

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

TAKEN FROM

*THE AURORA BEACON NEWS*

1887 - 1891

PART THREE

compiled and transcribed by  
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**In 1887**, Twenty-fifth Anniversary battle reunions would begin to reignite the interest of the public and veterans in war remembrances. Allied Auxiliary organizations would also come into existence. Sons of Veterans, Ladies of the G. A. R. and The Woman's Relief Corps had become well entrenched in the support of Aurora Post No. 20, Grand Army of the Republic. Comrades of Post No. 20, accompanied by their new Commander, Mark D. Yager, would attend The Department of Illinois Encampment in Rock Island on February 16th, where A. C. Sweetster, of Bloomington, would be elected Department Commander. It was a busy time for the community in September when the Thirty-Sixth Illinois survivors held their reunion on September 22nd at Aurora. George D. Sherman would be re-elected President. A week later the National Encampment of the G. A. R. was held in St. Louis, Missouri on the 28th. John R. Rea, of Minnesota would become Commander-in-Chief. Not a favorite with the G. A. R. was President Cleveland, who vetoed hundreds of private pension bills for the vets. His proposal to return captured Rebel flags also won him the animosity of the order. Affairs continued to heat up as the vets feared that Cleveland was going to attend the national encampment. The crisis was narrowly averted as it became known that the President was running well behind schedule and would not arrive in St. Louis until after the encampment. None the less rhetoric swirled during the meetings until G. A. R. leadership put its foot down, admonishing any censure of the President and ordering all to stay out of politics.

Wednesday, January 12, 1887                      CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the G. A. R. will give their third dance, at the Casino Rink, January 21. Sweet's orchestra will furnish the music.

Saturday, January 15, 1887                      CITY NEWS

The installation services of the newly elected officers of the G. A. R. will take place in their hall next Tuesday evening, January 18, the attendance to be confined to the members of the Post and their families.

Wednesday, January 19, 1887                      CITY NEWS

At the G. A. R. installation last night, Eb. Denney was presented with a beautiful past commander's badge. F. O. White made the presentation speech on behalf of the Post and the recipient is proudly exhibiting the gift this morning.

The installation of Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R., held last evening was a pleasant affair, as usual, although the snow drifts prevented the Joliet boys from attending. The regulation refreshments were in order. The names of the officers have already been published.

The Ladies of the G. A. R. will give a pleasant entertainment at the Casino Rink on Friday evening of this week, January 21. Supper will be served from 5 to 10 o'clock, and a miscellaneous literary programme fills in the time from 7 to 8. Dancing from 8 to 12. Sweet's Orchestra furnishes the music. Admission and supper, 25 cents; dance tickets 25 cents.

Saturday, January 22, 1887

CITY NEWS

The Ladies Auxiliary of the G. A. R gave another of their very pleasant suppers and dancing parties at the Casino Rink last evening, a large audience being in attendance. Supper was served from five to nine o'clock, and dancing was the attractive feature from nine until twelve. The affair throughout was well patronized, and was a pleasant financial and social success.

Wednesday, January 26, 1887

CITY NEWS

Through the kindness of Senator Evans, Mr. Eb. Denney has just received for Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R., a complete set of the report of the Adjutant General of Illinois, from 1861 to 1866, containing a perfect roster of every regiment or other military organization from this state that served during the late war. The first volumes of the work have just been revised, corrected and reprinted, and will be duly prized by the veterans here.

Wednesday, February 2, 1887

CITY NEWS

The sociable given at the residence of Eb. Denney, last evening, by the Women's Relief Corps, was attended by sixty people or more, notwithstanding the fierce storm, and a very pleasant time is reported by those who were present. The admission fee was ten cents, and the sum of \$6 was realized.

Saturday, February 5, 1887

CITY NEWS

The War History of Illinois, published in eight large volumes by Adjutant General Vance, of the state, was authorized by the Legislature in 1885. It will be distributed to all public libraries, Grand Army Posts and Military Libraries of the state. The Aurora Post has already received the work. The history gives full lists of soldiers and officers as well as detailed

accounts of the engagements in which each regiment took part. The history is very complete and will grow in value with time. It shows that Illinois sent 185,941 infantry, 32,082 cavalry and 7,277 artillery recruits to the field; organized in 150 infantry regiments, seventeen cavalry regiments, two regiments of light artillery and nine independent batteries. Five thousand copies of the history will be distributed free to the libraries of the state.

Mrs. J. F. Harral, President of the Illinois Woman's Relief Corps, has also received mourning cards from Mrs. Logan and family.

Wednesday, February 9, 1887                      CITY NEWS

Streater Post, G. A. R., was organized in 1879, and is the oldest now existing in LaSalle County.

Saturday, February 12, 1887                      CITY NEWS

General Logan's last book, entitled, "The Volunteer Soldier", is now in the printer's hands, and will soon be published and on sale. "The Great Conspiracy," has already met with a large sale.

The State Encampment of the G. A. R. at Rock Island, next Tuesday, will be attended by a considerable number from Aurora. Delegates from the local Post are J. F. Harral, W. H. Watson, J. M. Kennedy and S. B. Sherer, but J. H. Hubbard will go as alternate in Mr. Sherer's place. Post Commanders are entitled to sittings, and Eb. Denney expects to go. Delegates to the W. R. C. Convention are Mrs. Harral, Mrs. Hubbard, Mrs. Denney, Mrs. Scragg and Mrs. Kennedy, also possibly Mrs. Poole.

Wednesday, February 17, 1887

#### ILLINOIS ENCAMPMENT G. A. R.

Rock Island, Ill., Feb. 16. -- To-day and to-morrow the State encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic meets in Rock Island, and the occasion will bring to the city about 2,000 veterans and members of the Woman's Relief Corps, and many distinguished members of the order.

The Grand Encampment G. A. R. to be held in Rock Island this Week  
Strength of the Order.

ROCK ISLAND, ILL., Feb 14, -- The annual encampment of the Illinois State Grand Army will be held in this city next Wednesday and Thursday. Local Posts are busy arranging for what promises to be an important event. It is expected that there will be 2,000 delegates and veterans in attendance.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., Feb. 14, -- H. P. Thompson, Assistant Adjutant General of the Department of Illinois, Grand Army of the Republic, has made his annual report to General Philip Sidney Post, Department Commander. There are 495 posts of the G. A. R. in the Department of Illinois, of which 57 were established during the past year. The membership including only those in good standing, was January 1, 1886, 22,183. The number in good standing January 1, 1887 was 25,443. There were added during the year 9,259 members, and lost by death, removed to other states and otherwise, 5,999. The net gain is 3,260.

Saturday, February 19, 1887

CITY NEWS

The Aurora delegation to the G. A. R. Encampment at Rock Island arrived home at 5:20 last evening, after an all day trip, and report a most enjoyable time while absent. The Batavia delegates came thru on the same train.

AURORA POST NO. 20 G. A. R.

Comrades will assemble at Post room Sunday, February 20 at 9:30 a.m., to attend service at West Side Baptist Church.

By order of Commander.

F. L. Thayer, Adjt.

Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R. turned out in a body yesterday forenoon to attend the funeral of James Healy, from the residence of William Richards. Mr. Healy was a member of Piper City Post.

At the State G. A. R. encampment at Rock Island, J. F. Harral, of this city, was elected a member of the council of administration. Mrs. Clara W. Harral and Mrs. Lizzie Hubbard, also of this city, were chosen by the Woman's Relief Corps to similar positions. Col. William Avery, of Woodstock, and Lewis Curtis, of Sycamore, were elected respectively, junior vice-commander and chaplain of the G. A. R. state department.

## THE VETERANS

Grand Army men of Illinois and Wisconsin meet at Rock Island and Milwaukee.

ROCK ISLAND, Ill., Feb. 17:-- The Illinois State Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic met here yesterday morning with over 1000 delegates present. An address of welcome was delivered by Dr. McKee and a response was made by General Post, Department Commander. In the afternoon nominations for the different offices were made -- General Fullerton and Colonel Sweetser, "showing up" for Commander and ex-Governor Hamilton for delegate-at-large. At night there was a complimentary entertainment at Harper's Theater, with a stirring address by Congressman elect W. H. Gest and a production of the war drama "The Spy of Atlanta."

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Feb. 17:-- At the State encampment, G. A. R., yesterday ex-Senator Griffin, of Eau Claire, was chosen Commander; B. F. Bryant, of La Crosse, Senior Vice Commander, and Robert Ingles, of Bayfield, Junior Vice Commander. A full list of delegates to the National Encampment was chosen. The resolutions in regard to President Cleveland's veto of the Pension Bill were called up and passed with one dissenting vote out of the five hundred delegates present.

### VETERANS PROTEST

Illinois Grand Army Men Denounce the Pension Veto

Reason given for their Action

Resolutions on other subjects of Interest

List of the New Officers Chosen

Doings of the Veterans of Indiana

### Old Soldiers of Illinois.

ROCK ISLAND, ILL., Feb. 18. -- The State encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic yesterday adopted resolutions of respect for the life of General Logan and favoring the interment of his remains in Illinois soil, such burial to take place on Memorial Day, 1887. Among the other measures adopted were resolutions endorsing veteran police patrol of Chicago, recommending the passage of an act by the General Assembly to prevent persons from unlawfully using or wearing the Grand Army badge; favoring the formation of local camps of Sons of Veterans; directing subordinate posts to vote on the question of a universal service provided that the sense of the Illinois Grand Army be ascertained.

Springfield was chosen as the place for next year's encampment. The following officers were elected:

A. C. Sweetser, of Bloomington, Department Commander, W. L. Distin, Quincy, S.V.C., Colonel William Avery, Woodstock, J.V.C., Dr. J. McKee, Rock Island, Medical Director.

Ex-Governor, John M. Hamilton was chosen Delegate-at-large to the National Encampment and a full list of delegates and alternates was chosen.

A series of resolutions was adopted demanding that Congress pass the so-called Dependent Pension bill over the President's veto as an act vital to the interest and honor of the

country in this and remaining generations. The resolutions pronounce the veto message unsound in all its arguments and inferences for the following reasons:

Because it endeavors to institute a comparison between wars which were comparatively mere skirmishes and the bloodiest struggle the world has ever known.

Because it strains and weakens the rules of construction to show that this act might include many who ought not to be pensioned when the construction thereof lies entirely with the administration and fairly made includes only those totally disabled.

Because its reasoning against the granting of pensions, that unworthy men may receive the benefit of them, applies rather to the general policy of pensions and rewards for service there to this particular bill and it is an argument which if carried to its conclusion should destroy every sentiment of patriotism and public generosity.

Because it assumes that Union soldiers of the war of the rebellion have already been pensioned higher than those of any other war in the world's history. We need not go outside this message to show the error of this assumption. By it we find that one third of the soldiers of the war of the revolution or their representatives have been pensioned. One fourth of those of the War of 1812, and one fourth of those of the Mexican War. The proportion of pensions for the Civil War is about one fifth. The chances for injuries in the civil were more than 100 to 1 of those in the other war referred to.

Because we consider it very cold comfort for the poor dependent veterans in some of our country poor houses to be told that soldiers homes have been provided for a few thousand out of 2,000,000, and that laws have been passed giving preference to those who served the country when those homes and those laws do not help them.

Wednesday, February 23, 1887

MEMORIAL services in honor of General John A. Logan and Judge Davis were held in the Representatives Hall at the State Capitol, yesterday afternoon. Both branches of the Legislature and the executive department of the State government were in attendance to listen to the eulogies.

SINCE the veto of the dependent pension bill by President Cleveland, Gen. Lucius Fairchild, commander-in-chief of the G. A. R., has issued a circular recommending "that posts and comrades everywhere, by resolutions and letters, immediately inform members of Congress, who are entitled to, and will gladly receive these expressions of opinion, of their approval or disapproval of the principles involved in the vetoed bill." Of the action of the veterans there can be no doubt. The words of a Michigan soldier express the opinion. He thinks if President Cleveland had carried a gun and eaten hardtack during the war he would not be so free to veto pension bills. Our Sugar Grove correspondent also expresses an opinion on the subject in today's Beacon, and our Bristol correspondent has a word to say on the matter.

Those newspaper editors and others who rejoice over the veto of the Dependent Pension Bill by President Cleveland, and who take pains to slur the G. A. R. at every opportunity, are of the class who poured in the cowardly and sneaking fire in the rear during the war, and who would in case of further conflict, follow the example then set, or that of the tories of the Revolution. They are the venomous curs which are ever ready to spring at the throat of the Nation which gives them the greatest privileges enjoyed by any people on earth.

#### CITY NEWS

Meetings are being continued at the First Baptist Church every evening this week except Sunday. The pastor's sermon to the G. A. R., Sunday morning is very highly complimented. The church was filled morning and evening, and at the evening service three young ladies were baptized.

A large number of members of Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R., by invitation attended the First Baptist church last Sunday morning, and listened to a discourse by the Pastor, Rev. D. D. Odell.

Saturday, February 26, 1887

The Grand Army influence throughout the country is enlisted in favor of passing the Dependent Pension Bill over the veto of the President. Protests continue to come into Congress against the veto. Thursday, Senators Cullom and Farwell presented another batch of petitions from Grand Army Posts at various places in Illinois urging Congress to pass the bill, despite the President's objections.

A. D. Reade, of Batavia has been reappointed by department commander A. C. Sweetser, of the G. A. R., to the position of state inspector, the appointment being dated February 24. The commander pays a deserved tribute to Mr. Reade, who he believes has the love of the order thoroughly at heart. The gentleman was a caller at this office this morning.

Wednesday, March 2, 1887

#### CITY NEWS

Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R., are especially invited to be present at a meeting of the Ladies Relief Corps to be held at the residence of Mrs. C. S. Lewis, 101 South River Street, Thursday evening.

The Woman's Relief Corps will hold a sociable at the residence of Mrs. C. S. Lewis, 101 South River Street, Thursday evening, March 3. Supper served at 6 to 8 o'clock, for 15 cents. All are invited. Ladies of the W. R. C. will please meet in the afternoon at two o'clock.

Ella Scragg, Pres.

Saturday, March 5, 1887

#### CITY NEWS

Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R. comrades will assemble at City Hall, Monday, March 7, at 7 pm. sharp. By order of Commander.

F. L. Thayer, Adjt.

#### ATTENTION, SONS OF VETERANS

Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R. attends our next regular meeting on March 8. It is therefore desired that every brother be present.

F. C. Hewitt, 1st Sgt.

#### DEPENDENT VETERANS.

#### The Annual Report of the Trustees of the Illinois Soldiers' Home Estimates the Number in the State Over 2000

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., March 4. -- The Trustees of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home ask, in their first annual report to the Governor, for from 100 to 140 acres north and west of the home to be used for farming and grazing purposes. They ask for \$28,000 with which to buy them.

Returns which were received from post commanders in twenty-four counties show that there are seventy-one disabled veterans in poor houses. 108 who from disability can not earn a living, not in poor-houses and not members of the Grand Army, and ninety-two members of the Grand Army not included in the preceding enumeration who will probably become members of the home, making a total of 271 in twenty-four counties having a population of 712,446. Estimating the entire State on this ratio the Trustees find the result to be 1,170. They have also estimates recently furnished by officials of counties to whom they applied for information giving a percentage which, if calculated for the entire State, would show a total of over 2,000 dependent veterans.

#### CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the G. A. R. will give another of their pleasant socials at the Casino Rink Tuesday evening, March 13. Dancing and refreshments will be the attractive features of the occasion.

The Woman's Relief Corps held a pleasant sociable Thursday afternoon and evening, at the residence of Mrs. C. S. Lewis, 101 South River Street. Supper was served in the evening to over 100 persons, including members of the G. A. R. and Sons of Veterans. The occasion was an exceedingly enjoyable one.

Wednesday, March 9, 1887

CITY NEWS

Charlie Collins will appear again in this city on the 18th of April, under the auspices of the G. A. R., the date having been determined upon at the meeting of the Post last evening.

The sociable given by the Ladies of the G. A. R. occurs at the Casino Rink next Tuesday evening, March 15. Dancing and refreshments will be in order, and excellent music will be furnished.

The Woman's Relief Corps will hold a sociable at the residence of Mr. Eb. Denney, 104 South Broadway, Tuesday evening, March 15. Supper served at 6 to 8 o'clock, for 15 cents. Ladies of the W. R. C. will please meet at half past two o'clock in the afternoon to sew.

Ella Scragg, Pres't.

CITY NEWS

The Sons of Veterans entertained about fifty members of the G. A. R., at their hall Monday night, a sociable and general good time following the regular business of the evening.

Saturday, March 12, 1887

CITY NEWS

The entertainment to be given next Tuesday evening at the Casino Rink, by the Ladies of the G. A. R., promises to be a pleasant and in every way successful affair.

Upon invitation of Rev. J. H. Acton, the G. A. R. will attend services in a body at the Peoples church on the last Sunday before Decoration Day, and the Park Place Baptist church the Sunday following upon invitation from Rev. O. O. Fletcher.

Saturday, March 26, 1887

### THE GRANT MEMORIAL

General Fairchild Appoints the Grand Army Committee to Take Charge.

MILWAUKEE, WIS., March 26. -- General Fairchild, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army has appointed a committee composed of one representative from each Department to take charge of the proposed Grant Memorial in Washington. Among the members are these;

From Illinois, J. W. Hurst of Chicago; Indiana, David N. Foster, Fort Wayne; Iowa, W. R. Manning, of Newton; Kansas, A. B. Campbell, of Topeka; Michigan, O. F. Lockhead, of Flint; Minnesota, John P. Rea, of Minneapolis; Missouri, A. G. Peterson, of St. Louis; Montana, W. F. Sander, of Helena; Nebraska, Samuel B. Jenks, of Omaha; Wisconsin, H. G. Rogers, of Milwaukee; Dakota, W. V. Lucas, of Chamberlain.

General Fairchild is chairman of the committee. The executive committee is composed as follows:

S. S. Burdett, chairman; George S. Evans, Ira M. Hedges, Robert B. Heath, John P. Rea, A. G. Peterson, D. N. Foster, H. M. Nevins, H. P. Lloyd.

General Fairchild suggests that on the 25th day of April next, which will be the sixty-fifth anniversary of the birth of General Grant, every Post shall, at some convenient hour, assemble and invite their fellow citizens to meet with them and solicit contributions for the memorial.

### CITY NEWS

Mr. Alonzo Treest, an old soldier and a member of the G. A. R., elsewhere, announces himself a candidate for town collector. He is a worthy man and would fill the position honorably.

The public are cordially invited to attend the sociable of the Woman's Relief Corps Tuesday evening, March 29, at the residence of Mr. J. F. Harral, 199 North Fourth Street. Supper served from 6 to 8 o'clock for 15 cents. Ladies of the W. R. C. will meet at half past two o'clock.

Ella Scraggs, Pres't.

Wednesday, March 30, 1887

### CITY NEWS

The Woman's Relief Corps held a very pleasant meeting with Mrs. J. F. Harral, on North Fourth Street, yesterday afternoon and evening. In the evening supper was served to a large number and a most enjoyable time was had by all.

G. A. R. Department Commander A. C. Sweetser has appointed Maj. W. H. Watson, of this city, as one of a committee of ten to perform such services connected with the final interment of the remains of John A. Logan, at Chicago, as may be desired by the family. The services will probably be held Memorial Day

Wednesday, April 4, 1887

From the Quincy *Whig* of April 3, we clip the following: "General Sherer, who has occupied the position of Commissary and Quartermaster, is attending to his arduous duties, notwithstanding that he is now suffering severely from wounds received in the army and from rheumatism. He is a pleasant soldier and gentleman and will be one of the most popular officers of the institution. At the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Soldiers' Home, last evening, General Sherer, who has occupied the position of quartermaster and commissary was elected as secretary and acting adjutant to succeed to the position made vacant by the death of Colonel L. W. Shepherd. Colonel Carnahan, of Danville, was chosen to the position of quartermaster and commissary, made vacant by the promotion of General Sherer."

Saturday, April 9, 1887

CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the G. A. R. will give another of their popular dances at the Casino Rink this month.

Wednesday, April 13, 1887

CITY NEWS

The regular social of the Woman's Relief Corps, which was to have been held at Mr. F. H. Hotz's, Friday, has been postponed.

Saturday, April 16, 1887

CITY NEWS

The committee appointed by Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R., to procure headstones from the government, for soldiers with unmarked graves, desire that the friends of any deceased Soldiers, buried in any of the Aurora cemeteries, would as soon as possible hand in the names with company, regiment, rank, and date of death. Also the company, regiment, rank, and date of death of the following list is required. E. J. Goodwin, George Shepard, Henry Tinking, Adam Mills, B. Y. Hagadone, R. W. Morley, ----- Tucker, Robert Hazard, Chas. Maker, John C. Haddock, Chas. G. Austin, Geo. W. White, Henry Kyle.

J. F. Harral,  
H. L. Krahl,  
Sam'l Hitchcock.      Committee.

Wednesday, April 20, 1887

CITY NEWS

Chas. Collins, The Dutch Comedian, at Coulter Opera House each evening this week. Do not fail to see him.  
(1887-A)

#### GENERAL FAIRCHILD'S ORDER

DUBUQUE, IA. April 20. -- General Lucius Fairchild, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, and Adjutant General Gray, arrived here last evening to attend the encampment of the Department of Iowa. General Fairchild has issued the following important order:

“Posts of the Grand Army of the republic are requested not to comply with any request for their opinions as a post on any subject unless such action shall have the approval of National and Department headquarters. Further orders on the subject will soon be issued.”

The order is aimed at the attempt of the New York *Tribune* to get the posts to express their opinions of President Cleveland's vetoes of Pension bills.

Wednesday, April 27, 1887

CITY NEWS

The Woman's Relief Corps will hold their next sociable at the residence of Mr. Charles Roberts, 169 West Park Avenue, Tuesday evening, May 3rd. All are cordially invited to attend. Supper served at 6 to 8 o'clock for 15 cents each. Ladies of the W. R. C. will meet in the afternoon at half past two o'clock.

“Fritz Stein” was presented at Coulter Opera House Saturday evening to a large audience for the closing performance. During the five nights that the play was produced the average attendance was such that the Aurora Post, G. A. R., realized a neat sum of money which will go toward providing the necessities of life for needy veterans and their families. The Post is doing a grand work in this direction and saves many old soldiers or their widows from the necessity of asking for help from the country. The tax to support the poor is many dollars less than it would be in this city and county but for the active efforts of Post No. 20, G. A. R., ably seconded by the Woman's Relief Corps and the Sons of Veterans organizations.

Saturday, April 30, 1887

CITY NEWS

The proceeds of the entertainment to be given at the Island Rink next Tuesday evening, May 3rd, by the Ladies of The G. A. R. will go to the Soldiers' Home. Refreshments will be served, and the price of admission is only 10 cents. All are cordially invited.

In a commendatory notice of the good work which the G. A. R and their auxiliaries were doing in this city in Wednesday's Beacon, omission was made of the Ladies of the G. A. R. who constitute an entirely separate organization and are also doing a good work for the needy veterans and their widows and children.

The Woman's Relief Corps will hold their next sociable at the residence of Mrs. Charles Roberts, 169 West Park Avenue, Tuesday evening, May 3. All are cordially invited to attend. Supper will be served from 6 to 8 o'clock at 15 cents each. Members of the W. R. C. will meet in the afternoon at half past two o'clock.

The Ladies of the G. A. R. will give a social dance at the Island Rink, Tuesday evening, May 3, 1887. Good music in attendance. Admission at the door, 10 cents, dance tickets, twenty-five cents extra. Refreshments will be served at the Rink. The entire net proceeds will be used in the interest of the Soldiers' Home.

FOR MEMORIAL DAY.

From the National Headquarters of the Grand Army of the Republic, Madison, Wis., come general orders No. 11, which say: "Nineteen years ago the then commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. [John A. Logan] in general orders set apart the 30th day of May and suggested that it be consecrated to the memory of the fallen soldiers of the nation. This being the first Memorial Day occurring since his death, the commander-in-chief [Lucius Fairchild] asks that the eloquent and appropriate words of general orders No. 11, 1868, uttered by the illustrious soldier and beloved comrade, John A. Logan, be again, taken as an inspiration and guidance for the 30th day of May, 1887. ---*Exchange*.

Wednesday, May 4, 1887

CITY NEWS

The Woman's Relief Corps held a very pleasant social yesterday afternoon and evening at the home of Miss. May Roberts on West Park Avenue.

The dance given by the Ladies of the G. A. R., at the Island Rink last evening was patronized by a fair sized audience who seemed to enjoy themselves.

Saturday, May 7, 1887

CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the G. A. R. realized a neat sum from their entertainment given at the Island Rink Tuesday evening. This worthy society donated the sum of \$25 to the Soldiers' Home at Quincy last fall and the proceeds of their entertainments this summer will also be devoted to this worthy cause. The public should always liberally patronize these entertainments, remembering that the object for which they are given is a worthy one.

The Woman's Relief Corps are making extensive preparations for holding an apron bazaar at the Island Rink, May 24 and 25. This worthy society of ladies have taken the task of furnishing a room at the Soldiers' Home at Quincy, and the proceeds of the bazaar will be devoted to this object.

Saturday, May 14, 1887

CITY NEWS

Messrs, Eugene Statler, A. F. Wade and A. C. Graves, the G. A. R. committee on Decoration Day exercises have not as yet made the complete arrangements for the day but will probably have the program ready for publication in a few days. The speaking will be at the Island Rink and Rev. Strobridge will be the orator of the day.

ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

Beginning of the Eighteenth Annual Reunion

Garfield's Statue to be Unveiled

WASHINGTON, May 12. -- The eighteenth reunion of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland was inaugurated yesterday morning at ten o'clock by the business meeting at the new G. A. R. hall, near the corner of Pennsylvania and Fifteenth Street. General Sheridan presided. The treasurer's report showed the organization to be in good financial condition. The committee appointed for the purpose has chosen Chicago as the place, and Chickamauga week (September) as the time for the next meeting, and the report will be made today. The reunion at the Congregational church in the evening was largely attended, the church being gorgeously decorated for the occasion. Commissioner Webb delivered the address of welcome, to which General Sheridan responded. Colonel Duffield's annual oration was a masterly exposition of the achievements of the Army of the Cumberland. Generals Sherman, Rosecrans and Black also made short addresses. Several hundred of the members held "a symposium" last evening at Abner's Hall. This morning at ten o'clock a business meeting will be held. At one o'clock the exercises attending the unveiling of the statue of General James A. Garfield will take place at the

circle west of the south wing of the Capitol, at the intersection of First Street and Maryland Avenue.

## CITY NEWS

The surviving members of the 124th Regiment, Ill. Veteran Volunteers desire to hold a reunion this fall and for that propose a preliminary meeting will be held May 21 at the G. A. R. hall in this city at 8 o'clock pm. sharp. It is to be hoped that all members who can do so will be present.

Wednesday, May 18, 1887

### PROGRAMME FOR DECORATION DAY.

The members of Aurora Post, G. A. R., No. 20, will assemble at G. A. R. hall on Monday, May 30th, 1887 at 12:30 p.m., where they will be divided into two detachments, one for the East, and one for the West side cemeteries, under the command of the senior vice and junior vice commanders, for the purpose of decorating soldiers' graves.

#### CHAPLAINS.

J. H. Acton, Spring Lake cemetery  
Thomas Galt, Root Street cemetery  
Samuel Earngay, West Aurora cemetery  
T. F. Leydon, Catholic West Side

At the East Side Cemetery the services will consist of singing by Aurora Post quartette, prayer and scattering of flowers. At the West Side cemetery the services will consist of singing by West Side High School quartette, prayer and the decoration of graves.

#### GUIDES.

C. G. Ayers, Spring Lake cemetery  
A. Quinton, Root Street cemetery  
M. Maloney, Catholic, West Side  
Oscar Gates, West Aurora cemetery

After the ceremony of decorating the graves, the procession will form on the Island, under the direction of the chief marshal, T. P. Howard.

#### ROUTE OF PROCESSION.

Form on the island, east on Fox Street to Broadway, north on Broadway to New York, west on New York Street to River Street, south on River Street to Fox Street to the Island Rink.

## EXERCISES.

The services will be opened by prayer by Rev. N. A. Prentiss; singing by Dr. Robinson's choir; address by Rev. J. C. Strobridge; memorial service by Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R.; singing by Messrs. Dr. Robinson's choir; prayer and benediction by Rev. N. A. Prentiss.

All ladies interested in the decoration of soldiers' graves will meet at the Court House, May 30th, (Decoration Day), at 8:30 am.

## COMMITTEES.

On flowers -- Mrs. F. O. White, Mrs. A. M. Brown; on music, W. H. Stebbins; on decoration of hall, J. J. McNair; on carriages, Granville Case.

Memorial Committee -- A. F. Wade, A. C. Graves. Eugene Stetler

Saturday, May 21, 1887

Gen. Fairchild, commander of the G. A. R., writes as follows of Memorial Day: "Memorial Day is the choicest in the calendar of the Grand Army -- a day of sweet remembrances dear to every loyal heart, and any violation of its sacredness by making it the occasion of frivolity and amusement, such as characterizes the Fourth of July, should be treated as indignity to the comrades who died that this country might live."

## THE GRAND ARMY.

### Commander Fairchild Issues a General Order Concerning Memorial Day and the National Encampment

MADISON, Wis., May 20. -- Yesterday Commander-in-Chief Fairchild, of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued general orders in which he cordially indorses the Woman's Relief Corps and Sons of Veterans as benevolent organizations. He declares that the Grand Army knows no "Decoration" Day, so called, but is full of love for "Memorial" Day as it should be properly designated; announces that all railways will give one fare for the round trip to the National Encampment in St. Louis in September. He calls a meeting of the Thirteenth Army Corps at St. Louis on September 27 to select a corps badge, and appoints W. G. Veasy, of Rutland, Vt., a member of the Grant Memorial Committee, vice George W. Rooker, of Brattleboro, Vt., resigned. He also appoints several additional aides on his staff to represent the State of Pennsylvania, and designates the Federal Commissioner of Pensions as the proper person for veterans to consult in searching for addresses of comrades.

The strawberry and ice cream festival is announced by the Ladies of the G. A. R. for Wednesday evening, June 16 at the Island Rink.

Wednesday, May 25, 1887

CITY NEWS

An invitation extended by Rev. Acton to attend the Peoples church in a body next Sunday morning has been accepted by the G. A. R. Post No. 20.

Aurora Post G. A. R., No. 20, will attend the Peoples church tomorrow in a body. In the evening, Rev. Dr. Acton, the pastor will deliver his lecture on the fall of Ft. Sumpter.

The G. A. R. extend a cordial invitation to all residents, both young and old, to assist in procuring flowers with which to decorate the Soldiers' graves Monday. They can be left at the G. A. R. hall Monday morning.

There will be a special meeting of the Woman's Relief Corps Saturday evening, May 28th, at 7:30 o'clock sharp, at Mrs. Eb. Denney's, 104 South Broadway. It is earnestly requested that every member be present.

By order of the President.

Wednesday, June 1, 1887

DECORATION DAY.

No one can deny but that Decoration Day with its cessation of business cares and its memorial exercises in memory of our fallen heroes is one of the most interesting days of the entire year. Since the inauguration of this beautiful custom, a score of years since, interest seems to increase instead of diminish as the years roll around, until at the present time it is very generally observed throughout land.

In this city Monday the major portion of those employed in shops and factories abstained from labor during the entire day, while nearly all places of business were closed during the afternoon.

The various cemeteries were visited in the morning by detachments of veterans who decorated the various graves with flowers. In the afternoon the procession formed in front of the Court House about three o'clock and marched east to Broadway on Fox Street, north to New York Street, west to River, south to Downer Place and east to Island Rink. (Put) Howard was officer of the day and headed the procession which was made up as follows: Marshal Walker and platoon of police; Aurora Military Band; Company D Militia; Mayor and Common Council; Sons of Veterans; G. A. R. Post No. 20, about 150 in number; and a carriage containing Reverends Strobridge, Galt and Acton.

Arriving at the rink shortly before four o'clock the procession entered and took the seats which had been reserved for them, the balance of the seats being occupied by a large audience of

ladies, gentlemen and children. Commander M. D. Yager called the meeting to order and Rev. William Windsor opened the exercises by a brief and eloquent prayer. Mrs. Dr. Robbins' choir, composed of about a dozen young ladies and gentlemen, furnished excellent music which was succeeded by the impressive ceremonies of the Post, conducted by Comrade J. M. Kennedy. The veterans seemed to enjoy this sacred service of their own, and well they may for it is worded in an appropriate and touching manner. At the conclusion of these services Rev. T. R. Strobridge, pastor of the First M. E. church, delivered one of the best efforts of the kind ever given in this city. The vast audience seemed greatly to appreciate the address as they listened throughout with rapt attention and at times could not resist rewarding the speaker with hearty applause.

#### CITY NEWS

The G. A. R. Post, No. 20, and Sons of Veterans, attended divine services at the Peoples' church, Sunday morning on invitation of the Pastor. The audience room had been very tastefully decorated with flags and flowers by the ladies of the church, and was filled to the doors with a large and attentive audience. Rev. Dr. Acton's subject was "Peace and War," which he handled in an interesting and original manner, frequently eliciting applause. We have been requested by several members of the Post to publish the address in full, and intend to do so, but as it was delivered extemporaneously, we have to depend on a short hand report which the reporter has not had time to write up. The church choir sang very finely, and a solo by Mr. Bowen with chorus by the choir was especially good. In the evening the pastor, by request, read a paper "The Fall of Sumpter," which was also attended by a body of veterans, and a large audience, considering the rain. The exercises of the day were a very appropriate prelude to the Decoration ceremonies of Monday.

The Ladies of the G. A. R. prepared floral tributes Monday, an evergreen wreath for each soldier's grave and a barrel of lemonade for those marching in the procession.

Saturday, June 4, 1887

#### CITY NEWS

The Woman's Relief Corps and Sons of Veterans are desirous of extending thanks to merchants and businessmen who so generously donated articles for the bazaar recently held by them in Company D Armory; also to any who assisted in making the affair a success. The net proceeds far exceeded their expectations amounting to \$74.59.

(1887-R) SV-WRC ribbon

Wednesday, June 8, 1887

CITY NEWS

A large number of G. A. R. and Sons of Veterans accepted the invitation extended them by Rev. Fletcher and attended the Park Place church Sunday morning, where they listened to an able discourse. The church was tastefully decorated with flags, flowers, etc., the portraits of Lincoln, Grant and Logan being on the organ loft.

The L. of G. A. R. will give a strawberry and ice cream festival at the military armory on the island, Tuesday evening, June 14, 1887. Good music and dancing.

Saturday, June 11, 1887

A NEW PENSION BILL

Provisions of a Measure Drafted By a Committee  
of Grand Army Men.

MADISON, Wis., June 11. -- A committee of the Grand Army of the Republic has drafted a Dependent Pension bill for submission to Congress, and it is now being sent to all the Posts. It provides pensions for parents whose soldier son left no widow or issue upon showing that the parents are dependent on their own manual labor or the contribution of others for support, the pension to date from the date of actual dependence if the claim was filed prior to July 1, 1880, or from the date of filing when the claim was filed after the passage of the bill. It provides that all disabled honorably discharged veterans who served three months shall receive \$12. a month provided their disability is not due to personal habits, no person to receive more than one pension for the same period, and rank not to be considered.

Widows or orphans under eighteen, or where there none, dependent parents of dead veterans may receive the pension provided by law, whatever may have been the cause of death of the veteran, provided, in case of the widow, that she married the veteran prior to the passage of the act, the pension of orphans to be \$5. a month, and in case the orphan is insane, idiotic or otherwise helpless the pension to continue through life or during the period of helplessness. Punishment for agents or attorneys accepting a greater fee than \$10. is provided.

Wednesday, June 15, 1887

CLEVELAND AND THE G. A. R.  
General Tuttle's Action Regarding the St. Louis Row  
Indorsed by Iowa Posts.  
General Sherman to the Front With Good Advice.

DES MOINES, IA., June 13. -- The Grand Army Posts of this city have indorsed General Tuttle's action as commander for Iowa in protesting against having President Cleveland review the Grand Army in St. Louis. They say the President should send a substitute, and, if possible, the person who represented him in the army during the war. The President's veto of pension claims is bitterly denounced.

ST. LOUIS, June 13. -- General W. T. Sherman has written a letter to Grand Army men in this city expressing the belief that the Grand Army veterans will not so far forget themselves as to insult the President; expressing the hope that Mr. Cleveland will attend the parade in St. Louis next September, and declaring that he will, in that event, stand at the President's side or march in the column before him.

ST. LOUIS, June 13. -- There are more sensational developments in the matter of the Grand Army against President Cleveland. The Encampment Committee has received an official communication from half a dozen posts scattered through Iowa and Illinois stating that they had decided not to attend the St. Louis Encampment.

Saturday, June 18, 1887

The posts of the Grand Army raised such a storm of indignation at the President's recent order to return the captured rebel battle flags to the governors of the states, that he has rescinded the order, throwing the blame for the same upon subordinate officials of the state department.

SON OF VETERANS IN STATE ENCAMPMENT

PEORIA, Ill., June 16. -- The State Encampment of the Sons of Veterans began here yesterday on the fair grounds north of the city, with between 200 and 300 representatives of local camps in attendance. The forenoon was largely occupied in listening to an address of welcome from Major Wells, and the response to the same by Colonel Abbott of Chicago. The Sons of Veterans who are expected today to participate in the drill will probably number 1,000. Fifty local camps are now represented on the register.

## ILLINOIS SONS OF VETERANS

PEORIA, Ill., June 17. -- The State Encampment of Sons of Veterans elected these officers yesterday: Col. Frank McCrillis, Chicago; Lieutenant-Colonel, J F. Wonder, Peoria; Major, J. B. Henderson, Homer; Council-in-Chief, E. T. Roe, Springfield. Division Council -- J. I. Leons, Chicago; C. T. Omer, Bloomington; E. C. Elder, Galesburg. Delegates to the National encampment -- H. G. Moore, Roodhouse; J. L. Kinsman, Streator; G. W. Wyle, Danville. The Adjutant's report showed 104 camps in the State with a membership of 2,600. The next annual meeting will be held at Rock Island.

### VOTE OF THANKS.

Aurora, Ill., June 14th, 1887

At a regular meeting of Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R., held at this date, it was voted that the thanks of the Post be extended to the People's church and Rev. J. A. Acton; to Park Place Baptist church and Rev. O. O. Fletcher, for their invitations to attend services on May 29th, and June 5th, and for the very interesting and instructive sermons delivered on those occasions; also to all who contributed so generously, flowers for decorating on Memorial Day; to the City Government for their attendance; to the clergymen who took part in the exercises of the day and especially to the Rev. Strobridge for his address at the rink; to the several quartettes for their excellent singing, not forgetting the choir under the direction of Mrs. Robbins, which added so much to the exercises; to Co. D, 3rd Reg't and Sons of Veterans for escort duty; to the citizens who responded so generously in closing their places of business, and to all who contributed to make the exercise of the day a success, which we feel they were; and to the public generally for the interest manifested by them in this Post.

M. D. Yager, Commander

F. L. Thayer, Adjutant.

Saturday, July 2, 1887

### ATTENTION SONS OF VETERANS !

The meeting nights of Camp No. 21, S. of V's, have been changed from the first and third Monday evenings, to the first and third Thursday evenings of the month.

F. C. Hewitt, 1st. Sgt.

Saturday, July 9, 1887

CITY NEWS

The Aurora G. A. R. are arranging for a grand basket picnic at Cowder's grove near Oswego at an early date. For the Committee on Arrangements Comrades J. F. Harral, Eb. Denney and J. M. Kennedy have been named, and a rousing time may be anticipated.

The Ladies of the G. A. R. will give a grand sociable at Casino Rink Friday evening, July 15th. Dancing will be one of the evening's entertainment and ice cream, cake and liquid refreshments will be served. Admission ten cents, dancing twenty-five cents.

Wednesday, July 20, 1887

CITY NEWS

The G. A. R. picnic at Cowdry's grove, Aug. 5. Round trip fare, 50 cents.

The regular meeting of Circle No. 4, L. of G. A. R. will be held in the G. A. R. Hall Wednesday evening, July 20th, 1887 at 7:30

Mrs. G. W. King, Sec.

Wednesday, July 27, 1887

CITY NEWS

The grand picnic at Cowdry's grove next week Friday promises to be largely attended. Free coffee will be served.

Saturday, August 6, 1887

CITY NEWS

By a series of unavoidable circumstances, the dates of the Big Bend Veteran Association Reunion have been changed from Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 30, 31 and Sept. 1 to Aug. 24, 25 and 26. There are so many G. A. R. re-unions during the week first selected by this association, that it was found impossible to secure tents, cannons and other necessities, as well as a majority of the invited guests, so that the Commander, Capt. T. C. Fullerton, decided to make the change. -- *Chicago Journal*

The third Annual Reunion of the Northwestern Soldiers' and Sailors' Association will be held at Dixon, Ill., August 23 to 25th inclusive, under the auspices of Dixon Post, No. 299, G. A. R. All necessary preparations are being made to make this the most enjoyable reunion ever held in the Northwest. Gov. Oglesby, Commander-in-chief Fairchild, Department commander Sweetser, Gen'l Henderson, Gen'l Atkins and other distinguished soldiers have been invited, and

many of them are expected to be present. A glorious good time is anticipated and all are cordially invited. Fares will be reduced on all leading railroads. Ample accommodations will be provided for all, and meals furnished at reasonable rates; not exceeding twenty-five cents. Let all old soldiers and sailors with their families attend this reunion.

The G. A. R. have appointed a committee to enquire into the matter of obtaining a Pullman sleeper to accommodate those who desire to attend the National Encampment in St. Louis in September.

The G. A. R. picnic at Cowdry's grove did not materialize yesterday, owing to the welcome downfall of rain that arrived early during the forenoon. The luncheons prepared for the picnic were disposed of during the day and another supply of edibles will be prepared for Tuesday of next week, when the veterans, their families and friends, will go down to Cowdry's grove for a days recreation.

Wednesday, August 10, 1887

A meeting of committees to see about the annual reunion of Kane County Soldiers' and Sailors' association was held at Geneva Sunday. President George D. Sherman and A. T. Lewis represented Elgin. Aurora, Hampshire, Elburn were not represented. Secretary George O. Spooner, of Batavia, was instructed to communicate with the various G. A. R. posts of the county and get a vote as to whether or not to have a celebration this year. For two years it has been held on the island at Geneva. Geneva is not a place calculated to awaken the interest that would ensue from the selection of Elgin or Aurora, and then, too, the people don't seem to care much about having gatherings. Geneva promises to pay for the foot bridge to the island this year, but would like to have the county posts chip in two dollars apiece for last years bridge. -- *Elgin News*.

The blue suits and brass buttons of the G. A. R. boys were quite numerous on the streets yesterday owing to the well known fact that nothing but sickness or unusually pressing business can keep an old veteran from a G. A. R. picnic, and the crowd that waited at the depot to board the picnic train was sufficient guarantee that the picnic would be a success. The merry makers were deposited at Cowdry's crossing and repairing to the grove devoted the day to unalloyed enjoyment. The veterans, their wives and families were all there, and numerous visitors were present from surrounding towns, so that the audience was unusually large. Feasting and the usual picnic features were observed during the day, and as a matter of course one of the jolliest of times was enjoyed by all who were there.

Saturday, August 13, 1887

### BIG BEND VETERAN REUNION.

The Big Bend Veteran Reunion Association will comprise the Grand Army Posts and Soldiers of ten populous counties by the date of the approaching reunion. This will give a membership of twenty-five posts. The date of this, the fourth annual Reunion at Ottawa, LaSalle County, Ill., has been changed to Wednesday, August 24th, Thursday, Aug. 25th, and Friday, Aug. 26th. The camp will be located at Allen Park adjoining the Ottawa Mineral Spring Grounds. It is a retired spot, within four blocks of the center of the city, well shaded by Oak and Walnut trees, on the banks of the Illinois and at the mouth of the Fox Rivers. It is a cool, shady, grassy, dell supplied with quantities of gushing water from Catea's Springs and Mineral Springs. Good tents and clean straw will be furnished for 3,000 soldiers, if wanted. The ground will be inclosed and will be in charge of the Big Bend Reunion Association and officers of the Ottawa police.

The programme is elaborate and complete consisting of receptions of comrades, organization of camp, night fight sham battles, explosion of gun boats shelling the works, naval assault, capture of fort, inspection, a grand parade, numerous well conducted regimental battery and army reunions, great camp fire, and on the last day addresses by distinguished guests and an elaborate sham battle comprising a cavalry charge, etc., etc. Invitations have been extended to the President, the Governor, the State Officers, Commander-in-Chief Fairchild, Department Commander Sweetser, G. A. R department officers, Gen. W. T. Sherman, Gen. W. S. Rosencrans, Gen. J. C. Black, Gen. H. C. Hobart, Gen. A. G. McCook, Gen. John Beatty, Gen. Thomas Henderson, Gen. P. Sidney, Post Gen. P. C. Hays, Lt. Gov. Smith, Maj. J. A. Connelly, Mrs. Gen. J. A. Logan and Mrs. Gen. James A. Mulligan. Invitations have been issued to 250 posts of the G. A. R. of northern Illinois and personal invitations sent to 500 prominent individuals. Reunions will be held of the 4th and 14th Cavalry, 20th, 26th, 39th, 44th, 47th, 53rd, 64th, 88th, 91st, 100th, 127th, 129th and 138th Infantry, Houghtaling's Battery C, 1st Ill. Cogswell's and Henshaw's Batteries. Hotel accommodations are good and ample.

All railroads sell tickets from all points within 100 miles at one and one third fare. All information as to regimental reunions, the camp, etc., will be answered by Commander T. C. Fullerton of M. Hanifen, Chairman and executive committee.

Saturday, August 20, 1887

### CITY NEWS

The railroads will sell tickets to and from the Grand Army encampment at St. Louis at one cent a mile. They expect that the immense amount of additional travel induced by this low rate will enable them to make more money than by maintaining the regular rate. There is no reason, on the same logic, why a regular two cent rate the year round would not operate in the same way, especially in a thickly settled state like Illinois.

## THE SONS OF VETERANS.

DES MOINES, Ia., Aug. 20. -- At the National encampment of the Sons of Veterans here yesterday, General G. B. Abbot, of Chicago, was elected Commander-in-Chief. The next meeting will be held at Wheeling, W. Va.

## SONS OF VETERANS.

DES MOINES, Ia., Aug. 19. -- The National encampment, Sons of Veterans, yesterday passed a resolution asking Congress to pass the Dependent Pension bill prepared by the Grand Army of the Republic.

Wednesday, August 24, 1887

## THE G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 22. -- The Executive Committee of the Grand Army of the Republic are completing arrangements for the encampment next month. The line of march has been selected and extends for six miles through the leading streets of the city. The work on the Memorial Arch has already begun. The Grant and Lincoln arches will be in cathedral glass, beautifully illuminated. The "Old Commander's" portrait will be in equestrian style, while the Lincoln portrait will be reproduced from a negative taken in Philadelphia during the war. The estimates now in the hands of the committee show that about 70,000 veterans will be in attendance.

## CITY NEWS

Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R., will run an excursion to St. Louis Monday, September 26, leaving this city over the Joliet, Aurora & Northern road, the occasion being the annual G. A. R. encampment.

Wednesday, August 31, 1887

## THE GRAND ARMY

Official Programme of the Great Encampment to be Held in St. Louis.

St. Louis, Aug. 29. -- The official programme for the business and entertainment of the Grand Army encampment, which is to be held here beginning September 26 was decided upon Saturday evening and will be published and distributed this week. The chief features are as follows:

First day, Monday -- reception of visiting comrades at depots and steamboat landings.

Tuesday -- Grand parade and review. Evening -- Formal reception and welcome by Mayor Francis; grand illumination of the streets by hundreds of gas jets and electric lights.

Wednesday -- Opening of encampment and National convention of the Woman's Relief Corps; reunion of states and regiments in Forest Park; excursions on the river to Jefferson Barracks and National Cemetery. Evening -- Street illumination, musical entertainments and fire works.

Thursday -- Business meeting of the encampment, excursion to the tomb of Abraham Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois, and river excursions. Evening -- Street illumination and parade of the trades display. Association and allegorical representation of the business interests of St. Louis.

Friday -- Meeting of the encampment and river excursion. Evening -- Street illumination, banquet to the officers, delegates and representatives to the Grand Encampment; grand camp fire and pyrotechnical display.

Saturday -- Railroad excursion to Nashville, Mammoth Cave, Ky., and other points of interest.

MADISON, Wis. Aug. 29. -- In the last ninety days, during which period the opposition to the Grand Army has been pushed strenuously, the order has recruited in twenty-eight of the thirty-eight departments, 13,632 veterans. The Nebraska department, since sending the regular report, sends a supplemental list of 955 suspended members, who voluntarily returned.

Saturday, September 3, 1887

CITY NEWS

The survivors of the 105th Illinois Volunteers held a reunion gathering at Downers Grove yesterday that was very largely attended. Col. Dustin and other notables delivered stirring addresses and an enthusiastic meet was enjoyed. Captain A. C. Graves of Aurora was among the visitors.

All those wishing to attend the Twenty-First National Encampment of the G. A. R., to be held at St. Louis Monday, September 26, 27, 28 and 29 and can secure tickets at the same rate as members of the G. A. R., \$5.63 for the round trip. This includes bridge toll at St. Louis. The J. A. & N. railway will run a special excursion train from Aurora, Monday, September 26, and will run chair cars to St. Louis without change of cars via the Chicago and Alton road. This is the only route taking you and your friends through Springfield, Illinois, and permitting a stop over at that point, affording all an opportunity of visiting Lincoln's tomb without additional charge. Those who are desirous of attending this grand excursion will please leave their names at W. H. Watson's book store or with the committee by September 15 in order that arrangements can be made for all. Remember the fare is only \$5.63 for the round trip, the cheapest excursion ever leaving Aurora.

Committee on Transportation,  
G. S. Case, J. H. Blackmore, J. A. Kinley.

Wednesday, September 7, 1887

CITY NEWS

A G. A. R. Post was organized at McHenry on Monday evening, the number being 643. Supervisor Harral and City Marshall John Walker, of Aurora, officiated as mustering officers.

Arrangements are in process for the reunion of the 124th Illinois, in this city Friday. An archway was erected today in front of the G. A. R. hall under which the veterans will march into the building and the interior of the hall is being decorated for the occasion.

The regular meeting of Circle No. 4, L. of G. A. R. will be held in the G. A. R. hall Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Every member is requested to be present as business of importance is to come before the meeting.

Mrs. G. W. King, Sec.

Saturday, September 10, 1887

REUNION OF THE 124TH

The reunion of the 124th Regiment Ill. Vol. Infantry in this city yesterday was a perfect success from every point of view and pleasant remembrances of the happy day will live long in the memory of the visitors who participated. Island Rink was the scene of the gathering and veterans from far and near marched into the edifice until a grand concourse of old soldiers, their wives and families had assembled.

The 124th was mustered into the service September 10, 1862, and during the period of its war service marched over 4,100 miles, was engaged in 14 skirmishes, ten battles and two sieges, of forty-seven days and nights, and thirteen days and nights respectively, thus having been under the fire of the enemy eighty two days and sixty nights. The Regiment was composed of two companies from Aurora, one from Batavia, two from Kewaunee, one from New Boston and the remainder from anywhere, so that the present residence of the survivors are naturally scattered and far apart. For this reason no annual reunion has been attempted and the members of the Regiment simply convene when they think a good attendance can be secured. Four previous reunions have been held and it was determined that this year an attempt would be made to form a thorough organization, with a view of meeting more frequently if possible.

A discussion on the subject was held during the forenoon, and from twelve to one o'clock the veterans present at the rink were regaled with a royal repast, served by a committee from the Ladies of the G. A. R. At the close of the bountiful spread a short programme of exercises was carried through.

Mayor Meredith was expected to deliver the address of welcome but his honor was called out of the city on business and the pleasant task of welcoming the gallant boys in blue and their better halves devolved upon Dr. O. Wilson. The latter acquitted himself with much credit. He referred pathetically to the fact that the relentless hand of time was ever plucking survivors from the ranks until but few remained of the noble regiment of a quarter century since. He spoke of camp and battlefield and referred to the 124th as "one of the regiments whose fortune it was to never have been beaten in battle." The speaker paid a glowing tribute to the veterans.....

At the close of Dr. Wilson's remarks, Ex-Alderman Meagher was called upon to respond to the toast "The ladies but the gentleman not present, and Capt. Fields, of Michigan, took the rostrum and made a few appropriate remarks. He referred to the ties that bind the soldiers together as being as enduring as the ties of home and assured those present that the occasion would ever remain green in his memory.

Benj. Goodhue, of Chicago, state lecturer of the Union Labor party, is a member of the 124th and gave a rousing address. He closed his remarks by reading an original poem appropriate to the occasion, and Comrade Bassett, of Chicago, the newly elected President of the association, followed with some timely remarks.

The business meeting was held during the forenoon and a permanent organization effected by the election of the following officers:

President, Charles Bassett, of Chicago; Vice Presidents, O. D. Bonney, of Iowa, and Captain Neuland, of Tennessee, Ill.; Secretaries, Dr. O. Wilson, of Aurora and Treasurer, John W. Kendall, of Aurora.

Comrades Goodhue, Burrows, Bonney, Evans and Field were appointed a committee to draw up a constitution and by-laws.

The following survivors of the 124th were present at yesterday's reunion, Gus Aucutt, David Smith, J. Eggleston, Mr. Irwin, J. H. Blackmore, Melvin Tarble, M. J. Tarble, Chas. Snedecker, W. E. Carpenter, John W. Kendall, H. H. Evans, George Slate, Dr. O. Wilson, S. Dennison, A. P. Hatch, L. McCullum, Thomas Cuthbert, John W. Martin, Mike Maloney, Dr. Seymour, Henry Mostow, J. H. Cleveland, Frank Pinney, and Delos Hankins, Aurora; Z. Behr and John Beemer, Montgomery; A. Judd and Marshall Dorr, Sugar Grove; C. S. Bassett, Benj. Goodhue, A. Kennedy, J. R. Manning and J. D. Neuman, Chicago; Richard Martins, W. Elliott, Elliott Jones, A. N. Race, J. Messmore, J. L. Baines, A. Matthew, G. S. Green, H. Blanchard, H. C. Gerry, Isaac Cook, Wm. Hirsch and W. C. Kent, Kewaunee; Dr. Mayberry, Kansas City; B. Gooding, Chatam, Ill.; P. Braw, Stark Co. Ill.; John Broomfield and W. Smith, Hennepin, Ill.; L. Hegen and Dr. Wilson, Warden, Ill.; C. H. Burrows, Chaffee Co., Col.; Theo. Games, Cedar Falls, Minn.; A. L. Morsey, L. G. Brown, Jno. Morris, Emery Caskey, E. R. Roff, A. Levy, S. A. Desover, Capt. Stafford, J. C. Henry, T. C. VanSlack, I. Brown, C. Kuth, E. D. Hunt, J. Martin, C. O. Wood, J. W. Gregg, W. J. Hollister and E. S. Bradley, Batavia, Ill.; L. C. Kelsey, Elysic, Ohio; J. Hovey, Iowa; Gus. Mulenburg and D. Noble, New Boston, Ill.; W. D. Hodgson, Iowa;; W. A. Stooks, Waterloo, Iowa; J. W. Lund, McHenry County; E. McFillard, New York; H. W. Merrill, Nebraska; D. A. Bigelow, Story County, Kansas; H. M. Van Winkle and C. C. Dawson, Sycamore, Ill.; Capt. Mann, Blair, Kansas; F. F. Hanks and Mr. Durley, DesMoines, Iowa; J. B. Bloom, Atchison, Ill.

Wednesday, September 14, 1887

ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE  
Gathering of its Old Officers at Detroit.  
The City Handsomely Decorated.

DETROIT, Mich., Sept. 14. -- This city is beautifully decorated for the meeting of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee, which begins here today. Generals W. T. Sherman, H. W. Slocum, W. D. Whipple, M. T. McMahon and G. M. Dodge, Colonel Logan C. Murray and Mrs. Gen. Logan and her son John A. Logan are in the city. Mrs. Logan is Governor Alger's guest. The distinguished guests dined with General Poe, Commander of the Loyal Legion, last night, and afterward visited the cyclorama of the battle of Atlanta, where a reception was held. Governor Luce will speak to-day, and Colonel Jacobson, of Chicago, will deliver an oration. There will be a parade of the military and veterans.

CITY NEWS

All those wishing to secure tickets for the G. A. R. excursion to St. Louis, Mo., at W. H. Watson's book store on Friday, Sept. 23, from 10 o'clock a.m. until 12, noon, also on Saturday, from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. and in the evening from 7:30 until 9, or at the J. A. & N. depot. The grand excursion train will leave Aurora on Monday, Sept. 26th, from the J. A. & N. depot, at 10 o'clock a.m. sharp.  
J. W. Colliver, Agent.

Saturday, September 17, 1887                      CITY NEWS

Corporal Tanner, the gifted orator of the G. A. R., will stop over in Aurora on his way from the St. Louis Convention, and address a gathering of the veterans of this vicinity. The date secured for the appearance of this eloquent speaker is October 5th when a large audience of the G. A. R. boys and many others will greet the gentleman. Corporal Tanner is a resident of Brooklyn, New York, and lost both lower limbs in the service. He is accounted one of the most brilliant talkers in the Grand Army of the Republic.

EXCURSION TO THE G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT  
AT ST. LOUIS.

The Chicago Burlington and Quincy Railroad Co. will run a special train to St. Louis leaving Aurora at 7 p.m. September 26, arriving in St. Louis at 8 a.m. September 27. Sleepers will be attached to the train. The rate from Aurora will be \$5 for the round trip.

Wednesday, September 21, 1887      CITY NEWS

The cheap rates to St. Louis next week will probably attract many visitors to that city during the G. A. R. encampment. The J. A. & N. runs an excursion from this city on Monday next, the round trip fare having been fixed at only \$5.

THE BLUE AND THE GRAY.  
A Grand Reunion of Ex-Union And Ex-Confederate Soldiers  
To Be Held At Atlanta, Georgia.

ATLANTA, Ga. Sept. 20 -- The Association of Ex-Confederate Veterans at an immense meeting last night, amid great enthusiasm, appointed a committee of fifty to make arrangements for the fitting reception of the Union Veterans of the Army of the Ohio, Tennessee and Cumberland, who fought from Chattanooga to Atlanta. The Union Veterans come at the invitation of the Piedmont Exposition to revisit the battlefield over which they fought over twenty years ago. The programme of reception and fraternizing will extend through the week beginning October 10 and will be elaborate, but the chief event will be a reunion bar-b-q and ceremonies at Kenesaw on October 11, and an illumination of the historic old mountain at night. Thousands of old soldiers have signified their intentions of coming and the reunion will doubtless surpass anything yet seen.

Saturday, September 24, 1887

A ROUSING RE-UNION.

Thursday, September 22nd, was another great day for the survivors of the gallant Thirty-Sixth Regiment, for on that day they enjoyed a rousing re-union in our city, a re-union remarkable for good attendance and unusual enjoyableness of attending features. Again the veterans gathered together for a shake of the hand, the interchange of cordial greetings and the enjoyment of the sociability that characterizes each annual reunion of the 36th.

The regiment was organized at Camp Hammond, in this city, by Colonel N. Greusel, and mustered into United States service September 23, 1861, for three years of the war. It numbered 965 officers and enlisted men, and had two companies of Cavalry, with 186 officers and men.

It was mustered out of service at Washington, D.C., October 8 and disbanded at Springfield, Ill., October 27, 1865.

In general engagements alone, the Thirty-Sixth (Infantry) Regiment lost in killed and wounded over 700 men. It was reinforced by 221 recruits and drafted men. It marched, and was transported by rail and boat, over 10,000 miles during its term of service, and was ever distinguished for gallantry and bravery upon the field of battle.

The rain on Thursday morning did not deter the veterans from swarming to this city, for they well knew the hospitality that awaited them, and as if to signal their coming, by noon the skies were cleared and the brightly beaming rays of old Sol extended a cheering reception on the visiting soldiers and their families.

The business meeting was held during the forenoon George D. Sherman presiding. The Secretary reported having received notices of the demise during the past year of Comrades Capt. W. J. Parkhurst, Co. G, Nicholas Zimmer, Co. G, James Halbertson, Co. A, Ira Larson, Co. F, Dennis Smith, Co. H, Geo. McCabe, Co. A, James A. Lannigan, Co. E and Henry Haigh, Co. E. A committee of three was appointed, Comrades W. S. Lylla, W. H. Hall and E. H. Henderson, who drew up appropriate resolutions which were accepted by the convention. Numerous letters of regret were read from Comrades unable to be present. Colonel Greusel, Gen. Sheridan and Comrades Dennison and Merrill being among the number.

George Merrill wrote from Webster City, Iowa that he had in his possession the 12 pound shell which killed Lieutenant Olsen and several others and asked the convention what disposition he should make of the shell. On motion of Comrade Harral the Comrade was requested to forward the shell to the secretary of the association to be preserved by him as a memento of the battle of Stone River.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, M. E. Cornell, Yorkville, Vice President, W. H. Chamberlain, of Pittsfield, Mass., and Secretary, Fred O. White, of Aurora.

A vote of thanks was extended to the officers of the Association for the past year and to the ladies who had kindly furnished the floral decorations.

The committee on arrangements for the reception were Sam Hitchcock, M. M. Robbins, J. M. Kennedy, C. J. Ayers and A. C. Ferre, and those gentlemen omitted nothing that could contribute to the enjoyment of the visitors.

The reception committee were J. F. Harral, Geo. D. Sherman, H. H. Evans, M. E. Cornell, E. E. Lloyd and W. H. Chamberlain.

At twelve o'clock the veterans filed into line in double rank and marched to the basement of the Peoples church where a charming repast awaited them. Sweet's Military Band headed the delegation and discoursed most pleasing strains along the line of march.

Arriving at the church the soldier boys were greeted by the sight of numerous tables loaded with all manner of substantial viands and delicacies, and in a surprisingly short time were seated and in the midst of a systematic investigation of the spread. The ladies of the peoples church have justly earned the reputation for managing unexcelled dinners and the banquet of Thursday was no exception. The ladies had all arrangements admirably made and the visitors filed into the seats assigned them and had their wants supplied by a small army of attentive waiters, everything moving smoothly and with the regularity of clock work. The feast was superb and served with a thorough attention to the wants of all that reflected much credit upon the ladies having the dinner in charge.

The appetites appeased, the gathering was next regaled with some entertaining musical selections and enthusiastically addressed by several soldiers present. H. B. Douglas officiated as toast master and called upon Rev. J. H. Acton, of this city, to welcome the veterans. This agreeable task was most pleasingly performed, the divine assuring the visitors that they were welcome in more than was meant by Webster's definition of the word as they were welcomed by

the feeling of fellowship for every soldier in the hearts of their entertainers. He welcomed them for the high and noble type of patriotism represented by the surviving soldier boys and closed with an applause provoking reference to the return of the rebel flags.

Capt. George D. Sherman, of Elgin, responded with a most eloquent effort. The greeting was the more appreciated, coming as it did from a community foremost in ranks of loyalty and patriotism. Aurora was the home of the regiment. Twenty-six years ago, at old Camp Hammond, the boys received kindest words of encouragement from citizens of Aurora of both sexes and again today they reiterated the same words of welcome and proffered the increased hospitality.

M. E. Cornell, of Yorkville, responded to the toast, "The Sons of Veterans" and after eulogizing the veterans of the civil war, put in a good word for the sons, the worthy sons of noble sires. The blood of purest patriots flowed in their veins, and like their fathers they have a mission to perform. The country is being polluted by the acts of unprincipled men. Money can purchase the privilege of conducting a business that is deadly to the best interests of the country, and to counteract this evil influence, the speaker insists, should be the end and aim of The Sons of Veterans.

Letters were read by Secretary Fred O. White from Col. N. Greusel and Comrade Turnbull, both of whom expressed their sincere regret at their inability to be present.

Comrades Lewis, Walker and Webber, of the 24th Wisconsin, were present and upon being called upon for remarks, each assured the gathering that he "felt it was good to be there." Comrade Lewis rendered two German dialect poems that won deserved applause.

A quartet consisting of Messrs. Denney, Quereau and Drs. Allen and Jenks, sang several delightful selections, and with a vote of thanks and tigers for the ladies, the gathering dissolved.  
(1887-I) 36th reunion order of exercises

## CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the G. A. R. are making up a donation of serviceable articles to be sent to the Soldiers' Home at Quincy.

## VETERANS EXCITED

A Church Expels Thirty-Three Members of the G. A. R. for Belonging  
To A Secrete Society

TOLEDO, O., Sept. 23. -- Excitement is at white heat in the little village of Hicksville, near this city, over the expulsion of thirty-three members of the United Brethren Church because of their affiliation with the G. A. R. and other secrete societies in opposition to the laws of the church. When the matter came up for final action there was a heated debate, but the thirty-three members were expelled by a majority vote of the members present.

The affair is likely to cripple the church, as the expelled members are men of influence, and in their departure from the church will take with them many friends who hold similar views.

Many criticize the deacons who instigate the proceedings for the reason that the secrete society question is to come up in the annual conference, which will be held soon, and all agree that the decision will be in favor of progression and optional action toward secrete organizations.

### EX-PRISONERS OF WAR

CHICAGO, Sept. 23. -- The National Association of Ex-Prisoners Of War is holding its fifteenth annual meeting in this city. The Committee on Pensions yesterday submitted a report recommending the amendment of the Morrill Pension bill so as to provide that all surviving prisoners of War shall receive two dollars for every day they were in the hands of the enemy, and be put upon the pension rolls at rates graded according to the length of their captivity.

### CITY NEWS

The G. A. R. Excursion to St. Louis leaves Monday next, and a host of veterans and visitors from Aurora taking advantage of the reasonable rates to visit St. Louis and attend the encampment.

Wednesday, September 28, 1887      CITY NEWS

The annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic began at St. Louis yesterday. Report has it that President Cleveland will not reach St. Louis according to his programme until the day after the encampment closes. In spite of the troubles and dissensions connected with its management, this encampment is one of the most successful of the past few years.

### THE BLUE AND THE GRAY

At the time of the reunion of the 124th Illinois Volunteers in this city a few weeks since, it will be remembered that the Beacon made mention of Mr. S. W. Swafford, of Vicksburg, and a companion arriving one day late for the reunion. Mr. Swafford returned to his southern home after a day passed with comrades here and this week sent the Beacon a marked copy of the Vicksburg *Evening Post* which contains the following reference to the 124th.

Mr. S. W. Swafford of this city has recently returned from attending the Reunion of the 124th Illinois Regiment, his old command, which took place at Aurora, Illinois on Sept. 9th. 123 of his old comrades, a number, including himself, just equal to that of the regiment met, and the old soldiers fought their battles over again and relived their past experiences. The regiment was stationed here for 19 months of the war and its members still retain many memories of Vicksburg, and when Mr. Swafford suggested to them that the next reunion should be held in Vicksburg they caught up the idea with the utmost enthusiasm, only desiring some assurance of a

welcome. Since when they were here last we were so glad to see them that they had to use force to prevent us from hurting them, they ought to feel assured that they, will be heartily welcome now, and that instead of shot and shell very different tokens of remembrance will await their coming.

When the matter was once broached the transition from a regimental reunion to a meeting of all Federal regiments engaged in the siege was easy and natural, and this again produced the idea that the gathering would be lacking unless their old antagonists, the men in gray, who held these historic hills against such fearful odds, also joined it. In short a general muster of the soldiers of both armies who took part in the siege was discussed, and if the citizens of Vicksburg will take a proper degree of interest in the matter there is no reason why this should not take place. The large reunion at Gettysburg was a great success and there is no reason to doubt that a similar event in Vicksburg would attract an immense multitude. This matter should receive the attention of the people of Vicksburg and some united action be taken to show our would be guests that we are willing to meet them half way.

ON TO ST. LOUIS.  
The City In Holiday Dress.  
Old Soldiers to the Number of 50,000  
Expected to Take Part in the G. A. R. Encampment -- The Decorations.  
THE BOYS IN BLUE !

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 26. -- The twenty-first national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will convene in this city next Wednesday. Making due allowance for possible detentions of veterans, it is estimated that the attendance of members of the Grand Army of the Republic will be 50,000, not to speak of their wives and families, and the vast numbers of citizens who will be attracted to the city by the occasion. St. Louis has made abundant arrangements to receive, accommodate and entertain this tremendous influx of visitors. As early as last February a committee consisting of a large number of the leading citizens was organized to take in hand the arrangements of the encampment, and an appeal being made to the business men of the city, nearly \$100,000 was raised in one day by voluntary contributions. That the hotels of the city could not provide beds for all was evident, and nearly all the parks of the city were secured for camps. Under the management of Colonel John B. Gondolf over 3,000 tents have been erected, capable of accommodating upward of 30,000 men and today they stand ready to receive their occupants. Arrangements have been made with boarding houses in the vicinity of each of the parks at twenty-five cents a meal, and where these were not sufficient, commissary tents have been erected, so that the campers will not suffer for want of food.

The decoration of the streets and the different halls where meetings and entertainments will be held has been executed on the most elaborate scale. The halls at the Lindell Hotel, Merchant's Exchange and the Exposition Building, where the sessions of the encampment are to be held are literally lined with flags, bunting, shields, pictures of Generals and varieties of military decorations. The halls where the local posts of the G. A. R. will hold their receptions day and night are lavishly adorned. The greatest feature of the decorations, however, is the arch

which spans Olive Street where it is crossed by Twelfth. The arch is sixty feet in height. In the center, just above the keystone, is an illuminated equestrian painting of General Grant, of heroic size, with a shield and flags artistically grouped beneath it. Above this painting, on top of the arch, is a group, a charioteer with chariot and four horses. From the top of each end of the arch an immense flag floats in the breeze while at the base of each flag staff is a group, the one on the south side being a soldier standing by a cannon, and the one on the north side a sailor and swivel gun.

The street decorations, however, will pale into insignificance by the side of the illumination. Along Fourth Street, Broadway, Olive Street, Locust Street, Washington Avenue and Franklin Avenue run continuous lines of gas jets with globes of red, white and blue on each side of the street, with great trees of colored lights at intervals of seventy-four feet. Broadway is spanned from Clark Avenue to Franklin Avenue by fifteen immense double arches, truss pattern, one in the center of each block and each holding 300 gas burners shaded by colored globes. On Washington Avenue and Olive Street arches of a different design are erected. On Fourth Street, at the intersection of Olive, an arch is to be erected with an illuminated picture of Grant, and on the same street, at the intersection of Washington Avenue, is another arch bearing an illuminated picture of Mr. Lincoln. A triple arch at Eleventh Street and Washington Avenue is surmounted by a large figure of the American Eagle in glowing gas jets, 20,000 burners being used in this figure.

The colored people are very indignant because the local Executive Committee did not allow colored children on the same stands with white children. The children are to sing patriotic songs while the procession is passing. The colored leaders say that if the Grand Army debar the colored delegates to the encampment from the banquet at the Lindell there will be trouble.

The boys in blue are gathering at the camping grounds and the streets are sprinkled with veterans whose breasts are decked with Grand Army badges. The thoroughfares are crowded with strangers all day, and from the depots crowds of visitors pass to and fro.

Telegrams constantly announced the approach of delegations yesterday, and the advance guard in squads, and by posts rolled into the city by every incoming train. The Pacific slope swooped down upon the town in thirty-three cars, 1,500 veterans from California, and 100 more from Oregon, Washington Territory and Alaska.

Scarcely had their tramp died down when the Wisconsin veterans led by Governor Rusk and his body guard of seventeen maimed soldiers, marched through the streets, escorted by 150 men from Milwaukee. Their tents were pitched in Carr Place. After visiting their quarters many sought their Comrades from Illinois, who are quartered at Lyon Park. Three hundred from the Quincy Illinois Soldiers' Home had arrived and as they took possession the one-legged staff of Wisconsin marched around on an inspection tour. Ohio's first delegation of 400, from Cleveland, came in late and hastened to St. Louis Park, where they were joined by squads from Indiana. Kansas and Massachusetts had many men at their tents at Washington Park, though the posts will not arrive until today.

General Sherman arrived Saturday, and was tendered a brilliant reception by Ransom Post. He says that under no circumstances will he be a candidate for Commander-In-Chief.

On the day of the grand parade -- Tuesday -- business will be practically suspended, as Mayor Francis has declared it a holiday and requested that it be observed as such. The

Merchant's Exchange and the Board of Trade will observe the day. The schools will be closed. Nothing has been left undone for the entertainment of the veterans.

### A MIGHTY HOST

Fifty Thousand Veterans of the Late War Invade St. Louis.

Nearly All Will Appear in Parade.

The City Outdoes Herself in the Way Of Decorations and Illumination

The Order of Procession -- Banquet -- Other Interesting News

### A MONSTER RALLY

St. Louis, Sept. 27. -- The mobilization of the Grand Army of the Republic has been successful beyond expectation, and last night it was estimated that fifty-thousand veterans were in the city. The morning trains today and the specials that will arrive before the parade will add 12,000 to 15,000 to this number. These figures do not include the army of friends and relatives who accompany the comrades, and who will remain during the encampment. From the statistics compiled by the registry department of the encampment committee, it appears that about 40,000 veterans will be in line today. The number from each department has been figured up with this result.

Illinois	10,000	The Potomac	250
Missouri	8,000	Kentucky	100
Kansas	5,000	Texas	100
Indiana	3,000	Connecticut	100
Iowa	2,100	Vermont	50
Ohio	1,500	Louisiana	50
Nebraska	1,000	Maine	50
Pennsylvania	1,000	Virginia	50
New York	1,000	New Hampshire	50
Wisconsin	1,000	West Virginia	50
California	1,000	Rhode Island	50
Minnesota	300	Delaware	25
Michigan	300	Montana	25
Arkansas	250	Oregon	25
Massachusetts	100	Utah	25
New Jersey	100	Dakota	50
Maryland	100	New Mexico	25
Colorado	100	The Gulf	25
Washington Ter.	100	Tenn. and Ga.	100

The line of march is six miles long, and extends through the finest business and residence streets. The veterans will march twelve abreast and ten feet apart, and there is a commander for each platoon. The great column will be reviewed in front of the Grand Army arch, on Twelfth

and Olive Streets. A stand seating three hundred persons has been erected. In the center is a balcony for the Commanders-In-Chief, heavily draped with the National Colors and crowned by a gigantic eagle. On each side is a massive G. A. R. badge, trimmed with tricolor bunting. Over the whole is a large double arch with inscriptions, "E Pluribus Unum" and "Welcome G. A. R." The divisions will march 100 feet apart, General D. P. Grier, of St. Louis, chairman of the encampment, is the Grand Marshal, and has issued the following order of parade.

Platoon of Mounted Police

Grand Marshal and Staff

Escort to the Commander-In-Chief

Commander-In-Chief and Staff

Invited guests in Carriages

FIRST DIVISION

Department of Missouri -- 8,000 Men

SECOND DIVISION

Department of Illinois -- 10,000 Men

THIRD DIVISION

Departments of Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Ohio -- 3,500 Men

FOURTH DIVISION

Departments of New York, Connecticut, Maine,

Massachusetts, New Jersey and Virginia -- 2,000 Men.

FIFTH DIVISION

Departments of California, New Hampshire, Vermont,

The Potomac and Maryland --1,500 Men.

SIXTH DIVISION

Department of Indiana -- 3,000 Men.

SEVENTH DIVISION

Departments of Nebraska, Iowa and Colorado -- 3,000 Men.

EIGHTH DIVISION

Department of Kansas -- 5,000 Men.

NINTH DIVISION

Departments of Michigan, Minnesota, Delaware, West Virginia,

Washington Terr. and Kentucky -- 2,000 Men.

TENTH DIVISION

Departments of Arkansas, Florida, the Gulf, Dakota, Oregon, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, Idaho,

Montana, Tennessee, Georgia, Rhode Island and Naval Veterans

and Sons Of Veterans -- 2,000 Men.

The annual banquet of the officers and delegates will take place at the Lindell Hotel Thursday night. Colonel D. P. Dyer, of St. Louis, will deliver an address of welcome which will be responded to by General Fairchild. The following toasts will then come in the order named.

"Our Country"

"The President of the United States"

"The Army and Navy"

"The Volunteer Army"

“The Grand Army of the Republic”  
“The Soldiers Dead”  
“The Cabinet”  
“The War Governors”  
“The Loyal Women”

These will be followed by volunteer toasts.

The War Governors are being represented by the following gentlemen, Governor Sprague, of Rhode Island; Governor Oglesby, of Illinois; Governor Blair, of Michigan; Governors Crawford and Carney, of Kansas; Governor Saunders, of Nebraska; Governor Parker, of New Jersey; Governor Smith, of Vermont; Governor Lewis, of Wisconsin; Governor Pierpont, of West Virginia; Governors Stanford and Low, of California. The venerable Hanibal Hamlin, the only living Vice-President, is a conspicuous figure at headquarters.

The illumination and decoration of the city surpasses even the wonderful effect produced last year during the Triennial Conclave of the Knights Templar. The plan has been somewhat altered, and more varied and beautiful effects have been created. Fourth Street for one mile is extremely picturesque. Although it has not the great arches that span Broadway, this is more than offset by the variegated character of the lights. Red, white and blue predominate in the arches that line the sidewalks, but in the higher clusters that project from cross pipes, green, orange and rose colored globes are scattered by the thousands.

Broadway, from Clark Avenue to Christy Avenue, a distance of one mile, vies with Fourth Street in brilliancy and magnificence. In the center of every block is a great arch that spans the street. Each arch has 400 lights, and many of them are surmounted by designs of the corps badges in the division colors.

Franklin Avenue, Locust Street, Pine Street and Sixth Street are beautifully illuminated. Altogether eight miles of streets are illuminated and the consumption of gas per hour is 190,000 feet. The value of gas consumed during the week is put at \$90,000, and is furnished free. There are 75,000 globes in use.

On Broadway and Washington Avenue stands the great Lincoln Memorial arch. It is thirty-five feet high, constructed of cathedral glass, and is surmounted with a portrait of the dead President. Broadway is also rich in private illuminations, many of them representing a very large sum of money.

Opposite the Planter's House on Fourth Street, is railroad arch, erected by funds contributed by the railroads. This arch is surmounted by the outline in jet work of a massive locomotive. There are 600 jets, and when lighted the locomotive appears to be going at full speed. A genuine bell hangs in its place and an electric light answers for the headlight. Smoke and steam are conveyed to the design through pipes from the Planter's House.

The largest arch in the city is the Grand Army arch on Twelfth Street. A description of this arch was given in yesterday's dispatches.

The decoration of the Court House is very attractive. The main entrances on Broadway and Fourth Street are hidden from view by the immense castellated arch, standing between two towers, and connected with them by galleries. The archway is thirty-one feet wide and thirty-five feet high. Along the facades are displayed the badges of the twenty three army corps, with a keystone G. A. R. badge. The latter design is twelve feet by four. From the Court House gables

streamers and G. A. R. colors fall in graceful folds. The massive doors of the Court House is fashioned into a gigantic bouquet of trees interlaced with flags and buntings. From the side galleries the flags of all nations are suspended.

The most imposing arch on Fourth Street is the Grant Memorial arch, at the intersection of Locust Street. The arch is surmounted by a cathedral glass portrait of the General, that is considered the most beautiful bit of street decoration ever seen in this country. It is seventeen feet square and some idea of its magnitude may be obtained from the fact that 18,000 separate pieces of glass were needed in its construction. Every color of the rainbow is wrought in the dazzling design. The General represented on a handsome bay horse, a heavy military cloak thrown loosely over his shoulders, and a pair of field glasses in his right hand. In the background is a row of tents surrounded with pieces of broken artillery. Draped gracefully at each side is the American Flag. The whole piece weighs 4,000 pounds and is illuminated by thirteen brush arc lights and twenty-five incandescent lights. At the bottom of the piece is the illuminated inscription, "Let Us Have Peace."

The pension question is by all odds the most important issue before the encampment, and owing to the conflicting views on the subject, the result is awaited with interest. A large number of the delegates were interviewed yesterday, and the majority are against a service pension bill, but in favor of amending the one that needy veterans could secure an adequate pension upon competent testimony of service and disability. They are in favor of so amending the present pension laws that veterans who are in good circumstances and comparatively well off shall not be entitled to a pension, but if the circumstances should change and they should be reduced to want, they should be eligible for pension. The service pension bill receives more support from the east than any other section. The western men are nearly all against it on the ground that it is not just. Many of the western men favor the Dependent Pension bill that was vetoed.

James M. Tuttle, Commander of the Department of Iowa, is here, and one of the stories going the rounds is that he has a series of resolutions which he will offer in the encampment convention denouncing President Cleveland for vetoing the Dependent Pension bill.

Commander-in Chief Fairchild and Escort arrived at the Southern Hotel late yesterday afternoon on a special train over the Illinois Central from Madison. General Grier and the Executive Committee met General Fairchild at the Union Depot.

National Headquarters is now open and was last evening serenaded by the New York Seventh Regiment Band and the San Diego Band. This evening a reception will be tendered General Fairchild in the Merchant's Exchange Hall. The Mayor will deliver a speech of welcome to which the Commander-in-Chief will respond. General Sheridan has written that he will be unable to attend the encampment.

At midnight the crush at the hotel is simply indescribable, and it begins to look as if St. Louis could not accommodate her guests. Cots are being set up in the rotundas and bar rooms and vacant stores. Special trains are scheduled to arrive every ten minutes during the night. The weather indications for today are clear and cold. This was bulletined and brought some relief. Last evening it was agreed that in case of light rain or drizzle the parade should take place as on the programme, but in case it was impossible to form, or the ranks were broken by a heavy rain, the parade should be postponed until Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock. In the event of

postponement the annual encampment session proper will not begin until 3:30 Wednesday afternoon.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE G. A. R.

To Illinois belongs the honor of organizing the first Grand Army Post. Wisconsin has recently put in a claim of priority, but precedent and evidence are against her. The creator of the grand organization that now embraces 200,000 men was, Dr. B. F. Stephenson, of Decatur, Ill., who served as a surgeon in the Fourteenth Illinois Infantry. He suggested the idea to his comrades in February 1866, and it was so well thought of that April 6, 1866, Post No. 1 was organized at Decatur and had forty-three charter members, among them Messrs. Coltrin and Pryor, proprietors of the Decatur *Tribune*, and their compositors, and was founded on the constitution written by Dr. Stephenson. Soon after, Post No. 2 was organized at Springfield, Ill., and others were quickly instituted throughout the west. The first National Encampment was held at Indianapolis, November 20, 1866, and ten States were represented. The plan of organization was then enlarged, and some important resolutions adopted.

The National Encampments have been held in the following cities.

1866	Indianapolis	1877	Providence
1867	None	1878	Springfield, Mass.
1868	Philadelphia	1879	Albany
1869	Cincinnati	1880	Dayton, O.
1870	Washington	1881	Indianapolis
1871	Boston	1882	Baltimore
1872	Cleveland	1883	Denver
1873	New Haven	1884	Minneapolis
1874	Harrisburg	1885	Portland
1875	Chicago	1886	San Francisco
1876	Philadelphia		

The list of Commander-in-Chiefs comprises:

Stephen A. Hurlbut, Illinois	1866
John A. Logan, Illinois	1866, 69-70
A. E. Burnside, Rhode Island	1871-2
Charles Devens Jr., Massachusetts	1873-4
John F. Hartrahft, Pennsylvania	1875-6
John C. Robinson, New York	1877-8
William Earnshaw, Ohio	1879
Louis Wagner, Pennsylvania	1880
George S. Merrill, Massachusetts	1881
Paul Vandervoort, Nebraska	1882
Robert B. Beath, Pennsylvania	1883
John S. Kountz, Ohio	1884
S. S. Burdett, Washington, D.C.	1885
Lucius Fairchild, Wisconsin	1886

Second only in importance to the Grand Army itself is the Woman's Relief Corps, organized at Denver, July 23, 1883. The organization was effected under a call from

Commander-in-Chief Paul Vandervoort requesting the various societies of women working for the Grand Army to assemble and unite in forming a national association auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic. The Denver convention was a noted assemblage of women, representing twenty-six organizations, Mrs. E. Florence Baker, of Massachusetts, was elected National President, and Mrs. Sarah E. Fuller, National Secretary. The organization spread rapidly and now every state and territory is represented, and the membership this year is put at 43,000. It is estimated that by to night there will be 10,000 members of the Woman's Relief Corp in the city. Their headquarters at the Southern Hotel are the most popular headquarters in the city, due chiefly to the work of the local ladies committee. The annual convention will be held Wednesday in Harmonie Hall.

Mrs. Elizabeth D'Arcy Kinne, National President of the Woman's Relief Corp, arrived from San Francisco yesterday afternoon.

The delegates badge which was designed by the Encampment Committee, is one of the richest ever yet turned out. From a solid silver bar, upon which are the words "St. Louis, A. D. 1887," and a five pointed star with the arms of Missouri depends a silk ribbon which is caught up in a loop at the lower end and from which hangs a solid silver medal with a bust of John A. Logan in relief. Around the border is the inscription "Patriotic Soldier, Model Volunteer."

The solid silver badges go to the Department Commanders, members of the National Council of Administration and National Officers. The same design in bronze go to the delegates from each department.

(1887-HOST)

## CITY NEWS

The excursion train bound for the St. Louis encampment pulled out from the Joliet, Aurora & Northern depot shortly before eleven o'clock Monday forenoon with well nigh two hundred pleasure seekers aboard. About one hundred fifty Auroraites were among the passengers, the remainder being made up of delegations from Big Rock, Naperville, Bristol, Downers Grove, Yorkville and other surrounding towns. The depot ticket agent was kept busy for hours before train time exchanging tickets for five dollar gold pieces, bills and shining silver dollars and when the excitement was over the agents pockets were pretty well filled with greenbacks and coin. A number of the excursionists took out accident policies previous to starting. Among these passengers were noticed Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Harral, Mr. and Mrs. E. Fickensher, W. H. Dunn, M. D. Yager, E. W. Sanders, Officer Drake, H. George, Al. Solfisburg, H. C. Young, F. F. Jones, Sid. Kendall and J. J. Billings.

Saturday, October 1, 1887

At the business session of the Grand Army of the Republic at St. Louis Wednesday, Post Commander Vandervoort, of Omaha introduced a set of resolutions denouncing the President's actions in the matter of soldiers' pensions, condemning his part in the attempt to return the

captured Rebel battle flags and arraigning his general policy of honoring ex-confederates and copperheads with office and power under his administration. The resolutions also pledged the Grand Army to support any Presidential candidate of union principles. These resolutions will doubtless meet with the condemnation of the individuals who argue that because the Grand Army of the Republic is avowedly a non-political organization, it is therefore debarred from expressing its grievances if such expression chances to involve the denunciation of any man or party in political life.

#### THE VETERANS

They Refuse to Pass Resolutions

Censuring The President

They also Choose New Officers

Judge Rea, of Minnesota, Elected Commander-In-Chief

Sketch of His Career -- A Banquet Closes The Encampment

#### VOTED DOWN

St. Louis, Oct. 1, -- When the G. A. R. encampment met yesterday, the committee reported unfavorably upon the Vandervoort resolution censuring the President for his veto of the Dependent Pension bill, on the ground that it had been fully covered by the action on the report of the Pension Committee. A long debate ensued, Vandervoort opened by claiming that the Grand Army should have the courage of its convictions, and should vote as it felt upon this question. Grosvenor, of Ohio, spoke in favor of the report, and said he had as much feeling on the Pension question as any other man, but he stood as the representative of a body of men greater than the President of the United States, greater than the Congress of the United States, and more dignified in their utterances than the President had shown himself to be. He said the question was of more importance than any other that has been submitted in a National Encampment; that the question was what the Encampment ought to do; whether it ought to make platforms for political parties, or ought to state the position in a dignified manner, as though there had never been a President of the United States. The Grand Army, he said should stand as a mountain upon the plain, regardless of the coyotes at the foot of it, proclaiming in majestic words that it was in favor of this pension legislation and opposed to every attack upon the interests of the soldiers.

Under the operation of the previous question Mr. Vandervoort's amendment was overwhelmingly defeated, and the report of the committee was adopted by a vote of 318 to 173.

The committee on resolutions presented majority and minority reports on the eight dollar a month or service pension bill. The majority of the committee reported against the measure,

The election of officers followed, and the following were nominated for Commander-In-Chief for the ensuing year; General Slocum, Judge Rea, General Anthony and General Grier. General Slocum received 163 votes; General Anthony, 66; General Grier, 13; Judge Rea, 294. General Sherman received 1 and General Warner of Missouri, 1. Rea was declared elected.

The rules were suspended and Nelson Cole, of Missouri, was elected Senior Vice-Commander; John C. Linahan, of New Hampshire, Junior Vice-Commander; General Lawrence Donahue, Seargent-General and Rev. Edward Anderson, Chaplain-in-Chief.

Among the members of the National Council of Administration elected are: R. F. Wilson, of Chicago; Irwin Robbins, of Indianapolis; Russell A. Alger, of Detroit; George C. Gintz, of Chappewa Falls, Wis.; James H. Drake, of St. Paul, Minn., and George A. Newman, of Cedar Falls, Ia.

When the Committee on Rules and Regulations submitted its report the proposition to enable a class of persons to enter the order who had served in the field but had never been mustered into the service, was defeated. The Committee on the Logan Monument reported recommending that a fund be provided for the erection of an equestrian statue at Washington. Governor Alger, of Michigan, subscribed \$1,000 to the fund, and General Lennon, of New York, another thousand. The officers of the encampment were then installed, and the twenty-first annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic was at an end.

The Woman's Relief Corps concluded its session yesterday by the election of the officers for the ensuing year: National President, Mrs. Hampton, of Michigan; Senior Vice-President, Mrs. Cora Day Young, of Toledo.

Wednesday, October 5, 1887

Grand Army Secrete Debates  
A St. Louis Paper Prints Alleged Reports of Them  
A Sensation Disclosed.

St. Louis, Oct 3. -- A St. Louis paper prints a verbatim report of all the debates that occurred at a secrete session of the Grand Army encampment. As some of the speeches were bitter in tone, and as the entire discussion was decidedly juicy, it is likely that the report will create something of a sensation, not only among the Grand Army people who regard the proceedings as absolutely safe from public knowledge, but also among all in the country who are interested in the pension question. The report makes more than eleven columns.

CITY NEWS

The regular meeting of Circle No. 4, will meet Wednesday afternoon, October 5th at 2:30 o'clock in the G. A. R. hall.

Corporal Tanner, the gifted G. A. R. orator, delivered his address concerning "Soldier Life" "Grave and Gay" at the Peoples church last evening. A number of G. A. R. comrades and others interested in the subject were present.

Saturday, October 7, 1887

### Cost of the St. Louis Encampment.

St. Louis, Oct. 7. -- The Executive Grand Army Committee which had charge of the recent encampment held a meeting yesterday and figured up the cost. "We have expended thus far," said Colonel Cole, of the committee on contracts and expenditures, "between \$21,500 and \$22,000. This when added to the sum expended by the Executive Committee, makes the total public expenditure during the encampment between \$75,000 and \$80,000."

Wednesday, October 12, 1887

At its recent encampment at St. Louis the Grand Army of the Republic decided to urge Congress to enact the following measures; the dependent or subsequent disability bill, the removal of the arrears limit, the equalization of bounties, a pension bill giving \$12 a month to all widows of honorably discharged sailors and soldiers of the late war, a bill for increased pensions for severe disabilities, a bill pensioning the survivors of rebel prisons, a bill increasing pensions for loss of sight or hearing and a bill equalizing pensions for special disabilities. This is quite an extensive demand for even the veterans of the late war to make, and while this program may not represent the views of a great many Union soldiers, yet it seems to clearly represent the prevailing sentiment among them since it passed by a unanimous vote. The government is already paying in pensions about seventy-five millions of dollars a year. It is estimated that if these measures should be passed, it would cost the government not less than two hundred millions of dollars a year for pensions alone. The dependent pension bill would of itself add from fifty to seventy-five millions a year. The removal of the arrears limit would cost according to Pension Commissioner Black's estimate, over \$222,000,000, of which \$84,000,000 would be required the first year. The equalization of bounties, which would give the eleventh hour bounty men as much as those who bore the brunt of service during the whole war, would according to Paymaster General Alard, cost \$163,000,000, the greater part of which would have to be paid at once. It is not known what the cost of a pension bill for survivors of rebel prisons would amount to; but in case of the passage of the dependent bill such of them as were disabled would be entitled to a pension under the measure. The other measures for which the Grand Army proposes to work would involve an outlay of from ten to twenty-five millions more. The vast extent of these measures and the large amounts of money involved in their passage ought to furnish food for thought for every patriotic veteran of the late war. Talk about reducing the surplus, or lopping off the internal revenue taxes or removing the import taxes on the necessaries of life, is folly while the chances for these measures are good. There would not only be no surplus in the Treasury to be reduced, but additional import taxes or internal taxes would have to be levied in order to meet the annual pension bills of the government. The passage of the equalization of bounties bill would not only wipe out the surplus at once but would leave a deficit as great as the surplus now amounts to. The removal of the arrears limit alone would use up the present surplus the first year. Without entering into the question whether any or all of these measures ought to

be passed on grounds of justice or gratitude for the great services rendered to the government in its time of sore need by the boys in blue, it is clear that considered from a purely financial standpoint, these bills would lay a very heavy burden upon the tax paying public, a burden which would necessitate a great increase in national taxation and postpone the payment of the nation's debt for many years.

Wednesday, October 26, 1887            PERSONAL

Mrs. J. F. Harral assisted in the organization of a G. A. R. Auxiliary Corps at Genoa Wednesday evening last.

Saturday, October 29, 1887

#### GRAND ARMY OFFICERS

Minneapolis, Minn., Oct. 27. -- General Order No. 2, issued from Grand Army of the Republic Headquarters, announces the following additional staff appointments: Inspector General Ira M. Gedges, of Haverstraw, N. Y., Adjutant General, Robert Stratton, of Minneapolis; Senior Aide-de-camp Rese R. Henderson, of Minneapolis.

Wednesday, November 2, 1887            CITY NEWS

The G. A. R. boys and their families held a rousing sociable at the residence of Mr. Eb. Denney last evening. Sociability was unrestrained and the supper provided was bountiful in the extreme.

Saturday, November 5, 1887            CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the Grand Army have filled one or two boxes with quilts, sheets, bandages, night shirts and numerous other articles suitable for use by the inmates of the Soldiers' Home at Quincy, which they expect to send to the institution this week. Among the articles to be sent is the quilt pieced by Mrs. Miller, the St. Charles centenarian.

Saturday, November 12, 1887            CITY NEWS

Ladies of the Woman's Relief Corps will meet with Mrs. J. H. Hubbard, No. 14, South Fourth Street, Tuesday afternoon, November 15th, at half past two.

Regular meeting of Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R., on Tuesday evening, at 7:30, November. 15. By order of Commander,

F. L. Thayer, Adj't.

Wednesday, November 16, 1887

#### THE ILLINOIS SOLDIER'S HOME.

A former resident of Elgin, and now an inmate of the Home writes to the *Courier* relative to this institution as follows:

“One may stand at the main building or at the headquarters and below, to the right, he sees the Burlington & Quincy Railroad. To the left is the city of Quincy. In front are the cottages, systematically arranged in the form of a horse shoe. There are eight of these cottages, and seven more are under construction. They are two stories high, each accommodating about forty men very comfortably. A seven-foot flag walk leads from the cook room to the furnace by way of the cottages. The hospital is now being built, though nearly, enough finished to be partially occupied. Headquarters is a large two story and basement building of brown stone. It is very full. In it are the general offices, the public hall or chapel, billiard room, dining room, etc. The cottages are of red brick and present a neat appearance.

The home is situated on a fine and well cultivated farm of 160 acres, with considerable woodland in the back ground -- oaks, walnuts and other kinds of trees. Across the river is the cemetery, where already several of the comrades have been laid.

Our table fare is very good, and what is remarkable is, that we use just the same sort of tableware at the cottages as is used at headquarters.

Officials and all seem to try to make each other as comfortable as possible, so that the place is in reality, what it is in name -- a home. When you come here next spring, Mr. Editor, and land on the platform of that handsome little passenger house now being made, you will at once feel still more so. It is a “homely” place that Illinois has provided for her wounded and disabled veterans, and the all powerful One is surely sending His blessings to the noble people for their good deeds.

#### VETERANS AND THE PRESIDENT

Washington, Nov. 16. -- A committee of the Union Veterans Union called upon the President yesterday and requested that veterans in the public service as clerks shall not be compelled to enter into competitive examinations to retain their positions, and that where they voluntarily enter examinations for promotion preference be given them. The President said he will consider the matter.

## NEW PENSION SCHEME.

New York, Nov. 16. -- At the meeting of the National Convention Committee of the Grand Army of the Republic yesterday the Committee outlined a pension measure to be presented to Congress at the next session, including a disability bill, equalization of disabilities, pensions for veterans' widows and severely maimed veterans.

Saturday, November 19, 1887

## THE PENSION BILL

Minneapolis, Minn., Nov. 19. -- Nearly complete returns of the G. A. R. vote on the proposed dependent pension bill have been received at the National G. A. R. Headquarters in this city, and it is practically unanimous in favor of the bill. The General Pension Committee, General George S. Merrill, of Lawrence, Mass, Chairman, will compile the returns and present them to Congress.

## A HOME FOR SOLDIERS' WIVES

Madison, Wis., Nov. 17. -- Commander Griffiths, of the Wisconsin department of the Grand Army, has notified the Governor that the State Veterans' Home, at Wapaca is now open for the care of dependent Union veterans, their wives or widows. The home was established by the Grand Army, but the State pays three dollars per week for the maintenance of each inmate.

Saturday, December 3, 1887

## CITY NEWS

The G. A. R. and W. R. C. hold their annual elections of officers Tuesday next.

Wednesday, December 7, 1887

The Woman's Relief Corps elected their officers for the ensuing year Tuesday afternoon. Mrs C. S. Lewis was chosen President, Mrs. Wm. Scragg Senior Vice President, Mrs. Dr. Ricker Junior Vice President and Mrs. J. F. Harral Conductress.

Aurora Post G. A. R. elected officers Tuesday evening with the following result: M. D. Yager, Commander; J. M. Kennedy, S. V. Com.; F. L. Wells, J. V. Com.; W. F. Bundy, surgeon; E. E. Hewit, chaplain; J. O. Raymond, quarter master; William Kerr, officer of the day; M. J. Tarble, officer of the guard; delegates to state encampment at Springfield, H. H. Evans, W. H.

Watson, Samuel Hitchcock, L. S. Tanner and J. M. Kennedy; alternates, J. H. Hubbard, Fred Hotz, W. H. Downing, Jos. Ingham and A. P. Hatch. This is M. D. Yager's second term as Commander of the post.

Saturday, December 10, 1887                      CITY NEWS

Mrs. J. F. Harral accompanied her husband to Marseilles yesterday and made arrangements for the organization of a Woman's Relief Corps in that city.

J. F. Harral was at Marseilles this week inspecting the G. A. R. Post of that city.

Mrs. Bradford, dept. inspector of the Woman's Relief Corps, inspected Aurora Corps Wednesday evening and was well pleased at the way the work was going on. Mrs. Bradford was the guest of Mrs. Wm. Scragg while in the city.

The Woman's Relief Corps will hold a social Tuesday evening December 13th, at the residence of Mrs. J. H. Hubbard, 14 South Fourth Street. Supper served from 6 to 8 for 15c. Ladies of the W. R. C. will please meet in the afternoon at half past 2 o'clock.

#### THE GRAND ARMY.

The Executive Committee Holds a Business Meeting at Columbus, O.

Columbus, O., Dec. 9. -- Judge John P. Rea, of Minneapolis, Minn., Grand Commander of the Grand Army, his staff and the Executive Committee arrived in the city from Chicago yesterday morning. Columbus was selected as the place for the meeting at the St. Louis Encampment. It was supposed that the encampment would be held in September, but it was proposed to fix the date for June. The local committee opposed this and the Executive Committee promised to take the local feeling into consideration. The committee consumed the rest of the session in the consideration of routine business and the adoption of a resolution endorsing the bill in Congress proposing an appropriation of \$100,000 for the erection of a monument to the memory of the colored soldiers of the rebellion. The resolution commends the object and purpose of the bill, but deems it expedient for the Grand Army to take any action until a bill is passed to relieve suffering and indigent soldiers.

Wednesday, December 14, 1887

CITY NEWS

The W. R. C. held a very pleasant sociable at the residence of Mrs. J. H. Hubbard, on South Fourth Street last evening. The attendance was good and the gathering highly enjoyed by all present.

The Ladies of the G. A. R. met with Mrs. M. C. Richards on South Broadway this afternoon. The ladies will ply the needle during the afternoon and from six to eight o'clock will serve refreshments of which the gentlemen are invited to partake.

Wednesday, December 21, 1887

CITY NEWS

Mr. George Sherman, of Elgin, inspected the Aurora G. A. R. Tuesday evening. The official complimented the post on portions of their work and criticized a few points. Three new members were initiated.



**In 1888** the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Illinois held its encampment in Springfield on February 15th. James A. Sexton, of Chicago, was elected Department Commander. Politics, in spite of admonitions, continued to swirl. However, this was a year for presidential elections and hope for change permeated the proceedings. On the National level the G. A. R. held its encampment in Columbus, Ohio on September 12th. William Warner, of Missouri became the new Commander-In-Chief. Membership had climbed to 361,779, but, the biggest growth was yet to come. President Cleveland found himself up against a Republican with civil war service and a record in congress most favorable to the vets. Benjamin Harrison was a brigadier General in the XX Corps of the Army of the Cumberland and later a Congressman who had championed the Dependent and Disability Pension. Its no surprise he would be backed by the G. A. R. At Aurora Post, Mark D. Yager was Commander once again. The Thirty-Sixth Illinois Volunteer Survivors Association would meet at Aurora on September 20th. Milton E. Cornell was president. The veterans numbers continued to decline. The loss of Sheridan was especially bittersweet for his "Pets". (Issues of the Beacon have not survived for the months of January thru March)

Saturday, April 7, 1888

BIRTHDAY OF THE G. A. R.  
Reunion of the First Post Ever Instituted,  
That of Decatur, Ill.

Decatur, Ill., April 7. -- The founding of that noble organization, The Grand Army of the Republic, in Decatur twenty two years ago yesterday, was celebrated in the court house last evening in the presence of a large assemblage of old soldiers, citizens and ladies. The first Post organized was Decatur Post, No. 1, instituted by the father of the order, Dr. B. F. Stevenson, the first Grand Commander, who established his headquarters at Springfield, Ill. The ritual of the order was put in type first in Decatur by J. M. Prior and I. N. Coltrin, and the charter members were M. F. Kanan, George R. Steele, J. T. Bishop, B. F. Sibley, I. N. Coltrin, J. M. Prior, Chris Riebsame, George H. Dunning, J. W. Routh, J. H. Nale, A. Toland and L. C. Pugh. The surviving members are Riebsame, Bishop, Sibley, Kanan, Steele and Coltrin, and all were present at the anniversary celebration except Bishop who resides at Bradford, Pa. The meeting was a social reunion with music from the opera house orchestra and short speeches by old comrades. General C. W. Pavey, of Mt. Vernon, and Hon. Charles Swigert, of Springfield, addressed the meeting, both eulogizing the Order and speaking of its growth and benevolent work. Captain Riebsame gave interesting reminiscence connected with the founding of the order, which now has nearly 300,000 members on the rolls. Similar celebrations will be held every year.

## CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the G. A. R. will hold their fair in Clint Pease's new building on Main Street, April 17. Lunch served from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m., price 15 cents.

Wednesday, April 11, 1888

## CITY NEWS

The W. R. C. held a very pleasant social at the home of their President, Mrs. C. S. Lewis, on River Street, last evening.

The date of the fair under the auspices of the Ladies of the G. A. R., at Clint Pease's new building on Main Street has been announced, and the ladies are now actively engaged in making arrangements for the reception of visitors.

Saturday, April 14, 1888

## THE NEW COMMANDER.

E. A. Consigny Leads The Iowa Department, G. A. R.  
Work At The Reunion.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., April 13. -- The chief event of yesterday in the reunion of the Iowa Department of the Grand Army of the Republic was the election of E. A. Consigny, Department Commander. J. A. Riggen, of What Cheer, was elected Senior Vice-Commander; and the other officers chosen were as follows, H. M. Anderson, of Clarence, Junior Vice-Commander; Dr. Dewitt, Medical Examiner; Rev. John Hood, of Cedar Rapids, Chaplain. The resolutions in brief are as follows:

They favor the per-diem pension bill, heartily recommend the Woman's Relief Corps and the Sons of Veterans. Thanks are tendered to the retiring Department officers for their efficient work and to the people of Cedar Rapids for their generous hospitality. The *Grand Army Advocate*, published in Des Moines is endorsed. The action of the National Grand Army Pension Committee in the formalization of the Pension Bill passed by the United States Senate is approved and the department recognizes in the bill a practical and satisfactory solution of the present pressing necessities of needy and dependent veterans.

The Woman's Relief Corps elected the following officers: President, Myra Haukey, Brooklyn; Senior Vice, Emma Herrick, Mason City; Junior Vice, Laura Stewart, Washington; Treasurer, Fannie Dorrance, Brooklyn; Chaplain, Mrs. Martha Proctor, Newton.

They were installed with the Grand Army officers at the opera house. A camp fire followed, led by Judge Given. The next encampment will be held at Burlington.

Wednesday, April 18, 1888

CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the G. A. R. will hold their fair at Clint Pease's new building on Main Street, April 17. Lunch served from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m.. Price 15 cents.

Saturday, April 21, 1888

CITY NEWS

The Aurora Sons of Veterans were inspected by Lieutenant Reed, of Chicago, Thursday evening. About thirty five Sons turned out, and at the close of the inspection an enjoyable lunch was served.

The Ladies of the G. A. R. held a very successful bazaar this week at the new store building recently erected by Clint Pease, opposite the Tremont House. Lunch was served during the day and visitors were agreeably entertained at all hours. Chances were sold on sundry articles which were raffled off Thursday evening. The affair was pleasantly conducted throughout and proved profitable for those in charge.

Wednesday, April 25, 1888

THE G. A. R.  
Commander Rea at St. Louis,  
Heavy Increase in Membership Reported.

St. Louis, April 24. -- General John P. Rea, of Minneapolis, Commander-In-Chief of the G. A. R. arrived in this city yesterday morning. He was met by a committee from Frank P. Blair Post and escorted to the Southern Hotel, where he was visited later by many comrades. The comrades of Frank P. Blair Post called on him in a body and invited him to visit their headquarters last evening. He was escorted around the city by a number of prominent Grand Army men. He will leave here in the morning for Nashville, Tenn. In an interview yesterday he said the organization had added 14,000 men in the last quarter. Missouri had added the most names, while Kentucky had the largest percentage of increase.

Saturday, April 28, 1888

The Grand Army Posts, on Memorial Day, will take up collections for the Logan Monument Fund. The State Legislature appropriated \$50,000 as a starter at its last session and Mrs. Logan has decided that the monument to the lamented General's memory, shall be located at South Park, Chicago. The Society of the Army of the Tennessee will erect an equestrian statue of Logan at Washington, D.C.

## CITY NEWS

Fred O. White has donated a handsome lawn vase which has been placed in front of the Memorial Building. It is now in order for some benevolent citizen to contribute a plant to place in the vase and the combination will prove a joy forever.

Wednesday, May 2, 1888

JOINED THE G. A. R.  
General Joseph E. Johnston, of the Confederate Army,  
Admitted to Membership in the Grand Army.

Philadelphia, April 30. -- The announcement is made here that General Joseph E. Johnston, the highest in rank of living officers of the Confederate army, was on Thursday night last unanimously elected honorary member of E. D. Baker, Post No. 8, Grand Army of the Republic, of this city. The election was brought about upon receipt of a letter reading:

“For the purpose of enabling me to participate in the noble work of charity performed by the Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic. I hereby make application for contributing membership in your post. Enclosed please find the sum of \$10. for one year’s dues.”

The petition was unaccompanied by any other communication, and when presented to the members of the post for their consideration it went through with a rush, amid the cheers of the two hundred veterans present. General Johnston is the only ex-confederate soldier who has ever been received into the ranks of the Grand Army post.

Saturday, May 5, 1888

## CITY NEWS

The enterprising Ladies of the G. A. R. cleared \$137 from their recent fair.

Rock City Camp. Sons of Veterans, will present the five act drama, “The Fall of Atlanta,” at Batavia tonight. We acknowledge the receipt of complimentaries and hope the young men will be favored with good attendance.

Wednesday, May 16, 1888

## CITY NEWS

The Aurora Post G. A. R. held its regular meeting at the hall last evening and the regular routine of business was being carried through, when the proceedings were interrupted by the Ladies of the W. R. C. When the surprise of the veterans, at the unexpected arrival of the fair visitors, had partially subsided, Mrs. Wm. Titus, in behalf of the ladies of the corps, presented the

post with an excellent organ, which was wheeled into view. An intermission was ordered, Commander M. D. Yager accepting the gift in a few appropriate words, and a social half hour followed, during which the visit of the ladies was made as pleasant as possible. The presentation was almost a complete surprise to the members of the post.

Saturday, May 19, 1888

#### PROGRAMME FOR DECORATION DAY.

The members of Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R., will assemble at G. A. R. Hall on Wednesday, May 30, 1888, at 12:30 p.m. Where they will be divided into two detachments, one for the east and one for the west side cemeteries, under the command of Senior and Junior Vice-Commanders, for the purpose of decorating soldiers graves.

##### CHAPLAINS

Spring Lake Cemetery,	Rev. Thos. Galt.
Root Street Cemetery,	Rev. N. A. Prentiss.
West Aurora Cemetery,	Rev. D. D. Odell.
Catholic West Side Cem.,	Rev. Thomas F. Leydon.

At the East Side Cemetery the services will consist of singing by the Aurora Glee Party, prayer and scattering of flowers, at the West Side Cemetery, the service will consist of singing by the West Side High School, prayer and decoration of graves.

##### GUIDES

Spring Lake Cemetery,	Chas. Ayers.
Root Street Cemetery,	Wm. H. Scragg.
West Aurora Cemetery,	Oscar Gates.
Catholic West Side Cem.,	Michael Maloney.

After the ceremony of decorating the graves the procession will form on the island, under the direction of the Chief Marshall, John A. Kinley.

##### ROUTE OF PROCESSION

Will form on the island, and headed by the Aurora Military Band, will march first on Fox Street to Broadway, north on Broadway to New York Street, west on New York Street to River Street, south on River Street to Fox Street, last on Fox Street to the island rink.

##### EXERCISES

The services will be opened by a prayer by Rev. S. Earngey.  
Singing by the Aurora Glee Party.  
Address by Rev. J. H. Acton.  
Memorial services by Aurora Post G. A. R.  
Singing by Aurora Glee Party.  
Prayer and benediction by Rev. Samuel Earngey.

## COMMITTEES

On flowers, Mrs. F. O. White, Mrs. A. W. Brown.  
On music, W. H. Stebbens.  
On carriages, G. S. Case.  
On decorating rink, J. J. McNair.  
Memorial Committee,  
A. F. Wade  
A. C. Graves  
Eugene Stetler.

(1888-STETLER, WADE, STEBBINS, HEWITT, WELLS, RAYMOND, KERR, TARBLE)

## CITY NEWS

The members of the G. A. R. and their wives and the Sons of Veterans and ladies, will be the guests of the Ladies of the W. R. C. at the G. A. R. Hall, Tuesday next. The Ladies of the corps have made arrangements for a merry social time and the invited guests who fail to accept the invitation proffered will miss a treat and no mistake.

Wednesday, May 23, 1888

## CITY NEWS

G. A. R. hall was filled with visitors last evening, and the W. R. C. social was a complete success. The Ladies of the corps constituted the reception committee, and the guests were the members of the Grand Army and their better halves, and the Sons of Veterans and ladies. Ice cream and cake was plentifully provided and sociability prevailed throughout the evening. One of the best of social good times is reported.

Saturday, May 26, 1888

## CITY NEWS

Col. S. B. Sherer, Adjutant of the Quincy Soldiers' Home, has been enjoying the week at home in this city, after a nearly three months furlough passed in visiting New Mexico and elsewhere. He returns to Quincy Monday next.

The G. A. R. will attend divine services at the First Congressional church tomorrow.

## LOGAN MONUMENT

By order of the Department Commander of the G. A. R., a collection will be taken up on Memorial Day, (May 30), for the Logan Monument, to be erected in one of the most beautiful parks in Chicago, the site having been chosen by Mrs. Logan. The Legislature of Illinois having appropriated \$50,000 for that purpose, it is proposed to give all an opportunity to contribute to swell the amount. "We remember how he sacrificed his life in his untiring efforts to relieve the wants of his old comrades, always ready to assist them by wise legislation, and by generous contribution from his own narrow fortune; He fell at his post prematurely, worn out by his indefatigable labors." Let us show how "Illinois honors her greatest of volunteer soldiers, as well as one of her greatest statesmen." All friends of the "Soldier Statesman" are invited to contribute.

Commander M. D. Yager of Aurora Post No. 20 G. A. R., has appointed the following comrades as a committee to receive contributions: H. H. Evans, J. F. Harral, F. O. White, J. E. Bevier, and A. D. Bunnell.

### ATTENTION POST 20, G. A. R.

Comrades will assemble at their hall Sunday morning, May 27, at 9:30 a.m., to attend services at the First Congregational church.

By order, M. D. Yager, Comd'g. Post.  
Fred. L. Thayer, Adj't.

Wednesday, May 30, 1888

### *MEMORIAL DAY*

Nearly a quarter of a century has passed since peace was restored to our country at the close of the great rebellion. It is over twenty-three years since the surrender of Lee at Appomattox closed the most terrible fratricidal struggle of modern times. A generation has grown to manhood since those thrilling times and a new era has come, so unlike the old, that to the youth of today, the achievements of those years of strife are as "pictures, vague and distant."

Shiloh, Chickamauga, Vicksburg, Gettysburg, -- these which meant so much of blood shed, heroism and patriotism, are to the present generation, little more than names, or, at most, dim and shadowy recollections of fights well fought, the glorious results of which we live to enjoy. The preliminary events, -- the treason in high places, the call for volunteers, the national response, the early reverses of the war, -- the four blighted and seared years of conflict are well nigh forgotten.

The black night of that conflict was full of death and horror and when at last, the day came nearly every home in the land had been visited by the grim death angel. The rows of unknown dead filled the mounds from the Potomac and the Ohio to the Gulf. Five hundred

thousand brave hearts were sacrificed to the god of war ere the conflict closed. Their graves form bonds of union between the States of the saved Republic.

The events of those years have faded into forgetfulness, but the sacrifices rendered up by the households of the Nation can never be obliterated from memory; for a National custom has been inaugurated, beautiful in itself, and pregnant with the holy feeling, which will keep alive for all time the recollection of the brave men who faced death on the field of battle.

Through the efforts of the gallant soldier now gone to his reward, John A. Logan, the 30th of May is each year set apart as a religious festival of the dead, a Memorial Day in honor of the thousands who fell in the struggle. Once each year, labor ceases, the busy hum of machinery is stopped and old and young join in placing flowers upon the graves of the departed.

The ceremonies of this day are so pathetically beautiful, so tenderly patriotic that they are full of meaning and teaching for us all. To the old they mean gratitude for a country saved, a tribute of flowers for dead heroes. In the young they enkindle the fires of patriotism and inspire a broader and truer love of country.

For the great commanders, the pen of the historian has written words that can never die, but on Memorial Day the private soldiers, -- who bore the brunt of the conflict, who faced the fierce assaults, who endured the hardships and perils with the one thought to save their native land from eternal shame, -- receive their just meed of praise from a grateful people. For them the richest offerings of gratitude are none too great, the choicest floral offerings of the spring, placed in reverent memory upon their tombs, are the fittest emblems of a nation's love.

The sublime heroism, that they taught, is ours to learn; the country, reunited by their efforts, is our heritage; and the faith of the patriotic heart as the flowers are this day strewn, is that the curse of intestine strife will come no more upon this fair land.

### *SHERIDAN*

On this Memorial Day there is not a soldier's heart in all the land that will not turn in remembrance to General Phil Sheridan, as he lies at his home in Washington. He belongs to the immortal trio, Grant, Sherman and Sheridan, that showed what great military geniuses this country can produce when it needs them. His fame as a brave soldier and gallant leader is secure.

Educated at West Point, he was made a Colonel of Michigan Cavalry at the outbreak of the war, and by his bravery was soon appointed a Major General. He was the hero of the battle of Stone River, where he commanded a Division and saved the army from defeat by his intrepidity.

It was in 1864 that he won distinction as a great general and gallant leader. Grant had appointed him to a separate command in the Shenandoah Valley, from which the Confederate army drew most of its supplies. He cleared that valley of Confederates in one campaign, drove General Early out of it and destroyed all things that could be of use to the Confederates. The work of destruction was necessary and it was done thoroughly, and promptly in a series of dashing victories.

In 1865, acting with the Army of the Potomac, General Sheridan won the battle of Five Forks, drove General Lee back upon Richmond and prepared the way for Lee's surrender. General Sheridan was a born soldier. He had the dash and intrepidity that inspired confidence in his men and made victories easy. He fought to kill and burn and destroy, but that work was necessary before the war could be brought to a close.

He was ever reckless in some of his dashing exploits, but the result always showed that the risk was well taken. A gallant soldier and a brave uncompromising enemy was General Phil Sheridan. The soldier's hearts will turn to him in remembrance today, all over this broad land.

## CITY NEWS

The bravery, gallantry and loyalty of the soldiers of a quarter century ago, will be commemorated today, Memorial Day, by appropriate exercises. The choicest flowers of spring time will be strewn upon the resting places of the heroes who sleep beneath the sod, their gallant deeds will be recounted in song and eloquent addresses from countless rostrums and the living veterans will come in for their meed of praise and thanksgiving. The Memorial Day exercise in this city will be held at the island rink this afternoon. Rev. J. H. Acton will deliver the principal address. Detachments from the G. A. R. will decorate the graves of their comrades with flowers before the hour set for the exercises. The procession will form on the island at 12:30 o'clock and the G. A. R., Sons of Veterans, W. R. C., D. Co., Hibernians, Zouaves, police force, fire department and other organizations will participate. The majority of the business houses will close from one o'clock until five, though many of them will remain closed the greater part of the day.

(1888-ZOUAVES, ARTICLES)

The members of the G. A. R., the Sons of Veterans and quite a delegation from the W. R. C., listened to an instructive discourse by Rev. Goff, at the First Congregational Church Sunday morning.

Saturday, June 2, 1888

OUR HONORED DEAD  
Fair Flowers Strewn Where Sleep The Brave  
Rev. Acton's Address  
Where The Sacrifices Of War Made For Naught?

Memorial Day was appropriately observed in this city Wednesday. Business houses closed during the greater part of the day and the factories ceased operations. The clerks and employees joined the G. A. R. and other societies and citizens, in properly commemorating the day set apart for scattering bright blossoms of May upon the grassy mounds above our fallen heroes.

Detachments were sent to the several cemeteries to decorate the graves with flowers so lavishly donated. Brief exercises were held at each burial ground, and the return of the decorating detachments was awaited patiently by the thousands of spectators who had assembled on Fox Street to review the procession. The chaplains for the different cemeteries were; Spring Lake, Rev. Thos. Galt; Root Street, Rev. N. A. Prentiss; West Aurora, Rev. D. D. Odell; Catholic, Rev. Thos. F. Leydon. The guides were respectively, Charles Ayers, Wm. H. Scragg, Oscar Gates and Michael Maloney.

The committee completed their pleasant duties about half past three o'clock and the procession thereupon formed on the island as follows: Platoon Aurora Police, John L. Walker, Marshal; Mayor Meredith and City Council; Aurora Marine Guards, Captain Charles Harkinson; Aurora Military Band, Wm. Egermann, leader; D Co., I. N. G, Captain W. T. Reeves; Hibernian Rifles, Thomas Brady, Captain; Aurora Zouaves, Capt. Hurd; Sons of Veterans, D. E. Hinman in charge; G. A. R., M. D. Yager, Commander; citizens in carriages and on foot.

Mr. John A. Kinley was Marshal of the day, and directed the movements of the parade. The procession marched through the principal thoroughfares, bringing up at the island rink, where the exercises of the day were held.

Especial thanks are due to Mrs. F. O. White and Mrs. A. M. Brown, through whose energy and perseverance the floral contributions were profuse and full. The Ladies of The G. A. R. and the Ladies comprising the W. R. C. were indefatigable in their efforts and assisted assiduously in the work of decoration.

The Marine Guards, a company of West Side youths, attired in sailor costumes of a pretty pattern, attracted considerable attention as they marched near the head of the procession.

#### AT THE RINK

Seats were reserved in the centre of the rink for the G. A. R. and the several organizations in the procession, and there were not any to spare. Spectators flowed into the building until standing room was at a premium and many turned away unable to gain admission. The speaker's rostrum was appropriately decorated with the stars and stripes and the fragrance of beautiful flowers filled the room.

The exercises opened with a song, "Let Them Sleep" by the Aurora Glee Club, and Rev. Earngey, of the Galena Street Methodist Church, invoked divine blessing upon the gathering. The Glee Club rendered a second selection and Commander Yager next introduced Mr. Fred O. White, who called the attention of the veterans and visitors to the fact that a collection was about to be taken for the benefit of the Logan Monument Fund. It was the first occasion when the hat had been passed during the observance of Memorial Day exercises but in as much as the honored dead had issued the first Decoration Day order, that day above all others was deemed appropriate for the receiving of contributions for a monument for the gallant soldier and honored statesman. The collection was immediately taken and \$51.36 donated.

The memorial service by the members of the G. A. R. followed and the speaker of the day, Rev. J. H. Acton, pastor of the Peoples Church, was next introduced. Rev. Acton did not follow the beaten path in his Memorial Day address. He did not continue his remarks to hackneyed eulogium to the soldier dead or to fulsome praise of the living. He spoke feelingly of the sacrifices made, the hardships endured and the grandness of the victory achieved but dwelt particularly upon topics of the times. In opening, the divine read a clipping from a paper

published by him on the Pacific coast, nine years after the close of the war, which gave his reasons for declining to deliver a Decoration Day address, and which had gained for him the sobriquets "Fighting Parson," "Unforgiving Deacon" and "Bloody Shirt Editor", because he expressed the belief that it was hollow mockery to decorate the graves of the dead defenders of the Union while the Congregational and Senatorial halls were filled with rebel brigadiers.

He regarded the strewing of a few wilted flowers where the soldier dead are sleeping their last sleep, as a little less than an insult to their heroism, while the men who sought to destroy the government were holding places of power, and had mentally registered a sacred vow that he would not be a party to the insult. He had kept that vow until a year ago when he assisted in the work of decoration in Aurora cemeteries. He had not changed his sentiments but he had despaired of seeing the fulfillment of the dreams of the honored dead who had sacrificed their lives with the mistaken hope that the stars and stripes would thereafter float over a united, happy, loyal and free people. Such a state of affairs did not now exist. Perhaps they never would.

Within the last quarter century a great change had come over the nation. The population had well nigh doubled, two thirds of which could be attributed to emigration. The new comers had not heard of the civil war, they cared not if they had. The past was no concern of theirs. They cared but for the present. Here was where the changes had been wrought. Political leaders, catering for the votes of the new arrivals, had let down a little loyalty here, and a little there, until there is very little left.

The speaker asserted that when the war closed the one million men comprising the Grand Army of the Republic could have run the country to suit themselves. They could have set up whom they pleased for President, and no man would have dared to say them nay. They could have carried Davis, Longstreet, Lamar et al to the Atlantic's edge, and made them take water, but emulating the generosity of their noble Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Grant, they returned peacefully to their homes like honest, loyal, true citizens. The result has been the generosity has been abused. It has been abused since the days of the war until now, aided and abetted at all times by wily political leaders, with an eye ever upon their personal aggrandizement.

He asserted boldly and upon his own personal responsibility, that the men who had fought to preserve the union had been sold out. That those who had bore arms against the flag had abused the generosity of their conquerors to creep back into places of supremacy. The question might be raised, "what has all this got to do with Decoration Day services?" In reply he would say this, "did it not look silly comrades, to walk up annually and drop a few wilted flowers on the graves of the dead when apparently not a flower of loyalty blossoms in the heart?" If Memorial Day means anything, it means that while we deposit the fragrant flowers of May time, and bathe the graves in tears, behind it all is a larger and grander sympathy, the sympathy of an unadulterated and unconditional loyalty to the United States Government.

He advocated the inculcation of patriotism in the young, and expressed his satisfaction that while the G. A. R. was not a political organization, it was a strong political power. He prophesied that a tidal wave was coming that would sweep the foes of the Nation from their positions of prominence and power, and inaugurating a change that will startle the land. If the change does not materialize the coming election, it never would come under the present party lines.

He was in favor of drawing the line between the blue and the gray; between loyalty and disloyalty. The honors conferred upon Jefferson Davis were as disloyal today as they were twenty-five years ago. He had read with disgust the election of Gen. Jos. E. Johnston as an honorary member of the G. A. R. It should not have been permitted. He said the country was in a condition bordering upon that just previous to the breaking out of the civil war but trusted in the future. We leave our children a divided and dissatisfied government. A struggle of mammoth proportions is imminent. It may be settled by the bloodless ballot, but our children should be instructed as to the difference between loyal men and traitors. He believed in placing men only in office who understood the difference between a man with a bayonet pointed at the heart of the government, or the heart of an enemy of the same.

The Glee Club rendered another very acceptable selection, and the exercise closed with a benediction pronounced by Rev. S. Earngey.

Saturday, June 16, 1888

The war veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic will hold their annual national encampment at Columbus, Ohio, September 12, and the National Association of Naval Veterans will hold their meeting at the same time and place.

GENERAL SHERIDAN IMPROVING  
He Passes A Comfortable Day  
No Unfavorable Symptoms

Washington, June 15, -- The following are the only bulletins issued by General Sheridan's physicians yesterday:

"9:30 a.m. -- General Sheridan passed a very quiet and comfortable night, resting well and coughing but little. His pulse continues good and his respiration is more regular. No unfavorable symptoms have appeared."

"9 p.m. -- General Sheridan's condition has continued substantially the same as at the date of the last bulletin."

At midnight it was said at General Sheridan's residence that there was really nothing to add to the 9 o'clock bulletin. The General has continued to hold the improvement shown this week. He has rested easily, and slept a good deal of the time. No symptoms of another relapse have occurred.

Saturday, June 23, 1888

CITY NEWS

The Woman's Relief Corps will give a lawn fete at Mrs. W. H. Weston's, No. 135 South Lake Street, Tuesday eve., June 26. Put. Howard furnishes music for dancing. Ice cream served. Sons of Veterans and their lassies expected. Public are invited.

Wednesday, June 26, 1888

General Harrison's name stands for all that is best in American traditions and honest Republican principles. It is associated with the Declaration of Independence, with the Whig doctrines, which the Republican Party inherited, with patriotism in the civil war, and with statesmanship in the Senate of the United States. It is a revered name. It is one that is found appended to the documents sacred to the American people. It is linked with the traditions of the old Northwest Territory, which from the day of its organization was declared to be forever secured to freedom and barred against slavery. The Harrison's were stubborn fighters. The grandfather was the hero of Tippecanoe and the grandson fought the battles of freedom with bravery and distinction during the four years of civil strife. Harrison is a fit name to lead the Republican hosts to victory in November.

#### CITY NEWS

The Manitoba wave that prevailed yesterday afternoon and evening did not lessen the attendance at the W. R. C. lawn party at Mrs. Weston's, on South Lake Street, Tuesday evening. The ladies of the Corps have earned too excellent a reputation as hospitable entertainers for a polar breeze in midsummer to interfere with their plans and the party was a resounding success. Refreshments were served and sociability reigned throughout the evening.

The G. A. R. will attend the funeral of their late comrade, Mr. John Oates, which will be held at the residence of Mrs. Pierce on New York Street, Thursday afternoon at two o'clock.

Saturday, June 30, 1888

#### CITY NEWS

The Sons of Veterans have been holding an annual encampment at Rock Island this week. The Aurora Camp was represented.

The funeral of the late Mr. John Oates, was held Thursday afternoon, Rev. T. R. Strobridge officiating. The bereaved widow arrived in time to attend the obsequies, and a large delegation of G. A. R. Comrades were also present.

Saturday, July 7, 1888

### DEATH OF EUGENE STETLER

Until within the past few days Mr. Eugene Stetler, who was taken sick less than two weeks ago, was not considered very dangerous. He was prostrated by an attack of fever followed by congestion of the liver and kidneys and blood poisoning resulted. Thursday it became evident that the worst was to be feared. The most competent physicians were secured but without avail, Mr. Stetler breathing his last at four o'clock this morning.

Deceased was one of the best known businessmen in Aurora. He came to this city in 1876 as manager, and part proprietor of the McKabe & Co. Nine Cent Store. In due time Mr. Stetler became sole proprietor, and he continued in the business until his death. Few merchants attended more promptly, regularly and steadily to the duties of their position than the deceased, and to this fact is ascribed his success.

Mr. Stetler was a pleasant sociable gentleman, and his sudden demise will be mourned by many outside of the immediate family and friends. The widow, (daughter of Mr. A. Somarindyck), and one child, a little girl, survive him.

The funeral will be held Monday afternoon, at three o'clock, at the residence of Mr. A. Somarindyck, 305 South Lincoln avenue.

Mr. Stetler was an honorable member of the A. F. & A. M., and the G. A. R.

### THE PRESIDENT DECLINED

Text of his letter to the Secretary of the Gettysburg Reunion.

New York, July 7. -- President Cleveland's response to the invitation to attend the Gettysburg Reunion, which did not reach the office of the Secretary until after his departure for Gettysburg is as follows:

"General Horatio King, Recording Secretary, etc. -- My Dear Sir; I have carefully considered the question of accepting the invitation of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, to attend its annual reunion to be held at Gettysburg, on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd days of July. I need hardly assure you that I should be glad to be present on this very interesting occasion. In view, however, of my confining duties here, and the circumstances surrounding the subject, I have arrived at the conclusion that I ought not to leave here, at the time designated. The meeting of the Survivors of Gettysburg, upon the field where they fought twenty-five years ago, cannot fail to teach an impressive lesson, and convince all our people that bravery is akin to magnanimity, while it reminds them that the object of war is the attainment of peace." Yours, very truly,

Grover Cleveland.

Wednesday, July 11, 1888

## CITY NEWS

The funeral of the late Mr. Eugene Stetler was held Monday afternoon at three o'clock, from the residence of Mr. A. Somarindyck, on South Lincoln avenue and was largely attended by sorrowing relatives and friends. The services were conducted by Rev. E. F. Goff, pastor of the first Congressional Church, assisted by Rev. N. A. Prentiss and the church choir rendered appropriate selections. The floral designs were profuse and elegant. The deceased was the youngest member of Aurora Post and his sorrowing comrades accompanied his remains to their last resting place. The attendance of members of the G. A. R. was unusually large and testified to the esteem in which the deceased was held. The remains were interred in Spring Lake Cemetery. A large representation of the membership of the Aurora Mercantile Association also marched to the church yard.

## THE VICTORIOUS PLATFORM

The National Republican Platform of 1888 demonstrates in the clearest and most unequivocal terms that there is a wide difference between the principles, spirit and aims of the two leading parties of the country, the Democrat Party in control of the government today, and the Republican Party. The manner in which the Chicago convention has taken up the challenge of President Cleveland and his obsequious party followers, and has defied the Republican policy regarding the tariff and the surplus and other large questions, leaves no middle ground for the quibblers, the straddlers and the vacillators. The lines are drawn so plainly that there can be no mistake, no hoodwinking of votes this time. The issue of free trade versus protection is joined at last, and must be fought to a finish. This is a platform worthy of a great, patriotic, national party. It is broad, liberal and above all distinctively American. Over it float the Republican colors--the red, white and blue. In hoc signo vinces. On this ground and under this flag we shall conquer!--*Buffalo Commercial Advertiser.*

Saturday, July 14, 1888

## THE VETERANS TO MEET

Columbus, Ohio, July 13.-- The twenty-second National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will assemble in this city on Tuesday, September 11. The grand parades will occur on that day. The business meeting of the encampment will commence on Wednesday, September, 12.

Rev. Thos. F. Leydon, pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church presented to Aurora Post, No. 20., G. A. R., one of handsomest lots in Mt. Olivet Cemetery. By a unanimous vote of the Post, the Adjutant was instructed to tender Father Leydon their thanks for his generous gift, thereby enabling them to fulfill one of the objects of the Post, that no soldier shall fill a pauper's grave.

Saturday, July 21, 1888

#### CITY NEWS

Camp McCook is the name given to the first Brigade encampment at Fox Lake next week. Colonel Greusel in speaking of the gallant services of the Brigade tells the following interesting reminiscences of the 36th Regiment: "The 36th Illinois, of which I was Colonel," he said, "had a little history before it became part of the First Brigade. After being drilled at Rolla, Missouri, it joined General Curtis' army, being assigned to the Second brigade in the First division of Sigel's Corp. It was in the Battle of Pea Ridge, where it lost 384 men killed and wounded. It was in that battle that one of my men, Peter Pelican, of Company B, killed General Ben McCullough, who was the best general the rebels had. Pelican killed him and took his watch out of his pocket and brought it to me. It had, I remember, Ben McC engraved on it's face. When Pelican handed it to me I said to him, "Pete, you have killed the rebel's best man." I kept the watch sixteen years and then turned it over to the heirs. Pelican is now living in Green Bay, but is poorly, and will not be at the Reunion I suppose. "The Old 36th Illinois," continued General Greusel, "was General Sheridan's pet regiment." It acted as his provost guard when he was at New Orleans. That regiment made him a Major General. He won his Brigadier General's star at Booneville, Mississippi, by cutting off Beauregard's connections with Corinth, and won his Major General's star by saving the right wing at Stone river."

The ladies of the W. R. C. will give an iridescent tea at the residence of Mrs. C. A. Woodard, 98 South River street, next Wednesday evening. Tea served from 5 to 8. Dancing on the lawn and ice cream served in the evening. Put Howard's orchestra will furnish the music. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Wednesday, July 25, 1888

#### ATTENTION G. A. R. and S. of V.

Members of the G. A. R. and Sons of Veterans are especially invited to attend the tea given by the W. R. C. Ladies, at the residence of Mrs. Woodard, 98 S. River street, this evening. Supper served from 5 to 8 o'clock. Dancing on the lawn and ice cream served during the evening.

Saturday, July 28, 1888

CITY NEWS

The Aurora members of the old 36th did not attend the Brigade encampment at Fox Lake this week as they hold a reunion the latter part of September in this vicinity.

The W. R. C. social tea at the residence of Mrs. C. A. Woodard, Wednesday evening proved a gratifying success, despite the stormy nature of the evening. The rain interfered with the dancing and this feature of the affair was postponed until to-night, when the light limbed guests will be granted an opportunity of enjoying the agreeable diversion. The tables, Wednesday evening, were set and arranged with artistic taste, patriotic colors predominating. One table was set in red, another in blue, and a third in white.

Wednesday, August 1, 1888

CITY NEWS

The G. A. R. Picnic at Cowdry's Grove tomorrow will bring out many of the old veterans and their families. The train starts from the East "Q" depot at 10:20 A.M., and the fare for the round trip is forty cents, with no extra expense for coffee, sugar, music and dancing. That all who attend will have one of the best times is a foregone conclusion. It should be remembered that this is a picnic and preparations should be made accordingly.

Saturday, August 4, 1888

CITY NEWS

The G. A. R. Picnic at Cowdry's Grove, Thursday, was a most successful affair. The attendance of veterans, their families and friends, was very large, both Aurora and Yorkville sending large representations. The day was passed in the usual picnic merry-making, and a happy time enjoyed by all visitors. A pleasant episode during the day was the presentation of a serviceable chair to Mr. Cowdry, the genial gentleman who has so often thrown open his pleasant grounds for the reception of the G. A. R. Mr. Cowdry was completely surprised.

The Aurora Zouaves will give a promenade dance at the Island Rink this Saturday evening. Admission; gents, 25 cents, ladies free. Should this party prove a success, it is proposed to repeat it every Saturday evening during the season.

Wednesday, August 8, 1888

“LITTLE PHIL” IS DEAD  
General Sheridan Passes Away At Nonquit, Mass.  
The End Somewhat Unexpected  
A Sudden Attack of the Old Trouble With His Heart The Cause

A Gallant Soldier At Rest

Nonquit, Mass., Aug. 6. -- General Philip H. Sheridan died at 10:20 o'clock last evening from an attack of his old heart failure trouble. Previous to the sudden appearance of heart failure at about 9:30 there had been no premonitions of any unfavorable change in his condition.

The General was conscious up to within a few hours of his death. He had however, lost the power of speech, and indicated by signs, his desires. Mrs. Sheridan sat at the bedside. Next to her was Colonel Mike, and arranged around the bedside were the four children. At nine o'clock the General gasped as if trying to cough. He was unsuccessful, and seemed to be awfully distressed at some internal attack, which he could not relieve nor indicate to the family that they might apply remedies. He gradually sank into a stupor and remained unconscious to the end.

Saturday, August 11, 1888

CITY NEWS

General Allen C. Fuller, Vice President of the First National Bank, of Belvidere, offers Boone Co. \$5000 if the G. A. R. will raise the same, and the county a like amount to erect a soldiers' Monument to cost \$15,000, on the spot where the indian chief, Big Thunder, was buried. -- *Elgin Courier*.

The Ladies cleared \$18.65 at the lawn sociable held Thursday last at Mrs. Fishburn's.

A number of Aurora people will attend the National G. A. R. encampment at Columbus in September. City clerk Kennedy may put in his vacation time by taking a trip to Ohio.

Wednesday, August 15, 1888

CITY NEWS

The Fourth Annual Reunion of the Railroad Regiment, 89th Illinois Volunteers, will be held at Aurora, Wednesday, September 26. Very tasty invitations have been issued, and a grand gathering is expected. The arrangements committee are making every effort for a successful reunion, and their fond hopes will doubtless be realized.

Saturday, August 18, 1888

CITY NEWS

The comrades of the Department of Illinois G. A. R. will present the name of Colonel James A. Sexton, of Chicago for Commander-In-Chief of the G. A. R. of the United States at the twenty-second annual encampment at Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 11, 12 and 13. Colonel Sexton is the present efficient Commander of the Department of Illinois.

#### SHERIDAN MEMORIAL SERVICE

Memorial services in honor of the lamented General Sheridan will be held at the opera house, Sunday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock, under the auspices of Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R. An address will be delivered by Rev. T. F. Leydon, and more brief remarks by pastors of local churches and prominent local speakers, appropriate music being furnished by a male quartette.

All comrades of the G. A. R. are requested to meet at their hall at 1;30 P.M. sharp.

#### SONS OF VETERANS ELECT OFFICERS

Wheeling, W. Va., Aug. 18. -- The National Commandry of the Sons of Veterans elected the following officers: Commander-In-Chief, George R. Abbott, of Illinois; Lieutenant General, E. H. Milhan, of Minnesota; Major General, John Hinckley, of Massachusetts; Council-In-Chief, G. B. Smith, of Connecticut; W. E. Bundy, of Ohio; R. L. Obenstein, of Missouri, and C. B. Cooke, of Dakota.

A memorial service in memory of the late Phil Sheridan will be held at the opera house tomorrow afternoon at half past two o'clock. Fred. O. White, Rev. T/ F. Leydon and other city pastors will address the meeting. The public are cordially invited to be present. The members of Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R. will assemble at the hall promptly at half past one o'clock.

Wednesday, August 22, 1888

CITY NEWS

The W. R. C. will serve ice cream and cake at the benefit dedicatory reception at the new city mill tomorrow night, and the Ladies of the G. A. R. will dispense coffee and sandwiches.

Saturday, September 1, 1888

CITY NEWS

The twenty-fourth annual reunion of the 105th Regiment Illinois Volunteers, will be held at Bensonville, DuPage County, Tuesday next.

Saturday, September 8, 1888

CITY NEWS

The Aurora people who expect to attend the G. A. R. encampment at Columbus, Ohio, start to-morrow.

The funeral of the late Mr. Duncan will be held to-morrow afternoon at two o'clock at the Park Place Baptist Church. The G. A. R. will attend in a body.

#### ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE

The Reunion held at Toledo, General Sherman Presiding  
The Logan Monument

Toledo, O., Sept. 6. -- The Society of the Army of the Tennessee began its twenty-first annual reunion yesterday in this city. General W. T. Sherman, the president, was in the chair. He congratulated those present on the good attendance and spoke feelingly of the dead. Committees were appointed on officers and on the place of the next annual meeting. The officers made their annual reports in due form, the Treasurer showing that the Society has over \$11,000 in United States bonds to its credit. General Manning F. Force, the treasurer for many years, after making his report signified his intention of not accepting a re-election, which brought out a very complimentary reference to his usefulness from General Sherman.

General Green B. Raum, from the committee on the monument to General Logan, reported that it is to be located in Washington City on a site not yet selected; that the government will provide the pedestal and the Society provide the statue. This ended the business session for the day, and General G. M. Dodge, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, read a paper on his personal experiences with the Army of the Tennessee. After this the members were taken in carriages to view the city.

In the evening the society was formally escorted to Memorial Hall by the local military companies and Grand Army Posts. General J. W. Fuller, of this city, called the meeting to order and introduced Mayor Hamilton, who formally welcomed the society on behalf of the city. General Sherman made an appropriate speech in response.

The annual address by Captain Gilbert A. Pierce, ex-Governor of Dakota, then followed, and the exercises closed with a camp fire.

## CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the Peoples Church are making arrangements to serve a grand dinner Thursday, September 20, the date of the annual reunion of the 36th Regiment.

Wednesday, September 12, 1888      CITY NEWS

The Aurora Veteran Club was reorganized at Republican Headquarters Thursday evening, with forty-five members. Mr. Chris Zimmer was elected president, and committees were appointed by the chair for preliminary work and arrangements. The meeting then adjourned to Tuesday evening, September 11, when all Veterans are requested to be present to enlarge the rolls of membership. The old soldiers are in thorough earnest, and will tender "Private Joe" a rousing reception September 18.

## THE THIRTY - SIXTH REUNION

The twenty-second annual reunion of the veteran regiment, the Thirty-Sixth Illinois Volunteers, will be held next week Thursday in this city. A large attendance is anticipated, as in former years the annual gatherings of the thirty-sixth have always been successful and entertaining affairs, and the coming one will be no exception.

A business meeting will be held at G. A. R. Hall at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, and dinner will be served in the basement of the People's Church. Following the noon day meal, the following programme of exercises will be rendered: Prayer, Rev. Thomas Galt; greeting, Rev. J. H. Acton; the regiment, president M. E. Cornell; the four sides of camp life, Geo. D. Sherman; the old command, Col. N. Greusel; those mustered out, W. H. Chamberlain, Sheridan, John M. Turnbull; invited guests, I. K. Young. The exercises will be interspersed with music from a quartette, and Mr. J. C. Dennison will act as toastmaster.

The reception committee consists of comrades H. B. Douglass, H. H. Evans, W. F. Sylla, Joseph Ingham, Geo. D. Sherman, E. E. Lloyd, W. W. Kerns.

The committee of arrangements are comrades Sam. Hitchcock, Chas. J. Ayers, M. M. Robbins, L. M. Kelley, J. F. Harral, J. M. Kennedy, J. C. Taylor.

## OLD SOLDIERS PARADE

A Great Procession of Grand Army Men at Columbus  
Forty Thousand Men in Line.

They are reviewed by General Sherman and other old Commanders.  
Cheers for Mrs. Logan - Great enthusiasm aroused.

### Proudly they Marched

Columbus, O., Sept. 12. - During Monday night the old veterans, with their wives and children, continued to pour into the city, and camps and streets are about filled. Many people stayed in the depot waiting rooms over night without trying to find sleeping quarters, but all who wished were comfortably provided with beds and cots. At an early hour the Grand Army men, in uniform and led by drum corps, began to form for the parade, which was one of the most grandest ever witnessed on a similar occasion. There were eighteen divisions, eight of them comprising the Ohio Department, which is out in full force. The ninth Division was made up of the Veteran Crippled Soldiers' Association, Mexican Veterans and Andrews Raiders, Naval Squadron and the Fifth United States Colored Volunteer Infantry. The Department of Illinois constituted the tenth Division; Wisconsin and Iowa combined to make the eleventh; Indiana divided into the twelfth and thirteenth Divisions, Kansas came in fourteenth; fifteenth included Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Missouri, Minnesota, Maryland, Maine, New Jersey and Virginia. Michigan was the sixteenth Division; the seventeenth comprised California, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, West Virginia, Vermont, Arkansas, New Mexico, Utah, Tennessee, Georgia, Dakota, Potomac, Colorado, Delaware, Oregon, Kentucky, Washington Territory, Gulf, Florida, Montana and Texas, and their Sons of Veterans came in as the eighteenth Division. In advance of the divisions which marched in numerical order, were the police, and the commander of the parade, and the Commander-In-Chief, with their staffs and Ohio battle flag veteran battalion.

## THE BOYS OF '61

The Veterans' Reunion at Columbus, O., Fairly Begun  
The City Overrun With Strangers  
Grand Army Delegations from All Parts of the Country in Attendance  
Speculation Regarding the New Officers of the Order.

### Veterans At Columbus.

Columbus, O., Sept. 11.-- All of Sunday night and yesterday the railroads unloaded their freight of veterans and their families until the city is jammed, and yet only half of the crowd is here. A close estimate of the number of visitors already in the city places it at over 150,000. Nearly all the delegates have arrived and the balance are expected on the early morning trains. The western delegations of members of the Grand Army far exceed the eastern boys. They come

in thousands. So far accommodations seem to have been provided for all on the ground. The arrangements are excellent.

It was expected that Commander-In-Chief Rea would be in at 10:00 a.m. and the committee gathered to meet him.

Saturday, September 15, 1888

THE BIG REUNION  
Proceedings Of The Grand Army Gathering At Columbus.  
The Order Elects New Officers.  
Congressman Warner of Missouri, Chosen Commander-In-Chief.  
A Large Majority Voted To Indorse The Proposed Service Pensions.

Honor For Mr. Warner

Columbus, O., Sept. 14. -- At the National Encampment yesterday morning, the election of the Commander-In-Chief was in order. After the nominations were made, Major William Warner, of Missouri, was elected.

Colonel Moses Neil, of Columbus, was elected Senior Vice-Commander. J. K. Hatfield, of New York, was chosen Junior Vice-Commander. All three of the officers elected made speeches of thanks. On behalf of the comrades Louis Wagner presented to General Lucius Fairchild an elegant oil portrait of himself. A committee of the Woman's Relief Corps was given a hearty welcome, as was also a committee inviting the Grand Army to visit the Exposition at Cincinnati on Grand Army Day -- September 14: Recess taken for dinner.

At the morning meeting of the Woman's Relief Corps, The National Treasurer, Mrs. Elizabeth A. Turner, of Boston, reported over \$10,000 in the Treasury. After the session the local organization was presented with a fine portrait of Department President Mary E. Bancroft, in recognition of their very excellent work as entertainers.

Rev. W. Updyke, of Dakota, was elected Chaplain-In-Chief, and R. M. DeWitt, of Iowa, was chosen Surgeon-General.

The afternoon was taken up in the discussion of the pension question, the result being the endorsement of the proposition for a service pension by a vote of 400 to 22. The resolution as reported by the committee and adopted read as follows:

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Encampment that the time has come when the soldiers and sailors of the war for the preservation of the Union should receive the substantial and merited recognition of the Government by granting them service pension in accord with established usage and further,

*Resolved*, That this Encampment favors the presentation of a bill to Congress to give every soldier, sailor or marine of the army or navy of the United States between April 1, 1861 and July 1865 a pension for services rendered.

AMONG HIS OLD COMRADES  
General Harrison attends a Reunion of His Old Regiment.  
The Affair, a Purely Social One -- Politics Tabooed

Indianapolis, Ind., Sept. 14. -- General Harrison spent yesterday with his old army comrades at Clayton, a small village twenty miles from this city, where the fourth annual reunion of the Seventeenth Indiana Regiment was held. General Harrison is President of the Association and was reelected. He responded to a speech of welcome but confined his remarks altogether to his relations to the Regiment. After the speeches a crowd of fully 15,000 surrounded the stand, eager to shake the distinguished man's hand.

In a letter to the Editor of a paper at Mauch Chuck General Harrison says that the story that he said a dollar a day was enough for a working man is not a plausible lie, and does not require a denial.

VETERANS IN A WRECK  
Fatal Accident To A Train Returning From Columbus.  
It Collides With A Freight.  
The Disaster occurs Near Mansfield, Ohio.  
Two persons killed and over thirty injured.  
Details of the catastrophe

Railroad Horror in Ohio

Mansfield, Ohio, Sept. 15. -- Baltimore and Ohio north bound passenger train No. 9, due in this city at 5:55 a.m., jumped the switch yesterday morning at Ankeney-town siding, twenty five miles south of this city, and collided with a freight train on the siding. The mail car followed by the express, and two day coaches, struck the engine and rolled over on their sides badly wrecked. Almost immediately the freight engine (a camel-back) exploded, throwing wreckage in all directions. The two coaches containing 110 passengers, nearly all returning from the encampment at Columbus. The hot water and steam from the boiler poured into the coaches and the passengers that had not been hurt by broken timbers were scalded. The engine on the passenger train, which with two express cars had safely passed the switch, was immediately taken to Independence and Belleville, and all the Doctors in these places were quickly taken to the wreck. The passengers who were not held down by timbers crawled out the windows, and by the time the Doctors reached the spot, all but four or five were out of the broken coaches.

Mrs. Edward Valentine, of Chicago, and F. Luckens, the express agent, were firmly pinned under the wreckage. Henry Tomlinson, the freight engineer was standing on the side track next to the passenger train, and he was found between the tender and the boiler of his engine with the front part of his head blown off. He was unmarried and resided in Newark, O. with his mother. David Wilson, the baggage master was found all doubled up along side the freight train with his neck broken and his skull crushed. He has a wife and two children living in

Sandusky. Mrs. Edward Valentine, of No. 684 West Madison street, Chicago, and William Gransley, of Shawnee, a brakeman on the freight train, can not live. The dead men were laid on cots along side the track, and the wounded were taken to houses near by. The wrecked train consisted of engine, two express cars, mail car, baggage car, two day coaches and two sleeping cars. The only persons injured were in the day coaches.

Saturday, September 22, 1888                      CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the W. R. C. will serve dinner for the reuning veterans of the Eighty-Ninth Illinois, who assemble here Wednesday next. The banquet will be spread at the Peoples Church.

#### REUNION OF THE THIRTY SIXTH

The veteran survivors of the gallant Thirty Sixth regiment held their twenty second annual reunion at Aurora Thursday and the occasion was marked by the same pleasant and happy features that have been characteristic of all the former gatherings of this noble band of veterans. The committee had made every arrangement for the hospitable reception of the visiting boys in blue and welcome beamed in every face and good cheer revealed itself at every turn. Aurora has always reserved a warm spot in her affections for the old Thirty Sixth, for many of her staunchest sons accompanied this regiment to the battlefields of the South. The regiment rendezvoused here and marched to the front September 24, 1861, twenty seven years ago.

The attendance of survivors at Thursday's gathering was very large and the wives and families of the veterans were present to assist in the agreeable social features of the affair.

A business meeting preceded the dinner hour and G. A. R. hall was thronged. President M. E. Cornell presided and comrade F. O. White occupied his regular position at the secretary's desk. The list of deaths since last gathering included the names of Lieut. A. C. Ferre, Company A, cavalry; Captain E. P. Cass, Company D; Leonard W. Munn, Company A; Elihu Mayhew, Company D; Luther Gates and Rensalear Carpenter. A committee was appointed to draft appropriate resolutions in memory of the late General Sheridan. An invitation to the Big Bend reunion was read, accepted and placed on file. Officers of the ensuing year were chosen as follows: W. H. Chamberlain, Pittsfield, Mass. president; Samuel Hitchcock, Aurora, vice president; J. M. Kennedy, Aurora, secretary. Mr. F. O. White has served as secretary for the past ten years, and was promptly renominated Thursday but begged to be relieved from the arduous duties. The gentleman has officiated very acceptably and has been ever untiring in his efforts to make each annual reunion a success and his comrades reluctantly excused him from further active service. He was tendered a rousing vote of thanks. His work has fallen upon capable

shoulders however, and the interests of the association will be well looked after by the new secretary.

The matter of selecting a place for the next annual reunion was left with the executive committee with power to act.

Major Sherman next stepped forward and with a brief explanation presented Colonel Greusel with a handsome cane, cut from the grove near the spot where General McPherson fell, in behalf of the Bloomington G. A. R., who made the presentation. The Colonel accepted the gift in a gracefully worded acknowledgement and after a few minor matters had been attended to, the veterans formed in line and marched to the Peoples Church where a substantial spread awaited them. The ladies of that church had arranged a most tempting array of viands and the tables were adorned with bouquets and gleaming glassware giving the banquet room a most elegant and inviting appearance. The various courses were given due attention and the guests were then regaled with some entertaining after dinner talks. Rev. Thos. Galt invoked divine blessing upon the assemblage and a quartette rendered an agreeable song after which Rev. J. H. Acton delivered a cordial greeting to the assembled guests. He welcomed them because their record made them worthy of the warmest welcome that could be tendered.

President M. E. Cornell responded fittingly and briefly. He remembered many occasions when Aurora opened wide its doors for the reception of the brave survivors of the Thirty Sixty, and each time seemed more pleasant than the one preceding. He thought it demonstrated that the loyalty shown and the hardships endured in the days of strife were appreciated and honored by the residents of this beautiful city.

Mr. Geo. D. Sherman responded to the toast "The four sides of camp life" and did it admirably. He complimented Aurora upon her handsome women, loyal men, and the hospitality which characterized her citizens and then proceeded with a witty dissertation concerning the inside, the outside, the bright side, the dark side of camp life.

The quartette sang "We are tenting tonight" very agreeably, and Col. Greusel was then called upon to speak concerning "The old Command." The Colonel acquiesced in an entertaining manner, recalling some most interesting reminiscences of camp life and forage efforts.

"Mustered out" was responded to in an able and feeling address by a true soldier, Mr. W. H. Chamberlain. Captain John M. Turnbull, of Monmouth, eulogized the deeds of Sheridan, nobly and thoughtfully. He traced the history of the gallant dead from early boyhood to manhood's prime and said many loving words of praise for the late respected commander. The committee reported appropriate resolutions of respect to Sheridan's memory, which were unanimously passed.

Sergeant I. K. Young, responded to the toast "Invited Guests" acquitting himself very acceptably. He referred to the excitement that reigned at the outbreak of the war. The loyalty that was aroused when the stars and stripes were fired upon and dwelled particularly upon the honorable records made by the veteran Thirty Sixth.

Mr. H. B. Douglass acted as toastmaster and the program proved pleasing throughout. The frequent bursts of applause testifying to the appreciation of the interested listeners. The addresses were interspersed with songs by the quartette and at the close of the exercises the

visitors adjourned, to pass the remainder of the day in social intercourse and the twenty second annual reunion was thus brought to a happy and successful close.

There were about ninety veterans present and a generous, whole souled lot they were. Among the visitors were Col. B. F. Campbell, of Sioux Falls, Dakota; Maj. Geo. D. Sherman, of Elgin; W. H. Chamberlain and friend, of Pittsfield, Mass., and Col. Nicholas Greusel.

Wednesday, September 26, 1888

Survivors of the 89th Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry, (The Railroad Regiment,) hold their annual reunion in the city today. They will assemble at the G. A. R. Hall at 12:30 sharp, and subsequently march to the basement of the People's church, where the banquet will be served. All members of Post No. 20, G. A. R., and also the Mayor and members of the City Council are cordially invited to participate with them in the festivities of the occasion, and the Aurora Coronet Band has been secured for the afternoon.

Saturday, September 29, 1888

#### REUNION OF THE RAILROAD REGIMENT.

The veteran survivors are always sure of a cordial welcome in Aurora and our fair city is becoming a favorite gathering place for the annual assemblings of the reuning boys in blue. The members of the 89th Illinois Volunteers, generally known as the Railroad Regiment, convened in Aurora Wednesday and enjoyed a most delightful reunion time.

A business meeting was held at the G. A. R. Hall during the forenoon, President R. W. Willett, of Yorkville, presiding. Secretary, I. K. Young occupied his position at the Secretary's desk and the routine business of the session was carried through. President Willett greeted his comrades in a few well chosen words during which Comrade G. H. Jenks brought in the old tattered and torn battle flag of the Regiment calling forth a tremendous cheer from the assembled veterans. Colonel Hotchkiss, of Chicago acknowledged the receipt of the flag very pleasantly and the selection of officers was proceeded with, resulting as follows: H. C. Mahanna, Belle Plaines, Iowa, president; J. W. Swickard, Galva, vice president; H. L. Evans, Joliet, Treasurer; I. K. Young, Bristol, Secretary. It was decided to hold the next reunion at Galesburg. After a short session of social intercourse the veterans formed into line and marched to the People's Church, headed by a platoon of police and the Cornet Band. The wives and families of the visitors also repaired to the church where all were regaled with a most substantial dinner. The banquet was provided and served by the members of the Woman's Relief Corps and the compliments heard on every side were justly earned. The edibles were not only of the most tempting variety, but the ladies were untiring in their efforts to attend to the wants of the guests.

At the conclusion of the banquet a few hours were devoted to music and speech making. Comrade F. O. White was absent and Comrade Eb. Denny found the pleasant task of welcoming the visitors devolving upon him and he acquitted himself with an agreeableness that left no one uncertain of a genuine and hearty welcome to our city.

President R. H. Willett responded fittingly and as toastmaster proceeded with the exercises of the afternoon, announcing Col. T. C. Hotchkiss, of Chicago, who recounted the experiences of the Eighty Ninth in their perigrinations from Nashville to Murfreesboro. Miss. Jones, of Woodford County, favored the gathering with a recitation "The Charge at Mission Ridge," with such feeling and pathos that the entire assembly was moved to tears. It was one of the most touching recitals to which her hearers had ever listened and all united in pronouncing Miss. Jones' recitation one of the most artistic and dramatic elocutionary efforts they had ever had the pleasure of hearing.

Sergeant A. D. Curran, of Bristol, responded to the toast "from Chattanooga to Knoxville" and many gallant deeds of the brave Eighty Ninth were recalled.

Mr. I. K. Young, of Bristol, read a clipping which treated the battle of Chickamauga and outlined the work of the Eighty Ninth on that occasion. The Railroad Regiment was the last to leave the battlefield of Chickamauga.

Mrs. J. F. Harral told of the objects and aims of the Woman's Relief Corps showing the good work that was being accomplished in their benevolent efforts auxiliary to the G. A. R.

H. C. Mahanna related a portion of what he knew about foraging and he told enough to demonstrate that what he did not know about that branch of life on the tented field was not worth knowing.

Miss. Jones gave a second recitation and I. B. Fonda, of Jefferson, closed the speaking with a few thoughts of a semi political nature that furnished food for solid reflection for all within sound of his voice.

The speeches were interspersed with renditions by the Cornet Band and the rollicking songs by DeLoss Hawkins and songs by the Glee Club were also agreeable features of the exercise.

Seventy Five survivors of the old Eighty Ninth were present Wednesday, and among those in attendance were Col. C. T. Hotchkiss, of Chicago; F. L. Lake, of Chicago, the first quartermaster of the regiment; J. W. Swickard, of Galva; Captain F. M. Hobbs, of Yorkville; Captain J. W. Warren, of Leadville, Col., and others.

#### COMMANDER WARNER SERENADED.

New York, Sept. 28. -- Hon. William Warner, of Kansas City, Commander-In-Chief of the G. A. R., was serenaded at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last evening by local G. A. R. Posts, and made a neat speech of acknowledgment in which he took occasion to reiterate the sentiment of his recent circular letter that the G. A. R. must be kept out of party politics and devote itself to fraternity, charity and loyalty.

Wednesday, October 3, 1888

The late General Logan said in his last speech to an Aurora audience, that 1888 would be a year of great gains for the republicans. It would be a year when the sons of union soldiers, born the year after the war, would cast their first votes. "Logan's boys" are coming to the polls by the thousands this fall. The first voters are for Harrison and Protection.

#### CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the G. A. R. will give one of their pleasant sociables at the residence of Mr. T. Bates, 91 North Root Street, this evening. All are cordially invited.

Saturday, October 6, 1888

#### CITY NEWS

There will be a special meeting of Corps No. 10, W. R. C., Monday Oct. 8, 1888 at 7: PM. for inspection. Per order of Pres.

Florence Poole, Secy.

Wednesday, October 17, 1888

#### ATTENTION, AURORA VETERAN CLUB.

You will meet at Republican Headquarters this Wednesday evening October 17th, at seven o'clock, to take part in the parade. Let every member be present.

Chris. Zimmer, Pres.

Don't fail to read the line of march.

#### DECEIVING THE SOLDIERS

Hon. John C. Black, in his report as commissioner of pensions, ingenuously arranges figures to show that President Cleveland has signed more pension bills than certain Republican presidents. Granted, but what does it signify? Not that the President is friendly to Union Soldiers. The test of his feelings toward them is found in his vetoes. Not the number of bills sent by Congress to the president but the number of kills bears testimony to his hostile spirit. Here, then, is the record: From 1861 to 1885, under twenty four years of republican rule, the number of pension vetoes was eight. From 1885 to 1888, in three and a half years, President Cleveland has vetoed 175 bills for pensions and disapproved 156 others. Total lists of pensions

killed by President Cleveland, 331. Past Commander-In-Chief Van Dervoort of the G. A. R. says that he has personally examined most of these bills and knows that they were nearly all meritorious. However, the ex-soldiers do not take as much exception to the vetoes as to the slurring and unbecoming language used by the President in his veto messages. It must also be born in mind that each of these bills had passed a Democrat House as well as a Republican Senate. If President Cleveland was right in these vetoes, then the Democratic House was wrong and is not to be trusted. On the other hand, if the Democratic house was right in passing these bills, the President's vetoes are wrong, and he is unworthy of confidence. Take which horn you please of the dilemma and it shows the untrustworthiness of Democracy. (St. Clair, Mich. Republican)

Wednesday, October 24, 1888                      CITY NEWS

Aurora Post runs an excursion to Joliet Friday night to attend a camp fire given by the Joliet G. A. R.

The Ladies of the G. A. R. enjoyed a very pleasant sociable at the residence of Mrs. G. M. Jenks, Saturday afternoon. The rooms were very prettily decorated, and the number in attendance very large.

Saturday, November 10, 1888

#### HARRISON, GLORIOUSLY ELECTED

Saturday, November 24, 1888                      CITY NEWS

The ladies of the W. R. C. have been making arrangements for the holding of a bazaar early in December, but on account of the Hospital Bazaar to be held the 10th to the 13th, have decided to postpone theirs until later. Such articles of fancy work as have been designed especially for the holiday sale will be disposed of at a sociable and sale to be held at Mrs. Wm. Titus', 94 South Lake street, next Tuesday evening, Supper served from 6 to 8 o'clock.

Wednesday, November 28, 1888

### THE TROUBLE IN THE G. A. R.

Minneapolis, Minn. Nov. 28. -- The dispatch from Indianapolis regarding the withdrawal of large numbers of Democratic veterans from the Grand Army of the Republic was shown to several of the National officers in this city. Judge J. P. Rea, late Commander-In-Chief thought the extent of the movement had been exaggerated. Ex Adjutant General Fish, of the National Department, did not think the movement would be a success, as the Democrats are in too great a minority in the G. A. R. Nothing would be gained by establishing a Republican and a Democrat G. A. R. He was satisfied there was no ground for General Palmer's charges.

Saturday, December 1, 1888

### WARNER ON THE G. A. R. REVOLT.

New York, Dec. 1. -- Commander-In-Chief Warner, of the G. A. R. was tendered a reception Friday by Lafayette Post 140, and made an address in which his only reference to the threatened split in the organization was the statement, "that the G. A. R. platform was so broad that it can admit of only one Grand Army in this country, there never has been and never will be room for more than one." This sentiment was warmly applauded.

### THE G. A. R. REVOLT

#### A NEW SOLDIERS' ORGANIZATION COMMENCED AT INDIANAPOLIS

#### COMPOSED OF DEMOCRATIC VETERANS

They Leave The Old Society Because, As They Allege, Of Its Participation In Politics --  
Post Commander Rea Denies The Charge.

#### The New Grand Army.

Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 29. -- A meeting was held Wednesday night at the Hendricks club rooms by about three score Democratic Grand Army of the Republic Veterans, at which an organization was perfected, known as the Democratic Soldiers and Sailors Association of Indiana. This organization is the result of what has been termed the revolt against the G. A. R. The object of the new association is set forth in the following Preamble to the reconstitution and by laws.

“The purpose of this organization shall be to inculcate the true principles of patriotism, love of country, and to foster and maintain true democratic principles in the administration of the Government, both State and National, and secure a pure, simple and efficient administration of the same, and to resist with all our might each and every encroachment upon the constitutional rights and liberties of the people.”

“To preserve and strengthen those kind and fraternal feelings which band together those who as soldiers, sailors and marines, united to suppress the rebellion, and to perpetuate the memory and history of the dead.’

“To aid in every possible way all persons who have been honorably discharged from the military and naval service of The United States. To secure for them preference and promotion in the civil service.” etc.

After the adoption of the constitution the following officers were elected: President, R. A. Taylor; secretary, W. C. Larkington; treasurer, L. C. Dainiels; vice-president, Samuel C. Green. Under the constitution the entire management of the association is placed in the hands of an executive board. George W. Koontz was elected chairman, and was given power to appoint the other members of the board, which he will do by naming one man from each Congressional District, and two from the State-at-large at the next meeting.

Colonel J. N. Walker, Assistant Adjutant General of the G. A. R., department of Indiana, and the executive officer of the order of this State, denies that 1,200 G. A. R. veterans met here Tuesday night and agreed to leave the Grand Army. He says that no application for withdrawal of membership from the G. A. R. has been made to him, and that he is the officer to whom the application must come, that so far from the Indiana department decreasing in membership, the application for permits for special muster to initiate new members have doubled within the last two weeks; that during the late campaign the membership increased 300 in the very heat of the contest, and that the roll just returned for the last quarter shows a membership of over 25,000. If any disaffection is threatened for supposed political or other causes, Colonel Walker says neither he nor the Department Commander General are aware of that fact. He denied emphatically that the G. A. R. had in any way been connected to a political machine.

#### CITY NEWS

The annual meeting of the Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R., will be held Tuesday evening December 4, at 7:30 PM., for the election of officers and the collection of dues.

Wednesday, December 5, 1888

#### CITY NEWS

Aurora Post, G. A. R. elected officers Tuesday evening as follows; J. M. Kennedy, commander; Fred Thayer, senior vice; J. J. McNair, junior vice; G. S. Case, officer of day; J. O. Raymond, quartermaster; E. E. Hewitt, chaplain; M. J. Tarble, officer of guard; W. F. Bundy, surgeon; delegates to state encampment; W. H. Watson, L. Sylvester, H. H. Evans, J. C. Porter,

Joe Ingham; alternates, Samuel Hitchcock, Fred Brown, C. B. Colwell, M. J. Tarble, A. C. Graves.

Saturday, December 8, 1888

Aurora Camp, No. 21, Sons of Veterans, held their annual election of officers Dec. 6, and elected the following officers: Captain W. F. Thayer; 1st Lieut., A. R. Evans; 2nd Lieut., W. E. Hubbard; Camp Council, F. C. Hewitt, C. E. Colwell and H. L. Bunnell; Installing officer, A. B. Culver; Delegate to State Encampment, H. L. Culver; alternate Geo. Wallace.

Saturday, December 29, 1888

ATTENTION, G. A. R.

Invitation is hereby given to all Comrades of the G. A. R. and their wives to attend the installation services of Aurora Camp, Sons of Veterans, on the evening of January 3rd, 1889.



**In 1889**, with Benjamin Harrison and Vice President Levi Morton on their way to the White House, the veterans had a powerful ally in Washington. Only time would tell of the successful passage of a pensions bill. On February 20th the Department of Illinois, G. A. R would once again holds its encampment in Springfield. Presided over by James A. Sexton, James S. Martin, of Salem, would be elected Department Commander. Illinois Department membership stood at 32,313 from 581 posts. On August 28th the National encampment met at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. William Warner turned over the position of Commander-in-Chief to Russell A. Alger of Michigan. National membership now stood at 397,974. Aurora Post No. 20 now had J. M. Kennedy for Post Commander. The survivors of the 36th Illinois Volunteer Infantry would hold their reunion once again in Aurora on September 24th. Flushed with ever growing membership and certain passage of pension legislation, the departments began to flex some muscle. In Aurora, they delayed announcing plans for the Decoration Day ceremonies until the city fathers offered up additional financial support. On the National level they even demanded lower rates from the railroads for excursions to the Milwaukee Encampment.

Wednesday, January 2, 1889

CITY NEWS

The newly elected officers of Aurora Post G. A. R. were installed Thursday evening by Past Commander Eb. Denny and the officers elect of the Sons of Veterans were installed the same evening by Mr. A. B. Culver. The wives and families of the Post and the friends of the Sons of Veterans were present, and, at the close of the installation ceremonies a substantial spread of refreshments was served. The remainder of the evening was passed in agreeable sociability.

At the Reunion of the Grand Army Veterans at Indianapolis Wednesday, General Harrison stole a march on the reporters, and made a speech which did not get into the papers. In speaking of a free ballot and a fair count, the General delivered himself of a sentence which the veterans say was as follows: "I would like to hear a bugle call throughout the land demanding a pure ballot. This is a matter above and beyond any question of partisanship, and I feel that I express the sentiment of every comrade present when I declare that a free ballot honestly expressed and fairly counted, is the main safeguard of our institutions, and its suppression under any pretext whatever cannot be tolerated".

Wednesday, January 9, 1889

G. A. R. COMMITTEES.

A meeting of the G. A. R. Thursday, Commander Kennedy appointed the officers and committees:

-----committee,-- M.D. Yager, A.C. Case, W.H. Watson.

Committee on finance,-- Sam Hitchcock, C.-----, A.M. Brown.

Committee on relief,-- F.H. Hotz, C.G.-----, Quinton, O.B. Gates, A.F. Wade.

Committee on employment,-- J.H. Blackford, H. Scragg, Jason Wallace, J.H.-----, Kelly,  
Geo. McCann, W.H.-----, Westover.

Committee on amusements,-- J.F. Harral, John L. Walker.

Adjutant,-- Chris Zimmer.

Master Sergeant,-- A. B. Culver

(some entries illegible)

Wednesday, January 16, 1889

CITY NEWS

Deputy William Reed, of the county seat, inspected the Aurora G. A. R. Post Tuesday evening.

The W. R. C. officers were duly installed Tuesday afternoon at G. A. R. hall, the installation ceremonies being conducted by Mrs. J. F. Harral, post president. The ladies raised to posts of honor were Mrs. C. S. Lewis, president; Mrs. C. A. Woodard, senior vice; Mrs. E. J. Sill, junior vice; Mrs. Poole, secretary; Mrs. Stolp, chaplain; Mrs. Case, conductor; Mrs. Covalt, guard; Mrs. Stolp and Mrs. Hawley were chosen delegates to the State encampment to be held in Springfield and Mrs. Wm. Walker and Mrs. E. J. Sill were named as alternates. The Ladies of the G. A. R. installed officers Monday evening and both societies are now nicely launched upon another year of benevolent work.

Saturday, January 26, 1889

The twenty third national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held in the city of Milwaukee the last week in August. Preparations are being made to receive the veterans on a scale that will surpass all previous attempts in this direction, and the prospects are it will be one of the most successful encampments ever held.

Wednesday, January 30, 1889

Nearly all the United States Pensioners residing in this part of Illinois have signed a petition for the appointment of Miss. Ada C. Sweet as pension agent at Chicago and no doubt others will gladly express themselves in the same manner as soon as they have an opportunity to do so. This movement seems to be spontaneous and originated with pensioners themselves who seem to think that Miss. Sweet will accept the position if she is convinced that her services are wanted by those most interested. It will be remembered that four years ago after congratulating her upon the faithful and efficient manner in which she had conducted the affairs of the Chicago agency she was requested to hand in her resignation that a successor might be appointed by democratic influence. If the position of pensioners has anything to do with the appointment of pension agents she will undoubtedly be the successor of Mrs. Mulligan. The petition is being circulated among G. A. R. veterans and is being signed by many.

Wednesday, February 13, 1889            CITY ITEMS

The social and supper at G. A. R. Hall Tuesday evening was a delightful innovation. The general public appeared to feel more free to attend than if the sociable occurred at a private residence and as a consequence the visitors were numerous indeed. A feast of good things was provided for the guests and the social hour that followed was enjoyed most thoroughly. The usual entertaining features attended the gathering of Tuesday evening and socials at the hall will undoubtedly grow in favor.

Saturday, February 16, 1889            CITY NEWS

The funeral of the late Reuben B. Johnson will be held Sunday afternoon at half past two o'clock at the First Baptist Church, under the auspices of the G. A. R.

ATTENTION G. A. R.

The members of Aurora Post, No. 20, Dept. of Ills. Grand Army of the Republic, you are requested to meet at the hall in full uniform Sunday afternoon, Feb. 17th, 1889, at one o'clock sharp, for the purpose of attending the funeral of our late comrade, R. B. Johnson. By Order of,  
J. M. Kennedy, Com.  
Chris Zimmer, Adj.

Wednesday, February 20, 1889

CITY NEWS

G. A. R. hall is undergoing a thorough course of decoration and improvement.

The Ladies of the G. A. R. will provide an oyster supper for visitors at the residence of G. W. King, 443 Fox Street, this afternoon and evening, and a social good time is thrown in without extra cost.

Saturday, February 23, 1889

CITY NEWS

At the G. A. R. encampment at Springfield Gen. James S. Martin, of Salem, the gallant old veteran who fought with Logan, was elected Department Commander. Over nine hundred veterans were in attendance. The next encampment will be held at Quincy.

There are one hundred and twenty two Women's Relief Corps auxiliary to the G. A. R., in Illinois, with a membership of 4,500. During the past year they distributed among needy soldiers and their families \$2,700. The W. R. C. is now a permanent institution and its work is of a commendable and valuable character.

The report of Col. Sexton, Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Illinois, shows that there are 500 Posts in the State and that there has been a gain in membership of over eleven hundred during the past year. The assistant quartermaster reported that he had received over \$7,000 and expended over \$6,000 during the year. Despite the malicious attacks of some meddling politicians the G. A. R., of Illinois seems to be in a very prosperous condition.

At the encampment of the Woman's Relief Corp, G. A. R. of Illinois, at Springfield the following officers were installed: President, Sarah M. Bradford, Augusta, Ill.; senior vice-president, Mrs. Mary J. Staddup, Springfield; junior vice-president, Mrs. Col. Diston, Quincy; treasurer, Miss. Ada Carlton, Bloomington; chaplain, Miss. Mary Fletcher, Morris.

#### THE AURORA ZOUAVES

The accompanying cut is a very fair likeness of almost any member of the Aurora Zouaves when in dress parade uniform. The Zouaves have gained a most enviable record for

many miles around for proficiency in drill and the young men are deserving all the praise that is being bestowed upon their efforts.

The Zouaves give their second annual party at the rink Friday evening next and they anticipate a large attendance indeed. They propose to make the party one of the leading social events of the season.

#### ILLINOIS VETERANS.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 22. -- The Grand Army Encampment here elected J. S. Martin, of Salem, Department Commander, Thursday. These officers were also chosen: Senior Vice-Commander, H. S. Detrich, of Chicago; Junior Vice-Commander, A. E. Munger, of Princeton; Chaplain, Rev. G. W. Gore, of Rock Island; Medical Director, Dr. T. L. McKlaney, of Moline. It was decided to hold the next encampment at Quincy.

Wednesday, February 27, 1889

#### G. A. R. POST, NO. 20, ATTENTION!

The members of G. A. R., Post No. 20, are requested to meet at their hall, at one o'clock, p.m., Friday, Feb. 29, sharp, to attend the funeral of our late comrade H. C. Wood.

By order of J. M. Kennedy, Post Commander  
C. Zimmer, Post Adjutant

Wednesday, March 6, 1889

#### HARRISON INAUGURATED

Saturday, March 9, 1889

#### CITY NEWS

By invitation of Rev. Dr. Mallory, the G. A. R. of Post No. 20, will worship with the Park Place Baptist Church on the 20th of May at the morning service.

Wednesday, March 13, 1889

#### CITY NEWS

The G. A. R. accompanied the remains of their late comrade, Edward Gray, to their last resting place Sunday, and yesterday they performed a similar service for comrade Walker, of Oswego township. The ranks of the veterans are growing thinner day by day.

Saturday, March 23, 1889

CITY NEWS

The ladies of the W. R. C. will give a sociable at the G. A. R. hall next Tuesday evening.

Sociable and supper by the W. R. C. at the G. A. R. hall, admission 5c, supper 10c.

Saturday, March 27, 1889

The remains of Dr. A. C. Ferre, who died last summer, have been removed from their temporary resting place in the G. A. R. lot in Spring Lake cemetery, and interred in a lot in the cemetery purchased by Mrs. Ferre. The latter was very ill at the time of her husband's death and unable to provide for the permanent interment of the remains.

Wednesday, April 3, 1889

ATTENTION, G. A. R.

The members of Aurora Post will meet at their hall at 1:30 p.m., Friday, April 5, 1889, to attend the funeral of our late comrade, K. S. Hammond. A full attendance is desired.

J. M. Kennedy, Commander

C. Zimmer, Post Adj't.

The members of the G. A. R. are preparing for a rendition of the "District School," to be given at the Opera House, Monday evening, April 22nd. The farce has been entirely revised and several new features introduced.

Saturday, April 6, 1889

CITY NEWS

W. R. C. sociable at G. A. R. hall next Tuesday evening.

Everybody is invited to attend the W. R. C. sociable at G. A. R. hall next Tuesday evening.

Wednesday, April 10, 1889

The twenty-third anniversary of the birth of the Grand Army of the Republic was celebrated on Friday at Decatur by the Grand Army post of that city.

The ladies of the W. R. C. held a very pleasant sociable in the G. A. R. hall last evening.

Saturday, April 13, 1889

CITY NEWS

The G. A. R. and W. R. C. will give a "District Skule" entertainment on the evening of Monday, April 22nd.

The G. A. R. will give a most laughable District School entertainment, April 22nd. There will be new characters and lots of fun.

Saturday, April 20, 1889

CITY NEWS

The District School will be reproduced by the G. A. R. Monday, April 22nd.

Wednesday, April 24, 1889

A fair sized audience laughed itself silly at the opera house last Monday evening at the presentation of the "Deestrick Skule" under the auspices of the G. A. R. Post of this city. The program was in many respects a repetition of the one given by the First Congregational Church but was interlarded with enough that was new so that it was not entirely devoid of interest. Delos Hawkins with his wealth of silver hair and claw hammer coat wielded the birch and the irrepressible Frank Harral made things lively by acting the "dunce" and furnished the audience with no end of mirth and merriment. Mr. Harral was voted a great success in his role and hereafter no "Deestrick Skule" performance will be genuine without the name of Frank Harral blown into each bottle. Mr. Ketchum as "Bad Meany" also won new laurels in his "impediment of speech" proved to be a drawing card. His recitation of "Marching Through Georgia" captured the audience and received an encore. Dr. Bundy was a very successful stutterer and Al. Denny's address of welcome was a marvelous exhibition of declamatory gesticulation. The violence of his gestures would have made the average high school graduate green with envy. These overgrown boys wore short pants, red top boots and wide cape collars, while the girls wore pantalettes and gingham dresses. The address by Squire Brown, one of the "visiting

committee” was well delivered and the selection of the venerable Squire for this part was a happy one.

Saturday, April 27, 1889

CITY NEWS

Don't forget the W. R. C. supper and sale next Tuesday afternoon and evening.

The ladies of the W. R. C. will give a supper and sociable at the G. A. R. hall next Tuesday evening, to which the public is cordially invited to attend. A sale of fancy articles will be held at the same place during the afternoon.

Wednesday, May 1, 1889

CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the W. R. C. gave a supper and sociable in the G. A. R. hall last evening and were favored by an unusually large attendance of visitors. After supper a pleasing program, consisting of songs and recitations by the little folks was rendered, and a quartette consisting of Messrs. Bowen, Ives, Fauth and Bilger favored the audience with three very timely selections, which were highly appreciated. Card playing and social converse were indulged in for the balance of the evening. The affair must have been a very gratifying success to the ladies socially and financially.

The Ladies of the G. A. R. will give a social and tea Wednesday evening, May 1st, at the residence of A. F. Wade, No. 105 North Root Street. All are cordially invited. Supper 15c.

Wednesday, May 8, 1889

#### Local News from Saturday's Edition

Ald. Zimmer presented an invitation from the G. A. R. to the aldermen, inviting them to participate in the ceremonies of memorial day. The invitation was accepted.

Saturday, May 11, 1889

The Grand Army Post of this city will attend the encampment in Milwaukee in a body. The encampment begins on the 27th of August and bids fair to be one of the greatest national encampments held in the United States. Preparations for taking care of the multitudes have been going on for months past, and it is thought the big city will have to build barracks in the streets

for the veterans to sleep in as the hotels will not be able to accommodate the great crowds that are expected to be there on that occasion. Post Comrades M. D. Yager, Eb. Denny and W. H. Watson are appointed a committee from Aurora Post with full power to act and make all necessary arrangements for the trip. The Aurora Zouaves with their elegant new uniforms and the military band will be invited to accompany the post as escorts. If these latter should accept Aurora will be very creditably represented at the encampment.  
(ARTICLES-1889)

Saturday, May 18, 1889

CITY NEWS

The G. A. R. post of this city, has appointed M. D. Yager, Eb. Denny and W. H. Watson a committee to make all arrangements for attending the great encampment at Milwaukee in August. The committee are very desirous of knowing just how many will attend so that they may know what arrangements to make for transportation and for accommodations at Milwaukee.

Wednesday, May 22, 1889

The G. A. R. of this city have not prepared a program as yet for Decoration Day, but will announce one in a few days. Hon. A. J. Hopkins will be the orator of the day. The ceremonies will be simplified as much as possible, and many of the elaborate details of former years will be dispensed with. The post finds it necessary to economize in the manner of expenditures and will ask the cooperation of all citizens in the ceremonies of the day. It costs money to carry out an elaborate program, as the soldiers find that they are obliged to pay for about all they get on that day. They can't even get a quartette of singers to furnish music without they are well paid for it. We hope some generous hearted singers will volunteer their services for that day.

REPORT OF "DISTRICT SCHOOL" COMMITTEE, OF THE G. A. R.

Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R.

*Commander and Comrades:*

Your committee, who were instructed to act with committee of ladies appointed by W. R. C. No. 10, for the purpose of producing "District School," the profits of which are to be divided equally between the above mentioned societies after all bills are paid, beg have leave to report as follows:

Cash received at door	\$140.81
Cash for card on program	6.50
	<hr/>
	\$147.31

Expenses		
Rent for Opera House	\$26.00	
<i>D. Hawkins</i> , teacher	15.00	
Daily News, tickets and advertising	5.50	
Daily Express, tickets and advertising	2.80	
Daily Post, tickets and advertising	1.00	
Aurora Beacon	0.00	
<i>W. W. Ketchum</i>	.95	
Bunnell & Ward, printing	7.50	
Wigs, Lumber, etc.	1.50	
	<hr/>	\$ 50.25
Balance to be divided		\$87.43
Due Aurora Post No. 20		\$43.55
J. F. Harral		
Eb. Denny		
John L. Walker, Committee.		

Saturday, May 25, 1889

#### CITY NEWS

The ladies of the W. R. C. are requested to meet in the parlors of the Park Place Baptist church at 10:15 Sunday morning for the purpose of attending divine services. A full attendance of the ladies is requested.

#### VOTE OF THANKS.

Upon the recommendations of the amusement committee of both Aurora Post No. 20. G. A. R. and the Women's Relief Corps No. 10, a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to all who so kindly assisted in the play of District School, and who added in making the same a financial success, the net receipts being \$87.06.

Chris. Zimmer, Post Adjt.

Aurora, Ills., May 21st, 1889.

#### MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES

Programs arranged by committees of the G. A. R., for Memorial Day exercises, May 30, A.D., 1889:

Comrades of Aurora Post No. 20, who wish to go with the detachments to the various cemeteries to decorate the graves, will meet at their hall at 10:30 sharp, when there will be a detachment sent to the Aurora cemetery and the German Catholic Cemetery, under command of

S. V. C., F. L. Thayer to decorate the graves, also a detachment will be sent to the West Aurora and Catholic cemeteries, under command of the J. V. C., J. J. McNair, to decorate the graves.

At one o'clock the procession will be formed in front of City Hall, to move at 1:30 sharp in the following order

Chief Marshal.

City Marshal and Police.

Company "D", W. T. Reeves, Capt.

Aurora Zouaves, A. Hurd, Capt.

Hibernian Rifles, Thomas J. Bady, Capt.

Marine Guards, C. Harkinson, Capt.

Sons of Veterans, W. Thayer, Capt.

Aurora Post No. 20, and ex-soldiers and sailors, J. M. Kennedy, Commander.

Fred Hammond, Otto Fisk and Edson Davis.

Chaplain and Orator.

City Council.

Citizens in carriages.

Line of march will be west to River street, east to Broadway, south to Fox, east to Lincoln ave., south to Spring Lake Cemetery, when there will be a detachment sent to Mt. Olivet Cemetery, under command of L. Sylvester, after which the graves at Spring Lake Cemetery will be decorated by a delegation of young ladies from the east and west side public schools, when the exercises of the day will commence by

Prayer, Chaplain Rev. A. W. Patten.

Song, Quartette.

Memorial Service, G. A. R. Post No. 20.

Dirge, Military Band.

Song, Quartette.

Oration, Hon. A. J. Hopkins.

Song, Quartette.

Benediction, Post Chaplain, E. E. Hewitt.

Post No. 20 will then escort the various military companies to their different halls.

It is requested that all wishing to join the procession be at the City Hall at 1 o'clock to move at 1:30.

All friends of the soldiers, in the city or country, wishing to assist with flowers, will favor us by sending them to the City Hall or notify one of the committee, on Wednesday afternoon, May 29, at 2:30, or the morning of the 30th, at 8 o'clock.

Marshal, J. Kinley.

Assistant Marshal, C. W. Howard.

Committee on Music, H. Stebbens.

Committee on West Aurora Cemetery, O. B. Gates. West Side Catholic Cemetery, M. Maloney. Aurora Cemetery, W. H. Scragg. German Catholic Cemetery, G. S. Case. Mt. Olivet Cemetery, L. Sylvester. Spring Lake Cemetery, Chas. Ayers.

Com. on Flowers, Mrs C. S. Lewis, pres't W. R. C.; Mrs. A. B. Culver, pres't Ladies of the G. A. R.

The Flower Committee are requested to meet at the city hall Wednesday afternoon at 2:30, and at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 30th, for the purpose of arranging the flowers.

A cordial invitation is extended to all ex-soldiers, sailors and citizens to participate in the procession and the observance of the day.

M. D. Yates  
A. C. Graves  
W. H. Watson, Committee.  
(THAYER-1889)

Wednesday, May 29, 1889

CITY NEWS

The Brady War Views at Coulter Opera House, Thursday, May 30th, Galena Street M. E. church Friday evening. Distinct programs.

The old soldiers are going to view once more the scenes of their conflict and conquest at the Opera House Thursday evening, May 30.

G. A. R. hats with cords, for \$1.00 at the Manhattan.

The G. A. R. post of this city attended divine service last Sunday morning at the Park Place Baptist church and in the evening at the New England Congregational church. Excellent sermons commemorative of the events suggested by Decoration Day were delivered at these services.

Any person wishing a G. A. R. suit for Decoration Day can obtain one at the Manhattan for \$10.00. This includes buttons for coat and vest.

Saturday, June 1, 1889

CITY NEWS

The military band and Zouaves will accompany G. A. R. post to the great encampment at Milwaukee in August.

## MEMORIAL DAY IN AURORA. SPEECH OF HON. A. J. HOPKINS.

It was exceedingly unfortunate that the weather on Memorial Day should have been so inclement as to preclude the observance of the day in accordance with the program that had been arranged by the committees of the G. A. R. having it in charge. A cold drizzling rain came in about noon and continued the entire afternoon casting a decided chill over all attempts to observe the day in a fitting manor. The stores and factories were all closed at noon, and people had given themselves up to the patriotic sentiments of the day and were prepared to participate in the ceremonies as outlined in the papers, but the greater portion of the exercises such as the military parade and the out door demonstrations had to be abandoned.

The comrades of Aurora Post No. 20, met at G. A. R. hall at 10:30 in the forenoon and detachments were sent to the various cemeteries. A detachment laden with flowers, under command of S. V. C., F. L. Thayer, was sent to Aurora cemetery and the German Catholic cemetery to decorate the graves and a similar service was rendered at West Aurora and Catholic cemeteries by a detachment under command of J. V. C., J. J. McNair. The flowers were not so plentiful as on previous occasions of this character, owing to the backwardness of the season, but each grave where slept a fallen defender was generously covered with the floral tokens of fond remembrance.

It was arranged that the ceremonies of the afternoon would commence with a procession to be participated in by the city police and city council, company D, Aurora Zouaves, , Hibernian Rifles, Marine Guards, Sons of Veterans and other organizations, but all this had to be abandoned on account of the muddy streets and drizzling rain.

A detachment of soldiers was sent to Spring Lake and Mt. Olivet cemeteries under command of L. Sylvester to decorate the graves, and they were assisted by delegations of young ladies from the east and west side public schools.

The exercises commemorative of the day were held in the city hall. It was perhaps fortunate that the weather forced the committee into the city hall on account of the large number who were enabled to hear the eloquent remarks of Congressman Hopkins, who otherwise might not have been able to hear his beautiful and touching eulogy of the fallen defenders of the flag.

The hall was densely crowded with citizens of both sexes, the G. A. R. post and W. R. C. occupying front seats.

The program was opened with prayer by Dr. A. W. Patten, followed by a song by the New England Congregational church quartette. After this came the regular memorial services by G. A. R. post No. 20, under direction of Post Commander, J. M. Kennedy, consisting of responses by comrades and prayer by Chaplain E. E. Hewitt. The quartette then rendered an appropriate song followed by the oration of Hon. A. O. Hopkins. (speech omitted)

The ladies of the G. A. R. will hold a sociable at the residence of Mrs. M. C. Richards, No. 170 S. Broadway, on Wednesday evening, June 5th. 15c will be charged for supper. The public are cordially invited.

Wednesday, June 5, 1889

CITY NEWS

The ladies of the W. R. C. request that any one in the city having anything available in the shape of cast off clothing, bring or send the same to G. A. R. hall on the island this Wednesday afternoon or tomorrow morning, where a committee will receive the same for the purpose of packing and sending to the Johnstown sufferers.

Saturday, June 8, 1889

Dick Corbett, who will always be very pleasantly remembered in Aurora, has written a letter to the G. A. R. Post of this city offering them the use of his residence lawn for tenting purposes during the great encampment to be held in that city in August.

THANKS FROM THE G. A. R.

The Aurora Post No. 20 G. A. R. desires to return thanks to Company D, the Aurora Zouaves, Hibernian Rifles, the Marine Guards and to the sextons of the various cemeteries of this city for the acceptance of invitations for the observance of Memorial Day and for various services rendered. They also desire to return thanks to the citizens for their generous donations of flowers.

The call issued by the W. R. C. for cast off clothing to be sent to Johnstown met with a response that was surprising. The headquarters in Memorial Hall were literally jammed with clothing of every description, and the remarkable feature of the donations is the fact that much of the clothing is comparatively new, much of it not having been worn at all. The ladies of the Relief Corps have been very busily engaged for two days in sorting and packing the clothing in boxes and barrels for shipment. The clothing is shipped by the American Express Co., that company having agreed to ship all contributions of this character free of charge. One of the notable contributions was a large quantity of brand new hose and underwear by J. S. Hawley. Twelve barrels and two large boxes were shipped on Tuesday. The ladies of the W. R. C. are entitled to a great deal of credit for the commendable part they have taken in the enterprise of sending relief to the Johnstown survivors. Their work was effective and their contribution a most valuable one. It is estimated that the money value of the clothing sent was not less than \$500.

Wednesday, June 19, 1889

G. A. R. EXCURSION, ONE FARE FOR THE ROUND TRIP.

From August 21st to 28th inclusive, the C. B. & Q. R. R. will sell at half rates, or one fare for the round trip, tickets to Milwaukee and return from all points on its lines, on account of the National G. A. R. Encampment at Milwaukee. The C. B. & Q. excursion ticket will be good to return August 27th to September 5th, inclusive, but by special arrangements an extension to September 30th may be obtained by applying prior to September 3rd to the agent in Milwaukee having the matter in charge. Between Chicago and Milwaukee the tickets will be good for passage in either direction via the Goodrich line of steamers, the C. M. & St. P. Ry. Tickets and further information can be obtained of C. B. & Q. ticket agents, or by addressing P. S. Eustis, Gen'l Pass and Ticket Agent, Chicago.

Wednesday, June 26, 1889

Gen'l and Mrs. Greusel celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at their home in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa surrounded by all their children and grand children.

Saturday, July 6, 1889

The Grand Army men are moving on the railway officials in solid phalanx in their demand for one cent fare to the great encampment at Milwaukee in August. So far they have been unsuccessful in their demands and the railroad companies have turned a deaf ear to their importunities. Prominent among the Grand Army men who have personally interested themselves in securing the one cent rate is General J. S. Martin, department commander of this state. All the roads have agreed to allow them a special excursion rate of one fare for the round trip but this is not satisfactory. Every time there is a meeting of passenger officials in Chicago, a delegation of Grand Army men appears to argue in favor of the one cent rate. A meeting of the passenger department of the Central Traffic Association was held in Chicago the other day and hitherward flocked a great delegation of Grand Army representatives to bombard the meeting with their appeals for a one cent fare. It was urged that the regular fare charged for the transportation of bodies of state militia was on the basis of one cent a mile for each person and the Grand Army veterans when traveling in large bodies should be allowed a similar rate. In support of this argument it was held that the Grand Army should be looked upon as the reserve militia of the United States. The department commanders of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa and Minnesota have united in a formal demand for the one cent fare and declare that if the reply is unfavorable circulars will at once be issued to cut off the attendance and the encampment will be abandoned. The commanders are now awaiting a reply to their last formal demand, which they hope to receive the 10th.

Saturday, July 13, 1889

CITY NEWS

The Aurora Post, G. A. R. will not have their annual picnic this season on account of the expected attendance at the National Encampment, at Milwaukee in September.

Chris Zimmer's arm is slowly improving from the bruises received from the kick of a horse on July 4th. Chris will soon be able to resume his position on the police force.

Wednesday, July 24, 1889

CITY NEWS

The W. R. C. social last evening in the G. A. R. hall was poorly attended. This was probably due to the fact that all the ladies in the city were out to the races yesterday and were too tired to attend any evening entertainment.

W. R. C. ATTENTION.

The members of the W. R. C. will please note that the time for the regular meetings of that organization has been changed to the first and third Wednesday evenings of each month at half past seven o'clock, Per order of Secretary.

L. OF G. A. R.

The regular meeting of Circle No. 4, L. of G. A. R., Wednesday afternoon, July 24 at 2:30. Every member is requested to be present. By order of President.

Wednesday, July 31, 1889

ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE REUNION.

Cincinnati, July 30. -- The twenty second annual meeting of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee will be held here September 20 and 21, Wednesday and Thursday.

Saturday, August 3, 1889

CITY NEWS

The members of Aurora Post No. 20. G. A. R., will have a meeting on next Tuesday night to ascertain the sentiment of the Post in regard to attending the encampment in Milwaukee this

month. The Post is in receipt of an invitation from Bryner Post No. 67, of Peoria, Ill., inviting them to attend a grand reunion to be held in that city August 27, 28 and 29. An elaborate program has been arranged, embracing exhibition drills and a sham battle.

Wednesday, August 7, 1889

CITY NEWS

Extensive preparations are being made for the reunion of the Tazwell County Union Veteran Association in Delevan, on August 15. A large number of distinguished G. A. R. men from abroad have promised to be present and it is believed that 2,000 veterans will be in attendance. Gov. Fifer and Commander Martin are among the distinguished visitors expected. A glee club from Lexington also promises to be present.

Saturday, August 10, 1889

CITY NEWS

The twenty second annual reunion of the 52nd Illinois Volunteers will be held in Elgin on Wednesday, Sept. 4. The officers of the association are: Col. John S. Wilcox, president; H. N. Patchin, secretary, and Geo. M. Peck, treasurer.

Saturday, August 17, 1889

CITY NEWS

Many in Aurora will remember Mr. A. J. King, who formerly resided here, but now located in Oberlin, Kansas. Mr. King is now en route for the G. A. R. encampment at Milwaukee, and while in Aurora spoke of the wondrous large crops that are being raised in Kansas this year.

Wednesday, August 21, 1889

VETERANS WIN

SURE OF CHEAP TRANSPORTATION TO THE ENCAMPMENT  
MORE ROADS GRANT A ONE CENT RATE  
FIFTY THOUSAND EX-SOLDIERS EXPECTED IN THE PARADE NEXT TUESDAY  
CALIFORNIA VETERANS EN ROUTE  
SERVANT GIRLS IN DEMAND IN THE CREAM CITY

Railways Make A Low Rate

Chicago, Aug. 21. -- The railroads, one by one, are dropping into the Grand Army camp and surrendering gracefully to the one cent a mile rate to the Milwaukee encampment. The Pan-

Handle road gave way and posted the sign of "one cent a mile." The Wabash it is confidently believed, will haul down the flag and sell tickets at the price fixed by the G. A. R. Commander Martin, of the department of Illinois, is feeling very jubilant, and said: "We've got the majority of the roads to come to our terms, and several of the more stubborn ones may yet surrender. The roads leading from here to Milwaukee have not yet made the one cent rate, and they probably will not, but we have arranged it so that most of the comrades here can go by boat. Six steamers have been chartered by the department." The Pennsylvania, Monon route and Kankakee roads have so far made the rate to Milwaukee one cent a mile.

Commander Martin has issued circular No. 5, in which he expresses gratitude to the comrades of Illinois who stood by him in his efforts to carry out the instructions of the twenty-second National Encampment to secure a reasonable rate of fare to the twenty-third encampment. He says he still stands by the position he took in circular No. 4, and yet believes that the demand for a one cent per mile rate was reasonable, and would have been made to the members of any other organization. Commander Martin says much has been accomplished by the almost solid front shown by the comrades in the contest. Several lines have granted the rate asked for. Ohio river lines are applying the five dollar rate to Chicago, making the rate to Milwaukee less than one cent a mile for Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. The Fitchburg Railroad announces the one cent rate from Boston and New England points via the West Shore and Grand Trunk, which it is believed, will induce the other Eastern lines to make corresponding reductions. The Pennsylvania lines have instructed its assistant general passenger agent to announce rates to Milwaukee and return for the Grand Army which concede the one cent per mile. North of Milwaukee there is a break, which practically gives the rate asked for.

Grand reunions will be held in Illinois during the months of August and September at many points. Among those already announced are Quincy, Peoria and Belleville. At the two latter points the rate of one cent per mile or less has been conceded by the railroads.

Milwaukee, Aug. 20. -- Secretary Pier of the encampment council, said Monday: "From a careful canvas of the situation it is now estimated by the committee that there will be fully 50,000 veterans in Milwaukee next week. And that number, or nearly so, will be in line next Tuesday. At least 40,000 of this number will occupy camps during the week, and will, be fed there or at places near by. The other 10,000 will be quartered at hotels, private boarding houses and restaurants. Thus far, outside of the 50,000 veterans already provided for, quarters have been secured for 50,000 so called sight seers, that is, visitors who are not members of the G. A. R. who have requested the committee to locate them. Thousands who will be here have either engaged quarters on their own hook, or will do so, and as a result of this fact the committee is of course at a loss to make an accurate estimate of the attendance of outsiders."

Milwaukee, Aug. 20. -- The near approach of the Grand Army encampment has brought about a famine of servant girls and the keepers of the employment bureau are at their wit's end to keep up with even a small proportion of the demand. Some of them are sending to Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Cincinnati for recruits. Big wages are offered and it is said that in several cases \$10. per week with an agreement for four weeks has been demanded by domestics and granted.

San Francisco, Aug. 20. -- A California delegation numbering 150 to the G. A. R. encampment at Milwaukee left Monday evening.

Saturday, August 24, 1889

The great event in the history of the Grand Army of the Republic will no doubt be the grand encampment which has just opened at Milwaukee. It is not probable that anything will surpass it in point of large attendance and general interest. The Illinois veterans will be well taken care of. Col. A. D. Reade, of Chicago, chairman of the Illinois Grand Army Committee on transportation and accommodations has made elaborate arrangements for the Illinois soldiers. He has arranged for a special camp adjoining National Park, with accommodations for from 1,500 to 2,000 veterans. Col. Reade says that Cook County alone would have 1,000 veterans at the encampment. Michigan will follow the example of Illinois, and will go in force by boat. In fact, there is a break in all the states where the department commanders had issued orders to remain away, and from the applications for quarters now pouring in, it is evident that instead of their being hundreds of empty tents, as at one time looked certain, every one will be occupied. Manager Chapman has prepared the official program for the encampment. Next Monday evening the Sons of Veterans will hold a camp fire at the West Side Turner hall. Commander-In-Chief Warner of the G. A. R. will preside. The parade of the Grand Army and Sons of Veterans will occur Tuesday forenoon. Tuesday evening the Woman's Relief Corps will be tendered a reception at the high school building. The Grand Army men will hold camp fires the same evening at the West Side Turner hall and the armory. Department Commander Weissert will preside at the camp fire at the West Side Turner hall. Addresses of welcome will be delivered by Gov. Hoard, Mayor Brown and Department Commander Weissert. Commander-In-Chief Warner and Pension Commissioner Tanner will respond. Gen. Fairchild will preside at the armory camp fire. General Sherman, it is expected, will attend both camp fires. The post war concert will be given Tuesday evening. A reunion of the Sons of Veterans will be given Tuesday evening at Plymouth church. The business sessions of the Grand Army and Woman's Relief Corps will begin Wednesday morning, the former at the West Side Turner hall and the latter at Immanuel church, and continue during the rest of the week. The reunions of regiments, brigades and divisions will be inaugurated Wednesday. Wednesday afternoon General Sherman will visit the soldier's home, where he will be formally received by the veterans and a salute fired in his honor. The second and final war concert will be given Wednesday evening. Thursday afternoon a party for specially invited guests will be taken out by the entertainment committee for a drive around the city. The party will visit a number of leading manufacturing establishments, and an elaborate lunch will be served to them on the route. The naval battle will occur Thursday evening.

#### SOME SOLDIER'S REUNIONS.

Old soldiers will be interested in the following list of soldier's reunions which occur in Illinois on different dates.

Sept. 3 and 4 a reunion will be held at Antioch.

The McHenry county Soldier's monument will be unveiled Sept. 11.  
A reunion of veterans and Sons of Veterans will be held at Peoria Aug. 27, 29.  
An annual reunion of the 95th Ills. Regt. will be held in Nunds, Sept. 10.  
Gen. R. A. Alger will deliver an annual address at the McHenry county fair, Sept. 3-6.  
The Eastern Illinois Veterans Association will hold an encampment at Watseka, Sept. 10-12.  
The McHenry county Soldiers and Sailors Association will meet at Crystal Lake, Sept 11-12.  
The Seventeenth Ills. Cavalry proposes to hold a grand reunion at Milwaukee during the National Encampment.  
September 4th and 5th the Seventy-sixth Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, will hold it's fourth annual reunion at Urbana.  
August 22 the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois will hold the twenty-fourth annual reunion of the surviving members, at Toulon, Stark county.  
The fourth annual reunion of the Ninth Illinois Cavalry Veteran Association will be held at Geneseo, Sept. 3-4. Comrades with their friends and families are cordially invited to attend.

THE ENCAMPMENT  
MILWAUKEE IS READY TO RECEIVE THE EX-SOLDIERS  
VETERANS POURING INTO THE CITY  
THE SESSION LIKELY TO BE A VERY BUSY ONE  
THE PENSIONS QUESTION TO BE THOROUGHLY DISCUSSED  
OTHER WORK LAID OUT

The Advance Guard Arrives.

Milwaukee, Aug. 24. -- Five thousand visitor to the Grand Army Encampment are already here. Tents have been erected for 24,000 veterans and the supply has been exhausted. Tents for 10,000 more have been ordered but they cannot be here before Monday night, so that the delay is a vexatious one. The line of march of the grand parade Tuesday morning, although not officially announced, is understood to be from twenty-seventh street, on Grand Ave. and Wisconsin street, to the lake, in all about two miles and a half, with the reviewing stand on the avenue between Eleventh and Twelfth streets.

The contest for the position of Senior Vice Commander in Chief is between department Commander Weissert, of Milwaukee, and past Department Commander Griffin, of Eau Claire. The friends of Col. Weissert expect that he will be chosen to fill the position, while General Griffin is working to secure it. A prominent Grand Army man stated that the Wisconsin delegates will caucus before the election is held, and the candidate who receives the most votes will be supported as a unit by the delegates from this state and will be elected.

A corps of sixty bright boys has been organized to act as guides to visitors during encampment week. They will be uniformed and will make themselves useful in directing veterans and visitors about the city and furnishing information generally.

Demand for window room for the big parade Tuesday is great. The line of march has not yet been made known, but is generally understood that it will be down Grand avenue, and not less than three miles long. Every inch of the way will be occupied, and choice seats will bring fabulous prices.

There is plenty of work ahead for the encampment if notices of resolutions already received can be taken as an indication. Under a rule adopted at the last encampment notices of resolutions to be presented must be sent in thirty days prior to the meeting of the encampment. The subject of pensions is certain to come up. The encampment will reiterate its position upon the Disability or Dependent Pension Bill. A Wisconsin member of the National Encampment says that the position of the encampment has undergone no change in its advocacy of that measure. He asserted that the Disability Bill would be passed by the Congress soon to meet, and that it would be signed by President Harrison.

In considering the need of additional Pension Legislation resolutions will probably be introduced in the encampment asking Congress to amend the pension laws in three important particulars. The first is that pensions be granted to all disabled survivors of rebel prisons for the reason that they are unable to furnish the medical evidence of hospital treatment, if they had any, while imprisoned in Libby or Andersonville; second, that the limitation placed upon the arrears of pensions act that no claim be considered unless filed prior to 1880 be removed so that all veterans equitably entitled to arrears be permitted to secure their money; third, that all widows of veterans be given a reasonable pension regardless of the fact that the husbands disability may be of a different character than that which caused his death.

A part of the business on the calendar consists of resolutions for a more thorough system of recording cases of sickness and death, the character of treatment, amount expended for medicine and supplies, and for quarterly reports to the Surgeon-General, giving full details of each case and the name, age, rank, etc. of each veteran under treatment.

General Edward S. Bragg will deliver the address of welcome to the Comrades of the Iron Brigade when they assemble next Monday evening, and Generals Fairchild, Dudley, Dawes, Captain J. W. Davidson and other officers will speak at that and other meetings on the following evenings.

## CITY NEWS

The Aurora Post G. A. R. will go to Milwaukee in full force. Two cars are being arranged for their transportation on Monday.

The elocutionary entertainment given at the G. A. R. by the Sons of Veterans Thursday night, was well attended, and the performance afforded the audience a great deal of enjoyment. The program was a varied one, embracing rhetorical and musical numbers. The "Jolly Tinker Boy" and the "Graduate of a Conservatory" and the "Cork Leg," by H. E. Hookey, were very entertaining features, and his sand dance, while Miss. Kate Howard played the accompaniment, evoked considerable applause and was well appreciated. Guy Darrell's readings were first class

and gave evidence of considerable training and study. The audience was highly entertained, and those who failed to be there missed a good treat.

Wednesday, August 28, 1889

MESSMATES MEET  
OLD COMRADES GREET EACH OTHER AGAIN AT MILWAUKEE  
VETERANS CAPTURE THE CREAM CITY  
IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 100,000 STRANGERS ARE WITHIN HER GATES  
AND MORE ARE COMING BY EVERY TRAIN  
WHO WILL BE THE COMMANDER

Scenes On Monday.

Milwaukee, Aug. 27. -- General Warner and the Kansas City contingent, about 500 strong, put in an appearance Monday morning and marched to the Plankinton House, which is the headquarters of the Commander-In-Chief. Major Warner's escort was composed of J. B. Johnson, Judge Advocate General, E. G. Granville, Assistant Adjutant General, Alfred Brant, E. F. Rogers, L. B. Eveland, J. C. Greeman, W. H. Yeaton, George Gaston, J. H. Jenks, aide-de-camp to Commander-In-Chief, and A. J. McCoy, Past Commander Department Wisconsin.

It is positively stated, by the way, that Commander-In-Chief Warner will certainly take the editorship of the Republic, a New York Magazine. A letter has been received here from the publishers of the magazine in which they state positively that he has accepted the position, all reports to the contrary notwithstanding.

Governor Hoard, Secretary of State Timme and General Fairchild came in with the C. C. Washburn Post and were escorted to the Plankinton. Judge Venzy came with the New England people, and General Alger and Mrs. Logan arrived in General Alger's private car and are at the Plankinton. The General was given an informal reception in Commander Warner's headquarters in the hotel. General John C. Black is also on the ground. So is Mrs. Craig, president of the Woman's Relief Corps.

General Sherman arrived at 8 p.m., having been delayed on the road. He was immediately taken to the Commander-In-Chief's headquarters, where he held an informal reception, after which he retired to his room for the night.

Immense crowds come by every train, and there are not less than 100,000 strangers in the city. About 50,000 of them are veterans distributed among the numerous suburban camps.

The grand reviewing stand today, which is located on Grand avenue near Eleventh street, will be occupied by General Sherman, Gen. Foraker, Secretary Rusk, ex-Governor Alger, General Manderson and several hundreds of other notable soldiers and dignitaries. General Warner will review the procession with his staff from horseback near the end of the march. The procession will start about 10 o'clock.

General Chapman and Adjutant General Weigel, of General Warner's staff, decided upon the line of march for today. While it is subject to change by General Warner, there is no likelihood at all of it being changed. The procession will start on Grand avenue from Twenty-

second street to Tenth, on Tenth to State, on State to Eleventh, on Eleventh to Chestnut, on Chestnut to Fifth, on Fifth to Grand avenue, on Grand avenue to West Water, where the procession will be dismissed. The general order for the grand parade was issued at 8 o'clock Saturday night. The formation will be as follows:

The light horse squadron.

National drum corps.

Commander-In-Chief, official council of administration, senior aide de camp, and national aide de camp, and escort to Commander-In-Chief.

First Division -- Comrade James S. Martin, Commander. Department of Illinois.

Second Division -- Comrade Thomas J. Stewart, Commander. Departments of Pennsylvania, Ohio and New York.

Third Division -- Comrade William H. Pierpont, Commander. Departments of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, Virginia, California, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont.

Fourth Division -- Comrade Charles H. Smith, Commander. Departments of Iowa, Nebraska, Indiana and Michigan.

Fifth Division -- Comrade Henry Booth, Commander. Departments of Kansas and Minnesota.

Sixth Division -- Comrade P. B. Ayars, Commander. Departments of Delaware, Oregon, Kentucky, West Virginia, Washington, Alabama, Arkansas, New Mexico, Utah, Tennessee, Dakota, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Montana, Texas, Idaho, Arizona and Georgia.

Seventh Division -- Comrade A. G. Weissert, Commander. Department of Wisconsin.

Eighth Division -- Comrade James Davidson, Commander. Irregular and belated detachments.

Ninth Division -- Commander-In-Chief O. B. Abbot, commanding Sons of Veterans.

After some further specifications as to forming comes the order governing the marching. The following distance will be observed: Between the Divisions, 100 feet; between Departments in Divisions, 60 feet; between posts, 30 feet. The comrades will march in platoons of eight, single rank. The line will march at 10 o'clock sharp, and all corps or departments not in place will fall in the rear. The line of march is about two and three quarters miles long.

The Woman's Relief Corps opened its headquarters Monday and received its friends all day. The same was true of the other headquarters. In the evening there was a reunion of the Sons of Veterans and of the Iron Brigade. Today, in addition to the parade and the two big campfires, many of the minor reunions will take place. In addition to the program for Wednesday is a press supper, at which, General Warner, General E. S. Bragg, M. A. Hurley, Judge Mallory and others will speak.

The Sons of Veterans campfires Monday night inaugurated the twenty-third National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. The handsome auditorium of the West Side Turner Hall, in which the executive session of the G. A. R. will be held, was crowded almost to suffocation.

The cheers which greeted Governor Hoard, Commander-In-Chief Warner, General Abbot, Commander-In-Chief of the Sons of Veterans; Colonel Ogden H. Feathers, Corporal Tanner, General Lucius Fairchild, ex-Commander-In-Chief of the G. A. R.; and General Russell Alger,

to whom probability points as the next incumbent of that honorable position; A. P. Davies of General Alexander Hayes Post No. 3, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the founder of the Sons of Veterans, when they came upon the platform were ringing and enthusiastic. Prayer was offered by Rev. F. J. Wharton, Department Chaplain of Wisconsin.

Addresses were made by Lieutenant Kershaw of Milwaukee, Commander-In-Chief Warner, General Alger, Corporal Tanner, (the Commissioner of Pensions), Governor Hoard, General Fairchild and others.

Interest in the election of a Commander-In-Chief increases with the crowds, and some new candidates have come into the field. The fight lies between General Alger and Judge Veazy. Among other candidates are "Private" Daizell, of Ohio; E. A. Consigny, of Iowa; Lawrence L. Tabau, of Massachusetts, and Leo Hasher, of Missouri.

As between Alger and Veazy, the former is in the lead now, but then the Eastern delegates have not had an opportunity to get in their work. The argument used against Alger is that he will use the office simply as a stepping stone to the Presidency of the United States. It is also claimed that Veazy is entitled to the office because he withdrew in favor of Warner last year.

Commissioner Tanner said that he did not see how it could make any difference whether Alger ran for the Presidency in 1892 or not. He would have served his term and been out some time before the campaign opened. It is said that General Sherman will work here in the interest of his brother, Senator Sherman, who is a friend to Veazy and wishes him elected.

The most interesting and strikingly unique portion of the parade will probably be Post Joseph Ledergerber, No. 240, of the Department of Wisconsin. Although the name is German, these G. A. R. veterans are all indians and come from the Keshena Menominee reservation near Green Bay, Wisconsin. It is the only indian Post in the Grand Army. It was mustered in three weeks ago by Adjutant-General Gray, of Wisconsin, and numbers thirty-one men, all of whom served as privates on the Union side of the war of the rebellion, and these thirty-one men were indian scouts attached to the southwestern department, and nearly all of them were in the Twelfth Missouri and saw much hard fighting. After the war they were given each an allotment of land in the Menominee reservation, and have become farmers and as nearly good indians as are to be found in the republic.

(MILWAUKEE-1889)

Saturday, September 7, 1889

#### REUNION OF THE 127TH REGIMENT.

The surviving members of the 127th regiment of Illinois met at their 20th annual reunion yesterday in this city. It was decided that this reunion be held in Aurora and by the courtesy of the members of Post No. 20 the meeting was held in the G. A. R. rooms of the Memorial Building. All the morning the veterans were seen strolling along the streets, shaking hands and reviving old memories. They finally managed to come together at the G. A. R. Hall, but even

then it was some time before the boys could settle down to their business meeting, as there were so many old comrades and so much hand shaking to be done.

There were men who had not met before in many years, and of course it was necessary to inquire after absent members and recount thrilling tales of the battles they had been through. There was the old battle flag, inscribed with the names of the twenty-four battles that the regiment had been through. At last, however, the veterans and their ladies managed to settle down, and the meeting was called to order by the president of the association, Capt. Frank Richmond, of St. Charles.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were also read. The president's appointment of a memorial committee, composed of Lieutenant Molton and privates Needham and Fay, upon the death of comrade Clarke Hollenbeck, and another memorial committee composed of Quartermaster Durant and privates Marsden and Beach upon the death of comrade E. A. McWayne.

The correspondence was read, showing that though a number of comrades from distant places could not come, for various reasons, yet each and every one sent words of cheer and brotherly love to the other members of the old regiment. The memorial committees presented reports upon the death of their two comrades, which were approved of and filed.

Then followed an election of officers. So well were the men pleased with their present officers, that each man was re-elected as follows: President, Capt. Frank Richmond; vice-president, E. A. Cummings, of Chicago; secretary, Geo. Knott, of Elgin; assistant secretary, Frank Young, of Sandwich.

A committee of three was appointed by the president from each company to report the death of any comrade during the year.

A vote of thanks was read from the G. A. R. of Aurora for the invitation of the 127th boys to attend their reunion. The members of the 127th gave a vote of thanks to the Aurora post for extending to them the use of the rooms.

When the business meeting was over the veterans marched to the parlors of the People's Church, where the ladies of the G. A. R. had prepared a fine banquet. The Aurora Military Band headed the procession, and the old heroes kept good time as they marched to the assault upon the tables.

When the few remaining warriors of this honored regiment arrived at the church they were seated at a finely spread board, gotten up by the kind-hearted ladies of the G. A. R. The tables groaned with the good things that awaited the onslaught of the veterans. It was not the hard tack and musty pork nor the miserable beans that they had been accustomed to in the army, but they enjoyed it all the same. The Rev. D. D. Odell gave a blessing and the boys fell to. After the banquet toasts were made and general good feeling was the order of the hour. The day ended pleasantly for all.

Among those who were present at this reunion, in addition to those mentioned, were the following officers: Lieut. J. S. Sofer, Chicago, Lieut. Molten, Kendall county, Quartermaster Durant, Chicago, Lieut. Alfred Darnell, Hinckley, Col. Tom Clark, Elburn. The drummer boy of the regiment who enlisted when but 13 years old, was also present, R. B. Murphy, of Columbus, Ohio. The old color sergeant, Jas. S. Shermerhorn, of Bristol, was also present, although this

cripple is so disabled as to be unable to walk. In all there were some sixty men who attended the glorious reunion of the 127th regiment.

### CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the W. R. C. will hold a sociable in the G. A. R. hall next Tuesday evening. Ice cream and cake will be served and an entertaining programme prepared for the entertainment of those in attendance.

### SOCIETY OF THE ARMY OF WEST VIRGINIA

Columbus, O., Sept 6. -- At the business meeting of the Society of the Army of West Virginia the following officers were elected: President, General George H. Crook; vice-presidents, General R. B. Hayes, of Freemont, General W. H. Powell, of Belleville, Ind., General I. H. Duvall, of Wheeling, General B. F. Kelly, of Washington, H. E. Duvall, W. H. Enochs of Parkersburg, Maj. B. M. Skinner, of Pomeroy, Col. John A. Turley, of Portsmouth, Thayer Milivan, of Wheeling, Maj. James L. Botsford, Capt. H. C. McWharter, of Charlotte, W. Va. A testimonial to the memory of the late Lucy Webb Hayes was adopted.

Wednesday, September 11, 1889

### A SURPRISE ON "DICK" CORBETT.

The ladies W. R. C. gave a sociable in the G. A. R. rooms last night, and the occasion was used to evidence the gratitude of the veterans to Mr. R. W. Corbett, who afforded them such pleasant quarters in Milwaukee. Dick has in many ways shown his regard for the G. A. R. men, not only by his courtesy during the Milwaukee encampment, but in many other ways. The old soldiers felt that they owed him some return, and determined to give him a pleasant surprise.

When Mr. and Mrs Corbett were safely captured and watching with interest the progress of the sociable, Mr. Fred O. White arose and called for the attention of all. He then presented to the astonished revenue officer and his wife an elegant parlor suite of upholstered antique oak furniture, consisting of six pieces. Mr. White on behalf of the post thanked Mr. Corbett for the many courtesies he had extended to them.

Dick was unable to make a speech in reply, but he did manage to express his thanks, and in his usual witty way remarked that while he could do no more, he could at least follow the illustrious example of General Sherman and kiss all the pretty ladies present.

## SONS OF VETERANS MEET.

Paterson, N.J., Sept. 11. -- The eighth annual encampment of the Sons of Veterans opened here Tuesday. The programme included a "campfire" at Washington Hall, a street parade in the afternoon and a banquet at night. The rain somewhat interfered with the parade, but the balance of the programme was successfully carried out. Commander-In-Chief Abbott made a stirring address at the "campfire."

## SONS OF VETERANS.

Paterson, N.J., Sept. 14. -- The National Encampment of the Sons of Veterans on Friday restored Past Commander-In-Chief, Walter S. Payne to eligibility to membership in the order. The following were elected members to the Council-In-Chief: H. Frazee, of Indiana; J. D. Hinkley, of Massachusetts; E. T. Roe, of Illinois; W. Q. McDowell, of New Jersey, and W. Jones, of Kansas.

Saturday, September 14, 1889

## CITY NEWS

Programs have been issued for the 23rd annual reunion of the veteran regiment, the 36th Illinois Volunteers, which will be held in Aurora, Tuesday, September 24th. There will be a business meeting at G. A. R. hall at 11:30 o'clock sharp, for election of officers and other business. Dinner will be served at 12:30 o'clock in the basement of the People's church. An interesting program has been arranged for the evening. The greeting will be delivered by Rev. Goff, of the First Congregational church, responded to by John M. Turnbull. J. H. Freeman will talk on the "Spirit of 61;" George D. Sherman will talk about "Foraging." Nicholas Greusel will speak of Col. Silas Miller, Hon. Fred O. White will speak on "Thomas and the Flag," and William M. Haigh will devote his speech to "Loyal Women." The program will be interspersed with war songs by a quartette, and J. C. Dennison will act as Toastmaster. Reduced rates have been secured on all the roads, and the attendance will no doubt, be large.

Wednesday, September 18, 1889

## VETERANS IN CAMP.

Thousands of old Members of the Army of the Cumberland Gathering at Chattanooga.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Sept. 18. -- The members of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland are coming in by hundreds and there are now 2,000 old soldiers in the city. The reunion exercises will begin today. General Rosecrans, General Alger, General Cist and other

leading officials were tendered a reception last night by the old soldiers of both armies. General Wilder's brigade is here four hundred strong. The first reunion meeting will be held here tonight.

Saturday, September 21, 1889

The number of Grand Army reunions that have been held in Illinois this year would indicate that the spirit of patriotism and fellowship is yet alive among the old veterans. They will never cease to indulge in these happy reunions and talk over the days of the great conflict until the last survivor has fallen and it is the pride of Illinois that she has within her borders so many of these heroes of the rebellion.

Rumor has it early in the week that General Rosecrans would be removed from his position -- Register of Treasury -- to make a place for Commissioner Tanner. There is no truth in it. Gen. Rosecrans will probably remain where he is. Many G. A. R. men have asked for his retention, and Channcey M. Depew, who is the General's relative, has asked the President not to disturb him.

Ex-Congressman Menard, of Louisiana, who was the first colored man ever elected to the House of Representatives, has been appointed to the clerkship of the census bureau.

Gen. B. F. Butler says, "Tanner has been martyred by copper heads."

Wednesday, September 25, 1889

#### REUNION OF THE THIRTY SIXTH.

The survivors of the gallant Thirty Sixth regiment, held their twenty third annual reunion in Aurora, Tuesday, and the occasion resembled the many former gatherings by this band of heroes, everything being characterized by that whole souled geniality that is always to be found around the assemblies of these veterans. The reception committee met the boys from the other towns and conducted them to the G. A. R. hall where the heartiest of welcome was extended to the visitors not only by their comrades but also by their ladies, who had assembled in goodly numbers. Our citizens have always shown their regard for these survivors, and the welcome yesterday was in no way inferior to that of previous occasions.

The boys in blue strolled around the beautiful lawn and admired the many artistic features of the G. A. R. Hall. The room was nearly filled, the veterans taking comfortable places, and the ladies enjoying the scene with the deepest of interest.

The business meeting was opened by that grand old song, "My Country Tis of Thee," all rising and joining in the chorus. Capt. Hall presided at the meeting, and secretary J. M. Kennedy occupied the regular position at the secretary's desk. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and approved Comrade Hitchcock arose and made a neat speech explaining the absence of the President, W. H. Chamberlain, of Pittsfield, Mass. The gallant had such a press of

business that it was impossible for him to be present although he sent a dispatch which was read by the secretary, in which the president said that he was with the boys in spirit if not in body and he wished them all blessings and success. A list of those comrades who had been mustered out since the last meeting and gone to that great soldiers home beyond, was read. It included the names of Nicholas Mulligan and Martin Glenn.

The following gentlemen were appointed as a committee on resolutions; Geo. D. Sherman, M. E. Cornell and J. E. Porter. The committee adjourned to another room to draw up appropriate resolutions of regret for the demise of the two comrades. Meanwhile the secretary read letters from absent members, each one of whom expressed sorrow at being unable to attend the reunion, and wished the boys a good time. Colonel Greusel arose and spoke a few words about the achievements of the old Thirty sixth and expressed his sorrow to think that a full record had not been kept of the doings of the company. It was his wish that any of the members who had in their possession any record of the missing portion of the history would send a copy of the same to Washington.

The committee on resolutions tendered their report which was read and approved. Then followed an election of officers which resulted as follows: President, W. H. Chamberlain, of Pittsfield, Mass.; vice-president, Capt. Will Hall, of St. Louis; Secretary, J. M. Kennedy, of Aurora. The place of holding the next reunion was left with the executive committee with power to act.

When the business meeting was over the remaining time until noon was occupied by the veterans in meeting and mingling with comrades who had not met perhaps in many years. At 12:30 the remnants of the grand old Thirty Sixth formed in line once more and led by the military band marched to the People's church, not to wake the peaceful echoes of that temple with the discord of war, but to make a valiant attack upon the eatables which the ladies of the W. R. C. had generously prepared for them. After all the veterans were seated at the repast, divine blessing was invoked by Wm. M. Haigh, Chaplain of the 36th. Following this came the rich feast of good things of which the soldiers partook with a relish that afforded ample proof of its excellence. After they had done full justice to the viands, the literary program was opened by prayer by Rev. J. H. Acton, of the People's Church.

Mr. J. C. Dennison acted as toastmaster and made a few introductory remarks in a happy vein, followed by the singing of "Hail Us Ye Free" by a male quartet composed of Messrs. Fauth, Bigler, Davis and Guild, which was well received.

Rev. Edward F. Goff, of the First Congregational Church, delivered the welcome address in his usually felicitous style, and the response was made by M. E. Cornell, of Yorkville, who spoke feelingly of the tender memories that cluster around the history of the grand old 36th.

"The Spirit of '61" was the subject of a most happy talk by Prof. J. H. Freeman, which was full of jolly reminiscence and witty anecdote and doubled the boys up with laughter. The quartet then made the walls of the church ring with "Mama's in de cold cold ground," followed by a characteristic talk on "Foraging" by Geo. D. Sherman, of Elgin, which was thoroughly appreciated by the soldiers. Some of his personal allusions were of a very humorous character.

Nicholas Greusel paid a very tender and eloquent tribute to the memory of Col. Silas Miller, the much loved Col. of the 36th. He recounted many of the acts of courage and bravery of the Col. and referred to the fact that he was the youngest Colonel in the Army.

“Tenting on the Old Camp Ground,” was then rendered by the quartet after which Hon. Fred O. White who was on the program for a speech on “Thomas and the Flag,” announced that owing to the lateness of the hour he would give way to Wm. M. Haigh who spoke eloquently upon the loyal women of the war and paid a glowing tribute to their heroism. The program concluded with the singing of “America” by the quartet.

One of the pleasant features of the afternoon was the presence of General Slocum, of Brooklyn, New York, who happened to be in the city during the reunion and was introduced to the boys by Comrade Hitchcock, and made them a rousing speech, which was appreciated by the veterans.

### WASHINGTON LETTER From our Regular Correspondent

Washington, D.C. Sept. 20, 1889.

Pension office matters continue to be the principal topic of conversation in political circles here. General William Warner of Missouri, ex-representative and ex-commander-in-chief of the G. A. R., having declined the appointment of Commissioner not feeling able to sacrifice his present lucrative legal practice. The President has tendered the appointment to General George B. Merrill, of Massachusetts, and while his acceptance has not yet officially been promulgated, it is regarded here as a certainty. General Merrill is also an ex-commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. He is also chairman of the pension committee of that organization and is therefore considered to be particularly well equipped to assume the duties of Commissioner of Pensions and his appointment can not be other than pleasing to his Comrades of the Grand Army.

The indications point to a change in the methods of the pension office, but how radical the change is to be it is impossible to say. Deputy Commissioner Smith, who is acting commissioner has reversed two of Commissioner Tanners most important rulings, and as he is only temporarily in charge of that office it is inferred that he would scarcely have done so without orders from his superior officers, thus Secretary Noble is credited with being responsible for the two reversals. The orders revoked are, the one directing that all pensioners receiving less than \$4 per month can upon application be examined for a re-rating and the order making the evidence of one private sufficient to establish original disability. Mr. Tanner is still in the city and is likely to be as he has leased a residence here for three years, and has his boys entered at Georgetown College. It is generally believed that he will be appointed Recorder of Deeds for the District, a position that pays more money than other here, with the exception of the Presidency.

Saturday, September 28, 1889

The twenty-second annual reunion of the army of the Tennessee at Cincinnati on Wednesday last was a memorable event in the history of that famous army. The conspicuous military figures at that reunion were General Sherman, Gen. Howard and Gen. Dodge. It was the

occasion for another ovation to "Old Tecump" and the boys testified to their reverence and love for the old commander in more ways than one. Chicago was unanimously selected as the place for the next reunion, the time to be announced by the President of the Society. It was agreed that the meeting should be held coincident with the unveiling of the Grant monument in that city, the ceremonies of which are to be under the auspices of the society. General Andrew Hickenlooper, of Cincinnati was unanimously chosen as orator of the occasion on behalf of the Army of the Tennessee. At the business meeting a long list was read of contributors to the amount of three dollars each to the fund for the erection of an equestrian statue of General Logan at Washington. (ARTICLES-1889)

The fifth annual reunion of the 89th Illinois regiment held at Galesburg, Illinois, on last Thursday, was one of the most interesting ever held by that famous regiment. It was known as the Railroad Regiment, because it was composed mainly of railroad men and railroad officials took a great interest in the organization. It was mustered in by Captain Christopher, in Chicago, on August 27, 1862, and took men from all over the state. It was disbanded June 10, 1865, at Nashville, Tenn. The business meeting was held in the hall of Post 45, G. A. R. The room was well filled. In addition to the members of the 89th there were present a number of the 7th Illinois Cavalry who remained over, members of the other regiments, and quite a delegation of ladies, the greater part of whom came with comrades from other towns. Sergeant R. W. Willette, of Yorkville, a member of the State Legislature, presided. One of the first things done was to send a committee, after General Gibson, of Ohio, who is an honorary member of the association, and who came 400 miles on purpose to see his comrades. When he entered the hall he was greeted with rounds of applause. He made a few remarks telling how glad he was to see all. At 1:30 p.m. the veterans marched from the hall to Crocker's hall, where a grand banquet was tendered them by the Women's Relief Corps. Of the 1,500 men enlisted in this regiment, but 400 were mustered out at the close of the war, which is a substantial evidence of the great service of the regiment in the field.

Wednesday, October 12, 1889

CITY NEWS

The ladies of the W. R. C. desire to return their thanks to all who assisted them in serving dinner during the reunion of the 36th regiment in our city, either by lending their services or furnishing provisions, fruits and flowers.

Saturday, October 5, 1889

CITY NEWS

The Sons of Veterans will give their second annual ball at the Island Rink, Oct. 25th. Music to be furnished by Sweet's orchestra.

Wednesday, October 9, 1889

L. of G. A. R.

Regular meeting of Circle No. 4, L. of G. A. R., in the G. A. R. hall, Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 9th. Full attendance requested. By order of President.

### CITY NEWS

The Sons of Veterans will give their second annual ball at the island rink, Oct 25th. Music to be furnished by Sweet's orchestra.

Saturday, October 19, 1889

### WOUNDED VETERANS

What It Costs To Support Uncle Sam's Pensioners

MONEY PAID OUT TO SOLDIERS

Interesting Extracts from the Report Prepared by Commissioner Tanner  
Before His Connection with the Administration was Terminated.

#### Money Paid Old Soldiers

Washington, Oct. 19. -- The annual report for the fiscal year 1888-89 of the Commissioner of Pensions has been submitted to the Secretary of the Interior and is now in the hands of the public printer. The following summary of the report will show the more important details of the work of the Bureau of Pensions during said fiscal year:

There were at the close of the year 489,729 pensioners. There were added to the rolls during the year the names of 51,921 new pensioners, and the names of 1,754, whose pensions have been previously dropped, were restored to the rolls, making an aggregate of 53,675 pensioners added during the year. There were 16,507 pensioners dropped from the rolls for various causes, leaving a net increase to the rolls of 37,168 names.

The average annual value of each pension at the close of the year is shown to have been \$131.18. The aggregate annual value of pensions is \$64,236,552.36.

The amount paid for pensions during the year was \$88,275,115.28. The total amount disbursed by the agents for all purposes was \$90,131,968.44.

The amount disbursed on account of pensions since 1861 has been \$1,063,218,415.17.

The issue of certificates during the year shows a grand total of 145,298. Of this number, 51,951 were original certificates.

The report shows that at the close of the year there were pending and unallowed 479,000 claims of all classes.

Wednesday, October 23, 1889

The Democratic press has been vainly striving to represent that Gen. Alger accepted the position of Commander-In-Chief of the G. A. R. to further his political ambitions. Nothing could be farther from the truth. In reply to a query propounded to him at Chicago the other day he said: "When I accepted this position I laid politics aside. I did not seek the office, but when it was offered to me I accepted the duties with my own ideas of how they should be conducted. My policy demands a great deal of my time at the expense even of my private business. It has become a precedent that the Commander-In-Chief shall hold the office one year. I think it is all right, and I would not accept it a second time, but during the time I serve, it shall have all my attention. As I had no thought of the position being offered me, I promised Gov. Foraker last spring that I would enter the Ohio campaign this fall, but after I became commander I sent him word at once that I would not make the G. A. R. a factor in politics and I withdrew the promise. Of course when my year's term expires I shall be in politics again. The congressional fight in Michigan will then be beginning and that state must be held for the party. I shall go into that campaign, but it will be after my term has ended."

#### CITY NEWS

The dance given by the Sons of Veterans at the Island Rink last evening did not draw a very large crowd, yet a pleasant time was had by those who attended. The ladies of the W. R. C. served refreshments and as the evening wore on netted quite a sum from this source. The grand march was led by Mr. Walter Hubbard and Miss. Johnson, to music furnished by Prof. Sweet's orchestra.

Saturday, October 26, 1889

#### CITY NEWS

The Ladies of the Grand Army will give the second of a series of sociables at the home of Comrade G. S. Case, 416 Kane street Wednesday afternoon and evening, Oct. 30th. Games and other entertainments will interest both young and old. All are cordially invited. Supper from 6 to 9.

Wednesday, October 30, 1889

#### CITY NEWS

A grab bag will form one of the attractions at the G. A. R. sociable Wednesday night.

Saturday, November 9, 1889

W. R. C. ATTENTION.

The Department Inspector will be here Saturday, Nov. 16, to hold the regular inspection. A special meeting will be held next Tuesday evening for drill and work in the order, when it is especially desired that every member make an effort to be present.

Per order of Pres.

Saturday, November 16, 1889                      CITY NEWS

The annual inspection of the W. R. C., which was to have been held this Saturday evening, has been indefinitely postponed on account of the inability of the Inspector to be present. A dispatch from her home to the effect that her husband was very dangerously ill from heart disease necessitates her immediate return.

Wednesday, November 27, 1889

L. of G. A. R.

Regular meeting of Circle No. 4 will be held in the G. A. R. hall Wednesday evening, Nov. 27th, (instead of afternoon) as the Inspectress will meet with them. Every member is expected to be prompt, as a reception will be tendered her after the business is over to which all friends are invited.

By order of Pres.

Wednesday December 4, 1889

Gen. Raum is not making any speeches and he isn't attending G. A. R. reunions, but he is revolutionizing some of the methods that have been in vogue in the pension office. He has just issued an order directing that great care be taken in the rejection of applications for pensions, "No case," he says, "should be rejected until every available source of information has been examined, unless the rejection is clearly upon legal points, and all letters rejecting claims must be brought to the desk of the Commissioner for signature."

CITY NEWS

An election of officers was held Tuesday night by the members of the Aurora Post of the G. A. R. The election resulted as follows: Commander, Mat Kennedy, Sr. Vice Com., F. S. Thayer, Jr. Vice Com., J. J. McNair, Surgeon, W. F. Bundy, Chaplain, Theo. Howard, Quartermaster, J. O. Raymond, Officer of the Day, G. S. Case, Officer of the Guard, M. J. Tarble.

Saturday, December 7, 1889

CITY NEWS

Emerson's Boston Stars, under the auspices of the G. A. R. Aurora Post No. 20 will be at the opera house, Wednesday evening Dec. 11.

Wednesday, December 18, 1889

W. R. C.

Every member of the W. R. C. is requested to bring or send to G. A. R. hall by 2:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon a can of fruit, a book, or anything suitable to send in a box to the Soldier's Home at Quincy; also anything you may have to spare in the shape of picture books or toys as a box is also to be packed and sent to the Soldier's Orphan's Home at Quincy.



**IN 1890** the Department of Illinois, G. A. R. held its State Encampment at Quincy on March 12th. W. L. Distin, of Quincy was elected Commander. And More importantly, James F. Harral, of Aurora, was elected Senior Vice-Commander. The National Encampment was held on August 13th at Boston, Massachusetts. Wheelock C. Veazy, of Vermont, was elected Commander-In-Chief. In Aurora, J. M. Kennedy was the new Commander. He went by the nick name of "Matt." Once again, on September 25, for the fourth time, Aurora hosted the reunion of the 36th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Survivors Association. This reunion was shared with the 4th Illinois Cavalry. W. H. Chamberlain, President for the second time, turned over the reins to H. B. Douglas for the "91" reunion. Pensions finally became law under the new administration. The veterans felt like kings, to say the least.

Wednesday, January 1, 1890

#### Illinois G. A. R. Encampment

Chicago, Dec 31. -- The Council of Administration of the Illinois Department of the Grand Army of the Republic met Monday and arranged for the annual encampment. Representatives of various Railroad lines were called in and an arrangement perfected by which delegates and visitors to the next state encampment are to have half fare for the round trip. The encampment is to be held at Quincy on March 12 and 13, when General Alger, the National Commander, will be present.

Wednesday, January 8, 1890

#### CITY NEWS

It is expected that the installing officer will meet with Circle No. 4, Wednesday, January 8, at 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 22, 1890

The few surviving members of the Aurora Post of the G. A. R. hold a regular old fashioned "camp-fire" at the Opera House to night. The veterans will make the occasion one of mirth and genial hospitality for they have provided for a bountiful supply of refreshments, and every effort will be made to have each and everyone pass a pleasant evening. But the entire time will not be devoted to feasting, as the arrangement committee have taken care to provide intellectual food in the way of entertaining talks, songs, etc. The services of the male quartette have been secured, and this alone is sufficient to show that the evening will not be a dull one. Among those who will be present from other cities are J. S. Martin, of Salem, Ill., state department commander, C. A. Partridge, of Chicago, adjutant general, also A. D. Reed, of

Chicago, and E. A. Nattinger, of Ottawa. The ladies of the W. R. C. and the Sons of Veterans will also lend their presence to the occasion and a pleasant time is insured to all who attend.

Saturday, January 25, 1890

CITY NEWS

The ladies of the W. R. C. will hold a sale and sociable in G. A. R. hall next Wednesday afternoon and evening. A sale of fancy articles will be held in the afternoon and a sociable and supper in the evening to which the public is cordially invited.

The most notable battle of the Great Rebellion was the "Battle of Gettysburg." Public interest in the memorable struggle will never cease. The celebrated battle will be reproduced in all its realistic wonder in this city next Tuesday night under the auspices of the G. A. R. post. Don't fail to come. Note the adv. in another column in this paper.  
(1890-GETTYSBURG)

#### THE G. A. R. CAMP-FIRE

It has long been a custom with the members of the G. A. R. Post of this city, to hold camp-fire once a year, and these reunions have come to be looked forward to with pleasure by all who participate. The veterans spare no pains in providing for a good time for all.

The camp-fire this year was held Wednesday night at the Coulter opera house where elaborate preparations had been made to enable the soldiers and their families and invited guests to thoroughly enjoy the occasion. The arrangement committee left nothing undone and as a result, the event was a success. At an early hour the guests began to arrive, and when at eight o'clock the proceedings commenced, the opera house was completely filled. The program was opened by music from the military band, with "America." The address of welcome was delivered by Prof. J. H. Freeman, past commander, and was listened to with pleasure by the audience.

The quartette composed of Drs. Robbins and Bundy and Messrs. White and Billings entertained the audience with a song and were then followed by past commander Sexton, of Chicago, who entertained his listeners with a very pleasing talk. When J. H. Stubbs, of Chicago, was announced a general feeling of good humor manifested itself on the faces of the spectators for this well known humorist is a general favorite at such gatherings. Mr. Stubbs recited a very touching poem of the war days, and then in answer to the encore he received, gave the German version of "Barbara Fritchie." The most laughable piece was very well rendered and brought down the house.

The present Department Commander, Gen. James S. Martin, spoke to his listeners of the G. A. R. It's workings, achievements and desires. His words found favor with all as was evinced by frequent bursts of applause. After a recitation of Captain Brown, of Chicago, the quartette sang another song and then Mr. Hartland, of Salem, at the urgent request of many,

recited that most touching poem, "Why Farmer Brown did not Sell the Farm." After the band had played another piece the guests were invited to partake of refreshments which consisted of cake, substantial eatables and hot coffee. The food was well served and in a few minutes the members of the large assembly were busily employed in eating. After the food had been served and while the guests were finishing their repast Mr. Gage, of Chicago, and Messrs. Nattinger and Fredericks, of Ottawa, entertained the audience with short speeches, remarks, anecdotes, etc.

The evening closed with a general handshaking and individual greetings and best wishes were exchanged by the veterans, many of whom will not meet again until the next camp-fire, and perhaps, never.

Saturday, February 1, 1890

CITY NEWS

The ladies of the W. R. C. gave a sociable and sale Wednesday evening in the G. A. R. hall. A large attendance rewarded the efforts of the managers, and those present passed a very pleasant evening.

Saturday, February 8, 1890

W. R. C. sociable at G. A. R. hall next Tuesday evening.

The members of Aurora Post G. A. R. have put in nomination J. F. Harrall for senior vice commander, Department of Illinois.

The ladies of the W. R. C. will hold another sociable and sale in G. A. R. hall next Tuesday afternoon and evening. Supper served from 6 o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended to everyone to attend.

Wednesday, February 12, 1890

The members of the W. R. C. gave a very pleasant supper and sociable at the G. A. R. rooms last night. The program included recitations, card playing and a general good time. The attendance was quite large.

Wednesday, February 17, 1890

The annual reports of the Department of Illinois G. A. R., which will be read at the encampment at Quincy, will show that there were 343 deaths in the department in 1889, that the

membership exceeds 33,000, a net increase during the year of 1,550, and that 24 posts were mustered. It will also show a handsome surplus in the treasury.

Saturday, February 22, 1890

### Reunion of "The Blue and the Gray."

The city of Aurora has the honor of having originated the idea of a great reunion of the Blue and the Gray, which will be held at Vicksburg, Miss., next May. At least it was at a reunion of the 12th Illinois Regiment in this city on Sept. 9th, 1887, that the plans for a reunion of this character were discussed and finally settled upon.

To show that the idea originated in Aurora we reproduce part of an editorial which appeared in the Vicksburg, Miss. *Post*, of September 16th, 1887.

"Mr. L. W. Swafford of this city has recently returned from attending the reunion of the 12th Illinois Regiment, his old command, which took place at Aurora, Illinois on Sept. 9th. 123 of his old comrades, a number, including himself just equal to that of the regiment met, and the soldiers fought their battles over again and related their past experiences. This regiment was stationed here for 19 months of the war and its members still retain many memories of Vicksburg, and when Mr. Swafford suggested to them that the next reunion should be held in Vicksburg, they caught up the idea with the utmost enthusiasm, only desiring some assurance of a welcome. Since when they were here last we were so glad to see them that they had to use force to prevent us from hurting them, they ought to feel assured that they will be heartily welcome now, and that instead of shot and shell very different tokens of remembrance will await their coming."

### CITY NEWS

The ladies of the W. R. C. will give a sociable and supper in G. A. R. Hall next Tuesday evening. Supper served from half past five till eight o'clock.

Saturday, March 8, 1890

### \$6.75 To Quincy and Return.

On March 11, 12 and 13th, the Burlington Route, C. B. & Q. R. R. will sell round trip tickets to Quincy, account of G. A. R. Reunion for \$6.75. Tickets good to return on or before March 17th.

Wednesday, March 12, 1890

CITY NEWS

About thirty of the G. A. R. Comrades and ladies, and several of the neighbors surprised John Stanton at his home on LaSalle street Saturday evening and helped that gentleman celebrate the 51st anniversary of his birthday. A very pleasant evening was passed by all.

Col. Evans is among those from Aurora to attend the G. A. R. Convention at Quincy.

The annual encampment of the G. A. R., Department of Illinois, takes place at Quincy today and tomorrow. Among the notable Grand Army men who will grace the occasion with their presence are Gen. Green B. Raum, Commissioner of Pensions, and Gen. Russell A. Alger, the commander-in-chief of the grand army. Aurora will be represented at the encampment.

Saturday, March 15, 1890

Governor Fifer, in his speech, at the Grand Army Encampment at Quincy, spoke a word in favor of women suffrage, and said he found no argument against granting the right of suffrage to women. If the Governor would enquire into the matter a little further he would find that the principal argument against women suffrage is the fact that only about five percent of the women desire the elective franchise and would avail themselves of it when granted. Besides, Illinois will be the last state in the Union to stand in need of female suffrage.

CITY NEWS

Senator Evans and the other G. A. R. men from Aurora returned home yesterday from the Quincy encampment.

THE ENCAMPMENT ENDS

Grand Army Veterans Finish their Work at Quincy, Ill.

The Next Meeting to be Held In Decatur.

Quincy, Ill., March 14. -- The State Encampment, G. A. R., has ended. Decatur was chosen as the city in which the next session will be held. The following Officers were elected and installed:

Department Commander, William L. Distin, of Quincy; Senior Vice Commander, J. F. Harrall, of Aurora; Junior Vice Commander, N. B. Thistlewood, of Cairo; Medical Director, F. Leon McKenna, of Evanston (re-elected); Chaplain, Rev. Josiah Moore, of Kewanee.

Henry S. Dietrich, of Chicago, the retiring Senior Vice-Commander, was elected delegate at large to the National Encampment at Boston. The delegates to Boston, chosen by caucus of Congressional Districts were confirmed by election. They number twenty, and in addition twelve delegates were chosen by general ballot.

Commander Distin announced the appointment of Colonel A. D. Reade, of Chicago, as Adjutant-General of the department, and Colonel Thomas W. Scott, of Fairfield, as Quartermaster.

The reports of officers were presented by committees, especial attention being given to the condition of affairs at the Soldier's and Sailor's Home. There have been 1,541 men admitted and there are 900 there now. One hundred eighteen have been buried in three years. Nearly every county in Illinois and twenty-eight States of the Union are represented in the institution. The per capita cost of maintenance in 1888 was \$1.95, and is now \$1.72.

The resolutions adopted taking action in reference to service pensions, until all disabled veterans have been provided for, and urge the immediate passage of the disability pension bill, and request the committee on pensions of the National Encampment to work for the amendment of the pension law by Congress so that all pensions should begin from the date of disability. Another of the resolutions approved asks the Legislature to pass a law to provide for paying the expenses of maintaining insane veterans, and for the burial of old soldiers.

The Women's Relief Corps elected the following officers: President, Mrs. Leaverton, of Palestine; Senior Vice-President, Miss. Jeanie Broms, of Grundy County; Junior Vice-President, Mrs. Ellen Bridges; Treasurer, Miss. Ada Carlton; Chaplain, Mrs. Ellen Morgan, of Monmouth.

The selection of Decatur as the place for the next encampment was in harmony with the eternal fitness of things. The first G. A. R. Post organized was the now defunct Decatur Post No. 1, instituted on April 6, 1866. The next encampment will be held April 6, 1891, at the same place. It is now over twenty-five years since Dr. Stephenson, the founder of the Grand Army, proposed the idea at a little meeting held in General Logan's office at Springfield. Major R. M. Woods, editor of the Joliet Sun, drafted the original Constitution and By-laws. The Department of Illinois was instituted April 1, 1866, with Dr. Stephenson as Department Commander and Major Woods as Adjutant-General. Major Woods, himself instituted the first lodge in Wisconsin, which has been contesting for the honor of priority with Illinois.

## CITY NEWS

A number of G. A. R. men, homeward bound from the Quincy convention, stopped off in Aurora yesterday, and took breakfast at Hotel Bishop.

## THE STATE ENCAMPMENT.

The State Encampment of the G. A. R. at Quincy ended on Thursday and was one of the most successful in point of interest and attendance ever held in the state. Aurora came off with no small honor in the election of officers, the office of Senior Vice-Commander having fallen to

Mr. J. F. Harrall, of this city. The election of Mr. Harrall was enthusiastic and spontaneous and on that account was highly complimentary to our capable supervisor and shows that he stands exceedingly well among the comrades over the state.

The exciting contest of the encampment was the fight over the place for holding the next encampment. After a hard battle, Decatur won the next encampment by eighteen majority over Rockford. Next year will be the silver anniversary of the state organization and it will be celebrated with appropriate ceremonies. Among the notable Grand Army men who were present were Commander-In-Chief, Gen. Alger and staff, Col. Weissert, and Gov. Fifer.

The following roster of officers for the coming year was elected and installed there being no opposition to the Department Commander and the Senior Vice-Commander.

Department Commander, William L. Distin of Quincy.

Senior Vice-Commander, J. F. Harrall of Aurora.

Junior Vice-Commander, N. B. Thistlewood of Cairo.

Medical Director, F. Leon McKenna of Evanston, re-elected.

Chaplain, Rev. Josiah Moore of Kewanee.

The new Department Commander announced as his staff A. D. Read of Chicago, Assistant Adjutant-General, Thomas W. Scott of Fairfield, Quartermaster-General.

The new council of administration is as follows: Thomas W. Cole, W. W. Beabe, O. F. Avery, William Clendenning and William Venable.

Henry S. Dietrich, of Chicago, the retiring Senior Vice-Commander, was elected delegate at large to the National Convention.

The following delegates chosen by caucus of Congressional districts last night were confirmed by election with slight opposition: H. B. Brooks, James O'Donnell, J. C. Corbas, Samuel R. Chase, A. S. Wright, Geo. S. Roper, J. A. Niles, Archibald Means, H. H. McDowell, S. S. Tripp, John Elder, H. T. Shaw, James H. Matheny, A. D. Cadwallader, G. W. Harwood, John Lynch, Louis Krughoff, S. G. Berdick, C. O. Patler.

The remaining twelve delegates chosen by general ballot are as follows: The Rev. Horace W. Bolton, S. A. Oliver, H. H. Evans, L. S. Lambert, J. R. Herring, Benson Wood, William H. Collins, J. Brown Taylor, G. N. Gue, George Lyon, Horace S. Clark and P. G. Galvin.

The Rev. Dr. Bolton goes to Boston Encampment as a delegate, but failed to get the place of Delegate-At-Large, Henry S. Dietrich having led him slightly. Bolton stood next on the poll.

Wednesday, March 19, 1890

CITY NEWS

At the recent encampment at Quincy, Mrs. Frank Harrall of this city was elected Counselor of the W. R. C and Mrs. J. H. Hubbard of this city, a member of the council of administration.

Saturday, March 22, 1890

CITY NEWS

The ladies of the W. R. C. will give a supper and sociable in the G. A. R. hall on the island next Tuesday evening. Supper served from 6 to 8 o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended to everyone to be present.

Saturday, April 5, 1890

Extensive preparations are being made by the old veterans all over the country to attend the great reunion of the Blue and the Gray at Vicksburg, Miss., May 25 to 30. A large number of the G. A. R. posts of Illinois will attend in a body. Decatur will send the survivors of the 41st and 116th Infantry. The boys in Gray at Vicksburg are making elaborate preparations to give the boys in Blue a warm and hospitable welcome.

CITY NEWS

The Sons of Veterans concert at the G. A. R. hall last evening was a very pleasant affair. A pleasing literary and musical program was rendered which was enjoyed by a good sized audience.

Wednesday, April 9, 1890

CITY NEWS

In spite of the threatening storm quite a large number were present at the W. R. C. sociable at the G. A. R. hall last evening. An unusually entertaining programme, consisting of vocal selections and recitation had been prepared which was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

Saturday, April 19, 1890

CITY NEWS

The ladies of the W. R. C. will hold another of their pleasant sociables in G. A. R. hall next Tuesday evening to which the public is cordially invited. Supper served from 6 o'clock.

Wednesday, April 23, 1890

CITY NEWS

One of the pleasant features of the G. A. R. sociable last evening, was the speech by Dept. Commander Cove, of Wichita, Kansas. Mr. Cove in a few well chosen words gave a brief idea of what life in Kansas was, and by several witty remarks completely won the hearts of his hearers.

The sociable and supper given by the W. R. C. in G. A. R. hall, last evening, was favored by an unusually large attendance. A very entertaining program was carried out including a drill by a number of the "Aurora Cadets," who have attained much proficiency under the command of the captain, Charlie Harkinson.

#### SONS OF VETERANS ANNUAL INSPECTION

The officers and members of Aurora Camp No. 21, Sons of Veterans, will occur next Friday evening, April 25, 1890, at its headquarters in G. A. R. hall, the inspecting officer being Brig. Gen. A. L. Gailford, of Chicago. Every member should be present. Other important business is to be transacted.

P. A. Durant, Captain  
S. M. Kauttsberger, First Sergeant.

Wednesday, May 7, 1890

#### CITY NEWS

Aurora people will remember a man by the name of Boone who formerly lived here and was a grand army man and had both arms blown off during the war by the explosion of an anvil. He was granted a pension by the last Congress and Cleveland vetoed it. He has just been granted a pension again by the present Congress and it is not probable that President Harrison will veto it.

Saturday, May 10, 1890

#### CITY NEWS

Hon. L. D. Brady will donate a flag for Brady's school, the two grandsons of the late Dr. Young a flag for the Young school, and the ladies of the G. A. R. will furnish flags for the remaining schools in district no. 5. The presentation of the flags will be at the various schools, Thursday, May 29th.

Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R., have received an invitation to visit Taunton one day during encampment week, (which occurs in Boston next August) as the guests of William H. Bartlett Post, No. 3, G. A. R., of that city. The Aurora G. A. R. will endeavor to go as post.

Wednesday, May 14, 1890

## CITY NEWS

The Woman's Relief Corps served hot biscuits and maple syrup to a large number at their regular sociable in G. A. R. hall last evening. A very pleasant musical and literary program was rendered.

Saturday, May 17, 1890

## FLAG PRESENTATIONS

The presentation of flags to the different schools in District No. 5, will occur Thursday, May 29.

The Ladies of the G. A. R. will be represented at the Center school by Rev. Mr. Acton; at the New York Street school by Capt. J. C. Little; at the Park Avenue school by Samuel Alshuler, Esq., and at Indian Creek by Miss. Mabel Lutsey. The person to represent them at the East Branch school has not yet been selected.

At the Young school Delos Ricker will present the flag in behalf of himself and brother.

Miss. Marion Beaupre will present the flag at the Brady school in behalf of her grandfather, Hon. L. D. Brady.

The names of the gentlemen to represent the Board of Education in receiving the flags, together with the program of the day's exercises at the several schools, will be announced in a few days.

## DECORATION DAY.

The names of the organizations found below have been invited to join in the parade with Aurora Post, No. 20., G. A. R., on Decoration Day.

The Patriotic order of the Sons of America, Company D, Aurora Zouaves, Hibernian Rifles, Marine Guards, Sons of Veterans and Deutscher Krieger Verein.

Almost all of these societies have signified their intention of participating with the ex-soldiers in the observance of Memorial Day.

The East Side high school chorus will furnish music at the exercises to be held in the afternoon, and the West Side high school quartette will take part in the exercises of decorating the graves at the west side cemeteries in the forenoon.

Dr. Robbins is the Committee on Music.

The newspapers next week will contain a full program of the day, order of march, names of the several committees, etc.

Saturday, May 24, 1890

### MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES.

At 10:30 May 30th, a detachment of Aurora Post, No. 20 will be sent to the Aurora cemetery and the German Catholic cemetery under command of F. L. Thayer, S. V. C to decorate the graves; also a detachment under J. J. McNair, J. V. C will be sent to the west Aurora and Catholic cemeteries, and another under command of L. Sylvester will proceed to east and west Montgomery cemeteries for the same purpose.

All comrades and others wishing to go with the detachments to decorate the graves are requested to meet at G. A. R. hall at 10:30.

A quartette consisting of Messrs. Will Denney, Will Miller and Misses Nellie Doty and Annie Wilber will furnish music for the decorative ceremonies to be held at the east side cemeteries in the forenoon, and a quartette from the west side high school will furnish music at the west side cemeteries.

A procession will be formed at 1 o'clock in front of the City Hall, at which time and place all persons and organizations wishing to join therein are requested to meet. The procession will move at 1:30 in the following order:

Chief Marshal.  
City Marshal and Police  
Company D, W. S. Frazier Jr., Capt.  
Aurora Zouaves, A. Hurd, Capt.  
Hibernian Rifles, A. J. Forney, Capt.  
Marine Guards, C. Harkinson, Capt.  
Deutscher Krieger Verein, Chas. Taegge, Pres't.  
Sons of Veterans, Pliny Durant, Capt.  
Aurora Post, No. 20, and ex-soldiers and sailors,  
J. M. Kennedy, Commander  
East Side High School Chorus.  
Prof. Cole and forty pupils.  
Chaplain and Orator.  
Mayor and City Council.  
Citizens in carriages.

Line of march will be west to River street, north to New York street, east to Broadway, south to Fox, east to Lincoln avenue, south to Spring Lake Cemetery where there will be a detachment sent to Mt. Olivet cemetery, under command of L. Sylvester after which the graves at Spring Lake will be decorated by the comrades, or by those selected to represent them.

Order of exercises at Spring Lake Cemetery:

Music -- Band

Prayer, Chaplain Rev. S. Earngey.

Song, High School Chorus.  
Memorial Services, G. A. R. Post, No. 20.  
Dirge, Light Guard Band.  
Song, Chorus.  
Oration, Rev. E. F. Goff.  
Sing, Chorus.  
Benediction, Post Chaplain G. S. Roberts.

At the close of the exercises the various organizations will be escorted to their different halls by Aurora Post No. 20.

The detachments to the various cemeteries in the morning will be accompanied by Ministers as follows: Catholic Cemetery, Rev. Thos. Leydon; Spring Lake, Rev. J. H. Acton; Aurora cemetery, Rev. N. C. Mallory; West Aurora cemetery, Rev. J. O. Haarvig; Montgomery Cemetery, Rev Thos. Galt.

Marshal -- Dr. W. F. Bundy.

Assistant Marshal -- F. H. Hotz.

Committee on Music, Dr. M. M. Robbins.

Committee on Transportation, E. A. Saunders, Gus. Aucutt.

Committee on West Aurora cemetery -- O. B. Gates; West Side Catholic cemetery, M. Maloney; Aurora Cemetery, W. H. Scragg; German Catholic Cemetery, G. S. Case; Mt. Olivet Cemetery, L. Sylvester; Spring Lake Cemetery, Chas. Ayers; East and West Montgomery Cemeteries, George C. Day.

Committee on Flowers, Mrs. J. H. Hubbard, Pres't. W. R. C.; Mrs. Arthur Quinton, Pres't. Ladies G. A. R.

The members of the W. R. C. and of the Ladies of the G. A. R., and others interested are requested to meet at the City Hall at 8 o'clock, Friday morning the 30th, for the purpose of arranging the flowers.

It is hoped that there will be a generous response on the part of the teachers and the pupils of the schools, and the citizens generally to the call of the flower committee for the necessary floral offerings.

A cordial invitation is extended to all ex-soldiers, sailors and citizens to join in the procession and to participate in the observance of the day.

A. C. Graves  
J. H. Freeman  
J. F. Harrall, Com.

(EXTERIOR, INTERIOR, PLAT-1890)

(BRIDGE-1890)

Saturday, May 31, 1890

COVERED WITH BRIGHT FLOWERS  
A General Observance of Memorial Day  
Oration of the Speaker of the Day.

Memorial Day dawned beautiful, bright and warm in the city of Aurora. We mention this fact because Memorial day is usually rainy, damp and disagreeable. The departure from the old style of soggy dampness, which drowned all the patriotism in a man's system, to the radiant brightness of yesterday, was most commendable, and the weather clerk was the recipient of numberless congratulations from all sorts of people who were glad to avail themselves of the unusual opportunity for observing the day in a proper manner.

It was a day hallowed with a world of wonderful memories for the old Veterans. They brushed up the old sabres and polished up the old muskets and fell into line again, wearing the blue in which they fought at Mission Ridge and Lookout Mountain. Some of the boys do not march with as firm and steady step as they did when they marched with Sherman to the sea, but their hearts are young and loyal yet and their for the old flag gets warmer as they get nearer the final camping ground. As the ranks of the boys get thinner as they approach each succeeding Memorial Day is invested with increasing interest.

The day was general holiday in Aurora. In the afternoon all business was suspended and many of the factories shut down for the entire day.

At 10:30 A.M. a detachment of Aurora Post No. 20, marched to the Aurora cemetery, and the German Catholic cemetery, under the command of F. L. Thayer, S. V. C., and covered the soldiers graves with flowers. A detachment under the command of J. J. McNair, J. V. C., performed a similar service at West Aurora and Catholic cemeteries, while other detachments decorated the graves in East and West Montgomery cemeteries. Beautiful music was furnished for these ceremonies by a quartette consisting of Messrs. Will. Denney and Will. Miller and the misses Annie Wilber and Nellie Doty.

At one o'clock in the afternoon a procession was formed in front of the City Hall, and proceeded to Spring Lake Cemetery, in the following order:

Chief Marshal,  
City Marshall and Police,  
Co. D, W. S. Frazier, Jr. Capt.  
Aurora Zouaves, A. Hurd, Capt.  
Hibernian Rifles, A. J. Forney, Capt.  
Aurora Cadets, C. Harkinson, Capt.  
Deutscher Krieger Verein, Chas. Taege, Pres.  
Sons Of Veterans, Pliny Durant, Capt.  
Aurora Post No. 20 and ex-soldiers and sailors  
J. M. Kennedy, Commander.  
East Side High School Chorus.  
Prof. Cole and forty pupils.  
Chaplain and Orator.

Mayor & City Council.

Citizens in carriages.

The line of march was carried out as published in the Beacon, and upon arriving at Spring Lake a detachment was sent to Mt. Olivet cemetery under command of L. Sylvester, after which the graves at Spring Lake were decorated by comrades. Following is a list of the comrades who sleep in Spring Lake.

SOLDIERS BURIED IN SPRING LAKE CEMETERY

Silas Miller	E. J. Goodwin
Henry Kyle	J. C. Goodwin
John Oats	L. Bradley
J. H. Karl	Wm. Freeman
Chas. Sibolt	F. Keyes
John Hannis	Wm. Rogers
Comrade Mott	C. E. Otis
Comrade Gray	Wm. Mears
E. Stettler	G. Shepard
John Marlett	A. E. Harkness
R. W. Mosley	B. Y. Hagadone
T. Odell	A. C. Ferre
Wm. Tucker	Wm. Shoemaker
H. Baker	J. Lawton
W. Baker	Adam Mills
L. Duncan	F. Vaughn
D. W. Young	J. D. Pierce
John Jassoy	Wm. Elliss
T. F. Bexon	A. M. Briggs
E. S. Hunt	Chas. A. Austin
E. Waterman	Chas. Clair
G. W. White	H. A. Scnell
F. D. James	S. Black
H. J. Gusline	A. Hard
Wm. Ray	C. S. Lewis
D. Ray	Carl Metzner
C. Maher	Thos. Rumble
T. Burley	K. Hayward
A. E. Walrath	F. S. Jones
Samuel Simms	H. J. Felton
J. H. Freelove	

The exercises at Spring Lake were opened by music by the band, followed by prayer by Chaplain Rev. S. Earngey. Next came a song by the High School Chorus, followed by the impressive memorial exercises of G. A. R. Post, No. 20. After another song and music by the band, the oration of the day was delivered by Rev. E. E. Goff, of the First Congregational church.

A song by the chorus and benediction by Post Chaplain, G. S. Roberts, closed the exercises and the various organizations were escorted to their different halls by Aurora Post, No. 20.

#### ATTENTION, SONS OF VETERANS !

The final memorial service for the present year, occurs at First M. E. Church, tomorrow morning, June 1. In accordance with the special invitation from Post 20, G. A. R., all members of Aurora Camp No. 21, S. V., are urgently requested to meet at G. A. R. Hall at 10:00 o'clock on said morning, to attend the service in a body. Come in full uniform and let no member be absent without the best of reasons.

P. A. Durant, Captain.

#### THE BLUE AND THE GRAY

Vicksburg, Miss., May 29. -- The third day of the reunion of the Blue and the Gray was one of great interest. General John S. Kountz, Past Commander-In-Chief of the G. A. R., arrived. General C. E. Hooker, of Mississippi, Gen. Kountz and others spoke. All night there was a grand pyrotechnic display on the lake and salutes by the Warren Artillery. Also a grand camp-fire by the Blue and the Gray. The city is thronged with visitors.

Wednesday, June 4, 1890

CITY NEWS

The G. A. R. will give a very attractive promenade concert and dance at the rink Friday evening next. The music will be furnished by the Military Band. Admission 25 cents.

Saturday, June 7, 1890

CITY NEWS

#### VOTE OF THANKS BY THE G. A. R.

Head Quarters Aurora Post, No. 20, Dept. of Ills., G. A. R., June 3, 1890.

The following resolution of thanks was unanimously passed this evening.

*Resolved* -- That the sincere thanks of this Post is extended to Rev. E. E. Goff, the Orator of the day, and to the several clergymen who participated with us in the observance, also the singers including the east side high school chorus, the east side quartette, the Epworth League of Galena street M. church, to the committee on flowers, to the comrades who generously furnished transportation thereby materially lessening the expenses of Memorial Day, and to all others who assisted in making the exercises of the day so pleasant and successful.

J. M. Kennedy, Commander

M. D. Yager, Adj't. Pro. Tem.

The Ladies of the W. R. C., assisted by the Sons of Veterans, will tender a reception to the Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R., and their families, Tuesday evening, June 10, at G. A. R. hall. The occasion being the fifteenth anniversary of the Post.

Wednesday, June 11, 1890

CITY NEWS

Yesterday was the fifteenth anniversary of the organization of the Aurora Post G. A. R. and the advent of the day was appropriately commemorated by a reception which was tendered the members of the Post in G. A. R. hall, last night, by the Woman's Relief Corps and Sons of Veterans. The hall was beautifully decorated with bright flowers, artistically interwoven with the national colors, and over all was the motto, "1875 - Welcome - 1890." An excellent program, consisting of recitations and speeches, was presented and thoroughly enjoyed by all present. Among the speakers who were exceedingly felicitous in their remarks were Rev. Dr. Pallen, Rev. Thos. Leydon and Mrs. Thomas Galt. Among those present from a distance was Col. Distin, the department commander. After the literary feast came a feast of ice cream, strawberries and cake, which was served by the ladies and disposed of in a manner that attested its good quality. The hall was scarcely adequate to hold the large crowd which attended, although the weather was very inclement.

Wednesday, June 18, 1890

CITY NEWS

The Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R. will hold another promenade concert and dance at the rink Friday evening. The Military Band will furnish music for the concert, and music for the dance will be furnished by Put Howard's orchestra. An unusually enjoyable time was had at the last concert given under the auspices of this society, and an equally good time is hoped for for Friday evening. Every body is invited.

The Military Drama, "Our Hero," will be produced at Coulter opera house, this city, on the evening of June 24, 25 and 26, under the auspices of Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R., assisted by the Aurora Zouaves and Sons of Veterans. The play will be given by the best home talent. The play is one of the grandest military dramas, and should be witnessed by every citizen of Aurora.

Aurora Post G. A. R. has been compelled to change the date of their grand military drama, "Our Heroes," from June 24 - 26 to a later date which will be announced in the papers soon.

Wednesday, June 25, 1890

### ILLINOIS SONS OF VETERANS

Jacksonville, Ill. June 23. -- The street parade of the Illinois Sons of Veterans on Tuesday was a highly creditable affair. General R. A. Alger reviewed the procession from the balcony of the Dunlop House. In the afternoon he visited Camp Duncan, where he delivered a patriotic address. General Griffin, Commander-In-Chief, arrived from Indianapolis during the morning. He states that at present there is a body of 50,000 Sons of Veterans uniformed, armed and drilled, which could be called into service on a month's notice.

### MORE PENSIONS

#### THE SENATE PASSES THE DEPENDENT PENSION BILL

#### A LENGTHY DEBATE ON THE MEASURE

It is finally agreed to by a vote of 34 to 18, and now only awaits the signature of the President to become a law.

### SENATE

Washington, June 24. -- The conference report on the dependent pension bill was agreed to by the Senate Monday. The bill now goes to the President. Senator Davis (Minn.), chairman of the Pension Committee, estimates the expenditures under the bill at \$40,000,000.

Saturday, July 12, 1890

### CITY NEWS

Mrs. G. G. Biddulph, widow of the late Major Biddulph, has purchased a lot at the corner of South Broadway and Bluff St. and will immediately erect a residence there.

## C. B. & Q. EXCURSIONS

Sons of Veterans Encampment, Jacksonville, Ill., June 22nd to 28th.

### FLAG DEDICATION.

The German Krieger Verein of Aurora, will dedicate its two beautiful new flags in the east side park, Monday, July 14, 1890, at 10:30 A.M. Societies from Chicago, Joliet, Freeport, Elmhurst, Rockford, Elgin and Ottawa have been invited and are expected to participate in the festivities. After the dedicatory ceremonies and speeches a procession composed of all the societies from abroad, the members of the Grand Army of the Republic, Company D, Cigarmaker's Union and all the German societies of Aurora and headed by Eitelgoerges Aurora coronet band will march through the principle business streets. In the afternoon a picnic will be held in Stenger's Park. All are cordially invited to participate.

Wednesday, July 16, 1890

### CITY NEWS

The G. A. R. posts of Kane County will have a memorial hall in the new court house to be used as a repository for relics and battle flags of the great rebellion, illustrating the part which Kane County soldiers took in the conflict.

The exercises incident to the flag dedication by the Krieger Verein German soldiers which took place in Aurora Monday were of a very interesting and entertaining character. A procession was formed in the forenoon consisting of two brass bands, Cigarmaker's Union, St. John Society, Turn Verein, Aurora Lieder Kranz, St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Krieger Verein, together with the Mayor, City council and members of the Aurora Post G. A. R. who rode in carriages. The procession was headed by Chief of Police Demmer and the full platoon of Aurora police. The procession moved through the principle streets and finally came to a halt in Lincoln Park where the exercises of the flag dedication took place. The exercises opened with singing of several national aires by the Leiderkranz after which Miss. Abel presented in a neat speech in English, a handsome flag of the United States to the Society. Miss. Wulf made a similar speech in German, and presented the German flag of the organization. A speech was also made by Rev. Stenger, of St. John's Church. The exercises of the day concluded with a grand picnic at Stenger's Park in the afternoon.

Saturday, July 19, 1890

CITY NEWS

The coming reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic at Boston promises to be the greatest event of the kind ever known in this or any other country. It is estimated that between 150,000 and 200,000 veterans will be in the great parade and that there will be nearly half a million visitors to be taken care of. Aurora will be there.

THE TRIP TO BOSTON

All who intend taking advantage of the cheap rates to Boston on the G. A. R. excursion should leave their names at Watson's Book Store, and state whether they want a sleeper or not. The fare for the round trip from Chicago will be \$19, unless they can get a further reduction, which they are in hopes of doing. This excursion is not exclusively for the G. A. R., as anyone can go.

ILLINOIS G. A. R. OFFICIAL HEADQUARTERS TRAIN

The Official Headquarters Train, Department of Illinois, with Department Commander, Wm. L. Distin, and staff, and Mrs. Gen'l John A. Logan, will start from Quincy and run to Chicago via the Burlington Route, C. B. & Q. R. R., on Friday, August 8th, and from thence will proceed to the National Encampment at Boston via the Niagara Falls Short Line, the West Shore and the Hossiac Tunnel Routes. This train will stop at all stations between Quincy and Chicago, to give the comrades on the main line and from connecting lines and branches an opportunity to join it. For detailed time schedule and special bills distributed in your territory. Remember that tickets to the Encampment are but one fare for the round trip. They can be obtained via the Burlington Route at principle stations, or by addressing P. S. Eustis, Gen'l Passenger and Ticket Agent C. B. & Q. R. R., Chicago.

LADIES OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Aurora, Ill., July 17, 1890

A special meeting of the ladies of the G. A. R. is called for Saturday evening, July 19. By order of the president.

Mrs. A. Page, Secy.

## LOW RATES EAST.

An excellent opportunity for a trip east will be afforded by the G. A. R. encampment at Boston and return will be sold at very low rates. Tickets and full information can be obtained of ticket agents, C. & N. W Railway Co.

Wednesday, July 23, 1890

The reunion committee of the National Grand Army Encampment earnestly desires the names of all organizations that have secured through local members and without application to the committee their own accommodations. The names of organizations with names of presiding officers and secretary and the place and hour of meeting should be sent before August 1. The committee also desires that all military and naval organizations that contemplate holding reunions during the encampment week and have not already notified the committee should do so at once. Notices should be sent to J. Payson Bradley, Chairman Reunion Committee, No. 2A Beach street, Boston, Mass.

Saturday, July 26, 1890

## PENSIONS.

All soldiers of the late war are now entitled to pensions, provided they are disabled to any extent, no matter when, or where or how they were disabled.

All widows of soldiers without other means of support than their daily labor are entitled to pensions.

All soldiers orphans under 10 years of age are entitled to pensions.

We have a full supply of blanks conforming to the new law, and we are prepared to prosecute your claim with vigor. Come and see us.

Krahl & Thayer  
Fox and LaSalle Sts., Aurora.

## CITY NEWS

General Distin, Department Commander of the G. A. R. of Illinois, has accepted the offer of Aurora Post, No. 20, to act as escort for the Illinois G. A. R. at the National Encampment at Boston. The Aurora military band will accompany the Post. Several thousand copies of "Aurora Illustrated" will be taken along for distribution in the east.

Wednesday, July 30, 1890

BOSTON.

It is safe to say that no other Atlantic city excels Boston in summer comfort. Its clean well kept and sprinkled streets are frequently visited by delightful sea breezes whose refreshing coolness and salty flavor are perceptible a league inland.

On the occasion of the G. A. R. encampment in August tickets will be sold via the Lake Shore Route from Chicago on August 8, 9 and 10 at a very low rate of \$19 for the round trip, good for return until the 20th. Provision has also been made for the extension of the return limit to September 30th if desired. Do not miss the opportunity to visit one of the most interesting cities in the United States.

The rate is within the reach of all and the route is beyond question the best. Send for folder giving information concerning the train service. C. K. Wilber, W. P. A., Chicago. M. S. Giles, T. Pg.

The survivors of the 89th Illinois and the 112th Illinois will join in a grand reunion at Galva, on Wednesday, August 27th next. It will be the 25th annual reunion of the 112th and the 6th reunion of the 89th. All Union soldiers and the widows, sons and daughters and friends of the Union soldier are invited. Gen. Thos. J. Henderson, of Illinois, and Gen. W. H. Gibson, of Ohio, are expected to be present. There will be a banquet and a grand camp-fire in the evening. The railroads have made a one and one third fare for all who attend the reunion. Sergeant Isaac K. Young, of Bristol, is secretary of the 89th and B. F. Thompson, of Toulon, Ill. is secretary of the 112th.

It is thought now that about 150 persons will accompany Aurora Post to the National Encampment at Boston. The charts for the sleeping cars are at W. H. Watson's book store on Broadway where all particulars may be learned. The entire road trip fare will not be over \$19 and perhaps less. The tickets are good for about seven weeks and will afford everyone the opportunity to make a prolonged pleasure visit at the sea shore or among the many pleasure resorts and historical spots of New England. The drawing for the lot in Evans' sixth addition, the proceeds of which are to go toward the defraying the expense of the Post on the trip, will take place in G. A. R. hall to-morrow night. The prospects are that Aurora will be the banner post among the Illinois posts at the Boston encampment.

## THE VETERAN'S ROUTE TO BOSTON.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company offers the most attractive route to veterans traveling to and from the encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic to be held at Boston, commencing on August 8th. In addition to the excellence of its train service and the magnificence of the scenery along its line the B. & O. R. R. passes through many scenes of historic interest in the valley of the Potomac and in close proximity to the battlefields of Gettysburg, Antietam, South Mountain, Winchester and Harper's Ferry, also including a view of Washington, the Nation's Capitol.

Excursion tickets to Boston will be sold via B. & O. R. R. at the offices of all connecting lines throughout the west.

Wednesday, August 6, 1890

Old Soldiers should be exceedingly wary of the oily-tongued pension solicitor. The new pension law has let loose an army of pension sharks who are besieging the veterans all over the country for permission to present their claims. The law allows an attorney a fee of ten dollars for his services which is paid by the government. To charge any more is a penitentiary offense, to charge any less is suspicious, and the man who offers to secure the claim for nothing will bear watching. If you have a claim it is best to entrust it to a respectable attorney.

The agents of the "Niagara Falls Short Line" will be in Aurora Thursday to sell tickets for the G. A. R. special to Boston. This special leaves Aurora at 4:50 Friday afternoon and stops four hours at Niagara Falls. It will be one of the finest trains that runs to the national encampment. Aurora will send a large delegation.

Saturday, August 9, 1890

The special train conveying Gen. Distin, Commander of the G. A. R. department of Illinois, also a car containing the W. R. C. of Illinois arrived in Aurora on the C. B. & Q. at 4:50 yesterday afternoon. To this train were attached two Pullman sleeping cars and one other car conveying members of the Aurora Post, No. 20 and citizens to the number of about 250, all bound for the national encampment at Boston. The Post was accompanied by the Aurora military band and will act as the escort of Gen. Distin and staff in the grand parade at Boston.

Nearly the whole population of Aurora gathered at the C. B. & Q. depot last evening to witness the departure of the Aurora Post, No. 20, for the Boston encampment. It has been reported in the papers that Mrs. John A. Logan would be on the special train which was to carry the Aurora delegation and this attracted a vast crowd at the depot. But the crowd was doomed to disappointment for when the special rolled in at 4:50 it was announced that Mrs. Logan had telegraphed that she would join the Illinois department at Niagara Falls. The special consisted of four Pullman cars, one for Gen. Distin, Commander of the G. A. R., department of Illinois, and staff, together with the Quincy Post, one car for the W. R. C. of Illinois, and two for the Aurora Post, No. 20. Other cars had to be added to accommodate the large delegation from Aurora, which Major Watson said numbered about 250. Aurora Military band accompanied the delegation and 1500 copies of "Aurora Illustrated" were taken along for distribution in the east. The two Pullman cars were ornamented with big banners which read "Aurora Post No. 20, Aurora, Illinois." A transparency had also been constructed for the grand parade. On one side were the words, "The Home of Lincoln, Grant and Logan." On the other side were the words "Aurora, Ill.," and a picture of the rising sun, illustrating the meaning of the word, "Aurora." All of these were artistically executed by Charley Pfrangle. An effort was made to keep a list of all who purchased tickets but the rush was so great toward the last that the list had to be abandoned, and any list that we might publish would be vary incomplete.

Wednesday, August 13, 1890

The National G. A. R. Encampment at Boston this week will seriously interfere with the work of the Legislators, in both houses of Congress, owing to the fact that many members will attend the encampment. It was the intention of the leaders to assign the week to the agricultural committee, which seeks action on the compound-lard and meat inspection bills, and to the committee on education, which is ready to call up the bill to extend aid to agricultural colleges. But it is feared that no quorum will be present, or that, if there is, it will include a majority of Democrats who might, by their action, derange the plans of the committees. The proceedings, therefore, will probably be confined to action upon the conference reports, upon the fortification and sundry civil appropriation bills, possibly interspersed with recesses for a day or more. In the Senate the tariff bill will be discussed until Friday, when it is expected that the river and harbor bill will be taken up. But this is not altogether certain, as several senators are opposed to the tariff bill being displaced by any bill. The discussion of the tariff bill will probably be interrupted by the presentation of the conference reports on the sundry civil appropriation bill and the land grant forfeiture bill.

From the Boston telegrams to the Chicago papers it is learned that Aurora Post, No. 20 arrived at Boston at 12:45 on Monday. The Illinois Department went in two sections, the first section containing eleven coaches, bearing the Aurora Post, Col. Distin, the department commander, and the Quincy Post, the W. R. C. and the Original Decatur Post, the first ever organized in the United States, composed of 400 members. The second section arrived at Boston

at two o'clock in the afternoon, and one of the distinguished passengers was Mrs. John A. Logan. Mrs. Logan presented Col. Distin with a mammoth black eagle, mounted and stuffed, which she accompanied with a note stating that the eagle was typical of Logan's character. The eagle will be carried in the grand parade and has been named "Logan." The Illinois department has a fine new silk banner which will be displayed for the first time in the grand parade. It is a field of white silk. The central figure is the Grand Army Badge, elegantly wrought in colors. Upon either side of the badge are embroidered in gold the drum and spear and the sabre and anchor, representing respectively the army and navy. The valance bears the inscription, "Department." Below the badge is the word, "Illinois," and upon the three panels of the banner are the letters, "G. A. R." The mountings are all in keeping with the magnificent banner. The Illinois department will have front place in the parade by reason of seniority and as Aurora Post, No. 20 is to act as escort for the Illinois Department it will have the distinguished honor of being first in the grand parade, which will be witnessed by thousands of people. This will give Aurora an advertisement that could not be secured in any other manner and will make the name of the "Queen City of the Fox River Valley" known all over the east.

Saturday, August 16, 1890

When Gen. Alger assumed command of the G. A. R. there were forty-two departments with 6,711 posts and a membership in good standing of 382,689. The consolidated reports of the quarter ending June 30, 1890, was submitted at the Boston encampment, showing forty-three departments with the provisional department of Indian Territory and Oklahoma, and a membership in good standing of 427,931, being a net gain of two departments, 464 posts and 47,116 comrades. The total lost by death was 5,476; lost by honorable discharge, 1,774; by suspensions, 6,111; by delinquent reports, 12,406. The reports of the Quartermaster general gave a cash balance August 31, 1889, of \$1,333.49, receipts from sale of supplies, \$22,895.35, receipts from capita tax, \$7,611.06, Interest on United States bonds and deposits, \$325.21; Total to be accounted for, \$43,685.11. The expenditures had amounted to \$34,239.30, of which \$15,726.90 had been for the purchase of supplies and \$18,512.40 for incidentals, postage, salaries, etc. The assets were given as follows: Cash balance on hand, \$9,445.81; due by departments, \$852.11; United States Bonds, \$19,800; supplies, \$1,571.08; total \$31,669. The Grant monument fund was shown to have been increased by \$981.76 since the last encampment and to amount to \$11,114.55. The Inspector-General presented a report showing that the number of posts in the Grand Army on June 30, 1890 was 6928; number of comrades in good standing in posts inspected, to June 30, 351,244; number of posts inspected, 1,051. The total amount expended for charity, \$282,556; amount remaining in relief fund, \$475,350.

## THE VETERANS.

The Big Grand Army Encampment at Boston Closes.

### FURTHER ELECTION OF OFFICERS

What was done at the business meeting on Thursday

A Banquet at night

Mrs. Logan tendered a reception

At The End

Boston, Aug. 15. -- Aside from the session of the National encampment and the Woman's Relief Corps, the greater part of the G. A. R. celebration is over. The encampment was not called to order until nearly 11 o'clock Thursday. Past Commander-In-Chief Morrill presented the report of the pension committee, which was adopted, the encampment, by a unanimous rising vote expressed its thanks for the valuable report of the committee. The report details the work of its members in securing and aiding pension legislation in Congress, and its successful efforts in regard to the disability pension bill that became a law July, 27. "This law," says the report, "while not in the precise form of the bill presented by the committee, preserves the most important features thereof, and while not just what was asked, is the most liberal pension measure ever passed by any legislative body in the world, and will place upon the rolls all the survivors of the war whose conditions of health are not practically perfect."

The committees on changes in the rules and regulations presented its report and recommended various changes. A minority report in favor of adopting a resolution offered by the department of Massachusetts, providing the substitution of the old ritual for the present one was adopted by a large majority.

The committee on the address of the Commander-In-Chief presented its report, heartily commending the address. The committee offered a resolution that the council of administration prepare suitable testimonials of appreciation by the Grand Army of the zeal and earnest devotion of Commander-In-Chief Alger.

At the afternoon session resolutions were adopted favoring the removal of General Grant's remains from Riverside to Arlington, provided it was in accordance with Mrs. Grant's wishes; thanking Congress for passing and the President for approving pension laws; favoring the making of Ford's theatre in Washington a national museum for war mementoes, and favoring the exemption of veterans from examination in civil service.

The majority report of the committee on pensions was rejected, and the minority report, presented through Governor Hovey, of Indiana, was substituted. It affirms and endorses the resolution passed at the national encampment at Columbus and Milwaukee and the petitions of posts asked for the passing of a service pension bill. The vote on substitution was 174 to 160. R. F. Stevens, of Cynthiana, Ky., was elected Surgeon-In-Chief and Myron W. Reed, of Denver, Chaplain-In-Chief.

General Veazey named as his Adjutant-General Comrade Joseph H. Goulding, of Rutland, Vt. and John Taylor, of Philadelphia, Quartermaster-General. After the installation of the officers the encampment closed.

The principle events of the Grand Army week were concluded Thursday evening by a grand banquet in Mechanics Hall complimentary to the delegates to the encampment and invited guests, over 1,000 in all. Among the invited guests who occupied the seats of honor were General Sherman, Governor Brackett, Mayor Hart, Lieutenant - Governor Halle, General Sickles, Collector Beard and Hon. John D. Long, and Past Commanders-In-Chief Devons, of Boston; Merrill, of Lawrence; Kountz, of Toledo; Fairchild, of Wisconsin, and Warner, of Missouri.

Commander Veazey, when called upon, thanked the soldiers for their cordial greeting, not to him but to his office. He was glad that the organization was based on merit, not on rank, but in the spirit impelling a man to enter the army for the sake of liberty throughout the world.

After addresses by Generals Sherman, Sickles and Alger and Corporal Tanner, at 10:30 the assembly broke up with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

At the morning session of the Woman's Relief Corps the committee appointed to visit the encampment reported a cordial reception and brought greetings from the boys in blue. The chairman, Mrs. M. E. Knowles, read the following report: Number of members, 102,522; amount of relief fund, \$64,335; amount expended on relief since the organization in 1883, \$248,929; turned over to posts, \$126,168; grand total, \$375,098.

The greater part of the afternoon session was devoted to consideration of reports. Mrs. McHenry, of Iowa, was elected National president. Mrs. Elizabeth A. Turner, of Massachusetts, was unanimously elected senior-vice president. The committee on credentials reported 126 officers present and 420 members entitled to a vote. Past National president E. Florence Parker and Kate B. Sherwood called upon and presented General Sherman the souvenir badge of the Woman's Relief Corps encampment.

Mrs. John A. Logan was given one of the pleasantest receptions of the encampment week this afternoon. The host and hostess were Mr. and Mrs. D. Lothrop, and the scene, Hawthorne's old home at Concord. "The Wayside." Addresses were made by Congressman Long and S. F. Smith, author of "America," and the venerable Dr. Andrew H. Peabody, of Cambridge. The remainder of the program included the reading of several poems -- one by Mrs. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, "The Unseen Comrades," Harriet Prescott Spofford's "Decoration Day" and "Alter Fires," Mrs. Cheney's "Traditional Dr. Holmes," "Brother Jonathan's Lament for Sister Caroline," and one written by John G. Whittier, entitled "Our Country."

(PLYMOUTH-1890)

## CITY NEWS

Lou Alshuler has sent home a number of copies of the illustrated edition of the Boston Herald, giving an account of the national encampment of the G. A. R.

Wednesday, August 20, 1890

New York representatives in Congress will make a desperate effort to persuade the body to refuse to give its assent to the removal of General Grant's remains to Arlington cemetery at Washington. They will represent that New York has already raised \$150,000 with which to commence the monument and that the remainder of the funds necessary will be forthcoming when the pedestal is finished. Mrs. Grant has now given her consent to the removal of the body to Washington, and Congress will be derelict in its duty if it does not dispose of the matter quickly and without ceremony by making provision for the transfer of the remains of the great commander to the nation's capitol. If the request is granted it is proposed by the survivors of the Union army that the body shall be carried on the shoulders of detachments of the G. A. R. from New York to Washington.

Wednesday, August 27, 1890

## CITY NEWS

If pensions are granted to the 370,000 applicants under the new disability pension bill enacted by the present Congress a vast sum of money will be sent out to the various channels of trade in the country. It will find its way into the coffers of thousands of merchants which is better than having it locked up in the treasury vaults.

The sixth annual reunion of the Eastern Illinois Veterans association will be held at Kankakee September 2d, 3d and 4th. Gen. Alger, Gov. Fifer, Gen. Palmer, Ex-Gov. Oglesby, Gen. John C. Black and many other prominent persons are expected to be present.

Saturday, August 30, 1890

## CITY NEWS

The G. A. R. Post, of Aurora, will have a grand picnic at Burlington Park Saturday, Sept. 13.

The annual reunion of the 95th Regiment Illinois volunteers will be held at Harvard Sept. 4. The committee on arrangements have nearly completed their work and it is expected by everyone interested that the boys will have one of the best reunions they have had since the war.

The secretary has notified nearly two hundred members living outside of McHenry and Boone counties to come if possible. Reduced railroad rates have been secured.

The reunion of the 105th Regiment takes place at Naperville next Tuesday, Sept. 2. Comrades will be met in the morning by old soldiers of Naperville and march to Scott's hall, headed by the Naperville light guard, where all business will be transacted, and then adjourn for dinner, given at the home of the citizens. At half past two there will be a general meeting at Scott's hall to which the citizens of Naperville and vicinity are cordially invited. General Daniel Distin will deliver an address.

Wednesday, September 3, 1890      CITY NEWS

The 127th Illinois Infantry will have a reunion in Aurora next Saturday, Sept. 6. It will be the 21st annual gathering and will be at Memorial Hall. J. Frank Richmond, of Chicago, is president, and George H. Knott, of Elgin, secretary. Col. Frank S. Curtis, of St. Louis, will be in attendance, and desires to shake all the old boys by the hand. In the evening there will be an old fashioned love feast and camp-fire.

Wednesday, September 10, 1890      CITY NEWS

The reunion of the 127th Illinois regiment at Aurora Saturday was the largest attended of any reunion yet held by the veteran association of that regiment. Those present from Elgin were Dr. A. L. Clark, Col. Thomas Clark, Richard Parkin, Theo. Schroeder, Charles Guphill, Wm. Ahrens, N. Harreth and John Bodenger. The officers of last year were re-elected and are as follows: president, Capt. Frank Richmond, of Chicago, vice president, E. A. Cummings, of Chicago, secretary and treasurer, George H. Knott, of Elgin. Among those present was the Colonel of the regiment, Hon. Frank S. Curtis, of St. Louis, now a member of the Legislature. The next reunion will also be held at Aurora and will take place Sept. 5th, 1891.

#### ATTENTION, SONS OF VETERANS.

Regular meeting of Aurora Camp No. 21, Friday evening, Sept. 12, 1890. It is earnestly requested that there will be a full attendance, as specially important business is to be transacted and three recruits are to be mustered. Come in full uniform.

P. A. Durant, Captain.

## CITY NEWS

Gen. Distin, state commander of the G. A. R., with his staff, will attend the G. A. R. picnic at Burlington Park, Saturday, Sept. 13, next.

In speaking of the G. A. R. reunion at Malta, the Sycamore True Republican says: "The county camp fire was voted a success in every particular. Much enjoyed were the afternoon and evening exercises on Wednesday although the "big day" was on Thursday afternoon. A very large crowd was present and some excellent speeches were delivered. Congressman Hopkins was on the platform and acquitted himself in a manner that won him new friends and admirers among the boys who once wore the blue regardless of politics or party."

The sixth annual reunion of the Military Tract Soldiers and Sailors' Association will be held at Monmouth, Ill., September 24, 25 and 26. The program for reunion week will include eloquent and interesting addresses daily by noted speakers, including Gov. Fifer, Mrs. Gen. Logan, Gen. John C. Black, Hon. Asa Matthews, Gen. Greene B. Raum, Major McClaughry, Col. A. A. Smith, Gen. Palmer, Senators Cullom, Farwell, Congressman Perkins, Post, Gest and others. There will be camp-fires and displays of fireworks at night and a grand parade on Thursday, September 23, and the occasion will be of special interest to the veterans and the public generally. The camp will be designated "Camp Logan."

Wednesday, September 17, 1890      CITY NEWS

The Woman's Relief Corps of this city very pleasantly entertained the Farragut Relief Corps of Chicago, consisting of twenty members, at G. A. R. hall yesterday afternoon. Lunch was served and the occasion proved a very delightful one, both to the visitors and to the home corps.

At a meeting of Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R., held last evening, a resolution was passed to give a reception to Gen. John C. Black and Gen. Kilburn Knoz, governor of the Soldier's Home at Milwaukee, at the Grand Army Hall this Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock. The following were appointed a committee on reception and entertainment: Hon. Fred O. White, Prof. J. H. Freeman, J. F. Harral, D. B. Lincoln and Fred Thayer. A committee on lunch was appointed with Louis Sylvester as chairman.

(LINCOLN,SYLVESTER-1890)

Wednesday, September 24, 1890

### REUNION OF THE 36th REGIMENT.

The twenty-fourth annual reunion of the veteran regiment, the 36th Illinois volunteers, with the 4th Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, will be held in Aurora Thursday, Sept. 25 (to-morrow).

At 11 o'clock in the forenoon there will be a business meeting at the City Hall for election of officers, signing certificates, etc. The business meeting of the 4th Illinois Cavalry will be held at G. A. R. hall at the same hour. Dinner will be served in the basement of People's church at 12:30. Tickets 50 cents.

Following is the afternoon program:

Prayer	Rev. Thos. Galt
Pres. of the Day	Gen. M. R. M. Wallace
Song, "Hail Us Ye Free"	Quartette
Greeting	F. O. White
Response	M. R. M. Wallace
The Citizen Soldier	J. H. Freeman
Song, "Warrior Bold"	Quartette
Colored Troops	J. B. Cook
"Rock of Chickamauga"	Rev. J. H. Acton
Song, "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground"	
Scouting	Oscar Randall
Short talks by Col. Greusel and others.	
Song, "America"	

Music will be furnished by a quartette composed of E. C. Bowers, A. Bilger, E. Davis and J. Fauth, Jr.

The reception committee consists of J. F. Harral, W. F. Sylla, J. C. Taylor, Capt. G. L. Collins, Joseph Ingham, J. C. Dennison, and Gen. M. R. M. Wallace.

Committee on arrangements: Samuel Hitchcock, C. Zimmer, J. T. Wormley, M. M. Robbins, H. B. Douglas, G. A. Phillips, and M. E. Cornell.

The regiment and cavalry took part in the following battles: Pea Ridge, Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Kennesaw Mountain, Franklin, Nashville and others.  
(INVITATION, ENVELOPE-1890)

Saturday, September 27, 1890

### THE VETERANS.

#### DOINGS AT THE SOLDIERS AND SAILOR'S REUNION AT MONMOUTH, ILL.

Monmouth, Ill., Sept. 20. -- The second day of the military tract soldier's and sailor's reunion was intended to be the big day of the meeting, but rain early in the morning compelled

the postponement of the parade and many of the other events. Notwithstanding the rain every train coming into the city was crowded with ex-soldiers and their families.

The speaking in the afternoon took place in the park adjoining Camp Logan. Commander W. L. Distin called the meeting to order and Rev. Josiah Moore, chaplain of Illinois, led the prayer. Rev. John H. Lozier, late chaplain-in-chief, then led "Rally Round The Flag, Boys," which was sung by enthusiastic thousands. General John C. Black was then introduced and made a speech on the growth of the Nation. He was followed by Captain John M. Hyman, chaplain of the Quincy Soldier's Home. The afternoon closed with the reading of an original poem by J. P. Irvine. After the display of fire works in the evening thousands attended a monster camp fire, at which an address was made by D. P. L. McKinnl, medical director of the department of Illinois. W. L. Distin of Quincy, was elected commander for the ensuing year.

### CITY NEWS

There will be an informal camp-fire at G. A. R. post, memorial hall, to night (Saturday). Good speakers are expected and all G. A. R. men are invited.

### REUNION OF THE 36th REGIMENT AND THE 4th ILLINOIS CAVALRY.

The infantry and cavalry fought over again the old fight which they used to fight, in the basement of the People's church, last Thursday afternoon. It was a fight for forage and as the infantrymen outnumbered the cavalymen it is fair to presume that the former got the greater share of the provinder that had been provided for the attack by the ladies of the W. R. C. It was the occasion of the reunion of the 36th Illinois volunteers and the 4th Illinois volunteer cavalry. After business meetings held in the forenoon the comrades gathered at the People's church basement at 12:30 where a bountiful collation had been spread for them to which several hundred of the comrades did ample justice.

After the viands had been disposed of the president of the day, Gen. M. R. M. Wallace, rapped the boys to order and prayer was offered by Rev. Thos. Galt. Following this came the song, "Hail Us Ye Free," by a quartette composed of Messrs. Guild, Fauth, Davis and Bigler. Capt. Fred O. White welcomed the comrades in one of his characteristic speeches in which he recounted the experiences of the 36th Illinois and told what a hard time they had trying to get enough corn for the mules and were finally compelled to capture a "schooner" of corn from the 4th Iowa Cavalry. He related many humorous incidents of camp life and marches and his speech evoked much laughter.

General Wallace responded on behalf of the comrades by thanking them for their generous welcome and said it was not so much the speech of Capt. White that made them feel welcome as it was the smiling faces of the ladies and the splendid repast set before them. He said that the test of our regard for the soldier was our treatment of the ragged and dirty vagabond soldier. We reserve no special credit for respecting such substantial citizens as Capt. White, but

when it comes to the dissolute and the ragged soldier, then comes the supreme test of our affection for the boys who wore the blue.

Prof. J. H. Freeman then rose to respond to the toast, "The Citizen Soldier." He spoke eloquently of the record of the 36th regiment and the 4th cavalry and paid a tribute to the work of the W. R. C. and then introduced chaplain Moore, of the 95th Illinois, who he would detail as a "substitute" just as loyal men who could not go to the defense of the flag sent substitutes in '61.

Chaplain Moore proved to be a very witty and entertaining speaker. He started out by saying that if he was to be Prof. Freeman's "substitute," he would not march a step until he came down with the "dust." Prof Freeman thereupon proffered the Chaplain a pumpkin pie which was accepted in lieu of the "dust" amid roars of laughter from the comrades. He congratulated the ladies upon their splendid preparations for the battle of the knives and forks and congratulated the comrades upon the splendid and stupendous manner in which they had enveloped the eatables. He extolled the citizen soldier and declared they did not go to the front to fight for \$13 a month but they went because they were men. He grew pathetic as he pictured the parting of the soldier boys from their families as they left to join the army of Father Abraham. He compared the citizen soldier and the soldier of the regular army and said that he thanked God that there was a Grant, a Sherman and a Sheridan, there was also a Logan, a Mitchell and a Wallace. He closed with an eloquent tribute to the citizen soldier and hoped they would be true to the flag until the last reveille sounded and the boys fell in once more for glory.

After another song by the quartette, Dr. J. H. Acton responded to the toast, "The Rock of Chickamauga." He prefaced his speech with the remark that all soldiers have their pet generals who were their "ideals" in all the essential elements of military prowess and bravery. The word "Chickamauga" is of Indian derivation and is the name of a stream about three miles north of Chattanooga. The details of the battle of Chickamauga were not accurately disclosed to historians and there was yet great uncertainty about the movements of Rosecrans, in that battle. It was known that General George H. Thomas had stood in the breach between the rebels and the retreating army of Rosecrans for five mortal hours and fought desperately until the darkness came to his relief and had thus been called the "Rock of Chickamauga." It is a mistake to say that Thomas stood in the breach alone, he had a part of three corps, his own and two others. He regarded General Thomas as the greatest general of the rebellion. He had been in the U. S. Army 30 years and was thoroughly skilled in military science having passed through all the grades of official rank to that of Major General. He then traced Thomas' campaign around Nashville, Bowling Green, Corinth, Chattanooga, Perryville, on up to the battle of Chickamauga. Gen. G. H. Thomas often differed from his commanding officers but he was always right and he never lost a battle. Thomas was sent back after the battle of Chickamauga to Nashville and demolished Hood's army. In response to a telegram from Grant telling him to "hold Chattanooga at any cost" he replied "we will hold the town until we starve." While he was holding the town the soldiers lived on corn and 3,000 mules died of starvation. The speaker then said he desired to correct a mistake in history. The statement had been made that Grant came up and relieved Rosecrans. This is not true. Gen. Thomas took the place of Rosecrans in charge of the army of the Cumberland. The whole plan of the battle of Lookout Mountain and Mission Ridge was the product of General Thomas' brain. The speaker concluded his eulogy by saying it was one of the proudest memories of his life that he had followed the brave and gallant Thomas for three long

years and that he would always be proud of the fact that he fought with him at Chickamauga. He said he would always regard Gen. Thomas not only as the "Rock of Chickamauga" but as the "Rock of the American Army." Dr. Acton avers that had it not been for Gen. Thomas he would not have had the song of "Sherman's March to the Sea" but instead it would have been Hood's march to Cincinnati.

After a few farewell words by Gen. Wallace the reunion ended with the singing of "America."

The 36th Illinois went to the front with 1200 men. There were ninety-three of them who signed their names to the register on Thursday.

The officers of the 36th elected are H. B. Douglas, president; J. C. Taylor, of Sandwich, vice president; J. M. Kennedy, secretary and treasurer. The place selected for the next reunion is Yorkville.

The 4th Cavalry elected Gen. M. R. M. Wallace president; George A. Phillips, of Earlville, secretary and treasurer.

Among the notable characters who attended the reunion was T. J. Robinson, of Des Moines, Iowa, sometimes called "Three fingered Jack." He rode in the 4th Cavalry by the side of Matt Kennedy all through the war and bunked with him many times. It was their first meeting since they were mustered out.

In this connection it is interesting to note that Delos Hawkins, of this city, when he was a "Q" engineer, hauled the funeral train bearing the body of Gen. Geo. H. Thomas from Ottumwa, Iowa to Chicago, and Matt Kennedy, who was also a "Q" conductor, hauled the body from Chicago to Riverside, where it was received by Sherman and other Union Generals.

Wednesday, October 1, 1890

CITY NEWS

One of the noticeable things about the recent Rock River Conference was the many Grand Army buttons that were worn in the lapels of the preachers in attendance. It seemed as though about every other preacher in the conference wore one of those buttons. There are about forty G. A. R. men in the conference and on Monday night they met to organize a "Rock River Conference Association of Army Veterans." A committee on organization was appointed to consider the matter.

Saturday, October 11, 1890

CITY NEWS

The members of the Woman's Relief Corps, of this city, have received an invitation to attend the next regular meeting of the Farragut Corps, in Chicago, a week from next Tuesday. A number of the ladies will accept the invitation.

Wednesday, October 29, 1890

A G. A. R. APPOINTMENT.

Boston, Oct. 28 -- Commander-In-Chief W. G. Veazey, G. A. R., in general orders No. 4, announces the appointment as Judge Advocate General of Comrade William Lochren, of Minneapolis, Minn.

Saturday, November 8, 1890

ATTENTION, OHIO SOLDIERS !

The annual reunion of the "Ohio Veterans Association of Illinois" will be held at Springfield Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 2 and 3. Reduced railroad and hotel rates have been secured. Over 3,000 soldiers who served in Ohio Regiments and now residing in Illinois constitute the membership of this organization, and it is desired that every Ohio soldier should send his name, company and regiment to the secretary before this reunion that a complete roster of the Ohio veterans in Illinois may be published. Let every Ohio soldier attend this reunion, and help to strengthen those kind and fraternal feelings which should bind us together as comrades of the great state of Ohio.

O. H. Oldboyd, Sec. and Treas.

Wednesday, November 12, 1890

WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

Ottawa to the front. Seth C. Earl, Post No. 156, G. A. R., no longer a bachelor:

Mrs. Clara W. Harral and Mrs. A. Lizzie Hubbard, of Aurora, organized a Woman's Relief Corps on Monday afternoon, Nov. 10, with a membership of some twenty-five charter members. The Corps has a bright prospect and under the leadership of its present efficient officers we predict for it a prosperous and useful future. We bespeak for Mrs. Harral and Hubbard as being two competent and efficient ladies, who understand their business as regards the organization of Relief Corps, and while in our city made many warm friends, and a visit from them any time would be welcomed and appreciated for past services, etc. Comrade.

## ILLINOIS SOLDIER'S HOME.

Its Overcrowded Conditions to be Relieved by an Addition.

Quincy, Ill., Nov. 11. -- The trustees of the Illinois Soldier's and Sailor's Home have issued a circular announcing that in consequence of the crowded conditions of the home it would be impossible to admit new members until additional accommodations are provided. There are now 1,230 men on the roll, of whom 923 are present and furloughed men are fast coming in. After a few more are admitted the entire limit of accommodations will be reached. Applicants are therefore notified that their names will be registered in the order of a receipt of application and approval of the same, and when there is room notice to report will be sent to each individual in the order of his registration.

Wednesday, November 26, 1890      CITY NEWS

Aurora Camp No. 21, Sons of Veterans, is preparing a treat for lovers of good music, and will announce particulars in a few days. No finer entertainment will be presented in Aurora during the winter.

Wednesday, December 3, 1890      CITY NEWS

The annual election of officers of the W. R. C., was held yesterday and resulted as follows: Mrs. J. H. Hubbard, President; Mrs. C. Zimmers, Senior Vice; Mrs. W. H. Stebbins, Junior Vice; Mrs. F. Covalt, Chaplain; Mrs. N. J. Thomas, Conductor; Mrs. W. S. Johnson, Guard.

At the regular meeting of Aurora Post, No. 20, at G. A. R. hall last night the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: commander, F. L. Thayer; senior vice commander, W. H. Watson; junior vice commander, Louis Sylvester; quartermaster, J. O. Raymond; surgeon, Dr. Nerris; chaplain, H. B. Douglas; officer of the day, Sam Hichcock; officer of the guard, E. C. Strossman; delegates to the state encampment; Fred O. White, D. B. Lincoln, W. H. Watson, J. H. Hubbard and Frank H. Moore. Alternates, H. H. Evans, E. A. Sanders, C. B. Colwell, Louis Sylvester and F. L. Wells.

Aurora Camp, No. 21, Sons of Veterans will present a splendid entertainment at the People's church, Wednesday evening of next week, December 10, 1890. The noted Columbia Male Quartette, of Chicago, will give one of its famous concerts, assisted by Will L. Bush,

humorist and monologue artist, whom Rev. F. M. Bristol, the well known Chicago divine, characterizes as the "greatest laugh provoker he ever heard." The proceeds of the concert will be applied on the Camp's uniform fund. The repertoire of the quartette contains the best musical compositions adapted to male voices, embracing both sacred and popular aires. They have never failed to delight an audience. Mr. Bush will give impersonations, laughable sketches, musical imitations, etc., and present alone a show worth the price of admission. Admission to the concert 50 cents, no extra charge for reserved seats, which can be had at Schicklers book store, 28 South Broadway.

Wednesday, December 10, 1890      CITY NEWS

Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R. has 265 members, practically owns its hall, and has \$2,000 in the treasury for charity and general purposes.

Wednesday, December 31, 1890      CITY NEWS

Major Sam Sherer, of the Illinois Soldier's and Sailor's Home at Quincy, remembered his Aurora friends with programs of the excellent Christmas entertainment given for the soldiers on Christmas day at the home. The programs are neat and tasty and reflect credit upon the worthy Superintendent, R. G. Rowland. There are now 1,000 inmates in the Home.

**1891** found the Illinois Department Encampment of the G. A. R. at Decatur, (home of the first post) on April 9th. W. L. Distin would turn over the command to Horace S. Clark, of Mattoon. Arguably, this would mark the pinnacle of veteran participation in Illinois. 620 posts comprised of 32,984 comrades in good standing made up the Department. As deaths began to out numbered the induction of new comrades, it was fortunate that pension legislation had been accomplished on the national level. The national G. A. R. Encampment was held in Detroit, Michigan on August 5th. John A. Palmer, of New York, would replace Wheelock C. Veazy as Commander-In-Chief. National membership had peaked in 1890, and now the decent began on a National scale. 399,880 comrades remained. Aurora Post, No. 20 membership was still on the increase, however. Beginning the year with 265 comrades, it still had three years to reach it's peak of 290 in 1893. This year, Frank L. Thayer would lead the post as Commander. The 36th Illinois Volunteer Infantry would hold their 25th reunion in Yorkville on September 24th. H. B. Douglas presided over the event as president. This year the reunion would be held in conjunction with the reunion of the 89th Illinois Infantry, the Railroad Regiment. The Silver Anniversary of the G. A. R. would be celebrated across the country. How fitting the organization was enjoying the fruits of its hard labor.

Wednesday, January 7, 1891

CITY NEWS

The regular meeting of the W. R. C. was held in G. A. R. Hall yesterday afternoon when the regular installation of the new officers was held. The following officers were installed: president, Mrs. Lizzie Hubbard; senior vice-president, Mrs. Emma Zimmers; junior vice-president, Mrs. Maria Stebbins; secretary, Mrs. Myra Stolp; assistant secretary, Mrs. Florence V. Poole; treasurer, Miss. Libbie Roberts; chaplain, Mrs. Frances Covalt; conductor, Miss. Libbie Thomas; guard, Mrs. Rose Johnson; assistant conductor, Mrs. Miller Phillips; assistant guard, Mrs. Emma Hurd. Delegates to State Convention, Mrs. Alice Nichols and Mrs. Florence V. Poole, alternates, Mrs. Jennie A. Walker and Mrs. Maria Stebbins.

#### GENERAL VEAZEY ANNOUNCES HIS STAFF

Boston, Jan. 6. -- In general orders Commander-In-Chief Veazey of the Grand Army of the Republic announces the appointment of aids-de-camp and his staff: Charles Baker, of Belfast, Me., and Frank G. Noyes, of Nashua, are appointed Assistants Inspector-General, and Hon. George A. Murden, of Lowell, a member of the committee on memorial hall, Decatur, Ill. The pension committee consists of R. W. Blue, Kansas; Warner Miller, New York; Alvin P. Hercy, Indiana; Seldon Conner, Maine, and L. T. Dickinson, Illinois.

Saturday, January 10, 1891

RESOLUTIONS OF THE G. A. R.

The following resolutions were adopted at a recent meeting of Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R.

Whereas at the recent meeting of the State Teachers Association, the Rev. Mr. Blanchard, of Wheaton, saw fit to attack the Grand Army of the Republic in a manner unbecoming a gentleman and loyal citizen of this republic and

Whereas our worthy Comrade Post Commander J. H. Freeman, like a brave and true soldier then and there resented the insult offered in a manner creditable alike to him and to this order therefore be it

Resolved; That while we do not care to express our opinion of Mr. Blanchard we do wish to express our approval of the manly action of Comrade Freeman and we hereby tender to him a hearty and unanimous vote of thanks for the timely and appropriate rebuke which he administered.

Wednesday, January 14, 1891            CITY NEWS

The new officers of Aurora Post, G. A. R are: Commander, F. L. Thayer; W. H. Watson, S. V. C.; L. Sylvester, J. V. C.; Sam. Hitchcock, officer of the day; H. B. Douglas, chaplain; J. O. Raymond, Q. M.; J. H. Hubbard, adjutant. Besides paying out a large sum for relief during the year and expenses for the post to the encampment at Boston the post has a balance in the treasury of over \$2,200.

Wednesday, January 28, 1891            CITY NEWS

The Woman's Relief Corps held a very pleasant supper and social in G. A. R. hall last evening. After supper had been served a short literary program was rendered. A good deal of merriment was caused by the reading and responding to conundrums which had been prepared on slips of paper and passed among the audience.

Saturday, January 31, 1891            CITY NEWS

Hear the sweet tones of Miss. Lottie Ferguson's violin at G. A. R. hall, Thursday evening Feb. 5.

Another splendid entertainment at G. A. R hall Thursday evening, Feb. 5, given by the Sons of Veterans.

For 15 cents you can listen to and enjoy a fine entertainment at G. A. R. hall, Feb. 5, given by Aurora Camp, No. 21, Sons of Veterans.

The members of Aurora Camp No. 21, Sons of Veterans, will give another of their pleasant entertainments at G. A. R. hall, Thursday evening, Feb. 5. Fine music, recitations, a short and laughable farce, and other numbers, will constitute the program. Admission 15 cents. The boys have the reputation of furnishing interesting entertainments, and this one will be fully up to their excellent standard.

S. S. Dennison died at his home number 288 South Lake street Wednesday, January 28th, aged 54. The funeral was held yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Mr. Dennison was formerly a farmer but had of late years followed the carpenter's trade in Aurora where he was universally liked and respected by all who knew him. Mr. Dennison was a soldier and served through the late war as a member of company H, of the 124th Illinois Infantry and made an honorable record. He leaves a wife and five children to mourn his loss. Mrs. Dennison is a daughter of the late Alderman Lester Gray. The funeral was held yesterday afternoon under the auspices of Aurora Post, G. A. R.

Wednesday, February 11, 1891

#### RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

At the last regular meeting of Aurora Post, No. 20, the following resolutions were read and adopted:

Headquarters of Aurora Post 20, G. A. R., Department of Illinois.

Aurora, Ill. Feb. 5, 1891

Whereas, The Divine Commander has in his wisdom seen fit to call our late Comrade, Solomon S. Dennison, from the fields of Earth to the camping grounds of eternity, therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of Comrade Dennison, the country has lost one who stood firm and true in its defense, during the dark hours of war, and a loyal citizen in times of peace, and that this Post has lost an esteemed member whose presence we shall miss when in Post room and at social gatherings we assemble.

Resolved, That we, his late comrades tender our heartfelt sympathy to his bereaved family and friends, commending them to the tender mercies of Him who doeth all things well.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be furnished the family and the press of the city.

Chas. H. Snedeker,  
A. P. Hatch,  
J. H. Blackmore, Committee.  
J. H. Hubbard, Adjutant.

Wednesday, February 18, 1891

SHERMAN'S DEATH.  
THE SORROW OF THE NATION FITLY EXPRESSED IN THE HOUSE  
APPROPRIATE RESOLUTIONS PASSED.

Several Members make Eulogistic Addresses.  
Preparations for the Funeral in Progress at St. Louis.

CITY NEWS

Aurora Post, G. A. R. No. 20 held a meeting last night to take some action in regard to the death of General Sherman. The matter of commemorating his life and service to his country was left to a Memorial Committee of which Prof. Freeman is chairman. Dr. Acton of the People's church has given the Post an invitation to meet at his church next Sunday morning and hold memorial exercises. If this invitation is accepted, Dr. Acton, who was in the Army of the Cumberland, commanded by Gen. Sherman, will deliver the memorial address.

Saturday, February 21, 1891                      CITY NEWS

Next Sunday evening at the Park Place Baptist church Rev. F. Nelson Glover the pastor, will preach on the subject "America for Americans." Members of the G. A. R., Sons of Veterans, Relief Corps, Ladies of the G. A. R., I. N. G., and all patriotic American citizens should be interested in this subject and we bespeak a large congregation for Rev. Glover on this occasion.

The W. R. C. will hold an apron and necktie sociable in G. A. R. Hall on Tuesday evening, Feb. 24.

## ATTENTION, SONS OF VETERANS !

Members of Aurora Camp No. 21 are requested to meet at G. A. R. hall Sunday evening, Feb. 22, at 6 o'clock sharp, in uniform, for the purpose of attending services at the Park Place Baptist church, by invitation of the pastor. On the following Sunday, March 1, 1891, they will meet at 1:45 p.m. ready to join in memorial services at the rink in honor of the late General W. T. Sherman. Let all be present on both these occasions. Visiting brothers are also invited.

P. A. Durant, Captain

## THE GRAND ARMY IT WILL BE TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OLD IN APRIL

The Organization of the Order  
Its Early Struggles and Subsequent Marvelous Success  
The Woman's Relief Corps and Its Works.

The approaching celebration of the silver anniversary of the order has awakened a rare degree of interest and curiosity concerning the history and aims of the Grand Army of the Republic. This is perhaps natural. Around it cluster many sacred historic traditions: in its ranks are found the most eminent men in American Military history. Grant and Logan, Sherman and Hancock are on the muster rolls, and beneath the men in the various cemeteries of the land are the many heroes who were enrolled in the mystic order whose motto is "Friendship, Charity and Loyalty." The order has now attained such proportions and exercises such a potent social influence that a brief sketch of its history, fundamental principles and present condition may be of interest.

During, and at the close of the war, many associations were organized by the men who were comrades in arms and closely allied in the fellowship of suffering privation and danger on the tented field. Most of the organizations proved ephemeral and survived but a few years after the war ended.

None of them seemed to possess the elements of stability, and when that glorious pageant of 150,000 citizen soldiers, the survivors of a glorious army, marched in review at Washington in May, 1865, the hour for final parting came the sacred bond of comradeship cemented in the line of battle began to show itself and as the war worn soldiers shook hands, many of them with tear smeared eyes, the wish nearest to the heart was that an organization should be formed to preserve the friendships and memories of the battlefields, and to provide for mutual assistance in the battle of life upon which every soldier was then entering anew. It was then that a plan for such an organization began to emerge.

The men in whose ability, loyalty and perseverance the Grand Army credited for its existence and creation were Benjamin Franklin Stephenson and Rev. W. Y. Rutledge, both of Illinois. Comrade Stephenson was born in Wayne County, Ill. in 1822. His early manhood was spent in Sangamon County. He entered the army in 1861 and served three years. During

Sherman's campaign in 1864 he met Comrade Rutledge, who was serving as chaplain in the same army corps. Those two comrades conceived and discussed plans on the march and when in bivouac for the formation of a permanent society to preserve the friendships of war and provide mutual aid in time of peace.

After the close of their army service these two comrades continued to correspond on the subject of an army organization. They finally met by appointment in Springfield, Illinois in March 1866 and arranged a ritual. Various names were suggested for the new society, but finally the "Grand Army of the Republic" was selected as the most appropriate and expressive. It was they decided to print the ritual and Captain John S. Phelps, of the Thirty-second Illinois Infantry, at the suggestion of Governor Oglesby, was sent to Decatur to supervise the printing. While there Captain Phelps discussed the proposed organization with several comrades, and the result was that an application was formally made to Dr. Stephenson for a charter to form a post, and April 6, 1866, the application was granted, and Decatur Post No. 1, of the Grand Army was organized. There were twelve names on the charter list and the prospects for a powerful and widely extended organization of war veterans were not very bright, to say the least. Nor did it thrive or prosper for many years after its organization. This was partly due to the fact that the benevolent aims and purposes of the order were misunderstood. It was by many regarded as a mere political organization. But during the past ten years this erroneous impression has been removed and the true aims and principles of the order are becoming better understood. It is now being recognized as a great benevolent organization, the purpose of which is the preservation of the fraternal feelings which have bound together the comrades in arms of many battles.

That the Grand Army has fulfilled this feature of its mission in an eminent degree few will deny. In ministering to the sick and disabled, in closing tenderly the eyes of the dying, and in providing decent burial for the dead, the order is doing a great and noble work. But its benevolence extends far beyond this in providing for the fatherless and the widow in distress. It has expended many millions. The report of the Adjutant General for the fiscal year show that \$221,556 was expended for the relief of comrades, ex-soldiers and their families, and that nearly 29,000 veterans or their families were thus relieved. The total amount expended for such relief from July 1871 to July 1, 1890 amounts to the enormous sum of \$1,987,531 and this does not include any private donations for relief made by members of the posts. Besides homes for the aged and disabled and asylums and educational institutions for soldier's orphans are maintained in nearly every State in the Union at the expense of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The growth of the order during the past ten years has been marvelous. It has out grown in less than twenty-five years every other fraternal and benevolent order in the country except the Masons and Odd-Fellows, and if its present rate of growth continues it will out number any other secrete order in the world in less than five years. The death rate will no doubt be greater hereafter, but as there are yet nearly 800,000 veterans of the Union army that have never been mustered into any of the posts it is safe to say that the ratio of increase of membership will be as great during the next five years as it has been during the past five, and this would put the Grand Army in the lead of any other fraternal order, in point of membership.

A sketch of the Grand Army and its work would hardly be complete without a brief reference to the Woman's Relief Corps, which is truly a hand maid of the order in all charitable undertakings.

This valuable auxiliary society was organized at Fitchburg, Mass. in April 1879. The want of such an organization had long been felt by the posts of the Grand Army.

Wednesday, February 21, 1891

#### MEMORIAL SERVICES.

Services in honor of the memory of General Sherman and Admiral Porter, will be held under the auspices of Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R.. at the Island Rink, Sunday afternoon, March 1, commencing at 3 o'clock.

#### PROGRAMME.

Music	
Prayer	Rev. E. H. Goff
Memorial Service	Aurora Post, No. 20
Report of Committee on Resolutions	Dr. Triplett, Chairman
Address	Rev. J. H. Acton
Address	Frank H. Thatcher, Esq.
Music	
Address	Hon. F. O. White
Address	Rev. A. W. Patten
Music	
Benediction	Rev. Brooks

Messrs. Acton and White will speak upon the life and services of General Sherman, and Messrs. Patten and Thatcher upon the character and services of Admiral Porter.

Music will be furnished by the First Baptist choir, consisting of Messrs. Fisk and McCollum, and Messrs Minkler and Knickerbocker.

A large number of the societies of the city, both civic and military have signified their intentions of attending the exercises. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to be present.

Per order of Comm.

Saturday, February 28, 1891

#### ATTENTION, SONS OF VETERANS !

Members of Aurora Camp, No. 21, S. V., are requested to meet in full uniform, except sabers, at G. A. R. hall, at 4:15 o'clock sharp, tomorrow (Sunday) afternoon, to unite with the Post 20, G. A. R., in memorial services at the rink in honor of General Sherman and Admiral Porter. A full attendance is desired.

P. A. Durant, Captain  
C. C. Quackenbush, First Sergeant

W. R. C. ATTENTION.

All members of Corps No. 10 are requested to meet at the dressing room at the rink, Sunday afternoon, March 1st at 2 p. m., to attend Memorial Services.

By order of President.

Wednesday, March 4, 1891

THE BLUE AND THE GRAY.

Plans for a Reunion of Federal and Confederate Soldiers During the World's Fair.

Monticello, Ill., March 4. -- The Confederate Veterans of Vicksburg, Miss. have sent to this city to an aide-de-camp of the Commander-In-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic plans for the proposed reunion of the Blue and the Gray at Chicago during the world's fair. The plan as outlined by Col. E. C. Carroll and Maj. Lamar Fountain, of the Confederate army, is to have a pavilion erected at Chicago to be called the Blue and the Gray for the old veterans of both armies in which the flags, swords, guns and other relics will be stored, the veterans to camp in tents furnished by the war department. The various states will be asked to furnish transportation for the old soldiers within their borders, and the government will be asked to furnish rations, the blue and the gray building to be built by all the states combined. The governors of the different states will appoint committees to carry out the programme. The reunion is expected to last from ten to thirty days. The confederates have written to the president asking his assistance to carry out their plans for the reunion, and the Southern senators and congressmen have also been called on to aid in the work.

Saturday, March 7, 1891

CITY NEWS

The W. R. C. will hold a social next Tuesday evening, March 10th, in the G. A. R. hall. Oyster supper 15 cents. Entire change of program.

A fine patriotic entertainment next Monday evening at the First M. E. church. It will be given in the audience room of the church and the G. A. R. will attend in a body. Come early and secure good seats.

AURORA POST NO. 20, G. A. R.

Attention Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R.: The comrades of Aurora Post are requested to meet at G. A. R. hall Monday evening, March 9th, at 7:15 for the purpose of attending the patriotic entertainment given by the Epworth League at the First M. E. church. By order of F. L. Thayer, Commander. J. H. Hubbard, Post Adjutant.

Wednesday, March 11, 1891                      CITY NEWS

The W. R. C. held a very pleasant social at the G. A. R. Hall last evening. Supper was served to over one hundred after which a pleasant literary and musical program was rendered.

The Sons of Veterans will hold their regular meeting at G. A. R. hall Friday evening, March 13. As there will be muster and probably numerous visitors, a full attendance in uniform, is earnestly requested.

Wednesday, March 18, 1891                      CITY NEWS

Comrade Freeman and senior vice-commander Harrall attended a grand muster and banquet of the G. A. R. at Ottawa last night.

Saturday, March 21, 1891                      CITY NEWS

The ladies of the W. R. C. will hold an old fashioned social with orange accompaniments on next Tuesday evening, in G. A. R. hall. A very pleasing program has been arranged and a prize will be offered to the handsomest gentleman of the G. A. R. and the handsomest lady of the W. R. C. present. Everyone is invited to attend.

Wednesday, March 25, 1891

Aurora Post G. A. R. is making elaborate preparations for the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization of the first G. A. R. Post in this country. The celebration will take place in the Rink on April 6th next. The program will include a history of the Aurora Post to be prepared by Comrade H. B. Douglas, also speeches by members of the post and by members of the city clergy. The pupils of the east and west side schools will have twenty minutes each for recitations and songs of a patriotic character. Every post in the United States will commemorate this anniversary by order of the Grand Commander, Gen. Veazey.

The ladies of the W. R. C. held a pleasing social and supper in G. A. R. hall last evening which was liberally patronized. A very pleasing musical and literary program was rendered at the close of which the prizes offered the handsomest member of the G. A. R. and lady of the W. R. C. were awarded and were captured by Commander F. L. Thayer and Mrs. A. P. Vaughn.

Speakers selected for the exercises commemorating the 25th anniversary of the organization of the first G. A. R. Post, to be held in the Rink, April 6th, are Hon. A. J. Hopkins and Rev. Thos. F. Leydon, of St. Mary's church. The committee on seats and platform consists of E. E. Hewitt, J. M. Bigger, M. J. Tarble, F. H. Hotz, H. C. Campbell; on decorations, S. Hitchcock, O. J. McCollum and A. C. Graves  
(BIGGER, CAMPBELL, McCOLLUM-1891)

Saturday, March 28, 1891

CITY NEWS

Baked beans, brown bread and other good things at G. A. R. hall next Tuesday evening, March 31.

New England supper at G. A. R. hall, Tuesday evening, March 31.

(On April 1st, 1891, the Beacon increased it's frequency to six days per week.)

Wednesday, April 1, 1891

MRS. JOHN A. LOGAN WILL ATTEND

The local executive committee which has charge of the arrangements for celebrating the silver anniversary celebration of the birth of the Grand Army of the Republic, April 6, at Decatur, announces that Mrs. John A. Logan and Gen. Lew Wallace will attend the celebration. The Department of Illinois, G. A. R., and the State Woman's Relief Corps will hold sessions at Decatur during the celebration. Elaborate preparations are being made for this celebration by the citizens of Decatur which city enjoys the distinction of having organized the first G. A. R. post in the United States.

## The Sons of Veterans Entertainment

The Sons of Veterans held a supper and entertainment in the G. A. R. hall last evening. The supper was first served after which the audience was entertained for an hour by the side splitting dialogue, "Regular Fix," which was presented by the following cast: Pliny A. Durant, Chas. Edwards, Clint Hagadone, Hugh Howard and Chas. Harkinson and Misses Blanche Gillett, Susie Weston, Nellie White and Lydia Howland. All did remarkably well.

Thursday, April 2, 1891

### THEY WILL CELEBRATE

Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Organization of the First G. A. R. Post.

Program of Aurora Post for the Silver Anniversary at the Island Rink, April 6.

The Grand Army Posts all over the country are making elaborate preparations for the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic on April 6th next. Illinois should lead in the observance for the fact that Illinois enjoys the distinction of having the first G. A. R. Post in the United States. The first G. A. R. Post was organized at Decatur, Ill., April 6th, 1866. In accordance with orders from Commander Veazley, every G. A. R. Post in the United States will commemorate the silver anniversary of this Patriotic Order.

Aurora Post No. 20 will hold exercises commemorative of the twenty-fifth anniversary at the Island Rink Monday evening April 6th. Besides the addresses by Congressman Hopkins and Rev. Thomas F. Leydon, and a history of Post No. 20, short exercises will be given by the pupils of the West and East Side High schools and by members of the Epworth League of the First M. E. church.

A cordial invitation is extended to the clergy, the press, the schools and the public generally to be present.

Monday, April 6, 1891

## THEY WORE THE BLUE

Grand Army Veterans to Rejoice at Decatur, Ill.

### A NOTABLE CELEBRATION TO OCCUR

Thousands Gathering to Observe the Silver Anniversary of the Organization of the First Post  
How the Great Society Was Founded

#### Minutes of the First Meeting

Decatur, Ill., April 6. - Little flags flutter above the thatches of the humblest homes in this brisk little city. Over the more pretentious ones there are clusters of the National Colors arranged in the most extravagant manner. There are arches over the principle streets on which are inscribed words of welcome. Everything which is prominent is arrayed in red, white and blue.

Today Decatur will receive the veterans who fought with Grant, Logan, Sheridan and Sherman. The occasion will be the silver anniversary of the organization of the grand army posts in the United States. It was baptized in Decatur twenty-five years ago. The hall where it came into existence is still here. It stands facing the public square just as it did on the day Benjamin F. Stephenson and his twelve comrades met there and completed what has since become the greatest organization of the kind under the sun. Of the thirteen men who assisted in the organization of this post, No. 1, but six survive. Stephenson is dead. M. F. Kanan is still living and is serving term as Mayor of this city. G. R. Steele is Treasurer of Macon County. J. T. Bishop is Comptroller of Bradford, Pa. C. Relbsame is a wholesale merchant in Bloomington, Ill. H. F. Sibley is a Physician in Decatur and J. L. Coltrin is a printer here. George Dunning, I. C. Pugh, J. H. Nale, J. W. Routh, Joseph Prior and A. Toland are dead.

The election of a Commander of the department of Illinois to succeed the present Commander, Dustin, will be one of the important business transaction of the meeting. The two names considered so far are Horace S. Clark, of Mattoon, and T. C. Fullerton, of Ottawa. The program for today as agreed upon is as follows.

Music- "America"

Reading of general order 15, and address of Commander in Chief Veazley.

Prayer by Dr. E. W. Moore.

Recitation, Miss Annie Sauvier Jones.

History of Post 1, by G. R. Steele.

History of Dunham post 141, by Norman Pringle.

Presentation to Dunham post of "Personal War Sketches" by D. S. Shellabarger.

Response by W. C. Johns.

Address- "The Grand Army of the Republic, and how to Perpetuate it's Memory,"

Gen. George A. Manden, of Massachusetts.

Presentation of Dunham Posts contribution to the National Memorial Hall by F. L. Hays.  
Recitation by Miss. Anna J. Jones.  
Address by Ex Gov. Oglesby.

Gov. Fifer and his staff will be here Wednesday morning. Mrs. John A. Logan will be here on the same day to give the Woman's Relief Corps her assistance. This Relief Corps consists of over 100 members. The committee are hard at work preparing for the receptions. The special trains have begun to arrive. The railroads report to the committees that they will unload not less than 40,000 people here during the day.

Maj. Stephenson formulated the grand army idea when he was a soldier on the field. When the war was over he submitted his plan to several comrades who did not think much of it at the time. He traveled about the state urging his notion on the old comrades, but found no encouragement. Such an organization meant expense and the soldiers had not recuperated from the shock of the war. Stephenson himself was as poor as a church mouse. He submitted his scheme to Richard J. Oglesby, then governor, John W. Snyder, Robert M. Woods, John A. Lightfoot, John S. Phelps and others of Springfield. Doubtless from each of these friends he received many suggestions that were incorporated in the plan.

In the spring of 1866 at the request of comrades J. W. Routh and M. F. Kanan Stephenson visited Decatur with his manuscript plans of organization, briefs for ritual, etc. and placed them in the hands of J. W. Routh, J. T. Bishop, M. F. Kanan and George H. Dunning, who revised the manuscript and formulated the original constitution, regulation and ritual of the order. This was a work of revision, not creation. To them are due many of the details of the work of the order. Versed as some of them were, in the work of secrete societies, they put in form the ritual that is so striking, impressive and beautiful. Fortunately there were in Decatur, two old soldiers- I. N. Coltraine and Joseph Prior, publishers of the Tribune. To these skilled printers were administered the obligations prescribed in the ritual and to them was entrusted the printing of several documents.

Next to the charter in interest are the minutes of the first assembly of old Post 1, which are as follows:

“At an informal meeting held April 6, 1866, for the purpose of organizing an encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, the following named persons were mustered by Maj. B. F. Stephenson and constituted charter members:

I. C. Pugh, J. W. Routh, J. H. Nale, G. H. Dunning, M. F. Kanan, I. N. Coltraine, G. R. Steele, John Prior, J. T. Bishop, H. F. Sibley, C. Relbsame, Aquilia Toland.

When upon motion the encampment entered into an election of officers with the following result:

Officers for the District; Brig. Gen. I. C. Pugh, Commander of District. Lieut. Col. J. H. Nale, District Quartermaster. J. W. Routh, District Adjutant. Officers for the post: M. F. Kanan, post Commander. G. H. Steele, post Adjutant. G. H. Dunning, post Quartermaster. Chris Relbsame, Officer of the Day. J. T. Bishop, Officer of the Guard. J. W. Routh, post Surgeon.

All of whom were duly mustered by Maj. Stephenson, who then declared the encampment duly organized and ready for the transaction of any business which might come before it, and signed it the post of honor as Decatur encampment No. 1.

On motion a committee of two was appointed to procure a suitable room for the encampment and report at next regular meeting.

On motion, Tuesday was decided upon as the night for regular meetings. On motion, adjourned to meet April 10, 1866.

M. F. Kanan, Post Commander  
George R. Steele, Post Adjutant.

Such was the birth of the Grand Army of the Republic. The records of Post No. 1 were lost for many years, and not until 1887 were they found, and then only in part. General order No. 1 was issued on the first of April, 1869, from Springfield, Ill. and the following officers were announced: Col. Jules C. Webber, aid de camp and chief of staff, and Col. John M. Snyder, quartermaster general, Canton, Ill.: Maj. Robert M. Woods, adjutant general, Joliet, Ill.; Capt. John A. Lightfoot, assistant adjutant general; Lieut. J. S. Phelps, aid de camp, Chicago.

The foregoing data in regard to the organization of the first Grand Army of the Republic post in this country is from a book which will be read at the meeting to-night at the Opera House in this city, after which a copy will be presented to each comrade present. A copy will also be given to each comrade in the United States on the same evening, as every post in the United States will hold memorial services in honor of the founder of the order.

Some time after the organization of Post No. 1 several posts in the country claimed the distinction of being the first in existence. Wisconsin made the claim at a National Encampment held in St. Louis. While the controversy was going on Adjutant Steele, of the post organized here, looked up its records and found them in an old trunk in a back room. He took the minutes to St. Louis, hired a tent, spread it on the court house square in that city, and hung out a banner to the effect that he had the minutes of the first Grand Army of the Republic post ever held in this country. The announcement attracted the attention of the national encampment and an investigation was held, the result of which was that the little post of Decatur got national recognition.

(DECATUR-1891)

PEORIA, Ill., April 6- The two Grand Army of the Republic posts of this city, the Woman's Relief Corps and the Sons of Veterans met in Rouse's hall Sunday night and celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Tuesday, April 7, 1891

**SILVER ANNIVERSARY**  
**AURORA POST CELEBRATES THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE G. A. R.**

A Red Letter Day For The Boys Who Wore The Blue  
Exercises at the Rink  
Patriotic Speeches by Congressman Hopkins and Rev. Thos. F. Leydon

Today is the silver jubilee of the battled scarred veterans who wore the blue and who carried the flag to victory. It is the twenty fifth anniversary of the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic. Twenty five years ago today the first Grand Army Post was organized by Major Benjamin F. Stephenson in the little town of Decatur, Ill.

Some years after the organization of the post several other posts in the country began to claim the distinction of being the first in existence. Wisconsin made the claim at a National Encampment held in St. Louis. While the controversy was going on, the records of the Decatur post were found in an old trunk in the back rooms in an old house in Decatur. Adjutant Steele, of Decatur, took the record to the encampment in St. Louis, hired a tent, pitched it in the Court House square, and hung out a banner announcing that he had the minutes of the first Grand Army post ever held in this country. The announcement attracted the attention of the National Encampment and an investigation was held, the result of which was that the little post of Decatur got National recognition, and from that time it was given to Illinois the honor of having organized the first G. A. R. Post in the United States.

The hall in which this post was organized is still standing in Decatur. It stands facing the public square as it did on the day Benjamin F. Stephenson and his twelve comrades met there and completed what has since become the greatest and grandest organization of its kind under the sun.

**EXERCISES AT THE RINK**

The rink began filling up at 7 o'clock and by 8 o'clock it was estimated that fully 2000 people were in the rink. Every portion of the rink was utilized and standing room was at a premium. The platform was handsomely draped with the National colors and the front seats were occupied by the veterans of Aurora Post and Sons of Veterans. The exercises were opened promptly at 8 o'clock with prayer by Rev. Delos Tompkins. Professor Freeman, chairman of the meeting, prefaced the program with a few appropriate remarks of a patriotic character in which he spoke of the wonderful growth of the G. A. R. and among other things said that on the 6th of last June there were 43 departments, 741 posts and 400,000 men in the G. A. R., each one of whom had made an honorable record in the war for the Union. After a patriotic song by the East Side pupils and an excellent recitation by Miss. Nettie Crawford, the general orders to the post were read by Adjutant J. H. Hubbard, the entire audience standing. At its conclusion, Professor Freeman introduced the first speaker of the evening, Honorable A. J. Hopkins.

(speech omitted)

After a solo and chorus by the West Side pupils, a splendidly written history of Aurora Post was read by Comrade H. B. Douglas, in which among other things he said there were only

17 of the charter members living. Twelve members were gained the first year. In 1889 the high water mark was reached when the post had 269 members, while at the present time the membership is 266. Twenty four comrades have joined the Grand Army on the other shore. The Post started with \$26 in the treasury and now has on hand \$2,147.44. They had also expended \$2,000 for charitable purposes besides paying funeral expenses for comrades and other incidentals. Aurora post is one of the most flourishing and best managed posts in Illinois.

After the song, "Hail Columbia," by the East Side pupils and a fine recitation entitled "Patriotism" by Miss. Minnie Hassett. The next speaker of the evening, Rev. Thos. F. Leydon of St. Mary's Church, was introduced and spoke.

(speech omitted)

The West Side pupils gave a very entertaining recitation in concert, the audience sang "America." Rev. Thos. Galt pronounced the benediction and the silver jubilee of the G. A. R. was ended.

Wednesday, April 8, 1891

#### LOCAL NEWS

Madames A. Page, A. Quinton, Jason Wallace and M. Hughes represent the Ladies of The G. A. R. of Aurora at the department encampment at Decatur, Ill. to-day.

#### THE VETERANS

Program of the G. A. R. Jubilee at Decatur, Ill.

Decatur, Ill., April 8. - The weather continues bright and pleasant for the veterans who are here to attend the silver anniversary encampment of the department of Illinois, Grand Army of the Republic. There are many soldiers present from Indiana, Ohio, Missouri and states farther away. The national council of administration had business sessions Tuesday. At night the regular meeting of Dunham Post, No. 141, was held. Recruits were mustered in and Gen. Veazey and others were present. It was a red letter session for the post. At the opera house Woman's Relief Corps No. 4 gave a reception at which Mrs. Sallie J. Steele delivered the address of welcome, which was responded to by Mrs. Delilah A. Leaverton, department president. Gov. Oglesby and Gen. Veazey made brief addresses.

## MARCHED ONCE MORE

### Grand Army Veterans on Parade at Decatur

A Gala Day in the Illinois Town.  
Thousands Throng It's Street and Participate in the Celebration  
Camp Fires and Speeches, Some More Official History

Tramp Tramp Tramp

Decatur, Ill., April 9. - Fifteen thousand veterans, Woman's Relief Corps, Sons of Veterans and sightseers thronged the streets of Decatur and crowded hotels and boarding houses Wednesday. It was the big day of the silver anniversary of the Grand Army of the Republic at the birth place of the order. The parade took place in the afternoon. There were 2,500 veterans in line, including Gen. W. G. Veazey, commander in chief and staff, Department Commander Distin and staff, Gov. Fifer and staff, the six surviving charter members of old Post 1, Chaplain Lozier, John M. Snyder, John S. Phelps and John A. Lightfoot of Bloomington, the first Assistant Adjutant General, age 77. There were visiting comrades present from Missouri, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Ohio departments.

Lusty cheering was heard along the gayly decorated streets, and as the brass and martial bands played army tunes the old soldiers acted as they did in 1865 when they came marching home.

All night there were two campfires, one in the pavilion tent where Commander Distin, R. J. Oglesby, Gen. Veazey, Gen. Marden, Chaplain Lozier, Gov. Fifer and others delivered addresses. The Woman's Relief Corps delegates had a campfire in the opera house.

Friday, April 10, 1891

## ILLINOIS VETERANS

### The Encampment at Decatur Gets Down to Business

Decatur, Ill., April 10. - Thursday was a day of active business for the department of Illinois, Grand Army of the Republic, and for the women of the state relief corps. The department met at the grand opera house, with every seat occupied. Commander Distin delivered his address, in which he strongly endorsed the building of the \$200,000 national memorial hall at Decatur, the Soldier's Home at Quincy, the Soldier's Orphan's Home at Normal and the proposed Illinois women's soldier's home. He recommended that permanent headquarters for the department officers be centrally located. The address gives the present membership of the department at 32,711; number of posts, 599; net gain in members, 528; gain in posts, 144; the amount expended for charity in 1888 was over \$16,000; in the last nine years, \$78,680.

The polls are open for the election of department officers. Maj. T. C. Fullerton, of Ottawa and Horace S. Clark, of Mattoon, are candidates for Department Commander, and L. H. Whitney, of Chicago; George R. Steele, of Decatur, and Ivory H. Pike, of Bloomington, for Senior Vice. The voting will continue until to-day noon. Rockford and Springfield are contesting for the next place of meeting.

The women of the relief corps presented the department a \$200 silver gavel set with diamonds. There is a very large attendance at the session of the state Woman's Relief Corps. Mrs. D. A. Leaverton presiding. There is war in the ranks of the side order known as the Ladies of the G. A. R. Mrs. C. E. Hirst, of Louisville, the national president of that order, is here. She has suspended the Department of Illinois for alleged insubordination, and Mrs. Ed Robey, of Chicago, president, is deposed. Mrs. Hirst formed the provisional department of Illinois under the National G. A. R., and officers were elected. Dr. Belle L. Reinholds, of Chicago, was chosen president.

Saturday, April 11, 1891

## ILLINOIS VETERANS

They Elect Horace Clark, of Mattoon, Their Department Commander

Decatur, Ill., April 11. - The vote for a state commander of the G. A. R. resulted in the election of Col. Horace Clark, of Mattoon, who received 547 votes against 399 cast for Maj. Thomas C. Fullerton, of Ottawa. Ivory H. Pike, of Bloomington, senior vice commander, S. G. Rendick, of Centralia, junior vice commander, W. J. Rutledge, of Decatur, chaplain, P. I. McKinnis, of Moline, medical director. The selection of the place for holding the encampment next year was decided in favor of Springfield.

The following delegates at large were chosen: R. L. Oglesby, Decatur, Robert M. Woods, Joliet, Smith D. Atkins, Freeport, J. H. Bennett, Chicago, C. H. Cassell, Quincy, J. T. Rinaker, Carlinville, Martin Conrad, Chicago, J. F. Harrall, Aurora, L. S. Lambert, Galesburg, C. E. St. Clair, Chicago, Horace Chapin, Springfield, A. D. Reade, Evanston, George Durfree, Decatur, John Wood, Cairo.

Mrs. Mary A. Bradley, of Decatur, Ill., has been chosen state president of the Woman's Relief Corps; Mrs. D. G. Spaulding, of Rockford, Ill., senior vice president. Mrs. Mary Ballinger, of Abraham Lincoln Corps of Chicago, junior vice president.

Horace S. Clark is a prominent attorney of Mattoon, has served his state in the state senate with distinction, is a fine presiding officer and a fluent speaker. He enlisted from the state of Ohio in 1861 in the seventy-third Ohio volunteer infantry and went with his regiment to Virginia, where he participated in a large number of the engagements in that department as well as in the south, to which the regiment was transferred after the battle of Gettysburg. The regiment, the seventy-third Ohio was in over twenty hard fought battles including the Second Bull Run where Clark was twice slightly wounded, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg

and the mid night charge at Lookout Valley with the thirty-third Massachusetts, which was pronounced by Gen. Grant in his report “as one of the most daring feats of arms of the war.”

#### LOCAL NEWS

Ladies of the W. R. C. will give a social and supper in G. A. R. hall Tuesday evening.

At the annual meeting of the Ladies of the G. A. R., held at Decatur, Mrs. Charles Page, of Aurora, was elected senior vice president and Mrs. Arthur Quinton, of Aurora, junior vice president, of the Department of Illinois.

Monday, April 13, 1891

#### LOCAL NEWS

J. F. Harrall, of this city, was elected a delegate at large to the next national encampment of the G. A. R., to represent the Department of Illinois.

The Ladies of the W. R. C. will give a social and supper in G. A. R. hall Tuesday evening.

Saturday, April 18, 1891

At the regular meeting of Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R. the following resolution was unanimously passed:

*Resolved.* That we extend to Honorable A. J. Hopkins and Rev. T. F. Leydon our hearty thanks for the eloquent and patriotic remarks, at the silver anniversary of our organization as an order and especially for the warm interest always manifested by them in the welfare of this post; also to Rev. Mr. Tompkins and the Rev. Mr. Galt for valuable services rendered; To Miss. Nettie Crawford and Miss. Minnie Hassett for the appropriate and interesting recitations with which they so skillfully entertained us; to the pupils of East and West Side High schools for their well selected music and patriotic recitations; to all others, and the public generally who contributed toward making our twenty-fifth anniversary occasion successful and profitable.

J. H. Hubbard, Post Adjutant

Wednesday, April 22, 1891

LOCAL NEWS

Aurora Post, G. A. R., has purchased a very fine picture of Gen. Sherman for the G. A. R. hall, which has been placed in Case & Uehren's hardware store for exhibition.

Wednesday, April 29, 1891

The Egg Festival

The Ladies Relief Corps gave a very pleasant sociable and supper last evening in the G. A. R. hall. The evening was passed with games, music, etc. and a fine supper was served at which eggs were served in every style. All present spent a pleasant evening.

Saturday, May 2, 1891

Sons of Veterans, Attention.

All members of Aurora Camp, No. 21, are requested to meet for drill at 8 o'clock Saturday evening, May 2, at G. A. R. hall, preparatory to properly observing Memorial Day. Visiting brothers cordially invited.

P. A. Durant, Chaplain

Tuesday, May 5, 1891

Post 20, G. A. R.

Regular meeting this Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock. By order of  
F. L. Thayer, Commanding Post.  
J. H. Hubbard, Adjutant.

Friday, May 8, 1891

Attention S. of V.

Regular meeting of Aurora Camp, No. 21, at G. A. R. hall this Friday evening. All members are requested to be present. Visiting brothers welcome.

Saturday, May 9, 1891

### Death of James Goodale

James Goodale died last night at his home on Hartford Ave. of paralysis. Mr. Goodale was a member of the old Thirteenth Illinois Regiment of Volunteers. His funeral will be conducted by the Aurora Post G. A. R.

The members of Aurora Post G. A. R. are requested to meet at their hall Sunday morning at 9:30 o'clock to attend the funeral in a body.

### Attention Post 20 G. A. R.

Comrades will assemble at Post Headquarters, Sunday morning May 10, at 9:30 A.M. in uniform with white gloves, to attend a Comrade's funeral.

By order of F. L. Thayer, Comd'g Post.

J. H. Hubbard, Adj't.

Tuesday, May 12, 1891

### LOCAL NEWS

The G. A. R. will attend the War Concert Wednesday at the Claim Street Baptist church. Admission 10c.

Wednesday, May 13, 1891

### LOCAL NEWS

A patriotic supper at the May Festival at the Claim street church Wednesday evening. The G. A. R. especially invited. Supper 10c.

Thursday, May 14, 1891

### DECORATION DAY SPEAKERS

The committee on speakers appointed by the G. A. R., of which Prof. Freeman is chairman, after considerable correspondence, has succeeded in securing Senator George E. Bacon, of this state, to deliver the oration. Mr. Bacon is unknown in these parts, but it is said that he is an eloquent speaker and will no doubt give satisfaction. An effort was made to secure Governor Fifer, but he had already been engaged.

Dr. J. H. Acton, of People's church, has been secured to deliver the Memorial address in Bristol.

## LOCAL NEWS

The members of the G. A. R. and Sons of Veterans, have accepted an invitation from Rev. Glover to attend the services at the Park Place Baptist church Decoration Day.

Monday, May 18, 1891

### G. A. R. VETERANS MUST CONTRIBUTE

Decatur, Ill., May 18. - A national order has been issued by Gen. Veazey, Commander in Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, calling on the Grand Army veterans to promptly contribute to the fund necessary to erect the national memorial hall at Decatur, where the order had its birth April 6, 1866.

Tuesday, May 19, 1891

### SONS OF VETERANS, ATTENTION!

A special meeting of Aurora Camp, No. 21, for the transaction of general business, is hereby called for Thursday evening, May 21, and thus gives officers and members an opportunity to go to Chicago Friday evening and attend a reception in honor of Past Commander McCrills. A full attendance is desired.

Sunday morning, May 24, will meet at G. A. R. hall at 9:15 o'clock, in uniform, to attend memorial services at the Park Place Baptist church, in company with Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R. Visiting brothers always welcome.

P. A. Durant, Captain.

Wednesday, May 20, 1891

### ATTENTION G. A. R.

Aurora's popular orator, Rev. F. Nelson Glover, will deliver the "Memorial Sermon" on May 24th at 10:30 a.m. in the Park Place Baptist church. All members of Aurora Post No. 20, and the Ladies of the Grand Army, and the Woman's Relief Corps are invited. Public also welcome.

Monday, May 25, 1891

## MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES

Rev. F. Nelson Glover, of the Park Place Baptist and  
Dr. M. E. Cady Deliver Memorial Day Sermons.

Yesterday, the Sunday preceding Decoration Day, was Memorial Day in the churches. Rev. F. Nelson Clover, of Park Place Baptist church, had been invited by the Aurora Post G. A. R., to deliver a Memorial Day sermon, and as a consequence the church was filled to its greatest capacity at the morning services, and quite a large number were unable to gain attendance. The announcement was sufficient to attract 150 members of the G. A. R. post in uniform which is the largest number of veterans that have come together from this post for some time past. The Sons of Veterans also attended in a body in full uniform. Large delegations from the Ladies of the G. A. R., and Woman's Relief Corps were also present.

The church was beautifully decorated with choice flowers, potted plants and there was a generous display of the National Colors. The sermon was felicitous in expression and patriotic in sentiment.

Mr. Glover advocates the inculcation of American principles into the earliest training of our children and claims that the immigrant should also be made to understand American principles, immediately after his arrival in this country, and at once give allegiance to the Constitution of the U. S. or be sent back where he come from. Several times Mr. Glover's enthusiasm called forth suppressed murmurs of approval from the audience. For one of his illustrations, Mr. Glover used the graphic description given in Saturday's *Beacon*, of Col. Ellsworth, in the First Zouave Regiment, whose tragic death at Alexandria led many to respond to President Lincoln's first call for troops.

A preacher who thus keeps abreast of the times and hold of the truth, will, as Mr. Glover is doing, rapidly obtain front rank as an orator and citizen.

## MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

Decoration of Soldiers Graves  
Order of Procession  
Line of March  
List Committees, Etc.

## DECORATION OF GRAVES

At 10 a.m., May 30th, a detachment of Aurora Post, No. 20, will be sent to the Spring Lake and Mt. Olivet cemeteries, under command of W. H. Watson, S.V.C., to decorate the graves; also a detachment under Louis Sylvester, J.V.C., to the West Aurora cemetery, and others under S. Hitchcock, O.D. and Comrade V. N. Beher to Aurora and German Catholic cemeteries and East and West Montgomery cemeteries.

All comrades and others who wish to go with the detachments to decorate the graves are requested to meet at G. A. R. hall at 10 o'clock.

Pupils from the East Side High school will furnish music at Spring Lake, and a quartette from the West Side High school at the West Aurora cemetery.

In connection with the decoration of graves at Spring Lake, a tree will be dedicated to the memory of Gen. John A. Logan. Remarks appropriate to tree planting will be made by Commander F. L. Thayer.

Pastors who will officiate at the several cemeteries are: Spring Lake, Rev. A. W. Patten, Root street, Rev. Nelson Glover, West Aurora, Rev. J. O. Haarvig, Mt. Olivet and West Side Catholic, Rev. Thos. Leydon, Montgomery, Rev. Deloss Thompkins.

#### THE PROCESSION

A procession will be formed at one o'clock in front of the city hall at which time and place all persons and organizations wishing to join therein are requested to meet. The procession will move at 1:30 in the following order:

Chief Marshall

City Marshall and Police

Military Band

Aurora Zouaves, A. Hurd, Capt.

Hibernian Rifles, A. J. Feeney, Captain

Deutscher Krieger Verein, Charles Tagee, Capt.

Sons of Veterans, Pliny A. Durant, Capt.

Aurora Post, No. 20, and ex-soldiers and sailors, F. L. Thayer, Com'd'r.

Singers - Mrs. Fred Hammond, Mrs. Dr. Johnson, Miss. Emma Stockwell, Miss. Grace Bushee, Messrs. F. Fauth, Dr. Franz, Allie McCollum, W. H. Stebbins.

Chaplain and Orator.

Mayor and City Council.

Citizens in carriages.

#### LINE OF MARCH

The line of march will be east to Broadway, north to New York street, west to River street, south to Downer Place and east to the Island Rink.

#### ORDER OF EXERCISES

Music - Quartette.

Prayer - Chaplain, Rev. Thos. Galt.

Song - Quartette.

Memorial Exercises - G. A. R Post No. 20.

Dirge - Band.

Oration - Senator Geo. E. Bacon.

Brief remarks by Comrade F. O. White.

Recitation - Minnie Hassett.

America - Audience.

Benediction - Chaplain.

## MARSHALS AND COMMITTEES

Marshal - Fred Hotz.

Assistant Marshals - J. M. Kennedy, P. Page.

Committee on Reception - F. L. Thayer, H. H. Evans, D. R. Lincoln.

Committee on Music - W. H. Stebbins.

Committee on Flowers - Mrs. J. H. Hubbard, Mrs. Jason Wallace.

Committee on Transportation - Eb. Denny, Jos. Ingham, H. B. Douglas.

Committee on Hall, etc. - E. C. Hewitt, Chauncey Miller, C. T. Whitehouse, J. M. Bigger.

Committee on Decorations - Officers Sons of Veterans.

Committees at the cemeteries:

West Aurora - O. B. Gates.

Catholic - M. J. Tarble.

Aurora - W. H. Scragg.

German Catholic - O. S. Case.

Mt. Olivet - Louis Sylvester.

Spring Lake - R. E. Covalt.

Montgomery - V. X. Beber.

Oswego - Postmaster Hubbard.

The members of the W. R. C. and Ladies of the G. A. R. and all others interested are requested to meet at the city hall at 8 o'clock Saturday morning, the 30th, for the purpose of arranging the flowers. The teachers and pupils of the schools, and the citizens generally, are earnestly invited to extend every assistance possible to the committee on flowers.

A cordial invitation is extended to all ex-soldiers, sailors and citizens to join in the procession and participate in the observance of the day.

J. H. Freeman, W. H. Downing, D. B. Lincoln, Mem. Com.

## LOCAL NEWS

A squad of Sons of Veterans will assist the W. R. C. at their social Tuesday evening at G. A. R. hall, a pleasant program has been arranged - all for 15 cts.

Tuesday, May 26, 1891

## MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES

The East Side schools will observe the day with Appropriate Exercises

Brief exercises, appropriate to Memorial Day, will be observed in every room of the East Side schools, Friday, the 29th inst. The exercises at the Indian Creek, the Brady and the Center schools, will occur in the forenoon, at New York street, Marion avenue and Young schools in the afternoon.

The exercises will consist of patriotic songs, recitations and work in history, etc., suited to the occasion. At the close of the exercises in the several rooms, the pupils of each building will assemble on the school grounds, where they will listen to a speaker invited to address them.

G. S. Roberts, Esq., will address the Indian Creek school at 9:15; Supt. A. V. Greenman, the Bradley school at 10:30; Rev. Nelson Glover, the Center school at 11:40; Geo. Frear Esq., the New York street school at 1:45; C. I. McNett, Esq., the Marion avenue school at 2:30, and Co. Sup't Quackenbush, the Young school at 3:30 p.m.

The exercises at the East Branch will occur Thursday afternoon. The speaker of that school will be announced hereafter.

Representatives of Post No. 20, G. A. R., the W. R. C. and the Ladies of the G. A. R., have signified their intention to be present. It is hoped that there will be a large attendance of parents and other friends of the schools, to witness the various exercises.

Wednesday, May 27, 1891

#### A JOLLY, GOOD TIME AT G. A. R. HALL

The ladies of the W. R. C., assisted by the Sons of Veterans, held a very pleasant social and supper in G. A. R. hall last evening. Supper was served to a large number, after which a very entertaining musical and literary program was rendered, consisting of vocal selections by Miss. Anna Hadden and Miss. Ketchum, recitations by Miss. Minnie Hassett and a reading by Mr. P. A. Durant. The program concluded with a drill by the "Awkward Squad," members of the S. of V., which provoked much merriment. The balance of the evening was devoted to card playing and other social diversions.

#### LOCAL NEWS

The Sons of Veterans are arranging to produce another little play entitled "Among the Breakers." They have not definitely decided on the date but it will probably be Friday evening June 5th.

Thursday, May 28, 1891

#### MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

##### How the Day will be Observed by the West Side Schools

Decoration Day will be observed in the West Side schools Friday afternoon. Exercises appropriate to the occasion will be held in the different rooms. The pupils will be addressed by delegates from the G. A. R., detailed by the Post for the performance of that service. At 3:45 p.m. the high school will adjourn to Pennsylvania Avenue to witness and assist in exercises

attending the reception of the flag, to be presented to the Avenue school, by the loyal Ladies of the G. A. R. Hon. F. O. White will receive the flag in behalf of the board of education.

A quartette from the high school will furnish music.

#### LOCAL NEWS

The Ladies of the G. A. R. will please meet at the transfer station, corner of Fox and Water streets, Friday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, to attend the memorial day exercises at the Pennsylvania Avenue school. Mrs. A. Page., Sec.

#### SONS OF VETERANS, ATTENTION!

Regular meeting of Aurora Camp No. 21, for drill, this Thursday evening. Be on hand, as it is the last opportunity before Memorial Day. As many brothers as can do so, are asked to assist on Saturday morning in decorating the rink for the afternoon services. Details will also be made to go with members of the Post to the various cemeteries at 10 o'clock, and every member is expected to be in line at the one o'clock parade. This is especially urged upon all having uniforms. Visiting brothers are invited to unite with us.

P. A. Durant, Captain

Saturday, May 29, 1891

#### ATTENTION, POST 20.

Comrades will assemble at Post Headquarters, Saturday, May 30, at 1 p.m., sharp, to join in the parade and exercises at the rink. Provide yourselves with white gloves and light cane. Visiting Comrades will please join us, and all ex-soldiers and sailors are requested to participate with us. By order of F. L. Thayer, Com'd'g Post

J. H. Hubbard, Adj't.

Monday, June 1, 1891

## THEY OBSERVED MEMORIAL DAY

### Interesting Exercises Commemorative of the Day in the West Side Schools

Decoration Day was enthusiastically observed by the teachers and pupils of the west side schools. The rooms were all beautifully decorated with flags and flowers, and the buildings resounded with national songs and patriotic recitations.

The pleasantest feature of the day was the visit of members of the G. A. R. Post No. 20. The detachment, as it proceeded from room to room, was received by pupils and teachers with appropriate songs, sentiments and addresses. Comrades White, Ingham, Pierce and Walker made short addresses, which were highly appreciated and heartily applauded. At 3:15, the high school, lead by the Superintendent and members of the G. A. R., marched to the Pennsylvania Avenue School. Here they were met by a deputation of the loyal Ladies of the G. A. R., who, in the person of Miss. Vera Wallace, presented the pupils of the avenue with a beautiful flag.

Hon. F. O. White, by request of the President of the Board of Education, received the flag with a very fitting address, which teemed with excellent advice, tender feeling and good sense.

A quartette from the High School furnished appropriate music. Rev. Brooks offered prayer and Superintendent Greenman closed the exercises by proposing three cheers for the flag, the G. A. R. and the loyal Ladies. These were given with the heartiest goodwill, and the crowd dispersed, the children having been taught a lesson in patriotism which they will long remember.

Wednesday, June 3, 1891

## LOCAL NEWS

Arthur Rupp, of C. D. Daily's grocery, is the proud father of a bouncing boy weighing nine pounds and a half. Mr. Rupp says he is a G. A. R. boy and made his appearance on Decoration Day.

Mrs. Biddulph attended Decoration Day at Millington, the resting place of the late Maj. Biddulph. She was in receipt of a large basket of choice cut flowers from Kenmundy, Ill., sent as a token of the loving remembrance of Major B. She reports the gathering there as very large and floral decorations numerous and very nice.

Saturday, June 6, 1891

## SONS OF VETERANS ENTERTAINMENT

The Sons of Veterans gave a very pleasing entertainment in G. A. R. hall last evening, which was favored with an excellent house, the hall being crowded. The parasol drill, by ten

little girls, was a very unique and pleasing feature and was well executed, reflecting much credit upon the little people.

The play, "Among the Breakers," was then presented and was well received. Among those who participated were the Misses Zimmer, Busbee, Ochsenschlager and Woodard, Messrs. Durant, Dillon, Harkinson, Howard, Hogadon and White. The entertainment must have netted the boys a neat sum.

Monday, June 8, 1891

#### AURORA POST, NO. 20.

Comrades will assemble at 1 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, June 9th, for the purpose of attending the funeral of Comrade Beck. Visiting comrades are invited to join with them.

F. L. Thayer, Com.

J. H. Hubbard, Adj't.

Thursday, June 11, 1891

#### ATTENTION, SONS OF VETERANS

Besides the regular meeting of Camp 21, on Friday evening, a special meeting for inspection will be held Saturday, June 13. The division inspector, Capt. Geo. H. Hurlbut, of Belvidere, will be present, as will past Col. Frank McCrillis, and a delegation from Camp 6, of Chicago. The Camp at LaGrange is also expected to send a few visitors. The business of the evening will close with a rally round the refreshment board, and a charge on the coffee pot. Every member should be present. Visitors cordially invited.

P. A. Durant, Captain.

Monday, June 15, 1891

#### SONS OF VETERANS INSPECTED

The Aurora Camp, Sons Of Veterans, was inspected at their hall Saturday by Captain George H. Hurbert, of Belvidere. The boys passed with high honors, having as high an average as any camp in the State. Capt. Miller, of LaGrange, and Past Capt. Kerr, of Pullman, were present.

After the inspection refreshments were served, and a pleasant sociable enjoyed by all.

Tuesday, June 16, 1891

LOCAL NEWS

Regular meeting of Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R. to-night.

The Sons Of Veterans' dramatic club will produce "Among the Breakers" at St. Charles, June 27th.

Col. Greusel, of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, is visiting his daughter, Mrs. J. H. White, on Claim Street.

Thursday, June 18, 1891

LOCAL NEWS

The Sons of Veterans expect to repeat "In a Regular Fix" and "Among the Breakers" at St. Charles in the near future.

The Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R., at their regular meeting Tuesday evening, voted to attend church services in a body, Sunday, June 28th, at the First Baptist church. It being the last Sunday preceding July 4th.

Saturday, June 20, 1891

LOCAL NEWS

Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R. have been tendered an invitation to celebrate the "Fourth" at Elgin, this year.

Monday, June 22, 1891

LOCAL NEWS

G. A. R. Post No. 20, has appointed a committee of three, consisting of comrades W. H. Watson, John E. BeVier and Ed Pierce, to ascertain and report the number of persons who desire to attend the national encampment of the G. A. R. to be held in Detroit, in August next.

Aurora Post No. 20, G. A. R. will hold a meeting to-night to consider the invitation of Elgin to spend the Fourth of July in that city.

W. R. C. entertainment and supper, at G. A. R. Hall June 23rd. Admission 5 cents, or supper 15 cents.

Friday, June 26, 1891

#### SONS OF VETERANS, ATTENTION

Regular meeting of Aurora Camp No. 21, this Friday evening. Every member who can possibly do so, is earnestly requested to be present, as arrangements must be made for going to St. Charles, July 4th, and taking part in the celebration at that place. It is the opportunity of the year. Don't miss it.

P. A. Durant, Capt.

Saturday, June 27, 1891

#### POST 20, G. A. R.

By invitation, Aurora Post will attend services at the First Baptist church on Galena street, Sunday morning, June 28th, being the Sunday preceding the Fourth of July. Comrades will assemble at headquarters at 10 o'clock a.m. sharp, with white gloves. Visiting Comrades are cordially invited to join with us. By order of F. L. Thayer, Com'd'g Post.

J. H. Hubbard, Adj't.

#### LEGAL NEWS

House Bill 177, to make it unlawful for any person to wear the badge or emblem of the G. A. R., or to use the same, to obtain aid or assistance thereby from any elector.

Wednesday, July 1, 1891

#### LOCAL NEWS

The Post No. 20, G. A. R., of this city, has accepted an invitation to spend July 4th, at Elgin.

Thursday, July 2, 1891

LOCAL NEWS

The members of the Aurora Post, G. A. R. have been invited to attend a patriotic song service at the First Congregational church next Sunday evening.

ATTENTION, POST 20, G. A. R.

A meeting is called for (Thursday) evening at 8 o'clock to take action on the committee's report on the excursion to Elgin, July 4th. A prompt attendance is desired. By order of

F. L. Thayer, Com'd'g Post.

J. H. Hubbard, Adj't.

Friday, July 3, 1891

THE REPUBLIC'S BIRTH

Address Before The G. A. R. Post By Rev. E. H. Brooks.

An Eloquent and Patriotic Discourse Commemorative of the Nation's Birth

Good Reading for the Fourth

Address of Rev. E. H. Brooks, at the First Baptist church, Sunday morning, June 28th, before the members of the G. A. R. Post, who extended a vote of thanks therefore and requested its publication: (speech omitted)

POST 20, G. A. R.

Comrades will assemble at headquarters July 4th, 6:30 a.m., to go to Elgin. Round trip tickets \$1.00. White gloves and came. Also Sunday, July 5th, 7 p.m., to attend services at the First Congregational church by invitation. By order of

F. L. Thayer, Comd'g Post  
J. H. Hubbard, Adj't.

Friday, July 10, 1891

LOCAL NEWS

Mrs. William Cowdrey desires to thank the many friends, through the columns of the Beacon, for their kind and sympathetic assistance, in her late bereavement, the death of her husband, Mr. Wm. Cowdrey; and especially does she desire to thank the G. A. R. Post No. 20, for the kind assistance they rendered in conducting the funeral services.

Friday, July 17, 1891

LOCAL NEWS

Camp 21, Sons of Veterans, will go to Decatur next Friday to compete for the artillery prize of \$100. They will take twelve members and are confident of making a good showing.

Monday, July 20, 1891

LOCAL NEWS

The Sons of Veterans will hold a lawn party on the grounds of Mr. Matt Kennedy, 272 West Park avenue, next Wednesday evening.

Tuesday, July 21, 1891

G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

Programme for the Reunion of Veterans at Detroit Next Month.

Detroit, Mich., July 21. -- The Executive Committee of the Grand Army of the Republic reunion at its session Monday afternoon adopted the following as the programme during the silver encampment.

Monday, August 3 -- reception of guests.

Tuesday, August 4 -- 10 a.m., grand parade of Grand Army naval veterans and Sons of Veterans, 8 p.m., reception and greeting to Commander-In-Chief Veazy and members of the Grand Army, Sons of Veterans and the Woman's Relief Corps at the Detroit rink, 9 p.m., reception at camp Sherman to the Commander-In-Chief of the G. A. R. and the veterans.

Wednesday, August 5 -- 10:30 a.m., twenty fifth annual session of the national encampment of the Grand Army at Beecher's Hall. 10:30 a.m., ninth annual convention of the Woman's Relief Corps at the church of Our Father. All day, reunions of the veterans at the various halls, school buildings and offices by regimental and brigade organizations. Evening -- Grand naval and pyrotechnical display closing with the fireworks spectacle of "Perry's Victory." Camp fires at the rink, at the exposition building and at the Central Methodist church.

Thursday -- 10:30 a.m., adjourned session of the twenty-fifth annual encampment of the Grand Army at the rink. 10:30 a.m., adjourned session of the ninth annual convention of the Woman's Relief Corps at the church of Our Father. All day, regimental and brigade reunions. Evening, banquet at the rink to the officers and delegates to the national encampment. Camp fires at Camp Sherman and at the churches.

Friday -- General pleasure seeking, riding about the city, excursions to various river and lake resorts, etc., at will of guests.

Invitations to war Governors, ex-presidents of the United States, to the President and his cabinet, to the general in command of the United States Army and to all noted living generals of the Union army have been extended, and, in most instances have been accepted.

The decoration of the city of Detroit during the reunion will be something remarkable both in extent and quality, as all citizens have gone into the affair with a spontaneity and patriotic fervor unexcelled, as though determined to make the silver encampment the banner event in the history of the Grand Army.

Monday, July 27, 1891

#### DEATH OF JACOB METZEL

Jacob Metzel, residing at No. 11 Rose street, died Saturday night. The funeral will be held this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, from the German Lutheran church. The G. A. R. will have charge of the services.

Tuesday, July 28, 1891

#### ARE YOU GOING TO DETROIT?

Free quarters have been engaged in the Exposition Building, at Camp Sherman, at Detroit, Section F., for all members of Aurora Post, G. A. R., who wish to attend the encampment. It is important for all who are going, soldiers or citizens, to let the Committee know. Arrangements are made so they can go Aug. 1st, 2nd or 3rd and extra special trains will leave Chicago on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of August, at 9:30 a.m. and arrive in Detroit at 5:30 p.m. The chances are that the fare will be lower, but the price is cheap now. All who go with the G. A. R. will get the lowest rates. By going on day train the sleeping car fare is saved. The most of the Aurora folks will go Monday, Aug. 3rd, at 7:30 a.m.

Saturday, August 1, 1891

### G. A. R. TICKETS

G. A. R. tickets to Detroit are on sale today, Aug. 1 at Watson's book store.

Monday, August 3, 1891

### OFF FOR THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

Following is a partial list of those who left on the G. A. R. excursion from this city to Detroit.:

F. M. Moore and wife, H. A. Webb and wife, W. H. Watson and wife, C. Arcouet and wife, W. Carpenter and wife, C. W. Hall and wife, J. F. Harral and wife, Thos. White and wife, Mrs. J. Trear, Mrs. C. A. Wright and daughter, Mrs. J. N. Pooley, Miss. Lena Lathrop, Miss. Frankie Parsons, Dr. Woodward, F. L. Thayer, S. E. Duncan, J. G. Berscheit, C. B. Colwell, J. C. Goodale, Mr. Wilkinson, F. Dapprich.

Thursday, August 4, 1891

### THE GRAND ARMY

Great Gathering in Detroit of the Boys in Blue  
Twenty-Fifth G. A. R. Anniversary  
Imposing array of old soldiers in the metropolis of Michigan  
Discussion as to the next Commander In Chief  
Grand parade promised

### THE UNION'S DEFENDERS

Detroit, Mich., Aug. 4. -- The city of the straits has assumed a martial air. The veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic are no longer arriving by the hundreds, but by the thousands, and every incoming train brings another throng to mingle with the multitude that already parades the streets. As the gala week of Detroit opens, business is practically suspended, and the tramp of the Grand Army of the Republic, and the inspiring music of the bands are heard on every hand. Gen. William G. Veazey, of Vermont, Commander-In-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, is here, and his headquarters at the Cadillac have been the Mecca of scarred and grizzled veterans throughout the forenoon. Gen. Veazey was accompanied by Miss. Clara Barton, the famous founder of the White Cross. Secretary of War Proctor was also of the party, with Quartermaster General John Taylor, of Philadelphia, and Assistant Adjutant Emery, of

Washington. The national department Adjutant General, J. L. Golding and wife of Rutland, Vt. are also at the Cadillac.

The most prominent candidates for the position of Commander-In-Chief are A. G. Weissert, of Milwaukee, Wis., Col. William R. Smedburg, of San Francisco, Brevet Brig. Gen. Samuel H. Hurst, of Chillicothe, Ohio and Col. C. P. Lincoln, of Michigan. Weissert was a prominent candidate for the position a year ago, and withdrew in favor of Gen. Veazey. In addition to the above candidates have been mentioned the names of H. A. Barnum, of New York City, Gen. John Palmer, of Albany and Gen. Ira M. Hedges, of Haverstraw, N. Y.

The Twenty-Fifth annual encampment will formally open at 10:30 a.m. to-day. At that hour Commander-In-Chief Veazey will head the line of march and after an hour's parade will review the 40,000 or 50,000 veterans as they pass before the magnificent reviewing stand on Woodward avenue. Monday was the reception day of the encampment. It was the initial day devoted by the citizens of Detroit to the pleasant duty of waiting upon the various bodies of the defenders of the Union as they rapidly arrive from all parts of the country. It was estimated that 80,000 visitors were in the city, but the great crowd was not expected until to-day. It is believed the multitude of strangers will then aggregate 200,000 or more.

No arrivals at the central depot caused more excitement than the Georgia and Florida departments. There were 150 of the latter delegation and nearly all were bedecked in hats of not only curious construction but made of natural seaweed. They left Tampa in special trains, and one car was filled with the products of Florida, from a live crocodile 10 feet in length to a bunch of seaweed. They had watermelons in great profusion, banana trees in blossom, olive and orange trees, sea oats and any quantity of Florida's new product, Phosphate, which promises to eclipse the orange as a fortune maker for the citizens of Florida.

The arrival of Gen. Fairchild, ex-governor of Wisconsin and a former Commander-In-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, was made the occasion of a great ovation.

Three special trains brought the Old Guard of Washington, the department commander and his staff. The Old Guard, a noted organization, is commanded by J. M. Edgar. It has a color guard of twelve men, six of whom lost their right arms in the war and another six who lost their left arms.

John A. Andrew post, of Boston is the only armed battalion in the grand army, being uniformed as cavalymen and equipped with sabers. It will be represented by 150 men.

Ex-President Rutherford B. Hayes, commander in chief of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, arrived from Ohio. He was met by a local delegation of the Loyal Legion and escorted to the home of Col. Hecker. Commander Hayes was tendered a reception at Col. Hecker's residence in the evening and all members of the Loyal Legion paid him their respects.

Gov. Page, of Vermont, and a number of his staff are in the city and Gov. Thayer, of Nebraska, Congressman Henderson, of South Carolina, and A. P. Davis, of Pittsburgh, founder of the order of Sons of Veterans, are also among the recent arrivals. The New York delegation, 2,000 strong, arrived here in the evening.

A \$700 diamond badge was presented to Gen. Alger by his admirers of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The department of Louisiana and Mississippi will revive the color fight in the encampment. Charles F. Fink, assistant quartermaster general of this department said: "We have

come up to this encampment to make a fight on the color line. We object to colored members of the Grand Army of the Republic and want them formed into a separate colonization. It is all right here in the north, where you have only a few colored veterans, but do you know that in the south there are as many of the colored as whites in our posts and the white man has no show. We will not associate with them, and if the present convention does not do something to relieve southern posts of this growing trouble then white grand army veterans will withdraw.”

Wednesday, August 5, 1891

## ON THE MARCH

Monster Parade of the Grand Army in Detroit  
Thousands of Marching Men  
Flowery Arches and Stirring Martial Music Beautify and Enliven the Scene  
A Magnificent Turnout of Veterans

TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP

Detroit, Mich., Aug. 5 -- Tuesday was a day which will be long remembered by the grizzled veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic. As the opening day of the twenty-fifth annual encampment, it marks a quarter of a century in the growth of the organization, and every soldier realizes that it must also mark the apex in the prosperity of that great order, which year by year, has enveloped in its fraternal fold every state of the great union from Maine to Texas and Florida to Washington. If sentiment and sympathy and love could control the destiny of the G. A. R. it would live forever, but the inexorable logic of statistics sounds a warning to every veteran that in time the surviving comrades of the surviving posts must be “mustered out” and the G. A. R. be known no more save to the memory of the grateful nation it defended and preserved. It has therefore been the desire of all the prominent leaders of the organization that the twenty-fifth encampment should be the most successful in the history of the Grand Army of the Republic, and the parade the most magnificent the order has ever known.

As the tried and trusty soldiers of '65 were ever eager for the battle, so the veterans of '91 were eager for the grand parade which was to recall so many reminiscences of former days. Before the morning sun had kissed the spangled arches and emblazoned in glory the golden decorations that marked the line of march, the Grand Army Band were abroad, and the measured tread of the veterans preparing for the march resounded through the streets.

Not less than 40,000 men followed in unbroken columns the flags which they had born in victory in days of war. Grayer and more feeble, they disdained the use of carriages and cheerfully treaded through the streets, receiving the applause of thousands who thronged every point of vantage to witness the marching and add to the volume of cheers. Windows and balconies, housetops, tree branches and telegraph pole arms bore their living freight and served as reserved seats from which excellent views could be had.

Promptly at the hour indicated, and with a military precision which showed the volunteer soldiers had forgotten none of their early training, the posts assembled on the line of march. Four magnificent arches erected by the citizens in different parts of the city, marked the line of march. Peace Arch, at Fort and Griswold street through which the procession first passed, bore the inscription, "Cheerily on, courageous friends, to reap the harvest of perpetual peace."

And on the opposite side was read the sister inscription, "Their prowess brought us peace, undying be their fame."

Another arch bridged Jefferson avenue, but the magnificent tower and war arch at the intersection of Woodward and Jefferson avenues was a veritable work of art. It was built upon the plan of the famous Eiffel Tower of Paris, and is a double arch looking through from either avenue. The first thing to strike the eye is the fluttering flag held by the erect figure surmounting the tower -- a white flag with a square of red in the center. It is one of the numerous designs used by the signal corps attached to the armies of the Union by which messages were sent long distances from the code of signals. An excellent picture is given of the firing on Fort Sumpter, in the foreground a covered single mortar battery engaged, with the confederate national flag flying from a staff planted nearby, a broad reach of water to the fort, which is wreathed in smoke from its own guns. On other sides are represented the surrender of Lee and the famous march down Pennsylvania avenue in Washington on the occasion of the last review in the war of the rebellion.

"Triumphal Arch," as it is called, is another excellent piece of architecture.

Slowly and majestically, in measured tread to music, the procession started from Woodward and Adams avenues, with Commander-In-Chief Veazey and his staff in the lead, until the reviewing stand was reached. The stand from which the Commander-In-Chief and his glittering staff reviewed the parade was situated on "Campus Mortimus." on the east side of Woodward avenue.

On Illinois, the home of Lincoln, the home of Grant and of Logan, was conferred the honor of the right of the line of march. But it was not because of these illustrious names that the Prairie State was so honored, but because of one whose service to the veterans of the state and nation dates since the war. Dr. B. F. Stephenson, the founder of the Grand Army of the Republic. Dr. Stephenson was born in Wayne county, Illinois, in 1823, and died in Menard county August 30, 1871, aged but 49 years.

His remains lie in the soldier's lot of Rose Hill cemetery, Petersburg, Ill. He organized the Grand Army of the Republic in 1866, and a few months later J. N. Coltrin and Joseph Prior were joined with ten others in forming the first post, which was instituted at Decatur, April 6, 1866, under a charter granted by Dr. Stephenson.

The survivors of Post No. 1 were a conspicuous little group in the Illinois delegation and their appearance was the signal for a tribute of cheers. Department Commander Horace S. Clark led the command and 3,000 representatives of the loyal sons of the Sucker State were in line.

The enthusiasm which greeted the second or Wisconsin division, 700 strong, was unbounded. In the front rank and borne high in the air on the top of a flag staff perched "Old Abe," the stuffed eagle which became a part of Wisconsin's history a quarter of a century ago. In line with the Wisconsin boys were Gen. Lucius Fairchild, ex-governor of the state and commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, and Col. A. G. Weissert, candidate for commander in chief. Department commander W. H. Upham was in command.

The Pennsylvania division came next, 1,500 strong, marching in good order to sprightly music furnished by the post bands. Deputy Commander Boyer rode at the head, with Adj't. Gen. Town and Quartermaster Gen. Abraham Levering, followed by the aides. Pittsburgh posts led the delegation.

The Ohio delegation was a vast army of itself. No less than 13,000 veterans tramped to the music of the bands. Beside Department Commander A. M. Warner marched General S. H. Hurst, the Ohio candidate for Commander-In-Chief. A conspicuous figure was Gen. Manning F. Force, who, enlisted as a Major in the twentieth regiment, was made a full Major General a year before the close of the war.

The spectacle of an ex-president of the United States marching in the ranks is so unusual that the applause tendered ex-president Hayes was hardly a surprise. Mr. Hayes was recognized by all as he marched with his post from Fremont, O.

Col. A. L. Conger, Gen. P. H. Dowling and Gen. R. B. Brown were among the past department commanders in line.

The strains of Virginia's martial music was dying in the distance as Maryland, some 500 strong, passed the stand.

As the Nebraska Grand Army of the Republic, 500 strong, with Department Commander Teeter and Governor Thayer passed the grand stand it was impossible to tell whether the cheers were for the governor, the soldier boys, or that venerable figure which always provokes the cheers of the volunteer soldiers -- Paul Vandervoort, past national commander-in-chief.

Of course Michigan, with its 15,000 veterans, received the ovation of the day. The division was officered by Department Commander C. L. Eaton, Adj't. Gen. K. W. Noyes and Quartermaster General Spicer.

Iowa came next to the Wolverine State 500 strong, and marching with military precision to the ever popular tune "Yankee Doodle." Department Commander C. L. Davidson, Adj't-Gen. Longley and Quartermaster Gen. Tamplin headed the column.

New York, 2,500 strong, came next, and was the recipient of an enthusiastic greeting. They were headed by Department Commander C. H. Freeman, Adjutant General W. W. Bennett, Quartermaster General A. R. Penfield and W. W. VanKeuran, an octogenarian member of the post and veteran of the Mexican and civil wars. Then came a score of battle flags, seamed, shot through, in shreds and tatters, proudly carried aloft by their bearers.

The Connecticut division came next and following Connecticut was Massachusetts, 2,500 strong.

Forty New Jersey veterans were accompanied by J. R. Mulliken, commander, past commander B. N. Stevens and past department commander Charles Burrows.

One hundred ex-union soldiers, led by Department Commander Samuel L. Miller, represented the State of Maine.

California showed up twenty-five strong, notwithstanding the distance they had to come. At their head with other past commanders marched W. R. Smedburg.

Following the little Rhode Island group was the New Hampshire division, twenty strong.

Vermont followed New Hampshire with 150 men. They were received with great applause in compliment to Commander-In-Chief Veazey, whose own post headed the delegation.

Indiana's 2,500 veterans marched in majestic columns past the reviewing stand, and at the head and beside Department Commander I. N. Walker, marched governor Alvin H. Hovey. Gen. A. D. Streight, one of the leaders and protectors of the famous Libby Prison tunnel, and Col. Walker, another who escaped through that historical underground passage, were recognized by all familiar with the history of that daring adventure.

Following in their order were the divisions of Colorado and Wyoming, Kansas, Delaware, Minnesota, Missouri, Oregon, West Virginia, South Dakota, Washington and Alaska, Arkansas Montana, Texas, Idaho and Alabama. The Naval Veterans and the Sons of Veterans, 5,000 strong, brought up the rear and closed the parade.

In the morning at the national headquarters, before the parade, a \$1,000 diamond badge was given to Commandr Veazey. Ex-President Hayes, presented the badge. Gen. Veazey wore the badge during the parade. (speech omitted)

The evening was devoted to receptions to the Commander-In-Chief, the Grand Army of the Republic, the Woman's Relief Corps and the Sons of Veterans by the citizens of Detroit at the encampment hall. Later another reception was tendered the commander in chief at the exposition building. On both occasions Gen. Veazey made brief speeches of acknowledgment and thanks.

This morning the sessions of the encampment will be formally opened. Probably the most important matter that will come up for consideration is the trouble over the colored issue in Louisiana. The white comrades from New Orleans are determined to force a vote on the question whether or not they shall be compelled to have posts of mixed color, or whether the colored man and brother in whose behalf they fought shall not be compelled to get into posts by themselves.

(DETROIT-1891)

Thursday, August 6, 1891

## THE RELIEF CORPS

Ninth National Convention of This Noble Band

The President Makes an Address

Mrs. Sears urges the claims of army nurses

Report of the national Secretary

Other meetings of several Organizations

## GRAND ARMY WOMEN.

Detroit, Mich., Aug. 6 -- Over 700 fine looking women, a large majority of them having many silver threads in their hair, were gathered in the church of Our Father Wednesday when the Ninth Annual Convention of the Woman's Relief Corps was called to order by Mrs. Mary Sears McHenry, of Dennison, Iowa, the national President. In her address of welcome and review, Mrs. McHenry dwelt upon the necessity of keeping before Congress the needs of the army nurses

and deplored the failure year after year to extend to these deserving women the benefits of the pension laws. Congress, she said should pass a special pension law for them, and to that end the record should be completed as soon as possible. So far, 26,000 names were enrolled, but of 18,000 more there was no record whatever. The speaker made reference to the fact that considerable work was being done among the colored people, and that corps auxiliary to posts of colored veterans had within a year been organized as follows: Twelve in Virginia, four in the Carolinas, three in Florida, three in Louisiana, two in Tennessee, one each in Georgia, Arkansas and Mississippi.

“The membership of our order,” said the president, “has steadily increased in influence during the year, and is represented in every state in the union except one -- Alabama -- and all the territories except Indian, Idaho and Alaska. Even Canada claims its posts and auxiliary corps, which were attached to the Department of Vermont. Three hundred and sixty two corps have been initiated during the year, with a membership of 7,200.”

National Secretary Hannah Plimpton, of Iowa, next presented her report, showing a total membership of 77,779 divided into 2,923 corps and covering nearly every state and territory. Owing to the delinquent reports, which were a discredit to the order, there had been a loss of 321 corps, representing a membership of 12,841 during the year. The general and relief funds on hand aggregate \$160,826.

In response to a letter of love and sympathy from Mrs. Logan, the following was telegraphed:

“Greetings to our revered and beloved sister and widow of John A. Logan, blessed in memory. May gracious peace spread her sheltering wings over her and hers this day.”

The day was principally consumed in the discussion of the reports of the various officers.

#### NAVAL VETERANS

Chairman W. S. Wells, presided at the annual meeting of the National Association of Naval Veterans Wednesday morning. The following officers were elected: Rear Admiral W. S. Wells; commodore, B. S. Osborn; captain, D. B. Hubbard; commander, W. E. Atkins; lieutenant commander, W. H. Place; senior lieutenant, A. L. Lowe; junior lieutenant, J. W. Keene; surgeon, A. T. Shertzer; paymaster, Alex G. Fortler; chaplain, Robert E. Edwards. A. T. Shertzer, the veteran elected surgeon wears the German Iron Cross, awarded for bravery. The officers elected were asked in turn if they would accept the office, and they responded with hearty speeches, which were received with cheers by their shipmates.

#### EX-PRISONERS OF WAR

The national convention of ex-prisoners of war met Wednesday. Mayor Pingree, an ex-prisoner, welcomed the ex-prisoners to the city. President E. H. Williams, of Indianapolis, read his address. He urged the importance of the claims of ex-prisoners to increased pensions on the attention of the members.

#### THE “SILENT” ARMY

A national convention which has never had its parallel in the history of nations met in this city Wednesday. It was the annual convention of the “silent” army.” While there was no

shouting, no pounding on the table, no oratorical speech, and no cheering, a great deal of business was transacted. It was the first reunion of the silent army of deaf and dumb soldiers, sailors and marines. The silent army decided to lay the matter of its pension claims before the pension committee of the G. A. R. Hardly one in ten is able to do anything for its own support.

#### MAIMED SOLDIER'S LEAGUE

The Maimed Soldier's League held a reunion Wednesday and several hundred members were in attendance. Every soldier of the war who lost an arm or a leg belongs to the League. There are 8,000 members in all, and Isaac R. Martindell, of Philadelphia, the president, presided. The meeting was purely a social one and was devoted to reminiscences and a discussion of the pension rate.

#### NO MORE PLAY

The National Encampment Gets Down To Business  
Address of Commander Veazey  
He Advises Separate Departments in the South  
Reports of Officers  
Washington Gets The Next Encampment.

#### VETERANS IN SESSION

Detroit, Mich., Aug. 6 -- The twenty-fifth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic met in formal session Wednesday in the mammoth hall that had been set apart for the business deliberations of the veterans. All that art and taste could do to make the building attractive had been exerted in the decorations which adorned the interior in emblematic order.

Despite the immensity of the hall it was crowded to its utmost seating capacity by the multitude of veterans attracted to the momentous questions to be settled at the encampment of the order.

A few minutes before the hour of opening, Gen. Veazey and his staff entered the hall and were escorted to the grand stand. The appearance of the commander in chief was a signal for generous applause and a minute later the two bands burst forth in an inspiring military air in harmony with the martial scene. Rapping the assemblage to order, the commander in chief announced the formal opening of the twenty-fifth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and directed the Adjutant General to call the roll of Departments. Every State and Territory in the union - not even excepting far off Alaska - was represented and the roll showed the fullest attendance of delegates in the history of the organization.

The opening address of the commander in chief was listened to in rapt attention by the assembled veterans.

Adj. Gen. J. H. Goulding's annual report for the year ending July 30 shows that there are in the order forty-five Departments, with 7,400 posts and 398,067 comrades in good standing.

The sum expended in charities during the year was \$338,699, against \$217,057 the previous year. There have been 5,530 deaths this year, against 5,479 in 1890. Of the total apparent memberships of 444,507, suspensions, delinquencies and transfers bring the number down to 398,067.

The Quartermaster General's report showed the assets of the organization to be as follows: Cash balance on hand \$1,804.18; due by departments, \$1,420.41 -- less due by departments, \$184.17; balance \$1,240.24; United States bonds, 1907, \$16,000 (market value 1-17-1900), \$18,720; supplies, \$2,941.65; total assets, \$24,711.07.

The report on the Grant Monument fund showed that while this fund in 1890 amounted to \$11,507.80, it had been augmented but \$237.16 during the past year. Of this amount \$236.16 was derived as interest on the present fund, so that the actual increase by donation had been but \$11.75. This sum was reported by the State of Minnesota.

The Inspector General's report after detailing the condition of the order says in conclusion:

"Our comrades in the stronger and more prosperous departments should not be forgetful of the necessities of those in weaker and less favored territories and should assist and encourage them in the work whenever opportunity offers. I find the organization of the Woman's Relief Corps is growing in all departments. It would be difficult to say too much in their favor, as they have rendered such valuable assistance in our charitable work, having taken position far in advance of our line in blue, in raising money to swell the relief fund, which is so honestly devoted to the alleviation of the wants of those depending upon its assistance."

The report of the Judge Advocate General derives its chief interest from his decision on the vexed race question. "The question proposed is "Whether there can lawfully be two departments covering the same territory at the same time; for instance, a department made up of white posts and another of black posts, or one of foreign born, and another of native born."

"I think the question must be answered in the negative. This idea is contrary to the usage and universal understanding of the order hitherto. Without adverting further to the obvious evils likely to follow from establishing rival departments in any state. It is enough that it is very clear that the rules and regulations do not provide for nor warrant the establishment of but one department in any state. or territory."

The report of the Surgeon General is chiefly interesting in a statement it contains from Pension Commissioner Raum, announcing that the amount of \$116,000,000 will be expended for pensions in the ensuing year.

During the forenoon session commander in chief Veazey was presented with two gavels. The first was an ivory one, presented by Comrade Clarkson, of Nebraska, and the other a wooden or "business gavel," presented by Comrade Duffield, of Michigan. The latter was made of wood from the old flagstaff that surmounted the fort at Detroit 130 years ago. It was this fort which repulsed the attack of the Pontiac Indians.

The commander in chief appointed the committees on resolutions. The "negro question" was referred to a special committee consisting of Merrill, of Massachusetts, Henderson, of Pennsylvania, Couzer, of Ohio, Linehan, of New Hampshire and Atkins, of Ohio.

Washington was selected as the place for the holding of the next encampment of the G. A. R. The race between Washington and Lincoln, Nebraska was a close one, so close that

each side was confident of success until the result of the ballot was announced. Washington, 569; Lincoln, 553.

Friday, August 7, 1891

### PALMER THE MAN

He is Chosen Commander of the Grand Army  
All the other offices well filled  
The Plan For A Color Line Defeated  
All Soldiers May Belong to One Body  
Gen. Veazey's Idea Defeated  
The Woman's Relief Corps

### A NEW COMMANDER

Detroit, Mich., Aug. 7 -- Immediately after the meeting of the G. A. R. encampment Thursday morning the election of the commander in chief was declared the first business. There were four candidates: John Palmer, of Albany, N. Y.; A. G. Weissert, of Milwaukee, Wis.; W. P. Smedbury, of California; S. H. Hurst, Ohio. Benjamin E. Bryant, of Wisconsin placed Weissert in nomination in an eloquent speech. Weissert's nomination was seconded by the states of Illinois, Iowa, Indiana and Kentucky.

Corporal Tanner, of New York, placed Palmer in nomination and Massachusetts, New Jersey and Pennsylvania seconded Palmer's nomination. J. J. Hollingsworth, of Ohio, nominated Hurst and W. L. Barns, of California, nominated Smedbury.

Just before the ballot opened, S. H. Hurst, Ohio's candidate, asked for recognition. "The State of Ohio," said he, "believes in justice and fair play and recognition to all departments of the Grand Army of the Republic. It has been conceded for years that whenever the great State of New York became united on a candidate, this state, which gave more men to the great army of the union than any other state, should be entitled to the commander in chief. New York is now united on a candidate, and I declare to withdraw my name and second the nomination of Palmer of New York."

The election by secrete ballot was a very slow and tedious process. The first ballot gave Palmer 322; Weissert, 270; Smedbury 172. No choice.

Great enthusiasm was manifested by the New York delegates during the second ballot when Palmer led from the start. Each gain was greeted with applause, but most of Palmer's acquisition was at the expense of Smedbury. At the conclusion when the result was still somewhat in doubt, the California delegation changed its entire vote to Palmer. Prolonged cheering greeted this announcement, which meant Smedbury's withdrawal and Palmer's election.

An enthusiastic delegate at this juncture moved that Palmer's election be declared unanimous, and it prevailed amid wildest enthusiasm.

The new commander in chief was received with three cheers and spoke a few words of thanks for the great honor bestowed. Col. Henry M. Duffield, of Detroit was elected senior vice commander by acclamation. T. S. Clarkson, of Nebraska; Peter B. Ayers, of Delaware and Albert E. Sholes, of Georgia were nominated for junior vice commander in chief. Clarkson won on the first ballot. For chaplain there were three candidates -- S. B. Payne, of Florida, D. C. Miller, of Kansas and A. B. Kendrick, of Iowa. Mr. Payne was elected. Surgeon general Benjamin T. Stevenson, of Connecticut, was elected by acclamation.

The closing day of the twenty-fifth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic opened as bright and balmy as the previous days of the reunion. This closes the business session of the order, but even now the veterans are fast leaving the city. It has been indeed a week of reunions. No less than eight national organizations are in session or have adjourned and the encampment in its many innovations has certainly been a greater success than any which have preceded it.

Past commander in chief, William Warner, chairman of the committee on address of the commander in chief, reported resolutions, which were adopted, petitioning Congress for legislation providing for the custody and care of Mount McGregor cottage and for amendments to the revised statutes providing more explicitly that preference be given old soldiers in government appointments and employment.

The negro problem was brought to the front by the report of the committee appointed to consider the question of a separate department for the colored veterans. Ex-Congressman William Warner, of Missouri, as chairman of the committee, presented an extended report. After quoting freely from the statement of Gen. Veazey favoring a separate department the report says:

"In view of the facts submitted to your committee it is of the opinion that it would be inexpedient to place the authority with the commander in chief to organize new or provisional departments in states in which there are organized departments."

The report was signed by William Warner, John P. Rea, Lucius Fairchild and Henry Painter.

Gen. Lucius Fairchild made the speech of the day. He took the position that if the colored men wanted to withdraw, as had been claimed, they ought to be at liberty to do it. It was evident, however, that they did not want to. After several other speeches by viva-voce vote, the majority report was finally overwhelmingly adopted.

In the evening a banquet was tendered by the citizens of Detroit to the officers and delegates of the Grand Army Encampment. Gen. Alger presided. After an elaborate menu had been discussed Col. Henry M. Duffield delivered an address of welcome. Then came the following toasts: "The Grand Army of the Republic," by Gen. Veazey; "The President of the United States," by Don M. Dickinson; "The Army," by Secretary of War Proctor; "The Navy," by Secretary of the Navy Tracy; "The Rank and File," by D. B. Henderson; "Loyal Women," by Gen. Daniel Butterfield; "The War Governors," by ex-gov. Austin Blair; "The Department of Michigan," by commander C. L. Eaton.

## WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS

The sessions of the national convention of the Woman's Relief Corps were continued Thursday. Greetings were extended by a committee of the grand army encampment headed by commander Brown, of Ohio, and Morgan, of Vermont. There was a discussion upon the recommendation of the committee on the national W. R. C. home that more land be purchased for the grounds. Mrs. Wittenmeyer defended the recommendation with an earnest argument. Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Sherwood pleaded for the army nurses outside the home and believed it more practical work to relieve the distress than to appropriate money to beautify the home. The recommendation was lost. The department of the Potomac immediately offered to raise \$500 for the purchase of the land. Mrs. Wittenmeyer and the department of Illinois pledged themselves to raise the remaining sum necessary, and the offers were accepted by the convention. Pledges from \$3 to \$100 were made in quick succession by delegates and departments, amid great enthusiasm. Over \$1,000 was thus raised in a few moments. The entire afternoon session was devoted to the consideration of the report of the committee on revision of the ritual. It was accepted as a whole and the new ritual adopted. A recess was then taken.

## LADIES OF THE G. A. R.

The fifth national convention of the Ladies of the G. A. R. and a split from the Woman's Relief Corps was held Thursday at SS Peter and Paul school. Mrs. Catherine Hurst, of Louisville, presided. Her report stated that the order is rapidly growing. Its present membership being 20,000. Its popularity was ascribed to the fact that it admits soldiers and sailors to membership as well as their wives and daughters.

Friday, September 25, 1891

## JOLLY LOT OF OLD VETS

MEN WHO ATE SOW-BELLY AND HARD-TACK COME TOGETHER ONCE MORE

Survivors of the 36th and 89th Illinois  
Volunteers Have a Grand Reunion  
At Yorkville and Open Up a  
New Box of Army Jokes  
and Camp Lies.

The survivors of the two veteran regiments, the 36th and 89th Illinois Volunteers, indulged in a grand old fashioned reunion at Yorkville yesterday. They bombarded the little town until her citizens capitulated and finally told the soldier boys they could have anything they wanted in the town and if they should mention it, anything that they didn't see.

The train bearing the Aurora delegation left at 10:15 a.m. At Yorkville they found the members of the two regiments formed in line to receive them with drum corps of twelve

members and the Kendall County Band at the head. Under command of R. W. Willett, of Yorkville, the column marched to the FairGrounds.

When the column approached the Yorkville public school, a halt was called, where Prof. W. D. Edmunds, with his six assistant teachers and 220 school children were drawn up on the steps of the handsomely decorated school house and sang "America," in honor of the old soldiers. R. W. Willett proposed three cheers and a tiger for the children and teachers, which were given and returned by the school.

#### A BUSINESS MEETING

The 36th regiment held a business meeting on the grounds immediately after their arrival, to hear reports of officers, election of new officers, payment of dues, signing certificates of transportation, and the locating of the next reunion. J. C. Taylor, of Sandwich, was elected president, Wm. Kerns, of Morris, vice president, and J. M. Kennedy, of Aurora, secretary and treasurer. The next gathering of the 36th boys will be held at Sandwich, Ill. The date to be fixed hereafter.

The 89th business meeting was held in another building at the same hour of the 36th, and resulted as follows: Jason Wallace, of Aurora, president; W. E. Ward, Galesburg, vice president; I. K. Young, Bristol, secretary; W. C. Gillam, of Bristol, treasurer. The next reunion of this regiment will be held at Aurora. The date will be announced by the executive committee later. There was quite a rivalry between Aurora and Sandwich to secure the reunion but Aurora came out ahead as usual.

#### AFTER THE BANQUET

The exercises took place in the big amphitheatre which was profusely decorated with the national colors. Adjoining the amphitheatre a stand had been erected, in which the speakers and the band were seated. H. B. Douglas, president of the 36th, presided.

The exercises were opened with prayer by Rev. Nelson Glover, of Aurora, followed by a song, "We Were Comrades Together," by a quartette composed of Capt. F. M. Hobbs, William Arthur and Fred Hill.

Following this came the "Greeting" by Rev. J. G. Haigh, pastor of Yorkville Congregational church, which was a most felicitous effort, and evoked no end of hearty cheers. Following was the

#### ADDRESS OF WELCOME

*Veterans of the 36th and 89th Regiments, and others:*

Your committee of arrangements in requesting me to address to you a few words of fraternal greeting and welcome on this occasion, have, I feel accorded me both a pleasure and a privilege. I have presumed on your good nature permitting me to write the few words which I have to say.

And now, speaking as I do, in behalf of your comrades, their families and friends of this city. I am sure that I shall express their sentiments when I say that first of all, *we welcome you for your own sake*. For the delight you will take in the mutual greetings, and reminiscence of the past.

You are a representative remnant of the young and sturdy manhood of thirty years ago. We look upon your faces, some of we younger ones at least do, with mingled feelings of curiosity, sadness, joy and veneration. We have read and heard so much of the terrific experiences through which our union armies passed in the war of the rebellion, and their illustrious deeds, that we can but regard you with a peculiar interest. I have thought to myself, here are some of the men who thirty years ago were the flower of the nation; the young, sturdy, hopeful manhood of those times. These are some of the men who wore the blue, shouldered the musket, girded on the sword and the knapsack, forsook their business, and imperiled all the personal concerns and prospects of life, wrenched themselves away from the bosom of wives, sweethearts and sisters, kissed the innocents in the cradle, and sprang into the theatre of angry war. Not that they loved home less, but their country more. We are not blind to such an imperial courage and such a type of patriotism as that. And then, as we remember your deeds, which have entered into our nation's art, and song, and story -- the privations and vicissitudes of weary campaigns -- the scant fare and the reck and devastation of battle fields -- the agonies of broken bones and gaping wounds -- the miseries of hospitals and prisons, and the physical and mental wrecks presented by many on their return, you cannot deem it strange if we stare at you with a rude curiosity. We are like children in that.

Nor can you wonder if we also regard you with a feeling of sadness. Not that speaking for my fellow citizens I would commiserate you; far from it. We honor you. But it does make us sad to know that you were obliged to suffer so much, and that so many of you still suffer, and have brought pain with you to this reunion. We only wish you might have purchased your honors at less cost. In that sense, I may say, that for you the war is not over yet, for some of you, because you are still contending against its diseases and fighting with the enemy's bullets in your persons. Nor will the struggle cease until you have joined your comrades on the eternal camping grounds. It is the thought of what you and your loved ones have had to sacrifice during the war and since, that makes us regard you with emotions of sadness.

But I said too, that joy mingles with curiosity and sadness. Joy over the achievements wrought through the sacrifices. We do rejoice, Mr. President, to have with us to-day these representatives of the purest and noblest patriotism this world ever has seen. Others have achieved distinction by daring deeds for the sake of glory; but with the Union soldier the watchwords were Conscience, Home, Country, Liberty, Loyalty, God! We rejoice in that it was given to men of our land, and our kindred to strive, even to death, for such motives and objects as these. It may be that some of us almost envy you in the golden deeds which give to the symbols, G. A. R., an imperishable splendor.

Then I said, we regard you also with veneration. We know what the Republic owes to your exertions and sacrifices. We venerate the principles and institutions of our country, and we must at the same time venerate the names and persons of those who, by living efforts and dying agonies, perpetuated those principles and institutions. Thus do we greet and welcome you for your own sake.

And now, gentlemen, permit me to add further that we welcome you here to-day in consideration of the great blessings we have inherited through the achievements of the Grand Army of the Republic, of which you are a part. I cannot detail them. I will say; The glorious and happy brotherhood of States; the loyalty and patriotism which cement us; the music of freedom

that swells the breeze; the peaceful industries; the progress untrammelled by civil strifes, and which in our coming Columbian Exposition will make us both the pride and envy of the world. If the Union had not been preserved, then decline rather than advancement would have been the history of the last thirty years.

We congratulate ourselves that through the Union soldier the great misery and wickedness of slavery, and the great misery and wickedness of false doctrines have been put to death, and the Stars and Stripes still wave, the beautiful symbol of Love, of Unity, of Liberty, and of true National greatness.

And yet once more gentlemen we welcome you here because we regard your coming and reunion as a grand object lesson for our people, especially the younger portion of them. The school board has closed the city schools in order that the young people might have the opportunity to be present this afternoon and listen to your speakers. I am sure that one of the results of your coming will be a revival of patriotic sentiment among our citizens. I do not mean to say that we are wanting in patriotic feeling. Kendall county is not large. They speak of us affectionately as "Little Kendall." And this little county gave more than 1,500 men to the Union cause. We greet you in their behalf. They did not all come back. Many of those who did are not with us to-day unless their spirits hover round. They lie all about in this lovely valley; and some of them just over that fence yonder are sleeping the years of their manhood away. They are waiting for a greater reunion than this. We greet you in their name also.

Let me assure you then that our country and city feel honored by your presence, and that always the warm side of our hearts will be turned towards the soldiers of the Grand Army; and that when you have departed we shall preserve affectionately the incidents of this day. In behalf therefore of your comrades living and dead; in behalf of the citizens of this town and the descendants of Kendall county's brave boys, I give you most hearty and earnest welcome. We trust that you may live to enjoy many more happy reunions and that when there can be no more of them here, we may all be united, never to be separated in the land that is fairer than day.

Following this came the response by H. B. Douglas, of the 36th, which was as follows:

#### RESPONSE BY H. B. DOUGLAS

Ladies and Gentlemen: I will not detain you with a long response, for two reasons. 1st, because I would believe you would much prefer to visit among yourselves during the altogether too short time we can be together to-day, than to listen to any words I can utter. Thirty years have passed into history since you bade us good bye at Aurora, and we turned our faces toward the war clouds, rolling up from the south, and plunged into the conflict to do our share towards preserving this grand union of states, of whose wealth and unbounded prosperity you are so justly proud; and to keep "Old Glory" at the mast head. What memories well up in our hearts as we review those fateful years. Memories of comrades who went out with us to return no more to your hearts and homes; memories of those who did return and have since been mustered into the great encampment on the other shore.

Memories of the dead and dying, of those who fell by our sides as we faced the iron hale, and those who lay down by the way side and gave up their lives for our country and flag, as much for country and flag as those who fell in battle or wasted away in prison pens; memories of the march in sunshine and storm, in summer's heat and winter's cold; of the nights bivouac

by the way side, and the long days in camp, and of the bright and sad sides to our army life; memories which come to you, citizens, of the long and anxious years you watched and waited for those war clouds to roll by and for the home coming of those you loved.

I know that the recalling of these and the good visits you can have with the scattered ones, who are gathered with you to-day, will be far more interesting than anything I can say. Second, by looking at the program your committee have prepared for this occasion, I see there are orators to follow me, and I do not want to steal any of their thunder. Loyal people of Yorkville, in behalf of my comrades of the 36th Illinois Volunteers, I return to you their sincere and profound thanks for the kind, cordial and hearty welcome you have given them to-day, not only by the mouth of your orator, and by the hearty clasp of hand and look of eye, but by the undefinable, unexplainable presence we feel when we know we are among friends. And by the abundant and excellent food you have prepared for this occasion. Most of us have gathered with you in other reunion days, and we have carried the memories of those times as among the most pleasant of all our reunions, and I am sure this, our 25th annual reunion, will be another day to be cherished with those gone before.

Again I thank you for all the bountiful tokens of your welcome to us.

After this came a song, "Comrades," by the quartette. Mr. J. C. Taylor, who was to have responded for the 89th was unable to be present.

Next came a speech on "Col. Silas Miller," by Hon. Fred O. White, of Aurora, which was in his happiest vein, and well received.

Mr. White was followed by Anna Janvler Jones, of Eureka, Ill., the adopted daughter of the 36th and 89th, who recited "A Soldier's Retrospect," in a manner that showed her to be a accomplished elocutionist.

"The Old Coffee Kettle" was then sang by the quartette in a manner that cheered the hearts of the old veterans. Prof. Freeman, of Aurora, who was down on the program, was unable to be present on account of illness.

Gen. William Gibson, the gallant old colonel of the 19th Ohio Brigade, of which the 89th was a part, was then introduced. The general was not only a good fighter, but a born orator, and he held the large audience spell-bound, at times convulsing them with laughter, and at other times exciting the tenderest emotions by his graphic recital of the pathetic reminiscences of the soldier's life. It was an address the the veterans will not soon forget. The audience was so infatuated with his eloquence that when he had finished the rest of the program had to be abandoned.

It is estimated that 1,500 people attended the reunion. The whole town had a gala day appearance in honor of the event, all the stores and nearly all the residences being decked in the national colors.

## NOTES

Robert Miller, of Detroit, attended.

Yorkville never does things by halves, the stores and residences on the line of march were handsomely decorated.

W. H. Chamberlain came from Pittsfield, Mass., to reunite with the 36th boys.

C. G. Evans was out from Chicago to spend the day with his old 89th comrades.

There were just 95 members of the 36th Regiment present, and 46 of the 89th.

Mr. Shermerhorn, as usual, was on hand with his two seater to give the boys a ride.

R. W. Willett is always "in it" when it comes to taking care of a large crowd or presiding at a public meeting.

I. K. Young and J. M. Kennedy are always elected secretaries of their respective regiments, unanimously. They protest, but it don't go.

Three hearty cheers and a tiger were given the Yorkville W. R. C. for the magnificent banquet. The ladies certainly did out do any former efforts in this direction.

The quartette composed of Capt. F. M. Hobbs and the three Hill brothers -- William, Arthur and Fred -- rendered a number of choice army selections that were greatly appreciated.

A vote of thanks was voted Sup't Judson and the "Q" for the special train to bring the Aurora contingent home, and for a number of other courtesies, which were extended by the railway officials.

Among those who attended the reunion from Aurora were the following gentlemen, accompanied by their wives:

Hon. F. O. White, H. B. Douglas, J. F. Harral, J. M. Kennedy, C. Zimmer, Dr. M. M. Robbins, Frank W. Moore, Ed. Pierce, Eleazer Todd, Jos. Ingham, John A. White, John, Carl and Jason Wallace. Also Rev. Nelson Glover, Col. Nicholas Greusel, John Hopkins, Stephen Hiller, C. B. Brooks, J. B. Lawrence, Eb. Denney, Sid. Kendall, Chas. Odekirk, M. V. Allen, Sam. Hitchcock, Frank Barry, Mrs. Alonzo Page, Mrs. Dr. Ricker and Miss. Lou Brockway.

(REUNION, REUNION 1, RIBBON-1891)

Wednesday, December 2, 1891

## THEIR NEW COMMANDER

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W. H. Watson is Elected Commander of G. A. R. Post No. 20.

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One of the largest meetings ever held in the history of the Post.

Delegates to the National Encampment selected.

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Last night was the time set for the regular annual election of the officers of the G. A. R. Post, No. 20, for the ensuing year. The occasion drew out one of the largest meetings in the history of the Post.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

W. H. Watson, Commander  
J. H. Hubbard, Senior Vice, Commander  
F. H. Hotz, Junior Vice, Commander  
M. D. Yager, Quarter Master  
N. F. Norris, Surgeon  
C. B. Colwell, Chaplain  
S. Hitchcock, Officer of the Day  
E. G. Strossman, Officer of the Guard

Delegates to the next State Encampment: J. F. Harral, C. H. Snedecker, D. B. Lincoln, Ed. Pierce and Gus Aucutt.

Alternates: Joseph Ingham, J. C. Porter, S. E. Walker, J. H. Pratt and W. H. Stebbins.

A Committee of three consisting of W. H. Watson, D. B. Lincoln and J. H. Hubbard was selected to make arrangements for Aurora Post to attend the national encampment in Washington, D. C. in 1892. It was also decided to hold a campfire in January next.

Comrade Watson, who was elected Commander was one of the charter members of the Post, his name being first on the roll. He has always been one of the staunchest and most loyal friends of the Post and the honor conferred upon him is fully merited.

The post now has 268 members and is in a most flourishing condition.

A feature of the meeting was a presentation to the Post by Comrade Kennedy, on behalf of Hon. Fred O. White, of a handsome engraving of Gen. Grant and his staff of generals.

(1891-THEIR NEW COMMANDER)

(SKETCHBOOK-1891)

Thus ended the first twenty-five years of the Grand Army of the Republic. Never again would the National, State and Post organizations hold as much sway over the American public. Their pinnacle had been reached, and casualties would begin to outnumber recruits. Their numbers would be supplemented, however, by the numerous auxiliary patriotic organizations founded to support the mission of the G. A. R. The Sons of Veterans, Woman's Relief Corps and The Ladies of the G. A. R. plus others would begin to step up and carry the colors further.

Much had been accomplished in this brief twenty-five year period. Pensions had been established for the veterans as well as a network of Soldier's hospitals and homes for those who could not survive in the mainstream of society. Widow's and Orphan's homes were established and Patriotic reinforcement continued through the observance of Memorial Day services.

Their numbers would shrink, but, the legacy of their work would be felt across America for decades to come.

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