded this famous fighting unit at the time.

Despite all these things, the recruiting mission of Lieutenant Turner and Day Elmore was successful, and the regiment went back into action at the siege of Chattanooga, Resaca, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Lovejoy, Jonesboro, Pulaski, Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville.

Thursday, September 18, 1919

The Aurora Daily Beacon

### OLD SOLDIERS OPPOSE LEAGUE

#### FOX RIVER VALLEY REGIMENT SPEAKS AGAINST "ENTANGLING ALLIANCES"

#### READY TO FIGHT FOR PEACE

Veterans of the 36th Illinois volunteer infantry, known as the Fox River Valley regiment, assembled in convention at the G. A. R. hall today, endorsed a resolution passed by the national convention at Columbus, Ohio, strongly opposing the League of Nations. In effect, the resolution is:

"We are not concerned with the internal policies of the nations of Europe, Asia or Africa, many of whom have far different ideals from those that obtain in this country.

### Believe In Peace

“We believe in peace and if necessary are ready that this nation should fight for it, but when it does we want it to do so of its own voluntary choice and not under dictation of any other nation or combination of nations anywhere.

“We are unwilling that this nation shall be combined with other nations who may have the power to commit us to policies out of harmony with our ideals and institutions, and we are especially unwilling to be charged with the duty of caring for or controlling lands or people far distant from our shores under the dictation and control of any authority in which we will practically have small voice.

“For these all sufficient reasons and for the preservation of our national integrity and independence, we protest against being committed to the covenant for a League of Nations as the same is now proposed as a rider to the treaty of peace for consideration and action by the senate of the United States, and we commend this memorial to the careful consideration of the senate of the United States.”

The endorsement was carried only after a debate on the part of members of the regiment.

In the address of welcome to the veterans, the Rev. R. H. Claxon, touching upon the league of nations stated:

“If it is to be our duty to break the heart of the world by refusing to sign this thing and breaking the heart of our young manhood in the paltry squabbles of the Hapsburgs and the Hohenzollerns, the English Lords and the Lord only knows how many more, then I want to have a hand in breaking the heart of the world.”

He was soundly applauded.

### Seventeen Die Within Year

Reports showed that 17 members had died since the last annual reunion in Aurora, and in commemoration of these dead, as well as those gone before, the following memorial was read:

“Fifty-eight years ago we stood shoulder to shoulder in line, 1,000 volunteers, and were sworn in for three years of war. These 58 years have made many changes in the ranks. During the arduous marches and fierce struggles in line of battle, these comrades never faltered, and when our tentmates and messmates fell at our side, the courageous line pressed forward ever following the flag we loved so well.

“We miss our fallen comrades and today as in recurring years, we look and cherish kindly remembrance for those who are kept from this annual gathering by the infirmities of age and other difficulties.

“To the friends and the families of our deceased comrades we extend cordial sympathy and commend them to the Father of all grace and comfort.”

A resolution thanking Honorable I. C. Copley and members of a commission who referred to files to obtain a complete roster of the regiment, was passed.

Regrets were received from 53 of the comrades who were unable to be present at the reunion.

#### Elect Officers

Henry Hennis was elected president for the ensuing year and Charles F. Sweetland was chosen vice president. Both are from Sandwich. In accordance with the resolution adopted at the meeting in 1917, that William F. Sylla of Elgin hold, the office of secretary-treasurer for the balance of his lifetime. Mr. Sylla was accordingly re-elected. It was voted to hold the next annual reunion in Aurora next year on Wednesday and Thursday of September, the dates corresponding most closely to those of the battle of Chickamauga.

J. F. Harral, Aurora, Henry Fuquey, Aurora, J. M. Conway, Aurora, R. Solfisburg, Aurora, A. D. Curran, Bristol, James Scofield and wife, Yorkville, Mrs. B. F. Herrington, Mrs. Millie Phillips, Mrs. J. F. Harral, Mrs. Henry Fuquey, Mrs. M. E. Cornell, Miss. Conrell, Katherine Davery, Gladys Russell, Mrs. William Coultrip, Mrs. Uriah Foster, Louise Foster, Mrs. C. B. Stiles, Mrs. J. L. Palmer, Mrs. A. Manahan, Mrs. K. A. Hall. Mrs. E. Mudgett.

#### Those Registered

Those who registered were:

Jeptha C. Denison, Chicago  
Maj. George D. Sherman, Elgin  
William F. Sylla, Elgin  
Milton E. Cornell, Wilmette  
James S. Hatch, Plano  
James E. Moss, Scranton, Iowa  
Samuel Brimhall, State Center, Iowa  
Charles F. Sweetland, Sandwich  
Emra H. Strait, Ottawa  
Zeroy P. Hotchkiss, Oak Paek  
Harrison W. Blank, Independence, Iowa  
Joseph Carl, Joliet  
Joseph F. McCroskey, Joliet  
Irwin Benton, Breedsville, Mich.  
Robert Collins, Tampico  
Willie Richardson, Bellingham, Washington  
Frederick W. Sly, Sandwich  
Thomas N. Sedgwick, Manchester, Iowa  
Sydney Kendall, Aurora  
Orrin Squires, Sebastopol, California  
William Van Ahlen, Hinckley  
James M. Kennedy, Aurora

Lewis Johnson, Newark  
William Coultrip, Somonauk  
Edwin E. Balch, Elgin  
Franklin A. Whitney, Sandwich  
H. D. Wagner, Hinckley  
Thomas Robinson, Aurora  
Henry Hennis, Sandwich  
Alexander Manahan, Elgin  
Frank B. Perkins, Elgin  
David Boyer, Momence  
C. H. Truax, Crystal Lake  
John Murley, Yorkville  
E. H. Young, Fulton  
Thomas Flynn, Morris  
John W. Davis, Burlington

Visiting members of other regiments who gathered to talk over old times were: B. F. Herrington, 11th Michigan infantry, Yorkville, Ill., C. H. Frost, 2nd Minnesota infantry, Sandwich, J. H. McCall, 89th Illinois infantry, Winterhaven, Fla.

The Fox River Valley regiment has the distinction of being among the leading regiments of the civil war in the number of killed in action, with 300. One hundred and forty two of these were killed or wounded in the battle of Chickamauga, September 19 and 20, 1863.

#### Camped South of Aurora

On August 14, 1861, Gov. Yates promoted Nicholas Greusel, then lieutenant-colonel of the seventh infantry, to the colonelcy of the 36th, and four days later, the first company of the new command marched into Camp Hammond, on the line of the Burlington between Aurora and Montgomery. The Camp was named after Colonel Hammond, patriotic Superintendent of the road at that time. On the twenty-second of the same month, Capt. John Webb mustered in eight companies.

September 12, Col. Albert G. Brackett of the regular army, paraded the complete regiment, then of ten companies, and had each company march in single file before a board of inspecting surgeons, who passed on individual physical fitness.

Twelve days later, the regiment, then known officially as the 36th Illinois infantry, broke camp and started for St. Louis, Mo., from which concentration point it went into action, participating in 20 engagements.

Friday, September 19, 1919  
The Elgin Daily News

SYLLA ELECTED TO OFFICE AT REUNION  
Elgin Man Secretary of Veteran's Body  
Endorse Resolution against League.

The Thirty-Sixth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers Association held its fifty-third reunion at the G. A. R. hall in Aurora Wednesday and Thursday of this week where thirty-seven comrades of the regiment were present. A campfire was held Wednesday night in charge of Comrade James S. Hatch. Forty-four were at the interesting meeting.

The first company of the Thirty-Sixth Illinois regiment went into camp August 18, 1861, at Camp Hammond, near Aurora, and the regiment was mustered into United States service September 23, 1861. The next day they left Camp Hammond for the front at Rolla, Missouri. They were mustered out of service at New Orleans, October 8, 1865, having served four years, one month and nine days. The number which left camp at Aurora was 965. Elgin Company A had ninety-nine enrolled. From first to last the rolls carried 1,376 names. The Thirty-Sixth regiment lost 190 killed or died of wounds received in battle. These losses placed the regiment among the 300 suffering the greatest losses in battle in the whole Union army during the civil war.

At the business meeting Thursday morning the following officers were elected for the coming year: President, Henry Hennis, Company E; vice president, Charles F. Sweetland, Company F, and Secretary-treasurer, William F. Sylla, Company A.

The committee on resolutions brought in a resolution of condolences for the families of members of the regiment who have died during the past year, twenty-nine losses being reported. A resolution of thanks to Col. Ira C. Copley and Commissioner of Pensions Saltzgeber was passed thanking them for kindness in furnishing such a complete list of deaths in the regiment and addresses of those living. The resolution adopted by the national encampment at Columbus against the League of Nations was endorsed but not unanimously. The committee recommended that the next reunion be held in Aurora in September, 1920. The reports of the secretary treasurer were accepted. The financial report showed a balance on hand of \$15.04.

Dinner was served to a group of ninety-three. The program that followed was conducted by Major George D. Sherman as toastmaster. The "Star Spangled Banner" was sung by Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson, daughter of the regiment, and followed by the address of welcome given by Rev. Reuben H. Claxon of Aurora.

President J. C. Denison responded to the greeting and Mrs. Hendrickson gave two other vocal numbers. This was followed by personal experiences and visiting and the singing of "America."

The comrades present from Elgin were: George D. Sherman, Frank B. Perkins, Alex Manahan, E. E. Balch and William F. Sylla. The guests from Elgin were Mrs. R. D. Manahan, Mrs. Nellie Stiles, Mrs. James Palmer, Mrs. Cummings, Mrs. M. V. Hendrickson and Katherine H. Davery.

## 1920

The United States would elect a new president in the Person of Republican Warren G. Harding. He would win the office on a platform of "Return to Normalcy," but his term would be cut short. The Grand Army held its Illinois department encampment in Joliet on June 16th. Edwin N. Armstrong, of Peoria would be elected department commander. This year the 36th's reunion would precede the national encampment. Held in Aurora on September 16th and 17th at the G. A. R. hall, James F. Harral and William Coultrip were elected president and vice president. William Sylla was once again re-elected secretary-treasurer. The list of attendees continued to shrink. At the national encampment held in Indianapolis, the comrades pushed back at any attempt to combine the Legion and the G. A. R. William A. Ketcham of Indianapolis was elected commander in chief at the fifty-fourth convention held on September 19 thru 21. J. H. Freeman was once again elected commander of Aurora post 20, membership now down to 112.

Friday, June 18, 1920  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### DR. HANNA AGAIN G. A. R. DEPARTMENT OFFICER

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Joliet, Ill., June 18. -- E. N. Armstrong, of Peoria, was today named department commander of the G. A. R., at the fifty-fourth annual encampment here. Other officers are: senior vice commander, E. W. Willard, Joliet; junior vice commander, George W. Huntoon, Waukegan; medical director, W. N. Hanna, Aurora; chaplain, John Lemon, Springfield.

There are 3,000 delegates from the G. A. R. and auxiliary organizations in attendance. The session which began Wednesday closes tonight. Galesburg endorsed for 1921 convention.

Carl S. Spaulding of Rockford, was elected commander of the Sons of Veterans; Frank L. Childs, of Chicago, vice commander and W. H. H. Miller of Champaign, junior vice commander.

Mrs. Mae Cupp, of Dixon, was elected president of the Ladies of the G. A. R., after a close contest against Mrs. Catherine Swickard, of Chicago.

Sons of Veterans auxiliary officers are: Mrs. Emma J. Wolff, Rockford, president; Mrs. Oledine King, Joliet, vice president; Charlotte Holbrook, Dwight, treasurer.

Sarah Vance of Chicago, was named commander of the Daughters of the G. A. R., Louise Nelson, Chicago, senior vice; Cora Sloan, Waukegan, junior vice.

Woman's Relief Corps, Anna Reilein, Aurora, president; Sorelda Cunningham, Galesburg, senior vice; Edith Taylor, Elgin, junior vice; Minnie M. Nichols, Chicago, treasurer.

Daughters of Veterans: Mrs. Mary Holmes, Chicago, president; Mrs. Helen Daily, Aurora, senior vice; Mrs. Josephine Flood, Chicago, junior vice.

Friday, June 18, 1920  
The Elgin Daily News

## GALESBURG GETS NEXT ENCAMPMENT OF G. A. R.

(By The Associated Press)

Joliet Ill., June 18. J. E. Armstrong, of Peoria, was today named department commander of the G. A. R. at the fifty-fourth annual encampment here. Other officers are:

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Miss. May E. Cupp, of Dixon, elected president of the Ladies' G. A. R. after a hard contest over Catherine Swickard of Chicago.

Sons of Veterans auxiliary officers are Mrs. Emma J. Wolff, Rockford, president; Mrs. Oledine King, Joliet, vice president; Charlotte Holbrook, Dwight, treasurer.

Wednesday, September 15, 1920  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### FOX RIVER VALLEY REGIMENTAL REUNION

Veterans of the famous 36th Illinois infantry, otherwise known as the Fox River valley regiment, will unite tomorrow at the G. A. R. hall for their annual reunion. All soldiers are coming from not only all parts of Illinois, but from other states in remote corners of the nation, to join their "buddies" of the days of the rebellion.

This evening there will be a camp fire reunion of the 36th regiment comprising mostly local members and those who will arrive ahead of time for the main reunion on the morrow. Altho their ranks are diminishing each year, their enthusiasm and patriotism continues unstinted, and a large number is being prepared for.

Thursday, September 16, 1920  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### 36TH REGIMENT HOLDS REUNION

#### SURVIVORS OF FOX RIVER VALLEY CONTINGENT TALK OF CIVIL WAR EXPERIENCES

#### HOLD CAMP FIRE LAST NIGHT

Nearly 60 years have elapsed since some 1,200 patriotic young men from this section of the country, were sworn in for three years service in the civil war. The remnant of the old "brigade" holds a reunion every year in the G. A. R. hall.

The fifty-fourth reunion of the boys who later comprised the famous 36th Illinois Volunteer infantry was held today in the G. A. R. hall on the island. The ranks of the silver haired warriors are thinning out and they united with mingled feelings of joy and sorrow, joy at meeting once more their chums of war time, and sorrow for those who have gone out of this life.

The comrades in blue journeyed not only from all parts of Illinois, but from the four corners of the nation as well, to be present on an occasion so dear to their hearts.

### Campfire Last Night

The campfire reunion which is a sort of an overture for the reunion proper, was held last evening in the G. A. R. hall. James E. Moss, chairman of the campfire committee, presided at the meeting. An excellent chicken supper was served by the Aurora members of the Woman's Relief Corps, after which Z. P. Hotchkiss, Co. G, read a poem of his own writing on "Abraham Lincoln." The poem paid a great tribute to the memory of the "Great Emancipator." There followed a most interesting relation of personal experiences, very much like a good old fashioned "story telling bee" thus explaining the derivation of the title "Campfire Reunion."

At the reunion proper today, there was an interesting program, in connection with the extraordinary banquet of which Major George D. Sherman was the toastmaster. Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson, Daughter of the regiment, favored the comrades with a couple of songs.

Frank W. Joslyn extended a warm welcome to all veterans from near and far. Comrade J. H. Freeman gave the address of response and assured all that the passing years only served to cement the servicemen of all wars closer together.

One of the most enjoyable portions of the convention was the period of informal exchanging of experiences and social hour. The enviable record made by the 36th regiment, otherwise known as the Fox River valley regiment, proved the object of much pleasant reminiscence. After the singing of "America," the meeting was adjourned, with the unanimous opinion that there was never a more enjoyable reunion ever held.

### Deaths During Year

Deaths of members which have occurred during the last year include: John A. Gronberg, company B. Joseph H. Carl, A cavalry, Charles F. Sweetland, company F, Francis M. Bradshaw, company G, Edward M. Hume, company G, John D. Tingle, B cavalry, Christ Gmelich, company G, Frederick W. Sly, company F, Charles A. Tucker, company K, D. T. Hogue, company C, James R. Biddolph, company F, James S. Barber, A cavalry, W. C. Buchanan, company C, Emery Delos Haselton.

### Among Those Present

Among those registered for the reunion were: J. C. Denison, Chicago, William F. Sylla, Elgin, J. S. Hatch, Big Rock, J. F. McCroskey, Joliet, George D. Sherman, Elgin, Robert Collins, Tampico, Harrison W. Blank, Independence, Ia., J. F. Harral, Aurora, J. E. Moss, Scranton, Ia., Z. P. Hotchkiss, Oak Park, E. H. Strait, Ottawa, Milton E. Cornell, Wilmette, H. K. Saunders, National Home, Milwaukee, J. M. Kennedy, Aurora, W. H. McKay, Omaha, Neb., Henry Hennis, Sandwich, William Coulter, Samonauk, G. W. Raymond, Morris, E. E. Balch, Elgin, Henry P. Mann, Boulder, Colo., E. H. Griggs, Elgin, Alex Manahan, Elgin, F. H. Perkins, Elgin, Thomas Flynn, Morris, David Boyer, Momence, Thomas Robinson, Aurora.

### Regrets Received

Regrets were received from the following comrades who could not attend the reunion:

James H. Moore, company A, Chicago, Ill., 178 W. Jackson Blvd.  
Frank W. Raymond, Co. A, Aberdeen, S.D.  
Albert C. Wagner, Co. A, Linton, N.D.  
Charles G. Cox, Co. A, Los Angeles, Calif., 537 Redfield Ave.  
L. M. Kelly, Co. A, Washington, D.C., 1830 N.Y. ave., N. W.  
Chas. E. Strong, Co. B, Bath, N.Y., Soldiers Home  
Rudolph Breecher, Co. B, Alta, Iowa  
Elias M. Baldwin, Co. C, Oswego, Kan., 911 West 8th ave.  
Julius Rochman, Co. C, Detroit, Mich., Montenha street, E.  
R. A. Henderson, Co. C, Clearfield, Iowa  
Ethan Burns Keck, Co. C, Tonganoxie, Kan.  
W. C. McElrea, Co. C, London Mills, Ill.  
W. A. Rodgers, Co. C, Monmouth, Ill., 317 N. G. street.  
E. H. Stinson, Co. C, Camp Hampton, Iowa, 404 South Main street  
Edward Anderson, Co. D, Frankfort, S.D.  
Peter A. Johnson, Co. D, Orange, Calif., Box 561  
Herbert Dewey, Co. E, Lead, S.D., 12 South Main street  
Geo. W. Mathews, Co. E, Hiawatha, Kan., 500 Shawnee street  
Geo. E. Lounsbury, Co. E, Elkhart, Ind., 823 Liberty street  
Canute K. Johnson, Co. F, Badger, Iowa  
Albert H. Wulff, Co. F, Morrison, Mo., R.F.D. 1, Box 65  
John McClure, Co. F, Fremont, Neb.  
Geo. F. Roote, Co. F, Seneca, Kan.  
Jonathan Foulk, Co. G, Marion, Iowa, 1181 North 11 street  
Oscar H. Ford, Co. H, Bradford, Kan.  
Samuel Z. Carver, Co. H, Omro, Wis., Box 463  
Phillip Zimmerman, Co. I, Blue Hill, Neb.  
Christ Wentz, Co. I, Belle Plaine, Iowa  
Geo. M. Dell, Co. I, Cresco, Iowa, R.F.D. 3  
John Pell, Co. K, Lennox, S.D.  
Zenus E. Hogue, Co. K, Eskridge, Kan.  
Sidney O. Wanzer, Co. K, Pittsburgh, Kan., 1013 East 10 street  
Emery W. Pratt, Co. K, Brill, Wis.  
Harlan K. Saunders, Co. K, Milwaukee, Wis. National Home  
Samuel Mall, Co. K, Clay Center, Iowa, 821 Grant avenue  
Daniel P. Hammond, Co. K, Cornucopia, Wis.  
Burton Honey, Co. K, Ogden, Kan.

Irwin Benton, Co. A, Cav., Breedsville, Mich.  
Thomas R. Robinson, Co. A, Cav., Fredericksburg, Va.  
James Shedden, Co. B, Cav., Dundee, Ill., 351 Second street  
Henry C. Scott, Co. B, Cav., Folsom City, Calif., Box 104  
Henry M. Waldsmith, Co. F, Lincoln, Neb., 2836 S. street  
Thomas Orstad, Co. F, Newark, Ill.  
George Reitz, Co. B, Gilman, Ill.  
W. A. Mitchell, Co B, Monmouth, Ill., 323 North 1st street  
H. B. Douglas, Aurora; Sidney E. Kendall, Aurora; Charles Pratt, Rochelle; W.  
W. Gifford, Joliet; William Van Ohlen, Hinckley; C. H. Truax, North Crystal Lake; E.  
H. Young, Fulton; Ferris Johnson, Newark; Willet Richardson, Kaneville; John Murley,  
Yorkville; William Worchester, Yorkville, Joseph Scofield, Morris.

#### History of 36th

The famous 36th has the unusual distinction of having lost more men in action than any other of the 400 regiments during the entire war. They lost 196 killed or died of wounds received in battle. A great many of them were killed or wounded in the battle of Chickamauga, September 19, 1863. Because of the fact that so many of the local veterans participated in this battle, the reunion is held each year, as nearly as possible on the anniversary day of this great conflict.

Shortly after their regiment had been organized on August 14, 1861, Governor Yates made Nicholas Greusel, then, lieutenant-colonel of the 7th infantry, colonel of the 36th. Four days later the first company of the new command marched into "Camp Hammond" on ground between Montgomery and Aurora, now occupied by the sheep yards. The camp was named in honor of Colonel Hammond, the patriotic superintendent of the road at that time. On the twenty-second of the same month, Captain John Webb mustered in eight companies.

September 12, Col. Albert G. Brackett of the regular army, paraded the complete regiment, the entire ten companies, and had each company march in single file before a board of inspecting surgeons, who passed on individual physical fitness.

September 23, the regiment then officially known as the 36th Illinois infantry, left for St. Louis Mo., from which base it went into action, participating in 20 of the hottest engagements of the entire war. After an extraordinary record of service, the 36th was mustered out at New Orleans, Oct. 8, 1865.

Friday, September 17, 1920  
The Elgin Daily News

## 36TH VETERANS IN ANNUAL REUNION

### CIVIL WAR EXPERIENCES ARE RECOUNTED AT MEETING HELD IN AURORA

Nearly 60 years have elapsed since some 1,200 patriotic young men from this section of Illinois were sworn in for three years service in the civil war. The remnant of the "old brigade" holds a reunion every year.

The fifty-fourth annual reunion of the boys who later comprised the famous 36th Illinois volunteer infantry was held Thursday in the G. A. R. hall at Aurora. The ranks of the silver haired warriors are thinning out, and they united with mingled feelings of joy and sorrow, joy at meeting once more their chums of war time, and sorrow for those who have gone out of this life.

The "Comrades" in blue journeyed not only from all parts of Illinois, but from the four corners of the nation as well, to be present on a occasion so dear to their hearts.

Officers elected for 1921 by the veterans follow: President, James H. Harral; vice president, William Coultrip. William F. Sylla, who was elected secretary-treasurer four years ago, for life, has served in that capacity for twenty years. Aurora was chosen as the place for reunions of the 36th regiment.

Among visiting friends Comrade Freeman introduced Mrs. Waverly, who had five sons in the service. Two of them gave their lives for their country.

#### Campfire

The campfire reunion which is a sort of overture for the reunion proper was held Wednesday evening in the G. A. R. hall. James E. Moss, chairman of the campfire committee, presided at the meeting. An excellent chicken supper was served by the Aurora members of the Woman's Relief Corps, after which Z. P. Hotchkiss, Co. G., read a poem of his own writing on "Abraham Lincoln." The poem paid a great tribute to the memory of the "Great Emancipator." There followed a most interesting relation of personal experiences, very much like a good old fashion "story telling bee" thus explaining the derivation of the title "Campfire Reunion."

At the reunion proper yesterday, there was an interesting program, in connection with an extraordinary banquet of which Major Geo. D. Sherman was the toastmaster. Ninety-six soldiers and their families were at the tables. Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson, daughter of the regiment, favored the comrades with a couple of songs.

Comrade J. H. Freeman gave the address of welcome, extending a warm welcome to all veterans from near and far, and assuring all that the passing years only served to cement the service men of all wars closer together.

Frank W. Joslyn, a son of the lieutenant-colonel of the Thirty-sixth regiment responded.

One of the most enjoyable portions of the reunion was the period of informal exchanging of experiences, and social hour. The enviable record made by the Thirty-sixth regiment, otherwise known as the Fox River Valley regiment, proved the object of much pleasant reminiscence. After the singing of "America" the meeting was adjourned, with the unanimous opinion that there was a no more enjoyable reunion ever held.

#### Deaths During Year,

Deaths of members which have occurred during the last year include John A. Gronberg, Company B; Joseph B. Carl, A Cavalry; Charles F. Sweetland, Company F; Francis M. Bradshaw, Company G; Edward M. Hume, Company G; John D. Tingle, B Cavalry; Christ Gmelich, Company G; Frederick W. Sly, Company F; Charles A. Tucker, Company K; D. T. Hogue, Company C; James R. Biddelph, Company F; James S. Barber, A Cavalry; W. C. Buchanan, Company C; Emery Delos Hoselton.

#### Among Those Present

Among those registered for the reunion were: J. C. Denison, Chicago; William F. Sylla, Elgin; J. P. Hatch, Big Rock; J. F. McCroskey, Joliet; George D. Sherman, Elgin; Robert Collins, Tampico; Harrison W. Blank, Independence, Ia.; J. F. Harral, Aurora; J. E. Moss, Scranton, Ia.; Z. P. Hotchkiss, Oak Park; E. H. Strait, Ottawa; Milton E. Cornell, Wilmette; H. K. Saunders, National Home, Milwaukee; J. M. Kennedy, Aurora; W. H. McKay, Omaha, Neb.; Henry Hennis, Sandwich; William Coulter, Somonauk; G. W. Raymond, Morris; E. E. Balch, Elgin; Henry P. Mann, Boulder, Colo.; E. H. Griggs, Elgin; Alex Manahan, Elgin; F. B. Perkins, Elgin; Thomas Flynn, Morris; David Boyer, Momence; Thomas Robinson, Aurora; H. B. Douglas, Aurora; Sidney Kendall, Aurora; Charles Pratt, Rochelle, Il.; W. W. Gifford, Joliet; William Van Ohlen, Hinckley; C. H. Truax, North Crystal Lake; E. H. Young, Fulton; Ferris Johnson, Newark; Willet Richardson, Kaneville; John Murley, Yorkville; William Worchester, Yorkville; Joseph Schofield, Morris and Erasmus Anderson, Leland, Ill. There were forty-five visiting friends at the banquet.

#### Regrets Received

Regrets were received from the following comrades who could not attend the reunion:

James H. Moore, Co. A., Chicago, Ill., 175 W. Jackson boulevard.

Frank W. Raymond, Co. A., Aberdeen, S.D.

Albert C. Wagner, Co., A., Linton, N. D.

Charles G. Cox, Co. A., Los Angeles, Calif., 557 Redfield Ave.

L. M. Kelly, Co. A., Washington, D. C., 1320 N. Y. avenue, N. W.

Charles F. Strong, Co. B., Bath, N. Y. Soldiers Home.

Rudolph Brecher, Co. B., Alta, Ia.

Elias M. Baldwin, Co. C., Oswego, Kansas, 911 West 5th avenue.

Julius Roehmn, Co. C., Detriot, Mich., 161 Montenha street E.  
R. A. Henderson, Co. C., Clearfield, Ia.  
Ethan Burne Keck, Co. C., Tonzanoxie, Kan.  
W. C. McElres, Co. C., London Mills, Ill.  
W. A. Rodgers, Co. C., Monmouth, Ill., 317 N. G. street.  
E. H. Stinson, Co. C., Camp Hampton, Ia., 404 South Main street.  
Edward Anderson, Co. D., Frankfort, S. D.  
Peter A. Johnson, Co. D., Orange, Calif, Box 551.  
Herbert Dewey, Co. E., Lead, S. D., 12 South Main street.  
George W. Mathews, Co. E., Hiawatha, Kan., 500 Shawnee street.  
George E. Lounsberry, Co. E., Elkhart, Ind., 823 Liberty street.  
Canute K. Johnson, Co. F., Badger, Ia.  
Albert H. Wulff, Co. F., Morrison, Mo., RFD 1, Box 63.  
John McClure, Co. F., Fremont, Neb.  
George F. Roote, Co. F., Seneca, Kan.  
Jonathan Foulk, Co. G., Marion, Ia., 1181 North 11th street.  
Oscar H. Ford, Co. H., Bradford, Kan.  
Samuel Z. Carver, Co. H., Omro, Wis., Box 463  
Phillip Zimmerman, Co. I., Blue Hills, Neb,  
Christ Wenz, Co. I., Belle Plaine, Ia.  
George M. Dell, Co. I., Cresco, Ia., RFD 3.  
John Poll, Co. K., Lennox, S. D.  
Zenus E. Hogue, Co. K., Eskridge, Kan.  
Sidney O. Wanzer, Co. K., Pittsburgh, Kan., 1013 E. 10th street.  
Every K. Pratt, Co. K., Brill, Wis.  
Harlan K. Saunders, Co. K., Milwaukee, Wis., National Home.  
Samuel Mall, Co. H., Clay Center, Ia., 821 Grant avenue.  
Daniel P. Hammond, Co. K., Cornucopia, Wis.  
Berton Honey, Co. K., Ogden, Kan.  
Irwen Genton, Co. A. Cav., Breedsville, Mich.  
Thomas B. Robinson, Co. A. Cav., Fredericksburg, Va.  
James Shedden, Co. B. Cav., Dundee, Ill., 351 2nd street.  
Henry C. Scott, Co. B. Cav., Folsom City, Calif, Box 404.  
Henry M. Waedsmith, Co. F., Lincoln, Neb., 2836 S. street.  
Thomas Orstad, Co. F., Newark, Ill.  
George Reitz, Co. B., Gillman, Ill.  
W. A. Mitchell, Co. B., Monmouth, Ill., 323 North 1st street.  
H. B. Douglas, Aurora; Sidney E. Kendall, Aurora; Charles Pratt, Rochelle; W.  
W. Gifford, Joliet; William VonOhlen, Hinckley; C. H. Truax, North Crystal Lake; E.

H. Young, Fulton; Ferris Johnson, Newark; Willet Richardson, Kaneville; John Murley, Yorkville; William Worchester, Yorkville and Joseph Schofield, Morris.

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Monday, September 20, 1920  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

#### GRAND ARMY VETS HEAR W. G. HARDING

#### STOP OFF AT MARION FRONT PORCH WHILE ENROUTE TO INDIANAPOLIS NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Marion, Ohio, Sept. 20. -- Senator Harding delivered a front porch speech today to a delegation of about four hundred members of the Grand Army of the Republic who are on their way to attend the national encampment at Indianapolis. They came from northern Ohio cities. Yesterday he and Mrs. Harding shook hands with a delegation of

veterans from Akron, O., who stopped off enroute to the encampment. He made no speech.

The senator has four other front porch speeches on his schedule for this week.

Tuesday, September 21, 1920  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## GRAND ARMY VETERANS POUR INTO INDIANAPOLIS

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

Indianapolis, Ind, Sept. 20. -- Weary from traveling, but looking forward with eager anticipation to another meeting with their comrades of '61, thousands of civil war veterans arrived here today to augment the thousands already in the city for the forty-fourth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. Special trains brought large delegations from surrounding states while many individuals arrived from more distant points.

Today was given over to committee meetings of allied organizations. Tonight the veterans will be given an official welcome by Gov. James P. Goodrich, Daniel M. Hall of Columbus, Ohio, commander in chief of the G. A. R. will respond.

Others to speak at the reception are women of auxiliary organizations.

Headquarters of the Woman's Relief corps will be established here today and committee meetings will be held.

Friday, September 24, 1920  
The Elgin Daily News

## PLAN OF FEDERATION IS OPPOSED BY SOME G. A. R.

(By The Associated Press)

Indianapolis, Sept. 24. -- Facing a possibility on a fight on the proposed federation of veterans organizations for the promotion of patriotism, the Grand Army of the Republic opened the final session of its 1920 encampment here today. Election of its

officers and selection of the 1921 meeting place, were the other important matters left for decision.

The federation with the American Legion and the Spanish-American war veterans was recommended at Thursday's session. Some delegates, however, objected to the plan as outlined in the resolution, fearing, it was stated, that the Grand Army of the Republic would lose its individuality.

The vets yesterday voted to increase the per capita tax to ten cents per year and to change the ritual to read "one country, one language and one flag," instead of "one country and one flag."

## 1921

Illinois held its fifty-fifth state encampment of the G. A. R. at Galesburg on May 17, where it elected William P. Wright, of Chicago, department commander. Membership had dropped to 6,426 out of 317 posts. Other veteran organizations continued to praise the values of the G. A. R. The Thirty-Sixth once again held their camp fire and reunion at the G. A. R. hall in Aurora on September 21 and 22. James F. Harral was once again elected the president. Joseph F. McCroskey was vice and William F. Sylla, secretary-treasurer. At Aurora post 20, J. H. Freeman was once again elected commander. Membership had dropped below 100 as the G. A. R. hall was opened up for the American Legion to move in and take up residence with the boys of '61-'65. They were received with grace. The hall would ultimately be residence to all patriotic organizations of Aurora. But, it would always be the "G. A. R. hall." The national encampment of the Grand Army met once again in Indianapolis on September 25th. There Lewis S. Pilcher of Brooklyn, New York, was elected commander in chief at the fifty-fifth annual encampment. They would discuss the creation of a 'Last Will and Testament' for the G. A. R.

Tuesday, May 17, 1921  
The Elgin Daily News

### G. A. R. AND AUXILIARIES IN STATE ENCAMPMENT

(By The Associated Press)

Galesburg, Ill., May 17. -- Preliminary organization work for this week and addresses by ex-governor G. W. Fifer of Bloomington and Captain Oscar E. Carlstrom of Aledo, this evening, make up the first day's program for the state encampment of the G. A. R. and allied organizations which opened here this noon. Besides the Grand Army of the Republic, the following groups are included in the convention:

Women's Relief Corps, Ladies of the G. A. R., Sons of Veterans and Daughters of the G. A. R.

More than 2,000 visitors are expected here for the convention sessions, which will close Thursday afternoon.

Wednesday, May 18, 1921  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE G. A. R.

SPANISH WAR VETERAN PRAISES  
YEAR-BY-YEAR PATRIOTISM OF THE "OLD GUARD"

By Associated Press Leased Wire

Galesburg, May 17. -- Oscar E. Carlstrom of Aledo, veteran of the Spanish-American and world war, paid tribute to the thinning ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic and to the sterling patriotism of its members in an address here tonight before the annual state encampment of the G. A. R.

"It was the patriotism of your assemblages year after year," Mr. Carlstrom told the veterans, "That bred the love of our country in the hearts and minds of the children of America during these past 50 odd years, which made possible the spontaneous response to the call of President McKinley in 1898 and 1899 and that brief but successful campaign to crush arrogance and tyranny on the American continent.

"Out of that war sprang a new group -- "The Spanish-American War Veterans" -- standing shoulder to shoulder with you in the impression of patriotism on the hearts of our people. These came from the north and south, the east and the west.

Proud Hearts In 1917-1918

"Whose hearts beat prouder than yours as you saw your sons and grandsons marching in 1917, '18 and '19 with that great army of four million and a half of virile, brave and determined sons of America?

"The veterans of the Great World War have banded themselves together under the name of the American Legion to carry on the great peace-time service of maintaining the free institutions of our country and the standards and purity of her citizenry.

"Surely all these things must to you be most gratifying as you are looking into the golden sunset of life's journey and content you with the knowledge that your sacrifices have not been in vain."

Wednesday, May 18, 1921  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## READY TO MEET IN NEW QUARTERS

### LEGION FITS UP ROOMS IN BROADWAY UNTIL G. A. R. BUILDING IS READY

The Roosevelt-Aurora post of the American Legion will hold its first meeting in the new headquarters Monday evening, May 22. The rooms on the third floor of the American National Bank building at Main and Broadway have been adopted as the new temporary headquarters of the ex-servicemen's organization until the proposed G. A. R. building has been altered to accommodate all military organizations.

Wednesday, May 18, 1921  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## G. A. R. CHIEF RAPS U. S. IRISH MOVEMENT

By Associated Press Leased Wire

Jefferson City, Mo., May 18. -- The Irish movement in the United States was criticized by William A. Ketchum, of Indianapolis, commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, in an address here last night at the fortieth annual encampment of the Missouri Grand Army of the Republic.

"We don't want any 50-50 Americans," he asserted. "We want 100 per cent Americans. I do not criticize the citizen of this country who are of Irish or German extraction, or are descendants of any other nation, so long as they acknowledge allegiance to America and stand for the Stars and Stripes, but I have no use for those who worship the United States in one breath and in the next worship Ireland or some other country."

Commander Ketchum declared the "mayor of cork came to this country in violation of the law and is staying in defiance of the law."

About four hundred veterans are in attendance at the encampment.

Thursday, May 19, 1921  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### G. A. R. FOR VOLUNTEER ARMY SYSTEM IN U. S.

By Associated Press Leased Wire

Galesburg, Ill., May 18. -- Discouraging the enlistment of a large standing army for the United States, "Private Joe" Fifer, ex-Governor of Illinois, last night told 2,500 members of the G. A. R. and allied organizations who are here for the annual state encampment, that a volunteer army would be just as successful and far less expensive.

Addresses of welcome from local authorities and closed business sessions occupied the time this morning.

Wednesday, September 21, 1921  
The Elgin Daily News

### ELGIN MEN ATTENDING REUNION OF THIRTY-SIXTH

The first day of the fifty-fifth annual reunion of the Thirty-Sixth Regiment, Illinois Veteran Volunteers Association, known as the "camp-fire day," was held at the Grand Army hall, Aurora. The reunion program will begin tomorrow.

Major George D. Sherman, of Elgin, will be toastmaster. Mr. Sherman and Mr. William F. Sylla left for Aurora early this morning. The program tomorrow will include a song by Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson, who is known to the members as the "daughter of the regiment"; invocation by Rev. E. W. Lounsberry; an address of welcome by Mayor Charles H. Greene; a response by Rev. Allen Nettlerman, followed by songs and informal talks by the members.

James E. Hatch is chairman of the camp-fire feature of the program tomorrow night. A luncheon will be served by Aurora women.

Thursday, September 22, 1921  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## VETERANS OF THIRTY-SIXTH SWAP YARNS

### FOX RIVER REGIMENT MEETS HERE TODAY IN ANNUAL REUNION

#### CAMP FIRE LAST NIGHT

Battles of '61 were fought over, verbally, last night at the camp fire of the Thirty-Sixth regiment, Illinois volunteers, at the G. A. R. hall, which marked the opening festivities of the fifty-fifth annual reunion of the organization. The gala event, the reunion is being held today.

The evening was taken up by swapping yarns, renewing acquaintances and social time in general. According to some of the veterans, the art of telling the biggest yarn was the feature of the program. The warriors engaged in all kinds of story telling, some of them proving that they were real prevaricators. Others thought they were worthy of a medal for their ability along this line -- until the reporter entered.

#### Three Jims Present

Among those in attendance were the three Jims -- James F. Harral, of Aurora, James Hatch, of Plano and James Moss, of Scranton, Iowa. The veterans for years have been more intimate friends than the gold dust twins, and were there in all their glory. To Major George Sherman was assigned the duties of making the affair "up to date."

Comrade T. Sedgwick told of the turning point in the battle of Pea Ridge and the death of General McCulloch. James Scofield told of his schoolmate, Joseph Warren Marsh, who enlisted and went into camp, was taken sick and died before he was mustered in.

Comrade Strait then told of soldier Comrade Staples, who served as a substitute for President Abraham Lincoln. The siege of Knoxville was depicted by Comrade Sylla. In addition to this, other talks were given by Comrades Denison and Major Sherman.

#### Join In Singing

The singing was led by Comrade Harral, with Mrs. Hughes, daughter of Comrade McCloskey, at the organ. The veterans joined in community singing that made the walls reverberate with lusty notes. After indulging in delicious refreshments, adjournment was taken until today.

#### Today's Program

After a social gathering this morning the program was formally opened with a fried chicken dinner at noon, served at the hall. It was a fitting number for the opener and the vets proved it by showing that they had not lost their appetites. Other guests at the dinner included wives of the members, widows of the deceased members and friends.

After the dinner Major George D. Sherman acted as toastmaster. Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson, a daughter of the regiment, sang several songs. Dr. E. W. Lounsbury offered invocation.

Following this, Mayor Charles H. Greene delivered his address of welcome. He reviewed the great fighting record of the regiment after its organization at Camp Hammond, near Montgomery. He praised them for their gallant battles at Chickamauga, Pea Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, Mission Ridge and other places. Mayor Greene said, "It was the spirit of the Grand Army men which enabled the world war heroes to fight as they did in the great conflict overseas and return victorious."

The Rev. A. R. Nettleman responded to the address of welcome in an eloquent manner. The remainder of the program was to be taken up by singing and other entertainment.

Friday, September 23, 1921  
The Elgin Daily News

#### VETS OF 36TH ASK FOR PAYMENTS TO DISABLED

The Thirty-sixth Regiment of Illinois Veterans of 1861, completed their fifty-fifth reunion, held at Aurora Wednesday and Thursday, by a declaration in favor of the congressional bill allowing \$72. a month for discharged former soldiers who are under physician's care, and \$50. monthly to widows.

About thirty of the members were present at the reunion. About fifty members sent letters stating their inability to be present. The ages of the veterans range from seventy-five to 104 years. John Foulk attended, his 104th birthday last December. The visitors were warmly welcomed by Mayor Charles H. Greene, of Aurora.

The 1922 reunion will be held at Aurora. James F. Harral of Aurora was re-elected president of the organization; J. F. McCarthy, Joliet, vice president, and William F. Sylla, Elgin, re-elected secretary and treasurer.

The Elgin members who attended the reunion are George D. Sherman, William F. Sylla, Frank B. Perkins, E. E. Balch, Henry P. Mann, J. C. Denison, James H. Moore, Alexander Manahan, Eugene H. O. Griggs and Lloyd J. Lathrop.

Monday, September 26, 1921  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## GRAND ARMY MEETS AT INDIANAPOLIS TODAY

By Associated Press Leased Wire

Indianapolis, Sept. 26. -- Members of the grand Army of the Republic are here today for its fifty-fifth annual encampment.

Today was devoted to the registration of the visiting veterans. Reception committee members estimated that 10,000 members of the Grand Army and its affiliated organizations were present.

Altho official reports show that since last year's encampment death has taken 9,000 members of the organization, it was expected that the attendance this year would be nearly as large as that of the last meeting.

Special trains are due to arrive today bringing the veterans from Missouri, Ohio, Illinois, the New England states and Canada.

Representatives of Milwaukee and DesMoines, Ia., announced that they would attempt to obtain the fifty-sixth encampment for their respective cities.

Tuesday, September 27, 1921  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## GRAND ARMY DRAWS UP ITS "LAST WILL"

By Associated Press Leased Wire

Indianapolis, Ind. Sept. 27 -- Members of the Grand Army of the Republic, realizing that the organization is growing old, are planning that during the fifty-fifth annual encampment, now being held here, arrangements shall be made for final disposition of the property of the order.

Frank M. Sterrett of Troy, O., is said to have ready for presentation at one of the business sessions, probably today, a resolution which would provide for what he termed the "last will and testament of the G. A. R."

Provisions would be made for the disposition of the property of the Grand Army when the last members are gone.

Although the encampment started informally Sunday, the first business session was not held until today.

While the veterans are meeting, a number of allied organizations will also be in session. The Sons of Veterans will open their fortieth annual encampment. The Woman's

Relief corps will hold its first business session. The Union Prisoners of War Organization will meet and the Sons of Veterans auxiliary will be in session.

The annual parade will be held tomorrow.

Tuesday, September 27, 1921  
The Elgin Daily News

## G. A. R. VETERANS TO PLAN DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY OF ORDER

### GRAND ARMY CHIEF IN PLEA TO PROTECT MEMORIAL DAY FROM COMMERCIALISM

#### KU KLUX KLAN CONDEMNED

(By The Associated Press)

Indianapolis, Sept. 27. -- Members of the Grand Army of the Republic realizing that the organization is growing old, are planning that during the fifty-fifth annual encampment now being held here, arrangements shall be made for final disposition of the property of the order.

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The annual parade will be held tomorrow.

#### Would Perfect Memorial Day

Protection of Memorial Day from commercialism and consecration of the day to the memory of the soldiers of all the nation's wars should be an aim of the Grand Army of the Republic and its allied organizations, Commander-In-Chief William A. Ketcham

declared in his speech today in the first business session of the fifty-fifth national encampment. "Failure to protect the day from desecration will be a reproach to the Grand Army," its leader said.

"The 30th of May is our Holy Day," said the commander-in-chief. "We instituted it and for fifty-three years we have, in rain or shine, stood at the shrines of men who died that the nation might live and paid tribute to their memories. No day in the year should be more absolutely free from commercialism of any sentiment except that of reverence and devotion to memory of the dead. We still note with pain that in too many localities sports of one kind or another are taking away the attention of the rising generation from the observance of this day. In many states by legislation it is protected from desecration, and in all it should be. If, with the assistance of our able and devoted auxiliary and allies, we are not able to inculcate a deeper reverence for the memory of the dead it will be a reproach to us."

Revival of the Ku Klux Klan was condemned by Commander Ketcham along with other organizations. While the Grand Army has scant influence in the state in which the Klan was incorporated, the Commander declared the G. A. R. "should see to it that any organization with so offensive and discredited a name should not be permitted to invade state lines where we still have influence and strength."

"We ought to set our faces like flint," said Commander Ketcham, "against all the evils of the modern day that are threatening -- Bolshevism, I. W. W. ism, anarchy, Ku Klux Klans -- what ever their name may be -- that tend to throw a blight on the fair name of the land that we saved and still love."

Death has taken a heavy toll of the Grand Army members during the last year the commander said having taken two past commanders-in-chief, forty-five past department commanders, the assistant adjutant general, three members of the council of administration and 9,281 of the members.

Thursday, September 29, 1921

The Aurora Daily Beacon

## PILCHER OF BROOKLYN NAMED G. A. R. HEAD

By Associated Press Leased Wire

Indianapolis, Sept. 29 -- Lewis R. Pilcher, of Brooklyn, New York, was elected commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic at the fifty-fifth annual encampment today. He succeeds William A. Ketchum of Indianapolis. Mr. Pilcher is past commander of the department of New York. The 1922 encampment goes to DesMoines, Iowa.

Friday, September 30, 1921  
The Elgin Daily News

#### FOUR ELGINITES BACK FROM G. A. R. SESSIONS

Four of Elgin's "old soldiers," returned today from Indianapolis, Ind., where they attended the National G. A. R. Encampment, which opened Monday and remained in session through last evening.

C. L. Knodle, E. E. Taylor, Walter Kimball and Major George D. Sherman were the veterans from here to attend the meetings and to be royally treated by citizens of Indianapolis. Everything was done in the way of entertainment and hospitality for all of the Grand Army representatives in attendance.

## 1922

Illinois held its fifty-sixth department encampment in Alton on May 18th. Here, Dr. Edward P. Bartlett was elected department commander of the G. A. R. The reunion of the Thirty-sixth was attended by twenty-six survivors. It was held in Aurora at the memorial hall on September 12th and J. F. Harral, once again was elected president. Twenty-one members had passed away since the last reunion. At the national encampment held in Des Moines, Iowa on September 24th, James W. Willett of Tama, Iowa was elected commander in chief. Post 20 suffered a great loss this year with the death of Henry B. Douglas. A three time commander during the post's infancy, he helped to shape its future. J. H. Freeman was once again the post commander with a membership, now down to 81.

Wednesday, May 17, 1922  
The Elgin Daily News

### G. A. R. CONVENTION HAS BIG CAMP MEETING

(By The Associated Press)

Alton, Ill., May 17. -- The G. A. R. convention had as the chief feature last evening a camp meeting at the Temple theater. A large floral piece was presented by Mrs. A. B. Lamb for the American Legion auxiliary and a fine silk flag was presented by Mrs. Nellie Wilkinson, head of the Women's Relief Corps, who said a net gain in the year for membership amounted to 1,353, making a total of 16,676.

Henry R. Rathbone, of Chicago, was the chief speaker. His father and mother, then engaged, were in the box at Ford's theater as guests of President and Mrs. Lincoln, when the President was shot by Booth, and Major Rathbone was wounded by Booth. Mr. Rathbone gave a dramatic account of the history of that day.

The big event of the day will be the parade this afternoon. The line of march will be only eight blocks on account of the great age of the veterans.

Wednesday, May 17, 1922  
The Aurora Daily News

### G. A. R. MEMORIAL SERVICES SUNDAY

Maurice Lord, corporation counsel, will be the speaker at the Memorial services to be conducted next Sunday afternoon at Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R. for members of the post who have died during the last year. The services will begin at 3:30 o'clock.

Pursuant of the regular custom of recent years, flowers will be placed opposite each dead comrade's name which appears on a board. Eight of the veterans have passed away since the last annual memorial exercises were held.

All members of auxiliaries to Aurora Post, No. 20, as well as others are cordially invited to attend the services. The post will hold exercises with school students next week at the Fox theater.

Thursday, May 18, 1922  
The Elgin Daily News

### SPRINGFIELD MAN HEAD OF G. A. R. IN ILLINOIS

(By The Associated Press)

Alton, Ill., May 18. -- The Illinois Department of the G. A. R. adjourned its fifty-sixth annual encampment this morning after electing officers. Peoria was yesterday chosen as the next meeting place.

The new officers are as follows:

Dr. E. P. Bartlett, post 30, Springfield, commander.

J. G. Oulson, post 441, Alton, senior vice commander.

E. L. West, post 302, Augusta, junior vice commander.

R. H. Law, post 45, Galesburg, medical director.

W. J. Libberton, post 5, Chicago, chaplain.

A. D. Cadawalder, post 182, Lincoln, council of administration

A. S. Wright, post 108, Woodstock, do

W. M. Andrews, post 1, Rockford, do

R. M. Campbell, post 67, Peoria, do

C. F. Vaughn, post 91, Chicago, do

Henry C. Cooke of Chicago was appointed assistant adjutant general for the tenth time.

Thursday, May 18, 1922  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

STATE G. A. R. HOLDS ELECTION  
(addition to elgin article)

Council of administration -- A. D. Cadwallader, Post No. 182, Lincoln; A. S. Wright, Post No. 168, Woodstock; William Andrews, Post No. 1, Rockford; R. M. Campbell, Post No. 6, Peoria and C. E. Vaughn, Post No. 91, Chicago.

The heads of affiliated organizations are:

Woman's Relief corps, Jessie R. Schroeder, department president; Daughters of Veterans, Lotta M. Cawrey, Peoria, president; Ladies of G. A. R., Ruby G. Taylor, Geneseo, president; Sons of Veterans, W. F. Jenkins, Chicago, division commander; Sons of Veterans auxiliary, Maime Coleman, Chicago, division president.

Friday, May 19, 1922  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

LEGION WOULD DECORATE ALL HEROES' GRAVES

ASKS PERMISSION OF CIVIL WAR ORGANIZATION  
TO ASSUME SACRED TRUST

Indianapolis, Ind., May 20 -- A proposal that the American Legion be allowed to assume the sacred trust of caring for the graves of confederate and union soldiers has been made to the United Confederate Veterans and the Grand Army of the Republic, national headquarters of the world war service men here announce.

The Legion asks that it be given the privilege, beginning with the coming Memorial day. It suggests that to mark the occasion, Legion posts and units of the Confederate and Grand Army organizations exchange their respective flags over the graves.

"We see your ranks growing very thin and while there are a few of you yet with the living, the Legion has an ambition to prove its fidelity to you by accepting as a sacred trust the privilege of caring for and decorating all the graves of America's heroic dead, who fought on both sides of that struggle which resulted in a Legion's letter to General Julian S. Carr, chief of the Confederate veterans.

“Why not let us have just one Memorial day for the decoration of America’s soldiers,” continues the letter. “Our membership is comprised of the sons, and largely grandsons of Confederate veterans and Union veterans. It is comprised of your children and your children’s children, we belong to you and you belong to us. The glory and heroism you wrought is our priceless heritage.”

Legion officials here declare their belief that gradually May 30 is becoming Memorial day in both the north and south, where before states of the confederacy have traditionally observed different dates than those observed in the north. It is hoped that through the influence of the world war veterans on both sides of the Mason-Dixon line, Memorial day this year will be one of nation wide significance.

Sunday, May 21, 1922  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

#### G. A. R. MEMORIAL

Post 20, Grand Army of the Republic, will hold their annual exercises in memory of comrades who have died during the last year, at the G. A. R. hall at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, May 21, 1922.

Dr. Hindman of the First Presbyterian church will give the address. An attractive and appropriate program has been arranged.

J. M. Kennedy

P. M. Waite

F. H. Hotz

Committee.

Sunday, May 21, 1922  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## IN DOUBT

### CAPT. J. H. FREEMAN

Capt. J. H. Freeman has not decided whether he will attend the national encampment of the G. A. R. this year. The Captain has attended many state conventions and several national encampments but has not been in the most vigorous health all of the time of late.

Dr. W. M. Hanna of Aurora was elected a delegate to the national convention by the state encampment. Dr. Hanna, a country gentleman is one of the most popular men in Grand Army circles.

Monday, May 22, 1922  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## FLOWERS LAID BESIDE NAMES OF VETERANS

### TAPS SOUNDED AS INTRODUCTORY IN G. A. R. PRETTY MEMORIAL EXERCISES.

#### ADDRESS BY REV. HINDMAN

Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R. conducted impressive memorial services yesterday at the G. A. R. hall for the eight members of the post who died during the last year. The deceased veterans honored included: George H. Tooley, William Ray, Rudolph Solfisbburg, Alonzo Page, Louis Thon, Willett Richardson, James G. Butler and Henry B. Douglas.

The services opened with a song by Miss. Mabel Manning Wedge, after which the Rev. W. B. Hindman offered prayer. Taps were sounded and flowers placed opposite each dead comrade's name on the board, the exercise representing a decorating of graves. Following this ceremony the Rev. Mr. Hindman delivered the memorial address. In short he said:

“What a wonderful thing memory is. Memory, like a dim veil, drops before our eyes and on the faded panorama of the past the forms of gray coated confederates and blue clad comrades loom once more.”

Friday, September 8, 1922  
The Elgin Daily News

### G. A. R. PICNIC AT GENEVA YESTERDAY

The twenty-first annual picnic of the G. A. R. posts of Kane county was well attended yesterday at Geneva despite the unusually warm weather.

The veterans with their wives and families were welcomed by Mayor M. A. Joshel of Geneva. City Judge Edward W. Mangan of Aurora made the principal address of the day. There were short talks and musical selections on the program which started at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

B. F. Herrington, of Yorkville, president of the association, introduced the speakers.

The day's reunion opened in the morning at 10 o'clock with bugle calls at the soldiers' and sailors' monument in the court house yard at 10 o'clock in the morning. Following this there was a parade through the down town district. Hundreds of school children marched and the veterans rode in automobiles. The Tri-City band, members of the American Legion, the fife and drum corps and others were in the line of march. A basket luncheon was served following the parade.

Judge Mangan made a patriotic talk stating that "every movement which aims at the foundations of our free institutions is a menace to our American ideals."

Friday, September 8, 1922  
The Elgin Daily News

### 36TH REGIMENT IN REUNION TUESDAY

The fifty-sixth annual reunion of the the Thirty-sixth Regiment, Illinois Veteran Volunteer Association, will be held at the Grand Army hall, Aurora, September 12, it was announced this morning.

Congressman Ira. C. Copley will deliver the principal address to the veterans.

The regiment is one of the oldest in the state, and participated in some of the most important engagements of the Civil War, including Pea Ridge, Vicksburg, Mission Ridge, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Jonesboro, Nashville and Adairsville.

The regiment was mustered in service August 10, 1861 and discharged October 8, 1865. In general engagements this regiment lost more than 700 in killed and wounded. It marched and was transported by rail more than 10,000 miles during its term of service.

James F. Harral of Aurora is now president of the Thirty-sixth and William F. Sylla of Elgin, secretary-treasurer.

Monday, September 11, 1922  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## CIVIL WAR VETS HOLD REUNION HERE TUESDAY

### THIRTY-SIXTH REGIMENT SWAP REMINISCENCES IN FIFTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

#### HEAR ADDRESS BY COPLEY

The Thirty-Sixth regiment of Illinois volunteers will sound reveille to their fifty-sixth annual reunion tomorrow morning at the G. A. R. Memorial hall. A host of veterans of the civil war from Aurora and neighboring states and cities who were members of the regiment will spell legion tomorrow for the affair promises to overtop any previous gathering of the old forces.

James Frank Harral a popular member of the distinguished thirty-sixth will preside at the business meeting in the morning and the usual annual affairs of the organization will be transacted at this time, and will occupy most of the morning.

Following the business session the women of the G. A. R. auxiliary orders will serve dinner in the basement parlors of the hall. An elaborate menu garnished with everything in the way of delicacies to delight the heart of a veteran and lull to forgetfulness the thought of former camp beans is promised by the caterers.

Congressman Ira C. Copley will address the gathering after dinner and his talk will be followed by music, singing and other entertainment, throughout the afternoon meeting sessions.

A social get together will follow and terminate early in the evening replacing the camp fire ceremony formerly held on the evening preceding the reunion. The features of the rite including the swapping of reminiscences and story telling will have a place in the evening program tomorrow.

James Hatch of Plano and J. F. Harral from Aurora are in charge of the arrangements and promise a complete day's bill of interesting entertainment.

Tuesday, September 12, 1922  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

## VETS OF THIRTY-SIXTH HOLD ANNUAL REUNION TODAY

TWENTY-SIX SURVIVE TO REGISTER  
FOR FIFTY-SIXTH GATHERING HERE  
COPLEY SPEAKS

### ELECT HARRAL PRESIDENT

That time reaps a grim harvest with each tick of the clock was shown by the decrease in attendance of veterans of the civil war at the fifty-sixth annual reunion of the Thirty-Sixth regiment, which is being held today at the G. A. R. Memorial hall.

The decrease in attendance was noticeable this year, only 26 having registered up till noon. Twenty-one members have passed away during the year. Thirty-eight sent regrets because of infirmity or for other reasons.

#### Elect Harral President

A business meeting was held this morning at which time the following officers were elected: President, James F. Harral, Aurora; vice president, Frederick A. Whitney, Sandwich; secretary-treasurer, William F. Sylla, Elgin. The following committee was appointed on nominations; George G. Sherman, chairman; J. Frank Harral, Emra H. Strait.

A very nice dinner was served at noon by the Woman's Relief corps at long tables decorated with fall flowers. The menu consisted of fruit cocktail, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, celery, pickles, olives, combination salad, pumpkin pie, cheese, Parker house rolls and coffee.

#### Major Sherman Toastmaster

Major George D. Sherman of Elgin acted as toastmaster. The address of the day was given by Honorable Ira C. Copley who spoke on "The World Conditions Following the Great War." The address of welcome was given by city attorney Maurice F. Lord and response was made by James M. Hatch of Plano. Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson, daughter of the regiment, sang several numbers and personal experiences and social visiting added to the pleasure of the afternoon. The invocation was made by Dr. E. W. Lounsbury.

#### Programs Tell Battles

Printed programs were distributed giving the names of the battles in which the regiment took part and other interesting data. The program contains the picture of the "Three Jims" who were present today. They are James F. Harral, 82; James E. Moss, 79 and James S. Hatch, 77. They were boyhood chums at Hinckley and Little Rock, drilled

with broomsticks and kept together until the regiment went to Camp Hammond near the Montgomery sheep yards. They enlisted in Company E. Thirty-sixth Illinois volunteers, August 10, 1861 at Camp Hammond.

#### The Three Jims

Comrade Harral was wounded at battle of Perryville, Ky., Oct., 1862; recovered and joined his company. All three were on the advance picket line on the night of Dec. 30, 1862, and at the battle of Stone River all of the three were wounded.

Comrade Moss, at Mission Ridge, wounded in knee, leg amputated, honorably discharged September 29, 1864 as corporal; returned to his home, made his own "peg leg" and did farm work for his board while recovering.

Comrade Harral, so severely wounded that he received an honorable discharge, Sept. 30, 1864. Wounded twice.

Comrade Hatch was the youngest and tallest man in his company. After his wound at Stone River, returned to his company and re-enlisted as veteran at Blaine's Cross Roads, East Tennessee, January, 1864, when rations were "two ears of corn per day," in Gen. Phil Sheridan's division. Was with his company in the battles on Sherman's Atlanta campaign, having been wounded three times. In the charge at Kenesaw Mountain in June, 1864, he was severely wounded and taken prisoner and confined at Andersonville rebel prison until exchanged at Wilmington, N.C., March 1865, and after recuperating joined his company and served until the Thirty-Sixth regiment was mustered out of service Oct. 8, 1865, at New Orleans and disbanded at Springfield, Ill., Oct. 27, 1865.

The battles in which the regiment took part were Pea Ridge, Perryville, Stone River, Vicksburg, Bentonville, Leetown, Chickamauga, Dallas, Chattanooga, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Adairsville, Little Kenesaw, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Lovejoy, Jonesboro, Pulaski, Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville.

#### Regiment Lost over 700

The regiment was mustered in Aug. 10, 1861 and discharged Oct. 8, 1865. In general engagements alone it lost over 700 men in killed and wounded. It marched and was transported by rail and boat over 10,000 miles during its terms of service,

The program also gives brief service records of Col. Nicholas Greusel, Col. Silas Miller, Maj. George D. Sherman and Milton E. Cornell.

A son of "Grandpa" Hall of Chicago, who for so many years lived in Aurora, was killed in the battle of Stone River and buried by Chris Zimmer of Aurora who was wounded in the battle of Franklin and died fifteen years ago.

#### Members Who Registered

The following members registered today:

Emra H. Strait, Company F., Ottawa; William F. Sylla, Company A., Elgin; James F. Harral, Company E., Aurora; James S. Hatch, Company E., Plano; Sidney Kendall, Company B., Aurora; F. M. Whitney, Company F., Sandwich; J. M. Kennedy,

Company A., Aurora; William Von Ohlen, Company B., Hinckley; Harrison W. Blank, Company K., Independence, Iowa; Joseph F. McCrosky, Company I., Joliet; Milton E. Cornell, Company E., Wilmette, Ill.; Robert Collins, Company B., Aurora; Terris Johnson, Company F., Newark; Major Sherman, Elgin; Alec Manahan, Company A., Elgin; Clarence H. Truax, Company A., Crystal Lake; F. B. Perkins, Company A., Elgin; David Boyer, Company G., Momence; Samuel Brunhall, Company F., State Center, Ia.; James Moss, Company E., Scranton, Ia.; J. C. Denison, Company A., Chicago; W. Gifford, Company D., Joliet; Thomas Robinson, Company A., Aurora; L. M. Kelley, Company A., Washington, D.C.; W. H. Coultrap, Company F., Somonauk; Henry Hennis, Company E., Sandwich.

#### Resolutions for Dead

A committee consisting of M. E. Cornell, J. C. Denison and J. E. Moss submitted resolutions of sympathy on the deaths of the following members during the past year:

Thomas L. Nunn, Company F. Aug. 14, 1921  
Willett Richardson, Company B, cavalry, Sept. 23, 1921  
William A. Rogers, Company C., Sept. 27, 1921  
James B. Lowry, Company E., Sept. 27, 1921  
Sidney O. Wanzer, Company K., Oct. 23, 1921  
Thomas B. Flynn, Company B., Oct. 30, 1921  
Henry B. Douglas, Company A, cavalry, Oct. 30, 1921  
Dyer O. Clark, Company G., Nov. 21, 1921  
Lewis B. Householder, Company A., March 1, 1922  
Lloyd Lathrop, Company B, cavalry, March 14, 1922  
Henry P. Mann, Company B, cavalry, April 9, 1922  
William E. Sliger, Company F., March 3, 1922  
James C. McPherrin, Company C., Feb. 21, 1922  
Dr. M. M. Robbins, Company A. cavalry, March 31, 1922  
James M. Hogue, Company K., April 14, 1922  
Edward H. Stinson, Company C., May 19, 1922  
William McElrea, Company C, May 26, 1922  
B. M. Clayton, Company K  
Edwin E. Dyer, Company E. 1922  
Loring S. Bartlett, soldiers home, Quincy  
Lieut. Andrew Turner, Company I, June 22, 1922

#### Send Regrets

The following send regrets:

Jonathan Foulk, Company G, age 104, 1211 Julian street, Los Angeles, Cal.  
Burton Honey, Company K, age 89, Ogden, Kan.  
A. C. Wagner, Company A, age 83, Dewey avenue, Linton, N.D.

G. E. Lounsbury, Company E, age 81, 823 Liberty street, Elkhart, Ind.  
 Canute K. Johnson, Company F. age 80, Badger, Ia.  
 John J. Moulding, Company B, age 89, Waterton, Wis.  
 H. E. Dewey, Company E, age 79, Lead, S.D.  
 W. H. Beardsley, band, Moscow, Ida.  
 C. G. Cox, Company A, age 79, 557 Redfield avenue, Los Angeles, Cal.  
 Erwin Benton, Company A cavalry, age 80, Breedsville, Mich.  
 O. C. Switzer, Company A, cavalry, age 90, Monson, Mass.  
 Henry C. Scott, Company B, cavalry, age 80, Folsom, Cal.  
 E. S. Bartlett, soldiers home, Marshalltown, Ia.  
 A. L. Scofield, Company D, age 83, 1141 West Jefferson street, Los Angeles, Cal.  
 R. A. Henderson, Company C, age 78, Clearfield, Ia.  
 Emery W. Pratt, Company K, age 79, Brill, Wis.  
 W. C. Hall, Company K, age 82, Madeira, Cal.  
 Charles Pratt, Company G, age 81, 922 Fourth avenue, Rochelle, Ill.  
 John P. Savage, Company H, Cofeen, Ill.  
 George M. Dell, Company I, age 78, route No. 3, Cresco, Ia.  
 J. W. Hanson, Company E, age 78, 321 Wheeler street, Neosho, Mo.  
 Francis Phelps, Company D, 3791 South Vermont street, Los Angeles, Cal.  
 Charles E. Baker, Company B, Nora Springs, Ia.  
 A. H. Wulff, Company F, age 80, R.R. No. 1, Box 63, Morrison, Mo.  
 S. C. Carver, Company H, age 85, Sacramento, Cal.  
 Homer W. Wilcox, company A, age 78, R.R. No. 1, Woodstock, Ill.  
 Rudolph Brecker, Company B, age 79, Alta, Ia.  
 John Poll, Company K, age 82, Lennox, S.D.  
 W. A. Mitchell, Company C, age 84, Monmouth, Ill.

All members who sent regrets are between the ages of 77 and 104. The oldest is Jonathan Foulk now of Los Angeles, Cal., who will be 105 years old if he lives until December 3.

Wednesday, September 13, 1922  
The Elgin Daily News

### THIRTY-SIX VETS AT REUNION OF 36TH

With more than 700 men killed in the Thirty-sixth regiment in the civil war, and with time having cut down hundreds more, there were only thirty-six registered at the reunion of the regiment yesterday at Memorial Hall, Aurora.

The "Three Jims" were there, having survived so many of their comrades. James E. Moss and James S. Hatch, who were boys together at Hinckley, then a small pioneer village. They were the heroes at the reunion of the regiment, and their pictures were printed on the program.

At the reunion dinner Congressman Copley gave an address on "World Conditions following the Great War," which was compiled from material gathered by Mr. Copley in a recent visit to Europe.

Major George D. Sherman, of Elgin, was the toastmaster and Maurice Lord welcomed the guests to Aurora. Mrs. Harriet Joslyn Hendrickson, of Elgin, daughter of the regiment, led the singing.

The following officers were elected: President, James F. Harral, Aurora; vice president, Frederick A. Whitney, Sandwich; secretary-treasurer, William F. Sylla, Elgin.

Monday, September 25, 1922  
The Elgin Daily News

### G. A. R. VETERANS IN ANNUAL MEET

#### 70,000 TO ATTEND SESSIONS AT DES MOINES REUNION TO PRECEDE BUSINESS

(By The Associated Press)

Des Moines, Ia., Sept. 25. -- With three days of reunions, reminiscences, parades and camp-fires ahead of them before they settle down to the transaction of official business on Thursday, the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic and the men and women of auxiliary and allied organizations meeting here for the fifty-sixth annual G. A. R. national encampment, early today had taken possession of the city.

Seasoned observers of the encampments of recent years predicted that this years gathering would bring to Des Moines more than 20,000 Grand Army men and 50,000 members of auxiliary organizations. Inspection of credentials of the 1,330 official representatives of state departments opened at 10 o'clock this morning at headquarters.

Special trains bringing most of the eastern state department delegations were scheduled to reach the city during the day.

Nearly every department has one or more drum corps and the inspiring rattle of the drums and whistling fifes enlivens the different state headquarters in every hotel in the city.

Dr. George T. Harding, of Marion, Ohio, father of President Harding, is one of the thousands of civil war veterans here for the annual encampment. Approximately 500 delegates are here to attend the annual meeting of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Tuesday, September 26, 1922  
The Elgin Daily News

#### BETTER BONUS WILL COME, SAYS G. A. R. HEAD

Commander Louis L. Pilcher, at the G. A. R. encampment at Des Moines, Ia., declared that a new and better bonus bill will be passed before long. Pilcher pointed out that it was more than twenty years after the Civil War before the veterans began receiving pensions.

Tuesday, September 26, 1922  
The Elgin Daily News

VETERANS RECALL CONFLICT IN WAR  
REUNIONS HELD TODAY OF EVERY MAJOR UNIT  
OF UNION ARMY IN CIVIL WAR

(By The Associated Press)

Des Moines, Ia., Sept. 26. -- Twenty thousand civil war veterans here for the fifty-sixth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, joined today in reunions of every major unit of the union army in the civil war. Veterans of the Iron Brigade, survivors of the battle of Shiloh, the remnant of war prisoners, negro troops who participated in any of the many engagements of the war, gathered to fight again in memory the conflicts in the Tennessee wilds, with Farragut at Mobile Bay, or to recall the tragedies of Andersonville.

The Grand Army veterans were guests of the local auxiliaries today at a lawn and garden party, with drills, pageants, bands and fife and drum corps providing entertainment.

The social phase of the encampment reaches its peak tonight with a reception and ball at the state capital, at which Governor and Mrs. Kendall, assisted by other state officials will be hosts. Following the reception there will be a fireworks display on the capital grounds.

Tomorrow the Grand Army and affiliated organizations will unite in what may be the last great parade of the veterans of the civil war.

The last special trains bringing delegations to the encampment arrived last night and the registers of the various organizations today showed an attendance of more than 20,000 Grand Army Veterans and about 30,000 members of auxiliary organizations.

Fifty-eight years have passed so lightly over the head of Rev. James Hatch, of Sandwich, Ill., that when H. E. Dewey, attorney of Lead, S. D. met him at the court house yesterday, he recognized him instantly as the "Long Jim" Hatch whom he had last seen in Andersonville prison in 1864.

The recognition was facilitated, Mr. Dewey explained, by the fact that Hatch was not only the tallest member of Company "E," 36th Illinois Infantry, and Dewey the shortest member, but each had been wounded at the battle of Chickamauga, at which time Mr. Hatch had lost an eye and Mr. Dewey had been seriously wounded in the side. They have found three other members of their original company at the encampment.

Tuesday, September 26, 1922  
The Aurora Daily Beacon

### G. A. R. DRUM IS A. W. O. L. FOR SEVERAL YEARS

A story which ran in the Beacon News asking the whereabouts of an invalid chair belonging to G. A. R. Memorial hall brought such immediate results that the vets have decided to send out a hurry up call for a post drum which has been reported A. W. O. L. for two or three years. The G. A. R. intelligence department has not been able to locate or recollect to what civic organization the drum was loaned and as a valuable part of the collection of relics, it is sorely missed.

The drum was emblazoned with the letters, Aurora Post No. 20 of the G. A. R, and yet it has reposed unattended in some forgotten corner.

Wednesday, September 27, 1922  
The Elgin Daily News

### G. A. R. VETERANS IN ANNUAL PARADE

#### COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF PILCHER WILL DELIVER ADDRESS AT CAMP-FIRE TONIGHT

(By The Associated Press)

Des Moines, Ia., Sept. 27. -- One of the veterans of the civil war in the annual Grand Army of the Republic parade dropped from fatigue at noon today in the line of march as it neared the capital extension grounds and died within fifteen minutes.

He is known to be a veteran from Minnesota and is believed to be M. J. Maekenhansen of Great Bear Lake, Minnesota.

Des Moines, Ia., Sept. 27. -- After today's great annual parade, veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic who are holding their fifty-sixth annual encampment here, planned to take advantage of an afternoon with no scheduled activities to rest from the weariness of the march and the two preceding days of unwonted liveliness.

Illinois department of the Grand Army of the Republic was awarded front position among its comrade departments in the parade. This came about through seniority in the day of its charter. The members of the Illinois division were preceded by the famous U. S. Grant Drum Corps.

All the veterans, however expected to be restored by the relaxation in time for participation in the annual camp-fire, to be held tonight. Past Commanders and present officers of the G. A. R. and others will address the veterans.

General Lewis P. Pilcher, of Brooklyn, New York, Commander-In-Chief of the Grand Army will deliver his only address to his common (comrades) which will be heard by the public at tonight's meeting. He will be followed by Hank MacNider, National Commander of the American Legion, who participated with him in the morning review.

Special music for the occasion will be furnished by the Ladies colonial glee club, who will wear period costumes.

While the veterans rest during the afternoon, the allied organizations will begin their business activities and ritualistic exercises will be held by several of the orders.

The Women's Relief Corps which opened its activities today with a breakfast honoring the present and past national presidents at national headquarters was addressed later in the day by Mrs. Agnes H. Parker, of Boston, national president, following which flag presentations and memorial services were held.

Ladies of the Grand Army were to open their business session at 2 o'clock with Mrs. Anna M. Mitchell of Philadelphia presiding. National Officers will be elected tomorrow. The Sons of Veterans were also to start their encampment business today with a memorial service and a reception. Commander-in-chief Clifford Ireland, of Washington, D. C., is scheduled for the Sons of Veterans program for tonight.

The Sons of Veterans auxiliary also went into business sessions today and will unite with the parent organization in its other activities today.