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Item #765 Donated by Keith Harrison

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIRST TO TENTH MEETINGS

1866--1876.

(INCLUSIVE)

OF THE

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

Grand Army of the Republic.

WITH

Digest of Decisions, Rules of Order and Index.

PRINTED BY SUBSCRIPTION.

PHILADELPHIA:
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1877.

GENERAL ORDER

CONVENING

FIRST NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
SPRINGFIELD, Illinois, October 31st, 1866.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 13.

A National Convention of the Grand Army of the Republic is hereby ordered to convene at Indianapolis, Indiana, at 10 o'clock, on Tuesday, the twentieth day of November next, for the purpose of perfecting the National organization, and the transaction of such other business as may come before the Convention.

The ratio of representation shall be as follows: Each Post shall be entitled to one representative, and when the membership exceeds one hundred, to one additional representative, and in the same ratio for every additional one hundred or fractional part thereof.

All Department and District officers, *ex-officio* shall be members of said Convention.

All honorably discharged soldiers and sailors, and those now serving in the army desirous of becoming members of the Grand Army of the Republic, are respectfully invited to attend the Convention.

All comrades are requested to wear the "blue," with corps badges, etc.

B. F. STEPHENSON,
Commander-in-Chief.
G. A. R., U. S.

Official,
J. C. WEBBER,
Adj. General Dep't Illinois.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION

OF THE

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

HELD IN INDIANAPOLIS, IND.,

November 20th and 21st, 1866.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH, 1866.

MORNING SESSION.

The Commander-in-Chief, Comrade B. F. Stephenson, called the Convention to order, Comrade Jno. M. Snyder acting as Adjutant-General.

Comrades J. C. Webber and O. M. Wilson were directed to report to the Adjutant-General for duty.

Chaplain Allen opened the exercises with prayer.

The following-named were appointed a Committee on Credentials :

Comrades A. L. Chetlain, Ill.; Wm. H. McCoy, Ohio; L. Edwin Dudley, D. C.; Clayton McMichael, Penna.; Jno. S. Cavender, Mo.; T. B. Farleigh, Ken.; J. B. McKean, N. Y.; T. J. Anderson, Kan.; R. F. Catterson, Ark.; J. F. Gwyne, Wis., A. P. Alexander, Iowa; M. C. Garber, Ind.

The following Committee on Permanent Organization was then appointed :

Comrades S. A. Huribut, Ill.; H. T. Burge, Ken.; A. Willich, Ohio; F. T. Ledergerber, Mo.; C. McMichael, Penna.; Charles G. Mayer, Wis.; Wm. Vandever, Iowa, and L. Edwin Dudley, D. C.

The following Committee on Business was then appointed :

Comrades H. K. Milward, Ken.; R. G. Feltus and John G. Kelley, Pa.; E. F. Schneider, Ohio; Chester Harding, Mo.; Richard Lester, Wis.; T. B. Osborn, Ill.; Lemuel D. Price, Iowa, and Charles Craft, Ind.

The Convention took a recess until 2 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Pursuant to adjournment the Convention assembled at 2 o'clock, and was called to order by the Commander-in-Chief, Comrade B. F. Stephenson, who stated the first business in order was the report of Committee upon Permanent Organization.

Comrade Hurlbut, chairman, submitted as the report of the committee :

The Committee upon Permanent Organization recommend the following-named comrades as officers for this Convention, until the adoption of a constitution and the election of officers thereunder:

For PRESIDENT, Comrade John M. Palmer, Illinois.

For VICE-PRESIDENTS, Comrade Thomas C. Fletcher, Missouri; R. S. Foster, Indiana; J. B. McKean, New York; John G. Kelley, Pa.; J. K. Proudfit, Wisconsin; Wm. O. Ryan, Iowa; Robert O. Catterson, Arkansas; B. F. Stephenson, Illinois; T. B. Farleigh, Kentucky; and August Willich, Ohio.

For SECRETARY, Comrade L. Edwin Dudley, D. C.

For ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, Comrades Daniel MacCauley, Indiana; Clayton McMichael, Penna.; F. T. Ledergerber, Missouri; Charles G. Marpers, Wisconsin; and F. M. Thompson, Illinois.

For CHAPLAIN, John H. Lazier, Indiana.

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

The President-elect, Comrade John M. Palmer, then came forward and made an able address setting forth the object of the order, and at the conclusion of his remarks assumed the chair.

The Committee on Credentials then submitted the following report .

Your committee appointed upon credentials have examined the credentials of the following-named comrades, and find them qualified as members of this Convention:

MISSOURI—Generals John McNeal, Chester Harding, and Madison Mil-

ler; Colonels John S. Cavender, John McFall, and F. T. Ledergerber; Captains Lawrence Bruce, John Reed, and Ira M. Bird

KANSAS—Colonel T. J. Anderson.

ILLINOIS—Generals John M. Palmer, S. A. Hurlbut, R. N. Pierson, T. S. Mather, M. R. M. Walker, A. L. Chetlain, T. O. Osbourn, and John S. Phelps; Colonels B. F. Stephenson, J. C. Weaver, John M. Snyder, Daniel Grass, and W. C. McCord; Majors E. S. Johnson, Lucien Wells, William Gane, A. C Phillips, Surgeons William A. Turner, J. R. Little; Captains Alexis Wellman, George W. Hunt, J. D. Estes, T. M. Thompson, Edward Hitchcock, Horace S. Clark, A. M. Lee, T. M. Hill, Thomas B. Selelow, Mahlon Nolan, W. D. E. Andrews, John W. Trumbull, and Leigh R. Success.

WISCONSIN—General J. K, Proudfit, Colonels C. K. Pier, Henry G. Rogers, Captains J. C. Mayers, Richard Lester, Thomas G. Gwyne, Thomas Bryant.

NEW YORK—General Jos. B. McKean.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—L Edwin Dudley.

PENNSYLVANIA—Colonels John G. Kelley, Clayton Macmichael, Major R. G. Feltus.

OHIO—Generals B. F. Potts, G. F. Laird, Philip Freim, Thomas T. Taylor, S. D. Porter, E. S. Woodburne, J. Thomas, August Willich; Colonels B. F. Hawkes, E, F. Schneider; Major A. D. Bailie, Captains Henry Deanbush, J. S. Greene; Lieutenants W. H. McCoy, Hugh McQuestion.

IOWA—General Wm. Vandever, Majors D. C. McNeill, Wm. N. Brayton; Captains A. P. Alexander, Samuel D. Pryce; Lieutenant Wm. O. Ryan.

KENTUCKY—Colonels Thomas B. Fairleigh, H. K. Milward, H. F. Burge.

INDIANA—Generals R. S. Foster, Daniel McCauley, Thomas J. Bradey, Frank Elletts, W. H. M. Casper, Geo Steele, C. S. Parrish, George Humphrey, Walter Tilford, E. N. Clark, Amos Kersey, W. R. Shenley, F. J. Bradley, Frank White, Fred. Keiffer, H. D. Washburne; Colonels —— Slator, —— Merrill, L. S. McClelland, C. B. Oakley, C. H. Butterfield, M. Pilden, W. L. Vestal, John S. Bishop, J. O. Meatur, A. D. Rose, A. M. Lucker, H. M. McFarland, Macy Southard, J. R. Hallowell, R. H. Buck, A. O. Behm, James H. Durham, C. J. Thompson, John L. Wilson, H. F. Harris, J. K. Kendall, J. R. Polk, Wm. T. Henly, John Parker, Enoch Harlan, J. B. Dodge, M. S. Robinson, H. H. Matthiews, J. R. Hallowell, J. B. Fusselman, Samuel Merrell, A. Hamilton, O. H. P. Bailey, Edward McCrea, C. D. Thomas, L. S. Sheeler, A. J. Hobb; Majors O. M. Wilson, E. G. Surles, H. D. Ellis, O. Blake, A. L. Foot, J. M. Pierce, Marshall A. Moore, John Popp, John Sim, W. C. Shain, Wm. Patten, F. C. Crawford, J. E. Brant, W. F Polk, J. P. Smith, R. F. Lityon; Surgeons W. B. Brilington, J. H. Craig; Captains John B. Wallace, S. H. B. McCain, J. W. Aughe, George Huletus, L. S. Powell, George W. Finley, J. B. Fenssleman, James R. Carnahan, W. B. Reyburn, John M. Smith, E. Hawkins, James Lucas, James Busey, W. R. Shurley, Wm. E. Craig, J. M. Essington, R. C. McCoy, Frank Ellis, W. H. N. Cooper, George W. Green, P. Miller, H. Kirby, J. W. White, H. C. Klane, John Crenyer, John S. Butler, J. R.

Wallace, S. R. Harriman, M. A. Moore, A. Hamilton, A. N. Lake, R. R. Major, E. F. Hunt, G. W. Green P. Miller, H. Danker, John W. White, J. W. Jacobs, J. W. J. Smith, A. F. Davis, J. J. Evans, C. O. Goodwin, S. C. Scott, F. E. Dawson, G. W. Lambert, E. W. Russ, C. W. Browne, E. P. Howe, E. T. Bluckner, T. F. Orner; Lieutenants, F. M. Harper, Sidney Maguire, S. J. Thomas, J. R. McBride, Samuel F. Mason, Jasper Packard, Edw. Hitchcock, W. E. Craig, John V. Hadley, J. G. Langsdale, Jacob Paine, Z A. Weir, J. R. McBride, Robert Ewald; Chaplains, J. H. Lozier, M. Robinson, F. R. Cook, M. E. Pierson, W. W. Snyder G. M. Davidson; Sergeants M. E. Chandler, C. V. Jones, Harvey Caldwell, W. Bodenmer, B. F. Magee, Frank Denter, James L. Ford, P. Kendall, P. Wilson, W. P. Wilson, R. J. Strickland, Stephen Lyren, R. H. Buck, J. N. Craig, H. C. Vincent, J. A. Child, A. C. Rawlinson, H. Kirby; Privates P. Mathiew, L. K. Powers.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Captain J. M. Essington offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That all business except voting be done by committees appointed for the purpose, and all business of the respective committees be reported to the convention to be acted upon.

Adopted.

Comrade H. D. Washburne moved that the Committee upon Business be discharged. Adopted.

Comrade Washburne then moved that three committees be appointed:

One upon Work and Ritual.

One upon Constitution and By-Laws, and

One upon Resolutions. Adopted.

On motion, the members of the late Committee on Business were made the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

The President then announced the other committees as follows:

Work and Ritual.—Comrades F. T. Ledergerber, of Missouri; J. L. Wilson, Indiana; B. F. Stephenson, Illinois; Clayton McMichael, Pennsylvania; William Vandever, Iowa; H. K. Milward, of Kentucky; Chas. G. Mayers, of Wisconsin; J. L. Greene, Ohio.

Resolutions.—Comrades Jno. McNeil, Missouri; R. G. Feltus, Pennsylvania; A. P. Alexander, Iowa; J. K. Proudfit, Wisconsin; A. L. Chetlain, Illinois; T. B. Farleigh, Kentucky; T. T. Taylor, Ohio.

On motion, all propositions to amend the Work and Ritual, the Constitution and By-laws, and all resolutions, should be referred to the appropriate committees without debate.

Notice was given that if agreeable to the Convention, Governor Morton would be glad to extend a public welcome to the comrades in this hall in the evening.

Comrades Jno. McNeil, B. F. Potts, A. Willich, and —— Baird were then appointed a committee to wait upon Governor Morton, and inform him that the Convention would be pleased to meet him.

Comrades S. A. Hurlbut, H, D. Washburne and A. Willich were appointed a Committee to report on Order of Business.

The Committee, after consultation, reported the following:

Evening session to be devoted to speeches by Governor Morton and others for the general good of the Order.

Morning session, to-morrow. 1. Reports from committees and action thereon.

The Convention then adjourned, to meet at 10 A. M. Wednesday.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21st, 1866.

Morning Session.

At 10 o'clock the Convention was called to order by the Chairman, Comrade Jno. M. Palmer.

Chaplain Lozier opened the exercises with prayer. The Officer of the Day made the grand rounds, and reported all present qualified to remain.

Comrade C. B. Oakley offered the following:

Whereas, The report of yesterday's proceedings published in the Indianapolis *Daily Journal* is, in several particulars, incorrect and incomplete; therefore

Resolved, That the Secretaries of the Convention are requested to correct and complete the said report, and request its publication in the *Evening Gazette* of to-day and the *Journal* of to-morrow.

Adopted.

Chaplain Lozier then entertained the Convention by singing "Old John Brown."

At the suggestion of Chaplain Lozier, the President then invited all delegates present in the Convention who had lost

limbs in the service to come forward and occupy seats upon the platform. Seven soldiers came forward, namely:

Private A. C. Rawlinson, Company K, 22d Indiana Vols., lost arm at Perryville, Ken.

Sergeant William P. Wilson, Company F, 19th Indiana Vols., lost left leg at Gettysburg.

Captain J. H. Dooley, Company F, 40th Indiana Vols., lost right arm at Mission Ridge.

Private Joseph Raible, Company E, 32d Indiana Vols., lost right arm.

Private Jas. K. Powers, Co. H., 9th Ind. Vols.. lost right arm at Shiloh.

Lieut. John M. Trumbull, Co. K, 36th Ills. Vols., lost left arm, Dallas, Ga.

Private Chas. S. Nehemiah, Company K, 26th Indiana Vols., lost right leg at Prairie Grove, Ark.

The Secretary was then directed to call the roll of delegates, and all not delegates were requested to retire.

The Committee on Constitution then submitted a revised form.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention assembled at half-past one P. M., and again took up the report of the Committee on Constitution. After a few amendments the report was adopted as appended to these proceedings.

Comrade Lederberger then read the report of the Committee on Work and Ritual.

* * *

The Committee upon Resolutions then submitted the following report, which was adopted:

We, the representatives of the soldiers and sailors of the military and naval service of the United States during the late war against traitors, reaffirming our devotion to these States, the Constitution and the laws of our country, and our abhorrence of treason and oppression,

Resolve, *First*, That the Grand Army of the Republic is organized to maintain in civil life, those great principles for which it stood in arms under the national flag; that it stands pledged to crush out active treason, to advance and support loyalty, to secure sound constitutional liberty to all men, and to vindicate everywhere and at all times the full and complete rights of every loyal American citizen, against all combinations of force or fraud that may attempt to deny or deprive them of such rights.

S cond, That we pledge all the power and influence which, as individuals or as an association, we can legitimately wield, in the most especial manner to those gallant men who stood fast by the country in the hour of its agony, in the rebellious States; and who, through all manner of losses and injuries,

persecutions by force and persecutions under color of law, maintained their integrity and vindicated their loyalty; and we solemnly declare that no power that we can use shall be neglected until they are thoroughly and completely protected in the active exercise of every right of American freemen, through the entire country over which our flag floats.

Third, That Congress, in justice and not in charity, should pass a law equalizing, in a just manner, the bounties of all Union soldiers and sailors.

Fourth, That we now, as heretofore, pledge ourselves to use our best endeavors to procure appropriate State and national legislation, for the education and maintenance of the orphans and widows of our deceased comrades and maimed brethren, and to enforce a speedy adjustment and payment of all lawful claims against the government due soldiers and sailors and their friends.

Fifth, That in our opinion no man is worthy to be a free citizen of a free country who is not willing to bear arms in its defence, and we, therefore, suggest to Congress the passage of a law making it the inexorable duty of every citizen to defend his country, in time of need, in person and not by substitute.

Sixth. That as a matter of justice and right, and because the sacrifice made and dangers encountered by the Union soldiers and sailors who served in the late war for the preservation of the country, cannot ever be fully repaid, we respectfully ask that those in authority bestow upon needy and and worthy soldiers and sailors, such positions of honor and profit as they may be competent to fill; and while we seek nothing for ourselves, or those of our comrades who are able to maintain themselves, we do earnestly recommend this request to the consideration of those in authority. And we especially ask the attention of the President to "his policy," heretofore declared on this subject.

The convention then proceeded to the election of officers, with the following result:

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF—Comrade S. A. Hurlbut, Illinois
SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF—Comrade J. B. McKean, New York.
JUNIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF—Comrade R. S. Foster, Indiana.
ADJUTANT-GENERAL—Comrade B. F. Stephenson, Illinois.
QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL—Comrade August Willich, Ohio.
SURGEON-GENERAL—Comrade D, C. McNeil, Iowa.
CHAPLAIN—Comrade William A. Pile, Missouri
COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION—
Comrades J. K. Proudfit, Wisconsin,
William Vandever, Iowa.
T. O. Osbourn, Illinois,
T. C. Fletcher, Missouri,
T. T. Taylor, Ohio.
H. K. Milward, Kentucky,
F. J. Bramhall, New York,
Nathan, Kimball, Indiana,
Clayton McMichael, Pennsylvania.

On motion, the thanks of the Encampment were unanimously tendered to the President, John M. Palmer, and the other officers; also, to Comrade B. F. Stephenson and the other officers of the preliminary convention.

On motion of Comrade B. F. Stephenson, "The Great Republic" newspaper was adopted as the official organ of the Order.

Comrade Hurlbut, Commander-in-Chief, then thanked the Convention for the honor conferred upon him, and pledged himself to use every effort to further the interest of the Order.

Comrade J. B. McKean, S. V. Commander-in-Chief, then made a few remarks, and pledged the Empire State for earnest co-operation in the work.

Comrade J. T. Harris offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a fraternal invitation of union with the Grand Army of the Republic, be extended through Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief McKean, to the Soldier's and Sailor's Union of New York.

Comrade T. J. Anderson, of Kansas, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic be authorized to receive into the Order, the members of the organization known as the Veteran Brotherhood, State of Kansas, without additional expense to them, upon the Grand Encampment of that Order accepting the Ritual of the Grand Army of the Republic and agreeing to be governed by the Constitution and By-Laws of the same.

Adopted.

On motion, the thanks of the Encampment were tendered to the several railroads leading into the city, which had consented to return delegates free.

The Encampment then adjourned to meet at the call of the Commander-in-Chief.

(Signed) L. EDWIN DUDLEY, *Secretary.*

NOTE.—It is stated in the Record-book that the report of the foregoing proceedings was mainly copied from the Indianapolis papers, and may therefore contain some errors.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SECOND NATIONAL CONVENTION

OF THE

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

HELD IN PHILADELPHIA, PA.

January 15*th*, 16*th and* 17*th*, 1868.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., January 15, 1868.

Meeting called to order by Comrade Stephen A. Hurlbut, Commander-in-Chief.

Prayer was offered by Rev. J. F. Meredith, of Pennsylvania.

Comrade Louis Wagner, of Pennsylvania, was detailed Officer of the Day, and made the grand rounds, and reported all present to be members of the G. A. R., and that he had detailed as Sentinels the following comrades: James Bryan, J. W. Gibson, and Dudley Worman, of Pennsylvania.

Comrade Albert S. Evans, of Pennsylvania, was appointed Secretary to the Adjutant General.

The Commander-in-Chief then addressed the Convention upon the object of the meeting, and declared it open for the transaction of business.

On motion of Comrade J. T. Owen, of Pennsylvania, a committee of five was appointed on credentials, as follows: J. T. Owen, of Pennsylvania; James G. Blunt, of Kansas; H. B. Banning, of Ohio; George W. Palmer, of New York; and R. W. Smith, of Illinois, who presented the following report:

Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R.:

Your Committee on Credentials respectfully submit the following report, and find the following-named delegates entitled to seats in this Convention, as appears from the credentials presented by the same:

Signed, JOSHUA T. OWEN,
GEO. W. PALMER,
JAMES G. BLUNT,
H. B. BANNING,
R. W. SMITH,
Committee.

DELEGATES.

DEPARTMENT OF MAINE.—George L. Beal, T. W. Hyde, A. P. Harris, Edward Moore, A. B. Farnum, and M. F. Wentworth.

DEPARTMENT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.—M. T. B. Relton, J. H. Kent, F. G. Wentworth.

DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS.—A. S Cushman, A. A. Goodall, W. R. Melden, L. E Stewart.

DEPARTMENT OF RHODE ISLAND.—W W. Douglas, T. W. Higginson, James Shaw, Jr., William Sprague, C. H. Tompkins.

DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT.—L. N. Middlebrook, W. H. Noble, W. H. Mallory, W. E. Simonds, Ed. Harland, —— Upham.

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK.—N. G. Axtell, M. L. Filkins, B. T. Morgan, D. F. Ritchie, C. B. Winslow, Milo B. Eldridge, H. A. Barnum, Geo. W. Palmer, D E. Sickles, T B. Gates, James M. Gere, James B. McKean, Ferris Jacobs, W. S. H. Roberts.

DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY.—A. W. Angel, George B. Halstead, Ed. Jardine, A Sears, W. S. Stryker.

DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA.—Louis Wagner, Clayton McMichael, Rev. J. F. Meredith, J. T. Owen, J. F. Hartranft, A. L. Pearson, E. A. Montooth, W. M. Worrall.

DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND.—W. O. Bigelow, A. W. Denison, E. Y. Goldsborough, W. B. Parasine, F. W. Simon.

DEPARTMENT OF DELAWARE.—James Lewis, J. S. Valentine, Thomas T. Black, A. H. Grimshaw.

DEPARTMENT OF POTOMAC.—N P Chipman, Richard Middleton, T. E. Luby, —— Merrill, George W. Nares.

DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN.—M. H. Fitch, T. Reynolds, H. A. Starr, F. C. Winckler.

DEPARTMENT OF OHIO.—Theo Autenreith, James Barnet, T. C. Campbell, B. W. Free, M. P. Gaddis, J. R. Hurd, H. B Jones, D. W. C. Loudon, B. F. Miller, G. W. Ramage, J. W. Sanderson, W. M. Ampt, G. M. Barnes, E. T. Dunn, A S. Frazier, I. F. Hawkes, J. Hunt, J. T. Langstroth, T. J. Lawton, J. C. Moon, J. A Shannon, W. R. Warnock, H. B Banning, George L. Childs, W. Earnshaw, F. H. Goodman, Josiah Given, H. E. Jones, J. W. Lindsley, F. Miller, A S McClure, Charles Steadman, L. T. Schofield, Coates Kinney.

Department of Indiana.—C. M. Allen, Jr., John Coburn, M. C. Hunter, G. W. Lambert, J. P. C. Shanks, George C. Baker, T. W McCoy, J. C. Bennet, O. Chamberlain, Nathan Kimball, R. N. Lamb, H. D. Washburn, Thomas Bennett, —— McKay, J. Bolinger, Milo Hascall, R. H. Litson, James B. Mulkey, H. L. Royce, T. M. Brown, W. C. Wilson, Ben Spooner.

Department of Illinois.—J. M. Beardsley, John Cook, A. Engleman, J. F. Farnsworth, G. L. Foote, A. C. Harding, R. M. Hough, I. M. Haynie, C. E. Lippincott, John A. Logan, T. S Mather, J. S Martin, T. O. Osbourn, J. M Palmer, E. Kitchell, R. Rowett, Louis Shaffner, Robert W. Smith, John C. Smith, George P. Smith, J. W. Shaffer, M. J. Sheridan, T. M. Thompson, W. M Taylor, and Julius C. White, J. Smith, J. Scull, L. G. Ingersoll, J. M. True, M. Shepard, G. B. Raum, Charles Odell, L. W. Shepherd, Jonathan Morris, John Hay, John M. Snyder.

Department of Michigan —W. I. Handy, William Phelps.

Department of Iowa --N. B. Baker, John Bell, C. L. Matthias, Thos. I. Saunders. William Vandever, J A. Williamson

Department of Minnesota.---W. T. Collins, J. E. Doughty, J. A. Ege, M. F. Kelley.

Department of Kansas.—James G. Blunt, W. S. Moorehouse.

Department of Missouri.—Clinton B. Fisk; J. J. Gravelly, J. H. Hammond, Jno. McNeil, P H Murphey, W. A. Pyle, F Roberson

Department of Tennessee.—D. W. Glassie, H. D. Grant, F. W. Sparling.

On motion of Comrade Louis Wagner, of Pennsylvania, the report of the Committee on Credentials was recommitted for corrections and additions.

On motion of Comrade W. S. Moorehouse, of Kansas, the Committee on Credentials was directed to omit the military rank of comrades in their report.

On motion of Comrade Daniel E. Sickles, of New York, the Adjutant-General was directed to receive the names of ex-officio members of this Convention, and transmit them to the Committee on Credentials, to be entered on their report.

The Committee on Credentials presented their report, with the necessary corrections and additions, which was adopted.

Comrade Louis Wagner, of Pennsylvania, presented the following resolution :

Resolved, That all comrades making motions, or rising to speak, shall first announce their names and the Department they represent ;

Which was unanimously adopted.

The following communication was received:

UNION LEAGUE HOUSE,
PHILADELPHIA, January 15 1868.

To the Convention of the G. A. R, U. S.:

GENTLEMEN:—I have been instructed by the Board of Directors of the Union League of Philadelphia, to invite your honorable body to visit the League House, at any time that may suit your convenience.

We also, beg you to understand, that the freedom of our house is offered to your members individually, at all times during the sessions of your useful and patriotic Convention in this city.

Your obedient servant,
GEO. H. BOKER,
Secretary.

Which, on motion, was received, and the thanks of the Convention returned to the Union League for their courtesy.

Comrade B. F. Stephenson, Adjutant General, presented his report, showing the operations of the G. A, R. during the year.*

REPORT OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL G. A. R., U. S.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
SPRINGFIELD, Illinois, January 10, 1868.

To the Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic through their representatives in National Convention assembled, greeting:

The Adjutant General, in presenting this the first official report of the rise and progress of the glorious Order now represented in National Convention, approaches the subject with extreme diffidence, feeling himself, as he does, unable to do the subject the justice it deserves.

Early in the spring of 1866 a few patriots, deeply feeling the importance of organizing a grand association of the gallant Union soldiers and sailors of the late terrible rebellion, for the purpose of fostering fraternal relations and keeping alive the zeal of patriotism and devotion to our country, and above all, for the purpose of mutual support and assistance in clothing the naked, feeding the hungry, and furnishing employment to destitute, sick and wounded comrades, and caring for the widows and orphans of our gallant dead, formed their plans, and publicly calling on all interested, on the 12th day of July, 1866, met in convention in the Representatives Hall at the State capital at Springfield, Illinois, and, then and there, formed the nucleus of the grand organization here represented in convention, and which, from that humble origin, now extends an influence of great power throughout nearly every State and territory in our country.

* The Mss. report of Adjutant General is not among the minutes. The extract printed is taken from the "Ohio Republic.

Your present Adjutant General was honored by the appointment as Provisional Commander-in-Chief. With but crude materials at his command (mere local influence and but little pecuniary means) aided by a few noble workers, he succeeded in a few months in establishing Provisional Departments in several States and Territories, and placing them in good working order. The Boys in Blue saw the importance of the organization, and as they flew to arms when Sumpter fell, so did they soon fill up our ranks. But the material was crude, our ranks but as raw recruits, and the importance of a more thorough organization keenly felt. So the first National Convention was called to convene in Indianapolis, Indiana, on the 20th day of November, 1866, and then and there, the Grand Army of the Republic received its first official recognition The officers for the current year were elected, a Council of Administration appointed, a Constitution and Regulations adopted, and the noble ship, with its precious freight of charity and fraternal love, with the stars and stripes nailed to the mast, was launched upon the great sea of human events, and right nobly has the gallant bark done duty since that time; though she has passed through many bitter engagements with her ancient enemies, the traitor ship and crew, and even assailed by those who should have been her friends, *her flag is still there.*

* * * * * * *

From information derived from numerous letters received daily at my office from every part of our land, I am highly gratified in stating my belief that our organization is rapidly gaining in strength and importance, and through its instrumentality thousands of starving widows and orphans have been fed and clothed, while other thousands of our poor, helpless, crippled comrades have been placed in positions where they could earn their own bread, who, but for our instrumentality, would be left to seek their support from the cold hand of charity, *and the Union soldier disdains to beg.* I would also state that all the documents, files of correspondence, books, etc., remaining in my office will be held subject to the requisition of my successor.

* * * * * * *

In conclusion, I would offer my hearty congratulations for the unprecedented success of our organization, so dear to the heart of every patriot soldier, and earnestly trust that the deliberations of this body may prove harmonious, and such action matured as will better develop the power and influence of our order for good throughout our land.

Fraternally,

B. F. STEPHENSON,

Adjutant General G. A. R., U. S.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF A. G.

DEPARTMENTS ORGANIZED.

	DATE.	RECEIPTS
Illinois	November 22, 1866	
Indiana	" "	
Missouri	" "	$17 00
Iowa	" "	
Pennsylvania	" "	70 00
Ohio	" "	20 00
Wisconsin	" "	4 00
Minnesota	August 14, 1867	10 00
Michigan	May 8, 1867	10 00
Kansas	November 22, 1866	50 00
New York	November 22, 1866	
Massachusetts	June 1867	8 00
Connecticut	April 11, 1867	
New Jersey		13 00
Delaware	February 26, 1867	
West Virginia		10 00
Potomac	March, 1867	
Louisiana		130 00
Nebraska		10 00
		$352 00

Kentucky, Tennessee, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, Maryland, North Carolina, Alabama, Texas, Arkansas, Colorado, Montana. No details given.

EXPENDITURES (per vouchers submitted):

PRINTING, H. Leib & Co., $157 25; P. L. Harts, $82 40; T. H. Ide, $5 00; R. Weber, $295 00... .....Total $539 65.

CLERKS, F. J. Dean, $186 66; J. A. Kuykendall, $100 00; P. H. Conkling, $342 00.....Total $638 66.

OFFICE RENT, December 1, 1866 to January 15, 1868, 15½ months at $25	337 50
POSTAGE and Box Rent	73 25
FUEL AND GAS, estimated	48 50
	$1,637 56
Receipts	352 00
Balance on Account of Adjutant General's Office	$1,285 56

I certify that the above report is correct and just.

(Signed,) B. F. STEPHENSON,

Adjutant General, G. A. R., U. S.

A telegram was received from Comrade August Willich, Quartermaster General, stating that there were no funds belonging to the G. A. R. in his possession, which was received and filed.*

On motion, the election of officers was postponed until the main business had been transacted.

On motion of Comrade W. M. Worrall, of Pennsylvania, the Convention adjourned to meet at 4 P. M.

Convention assembled, pursuant to adjournment, at 4 P. M. The following communication was presented:

Extract from the minutes of the National Council, Union League of America:

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 11,1867

Resolved, That a committee of five (5) be appointed to confer with the organization known as the Grand Army of the Republic for the purpose of securing co-operative action between the Grand Army and the Union League of America; said committee to report to a meeting to be held at Chicago, prior to the assembling of the National Republican Convention, on the 19th day of May, 1868, and no action of the committee to have any force or effect unless such action be approved by both organizations.

The resolution was adopted, and Hons. Galusha A. Grow, Chas. C. Lathrop, Major, Jas. G. McQuaid and Col. Wm. B. Thomas were appointed as the committee provided for in the above resolution.

The Secretary was directed to forward a copy of the resolution and minutes pertaining thereto to the G. A. R.

JAMES B RONEY,
Secretary U. L. A.

Which, on motion, was laid on the table.

Comrade James Shaw, of Rhode Island, presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee of one from each Department be appointed to revise the ritual and rules and regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic, and report compliance on January 16, 1868.

Which was unanimously agreed to, and the committee appointed.†

* No other report received from Q. M. G.

† Names of committee not given in minutes.

Comrade T. M. Thompson, of Illinois, presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the delegates from each Department be authorised to cast the entire vote to which the Departments they represent are entitled—that is one vote for each one thousand members.

Comrade James Shaw, of Rhode Island, moved to strike out all after the words "that is."

Comrade R. M. Hough, of Illinois, offered the following as a substitute:

Resolved, That the members of this Convention be entitled to cast the whole vote to which their respective departments are entitled.

Comrade Louis Wagner, of Pennsylvania, moved to lay the whole subject on the table, which was agreed to.

Comrade Daniel E. Sickles moved that the report of the Adjutant General be referred to a committee of five;

Which was agreed to, and the following committee appointed:

Comrade Daniel E. Sickles, of N. Y.; Nathan Kimball, of Ind.; T. O. Osbourn, of Ill.; Clayton McMichael, of Penn.; B. F. Hawkes, of Ohio.

On motion, adjourned to meet at 10 A. M.; January 16, 1868.

———.o:———

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Convention met, pursuant to adjournment, at 10 A. M., January 16, 1868.

Roll called, and members seated by delegations.

Comrade Nathan Kimball, of Indiana, presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That no comrade shall be permitted to speak more than once, nor longer than three (3) minutes, on any question, without the consent of the Convention.

Which was agreed to.

Comrade T. C. Campbell, of Ohio, presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee consisting of one from each delegation be appointed as a Committee on Resolutions.

Which was agreed to, and the committee appointed.*

Comrade H. B. Banning, of Ohio, moved that all resolutions other than those referring to the immediate business of the Convention be referred to the Committee on Resolutions;

Which was agreed to.

Comrade W. E. Simonds, of Connecticut, moved that the use of the previous question be allowed in the proceedings of this Convention;

Which was agreed to.

Comrade James B. McKean, of New York, moved that the rules of the national House of Representatives be adopted for the government of this Convention;

Which was agreed to.

Comrades E. Y. Goldsborough, of Maryland, presented the following preamble and resolutions:

WHEREAS, arrangements are being perfected by State legislation and otherwise, to inter in the Anteitam National Cemetery, the remains of those rebels who were killed in the vicinity of said cemetery; and

WHEREAS, we feel that respect to our fallen comrades requires us to oppose any such movement, and to protect their ashes from insult: Therefore be it

Resolved, By the Grand Army of the Republic, in convention assembled, That we demand from Congress such legislation as will forever prevent the burial, in any of the national cemeteries, of any person other than the deceased soldiers and sailors of the Republic, for whom they were intended, by placing said cemeteries under the control of the general government, or by such other mode as to them shall seem best to accomplish the object herein sought.

Resolved, That copies of this preamble and resolutions be forwarded to the President of the Senate of the United States and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, for the immediate action of said bodies

Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Comrade A. S. Cushman, of Massachusetts, Chairman of Committee on Ritual, reported that the committee had performed the duty assigned to them, and presented a revised copy;

Which was read.

The Ritual as revised, with some amendments, was unanimously adopted.

* Names of committee not given in minutes.

Comrade G. W. Lambert, of Indiana, moved that the degree work adopted by the Department of Indiana be referred to the Committee on Ritual;

Which was agreed to.

Comrade A. S. Cushman, of Massachusetts, moved that a committee of one from each Department be appointed to adopt a regalia.

Laid on the table.

Comrade H. D. Washburn, of Indiana, moved to reconsider the resolution postponing the election of officers;

Which was agreed to.

Comrade H. A. Barnum, of New York, moved that immediately after assembling this afternoon the Convention shall proceed to an election for officers to serve for the ensuing year.

Which was agreed to.

On motion, the Adjutant General was directed to furnish the delegates with certificates of membership.

Comrade Nathan Kimball, of Indiana, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented the following report.

The Committee on Finance have the honor to present the following as their report:

The report of the Adjutant General, with accompanying documents and vouchers, they have carefully examined, confining their attention more particularly to the financial statement therein contained.

They respectfully recommend the adoption of the report, and in order to obtain funds to liquidate the indebtedness of Army Headquarters and to give a small sum for the beginning of a new administration, they would suggest to the Convention the passage of a resolution calling on the Departments for the immediate payment of the sum of $2,500, to be levied upon the several Departments proportionately to the number of comrades therein respectively contained, the representative strength to be ascertained from the delegations present, by whom it is hoped the money will be advanced, provided that the amounts already paid by the several departments shall be deducted from the amount assessed.

They further recommend in place of Sec 2, of Art. XII, Rules and Regulations:

The Department dues shall be *ten* cents per annum from each member borne on the rolls, in the aggregate strength of the several Posts.

And, in place of Sec. 6, Art. XII, they would respectfully recommend the substitution of the following paragraph:

The several Departments shall pay to the Headquarters of the G. A. R. one cent per annum for each member borne on the rolls, in the aggregate strength of the Departments; one-fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) of the amount to be forwarded by the Department Commander to the Adjutant General of the Army, before five (5) days after the expiration of each quarter, ending March 31st, June 30th, September 30th, and December 31st. In case of the failure of any Department to comply with the requirements of this section, they shall be debarred from any participation or representation in the National Councils of the Army, until all dues and penalties shall have been paid, and satisfactory explanation made.

In submitting these suggestions for the action of the Convention, the committee respectfully ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

NATHAN KIMBALL,
T. O. OSBOURN,
CLAYTON McMICHAEL,
DANIEL E. SICKLES,
B. F. HAWKES,
Committee.

Which on motion was laid on the table for the present.

On motion, the communication from the Union League of America was taken from the table.

Comrade C. E. Lippincott, of Illinois, moved that a committee of five be appointed to confer with the U. L. A., as requested.

Which was agreed to.

The following committee was appointed: Comrade C. E. Lippincott, of Illinois; James B. McKean, of New York; Nathan Kimball, of Indiana; J. F. Hartranft, Pennsylvania; and James Shaw, of Rhode Island.

Comrade Louis Wagner, of Pennsylvania, presented the following resolution:

Resolved. That this Convention adjourn at 1 P. M. to meet at 2.30 P. M., and at 6 P. M. to meet at 7 30 P. M.; at the last hour to meet at the Chamber of Common Council (centre building), State House, Sixth and Chestnut streets.

Which was agreed to.

Comrade G. B. Halstead, of New Jersey, moved that at 8 P. M. one-half hour be devoted to instruction in the unwritten work of the Order.

Which was agreed to.

Adjourned pursuant to resolution at 1 P. M.

Convention assembled at 2 P. M.

A recess of fifteen minutes was had, and, on being called to order, Comrade Nathan Kimball, of Indiana, moved that the Convention now resolve into a Committee of the Whole upon the state of the Order.

Which was agreed to.

Comrade Joshua T. Owen took the Chair.

Comrades Hurlbut, Sickles, and others addressed the Convention at some length.

Committee rose.

No business reported.

Comrade T. B. Gates, of New York, Chairman of the Committee on Rules and Regulations, reported that the committee had performed the duty assigned them, and presented a revised copy, which was read.

Comrade W. M. Worrall, of Pennsylvania, presented the following resolution :

Resolved. That in adopting the Rules and Regulations each article shall be acted upon separately.

Which was agreed to.

Comrade G. W. Lambert, of Indiana, presented a report from the minority of the Committee on Rules and Regulations in favor of striking out Sec. 2, of Art. IV, as reported by the majority of the committee, and moved that all after the word "office" be stricken out in Art. IV.

The previous question was called for and ordered to be taken.

The question then recurring on the motion of Comrade Lambert, it was put, and not agreed to.

Comrade T. W. Higginson, of Rhode Island, moved to insert the words "Grand Encampment G. A. R.," after the words "title of," in Art. I, Regulations.

Which was agreed to.

Comrade W. H. Mallory, of Connecticut, moved to insert the clause authorizing district organizations.

Comrade E. Jardine, of New Jersey, moved the previous question, which was ordered to be taken.

The motion of Comrade Mallory was put and not agreed to.

Comrade Nathan Kimball, of Indiana, moved to reconsider the motion of Comrade Lambert, which motion was laid on the table.

Comrade E. Y. Goldsborough, of Maryland, moved to strike out the words honorary members and citizens, in Art. IV.

Which was agreed to.

Comrade M. C. Hunter, of Indiana, moved that the Rules and Regulations now be adopted as they stand, which was amended by Comrade H. D. Grant, of Tennessee, that the muster-in fee be reduced to fifty cents.

Which was agreed to.

Adjourned to meet at 7.30 P.M. at Common Council Chamber.

———:o:———

Convention met pursuant to adjournment, at Common Council Chamber, at 7.30 P. M., January 16th, 1868.

Called to order.

Proceeded to nominate and elect officers to serve for the ensuing year, with the following result:

For Commander-in-Chief.—Comrade John A. Logan, of Illinois.

For Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.—Comrade Joshua T. Owen, of Pennsylvania.

For Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.—Comrade Joseph R. Hawley, of Connecticut.

For Inspector-General.—Comrade Ed. Jardine, of New Jersey.

For Quartermaster-General.—Comrade T. C. Campbell, of Ohio.

For Surgeon-General.—Comrade John Bell, of Iowa.

For Chaplain-General.—Comrade A. H. Quint of Massachusetts.

As Council of Administration the following were elected.

Comrade M. F. Wentworth, Department of Maine.

Comrade D. J. Vaughn, Department of New Hampshire.

Comrade A. S. Cushman, Department of Massachusetts.

Comrade James Shaw, Jr., Department of Rhode Island.

Comrade E. Whittaker, Department of Connecticut.
Comrade G. Cummings, Department of New Jersey.
Comrade T. B. Gates, Department of New York.
Comrade J. F. Hartranft, Department of Pennsylvania.
Comrade A. W. Denison, Department of Maryland.
Comrade N. P. Chipman, Department of Potomac.
Comrade H. B. Banning, Department of Ohio.
Comrade Charles Craft, Department of Indiana.
Comrade Julius C. White, Department of Illinois.
Comrade William Phelps, Department of Michigan.
Comrade Thomas I. Sanders, Department of Iowa.
Comrade J. A. Ege, Department of Minnesota.
Comrade John A. Martin, Department of Kansas.
Comrade T. C. Fletcher, Department of Missouri.
Comrade H. D. Grant, Department of Tennessee.
Comrade J. K. Proudfit, Department of Wisconsin.
Comrade H. C. Warmouth, Department of Louisiana.

On motion, a vote of thanks was tendered to the retiring officers for their faithful and efficient services during the past year.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Finance was taken from the table and adopted.

Comrade W. M. Worrall, of Pennsylvania, presented the following resolution :

WHEREAS, it appears by the statement of the Adjutant General of the G. A. R. that the funds already received are not sufficient to defray the expenses of said Department; therefore, be it

Resolved, That a tax be levied on each Department of one dollar for each Post, and the fund created thereby be devoted to reimburse the present Adjutant General, the balance to be retained by the Quartermaster General for the benefit of the G. A. R., and that the respective Department Commanders are hereby held responsible for the collection of the same, and enforcement of the order throughout their Departments.

Resolved, further, That the Department Commanders make their return under this resolution within four (4) months after the adoption of the same.

Which was agreed to.

On motion, adjourned to meet at 10 A. M., January 17, 1868.

THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Convention assembled pursuant to adjournment at 10 A.M., January 17, 1868.

Comrade N. P. Chipman, of Washington, D. C., from Committee on Resolutions, reported the following:

A resolution presented by Comrade N. P. Chipman, of Department of Potomac:

WHEREAS, We believe the loyal people of this country bear the citizen soldiery in grateful remembrance, and heartily accord to them all honor for their heroic sacrifices to save the nation, and wherever the question of merit is equally balanced, would prefer to see honorably discharged soldiers and sailors promoted to places of trust and profit; and

WHEREAS, by the experience of the past two years we are painfully admonished that public officials, and those possessing the power to appoint to and remove from office, almost wholly ignore service in the late army and navy against rebellion as a qualification for office, and sometimes treat such service as a positive disqualification. Therefore be it

Resolved, That we most earnestly recommend this subject to Congress as deserving speedy action.

Resolved, That we regard it the duty of Congress to provide, by some regulation of the civil offices, so that honorable service as a soldier or sailor of the country may constitute a qualification for appointment, and that in the several departments of the Government a definite and equitable number from this class of citizens be chosen from the list of applicants, if shown to possess the requisite skill and fitness.

Resolved, That Congress be requested to so frame the law as to protect our comrades now in civil employment of the Government, from being discriminated against by those having the authority to remove them in any future reduction of the number in such civil employment.

Resolved, That this resolution be engrossed, and a copy thereof certified and sent to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, with the request that they be laid before that honorable body as the sense of the citizen soldiery of the country, and with urgent petition that Senators and Representatives give this matter their early and earnest attention.

On motion, the above was unanimously agreed to.

The resolution offered by Comrade Goldsborough, of Maryland, referring to the burial of rebel soldiers in the National Cemetery at Antietam, was on motion, unanimously agreed to.

Also a resolution presented by Comrade M. C. Hunter, Indiana:

Resolved, That this Convention hereby express its warm approbation of the

resolution offered by Gen. J. P. C. Shanks, M. C., of the House of Representatives, asking for the passage of a law providing for furnishing, at the expense of the United States, the necessary artificial limbs and supports for those who now do, or hereafter may, need them, at any time during their natural lives, on account of injuries received or diseases incurred in the military or naval service of the Republic.

Which on motion was unanimously agreed to.

Also a resolution presented by Comrade N. P. Chipman, of Washington, D. C.

Resolved, That we extend the thanks of this Convention to Leonard Grover, Esq., for the complimentary tickets furnished the delegates of this Convention to attend the opera, while in the city, and that the Adjutant General furnish a copy of this resolutiom to him.

Which was unanimously agreed to.

Comrade Richard Middleton, of Department of the Potomac, presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be extended to the different railroads that have made a reduction of fares to delegates attending this Convention.

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the agents of said roads.

Which was unanimously agreed to.

Comrade J. T. Langstroth, of Ohio, presented, on behalf of the Committee on Ritual, and Installation and Burial Service, a report, which on motion was read and adopted,

Comrade W. R. Warnock, of Ohio, presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, We recognize the able and efficient manner in which the Ohio Republic (the official organ of Ohio) has advocated our cause from its inception to the present time;

Resolved, That we will give it our hearty support, and recommend its adoption as the official organ of the Grand Army of the Republic U. S.

Comrade N. P. Chipman, Department of the Potomac, presented the following resolution as a substitute:

Resolved, That the Grand Army of the Republic adopt no journal as its organ, but that the Great Republic, published in Washington, D. C., the Ohio Republic, published in Cincinnati, Ohio, and the Soldier's Friend, published in New York city, be designated as the channels through which all published official information shall be communicated relating to the G. A. R.

Which was agreed to.

Comrade H. B. Banning, of Ohio, presented the following resolution :

Resolved, That a committee of three (3) be appointed to have as much of the proceedings published as may seem advisable.

Which was agreed to.

The following committee was appointed :

Comrades Clayton McMichael and J. T. Owen, of Pennsylvania, and B. F. Stephenson, Illinois.

Comrade J. T. Owen, of Pennsylvania presented the following resolution .

WHEREAS, The National Lincoln Monument Association of Washington, D. C., incorporated by Act of Congress of March 30, 1867, have resolved to erect a suitable monument to the memory of our "*Martyred President,*" and the noble men who stood by him in the hour of our country's need and trial —one that shall be historical of the times, and shall most effectually perpetuate the great act of "Emancipation," by which four millions of slaves became freemen. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That we heartily approve of this organization and pledge our co-operation in this truly national work.

Resolved, That we will most cheerfully aid the duly accredited agents of the Association, by our own contributions and by recommendiug it to our Comrades throughout the United States, so that all our people may have an opportunity of aiding in a work, that will be approved by every loyal heart in the land.

Resolved, That the foregoing be published in all the papers friendly to the enterprise, as the sense of this organization.

Which was unanimously agreed to.

Comrade W. M. Worrall, of Pennsylvania, presented the following resolution :

Resolved, That the contest between posts in reference to the priority of numbers, be referred to the Council of Administration of Departments for final settlement.

Which was agreed to.

Comrade A. S. Cushman, of Massachusetts, Chairman of the Committee on Ritual presented a design for a badge to be worn at the funerals of Comrades, which was adopted.

Comrade J. T. Langstroth, of Ohio, presented the following resolution .

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be, and the same are hereby, tendered to the President and members of the Common Council of Philadelphia, to whose courtesy it is indebted for the use of their Chamber for our meeting, on the evening of January 16, 1868.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the President of the Common Council.

Which was agreed to.

Comrade John Bell, of Iowa, presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be, and they are hereby, tendered to the Department of Pennsylvania for their courtesy and attention to to the members of the Grand Encampment, during the sessions of the Convention.

Which was agreed to.

Comrade W. I. Handy, of Michigan, presented the following resolution.

Resolved, That a competent person be employed to write out in full the proceedings of this Convention, including the Rules and Regulations and Ritual, and transmit the same to the Commander-in-Chief for certification. And that the Quartermaster General be instructed to pay from the treasury the expense of such work.

Which was agreed to.

On motion of Comrade Nathan Kimball, of Indiana, the next Annual Convention was ordered to be held on the 15th day of May, 1869.

After prayer by Rev. J. F. Meredith, of Pennsylvania, the Convention adjourned.

STEPHEN A. HURLBUT,
Commander-in-Chief,
President of Convention.

B. F. STEPHENSON, *Adjutant General.*
ALBERT S. EVANS, *Secretary.*

[EXTRACT.]

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.

* * * * * * *

The proceedings will doubtless be found to contain some inaccuracies as to names.

The hurried manner in which the business of the Convention was transacted made it difficult to correct errors at the time. As far as it could be done, these have since been corrected. The minutes were left with me by the late Adjutant General to be revised and sent forward to headquarters. I have performed the duty as best I could, and trust it will meet your approval.

ALBERT S. EVANS,
Recording Secretary.

To Comrade N. P. CHIPMAN,
Asst. Adjutant General, G. A. R.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

THIRD NATIONAL CONVENTION

OF THE

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

HELD AT CINCINNATI, OHIO,

May 12th and 13th, 1869.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, *May* 12, 1869.

In accordance with the Rules and Regulations, and General Orders No. 20, the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, assembled at Hopkins' Hall, in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, at 12 o'clock noon, May 12, 1869. On assembling in the Hall, Colonel R. M. Moore, chairman of the Joint Committee, selected from the several Posts in Cincinnati, came forward and introduced General W. H. Baldwin, who, on behalf of the committee, delivered the following welcoming address to the delegates:

Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic—Delegates to the National Encampment: The Local Committee of Arrangements have assigned to me the pleasant duty of welcoming you to Cincinnati. Would that I had the ability to express to you in words the cordiality of that welcome, and the pleasure with which every soldier in the city greets his old companions in arms. They rejoice to-day to meet again their comrades of the camp and of the march, of the bivouac and the battle, with whom they have shared the contents of their canteens and haversacks, and by participating in common dangers and common triumphs have formed friendships that will endure to the end of their lives. They rejoice to meet again their old commanders, tried and true, who, with unshaken faith through successes and reverses, have led them to victory and a lasting peace.

Your presence recalls many pleasant and many sad remembrances, and all that long train of events which has made such an Order as you are here to represent a necessity. It recalls the pleasant incidents of camp life, with its interchange of courtesies, its convivial meetings and athletic sports, the joy at good news from home, and the ardent desire for the return of peace. It recalls the grandeur of the shock of armies, the excitement of battle, and the pride of victory.

It also recalls the forced march under a broiling Southern sun; the torturing thirst and hunger; the bivouac in the rains and snows of winter; the dead and wounded of the battle-field; the hospitals and prisons, with all their painful associations; but while our thoughts are turned to the past, let us not forget the duties of the present and the requirements of the future. Let us not grow weary in the performance of those deeds of benevolence and charity which we have taken upon ourselves; and let us ever remember the sacred obligations of humanity, patriotism and religion which we owe to our fellow-men, to our country, and to God.

The assembling here of so many distinguished soldiers and eminent citizens from all parts of the country would under any circumstances, be an occasion of enthusiastic congratulation, and would call forth the generous hospitality of our citizens, ever ready to honor those deserving well of their countrymen. But your coming together as the honored representatives of the great body of our citizen soldiery of the whole country, to promote the most beneficent and praiseworthy objects, becomes an occasion of the greatest interest.

Since the close of the war, in which those ties of friendship were formed which it is one of the objects of this organization to strengthen and perpetuate, you have been engaged in the pious duty of relieving the sufferings of your afflicted comrades, and administering to the wants of their destitute families. These soldiers, who were disabled in the country's service, received at your hands sustenance, and sympathy, and watchful care while they linger with us, and when their sufferings are ended, it is from you that they receive a decent burial. The aged widow, whose sons fell in battle, in her poverty, and friendliness, and desolation, looks to your benevolent Order for assistance. The destitute orphans of your Comrades, who gave their lives to the country, are the special objects of your care. The State owes them a debt not to be cancelled by thrusting them into poor-houses and prisons. It has been largely through your exertions in their behalf that in several of the States homes have been established for the orphans of deceased soldiers, where the children of your dead Comrades may be cared for and properly educated, that they may grow up worthy and respectable citizens. It is proper, it is natural, that soldiers should care for their deceased Comrades, and for the widows and orphans aud mothers of those who have lost their lives fighting valiantly side by side with them. But there are other reasons than those of benevolence and charity which make the acts of your Order matters of solicitude to the far-seeing statesman and thoughtful citizen. In a Republic relying upon her citizen soldiery, it is a matter of the highest

importance that patriotism and heroic deeds should be appreciated and properly acknowledged; that the memory of the dead should be honored, and that the families of those killed in battle should be distinguished from the victims of thriftlessness and vice. The nation that honors and rewards her defenders, that cherishes the memory of her heroic dead, and makes the orphans of those who die for the country the wards of the State, will never call in vain for volunteers to surpress rebellion or to repel invasion. The man upon whom no helpless one leans for support can smile in the face of death. For him to be brave is small merit—it costs him little; but for the father of helpless children, whom he could rear in comfort and luxury, but who, by his loss, would be deprived of their only support, for him to meet death with composure requires more than Roman fortitude.

As the heartrending history of the orphans of soldiers once in good circumstances has come to my knowledge, I have thought that the prospect of leaving one's little children to such a fate might well make cowards of the bravest. Let us hope that our efforts in behalf of the orphans may be crowned with success.

In addition to your care for the living, you have gathered the remains of many of your fallen Comrades and placed them in cemeteries, where their last resting place is protected from sacrilegious intrusion. The General Government is doing much in the same direction, and at no very distant day it is believed that the remains of all those soldiers whose burial places are known will be properly cared for.

You have inaugurated the beautiful custom in the spring-time of the year of performing the sacred rite of decorating with flowers the graves of your fallen Comrades. This is a custom which we trust will live after the present generation of soldiers shall have passed away. But it is with sadness that we remember the many thousand soldiers who rest in unknown graves, or who lie unburied, never having received the rite of sepulture. No stone marks their last resting place, and no friendly hand will strew flowers over their sacred dust. But their virtues are remembered and their memories cherished by their surviving Comrades.

"By fairy hands their knell is rung;
By forms unseen their dirge is sung;
There Honor comes, a pilgrim gray,
To bless the turf that wraps their clay:
And freedom shall awhile repair,
To dwell a weeping hermit there."

Comrades, in behalf of the local Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic, I extend to you a soldier's greeting, and welcome you to our Encampments, and offer to you the full freedom of the camp.

In behalf of the Corporation of Cincinnati, expressed by an order of her City Council, I welcome you, and tender you the hospitalities of the city, and invite you to visit such of our public institutions and other objects of interest as you may deem worthy of your attention.

In behalf of the telegraph companies, who have kindly put their lines

at your disposal, I tender you the free use of that means of sending greetings to your constituents and friends.

In behalf of the people of Cincinnati, I welcome you to our city, and assure you of the pleasure it will give them to extend to you their hospitality and every courtesy within their power.

Comrades, one and all, I bid you welcome to Cincinnati.

General N. P. Chipman, Adjutant General of the Grand Army of the Republic, on behalf of the delegates, responded as follows.

Called upon unexpectedly to respond on behalf of the delegates to this warm welcome, I feel myself quite powerless. You have, sir, inspired by the many generous hearts whom you represent, spread out before us with so much fidelity a panoramic view of our past trials and triumphs; have so truthfully spoken of old army ties, and have delineated upon the canvas a future for our organization so bright and so beneficent, that no adequate response in words can express the deep impression you have made upon us. Wherever we wander about your beautiful city we meet the most cordial greetings, and on every hand we find every want anticipated. At this distance from the period of our military life such welcome is grateful indeed. The hospitality of Cincinnati is time-honored, but it is still more grateful to us to know that the loyalty of your city to the principles for which we many years struggled together is equually assured and equally honored, and I beg you to feel that we accept this kindly greeting, not as given alone to us, but rather to the thousands of Comrades whom we are here to represent. In their name, then, as well as our own, we thank you for this graceful compliment to our organization.

The Commander-in-Chief then formally called the Encampment to order, and, at his direction, the Assistant Adjutant General, Wm. T. Collins, read General Orders No. 20, convening the National Encampment, after which prayer was offered by the Rev. A. H. Quint, Chaplain-in-chief.

The following opening address was delivered by the Commander-in-Chief, Comrade John A. Logan:

COMRADES: Within the past few years history has been enriched with two events so manly in their inception and so sublime in their results, that they may well be called the leading facts of the age, alike creditable to our nation and mankind.

First. A vast, well-organized army, recruited from a brave and hardy population of twelve million souls, making war against our government, well supplied with all necessary appliances, and enjoying the aid and sympathy of powerful allies, has been utterly crushed.

Second. The conquerors of this stupendous power have retired to civil life, and been absorbed in the great mass that embodies our industrial ac-

tivities, without suffering, without disorder to the commonwealth, and without producing a plethora of labor.

Our great war, Comrades, with its innumerable scenes and incidents, its trials, toils, sufferings and triumphs, has been the theme of frequent and elaborate song and story, but the sublime tranquility that followed the disbandment of our armies remains, comparatively, a field untrodden.

Let us contemplate the position of affairs in the memorable month of April, 1865.

The rebellion was ended. A fugitive traitor President was hiding among the pines of Georgia The vast hordes that withstood our blows during four years of belligerent action were scattered to the winds. Our armies, embodying more than a million men, inured to conflict that usually excites and stimulates the worst passions of our natures, having no more foes to combat, who could say that they would not repeat the history of old n times, and wage war among themselves or upon their friends?

Under these circumstances, the order was given—"Break up these armies." Such soldiers as have homes must return to them, and such as have none must seek them among their countrymen.

In classic days both republican and imperial Rome had been shaken to its centre by disbanded soldiery, while in Greece and Spain the mountain fastnesses had been filled with desperadoes from such bodies, whose subsistence was wrung from passing travellers or peaceful haciendas. Even our neighboring Republic of Mexico had furnished examples of the danger to mankind of forcing bodies of soldiers from their vocation to the quiet scenes of ordinary life.

But neither Rome, Greece, Spain nor Mexico was ever tried by such an ordeal as ours. Their disbanded armies were, in comparison with ours, almost as nothing. In fact, there is not in human history a case cited except ours, in which a million of soldiers were, in a day, removed from belligerent to peaceful life. Probably there is no government on earth, except our own, that would have dared to try the experiment. I am confident there is no other in which such trial would be safe.

But we were disbanded. Departments, corps, divisions, brigades, regiments and companies, almost within the hour, disappeared like the morning mist. We had appeared upon the field at our country's call, as promptly as the clansmen of Roderick Dhu burst into view upon their Alpine hills, and as soldiers we passed away as readily, at the waving of a hand.

Was there no ambitious leader dissatisfied with the distribution of warlike laurels, ready to gather the scattered host, seize the power and archives of the nation, and make himself a king? Were there no fastnesses among our mountains in which brigands might find concealment, and carry on a war of depredation on mankind? Perhaps there were such rebellious spirits, but the soldiers themselves, the mass of the disbanded host, were beyond the power of seduction. They loved the government for which they bled, the flag under which they had marched to victory, and would prefer to die in defence of liberty rather than live in opulence upon its ruins.

No outbreak, no revolution, no disaster of any magnitude has followed the segregation of these million warriors. They sought their homes with joyful hearts and tuneful voices. There were no tears of mourning over the cast-off trappings and habiliments of strife. The hand grown cunning in the use of arms applied itself to the axe, the hammer, the loom and spade. Battle shouts had given place to exultations over victory, and these, in turn, were followed by the songs of joy, of love, and peace, that sanctify that place of Heaven called home.

Very much of this sublime result is due, doubtless, to the form of government under which we live. Much is attributable to the educational influences among which we were reared, and much, very much, to the organization known as the "Grand Army of the Republic."

This Order originated in a desire for mutual protection, aid, and education. We never feared that the toils and sufferings of our soldiery would be forgotten, or fail to be appreciated by the mass of our countrymen, but we did fear that high officials might at time be prompted by their selfishness to disregard or neglect us.

Politically, our object is not to mingle in the strifes of parties, but by our strength and numbers to be able to exact from all a recognition of our rights with others.

We desire further, by this organization, to commemorate the gallantry and sufferings of our comrades, give aid to bereaved families, cultivate fraternal sympathy among ourselves, find employment for the idle, and generally, by our acts and precepts, to give the world a practical example of unselfish, manly co-operation.

Thus far our efforts have proved successful. The report of the Adjutant General will present fully the history and progress of our Order, and more than sustain our highest hopes of the future. The burden of many crosses has been lifted from many hearts. Famishing souls and bodies have been fed. Manly excellence has been developed and cultivated, while public, social, and domestic life among our comrades has been purified and blessed through our humane endeavors.

I congratulate you, comrades, that we have now a national administration which is not unmindful of the soldier. He is filling important places of trust and profit. He is welcomed at the Presidential Mansion. Along the street a crutch or empty sleeve insures respect, and in the public convocation he receives attention and applause.

I congratulate you, also, that our Order flourishes now as it never has done before, and that peace, tranquility, and industry are comparatively universal among ourselves and throughout our national domain.

Let us foster and cherish this benevolent Order, so useful in the past, so beneficent in the present, and giving such promise for the future. Let us unite in vigorous efforts to extend and perpetuate its power.

While in the flush and strength of manhood we may not fully grasp and realize the fact that man's true interest lies in doing good; but when the golden bowl of life is breaking, when our faces become carved in storied hieroglyphics by the stylus and pantagraph of age, each act of kindness done, each

word of kindness spoken, will, by natural compensating law, return like the dove of Ararat to the soul from which it was sent, and bearing with it branches of unfading green from the Post "beyond the river."

Comrade S. D. Evans, of Post No. 159, Department of Ohio, was designated to act as Officer of the Day for the National Encampment during its sessions.

Comrade F. A. Starring, Assistant Inspector General, and Comrade L. A. Brandebery, were designated to assist in taking the minutes of the proceedings.

Comrade H. Davis, of Illinois moved that a committee on credentials be now appointed; which was adopted.

The Commander-in-Chief, before announcing the committee, remarked that, according to usage, Comrade Davis should be appointed on the committee as its chairman, but the Department of Illinois being delinquent in dues and reports, there might be doubts as to the eligibility of its delegates to seats in the Encampment. With this explanation, the following committee was appointed:

Comrades J. Warren Keifer, of Ohio; G. G. Miner, of Tennessee; S. A. Duncan, of the District of Columbia; R. A. Bachia, of New York, and S. T. Carter, of New Hampshire.

The Adjutant General's report was then read, as follows.

REPORT OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPURLIC,
WASHINGTON CITY, May, 1869.

To the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic:

In making my annual report to you, and through you to the comrades of our Order throughout the United States, there are many subjects of interest connected with the organization to which I would be glad to direct attention, and many facts pertaining to our history and to the workings of the Grand Army have come to my knowledge through official correspondence, which make it due from me to state to you at some length. In no country, perhaps, was there ever an organization of such magnitude as this sprung so suddenly into existence, and yet about which so little is known. I find nowhere among our official archives any connected history of the organization, or any reports as to its strength or its workings prior to your induction into office as Commander-in-Chief. Why this is so, is a matter not proper for me review. No one who has given our organization an examination, or has studied into its objects and purposes, can fail to see that there is in it the germ, if no more, of a powerful society, capable of great good, or of great evil. The object of

this report, however, is not so much to treat the organization philosophically, or to speculate as to what it may or ought to be, as to present facts and observations which may be of some value to those whose duty it is to frame our regulations and model our ritual.

When you were installed into office there were twenty-four Departments, with more or less perfect organizations During your administration the entire territory of the United States has been organized into Departments, with the exception of Alaska, and even in that remote region it is expected Posts will soon be established.

The Grand Army of the Republic was first organized in Illinois early in the spring of 1866. Who were its originators is matter of tradition rather than of record, although there can be no doubt that the late Adjutant General, Colonel B. F. Stephenson, was one of the prime movers. Being recognized as such, he organized the first post at Dakota, Illinois, about this time, and from that has spruug the present organization. The Order spread rapidly through the State, so that in July following a meeting was called to organize a Department. There were some forty posts represented at this convention. They proceeded to an election, and chose General John M. Palmer as their Grand Commander. The ritual first used had been previously prepared, while each post adopted its own regulations. Meanwhile the ritual was printed by comrades of the order, and, through the activity of Colonel Stephenson posts were organized in several States, and provisional departments established, he assuming, by common consent, the duties of Provisional Commander-in-Chief.

The Order continued to spread rapidly, so that in October, 1866, it was thought proper to call a convention to organize a National Encampment. This convention met in Indianapolis, November 20, 1866, and remained in session three days. Delegates from Posts organized in Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Wisconsin, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Iowa, Kentucky, Indiana, and the District of Columbia, were present at this convention, and here was completed, so far as the outline is concerned, our present National Encampment, and the regulations and ritual adopted. General Stephen A. Hurlbut, of Illinois was chosen Commander-in-Chief; General James B. McKean, of New York, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief; General Nathan Kimball, of Indiana, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief; and Colonel B. F. Stephenson, Adjutant General, with headquarters at Springfield, Illinois

After this Convention at Indianapolis, Posts seem to have sprung up as if by magic in all parts of the North.

The records which come into my hands furnish no evidence of there having been reciprocal relations kept up between the Posts and Departments and National Headquarters. Indeed, it would appear that Posts and Departments must have organized largely upon their own responsibility, and many of them appear not to have made any reports or returns to headquarters during the administration of General Hurlbut. It is greatly to be regretted that amid all this rapid growth of our Order, and the enthusiasm with which it seems to have spread, that there should appear nowhere any record of its progress.

I have already stated that I desired not to enter into the reasons for the peculiar condition in which the organization was found upon your induction into office; and I have said thus much only as due to the history of the Order, and my connection with it as your Adjutant General.

In December, 1867, General Hurlbut issued an order, as Commander-in-Chief, convening the National Encampment at Philadelphia. The convention met January 15, 1868, and remained in session for three days. At this convention the following Departments were represented: the Departments of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Potomac, Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Missouri, and Tennessee—twenty-one in all.

These Departments claimed to represent a constituency of over 200,000

The convention found itself in anything but a proper condition for intelligent action. There had been no intercommunication among the different Departments, no correspondence with headquarters, and no general interchange of opinions, theories, and ideas. but each delegate had apparently come with his own more or less crude ideas. Neither the Commander-in-Chief nor the Adjutant General laid before the convention any suggestions as to the result of their experience. From this material was carved out the present national organization. Notwithstanding these disadvantages, the delegates, with great harmony, constituted the proper committees, and succeeded, during the session, in revising the Regulations and Ritual, a labor which, while by no means perfect, resulted in great improvement upon the previous Regulations and Ritual, and became what is still the working foundation of our Order. More was accomplished, however, at this convention by the opportunity offered to compare various views, and the bringing together for discussion of the different opinions entertained by members from all parts of the North as to what the organization should be, than in the mere matter of revising Regulations or remodeling the Ritual.

After you had assumed command, in accordance with the vote of the convention selecting you as Commander-in-Chief, and after you had done me the honor to place me upon your staff as Adjutant General, I proceeded at once, with as much rapidity as possible, to possess myself of the archives of the late Adjutant General, and the minutes of the proceedings at Philadelphia. The minutes, after some delay, came into my possession in much confusion, and without containing either the manuscript Regulations or Ritual. Failing, after diligent search, to obtain the original manuscript, I was compelled to correspond with different members of the committees, and obtain from them, as nearly as possible, the original text, doing so, I fear, not without mistake in some particulars. I at once caused them to be printed, and put in the hands of the various Department Commanders, and endeavored to furnish, through them, to each Post, one copy of the Regulations and six copies of the Ritual I also had printed, in pamphlet form, the proceedings of the National Encampment at Philadelphia, furnishing one copy to each Post through Department headquarters. These were furnished gratuitously, my belief being that upon a revival of interest among

the Posts in the organization, growing out of the revision of our Regulations and the Ritual, dues would be promptly paid, and that the provision made in the regulations for national headquarters would be ample to meet all expenses.

The archives of the organization transmitted to me by the late Adjutant General, comprised one General Order Book, one Special Order Book, one Roster of Departments (incomplete), a Letter Book, containing a few copies of letters received in November and December, 1866, and January, 1867. No files of letters; no books containing copies of letters sent from headquarters; no returns of Departments; no book showing the receipts and expenditures of headquarters; nothing showing the dates of organization of Departments, when charters were issued, and to whom, or by what authority; in short, nothing in this respect which would have been interesting, and which were, indeed, almost indispensable to me in our reorganization, except the books which I have mentioned, could be found.

By these very meagre data I was compelled at first to be guided. You will, from this, perceive something of the labor devolved upon headquarters in opening up a correspondence with the various Departmenst, and collecting information as to their origin and condition. In some instances months elapsed before it was possible to ascertain who were the officers of certain Departments known to have an existence, and, of course, during this time neither Regulations nor Rituals could be distributed. In some instances Departments were established from these headquarters and Provisional Commanders appointed, when afterwards it was ascertained that Departments had already been organized in those localities, and Provisional Commanders appointed by your predecessor, but of which no record was to be found among the papers transmitted to me.

The National Encampment convened at Philadelphia was therefore an era in the history of our order. It resulted in the establishment of headquarters at the national Capital, which, to a certain extent, not only nationalized the Order, but gave great facility of communication, and for the first time enabled a correspondence to be opened with the leading members of the organization, and with the various departments and commands throughout the United States. I at once procured and opened books and records such as seemed to be necessary to the permanent preservation of important facts and information connected with the Order. I opened a General Order Book, into which were transcribed all the General Orders issued by your predecessors, together with such as have been by yourself issued. Also a Special Order Book, into which were copied all prior Special Orders, together with those issued by your directions. I also procured a Record Book, into which were copied the proceedings of the First National Encampment, which I was able to secure through a friend from the files of the "Great Republic" newspaper, published at the time,and also the proceedings of the Convention held at Philadelphia. I was unable to obtain any official report of the transactions of the organization prior to meetings the of the Convention at Indianapolis; and what I have given in other portions of this report with regard to the matter, as I have intimated, are matters of tradition rather than official information.

Files of all letters received are preserved, and letterpress copy-books are used to retain copies of all letters sent from headquarters in answer to communications, etc. A Ledger has also been opened, which exhibits the financial transactions of headquarters, giving a statement of all moneys received, from what sources and for what purposes, as well as all disbursements, and for what purposes. A book is kept containing a roster of the National Encampment, rosters of the several Departments, and a partial roster of the Posts, so far as has been reported by the Departments I am endeavoring, however, by direct correspondence with the Posts, to obtain a complete roster The principal journals published in the interest of the organization were furnished to headquarters gratuitously, and are always accessible to comrades. Contributions of reports from the various Adjutants General of the States and Territories, and many miscellaneous books upon military subjects, have been contributed and forwarded to headquarters. The office has been open at all times, and some one present to answer inquiries pertaining to the organization, and to give welcome to our visiting comrades.

Twenty-one General Orders and seven Circulars have been issued, of which 39,872 copies have been distributed, being sufficient to supply each Post with a copy. Fifty-one Special Orders have been issued. Over three thousand letters have been written upon various subjects, and in reply to comrades from every part of the country. Twenty thousand copies of the Ritual were printed, of which about sixteen thousand copies have been distributed, and of the Regulations about six thousand copies have been distributed. This will give you some idea of the labor performed, although it is as impossible to represent the actual duties and work performed in this connection, by stating the number of letters written and orders and circulars issued as to jndge of the architecture of a building by knowing the number of bricks and amount of materials in it. Immediately upon the establishment of headquarters at Washington City, the unoccupied States and Territories were organized into Departments as rapidly as possible, and our late comrades in arms encouraged to establish posts and bring themselves within the benefits and influences of our Order Where there was not a sufficient number of Posts to establish Departments with power to select their own officers, Provisional Commanders were appointed, and by that means more ready communication established. An Assistant Inspector General upon the staff of the Commander-in-Chief was appointed for each Department, the object being to have some person responsible to headquarters alone, to whom the Commander-in-Chief could refer any matter requiring investigation in cases where it might be thought best not to call upon the Department Commander for a report. It has not been found necessary to refer matters specially to them except in a few instances, but much valuable information has been derived through them. In no case, however, has there been any clashing between the Department Commander and the Assistant Inspector General, or any feelings of jealousy aroused by reason of reports made, so far as has come to the knowledge of headquarters.

I have thought it proper to embrace within this report a brief history of

the organization of each Department, together with such observations as may seem proper to state in connection with each. The Departmeuts will be mentioned in the order of their institution.

The Department of Illinois, as I have already stated in a former part of this report, was first organized. Its permanent organization was effected July 12, 1866. In no Department has the growth of the Order been more rapid, and in none, perhaps, was it more successful for a time. But it seems within the past year, so far as I can learn unofficially, to have languished very much. There are at headquarters no reports or returns from this Department made either previous to or during your administration. I have never failed to forward to the Department headquarters all orders, circulars and matters of general interest to the organization, and, although I have written letters frequently calling special attention to failures of furnishing reports, I have not been able to secure any data with regard to the organization until recently, upon the election of General Thomas O. Osborn as Grand Commander. He writes that he has established headquarters at Chicago, and has entered vigorously upon the work of reorganization; has kept a clerk constantly employed in opening communication with the Posts, and has expended considerable money in that direction; but with all his efforts, he writes that he has been unable to obtain returns from more than six Posts in the State, and yet there is, perhaps, no doubt of the existence of over three hundred Posts. General Osborn says, in his letter, that he has information of the existence of about three hundred and thirty Posts. This information is confirmed also by a roster furnished, at my solicitation, by the Assistant Adjutant General of the Department of Illinois, during the administration of General Palmer.

This Department has paid no dues to these headquarters during the past year. It is hoped that it will be more prosperous and prompt in the future.

The Department of Iowa was next organized, viz., September 26, 1866. This Department is in about the same condition as the Department of Illinois. I have had no reports of the strength of the organization in this Department, and it has paid no dues to headquarters. The Department has been furnished also with all orders and documents which were sent to any Departments, but there seems to be no perceptible change in the interest of the organization during the past year. The Assistant Adjutant General has furnished a roster of the Posts, from which it appears that there have been organized, in all, one hundred and forty-four Posts. But their strength does not appear.

The Department of Wisconsin was next organized, the date of its organization being September, 1866. This Department has made its reports regularly, from which it appears that there are eighty Posts organized. A portion of the dues have been paid, as will appear in the accompanying consolidated return. The semi-annual report for December 31, 1868, shows that but ten Posts had reported for that quarter. A number of Posts seem to be in good working order, as, indeed, is true in both the Departments of Illinois and Iowa; but there would appear to be neglect on the part of the Posts to make their proper returns to the Department headquarters. Where the cause of this rests, it is, of course, not possible for me to state

The Department of Indiana was organized August 20, 1866. The last report was that received for the half year ending December 31, 1867. This came to headquarters with the credentials which were filed by the delegates at the National Encampment which convened at Philadelphia in 1868. From this report it appears that at that time there were over three hundred Posts. The Grand Commander of the Department, however, has made no reports or returns to these headquarters during your administration, neither has the Department paid the dues to the National Encampment. From what can be learned, the condition of the Department is about the same as the Departments heretofore named.

The Department of Kansas was organized December 7, 1866. The Grand Commander furnished the Department roster to these headquarters, and made requisitions for rituals. From the requisition, I would infer that there may be about fifty Posts, but no returns or reports have ever been made, and I can find nowhere any official information as to the strength of the organization in that Department. This Department has paid no dues to the National Encampment. I have no means of knowing what the condition of that of the Order is.

The Department of Pennsylvania was organized January 16, 1867. This Department has made all its reports with reasonable promptness, and has paid its dues to the National Encampment. From the semi-annual report of December 31, 1868, it would appear that ninety-two Posts, out of one hundred and seventy-six in the Department, had reported to Department headquarters. The organization in this Department appears in excellent working condition, and is increasing rapidly. Over fifty Posts have been organized in the Department during the past year.

The Department of Ohio was organized January 30, 1867. It has been prompt in responding to communications, has furnished its reports and paid its dues. The Grand Commander reports, on the 31st of December, 1868, three hundred and three organized Posts. A large number of these have been added to the Department during the past year.

The Department of New York was organized April 3, 1867. Its reports have been made promptly to headquarters, and its dues paid. Eighty-four Posts were at the date of the last report—December 31, 1868—thirty-three of these having been organized during your administration. There appears to be much interest taken in the organization, and the Department is in quite a flourishing condition.

The Department of Connecticut was organized April 10, 1867. Its returns and dues have been promptly forwarded, and the organization bears every appearance of thrift. The number of Posts reported in December, 1868, was thirty-one.

The Department of Massachusetts was organized May 7, 1867. Its reports and dues have been regularly forwarded, and the same can be said of it as of the other Departments just mentioned. It reported, in December, 1868, eighty Posts, a large portion of which have been organized during the past year.

The Department of Missouri was organized May 16, 1867. This Depart-

ment made prompt requisitions for Rituals, Regulations, Orders, etc., and has furnished a Department roster; but no reports have been made as required by regulations, nor have any dues been paid to the National Encampment. There are one hundred and twenty-nine Posts organized in the Department, but there is no information at headquarters concerning their working condition.

The Department of Louisiana was organized July 8, 1867. This Department has furnished headquarters no reports and no roster, and has paid no dues to the National Encampment. It would appear from the consolidated return of the late Adjutant General, in his report for 1867, published in the proceedings of the National Encampment, that this Department paid almost twice as much in dues to the National Encampment as any other Department It does not follow that this Department was the largest at that time, but it would appear that it was more prompt in payment of dues. I have no means of accounting for the falling off in the interest in the organization of this Department.

The Department of Minnesota was organized August 14, 1867. All the reports have been forwarded from this Department, and dues paid. There are nineteen organized Posts in this Department. Though small in number they seem to be flourishing, and much interest is manifested in the organization. Prior to the organization of this Department there was more than double the present number of Posts irregularly organized, but no attention seems to have been given to them, and, before authority could be had to organize the Department permanently many of the Posts ceased to exist.

The Department of Maryland was organized January 8, 1868. It has made reports and paid its dues, and is in a very good condition. There are sixteen organized Posts in the Department.

The Department of Maine was organized January 10, 1868. It has made its reports and paid its dues regularly. Forty-one Posts were reported in December, 1868. This Department is also in excellent working condition. Almost all its Posts have been organized during the past year.

The Department of California was organized February 20, 1868. It has made its reports and paid its dues regularly. Twenty-seven Posts were reported in working condition in December, 1868.

The Department of Rhode Island was organized March 24, 1868. Reports have been furnished promptly, and dues paid. In December, 1868, there were sixteen Posts organized in this Department, which appear to be in good working condition.

The Department of Michigan was organized May 6, 1868. It has made its reports and paid its dues. Forty-four Posts were reported in December, 1868, most of which were organized during the last year. The Grand Commander of this Department, in executing the will of the Department expressed at its convention, suspended all Posts that failed to make proper returns and pay the dues as required by regulations. This is the only Department in which this action has been taken, so far as I have any official knowledge, although it is believed some other Departments pursued the same salutary course.

The Department of New Hampshire was organized May, 1868. It has paid its dues and made its reports regularly. Fifteen Posts were reported as organized at the date of the semi-annual report of December 3, 1868. Much interest is manifested, and the Department is in a prosperous condition.

The Department of New Jersey was organized some time in the early part of the year, 1868, but has never reported the date of its organization. Its returns for the past year have been made, and dues paid. In December, 1868, the number of Posts reported was eighteen.

The Department of Tennessee was organized August 18, 1868. It has paid its dues and made returns, and seventeen Posts were reported in the last semi-annual report for December, 1868, the most of which were organized within the past year.

The Department of West Virginia was organized September 12, 1868. The Department dues have been paid and the returns made, and —— Posts are reported.

The Department of Vermont was organized October 23, 1868. This Department has paid its dues and made its reports regularly. At the date of the last semi-annual report there were fifteen Posts reported.

The Department of the Potomac was organized February 11, 1869. It has paid its dues and made its reports. Ten Posts have been organized in this Department.

I have given in their order those Departments which have perfected their organizations—that is, those having the requisite number of Posts as provided by Regulations. Many of them were under provisional government a long time previous to their permanent organization. The dates of the provisional organizations being uncertain, I have confined myself to the dates only of permanent organizations. In addition to these, Departments with Provisional Commanders have been organized, which I will give according to date of establishment.

The Department of Kentucky was established in January, 1867. Thirteen Posts reported. Returns have been made and dues paid.

The Department of Delaware was established February 1, 1867. Four Posts reported. This Department has made no returns and paid no dues.

The Department of Arkansas was established April 18, 1867. Number of Posts unknown. No reports received or dues paid.

The Department of New Mexico was established February 12, 1868. One Post reported. No report received or dues paid to the National Encampment.

The Department of Virginia was established February 12, 1868. Five Posts reported. No returns received, and no dues paid to National Encampment.

The Department of Florida was established February 14, 1868. One Post reported. No returns received, and no dues paid.

The Department of Montana was established February 22, 1868. Three Posts reported. The territories of Montana, Idaho, and Utah are embraced in this Department- No returns received, and no dues paid.

The Department of Alabama was established April 9, 1868. Four Posts reported. Returns have been paid, but no dues paid.

The Department of Georgia was established July 6, 1868. Seven Posts reported. Returns have been made, but no dues paid. The working condition of the Posts in this Department and in the Department of Alabama is reported good.

The Department of Nebraska was established July 10, 1868. Seven Posts reported. The State of Nebraska and Territory of Dakota are embraced in this Department. No returns received, and no dues paid.

The Department of North Carolina was established July 11, 1868. Eight Posts reported. No returns received, and no dues paid.

The Department of South Carolina was established August 28, 1868. Three Posts reported. No reports received, but dues have been paid.

The Department of Colorado was established October 20, 1868. Six Posts reported. The Territories of Colorado and Wyoming are embraced in this Department. Reports have been made and dues paid. Condition of the Order very good.

The aggregate number of Departments is thirty-seven, and the number of Posts reported and estimated is about 2,050.

It is probable that the aggregate number of active members belonging to the Grand Army throughout the United States is not much greater than it was at the beginning of your administration; but the condition of the organization is much better. Posts that were in a disorganized condition have been replaced by entirely new material, and while the Order has to some extent stood still in the West it has increased largely in the East, and generally the *personnel* is much better now than at any former period. Much has been accomplished towards harmony in the Ritual and in the internal government of the organization Much more value is attached to the membership by those who take an interest in the organization now than heretofore, and there seems to be a more intelligent view as to its future. Formerly the organization was considered by many as ephemeral, and the impression prevailed that it was established mainly as a political engine in the country. But generally those who desired that it should remain so have given up that idea, while a large portion of the intelligent membership perceive the necessity of eschewing politics altogether, and believe that the perpetuity of our Order can only be secured by that means. At first there was but little inquiry made into the private character of applicants, the desire seeming to be to obtain numbers rather than good material. But this has given place to a higher standard of excellence, and the character of applicants inquired into more rigidly.

In many of the Departments and Posts the organization has acquired a remarkable cohesiveness and efficiency. I would be glad to extract from the reports showing the large sums of money raised and disbursed in charity, and the amount of good done, but I have not space, and, besides, would prefer not to anticipate the many interesting statements which Department Commanders will be prepared to lay before the National Encampment.

There are some suggestions, the result of my official connection with the Order, which I ought perhaps to make, but in doing so, beg that I may not be regarded as gratuitously intruding opinions. Endeavoring to be as brief as possible, I have to say:

It seems to me of paramount importance, *first*, to revise our Regulations, so as to meet the many objections which a year's trial has developed. The matter was fully discussed at the meeting of the Council of Administration, in October, and a committee was at that time appointed, composed of the best material which the Council of Administration had at command, in Comrades of large experience, both in active military life, familiar with the workings of our organization, and of much experience in public affairs. The special matters which were deemed of most importance in the revision of our Regulations were fully discussed at the meeting of the Council of Administration, and this committee put in possession of them. In addition to this, a General Order was issued calling attention to the matter, and requesting Department Commanders, and others, to forward to the chairman of the committee any suggestions which might occur in relation to the matter of revision. That committee has had several sessions, as I am informed, and have perfected their work. It would not be proper for me to anticipate by stating the result of their labors, but I may be pardoned for suggesting that, after the many tests to which their work has been subjected, and in view of the labor and care bestowed in its preparation, the National Encampment should be slow to attempt to make any serious inroad upon the general plan and outline of their report; for I am persuaded that it embodies as nearly as possible—though doubtless capable of improvement—the intelligent judgment of our comrades.

A second matter of importance brought before the Council of Administration, and with equal care discussed, was that of preparing a new Ritual. This work was placed in the hands of comrades peculiarly fitted for the duty, and it is believed the report will satisfy the expectations of the National Encampment

There was also presented to the Council of Administration, for action, the matter of adopting a badge of office suited to those holding and not holding official positions in the Grand Army. The result of the deliberations upon this subject were embodied in Circular No. 6, and communicated to all the Departments and Posts. The badge adopted was the national eagle, with the Grand Army shield attached to the talons, and pendant to the shield a circle with gilt border, bearing within it the insignia of the various grades of officers. The badge for the comrades was the eagle and shield, without the pendant.

Acting under the instructions of the Council of Administration, after soliciting bids from various sources, I contracted with a firm in Baltimore which was recommended to me by comrades of our Order. A price list was prepared and steps taken to supply our comrades as rapidly as orders might come in, but unfortunately the contractor utterly failed in producing a badge of the character agreed to be furnished, and so delayed and disappointed the just expectations of the comrades, as well as myself, that it was finally thought

best to defer making a contract with another person, my fear being that, upon a revision of the Ritual at the next National Encampment, the badge, as adopted at the Council of Administration in Philadelphia, would be dispensed with, and our comrades put to a useless expense in its purchase. I had received numerous orders and considerable money from various quarters for the purchase of these badges. The money as received was entered properly in the records of the A. G. O., and credited to the parties forwarding it, and as the badges were issued they were to have been debited against the amount sent thus squaring the account. I received altogether on account of orders for badges $463.35. Before discovering the character of the badges manufactured, or learning of the unreliability of the contractors, I had given to them of this sum $167.15. As soon as I discovered the quality of the work, and the character of the men who did it, I returned what money I had to the persons forwarding it, but have not been able yet to recover from the contractors the amount advanced to them. I would respectfully submit in connection with this matter that, as I acted with the best discretion I could, and as the agent of our comrades for the purchase of these badges, in the event of failure to recover from the contractors the amount advanced to them, I should be authorized to draw, out of any fund that may come into my hands on account of the Grand Army, an amount equal to the balance still due our comrades who ordered badges.

While upon this subject, it may be proper for me to remark that there seems to be a general desire for some badge of proper design, emblematic of the organization, which may at the same time be adapted to the use of comrades and to designate the rank of officers. I would suggest that you recommend to the National Encampment the selection of a proper committee, who shall be empowered, after our Regulations and Ritual have been revised, to consult with experts and prepare a badge for our Order It is apparent to every one that our badge should not be changed frequently, for in many instances comrades will procure expensive ones, and, besides the confusion which would result from frequent changes, it tends to detract from the stability of the organization. The badge, therefore, when selected, should be for all time. It can hardly be expected that this committee could report to the National Encampment while in session.

I cannot too strongly urge that some measure be taken to secure more prompt reports from Departments. The labor of preparing these returns does not involve much time or trouble, and yet without them headquarters are powerless to some extent. The same may be said with regard to forwarding the dues. The assessment for the benefit of headquarters is very slight, and ought not to be felt by any Post or Department. The limited funds provided for headquarters prevent the printing and circulation of proper blanks in quantities sufficient for the use of Posts. If provision were made in this particular, I think good results would follow. If the dues had been forwarded promptly to headquarters—and they are but a penny semi-annually from each comrade—it is believed the current expenses could have been met, and most of the necessary blanks furnished. And yet, although I trust the expenses of headquarters will be found to have been managed with as strict

economy as was posssible, the national headquarters have been constantly indebted for current expenses, and have been supported only by advances made by comrades. In this connection, I must notice also the failure on the part of many Departments to respond to the resolution passed at Philadelphia, levying a special tax of a dollar upon each Post for the purpose of reimbursing the late Adjutant General. I hope the mention of this matter will be sufficient to induce the National Encampment to take such steps as may be necessary to liquidate this debt of honor.

In some Departments, early in the history of the organization very prosperous, the Order seems to have languished unnecessarily. Many things have contributed to produce this result which might be obviated. A more rigid enforcement of the regulations should be made by the Departments upon the Posts, and where Posts are delinquent, and persist in being so, it is better that their organization should cease and their charters should be surrendered than that they should be a burden to the Order.

Again. Departments do not always make their impress by encouraging those features of the organization which should become attractive, and which help to build it up where it has lost interest. I receive very often letters from Post Commanders, stating that they cannot obtain answers to their communications addressed to the Department headquarters. Some complain that they have never received the General Orders of the National or Department headquarters; others, that they are ready at any time to pay their dues, but have never been called upon for them; and some state that they have never received even the new Ritual, although all the Departments have been supplied with a sufficient number of copies to furnish one to every Post. We cannot hope for prosperity among the Posts while the Department organization stands at arms length from them. We profess to inculcate practical charity, and yet but a small portion of the Departments in your command seem to have organized any plan of action in this connection. I have observed it to be the rule that the Posts which contribute most to the relief of comrades and their widows and orphans, and which arrange entertainments among themselves for the purpose of rendering the Post meetings attractive, are the ones the most prosperous in every respect. In some of the cities, and even in small towns, Posts have provided courses of lectures, which have proved both profitable and instructive. Others have undertaken fairs and enterprises of various kinds, in aid of their charity funds, with great success. Indeed, wherever any effort seems to have been put forth to practically carry out the doctrines we profess, it has produced the double result of benefitting others, and, at the same time, benefitting the Posts.

Probably no one act in your administration has done more to cement the brotherhood of our Order, and to remove any prejudice that might remain in the minds of the public against it, than the inauguration of the practice of an annual commemoration to the memory of our departed comrades. The day set apart last year was observed in all the Departments, and by almost all the Posts, and with the most gratifying results. If this feature alone was the result of the organization, I think the establishment of a national memorial day a sufficient reward to our comrades for all they have done,

and this alone would be motive sufficient to perpetuate our Order. No other society was in a position to originate the observance, and probably no other would have done so. Now, it is an established national ceremonial day. The Congress of the United States unanimously passed the resolution, introduced by yourself, providing for the publication, in book form, of the proceedings had throughout the United States on the 30th of May, 1868, and it is believed that Congress will provide for the future annual publication of the reports of these commemorative observances.

The order directing the ceremonies to be held this year has been issued, and there is every evidence that they will be more imposing than heretofore, The press throughout the land commend the movement in the highest terms. and the heartiest co-operation is given our comrades on the part of citizens generally.

I submit herewith a consolidated report of your command, together with a financial statement, showing the receipts and disbursements on account of the Grand Army.

I will state briefly the condition of the order financially. Your administration began without funds and with no assets The organization was in debt to the late Adjutant General $1,285 56. Provision was made to pay this balance by a special tax of one dollar upon each Post. During the year only $193 of this has been paid. I am informed that Comrade Owen, S. V. Commander-in-Chief, advanced to Comrade Stephenson, at the National Encampment in Philadelphia, $500. This leaves the Grand Army still in debt to the late Adjutant General $785.56.

In addition to the advance of $500 to Comrade Stephenson, Comrade Owen came to my aasistance in the payment for printing the Rituals, which cost $465. He also paid Comrade Evans $75 for services as secretary to the late Adjutant General at the National Encampment. The organization is therefore in debt to Comrade Owen $1,040.

My account with the Grand Army shows a disbursement of.....	$3,004.83
While my receipts from all sources are	1,262.87
Leaving the organization in debt to me.....	$1,741.96

From this showing it will be perceived that the organization is in arrears to its creditors $3,567.52.

Our Regulations make ample provisions to meet the expenses of the organization, and it is from no lack of effort on my part that they have not been complied with. There are enough delinquent dues to more than cancel our indebtedness. It is for the National Encampment to adopt means for its collection, or otherwise reimburse those who have made the advances mentioned. It is quite certain that the National Encampment cannot survive persistent neglect on the part of its constituents, and it would seem quite out of the question to expect its officers to perform duties which have become onerous without compensation, and in addition meet the current expenses of headquarters from their private means.

I intended laying before you some suggestions as to practical charities and enterprises of a beneficent character, embracing a wide field, and yet

which are deemed entirely within the accomplishment of our organization, but this report is already much beyond the limit I intended to give it.

I trust however, that the National Encampment will not wholly overlook the necessity for utilizing the material within its reach, and that some enterprise, worthy of ourselves and the objects we profess, will be devised, whereby the Grand Army of the Republic will begin to garner the fruits which should grow out of aims so noble as those we have in view.

I cannot close this report without acknowledging the obligations under which I have been placed by the services of my Assistant Adjutant General, Comrade Collins. For over a year he has been constantly at headquarters, and has labored assiduously to build up the organization. There is no more devoted Comrade than he, and if the National Encampment shall find anything in the administration of the Adjutant General's office to commend, I desire that he rather than I, should take the greater credit.

N. P. CHIPMAN,
Adjutant General.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

Grand Army of the Republic in account with N. P. Chipman, A. G., G. A. R.

1868,				
Jan'y 22,	To cash paid	copying letter book	$5	00
" 22,	" "	man moving		50
" 25,	" "	J. B. Dodson, for carpet	32	00
Feb'y 1,	" "	G. A. R. sign	8	50
" 7,	" "	Express on package		45
" 22,	" "	Printer, on account	100	00
" 25,	" "	Express on package		60
" 28,	" "	" "		45
" 28,	" "	Clerical hire, extra	12	00
March 2,	" "	Express on package		60
" 5,	" "	" "	1	00
" 5,	" "	Printer, on account	136	25
" 7,	" "	Express on package	1	00
" 10,	" "	" "	1	00
" 11,	" "	" "		90
" 12,	" "	John Barney	8	10
" 20,	" "	Express on package		75
" 24,	" "	" "		75
" 27,	" "	" "		75
April 3,	" "	" "		25
" 4.	" "	R. Johnson, for services	37	00
" 9,	" "	Furniture	36	00
" 18,	" "	Express on 6 packages	3	60
" 18,	" "	Printer's account	50	00
May 27,	" "	" "	75	00
July 2,	" "	Express on books	1	40

1868,					
July	6,	To cash paid	Express on books	1	60
"	6,	" "	" "	1	40
"	21,	" "	Express on package		40
"	22,	" "	Grand Army Seal	12	00
"	28,	" "	Express on reports	1	00
"	29,	" "	" packages	1	15
"	30,	" "	" "	1	00
Aug.	7,	" "	Printer, on account	50	00
"	21,	" "	Express on package	1	50
Oct.	10,	" "	Printer, on account	75	00
"	23,	" "	Carpet	6	00
Nov.	2,	" "	John Hannagan	9	00
"	4,	" "	Charles Morris	4	50
"	10,	" "	Benjamin Thompson	3	00
"	23,	" "	Albert Syle, moving	3	75
"	25,	" "	Fee to government on patent	10	00
Dec.	18,	" "	Printer, on account	16	00
"	31,	" "	3 desks	50	00
"	31,	" "	pigeon-hole case	25	00
"	31,	" "	cane chairs	12	00
"	31,	" "	letter press	12	00
"	31,	" "	centre table	3	00
"	31,	" "	rent for Headquarters, gas, fuel, etc., on 14th street, at $25 per month, from 1st February to November 1, 1868	225	00
"	31,	" "	rent for Headquarters for November and December	100	00
"	31,	" "	for clerical hire and messenger, from February 1 to November 1, 1868	188	00
"	31,	" "	Gibson Brothers, printers	31	00
"	35,	" "	James B. Dodson, for carpet	36	50
"	31,	" "	Great Republic Printing Co	29	50
"	31,	" "	" " "	75	00
1869,					
Jan'y	15,	" "	" " " balance on account	83	32
Feb'y	2,	" "	rent for month of January, 1869	50	00
March	1,	" "	rent for month of February	50	00
April	1,	" "	rent for March	50	00
"	15,	" "	Gibson Bros., on account	40	00
May	1,	" "	rent, April and May	100	00
"	1,	To W. T, Collins, for services rendered at Headquarters from Feb. 1, 1868, to May 1, 1869		750	00
"	1,	To N. P. Chipman, to reimburse him for personal expenses as Adjutant General, and not in items of account		250	00

Disbursements by W. T. Collins, A. A. G., on account of G. A. R., paid by N. P. Chipman.

1868.				
Feb'y	5,	To cash paid for lock		1 00
Oct.	10,	" "	expenses of A. A. G. to and from Philadelphia, Pa., meeting of Council of Administration	25 00
Nov.	18,	" "	for office fixtures	2 00
Dec.	1,	" "	office boy	6 00
"	16,	" "	printing 500 circulars, and rent of hall, by direction of Commander-in-Chief, at Chicago, Ills	15 00
"	26,	" "	for ink, 1 bottle	75
"	26,	" "	travelling expenses to and from New York city in relation to contracting for G. A. R. badge	30 00
"	28,	" "	expenses to and from Baltimore for same purpose	4 00
"	31,	" "	office boy	7 00
1869.				
Jan'y	22,	" "	for travelling expenses to and from Baltimore in relation to Grand Army badge	4 00
"	24,	" "	on express package	1 50
"	28,	" "	"	1 05
"	28,	" "	office boy	7 00
Feb'y	16,	" "	express package	1 16
"	15,	" "	"	1 00
"	28,	" "	office boy	7 00
March	10,	" "	P. O. Stamps	6 00
"	31,	" "	office boy	7 00
April	10,	" "	P. O. stamps	5 00
"	10,	" "	letter paper	1 00
"	10,	" "	envelopes	50
				$3,004 83
			By cash from all sources (see consolidated report)	1,262 87
			To balance	$1,741 96

The foregoing is a correct statement of my account with the Grand Army of the Republic.

N. P. CHIPMAN,

May 12, 1869. *Adjutant General.*

Grand Army of the Republic in account with J. T. Owen, S. V. Commander-in Chief.

1868.		
Jan'y 17,	Cash advanced to B. F. Stephenson, late A. G., on account..	$500 00
" 17,	" " to A. S. Evans, Secretary, etc., of the National Encampment, held at Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 15, 16 and 17, 1868....	75 00
April	" Merrihew & Son, for printing 20,000 copies of the revised Ritual.....	465 00
		$1,040 00

Grand Army of the Republic in account with B. F. Stephenson, late A. G.

1868.		
Jan'y 17,	To balance on account of expenditures as A. G.....	$1,285 56
" 1	By cash from J. T. Owen, advanced.....	500 00
	Balance due on account.....	$785 56

The foregoing is a correct transcript from the books of the A. G. O.:

N. P. CHIPMAN,

May 12, 1869. *Adjutant General.*

The Quartermaster General reported as follows:

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE, G. A. R.,
CINCINNATI, OHIO, May 12; 1869.

To the Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R. of he U. S.:

COMRADE: In making my annual report to you as Quartermaster General of the G. A. R., I have to state that, soon after my election, and after the appointment of your Adjutant General, we consulted as to the best course to pursue in receiving and disbursing the funds of the organization.

In view of the fact that national headquarters were established at Washington City, and my residence being remote from that point, it was thought best that all moneys should, in the first instance, come into the hands of the Adjutant General, and be disbursed by him as the current expenses required, and in the event that there should be a surplus, it should be passed over to me and held in trust for the Grand Army.

All moneys that were from time to time paid into my office I turned over to headquarters at Washington, in pursuance of Par. 3, G. O. No 10, which directed as follows: "Department Commanders will cause to be forwarded the dues by draft on New York, to the order of N. P. Chipman, or by P. O. money order or express. The funds will be turned over to the Quartermaster General, who is made by Regulation the proper custodian."

At no time have the receipts at national headquarters been sufficient to meet current expenses. I therefore have no funds on hand to account for. The report of the Adjutant General will give in detail the receipts and expenditures.

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

T. C. CAMPBELL,

Q. M. G., G. A. R.

CONSOLIDATED RETURN of the Adjutant General of the Grand Army of the Republic, showing Department organization and moneys received from Departments.

DEPARTMENT.	PRESENT COMMANDERS.	Date of provisional organization.	Date of permanent organization.	Number of Posts.	Semi-annual dues for half year ending June 30, 1868	Semi-annual dues for half year ending Dec. 31, 1868.	Special tax levied by resolution of G. E. on Posts organized prior to Jan. 1, 1868.	Moneys received on account of General Orders and Blanks.	Moneys received for Charters.
Alabama	C. Cadle, Jr.	April 9, 1868		4				$3.00	
Arkansas		April 18, 1867							
California	James Coey	March 9, 1867	Feb'y 20, 1868	27		$20 67	$6 00	4 30	
Colorado	F. J. Bancroft	Oct. 20, 1868		6		2 00			$10.00
Connecticut	Theodore G. Ellis	Feb'y 15, 1867	April 11, 1867	31	$18.33		18.00	9.35	
Delaware	A. H. Grimshaw	Feb'y 1, 1867		4					
Florida	Charles Mundee	Feb'y 14, 1868		1					12.50
Georgia	J. E. Bryant	July 6, 1868		7					10.00
Illinois	Thomas O. Osborn	May —, 1866	July 12, 1866	330				10 00	
Indiana	R. S. Foster		Nov 22, 1866	300					
Iowa	J. Williamson		Sept. 26, 1866	144				1.85	
Kansas	John A. Martin	Dec. 7, 1866	Dec. 7, 1866	50					
Kentucky	H. K. Milward	Jan. —, 1867		13		17.18			20.00
Louisiana	H. C. Warmouth	Jan. —, 1867	July 8, 1867						
Maine	George L. Beal	June 27, 1867	Jan. 10, 1868	41		36 00	12.00	3.45	
Maryland	A W. Denison	Nov. —, 1866	Jan. 8, 1868	16	10.39	10 39	11.00	43 92	
Massachusetts	F. A. Osborn	April 24, 1867	May 7, 1867	80	48.86	61.89	43.00	15.25	
Michigan	William Humphrey	Oct. 1, 1867	May 6, 1868	44	6.00	3 40	29 00	28.40	
Minnesota	J. W. Sprague	Dec. —, 1866	Aug. 14, 1867	19	5.15	6 03			
Missouri	R. J. Rombauer	July —, 1866	May 16, 1867	129					

CONSOLIDATED RETURN of the Adjutant General of the Grand Army of the Republic, continued

Department.	Present Commanders.	Date of provisional organization.	Date of permanent organization.	Number of Posts.	Semi-annual dues for half year ending June 30, 1868	Semi-annual dues for half year ending Dec. 31, 1868.	Special tax levied by resolution of G. E. on Posts organized prior to Jan. 1, 1868.	Moneys received on account of General Orders and Blanks.	Moneys received for Charters.
Montana	J. H. Mills	Feb'y 22, 1868		3					
Nebraska	S. A. Strickland	July 10, 1867		7					
New Hampshire	D. J. Vaughan	Dec. —, 1867	May —, 1868	15		14.82	1 00		
New Jersey	William Ward	Dec. 29, 1866		18		17 66		9.00	
New Mexico	H. H. Heath	Feb'y 12, 1868		1					10.00
New York	Daniel E. Sickles	Nov. 22, 1866	April 3, 1867	84	41 83	70.17	55 00	6 00	
North Carolina	J. W. Schenck, Jr	July 11, 1867		8					
Ohio	J. Warren Keifer		Jan. 30, 1867	303	69.58	90.38			
Pennsylvania	O. C Bosbyshell	Nov. 22, 1866	Jan. 16, 1867	176	74.42	59.18	99 00	13 50	
Potomac	Samuel A. Duncan	Feb'y 25, 1867	Feb'y 11, 1869	10		14.14	3 00		
Rhode Island	Horatio Rogers	May 11, 1867	March 24, 1868	15		32.43	10.00	5.85	
South Carolina	C. J. Stobbrand	Aug. 28, 1868		3		6.50			
Tennessee	F. W. Sparling	Dec. 30, 1866	Aug. —, 1868	17		40.00	5 00		
Texas	E. J. Davis	Sept. 22, 1868		3					10.00
Vermont	Geo. P. Foster	July 6, 1868	Oct. 23, 1868	15				7.50	50.00
Virginia	Geo. T. Egbert	Feb'y 12, 1868		5					
West Virginia	B. F. Kelly	March 13, 1868	Sept. 12, 1868	17					65.00
Wisconsin	Thos. S. Allen	June 10, 1866	Sept. —, 1866	80	10.00	6.05	10.00		
Total				2,026	224.66	496 34	193 00	161.37	187 50

Total amount moneys received.....$1,262 87.

On motion of Comrade Thomas S. Allen, of Wisconsin, it was ordered that the National Encampment take a recess until 4 o'clock P. M.

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4 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Encampment convened pursuant to adjournment.

Comrade Keifer, Chairman of the Committee on Credentials, reported as follows:

The committee find the following Departments entitled to representation in this Encampment: Department of California, three delegates; Colorado, two; Kentucky, two; Maryland, two; Massachusetts, eight; Michigan, two; Minnesota, two; Maine, five; New Hampshire, two; New Jersey, two; New York, seven; Ohio, ten; Pennsylvania, eight; Potomac, two; Rhode Island, two; South Carolina, two; Tennessee, two; Wisconsin, two

The committee report the following Departments as not entitled to representation on account of non-payment of dues, and a failure to report to national headquarters: Department of Alabama, non-payment of dues; Arkansas, arrears for reports and dues; Connecticut, non-payment of the semi-annual dues for the half-year ending December 31, 1868; Delaware and Florida, arrears for reports and dues; Georgia, arrears for dues; Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, Texas, Vermont, and Virginia, arrears for reports and dues; West Virginia, arrears for reports.

The committee report the following delegates entitled to seats: Comrades J. F. Miller, and C. M. Leary, of the Department of California; H. K. Milward, *ex officio*, W. H. Lawson, and C. P. Wilcox, of the Department of Kentucky; A. W. Denison, and E. Y. Goldsborough, *ex officio*, of the Department of Maryland; J. W. Denny, and A. H. Quint, of the Department of Massachusetts; William Humphrey, *ex officio*, and J. H. Fee, of the Department of Michigan; S. T. Carter, of the Department of New Hampshire; William Ward, *ex officio*, of the Department of New Jersey; R. A. Bachie, and G. F. Potter, of the Department of New York; J. Warren Keifer, *ex officio*, H. G. Burnett, A. T. Wycoff. W. H. Baldwin, W. J. Winter, J. G. Longstroth, J. A. Chase, James Blair, E. F. Taylor, and H. G. Armstrong, of the Department of Ohio; O. C. Bosbyshell, *ex officio*, J. F. Hartranft, A. L. Pearson, C. D. Miller, E. M. Hoffman, C. Albright, T. A. Rowley, Barton D. Evans, of the Department of Pennsylvania; S. A. Duncan, G. Wiley Wells, E. F. M. Faehtz, *ex offiicio*, A. H. G. Richardson, and Timothy Lubey, of the Department of Potomac; Thompson McKinley, *ex officio*, G. G. Minor, and J. S. Mullins, of the Department of Tennessee; Thomas S. Allen, *ex officio*, and L. Fairchild, of the Department of Wisconsin.

The committee make no recommendation regarding the delegates from delinquent Departments.

Report adopted.

The following officers of the National Encampment are *ex officio* members of the Encampment: The Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice-Commander in-Chief, Adjutant General, Inspector General, Quartermaster General, Surgeon General, Chaplain and Council of Administration.

Comrades Thomas O. Osborn, R. M. Hough and H. Davis made explanations as to the condition of the G. A. R. in their Department, and the causes for the delinquency therein. Comrade James Ostrand, of Indiana, also made explanation for his Department. Also, Comrade Stone, of Missouri, for his Department.

Comrade Fairchild, of Wisconsin, moved that Section 4, of Article XIV of the Rules and Regulations be suspended; which was adopted.

Comrade Fairchild moved that the delegates from the Department of Illinois be admitted to all the privileges of the National Encampment; which was adopted, and the following delegates were admitted to seats: Comrades Thomas O. Osborn, *ex officio*; Hasbrook Davis, R. M. Hough, S. N. Munn, R. N. Hayden, J. Tillson,, F. A. Starring, at large, and S. A. Knapp, from the Department of Illinois.

On motion of Comrade Denny, of Massachusetts, the same privilege was extended to the delegates from the Department of Indiana, and the following delegates were admitted to seats: O. M. Wilson, *ex officio;* James Ostrand and James Turnock, from the Department of Indiana.

Comrade Wells, of the Department of Potomac, moved that Comrade H. G. Stone, of the Department of Missouri, be admitted to the privileges of the Encampment; which was adopted, and Comrade Stone was admitted.

On motion, Comrade A. H. Brooks, of the Department of Iowa, was admitted to a seat in the Encampment.

Comrade W. S. Moorehouse, of the Department of Iowa, was, on motion, admitted to a seat in the Encampment.

Comrade Allen, of Wisconsin, moved that a Committee on Resolutions be appointed, to whom all resolutions be referred without debate which was adopted.

The Commander-in-Chief appointed the following Comrades on the committee: Thomas S. Allen, of Wisconsin; A. W. Denison, of Maryland; H. G. Armstrong, of Ohio; H. K. Milward, of Kentucky; and R. King Scott, of South Carolina.

On motion of Comrade Bosbyshell, of Pennsylvania, it was ordered that Departments shall be entitled to as many votes only as there are delegates present and voting.

The Commander-in-Chief announced the following Committee on Finances: Thomas O. Osborn, of Illinois; William Ward, of New Jersey; W. H. Baldwin, of Ohio; James Turnock, of Indiana, and A. L. Pearson, of Pennsylvania.

Comrade Faehtz, of the Department of the Potomac, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the chair to examine into the practicability of connecting a scheme of co-operative life insurance with the Grand Army of the Republic. This committee shall be empowered to correspond with acknowledged authorities upon the subject of life insurance, and it shall be their duty to take all steps advisable to elucidate the merits and demerits of any submitted or proposed plan. It shall also be their duty to report, at least four months before the next meeting of the National Encampment, the final results of their labors to the Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R., who will communicate the same to the Departments, that they may thoroughly discuss the subject, and be prepared to instruct their delegates in the next National Encampment what action to take in the premises.

On motion, the Encampment adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock A. M., Thursday, May 13.

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SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

THURSDAY, May 13, 1869.

Pursuant to adjournment, the National Encampment assembled at 9 o'clock A. M.

The Commander-in-Chief called the Encampment to order.

By direction, prayer was offered by the Chaplain-in-Chief.

Comrade Faehtz, of the Department of the Potomac, asked to read, at this time, a scheme for life insurance intended for the Grand Army of the Republic.

No objection being made, Comrade Faehtz presented the following:

"THE GRAND ARMY'S BEQUEST."

A PLAN OF MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

Respectfnlly suggested by E. F. M. Faehtz, Assistant Quartermaster General, Department of the Potomac, G. A. R.

The Grand Army's Bequest is to be organized under the laws of the United States as a co-operative association for the benefit of the heirs of the deceased comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, and will be chartered by Congress as a national incorporation.

I. *Object.*—The object of the corporation is to provide and secure a certain sum of money, not less than one thousand dollars, to the heirs of each deceaced member.

II. *Admission to Membership.*—The conditions of admission to member-in the corporation are, that an applicant must be a comrade of one of the Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic, of good standing; that he must accompany his application by fifty cents admission fee; and that the application must be filed before the first day of January, 1871. After this date the number of members cannot be increased under any condition.

No restrictions whatever are made as to age, condition, habits, state of health, or anything else in regard to ths qualification of an applicant.

III. *Forfeiture of Membership.*—Non-payment of dues for more than five consecutive cases, and voluntary surrender or transfer of a certificate of membership to another member will terminate the same; but there are such provisions in the by-laws of the corporation as to protect any member, or his heirs, against loss of the benefits in cases of involuntary dereliction or excusable neglect.

No cause or manner of death, nor geographical limitation, shall deprive the heirs of a deceased member of the benefits of the corporation.

IV. *Rights and Duties of Members.*—Each member has a right of holding as many certificates of membership, not exceeding ten, in his own name, as the number of times he pays the admission fee of fifty cents, for each time of which he receives a certificate of membership in book form.

Each member has also the right of acquiring certificates of other members in a legal transaction, and with the knowledge of the officers of the corporation, or the right of transferring his own in the same manner.

The duties of members consist in the payment of dues, amounting to one cent for each certificate in each case of death of any member of the corporation, until such payments are discontinued, as provided in paragraph 7, and in a general compliance with the by-laws of the corporation.

V. *Organization.*—As working organization of the corporation, the present structure of the Grand Army of the Republic is adopted for all purposes of correspondence and collection of dues, with perfect equality of rights and duties of all members. These members shall, according to geographical demands or their own preference, belong to a branch association, called, under

the present Rules and Regulations of the G. A. R., *Post*, and a number of these Posts, as at present, form what is called *Department.*

Individual members transact business with their Posts, these with their Department, and the Departments with the *Central Bureau* of the corporation in all cases but those directly bearing upon the disbursement of the benefits in a case of death, when the heirs or claimants forward their proofs of claim and death, as prescribed in the by-laws, directly to the Central Bureau, and receive the amounts due them directly from the same. Such payments are made in all uncontested cases within sixty days from the date of the notification of the death of a member.

VI. *Financial Administration.*—The financial administration of all collective funds of the corporation is vested in the Central Bureau, consisting of—

1. A Board of Trustees, annually to be elected in the regular meeting of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic.

2. A corps of paid employees, to be appointed by the Board of Trustees from among such as are recommended by the National Encampment. The rights and duties of the Trustees, as well as the employees of the Central Bureau, shall be defined in the by-laws of this corporation.

VII. *Resources.*—The resources of this corporation shall consist in all funds accruing from the payments of admission fees, dues of members, and of the interest from the investments of the same. The payment of dues is discontinued after the first half of the total number of the members have died, because, by this time, the reserve fund of the corporation has accumulated more than sufficiently to pay the claims of the heirs of all the then surviving members, and the further payment of dues would be an unnecessary and grievous tax on the survivors.

VIII. *Disposal of the Resources*—The sums accruing from these resources shall be disposed of in the following manner:

1. The amount accruing from the admission fees shall be used under the direction and orders of the Board of Trustees to defray the necessary expenses of the Central Bureau during the first year Any surplus over and above these expenses shall be invested in the manner as specified in paragraph 10.

2. The amounts accruing from dues shall be divided as follows:

(*a.*) As many cents as half the number of members at the beginning of this organization, or, in other words, as many dollars as there are hundreds of members on the first day of January, 1871, shall be paid without deduction to the heirs of each deceased member.

(*b.*) The entire balance of the amounts of dues accruing in each case of death shall be invested in U. S. bonds, and form a reserve fund for the payment of the claims of the heirs of such members as survive the first half of the total number of membership.

The *interest* accruing from all investments for the reserve fund shall be disposed of in the following manner:

(*a.*) The expenditures of the Central Bureau, as well as all necessary expenses of printing, advertising official statements, stamps, and other incidentals, shall be paid upon the order of the Board of Trustees.

(*b.*) A part of the remaining sums of interest, after the payment of the specified expenditures, may be, upon the recommendation of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, but only with the approval of the Board of Trustees, appropriated for the purchase and permanent improvement of real estate, which may be rented for the uses and purposes of the G. A. R., but sufficient guarantees must be given to the Board of Trustees that such investments would not yield less income than the amount thus invested would yield interest when invested in United States bonds; and that no loss either in value or revenue would arise from such investment to the assets of this corporation. Also, the part so appropriated shall never exceed one-half of the remaining interest.

(*c.*) All sums not provided for in the foregoing stipulations shall be invested in the manner prescribed in paragraph 10 for the investment of the Reserve Fund, and shall form part of the same.

IX. *Provisions for Expenditures.*—The expenditures of the Central Bureau, as well as the incidentals specified above, and others, shall be regulated and superintended by the Board of Trustees, with as much economy as the dignity and prosperity of the corporation will demand. As already stated, they shall be defrayed for the first year out of the funds accruing from the admission fees, and for the following years out of the interest emanating from the investments of the Reserve Fund. Extraordinary expenses, as p. e. legal advice and others, must be provided for by the Board of Trustees from the resources of the Reserve Fund of the current year in which they occur.

X. *Investment of the Reserve Fu d.*—All moneys accruing from any source whatever, for the Reserve Fund, shall be, by the direction of the Board of Trustees, invested in the United States bonds, or, under very safe and favorable circumstances, in real estate.

Speculations of whatever description with funds of this corporation are, without exception, strictly prohibited.

Receipts of interest in gold are to be utilized at the market value within forty-eight hours after the first meeting of the Board of Trustees subsequent to the date of receipt

XI. *Dissolution of the Corporation.*—As the number of members, after the 1st day of January, 1871, cannot be increased, no new members can be admitted, and by the law of nature must grow steadily smaller, and finally expire, therefore the following provisions are made for the final dissolution of the corporation and the disposal of its estate:

Whenever the number of members grows less than 50,000 (fifty thousand) the Board of Trustees shall officially notify the President of the United States of such fact,, and respectfully request him to appoint, with the approval of the United States Senate, a committee of 3 (three) gentlemen, the salary of each of whom shall be $5,000 (five thousand dollars) per annum, payable out of the revenues of the corporation. The members of this committee, who, if possible, ought to be members of this corporation, shall meet and enter upon their duties upon the first Monday of July following their qualification, in the city where the Central Bureau of this corporation is

located, to receive from the Board of Trustees an exact official statement of all the assets of this corporation over and above the amount necessary to satisfy the claims of the heirs of the still surviving members. This statement is to be repeated on the first Monday of each following month, when the committee will meet, until the number of members is less than one thousand (1,000) when the Board of Trustees shall surrender their trust into the hands of said committee on the first Monday of July subsequently.

This committee then enters into all the rights and duties of the Board of Trustees until the last member of the corporation has died, when they shall discontinue the Central Bureau and turn over all the funds and assets of the extinct corporation into the hands of the United States Treasurer, who shall at once, in the presence of the committee and the Secretary of the Treasury, cancel and destroy all United States bonds and coupons then in possession of the estate of the extinct corporation, and shall cause all property belonging to the said estate be sold by public auction, and the proceeds thereof, as well as all other funds belonging to the estate, be used to pay, as far as they reach, anv portion of the national debt which may be unpaid at that time, and if such portion should not exist—that is to say, if the entire national debt should be redeemed—the entire estate to be divided into two equal parts. The first one of these parts shall be devoted and expended for the erection of a monument in the city of Washington to the memory of the defenders of the nation in the late rebellion, and the other half shall be dedicated to educational purposes under the direction of the United States Congress.

THIS IS THE GRAND ARMY'S BEQUEST.

XII. *Illustration of the Working.*—From the foregoing provisions it will be manifest that the Central Bureau of the corporation corresponds with what insurance men call the "Head Office"—the National Encampment of of the G. A. R. with "meetings of stockholders by proxy;" the Departments with "agencies," and the Posts with "sub-agencies," with the difference that the mechanism is much more simple and economical, as there are no salaried officers, except in the Central Bureau, and no advertisements and other expenses for solicitations or other services rendered.

On the first day of March, 1869, the official returns of the G. A. R. showed thirty-seven Departments, with an aggregate of 240,000 members, which number, however, has already, and will be before January 1, 1871, much increased by accession of new members, as well as by the taking out of more than one certificate of membership by individual members. Taking, however, the basis of only 200,000 members for calculation, we find that the admission fee for this number will amount to $100,000—a sum certainly more than sufficient for the establishing and working of the Central Bureau for the first year.

The dues in the first case of death will amount to $2,000, of which, after payment of $1,000 to the heirs, the other $1,000 are invested for the Reserve Fund.

As the Grand Army consists only of comrades who have served during the late war, it is evident that nearly all of them are of an age between

twenty-five and sixty years, and although in some cases invalids and cripples, the large majority of them are what insurance men would call "good risks."*

Taking, then, from the average mortality tables, the very highest figure of 12.5 deaths in 1,000 per annum,† the first year of the corporations operations, ½-cent dues only, would call for 2,500 deaths, and would account for a receipt of dues of $2,500,000, less an outfall of $32,250, which is taken in consideration in the subsequent calculation. One million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars would be paid to the heirs, and the balance would go into the Reserve Fund.

We now assume forty years as the time necessary or probable for the mortality of 100,000 members, and find that not even counting the considerable amounts accruing from immediate investment of payment during fractions of the year, the Reserve Fund will amount to at least $193,452,457. Allowing now the large amount of $45,000 per annum for expenditures, and calculating it with compound interest for forty years, which amounts to $6,964,288.47—add to this the amount accruing from the fall-out in dues, $50,005,000, we have $56,969,288.47, and reserve for the heirs of the survivors $100,000,000, and deduct this total of $155,969,288 47, and we find still a surplus of $36,483,169.53 in the Reserve Fund; but this amount will be much higher in reality, as we have, for the safety of the calculations, made great allowances.

Such a result speaks for itself, not only that the heirs of all the members would be provided for as handsomely as the deceased member had desired, but the corporation, after its termination, would leave to the nation the respectable amount of not less than fifty millions of dollars.

XIII. *Advantages.*—These glorious results of the scheme being shown, there need be little said as to its advantages, The corporation, if the Trustees do their duty, cannot but be in the most prosperous condition during its existence, and losses are an impossibility under proper management,

The individual members have the comfort for a very small payment, which otherwise hardly could be utilized, to secure to their dear ones a handsome provision after their death.

For one cent on each death, or an average annual payment of $25, they secure at least $1,000 to their heirs. For two cents, or $50 per year, $2,000. For five cents, or $125 per annum, $5,000.

There is no insurance company in the world which could equal or even approach such results.

In every case, even the very last of death, the heirs receive at least as much as has ever been paid in, and in not less than 100,000 cases they receive much more than the accumulated payments would amonnt to.

*This view is strongly corroborated by the late statistics of the veterans of the first French Empire (vide April, 1869), showing, fifty-four years after the close of the Napoleonic wars, forty thousand survivors.

†A very reasonable assumption; but even if incorrect, would not change the results of the calculation, as the resources increase with the mortality greatly, while it only very little increases the individual tax.

All conditions are equally just and lucrative to the poor as to the wealthy. No invalid or sufferer is excluded for his misfortune.

No act of a member, except the wilful discontinuance of membership, can deprive his heirs of the benefits of this corporation.

And last, but not least, after all have been provided for, the members leave a munificent token of love to the nation, which they have loved so well during life.

On motion of Comrade Denny, of Massachusetts, the resolution offered by Comrade Faehtz yesterday, was recalled from the Committee on Resolutions, and, on motion of Comrade Faehtz, was referred to a special Committee.

The Commander-in Chief announced the following as said committee: Comrades E. F. M. Faehtz, of the Department of the Potomac; G. F. Potter, of the Department of New York; O. C. Bosbyshell, of the Department of Pennsylvania; James Shaw, Jr., of the Department of Rhode Island, and James W. Denny, of the Department of Massachusetts.

On motion of Comrade Chase, of Ohio, the reading of the minutes of yesterday were dispensed with.

The report of the Committee on Rules and Regulations was called for, but the chairman gave way for the Committee on Finance to report, which through its chairman, Comrade Osborn, presented the following report:

CINCINNATI, OHIO, May 12, 1869.

The Committee on Finance beg leave to report that they have examined the accounts of the Adjutant General, and find them in excellent condition, and approve his disbursements, as shown in his financial statement. The committee recommend that the Adjutant General be permitted to return to comrades the amounts forwarded for badges, and which the Adjutant General has been unable to recover from the contractors to whom it was paid. The Adjutant General asks no special action in his behalf to reimburse him for advances, as he has faith that when the new Rules and Regulations and Ritual go into effect the arrears for dues will be paid, and thus ample means raised to meet the Grand Army debts.

Respectfully submitted,

THOS. O. OSBORN, *Chairman.*

The report was adopted, and the committee discharged.

On motion of Comrade Denny, of Massachusetts, Comrade E. H. Rhodes, of Rhode Island, was admitted to a seat in the Encampment, on the same terms as Comrade Stone, of Missouri.

The report of the Committee on Rules and Regulations and Ritual was called for, when Comrade Fairchild, of Wisconsin, moved that members of the Encampment, with the exception of the members of the committee, be allowed to speak no more than five minutes, nor more than twice on any one subject; which was adopted.

The committee then proceeded to report, as follows:

CINCINNATI, OHIO, May 12, 1869.

General N. P. CHIPMAN, *Adjutant General G. A. R.*:

COMRADE—The committee to whom were referred the Rules, Ritual, and subject of degrees and uniform for the G. A. R. have the honor to present the accompanying report, embracing all of these subjects, and in form as follows:

1st. A draft of Rules and Regulations.

2d. Ritual for opening, closing, muster-in, and advancement.

The committee would refer to the fact that by G. O. No. 18, par. 4, Nov. 14, 1868, the attention of commanders, staff, and comrades was called to the appointment and objects of the committee and all Comrades were requested to present to any members of the committee therein named, any suggestions deemed likely to "aid in making our Ritual, Rules and Regulations worthy of our organization."

The committee have received suggestions from many quarters, extending from a slight reference on some minor points to entire systems of rules. Every communication has been carefully considered, and the entire systems presented have been studied article by article.

The committee is happy to say that the various suggestions, to a very great extent, coincided, and this uniformity has been felt to be of very great weight in shaping this report.

The committee has held repeated meetings, which were well attended, and to which the absent members communicated in writing. The members have also had very extended correspondence with each other, and may be allowed to say that no labor or thought has been spared to present a report which should meet the wants of the G. A. R. There is no single sentence that has not been carefully considered. In much of the great labor necessary in copying and perfecting the various papers, the committee acknowledge the efficient aid of Captain W. W. Douglas, whom it selected as clerk.

The object of degrees has required of the committee much deliberation. After extended correspondence and long discussion, the committee became, unanimous in the recommendation of the three grades of Recruit, Soldier, and Veteran, embodying the three principles, respectively, of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. The committee report a Ritual for these three grades. Should the system of grades not be acceptable to the National Encampment, the Ritual can easily be rearranged, but the committee believe that this system will greatly promote the interest and efficiency of the G. A. R.

The committee acknowledge its indebtedness to Captain J. Waldo Denny,

of Boston, Massachusetts, who prepared, at great labor, the first draft of the Ritual, and the committee trusts that the Encampment will endorse these thanks.

Respectfully submitted for the Committee.

JAMES SHAW, JR., *Chairman.*

The committee then read the Revised Rules and Regulations and Ritual; which, together with the report, were received, and the following amendments offered:

Comrade Kiefer, of Ohio, moved to amend the revised Rules and Regulations, as reported by the committee, so as to provide for the appointment of the Quartermaster General and Assistant Quartermasters General by the Commander-in-Chief and Grand Commanders; which was adopted.

On motion, the revised Rules and Regulations, as reported, were amended so as to leave the time for the semi-annual meetings of the Departments to be fixed by the January meetings.

On motion of Comrade Wells, of the Department of the Potomac, the revised Rules and Regulations, as reported were amended so as to leave it discretionary with the Department Commanders as to the number of Aides they should appoint on their staff.

Comrade Keifer, of Ohio, moved to amend the revised Rules and Regulations, as reported, so that when charters are surrendered and Posts disbanded, comrades may be admitted to Posts without the usual transfer cards, on satisfactory evidence of their good standing at the time of the disbandment of their Posts.

Comrade Shaw, of Rhode Island, moved an amendment to Comrade Keifer's motion, so as to provide that members of suspended or disbanded Posts, upon their own application and satisfactory proof of good standing, shall receive from the Assistant Adjutant General of the Department transfer papers, which shall be of the same force as the transfer papers provided for in Section 2 of Article IV, Chapter II; which was adopted.

Comrade Chase, of Ohio, moved to amend the revised Rules and Regulations, as reported, so that not more

than one Post in a Department shall adopt the same name; which was adopted.

Comrade S. N. Munn, of Illinois, moved the previous question on his motion to receive and adopt the report of the Committee on the Rules and Regulations and Ritual, as amended; which was adopted.

The revised Rules and Regulations and Ritual, as amended, were declared adopted by the National Encampment.

The following resolution was presented by Comrade Shaw, of Rhode Island, chairman of Committee on Revised Rules and Regulations and Ritual:

Resolved, That in order to put into operation the system of grades the following be adopted:

1. That those who are now eligible to the third grade shall include, upon their taking the several obligations, all present and past officers and members of the National Encampment, and of the several Department Encampments, and all present and past Commanders, Vice Commanders, Adjutants, Quartermasters, Surgeons and Chaplains of Posts, together with all members of the Grand Army of the Republic who shall have been members eight months; *Provided*, That the above mentioned shall be in good standing in their several Posts and Departments, and free from all dues on the 1st day of July 1869; *And provided*, That they take the several obligations prior to the first day of September, 1869.

2. That all other comrades in good standing and free of all dues on the 1st day of July, 1869, and who have been members two months;, shall constitute the second grade; *Provided*, That they take the obligations of the first and second grades prior to the 1st day of September, 1869.

3. All recruits received on and after the first day of July, 1869, together with all comrades not taking the obligations of higher grades to which they are entitled shall, upon taking the first obligation, constitute the first grade.

4. The several obligations shall be taken by the officers and members of the National Encampment present, at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

5. The Commander-in-Chief shall personally, or by special deputy administer the obligatious to the Department Commanders who are not present at this session.

6. The several Department Commanders having taken the obligations of the several grades shall personally or by special deputy administer the obligations to the officers of the several Posts. All members of Posts shall thereupon receive the advancement to which they are entitled in the form prescribed in the Ritual; *Provided*, They comply with the foregoing regulations.

7. Neither the Departments nor Posts in arrears shall receive the Ritual, signs or passwords, except at the discretion of the Commander-in-Chief.

8. Every comrade now entitled to the third grade, as well as all entitled in the future, shall pay a fee of ten (10) cents on advancement, the same to go to the National Encampment. Departments headquarters shall be held responsible for the payment of said fees to the National Encampment, and Posts to Department Encampments.

9. The necessary signs and grips shall be established by the National Council of Administration, and the countersigns shall be given by the Commander-in-Chief.

10. The dues to the National Encampment for the ensuing year shall be four (4) cents *per capita* upon each member borne on the reports of Departments and Posts, the same to be paid in four equal payments, In June, September, December and March.

11. The Commander-in-Chief shall issue all orders and instructions necessary to carry out the foregoing to Department Commanders, and they to Post Commanders in their several jurisdictions.

Which report was received and adopted.

On motion of Comrade Wilson, of Indiana, it was provided that the first business of the Encampment after the obligations are administered shall be the election of officers.

On motion of Comrade Wilson, the National Encampment adjourned to meet at 3.30 P. M.

Afternoon Session.

The Encampment met pursuant to adjournment at 3.30 P.M.

Comrade Quint, of Massachusetts, moved that the forms of Funeral and Installation Services be referred to the Council of Administration for revision, and that until so revised the old forms remain in operation; which was adopted.

Comrade Bosbyshell, of Pennsylvania, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That so much of the new Rules and Regulations as relates to the election of officers and the conferring of grades go into effect immediately; and that all resolutions or parts of resolutions interfering with this resolution be repealed.

Which was adopted.

The obligations of the three grades were here administered to the Encampment.

By direction, the following communication from the Board

of Managers of the National Military Asylum for Volunteer Soldiers was read :

DAYTON, OHIO, May 12, 1869.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN. *Commander, &c., G. A. R.*:

DEAR SIR—In behalf of the managers, officers, and beneficiaries of the National Asylum for disabled Volunteer Soldiers, I beg to tender to the officers and members of the National Encampment, G. A. R,, a cordial invitation to visit the National Soldiers' Home, located near this city, and distant only three hours by rail from Cincinnati. We have now over eleven hundred disabled soldiers on our rolls, representing not only every loyal State, but almost every volunteer regiment in the army during the late war.

If it be not possible for you to visit us as a body, we shall be glad to welcome, as individuals, so many of you as can conveniently come.

Hoping for a favorable response, I am your obedient servant,

LEWIS B. GUNCKEL,
One of the Board of Managers.

On motion of Comrade Pond, of Ohio, the invitation was received, and a request made that all the members who can avail themselves of the invitation should do so.

The Commander-in-Chief then announced that the election of officers was next in order.

Comrade Wycoff, of Ohio, nominated General John A. Logan, of Illinois, for Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Denny, of Massachusetts, seconded the nomination.

Comrade Bachie, of New York, also seconded the nomination, and was followed by Comrades Shaw, of Rhode Island, and Allen, of Wisconsin.

On motion, it was ordered that Comrade Hough, of Illinois, cast the unanimous vote of the Encampment for John A. Logan, for Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Bosbyshell, of Pennsylvania, stated that the delegates from his Department had been instructed to vote for Comrade Joshua T. Owen, for Commander-in-Chief, but he had been instructed by the delegates present to state that they had no objections to making the election of Comrade Logan unanimous.

Comrade J. Warren Keifer, of Ohio, having taken the chair, announced Comrade John A. Logan as unanimously elected the Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year.

General Logan then came forward and addressed the Encampment as follows:

FELLOW-COMRADES: I have not words to convey my feelings for the manner in which you have extended this honor again to me. As to the administration of my office, I can only say I have tried to do my duty. If I have done my duty satisfactorily, I am only too well pleased, and for my future, I can but promise. I take pride in this high office; there has been no organization in the land of such a similar character, for the basis on which it has been formed is too firm, resting, as it does, upon the patriotic hearts of this country. It makes itself so perfect, so grand to each man who has a loyal heart, that it cannot fail of strength. The inducements it holds out to our people in embracing it cannot be described. There is a moral grandeur in this organization, springing, as it does, from those who bid farewell to their families to battle for the right.

Comrades, ten thousand thanks I gratefully tender you. I did not expect this honor, and I pledge myself to the advancement of this grand organization, which will yet be the means of doing great good.

Comrade Wells, of the Department of the Potomac, nominated Comrade Lucius Fairchild, of Wisconsin, for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The nomination was seconded, and, on motion of Comrade Faehtz, it was ordered that Comrade Shaw, of Rhode Island, cast the unanimous vote of the Encampment for Lucius Fairchild for Senior Vice Commander-in Chief.

Comrade Fairchild having received the unanimous vote of the Encampment, was declared duly elected.

Comrade Bosbyshell, of Pennsylvania, nominated Comrade James Shaw, Jr., of Rhode Island, for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Shaw declined the nomination, and nominated Comrade Joseph R. Hawley, of Connecticut.

Comrade Hawley having received the unanimous vote of the Encampment, was declared duly elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade S. B. Wylie Mitchell, of Pennsylvania, was nominated and declared unanimously elected Surgeon General.

Comrade A. H. Quint, of Massachusetts, was nominated, and declared unanimously elected Chaplain-in-Chief.

The following Council of Administration was elected:

Department of California—J. F. Miller.

Department of Delaware—Frank Nolen.
Department of Illinois—R. M. Hough.
Department of Indiana—W. W. Dudley.
Department of Iowa—Joseph B. Leak.
Department of Kentucky—William Boden.
Department of Maryland—Andrew W. Denison.
Department of Massachusetts—J. Waldo Denny.
Department of Michigan—Oliver L. Spalding.
Department of Minnesota—Frank E. Daggett.
Department of Missouri—G. Harry Stone.
Department of New Hampshire—G. T. Carter.
Department of New Jersey—James F. Rusling.
Department of New York—R. A. Bachie.
Department of Maine—George L. Beal.
Department of Ohio—Harry G. Armstrong.
Department of Pennsylvania—O. C. Bosbyshell.
Department of Potomac—Samuel A. Duncan.
Department of Rhode Island—James Shaw, Jr.
Department of South Carolina—R. King Scott.
Department of Tennessee—G. G. Minor.
Department of Texas—E. J. Davis.
Department of Vermont—George J. Stannard.
Department of West Virginia—Charles J. Wickersham.
Department of Wisconsin—George P. Goodwin.

Comrade Baldwin moved that the Council of Administration be empowered to have copies of the Ritual and Regulations translated into the German language, and urged it by a powerful speech, speaking in the highest terms of our German soldiers and their persistent loyalty,

Comrade Faehtz, of the Department of the Potomac, said that although he was a German, he was opposed to the motion, making a logical argument. He said he would desire every German to learn the English language, and that the translation of the Ritual would open a wrong precedent. If one language was necessary to be translated so were all.

Comrade Armstrong explained that there was a most excellent organization in this city of this Order composed of Germans, but during his official visits there he always felt

nonplussed in visiting it, and would object to the resolution.

The resolution was referred to the Council of Administration.

Comrade Shaw moved a resolution that ten members of the Council of Administration constitute a quorum to transact business. Adopted.

Comrade Albright, of Pennsylvania, moved that the Adjutant General be instructed to have the Rules, Regulations and Ritual printed and properly distributed.

On motion of Comrade Shaw, of Rhode Island, it was ordered that the Adjutant General and Inspector General of the National, Encampment be paid, each, the sum of $1,800 per annum.

Comrade Starring, of Illinois, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted, except so much as may conflict with the new Constitution:

Resolved, That a committee of three (3) (of which the Adjutant General shall be a member) be appointed to consult with experts, and design, and, on the approval of the Commander-in-Chief, adopt a suitable badge and ribbon; also a certificate of membership; the said badge and certificate to be issued only to comrades in good standing who have taken the obligation of the third grade, and have become veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic. The design and form when so adopted shall be considered final, unchangeable and alike for all members and all the Departments; and the Adjutant General shall have authority to contract with one or more responsible parties to furnish the badge and ribbon and the certificate of membership at a fixed price; and the Commander-in-Chief shall direct the manner of issuing the same to eligible comrades, and the manner of payment therefor.

On motion of Comrade Bachie, of New York, it was ordered that the Adjutant General be authorized to have printed and distributed to the proper authorities, the proceedings of this Encampment.

On motion of Comrade Wells, it was ordered that the thanks of this Encampment be tendered to Captain J. W. Sanderson, Official Reporter; to Captain Evans, Officer of the Day; to the Guard, and to all who have aided this Encampment in the discharge of its business.

On motion, it was ordered that the next annual Convention of the National Encampment be held in Washington, D. C.

Comrade Albright, of Pennsylvania, offered the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved,* That, in the opinion of this Encampment, there should be a representative of the Grand Army of the Republic, on the Board of Directors of the National Homes for Soldiers and Soldier's Orphans.

2. A Claim Agency, under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic, ought to be established in Washington, D. C.

Which were adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions reported the following:

Whereas the organization known as the Grand Army of the Republic is founded upon the glorious and world-wide embracing principles of fraternity, charity, and loyalty to our flag and country; and

Whereas its success in the past is the best guarantee of its future prosperity; and

Whereas, the welfare of our living Comrades, and that of the orphans and widows of the honored dead, and the maintenance of our sacred principles, demand renewed efforts in its behalf; therefore, by the National Encampment, through the representatives here assembled, be it

Resolved, That the destiny of the Grand Army of the Republic is not fulfilled, until it shall embrace within its protective folds every one of the million of honorably discharged soldiers of the several armies of the service during the late war of the rebellion; until the families of those requiring assistance are beyond the reach of want, and their children properly educated and cared for by the country; and until the last faithful veteran soldier has surrendered without dishonor to the Great Conqueror of all mankind, and has been released from his bonds, and mustered into a grander army above.

Resolved, That it is through this organization alone that the bonds of fraternal feeling can be successfully sustained and strengthened, and the elective currents of sympathy and brotherly affection, born of common toil and danger, be evolved and hastened in their courses through the thousand hearts scattered over the wide expanse of our ever-growing empire.

Resolved, That that charity which speaks through kind actions and benevolent deeds and sacrificing efforts for those associated with us shall ever be one of our cardinal principles, and carefully exemplified in our practice.

Resolved, That we shall cling to the principles and practices of loyalty to flag and country with the same pertinacity and energy with which we sustained it in the field; and that no foe, foreign or domestic, shall ever find us backward in rushing to the rescue of the Government we have saved, by whatever danger it may be assailed; that our hearts still beat time to the "music of the Union," and will ever be found vibrating in harmony with the pulsations of the national life.

Resolved, That whatsoever suspicion of political nature may have heretofore attached to the Grand Army of the Republic as to its being a political organization, that we hereby declare it above and independent of all partisan feeling and action, and actuated only by a determination to sustain to the fullest extent the principles so clearly defined in the rules and regulations adopted by the National Encampment, and embracing only the patriotic duties enjoined by charity, fraternity and loyalty to flag and country, including a just condemnation of that fell spirit of rebellion, which would have destroyed not only the country, but rooted liberty itself out of the land.

Resolved, That in the name of our Comrades scattered throughout this broad land, we desire to express our gratitude to the citizens and legislators of those States which have established homes and schools for the maintenance and education of the orphans of our deceased brethren, and that we invoke the blessings of Heaven upon them. And that we earnestly urge upon the citizens and legislators of those States where no such provision has been made to take immediate steps to fulfil the obligations imposed upon them by the casualities of the late war, and to redeem their pledges made to the brave volunteers, to care for their families during their absence and in case of their death, by establishing homes for both orphans and widows, as far as their necessities may demand.

Resolved, That the pledges and recommedations made by conventions and legislative bodies to give preference to soldiers (other things being equal) for appointment to civil avocations and Government positions, whereby our disabled Comrades might serve both the country and themselves at the same time, and be enabled to earn an honest and honorable livelihood, are daily impressed upon our minds by the fact that their claims for labor and positions are, in many portions of our country, almost entirely ignored, and that, in the name of our crippled Comrades, we respectfully ask the honorable redemption of those pledges.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Encampment are hereby tendered to the Commander-in-chief, and the Adjutant General and his Assistants, for their self-sacrificing and efficient labors during the past year, in the organization and building up of our Order.

Resolved, That the soldiers, citizens and authorities of the beautiful city of Cincinnati are hereby requested to receive our hearty thanks for the facilities furnished us, and the interest manifested in our behalf, and that their kindness and good-fellowship will hereafter be cherished among our fondest recollections.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be returned to the Commander of the Department, to the Posts of Cincinnati, Cincinnati authorities, railroads and citizens of the city, for the cordial reception extended to the members of the National Encampment.

Which were unanimously adopted.

After a solemn prayer by the Chaplain-in-Chief, the Encampment adjourned *sine die.*

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT,

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

HELD AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 11th and 12th, 1870.

FIRST DAY.

WASHINGTON, May 11, 1870.

The National Encampment was called to order by Comrade John A. Logan, Commander-in-Chief, at 12 o'clock M., and a fervent prayer offered by Comrade A. H. Quint, of Massachusetts, Chaplain-in-Chief.

The grand rounds were then made by Comrade J. O. P. Burnside, of the Department of the Potomac, Officer of the Day, assisted by Comrade E. C. Kirkwood, Officer of the Guard, after which the Encampment was declared open.

The Commander-in-Chief then requested that all not delegates or officers of the National Encampment retire from the room for the time being.

Comrade Bullard (N. Y.) moved that visiting Veteran comrades be permitted to occupy reserved seats in the Encampment.

Comrade Hough (Ill.) asked that the comrade withdraw his motion and he would offer a resolution to have a committee on credentials appointed.

Comrade Wagner (Pa.) moved that the motion of Comrade Bullard be postponed. Agreed to.

The roll of officers and delegates was then called by the Adjutant-General, after which Comrade Farley (N. Y.) renewed the motion to have a committee of credentials appointed, which was agreed to, and the Commander-in-Chief announced the following as such committee.

Comrades William T. Collins, Adjutant General; James L. Bates, of Mass.; W. J. Winter, of Ohio; H. A. Barnum, of N. Y.; W. F. Morse, of Minn.

Comrade Wagner (Pa.) moved that all visiting Veterans, not delegates, be admitted to seats in the rear of the Encampment; which was agreed to.

Comrade Albright (Pa.) moved that the rules of the House of Representatives, so far as they apply to this Encampment, be adopted. Agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief then delivered an address, as follows:

Address of General John A. Logan.

Comrades: At this annual convocation of the representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic, it is meet and proper that we should be impressed with the spirit of thankfulness to the Great Ruler of the universe for His manifold blessings during the past year, for the preservation of so many of our lives, the *prosperity* of our organization, and the bright prospect before us, for the continued harmony and co-operation that has characterized its practical workings in the three conspicuous virtues of our creed—Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

We meet to-day, not as relics of a disastrous war, marred, and scarred by the enginery of battle, to beg for alms; not as burdens upon the hands of public charity, but as the survivors of a glorious and successful struggle on behalf of liberty and independence for *all* men. We meet in the strength and integrity of our manhood, to take counsel together in aid of measures to promote brotherly love, universal benevolence, stability and order; we meet to renew our vows of fealty to each other and mankind; we meet as the representatives of the loyal American soldiery, whose organic law is unblemished by any invidious distinctions. We realize that to no particular race or sect belongs the glory of our victories, but that in the Union Army were found comrades of every clime and creed, who came, as in the days of '76, to offer themselves to do and die, if need be, that liberty might live and bless their posterity with an equal share in her blessings. No self-constituted victor can say, "Behold me, the conqueror," but each can claim the honor of answering to his country's roll-call when danger was nigh; and in this they have performed the hero's deeds and deserve the hero's reward.

The objects of our organization seem not to be fully understood by a por-

tion of our fellow-citizens. You will, therefore, excuse me if I give a brief sketch of the purposes of the Grand Army for the information of those who may be prejudiced against us as a secret order.

First. The Grand Army of the Republic is not a political organization destined to serve the ends of any political party, as is evident in this, that all political parties are represented in its membership. As men and patriots, many of us mingle in national and local affairs, but in doing so, do not take with us any benefits or provisions of our order; our only political creed being the love of our country and its hallowed institutions.

We have but three objects obligatory upon us as members of this order, namely: To promote the love and practice of fraternity, liberal distributions of charity, and unequivocal loyalty. The founders of the order were actuated by the fact that when the war ended we had on this continent a million and a half of fighting men, a greater part of whom were our own comrades, good and true, who were in no haste to lose sight of every trace of the associations of a soldier's life, and let "old acquaintance be forgot." They were flushed with such victories as no soldiers ever were before; hence they needed some resort where they might meet together in social reunion and interchange experiences and opinions, and thereby keep alive the vivid scenes of war, interspersed with incidents full of interest to them, and needed something to check the impulsive, whose very spirit and fire made them such good soldiers. Hence it was conceived that good might spring from these reunions, and that, with certain rules and regulations, they might promote pleasure and security to the independent and material aid to the dependent, and organize the survivors of the war into an order that would be perpetual in its existence, and so successful in its good work as to shed additional lustre upon its members. Again, a portion of these disbanded soldiers were defeated rebels, who, though whipped, were not subdued; and while smarting under the stings of defeat, and the perfect destruction of their plans of a confederacy, were not likely to be very quiet and orderly citizens, but would more probably seek to inflict petty vengeance upon the heads of all loyal citizens who might be unprotected. Hence, while soldiers were resuming their various avocations, they might, in bonds of secrecy and brotherly love, stand as sentinels over each other's interests, and rush, if need be, to the rescue of a brother in trouble.

Added to these were the fact that tens of thousands of our comrades had neither homes nor livelihood. The widows and orphans of our comrades, and the nation's martyrs, were scattered all over this country, many without a legitimate guardian, and hundreds in desolate helplessness, with no hope, save the sympathy and succor of loyalty. Who, therefore, should more properly assume the lead in these duties than we, who, in many instances, witnessed the sacrifice of their protectors on some far-off field of blood. For these purposes the Grand Army of the Republic was organized; and I think we can unhesitatingly claim that right well has it fulfilled its mission. Many a fireside has been made less gloomy, and many an unfortunate has found help, who might have suffered, uncared for, but for the secret ties that bind us together. And the resolution of our last Encampment in regard to the

more active operations of our charities has been almost literally observed throughout the country during the past winter, driving grim want from many a door, and warming the homes of many bereaved hearts. In this city alone the efforts of our efficient comrades have blessed many a stricken heart, and sent a number of helpless comrades to new homes, where I trust the smiles of fortune may greet them, and that, in these bright days of seed-time, they are preparing for a rich harvest in the far West. Others have been nursed through protracted ill ness, and enabled, through fraternal aid, to again return to health and employment. Thus we see the fruits of our labors returuing tenfold pleasure, and encouraging us in the indefatigable discharge of duty. But while in all material respects we behold the prosperity of the Grand Army, there are some special matters to which I would most respectfully invite your attention.

It seems to me proper and necessary that we should, by amendment of our Regulations, fix the Memorial Day and enjoin its observance. Ours was the first and *only* organization to institute an annual commemoration to the departed heroes of the war; and to us, by common consent, appears to be committed the mournful and pleasing duty of perpetuating it. The House of Representatives, on the motion of one of our comrades, recently passed a resolution, with singular unanimity, declaring the 30th of May a "national holiday," to be observed by bestowing fitting honors upon those who fell in the cause of their country during the recent rebellion. What action the Senate may take can hardly be anticipated, but the reception given the resolution gives no strong hope of its passage.

The observance now is in obedience to the orders of your Commander-in-Chief; but I think it should no longer remain a subject of doubt or a matter of discretion. While the Grand Army of the Republic exists, let the duty of honoring the memory of our departed comrades be held sacred.

At our last National Encampment authority was given to design and adopt a badge for our Order. At a special convention of the Encampmsnt, held in New York city, and under its direction, the Council of Administration examined designs, consulted manufacturers and fixed upon the present badge.

This design is the result of much inquiry, and has been attended with some considerable expense. With but little exception it has met with very favorable criticism. As fast as comrades can do so they are procuring it. I think the National Encampment should now, by amendment of the Regulations, adopt it as the established badge of our order. We can do nothing which will contribute more to the efficiency and permanency of our organization than by firmly establishing those features which we find to be good. At present the badge is composed of bronze made from cannon captured during the war. It is brought within the reach of all by its cheapness, while it is at the same time a chaste and beautiful ornament. Application has been made for permission to change it in some important features, and for leave to make it from gold, with diamond and other settings. These applications have been refused, for the reason that the badge should be uniform in appearance and material, wherever and by whomsoever worn. We

know no distinction among comrades, and we ought not to recognize any by our badges.

I do not desire to anticipate the action of the Encampment, or in the least improperly influence your deliberations, but I cannot refrain from expressing the hope that the general plan of the organization, as now adopted, will not be changed.

Our ceremonies of muster or initiation are impressive, and rest on the loftiest principles. They are woven into a symmetrical ritual, and furnish us ample food for thought and sure foundation for action. We will appreciate our ritual more and more as we make it familiar, and as age ripens its fruits.

What we need above all things is stability. This can only be achieved by establishing certain fixed principles as the guiding star of our actions, and under no circumstances to deviate from them. The regulations are framed, in part, upon the theory of our ritual, and to that extent ought not to be disturbed. However, experience has suggested certain changes, and these may be well made without changing the system.

It should be the aim of the Grand Army to bring within its fold every honorably-discharged soldier and sailor, and by the constant exercise of the virtues we profess exert an influence second only to the church of Christ. Exhalting the hopes and aspirations of our own members, we thereby help to give a proper tone to public sentiment, and crush out all opposition to civilization, loyalty and Christianity, as well as hold our organization above the criticism of the most fastidious, who, beholding our "good works," will rise up "and call us blessed." We shall need no appeal to call forth the support of all good citizens, who will gladly sustain our lectures and other means of support to our family of sufferers, in whose interest we have solicited public patronage, with liberal responses already.

The tree of liberty, watered and trained by the influences of the Grand Army, will send forth no disloyal shoots to dishonor our flag; but every branch, as it takes up its burdens of life, will have that vital principle of loyalty so engrafted that treason can never destroy it. And when the encampments that know us now "shall know us no more forever" the feeling of fraternal regard we have nourished will shed its silent tear over our graves; the charity we have promoted will throw its mantel over our shortcomings, and the spirit of loyalty we have cultivated will still rally round the flag we loved, to perpetuate our memories.

Comrade Bullard (N. Y.) moved that a vote of thanks be tendered to the Commander-in-Chief for his very able, eloquent and instructive address, and that a revised copy be furnished for publication. Agreed to.

Comrade Hough, (Ills.) then moved a recess until 3 P. M., to partake of a collation that had been prepared by the comrades of the Department of the Potomac.

Agreed to.

Afternoon Session.

The Encampment was called to order at 3 P. M.

The Committee on Credentials then reported the following as entitled to seats in the Encampment:

Comrades John A. Logan, Commander-in-Chief; Lucius Fairchild, Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief; W. T. Collins, Adjutant General; F. A. Starring, Iuspector General; T. Lubey, Quartermaster General; N. P. Chipman, Judge-Advocate General; A. H. Quint, Chaplain-in-Chief; Hanson E. Weaver, Assistant Adjutant General.

Council of Administration—Comrades R. M. Hough, of Illinois; A. W. Denison, of Maryland; G. Harry Stone, of Missouri; G. T. Carter, of New Hampshire; Jas. F. Rusling, of New Jersey; Geo. L. Beal, of Maine; O. C. Bosbyshell, of Pennsylvania; S. A. Duncan, of Potomac; Jas. Shaw, Jr., of Rhode Island; Geo. J. Stannard, of Vermont; E. W. Whitaker, of Connecticut.

Department of Potomac—Newton Ferree, Senior Vice-Commander; A. Dudenhausen, Junior Vice-Commander; D. F. Hamlink, E. F. M. Faehtz, delegates.

Arkansas—L H. Roots, Provisional Commander.

California—R. M. Apgar, delegate.

Connecticut—W. H. Mallory, Department Commander; F. M. Patrick, Philip F. Brennan, delegates.

Illinois—R. M. Hough, Senior Vice-Commander; T. O. Osborn, W. O. Osgood, delegates.

Kentucky—Geo. W. Northrup, delegate.

Maryland—E. Y. Goldsborough, Department Commander; E. T. Danecker, Senior Vice-Commander; Felix Agnes, Junior Vice-Commander; W. O. Bigelow, delegate.

Michigan—W. L. Stoughton, delegate.

Massachusetts—J. L. Bates, Department Commander; S. Hovey, Jr., Samuel A. Green, Geo. S. Merrill, W. E. Mason, C. E. Emory, A. B. Underwood, J. E. Hollis, H. A. Willis, Ben. Perley Poore, D. Boynton, delegates.

New Hampshire—Daniel J. Vaughan, delegate.

New Jersey—Wm. Ward, Department Commander; N. G. Williams, W. F. Smith, delegates.

New Mexico—H. H. Heath, Provisional Commander.

New York—J. C. Robinson, Senior Vice-Commander; John A. Reynolds, Junior Vice-Commander; H. A. Barnum, Jas L. Farley, A. P. Ketchum, John B. Murray, Alonzo Alden, H E. Tremaine, delegates.

Ohio—W. J. Winter, Theo. Voges, G. W. Collier, J. A. Lantz, delegates.

Pennsylvania—A. R. Calhoun, Department Commander; Chas. Albright. Junior Vice-Commander; John F. Hartranft, Louis Wagner, Robert B. Beath, Robert L. Bodine, Joshua T. Owen, W. W. Jennings, delegates.

TEYAS—William T. Clark, Provisional Commander.

MINNESOTA—W. F. Morse, delegate.

And the following Departments as not represented:

Colorado, Delaware Florida, Georgia, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, and Wisconsin.

And the following as delinquent for reports and dues:

Alabama, Iowa, Nebraska, West Virginia, Indiana, Kansas and Tennessee.

Comrade Barnum (N. Y.) moved that the report of the committee be received and adopted.

Comrade Calhoun (Pa.) raised the point of order, that the Commander of a Department had a right to substitute a comrade to represent a Department officer who was absent, and moved, as an amendment, that the name of A. W. Norris be substituted in place of the Senior Vice-Commander of the Department of Pennsylvania; which gave rise to considerable debate, participated in by Comrades Rusling (N. J.), J. T. Owen (Pa.), S. A. Duncan, of the Potomac, and A. H. Quint (Mass).

The Commander-in-Chief decided on the point of order that the amendment of Comrade Calhoun was not in order.

Comrade Barnum (N. Y.) moved to amend the amendment by having the rule to apply to all other Departments similarly situated.

The motion was then withdrawn, and decided by the Commander-in-Chief to be out of order.

Comrade Quint (Mass.) appealed from the decision of the Commander-in-Chief, and the chair was unanimously sustained.

Comrade Wilson (Ind.) asked as to the status of his Department, as he discovered that his name had not been reported to the Encampment by the Committee on Credentials, and was informed that the Department was in arrears for reports and dues.

The report of the Committee on Credentials was then, on motion, adopted.

Comrade Quint (Mass.) moved that those comrades who attended the Convention with the expectation of being delegates, be invited to seats in the Encampment.

Which motion was amended by Comrade Chipman, Judge-Advocate General, to include all veteran comrades visiting the city. Agreed to.

Comrade Quint (Mass.) moved that a committee of seven be appointed, to whom all amendments to the Rules and Regulations be referred without debate.

Comrade Roots (Ark.) moved to amend by including the words *and Ritual* after the words "Rules and Regulations." Agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief announced the following as the committee to carry out the above resolution:

Comrades Quint (Mass.), Shaw (R. I.), Barnum (N. Y.), Collier (Ohio), Beath (Pa.), Clark (Texas), and Chipman, Judge-Advocate General.

Comrade Lucius Fairchild (Wis.) moved that Comrade Wilson, of Indiana, be admitted to all the privileges of the Encampment.

Comrade Wagner (Pa.) raised the point of order that the admission of the delegate from Indiana would be in violation of the Rules and Regulations.

The point of order was decided as well taken.

Comrade Fairchild (Wis.) then moved that the case of Indiana and all other Departments which have delegates present, that were reported by the Committee on Credentials as not entitled to seats, be referred to a special committee of three. Agreed to; and the Commander-in-Chief announced the following as such committee:

Comrades J. L. Bates (Mass.), S. A. Duncan, of Potomac, Louis Wagner (Pa.)

Comrade Barnum, (N. Y.) moved that no comrade be allowed to speak more than twice, nor more than five minutes on any one subject.

Agreed to.

Comrade Barnum (N. Y.), moved that the Encampment proceed to an election of a member of the Council of Administration for the Department of New York, as there was a vacancy there, caused by the death of R. A. Bachie.

This gave rise to considerable debate, participated in by

Comrades Underwood (Mass.), Wagner (Pa.), Patrick (Conn.), Merrill (Mass.), Murray (N. Y.), Quint (Mass.), and Stoughton (Mich.), and was decided to be out of order under the Rules and Regulations. Appeal taken from the decision of the chair, and the chair sustained.

The reports of the officers were then called for, and the Adjutant General presented the following:

Report of the Adjutant General.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Adjutant General's Office,
Washington, D. C., May 9, 1870.

General John A. Logan, *Commander-in-Chief:*

Comrade: In submitting my annual report to you, and through you to the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, I find it necessary to go back and review briefly some of the more important parts of the proceedings of the last annual meeting of the National Encampment, in order that our Comrades throughout the country may arrive at a proper understanding of the magnitude of the work imposed upon National Headquarters by that Encampment.

The Encampment at its annual sessions, May 12 and 13, 1869, adopted new rules and regulations, establishing three grades of membership, and a new Ritual to conform thereto. This was followed by the adoption of resolutions regulating the admission of all who were then members, as well as those who should become members under the old work prior to the 1st day of July, 1869.

The resolutions further made it the duty of the Commander-in-Chief personally, or by special deputy, to administer the obligations of the new Ritual to all of the Department Commanders who were not present at said session, and to issue all orders and instructions necessary to perfect the organization of the order.

In addition to this, it was made the duty of the Adjutant-General to have printed and distributed, in quantities sufficient for the use of the organization, the new Ritual, Rules and Regulations, the proceedings of the Encampment, and all blanks necessary for the new order af things.

Immediately after having been honored by you with the appointment of Adjutant-General on your staff, I prepared, and had printed in pamphlet form, 3,000 copies of the proceedings of the National Encampment, 10,000 copies of the new Rules and Regulations, and some 50,000 copies of the several forms of blanks. After some trouble, I succeeded in securing the services of twelve worthy Comrades, skilled in the art of printing, who, after being obligated under the new work, put in type and printed thirteen thousand copies of the Ritual In this connection I desire to make special mention of the valuable services rendered to the order and myself by Colonel

Harrison G. Otis, under whose immediate charge the new Ritual was put in type, printed, and boxed ready for the bookbinders—this work being accomplished within three days from the time the manuscript had been placed in his hands. In less than one month after the adjournment of the National Encampment in Cincinnati, all of this material was ready for distribution among the Departments and Posts.

In accordance with resolutions of the National Encampment, you issued General Orders No. 3, dated June 8, directing the Department Commanders of New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Maine, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Florida, to meet the Inspector-General at the Hoffman House, in the city of New York, on the 21st and 22d days of June, 1869, and there to receive from him full instructions in the written and unwritten work of the order. It was also directed, for the same purpose, that the Department Commanders of Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Tennesee, Kentucky, Kansas, Alabama, Georgia, Montana, Nebraska and Colorado, should meet the Adjutant General at the Sherman House, in the city of Chicago, on the 26th day of the same month.

In compliance with your instructions, I proceeded to the city of New York, and on the 20th day of June met the Inspector General, and instructed him in the unwritten work.

On the 24th day of the same month, I left this city for Chicago, where I arrived on the morning of the 26th of June. During that day I met and instructed the officers and delegates of Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan and Wisconsin, only six of the fifteen Departments being represented in this meeting.

The Adjutant General's report for the year ending May 12, 1869 showed the indebtedness of National Headquarters to be three thousand nine hundred and eighty-two dollars and ninety-eight cents.

In order to meet the necessary expenses of printing and furnishing the several Departments with instructions and material, which would enable them to reorganize under the new work, there was required an immediate outlay of over two thousand dollars.

In starting out with the work of printing the Rules and Regulations, the Ritual, and proceedings of the last annual Encampment, I had hoped to find business men willing to trust headquarters until the money for this material could be received from Departments, but I must say my expectations were sadly at fault. Rather than have the Order suffer, it was found that the only course open was, if possible, to secure from some Comrade an advance of the funds necessary to meet the required outlay. This was done to the amount of over two thousand dollars.

The action of the National Encampment in fixing a limit within which Comrades were, by right, entitled to the degrees without ballot, as well as in fixing eight months as the term of service for all applicants for membership under the new Ritual, before they could become *Veterans*, has been the cause of much complaint, and, as I believe, not without good reasons,

The Departments of California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hamshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Potomac, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin were reorganized under the new work during the month of July, 1869. The Department of Kentucky was organized August, 1869; Missouri, December, 1869; and Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico and Oregon were organized during the early part of the present year. There are now thirty-nine Departments of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Out of this number there are but three Departments, viz., Massachusetts, New Mexico and the Potomac, the quarterly reports of which give the exact number of Comrades borne upon the rolls of their Posts.

In all of the Departments, excepting those named, many of the Posts are in arrears for dues or reports. Some of the Departments, in making their quarterly reports have estimated their membership, while others report only those who are actually borne on the rolls of such Posts as have reported.

The Departments which have estimated their membership have elected delegates for such estimated membership, while others have elected delegates based upon the membership actually reported by Posts.

In making this report, I have found it to be absolutely impossible for me to furnish anything like a correct report of the present membership of the organization. Many of the Departments were late in bringing about a reorganization, and some of them have, up to the present time, been unable to furnish the new work to a portion of their Posts, and many of these are in good working condition under the old Ritual. Such Posts are not reported to these headquarters. This, in a great measure, is owing to the want of funds sufficient to engage an inspecting officer and to defray his travelling expenses. With a majority of Departments the want of funds sufficient to enable Department Headquarters to employ salaried officers, who could devote their whole time to the discharge of the duties of Assistant Adjutant and Assistant Quartermaster Generals, is in a great measure the cause of Posts not reporting. Posts communicate with Department Headquarters and receive no answer to their communications; consequently they feel that they are neglected, and feel further that they receive in return nothing to compensate them for the dues and reports they are required to furnish to their Department Headquarters.

Under the recommendation of a majority of the National Council of Administration, you issued General Orders No. 5, dated September 13, 1869, convening the National Encampment in special meeting, in the city of New York, on the 25th day of October, 1869. The proceedings of said special meeting are herewith submitted for the information of the Encampment, (see page 171, Record Book of the annual proceedings of the National Encampment.) To this special meeting I took occasion to recommend that the limitation clause be fixed at as late a date as the 1st of March, 1870; but the Encampment deemed it best to fix the date De-

cember 31st, 1869. The result of this limitation, fixed first by the annnal Encampment in Cincinnati, Ohio, and again by the special meeting in October, has had the effect of very materially retarding the growth of the Order.

In addition to the work already mentioned as having been performed in the Adjutant General's office, I have to report that over three thousand letters have been written, touching upon nearly every subject connected with the organization. Eight general orders, sixty-two special orders, and four circulars have been issued, of which over 47,000 copies have been distributed among the several Departments and Post. This will give our Comrades something of an idea of the time and labor required to conduct the business of the Adjutant General's office, but it would be a useless attempt to undertake a description of the variety of its duties.

Since the adoption of the new Ritual, Rules and Regulations, the Grand Army of the Republic has made rapid strides in advancing the noble work of Charity. Throegh the organized efforts of our organization, thousands of the widows and orphans of those who fell in defense of our common country have been rescued from suffering and want.

The amount of money expended by the order for charitable purposes is not known, owing to the fact that a large majority of the Posts have relief committees, through whose hands pass all moneys for purposes of relief, and their reports are not embodied in the reports of the several officers of the Posts.

I would recommend the adoption of a form for a report which would give the amount received and expended for relief purposes by each Post. It is of the greatest importance that this information should be had and made public. We owe it to ourselves, as well as to the public who contribute in aid of this noble work.

The complicated form of the reports now used by Post Adjutants and Quartermasters has caused great trouble, not alone to the officers making the reports, but quite as much to the officers to whom they are made, they being obliged to return them for correction, one, two, three or four times.

I would suggest the propriety of appointing a committee by the National Encampment, consisting of the Assistant Adjutant Generals who may be present, to whom all forms for Post reports be submitted, for such revision as they may deem advisable to recommend to the Encampment.

Information has been received at these headquarters to the effect that some of the delegates to the Encampment have a new form of ritual which they propose to present and urge the adoption of in place of the one now in use. I would respectfully suggest that in my opinion a change in the Ritual at this time would be a very dangerous and disastrous undertaking. The National Encampment has held three annual meetings, and at each one of these meetings the Ritual has been changed, and each change has imposed an expense on National Headquarters of from seven hundred to twelve hundred dollars, and for this reason, if for no other, the Encampment should hesitate before making a change at this time.

I have the honor to state that all books and records of the Adjutant-

General's office are posted up to date, and are ready for inspection by the Encampment.

I also submit herewith a consolidated report, showing the present condition of the several Departments.

In taking leave of the position which I have had the honor to occupy on your staff, it seems proper for me to call attention to the services and co-operation, in official duties, which have been rendered this office by the Inspector-General, Quartermaster-General, and Judge-Advocate-General

I desire also to make special mention of the great services rendered to the order and myself, as Adjutant-General, by Comrade Hanson E. Weaver, Assistant Adjutant-General, who has been untiring in the performance of his official duties and devotion to the order.

In conclusion, I desire to say that my official intercourse with the Commanders and Assistant Adjutant Generals of Departments has been of the most agreeable character, and to the latter officers I am much indebted for valuable services rendered in the discharge of my official duties.

I have the honor to be yours, in F. C., and L.,

WM. T. COLLINS,
Adjutant-General.

Comrade Farley (N. Y.) moved to adjourn. Not agreed to.

The Inspector-General then presented his report as follows:

Report of the Inspector-General.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Repurlic,
Inspector-General's Bureau,
Washington, D. C., May 11, 1870.

Hon. John A. Logan, *Commander-in-Chief*:

Sir: I have the honor to submit the following report relative to the condition and working of this bureau, the organization of which comprises the following named officers, located in the various Departments, viz.:

ASSISTANT INSPECTORS-GENERAL.

C. G. Atwood, Boston, Mass, June 3, 1869; H. G. Hicks, Minneapolis, Minn., June 3, 1869; W. W. Douglass, Providence, R. I., June 8, 1869; T. W. Thompson, Chicago, Ill, July 21, 1869; Louis Wagner, Philadelphia, Pa., July 21, 1869; H. S. Merrill, Richmond, Va., July 21, 1869; Harrison Adreon, Baltimore Md., July 21, 1869; W. J. Handy, Detroit, Mich., July 21, 1869; Willard Warner, Montgomery, Ala., July 21, 1869; Thomas W. Osborne, Tallahassee, Fla., July 21, 1869; B. T. Morgan, New York, N. Y., July 26, 1869; H. L. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 10, 1869; Enos Hopkins, Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 10, 1869; Edwin A. Tilton, Portsmouth, N. H. Aug. 10, 1869; Charles E. Fowler, New Haven, Conn., Aug. 10, 1869; W. Krzyzanowski, Macon, Ga., Aug 10, 1869; Wm. S. Stryker, Trenton, N. J., Aug. 10, 1869; Frank A. Warthen, Wheeling, W. Va., Aug. 10, 1869; E. J. Pennypacker, Wilmington, N. C., Aug. 10, 1869; J. H. McMurdy, Denver, Col., Aug. 31, 1869; H. K. Millward, Lexington, Ky., Aug. 31, 1869; Jose D. Sena, Santa Fe, N. M., Aug. 31, 1869: John D. Evans, Indianapolis, Ind., Oct 4, 1869; Thomas H. Craig, San Fran-

cisco, Cal., Oct. 4, 1869; John J. Bain, Burlington, Vt., Nov, 23, 1869; Frank Arnin, Hamburg, S. C., Dec. 3, 1869; J. M. Chivington, Nebraska City, Neb., Dec. 4, 1869; E. D. Haley, Gardiner, Me., Jan. 8, 1870; George M. Lockwood, Washington, D. C., Jan. 28, 1870; Joseph W. Clift, Savannah, Ga., Feb. 12, 1870; W. F. Morse, Washington, D. C., Feb. 26, 1870; J. P. Taggart, Salt Lake City, Utah, Feb. 26, 1870; Robert S. Brown, Washington, D. C., March 3, 1870; E. F. M. Faehtz, Washington, D. C., Aug. 14, 1869

DEPARTMENT INSPECTORS-GENERAL.

T. W. Sheenan, Sacramento, Cal., January 28, 1870; J. H. McMurdy, Georgetown, Colorado. November 5, 1869; Charles E. Fowler, New Haven, Conn., January 26, 1870; Daniel H. Kenti Wilmington, Del., Sept. 14, 1869; E. F. O'Brien, Potomac, D, C., Jan. 28, 1870; R. S. Robertson, Fort Wayne, Ind, Jan. 9, 1870; G. W. Northrop, Louisville, Ky., Jan., 1870; H. F. Myer, Baltimore, Md., Jan. 18, 1870; H. C Whitney, Farribault, Minn., Jan. 6, 1870; John M. Haines, Concord, N. H., Jan. 24, 1870; J. L. Mulford, New Brunswick, N. J., Jan. 29, 1870; James Jourdon, Kingston, N.Y., Jan. 18, 1870; G. W. Collier, Fremont, Ohio, Jan. 13, 1870; Levi Huber, Pottsville, Pa., March 1, 1870; Henry R. Barker, Providence, R. I., Jan. 5, 1870; H. C. Hunt, Austin, Texas. Sept. 22, 1869; Griffin J. Thomas, Berlin, Wis., Jan., 1870; S B. Kenny, Portsmouth, Va., Aug. 2, 1869; John J. Bain, Burlington, Vt, Jan. 26, 1870.

The reports of inspections show a general progress of the order, but a growing want of unirormity of detail, arising for the most part from similarity of duties, and different constructions placed on rules and regulations and orders by different officers remote from headquarters.

The National Headquarters have labored under pecuniary difficulties which can hardly be appreciated by the Departments, but which have materially crippled and confined the operations of this, in common with other bureaus. During the past year no additional expense has been incurred by this bureau, with the exception of stationery. The delay incident to reorganization under the new work has in a great measure been obviated by the efficient labors of the various Department Commanders and their staff officers, but as this subject has been fully treated by the proper officers, I shall confine myself especially to the operations of this bureau. In accordance with general orders, the commanders from the Departments that had been duly notified, met in New York city, and received the new ritual, *secret work*, etc., as has been duly reported by the Adjutant-General.

The form (E) prescribed for the inspection report, not furnishing exactly the required information, and being moreover partly a repetition of the Adjutant-General's report, in orders from this bureau of date March 1, 1870, I requested reports for the quarter ending March 31 to be made in *letter form*, which is found by practical operation to be best adapted to the purpose.

The reports and correspondence received by this bureau indicate a general desire for some modification of the Regulations and Ritual, and in this connection, and for the information of the National Encampment, I

quote from the report of an inspector-general of one of our most prominent Departments, viz:

"I find from personal observation that there is great diversity of ways of doing the work and confusion of the different grades, the effect of which is a loss of interest in the order, and a general tendency to apathy and indifference.

"This state of things has existed since the adoption of the grade system, and I feel confident that the showing would have been much better throughout the nation if said change had never been made. I find that but few of the Posts in our Department have committed the work of the several grades or even worked them, their time being principally taken up with advancing old members to the grade of Veteran.

"There seems to be a firm belief existing among the Posts that this ritual is not for all time, and I dare say the wish is father to the thought; at all events it is to be hoped that the volume of the Ritual may be greatly reduced at the next meeting of the National Encampment," &c.

Another inspector-general says: "I believe the simplest form of ritual consistent with our safety, to be the best one,and I earnestly hope the present formula will be reduced to the very smallest compass. If this be done, I predict a great increase in interest and membership in this Department," &c.

As the views above expressed seem to be generally entertained, it is respectfully recommended that a committee be appointed to take into consideration the expediency of making the desired change.

There also seems to be a general desire that some grade be established, or authority given, to acknowledge the mothers, wives, daughters, sisters, and widows of comrades for the purpose of recognizing them as such, and to authorize them to be invested with and wear a badge of the order. In several of the Departments this has been done by establishing what is known as the "Clara Barton" grade or degree, and I would respectfully recommend that this matter be taken into serious consideration by the National Encampment.

It is also recommended that the restriction as to time of advancing to the different grades, and the admission of members of the old organization, &c., be either removed or greatly modified.

In accordance with a resolution of the last National Encampment, the design of a badge submitted to the Council of Administration was adopted at the special meeting of the National Encampment in October last, and is described by the Quartermaster-General as follows:

DESCRIPTION OF THE BADGE.

The badge is of bronze, made from cannon captured in different decisive battles during the late rebellion, and in form a five-pointed star, similar in design to the two hundred medals of honor authorized by act of Congress to be given to soldiers and sailors most distinguished for meritorious and gallant conduct during the late war.

The design, as here given, and adopted by the Grand Army of the Re-

public, was arranged by General F. A. Starring, Inspector-General of the Order, and is described as follows :

The Obverse.—In the center of the badge is a figure of the Goddess of Liberty, representing Loyalty; on either side, a soldier and sailor clasping hands, representing Fraternity, and two little children receiving benediction and assurance of protection from the Comrades, etc., representing Charity. On each side of the group is the national flag and the eagle, representing Freedom, and the axe and bundle of rods, or fasces, representing Union. In each point of the star is the insignia of the various arms of the service, viz: the *bugle* for Infantry, *cross cannon* for Artillery, *cross musket* for the Marines, *cross swords* for Cavalry, and the *anchor* for Sailors. Over the central group are the words "Grand Army of the Republic," and under, the words and figures "1861—Veteran—1866," commemorating the commencement and close of the rebellion, and also the date and organization of the Order.

The Reverse Side represents a branch of Laurel—the crown and reward of the brave—in each point of the star. The national shield in the center, surrounded by the twenty-four recognized Corps badges numerically arranged, each on a keystone, and all linked together, showing they are united, and will guard and protect the shield of the nation. Around the center is a circle of stars, representing the States of the Union and the Departments composing the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Clasp is composed of the figure of an eagle, with cross cannon and ammunition, representing Defense; the eagle with drawn sword hovering over and always ready to protect from insult or dishonor the national flag, which is also the emblem and ribbon of the order.

This badge has received general commendation, and will afford no inconsiderable revenue to National Headquarters; and, to increase this revenue, it is hoped that a certificate and form of commission will be also authorized.

It has been suggested that all Posts hereafter organized be named from the list of honored dead, not living Comrades, and it is respectfully recommended that this be done.

For the purpose of facilitating the efficient working of this bureau, to prevent the misinterpretation of existing regulations, and to secure a uniform and harmonious operation of instructions in the secret work of the Order, it is urgently recommended, first, that Section 1, Article V, Chapter V, of the Rules and Regulations, be so amended as to read, after the words "Commander-in-Chief," as many Assistant Inspectors General as may be deemed necessary, instead of the words "*an* Assistant Inspector General of the Grand Army of the Republic for each Department." That Section 4, Article V, Chapter V, be so amended as to read after the words "Department Inspector" "*in letter form*" *or as hereafter prescribed*, instead of the words "in blanks similar to Form E," and that the following be substituted for Section 5, Article V, Chapter V: The Department Inspector shall consolidate the reports of his assistants and forward the same direct to the Inspector General, with suggestions and recommendations, submitting a copy for the information of the Department Commander. He may make or order such further inspection as he may deem necessary, etc. And that Section 6,

Article V, Chapter V, and all regulations, or parts of regulations, conflicting with the foregoing be repealed.

In conclusion, I desire to acknowledge the services of the different Assistant Inspectors General, who have from time to time been in charge of this bureau, viz: Comrades Hinton, Faehtz, Morse and Brown; and also all the Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors General in the various Departments, and to thank them for the zeal, ability and fraternal feeling that has always characterized their official intercourse with this office. All of which is most respectfully submitted.

Your obedient servant,

F. A. STARRING,
Inspector General.

The Quartermaster General then presented his report.

Report of the Quartermaster General.

General John A. Logan,
Commander-in-Chief Grand Army of the Republic.

Comrade: I have the honor to submit the following report, showing the amount of moneys received from all sources, and the amount disbursed, since the last annual meeting of the National Encampment, as also an exhibit of our financial condition:

Total receipts from the sale of rituals, books, blanks, dues, &c.....	$7,890 66
Amount disbursed	6,997 00
Balance on hand.....	893 66

Add to this the sum of three hundred and eighty dollars, the amount of profit received from the sale of badges, and we have the sum of twelve hundred and seventy-three dollars and sixty-six cents ($1,273.66) cash on hand.

Over two thousand dollars ($2,000) was generously advanced by Comrade Collins, the Adjutant General, to print the Ritual, blanks, &c., necessary to carry out the reorganization of the Army, as provided for by the Encampment of 1869 This amount has been refunded. But of this I wish to make special mention, as the loan was freely given, and at a very peculiar period in our organization, and the act should be fully appreciated

Our liabilities are about twenty-five hundred dollars, ($2,500,) nearly all contracted from 1868 to 1869, the larger portion of which being moneys advanced by Comrades Owen and Chipman. Some special provision should be adopted and *carried out* for its speedy liquidation, by a direct tax on Posts, Departments or otherwise. While it may be paid in time from the revenues derived from dues and fees, yet experience has shown that it will be a slow process; besides the amounts from such sources are only sufficient to maintain the organization.

Our assets are as follows: Due from Departments for Rituals, books, blanks, &c, $1,788.81; stock on hand, estimated at $1,600; cash, $1,273.66; being an aggregate of $4,662.47. However, it would not do to assume that we can realize this sum, either from the debts due by Departments, or from

the material on hand, consisting, in part, of five thousand Rituals. As to their future value much depends upon the action of the National Encampment. As to former, much could be said. And I respectfully call your attention to the gross neglect by which some few Departments treat what should be regarded as a debt of honor. I refer to non-payment for Rituals and blanks furnished by National Headquarters.

The whole number of Rituals issued 6,841; Post Descriptive Books, 370; Rules and Regulations,18,000; Proceedings National Encampment, 3,000; blanks of all kinds, 180,000; number of boxes and parcels shipped from headquarters, 768.

At the special meeting of the National Encampment, held in New York city on the 27th and 28th days of October, 1869, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the design of badge submitted to the Council of Administration be adopted, and that the badges shall be cast from bronze composed of cannon captured during the late rebellion; and be it

Resolved, That the Quartermaster General be authorized to contract with A. Demarest, of New York city, for the badge above adopted, upon condition that the Grand Army of the Republic shall have the sole legal right to the patent of said badge, and that it be furnished to Comrades at a sum not to exceed $1.50 each.

Under this resolution I contracted with Mr. Demarest to furnish these badges at $1.25 each to Army Headquarters. This price was fixed and agreed upon by Mr. Demarest and the Council of Administration at its meeting in New York. I desire this to be understood for many reasons, Some complain of the price being too high, and several parties have offered to manufacture them at a lower rate. Whether this can be done I am unable to state positively. However, it should be borne in mind that the badge as now made, will compare favorably with any ever gotten up in this country, either by the Government or private parties, and I am slow to recommend any change without a decided certainty and a guarantee of success. It was close on the 1st of March before the badge was ready for delivery, Since then 2,500 have been distributed, and a profit realized to National Headquarters from the same, after deducting expenses of printing, advertising, freight, and those forwarded instead of the old badges, of $380. I am in constant receipt of letters from Comrades and committees asking for permission to have these badges made in gold, mostly for presentation. As a decided objection to this was manifested, although no positive rule established ed, at the special meeting of the National Encampment, such permission has been withheld, and I respectfully suggest that some positive rule on the subject be established.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Your obedient servant, TIMOTHY LUBEY,

Quartermaster-General.

The Judge-Advocate General reported that he had no spe-

Comrade Duncan (Potomac) made a minority report, and recommended that Sec. 3, Art. II, Chap. IV, be suspended, in order that the Departments of Indiana and Iowa may be represented in this Encampment.

Comrade Tremaine (N, Y.) moved that the report of the majority be laid upon the table. Not agreed to.

The report of the committee was then debated at considerable length by Comrades Wagner, Pa.; Owen, Pa.; Murray, N. Y.; Bates, Mass.; Rusling, N. J.; and Duncan, Potomac. The report was then adopted.

Comrade Duncan (Potomac) moved the suspension of Sec. 3, Art. II, Chap. IV, Rules and Regulations.

Comrade Tremaine (N. Y.) moved that the vote of yesterday, whereby all amendments to the Rules and Regulations were referred to the Committee on Rules and Regulations, without debate, be reconsidered.

Comrade Wagner moved to lay the motion on the table. Agreed to.

Comrade Murray (N. Y.) moved that Art. XIV, Chap. V, Rules and Regulations, be amended so far as to allow the delegates from Indiana and Iowa admission to all the privileges of the Encampment, and that it be referred to the Committee on Rules and Regulations, with instructions to report at once to the Encampment.

Comrade Wilson (Ind.) was then given five minutes to explain the condition of his Department, and stated that the facts as reported to the Encampment were not altogether correct, and asked the indulgence of the Encampment for the State of Indiana.

Comrade Patrick (Conn.) moved that, pending the report of the Committee on Rules and Regulations, Comrade Wilson (Ind.), and the delegate from Iowa, be admitted to the courtesies of this Encampment. Agreed to.

Comrade Quint (Mass.) from the Committee on Rules and Regulations, under the instructions of the Encampment, rendered the following report:

The Committee on Rules and Regulations, under instructions to report

upon the following resolution purporting to amend the Rules and Regulations—

"*Resolved,* That Sec. 3, Art. II, Chap. IV, be so amended as to admit the States of Indiana and Iowa to a representation here"—

Report as follows:

The following amendment may be adopted by a two-thirds vote: That Sec. 3, Art. II, Chap. IV, be stricken out.

The only other method is to suspend said section by a unanimous vote, according to Art. XIV, Chap. V, to enable the Encampment to act upon the case proposed. Your committee unanimously report adversely against such course.

A. H. QUINT,
Chairman.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Rules and Regulations was adopted.

Comrade Hough (Ill.) moved to reconsider the motion whereby the report of the Committee on Rules and Regulations was adopted; and on motion this was laid on the table.

Comrade Underwood (Mass.) moved the privileges of this Encampment be extended to Comrades Wilson, of Indiana, and Rice, of Iowa, but that such privilege shall not entitle them to a vote. Agreed to.

Comrades Ward (N. J.), Goldsborough (Md.), Mallory (Conn.), and Stoughton (Mich.), then presented amendments to the Rules and Regulations; which were all referred to the Committee on Rules and Regulations.

Comrade Bates (Mass.) presented a new ritual, which was also referred to the same committee.

Comrades Owen (Pa.), Agnes (Md.), Clark (Texas), Duncan (Potomac), then presented resolutions, which were referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

The Encampment then took a recess for the purpose of calling upon and paying their respects to the President of the United States. Arrived at the Executive Mansion, the delegates were severally introduced by the Commander-in-Chief, after which they returned to the hall and partook of a bountiful collation that had been prepared through the generous hospitality of the comrades of the Department of the Potomac.

The Encampment was called to order by the Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Alden (N. Y.) moved that a committe of five wait on the Military Committee of the United States Senate, and urge the passage of the law declaring the 30th of May a national holiday. Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

Comrade Shaw (R. I.) moved that an informal ballot, without nomination, be held. Ruled out of order by the Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Ketchum (N. Y.) appealed from the decision of the chair, and, on motion of Comrade Stoughton (Mich.) the appeal was laid on the table.

Comrade Emory (Mass.) moved that a committee of three be appointed to receive, sort, and count the votes for the officers of this Encampment. Agreed to.

The following comrades were appointed as such committee: Comrades Emory (Mass.), Beale (Me.), and Wagner (Pa.)

Comrade Shaw (R. I.) moved that we proceed to an election of Commander-in-Chief without nominations.

Comrade Quint (Mass.) moved to amend, that candidates be nominated without any remarks, other than presenting their names to the Encampment.

Comrade Bates (Mass.) nominated for the position of Commander-in-Chief Comrade John A. Logan, of Illinois.

Comrade Owen (Pa.) nominated Comrade John F. Hartranft, of Pa.

Comrade Vaughan (N. H.) seconded the nomination of Comrade John A. Logan.

Comrade Barnum (N. Y.) nominated Comrade Alfred Pleasanton, of N. Y.

Comrades Ward (N. J.), and Whitaker (Pa.) seconded the nomination of Comrade Pleasanton.

Comrade Goldsborough (Md.) nominated Comrade A. W. Denison, of Md.

Comrade Ferree (Potomac) nominated Comrade Robert C. Schenck, of Ohio.

Nominations were closed, and the delegates voted by roll-call, with the following results:

Whole number of votes, 76; necessary to a choice, 39; of which Comrades Robert C. Schenck received 1; A. W. Deni-

son, 6; J. F. Hartranft, 11; A. Pleasanton, 18; John A. Logan, 40.

The Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, who occupied the chair, then announced that Comrade Logan, having received a majority of all the votes cast, was duly elected Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year.

Comrade Owen (Pa.) moved that the election be declared unanimous.

Comrade Barnum (N. Y.), on behalf of the State receiving the next highest number of votes, seconded the motion, which was agreed to, and Comrade John A. Logan declared unanimously elected the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic for the ensuing year.

The Commander-in-Chief elect, taking the chair, said:

COMRADES: I can express in no fitting words the deep sense of gratitude I feel by this manifestation of your confidence in and friendship for me. It would be affectation to withhold from you my sincere thanks. The comrade who would not appreciate the office you have conferred upon me, so exalted in itself and an honor to its incumbent, would be unworthy to hold it. I can only promise to serve you faithfully, and see to it that no trust you have reposed in me shall be abused. Let Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty be our watchwords, and we need not fear that we will deserve and attain success.

Comrade Barnum (N. Y.) moved that the Adjutant-General cast the unanimous vote of this Encampment for Comrade Lucius Fairchild, of Wisconsin, for Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief. Agreed to; and Comrade Fairchild was declared unanimously elected Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic for the ensuing year.

Comrade Quint (Mass.) moved that the names of comrades for other offices of this Encampment be presented without remarks, and that the same committee to receive, sort and count the votes be continued. Agreed to.

Comrade Owen (Pa.) nominated Comrade Louis Wagner, of Pa., for Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Mallory (Conn.) nominated Comrade Jos. R. Hawley of Conn.

Comrade Murray (N. Y.) seconded the nomination of Comrade Hawley.

Comrade Hough (Ill.) seconded the nomination of Comrade Wagner.

Comrade Rusling (N. J.) nominated Comrade Wm. Ward of N. J.

Comrade Carter (N. H.) nominated Comrade Allen Rutherford of N. C.

Comrade Apgar (Cal.) nominated Comrade Jas. Coey of Cal.

Comrade Woodall (Del.) seconded the nomination of Comrade Wagner.

Nominations were closed, and the delegates voted by roll-call, with the following result:

Whole number of votes, 72; necessary to a choice, 37—of which Comrades C. G. Attwood received 1; Jas. Coey, 1; Allen Rutherford, 4; Wm. Ward, 4; J. R. Hawley, 12; Louis Wagner, 50.

Comrade Wagner having received the majority of the votes, was declared elected Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year.

Comrade Patrick, representing the State casting the next highest vote for the candidate, moved that the election of Comrade Wagner be declared unanimous. Agreed to; and Comrade Louis Wagner of Pa. was declared unanimously elected Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic for the ensuing year.

Comrade Poore (Mass,), chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, asked to be discharged from the consideration of two resolutions that had been referred to the committee, and that related solely to finances, and asked their reference to the Committee on Rules and Regulations. Request granted and resolutions so referred.

Comrade Duncan (Potomac) moved that when this Encampment adjourn it be until 7.30 P. M. this evening.

Comrade Reynolds (N. Y.) moved to lay the motion on the table. Not agreed to, and the motion adopted.

Comrade Farley asked that the name of Comrade W. Bul-

lard (N. Y.) be substituted in the place of Comrade Tremaine in the New York delegation, as Comrade Tremaine was compelled to return home. Permission granted.

Comrade Owen (Pa.) moved that the Adjutant-General cast the unanimous vote of this Encampment for Comrade Samuel A. Green, of Mass., for Surgeon General. Agreed to; and Comrade Green was delared unanimously elected Surgeon General of the Grand Army of the Republic for the ensuing year.

Comrade Patrick (Conn.) nominated Comrade H. Clay Trumbull, of Connecticut, for Chaplain-in-Chief.

Comrade Quint (Mass.) nominated Comrade G. W. Collier of Ohio.

Comrade Patrick withdrew the name of Comrade H. Clay Trumbull.

Comrade Quint moved that the Encampment cast one vote for G. W. Collier, for Chaplain-in-Chief, and that he be permitted to cast it. Agreed to, and Comrade G. W. Collier, of Ohio, was declared unanimously elected Chaplain-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic for the ensuing year.

Comrade Emory moved that the rules be suspended, and that the chairman of each State delegation be permitted to cast one vote for a comrade of his Department for member of the Council of Administration. Agreed to.

Comrade Chipman moved that the Commander-in-Chief cast the vote for the name of a comrade for Departments not represented here. Agreed to; and the following were elected members of the National Council of Administration.

Arkansas, L. H. Roots, Little Rock; California, J. A. Coey, San Francisco; Colorado, F. J. Bancroft, Denver; Connecticut, E. W. Whitaker, Hartford; Delaware, Frank Nolen, Wilmington; Florida, C. M. Hamilton, Jacksonville; Georgia, W. Krzyzanowski, Macon; Illinois, T. O. Osborne, Chicago; Kentucky, Wm. Boden, Newport; Maine, Geo. L. Beal, Norway; Maryland, E. Y. Goldsborough, Baltimore; Massachusetts, A. H. Quint, New Bedford; Michigan, O. L. Spalding, St. John; Minnesota, Henry A. Castle, St. Paul; Missouri, G. Harry Stone, St. Louis; Mississippi, J. Tarbell, Jackson;

Montana, W. S. Scribner, Virginia City; New Hampshire, D. J. Vaughan, Portsmouth; New Jersey, J. F. Rusling, Trenton; New Mexico, H. H. Heath, Santa Fe; New York, A. P. Ketchum, N. Y., North Carolina, Allen Rutherford, Wilmington; Ohio, Jas. A. Lantz, Akron; Oregon, C. P. Crandall, Portland; Pennsylvania, A. Wilson Norris, Philadelphia; Potomac, E. F. M. Faehtz, Washington; Rhode Island, Jas. Shaw, Jr., Providence; South Carolina, C. J. Stolbrand, Columbia; Texas, W. T. Clark, Galveston; Vermont, Geo. J. Stannard, St. Albans; Virginia, P. A. Davis, Richmond; Wisconsin, Geo. B. Goodwin, Milwaukee.

Comrade Wagner (Pa.) moved that the next annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic be held in Boston, Mass.

Comrade Collier (Ohio) presented the claims of Cleveland, Ohio.

The motion of Comrade Wagner was then adopted.

Comrade Quint (Mass.) chairman of the Committee on Rules and Regulations, then presented the report of the committee on the amendments to the Rules and Regulations, which were fully discussed, and, pending which, at 6 P. M., the Encampment took a recess until 7.30 P. M. this evening.

The Encampment reassembled, pursuant to recess.

Comrade Poore (Mass.) chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, asked leave to report at this time, which was granted, and he then presented the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

The Committee on Resolutions has attended to the duty assigned to it, and begs leave to report to the National Encampment the following preamble and resolutions:

The Grand Army of the Republic, in National Encampment assembled in the city of Washington, congratulates every comrade on the successful extension of the triple bond of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty which now so fraternally unites those who rallied beneath the Stars and Stripes when the life of the nation was assailed, and presents the following matters as entitled to the indorsement of the order.

1. *Resolved*, As soldiers of the Union Army for the suppression of the late rebellion, we recognize no character more exalted as a soldier and patriot than the late Major-General George H. Thomas, and that it is with unfeigned sorrow that we, his recent comrades in arms, find ourselves called

upon to mourn his demise, and that in his unsullied character, his pre-eminent abilities as a commander, and his untarnished patriotism, he has, together with his great services against the enemies of his country and of the Union, left a rich legacy to the world, and a life worthy the emulation of mankind.

2. *Resolved,* That the memory of those who died that the nation might live, should be kept green in the hearts of the people of the United States, by the sacred observance of the 30th of May as a day dedicated to the decoration of their graves; and we trust that the general government will not fail to exercise, under the war power, its sovereignty over such of those hallowed resting places of our departed comrades as are in that section of country which they bravely aided in conquering, and not ask the permission of the conquered that the soil thus consecrated may be the nations forever.

3. *Resolved,* That all Departments and Posts of the Grand Army, and all comrades in their individual capacities, use their utmost endeavors to promptly secure legislative action in their respective States in aid of the establishment and maintenance of homes and schools for the support and education of the orphans of Union soldiers and marines, without distinction of birthplace or of race, who were killed or who died in consequence of wounds received or disease contracted while in the service of the United States.

4. *Resolved,* That while we recognize the equality of all soldiers who were mustered in, we respectfully suggest to the officers of the National Asylum for Disabled Soldiers, so liberally endowed by Congress, the propriety of promoting the comfort of the colored veterans entitled to a home, by establishing a branch asylum at the South for their occupation.

5. *Resolved,* That we earnestly request Congress to consider the propriety and justice of passing an act donating suitable tracts of the public lands to those soldiers, sailors, and marines who honorably served in the Army or Navy of the nation during the late war for the suppression of the rebellion, in accordance with the precedents established in former wars.

6. *Resolved,* That the thanks of the Grand Army are due, and are hereby tendered, to the Comrades of the Department of the Potomac for the accommodations provided for, and the hospitalities extended to the National Encampment at its present session, and that a copy of this resolution, duly signed by the national officers, be presented to that department.

BEN. PERLEY POORE,
L. H. ROOTS,
R. M. APGAR,
H. H. HEATH,
J. T. OWEN. *Committee.*

The Encampment then proceeded with the report of the Committee on Rules and Regulations.

Comrade Quint (Mass.) moved that the alterations to the

Rules and Regulations go into effect at the close of the present session, except that the amendment relating to Sec. 1, Art. VII, Chap. II, Rules and Regulations, shall not go into effect until July next. Agreed to.

The chairman of the Committee on Rules and Regulations then reported the following resolutions, which were agreed to.

1. *Resolved*, That the limit of time in which members under the old work might receive the new obligations and be mustered in the third grade, is hereby extended until the next session of the National Encampment. Posts may remit past dues in such cases at their discretion.

2. *Resolved*, That Departments are authorized to declare that Posts which have ceased active working shall, upon being revived, be recognized as existing under their original charters, upon the members taking the obligations now required, which shall be administered without fee, except the ten cents to the National Encampment on advancement to the third grade.

3. *Resolved*, That all dues and reports to National Headquarters from Departments accruing prior to July 1, 1869, and not yet paid or rendered, be, and the same may be, remitted by the Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Quint (Mass.) moved that a committee of three be appointed to prepare a burial service for deceased comrades, and an installation ceremony for post officers, and shall report such forms to the Council of Administration, who have power to adopt them. Agreed to.

The following were announced as such committee:

Comrades Quint, Mass.; Collier, Ohio, and Shaw, R. I.

Comrade Emory (Mass.) presented the following.

Resolved, That a Committee of three, of which Comrade Owen (Pa.) shall be chairman, be appointed to take into consideration the subject of a side degree to the order, whereby the wives and daughters of our comrades, the widows and orphans of soldiers, who died in service, or who have died since, of wounds or disease contracted in the service, may become members. Should the committee consider it advisable to form the same, they will report rules and regulations and ritual for the same at the next meeting of the National Encampment. Agreed to, and the following announced as such committee.

Comrades Owen, Pa.; L. Fairchild, Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, and Louis Wagner, Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Duncan, (Potomac,) from the Council of Administration, to whom was referred the financial part of the Quartermaster-General's report, reported that they had performed their duty, and that the accounts are correct.

Comrade Bosbyshell, (Pa.,) offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the salary of the Adjutant-General of the Grand Army for the ensuing year shall be $1,000, and of the Quartermaster-General $600; and that no other salaries shall be paid to officers of the National Encampment.

Comrade Duncan (Potomac) offered the following resolution, in accordance with Sec. 1, Art. III, Chap. V, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the *per capita* tax for the ensuing year, and until further ordered, shall be 12 cents per annum.

Comrade Wagner (Pa.) offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three members be appointed to prepare, and report to the next annual session of this Encampment, a code of rules of order and order of business.

Comrade Beath (Pa.) offered the following resolution, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That so much of the proceedings of this Encampment as may be deemed proper by the Commander-in-Chief shall be printed in pamphlet form, and one copy for each Post, or as many more as may be ordered, shall be furnished to each Department at cost price.

Comrade Faehtz, from the Committee on Life Insurance, commenced to render his report, but on motion of Comrade Chipman (Potomac) the committee was continued.

Comrade Shaffner (Ill.) moved that a vote of thanks be tendered to the Adjutant-General of this Encampment, which was agreed to.

Comrade Underwood (Mass.) moved that a vote of thanks be tendered to Comrade F. A. Starring, Inspector-General, for the very handsome badge of the order that he had designed. Agreed to.

Comrade Faehtz (Potomac) moved that a vote of thanks be tendered to the guard who had served so efficiently during this Encampment, and that each member be presented with the badge of the order. Agreed to.

Comrade Shaffner (Ill.) moved that the Encampment do now adjourn. Agreed to, and after a fervent and eloquent prayer by the Rev. Dr. A. H. Quint, Chaplain-in-Chief, the Encampment, at 11.50 P. M., was declared adjourned.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT,

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

HELD AT BOSTON, MASS.

May 10*th and* 11*th*, 1871.

FIRST DAY.

BOSTON, May 10, 1871.

The Fifth Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic assembled in the city of Boston, in John A. Andrew Hall, at 12 o'clock, noon, May 10th, 1871. The Encampment was called to order by Comrade John A. Logan, Commander-in-Chief. Prayer was offered, in the absence of the Chaplain-in-Chief, by Chaplain A. H. Quint, of the Department of Massachusetts.

The Grand Rounds were then made by Comrade F. E. Frothingham, of Post 15, Department of Massachusetts, Officer of the Day; and William H. Semens, of Post 16, Department of Massachusetts, Officer of the Guard, who reported that they found none present but members of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Commander-in-Chief then appointed the following Committee on Credentials:

H. A. Barnum, Department of New York; A. B. Underwood, Department of Massachusetts; A. R. Calhoun, Department of Pennsylvania; W. W. Henry, Department of Vermont; J. Warren Keifer, Department of Ohio.

Comrade Underwood, Massachusetts, moved that members of the Grand Army, not delegates to the Encampment, be allowed seats at the rear of the hall. Adopted.

It was moved that the Adjutant General of the Grand Army be designated as an additional member of the Committee on Credentials. Adopted.

The Commander-in-Chief then delivered his address, as follows:

COMRADES; Another circuit of the seasons brings again the time of the annual meeting of the Representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic. And while earth, seemingly thankful that the bright rays of the vernal sun have warmed her from her wintry sleep, gives forth from her bosom the green blades and gaudy flowers in greatful response, so we should also feel deeply impressed with a spirit of gratitude to the Great Creater and Ruler of the Universe, for the preservation of the lives of so many of the members of our Order, and the prosperity of our organization. We, when looking over the past twelve months, and beholding the harmony which has prevailed throughout the Order, and the prosperity which has attended it, should give forth in greatful response to the Guardian Hand, which has protected and preserved us, the warmest thanks of our hearts, and should feel, if possible, still more disposed to exhibit, by practice to their fullest extent, the characteristic virtues of our creed—*Fraternity, Charity* and *Loyalty;* Fraternity to our Comrades, Charity to our fellow-men, and Loyalty to our country.

We have assembled here to-day, not as an organization for the purpose of promoting and fostering selfish ends and personal aims, but as the survivors of a mighty, but glorious and successful contest in behalf of liberty and union—not as a band combined for the purpose of planning and plotting for the benefit of a few, or a restricted class, but in behalf of personal freedom, true independence and national honor.

We meet in the strength and consciousness of our manhood, with a full knowledge of our freedom and liberty, but with hearts true and loyal to our country and its laws.

We meet to renew our vows to the great principles of our Order—vows of friendship and fealty to each other, which shall continue to link us together in fraternal bonds; vows of that universal charity, which embraces in its grasp mankind wherever found; vows of devotion and constancy to that Government which we have fought to maintain, and which we believe to be the best that man in his wisdom has devised, where the great principles for which we contend can be best developed and carried out. We meet, also, as the representatives of the great host of loyal American soldiers, who stood as the bulwark of safety to the nation, when its life was in jeopardy.

In the hour of peril we asked not for race or sect, but for soldiers, willing to do battle bravely and fearlessly in defense of our Union. To-day we meet,

not as the representatives of a race or sect, but of those soldiers who came in answer to their country's call.

Although on a former occasion I explained, in a brief manner, for the benefit of those who do not belong to our society, the objects and principles of our organization, yet, these do not appear to be fully and properly understood, or, as I am sorry to say, are sometimes intentionally misrepresented by those who desire to bring our Order into disrepute, manufacture political capital, or to make excuses for the excesses and indiscretions of other organizations. In order to correct as far as possible any misapprehensions on this point, I will again state these objects, and I trust so plainly and distinctly, that there can be no excuse for a misunderstanding.

And, in the first place, I may state that the Grand Army of the Republic is not a political organization, instituted to serve the ends and aims of any political party, as is evident from the simple fact that all political parties are represented in its membership.

As citizens, we take part freely in national affairs, each following out his own individual preference and political inclination, untrameled by any requirements of the Order. The predominance of any political party or bias among the members of any particular locality is, so far as the Order is concerned, purely accidental. So far as devotion to our national unity, and to the great principles of universal freedom and benevolence, makes us political, thus far we are political, and no farther. We have but three objects, which are obligatory upon us as members of this Order, and these are expressed openly and avowedly in the motto of our creed. *Fraternity* among its members, which shall bind them together in one great brotherhood; the exercise of *Charity* in its broadest sense of liberal distributions to and sympathy for those in want or distress; and unwavering *Loyalty* to our Government and its great principles, coupled with a determination to maintain its integrity unimpaired. These, and these only, are the objects to which those uniting with us pledge fidelity. There is nothing in these subversive of good order, promotive of faction, or injurious to public weal or national prosperity. Nor anything in these incompatible with the duties of a good citizen, the purest morals, or strictest religion.

The successful close of the war sent back into civil life more than a million of soldiers, many of whom for years had dwelt in the tented field with armor on, and who, as comrades in the privations and hardships of the soldier's life, could not easily forget its associations. The natural yearning of the soldier's heart for an occasional re-union with his comrades, suggested the idea of the Order to its founders. It was, therefore, the natural outgrowth of the times and circumstances, and not wholly an original idea conceived in any one mind. With a desire to keep alive these associations, and by interchange of experience and opinions, to keep fresh before the mind the vivid scenes of the war, and incidents of the soldier's life in camp, was the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic conceived, and carried into effect.

Nor was this the only or chief object contemplated by its founders—for to keep the scenes of war with all its horrors vivid before the mind, without some still more important motive, would hardly meet with the approval of

this intelligent age. It was to keep constantly before the mind the cost of liberty, and the price paid for the suppression of rebellion, and the preservation of a free and independent Government; to keep forever green the hallowed memory of the heroic dead, who had fallen to save their country from disunion and dishonor; and, as far as possible, to bring comfort and relief to the bereaved families they left behind them. These were the nobler impulses, comrades, which moved you to organize and keep in operation the Grand Army.

Your sympathies went out to the widows and orphans of your fallen comrades, and, accustomed more to acts than words, you proceeded at once to express your thoughts in deeds. And to-day, many a widowed heart and orphaned household is brighter and happier, through the substantial relief and consolation your Order has brought them. Many an unfortunate comrade, whom the ravages of war had rendered incapable of active life, has found help at your hands. Such are the noble objects for which our Order was brought into being, and it is with pleasure that I can say to-day these have been faithfully carried out to the extent of our means and power.

Let it not then be said that we have any selfish motives or political schemes in view. The nation has already given us a different verdict. When the order went forth setting apart the 30th of May as aacred to the memory of our fallen comrades; in which we should manifest our appreciation of their services by strewing their graves with flowers—throughout the length and breadth of the land there was an universal response from all true and loyal hearts. Thousands, yea, millions, bore to the graves tributes of respect, and decked the hallowed ground with garlands woven from nature's choicest jewels, and as they deposited them over the sacred remains, bedewed them with tears of sorrow.

This ceremony, *you* know, is but an external expression of one of the great principles of our Order. And should the organization in coming years cease to exercise its functions, I trust that this ceremony so happily coming from it, may never cease, for so long as it continues to be heartily observed, we will have the assurance that there are loyal hearts in the land that cling to the integrity of our Union, and condemn treason to our Government.

Homage to fallen heroes is not an invention of our day. In various ages of the world we have examples how nations honored their fallen patriots. The laws of Athens required that the obsequies of those who had fallen in the battles of their country should be performed in the most solemn and public manner. "The bones of the slain were gathered on the plains or mountains, and were brought in solemn procession to the city. There, in tents, they were guarded in state, and received the votive offerings of friends and relatives, such as flowers, weapons, and precious ornaments, which were brought as tributes of affection and evidences of the proper appreciation of their services.

"The remains of the honored dead were then enclosed in coffins of funereal cypress, and on the fourth day were borne to the vaults prepared for their reception, amid beautiful groves in the suburbs, where, shaded by the

sacred olive, and watered by the cool rivulets from the surrounding hills, the turf was kept forever green. Where such a custom existed, is it to be marvelled at that patriotism and love of country found in every Grecian breast a flame, which a thousand years of oppression and tyranny were unable to crush out" So may it be with us!

I now desire to direct your attention to certain changes in reference to the subject of grades that I feel it would be well to be considered by the Encampment. On this point I will refer you to the views given in the Adjutant-General's Report, which comport entirely with my views. They differ somewhat with my recommendation one year ago, but experience has since satisfied me that the changes suggested should be made.

For information as to the condition and prosperity of the Order, I invite your especial attention to that portion of the Adjutant-General's Report referring to the organization in the different States and Territories

For information as to the financial condition of the organization, I invite your atttention to the report of the Quartermaster-General.

I also call attention to the reports of the Inspectors-General, as well as all other reports made by committees, &c, appointed by the Encampment, to be made at this time

In reference to the legislation that is desirable, entire justice has not yet been done. I hope, however, that the time will soon come when it will be done The House of Representatives in Congress has three times passed a bill equalizing bounties so as to place all soldiers on an equal footing, that they might all receive the same pay, regulated by the time they served in the army. This bill has always failed in the Senate—why, I cannot say. There was also passed by the House last winter a bill granting homesteads to officers and soldiers. During its pendency in the House many organizations were formed by the soldiers in the Eastern and Middle States, with a view to going at once to the West and occupying the Government land as settlers under this Act, should it pass. But after passing the House of Representatives it shared the same fate as the bounty bill in the Senate. I hope that your influence may be felt at the next session of Congress in favor of these measures, and that they may pass the Senate. There is no doubt of their passage in the House. That body is made up of men directly from the people, who feel as their constituents feel, and are dependent directly on the people for their positions. They naturally, therefore, take pains to know their wishes.

Comrades, I have served three terms as Commander-in-Chief, selected first in Philadelphia in my absence and without any desire or solicitation on my part; and twice since without ever having asked a comrade for his support. Your confidence thus expressed, has been, and is, a matter of pride to me. If I have served you well, I am proud of it. If not, it has been for want of ability in me to do so. Feeling thankful in my very heart for your confidence, I can only say that I am profoundly grateful to my comrades. Having no desire for the position any longer—nor will I accept it under any circumstances—in retiring allow me to say that I trust you will make such selections for your new officers, as will give their time and energy to

promote the great principles of the Order. Let not the Grand Army be dragged through the filthy pool of political strife! Make your selections independent of any influences save those that will best promote and advance the welfare of the Order. The Comrade, (and I hope there are none such,) who would attempt to bring any improper influence to bear, or try to obtain an election by having delegates selected who were to support him for any position in the organization, would be unworthy the confidence of the Order. Whoever you shall select to fill the position of Commander-in-Chief, shall have my full co-operation and aid in all respects, in sustaining the principles and promoting the best interests of the organization.

Now, having given a short resume of our principles and history, with such recommendations as seem to me proper, let me ask you, my comrades, whether you come together to-day with renewed zeal for our Order, and whether you will, when you separate, go forth with a renewed determination to carry out, as members of the organization, those principles to which you have pledged fidelity? If your countenances and actions form a true index to your heart, I answer for you, *Yes!* And, judging from the pulsations of my own heart, which has so long beaten in unison with yours, I answer, *Yes!* Such then being our feelings, and such our intentions, we must remember that great ends are accomplished, not by spasmodic and fitful exertions, but by steady, systematic and persevering movements. This was the spirit that nerved us during the fiery ordeal of the late war, and crowned our arms with victory.

Let us, then, strictly conform to our Rules and Regulations and, systematic as an army when marching to the field of battle, let us, like good and faithful soldiers, press forward in the great work of promoting and extending the cardinal virtues of our creed—Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty. And the tree of Liberty, fostered by the genial influence of the Grand Army of the Republic, will send forth its inspiration to the utmost extremity of our beloved country, until every heart shall again be warmed by the vital principles of loyalty, and every remnant of treason be driven from our land.

Such is our mission, and such are our bright anticipations, and if true to our faith, and active in our efforts, when we have met together for the last time, and have sounded our last reveille, other tongues and other voices will bless the name and work of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Comrade Cogswell, Massachusetts, moved that a vote of thanks be tendered by the Encampment to the Commander-in-Chief, for his able, eloquent and instructive address, and that a copy be requested for publication. Adopted.

Comrade Burnside, Department of the Potomac, then moved a recess of thirty minutes, to partake of a collation prepared for the delegates by the Comrades of the Department of Massachusetts.

The Encampment re-assembled at 1.30 P. M.

The following communication was read by the Commander-in-Chief.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS,
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
BOSTON, May 10, 1871.

To General JOHN A. LOGAN, *Commander-in-Chief*:

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE: The Department of Massachusetts of the Grand Army of the Republic, cordially invites all members of the National Encampment to a banquet in Faneuil Hall, this evening It is desirable that the members should assemble at the Hall of the Encampment, at 7.15 this evening, and from there march to Faneuil Hall, where the banquet will be served at 8 o'clock. Tickets of admission will be issued to members of the Encampment this afternoon.

Yours in F. C. & L.,
(Signed) WILLIAM COGSWELL,
Commander.

Comrade Barnum, for the Committee on Credentials, reported the following:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
HALL OF POST JOHN A. ANDREW,
BOSTON, May 10, 1871

To General JOHN A. LOGAN, *Commander-in-Chief:*

Your Committee on Credentials respectfully report that they find this Encampment to consist of the Commander-in-Chief and other National officers, provided for by the Rules and Regulations, numbering in all, forty-one; and Commanders and Vice-Commanders of Departments, and delegates as follows —

Maine, 2; New Hampshire, 2; Vermont, 2; Massachusetts, 12; Rhode Island, 2; Connecticut, 3; New York, 6; New Jersey, 2; Pennsylvania, 6; Maryland, 1; Potomac, 2; Ohio, 4; Kentucky, 2; Wisconsin, 1; Michigan, 2; California, 2; Minnesota, 1; Illinois, 1.

Provisional Departments entitled to be represented by Commanders, as follows:—Delaware, 1; Virginia, 1; Colorado, 1; New Mexico, 1. Eighteen Departments above named, 54. Whole number, 153.

(Signed) H. A. BARNUM,
J. WARREN KEIFER,
A. R. CALHOUN,
Committee

The report of the committee was received. Comrade Barnum stated that he was requested by the delegation from the Department of New Jersey to announce the absence of their representative in the National Council of Administration, and he asked permission to move, as he had been requested, that Comrade Judson Kilpatrick fill the vacancy. Considerable debate was excited as to the power of the Encampment to fill

such vacancies. The Commander-in-Chief decided that no business was in order until the report of the Committee on Credentials had been received.

The Adjutant-General then proceeded to call the roll of the officers and delegates elect to the National Encampment. The following responded to their names, and took their seats as members of the Encampment:

John A. Logan, *Commander-in-Chief;* Lucius Fairchild, *Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief;* Louis Wagner, *Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief;* William T. Collins, *Adjutant-General;* Timothy Lubey, *Quartermaster-General;* N. P. Chipman, *Judge Advocate-General;* Samuel A. Green, *Surgeon-General*

Council of Administration—James Coey, California; E. W. Whitaker, Connecticut; George L. Beal, Maine; E. Y. Goldsborough, Maryland; A. H. Quint, Massachusetts; D. J. Vaughan, New Hampshire; A. P. Ketchum, New York; A. Wilson Norris, Pennsylvania; James Shaw, Jr., Rhode Island; George J. Stannard, Vermont.

Department of Maine—Commander, C. P. Mattocks; Senior Vice Commander, George A. Parker; Junior Vice-Commander, A. C. Pray; delegates, J. F. Land, A. C. Hibbard.

Department of New Hampshire—Delegates J. T. Lovering, Reuben Dodge.

Department of Vermont—Commander, Wm. W. Henry; Junior Vice Commander, Albert Clarke; delegates, George H. Bigelow, W. G. Veazey.

Department of Massachusetts—Commander, Wm. Cogswell; Senior Vice-Commander, Wm. Spaulding; Junior Vice-Commander, S. E. Chamberlain; delegates, James L. Bates, J. H. Barnes, A. B. Underwood, George S. Merrill, George H. Pierson, A. B. R. Sprague, G. S. Worcester, C. B. Fox, J. W. Kimball, I. S. Burrill, H. S. Briggs; alternate, C. H. Chase.

Department of Rhode Island—Commander, Charles R. Brayton; Senior Vice-Commander, Ira H. Parkes; Junior Vice-Commander, Henry R. Barker; delegate, Frank H. Wicks; alternate, Wm. Frankland.

Department of Connecticut—Commander, Wm. H. Mallory; delegates, Theodore G. Ellis, L. A. Dickinson.

Department of New York—Commander, H. A. Barnum; Senior Vice Cmmander, John A. Reynolds; Junior Vice Commander, Willard Bullard; delegates, John C. Robinson; John B. Murray, A. J. Smith, James Jourdan, M. T. Hicks, S. C. Pinckney.

Department of New Jersey—Commander, R. H. Lee; delegate, William Ward.

Department of Pennsylvania—Commander, A. R. Calhoun; Senior Vice Commander, Howard J. Reeder; delegates, John F. Hartranft, Robert B. Beath, Joshua T. Owen, Robert L. Bodine, Frank Reeder.

Department of Delaware—Provisional Commander; Danl. Woodall.

Department of Maryland—Commander, E. T. Daneker: Senior Vice Commander, W. O. Bigelow; delegate, A. W. Denison.

Department of the Potomac—Commander Timothy Lubey; Senior Vice Commander, James T. Smith; Junior Vice Commander, Ray P. Eaton,; delegate, J. O. P. Burnside.

Department of Virginia—Provisional Commander, J. H. Remington.

Department of Ohio—Delegate, J. Warren Keifer; alternate, G. A. Blocher.

Department of Kentucky—Delegate, M. Boland.

Department of Illinois—Commander C. E. Lippincott; Delegate, E. B. Harland.

Department of California—Commander, William E. McArthur; Senior Vice Commander, Charles H. Eldredge; Junior Vice Commander, Celsus Brower; Delegate, James O'Brien.

The report of the Committee on Credentials was adopted.

Comrade Wagner moved the following order of business for the remainder of the day's session:

I. Reports of Committee on Credentials.

II. Reports of Officers, and reference of the same to committees of five each, to be called the Committee on Rules and Regulations, and Committee on Ritual.

III. Reception of communications, resolutions and amendments to the Rules and Regulations and to the Ritual, and their reference to the above committees without debate.

IV. Nominations for Officers

V. Adjournment to 10 A. M. of Thursday.

In accordance with the motion of Comrade Cogswell the vote was taken upon the adoption of the above order of business, by sections.

The first section, relating to the report of the Committee on Credentials was passed over—that report having been already received by the Encampment.

The second section was amended so as to provide for the appointment of one committee of seven members on Rules, Regulations and Ritual—and as amended was adopted.

The third section was adopted, with the necessary amendment to make in accord with the preceding sections.

The fourth section was rejected.

The fifth section was adopted.

Comrade Wagner also moved, as a rule of the Encampment, that no Comrade should speak more than twice, nor longer than five minutes each time, on any one question. Adopted.

The Commander-in-Chief then submitted to the Encampment the question before raised, regarding the admission of alternates to the Encampment.

The question raised was whether an alternate appointed by the Council of Administration of a Department, could take the seat of an absent delegate.

The Commander-in-Chief decided that the alternate must have been elected at the same time, in the same manner, and at the same place as the Department Officers and Delegates, in order to be entitled to a seat in the National Encampment.

Comrade Ward, New Jersey, appealed from the decision of the Chair.

The question was submitted to the Encampment, and the decision of the Chair sustained.

The Commander-in-Chief reported the appointment of the following committee on Rules and Regulations, and Ritual:

Comrades A. H. Quint, Massachusetts; James Shaw, Jr., Rhode Island; John C. Robinson, New York; R. B. Beath,

Pennsylvania; James Coey, California; George L. Beal, Maine; William Ward, New Jersey.

Comrade Quint asked to be excused from service on this Committee, and that Comrade C. B. Fox, Massachusetts, be appointed in his stead. Comrade Eldredge, California, at the request of Comrade Coey, asked that that Comrade be excused, and that Comrade James O'Brien be appointed in his stead. Ordered.

Comrade Cogswell, as instructed by the Department of Massachusetts, presented to the National Encampment a substitute for the present Ritual, and asked that it might be considered by the committee on that subject, and also by the National Encampment. The proposed Ritual was referred to the committee as requested.

Comrade Eldredge, California, presented a communication regarding the subject of uniform, which was similarly referred.

The report of the Adjutant-General was then received:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, May 10, 1871.

General JOHN A. LOGAN, *Commander-in-Chief:*

Comrade: In submitting my annual report to you, and through you to the Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, for the year ending this day, I deem it my duty to call attention to some of the more important subjects pertaining to the interest of the Order, and which seem to demand immediate consideration.

First. When the "grade system" was introduced into our organization, two years ago, it was expected by many of our comrades that much good would result therefrom; that, in fact, in a very short time, the result of the system would be to give to the Grand Army of the Republic the largest and most efficient organization of any society which has sprung from the men who united for the protection of the Union. One year's experience with the three-grade system, requiring, as it then did, eight months' service between the grade of Recruit and that of Veteran, developed the fact that a large majority of the old comrades had not obligated in the new work. The reason for this was then supposed to rest in the objection to the length of service required before the first and third grades. To remedy this objection, the last Annual Encampment cut down the term of service, so that only six weeks should intervene between the First and Third grades. After another year's experience, I believe that it has been found that a majority of our old members have failed to obligate, and that a large majority of our present

members favor an entire abolition of the grade system. As a qualification for membership in our organization, it was enacted that a person must have served in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States during the late war. This qualification is held by many of our old comrades-in-arms to be a sufficient qualification for admission to full membership, without being required to serve six or more weeks in a subordinate position. Again, many who are eligible are prevented from becoming full members owing to the fact that their homes are remote from the Post with which they might desire to unite, and they are not able on this account to attend the regular meetings, and therefore may be unable for a long period to become full members. I venture to say that thousands of the old members, and very many ex-soldiers and sailors, who have never become members, have refused to unite with the Order under the grade system on account of the difficulty experienced in completing their membership. The objection, I believe to be well founded, and the importance of this question induces me to urge that, immediately after the assembling of the National Encampment, a committee be appointed, whose duty it shall be to prepare and report to the Encampment a proposition to amend the Rules and Regulation and Ritual, which, while preserving their main features, shall so simplify and abbreviate them as to dispense with the grade system, and dispose of the present objection to the length of the Ritual.

Second. The subject of open sessions for the National and Department Encampments is one well worthy of consideration. Little, if any business, outside of additions and amendments to the Ritual, has ever transpired at the National and Department Encampments that could not have been made public. It is a well-known fact that much of the opposition directed against the Order by public journals has been on account of its secret sessions. It is true that the disloyal press of the country have said much against the Order for no other reason than that of the bitter hatred for our comrades, and the cause for which they fought. For this class we care nothing. For the other, much. Why should not the doors of these Encampments be thrown open? We do not plot or instigate treason against the Government, nor is our Order a secret or political organization with no higher objects or aims than of political traffic. The National and Department Encampments can at any time direct an executive session for the consideration of the Ritual, or of such business as is not generally open, even to the members of the Order.

Third. The forms now in use for reports need to be revised and simplyfied. They are at present too complicated, and require more work than is at all necessary. Many of the forms in use are nearly as complicated as are those in use by the Regular Army.

Too much work is required under the present system, of a new officer, in order to familiarize himself with the forms and reports which he has to render. I recommend that the National Encampment should appoint a committee to report any changes which may be proper in the regulations in this regard, and to consider the propriety of requiring semi-annual in place of quarterly reports.

Fourth. The subject of uniform for the members of the Grand Army of the Republic, is one worthy of consideration. Samples of swords, belts, caps and blouses, will be submitted to the Encampment for inspection.

Fifth. Posts seem anxious to have a badge adopted, designating the rank of officers of the Post, and some few have already been adopted. Samples of the badges adopted by one or more of the Posts will be submitted to the Encampment.

With the permission of the National Encampment I now proceed to briefly review the present condition of the several Departments:

The Department of Alabama was organized as a Provisional Department April 9, 1868. Four posts were soon after organized, but owing to the limited number of ex-soldiers, and the frequent changes of residents, these Posts long since disbanded, leaving the Department without an organization since May, 1869

The Department of Arkansas was organized as a Provisional Department April 18, 1867. During that year five Posts were organized in the State. A difficulty with the Department Commander resulted in the disbandment of these Posts late in the year 1868. Efforts have since been made to reorganize the Department, but without success, owing, I believe, to the disturbed condition of political affairs in that State.

The Department of California was organized as a Provisional Department March 9, 1869. It has at present twenty-two working Posts. This Department deserves special mention for its continued prosperity and general efficiency.

The Department of Colorado was organized as a Provisional Department October 20, 1868. The membership is small, but, notwithstanding, this is one of the most efficient and prosperous Departments of the Order.

The Department of Connecticut was organized as a Provisional Department February 15, 1867. This has from the first been one of the most thorough working Departments of the Order. The officers and members of the Department deserve special commendation for their highly successful efforts for the organization of Homes throughout the State, for the orphans of soldiers and sailors.

The Department of Delaware was organized as a Provisional Department February 1, 1867. This Department consists of but two Posts. More have not been organized on account of the limited number of ex-soldiers residing in the State.

The Department of Florida was organized February 14, 1868. The organization in this State was disbanded soon after on account of a difficulty between the Posts and the Department Commander. An effort is now being made by the present Commander, Comrade Jenkins, to reorganize, with the prospect of three effective Posts in the State.

The Department of Georgia was organized as a Provisional Department July 6, 1868 In 1869 nine Posts had been organized. Five Posts have since disbanded, owing to the removal from the State of a majority of the members.

The Department of Illinois was first organized as a permanent Depart-

ment July 12, 1866. Over forty Posts were recognized in the Convention of that date. In 1868 the Department numbered over three hundred Posts, with an estimated membership of over 40,000. The enthusiasm in the Order and its objects in this State has, however, so far disappeared that the Department embraces at present but some twenty-five Posts. In June, 1870, I visited Department Headquarters, for the purpose of investigating the affairs of the Department, and to ascertain, if possible, the cause of the then dormant condition of the Order. I was informed by the Assistant Adjutant-General that, as near as it had been possible for him to ascertain, the difficulty had been in the inattention manifested at Department Headquarters to the wants and requirements of Posts throughout the State, and a general neglect of duty on the part of the Department Commander.

The Department of Indiana was organized as a permanent Department during the month of August, 1866. In the fall of 1868 this Department had two hundred and seventy-nine effective Posts, with a membership of between 25,000 and 30,000. It is now in a disorganized condition, mainly from the neglect of the officers who, for the two years preceding the last election, were charged with the direction of the Department. An attempt to reorganize and place the Department on a proper footing was promised during the summer of 1870, but the work was not completed. An effort is again promised to be made during the coming season.

The Department of Iowa was organized as a permanent Department in September, 1866. In 1868 this Department had one hundred and forty-four working Posts. At the present time the Department is without an organization, and for the same reasons as in the cases just cited.

The Department of Kansas was organized December 7, 1866. In 1868 the Department comprised some thirty Posts, though at present but nine.

The Department of Kentucky was organized as a Provisional Department in June, 1867. It at present numbers thirteen Posts. The Department is commendable for its promptness in the rendition of reports and the payment of dues.

The Department of Louisiana was organized in 1867. In 1868 the Department consisted of nineteen Posts, with a membership of nearly 5000. The Department is at present disorganized, owing to the fact that it was used for political purposes.

The Department of Maine was organized in June, 1867. Forty-eight Posts have been organized in the State. By the last report of the Assistant Adjutant General it would seem there are only nineteen Posts now in existence. Various reasons are assigned for this falling off in membership.

The Department of Maryland was organized in November, 1866. The late Department Commander not having reported for the two latter quarters of the year 1870, I am unable to report the strength of the Department. I am, however, aware that the present Commander is using every endeavor to effect a thorough organization.

The Department of Massachusetts was organized April 24, 1867. To speak of this Department is to speak of the most efficient Department of the Order. It has never been in arrears for reports or dues, and, since its organi-

zation, the Department has continued to grow and prosper, and is now the largest Department of the Order. This prosperity may properly be credited to the efforts of the Department officers. The affairs of the Department have never been neglected, and the State bids fair long to lead the several Departments of the Grand Army.

The Department of Michigan was organized October 1, 1867. This Department is in excellent condition, and reports, dues, &c., have been promptly forwarded by Department officers.

The Department of Minnesota was organized in December 1866, and in a few months thereafter embraced some twenty-five Posts. As in others, the organization in this Department has been injured by efforts to use its strength for political purposes. A reorganization of the Department was effected in 1867. The Department is now small but effective and loyal to the noble objects of the Order.

The Department of Missouri was organized in July, 1866, and at one time numbered one hundred and twenty-nine working Posts, Here, as elsewhere, politics were dragged into the Order, and resulted in the disorganization of the Department. In June last, on a visit to the State, I found the staff officers discouraged and the Department Commander without interest in the Order. My correspondence with officers of Posts throughout the State satisfies me that the interest in the Department may be revived. I recommend that steps be taken to call a convention of the Posts in this State, to advise with General Headquarters on the proper course to be pursued to effect a reorganization.

The Department of Montana was organized February 22, 1868, and at one time embraced three or four working Posts. In the adoption of the new Ritual they were left out, from the difficulty of communicating to them the new work. Soldiers in this Territory have recently requested authority to organize, and their request will be complied with as soon as some comrade can be charged with a mission to that section of the country.

The Department of Nebraska was organized July 10, 1867, and in 1868 embraced a very good organization. It has, however, since ceased operations, for reasons not yet known at these Headquarters.

The Department of New Hampshire was organized in December, 1870. The Department is small in numbers, but great in good works. The membership is now on the increase, and will doubtless soon include a large proportion of the ex-soldiers of that State.

The Department of New Jersey was organized December 29, 1866. The operations of the Department have been marked during the past year by an increased energy, and it is now well established and prompt in rendering reports and in the payment of dues.

The Department of New Mexico was organized February 12, 1868. The Department includes but two Posts, but these include nearly every honorably discharged soldier residing in the Territory. Of this little band of Comrades it may be said that none are more devoted to the interests of our Order.

The Department of New York was organized November 22, 1866, and

has been from the first one of the most prosperous, efficient and thorough working Departments of the Order. The Department has been well served by its officers, and each succeeding Commander seems to have striven to outdo his predecessor in devotion to his duties

The Department of North Carolina was organized July 11, 1867, and at one time embraced eight working Posts. It is now entirely disorganized, owing to the removal from the State of nearly all the ex-soldiers.

The Department of Ohio was organized as a permanent Department, January 30, 1867. Since the adoption of the new Ritual the membership has fallen off considerably. In the establishment of the Home for the orphans of their fallen Comrades, the soldiers of Ohio have performed a great work. An endeavor, during the year 1869, to secure a legislative appropriation for this purpose, was unsuccessful; and the Comrades thereupon took the burden upon themselves, and have successfully completed it. A Home has been established at Xenia, where some two hundred orphans were provided for during the fall and winter of 1869-70. Comrades were, however, determined that the State should do her duty and aid them in their good work; and through their continued efforts an appropiation was finally secured from the Legislature.

The Department of Pennsylvania was organized November 22, 1866. The Department is in every respect one of the most efficient and best organized of the Order. In the State, also, much has been done through the influence of the Order for the orphans of her soldiers and sailors. The Commanders of this Department have been zealous, hard-working men, whose greatest ambition would seem to have been the success of the Order.

The Department of the Potomac was organized as a Provisional Department in November, 1866, and now comprises thirteen live Posts. In this Department, since the war, a great work of charity has been done. Hundreds of soldiers who have sought employment under the Government, at Washington, and who have remained in that city till their last dollar was exhausted, have been aided to seek their homes or employment elsewhere. Very many soldiers' families who came to Washington during the war, have been aided and assisted again to their homes. To every call of charity the Comrades of this Department have nobly responded.

The Department of Rhode Island was organized May 11, 1867. The membership of the Department, and the success of the Order (considering the loyalty of the people, and the excellent quality of the soldiers of that State,) have been much less than could have been reasonably expected. The present Commander has expressed a determination to secure during his term of service a better condition of affairs.

The Department of South Carolina was organized August 28, 1868. There is, at present, but one working Post in this Department, and the disbandment of that is probable, by reason of the removal from the State of nearly all its members.

The Department of Tennessee was organized December 30, 1866. This Department had at one time the best organization of any of the Southern States, one Post at Nashville embracing six hundred members. The

rebel influence in this State has, however, forced the several Posts to disband, and their members either to leave the State or disavow their connection with the Order.

The Department of Texas was organized September 22, 1868. The organization in this Department is small; but of the 15,000 ex-soldiers residing in the State, it is probable that the present Commander, Governor Davis, will secure the adhesion to the Order of a majority.

The Department of Vermont was organized July 6, 1868. This Department, during the past eighteen months, has been more prosperous than before, but has not yet reached that strength which may properly be anticipated from the Green Mountain State. The present Department officers deserve great credit for their promptness in rendering reports and the payment of dues.

The Department of Virginia was organized February 12, 1868. The Department is small in numbers, but the excellent management of its present officers has made it one of the most efficient.

The Department of West Virginia was organized March 13, 1868. In 1869, the Department embraced some thirty Posts, but through the neglect of its officers the State is now without an organization. Several Posts of the State at present report direct to National Headquarters.

The Department of Wisconsin was organized June 10, 1866. Under the old work, this Department embraced some seventy-eight Posts. The present Department is small, but the Commander promises to spare no effort to re-establish its former prosperity.

It would be useless for me to attempt to give the actual, or even an approximate, of the present membership of the Grand Army of the Republic, owing to the manner reports are rendered to National Headquarters by Department Commanders.

The Quartermaster-General's report will show that the financial condition of the National Headquarters has never been better than at this time.

Before concluding this report, I would suggest the propriety of inviting some of the more experienced officers or delegates of Departments, to indicate such measures as they may deem best calculated to build up and extend the influence of our organization. Many of the Department officers and ex-officers, who are delegates to the Encampment, have had better opportunities of judging of the wants of the Order than have the officers of National Headquarters, and are therefore better qualified to present the subject to the Encampment.

I would also suggest the propriety of having it understood, by resolution or otherwise, that hereafter the several Department Commanders, at the close of their term of office, shall render a written report to the Commander-in-Chief, which shall represent the condition of the Order in their Departments, as they leave them, with such suggestions and recommendations as they may deem best calculated to extend the usefulness of the organization.

In conclusion, I desire to convey to the officers of the several Departments

my sincere thanks for the valuable assistance rendered me in the discharge of my official duties as Adjutant-General.

I have the honor to be, yours in F. C. & L.,

WM. T. COLLINS,
Adjutant-General.

[When the paragraph relating to the Department of Kentucky was read, the Adjutant-General remarked that the delegate from that Department to the National Encampment reported that recently a comrade of one of the Posts of that Department had been assassinated, and the commander of another taken and given fifty lashes, because they dared to declare openly their allegiance to the Order.]

REPORT OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 10, 1871.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the business of this office for the year ending May 10, 1871:

There was received from the sale of Rituals, Books, Blanks, Veteran Fees, per capita tax, profit on badges, and balance on hand, May 10, 1870—$6,449.41. There was disbursed for rent for Headquarters, officers' salaries, clerk hire, on account of old indebtedness, printing books and blanks, $6,377.17; leaving a cash balance in my hands of $72.24.

The accompanying vouchers show the manner in which these funds have been received and expended.

The outstanding liabilities of National Headquarters on May 10, 1870, have been reduced by the payment of $800 to General Joshua T. Owen, $400 to General Chipman, and $213.34 to Dr. Collins. There is still a balance due General Owen; but I have no doubt this whole indebtedness can be liquidated within a very short time. There is also a balance due the Adjutant-General on his salary for the year.

The available assets are as follows:

Due from Departments, for rituals, books and blanks, $675.86. There are on hand some 3,000 rituals, but no estimate of their value can be given, as that is contingent upon the action of the Encampment.

Books and Blanks—Under the amended Rules and Regulations, the Adjutant-General was directed to prepare and distribute blanks, &c. Taking it for granted this would be accepted by all the Departments as the law, and under your directions, there were printed 10,000 copies of the Rules and Regulations, and several thousand blanks But it was found that while some of the Departments obeyed the law, some disregarded it, and did their own printing, while others purchased from Headquarters such blanks, &c., as could not be as cheaply procured elsewhere. The result of this is, that, notwithstanding great economy and care was exercised, there are now on

hand over 5,000 copies of the Rules and Regulations, and several thousand blanks, books, &c., in money value about $700. It is undeniable that the larger Departments can print books and blanks as cheaply as National Headquarters. The evident intention of the Encampment, however, was to have not only an uniform system, and to furnish the smaller Departments at reasonable prices, but also to create for National Headquarters a source of revenue, These remarks are made in no spirit of fault-finding, but to bring the matter where it can be properly dealt with.

Badges.—The National Encampment at its last session prescribed the badge adopted at the special meeting, held in New York, October 27, 1869. By direction of the Council of Administration, a contract was concluded with Mr. Demarest, of New York city, by which he agreed to furnish them to National Headquarters at $1.25 each. They were sold to comrades at $1 50 each. In December last I induced Mr. Demarest to reduce the price to 0.95 each. The price to comrades has been $1.25 for a single badge, but when ten or more are ordered at one time the price is reduced to $1.15 each. When Departments wish to take charge of the whole matter a discount is allowed to cover their expenses.

The number sold during the past year was 4,836, realizing a profit, after deducting printing, advertising and commission, of $642.

Opinions are divided as to the merits of the badge. While some express a decided preference, others criticise it freely; but I have no recommendation to make, and eave the subject to those who can speak more directly for their comrades.

The question of gold or "Presentation" badges is being constantly brought before this office. I respectfully suggest that some rule be adopted in the matter.

In conclusion, Commander-in-Chief, I wish to tender again my acknowledgments for the many acts of kindness and courtesy received at your hands, and to my associates at National Headquarters, and also to the comrades of the different Departments, with whom I have been officially brought in contact during my term of office.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TIMOTHY LUBEY,

Quartermaster-General.

Report of the Acting Inspector-General.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Inspector-General's Bureau,
Washington, D. C., May 8, 1871.

Major-General John A. Logan,
Commander-in-Chief Grand Army of the Republic.

Sir: Having been appointed Acting Inspector-General by Special Orders No. 10, dated September 9, 1870, I have the honor to render the following report of the condition and efficiency of the Bureau, so far as it has come under my charge.

During the year ending March 31, 1871, the following appointments were made in this Bureau, viz:

Comrade Joseph Lurnock, of South Bend, Indiana, to be Assistant Inspector-General on the Staff of the Commander of the Department of Indiana, by Special Orders No. 3, dated July 16, 1870.

Comrade W. F. Morse, of Washington, D. C., to be assistant Inspector-General on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, by Special Orders No. 4, dated July 16, 1870.

Gomrade James Le Grand, of Fort Union, New Mexico, to be Assistant Inspector-General on the Staff of the Commander of the Department of New Mexico, by Special Orders No. 8, dated August 23, 1870.

Comrade Ben Perley Poore, of Massachusetts, to be Assistant Inspector-General on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, by Special Orders No. 23, dated March 21, 1871.

Comrade Andrew J. Smith, of Syracuse, New York, to be Assistant Inspector.General on the Staff of the Commander of the Department of New York, by Special Orders No. 24, dated March 21, 1871.

This Bureau has incurred no expenses during the past year, excepting for the necessary stationery.

Since my appointment, I have issued, as occasion required, circulars and letters to all the Departments, requesting official inspection returns, and such other information and suggestions by letter, as might be deemed necessary for the good of the Order; and in reply have received complete reports from a majority of the Departments in working condition, and informal returns from others.

These reports agree, substantially in facts and figures, with the details of the Adjutant-General's report, and, therefore, are not repeated here; and nearly all statements concerning the working condition of the various Departments, exhibit a very encouraging view of the general prosperity and progress of our noble organization.

Numerous suggestions have been made by the Assistant Inspector-Generals as to the modifications of our organic laws, and regulations of minor importance, of which I append a few of the most important, and will here report that the nearly unanimous sentiment from all parts of our organization is strongly against the present three.grade system, and in favor of re-establishing one equal and uniform grade for all comrades. This, it is asserted, will at once bring within our ranks thousands of Comrades now standing aloof.

There has also been a desire expressed by some of the most distinguished Comrades of our organization, for a reorganization of our Order, which shall place it on a basis that the secresy in our proceedings of the Department and National Encampmenes may be abolished, which fact I bring to the notice of the Encampment without comments of my own.

The Assistant Inspector-General of one of the most flourishing and important Departments in our National organization, reports as follows: "The grand objects of our Order (the relief of our Comrades and their widows and orphans,) are fully carried out in all the Posts. As near as can be estimated,

over forty thousand dollars have been expended by the Posts in this Department, for charity. And the proportion of the members of the Order assisted is very small, about three-fourths of that amount being for the families of those not members of the Order."

The officer making this report furnishes some valuable suggestions as to giving notice for preparing Posts for inspection, forms of blanks used, manner of Inspection, &c.

The report from another Department states that "In regard to the discipline, efficiency, knowledge and usefulness of this Department, it is far in advance of what it ever before has been since the adoption of the system of grades." The judicious and painstaking instructions which this officer had issued to the various Inspectors of his Department (a copy of which was enclosed with his report to National Headquarters,) in a highly commendable manner, accounts in a great measure for the efficiency of his Department.

Another Assistant Inspector-General reports as follows: "Nothing could be conducive of better results than an annual inspection of all the Posts by some competent officer; but this would require at least six weeks' time in this Department, and the expenditure of more money than any member of the organization could well afford to pay." And he adds, "I would gladly have given the necessary time."

[This is but one of many reports showing the great disadvantage the Inspector-General's Bureau labors under for want of means.]

The pertinent suggestions and noble aspirations contained in the report, from which the last extract is made, should entitle it to be placed entire in this report, would space permit.

From a Department, lately organized in the South-west, on the "sacred," and so recently, to the liberty-loving loyalists, "forbidden soil," the Assistant Inspector-General, in reporting the rapidity of organization, says; "It is estimated that there are 15,000 soldiers of the old Army of the Union in this Department, nearly all of whom will band together to perpetuate the brotherhood, as soon as information can reach them of the proper manner of proceeding."

Among other suggestions presented to me for the consideration of the National Encampment, I submit herewith the most important one, viz., a prospectus, or plan and work, looking to the establishment of a branch of our organization for the wives of Comrades, entitled the "Faith, Hope and Liberty Degree of the Grand Army of the Republic," which has been prepared by Comrade Richard H. Manning, of the Department of the Potomac, and without endorsing all its features and details, I recommend it as worthy of the careful attention of the Encampment, and hope it may be referred to the appropriate committee for examination and report.

It is with special pride and gratification for this evidence of the quality of our Order, that I refer to the fact that it is generally reported, from the Department throughout the country, that in the cities and towns where the Grand Army of the Republic has healthy organizations, there has been an increasing tendency the past year among its members to procure and sustain courses of popular lectures, concerts and amateur operas and

theatricals, and all of the higher order of literary and social entertainments, the proceeds of which have been devoted to charity; and that they have been in the main pecuniarily successful, as most assuredly they must prove highly beneficial to our organization in other respects.

In thus hastily reviewing these general outlines, I am happy to congratulate your administration on the steady increase of the Grand Army of the Republic throughout the nation, and upon its healthy and prosperous condition at the close of your third term as its head. I regret that this report does not exhibit the same faithfulness in detail as is manifested in the very able and satisfactory reports of the Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General, and, fearing this fact might be construed as a mark of inefficiency and want of usefulness of the Inspector-General's Bureau, I beg leave to submit that the want of provision for salary of Inspectors or assistants, or for funds to meet traveling expenses, so essentially necessary to the zealous performance of Inspectors' duties, must naturally make this Bureau appear to great disadvantage compared with the other branches of the Staff Department.

In making this statement, I do not wish to convey the impression that I claim remuneration for services or for expenses incurred, but simply aim to promote the usefulness of this Bureau by suggesting to the National Encampment to place it on an equal footing with the other Staff Offices in regard to means.

In conclusion, I desire to acknowledge the services of the Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors-General in the various Departments, and to thank them for the zeal, ability and fraternal feeling that has characterized their official intercourse with this Bureau. All of which is most respectfully submitted.

Yours, obediently,

J. O. P. BURNSIDE,
Acting Inspector-General.

Comrade Chipman, Judge Advocate-General, stated that the decisions which he had rendered during the year had been published in General Orders, and the more important ones collected and reprinted in General Orders No. 3.

Comrade Chipman added: "I am not clear regarding all these opinions, and move that this General Order be now referred to the Committee on Rules." Adopted.

With regard to the donation of one thousand dollars, mentioned by the Quartermaster-General, Comrade Chipman stated that he was not himself the donor, and that he would not care to give the name of the donor in open Encampment, but would give it privately to any Comrade who desired information on the subject.

Comrade Cogswell, Massachusetts, suggested the addition of the Judge-Advocate General to the Committee on Rules.

Comrade Chipman, Judge-Advocate General, asked to be excused on account of his health.

The Surgeon General, Dr. Samuel A. Green, when called upon for his report, said that in consequence of not receiving reports from all the departments, he was unable to present a consolidated report. He said that the reports from the various sections of the country had, however, been good, and the absence of disease had been due to the very moral character of the members of the Order.

Chaplain A. H. Quint, Massachusetts, in the absence of the Chaplain-in-Chief, said that a report from the committee appointed at the last Encampment to revise and amend the Burial Service is ready to be called for. He further stated that he was unable to render a report as to the morals of the Grand Army, but he had no doubt that since his service as Chaplain-in-Chief, its morals had not deteriorated.

He then read the Report of the Committee on Burial Service, and the Report was referred to the Committee on Rules, &c.

Comrade Mallory, Connecticut, presented a form of Installation Service, which was referred to the Committee on Rules, &c.

Comrade Lubey, Potomac, also presented a form of Installation Service, which received a similar reference.

The following telegram was received by the Encampment and read:

"Universal Peace Convention, in session in Cooper Institute, New York, May 10th, 1871: to National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic:

"We congratulate you on a peaceful Encampment. As Veterans, can you not add your protest against war, that there may never more be another war Encampment."

To this the following reply was telegraphed:

"National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic, Boston, May 10th, 1871: to the Universal Peace Convention, New York City:

"Your congratulations reciprocated. The Grand Army of the Republic is determined to have peace even if it has to fight for it.

(Signed) "JOHN A. LOGAN,
"*Commander-in-Chief.*"

The Encampment then took a recess until Thursday, at 10 o'clock.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The second day's session of the National Encampment opened at 10 o'clock A. M., Thursday, May 11th.

Comrade Chipman, Judge Advocate-General, rose to a personal explanation. He said that he had been unable to enter fully into the business of the Encampment, from the fact that his name had been used in connection with the office of Commander-in-Chief. He wished to declare that if any comrade had been so kind as to consider his name in connection with that office, he had determined not to allow his name to be presented.

The Committees not being ready to report, the Commander-in-Chief announced that resolutions would be in order.

Comrade Underwood, Massachnsetts, gave notice that General Sharpe, Secretary of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, was at the Revere House, and would be happy to receive such delegates to the National Encampment as may have served with that Army, and who may wish to become members of its Society.

Comrade Lubey, Potomac, read the following invitation :

U S. Engineer's Office, Boston, May 10th, 1871.

Major-General John A. Logan,

Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic.

General : As the Engineer of the Fortifications in this Harbor, I have the opportunity of offering to the members of your Society now present here, an excursion to visit these works, which I trust will be acceptable to such a military association.

It may be of interest to mention that Fort Independence, about three miles from Boston, is believed to be the oldest occupied site of any fortress in the original Thirteen United States. The present work is the eighth fort, built or rebuilt upon the same site, since the first one in 1634.

Fort Warren, seven miles distant, is without doubt among the most perfectly built works of its class to be found in any country; and it is the crowning labor of General Sylvanus Thayer, the distinguished officer, to whom, as is well known, the Military Academy at West Point is indebted for its highest organization and discipline.

Fort Winthrop, opposite Fort Independence, with its succession of earth batteries and interior keep-tower, was pronounced by General Sherman, in a recent annual report on the Army, to be the model work desired.

I would cordially invite the members of the Grand Army to visit these works; and on learning your acceptance I will hold the Engineer steamer

"Tourist" ready at Long Wharf, on Friday morning, the 12th inst., at 9½ A. M. (unless some other hour is preferred), and the visit can be made so as to ensure a return to Boston at any time between 12 and 1 o'clock.

I have the honor to be, General,

Very respectfully yours,

H. W. BENHAM, *Col. of Engineers,*
Brevet Major-General U. S. A.

Comrade Wagner, Pennsylvania, moved that the Commander-in-Chief be directed to return the thanks of the Encampment to General Benham, with regrets that the Encampment will not be able to attend in a body. Adopted.

Comrade Cogswell, Massachusetts, suggested that as the services of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, which many wished to attend, and which seemed to stand in the way of the acceptance of General Benham's invitation, would be over at 1 P. M., the invitation be accepted for that hour.

The Commander-in-Chief suggested that such delegates as were disposed to attend at that hour should rise. Nineteen delegates rose. The Commander-in-Chief requested that members who desired to go should give their names to the Quartermaster-General.

Comrade Collins, Adjutant-General, suggested the appointment of a Committee on Resolutions.

The Commander-in-Chief suggested in reference to the invitation of General Benham, the appointment of a committee to confer with General Benham, as to the most suitable time to attend, according to his invitation—the committee to report to the Encampment this evening.

On motion of Comrade Underwood, Massachusetts, a committee of three was appointed to confer with General Benham, and to report to the Encampment, as suggested, as follows: Comrades Briggs, Lubey and Murray.

Comrade Bates, Massachusetts, moved the reception of the report of the Committee on Rules and Regulations and Ritual.

The Commander-in-Chief announced that, if there was no objection, he would appoint the Committee on Resolutions, suggested by Comrade Collins. No objection being made,

the following were appointed . Comrades Henry S. Briggs, George J. Stannard, James T. Smith and H. J. Reeder.

Comrade Fox, Massachusetts, from the Committee on Rules and Regulations and Ritual, reported as follows:

"In regard to the Amendments proposed to the Rules and Regulations your committee would recommend the following:

"In Chapter V, Art. III, Sec. 2, strike out 'fifty cents,' and insert 'one dollar.'"

The Chairman said: "It perhaps will be proper to state that this was done at the request of one or two of the smaller Departments, who complained of the fifty cents tax being too little for their proper support.

"In Article IV, Chap. V, Sec. 4, strike out the words 'it shall be the duty of;' strike out the word 'to,' and insert 'may,' and strike out the word 'of,' so that the section will read: 'If a comrade shall be one year in arrears, or if, after suspension, he shall refuse to pay his dues, the Quartermaster may prefer charges against him, and the Post Commander order a court-martial for his trial.

"In Article IX, Section I, of the same Chapter, in regard to the uniform; amend Paragraph 2, by inserting 'with side arms or muskets,' so that it shall read—'in the United States Regulation blouse and belt, with side arms or muskets;' and as an addition to the third Paragraph of the same Article—'No uniform or regalia, except as above prescribed, shall be worn.'

"The committee recommended the amendment of Section 2, of the same Article as follows:—Strike out the words in brackets, and insert the words printed in *italics*.

"SEC. 2. The National Encampment may prescribe a suitable badge, designating official position in the Grand Army of the Republic, to be worn by all Comrades when on duty, and may alter the same at their discretion. The badge of (membership in) the Grand Army of the Republic, shall be *in form and material* that adopted at the special meeting of the National Encampment, at New York, October 27, 1869, and no other shall be worn as the badge of the Grand Army [of the Republic.]"

Comrade Fox then made the report of the Committee on Ritual. He announced that the Committee had reserved two amendments to the Rules and Regulations, to offer as the exigencies of the action of the Encampment regarding the Ritual, might require. He stated that the adoption of the Ritual would not require reprinting of the Rules and Regulations until after the supply at present in hand was exhausted. It was moved that the Committees report be accepted.

Comrade Wagner, Pennsylvania, moved that the various

provisions of the report should be considered *seriatim.* Adopted.

The Commander-in-Chief announced that the report was now before the Encampment, to be considered by sections.

Comrade Barnum, New York, moved that the Rules and Regulations be modified in Art. IV, Chap. III, under the head of "Officers," so as to direct that Department Inspectors and Judges-Advocate, should be named as Assistant Inspectors-General and Assistant Judges Advocate-General.

The Commander-in-Chief decided that Comrade Barnum was not in order, as the committee's report was now before the Encampment, and should receive the first consideration.

The Chairman of the Committee on Rules and Regulations, Comrade Fox, made the first recommendation of the committee, as given above.

The next recommendation of the committee regarding Section 4, Art. IV, Chap. V, was considered and amended, so as to make the Section read as follows:

"If a Comrade shall be one year in arrears, he shall be dropped from the rolls; and re-instated only through the Post of which he was a member, upon payment of dues to the time of being dropped, by a vote of the Post, at a regular meeting." Adopted.

Comrade Cogswell, Massachusetts, stated that he had been requested by Collector Thomas Russell, of the Port of Boston, to announce that a steam tug has been placed at the disposal of delegates to the National Encampment, for an excursion in the harbor, to-morrow, Friday.

It was announced to the Encampment, that the refreshments prepared for the delegates to the National Encampment were in waiting; and a motion was carried to take a recess and consider them.

Comrade Chipman moved that immediately after recess the Encampment proceed to elect officers for the ensuing year. Adopted.

Upon re-assembling, the Commander-in-Chief announced that the first business in order was the election of officers for the ensuing year.

Comrade Lippincott, Illinois, addressed the Encampment as follows:

"On behalf of the Department of Illinois, I place in nomination for Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, General Ambrose E. Burnside, of Rhode Island. I wish there were more from that Department to vote with us who are here, for I know that among all the names of our Order, not one is more honored by the one hundred thousand living veteran soldiers of Illinois, than Ambrose E. Burnside.

Comrade Jourdan, New York, seconded the nomination.

Comrade Robinson, New York, said that he was not a candidate for that office, and that he heartily seconded the nomination of General Burnside, and moved that the Adjutant-General be instructed to cast one vote for the Encampment.

Comrade Calhoun, Pennsylvania, said that the delegates from the Department of Pennsylvania had intended to present for Commander-in-Chief the name of one of General Burnside's most trusted and gallant officers, Comrade John F. Hartranft, of Pennsylvania; but it was that comrade's earnest desire that no other name than that of Burnside should be presented at this time; and, therefore, Pennsylvania gladly supported the nomination just made.

Comrade Jourdon, New York, and Beath, Pennsylvania, moved that the Rules be suspended, in order to take the vote by acclamation.

Comrade Jourdon, New York, withdrew his motion.

The Rules were suspended by unanimous consent, and General Burnside was elected by acclamation, the Encampment rising.

Comrade Chipman moved that a committee of three be appointed to wait on General Burnside, and inform him of his election.

Comrade Fairchild, Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, said: "The delegates at the last two National Encampments have honored me by an election to my present position, and during this meeting many of them have suggested that they would

be very glad to re-elect me. While I would feel highly complimented by the honor, I am in favor of passing the honors around, and giving them to all our good friends as fast as we can. I therefore name for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year Comrade Louis Wagner, of Pennsylvania."

Comrade Mallory, Connecticut, nominated Comrade William Ward, of New Jersey.

The Commander-in-Chief announced Generals Chipman, Owen and Brayton as the Committee to acquaint General Burnside with his election, and invite him to the session of the Encampment.

Comrade Boland, Kentucky, seconded the nomination of Comrade Ward, of New Jersey.

The Commander-in-Chief appointed Comrades Cogswell and Fairchild tellers, to receive the vote of the Encampment for Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

The tellers received the ballots, and reported: Whole number of votes cast, 72; necessary to a choice, 37. Comrade Ward received 27; Comrade Hartranft received 2; Comrade Wagner received 43.

The Commander-in-Chief declared Comrade Wagner elected Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year..

Comrade Keifer, Ohio, nominated for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Comrade James Coey, California.

Comrade Barnum, New York, seconded the nomination.

Comrade Beath, Pennsylvania, announced that the Department of Pennsylvania most heartily seconded the nomination of Comrade Coey.

Comrade Burnside, Potomac, announced that the Department of the Potomac cordially seconded the nomination of Comrade Coey.

Comrade Underwood, Massachusetts, also seconded the nomination.

The Rules were suspended, and the election of Comrade Coey declared unanimous.

Comrade McArthur, California, announced that California

thanked the National Encampment for its compliment to that State.

Comrade Wagner, Pennsylvania, thanked the National Encampment for the honor conferred upon him by his election as Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Burnside, Potomac, nominated Comrade Woodward, Illinois, for Surgeon-General.

Comrade Eldredge, California, nominated Comrade Samuel A. Green, Massachusetts.

Comrade Bullard, New York, announced that Comrade Green was the choice of New York.

Comrade Burnside, Potomac, withdrew the nomination of Comrade Woodward.

The Rules were suspended, and the election of Comrade Green, as Surgeon-General, made unanimous.

Comrade Green expressed his thanks for this renewed mark of the confidence and esteem of the National Encampment, and the assurance that it would be his earnest endeavor to perform faithfully the duties of the office to which he had been elected.

The Commander-in-Chief announced that the committee appointed to wait on Comrade Burnside were now ready to present the newly elected Commander-in-Chief.

The entire Encampment rose to receive the new Commander in-Chief, and he was escorted to the Commander's seat amid hearty cheers. He was received by Comrade Logan, who said: "The election of no other man to this position of honor, could give me more pleasure than yours. I have now the pleasure to present you to the delegates of the Grand Army of the Republic, as Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year."

Comrade Burnside said. "I cannot find words to express my feelings on this occasion, nor my thanks for the great honor you have conferred upon me. I esteem it one of the greatest honors that has ever been paid me. I will own that I knew I might be called upon to thank you for that honor, but I had no idea that it was to be given with the unanimity with which, I am told, it has been given, and which renders

it all the more dear to me. I wish I had the power to express to you the feelings that I experience at thus being elected to this position—the head of a Society of the representatives of the Army and the Navy of the United States; a Society, which, if it adheres to its mission, must continue to be most dear to our whole country. I am satisfied that you do not expect me to assume the responsibilities of its chief office, with any other view than that I should steadily exert myself to advance the principles of the Order—Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty—love for the soldier, for the soldier's widow, and for all those who are members of the Order, and Charity for all. Our Order must be kept free from political interests, from political intrigues and bickerings, We, as a body, are glad to bring into our ranks and recognize those of any political party, who have served their country. We are glad to recognize the fact that we have in our ranks those of different political parties. In connection with the Grand Army, the only political views that I want expressed and understood are, that I do hate and despise a man disloyal to our Government. I have said a great deal more than I expected to say when I came into this Hall, and I have only to repeat that I thank you for the great honor you have done me."

Comrade Burnside then expressed his regret that he was obliged to leave the Hall at once, to attend the re-union of the Society of the Ninth Army Corps, then awaiting his presence; and left the Hall amid great cheering.

Comrade Keifer, Ohio, placed in nomination for Chaplain-in-Chief, Comrade Wm. Earnshaw, of Ohio.

Comrade Shaw, Rhode Island, asked unanimous consent to make at this time the nomination of Comrade Horatio Rogers, as member of the Council of Administration for that Department.

The nomination was received, Comrade Shaw desiring to absent himself to attend the re-union of the Society of the Ninth Army Corps.

Comrade Lubey, Potomac, nominated for Chaplain-in-Chief, Comrade A. H. Quint, of Massachusetts.

Comrade Quint said he had now served two terms as Chaplain-in-Chief, and, therefore, asked leave to withdraw his name. The nomination of Comrade Earnshaw was then made unanimous.

The Commander-in-Chief read the following communication:

BOSTON, May 11th; 1871,

General JOHN A. LOGAN, *Grand Commander:*

SIR: On behalf of the Bunker Hill Monument Association, the officers and delegates of your Convention are respectfully invited to visit the Monument, at the convenience of their respective members, during their visit to Boston.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WASHINGTON WARREN,
President B. H. M. A.

Nominations were received for members of the National Council of Administration.

The following were presented, and the Rules having been suspended, they were elected by acclamation:

William E. McArthur, California; H. Clay Trumbull, Connecticut; R. M. Hough, Illinois; C. C. Adams, Kentucky; George L. Beal, Maine; E. T. Daneker, Maryland; A. B. R. Sprague, Massachusetts; James E. Larken, New Hampshire; William Ward, New Jersey; James S. Clemmer, Ohio; Frank Reeder, Pennsylvania; James T. Smith, Potomac; Horatio Rogers, Rhode Island; James E. Wilson, Virginia; Thomas S. Allen, Wisconsin; Frank Nolen, Delaware; A. P. Ketchum, New York; George J. Stannard, Vermont.

The Encampment then proceeded with the consideration of the report of the Committee on Rules, &c.

The recommendation of the committee, reducing the grade system to one grade, was agreed to.

Comrade Wagner, Pennsylvania, moved that the reports presented to the National Encampment be hereafter presented in print; and that a committee be appointed to prepare Rules of Order and Order of Business for the National Encampment. Referred to the Committee on Rules.

Comrade Beath, Pennsylvania, moved the reference of the following to the Committee on Resolutions. Adopted.

Resolved, That as the Memorial Records of 1868 and 1869 were printed for the use and benefit of the Grand Army, by Adjutant-General Collins, at his own personal cost, it is earnestly recommended by this National Encampment that each Post procure a copy of this valuable and appropriate work, and that this be communicated to Posts in General Orders.

Resolved, That the Adjutant-General be, and is hereby instructed to make an addition to the present form for application for membership, requiring the applicant to state whether or no he was wounded—if yes, in what manner and degree, and the engagemeut in which such wound was received. This to be entered in the Descriptive Book, and reported by the Post Surgeon to the Medical Director.

Comrade Reeder, Pennsylvania, moved that the Encampment proceed to the selection of the place for the next Annual Encampment. Ordered.

Comrade Robinson, New York, moved that the next Annual Encampment be held at Cleveland, Ohio.

Comrade Eldredge said that the Department of California had directed him to extend an invitation to the National Encampment to make San Francisco the place of their next meeting.

Comrade Mallory, Connecticut, named Providence, R. I.

Comrade Chamberlain, Massachusetts, named Richmond, Virginia.

Comrade Reynolds, New York, named New York city.

Comrade Bates, Massachusetts named Duluth.

Comrade Robinson withdrew his nomination of Cleveland.

Comrade Murray, New York, renewed it. On the second ballot the city of Clevelan l, Ohio, was decided upon as the place of meeting of the next National Encampment.

Comrade Bodine, Pennsylvania, presented the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Army of the Republic, through its National Encampment, are due, and are hereby warmly tendered our Commander-in-Chief, Comrade John A. Logan, for the great interest he has ever exhibited in the welfare of the Organization, and for the faithful, zealous and efficient performance of his official duties.

Resolved, That the Adjutant-General be, and hereby is directed to have these resolutions engrossed, framed and presented to Comrade Logan.

Comrade Underwood, Massachusetts, said he had a similar resolution to offer, but Pennsylvania had got ahead of him.

Comrade O'Brien, California, offered a similar resolution.

The first resolution was unanimously adopted.

Comrade Underwood, Massachusetts, moved the following:

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this Encampment are due, and hereby tendered to Lucius Fairchild, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, and the other retiring officers of the Encampment, for their loyalty and fidelity to the interest of the Order, and for their faithful performance of the duties of their several offices. Adopted.

Comrade Beath, Pennsylvania, offered the following.

Resolved, That the Grand Army of the Republic, through its National Encampments extends to the Department of Massachusetts its warmest thanks for the fraternal reception and welcome of its representatives; and those who have shared the bountiful hospitalities of the citizens of Boston, will ever hold in precious remembrance this visit to the grand old Bay State—chief among the sisterhood of States, which we are pledged to defend and protect.

Adopted.

Comrade McArthur, California, moved the following:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic are hereby tendered to Comrade William T. Collins, Adjutant General, Comrade Timothy Lubey, Quartermaster-General, and Comrade J. O. P. Burnside, Acting Inspector-General, for the faithful and efficient performance of the duties of their respective offices during the past year. Adopted.

Comrade Underwood, Massachusetts, moved that the Rules and Regulations be so amended as to make the Staff Officers of Posts elective.

After considerable discussion, the Rules and Regulations were so amended as to direct that the Adjutants of Posts be appointed by Post Commanders.

The Committee on Rules recommended that a committee of three be appointed to prepare ceremonies for the installation of officers, and that said ceremonies should be presented to the Commander-in-Chief, and if approved by him, should be printed and distributed for the use of the Order.

Comrade Wagner, Pennsylvania, moved to strike out "Commander-in-Chief," and insert "Council of Administration;" which, after some discussion was lost, and the resolution of the committee adopted.

The committee also recommended the adoption of the Burial Service, submitted by Comrade Quint in behalf of the committee appointed by the Encampment of 1870. After discussion and amendment it was adopted.

Comrade Fox, Massachusetts, from the Committee on Rules and Regulations and Ritual, submitted a final report to the Encampment, which was adopted.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That in order to put in immediate operation the Revised Ritual this day adopted, the Commander-in-Chief is hereby instructed to cause the said Ritual to be printed and distributed, through the various Department Headquarters, to the Posts as speedily as possible, accompanied by the following instructions:

Post Commanders, at the first regular meeting of their Posts, held after the receipt of the revised Ritual accompanying this order, will at once burn, in the presence of at least three other officers of their Post, the old Ritual in their charge; and will certify the fact to Department Headquarters, acknowledging at the same time the receipt of the new Ritual, to which they will from that time strictly conform in all respects, in the ceremonies of opening, closing and mustering-in. They will also, at that or any subsequent regular meeting at which they may present themselves, administer the new obligation to recruits and soldiers initiated, in good standing under the old Ritual, thereby admitting them to full membership in the Order; but members of the Veteran grade shall not be required to repeat the obligation; and all Comrades regularly initiated under any preceeding Ritual and not dishonrably discharged, may be received to full membership by any Post at a regular meeting, after proper investigation, such persons being required to take the new obligation only; and after the reception of the new Ritual, and until other signs, grips and passwords shall be established by the Commander-in-Chief, those of the late second grade shall be in force, and no other.

The Committee also recommended to amend the Rules and Regulations so as to strike out all reference to the subject of Grades. Adopted.

Comrade Briggs, Massachusetts, from the Committee on Resolutions, reported that the Committee on Resolutions has attended to the duty assigned them, and respectfully present the following Preamble and Resolutions:

The Grand Army of the Republic, assembled in National Encampment at Boston, congratulates all Comrades upon the rapidly increasing power and strength of the Order, and commends to them the action taken at this session, as being calculated to promote the cardinal principles of this Association.

1st *Resolved*, That the Grand Army of the Republic is in no sense whatever a political or partizan organization; and any Comrade who endeavors

to use the Order as a political engine, for the purpose of gratifying any selfish, political ambition, is recreant to his duty to his Comrades.

2d. *Resolved*, That it is the duty of each and every Comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic to urge and do all in his power to promote such legislation, both from the several State and National Legislative bodies as will secure ample provision for the support and education of the children of those soldiers, sailors and marines, who were killed or died of disease contracted while in the service of the United States, battling for the integrity of the Union; and to procure such legislation as shall be necessary for the care, protection and preservation of the graves of our dead Comrades, in the different National Cemeteries.

3d. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the soldiers represented in this Organization are due to the representatives of the people in the National House of Representatives, for their action in relation to the Equilization of Bounties, and the Amendment of the Homestead Laws; and that this Encampment earnestly urges upon Congress the enactment of the provision repeatedly passed with so much unanimity by the popular branch of the National Encampment.

4th. *Resolved*, That the Grand Army Journal, now in the second year of its publication, edited and published by Comrade Adjutant-General W. T. Collins, has proved itself a faithful and efficient exponent of the principles and objects of our Organization, and it is warmly recommended to all Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic and to all soldiers and sailors.

5th. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Grand Army of the Republic are due and are hereby tendered to the Comrades of the Department of Massachusetts, for the hospitalities extended to the National Encampment, at its present session, and that a copy of this resolution, duly certified by the National Officers, be presented to that Department.

The report of the Committee was agreed to.

The Committee also recommended concurrence in the resolutions offered by Comrade Beath, Pennsylvania, relating to the Memorial Records of 1868 and 1869, and the Amendment to the blank application for Membership, and they also recommended concurrence in the resolution offered by Comrade Wagner, regarding the printing of reports to the National Encampment, and Code of Rules, &c., for the government of the same.

The recommendations of the Commitee were concurred in by the Encampment.

The following was also considered by the Committee on Resolutions, and reported back with the annexed report:

"At a meeting of Rodman Post, No. 12, of the Department of Rhode Island, Grand Army of the Republic, held on

the third day of January, 1871, the following Preamble and Resolutions were adopted :

Whereas, Among the great objects of our Organization, is that of obtaining justice for every deserving soldier of the late war, and his family, as far as lies in our power—especially for him who, for reasons no longer existing, has not been remunerated equally with his more fortunate comrades.

Whereas, The Acts of Congress and the Administrative Officers of the Government, under the construction of their provisions, have allowed and paid to soldiers discharged for wounds and injuries (including ruptures) the same bounty and additional bounty granted to those serving three years, while those discharged for other diseases contracted in the service, have hitherto been debarred from all participations in either.

Whereas, The war having ended, no sound reason appears why this class of soldiers should not receive the same bounties as those discharged for wounds, ruptures or other external injuries. Many of these have been great sufferers, some to a far greater extent than under the ordinary effect of wounds. A large number have never recovered from the disease, have been utterly disabled from obtaining their support, and have been dependants on friends or charity, and not a few have sunk under its insidious attacks; while many discharged for wounds and injuries that unfitted them for the duties of active service, have subsequently been able to obtain remunerative employment in civil life. It may be answered that the country has granted pensions to the soldiers disabled from disease. True, this is the case, but the wounded or injured man is also provided for in the same manner; and the pension, an inadequate compensation for the incurred disability in any case, is less likely to be commensurate with the disability arising from disease than from wounds, for the reason that it is more difficult to determine the degree in the former than the latter.

It seems to be the proper duty of the Grand Army of the Republic to move in the matter, for the reason that while there are a large number of soldiers thus discharged, they are scattered throughout the country, and hence are unable to unite in urging the proper consideration of these claims, to which their services justly entitle them, and all because they are without means or influence; and consequent upon their disease, are wanting in the necessary energy.

Believing that these soldiers are, equally with those discharged for wounds and injuries, entitled to these bounties, it is

Resolved, That this Post recommend the matter to the attention of the Department of Rhode Island, and request it to take the proper action to obtain the united effort of the Grand Army of the Republic, and all others interested, in order that justice may be rendered the men who "deserved well of the country," by serving in its hour of need, faithfully and to the best of their ability and strength.

Resolved, That a copy of the above, signed by the Commander and Adjutant of the Post, be transmitted to the Commander of the Department of

Rhode Island, and that he be requested to present the same for its action to the next Encampment of the Department.

A true copy. (Signed) R. H. I. GODDARD,
Post Commander.

WM. W. DOUGLAS,
Acting Adjutant.

The Committee on Resolutions of the National Encampment, to which the above communication was referred, respectfully report the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Encampment earnestly recommend that the provision of the Bounty Law be extended to soldiers, sailors and marines, discharged by reason of disease contracted in the service. Adopted.

The invitation extended to the Encampment by General Benham to visit the fortifications in the harbor, was then accepted by the Encampment—delegates wishing to attend to meet at Long Wharf, at one o'clock on the day following.

The National Encampment then adjourned at 4.50 P. M. to meet at Cleveland, Ohio, on the second Wednesday of May, 1872.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT,

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

HELD AT CLEVELAND, OHIO.

May 8th and 9th, 1872.

FIRST DAY.

The Sixth Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, assembled in the city of Cleveland, Ohio, in Temperance Hall, May 8th, 1872, at 10 o'clock, A. M. The Encampment was called to order by Comrade Ambrose E. Burnside, of Rhode Island, Commander-in-Chief. In the absence of Comrade Earnshaw, Chaplain-in-Chief, prayer was offered by Comrade John Sayers, Chaplain of the Department of Pennsylvania.

The Grand Rounds were then made by Comrade R. Horton, of Hampson Post 123, Department of Ohio, Officer of the Day, and Comrade C. E. Preble, of the same Post, Officer of the Guard.

The Commander-in-Chief then appointed the following Committee on Credentials:

Roswell Miller, Adjutant-General; A. P. Ketchum, New York; James Davidson, Texas; George A. Hanaford, Wisconsin; Daniel Woodall, Delaware.

The Rules of Order as printed by order of the National Encampment, were adopted as the Rules of Order of the Encampment, until otherwise ordered.

A Comrade who was a member of a disbanded Post, was reported present, and the question was raised whether such a Comrade was deprived of his rights as a member of the G. A. R., because of such disbanding of a Post.

The Commander-in-Chief said: "It strikes me that no persons are entitled to admission to the National Encampment, except members of the Order. The Comrade in question, was a member of the Order until the dismemberment of his Post, and then his membership ceased. He is, therefore, clearly not entitled to admission."

The point was brought under discussion for a few moments, whether "once a member, always a member" was the true rule, but the decision of the Commander-in-Chief was sustained by the Encampment, and the Comrade left the hall.

The Committee on Credentials then made their report, with the following recommendations:

1. That the Encampment admit the Department Officers and one delegate from the Department of Maryland—said Department being in arrears, for reports to the Adjutant-General only.

2. That the dues of the Department of Illinois, to January 1st, be remitted, and the Department be admitted to representation by the Department Officers and one delegate.

3d. That Comrade McMurdy, Colorado, be admitted to a seat in the Encampment, without privilege of voting.

These recommendations were unanimously adopted.

The Committee reported the following Departments in arrears, and not entitled to representation: Michigan, Florida, Nebraska, Indiana, Louisiana. The Roll of Officers and Delegates reported entitled to admission as members of the Encampment, was then called as follows:*

Commander-in-Chief,	A. E. Burnside.
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief,	Louis Wagner.
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief,	*James Coey.*
Surgeon General	*Samuel A. Green.*
Chaplain-in-Chief,	William Earnshaw.
Adjutant-General.	Roswell Miller.
Inspector-General,	Robert B. Beath.
Quartermaster-General,	Cornelius A. Attwood.
Judge Advocate-General,	William W. Douglas.

* Absentees in Italics.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

William E. McArthur, H. Clay Trumbull, Frank Nolen, R. M. Hough, C. C. Adams, George L. Beal, E. T. Daneker, A. B. R. Sprague, James E. Larken, Joseph C. Lee, A. P. Ketchum, J. Warren Keifer, W. W. Brown; James T. Smith, Horatio Rogers, *Geo. J. Stannard, Joseph T. Wilson, Thomas S. Allen.*

DEPARTMENT OF MAINE.

Commander, *Daniel White*; Senior Vice Commander, *George A. Parker*; Junior Vice Commander, *George H. Abbott.*

Delegates: *H. A. Shorey, E. M. Shaw.*

DEPARTMENT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Commander, *William H. Trickey;* Senior Vice Commander, *T. W. Challis;* Junior Vice Commander, *J. A. Sanborn.*

Delegates: E. H. Smith, S. G. Griffin.

DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT.

Commander, *Wheelock G. Veazey;* Senior Vice Commander, *Romeo H. Start;* Junior Vice Commander, *H. E. Taylor.*

Delegates: *William Y. W. Ripley, William W. Henry.*

DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Commander, H. R. Sibley; Senior Vice Commander, W. S. B. Hopkins; Junior Vice Commander, Gardner A. Churchill.

Delegates: C. W. Chase, W. P. Drury, George S. Merrill, H. S. Briggs, C. A. Campbell, G. E. Goodrich, Charles Devens, Jr., Henry B. Peirce, Charles H. Parsons, *Brownell Granger,* W. H. Cundy, Henry A. Willis.

DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT.

Commander, *L. A. Dickson;* Senior Vice Commander, *William H. Tubbs;* Junior Vice Commander, *S. A. Granger.*

Delegates: *E. W. Whitaker, B. P. Larned.*

DEPARTMENT OF RHODE ISLAND.

Commander, E. H. Rhodes; Senior Vice Commander, Henrie E. Bacon; Junior Vice Commander, Edwin C. Pomeroy.

Delegates: Henry R. Barker, Charles R. Brayton.

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK.

Commander, Henry A. Barnum, Senior Vice Commander, John A. Reynolds, Junior Vice Commander, Willard Bullard.

Delegates: John B. Murray, John C. Robinson, E. W. Breuninghausen, Clinton D. MacDougall, George F. Hopper, Peter J. Ripont.

DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY.

Commander, Richard H. Lee; Senior Vice Commander, John R. Goble, Junior Vice Commander, Joseph R. Woodruff.

Delegates: Frederick H. Harris, Samuel M. Gaul.

DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Commander, Frank Reeder; Senior Vice Commander, Norman M. Smith; Junior Vice Commander, *Levi Huber.*

Delegates John F. Hartranft, O. C. Bosbyshell, A. Wilson Norris, Robert L. Bodine, J. R. C. Ward.

DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND.

Commander, Adam E. King; Senior Vice Commander, W. O. Bigelow; Junior Vice Commander, John R. Fellman.

Delegate: A. W. Denison.

DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA.

Commander, *H. Carlisle;* Senior Vice Commander, *Isaac S. Mullen;* Junior Vice Commander, *W. A. McNulty.*

Delegate: *J. M. Thacher.*

DEPARTMENT OF OHIO.

Commander, William C. Bunts; Senior Vice Commander, J. W. Smith; Junior Vice Commander, J. S Clemmer.

Delegates: C. A. Vaughan, M. J. Enright.

DEPARTMENT OF KENTUCKY.

Commander, *C. C. Adams;* Senior Vice Commander, *Robert Johnson;* Junior Vice Commander, *P. S. Reeves.*

Delegates: W. H. Lawson, G. W. Northup.

DEPARTMENT OF THE POTOMAC.

Commander, *Timothy Lubey;* Senior Vice Commander, *F. H. Sprague;* Junior Vice Bommander, *J. K. Mills.*

Delegates: *Ray P. Eaton, Harrison Dingman.*

DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS.

Commander, *Hubert Dilger;* Senior Vice Commander, Guy T. Gould; Junior Vice Commander, *Thomas G. Lawler.*

DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN.

Commander, Edward Ferguson; Senior Vice Commander, *A. J. McCoy;* Junior Vice Commander, *James Bennett.*

Delegate: George A. Hanaford.

DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA.

Commander, *Henry A. Castle;* Senior Vice Commander, *J. M. Carpenter;* Junior Vice Commander, *D. W. Albaugh*

Delegates: O. B. Gould, H. G. Hicks.

DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS.

Commander, W. S. Jenkins; Senior Vice Commander, *John Guthrie;* Junior Vice Commander, *J. S. Wilson.*

Delegate: *D. W. Houston*

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

Commander. *William E. McArthur;* Senior Vice Commander *Charles E. Lancaster;* Junior Vice Commander, *William R. Cox, Jr.*

Delegate: *J. C. Sargent.*

DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

Commander, *Edmund J. Davis;* Senior Vice Commander, *J. C. DeGress;* Junior Vice Commander, *A. G. Malloy.*

Delegate: James Davidson.

PROVISIONAL DEPARTMENTS:

IOWA: Prov. Commander, J. N. Coldren.
DELAWARE: Prov. Commander, Daniel Woodall.
NEW MEXICO: Prov. Commander, *G. A. Smith.*
GEORGIA: Prov. Commander, *John T. Collins.*
MISSISSIPPI: Prov. Commander, *J. Tarbell.*
ALABAMA: Prov. Commander, *George H. Patrick.*
NORTH CAROLINA: Prov. Commander, *E. R. Brink.*
TENNESSEE: Prov. Commander, *D. W. Glassie.*
MISSOURI: Prov Commander, *Lewis Brown.*
OREGON: Prov. Commander, *C. P. Crandall.*
COLORADO: Prov. Commander, *Louis Dugal.*

RECAPITULATION.

National Officers	27
Department Officers and Delegates	120
Total	147

Number present, 75; number absent, (*names in italics.*) 72

The report of the Committee was accepted.

The Commander-in-Chief, Comrade A. E. Burnside, then delivered his annual address as follows.

COMRADES:—It is my pleasing duty to present to you a brief statement of the work of our Order for the past year You kindly did me the honor to make me the Commander-in-Chief of this organization, at your meeting in Boston in May last. For that honor I shall always be grateful.

Immediately after my election I entered upon an investigation and consultation with a view to determining how I could best serve the interest of the Order in administering its affairs during the ensuing year Headquarters were then in Washington. I hesitated before taking the responsibility of moving them, but finally decided that I could not fulfill the duties of my position unless headquarters were established in New York, where my business is located. I am convinced that the course I pursued will meet with your approval. I selected for my staff, comrades in whom I had the greatest confidence, and gave them general instructions to reduce the expenditures at headquarter, as much as possible, to reduce the cost of badges, books, blanks, &c., to keep in constant communication with departments, to see as far as possible that the Order would in no way be connected with political jobbery, and do all other things which would tend to the prosperity and usefulness of our Order. I am glad to say that the officers thus appointed have performed most faithfully the duties assigned to them. They will present here their reports in detail. They have my warmest thanks for their faithful and efficient service.

During a portion of the year I was absent in Europe, and the command was turned over to the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Comrade Wagner, whose long identification with the Order and whose executive ability and

high integrity enabled him to do even more for the good of the Order than I could have done.

It gives me great pleasure to say that all my official intercourse with department officers has been undisturbed by any ill-feeling. In one instance I was led to blame a Department Commander for the disorganization and apathy in his Department. I have since ascertained that he was not at all responsible for the state of affairs, and have expressed my regret at having misunderstood the case.

During the year I have used my best efforts to further such legislation by Congress, as would benefit our comrades.

I declined to favor a bounty land bill, because I felt that the remainder of the public lands should be kept for actual settlers, and that the small benefit that would be derived from such a bill would not compensate for the public harm. A bill to provide that the term of service should count on the time required for settlement under the homestead bill, received the official support of the Grand Army, and became a law.

It is known that numbers of our comrades are now availing themselves of the benefits of this bill, by becoming actual settlers upon our public lands thus adding to the value of our public domain and to the wealth of the whole country.

The bill to provide for industrial homes for the orphans of soldiers and sailors, is now before Congress, and official action has been taken in its support, by the national and department officers. It is hoped that the bill will become a law, Various measures have been proposed, to secure larger pensions for the disabled of our comrades. If the efforts of comrades could be concentrated on some well considered plan to secure liberal provision for those whose disability entitles them to it, something nearer justice could be secured. It seems to me that this subject demands our first attention.

A memorandum has been printed, which gives a synopsis of resolutions, etc., which will be brought before the Encampment for action. I am sure no action will be taken without careful and earnest consideration.

I congratulate the Encampment on the general healthy condition of the Order, and hope the coming year may prove even more prosperous.

Comrades, I am glad to meet you here to-day. We are assembled as representatives of an organization composed of men who survived the struggle which was made by the loyal people of our country, for the preservation of our national government. We do not assemble to consult with each other as to what is most conducive to our own personal interests, nor are we assembled to consult as to what is most conducive to the success of any political party. We are here as the representatives of a band of brothers, who served together on the field of battle, and stood shoulder to shoulder in opposition to the rebellion which was organized to obliterate the fairest form of government that man ever devised. Whilst we should declare ourselves as loyalists in the extreme, and utterly in opposition to any doctrine which would tend in the slightest degree to revive the heresy of secession, we should declare our charity towards those of our late enemies in the field

who have now recognized, or may hereafter recognize the great wrong they have done to our country. Charity is a christian virtue, but I am free to say to you here, that while I fully endorse the theory or practice, if you may call it so, of forgiving those who fought against us, and granting to them all the amnesty which the wisdom of our representatives in Congress may deem right and proper, I find it even more difficult to forget and forgive the shortcomings of men in the North who had all the lights before them, and, while our comrades were in the field, enduring all possible hardships, risking life, reputation and fortune—risked nothing, but sat in their safe quarters at home, and either croaked about the inefficiency of our armies, or shivered with fear to such an extent as to make them ask for compromise —thus failing to show the courage and sagacity necessary to realize that a great God in Heaven would crown our efforts with success, if we only used our best endeavors to maintain the integrity of our nation. These men we necessarily hold in distrust, and they can never, for one moment, receive our sympathy or friendship. A brave, open enemy may be respected, but a halting, false friend must always be despised.

We should never cease to remember the great aid and encouragement that we received from the brave and loyal people of our country who did everything to sustain, support, and encourage us whilst we were in the field. We should ever hold them in high esteem, and be ready to reciprocate the friendship and support they gave to us, without reference to, or thought of, party or creed.

Think, my comrades, of your great anxiety, trial and suffering; think of the anxious days and nights passed by you in the field, when it would have been much easier for you to have declared for compromise or for a cessation of hostilities, had you failed to appreciate the necessity of maintaining our national integrity. Who of you, my comrades, to win back a lost limb, to regain health expended in the public service, to have restored to you the brother or comrade left on the field of battle, or to recover the hopes and business prospects voluntarily left behind when you took up arms to defend the country, would give up the grand heritage that you have by your valor won—the union of States unbroken? Not one of you, I am sure.

When our country called, you went to her assistance; when the great work was accomplished, you returned to your homes with readiness, yielding cheerfully all offices and emoluments, asking nothing for the future but the right to enter upon your old pursuits or to seek new ones as fancy might dictate. We are now citizens, and I maintain that, as a body, the soldiers of our country deserve to be recognized as intelligent, industrious and law-abiding. Let us, my comrades, when we return to our homes, to our constituents, seek to impress upon them the necessity of continuing the course which has characterized the soldiers and sailors since the war, and never grow weary in the good work we have taken upon ourselves, of "Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty."

The address of the Commander-in-Chief was frequently applauded, and on motion of Comrade Griffin, of New Hampshire,

it was voted that it be adopted and incorporated as a part of the records, and published to the country as the voice of the National Encampment.

Three cheers were then given for the Commander-in-Chief, and on motion of Comrade Robinson, of New York, a copy of his Address was requested for publication.

The Annual Report of Roswell Miller, Adjutant-General, was then submitted in print, as follows:

Annual Report of the Adjutant-General.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Adjutant-General's Office,
New York, May 1st, 1872

A. E. Burnside,
Commander-in-Chief:

Comrade—I have the honor to submit to the National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic, a Report of the business of the Adjutant-General's Office for the year ending May 1st, 1872.

At the last meeting of the Encampment it was ordered that thereafter the Reports of the Officers of the National Staff should be submitted to the Encampment in print. This gives but ten days in which to receive and consolidate Reports from Departments and put them in print. It would have been impossible to obey the order of the Encampment but for the gratifying response of a majority of the Departments, to a request that they should report five days sooner than required by the Rules and Regulations. It is suggested that the Encampment direct that hereafter the year included in each Annual Report end on the 31st of December.

The report of the Inspector-General will inform the Encampment of the condition of the various permanent Departments.

The work of reorganizing demoralized Departments has been pushed, and results are encouraging. At the beginning of the year the following Departments were found to be in a disordered and dormant state, making no reports to National Headquarters, and showing little signs of life:—Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Michigan, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, Iowa, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee, Florida, North Carolina, New Mexico, Arkansas, Alabama, South Carolina and Louisiana—in all eighteen.

The Department of Illinois, in the words of a prominent comrade, "was ruined by political cliques, who abandoned it as soon as they had accomplished their selfish purposes, and left to their successors a mere shadow, without life, without influence, and still worse, without even the respect and good-will of the soldiers and people." The present Commander has inaugurated a systematic effort to re-establish the Department on a sound basis, and is confident of success.

The Department of Missouri was ruined by the same cause. A comrade says: "In this section Posts became so political that they nominated candidates for local offices." He adds: "I feel bound to say they elected their candidates." This distinguished service was the last these Posts rendered to the cause of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, for the legitimate result speedily followed, and at the beginning of the year the Department appeared to be a hopeless waste. After much effort, communication was opened with two posts, a Provisional Commander was appointed a short time since, and he is busily engaged at work reorganizing the Department.

Nebraska.—The report of the late Adjutant-General to the Encampment, in May, 1871, says of this Department: "In 1868 it embraced a very good organization. It has since ceased operations, for reasons not yet known at these Headquarters." In searching the scanty archives of his office, the Adjutant-General came upon a letter from a former Commander of the Department, in which appears this sentence in regard to the Order in the Department: "It helps our party amazingly." This appeared to be at once the diagnosis of the disease of which the Department died, and its epitaph. There are, however, plenty of good soldiers in Nebraska, whose hearts and minds are capacious enough to contain something besides politics, and there ought to be a fine Department organized before another year is over.

Seven applications for Post charters are on file at the Department Headquarters.

Tennessee.—A charter has been granted from National Headquarters for a Post at Nashville, and it is hoped that others may be established at different points, as the comrade who has been appointed to the command is very energetic and zealous.

Florida.—The reorganization in this Department was begun by chartering Posts at Smyrna and Pensacola. The former Commander did not show a disposition to take hold, and a new appointment was made. Posts can be maintained at Jacksonville, Tallahassee, Pensacola and Smyrna.

North Carolina.—The only Post in existence in this Department at the beginning of the year was at Wilmington. There are now two Posts at Wilmington, one at Smithville, and application for two others at other points are on file. The Commander says: "It is with pleasure that I see signs of progress in this Department. I expect that the next report will show satisfactory results of the effort made in favor of an increase of membership and Posts."

Mississippi.—No Posts were in existence in this Department at the beginning of the present year. There is now a Post at Jackson and one at Vicksburg. The Commander hopes to establish new Posts at four other points.

Georgia.—In consequence of internal discord the Department of Georgia was completely prostrated. A change was made, and the Department Headquarters moved to Brunswick. The new Commander visited every place where there had been Posts reported. He found but two perfect

organizations in the State. New Posts will be organized at places where it is practicable, and the Commander expects to have every comrade in the State attached to some Post within a few months.

Michigan.—It is a subject of regret that in this Department the progress of the Order, during the past year, has been slight.

Colorado.—At the beginning of the year no reports were received from this Department, and it was not in working order. The Commander was furnished with revised rituals and a complete inspection of the Department was ordered. There are nine Posts in the Department, and before another year has passed, the Department will probably be organized permanently.

Iowa.—The demoralization of this Department was so complete that some difficulty was experienced in opening communication with any Comrades in the Department. A new Prov. Commander was appointed, several Posts have been chartered, and the Department will be permanently organized soon.

New Mexico.—This Department comprises three Posts. At the beginning of the year it comprised two Posts and was without a commander. It is now as efficiently administered by the Prov. Commander and staff as any Department of the Grand Army.

Arkansas.—Efforts to reorganize this Department have not succeeded.

Alabama.—There is no material in this Department for an organization. There are few Comrades resident in the State, as far as known.

South Carolina.—There are few ex-soldiers in the State, and no chance for Grand Army organization.

Louisiana.—Politics had killed the Order in this State, and the disturbed condition of civil affairs forbade an effort to reorganize. An application for a charter for a Post at New Orleans, a short time since, was the only sign of life manifested during the year. The charter was granted and the Department placed under command of the Commander of the Prov. Department of Mississippi.

West Virginia.—An unsuccessful effort has been made to reorganize this Department. The Posts are now ordered to report direct to National Headquarters.

From the foregoing statement it appears that all of the Departments which were dormant or disorganized at the beginning of the year, have been awakened and re-established, excepting Arkansas, Alabama, South Carolina, West Virginia, Indiana and Michigan.

Three Provisional Departments have been permanently organized during the year, viz.:—Virginia, July 27th, 1871; Texas, February 12th, 1872; Kansas, February 22d, 1872.

The operation of the rule requiring Posts to drop Comrades one year in arrears, has proved an efficient sanitary measure, but has reduced the number of members by lopping off paper men. The radical changes in the Ritual went into effect at the beginning of the third quarter, 1871.

It almost entirely stopped the growth in members during the remainder of the year--Departments and Posts being occupied in putting the new work into operation. The reports to the Adjutant-General show, however, that gains have been large enough to compensate for losses. It is generally believed that both the changes above referred to, though productive of temporary disorder and loss, have placed the Order on a better working basis, than it occupied with the cumbersome method of ridding itself of dead wood, and the tedious process of bringing in new members.

Charity.--Shortly after the Chicago fire, the Comrades of that city appealed for aid. Most of the Comrades throughout the country had subscribed liberally to the general relief. In response to this special call, $1,422.85 were subscribed. The application of this money was directed by a committee of Ransom Post, of Chicago. The contributions received at National Headquarters were forwarded to Comrade Julius White, A. I. G., on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, and by him were placed in the hands of a committee of Ransom Post, of Chicago by which the application of the relief was directed. Their report is published herewith, and will be found interesting and satisfactory. A balance of $240 remains in the hands of the Adjutant-General—this is held subject to the orders of the Encampment.

Reports.—The question of semi-annual instead of quarterly reports has been much discussed, and will come before the Encampment. The labor of Department Officers will be lightened by the change, but it is questionable whether any greater promptness on the part of Posts will be secured. It seems as if the dilatoriness of officers of Posts is caused, not by the actual labor of making up reports, but by the fact that so many of them make it their rule never to do to-day what can be put off until to-morrow. The same dilatoriness might be expected were semi-annual reports only required. Some of the Departments from which better things might be expected, have tried the plan of making quarterly reports to National Headquarters semi-annually or even annually. With these few exceptions, the Departments have been prompt in their reports. The number of Departments reporting to the Adjutant-General, for each quarter, since December, 1869, is as follows:

1870.		1871.	
1st quarter	17	1st quarter	15
2d quarter	15	2d quarter	20
3d quarter	15	3d quarter	21
4th quarter	18	4th quarter	24

A special report of the work of charity was required from Departments by General Order No. 16, and a special Surgeon's Report, by G. O. No. 15.

Correspondence.—The correspondence of the year has been extensive. Communication with Departments has been frequent, and the promptness of Department officers has materially facilitated the business of the Adjutant-General's office.

Orders.—Thirty thousand copies of General Orders and circulars have been issued, and most of them distributed—a sufficient number to each

Department to supply a file to each Post. A complete file of Department orders has been preserved. To facilitate the interchange of orders and documents by Departments a roster of Department officers was published during the year, and a later one is nearly ready for the press.

Books and Blanks—10,000 copies of the Revised Ritual were printed under direction of the late Adjutant General. 5,700 copies of Installation and Burial Services were printed, as directed by the Encampment of 1871. The Installation Services were prepared by a committee consisting of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, the Inspector General and Comrade Frank Reeder, Department of Pennsylvania. 2,000 copies of the Proceedings of the Annual Encampment of 1871, were printed for gratuitous distribution.

At the beginning of the year, about a thousand copies of the Rules and Regulations, edition of 1870, were on hand. It was thought best not to publish a new edition before the National Encampment had specially provided for its revision. Those on hand were therefore issued to Departments at the nominal price of $2.50 per C., including a copy of G. O. No. 5, giving amendments with each. The attention of the Encampment is called to the necessity for a careful revision, for early publication.

The subject of a certificate of membership has been discussed. The large cost of a handsome certificate suggests the prudence of a careful canvass of Departments and Posts, to secure subscriptions, before incurring the expense. If half the members reported in good standing should take one, the cost would be within 50c each. This estimate contemplates the best work of the best engravers in the country. It should be a document of which any comrade would be proud.

The preparation of a new form of Blanks to agree with the changes in Regulations and Ritual, demanded the earliest attention of the Adjutant-General. The old blanks on hand were useless, except as waste paper. 46,000 copies of the revised forms have been printed, and most of them issued during the year. They are simpler than the old forms, and lighten the labors of Posts and Department Officers.

In fixing the prices of Books and Blanks, it was intended to furnish them to Departments at prices which would cover cost and expenses, and leave a slight margin, sufficient only to secure National Headquarters against losses From the old prices reduction was made on the blanks most used, as follows:

Form "A"	4.00 to 3.00
" "B"	1.00 to 0.75.
Applications	0.80 to 0.65.
Rituals	2.00 to 0.70.
Descr. Books	1.40 to 1.00.

The balance to the credit of Book and Blank account, including stock on hand, $251.90.

Badges.—The price at which the badges were formerly furnished to Comrades, caused some dissatisfaction. The matter received early attention, and after some negotiation, the manufacturer of the badges consented to a re-

vision of the contract, reducing the price to National Headquarters from 95c. to 70c. The price to individual comrades was immediately cut down from $1.25 to 80c., and the profit to National Headquarters was thereby reduced from 20c. and 30c. on each badge, to 5c. and 10c. The sales and net income for the year just ended, compared with the sales and net income for the previous year, is as follows: Year ending May, 1871, 4,836 badges; net income $642. Year ending May, 1872, 4,867 badges; net income, $342.23.

In 1869 a contract was made with parties in Baltimore for a supply of badges of the old design. The badges and the contractors shortly turned out to be equally worthless. The contractors failed to fulfill the contract, and also failed to return $167.15, which had been paid them in advance by the Adjutant-General. This money belonged to Posts throughout the country, and in some instances they ask its return. It is desirable that the Encampment should express its will in the matter.

Charity---The general work of charity for the year has exceeded in results the work of any previous year. Relief Committees are better organized, and a smaller amount of the disbursements is misapplied. The large number of organized frauds who thrive on the sympathies of their Comrades and a grateful public, has attracted attention to the necessity of a thoroughly organized and intelligent Committee of Relief, in every town or city where the Grand Army has a Post. These committees when well managed, command the confidence and support of the people, and, by taking charge of all applicants, can expose imposture, and take care that every case of deserving want is supplied. The reports received give the following statement of the work of relief during the past year:

Amount expended	$74.675.75
Number of members relieved	673
Number of persons not members relieved	2,161
Total number of persons relieved	2,834

It is safe to add 25 per cent. to the above figures, on account of the disbursements not reported. It is hoped that hereafter Departments will insist that Posts shall be particular and report disbursements.

It will be observed that our work of charity is principally among those not members of the Grand Army. The figures given cannot represent the actual beneficient results of the work, inasmuch as want and suffering cannot be measured by any rule of mathematics.

With the exception of the slight incidental expenses of the Quartermaster General, the disbursements from the treasury of the National Encampment, for the expenses of National Headquarters, have been made by the Adjutant-General, upon approval by the Commander-in-Chief. There has been no hesitation in making expenditures which would benefit the organization, but the strictest economy has been observed. The books of the Adjutant-General will show all receipts and disbursements in detail. They have been audited by the Council of Administration. For the information of the Encampment a condensed statement is presented, as follows:

RECEIPTS.

From sales of books and blanks	$1070.28
" " Rituals	591.80
" " and commissions on badges	342.23
" C. G. Attwood, Q. M. G.	1790.70
" Departments	46.92
Total receipts	$3841.93

EXPENDITURES.

For books and blanks	$1695.88
" Ritual account	588 00
" Office furniture	294.73
" Rent	289.99
" Postage	153.74
" Stationery	157.18
" Carpenter work---fitting office	76.08
" Charity	27.60
" Travelling expenses	140.79
" Incidentals	103.54
Total expenditures	$3527.53
Due from dep'ts for books, blanks, &c. $241.89	
Cash on hand 72.51	
	314.40
	$3841.93

Thanks are due to Comrade J. P. Curtis, Kitching Post, No. 60, Department of New York, for the valuable assistance he has rendered, in keeping the accounts of the Adjutant-General's office in a systematic and business-like manner. The uniform courtesy of the officers of Departments in their business with the Adjutant-General, to most of whom he was personally a stranger, has contributed much to make the work of the year a grateful work, to be remembered with pleasure and satisfaction.

Respectfully submitted,

ROSWELL MILLER,
Adjutant-General.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CHICAGO G. A. R. RELIEF FUND.

F. T. Milles,	Post No	Fitchburg, Mass	$100 00
Fletcher Webster,	"	13, N. Bridgeport, Mass	50 00
W. B. Shurtleff, Jr.,	"	125, S. Boston, Mass	16 00
Gen. Wm. Cogswell,	"	100, Ipswich, Mass	5 00
Hartsuff,	"	74, E. Abingdon, Mass	10 00
	"	59, Sterling, Mass	10 00
Chas. H. Stephens,	"	53, Leominster, Mass	25 00
McPherson,	"	73, Abington, Mass,	15 00
O. W. Wallace,	"	106, Massachusetts	10 00

J. H. Chipman, Post No.	89, Beverly, Mass	50	00
General Lander, "	5, Lynn, Mass	100	00
W. H. Bartlett, "	3, Taunton, Mass	100	00
Oliver Tilden, "	89, New York	50	00
Howland, "	48, New York	3	55
A. E. Burnside, "	New York	30	00
Buckley, "	12, Akron, Ohio	100	00
Auten, "	17, South Bend, Ind	10	00
P. P. Wilson, "	35, Connecticut	9	00
——— "	3, Bridgeport, Conn	68	00
Admiral Foote, "	17, New Haven, Conn	50	00
J. H. Williams, "	22, Berlin, Wis	10	00
Phil. Sheridan, "	9, Milwaukee, Wis	25	00
Veteran, "	84, National Asylum, Wis	25	00
Louis Bell, "	3, Manchester, N. H	10	00
C. W. Sawyer, "	17, Dover, N. H	50	00
Russell, "	3, Salem, Oregon	4	90
Geo. H. Thomas, "	13, Minnesota	10	00
Tice, "	24, Millville, N. J	6	00
——— "	8, Trenton, N. J	10	00
——— "	296, Jacksonville, Illinois	14	90
Ransom, "	Chicago, Illinois	42	00
Sheridan, "	88, Allegheny City, Pa	25	00
——— "	93, Myerstown, Pa	5	00
J. W Jackson, "	27, Philadelphia, Pa	10	00
Lawrence, "	17, Minersville, Pa	20	00
Ennis, "	47, St. Clair, Pa	25	00
J. K. Taylor, "	182, Bethlehem, Pa	28	50
Ellis, "	6, Pennsylvania	50	00
McLean, "	16, Reading, Pa	39	00
J. J. Andrews, "	70, Pennsylvania	10	00
Gillette, "	37, Windsor, Conn	16	00
Prescott, "	1, Providence, R. I	75	00
Posts and Comrades in California		100	00
	Total,	$1422	58

DISBURSEMENTS AS PASSING THROUGH THE HANDS OF COMMITTEE OF RANSOM POST, G. A. R., CHICAGO.

Cash to Comrade Wm. Spronely, in payment for bill of furniture	$ 53	50
Cash to Comrade Henry Bohel, in payment for clothes for his family	53	50
Cash to Comrade S. Rutter, in payment of furniture for house	26	00
" " James O'Leary, to purchase tools of his trade, and for clothing	53	50
Cash to Comrade D. Marble, in payment for funeral expenses incurred by the death of his child the night of the fire	50	00

Cash to Comrade D. Marble, for household goods	30 00
" " M. Thielman, for clothing for his family	27 50
" " James Willis, for household goods	63 80
" " C. H. and T. Hartwick, to purchase tools and lumber to erect temporary home	106 50
Cash to Comrade L. LeBrunt, to defray funeral expenses incurred by the death of his wife, caused through exposure the night of fire	60 00
Cash to same comrade for fuel and household goods	53 00
" Comrade F. C. Severns, in payment of bill for clothing	26 00
" " E. R. Lawrence, a loan of	50 00
" To enable him to purchase tools, also for household goods	53 00
Cash to Comrade MacSlosser, for clothing	26 50
" " William Butler, for tools of his trade	27 00
" " James McLane, assistance in payment of bill of household goods	54 00
Also, a loan of $50.00 to supply the immediate wants of his family.	50 00
Cash for Comrade Samuel Elison, for clothing	26 64
" " William H. King, for household goods	54 00
" " A. P. Maddock, a loan of	100 00
" " L F. Jacobs, for clothing	26 00
" " Ed. Rook, for fuel and furniture	26 64
" " Michael Caughly, for board and tools	10 00
" " U. Brebill, for clothing	26 64
" " Richard Thornton, R. R ticket, home to Buffalo	15 00
" " James Hennesy, R. R. ticket to Milwaukee	8 00
Total expenditures	$1155 92
Cash in hand of Treasurer	26 93
Cash in hand of Adjutant-General	240 00
Total	$1422 85

Report of Receipts and Expenditures of Funds.

[Contributed for the Relief of Chicago Comrades who suffered by the Fire.]

Headquarters Ransom Post,
Department of Illinois, G. A. R.,
Chicago, May 4th, 1872.

At the last regular Assembly of this Post, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That a vote of thanks is due and is hereby tendered * * * to the Departments and Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic, who so promptly responded to the relief of their comrades that suffered by the fire at Chicago, October 9th and 10th, 1871.

Resolved, That a copy of these Resolutions be furnished to each and every

Post and individual that contributed to the Relief fund, and also a copy be sent to National Headquarters for publication.

(Signed) J. M. STEPHENS,
Post Commander.

(Signed)
GUY T. GOULD,
Post Adjutant.

CLEVELAND, O, May 8th, 1872.

TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION:

The undersigned, appointed a committee of the Council of Administration to examine the accounts of Comrade Roswell Miller, Adjutant-General, respectfully report:—That they have examined and audited the accounts, and have compared the expenditures with the vouchers, and find the same to be correct. * * *

(Signed) HORATIO ROGERS,
J. S. CLEMMER,
A. P. KETCHUM,
Committee.

The Annual Report of Quartermaster-General Cornelius G. Attwood, was then submitted in print, as follows:

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
NEW YORK, May 1, 1872.

AMBROSE E. BURNSIDE,
Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R.

COMRADE: I have the honor to submit to the National Encampment, G. A. R., a report of this department for the year ending May 1st, 1872.

In July last I received from my predecessor, his books and records, and some twenty-five badges. These books show an indebtedness to National Headquarters, from departments, of $1004.80, and of this amount I have collected $309.69.

There also appear credits to individuals and departments, of $671.97, and of this, I have paid $236.58.

I regret to say, that I have very little confidence in these accounts, and respectfully recommend, that a special committee be appointed by the National Encampment, to examine the books and accounts of the late Quartermaster-General and Adjutant-General, now in my possession, and suggest some plan by which the old balances may be settled, and the books closed.

I beg to call your attention to that portion of the Rules and Regulations which provides that the Adjutant-General shall prepare and issue such books and blanks as may be required for the use of the Order, and which therefore necessitates the keeping of property accounts at his office. This work, heretofore, was performed mainly by the Quartermaster-General, in connection with the collection of dues, and resulted in great confusion and complication of accounts. Under the present system, the Quartermaster-Gen-

eral collects the dues, and honors such drafts as the Adjutant-General makes on him, finally taking on to his books the balances of the Adjutant-General's office; thus being, in fact the Treasurer of the Order.

The financial workings of the Adjutant-General's and Quartermaster-General's departments are herewith presented:

Paid for books and blanks, A. G. O.	$1695 88
" Rituals, A. G. O.	588 00
" Office furniture, A. G. O.	294 73
" Rent, A. G. O.	289 99
" Postage, A. G. O.	153 84
" Stationery, A. G. O.	157 18
" Carpenter work, A. G. O.	76 08
" Charity, A. G. O.	27 60
" Travelling expenses, A. G. O.	140 79
" Telegrams, porter, &c., A. G. O.	103 54
" Postage, express, stationery, &c., Q. M. G. O.	60 57
Received from Sales of Books and Blanks	$1070.28
" " " Rituals	591.80
" " Commission on Sales, Badges	342.23
" " Departments, as Dues	4032.43

By the books of the late Quartermaster-General, it appears that there was due Comrade J. T. Owen, of Philadelphia, for money loaned National Headquarters, in 1869, a balance of. $240.00

Of this amount I have paid him, through Department of Pennsylvania	177.95
Leaving a balance due him of	62.05
There also appears a credit to Comrade W. T. Collins, A. G., of	358.48
Of which I have paid him	350,00
Leaving a balance due him of	8.48

Comrade Collins by his own books claims as due him a further sum of $181.54.

RECAPITULATION.

Cash on hand, A. G. O.	$ 72.51	
" " " Q. M. G. O.	1590 83	
Value of books and blanks on hand, A. G. O	529.20	
" " Rituals on hand, A. G. O.	400.00	
" " Furniture, (amount paid for same,) A. G. O.	294.73	
Due from Departments	241.89	
" " T. Lubey, late Quartermaster-General	257.28	
		$3386.44
Due Departments, A. G. O.	$46.92	
" " Q. M. G. O.	22.38	
" " Joshua T. Owen, (balance)	62.05	
" " William T. Collins, (as he claims(	181.54	
		312.89
Assets in cash and property		$3073.55

In conclusion, I take extreme pleasure in congratulating the National Encampment on its freedom from debt for the first time in its history, upon its satisfactory cash balance, and upon its bright prospects for the future.

In F. C. & L.

CORNELIUS G. ATTWOOD,
Quartermaster-General, G. A. R.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, May 8th, 1872.

To the National Council of Administration, G. A. R.

The undersigned, appointed a Committee of the National Council of Administration, to examine the accounts of Comrade Cornelius G. Attwood, Quartermaster-General, respectfully report:

That they have attended to the duty assigned them, and upon examination of the Quartermaster-General's accounts with the vouchers, find that the books have been correctly kept, and that there is a cash balance in the hands of the Quartermaster-General, shown to the Committee, amounting to Fifteen hundred and ninety 83-100 dollars, ($1590 83-100,) and that the same corresponds with the balance shown by said books and vouchers.

(Signed,)

HORATIO ROGERS,
J. S. CLEMMER,
A. P. KETCHUM, } *Committee.*

The Annual Report of the Judge Advocate-General, William W. Douglas, was then submitted in print, with addenda, in writing, the whole as follows:

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE-GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S OFFICE,
NEW YORK, May 8, 1872.

To the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, at their Annual Session, May 8th, 1872.

COMRADES: In accordance with the requirements of the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic, I have the honor to present a detailed report of the operations of my Department as Judge Advocate-General during the past year.

One sentence of Court Martial only, has been referred to me for examination. My duties have consisted almost entirely in the decision of doubtful questions arising in the construction of the Rules and Regulations.

I have written thirty-four opinions upon such questions, and through the courtesy of the Adjutant General's Department, am enabled to present them herewith in print. (*See Appendix.*)

I considered that all comrades who took the trouble to procure the judgment of National Headquarters upon the points they presented, were entitled to a full statement of the reasons of the decision, and I have therefore endeavored to express them very clearly.

I have also attempted, as far as possible, to educe the general principles underlying each case, that each decision might serve as a precedent for the future.

Perspicuity and brevity have been rather sought than grace of style or rhetorical elegance.

In the consideration of these questions my attention has been called, first, to some points not clearly decided in the Regulations, of sufficient importance in my opinion, to require an authorative declaration of the National Encampment, and secondly, to some subjects upon which it seems to me the law should be changed.

I have embodied my views of what the law ought to be upon these points in the following amendments, to which I take the liberty of calling your attention.

Of the first class, which I suggest for the purpose of more clearly declaring the existing law, are the following:

AMENDMENT 1.

Insert in Chapter IV, Art. 6, Sec. 1, before the last sentence:

"He shall direct the printing and distribution of the Ritual of the Grand Army, and may authorize the translation of the same into any foreign language, and the use of such translation by any Post by which such language is better understood than English." (See Opinion VII.)

AMENDMENT 2.

Insert in Chapter II, Art 2, after Sec. 8:

Sec. 9. "A person who has been dishonorably discharged from the Grand Army of the Republic by sentence of a court-martial, may be re-admitted by the Post of which he was a member, in the manner prescribed for the admission of new members, provided that his application shall have been first approved by the officer who approved the sentence of the court martial." (See Opinion XXI.)

AMENDMENT 3.

Insert in Chapter V, Art. 13, Sec. 1, line 6, after the word "ordered," the words:

"By the Commander-in-Chief, or by vote of such Post or Department Encampment, approved by the Department Commander."

Of the second class is the following, which I think the experience of the last year has shown to be desirable:

AMENDMENT 4.

Insert in Chapter V, Art. 1, after Sec 5:

Section 6. "The National Encampment at its Annual Session, or the Commander-in-Chief, with the consent of the Council of Administration, at any time, may revoke the charter of a Department which for three quarters of a year has failed to forward its reports or dues, and may remand such Department to a provisional condition." (See Opinions VIII and X.)

In conclusion I desire to say that I have found the Regulations generally adequate to the decision of the questions submitted, and I have had

frequent occasion to admire the wisdom and foresight with which they were framed.

All of which is respectfully submitted in F. C. and L.

WM. W. DOUGLAS,
Judge Advocate-General.

The annual report of the Inspector-General, Comrade Robert B. Beath, was then submitted in print, with certain additions in writing the whole as follows:

Annual Report of the Inspector-General.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Inspector-General's Office,
New York, May 1, 1872.

Gen. A. E. Burnside,
Commander-in-Chief:

General Orders Nos. 8 and 17, directing an inspection of the Posts in the different Departments, were issued for the purpose of obtaining for National Headquarters, a more definite knowledge of the standing and condition of Posts and Departments than can be gleaned from the reports made to the Adjutant-General.

The result of the inspections for the Departments that have reported to me at this date is as follows:

Maine.

Number of Posts chartered	48
Disbanded	29
In good standing	18
Having officers and guards equipped	10
Average muster-in fees	$2 50
Per capita tax in Posts	45
Relief fund belonging to three Posts	$1,077 00
Per capita tax charged by the Department	32

All of the Posts have muskets loaned by the State

The Inspector, Comrade W. H. Pennell, reports that there is a very good feeling prevailing in the Department, and speaks especially of the excellent working of those Posts where the officers have committed their parts in the ritual to memory.

It is expected that a number of new Posts will be organized this year, some of the old revived, and many comrades added to the rolls.

New Hampshire.

The inspection report of this Department is for December 30. A very thorough inspection having been made just prior to that time it was deemed advisable not to require an inspection under G. O., No. 17.

Twenty-seven Posts have been chartered, 5 Posts disbanded, 21 Posts were inspected, and the majority reported in good condition; two or three are reported dubious, but they have no doubt since received proper attention from the very efficient officers of this Department.

Average muster-in fees, $2.50; average per capita tax, $2; 14 Posts have $1,431.05 in their relief funds; an average of $316.

A very good feeling now prevails in this Department, and many new names will be placed on their rolls this year.

VERMONT.

Number of Posts chartered	36
In good standing	24
In arrears to December 31st	12
Posts inspected	23
Posts disbanded	2
Having officers and guards equipped	9
Average for muster-in fee	$1 70
Per capita taxes by Posts	40
None are beneficial. 6 Posts have in their relief funds	699 76
Per capita tax charged by Department	28

Judging from the consolidated inspection report, the Posts of this Department are in very good condition, though the average membership is small. I think that the muster-in fees are entirely too low, and that they would be benefited by a change. 12 of the Posts charge only $1 00 or $1 50

Comrade U. A. Woodbury, A. I. G., sends a very encouraging report of the management and efficiency of the officers of this Department, finding all the records kept in excellent condition, and all the officers deeply interested in the Order. He urges the adoption of a rule requiring officers to memorize their parts in the ritual, as adding considerably to the effectiveness of the work.

RHODE ISLAND.

The A. I. G., Comrade Nelson Viall, reports everything working exceedingly satisfactory in this Department.

The Department Commander has instituted a series of official visits to the Posts, that cannot fail to have a very good effect. A very general interest is now manifested in the work of the Order and they expect this year to add very materially to their numbers.

The answers to circular of March 29th, are not given. The inspection of 9 Posts is reported and all are in good condition.

The muster-in fees average about $2 00, and per capita taxes 90 cents per quarter.

CONNECTICUT.

Number of Posts chartered	39
In good standing	22
Suspended	5
Disbanded	12
Inspected per order	22
Having officers and guards equipped	22
Average amount charged for muster-in fees	$2 80
Average amount charged by Posts for per capita taxes per quarter	66
Per capita tax charged by the Department	40

No Posts in this Department are beneficial, relief to Comrades being afforded as needed from the Post funds. The condition of all the Posts reported seems to be very good.

NEW JERSEY.

Number of Posts chartered	23
In good standing	20
In arrears to December 31st	3
Inspected under orders	15
Having Posts and officers equipped or partially	12
Average muster-in fee	$3 00
Average per capita tax	3 00
Charged by Department	50

7 Posts have about $1,400 00 ior relief purposes. The prospects of the Dep rtment are reported by the Inspector, Comrade Willson F. Smith, to be exceedingly good.

I visited the Department Headquarters and found the records in very good condition, all matters receiving daily the attention of the Commander and other officers. In conjunction with the Department officers I visited Post No. 6, in Camden, and found it in good condition with a very evident determination on the part of officers and members to do very much better in the future.

4 Posts have been organized since inspection was made.

OHIO.

Posts in good standing	35
Posts inspected	19
Average muster-in fee	$3 25
Per capita taxes, quarterly	50
Charged by Department	60

Judging from the reports presented, this Department is in very poor condition, and it will require constant and vigorous work on the part of the officers to place it in its proper position in the Order.

Comrade C. Morris, the Inspector, suggests that Posts be allowed to establish grades if they prefer them, and that the Posts suspended desiring to be re-established, have their indebtedness cancelled. This last is, of course, a matter for the Department itself to settle.

CALIFORNIA.

A very complete report of this Department is presented by the Inspector, Comrade Charles J. Stees:

Number of Posts chartered	12
In good standing	10
Suspended	2
Inspected per order	6
Having officers and guards equipped	4
Average for muster-in fees about	$9 00
Average by Posts for per capita tax	2 15
Department tax per annum	1 00

Benefits are paid in most of the Posts.

One of the Posts charges $20 00 muster-in fee, giving to each recruit a uniform costing the Post $15 00.

Comrade Stees refers fully to the obstacles in the way of a very strong organization there.

One is that the popular feeling is rather against our organization, and another, that the many generals who have been appointed to places of honor and profit on the Pacific coast, have utterly ignored the services of the rank and file who supported them in the field, causing great dissatisfaction amongst the ex-soldiers and sailors. Comrade T. H. Craig, A. I. G, reports the Headquarters in very good shape and everything being done that can to keep up the interest in the order. He states that they have fitted up a new and elegant hall in San Francisco, that has placed the order there on a very much better footing.

WISCONSIN

The result of the inspection of only 7 Posts in this Department is given.

The average muster-in fee is about	$2.75
Per capita tax quarterly	.40

I have not sufficient data to give a clear idea of the condition of the Department. Strong complaint is made against the lack of novelty and impressiveness in our ceremonies, saying that the dissatisfaction is general throughout the Department.

Comrade W. J Kershaw reports the Department officers as very efficient and faithful, doing what they can to create a more lively interest in the principles of the order.

MINNESOTA.

Number of Posts chartered	32
Disbanded	15
In good standing	17
In arrears to December 31st	2
Inspected per order	14
Having officers and guards equipped	5
Relief Fund of 7 Posts	$800.00
Average muster-in fees	2.00
Per capita taxes, quarterly	45
Charged by Department	40

Only one Post is reported in bad condition, all others good. The A. I. G,, Comrade J. H. Stewart, reports the Department to be in excellent hands, books, &c., in good shape and the prospects for the order very promising.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The report of the A. I. G. for this Department, Comrade John Carlin, is very far from encouraging.

They think it almost impossible to revive the order in that State sufficiently to keep up any kind of organization.

NEBRASKA.

The reports from this Department are not very satisfactory; but little progress has been made in building up the Department, the Comrades

mainly feeling a deeper interest in local political matters than in the work required for this order, and consequently it is almost at a stand still for the present.

The A. A. G. visited different localities and expected soon to be able to report the organization of a number of Posts.

Without doubt a very effective and permanent organization can be made in this Department, and I trust that the Comrades now in charge of it will succeed in establishing it on a good footing during this year.

POTOMAC.

The report of the inspection of this Department shows, as follows:

Number of Posts chartered	14
Number of Posts in good standing	12
Number of Posts in arrears to December 31st	1
Number of Posts suspended	1
Number of Posts inspected	12
Number of Posts having officers and guards equipped	6
Average of muster-in fee	$4.72
Average of per capita taxes	91
Charged by Department	50

Two Posts are reported in doubtful condition, four fair and six good. All the Posts, with one exception, meet every two weeks. I have been unable to obtain any particular information in regard to the manner in which the Departmental affairs are managed. A special examination was ordered, to ascertain the cause of the uncalled for delay in payment of the per capita taxes to the Q. M. General, but no report of it has been received. I was prepared to make a personal examination of these matters, but was assured that the A. I. G. would do all that was necessary, and with him I left it

NEW MEXICO.

Comrade W. L. Warning, A. I. G., after an inspection of the Headquarters of this Prov. Department, reports that he found all the books, papers, and accounts in perfect order, and the Department well managed. He thinks a change in Section 7, Article 2, Chapter II, allowing an applicant six months to present himself for muster, instead of four months, would be beneficial in that Department.

The muster-in fees are $5, and per capita tax averages $1.25 for the Posts reported.

MASSACHUSETTS

This Department, beyond all doubt, is the most thoroughly organized and efficient Department in the order.

146 Posts are reported to me; 1 has surrendered its charter, and 1 has had its charter revoked. 138 Posts were inspected at the date of the report and the remainder were inspected since.

Average muster-in fees, $2,62; per capita taxes, 69 cents.

Funds for charitable purposes on hand $53,006.58.

The majority of the Posts meet weekly, and there is an excellent feeling everywhere in the State for the Grand Army. This Department has been

kept so well in hand, mainly, I think, from having an established Headquarters with an able Assistant Adjutant General who devotes nearly all his time to the work at Department Headquarters, with the Department Commander and the other officers constantly attending to their duties and paying social and official visits to Posts.

NEW YORK.

An inspection of 72 Posts is reported; muster-in fees, average, $2.65; per capita taxes, 53 cents.

The condition of all these Posts is reported favorable. I have not yet received the statistics asked for in circular of March 29

I made a personal examination of the records, &c., at the Headquarters of this Department, meeting there the Commander and nearly all his staff officers. I found everything in excellent condition, with a very commendable spirit on the part of the officers to thoroughly work up the organization in that State.

MARYLAND.

I have received no regular reports from this Department, but visited the Headquarters at the time of the change of officers, and found that the records had been very badly kept, and all the papers, &c., in a very confused condition.

The new officers entered upon their duties with a determination to change this state of affairs and push the work as well as it could be done in that State.

TEXAS.

I have just received a report from Comrade J. C. De Gress, A. I. G., which I present in full, as follows:

"The A. A. G. of this Department, Comrade James Davidson, reports 15 Posts in good standing. Two posts only were inspected owing to the lack of facilities for traveling.

"The Department of Texas" was organized September 22, 1868, but "Charles Griffin," now "Joseph A. Mower" Post No. 1, was the only one established until March, 1871, when ex-officers and soldiers began to realize the importance of this organization and within the last year fifteen additional posts have been established. I enclose herewith a list of posts and names of commanders and stations.

It appears from the last report of the National Encampment that fifteen thousand ex-soldiers reside in this State. This is, no doubt, correct; but ostracism, loss of employment, personal abuse and villification, and in some cases death would follow the announcement by ex-soldiers of their having served in the Volunteer Army of the United States.

The Governor has extended protection to every man whom his authority could reach; but there are counties so remote from the usual routes of public travel, and neighborhoods so inaccessible, that many suffer before help can reach them. Few juries in this State would do an ex-soldier justice, as professional jurors are generally selected to do the dirty work of men who were

fire-eaters during the war, away from the battle-field, and who are now again at their work; hence our organization is not as large as it should be.

We have in this State quite a number of ex-soldiers who were conscripted into the Confederate service, but deserted and joined our army at the first opportunity. These persons, original Union men, are debarred from joining the Grand Army by Article 4, Chapter I. I think this matter should be brought to the attention of the National Encampment, and the article amended so as to permit such persons, after a proper showing of the above facts, to join. There is another class of men who were attached to our army as scouts, guides, cooks, and teamsters, who were never mustered into the army, who shared all the dangers of campaigns and battles, but who are excluded from our organization by the above mentioned article. Justice demands that all obstacles to their entry into the G A. R. be removed, and that they be admitted to all the honors and rights of men mustered into the Volunteer service.

Inspectors have been appointed by the Department Commander, but on account of high waters and irregularities of mails, their reports have not been received; therefore the Inspector is unable to make a report of the condition of Posts.

The Department offices, records, etc., are in good order, and the business of this Department is transacted with military precision and despatch."

PENNSYLVANIA.

Number of Posts chartered	224
In good standing	73
In arrears to December 31st	2
Suspended	6
Disbanded	143
Inspected per order	47
Having officers and guards equipped	24
Average amount charged for muster-in fee	$3 50
Average amount by Posts for per capita taxes	95
Average amount of weekly benefits	4 00
Amount of money in possession of 34 Posts for charitable purposes	21,409 00
Average per Post	630 00
Per capita tax charged by Department	40

Three years ago this Department lost very heavily in membership and Posts. A very earnest effort is now being made to restore most of the Posts, and some are being reorganized each week It will add a considerable number to the rolls this year. The Department Encampment will assemble on the battle-field of Gettysburg, on the 2d, 3d and 4th days of July next, will go into camp, and comrades from other Departments will find there a hearty welcome.

GEORGIA.

Comrade C. T. Watson, A. I. G., reports that the officers of that Department evince considerable interest in the work of the order, with all books, &c., kept in proper condition for the first time in that State.

But two Posts are alive, one at Savannah, and one at Brunswick It is expected that a Post will be organized at Atlanta.

The number of ex soldiers and sailors is constantly decreasing, the great majority of the people are uncompromisingly hostile to the government, and our men in business are compelled to smother their feelings when dependent upon the patronage of the people, or lose by it. The fact that the order was prostituted to selfish purposes lost it the sympathy and help of some who would otherwise have been steady and excellent members. All these causes have kept the Order in poor condition.

Comrade E. H. Rhodes, Commanding the Department of Rhode Island, under special instructions from National Headquarters, performed very efficient service whilst visiting the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama.

In Kentucky he found there was 8 white and 4 colored Posts in a fair working condition, though laboring under many disadvantages, but it was thought the Order could be maintained in that State.

In Tennessee the Order is entirely disorganized, owing to the intense hatred exhibited against members of the G. A. R., intensified, no doubt, by internal dissensions in the Posts when in existence, and their attempted use for selfish purposes. Comrade D. W. Glassie, however; reported as a very energetic and excellent comrade, has undertaken to do all in his power to resuscitate the Order there, and favorable results are expected from his labors.

In Mississippi there were no Posts in existence, but Comrade Rhodes, in connection with Department Commander, Comrade J. Tarbell, gathered together about twenty Union soldiers in Comrade Tarbell's house, and formed George H. Thomas Post, No. 1, Department of Mississippi. They expect to be able to maintain two Posts in the State.

In Alabama, Comrade Rhodes found Comrade George H. Patrick, the Provisional Department Commander, to be the only member of the Order they knew of in that State.

There is considerable feeling in the minds of the people of the South against our Order, that can only be dispelled by careful and prudent action on the part of our comrades there, proving that the prejudices against us are wrong and ill-founded.

I regret exceedingly that I cannot present to the National Encampment a complete inspection report from every Department, the most of those derelict in this respect have omitted to even present any excuse for their failure to obey the orders issued on the subject.

Experience has satisfied me that it is useless to attempt to secure a thorough inspection of the Order during the month of March. In most of the States the roads are in very bad condition, and this year that fact prevented the inspection of a very large number of Posts.

It would be better to have a single inspection each year, to be held late in the Fall, and each Department be required to present a report from each Post on the blank form prescribed by the Inspector-General.

A great deal of valuable information can be thus obtained for the use of Department and National Headquarters, the weak spots can be ascertained, and measures be instituted for affording the required remedy in each case. In place of the other inspection now required by the R. and R., Department Commanders should institute a series of official visits personally or through staff officers. I attach the greatest importance to such visits, for I have heard complaints from Posts that they had never seen a Department officer; and any officer who has listened to the expressions of satisfaction on his visits to Posts, must feel sure that they are productive of good.

Officers of the National Encampment should be expected to embrace every opportunity of visiting Headquarters and Posts in adjoining Departments.

From the reports presented I learn that there is a much better feeling throughout the organization than has been shown for two or three years past. Comrades are learning to trust and rely on each other, and understand their duties to each other better. Without doubt many of the suspensions and dismissals have been for the good of the Order

The prejudice created against us is gradually dying out, notwithstanding the facts that papers, friendly or otherwise, yet harp on the movements and views of those who may have political ambition to satisfy, and who are members of the Grand Army. For these things we are unjustly held responsible.

I am certain that the great mass of our membership indignantly spurn any thought of the Grand Army being used in any form, or on any pretence, as a political machine. Had this feeling been shown more emphatically in the early days of our existence as an Order, we would not now deplore hundreds of disbanded posts, killed by their interference in political affairs, or through their attempted use by designing partisans who were only members for the sake of the loaves and fishes The Grand Army must in the sternest manner set the seal of its disapprobation on any attempt to make political capital out of it, whilst at the same time It may assert and protect the undoubted right of every member to take such part in political life as he deems proper. We have our duties as citizens to perform, and may not abandon our rights as such, even to appease an ill-founded public clamor.

I think Posts as a rule have charged too little for muster-in fees and dues. We have made entrance to the Grand Army too cheap and easy, and because it was so many have thought it hardly worth while to join. The minimum for muster-in should be fixed by Posts at $3, and $5 would answer much better. Posts having tried both, find as many applicants at the higher as at the lower figures. In beneficial Posts the fees ought to be about $5 per annum. The best Posts we have are those working under the beneficial system, and that have established a relief fund—the latter being used exclusively for the relief of those not connected with the Order. The importance of this cannot be too strongly impressed on the Order. Some of our Posts have established an excellent record in this regard, and their good deeds are worthy of emulation by all others.

I suggest that the R. and R. shall be so changed as to require applications for charters to be signed by at least twenty persons, and that the mustering officer shall require the presentation of a properly filled application for each person presenting himself for muster as a charter member.

The charter fee should be fixed at $20, for which the Post should receive Charters, Rituals, Descriptive Book, Ledger, Cash and Minute Books, with applications and cards, making a complete outfit with which they can start properly. The books could be made in setts, such as now are used by the Department of New York, and be printed at National Headquarters—each Department being required to take five or more setts at the cost price. This would be a great advantage and saving to all concerned. Immediately after the adjournment, the R. and R. should be printed, and copies supplied Departments for the use of officers of Posts, and extra copies be furnished unbound for all Posts requiring the same, who wish to have their By-Laws printed at home and bound with the R. and R.

The saving of cost to Posts by this plan would amount to a very large sum.

I would suggest that changes in the R. and R., hereafter, shall only be made after presentation by Departments in their January Encampments—the proposed changes to be announced in Orders some weeks previous to the assembling of the National Encampment. The repeated changes have to a great extent been required by circumstances, but our experience by this time should render unnecessary any radical changes in the future.

I would suggest that the National officers by resolution of this Encampment, be required to close their reports for the year ending December 31st, as the effort to include the full reports to March 31st, entails a great deal of extra work on these officers, which must be done in a very short time, and will be necessarily imperfect.

It appearing to me that the present article in the R. and R. on Inspection, (Art. 5, Chap, V.,) needs remodeling, I present herewith, an article more clearly covering the ground:

My attention has been directed to the number of titles improperly used in our meetings. "Sir Commander," "Grand Commander," are too frequently heard, with many other changes and modifications.

The attention of comrades should be again called to this in General Orders, and exact compliance with the R. and R. on this subject be required.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT B. BEATH,
Inspector-General.

The Annual Report of Surgeon-General Samuel A. Green was then read from manuscript, as follows:

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SURGEON-GENERAL.

BOSTON, May 1, 1872.

ROSWELL MILLER,
Adjutant-General, G. A. R.:

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report for the year ending

March 31. It is insufficient and unsatisfactory, from the want of returns on which to base a report.

The only Department that has made a complete return for the year is that of New York, and the example of the Medical Director, Hans Powell, is worthy of imitation. I give herewith some of the facts contained in his report:

No. of Comrades who have lost the right arm in battle	115
No of Comrades who have lost the left arm in battle	96
No. of Comrades who have lost both arms in battle	2
No. of Comrades who have lost a leg in battle	147
No. of Comrades who have lost both legs in battle	2
No. of Comrades who have been wounded	1578
No. of Comrades who have lost a leg and an arm in battle	4
No. of Comrades injured other than in battle	246

Incomplete reports have been made by the Medical Directors of seven other Departments, but the statistics have less value than those of New York, from the fact that they are not so full. They are doubtless accurate as far as they go, but they are not complete. It is desirable that these returns should be gathered from every Department and from every Post. Time passes rapidly, and facts are soon forgotten. It will not be long before this great and powerful organization will have reached its high water mark, as the qualifications for membership are limited. And then, too late, regrets will be felt that these interesting statistics were not collected while it was still possible.

Very respectfully your obedient servant and Comrade,

SAMUEL A. GREEN,
Surgeon-General, G. A. R.

All the reports above named were referred without debate.

The Annual Report of the Chaplain-in-Chief was called for, and Chaplain-in-Chief, Wm. Earnshaw, responded:

Report of the Chaplain-in-Chief.

I did not know that I was required to furnish a written report, and I will be pardoned, I trust, if I offer what I have to say at this time verbally. I have not had very good opportunities to know what has been done in my Department. I am sure, however, that the religious element has not been forgotten. Every Post has its Chaplain. Every Department has its Chaplain. I have been a Chaplain for eleven years, and you will excuse me if I say that I know of no military organization where the moral and religious element so prevails as in the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Report of the Council of Administration was then presented, and is briefly as follows:

Report of the Council of Administration.

The Council met on the second Wednesday in October. No quorum being present, the members present made a full informal examination of the state of different Departments, and of the Books of Accounts and Records at National Headquarters.

The Council met at the Kennard House, Cleveland, O., on Tuesday evening, May 7, 1872.

The Commander of the Department of New York presented the following resolutions, upon which action was requested by the Department Encampment:

Resolved, That the delegates to the next National Encampment be instructed to recommend that the Rules and Regulations be amended so as to give Post Courts-Martial the same power as a general Court.

Resolved, That the delegates to the National Encampment be instructed to urge an amendment to the Rules and Regulations allowing a Post Commander to appoint an Officer of the Day for the Post, and the Adjutant and Quartermaster to appoint their Sergeant-Major and Quartermaster-Sergeant respectively.

The Council unanimously disapproved the first proposition, and decided to recommend the second proposition to the favorable action of the National Encampment.

The question in regard to the admission of delegates to the last annual meeting of the Encampment of the Department of New York who were not elected at the last stated meeting in December of the Posts which they represented, came before the Council, and, after full discussion, the following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, It has come officially to the knowledge of the National Council of Administration, that Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic in the Department of New York have been organized since the 1st of January, 1872; and that said Posts have elected delegates to a State Encampment held on the 17th of January, 1872; and that said delegates were admitted to said Encampment, and allowed to vote and take full part in the proceedings thereof; and

Whereas, Our Rules and Regulations distinctly require that delegates to the State Encampment shall be elected by Posts at their last stated meeting in December, and shall hold office during the following year; and

Whereas, The said provision of the Rules and Regulations is, in the opinion of this Council, an important safeguard against the formation of Posts for temporary and improper purposes; and

Whereas, By the Rules and Regulations, the National Council may propose plans of action to the Grand Army; therefore,

Resolved, That the admission of the delegates of said Posts to places in the said State Encampment was irregular, and in violation of the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army; and the Council of Administration recommend that some action be taken by the National Encampment, through which the said Posts may be informed of this resolution, and directed to comply with the said Rules and Regulations.

The Council appointed a committee to examine and audit the accounts of the Quartermaster-General and Adjutant-General. The committee reported that they had examined and audited the books and accounts of the Quartermaster-General and Adjutant-General, and found them correct and true. Their report was accepted, and will be found with the reports of the officers above named.

The Commander-in-Chief then announced the following Committees:

On Rules and Regulations and Ritual.—Wm. C. Bunts, Ohio; Frederick H. Harris, N. J.; Henry B. Peirce, Mass.; E. H. Rhodes, R. I.; A. Wilson Norris, Penna.

On Reports of Officers.—H. R. Sibley, Mass.; Frank Reeder, Pa.; Guy T. Gould, Ills.; J. N. Coldren, Iowa; W. H. Lawson, Ky.

The Commander-in Chief was here called from the hall by important business. Comrade Louis Wagner, of Pennsylvania, Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, assumed the Chair.

On motion of Comrade Norris, Comrade Fairchild, Past-Senior-Vice-Commander-in Chief, of Wisconsin, was invited to a seat beside the Chair, and to act with the Convention.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Communications were then received from the various departments.

Comrade Sibley, Massachusetts, presented by instruction, a proposition for the reduction of the dues to the National Encampment. Referred to the Committee on Rules and Regulations.

Comrade Sibley also presented a proposition that Posts surrendering their charters shall not be compelled to turn in their personal property, only such property as belongs to the Department. Referred to Committee on Rules and Regulations.

Comrade Barnum, of New York, presented the suggestions of the Department of New York, given in the Report of the Council of Administration, which were referred.

Comrade Reeder, of Pennsylvania, presented a proposition of that Department, to admit all past Department Com-

manders to seats in the National Encampment. Referred to Committee on Rules and Regulations.

Comrade Davidson, of Texas, said that he was instructed by the Department of Texas, to ask the National Encampment to use its influence in securing the removal of a disloyal officer in that department—Ben. C. Card, a Captain and Quartermaster in the army of the United States—who has persistently refused to employ members of the Grand Army of the Republic, and made it a boast. He has repeatedly stated that it was no use for a man to have been a soldier. He therefore offered the following preamble and resolution.

"*Whereas*, Ben. C. Card, a Captain and Assistant Quartermaster in the Army of the United States, has persistently opposed aud persecuted discharged soldiers of the army, by securing their discharge from the employment of the government, and refusing to employ any such;

Resolved, That the delegate to the National Encampment be instructed to invoke the influence of the said National Encampment to secure the removal of said disloyal officer from this Department."

The preamble and resolution were referred to a special committee—Comrades Goble of New Jersey, Davidson of Texas, Murray of New York, Denison of Maryland, and Hicks of Minnesota.

Comrade Coldren of Iowa presented a resolution, which was referred.

On motion of the Adjutant-General the whole memorandum of resolutions which were upon a printed slip, with the exception of the resolutions concerning the Department of Texas, were referred to the Committee on Rules and Regulations.

Comrade McMurdy of Colorado proposed certain amendments to the Rules and Regulations which were referred.

Comrade Earnshaw presented the following letter from the Commander of the Department of Rhode Island, addressed to the clergy of that State in reference to Memorial Day:

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF R. I., G. A. R.,
PROVIDENCE, May 1st, 1872.

To the Rev Clergy of the State of Rhode Island:

The survivors of our late war for the Union are making extensive arrangements for decorating the graves of their fallen comrades upon the

thirtieth of the present month. It has been a great source of gratification to receive yearly, such general co-operation from all classes of people in our patriotic efforts to fittingly observe this day.

Especially have we rejoiced that the leaders of religious opinion have given to our decoration anniversary their cordial sanction, and thus associated the hallowed sentiments of piety with the tender duties of patriotism.

We feel, therefore, encouraged to request one further co-operation, and hope that it will meet your approval. It is, that on the Sunday preceding our anniversary—the 26th inst.—a sermon be delivered in every place of public worship, commemorative of our fallen comrades, and the cause for which they laid down their lives.

We are persuaded that the blessing of God would accompany such Sabbath recognition of this National day.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully yours,

OFFICIAL:

PHILIP S. CHASE, A. A. G.

E. H. RHODES, Commander Department of R. I.

Comrade Earnshaw then said:

I am very happy for one to have this subject introduced in this manner. There is one fact set forth in the communication which is especially gratifying, and that is, that the 'leaders of the religion of Christ,' of course meaning the clergy, have always heartily co-operated in this beautiful and touching ceremony. I would like to see a similar communication addressed to the clergy of the entire country. I have had means of making observations sufficient to lead me to the conclusion that there is a studied effort on the part of men who did not participate in the struggle for our liberty to put out of sight the glory of these men. I have been of the opinion for some time that if soldiers do not take care of their own interests much that is good and glorious will be lost. Comrade Earnsbaw continued urging some action by the National Encampment in the matter, stating that he would like a letter, addressed by the Commander-in-Chief, to the clergy throughout the country where there are posts of the G. A. R., urging the plan stated in the above communication.

The Adjutant-General stated that it would be impossible, on account of the nearness of Decoration Day, for such a letter to be sent as wished.

Comrade McMurdy said that he knew of a clergyman who positively refused to preach a sermon under similar circumstances, declaring that he would not so disgrace the Sabbath. He was not only in favor of sending such a letter, but also of making it compulsory that members of the G. A. R. should turn out on Decoration Day.

Comrade Miller moved to postpone the matter until next year, when it should go into effect.

Comrade Beath moved that a Committee be appointed to draft an appropriate resolution and give it to the press for publication.

This was adopted with the amendment authorizing the Commander-in-Chief to send it by telegraph.

Comrade Norris alluded to a recent meeting held in the Cooper Institute in New York city, to raise funds to defray the expense of building a monument to the memory of Gen. Thomas, (applause.)

The fact that the meeting was to take place was widely and extensively known. Eminent and eloquent speakers were announced, and the officers of the meeting, Hooker, Burnside, Kilpatrick, Woodford and others, were known over the country. And yet the papers have announced to us that the meeting was a failure. The clods that cover the form of dear old Thomas have hardly been there three years, and yet he seems to have been forgotten by the people. I therefore move that the Commander-in-Chief be directed to write a letter of appeal to the Grand Army of the Republic, asking each member to contribute ten, fifteen or twenty cents, or such sum as each may feel disposed to contribute, to erect a monument to General Thomas, to testify their respect for the man, and to show that, if he has been forgotten by the people, his memory shall not suffer from our neglect.

Comrade Robinson, of New York, said that owing to certain circumstances the meeting the first night was postponed, but that the subsequent meeting was a large one, and that over $2,000 was raised.

Comrade Merrill, of Massachusetts, said that—

While he yielded to no one in his admiration for General Thomas, yet if the Grand Army of the Republic, as an organization, were to erect a monument to his memory, they must expect their comrades of the Navy to ask them to erect one also to the memory of the brave old Farragut. Entered upon such a movement, where is the organization to stop? While we can do as individuals all that is necessary and proper, we had better devote our efforts and aid to looking after the needy, and the widows and orphans of the slain.

Comrade Barnum, of New York, also stated that—

The New York meeting was a success, and the matter was now in the hands of an efficient committee, of which General Hooker is chairman, who are pursuing a systematic course, and who are satisfied that at the reunion of the Army of the Cumberland. in September, sufficient money will have

been contributed to ensure a fitting monument to the memory of General Thomas (applause.) This will have been mainly done by grand old Gen. Thomas's soldiers of the Army of the Cumberland.

After some further discussion, Comrade Norris withdrew his motion.

Comrade Reynolds presented a resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Resolutions without debate.

Comrade Woodall presented a preamble and resolution, which were referred to the Committee on Rules and Regulations.

Comrade Beath presented several printed suggestions in regard to legislation, which he desired to have referred to a special committee. They were so referred, and Comrades Beath, Brayton of Rhode Island, MacDougall of New York, Jenkins of Kansas, and Lee of New Jersey, were named as a special Committee on Legislation.

Comrade Woodall of Delaware presented a resolution concerning pensions, which was referred to the Committee on resolutions.

Comrade Bunts of Ohio presented certain resolutions, which were referred, without reading.

Comrade Miller presented a preamble and resolutions, which were referred to the Committee on resolutions.

Adjourned at 1.30 P. M. to 3 P. M.

Afternoon Session.

The Encampment re-assembled and was called to order at half-past three o'clock.

After the Grand Rounds, Comrade J. R. C. Ward, of Pennsylvania, was requested to assist the Adjutant-General.

The Committee on Rules of Order presented their report.

Comrade Douglas moved that the report be adopted as the Rules of Order of the National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic.

Comrade Briggs objected, and moved to strike out the last clause in Article XII, after the word "explain."

After some discussion the clause was stricken out.

Comrade Churchill moved an amendment to the XIIIth Section, to insert after the word "twice," the words, "upon the same question."

Comrade Merrill also moved to amend Article XX, by striking out, "called for by five members," and insert "moved and seconded." Accepted.

The Rules of Order were then adopted as amended, and will be printed with the Revised Rules and Regulations.

The Adjutant-General then read the following telegrams:

NEW ORLEANS, May 7th, 1872.

Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,

Commander-in-Chief G. A. R.

Joseph A. Mower Post No. 1, Department of Louisiana. G. A. R., salutes the National Encampment just organized. Cannot send a delegate.

MARK JOSEPH,
Post Commander.

JACKSON, MISS., May 7th, 1872.

Comrade ROSWELL MILLER, *at National Encampment, G. A. R.*

Official duties detain me here. Have written. I send greeting to the Commander-in-Chief and Comrades. The Comrades in this Department are devoted to the memories and patriotic purposes of the G. A. R. May patriots be duly honored and patriotism prove undying.

J. TARBELL,
Prov. Commander.

Comrade Griffin, of New Hampshire, presented the following preamble and resolution, adopted by the Society of the Army of the Potomac, and other Societies, concerning the interment of Union soldiers in National Cemeteries.

Whereas, It has been brought to the knowledge of this Association that the present wording of the act of Congress in relation to national cemeteries, denies the privileges of burial in them to such volunteers as are from day to day passing away; and

Whereas, There is an amendment to the above mentioned act now before the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, which will put a stop to this disgraceful condition of things by opening the national cemeteries to all the volunteer soldiers and sailors of the late war, and give them the privilege of sleeping by the side of their comrades in arms; therefore,

Resolved, That we, as representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic do ask and urge upon the Congress of the United States to take speedy and favorable action on this amendment.

Resolved, That a certified copy of these resolutions be sent to the respective Chairmen of the Committee on Military Affairs in the United States Senate and House of Representatives, and be given to the press for publication. Adopted.

Comrade Ketchum moved that the place for the next annual meeting of the National Encampment, be New Haven, Connecticut. Carried unanimously.

Comrades McMurdy, of Colorado, Reynolds, of New York, and Rogers, of Rhode Island, were appointed a committee to return the thanks of the Encampment to Mr. and Mrs. Amasa Stone, for the courteous and handsome reception given on Tuesday evening, at their residence, on Euclid avenue. The Commander-in-Chief was subsequently joined to the committee.

Comrade McMurdy of Colorado, offered a resolution to change the standing of his Department in the National Encampment, by giving it more power than it then possessed. He spoke at some length in favor of the passage of the resolution, claiming that Colorado had five Posts in good working order, and that nearly every soldier and sailor in the Territory was a member of the Grand Army. The entire population of the Territory is only about fifty thousand, and he believed that the soldiers there had done all they could to make their number in the Grand Army as large as possible. While he was grateful to the National Encampment for a seat and voice in the Encampment he wanted to have the right to vote. He therefore moved that the resolution be acted upon immediately, without reference to the usual committee.

Comrade Wagner objected to suspending the Rules in such a manner. There are other small Departments in the same fix, New Mexico, Florida, Oregon and Iowa.

The Encampment, after some further discussion, refused to refer the resolution.

Comrade Merrill raised the point of order that the Encampment could not suspend the Constitution.

The Commander-in-Chief decided the point well taken.

Comrade Douglas moved to table the resolution, but temporarily withdrew it, and the resolution went to the committee.

Comrade Goble, from the Special Committee previously

appointed, reported preamble and resolutions in regard to Captain B. C. Card, of the Department of Texas, as follows:

Your committee having under consideration the recommendation of the Department of Texas, in relation to the action of Assistant-Quartermaster B. C. Card, of the United States Army, stationed at San Antonio, in the State of Texas, find that the said Card in his official capacity has refused to employ any person in his Department belonging to this organization, solely because they were members of the same, and has employed late rebel soldiers and these sympathisers in their stead, thereby placing himself in direct antagonism to an organization that has for its objects the highest and holiest of purposes, and ostracising from employment those brave men who jeopardised their lives that their country might live, and preventing their participation in the benefits of a Government that their valor saved; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Commander of this Encampment appoint a committee of three, whose duty it shall be to lay these facts before the President of the United States, and ask him to remove said Card from said Department to some place where he will not be permitted to thus ostracise our Comrades.

The question was about to be taken without discussion, when Comrade Merrill of Massachusetts, said that it was time for the National Encampment to halt before it meddled with the removal or exchange of officers.

If such was not political action it came so near to it that it was time to pause and examine it. He knew nothing of the merits of the case, but he believed that if they were brought to the attention of the Secretary of War the wrong would be righted. He knew they had but to go to the Head of the United States to have outrageous abuses of such a kind corrected. He would go as far as any one in protecting a Comrade of the Grand Army, but if they were to have an officer removed in Texas to-morrow, they must ask to have one appointed somewhere else. However strongly members might feel in the matter it was not one within the province of the Grand Army. It was opening the whole question as to how far the Grand Army could enter into the consideration of political questions. He hoped the report of the committee would not be adopted.

Comrade Ketchum said:

That the case of Card had been so often long and publicly discussed, and had been brought in such a manner to the attention of the National Encampment, that the least that they could do was to present a statement of the case to the proper officer of Government and ask for the removal of the officer, or for an investigation. They need not ask for the removal of the officer, although he was in favor of the resolution, and did not think it could be considered political action.

Comrade Barnum moved to refer the whole matter to the Commander-in Chief.

Comrade Wagner hoped the responsibility would not be placed on the shoulders of the Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Reynolds urged the adoption of the committee's report.

He said that the committee, in their investigation, had found abuses sufficient to make the blood boil in the breast of every man who belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic. They wanted the facts submitted to the President of the United States, and the question answered once for all, whether in this country the men who preserved it are to be insulted and ostracised by men in the pay of the government, because they preserved it.

Comrade Goble said that the matter had been brought to public attention in the New York *Tribune*, New York *Herald* and *Grand Army Journal*. and yet no notice had been taken of it. It was a disgrace to the country and a still greater disgrace to the Grand Army of the Republic.

Comrade Merrill wanted to do the whole thing, (if anything was done) with the miserable curse who was disgracing the office he holds.

If he was such a mischief in Texas, it was not the thing to take him from this and place him in some other State where he can insult and abuse other loyal men. While he (Merrill) loved his brethren in Texas, he loved the Order of the Grand Army a good deal more. For that reason he hoped the Encampment would not vote to take any action in the matter of the removal of the officer. If the Government had the facts properly presented to it he did not doubt that the nuisance would be removed.

Comrade Cundy, of Massachusetts, moved to indefinitely postpone the whole matter.

Comrade Rhodes, of Rhode Island, said:

That the first duty of the Grand Army was to stand by each other and not be scared by the "bug-a-boo" of politics. If the National Encampment ever ought to interfere, it was in this case. It seemed to him that the mere name of the Commander-in-Chief was enough to guarantee that the Grand Army of the Republic had nothing whatever to do with politics. The Committee did not ask that any man should be appointed or promoted. He could inform his Comrade from Massachusetts however, that in the sister State of Rhode Island, where the claims of Union soldiers to office have been disregarded entirely, they did not hesitate to send such an appeal to their Congressmen that Union soldiers were appointed to Union offices. The Department of Rhode Island has presented a general appeal to the Congressional delegation from that State, not endorsing any man now, not that Mr. A———, or Mr. B———, be accepted or rejected, but that in their recommendation to office, other things being equal, the claim of the loyal soldier and sailor be first considered. [Applause.]

Comrade Barnum, of New York, said that as individuals,

they were all willing to go as far as the furthest to provide places, whether political or otherwise, for honorably discharged soldiers and sailors, but if any Department Encampment or officer takes action recommending such person to office, they certainly violate the rules.

After some further discussion by Comrades Reeder, Harris and Briggs, the resolution was amended by striking out all after the words "United States," in the last sentence; and as amended was adopted.

Comrades Goble, of New Jersey, Davidson, of Texas, and Denison of Maryland, were appointed the committee to carry out the objects of the resolution.

On motion of Comrade Peirce, of Massachusetts, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a suitable testimonial to be presented to Comrade Roswell Miller, Adjutant-General, for his efficient and valuable services during the past year

Comrades Peirce, of Massachusetts, Norris, of Pennsylvania, and Barnum, of New York, were appointed the committee.

It was voted that when the Encampment adjourn, it be to meet Thursday morning, at 9 o'clock.

The Encampment then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year. Comrade Barnum moved that the Adjutant-General be instructed to cast one ballot for Commander-in-Chief, and that on the ballot be written the name of Ambrose E. Burnside. [Applause.]

The motion was unanimously carried, and Comrade Burnside was re-elected Commander-in-Chief. He said:

COMRADES: I have few words in which to express my thankfulness for this kind treatment. In the ensuing year I shall endeavor to do all in my power for the extension of our Order. I am heartily interested in everything that concerns the surviving soldiers of our land. [Applause]. I am glad to say that nothing that will advance the interests and well-being of my comrades fails to command my sympathy; and when I fail to have that full appreciation of the great services which our Comrades have rendered our country and are doing to-day for each other, then I shall feel that I am no longer fit to be called a good citizen of the United States. [Applause.] I sincerely thank you for this very kind demonstration of your friendship and confidence. [Loud Applause.]

Comrade Sibley, of Massachusetts, alluded in complimentary terms to the able manner in which Comrade Louis Wagner had presided over the Encampment during the absence of the Commander-in-Chief, and moved that the Adjutant-General be instructed to cast one ballot for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, on which should be written the name of Louis Wagner, of Pennsylvania. He did this at the request of the Massachusetts delegation, who felt that New England having the Commander-in-Chief, had no right to ask anything more. It had been the wish of the Massachusetts delegation that the second office in the gift of the Encampmight be given to Comrade Charles Devens, of Massachusetts, the first comrade of the Order in that State, and who has always had the objects of the Order at heart, but it had been deemed too much to ask, and he cheerfully made the motion which he had made.

The motion was endorsed by Comrades Harris, of New Jersey, and MacDougall, of New York, and seconded by the Rhode Island delegation, and was unanimously carried; and Comrade Wagner was re-elected Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Wagner returned his thanks for the honor done him.

He said that he came to the Encampment determined to nominate and advocate the election of some one else to the office of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. He had hoped that the comrade from Massachusetts whose name had been mentioned, would have been that comrade. He felt that he had held office a good deal in the National Encampment, and that he did not deserve the commendations which had been given him. He had simply endeavored to do his duty as a comrade of the Grand Army. He desired to have made a very pleasant speech as a return for this repeated mark of the esteem of the Encampment, but felt that he could not do the subject justice.

The Encampment then proceeded to the choice of a Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, and comrades Douglas, Earnshaw and Beath were appointed tellers.

Comrade Gould presented the name of Comrade H. G. Hicks, of Minnesota.

Comrade Briggs presented the name of Comrade McMurdy, of Colorado.

Comrade Earnshaw presented the name of Comrade Keifer, of Ohio.

The voting then proceeded, during which names for the Council of Administration were presented, but the list was not completed until later in the session. The ballot for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief resulted as follows:

Whole number of votes	61
Necessary to a choice	31
Comrade Keifer had	34
Comrade Hicks had	19
Comrade McMurdy had	8

And Comrade J. Warren Keifer, of Ohio, was declared elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. On motion of Comrade Gould, the election was made unanimous.

The Encampment then proceeded to the election of Surgeon-General, and Comrade Samuel A. Green, of Massachusetts, was unanimously re-elected.

The Encampment then proceeded to the election of Chaplain-in-Chief, and Comrade William Earnshaw was unanimously re-elected.

On motion, Comrades Richard Middleton and J. E. Griffiths, of Iowa, were invited to seats on the floor.

The Committee on Rules and Regulations then made their report, which was acted upon *seriatim*.

It was voted "that the Rules and Regulations be revised and printed, in the manner and form as prescribed by the National Council of Administration."

The Committee reported in favor of the first amendment, which was adopted as a substitute for the old Rule, as follows:

ARTICLE 5, CHAPTER V.—INSPECTION.

Section 1. There shall be a thorough inspection of each Post during the month of October or November in each year, to be made by the Assistant Inspector, Department officer, or other Comrade assigned to such duty, the report of the same to be made to the Inspector of the Department immediately thereafter.

Such additional inspections shall be made as the Commander may deem necessary, on the recommendation of the Inspector, or when directed by the Inspector-General.

The Inspector shall consolidate the reports of his assistants, for the information of the Commander, and shall furnish copies of such consolidated reports to the Inspector-General.

Section 2. The Commander of each Department shall divide his Department into such number of Inspection Districts as he deems necessary, changing the same at his discretion.

He shall, on the nomination of the Inspector, appoint Comrades as Assistant Inspectors, who shall be assigned to duty and act as such during the pleasure of the Commander.

Section 3. Assistant Inspectors-General shall be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, on the nomination of the Inspector-General. They shall make inspections of the various staff officers of the Departments whenever required, and shall report the result of the same immediately to the Inspector-General, and shall perform such other duties as may be required of them by the Commander-in-Chief or Inspector-General.

Section 4. The Inspector-General shall prescribe the form of blanks to be used for the Inspection of Posts, and, with the approval of the Commander-in-Chief, may give such special instructions in reference to Inspections as may be deemed necessary. He shall prepare an abstract of the reports received from Departments for the information of the Commander-in-Chief and present a report to the National Encampment.

Section 5. All books, papers, accounts, records and proceedings pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic, shall be subject to inspection at all times by the several inspecting officers in their respective districts.

The Committee reported adversely to the following proposition:

Insert in Chapter IV. Art. 6, Sec. 1, before the last sentence:

"He shall direct the printing and distribution of the Ritual of the Grand Army, and may authorize the translation of the same into any foreign language, and the use of such translation by any Post by which such language is better understood than English."

Comrade Bunts explained that the Committee so reported because they believed that the subject was now covered by the Rules, and had been so decided by the Judge-Advocate-General.

Comrade Reeder moved to amend by providing that the Ritual should be printed in English, and after some discussion the report of the Committee was accepted, and the proposed amendment rejected.

The Committee reported adversely to the following proposition:

Insert in Chapter II. Art. 2, after Sec. 8:

"*Section* 9. A person who has been dishonorably discharged from the Grand Army of the Republic by sentence of a Court-martial may be re-

admitted by the Post of which he was a member, in the manner prescribed for the admission of new members. Provided, that his application shall have been first approved by the officer who approved the sentence of the Court-martial."

The amendment was rejected.

The Committee reported in favor of the next amendment, which was adopted as follows:

Insert in Chapter V. Art. 1, after Sec. 5:

"*Section* 6. The National Encampment, at its Annual Session, or the Commander-in-Chief, with the consent of the Council of Administration, at any time may revoke the charter of a Department which for three-quarters of a year has failed to forward its reports or dues, and may remand such Department to a provisional condition."

The Committee reported in favor of amending Art. XIII., Sec. 1, Chapter V., so that it will read as follows:

The Ritual and unwritten forms of the Grand Army of the Republic, the names of persons causing the rejection of candidates for membership, or any information as to the causes or means of such rejection, shall be kept secret; but any part of the proceedings of Post Encampments may be published, if ordered by vote of the Post, approved by the Department Encampment, or Department Commander, or Commander-in-Chief; and any part of the proceedings of a Department Encampment, may be published, if ordered by the Encampment, or Department Commander, or Commander-in-Chief; and any part of the proceedings of the National Encampment may be published if ordered by the National Encampment or Commander-in-Chief.

The Committee reported against the following amendment:

"To amend Sec. 1, Art. 7, of Chapter 2d, Rules and Regulations," by inserting after the words "unanimous consent," in the third line, the following: "except the Officer of the Day and Officer of the Guard, who shall be appointed by the Post Commander, and they shall hold their office during the pleasure of the Commander."

After some discussion the amendment was rejected—27 to 18.

The Committee reported in favor of the following amendment, which was adopted—36 to 8.

Insert after the words "Department Commander" in the first class of membership in Article 2, Chapter III., "All Past Department Commanders, so long as they remain in good standing in their respective Posts."

The following amendment was adopted without discussion, on the Commitee's recommendation:

Insert after the word "Commander-in-Chief" in 1st class of membership in Article 2, Chapter IV., "Past Commanders-in-Chief, Past Vice-Commanders-in-Chief, so long as they remain in good standing in their respective Posts."

The committee recommended the following amendment:

"To amend the Rules and Regulations so as to allow a Post Commander to appoint Sergeant-Major and Quartermaster-Sergeant, upon the recommendation of the Adjutant and Quartermaster respectively."

After some discussion the amendment was adopted, when the Encampment adjourned until Thursday morning.

SECOND DAY.

The Encampment was called to order at 9.40 A. M. Thursday.

After the grand rounds the consideration of the report of the Committee on Rules and Regulations was resumed.

The following amendment was rejected:

"To amend the Rules and Regulations so that a Post Court-martial will have the same power as a General Court-martial."

The following resolution was referred to the National Council of Administration:

"To provide for the decoration of graves in the National Cemeteries in the South."

The committee reported against the following resolution, which was rejected:

"To reduce the amount of per capita tax assessed by the National Encampment on Departments."

The committee also reported against the amendment

"To make the Post Terms semi-annual instead of annual, and to require reports to be made at the end of each term only."

On motion of Comrade Churchill, the question was divided, and, after some discussion, the proposition to make Post Terms semi-annual was defeated.

After some further discussion the second proposition was also defeated—an amendment to require reports in January and July being also lost.

The committee reported against the following amendments, which were rejected without debate:

"To amend the R. and R. so as to require one term of service as a Vice

Commander before a Comrade shall be eligible as a Post Commander, and one term in some subordinate office before he shall be eligible as a Vice Commander."

"To provide that no past elective officer shall be eligible for the office past unless he has been one full term out of such office."

"To amend the R. and R. so as to permit Departments to regulate the cost of Post Charters within their respective jurisdiction, provided they shall charge not less than——, and not more than $50."

"To change the Form of Opening."

"To amend the R. and R. with reference to the composition of Dept. and National Encampment, so as to make all Past Post Commanders members of the Dept. Enc., and Past Dept. Commanders members of the Nat. Enc., and to provide that only Past P. C.'s shall be eligible to represent their Depts. in Nat. Enc. in connection with Past D. C.'s"

Upon the proposition "That there be no alteration made in the Ritual by this Encampment at its present session." the committee reported "Amen," and the Encampment said "Amen."

The Committee reported in favor of the proposition "That Par. 2d, Sec. 1, Art. 9, Chapter V., be so amended as to allow each Department to adopt its own uniform."

After considerable discussion, on motion of Comrade Reynolds, an amendment was adopted allowing Posts to select their own uniform, after which the whole amendment was adopted.

The Committee reported against the proposition "That this Encampment adopt some simple recognition sign."

After some discussion the report of the committee was accepted. The Committee gave as a reason for this report, that the Encampment had always voted not to change the Ritual, and that the above proposition would make such a change.

Comrade Reeder raised the point that it was not a change in the Ritual.

The Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, then in the Chair decided the point not well taken.

Comrade Reeder respectfully appealed from the decision, but, after some discussion, withdrew the appeal.

On motion of Comrade Bunts, the vote accepting the committee's report was re-considered, and, on motion of the same Comrade, the Commander-in-Chief was instructed to select for the Order such a sign of recognition as he should deem proper. (The Commander-in-Chief, with Comrades Fairchild, Douglas and Beath, then retired, and subsequently

the Commander-in-Chief reported the sign of recognition of the Encampment, and it was adopted).

The committee reported adverse to the proposition.

"That there be adopted a side degree for ladies—wives of members only eligible."

The proposition was rejected without discussion.

The committee reported in favor of the following amendment, which was adopted.

"To amend Chapter II, Art. 4, Sec. 2, by making the last sentence read as follows: 'Until his reception by some other Post, he shall remain, for all purposes of discipline only, under the jurisdiction of the Post granting the transfer paper.'"

The Committee also reported in favor of the following amendment, which was adopted without debate:

"To amend Chapter I., Art. 5, Sec. 6, so as to authorize the Commander-in-Chief or a Department Commander to grant a dispensation in writing, to any Post, to waive in any particular case the rule prohibiting an investigating committee from reporting upon an application on the same evening of their appointment; also, to authorize the Commander-in-Chief or a Department Commander to grant a dispensation in any particular case, to a Post, to muster a candidate even though he has not presented himself for muster within three months after notice of election."

The Committee favored the following amendment, which, after a slight discussion, was adopted:

"To amend Sec. 3, Art. 1, of Chapter V., of the R. and R., so as to read, 'All property of the Dept., including Books of Record and Post Papers, shall be turned over to the Dept. Headquarters.'"

The committee reported against the following propositions to amend, which were rejected without debate:

"That the delegates to the National Encampment wear the prescribed uniform during the sitting of the Encampment.

"To require Posts, in their reports, to give the number of Comrades employed or working for the General Government."

The committee also recommended the following resolution, which was adopted without debate:

"*Resolved*, That the Rules and Regulations of the National Encampment be so changed as to authorize a Senior and Junior Vice-Commander in Provisional Departments, the same to be appointed by the Provisional Commander, subject to the approval of the Commander-in-Chief."

The committee also recommended the adoption of the

following amendment, proposed by Comrade McMurdy of Colorado:

"*Resolved*, That the R. and R. be amended by substituting the word 'six' in place of the word 'ten,' in the first line of Sec. 2, Art. 10, Chap. V.

The resolution was adopted, with the following proviso offered by Comrade McMurdy:

"*Provided*, That the Commander-in-Chief, when satisfied upon proper representation that a State or Territory has not a sufficient number of sailors and soldiers to organize six Posts, may organize a Department with a less number of Posts."

The committee reported the following amendment:

"Posts which shall not have been organized for three months prior to a Department Encampment, shall not be entitled to a vote."

Comrade Reynolds moved an amendment to make it one month, but subsequently withdrew it, and the whole proposition was rejected, 18 to 19.

The committee reported against the following proposition offered by Comrade Smith of the Potomac:

"The Department of the Potomac at its last annual meeting—*Resolved*, That the National Encampment be requested to so amend the Rules as to make Department Staff Officers elective."

The proposition was rejected.

The committee reported in favor of the following proposition:

Insert "Books" before the word "Blanks," in Sec. 3, Par. 2, of Article 6, Chap. IV, and further amend so as to authorize the Q. M. G. to furnish suitable books to Post and Department Quartermasters, in which to keep their accounts.

Adopted.

The committee recommended the following amendment to be inserted after "in good standing therein," in Par. 3, Sec. 1, Art. 2, Chap. IV:

"*Provided*, That any Department having less than 1,000 members and more than 500, shall be entitled to one delegate in addition to the delegate at large."

Adopted.

The committee also reported against the following proposition submitted by Comrade Morris of Ohio:

"*Whereas,* There are many soldiers who served for a short term, from three months to one year, and they seem loth to join the Order; therefore,

"*Resolved,* That they may have the privilege of becoming honorary members with all rights but holding office."

The proposition was rejected.

The committee also reported against the proposition by the same Comrade.

"That Posts may have the privilege of establishing honorary grades, if so desired."

The proposition was rejected.

The committee also reported against the proposition by the same Comrade.

"That there may be other grades established, first, one degree to entitle comrades to hold offices in the Post, and, second, in the Department," and

"That officers of posts shall hold their term for six months only, and all elections shall be held semi-annually."

The propositions were rejected.

This disposed of the report of the Committee on Rules and Regulations.

Comrade Sibley, from the committee to whom was referred the reports of the various officers of the National Encampment, submitted the report of the committe, as follows:

1st. That the report of the Surgeon-General be accepted.

2d. That the report of the Q. M. Gen. be accepted; and they also recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas, There appear to be certain balances on the books of the Q. M. Gen., as turned over to the present incumbent, in dispute—certain amounts appearing to be due from parties, who hold receipts showing that they have paid the same, and certain amounts charged to Departments or persons, which can never be collected; therefore,

Resolved, That the Commander-in-Chief appoint a committee of three comrades, who shall thoroughly investigate the facts as to the errors and differences in the said books, fix the responsibility therefor and report what accounts ought to be closed. The said committee shall report to the Commander-in-Chief as soon as possible, and he shall have full power to adopt and carry out their suggestions.

3d. That the report of the Adjutant-General be accepted; and we also recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Adjutant-General be directed to remit balances due from Departments for property furnished them, if the said remission be approved by the Commander-in-Chief.

4th. That the report of the Judge Advocate-General be accepted.

5th. That the report of the several officers of the National Encampment, the Commander-in-Chief excepted, shall be made up hereafter to the 31st day of December of each year.

The entire report of the committee thus far was adopted *seriatim*, without debate.

The last subject which the committee presented was their report upon the resolutions of the Council of Administration, in reference to the Department of New York. The committee recommended the adoption of the following preamble and resolutions :

Whereas, The Council of Administration has submitted to this Encampment resolutions setting forth the fact that the annual Encampment of the Department of New York, held on the 17th of January last, did admit to the said Encampment the delegates of certain Posts not entitled to sit therein (not having been elected in conformity with the Rules and Regulations), and

Whereas, The said resolutions of the Council of Administration declare the action of the Encampment aforesaid irregular, and in violation of the Rules and Regulations, and ask for action by the National Encampment; it is therefore

Resolved, That the before-mentioned action of the Department Encampment of New York was in plain violation of the Rules and Regulations, and is therefore void and of no legal effect.

Resolved, That the Commander-in-Chief be, and he hereby is directed to cause these preambles and resolutions to be transmitted to the Commander of the Department of New York, with instructions to publish the same in General Orders, for the information and guidance of the members and Posts within his jurisdiction.

Comrade Reeder said :

He was opposed to the report of the Committee on the broad ground of equity and fair dealing. Whether contrary to the Rules and Regulations or not, it has been the custom to admit Posts to a representation in the Department Encampment whether they elected delegates in December or not. Such had uniformly been the custom in the Department of Pennsylvania. He had never known a Post to be excluded because of the accident that they were not in existence in December, so as to allow them to elect as required by the Rules. They have always been accorded the right of representation, no matter at what time their delegates were elected. It certainly seems proper that the Posts of a Department should have a voice in its deliberations, and it seems inequitable that they should be held to an election in December, otherwise they would be debarred from representation for eleven months. It strikes me that a Post has the same right to elect their delegate that they have to elect their Post officers. It seems unfair to single out one Department Commander and pass resolutions censuring him for doing what has been done by every Department of the Grand Army. (Cries of no ! no !)

I do not desire to influence the Convention by untrue statements. If I am wrong then they are mistakes. I know that the Department of Pennsylvania has done the same thing as is charged to the Department of New York, and I suggest to the Committee that they incorporate in their resolutions a censure of the Department of Pennsylvania. I enter a plea of guilty of the same charge.

Comrade Merrill, of Massachusetts, denied the truth of the statement of Comrade Reeder that all Departments had been guilty of the act charged in the resolutions, and said:

There could be no such information about the Department of Massachusetts, because no such fact ever existed. It was not true, and never could have been true. They had not assembled in the National Encampment to ask what New York or Pennsylvania had done, but what the Rules and Regulations say they have a right to do. If new Posts are disfranchised, then amend the Rules and Regulations, but I do not grant that any such injustice is done to any Post I do not believe that State Encampments should be made up of Posts organized after the quarterly returns are in. I do not believe that even the Commander of the Post should be entitled to admission under that state of affairs.

Comrade Barnum of New York, said:

I am sincerely desirous that the discussion should go on in harmony and good feeling. I shall on my part keep to the fullest extent in that direction. I had felt a little sensitive that the Department of New York should be singled out and published in General Orders, as having committed a gross violation of the Rules and Regulations. I stand here, in common with Massachusetts, to say that strictly, under the interpretation of the Rules and Regulations, no delegate is entitled to a vote in the Encampment if he was not elected at the last stated meeting. But consider this case in the light of custom and of the facts. The law of the land plainly determines in what manner representatives and Senators shall be elected, and yet it is held that those bodies shall be the judges of their own membership. There is inferentially for us the same right, although the law says that no Post, not having organized in January, and elected its officers and delegates, shall be entitled to representation in the Department Encampment, to take care of its interests. Ought not such a body to have the right to judge of its own membership, and where no evils would attend would it not be courtesy to admit such delegations to seats and to votes? The same thing was done in the Department of New York two years ago, and has been done in Pennsylvania, and I call upon the delegation from New York present in this Encampment to say whether the admission of those delegates in any way affected the result of the deliberations of the Department Encampment? Certainly they did not, and it was not considered a momentous question at that time. The question is a very simple one now. The Encampment of New York admitted the delegates in violation of the Rules, considering that custom had made such bodies the judges of its own membership, and that

the admission of the delegates did not affect the result of the Convention. I therefore desire to say that while this is true, it seems strange that this Encampment should be called upon to single out the Department of New York for its censure.

I hope, therefore, the resolution will be modified so as to say that since such action had been taken by the Department of New York, contrary to the Rules and Regulations, hereafter all Posts should be forbidden similar action.

Comrade Bullard, of New York, said:

I hope the report of the committee will be adopted. I was a member of the last Encampment of New York, and made the minority report against the admission of the delegates, and made it upon the Rules and Regulations, Three of the committee were appointed by the Commander of the Department; The Encampment appointed two, of whom I was one, Comrade Reynolds the other. The report of the majority was by the three appointed by the Commander. It was with no misunderstanding of the Rules and Regulations that the Encampment admitted these delegates. I trust that in Pennsylvania there was some mistake and misunderstanding. I believe it was the duty of the Commander, sitting in his chair to have decided, with the Rules and Regulations in his hand, that the delegates could not be admitted. It is no question whether their admission did or did not affect the result. It is a question whether the National Encampment will endorse the action of the majority of a Department Encampment admitting illegal delegates I come here to ask the National Encampment to sustain me in the position which I then took, that the delegates were improperly chosen. In this every delegate from New York to this Encampment agrees, except the Commander of the Department himself.

Comrade Reeder, of Pennsylvania, desired to explain his position, and said:

He did not maintain and had not maintained, that, under the letter of the law, those delegates were not improperly admitted to representation in the Department Encampment. He had never held such an opinion; he had simply objected to the selection of any one Department for censure for an act that has been done by many other Departments.

Comrade Fairchild, of Wisconsin said:

It appeared that the Department of Pennsylvania had been guilty of the same offence, and it was whispered that the Department of Wisconsin was in the same position. Whether it was so or not, he did not know. Here were three Departments upon equal grounds, and he therefore moved to amend by inserting in the resolutions the names of Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, and all other Departments who may have been guilty of this offence. He did this because the Order would thus go to every Department guilty of the offence.

Comrade Bullard:

Was the question of the illegality of the election of the delegates raised.

Comrade Farchild:

It was not in Wisconsin.

Comrade Reeder:

It was not in Pennsylvania.

Comrade Churchill, of Massachusetts, urged the adoption of the report of the committee. He believed in obeying orders to the death.

The previous question was called for to close the debate, but was defeated, and after the reading of the resolutions, the discussion proceeded.

Comrade Ketchum said:

I claim that the amendment offered by Comrade Fairchild is irrelevant, inasmuch as the preamble of the resolutions referred to the action of New York.

The amendment ought not to be adopted, also, because the Council did not have before it the records of the other States, as they did that of New York. The Posts to which reference had been made in New York, were 16, 28, 47, 54, 80 and 83, six Posts which were either newly organized or re-organized. He would not state it as a fact of his own knowledge, but he had been informed by reliable authority, that some of those Posts were organized within twenty-four hours of the convening of the State Encampment. What is the effect of this, if we allow such action to pass unnoticed? The Commander of a Department has great power—almost autocratic power—with regard to granting charters. Suppose that he should have a reason for desiring to secure delegates to the National Encampment.

Comrade Barnum:

I will vote for a resolution including Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Comrade Ketchum:

That is not the question at issue. I claim that this Encampment should stand on the record and declare itself by the resolutions which the delegates from New York desire to have passed.

Comrade Beath moved to strike out the last resolution concerning publishing in general orders.

The Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, then in the chair, ruled it out of order for the time being.

Comrade Bunts called for a division of the question, so that the preamble could be acted upon separately.

This was ruled out of order, inasmuch as the preamble and resolution could not be separated.

Comrade Harris moved to ammend the preamble by in-

serting the words, "such action being questioned in the State or Department Encampment at the time."

The committee accepted the amendment.

The preamble and first resolution were then adopted.

Comrade Beath moved to strike out all in the second resolution after the words "Commander-in-Chief," and insert, "be instructed to publish the same in General Orders."

Comrade Sibley said:

The object of the committee in reporting the resolution as they had, was that all in the Department of New York might know who were entitled to seats in the encampment. What the committee desired was, that the National Encampment should vindicate its own action in the case.

Comrade Beath withdrew his amendment, and the second resolution was adopted.

Comrade Barnum rose to a question of privilege.

It had been stated that the entire delegation from New York in the National Encampment were there asking the action which had just taken place. He detailed the circumstances under which the delegation were chosen, claiming that there was in the Department Convention a sharp contest for the election of Commander. His (Barnum's) party were successful, and after the election had been made unanimous, as a matter of good feeling, the opposition, which stood upon the question of admitting the delegates whose admission had just been censured—110 to 79—were allowed to select the delegates to the National Encampment. This accounted for the position which the delegation were in this Encampment.

Comrade Harris referred in complimentary terms to the action of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Wagner, in the absence ot the Commander-in-Chief during a portion of the year, in changing the unwritten work of the Order, and offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the action of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, commanding in the absence of the Commander-in-Chief, in changing the unwritten work of the Order, though in violation of the Rules and Regulations, was fully justified by the surreptitious publication of the work then in use, and is therefore approved by this National Encampment.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Comrade Fairchild then offered the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted without debate:

Whereas, It has come to the knowledge of the National Encampment that certain Departments have heretofore innocently admitted to representation in their Encampments, delegates not legally elected and qualified; therefore,

Resolved, That such admissions of improperly elected delegates be declared in violation of the Rules and Regulations, and therefore void and of no effect.

The Committee on Legislation then presented their report, which was adopted without debate. It was as follows:

Report of Committee on Legislation.

The committee to whom was referred the suggestions in reference to legislation in the interests of ex-soldiers and sailors offered by Comrade Beath, with other resolutions on the same subject referred to them, beg leave to report, that they have given these important matters such consideration as their limited time allowed.

They recommend a careful examination of the statistics in the printed pamphlet submitted to the National Encampment. (See Appendix B.)

They express as their belief that the action of Congress in allowing soldiers and sailors desirous of settling on public lands the benefit of their term of service in the Army or Navy, has disposed of the question of bounty lands

They offer the following in reference to bounties:

Resolved, That the proposed equalization of bounties under House bill No. 574, presented by General Stoughton, of Michigan, merits our heartiest approval as being just and equitable in all its provisions, and we recommend its immediate passage by Congress.

They favor also

The propositions for an increase of pensions as suggested, namely, the increase to the permanently disabled, under the 1st and 2d provisions of General Chipman's bill, to be $1,000 per annum; and,

For all who have lost a leg or an arm, $30 per month; and an increase to all others of 20 per cent. Also

Resolved, That the time for making applications for pensions which would entitle the applicant to receive the back pension from date of discharge, should be extended to May 1, 1873.

In reference to Soldiers' Orphans and Training Schools, the committee offer the following:

Resolved, That all Comrades of the Grand Army, and soldiers and sailors, residing in States that have thus far neglected to provide for the education and care of the orphan children of our deceased comrades, are earnestly urged to at once commence a movement for the immediate establishment of State Homes in such States.

Resolved, That we commend to all the States the project of establishing Industrial Schools in connection with the present system of Homes, where these children may be specially trained to trades and occupations until they have attained their majority and are enabled to care properly, and fully for themselves.

Resolved, That we respectfully apply to Congress for such immediate legislation as will permit the burial, in our National Cemeteries, of all ex-U. S. soldiers and sailors that may die, upon the application being made by their friends.

Resolved, That the Commander-in-Chief be authorized to appoint a Committee of Five, to whom the matter of increase of pensions and establishment of Orphan Homes shall be referred, with full power to act.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT B. BEATH.
C. D. MACDOUGALL,
RICHARD H. LEE,
W. S. JENKINS,
C. R BRAYTON.

Comrade Hanaford offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commander-in-Chief be authorized to permit the introduction of any novelty in the Muster-in-Service, if approved by him, on its submission by a vote of a Department, provided it shall not require any change in the printed matter of the Ritual.

Adopted.

Comrade Hicks, of Minn., offered the following resolution.

"*Resolved*, That the Commander-in-Chief, if so requested by a vote of any Department Encampment, may dispense with the requirement for quarterly reports, and require the same only semi-annually for the terms ending in June and December."

After considerable discussion the resolution was adopted.

Comrade Bullard asked the decision of the Commander-in-Chief as to whether the Posts in the Department of New York, about which discussion had taken place, were entitled to representation in the Department Encampment.

The Commander-in-Chief decided that they had no right, under the Rules, to elect delegates.

Comrade Smith, of the Potomac, moved to reconsider the vote by which the Encampment adopted the report of the Inspector-General. He gave as a reason, that allusions contained in the report to the Department of the Potomac reflected unfairly upon that Department.

Comrade Beath re-read that portion of his report, having reference to the Department of the Potomac—after which the motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Comrade Sibley then offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the earnest and sincere thanks of this Encampment be extended to the Commander-in-chief, and to the Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, for the able, courteous and dignified manner in which they have conducted the arduous duties of their positions.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

The list of the Council of Administration was then completed and adopted, as follows :

Maine, George L. Beal; New Hampshire, S. G. Griffin; Massachusetts, William Cogswell; Connecticut, H. Clay Trumbull; Rhode Island, Charles R. Brayton; New York, A. P. Ketchum; New Jersey, Frederick H. Harris; Pennsylvania, W. W. Brown; Maryland, A. W. Denison; Virginia, J. M. Thacher; Ohio, C. A. Vaughan; Kentucky, G. W. Northup; Potomac, James T. Smith; Illinois, Solomon Rutter; Wisconsin, George A. Hanaford; Minnesota, James George; Kansas, A. D. Niemann; California, James Coey; New Mexico, S. B. Wheelock; Mississippi, J. C. Tucker; Iowa, Richard Middleton; Delaware, S. A. Macallister; Colorado, J. H. McMurdy.

Comrade Smith then offered the following resolution, by instruction of the Department of the Potomac:

Resolved, That the National Cemetery at Arlington, Va., and the approaches thereto from Georgetown and Washington, D. C., with the territory enclosed, be detached from the Department of Virginia, and attached to the Department of the Potomac.

After a slight discussion the resolution was referred to the Council of Administration.

Comrade McMurdy offered the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, It has been our privilege to enjoy the elegant and greatful hospitality of the Hon. Amasa Stone, Jr., and his estimable wife.

Resolved, That to them, on behalf of the Grand Army of the Republic, we tender our most sincere and heartfelt thanks for their hospitable attentions shown to us while in National Encampment, assembled at Cleveland, Ohio, May 7, 1872.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions, suitably engrossed, be prepared, and presented by the Adjutant-General.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Comrade Fairchild offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That our thanks are due to the members of Posts 23 and 69, G. A. R., and to the warm-hearted people of the beautiful city of Cleveland, for the generous hospitality extended to us as representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic; also, to the various railroad and steamboat lines whose courtesy we have experienced.

Comrade Reeder offered the following:

Whereas, The necessarily hurried manner of adopting amendments to the R. and R. of the Order by this Encampment has prevented that close scrutiny to which all our legislation should be subjected; and

Whereas, Conflicting or inconsistent amendments may have been adopted by this Encampment; therefore,

Resolved, That the revising authority be empowered to harmonize such conflicting acts of legislation in accordance with the expressed will and intention of this Convention.

Adopted.

It was moved that the Commander-in-Chief be directed to respond to the telegrams from Mississippi and Louisiana,

Adopted.

The Commander-in-Chief then reported to the Encampment the "hailing signal," which he had been instructed to report.

Comrade Rhodes offered the following:

Resolved, That at each annual meeting of the National Encampment of the G. A. R, the Encampment shall at one session resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Order, to allow of debate and statements made of the condition of the different Departments.

Adopted.

Comrade Wagner announced that the Department of Pennsylvania would hold its July Encampment at Gettysburg, for which they had made and were making great preparations. He was was requested by the Commander of the Department of Pennsylvania to invite all who were present, and all whom they might invite to attend.

Comrade Barnum, of New York, then offered the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Encampment be and hereby are tendered to the Inspector-General, the Quartermaster-General, the Judge-Advocate-General, the Surgeon-General, and the Chaplain-in-Chief, for the very able manner in which they have discharged the duties of their several offices.

The installation of officers was dispensed with, and, after going through the unwritten work of the Order, at about two o'clock the Encampment finally adjourned.

PROCEEDINGS*

OF THE

SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT,

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

HELD AT NEW HAVEN, CONN.,

May 14*th and* 15*th*, 1873.

FIRST DAY.

The National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic assembled in Annual Convention, in the hall of the House of Representatives, in the city of New Haven, Connecticut, Wednesday, May 14, 1873. The Encampment was called to order at 11.15 A. M., by Commander-in-Chief, Ambrose E. Burnside. The Grand Rounds were made by Comrade Robert R. Russell, of Admiral Foote Post, of New Haven, Officer of the Day, and Comrade James H. Cone, of the same Post, Officer of the Guard. The Guard were Comrades Lyman E. Bradley, David Ford, John W. Donaldson, Theodore Palmer, Frank Powers and Warren Sturgis, all of Admiral Foote Post.

In the absence of Comrade Earnshaw, Chaplain-in-Chief, prayer was offered by Comrade H. Clay Trumbull, of the National Council of Administration.

The report of the Committee on Credentials was made by Adjutant-General Miller, as follows:

* Reported by Comrade Edwin D. White, Edward W. Kinsley Post No. 113, Department of Massachusetts.

Report of Committee on Credentials.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
New Haven, Conn., May 14, 1873.

The Committee on Credentials find the following Departments entitled to representation by their department officers, as prescribed by the Rules and Regulations, and by delegates, as stated:

Maine,	2	delegates.	Rhode Island,	2	delegates.
New Hampshire,	2	"	Pennsylvania,	5	"
Connecticut,	2	"	Illinois,	1	"
Vermont,	2	"	Minnesota,	1	"
Massachusetts,	12	"	Virginia,	1	"
Potomac,	1	"	Kentucky,	1	"
Texas,	1	"	Wisconsin,	1	"
Ohio,	2	"	California,	1	"
New Jersey,	2	"			

The following Provisional Departments are entitled to representation by their department officers:

Delaware, New Mexico, Georgia, Louisiana, Indiana.

The Department of New York is in arrears for dues for the third quarter, 1871, and is not entitled to representation.

The Department of Kansas is in arrears for the second, third and fourth quarters, 1872, and is not entitled to representation.

The Department of Maryland is in arrears for 1872, and is not entitled to representation.

The Provisional Department of Mississippi is in arrears for the fourth quarter, 1872, and is not entitled to representation.

The following Provisional Departments are also in arrears (all except Oregon, Iowa and Colorado, being disorganized:) Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Missouri, Oregon, Nebraska, Iowa and Colorado.

Respectfully submitted,

ROSWELL MILLER,
Adjutant-General.

CHARLES R. BRAYTON,
DANIEL WOODALL,
A. P. KETCHUM,
Committee.

Comrade Corliss, of New York, said that he understood from the Quartermaster-General that the regulations had been complied with, and the New York delegation claimed a representation in the convention, based on their last report.

Comrade Cornelius G. Attwood, Quartermaster-General, said:

"In the reports of the Department of New York there has been from time to time a great variance. One of these occurred between the third and fourth

quarters of 1871, and the Adjutant-General of the Order received, in the early part of 1872, a supplemental report from the Assistant Adjutant-General of New York, showing 1,506 more members than was shown in his original report. I have endeavored to obtain a correct report and the corresponding dues, but without success. Some comrade has referred to the fact that at the last National Encampment, in Cleveland, the Department of New York was not accounted in arrears. I have to state that the reports properly were made up for the year to December 31, 1871, but at the request of the National Headquarters reports were in for the first quarter of 1872, to enable the staff officers to make their reports. The arrearage did not occur until March, 1872, and the standing of the Department is determined by the December report. I think that course is entirely correct. In view of the fact that the Assistant Adjutant-General of New York did make a supplementary report of 1,506 men, I consider it my duty to report the Department in arrears for that number, and claimed $45.18 as due the National Headquarters from that Department."

Comrade Douglas, Judge Advocate General, said that the question was referred to him whether a supplementary report could be required when the first report did not give the accurate number of men, and he decided that it could.

Comrade Corliss, of New York, said that the New York delegation were prepared to pay the amount called for under protest.

The Commander-in-Chief said that he saw no objection to such a course, and if there was no objection the dues would be received under protest.

Comrade Underwood, of the Department of Massachusetts, moved that the report of the Committee on Credentials be accepted.

Comrade Corliss said that he offered the amount under protest because he understood that several other Departments were in the same position.

The report of the Committee on Credentials was then amended so as to allow the New York delegation to take their seats, and the roll was called by Adjutant-General Miller, and the following were found present:

ROLL OF THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

Those absent marked thus *

Commander-in-Chief..... A. E. Burnside.
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.....Louis Wagner,
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.....J. Warren Keifer*

Surgeon General.....Samuel A. Green.
Chaplain-in-Chief.....William Earnshaw *
Adjutant General.....Roswell Miller.
Quartermaster General.....Cornelius G Attwood
Inspector General.....M. B. Goodrich.
Judge Advocate General.....William W. Douglas.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

George L. Beal.	A. D. Meinam.*	Charles S. Greene.
S. G. Griffin.*	S B. Wheelock.*	J. M. Thacher.*
Charles R. Brayton.	Rich'd Middleton.*	G. W. Northup.*
M. T. Dwyer.	J. H. McMurdy.*	John McArthur.
A. W. Denison.*	J. H. Goulding.	James George.*
C. A. Vaughan.*	William Cogswell.	James Coey.*
James T. Smith.*	H. Clay Trumbull.	J. C. Tucker.*
Geo. A. Hanaford.*	A. P. Ketchum.	S. A. Macallister*
	James Davidson.*	

PAST NATIONAL OFFICERS.

Past Commanders-in-Chief,	B. F. Stephenson.*
	S. A. Hurlbut.*
	John A. Logan.*
Past Senior Vice Commanders-in-Chief,	James B. McKean.*
	Joshua T. Owen.*
	Lucius Fairchild.*
Past Junior Vice Commanders-in-Chief,	R. S. Foster.*
	J. R. Hawley.
	James Coey.*

MAINE.

Commander, Daniel White; Senior Vice-Commander, George H. Abbott, Junior Vice Commander, A. A. Miller.*

Delegate: Joshua L. Chamberlain * Alternate: A. S. Perham.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Commander, Timothy W. Challis; Senior Vice Commander, J. Albert Sanborn*; Junior Vice Commander, John B. Cooper.

Delegate: W. P. Moses.

VERMONT.

Commander, W. G. Veazey; Senior Vice Commander, T. S. Peck; Junior Vice Commander, M. B. Carpenter*.

Delegates: W. W. Henry, H. E. Taylor.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Commander, A. B. Underwood; Senior Vice Commander, J. W. Kimball; Junior Vice Commander, Lemuel Pope.*

Delegates: Henry R. Sibley, Charles O. Welch, Charles H. Chase, George S. Merrill, G. A. Churchill, A. M. Tilton, W. H. Carney, Henry B. Peirce, George T. Childs, Luke Lyman, Wm. Spalding, G. H. Babbitt.

CONNECTICUT.

Commander, L. A. Dickinson; Senior Vice Commander, C. J. Buckbee; Junior Vice Commander, W. E. Disbrow.

Delegates: V. B. Chamberlain, B. F. Blakeslee.

RHODE ISLAND.

Commander, E. H. Rhodes; Senior Vice Commander, E. C. Pomroy; Junior Vice Commander, George F. Crowninshield.*

Delegates, Robert FNicola, Horatio Rogers.

NEW YORK.

Commander, Stephen R. Corliss; Senior Vice Commander, Samuel Minnes; Junior Vice Commander, A. B. Lawrence.

Delegates: Charles A. Wells, R. L. Fox, E. B. Gere, Wm. Riley; Alternates, W. D. Janes†, J. G. Copley.

NEW JERSEY.

Commander, John R. Goble; Senior Vice Commander, James F. Rusling;* Junior Vice Commander, Isaac Van Houten.* ‡

Delegates: Richard H. Lee, Charles Burrows.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Commander, Robert B. Beath; Senior Vice Commander, D. Newlin Fell; Junior Vice Commander, W. W. Brown.

Delegates: John F. Hartranft, W. W. Jennings, A. Wilson Norris, O. C. Bosbyshell, Frank Reeder.

VIRGINIA.

Commander, S. B. Kenney;* Senior Vice Commander, Joseph T. Wilson;* Junior Vice Commander, Rufus Jones.*

Delegate: H. Carlisle.*

POTOMAC.

Commander, F. H. Sprague; Senior Vice Commander, George J. Webb; Jnnior Vice Commander, C. A. Fleetwood.*

Delegate: Timothy Lubey.

OHIO.

Commander, G. M. Barber ;* Senior Vice Commander, J. S. Clemmer;* Junior Vice Commander, M. S. Gunckle.*

Delegates: Clarence Morris, C. L. Russell.

ILLINOIS.

Commander, Guy T. Gould; Senior Vicc Commander, James J. Palmer;* Junior Vice Commander, George N. Carey.*

Delegate: James E. White.

† On Thursday, May 15, Comrade J. C. Carmichael appeared and took his seat in place of his alternate, Comrade Janes.

‡ Comrade Isaac Van Houten, Junior Vice Commander, Department of New Jersey, also took his seat on Thursday.

KENTUCKY.

Commander, Robert Johnson;* Senior Vice Commander, P. S. Reeves;* Junior Vice Commander, John A. Benninger.*

Delegate, C. P. Wilcox.

WISCONSIN.

Commander, Edward Ferguson; Senior Vice Commander, A. J. McCoy;* Junior Vice Commander, A. L. Tucker.*

Delegate, Fred C. Winkler.*

MINNESOTA.

Commander, Henry A. Castle;* Senior Vice Commander, D. W. Albaugh;* Junior Vice Commander, E. M. Bloomer.*

Delegates, John C. Hamilton,* Zene C. Bohrer.*

CALIFORNIA.

Commander, William H. Aiken;* Senior Vice Commander, William R. Cox, Jr;* Junior Vice Commander, F. C. Lord.*

Delegate, George H. Robinson.*

TEXAS.

Commander, E. J. Davis;* Senior Vice Commander, J. C. Delpress;* Junior Vice Commander, A. G. Malloy.*

Delegate, Charles Parker.

DELAWARE. (Prov.)

Commander, Daniel Woodall; Senior Vice Commander, Frank Nolen.

GEORGIA. (Prov.)

Commander, John T. Collins.

NEW MEXICO. (Prov.)

Commander, G. A. Smith;* Senior Vice Commander, Louis Felsenthal;* Junior Vice Commander, J. F. Seymour.*

LOUISIANA. (Prov.)

Commander, J. Tarbell.*

INDIANA. (Prov.)

Commander, Jasper Packard.*

The Committee on Credentials for the following year: The Adjutant-General, member of the National Council of Administration from New Jersey, Connecticut, Vermont, and Ohio.

A member of the New York delegation then offered a resolution declaring that Comrade Ketchum, of New York, who was present in the convention, was not a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Commander-in-Chief ruled it out of order. He said he had the report of the Officer of the Day that every per-

son in the hall was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and he could not go back of it.

Reports of officers being next in order, the Commander-in-Chief delivered the following address:

COMRADES:

You have honored me, for two successive years, by calling me to preside over the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, and whilst I am not at all sure that it is the disposition of any one of the members of the Encampment to have me retain the position of Commander-in-Chief, I beg to say, that under no circumstances can I again be a candidate. Not because the duties of the office have not been pleasant to me, not because my associations with the members of the Order and with the officers of Departments have not been entirely harmonious and agreeable, but because I think it for the interests of the Order to change its Commanders from time to time, and because my business relations are such as to compel me to retire from all public positions.

I congratulate you upon the success of the last year's work. The reports of the heads of bureaus will show to you that the Order is in a most prosperous condition; and as it is the leading organization of soldiers in our country, it should be a great source of satisfaction to us all that it has continued to grow in public estimation.

Since we last met we have passed through a most exciting political campaign, and it has been demonstrated that our Order is entirely free from political tendencies, and is devoted at all times to its primary duties of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.

I cannot too strongly commend the officers of my staff, who have aided me in performing the duties of the past year. Whilst all the members of my staff have, in every respect, faithfully performed every duty that has fallen to their lot, I must mention specially the names of Comrade Miller, Adjutant-General, Comrade Attwood, Quartermaster-General, Comrade Beath, Inspector-General, Comrade Douglas, Judge Advocate-General and Comrade Goodrich, Assistant Adjutant-General, now Inspector-General, all of whom have performed their duties in the most intelligent and faithful manner, and without compensation

The Quartermaster-General's report shows a balance in the treasury of $2,800. For this handsome balance we are indebted to the promptness of Departments in paying their dues, and to the very able and efficient management of Comrade Attwood, Quartermaster-General. At our last session, in Cleveland, the Rules and Regulations were so thoroughly revised as to make the machinery of the Order so perfect in its workings that I do not find myself called upon to make any recommendation of changes. I thank my Comrades for the great honor they have done me, and hope to show my appreciation of it by devotion to the interests of the Order in the future. It now gives me pleasure to open the session of the National Encampment, and invite you to proceed to the business before you.

The address was warmly applauded, and was referred to the proper committee.

The Adjutant-General then submitted his report, as follows:

Report of the Adjutant-General.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Adjutant-General's Office,
New York, May 1, 1873.

A. E. Burnside,
Commander-in-Chief G. A. R.

Comrade.—I have the honor to submit to the National Encampment a report of the business of the Adjutant-General's office from May 1, 1872, the date of my last report, to December 31, 1872, a period of eight months.

During the past year there has been a marked improvement in the promptness with which Departments have made their Reports to National Headquarters, and there has not been the slightest difficulty in securing prompt payment of bills for books and blanks.

The following departments have reported regularly to the Adjutant-General: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts' Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Wisconsin, California, Potomac, Minnesota, New Mexico, Texas, Georgia, Mississippi, Illinois, Louisiana,—twenty-three (23) in number. The average number of Departments reporting in 1870, was 16; in 1871, 20; in 1872, 23.

The aggregate membership of the Departments remains about the same as at last Report. The following statement shows the changes reported, as compared with the same quarters of the previous year:

	1871.—3 quarters.	1872.—3 quarters.
Gain—By Muster . . .	6,201	3,716
From Suspended .	2,217	1,894
Total Gain . . .	8,418	5,610
Loss—By Death . . .	287	196
" Discharge . .	263	178
" Suspension . .	7,786	4,957
" Dismissal . .	52	28
Total Loss . .	8,388	5,359

In my last Report, the following Departments were reported as "disorganized or dormant" at the beginning of the year 1871; Illinois, Indiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Michigan, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, Iowa, Georgia, Missouri, Florida, North Carolina, New Mexico, Arkansas, Alabama, South Carolina, Louisiana and West Virginia. Of these the following showed no signs of life: Arkansas, Alabama, South Carolina, West Virginia, Michigan and Indiana.

The single Post existing in SOUTH CAROLINA, was disbanded December 9, 1872, by Special Order No. 14, on account of the disrepute and discredit it had brought upon the Order, by the disgraceful conduct of some of its officers and members last Memorial Day, and non-compliance with orders from National Headquarters

The single Post in WEST VIRGINIA, has been placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Pennsylvania.

The single Post in INDIANA was ordered to report direct to National Headquarters, by Special Order No. 7, November 25, 1872, and now reports regularly.

The Commander of the Department of ALABAMA reports good prospects for organizing several Posts in that Department.

MICHIGAN showed some signs of life at the beginning of the present year, but is now apparently dead.

In ARKANSAS there is no prospect that anything can be accomplished, owing to the small number of ex-soldiers in the State.

The efforts to reorganize the other Departments named have been much hindered by the political campaign of 1872, but all that seemed prudent has been done. Their present condition is briefly as follows:

COLORADO.—There are several Posts in this Department, but they do not report regularly.

KANSAS.—This Department is fully organized, but the Posts do not seem to appreciate the importance of the regular reports required. The Department officers have been in constant communication with National Headquarters, but no reports have been made.

IOWA.—The present Commander has been working energetically to organize this Department, aud several fine Posts are in existence. No reports are made by the Department officers, although some of the Posts claim that they report regularly.

GEORGIA.—This Department is well administered, and is prompt in its business with the Adjutant-General's office. There are two Posts in the Department—one at Brunswick and one at Savannah.

NEW MEXICO.—No Department is more efficiently administered than this. It has increased somewhat in membership, but of course the membership cannot become large, because the Territory is thinly settled, and means of communication are slow and uncertain.

LOUISIANA.—The Post at New Orleans, chartered last year, is under the jurisdiction of the Commander of the Department of Mississippi No effort has been made to organize other Posts in this Department, on account of the disturbed condition of civil affairs. There is plenty of material in the State for a strong organization.

The efforts to reorganize the Departments of Missouri, Tennessee, Nebraska and Florida have thus far failed. The single Post in MISSOURI at Cape Giradeau, has reported regularly to National Headquarters.

MISSISSIPPI has reported regularly. There are two Posts in the Department, and the Assistant Adjutant-General writes that it is expected that

some fifteen additional Posts will be organized during the present summer, twelve of which will be composed of colored veterans.

NORTH CAROLINA.—This Department was discontinued by Special Orders No. 11, December 2, 1872, upon the advice of the Department Commander, that there are not enough ex-soldiers in the State to maintain the organization.

ILLINOIS.—This Department has been very active during the past year, and has been prompt in rendering reports to the Adjutant-General. Its condition is very much improved, as will appear from the report of the Inspector-General.

The results of the two years' work of reorganization, if I may be allowed to include so long a period in this statement, is briefly this:

Departments disorganized and non-reporting at the beginning of the year 1871, since reorganized, and now regularly reporting: Illinois, Mississippi, Georgia, New Mexico, Louisiana. (5)

Departments discontinued: North Carolina, West Virginia and South Carolina. (3)

Departments organized but non-reporting: Colorado, Kansas, Iowa. (3)

Departments remaining disorganized: Indiana, Tennessee, Michigan, Nebraska, Missouri, Florida, Arkansas, Alabama. (8)

Provisional Departments permanently organized: Virginia, Texas and Kansas. (3)

I am inclined to the opinion that in nearly all of the Southern States the Order cannot become strong for two reasons:

1st. Because the ex-soldiers are so few and scattered.

2d. Because the public prejudice against the Order is very bitter. In many localities membership in the Grand Army is deemed a sufficient reason even for withholding patronage from a business man. In such localities many ex-soldiers will not join our Order and risk total ruin. Those who do join are compelled to keep their membership as secret as if it were a capital crime.

In addition to this, in some cases officers of the Government have lent themselves to the satisfaction of the popular prejudice, and have removed comrades from office, replacing them with persons whose recommendations to the favor of the United States Government are service in the Confederate Army, and a genius for pothouse politics. In one instance eight members of a Post were removed "without cause," in company with nine ex-soldiers who were not members of the Grand Army. To speak mildly, and in the decorous terms befitting an official report, this is rather discouraging.

The political campaign of 1872 interfered seriously with the work of reorganizing, and prevented the accomplishment of the results hoped for at the beginning of the year. It was thought best to allow matters to remain *in statu quo*, rather than risk any repetition of the story of politics and the Grand Army, which has heretofore affected the Order so disastrously. Liability to political complications would be particularly great in the Departments where the work was a work of re-organizing Departments killed by politics. In the well-established Departments no complications were feared,

and the result has justified the confidence in those Departments. There was but a single instance during the whole campaign, of the interference of a Post in politics, and that an insignificant instance. This is the most encouraging feature of the record of the year, and it has unquestionably increased the public confidence in the Order, given it increased influence, and strengthened it internally.

The records of the Adjutant-General's office, previous to 1871, are incomplete; and I have not found time to complete them. The records of the past two years will be found to be complete, with the exception of the record of rejections and dismissals. No record was turned over to me by my predecessor I had intended, during the past year, to obtain from all Departments copies of their records of rejections and dismissals, and compile a complete record for distribution, but my absence last summer prevented me from carrying out my intention.

In accordance with the instructions of the Commander-in-Chief, I have to inform the Encampment of the following facts in regard to the Department of New York:

The report of the Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of New York, for the second quarter, 1871, gave the number of members in good standing 5,178, and included 89 Posts.

The report for the third quarter, 1871, gave only 2,596 members in good standing, and included 44 Posts—a decrease of 2,582 members and 45 Posts.

The Department Commander was thereupon, after a lapse of some weeks, ordered to make a supplementary report for the third quarter, to iuclude such Posts as had since reported for that quarter. This was done, and 1,506 members, 37 Posts, were added, making a total for third quarter, 1871, 4,088 members, 81 Posts.

The number	reported	for	4th	quarter,	1871,	was	5,120	members,	99	Posts.
"	"	"	"	1st	"	1872,	"	4,019	"	77	"
"	"	"	"	2d	"	1872,	"	3,252	"	62	"
"	"	"	"	3d	"	1872,	"	1,938	"	33	"
"	"	"	"	4th	"	1872,	"	4,732	"	87	"

In consequence of the above variations the Commander-in-Chief, on the 27th day of December, 1872, ordered supplementary reports to be made for the second and third quarters, 1872, to include such Posts as had since reported. His instructions were not complied with, and they were repeated on the 12th of February, 1873. No notice was taken of these repeated instructions, and on the 12th of March they were again repeated.

At the present date they have not been complied with, and the facts are reported to the National Encampment for its action.

Charity.—The report covers three quarters of 1872, and show $48,222.23 expended, 932 members relieved, and 1,430 persons, not members, relieved. The reports are incomplete, and do not show the entire work. I take this occasion to call attention again to the importance of securing from Posts complete reports of their work of charity.

At the date of last report, a balance of $240, Chicago Fund, remained in the hands of the Adjutant General The Commander-in-Chief directed this to be used to relieve individual applications at National Headquarters for relief; $62 05 were thus expended, and the balance is in the hands of the Quartermaster General.

Books and Blanks.—The usual books and blanks have been furnished to Departments. This report does not show as large an income from this source as my last report, because it includes bnt eight months, and the change in Rules and Ritual, at the beginning of last year, required an extraordinary supply of new blanks, which increased the income.

An edition of the Revised Rules and Regulations was published immediately after the last Encampment. The cost was about 7½ cents, including electrotype plates. The price to Departments was fixed at 8 cents. Should the National Encampment make few changes at its next meeting, the plates can be used for future editions, and the price reduced.

Badges.—The income from the sale of badges for the eight months of this year, has been $209.80—about the same as last year.

Receipts and Expenditures.—For the information of the Encampment, a condensed statement of receipts and expenditures of the Adjutant-General's office, for the eight months ending December 31, 1872, and a balance sheet of the books of my office, are herewith presented. The books of my office will show the receipts and expenditures in detail.

RECEIPTS.

From sales of books and blanks			$578 06
" " Rituals			13 70
" " of and commissions on badges			209 80
" C. G. Attwood, Q. M. Gen			1,194 65
Balance due departments			20 91
" Cash on hand last report		$72 51	
" Due from departments, last report	$241 89		
Less due departments, last report	46 92	194 96	267 48
Total			$2,284 60

EXPENDITURES.

For printing books, blanks, &c	$1163 07
" Office furniture	17 00
" Rent	222 21
" Heating office	27 47
" Postage	89 01
" Stationery	58 61
" Charity	15 00
" Traveling expenses, Cleveland	40 35
" Telegrams	18 62
Incidentals	50 86
Total expenditures	$1702 20

Due from departments, this report	$189 39	
Balances charged profit and loss account, to close accounts of discontinued departments	16 62	
Cash on hand	376 39	582 40
		$2284 60

BALANCE SHEET, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

TO DECEMBER 31, 1872. MADE APRIL 26, 1873.

	DEBIT.	CREDIT.
Department of Ohio	$27 18	
" " Indiana	9 00	
" " California	31	
" " Minnesota	37	
" " Tennessee	4 56	
" " Georgia	48	
" " Missouri	1 90	
" " Kansas	91 17	
" " Florida	1 38	
" " Illinois	8 30	
" " Michigan	16 13	
" " Louisiana	2 36	
Frank Nolen, C. of A., Wilmington, Del	26 25	
Ritual account	389 10	
Book and blank account	409 45	
Cash on hand	376 39	
Department of Iowa		$20 00
" " Delaware		86
" " Alabama		01
" " Oregon		04
Profit and loss		1655 15
Furniture account	311 73	
	$1676 06	$1676 06

Thanks are again due to Comrade J. P. Curtis, A. D. C., for his valuable assistance in keeping the accounts of the Adjutant-General's office.

Thanks are also due to Comrade M. B. Goodrich, Assistant Adjutant-General, for his efficient labors while in charge of the Adjutant-General's office, during my absence last summer.

During the past year the pressure of private business has prevented me from giving as much attention to the work of my office as it really demanded, and, in fact, I have always been hampered by the necessity of dividing my attention between private business and the duties of my office. This will excuse any seeming negligence or dilatoriness on my part. It was my decided preference to decline the office, but having accepted it, I have endeavored to discharge its duties as faithfully and promptly as possible.

I desire to thank the officers of Departments and all Comrades with whom I have had business, for the fraternal courtesy which they have manifested toward me personally.

Very respectfully,

Yours in F., C. and L.,

ROSWELL MILLER,

Adjutant-General.

Quartermaster-General Cornelius G. Attwood then submitted his report as follows:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
NEW YORK, MAY 1, 1873.

AMBROSE E. BURNSIDE,
Commander-in-Chief

COMRADE:—I have the honor to submit to the National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic, a report of this office for the year ending December 31, 1872, which you will notice covers a period of three quarters only, my previous report taking in a part of the first quarter of 1871, the whole of the second, third and fourth quarters of the same year, and a large portion of the first quarter of 1872, being a report of nearly five quarters as against about three quarters in this report.

The Department Commanders have, as a general thing, been prompt in forwarding their reports and dues, and my intercourse with them and their Assistant Quartermasters-General has been of the most pleasing character.

I have little or nothing to propose. The system pursued in regard to the financial business of the Headquarters seems, after two years' trial, to have worked satisfactorily, and I am content to leave to my successor any suggestion of change.

To one subject, however, I desire to call the attention of the Encampment, and that is the matter of "supplementary reports." It often happens that when Department reports are forwarded to this office with the dues for the number of Comrades shown therein, a number of Posts had not reported to the Assistant Quartermaster-General, and consequently they are unaccounted for to me. Subsequently, however, most of these Posts do report to the Department and pay their dues, and I claim as a matter of right that a supplementary report of these tardy Posts should be made to this office, accompanied by the proper tax

Most of the Departments comply with this entirely correct regulation, while others pay no attention to it, and show a great apparent falling off in membership from quarter to quarter, which has no foundation in fact.

As a possible matter of interest to the Encampment, I give below a statement in detail of the amount of dues received at this office from the various Departments for the second, third and fourth quarters of 1872, the dues for the first quarter of that year having been mainly included in my last annual report of May 1, 1872.

Connecticut.

2d quarter	$38 34
3d "	40 11
4th "	36 36
	$114 81

Massachusetts.

1st quarter (supplementary)	11 37
2d "	344 04
2d " (supplementary)	14 64
3d "	322 17
3d " (supplementary)	19 53
4th "	335 49
	1,047 24

Delaware.

1st quarter	2 25
2d "	2 19
3d "	2 19
4th "	63
	7 26

Virginia.

2d quarter	8 70
2d " (supplementary)	1 44
3d "	8 55
4th "	4 47
	23 16

New Jersey.

2d quarter	31 29
3d "	33 99
4th "	38 46
	103 74

Potomac.

2d, 3d and 4th quarters, 1871	61 68
1st quarter, 1872	18 84
2d "	16 41
3d "	12 21
4th "	10 71
	119 85

Pennsylvania.

2d quarter	$118 98
3d "	109 62
4th "	106 35
	$334 95

New Hampshire.

1st quarter	24 00
2d "	15 93
3d "	13 17
4th "	14 88
	67 98

Ohio.

1st quarter	27 84
2d "	27 18
3d "	23 13
4th "	16 38
	94 53

New York.

1st quarter	112 62
2d "	82 00
3d "	58 12
4th "	141 96
	394 70

Texas.

4th quarter 1871	8 13
1st " 1872	10 05
2d "	10 98
3d "	10 98
4th "	10 98
	51 12

Minnesota.

2d quarter	13 65
3d "	14 52
4th "	14 43
	42 60

California.

1st quarter	10 59
2d "	7 53
3d "	7 53
4th "	7 20
	32 85

Maine.		Vermont.	
1st quarter	38 34	2d quarter	22 17
2d "	33 96	3d "	20 13
3d "	32 07	4th "	21 60
4th "	34 80		63 90
	139 17		

Wisconsin.		Georgia.	
2d quarter	5 82	2d quarter	$1 05
3d "	6 87	3d "	1 05
4th "	6 57	4th "	1 20
	19 26		$3 30

Rhode Island.		New Mexico.	
2d quarter	23 94	2d quarter	2 43
3d "	23 95	3d "	3 15
4th "	24 36	4th "	3 12
	72 25		8 70

Illinois		Kentucky.	
2d quarter	8 13	4th quarter 1871	3 72
3d "	6 90	1st " 1872	3 75
4th "	7 38	2d "	3 75
		3d "	3 75
	22 41	4th "	3 75
			18 72

Kansas.		Indiana.	
1st quarter	8 35	4th quarter	78
2d "	0 00		
3d "	0 00		78
4th "	0 00		
	8 35		

Colorado.		Louisiana.	
1st quarter	6 00	2d quarter	93
2d "	0 00	3d "	93
3d "	0 00	4th "	93
4th "	0 00		2 79
	6 00		

Total amount of dues received for year ending Dec. 31, 1872	$2,800 42
Add balance standing to Credit Dues account, May 1, 1872	2,175 73
	$4,696 15
Amount standing to Credit Department of Texas..... $0 01	
" " " " Georgia..... 1 10	
" " " " New Mexico 13 68	
	14 79
Total Receipts	$4,990 94

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid Drafts of Roswell Miller, Adjutant-General	$1194 65	
" E. D. White's expenses to Cleveland and reporting proceedings of Encampment of 1872	74 00	
" National Headquarters' expenses at Cleveland, 1872	90 05	
" Judge Advocate-General's office and traveling expenses, 1871-72	100 45	
" Quartermaster-General's traveling expenses, 1871, '72	72 00	
" Shreve, Crump & Co. for testimonial to Adjutant-General Miller	280 00	
" Expenses of Quartermaster General's office, postage, telegrams, express, stationery, &c., 1872	23 99	
Amount standing to Dr. T. Lubey, late Quartermaster-General	319 33	
Amount standing to Dr. W. T. Collins, late Adjutant-General	350 00	
		2504 47
Cash on hand, Quartermaster General's office		$2486 47

TRIAL BALANCE LEDGER.

Dr.		Quartermaster-General's Office.		Cr.
Timothy Lubey, late Quartermaster-General	$319 33	Dues account		$3141 01
		Department Texas		01
W. T. Collins, late Adjutant-General	350 00	" Georgia		1 10
		" New Mexico		13 68
Cash	2486 47			
	$3155 80			$3155 80

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

RECEIPTS.

From sales of books and blanks			$578 06
" " Rituals			13 70
" " and commissions on Badges			209 80
" C. G. Attwood, Quartermaster General			1194 65
Balance due Departments			20 91
" cash on hand, last report		$72 51	
" due from Departments, last report	$241 89		
Less due from Departments, last report	46 92	194 97	267 84
Total			$2284 60

EXPENDITURES.

For Printing Books, Blanks, &c	$1163 07
" Office Furniture	17 00
" Rent	222 21

For Heating Office		27 47
" Postage		89 01
" Stationery		58 61
" Charity		15 00
" Travelling Expenses, Cleveland		40 35
" Telegrams		18 62
" Incidentals		50 86
Total Expenditures		$1702 20
Due from Departments, this report	$189 39	
Balance charged Profit and Loss Account to close accounts of discontinued Departments	16 62	
Cash on hand	376 39	582 40
		$2284 60

BALANCE SHEET, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.

To December 31, 1872.

	Dr.	Cr,
Department of Ohio	$27 18	
" Indiana	9 00	
" California	31	
" Minnesota	37	
" Tennessee	4 56	
" Georgia	48	
" Missouri	1 90	
" Kansas	91 17	
" Florida	1 38	
" Illinois	8 30	
" Michigan	16 13	
" Louisiana	2 36	
Frank Nolen, C. of A., Wilmington, Del	26 25	
Ritual account	389 10	
Book and blank account	409 45	
Cash on hand	376 39	
Department of Iowa		$20 00
" Delaware		86
" Alabama		01
" Oregon		04
Profit and loss		1655 15
Furniture account	311 73	
	$1676 06	$1676 06

RECAPITULATION.

Cash on hand, Adjutant-General's office	$376 39
Cash on hand, Quartermaster-Generals office	2486 47
Value of books and blanks on hand, Adjutant-General's office	409 45

Value of rituals on hand, Adjutant-General's office	389 10	
Value of furniture (amount paid for same), Adjutant-General's office	311 73	
Due from departments, Adjutant-General's office	189 39	
		4162 53
Due departments, Adjutant-General's office	$20 91	
Due departments, Quartermaster-General's office	14 79	
		35 70
Assets in cash and property		$4126 83

I have also the following accounts upon my ledger, standing to the debit of the parties named:

T. Lubey, late Q. M. Gen., sundry balances	$319 33
W. T. Collins, late A. Gen., paid on account salary	350 00
	$669 33

I have also in my hands, remaining from the sum contributed by the Order for the relief of comrades in Chicago $63 95

When two years since the present staff officers assumed their positions, and it was ascertained that National Headquarters were completely bankrupt, your instructions were given to limit expenses to the lowest possible figure, and endeavor, by careful management, to pay off whatever indebtedness was bequeathed, and, if possible, show a surplus at the end of the terms of service.

To this end the expenses of the headquarters have been confined to rent in New York, necessary travelling expenses, postage, telegrams and other minor items; all of the National officers having given their time and labor without charge to the Order. The result has been eminently satisfactory to me, and I have faith to believe will be to you and the members of the encampment. In this connection it is but simple justice for me to make public acknowledgment of my great indebtedness to Adjutant-General Miller, whose great ability and active co-operation have smoothed many obstacles in my path.

And now, Commander-in-Chief, when our official relations are about to end, I desire to express my grateful appreciation of the uniform courtesy and consideration I have been the recipient of at your hands during my terms of office, and if my humble services in the path of duty to which I was assigned by your kind favor have in any way added to the success of your administration, I am well repaid.

Respectfully submitted,

In F., C. and L.,

CORNELIUS G. ATTWOOD,

Quartermaster-General.

Since the foregoing was in type, the following departments have furnished their reports and dues for the first quarter of 1873:

Louisiana	$ 1 02
Georgia	1 32
Texas	10 97
Connecticut	35 19
New Hampshire	16 62
Potomac	6 87
Massachusetts	332 34
" (supplementary)	8 94
	$413 27

NEW HAVEN, May 14, 1873.

The undersigned, appointed a committee of the National Council of Administration, Grand Army of the Republic, to examine the accounts of Comrade Cornelius G. Attwood, Quartermaster-General, Grand Army of the Republic, respectfully report:

That they have attended to the duties assigned them, and upon examination of the Quartermaster-General's accounts with the vouchers, find that the books have been correctly kept, and that there is a cash balance in the hands of the Quartermaster-General, shown to the committee, amounting to twenty-four hundred and eighty-six dollars and forty-seven cents ($2486.47), and that the same corresponds with the balance shown by said books and vouchers.

A. P. KETCHUM,
C. R. BRAYTON,
J. H. GOULDING,
Committee.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
NEW YORK, May 1, 1873.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commander-in-Chief;

COMRADE: In compliance with Rules and Regulations, I have the honor to submit to the National Encampment my report for the year ending December 31, 1872.

The result of the Inspections in the Departments which have reported to me to this date is as follows:

MAINE.

Number of Posts in good standing	19
" " inspected	19
" " disbanded	4
Having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	14
Average muster-in fee	3 03
" per capita tax	1 47

5 Posts have relief fund amounting to.....865 00
Average per Post.....173 00

Nearly all the Posts have muskets loaned by the State.

Two Posts are beneficiary, and pay average weekly benefits of $2.50.

The Department has lost four Posts during the year, and gained three; two of the defunct Posts will be re-established at once.

Comrade W. H. Pennell, Department Inspector, reports having personally visited nearly every Post in the Department during the year, and finds that uniforming officers and members, and memorizing the service of the Ritual, has greatly increased the interest in the meetings. The Department never stood better or promised more for the future, than at the present time.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Number of Posts in good standing	19
" inspected	19
Charters surrendered	4
Having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	14
Muskets in 4 Posts	22
Average muster-in fee in 13 Posts	$2 62
Average per capita tax in 13 Posts	45
16 Posts have relief fund of	3439 77
Average per Post	214 98

Five Posts are beneficiary, but pay no fixed weekly sum.

The Consolidated Inspection Report shows a falling off of three Posts since the report of last year.

Comrade A. S. Eaton, Department Inspector, makes a very complete report. All the Posts inspected, with one exception, are reported in good condition, and with good prospects for the future.

VERMONT.

Number of Posts in good standing	19
" " inspected	19
Having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	12
Number of muskets owned by 5 Posts	41
Average muster-in fee	1 71
Average per capita tax	45
5 Posts have a relief fund of	367 50
Average per Post	73 50

Seven Posts are beneficiary

This report does not present such a favorable condition of affairs in the Department as might have been expected from the report of last year, but the falling off is, to a great extent, only apparent. The Department Commander reports that the exciting Presidential campaign absorbed all attention at the time prescribed by the Rules and Regulations for the annual inspection, which was postponed until later in the season, and that the very severe winter made a thorough inspection later in the season difficult. Part of the tour of inspection was made with mercury 28 degrees and 30 degrees below zero.

I am advised that several strong posts have been organized since the consolidated inspection report was rendered, and that the Department is, at this date, on a better footing than ever before.

I observe that the recommendation of the Inspector-General in his report of last year, relative to an increase of muster-in fees has not been followed.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Number of Posts in good standing	149
Number of Posts inspected	133
Having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	107
Number of muskets owned	475
Average muster-in fee in 133 Posts	$2 77
Average per capita tax in 133 Posts	70
Average sum paid for weekly benefits in 18 Posts	4 22
Amount in possession of Posts for charitable purposes	50,561 88
Average per Post	339 34

This Department stands at the head of our Order for thorough organization and efficiency.

The judicious management of the large relief funds in the hands of most of the posts, and the plan of disbursing these funds, is especially commended to the attention of other departments.

RHODE ISLAND.

Number of Posts in good standing	10
Number of Posts inspected	9
Number of Posts suspended	1
Average muster-in fee in 9 Posts	$2 10
Average per capita tax in 7 Posts	58
Two Posts have a relief fund of	3071 00

Two Posts are beneficiary; one pays $4.00 weekly benefits. One Post has 48 muskets. None have officers and guards properly uniformed and equipped.

Comrade Nelson Viall, Assistant Inspector-General, reports the Department in a most satisfactory condition. The officers of the Department are energetic and efficient, and at no time has there been more interest manifested in the prosperity of the Order than at present.

CONNECTICUT.

Number of Posts in good standing	24
Number of Posts inspected	16
Having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	14
Number of muskets owned	102
Average muster-in fee in 22 Posts	$3 09
Average per capita tax in 19 Posts	80
Eight Posts have relief fund of	971 57
Average per Post	121 45

Five Posts are not fully reported, and but one Post is reported as beneficiary.

The consolidated report of this Department shows a gain over last year of two Posts in good standing, and the condition of the Department compares favorably with that of last year.

I can speak from personal observation of the thorough equipment and efficiency of some of the Posts of the Department.

NEW YORK.

Number of Posts holding charters	113
Number of Posts in good standing	91
In arrears to December 31	8
Suspended	14
Disbanded during the year	10
Inspected	80
Having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	60
Average muster-in fee	$2 50
Average per capita tax	1 00
Amount of money in possession of Posts for charitable purposes	37,420 00
Average per Post	331 15
Per capita tax charged by Department	50

The Department Inspector has rendered a very complete consolidated report; but as the inspection report of the Department for the year ending May 1, 1872, was a very meagre one, I cannot compare the present condition of the Department with its condition for that year.

I inspected the various staff offices of the Department personally, I found a thorough system in force in all the offices, and the records, etc., in excellent shape.

NEW JERSEY.

But ten Posts are reported as having been inspected in this Department, although the Report of the Assistant Adjutant-General shows that there were 24 Posts in good standing December 31, 1872.

Of these ten Posts the following facts are reported:

Having officers and members uniformed and equipped	5
Number of muskets owned	27
Average muster-in fee	$2 50
Average per capita tax per year	3 50
4 Posts pay average weekly benefits of	3 75
1 Post has a relief fund of	232 00

Six Posts are beneficiary.

The condition of the Posts reported seems to be good. The reasons for rendering such an imperfect report are not explained, and no sufficient reason is known to me.

I inspected the various staff offices of the Department personally, April 19, 1873. I found the records in great confusion. The new Department Administration had made some effort to bring order out of the chaos, and had adopted a better system of keeping the books and records for the future.

Notwithstanding the lack of system which had evidently prevailed at

Headquarters, the Department was represented to be in good condition, and the above report should not be taken as fairly indicating its efficiency. A thorough inspection of all, or nearly all, of the Posts had been made during the year, as required by Regulations, and official visits to the Posts were frequently made by the Department Commander and Staff.

PENNSYLVANIA.

No thorough inspection of this Department was made this year, on account of the protracted and exciting political campaign in the State, but during this summer a thorough inspection of every Post in the Department will be made by one or more of the Department officers

A partial inspection was made, with the following result:

Number of Posts in good standing	69
" " in arrears	14
" " inspected	32
Having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	10
Having members uniformed and equipped, or partially so	8
Average muster-in fee	$3 00
13 beneficiary Posts pay average weekly benefits of	4 50
25 Posts have relief fund of	6,420 77
Average per post	256 83

Many of the Posts in small towns in the Department are weak, but the majority of the Posts are gaining ground, and will add largely to their membership this year.

The Department Commander has instituted a series of official visits to Posts. In Philadelphia the Post to be visited specially invites the members of all other Posts in the vicinity to unite with them for the occasion, and the result is that the feeling of fraternity has been greatly strengthened, and the Posts which have taken part in these reunions have determined to do everything possible to add to their membership. It is confidently expected by the Department Commander that the membership in the city of Philadelphia will be doubled this year.

The Headquarters of the Department were inspected by Comrade M. S Austin, Assistant Inspector-General, who reports the books and records in perfect order.

POTOMAC.

Number of Posts in good standing	7
" " inspected	7
Average muster-in fee	$4 43
Average per capita tax	1 00

All the Posts are beneficiary: three pay weekly benefits averaging $3 33; the others according to circumstances. None of the Posts are uniformed or equipped.

Comrade F. H. Sprague, Department Commander, reports increased interest and good feeling in the Department. The Post Encampments are generally well attended, and the prospect is fair for regaining the original strength of the Department.

This Department was not included in the last Annual Report of the Inspector General.

A marked improvement during the past year in the discipline of the Department, and in the condition of its records, is reported.

VIRGINIA.

Comrade William N. Eaton, Department Inspector, makes a very full report.

Number of Posts in good standing	9
" " inspected	9
Muskets owned by 5 Posts	18
Having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	8
Average muster-in fee	$2 66
Average per capita tax	15
Five beneficiary Posts pay average weekly benefits of	2 60
Two Posts have a relief fund of	623 45

One Post has been disbanded during the year, and two are badly disorganized, but efforts will be made to bring them up.

Comrade Eaton says: "Taking all things into consideration, we have very little to discourage us."

The Headquarters of the Department were inspected by Comrade P. C. Asserson, Assistant Inspector General, who reports the books well kept, and the various staff offices efficiently administered. Two colored Posts have been organized in the Department since the receipt of the Inspection Report.

WEST VIRGINIA.

This State has no Department organization. The Post at Wheeling, the only Post in the State, is attached to the Department of Pennsylvania. It was inspected by Comrade E. A. Lee, Assistant Department Commander, April 2, 1873, and he reports it as doing remarkably well. It is composed of earnest men, who are determined to keep up the organization, if the thing is possible. The Post has a fine hall, a relief fund of $400, pays benefits of $3.00 per week, and owns sixty muskets.

KENTUCKY.

Six posts are reported in good standing in this Department; two Posts average for muster-in fee, $5.50; and for per capita tax, $1.50.

No detailed Inspection report was received from the Department for the year ending May 1, 1872, but the above very meagre report does not compare favorably with the report on record. Comrade H. H. Johnson, Department Inspector, says that his predecessor made no effort to attend to the duties of the office, and the Posts in the Department have not been properly inspected. The Order has received a new impetus since the new year opened, and the prospect is encouraging.

OHIO.

No report has been received from this Department.

The report of the Assistant Adjutant General for the quarter ending December 31, 1872, shows 14 Posts in good standing.

Comrade C. A. Vaughan, Assistant Inspector General, inspected the Department Headquarters, and reports finding the books and records in excellent condition.

He says: "The Department is in better condition to-day than it has been in three years, and the prospects for the future are bright."

INDIANA.

There is no Department organization in this State. There is one Post at Newtonville which reports direct to National Headquarters; the Post must be a vigorous one, as it has survived all the disasters which have overtaken the Order in that State. Comrade William Woodward, Commander, reports, April 12, 1873, that it still flourishes, and that the prospects for the future are hopeful.

The Post charges $7.00 for muster-in fee, and $1.00 per capita tax.

ILLINOIS.

Number of Posts holding charters	12
" " in good standing	5
Suspended and not reporting	7
Having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	4
Average muster-in fee	$2 50
Average per capita tax	60
Per capita tax charged by the Department	32
Relief fund in four Posts	1,892 00

Comrade E. J. Rook, Department inspector, says: "I am pleased to report that the best of feeling prevails in the Department; the utmost confidence is placed in the Department officers, and hopes are entertained that this year some of the old Posts will be revived, new ones organized, and many comrades added to the roll of the Department."

The headquarters of the department were inspected by Comrade Hilliard, Assistant Inspector-General, who reports the Department in excellent hands and efficiently administered. The officers have clung to the rder during the dark days in the Department, and now rejoice in the near prospect of prosperity and growing usefulness.

The marked improvement in the condition of affairs in the Department is a subject for congratulation.

It made no inspection report for the year previous, and was not included in the annual report of the Inspector-General

WISCONSIN.

Number of Posts holding charters	11
Number of Posts in good standing	6
Suspended or disorganized	6
Having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	3
Number of muskets in 3 Posts	33
Average muster-in fee in 5 Posts	$2 80
Average per capita tax in 5 Posts	35
Two Posts have a relief fund of	195 00

Three Posts are beneficiary.

Comrade Edward Ferguson, Department Commander, reports the prospects for the future in this Department as discouraging. The Department has never recovered from the blow inflicted by the adoption of the three-grade system, when many members of the Order were dropped, and the frequent changes subsequently made in the Ritual, and Rules and Regulations, by the National Encampment, have tendered to prevent suspended comrades in the Department from renewing their faith in the Order

By comparison with the report of the Department for the previous year, however, I find some encouragement. There seems to be a good degree of interest on the part of the Posts reported in good standing, and I am advised that one defunct Post has been reorganized since the report was rendered.

They have, moreover, succeeded in establishing the fact, which has long been disputed, that the Order is not a political one.

MINNESOTA.

Number of Posts in good standing	17
Number of Posts inspected	16
Number of Posts disbanded	5
Having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	7
Number of muskets owned	69
Average muster-in fee in 15 Posts	$2 20
Average per capita tax in 16 Posts	40
Five Posts have a relief fund of	398 30
Average per Post	76 66

Six Posts pay benefits as needed.

The Posts of this Department are reported generally in good condition, and with good prospects for the future.

Comrade J. Ham. Davidson, Assistant Inspector-General, reports the Department officers prompt and efficient in the discharge of their duties; the records of the Department in good shape, and the Department apparently in a healthful and prosperous condition.

KANSAS.

No information as to the condition of the Order in this Department has been received.

No reports are on file in the Adjutant-General's office later than that for the first quarter of 1872, at which time eleven Posts were reported in good standing.

CALIFORNIA.

Number of Posts holding charters	12
" " in good standing	9
" " disbanded	3
" " inspected	6
Having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	3
Average muster-in fee in 6 Posts	$8 91
Average per capita tax in 4 Posts	1 94
Three beneficiary Posts pay average weekly benefits of	7 17
Relief fund in 6 Posts	978 44
Average per Post	163 07

Comrade E. T. Starr, Department Inspector, presents a very complete report.

The condition of the Posts inspected is, with one exception, reported good, and the prospects for the future better than ever before; the Order is growing in the favor of the public.

NEW MEXICO.

Four Pos's were reported to the Adjutant-General for the fourth quarter of 1872, but no Inspection Report of the Department has been received.

TEXAS.

No Inspection Report has been received from this Department.

The Assistant Adjutant-General's Report for the last quarter of 1872 gave fourteen Posts in good standing in the Department.

DELAWARE.

There is but one Post in existence in this Provisional Department, a Colored Post, located at Wilmington. No Inspection Report has been received, and I have no information upon which to base an opinion as to the future prospects of the Order in the Department.

GEORGIA.

This Provisional Department has two Posts, not uniformed or equipped.

Average muster-in fee	3 50
Average per capita tax	1 12½
Neither Post is beneficiary, but one has a relief fund of	30 00

The prospects for the future are reported as fair, but the Order has many difficulties to encounter in the South, and any marked increase in numbers or usefulness is hardly to be expected.

ALABAMA.

Comrade George H. Patrick, Provisional Department Commander, says that this Department can report but little progress since the last National Encampment. The few comrades resident in the Department are energetically at work, however, and hope to get the Order on its feet again at an early day.

MISSISSIPPI.

No Inspection report has been rendered for this Provisional Department. The reports on file in the Adjutant-General's office shows that there are two live Posts in the Department, and an expected revival in Grand Army matters is announced for the ensuing summer.

LOUISIANA.

There is one Post in this Provisional Department, at New Orleans, which appears from the records of the Adjutant-General's office to be in good condition. No Inspection Report has been received.

MISSOURI.

There is but one Post extant in this Provisional Department.

Comrade Lewis Brown, Provisional Department Commander, reports having exerted himself during the past six months to resuscitate the Order

in the Department, but unsuccessfully. Comrade Brown has appointed no Staff. He says politics killed the Order in the State, and doubts if it can be brought to life again; if anything could do it, it would be the holding of the next National Encampment at St. Louis.

I have received no reports from the Department of Maryland, or from the Provisional Departments of Florida, Tennessee, Iowa, Nebraska and Oregon, and have no information in regard to the Order in those States to present to the Encampment.

I regret that I cannot present to the Encampment more definite information relative to the working of the Order in some of the Departments, especially those in the South and West, about which comparatively little is known. The limited time between the date of my appointment as Inspector-General and the meeting of the National Encampment would not permit an extended correspondence with distant officers and comrades.

The exciting political campaign of the past year seems to have interfered in many of the Departments with the inspections provided for by Art. V, Chap. V, Rules and Regulations.

For this reason the inspections were very generally postponed until later in the year, when the inclemency of the season again interfered in many of the Departments.

Politics absorb time and attention yearly in October and November in many States, and winter is not a favorable time for the inspections. For these reasons I recommend that Department Commanders shall not be confined exclusively to the months of October and November for inspection, but shall be allowed more latitude. Let Posts be inspected at the most favorable time during the year, at the discretion of the Department Commander, and a report forwarded to the Inspector-General at the close of the year.

I recommend that the blanks prescribed by the Inspector-General be so amended as to show the amount of Post Fund, other than the Relief Fund, and the amount expended by each Post for charity. Form "E," for the use of Department Inspectors, is now ruled to show the amount expended by each Post for charity; but from the fact that the blank for Assistant Inspectors' Reports (Form "H,") does not call for that information, it was not generally reported, and I am therefore, unable to furnish it to the Encampment. Could it be given, it would be one of the most interesting features of my report.

I repeat the recommendation made by the Inspector-General in his last Annual Report, that the charter-fee for Posts be increased to $20, for which the Post should receive charter, rituals, descriptive book, ledger and cash book, black book, minute book and blank applications. The books should be made in sets, such as are now in use by the Department of New York, and supplied to Departments by the Adjutant-General, at cost price, each Department being required to take five or more sets. This would secure uniformity and correctness in the accounts and records of Posts in which they are now very deficient, as well as be a saving of cost to the Posts.

Greater care should be exercised by officers mustering in new Posts, in examining the discharges and records of honorable service of applicants for membership. The importance of this cannot be to strongly impressed upon mustering officers.

March 9, 1873, instructions were issued to Assistant Inspector-General to report to me such information relative to Homes for Soldiers and Sailors, and Soldiers' and Sailors' Children, in the different Departments, as would be of interest to the Grand Army.

I have the honor to submit the following Reports, which have been rendered in obedience to such instructions:

NEW YORK.

Comrade W. Riley, Department Inspector, makes a very full report upon the Homes in this Department: the information for which was obtained by personal inspection

Soldier's Retreat, Ward's Island, New York City

This Home is for the exclusive benefit of soldiers who enlisted from New York City, and is maintained by the City.

It has now 340 inmates, of whom 121 are disabled by wounds received in service.

The total daily cost for each inmate averages about thirty-two cents.

Union Home and School, New York City.

This Institution is for the benefit of the children of the soldiers and sailors of the State of New York, and is partially maintained by direct taxation; each county in the State which furnishes an inmate paying $150 per year while he remains therein.

There are now in the Home 180 children, varying from two to seventeen years of age; 124 are boys.

The Home owns extensive grounds and commodious buildings in the city of New York.

An act was passed at the last session of the Legislature, providing for the establishment of a Soldiers' Home in the State. But little progress has thus far been made, however, as no funds were appropriated for the purpose.

Our Order is well represented in the board of managers

NEW JERSEY.

Home fo· Disabled Soldiers, at Newark

The Annual Report of the Superintendent, for the year ending October 31, 1872, furnishes the following statistics:

Uuder care of the institution, October 31, 1871		277
Received during the year		403
Total cared for		680
Discharged	282	
Expelled	19	
Transferred to National Asylum	5	
Died	38	344

Remaining under care of the institution October 31, 1872	336
Largest number cared for per day	338
Smallest number cared for per day	277
Average number of beneficiaries	300

The number of beneficiaries has increased during the year, in the ratio of seven per cent over the number of last year, and is the largest number cared for in any year since the founding of the institution.

The average cost of a ration per day is 30½ cents; the entire average cost of the institution, for each beneficiary, is 39 cents per day.

SOLDIERS' CHILDREN'S HOME, AT TRENTON.

There have been in this institution, during the year 1872, 240 children; of these 12 have been provided with comfortable homes; 38 have been removed by their guardians, or have been returned to their friends at the age of fifteen, and one only has been expelled. Number of children under fifteen years of age, at present connected with the Home, 188; of this number, 109 are boys, and 79 girls; 12 have both parents living; 150 have mothers only; and 11 have only fathers, who are disabled.

These Homes are maintained by the State.

Comrade M. S. Austin, Assistant Inspector General, who makes this report, says: "These institutions are presided over by citizens of the highest standing and worth, and too much praise cannot be given them for their successful efforts in behalf of our old comrades and their children."

PENNSYLVANIA.

There is no Soldiers' Home in this Department. Soldiers' orphans are provided for and educated at the cost of the State, until they reach the age of 16 years.

Number of institutions	37
" inmates, May 31, 1872	3,527
Total number admitted since system went into operation	6,429
Cost last year	$475,245 47
Total cost since adoption of the system	3,467,543 81

In addition to the above $5,000 is appropriated to aid in training advanced scholars for teaching.

VIRGINIA.

Asylum for Disabled Soldiers, at Hampton.

The following information is taken from the annual Report of the Home for the year ending December 1, 1872.

Number of inmates December 1, 1871	258
Admitted during the year	280
Whole Number cared for	538
Remaining December 1, 1872	391
Number married, with wives or living children	85
Average cost per inmate, for the year, about	$237 00
Average cost per ration, about	29

This Asylum is exclusively for soldiers, and admits no sailors, except such as have been soldiers as well.

The beneficiaries are all inmates of the Asylum; outside aid to soldiers, or soldiers' widows or children is not given.

The Asylum is maintained by the Government; there is no other Home in the Department.

Comrade Isaac S. Mullen, Assistant Inspector General, adds to the above report that, at the last Encampment of the Department, a committee of five was appointed to devise means for establishing an Industrial School for the children of deceased soldiers and sailors, and it is expected that early action will be taken in the matter.

OHIO.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home, at Xenia.

A personal inspection of this institution was made by Comrade C. A. Vaughan, Assistant Inspector General, who reports as follows: "There are over 400 children at the Home; their ages vary from three to seventeen years. A law regulating the Home authorizes the Board of Managers to retain such as they choose, until they are eighteen years of age.

"The Home is conducted on the family plan; fourteen cottages, of two stories, with water and gas, and heated by steam, are already completed, and six more are nearly ready for occupation. The cottages cost about $3,200 each, and will accommodate 30 children, (or one school,) under the care of a teacher, who acts in the capacities of parent, teacher and director.

"The farm contains 100 acres; the buildings have already cost over $200,000, and a new school house will be erected the coming season.

"The Superintendent of the Home and most of the Directors are comrades of our Order.

"Before my report reaches you, the Home will contain at least 600 children.

"I wish we could point to a similar Home in every State for the children of our dead comrades, and say: 'We have kept our promise faithfully.'"

I echo the wish of Comrade Vaughan.

I have received no report relative to the Home for Disabled Soldiers, at Dayton, in this department.

ILLINOIS.

Soldiers' Home, at Evanston.

Comrade H. Hilliard, Assistant Inspector-General, reports personal inspection at this Home. Its inmates average about 25, and are soldiers who have been injured by accident since discharged from service, or are suffering from disease developed since discharge, and are not entitled to pension or admission in National Asylums. Temporary lodging and transportation are furnished to soldiers from other States.

It is an incorporated body, and owns real and personal property to the amount of nearly $90,000.

Soldiers' Orphans' Home, at Normal.

Children under fourteen years of age, of all soldiers who served in the armies of the Union during the Rebellion, and were disabled from disease or wounds therein, or died or were killed in such service, are entitled to the benefits of this Home. It is an incorporated body, and subsisted entirely

upon private charity, until a certain fund known as the "deserters' fund," was donated to it by the State.

There are, at this time, about 300 children at the Home, all being well cared for, and receiving a good common school education.

There is another Home for Soldiers' Children, at Fulton, in this Department. No definite information concerning it is reported.

MINNESOTA.

Through the persistent efforts of the Grand Army of the Republic the State has established and is maintaining a flourishing Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Winona.

Thirty-eight soldiers' orphans are there cared for and educated. An appropriation of $20,000 was secured from the Legislature of the State last winter for the Home, and new buildings are being erected of greater capacity.

The average cost of maintaining and educating these children was about $200 last year.

The departments of New Hampshire and Rhode Island are reported as containing no Homes.

I hope to be able to place before the Encampment full information as to what had been accomplished in every department toward providing for our disabled comrades, and the children of those deceased, and regret that I have not been more successful in obtaining the desired information in the time at my command.

The reports presented herewith show that commendable progress has been made in this direction in some of the departments. It is well known, however, that in many other departments this important part of our work has been greatly neglected, and it should receive immediate consideration.

My thanks are due to Comrade R. B. Beath, my predecessor as Inspector-General, for his valuable suggestions and assistance in conducting the business of this office.

Respectfully submitted,

In F., C., and L.,

M. B. GOODRICH,

Inspector-General.

Judge-Advocate General W. W. Douglas, then submitted his report, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
JUDGE ADVOCATE-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
NEW YORK, May 14, 1873.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commander-in-Chief.

COMRADE: In obedience to the Rules and Regulations, I have the honor to submit to the National Encampment the following report of the business of this office during the past year.

Seventeen opinions have been given on miscellaneous questions, referred; and one, upon the proceedings of a Court Martial. The opinions have been written with reference to general principles, as far as possible; and in this report, the names of persons and places are suppressed. Fewer doubtful cases have

presented themselves for decision, in the operation of the Regulations, than in the year preceding; and it is hoped that the endeavors of the writer to decide them with impartiality. may conduce to a uniformity, in the construction of our fundamental law, which will promote the highest interests of the Order.

The opinions issued during the year are hereto annexed.*

All of which is respectfully submitted, in F. C. and L.,

WM. W. DOUGLAS,
Judge Advocate General.

Surgesn-General Samuel A. Green presented his report as follows:

I have the honor to submit the following report for the year 1872. The returns of most of the Departments are still meagre and incomplete. The only ones that have furnished full returns are those of Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Potomac and Georgia. If I am not able to congratulate the Grand Army of the Republic on the complete and accurate statistics in regard to its membership, I can congratulate it on the high position it has taken among the Orders of the country. It now stands secure in the public estimation; and is recognized as one of the institutions of the land. There is no charitable association conducted on so vast a scale, and which gives so much relief to the needy families of those who rushed to the defence of the Government, at a time when its very existence was threatened by traitors.

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL A. GREEN,
Surgeon General.

MAY 14, 1873.

The proceedings of the National Council of Administration were then presented by the Recorder, as the report of the Council to the National Encampment.

MINUTES OF MEETING, NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

HELD AT NEW HAVEN, CONN., MAY 14, 1873.

The National Council of Administration met at the State House, New Haven, Connecticut, on Wednesday, May 14, 1873, at eleven o'clock, A. M.

The meeting was called to order by the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, in the absence of the Commander-in-Chief. The roll being called, the following members answered to their names:

Louis Wagner.....Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief
Samuel A. Green.....Surgeon General
Roswell Miller.....Adjutant General
Cornelius G Attwood.....Quartermaster General
William W. Douglas.....Judge Advocate General
M. B. Goodrich.....Inspector General
Charles R. Brayton.....Rhode Island

* See Appendix.

A. P. Ketchum.....New York
George L. Beale.....Maine
William Cogswell.....Massachusetts
H. Clay Trumbull.....Connecticut

The Commander-in-Chief came in during the calling of the roll and took his seat as a member of the Council, the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief remaining in the Chair at his request.

A communication was received from Comrade Harris, New Jersey, resigning his seat as a member of the Council. Comrade Dwyer, of New Jersey, was elected to fill the vacancy, and took his seat. The resignation Comrade W. W. Brown, of Pennsylvania, was also accepted, and Comrade Charles S. Greene, of Pennsylvania, was elected to fill the vacancy, and took his seat

A communication was received from the Commander of the Departmen of Vermont, asking that Comrade J. H. Goulding be elected to fill the vacancy in the Council caused by the failure of the National Encampment to elect a member from Vermont. Comrade Goulding was thereupon unanimously elected, and took his seat.

The chair appointed committees to audit the accounts of the Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General, as follows:

To audit the accounts of the Adjutant-General, Comrades Trumbull, Greene and Beal.

To audit the accounts of the Quartermaster-General, Comrades Ketchum, Brayton and Goulding.

The committees were instructed to make their reports direct to the National Encampment.

A communication was received from the Commander of the Department of New York, requesting the election of H. A. Barnum, to fill the vacancy existing in the Council, by reason of the non-representation of the Department of New York.

The chair decided that the communication was not in order, inasmuch as there does not appear to be a vacancy existing, as stated.

Comrade Ketchum presented a communication from Koltes Post, No. 32, Department of New York, praying an alteration in the Rules and Regulations in regard to the representation of Posts in Department Encampments.

The Council declined to take any action on the petition, preferring to leave the subject in the hands of the National Encampment, without any recommendation from the Council.

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned.

ROSWELL MILLER, *Adjutant-General,*
Recorder of the Council.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

The following committees were then appointed by the Commander-in-Chief:

On report of Commander-in-Chief—Comrades Veazey, of

Vermont; Perham, of Maine; Morris, of Ohio; Parker, of Texas, and Burrows, of New Jersey.

On Reports of Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General—Comrades Sibley, of Massachusetts; Challis, of New Hampshire; Hilliard, of Illinois; Rhodes, of Rhode Island, and Bosbyshell, of Pennsylvania.

On Reports of Inspector-General, Judge-Advocate-General and other officers—Comrades Brown, of Pennsylvania, Goble, of New Jersey; Lubey, of Potomac; Goulding, of Vermont, and Ferguson, of Wisconsin.

On Rules, Regulations and Ritual—Comrades Corliss, of New York, Peirce, of Massachusetts; Norris, of Pennsylvania; Russell, of Ohio, Trumbull, of Connecticut.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS.

Communications from Departments being then in order, Comrade Underwood, of Massachusetts, submitted a form of Burial Service, recommended by the Department of Massachusetts. The Department also submitted a proposition for a suitable badge, to be used as an official badge, to designate rank in the Grand Army of the Republic. He moved the appointment of a committee of five upon the last proposition, and the motion prevailed. He also presented a proposition for an amendment to the Rules and Regulations, so that there may be a Staff Officer, corresponding with the Chief Mustering Officer, designated by the Orders of the National Encampment; also a proposition for the reduction of dues. Referred to the Committee on Rules and Regulations.

The Departments of Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York and New Jersey, presented no communications.

Comrade Beath, of Pennsylvania, presented a resolution for the formation of Cadet Corps of soldiers and sailors, which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Regulations.

The Departments of Virginia, Potomac, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Minnesota, California, Texas, Delaware, Georgia, New Mexico and Louisiana, had no communications to present.

Comrade Sibley, of Massachusetts, presented a proposition allowing the Council of Administration to call a semi-annual convention of a Department, when deemed advisable. Referred to Committee on Rules and Regulations.

Comrade Lawrence, of New York, after a few prefatory remarks, offered a resolution declaring vacant the seat in the Encampment of Comrade Ketchum, of New York.

A point of order was raised that the resolution could not properly come up at that time.

Comrade Underwood moved the reference of the resolution to the Committee on Credentials, but afterward changed it to a special committee, and the motion prevailed.

Comrade Ketchum arose to speak, but a delegate from New York raised the point of order that he was not a member of the Encampment. The Commander-in-Chief decided that Comrade Ketchum was a member of the convention.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS.

Communications from individuals being next in order, Comrade Ketchum, of New York, presented a resolution, adopted by a Post in New York, relating to the Medical Department, which was referred.

Comrade Parker, of Texas, offered a resolution declaring that Comrade James Davidson, a member of the National Council of Administration from that State, was not a resident there, and that his seat be considered vacant, and that Comrade B. F. Grafton be substituted in his place. The resolution was ruled out of order.

The same comrade also offered a resolution stating that there were 15,000 ex-soldiers residing in the State of Texas, and on account of the great area of territory, it was impossible to suitably organize the Grand Army of the Republic there, by reason of want of means, and asking the National Encampment to designate some man to the United States Government, to be appointed a Postal or Revenue Agent, who might, at the same time, perform the work of organizing the Grand Army.

Comrade Cogswell, of Massachusetts, moved that it be laid on the table.

Comrade Parker, of Texas, said that

The comrades in Texas had a great load on their shoulders. Occupying, as the State did, a vast area of territory—four hundred by five hundred miles—they had not the facilities of organization which were enjoyed in other States. They required assistance. While the Federal positions in the Department of Texas were occupied by men who bore arms against the Government, the comrades of the Grand Army simply desired that, in order that the Grand Army of the Republic might be organized thoroughly, that some officer might be appointed by the Government who belonged to the Order, who could travel over the State, in the discharge of his duties, and at the same time organize posts. The old contest in that State had not ceased—it had simply been transferred from the battle-field to the ballot-box. He hoped that the resolution would not meet with a summary rejection, but that something would be done for the comrades in Texas.

The Commander-in-Chief said:

"I am sure every comrade would do everything in his power to give aid to our comrades in Texas, but I am equally sure that no one who has studied the Rules will find himself able to vote for the resolution. It is a matter of regret that things are as they are in Texas. I must rule the resolution out of order, under Art. XI, Chap. V, Rules and Regulations."

The Adjutant-General presented a petition from the wife of the late Adjutant-General Collins, for the payment to her of a sum of money, which he moved be referred to a special committee of five. The motion prevailed. The Commander-in-Chief appointed Comrades Merrill, of Massachusetts; Henry, of Vermont; Sprague, of the Potomac; Moses, of New Hampshire, and Lawrence, of New York, as the committee.

The Adjutant-General also presented a communication from a Comrade of the Department of Pennsylvania, in regard to an alteration of the Rules and Ritual. Referred to the Committee on Rules and Regulations. He also submitted the printed memoranda of several resolutions, which were appropriately referred.

The following communication was presented:

HEADQUARTERS ADMIRAL FOOTE POST, No. 17, G. A. R.
NEW HAVEN, CONN., MAY 14, 1873.

To the National Encampment Grand Army of the Republic.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF AND COMRADES:—The pleasure of your company is earnestly solicited to a concert to be given in Music Hall, on Wednesday evening, May 14. Also to a ball to be given at the same

place, on Thursday evening, May 15, both entertainments to be given under the auspices of this Post, and in honor of the National Encampment.

By order of the Post,

C. J. BUCKBEE,
Commander.

Attest: JOSEPH M. GITHEN,
Adjutant.

Comrade Reeder, of Pennsylvania, moved that the acceptance of the invitation be communicated to Admiral Foote Post, with the thanks of the National Encampment, and the motion unanimously prevailed.

Comrade Bosbyshell, of Pennsylvania, presented the following resolutions, which were adopted

Whereas, It is proposed to hold, upon the 4th day of July, 1876, in the city of Philadelphia, a great International Exhibition, commemorative of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America.

And Whereas, The Grand Army of the Republic, being a thoroughly national and patriotic organization, anything that redounds to the credit of the country, commands its earnest support; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, being the supreme authority of that organization, respectfully tenders its aid to the United States Centennial Commission, in rendering such service as lies in its power, towards assuring the success of the forthcoming exhibition.

Resolved, That the Adjutant General forward a copy of this resolution to Comrade Joseph R. Hawley, Past Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, and President of the United States Centennial Commission.

The Adjutant General presented the following:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA,
BRUNSWICK, GA., MAY 7, 1873.

To the Delegates of the Grand Army of the Republic.

COMRADES: Circumstances over which I have no control preventing me from being with you in person, I take this means of calling your attention to a matter in which, as members of our noble Order, you are each and all interested. I refer to the decoration on memorial day, of the graves of our fallen Comrades, who are buried in the National Cemeteries in the South. There are in this State two National Cemeteries, one at Andersonville, the other at Marietta. In the former there are thirteen thousand seven hundred and sixteen Union soldiers buried, and in the latter ten thousand and ninety-four. Being, as we are, in the midst of a people antagonistic to us and our interests, our Order in this State labors under great disadvantages, consisting of only two Posts, each with a very small membership, and

very weak financially, thereby precluding the possibility of our properly observing "Memorial Day," as we otherwise would. We are therefore compelled to appeal to our Comrades in other Departments, more favored by surrounding circumstances, and where it is not considered an evidence of degradation to have been a defender of the Union, to assist us in performing our duty towards our dead Comrades.

We need flags with which to decorate the graves, or funds to procure them, and any contributions of either, sent to the Adjutant General or the undersigned, will be gratefully received.

Regretting my inability to be with you, and trusting that this Encampment may be productive of great good for the advancement of the interest of our Order, I am, Comrades,

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

JOHN T. COLLINS,
Department Commander.

Referred to a special committee.

The Commander-in-Chief then appointed the following committees:

On communication from Massachusetts concerning badges—Comrades Underwood, White, Wells, Burrows and Hamilton.

On resolution regarding Comrade Ketchum—Comrades Sibley, Douglas, Veazey, Fell and Ferguson.

On decoration of graves in Georgia—Comrades Russell, Parker, and Gould.

Comrade Beath, of Pennsylvania, then invited the Comrades to meet in convention next year, in the city of Harrisburg, Pa. He said that it was proposed to invite them to Philadelphia in 1876. He moved that Harrisburg be the place for the next Annual Encampment. The motion prevailed.

The Adjutant General presented a communication from the Department of Mississippi, which was referred.

The convention then at about one o'clock, adjourned to Thursday at 9 A. M., having previously accepted an escort on that morning, tendered them by Admiral Foote Post, of New Haven.

SECOND DAY.

At nine o'clock the Commander-in-Chief and Staff, and members of the National Encampment, assembled at the Tontine House, and were taken under escort by Admiral Foote

Post, of New Haven, accompanied by Gilmore's Band, and marched through several streets to the State House, in front of which the line was formed, and a photograph taken of the scene.

At ten o'clock the National Encampment reassembled in the Representatives' Hall, the Commander-in-Chief in the chair. He was soon afterwards obliged to retire, and Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Louis Wagner, presided during the remainder of the session.

The report of the committee on the Annual Report of the Commander-in-Chief was then submitted as follows:

The committee to which was referred the Report of the Commander-in-Chief and the Report of the Council of Administration respectfully submit the following report:

1st. That the report of the Commander-in-Chief be accepted.

2d. That the report of the Council of Administration also be accepted.

W. G. VEAZEY,
For Committee.

The report was adopted.

The report of the committee on the Annual Reports of the Adjutant General and Quartermaster General was then presented by Comrade Sibley, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
NEW HAVEN, May 15, 1873.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Adjutant General, respectfully report that they find the same correct, and they recommend its acceptance.

His report calls the attention of the Encampment to the fact, that the repeated orders of the Commander-in-Chief, to the Department of New York to furnish supplementary reports, had not been obeyed.

Your committee are of the opinion that the request of the Commander-in-Chief was reasonable and proper, and they hold that if the Commander of the Department of New York thought otherwise, he should have shown his superior officer the courtesy, at least, of a respectful response to his repeated orders.

Your committee believe that the course of the Headquarters of Department of New York, in this respect is deserving of censure, and they recommend that the Commander-in-Chief be directed to insist upon the rendition of such supplementary reports as he may find to be due from said Department.

Inasmuch, however, as it ts claimed that the Rules and Regulations do not expressly require such reports, we recommend the following changes in the Rules and Regulations, viz:

That Sec. 2, Art. II, Chap. V, be amended by adding the words, "He shall also make such supplemental reports as may be required by the National Headquarters."

Also, that Sec. 5, of the same article and chapter, be amended by adding the same words. Respectfully submitted,

HENRY R. SIBLEY,
O. C. BOSBYSHELL,
E. H. RHODES,
T. W. CHALLIS,
H. HILLIARD,
Committee.

Comrade Minnes, of New York, wanted to know why the Department of New York was singled out in such manner.

Comrade Goble, of New Jersey, moved that the report be received, and the recommendations be adopted.

Comrade Minnes, of New York, again asked why the Department of New York was thus singled out.

The Department of Pennsylvania was in exactly the same position, and there was nothing said about that. The soldiers of New York had rights, and they were not coming there to be insulted by anybody, no matter who they were. He did not know, and did not care, who was at the bottom of the report, but there had been for some time a constant meddling, by the National Headquarters, with the affairs of the New York Department, which was unworthy of soldiers. For one, he did not propose to endure it any longer.

Comrade Beath said that,

As a representative of the Department of Pennsylvania, he did not know how that Department could be charged with any want of courtesy towards National Headquarters. They had always made all their reports, and he could not see how there was any comparison between the Departments of Pennsylvania and that of New York. He quoted from the annual report of the Quartermaster-General to show that more dues were credited, as paid by the Department of Pennsylvania, than by the larger Department of New York, for the third quarter of 1872. For the fourth quarter of 1872, however, when delegates were to be elected to the National Encampment, in place of showing the same kind of a report, the Department of New York suddenly raised from $51.00 to $104.00, in order to obtain a larger representation. The Department of Pennsylvania could only be behind in the reports of some three or four Posts, which did not report on account of the political campaign. But an entirely different state of affairs in New York is shown by the Quartermaster-General. There must have been an immense gain, in the Department of New York, between the third and fourth quarters of 1872. If it was a fair and honest gain, why then I am willing to give them the credit of doubling their membership.

Comrade Sibley said

That the committee, in their report, made no reference to figures. Comrades could look for themselves and explain, if they could, how the Department of New York stood. The committee ascertained that there were three communications sent from the National Headquarters to the Department of New York, and the latter did not show the ordinary military courtesy of taking any notice of them. Until the commanding officer of the Department of New York can come to the National Encampment and show why the orders of the National Headquarters have not been complied with, these resolutions, which imply censure, are perfectly just and proper. It is unjust to say that we make attacks upon New York, because the investigation of the committee had shown that the National Headquarters had certain rules which the Department of New York had refused to obey, and yet had made no appeal to the National Encampment. It seemed to him that the National Encampment must vindicate its authority. The Adjutant-General's letter-book shows the order to the Department of New York, expressed in courteous terms, and yet the communications of December 27, 1872, February 12, 1873, and March 12, 1873, remain unanswered to this hour, and the reason given is, that the Commander-in-Chief had no right to issue such an order. He (Sibley) claimed that such communications were, as a matter of courtesy, at least entitled to a reply, and it was only just that the National Encampment should set its seal of condemnation upon any officer or any Department who disobeyed the supreme power of the National Headquarters.

Comrade Perham, of Maine, moved the previous question.

Comrade Corliss, of New York, said:

"As present Commander of the Department of New York, I am perfectly willing to abide by the sense of this Encampment. I have no personal feeling whatever in the matter, and only desire that justice should be done,"

The question was then divided, and the first part of the report was adopted by a majority vote, and the second part by a two-thirds vote.

Comrade Sibley then presented the report of the committee upon the Annual Report of the Quartermaster-General, as follows:

REPORT UPON THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
NEW HAVEN, CONN., May 14, 1873.

To the National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic:

The committee to whom was referred the Report of the Quartermaster-General beg leave to report the following:

The charge of $319.33 against the late Quartermaster-General, Comrade Lubey, they find to be made up of legitimate bills due by the Grand Army

of the Republic during his term of office, but for which he was unable to provide, being without funds of the association. Quartermaster-General Attwood paid these bills, charging them to the account of Comrade Lubey, The committee respectfully recommend that the Quartermaster-General be authorized to charge the amount, $319.33, to profit and loss.

The charge of $350 against W. T. Collins, late Adjutant-General, is amount due him for salary. The committee recommend that the Quartermaster-General be authorized to charge this to profit and loss.

There is a further sum of $8.40 due Comrade Collins, which the committee recommend be paid him, and charged to profit and loss.

The committee agree with the opinion of the Quartermaster-General in regard to the making of "Supplementary Reports." Such reports are certainly due, where Departments receive cash returns from Posts, after having made their regular reports. Departments act as tax collectors for National Headquarters, and certainly have no right to retain moneys forwarded them belonging to the National Organization.

The committee respectfully recommend that the Report of the Quartermaster-General be received and filed.

In view of the fact that Comrade Attwood's books and accounts present so satisfactory a result, and inasmuch as he has given his services to the Grand Army of the Republic gratuitously, the committee beg leave to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of the National Encampment are due, and are hereby tendered to Comrade Cornelius G. Attwood, for his able supervision of the finances of our Order, and that a committee of three be appointed to procure a proper testimonial to be presented to Comrade Attwood, expressive of the respect and esteem with which he is held by the comrades of this Order.

Respectfully submitted.

HENRY R. SIBLEY,
O. C. BOSBYSHELL,
T. W. CHALLIS,
H. HILLIARD,
Committee.

The report was adopted without debate, and Comrades Sibley, of Massachusetts, Bosbyshell, of Pennsylvania, and Challis, of New Hampshire, were appointed the committe to procure the testimonial for the Quartermaster-General.

The report of the committee on the Annual Report of the Inspector-General was then submitted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ANNUAL REPORT OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
NEW HAVEN, CONN., May 15, 1873,

Your committee, to whom was referred the Reports of the Inspector-General, ask leave to make the following report:

1. That the several suggestions made by the Inspector-General, contained on the thirteenth page of said report, are each approved by your committee, and action thereon is therefore recommended to the National Encampment.

2. Your committee would also recommend that, in order to carry out the suggestions of the Inspector-General, that Art. V, Sec. 1, of Rules and Regulations be amended by striking out from the first and second lines the words "during the month of October or November."

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. BROWN,
TIMOTHY LUBEY,
EDWARD FERGUSON,
J. H. GOULDING,
J. R. GOBLE,
Committee.

Your committee further report that, having examined the reports of the Surgeon-General and Judge Advocate-General, and finding no suggestions contained therein for the action of the National Encampment, and finding said reports made properly and in due form, your committee have no recommendations to make concerning said report.

By the Committee.

After a slight discussion the report of the committee was adopted, and a resolution was adopted, giving the thanks of the Encampment to the Inspector-General, for the manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office.

The same committee also recommended the adoption of the report of the Judge Advocate-General, which was done.

The Committee on Rules and Regulations then submitted their report; which was as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE UPON RULES, REGULATIONS AND RITUAL.

The committee appointed upon Rules, Regulations and the Ritual, would respectfully submit the following report upon the matters referred to them:

I. As regards the Burial Service submitted for the action of this Encampment by the delegation from the Department of Massachusetts, they would report favorably for its adoption, as being a decided improvement upon any form heretofore in force, only regretting that they had not time to still further suggest interesting ceremonies for this solemn occasion.

II. Some comrade, who was evidently ashamed of his resolution, as it was not signed, presented one, to amend Article XI, Chapter V, Rules and Regulations, so as to remove the restriction regarding politics; this, of

course, was unanimously disapproved, as it would remove one of our most secure safeguards.

III. The amendment to Section 2, Article II, Chapter IV, Rules and Regulations, as offered by Comrade Childs, of the Massachusetts delegation to add the words "Assistant Aojutant-General," so that the section shall read "Of the Commanders and Vice Commanders, and Assistant Adjutant-Generals of the several departments, for the time being;" (for whom no proxy can act,) the committee recommend the amendment, believing that it will prove beneficial to the Order.

IV. They also report favorably upon the amendment to Section 1, Article III, Chapter III, Rules and Regulations, as proposed by Comrade Sibley, of Massachusetts, which is adding the words "or by the Council of Administration"; contingencies might arise, in which such a course would, be desirable and of benefit to our organization.

V. Upon the communication received from Comrade Otis, of Post 8, Department of Connecticut, in relation to a change in the secret work, they would report unfavorably, not believing that any change at this time would be advantageous; this work is given for examination, and not for display.

VI. The committee would suggest to the Encampment the adoption of the amendment to Section 2, Article IV, Chapter III, Rules and Regulations, inserting after the word "Chaplain" the words "a Chief Mustering Officer." Also, Section 1, Article V, Chapter III, inserting after the words "the Assistant Quartermaster-General" the words "and the Chief Mustering Officer." Also, Section 1, Article VI, Chapter III, by adding the words "a Chief Mustering Officer" after the words "An Assistant Quartermaster-General." Also, Section 6, Article VI, Chapter III, so it shall read "the Judge Advocate, and the Chief Mustering Officer, shall respectively perform such duties as properly belong to their offices"

VII. Upon the communication from Comrade Brown, of Easton, Pa., regarding suggestions to increase the efficiency of the Grand Army of the Republic, the committee have no recommendation to offer to this body, as the Department can and should use all diligence to forward this idea.

VIII. In relation to suggestions as offered by the Department of Maine, to wit:—"To obtain such amendments to the Rules and Regulations as will make Post Adjutants members of Department Encampments," they would report negatively, as it would render the Encampments, in many Departments, cumbersome and too large, and, in their opinion, not add sufficiently to its effectiveness. Also, would not report favorably upon the other suggestion, "to strike out all Rules requiring Posts to assist soldiers and sailors not members of the Order."

IX. Upon the resolutions presented by the Department of the Potomac, the committee would suggest, to cover this matter, that the words "only those thus elected shall be admitted to seats" be stricken out of Section 3, Article II, Chapter III, and that any vacancies that may occur shall be filled in the same manner as provided in Section 3, Article VII, Chapter II. The committee have no recommendation to offer as regards the other resolution.

X. Upon the communication from Comrade Carroll, Department of Louisiana, to abolish the oath of secrecy, report unfavorably.

XI. The resolution to abolish the Medical Director's Department, the committee would most emphatically report not to do so.

XII. Upon the proposition from the Department of Pennsylvania, to establish a degree to be known as the Clara Barton Degree, they would not report its adoption, as it opens the door to innumerable side degrees.

XIII. In relation to the petition from Koltes Post, No. 32, Department of New York, regarding a change in the matter of representation to Encampments, would report not favorably, believing that no better plan can be adopted than that now in force. The other subjects mentioned are properly within the control of the Department, and the committee would suggest that all papers, in the future, not forwarded through the proper channel, should be returned for that purpose.

All of which is submitted in F., C. and L.,

STEPHEN P. CORLISS,
HENRY B. PEIRCE,
H. CLAY TRUMBULL,
C. L. RUSSELL,
A. WILSON NORRIS,
Committee.

Comrade Cogswell, of Massachusetts, said that he had seldom listened to a report so well considered and so satisfactory, and he did not believe, if the Encampment should go on and discuss the subjects contained in it during the whole day, they could arrive at better conclusions with reference to the interests of the Grand Army of the Republic. He therefore moved the adoption of the report as a whole.

Comrade Rhodes, of Rhode Island, wished to know if, by adopting the report, they adopted the Burial Service. If so he wished the Department of Rhode Island might be allowed its choice in the matter. They had been to considerable trouble to prepare a Burial Service, which they desire to try. The one reported might be superior, but they knew nothing about it, and he thought it would be better that each Department should be allowed to adopt its own Burial Service.

The Senior Vice Commander in the chair stated that, by the Rules and Regulations, the Burial Service was not obligatory upon Posts. If Rhode Island had something she thought better, she had perfect liberty to use it.

Comrade Beath, of Pennsylvania, objected to the part of the report which provided for a Chief Mustering Officer. He did not see the slightest use of one. It is the duty of the Commander of each Post, and if he cannot attend to it the Department Commander can detail an officer, the Assistant Inspector-General, to act as Mustering Officer in the installation of the different officers of a Post.

Comrade Veazey, of Vermont, appreciated the efficiency of the report of the Committee on Rules and Regulations as much as any one, but was not prepared to adopt the report, as a whole, until he had more thoroughly examined it.

Comrade Sibley favored the recommendation of the committee, and believed there should be an officer whose duty should be to take charge of the installation of officers.

Comrade Cogswell, of Massachusetts, moved the previous question, which was ordered, and the report of the committee was adopted by more than a two-thirds vote.

Comrade Sibley moved the suspension of the thirteenth rule, so that during the session of the National Encampment; no member should speak more than twice, nor more than three minutes on each question. The motion was unanimously carried.

Comrade Underwood, of Massachusetts, then submitted the following report on badges:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON OFFICIAL BADGES.

NEW HAVEN, May 14, 1873.

To the Commander-in-Chief:

SIR: The committee of this Encampment to whom was referred the resolution of the Council of Administration of Massachusetts, relating to the adoption of an official badge, respectfully report that they recommend the adoption, by this Encampment, of a badge contemplated by Section 2, Article IX, Chapter V, of the Rules and Regulations, which may be worn by all officers in the Grand Army of the Republic, when on duty as such, or on occasions of ceremony.

That this official badge consist of a miniature strap and plain ribbon, to which shall be pendant the bronze star of the membership badge; that this strap be one and one-half inches in length, one-half inch in width, enamelled, with a border one-sixteenth of an inch in width, of gold or gilt, and on it be insignia of official position in the Grand Army of the Republic, making use of the familiar star, eagle, leaf and bar of the old service, sub-

stantially as determined and recommended for official badges, by the National Council of Administration, and announced in Circular No. 6, Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic, January 4, 1869; except that for aids-de-camp to the Commander-in-Chief be substituted a silver eagle, and for aids-de-camp to Department Commanders a silver leaf; for the words "Grand Commander" be read "Department Commander;" that the field in genamel be for National and Department officers, black; for Post officers dark blue.

That the ribbon be one and one-half inches in length in the clear, and one and one-fourth inches in width; and in color, for National officers, buff; for Department officers, red (cherry); and for Post officers, light blue.

That this badge be worn conspicuously on the left breast of the coat.

That to distinguish the different Departments, a miniature shield in gold or gilt, with the coat of arms of the State, may be worn pendant to the strap.

If this Encampment decides that the badge may be worn by past officers, your committee recommend the Encampment to prescribe that such officers wear the strap of the official badge proper for their position in the Grand Army of the Republic, with a clasp upon their proper ribbon, beneath the bronze eagle of the membership badge, to which the whole shall be be pendant.

That the only past officers who shall be entitled to wear the official badge be those who, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations, or order for services, continue to hold an official position in the Grand Army of the Republic, Past Commanders-in-Chief, and Vice Commanders-in-Chief, Past Department and Post Commanders, and in addition, Past Vice Department Commanders, and past officers of the National and Department Staffs.

Your committee submit the following amendment to the Rules and Regulations, as proposed by them for adoption by the Encampment, in case it prescribes an official badge.

Add to Section 2, Article IX, Chapter V, the following:

The badge designating official position in the Grand Army of the Republic, adopted at the meeting of the National Encampment, held in New Haven May 14 and 15, 1873, may be worn by all National, Department and Post officers in the Grand Army of the Republic, when on duty or on occasions of ceremony, and no shoulder straps or other badge shall be worn to designate official position in the Grand Army of the Republic.

Respectfully submitted,

A. B. UNDERWOOD,
CHARLES BURROWS,
C. A. WELLS. *Committee.*

The acceptance and adoption of the report was moved.

Comrade Norris, of Pennsylvania, said that if there was any one element of strength in the Grand Army of the Republic it was its democracy. They were all upon the same plane, and it was very wise and proper that it was so,

although it might involve a little sacrifice and self denial. When the first badge was adopted, it was with the theory that all were on an equality, and the distinct understanding was that there should be no distinction. He therefore hoped that the report would not prevail.

Comrade Churchill, of Massachusetts, while agreeing with Comrade Norris in sentiment, thought there were reasons why the Encampment should adopt a badge, as recommended by the committee. There were occasions when such a badge was of the greatest importance, as on great parades, and when it was absolutely necessary that Commanders of Posts should be so designated that they could be easily known.

Comrade Norris said he would lay in the scale the matter of convenience against the danger of creating a sentiment which might destroy the Order.

Comrade Chamberlain, of Connecticut, thought the matter might be harmonized by adopting an amendment that such badges be worn by officers to designate rank, while they held the position, and when they leave the position they abandon the badge. He moved such an amendment.

Comrade Underwood said that it was the glory of the Grand Army of the Republic that they were all comrades, and whatever their previous rank, they were on an equality. But comrades would recollect that the Rules and Regulations provided for certain officers, and he considered it perfectly proper that the rank of those officers should in some way be designated.

Comrade Babbitt, of Massachusetts, moved the previous question, which was ordered.

Comrade Chamberlain changed his amendment, so as to provide that there should be no badges for past officers, and it was carried, after which the report was adopted.

On motion of Comrade Underwood, the Commander-in-Chief was requested to publish in a general order a description of the badge as adopted.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The Adjutant-General read the following letter from Comrade John A. Logan:

CHICAGO, May 9, 1872.

General A. E. BURNSIDE,

MY DEAR FRIEND: I regret exceedingly being unable to attend the National Encampment, as it would afford me very great pleasure to meet our comrades and to participate in the fraternal and social exercises of this occasion, but it is impossible for me to come. With many wishes for the success and perpetuity of the Grand Army of the Republic, I am

Very truly your comrade,

JOHN A. LOGAN.

The Adjutant-General also read the following communication from Comrade Earnshaw, Chaplain-in-Chief:

THE NATIONAL HOME FOR DISABLED VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS,
DAYTON, OHIO, May 8, 1873.

Comrade ROSWELL MILLER,
Adjutant-General G. A. R.

DEAR COMRADE: I deeply regret to say, that owing to serious and protracted sickness in my family, I will be prevented from being present at the coming meeting of the National Encampment. Will you do me the kindness to make the statement for me. I will send a brief clerical report to your address at New Haven. I trust the meeting may be the best in the history of our noble Order.

Yours in F., C. and L.,

WILLIAM EARNSHAW,
Chaplain-in-Chief.

The communications were received, and directed to be entered upon the minutes.

Comrade Sibley, of Massachusetts, presented the following report:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.
NEW HAVEN, May 15, 1873.

The committee to which was referred a resolution relating to the member of the Council of Administration, from the Department of New York, respectfully report that they have given the parties interested a patient hearing, and find that it is claimed by the delegation from New York that Comrade A. P. Ketchum, elected last year from that Department to the Council of Administration, has no right to serve in that capacity, and therefore no right to sit in this Encampment.

Their claim is based upon the allegation that the said Comrade was more than one year in arrears for dues to his Post, at the time the Post surrendered its charter, and that he has therefore forfeited his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic.

Your committee do not find that the fact of his being so in arrears is substantiated by the evidence submitted to them, and they therefore report back the resolution, with the recommendatton that it be rejected.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY R. SIBLEY,
W. G. VEAZEY,
D. NEWLIN FELL,
E. FERGUSON,
Committee.

Comrade Lawrence, of New York, claimed the privilege of moving the adoption of the report under protest, for the purpose of avoiding the use of the report as a precedent.

Senior Vice-Commander Wagner in the chair, said that he had never heard of adopting a report under protest.

Comrade Lawrence hoped the matter would be left with the Department of New York to settle.

Comrade Bosbyshell, of Pennsylvania, moved the adoption of the report.

Comrade Ferguson, of Wisconsin, said that, as a member of the committee, he hesitated a long time before signing the report, and did so only because the Department of New York did not sustain the charges. The books seemed to show that one year's assessments were due from Comrade Ketchum.

Comrade Lawrence said he wished to explain that the committee demanded proofs, which were not present, and could not be had within the time allowed. All that the Department of New York desire is that the National Encampment should fix the status of a Comrade who belongs to a disbanded Post. For himself, he stood on the ground that once a member, always a member, unless disqualified for cause. The rules seemed to conflict, and he hoped some rule might be adopted, which would secure that harmony which grows out of true charity.

Comrade Reeder, of Pennsylvania, wished to know what the evidence was against Comrade Ketchum.

Comrade Fell, of Pennsylvania, said that there was not an iota of proof to show that Comrade Ketchum was not a member of the Order.

The report was then adopted, rejecting the resolution.

Comrade Merrill, of Massachusetts, then read the following report:

To the Commander-in-Chief and Members
of the National Encampment G. A. R.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Mrs. Wm. T. Collins, and accompanying papers, respectfully report:

That upon careful consideration of all the evidence procurable by the committee, it does not appear that any arrears of salary are due Mr. Collins, formerly Adjutant General.

And from comparison of recent with former financial receipts and expenditures, we are clearly of the opinion that, upon a full and equitable adjustment of all the accounts—of services rendered and compensation received, during his administration—even making an allowance in full of the amount of salary claimed to have once been remitted by him, there would still be no arrearage justly due Mr. Collins.

And your committee do not deem this a case of charity, so conspicuously clear, as to justify the appropriation of any of the funds of this Encampment for its relief.

We recommend, therefore, that the petition of Mrs. Collins be dismissed.

GEO. S. MERRILL,
A. B. LAWRENCE,
WM. W. HENRY,
WM. PITT MOSES,
Committee.

Comrade Beath, of Pennsylvania, said that the appeal of Mrs. Collins touched the heart of every comrade, but there was no other course for the Encampment to take than that recommended by the committee.

The report of the committee was then adopted.

Comrade Russell, of Ohio, presented the following report:

The committee appointed on the decoration of the graves of Union soldiers in the National Cemeteries of Marietta and Andersonville, beg leave to report that no provision has been made to meet the expense, and no steps taken to secure the annual decoration of these graves.

Your committee would, therefore, recommend that the Commander-in-Chief be directed to cause the graves to be decorated on the 30th of May, 1873, and that the money necessary for that purpose be and the same is hereby appropriated from the funds belonging to the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic.

That hereafter all Posts be requested to contribute, annually, such sum for this purpose as their financial condition will allow, and that the same be

transmitted to the Quartermaster-General, on or before the 1st of April in each year.

CLARENCE RUSSELL,
GUY T. GOULD,
CHAS. PARKER,
Committee.

Comrade Rhodes, of Rhode Island, said that while they all heartily approve the sentiment which had dictated such a letter, they were equally well aware that to place a single flag or one flower upon each Union soldier's grave in Georgia would take more money than there was in the treasury. The proposition to appropriate a sum for that purpose was therefore rejected by the Encampment.

Comrade Sprague, of the Department of the Potomac, offered the following, which was adopted without debate:

Resolved, That the Department of the Potomac be and is hereby enlarged so as to include the country and surroundings at Arlington, Va.

The resolution was adopted.

Comrade Lawrence, of New York, moved that a special committee of three be appointed to consider the circumstances of the case of Comrade Ketchum, of New York, with power to revise existing Rules and Regulations, which may be in conflict, and report to the Encampment.

Comrade Ketchum wished the motion might be made without any reference to himself. The matter could be investigated, as to whether a member of the Grand Army, whose Post is disbanded, is *ipso facto* no longer a member of the National Encampment, when he stands as a member of that Encampment.

Comrade Cogswell, of Massachusetts, moved that the whole matter be indefinitely postponed.

Comrade Beath, of Pennsylvania, hoped the matter would not be postponed. If the Rules and Regulations were not what they should be, they certainly ought to be remedied. The suggestion of Comrade Ketchum was a good one, and the question ought to be settled whether such a comrade belongs to the Encampment and the Order or not.

Comrade Norris, of Pennsylvania, said that, with all due

deference to the Commander of the Department of Pennsylvania, the Encampment had just settled that question, by adopting the report of a committee.

Comrade Burnside, Commander-in-Chief, said that he was quite sure there was a difficulty in the matter, and that all the delegates from New York desired was to so fix the Rules that trouble would be avoided in the future. It was something which could be done in ten or fifteen minutes, and it was a great deal better to settle the question then and there.

Comrade Lawrence hoped Comrade Ketchum would not be sensitive about his name being used, as it was necessary to state a particular case.

Comrade Cogswell, of Massachusetts, raised the point of order that the Encampment had already once settled the matter, and that the proposition of Comrade Lawrence was not in order.

Comrade Wagner, Senior Vice Commander in the chair, ruled the point of order not well taken.

Comrade Ketchum claimed that the circumstances of his case were not properly before the Encampment.

The chair ruled that all reference to the case of Comrade Ketchum was out of order.

Comrade Babbitt, of Massachusetts, rose to a question of ignorance. (Laughter.) Whether the matter could not be settled without any mention of the case of Comrade Ketchum.

The Encampment then refused to indefinitely postpone the matter, and Comrade Lawrence changed his motion so that it read as follows:

"That Article IV, Chapter II, of the Rules and Regulations, be referred to a special committee of three, to examine and report whether any discrepancies exist."

The motion was adopted, and the chair appointed Comrades Hawley, of Connecticut, Douglas, of Rhode Island, and Veazey, of Vermont, the committee.

THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The time for the election of officers having arrived, Comrade Goble, of New Jersey, nominated for Commander-in-Chief, Comrade Louis Wagner, of Pennsylvania.

Comrade Underwood nominated for Commander-in-Chief, Comrade Charles Devens, Jr., of Massachusetts.

Comrade Wagner said he thanked Comrade Goble for what he had done, but desired to withdraw his name from nomination. He did so, not because he did not want the office, nor because he did not feel that he ought to have it, but he was satisfied a majority of the Encampment desired to elect some one else, who would make a very efficient Commander-in-Chief. If the Encampment should elect that comrade, he felt quite sure that they would not regret the choice they had made. He thanked his comrades very sincerely for their good wishes, and withdrew his name.

Comrade Beath then moved that the Adjutant-General deposit one ballot for Commander-in-Chief, and on it be written the name of Comrade Charles Devens, Jr., of Massachusetts.

The motion was unanimously adopted, and the Adjutant-General cast the ballot amid loud applause.

On motion of Comrade Beath, a committee was appointed to wait upon Comrade Devens, and escort him to the hall. The chair appointed Comrades Wagner, Goble, and Cogswell.

For Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief—Comrades H. A. Barnum, of New York; J. Warren Keifer, of Ohio; A. P. Ketchum, of New York, and John R. Goble, of New Jersey, were placed in nomination. Comrades Merrill, of Massachusetts; Goulding, of Vermont, and Reeder, of Pennsylvania, were appointed tellers.

The roll of delegates was then called, and the delegates, by departments, deposited their votes with the tellers. The ballot resulted as follows:

Whole number of votes	72
Necessary to a choice	37
Goble	27

Ketchum..... 15
Barnum..... 16
Keifer..... 14

And there was no choice.

Comrade Ketchum felt deeply grateful to those comrades who had voted for him on the first ballot, and desired that his name be not used on the next ballot. He hoped that his friends would deposit their ballots for Comrade Goble, of New Jersey.

Comrade Corliss, of New York, withdrew the name of Comrade Barnum, of New York, and moved that one ballot be cast for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief and that it be for Comrade Goble.

The Adjutant-General cast the ballot, and Comrade Goble was declared elected Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

For Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Comrade Corliss, of New York, placed in nomination Comrade Ferguson, of Wisconsin, and Comrade Goble seconded the nomination.

Comrade Beath, of Pennsylvania, nominated Comrade Gould, of Illinois, and Comrade Pierce, of Massachusetts, seconded the nomination.

Before the voting occurred, Comrade Churchill, of Massachusetts, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of the National Encampment be tendered to Admiral Foote Post, Grand Army of the Republic, of New Haven, for their generous hospitality, and to the citizens of the city of New Haven, for the kindness they have manifested towards the soldier and sailors who are visiting the beautiful "city of elms," and that the Adjutant General be requested to publish this in the New Haven papers.

In presenting the resolution, Comrade Churchill said that he not only did it because of the kindness of the Post and the citizens, but because—being the only one in the Encampment who came from the Navy—he wished to pay his tribute to the Post which bore the name of the grand old sailor who went down the Mississippi.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Comrade Trumbull, of Connecticut, submitted the report of the committee on the books and accounts of the Adjutant General.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., May 15, 1873.

The undersigned, appointed a committee of the Council of Administration, to examine the accounts of Comrade Roswell Miller, Adjutant General, respectfully report:

That they have examined and audited the accounts, and have compared the expenditures with the vouchers, and find the same to be correct. * * *

(Signed.) H. CLAY TRUMBULL,
SAMUEL A. GREEN,
GEO. L. BEAL,
Committee.

The report was accepted.

The vote for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief was then taken and resulted as follows:

Whole number of votes	64
Necessary to a choice	33
Ferguson	49
Gould	14
Barnum	1

And Comrade Barnum was declared elected, and, on motion of Comrade Gould, the election was made unanimous.

Comrade Ferguson nominated as Surgeon General, Comrade Powell, Medical Director of the Department of New York.

Comrade Beath seconded the nomination, because Comrade Powell was the first medical officer to present a proper report to the National Encampment.

Comrade Powell was elected unanimously by acclamation.

For Chaplain-in-Chief, Comrade Hartranft, of Pennsylvania, nominated Comrade John Sayers, of that State.

Comrade Rhodes, of Rhode Island, nominated Comrade Augustus Woodbury, of Rhode Island.

The ballot resulted as follows:

Whole number of votes	57
Necessary to a choice	29
Sayers	28
Woodbury	29

And Comrade Woodbury was declared elected, and the election was made unanimous.

The following were then chosen as the National Council of Administration:

Maine	Comrade George L. Beal.
New Hampshire	" William P. Moses.
Vermont	" J. H. Goulding.
Massachusetts	" Wm. Cogswell.
Connecticut	" H. Clay Trumbull.
Rhode Island	" Edwin Metcalf.
New York	" Henry A. Barnum.
New Jersey	" Richard H. Lee.
Pennsylvania	" Robert L. Orr.
Virginia	" J. M. Thacher.
Potomac	" T. Lubey.
Ohio	" C. L. Russell.
Illinois	" John McArthur.
Kentucky	" Geo. W. Northup.
Wisconsin	" Geo. A. Hanaford.
Minnesota	" James George.
California	" James Coey.
Texas	" S. B. Grafton.

Comrade Beath, of Pennsylvania, then offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to procure for, and present in the name of the Grand Army of the Republic, to Comrade Ambrose E. Burnside, a testimonial expressive of the high regard and esteem entertained for him by the comrades of the Grand Army, for the faithful and able manner in which he has, for the past two years, discharged the duties of Commander-in-Chief; his whole administration reflecting credit upon the organization, and illustrating, most conspicuously, our principles of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.

Comrades Beath, of Pennsylvania, Corliss, of New York, and Peirce, of Massachusetts, were appointed the committee.

Comrade Bosbyshell, of Pennsylvania, offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic, are due, and are hereby tendered, to Comrade Roswell Miller, for the faithful and intelligent manner in which he has discharged the arduous and responsible duties of his office.

Resolved, That our thanks are due, and are hereby tendered, to the Inspector-General, Comrade M. B. Goodrich, the Judge Advocate-General, Comrade W. W. Douglas, the Quartermaster-General, Comrade C. G. Attwood, the Surgeon-General, Comrade Samuel A. Green, the Chaplain-in-Chief, Comrade Wm. Earnshaw, and the Council of Administration, for the able manner in which they have attended to their duties.

Comrade Merrill, of Massachusetts, offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the members of this National Encampment, gratefully recognizing the long and faithful service of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, and for a considerable period acting Commander-in-Chief, Louis Wagner, of Pennsylvania; his devotion to the interests of the Grand Army of the Republic; his efficient administration of the affairs of the high positions he has filled; his admirable impartiality, promptness and vigor, in dispatching the business of this Encampment, when he has been called to preside therein—have constantly won our hearty commendation, and, in recognition of our esteem, we hereby tender to Comrade Wagner, the cordial thanks of this Encampment.

Resolved, That the Adjutant-General cause a suitable testimonial to be prepared and presented to Comrade Wagner.

Comrade Wagner expressed his thanks for the resolution, and for the kindness of all the comrades. He had endeavored to discharge his duties, as an officer and member of the Grand Army of the Republic, faithfully, and it was a grateful thing to him to know that his labors had been done to the acceptance of his comrades. He did not desire to make a speech, for they were assembled for work, and he hoped to meet them all in Harrisburg, next year, when he would guarantee them as fine a time as they had in Boston, or Cleveland, or New Haven, or anywhere else. (Applause.)

Comrade Burnside said:

"I desire especially to thank you for the kind manner in which you have always treated me. While I have always had the interest of the Order at heart, I deem it my duty to say that the real efficiency of the work is due to the officers under my command, and to the co-operation which I have received from the Department Commanders; I am quite sure I could have done nothing without it of real efficient work. I shall always remember my connection with you, as Commander-in-Chief, and shall always be identified with the Order as a member, and be always anxious for its interests and success." (Applause.)

As Comrade Burnside finished his remarks, the committee appeared with Comrade Devens, Commander-in-Chief, who was greeted by the Encampment rising and giving a rousing Grand Army cheer.

Comrade Underwood presented him to Comrade Burnside, then in the chair, who said: "It gives me great pleasure to present to you your new Commander-in-Chief,"

Comrade Devens then addressed the Encampment as follows:

"I can assure you, Comrades, that I appreciate most deeply the kindness with which this nomination has been given. I accept it as a compliment to the State of Massachusetts, which has carried on within its limits, so successfully, the Grand Army of the Republic, and with the hope that the true principles upon which the Order is founded, may extend until, in the other States, there shall be a development at least as large as that which exists in the state of Massachusetts. I believe that the success of the Order depends upon its adherence, steadily and resolutely, to the great principles upon which it is founded, of Fraternity, Loyalty and Charity, and that devoted to these objects, it cannot but succeed. I cannot promise you,—I certainly would not undertake to promise you,—any such an administration as you have just passed through. It has been, as we all know, a most successful one. The two years just passed have changed the condition of the Order in a marked degree, financially, so that, according to the reports this year, the Order stands strong in that respect, and the whole experience of all associations is that they can only be maintained by resting firmly and strongly upon a stable financial basis.

"The Grand Army of the Republic fills a noble place in this country to-day. It binds together the soldiers of all the armies of the United States and of the navy. It is not like the society of a single army, but it binds together members of all armies in the single tie of loyalty and devotion to the country, and of service for the country, no matter where that service was rendered, whether by the banks of the Potomac, in the swamps of the Chickahomminy, along the Mississippi, on the plains of Texas, or down in the bayous of Louisiana, it binds together all soldiers. It unites with it, as members, all who have served our country in her hour of peril, upon the sea and the land, in one grand bond of fraternity, and in a spirit of loyalty to the country, whose servants we are, and of charity and devotion to those of our Comrades whose condition requires it. Believe me, when I again say, that I cannot promise you anything of an administration like that which I am to succeed, but it will certainly be my endeavor, by devotion, to serve you faithfully." (Applause.)

The members of the Encampment were then individually presented to the newly-elected Commander-in-Chief, a recess being taken for that purpose.

Comrade Goble, newly-elected Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, was then presented to the Encampment, and made a brief speech in accepting the position. He expressed his thanks for the honor done him and the State of New Jersey, and pledged himself to work for the interests of the whole Order.

Comrade Ferguson, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief elect,

was also introduced to the convention, and accepted the office in a few words, in which he expressed his gratitude to his Comrades for their kindness.

Comrade Peirce then offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Encampment are due, and are hereby tendered to the following Comrades of Admiral Foote Post, 17, Department of Connecticut, who have been on duty during the Encampment, for the able, efficient and cheerful manner in which they have performed those duties:

Robert R. Russell, Officer of the Day,
James H. Cone, Officer of the Guard,
Lyman E. Bradley, Orderly,
Frank Powers, "
David Ford, Sentinel,
John W. Donaldson, "
Theodore Palmer, "
Warren Sturgess, "

At half-past one o'clock the Encampment finally adjourned.

NOTE.—In consequence of the great fire which occurred in Boston, May 30, and which destroyed nearly all of the books and papers of National Headquarters, it is possible that the foregoing may be found incomplete in some slight particulars, but it is believed to be correct.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT,

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

HELD AT HARRISBURG, PENN.,

May 13, 1874.

THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT of the Grand Army of the Republic assembled in the Grand Opera House, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday, May 13, 1874. The Encampment was called to order at 11 A. M., by Commander-in-Chief, Charles Devens, Jr.

Prayer was offered by Comrade Augustus Woodbury, Chaplain-in-Chief.

The roll of officers was called; Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief and Quartermaster-General absent.

The following is the

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
HARRISBURG, PENN., May 13, 1874.

The Committee on Credentials respectfully report that they find the following Departments entitled to representation in the National Encampment by their *ex officio* members, as prescribed by the Rules and Regulations, and by the number of representatives set against each, viz:

Maine	2	New York	6	Illinois	2
New Hampshire	2	New Jersey	2	Wisconsin	1
Vermont	2	Pennsylvania	5	Minnesota	2
Massachusetts	12	Virginia	1	Kansas	1
Rhode Island	2	Ohio	2	California	1
Connecticut	2			Potomac	1

The following Provisional Departments are entitled to representation by their Department officers: Georgia, Alabama, Oregon.

The following Departments and Provisional Departments, being in arrears for reports and dues, are not entitled to representation: Mississippi, Texas, Kentucky, Iowa, Colorado, Indiana.

No other Departments are entitled to representation.

HENRY R. SIBLEY, *Adjutant General.*
W. W. BROWN,
RICHARD H. LEE,
G. L. BEAL,
T. LUBEY,
Committee.

Voted, to accept the report.

The Adjutant-General stated that the Department of Kansas and the Provisional Department of Alabama had made returns in full since the printing of the reports of the Adjutant–General and Quartermaster–General.

Comrades not members of the Encampment were admitted to the parquette circle.

Comrade D. W. Glassie, Commander of the Provisional Department of Tennessee, asked the privilege of a seat in the Encampment, and his request was referred to the Committee on Credentials. They subsequently reported as follows:

"After having heard the statement of Comrade Glassie, we find the Department of Tennessee in such a condition as not to be entitled to representation in the Encampment, and therefore your Committee has no change to make in its first report."

This report was accepted.

The roll was called by the Adjutant–General, as follows:

NOTE. Those present are marked thus (*)

Commander-in-Chief.....Chas. Devens, Jr.*
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.....John R. Goble.*
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.....Edw. Ferguson.
Surgeon-General.....Hans Powell.*
Chaplain-in-Chief.....Augustus Woodbury.*
Adjutant-General.....H. R. Sibley.*
Quartermaster-General.....A. B. R. Sprague.
Inspector-General.....W. W. Brown.*
Judge Advocate-General.....W. W. Douglas.*

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

Geo. L. Beal.*	Henry A. Barnum.	John McArthur.
Wm. Cogswell.	Richard H. Lee.*	Geo. W. Northup.

J. H. Goulding.	Robert L. Orr.*	Geo. A. Hanaford.*
Wm. P. Moses.	J. M. Thacher.	James George.
H. Clay Trumbull.	T. Lubey.*	James Coey.
Edwin Metcalf.*	C. L. Russell.	S. B. Grafton.

PAST NATIONAL OFFICERS.

Past Commanders-in-Chief,	S. A Hurlbut,	1867.
	John A. Logan,	1868-70.
	A. E. Burnside,*	1871-72.
Past Senior Vice Commanders-in-Chief,	James B. McKean,	1867.
	Joshua T. Owen,	1868.
	Lucius Fairchild,	1869-70.
	Louis Wagner,*	1871-72.
Past Junior Vice Commanders-in-Chief,	R. S. Foster,	1867.
	J. R. Hawley,	1868-69.
	James Coey,	1871.
	J. Warren Keifer,	1872.

MAINE.

Commander, Selden Connor; Senior Vice Commander, Isaac Dyer; Junior Vice Commander, Will. A. Woods; Assistant Adjutant-General, S. J. Gallagher.

Delegates. Edward Moore, Daniel White.*

Alternates, A. S. Perham, A. W. Wildes.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Commander, T. W. Challis; Senior Vice Commander, A. S. Eaton; Junior Vice Commander, Chas. Scott; Assistant Adjutant-General, L. L. Aldrich.*

Delegates, J. B. Cooper,* Chas. J. Richards.*

Alternates, Dana W. King, R. Dodge.

VERMONT.

Commander, Stephen Thomas; Senior Vice Commander, Geo. E. Selleck; Junior Vice Commander, H. S. Hard; Assistant Adjutant-General, J. O. Livingston.

Delegates, J. W. Newton,* W. W. Henry.*

Alternates, J. O. Livingston, Fred. A. Lewis.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Commander, J. W. Kimball;* Senior Vice Commander, C. H. Taylor; Junior Vice Commander, J. S. Fay;* Assistant Adjutant-General, Henry B. Peirce.*

Delegates, A. B. Underwood,* Geo. S. Merrill,* C. F. Luther,* W. S. Greenough, C. E. Sperry,* J. Pickett,* E. B. Blasland,* C. A. Campbell, E. P. Morton,* J. W. Bigelow, G. H. Prior, G. R. Kelso.

Alternates, F. J. Daniels, Brownell Granger, H. C. Lee, M. J. Ferren,* J. G. B. Adams, E. B Macy, W. F. Draper, J. F. Searle, C. B. Fox, G. H. Hoyt, D. G. MacNamara, C. H. Parsons.

RHODE ISLAND.

Commander, Edwin Metcalf; Senior Vice Commander, Chas. H. Williams; Junior Vice Commander, Thomas Chambers; Assistant Adjutant-General, C. H. Barney.*

Delegates, E. C. Pomroy, E. H. Rhodes.*

Alternates, Nathan Benton, J. G. Phelps

CONNECTICUT.

Commander, Charles J. Buckbee;* Senior Vice Commander, Wm. E. Disbrow;* Junior Vice Commander, Joseph Selden; Assistant Adjutant General, Charles E. Fowler.*

Delegates: Samuel M. Smith,* H. Lynde Harrison.

Alternates: H. N. Fanton, F. G. Otis.

NEW YORK

Commander, Edward Jardine;* Senior Vice Commander, John Palmer; Junior Vice Commander, Joseph Egolf; Assistant Adjutant General, J. C. Julius Langbein,*

Delegates: S. P. Corliss, A. B. Lawrence, F. M. Clark, E. L Cole, J. C. Robinson,* E. W. Breuninghausen.

Alternates: John B. Murray, E. B. Gere, Calvin B. Kendig, George F. Hopper, Gustavus Sniper, Edwin A. Perry.*

NEW JERSEY.

Commander Charles Burrows; Senior Vice Commander, E. W. Davis;* Junior Vice Commander, E. L. Campbell; Assistant Adjutant General, John W. Drew.*

Delegates: Wm. Ward,* A. M. Way.*

Alternates: I. Van Houten, Geo. Sipp.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Commander, A. Wilson Norris;* Senior Vice Commander, W. W. Tyson; Junior Vice Commander, S. I. Givin; Assistant Adjutant General, Charles S. Greene.*

Delegates: John F. Hartranft,† O. C. Bosbyshell,* N. M. Smith,* W. W. Jennings,* R. B. Beath.*

Alternate: Frank Reeder.*

VIRGINIA.

Commander, W. N. Eaton; Senior Vice Commander, John Miller; Junior Vice Commander, W. D. Lee; Assistant Adjutant General, M. A. Rose.

Delegate: S. B. Kenney.*

POTOMAC.

Commander, F. H. Sprague;* Senior Vice Commander, B. F. Hawkes;* Junior Vice Commander, A. H. G Richardson;* Assistant Adjutant General, G. E. Corson.*

Delegate: W. H. Kuhns.

Alternate: Geo. P. Stiles.

†Comrade Hartranft took his seat in the afternoon, and Comrade Reeder withdrew,

OHIO.

Commander, G. M. Barber;* Senior Vice Commander, J. S. Clemmer; Junior Vice Commander, D. W. Thomas; Assistant Adjutant General, J. C. Roland.

Delegates: T C. Boone,* B. F. Miller.

Alternates: J. Armstrong, J. H. Seymour.

ILLINOIS

Commander, H. Hilliard;* Senior Vice Commander, T. G. Lawler; Junior Vice Commander, W. A. Lord; Assistant Adjutant General, J. C. Harrington.*

Delegates: Guy T. Gould, H. C. Clark.*

Alternate: B. F. Harner.*

KENTUCKY.

Commander, H. H. Johnson; Senior Vice Commander; P. S. Reeves; Junior Vice Commander, R. D. Cross; Assistant Adjutant General, W. F. Raynolds, Jr.

Delegate: George W. Northup.

Alternate: C. P. Wilcox.

WISCONSIN.

Commander, George A. Hanaford; Senior Vice Commander, M. Larkin; Junior Vice Commander, Z. C. Hamilton; Assistant Adjutant General, W. F. Angevine.

Delegate: W. F. Angevine.

Alternate: A. M. Burns.

MINNESOTA.

Commander, H. A. Castle; Senior Vice Commander, D. W. Albaugh; Junior Vice Commander, George H. Johnston; Assistant Adjutant General, True S. White.

Delegates: Mark D. Flower, J. Meese.

Alternates: H. G. Hicks, A. Harkins.

KANSAS.

Commander, W. S. Jenkins.*

CALIFORNIA.

Commander, W. H. Aiken; Senior Vice Commander, W. R. Cox, Jr., Junior Vice Commander, G. H. Robinson. Assistant Adjutant General, James E. Hughes.

Delegate: David J. Simmons.

Alternate: Charles H. Eldridge.

TEXAS.

No report.

PROVISIONAL DEPARTMENTS.

GEORGIA: Commander, J. T. Collins.

FLORIDA: Commander, Geo. E. Wentworth.

ALABAMA: Commander, George H. Patrick.*

New Mexico: Commander, G. A. Smith.
Mississippi and Louisiana: Commander, J. Tarbell.
Tennessee: Commander, D. W. Glassie.
Oregon: Commander, C. P. Crandall.
Nebraska: Commander, J. E. Philpot.
Iowa; Commander, J. C. Parrott.
Colorado: Commander, Louis Dougal.

The Commander-in-Chief announced as *Committee on Credentials* for the following year: The Adjutant-General, the Inspector-General, and the members of the Council of Administration from Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Illinois.

Next in the order of business came the

ADDRESS OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Comrades: I congratulate you that the National Encampment of the organization of which we are to-day the representatives, has assembled in such full numbers and satisfactory spirit for the discharge of the duties which devolve upon us. Our meeting is empatically a business one; we are to consider what has been done during the past year, and what is advisable still to be done, to determine by what changes, if any, either in detail or in more important respects, it may be made more efficient for the general purposes for which it was formed, and to select those to whom its immediate management for the ensuing year is to be entrusted.

That the objects of our Association are such as should commend themselves not only to all those who have fought under the flag of the Union, but to all good citizens also, we believe to be beyond doubt and controversy. How far we shall succeed in accomplishing those objects depends in no small degree upon our own prudence, zeal and energy.

Against our organization it has been especially charged that it was secret in its character, and that all secret societies were dangerous in a republican government. Plausible as this remark sounds, it is obvious that it can have no proper application to those societies whose purposes are well known, and whose secrecy is limited entirely to the Ritual by which their proceedings are conducted and to their modes of recognizing their fellow members. The Grand Army has no purpose that it is unwilling to reveal to the world; it has no obligation that any citizen soldier, who is the same man to-day in thought and feeling that he was in the hour of trial, cannot take without hesitation or reservation; it has no political bearing or significance, and any effort to wrest it to any such object is to be resisted with our utmost resolution. As the old army was always broad enough to include all (no matter what might be their differences of opinion as to men or measures) of loyal and true devotion, so this Association is broad enough to welcome to its ranks every veteran whose heart still beats responsively to the music of the Union. In this connection I deem it proper to say that sometimes attempts have been made to secure the influence of our organization in

matters merely political, such as aiding in elections of, or securing appointments for particular individuals. Such attempts have never received, and will not at any time receive, any encouragement at the National Headquarters They are not only in violation of the whole spirit of our Order, but of its letter as expressed by its Rules and Regulations. Whenever heretofore they have been successfully made in any Posts or Departments, and unfortunately there has been some experience in the matter, they have done the deepest injury to the Order, have undermined its usefulness, have destroyed its efficiency, have encouraged a wrong belief as to its meaning and intentions, and have induced valuable members who disapproved to withdraw from it. It cannot be thought that our fellow citizens would respect our society if they believed its influence could be thus misdirected. I know well, and certainly would not have it otherwise, that in a country like our own, where thought is free, and where so much is done to stimulate thought, where differences of opinion must exist, each one will claim, and ought to claim, to maintain and to express his own. Let us, as individuals, express and maintain freely our own opinions upon politics and all the details of politics, but let it be understood that our organization has no system of politics except that great and grand system in which all true men are agreed, whether citizens or soldiers—those principles of devotion to the death, if need be, for Liberty and the Laws, for the Constitution and the Union, which we once preached with our rifles in our hands and our country's flag above our heads, amidst the smoke and fire of an hundred battlefields. Let it be known that by these principles alone we are united, that this society does not exist for any personal ends or selfish purposes, and that it is not to be used by any man or any set of men.

If those who have enjoyed life together as schoolmates or classmates delight to renew the scenes of their former life, and to live over again in each other's company the days that are passed, surely the tie of affection which binds together men who have not only enjoyed but suffered together, must be one of no ordinary character. Unless hearts were flint, no man could be insensible or cold to him by whose side he had stood shoulder to shoulder in the ranks of war, upon whose fidelity and courage he had known that his own life depended, and felt reassured as he looked upon his resolute brow and kindling eye, and to whom he had been all that is expressed by the simple but dear word—"comrade."

Agreeable and delightful as are the social characteristics of our association, it has higher aims than these. To guard and cherish the memory of those of our comrades who have passed away; to teach the inestimable value of the services of those who—unused to the trade of arms—did not hesitate, when the hour of trial came, to leave the plough in the furrow and the hammer on the anvil, and commit themselves to the shock of battle, appealing to the God of battles for the justice of their cause, is with us a most sacred duty. And this not alone that the dead may be honored, but that the living may be encouraged to imitate their example, and that the strong spirit of nationality and loyalty to the Government which bore us up so bravely through four years of unexampled trial may be fostered

and strengthened, and that we ourselves may be consecrated anew to the cause for which so many have suffered.

But although it is our object to do justice to the memory of our dead, it is our aim to do justice to the living also; to secure a fair and just recognition of their claims, and to protect their rights by all suitable means within our control. Above all, as true homage must consist not in words but in deeds, we have always held that no higher honor could be paid to the just fame of the brave men who have defended the Republic than to assist by kind words and material aid all good and true soldiers, who by wounds, disease, old age, or misfortune, have become dependent, and tenderly to care for the widows and orphans of the fallen. The reports which will accompany this address will show that one Department alone has expended during the past year the sum of $33,000 in charity, and there is no reason why with proper exertion other Departments may not equal this example. During the past year as heretofore, it will be seen that the charities of the Grand Army have been extended in a far greater degree to disabled soldiers not members of the Order than to those who are of it; and I believe no charities have ever done more good or been more wisely, kindly and affectionately bestowed than those which we have been able to proffer. Whatever the public may do, either through the pensions of the general Government or through the various modes of relief which have been adopted by the bounty of some of the States, and whatever we may do to stimulate these charities—and I trust we have not been wanting anywhere in our duty in that respect—there must still remain many cases which call for individual assistance. The benefactions of the Government or the States must be general in their character, and not intended or expected to reach special cases. These must be left to private hands, and any soldier, whether in this Order or out of it, should assure himself that he does his whole duty here. Many instances exist where the just and proper pride of those whose feelings we cannot but respect prevents the situation in which they are placed from being made known; but let it be understood by all, that whatever we do in the way of charity we endeavor to do as friend to friend, as comrade to comrade, as brother to brother, and in the spirit which blesses him who gives and him who receives alike. What is to be done in this way is to be done now. How many who were living men at the close of the war have passed away! You have but to recall the leaders—civil and military—under whom the country went through its ordeal of fire, and you realize how certain it is that the duty which is upon us of generous devotion and charity to our weaker brethren is one not to be postponed.

The aggregate membership does not differ materially at the close of the present from that of the past year. It was deemed advisable that an effort should be made by circulars and letters addressed to prominent soldiers, especially those who had formerly been active in the Order, to induce them to make some effort in places where the Order was dormant, to revive it, and in other places to initiate new Posts. Of this attempt, the

Adjutant-General's Report will give you particulars. It is perhaps too early to expect any substantial results, but I believe we may fairly entertain the hope that in some quarters, at least, a renewed interest is being awakened. I have much hope that in Illinois and Wisconsin, especially, there will be a decided improvement in our membership during the coming year. In the the Territory of Wyoming and the State of Oregon new Posts have been organized during the present year, and although the number of members is not large, yet great interest is there manifested. I am certain that you will all unite with me in the wish to extend the benefits of the society to the farthest limits of the Republic. There have been 307 deaths reported, and the number mustered in during the present year has been about 5,600, who have supplied the places of those dropped from the rolls with a more vigorous and efficient material, because more interested in our growth and prosperity.

The transfer of the National Headquarters to Boston was almost immediately followed by the disasterous fire of May 30, 1873, in that city, by which our large quantity of papers, blanks and rituals was totally consumed, occasioning us a loss of, as nearly as can be estimated, $1,500 in value, besides many interesting memorials of the earlier history of the society. This loss has compelled a larger expenditure for stationery, &c., than would otherwise have been necessary. It was further found that the large amount of correspondence, accounts, &c., rendered it indispensable that some officer should be provided at National Headquarters who could relieve the various heads of the staff departments, who cheerfully gave their own valuable labor, of some portion of the heavy routine and clerical work, and who should be reasonably compensated for his services. The late Commander-in-Chief, to whom we are so much indebted for the excellent position in which we are, was enabled to dispense with this expenditure, but in almost any other hands it could not have been avoided. I believe that the expenses have been kept down to the lowest point consistent with the efficient transaction of our business, and that, notwithstanding these drawbacks, our financial condition will be found to be satisfactory. It will be seen from the report of the Quartermaster-General that there was a cash balance of over $3,000 in our favor on December 31, 1873.

While I deem it of the utmost importance that the National Headquarters should be sufficiently provided with the means of conducting its business, it is obviously most desirable that it should press as little as possible upon the various posts and departments. The condition in which we were a few years since, for reasons which it would not be pleasant to recall, no one would desire to see return; but from that condition we seem now to be relieved, and, as an increase of the dues was then made, I am of opinion that the time has now arrived when a reduction of them can safely take place without embarrassment, so that not more than two-thirds of what is now paid to the National Headquarters should be paid, and this reduction I respectfully recommend. I venture to express the opinion that it should not extend beyond this at the present time, as every movement in this direc-

tion that is made should be permanent, and it would be most annoying that dues once struck off, should again be imposed; but if our membership should increase, it is to be hoped that succeeding encampments may be able to make still further reductions.

I respectfully commend to your consideration not only these suggestions but those contained in the reports of the Adjutant-General, Quartermaster-General, Inspector-General, Judge Advocate-General, Surgeon-General, and Chaplain-in-Chief, and desire to express thanks on my own behalf and that of the Order, to these officers for the zeal and efficiency with which their duties have been discharged. With reference to some of their reports, I may say that they are not as full and minute as could be wished, on account of the meagreness of the subordinate reports, and there is just ground of complaint in this matter, particularly against some of the Provisional Departments.

Comrades, I have, perhaps, detained you too long from your immediate duties. Let us address ourselves to them. The motto which our Order bears of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty is the brief summary of its principles. Let us endeavor that all we may do shall tend to the strengthening and brightening of that chain of friendship which should unite all those who have offered their lives in a great and holy cause, to the forwarding of those charities of which the distressed and broken, or those whom they have left behind them, are so much in need, and to the old spirit of loyalty and devotion to our common country.

Immediately after the address, which was referred to the proper committee, the Commander-in-Chief asked the unanimous consent of the Encampment to a suspension of the Rules, in order that he might perform a duty assigned to him by a committee appointed by the seventh National Encampment to procure a testimonial for Comrade A. E. Burnside, Past Commander-in-Chief. The testimonial read as follows:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
BOSTON, Mass., May 17, 1873.

In accordance with the unanimous vote of the National Encampment Grand Army of the Republic, at New Haven, Conn., May 15, 1873, this testimonial is presented to Comrade Ambrose E. Burnside, as a mark of the high esteem entertained for him as a comrade, and in appreciation of his able, faithful and zealous administration for two years of the responsible duties of Commander-in-Chief; illustrating as a man and an officer the cardinal principles of our Order—Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.

CHARLES DEVENS, JR,
Commander-in-Chief.

[SEAL.]

HENRY R. SIBLEY,
Adjutant-General.

It was beautifully engrossed and elegantly framed, a truthful photograph of Comrade Burnside forming a part of the ornamentation. Upon its being brought to the centre of the stage, the Commander-in-Chief spoke substantially as follows:

Comrades: At the last National Encampment a committee was appointed (consisting of Comrades Beath, Corliss, and Peirce) to prepare a testimonial for our late Commander-in-Chief, which should in some degree express the regard and respect felt for him by the members of this organization. This duty they have performed by causing to be engrossed and framed this expression of our esteem which is now before you, and they have requested me on their behalf and that of the last National Encampment, in your presence to present the same, and their request I now proceed to fulfil.

Comrade Burnside, in parting with you most reluctantly, and at your own request, as the Commander-in-Chief, of their organization, the comrades of the Grand Army desire to express to you by this testimonial their love for you as a comrade, their respect and esteem for you as a man, their appreciation of the eminent services it has been your good fortune to render to the Republic. I cannot, sir, in your presence speak all that they would willingly say of the regard they have for you, lest it might seem too fulsome and flattering to be consistent with good taste; yet I must be permitted to say that they have known you as one who, called to high position in the army, has felt that the life, comfort and happiness of every man under his command was dear to him as his own; who, like in the hours of victory or disaster and defeat, thought far more of the welfare of others than of himself; whose influence was always high, ennobling and inspiring to those around him; and who was always in deeds and not in words only, truly, a Comrade.

They hope that many years of long and honorable life are yet before you in some of the many capacities in which the Union needs its citizens, and they are sure that as long as that life shall last, every true soldier will find in you a friend and brother.

They desire especially to express their thanks to you as members of this organization, for the service you have rendered to it. Accepting its highest position at a time when by accidental circumstances the treasury of the National Encampment had become embarrassed, you have rescued it from these troubles and placed it upon a firmer footing than ever before. The Order is based upon the principles of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty; its success must depend solely upon how well it as an organization, and its members as individuals, act up to them, Believing that you have nobly exemplified them in your life, both as a soldier and a citizen, they ask respectfully your acceptance of this testimonial.

In response, Comrade Burnside said that he had no words with which to express his appreciation of the motives which prompted the Comrades to this exhibition of their good will;

that the testimonial would ever have a place among his dearest treasures; that he considered the Grand Army superior to any of the other organizations which had grown out of the war, and that, in his opinion, it would outlive them all. He closed by giving all the credit to his staff officers for the efficiency to which the Order had attained under his command.

The Commander.in-Chief stated that now as during the war, Comrade Burnside was unwilling to take any credit to himself.

The following reports were then submitted in print:

Report of the Adjutant-General.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Adjutant-General's Office.
Boston, May 6, 1874.

CHARLES DEVENS, Jr.,
Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade: I have the honor to submit to the National Encampment, a report of the business of the Adjutant General's Office, for the year ending December 31, 1873.

From the commencement of the year to the date when you assumed command, the position of Adjutant General was held by Comrade Roswell Miller, of New York, who discharged the duty with rare zeal and fidelity. Having determined to remove the Headquarters to Boston, you announced by General Order, No. 1, the appointment of Comrade Cornelius G. Attwood, of Massachusetts, as Adjutant General, who performed the duties with the same earnestness and good judgment he had displayed as Quartermaster General, under the administration of your predecessor. A change in his business, compelled his resignation after about five months service, and on the 17th day of October, I was appointed in his stead, and at once entered upon the discharge of the duties.

COMPENSATION.

The nature of the business relations which Comrade Miller sustained to your predecessor, at the office of the latter in New York, enabled him to perform the duties of Adjutant General without compensation. But it was found necessary upon the removal of the Headquarters to Boston, to arrange for the employment of a competent Comrade to remain in the office during the business hours of each day, and to perform the clerical labor of this Department, and that of the Quartermaster General. The Rules and Regulations authorized, and the economical management of affairs for the past two years justified that course. Accordingly, Comrade Henry B. Peirce, Aid-de-Camp to the Commander-in-Chief, was detailed for duty at Headquarters, and allowed a salary of one thousand dollars per annum. In him are combined great experience *in*, and genuine love *for*, the Grand Army, and I am largely indebted to him for valuable aid in the conduct of business through the year, and in the preparation of material for the annual report.

LOSS BY FIRE.

Before the larger part of the books and property belonging to National Headquarters had been unpacked (after removal to Boston), and before insurance could be effected, they were destroyed by the disastrous fire which occurred on Memorial Day. The loss of books, blanks, plates and office furniture, is estimated at from thirteen hundred to fifteen hundred dollars. The destruction of the books of record, files of reports and letters, involved no loss to the treasury, yet they contained much interesting material relative to the history of the Order, which cannot be replaced. The more valuable property is now deposited in a fire proof vault.

THE DEPARTMENTS.

The following Departments have made all the required Adjutant-General's reports, and paid all dues for the four quarters of 1873:

Maine.	New York.	Ohio.
New Hampshire.	New Jersey.	Illinois.
Vermont.	Pennsylvania.	Wisconsin.
Massachusetts.	Potomac.	Minnesota.
Rhode Island.	Virginia.	California.
Connecticut.	Georgia.	Oregon.

The report to the last Annual Encampment gave the number of Departments regularly reporting, at twenty-three—including the following, not included in the above list as regularly reporting now: Delaware, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Kentucky and New Mexico. Oregon, not regularly reporting, is a gain this year. By correspondence, I have been able to glean something of the state of the Order in the six Departments above referred to.

DELAWARE. No Post in existence in this State, and no encouragement as to a revival of the Order is given.

MISSISSIPPI. This Department has two Posts, one at Jackson, Mississippi, the other at New Orleans, Louisiana. The latter forwarded reports direct to these Headquarters for the first quarter; no other reports have been received during the year. The Department Commander writes: "To make the Grand Army of the Republic a success here, one of two things is essential—either the Department Commander must sustain it out of his private purse, and by devoting to the work a large share of his time, or the organization must be used as a political lever. I am *unable* to do the one, and am *unwilling* to do the other. With our friends here, office is the absorbing topic, and as the Grand Army of the Republic is not a stepping stone, they do not give it any attention."

LOUISIANA should not have been reported last year as a Department, as its single Post is attached to the Department of Mississippi. My efforts to ascertain the strength and condition of the Post at New Orleans have been futile, but I have reason to believe "it still lives."

TEXAS. No reports have been received, and no replies have been made by the Department Commander, to several letters sent from this office,

New Mexico. But one Post is in existence, and it does not appear that even that one held any meetings. The number of persons eligible to membership in the Grand Army of the Republic here must be small.

Kentucky. The Order is not very flourishing in this Department, and no reports have been received for any part of the year. Yet, there are several Posts, and the Assistant Adjutant-General writes, "Our desire and hope is, to succeed in rebuilding the Order completely—will send reports soon as possible."

The Departments so far mentioned in this Report, being all that have reported at all for the past two years, aggregate gains and losses as follows:

	1872.	1873.
Gain—By Muster . .	5,760	5,599
" Transfer . .	443	473
From Suspended	2,941	2,932
Total Gain . .	9,144	9,004

Loss—By death	294	307
" Discharge	274	246
" Suspension	5,261	5,045
" Transfer	642	519
" Dishon. disch	36	27
Dropped	3,060	3,321
Total loss	9,567	9,465

The Order has an existence in several other States and Territories, but as no reports are received, I cannot furnish anything concerning them except the mere fact of their existence, viz:

Maryland. The circular from these headquarters, dated February 10, 1874, led to the revival within the past few days, of Post 2, at Frederick City, with a good prospect of future usefulness. There is plenty of good material in Maryland, and I hope that our friends in Baltimore will heartily second their comrades in Frederick in the good work of reorganization.

Indiana. The Post at Newtonville made returns for the first quarter, but has not since been heard from. Post Commander J. P. Creed, writes from South Bend, April 18, 1874: "We have a Post here in working order, and numbering about 80 comrades. We are about making arrangements for observing the National Decoration Day." No other posts are known to exist in the State, although 279 were in existence in 1868. I believe the Order will yet be revived in Indiana and be a power for good, because built upon Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, and not on the quicksands of politics.

Iowa has a Provisional Organization, and at least two living posts, but no reports have come to hand. No response has been made to a call upon the Commander for a statement of the condition of affairs.

KANSAS. Here is a Department Organization, but no reports have been made to National Headquarters for two years. There are several posts, and the Commander of the Department writes that he is about to start on a tour to visit and reorganize them. There is good reason to look for growth in this young and thriving State.

COLORADO. Two new posts have been organized during the year, viz: at Fort Sanders and Fort Fetterman. Both these are in Wyoming Territory, and within the jurisdiction of the Department of Colorado and Wyoming. There are several posts in Colorado, but they have made no reports to the Department Headquarters, and I cannot learn anything of their condition. They are widely scattered, difficult to reach, and out of supporting distance to each other. The Post Commander Niemetz, of the Post at Fort Sanders, belongs the credit of organizing that at Fort Fetterman, and his efforts to establish and maintain posts of our Order in far-off Wyoming, are worthy of our hearty commendation. Undoubtedly there are posts in States and Territories not herein referred to, but no tidings of any such have been received at Headquarters. Some comrades holding positions in Provisional Departments appear to be so indifferent to the welfare of the Order as to totally ignore the letters sent from this office, and to neglect to communicate with Headquarters at all.

In addition to our labors by correspondence, to awaken an interest in the Order, in localities where little or none was manifested, it was thought best to issue a circular of appeal to former comrades and prominent ex-soldiers in several States. The following is the form of the

CIRCULAR.

BOSTON, Feb. 10, 1874.

DEAR SIR: The Commander-in-Chief is not able to learn that the Grand Army of the Republic has, at the present time, any organized existence in your State. It seems to him, that in view of the fact, that this is the only organization of surviving soldiers and sailors in the land, in which are gathered men from every army, fleet, corps and regiment, without regard to former distinctions of rank; that in spite of the perils of political entanglement, which in some sections of the country have hindered its growth, and in others destroyed its life, it has, as a National organization, passed through them all, into a career of prosperity and usefulness; that it is preserving and strengthening kind and fraternal feelings among former comrades in arms; that it is doing a beneficent work by disbursing many thousands of dollars annually, for the relief of suffering soldiers and the families of the slain; that it has by its "Memorial Day," established a day of general observance, to preserve the inspiring memories and impressive lessons of the war—that it should be revived in your State.

To that end, he directs me to forward a copy of this circular, to some of the most prominent ex-soldiers in your State, and to request each of them, either for himself, or after consultation with the others, to report to me, on or before the 10th of April, of the present year, whether it is deemed expedient to make the attempt or not, and if so, what plan it is proposed to

adopt. He earnestly requests that you will favor him with your views upon this subject.

A convention for the State, or for any section of it, of such persons as might be invited by circular, seems the most feasible method. If but a single Post were established, it could report direct to these Headquarters, until others could be gathered sufficient for a Provisional Department organization. In any event, the Commander-in-Chief will cheerfully lend all the aid in his power, to any movement in the direction referred to.

In most States the Grand Army is prosperous, and is the means of accomplishing much good. The Rules and Regulations contain the following article, which is a guarantee of the fidelity of the members to the legitimate work of the Order, as well as of its existence until the last of the soldiers of the Republic have been "mustered out:"

[ARTICLE XI, CHAPTER V.]

"No officer or comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic shall in any manner use the organization for partisan purposes, and no discussion of partisan questions shall be permitted at any meeting, and no nominations for political offices shall be made."

Sincerely and truly yours,

HENRY R. SIBLEY,
Adjutant-General.

Whatever information is given in this report respecting the Order in Maryland, Indiana and Kansas, was obtained by means of this circular.

BOOKS AND BLANKS.

These have been furnished to Departments as usual. It was necessary to procure an entirely new supply in consequence of the fire.

FINANCIAL.

For convenience, and to save keeping two cash accounts, the account of the receipts and expenditures of this office has been merged in that of the Quartermaster-General, in whose report the several items will be found.

CHARITY.

It is to be sincerely regretted that the extent of the noble work done under this head by our Order, cannot be definitely ascertained, but the carelessness and neglect of many Post and Department officers makes it impossible. The reports received make the following footings: Amount disbursed, $45,570.82; number of members of the Order assisted, 1248, and number of other persons assisted, 1,318.

The balance of the Chicago Fire Fund (now used at Headquarters for relief purposes) at last report was $63.95. There has been expended during the year $6.50, and the balance is deposited with the Quartermaster-General.

THE RULES AND REGULATIONS.

As few changes were made in the Rules and Regulations at the last Encampment, it was deemed inadvisable to issue a new edition. There are

none on hand at present, and it seems to be a good time for a thorough examination and to make needful changes, to the end that an edition may be printed, which would not need renewal for two years at least. I recommend the following changes—they refer chiefly to subjects which have been so far doubtful heretofore, as to be the subject for frequent inquiry by Department and Post officers:

List of Amendments to the Rules and Regulations, proposed by the Adjutant-General:

Chapter II, Article III, change Section 1 to the following:

A comrade having a valid transfer card may be admitted to any Post, or readmitted to the Post which granted the transfer card, by a two-thirds vote, after his name has been proposed, referred and reported upon, as in case of an applicant for membership.

In Chapter II, Article IV, Section 1, insert the following:

The words "in person or by letter" after *therefor*, in the first line, and "not exceeding twelve months," after *specified time*, in the third line.

For Section 2, substitute the following:

Any comrade against whom no charges exist, and who has paid all dues, shall receive, upon verbal or written application to the Commander, at a meeting of the Post, a transfer paper, attested by the Adjutant. Upon presentation of it to any Post, within one year from date of its issue, he may be admitted in the manner prescribed in Article III, of this Chapter. If at the expiration of the year he has not been admitted to membership in any Post, the transfer paper shall be void, and the holder be considered as honorably discharged from the Order.

In Chapter II, Article VII, for Section 1 substitute the following:

The Post officers (the Adjutant Sergeant Major and Quartermaster Sergeant excepted) shall be elected at the last stated meeting in December, by ballot, unless a ballot be dispensed with by unanimous consent. They shall be installed into their respective offices at the next stated meeting after their election.

At the installation of officers the Post Commander shall appoint the Adjutant, and upon the recommendation of the Adjutant and Quartermaster respectively, he shall also appoint the Sergeant-Major and the Quartermaster Sergeant. They shall enter upon their duties at once, and all officers, whether elected or appointed, shall hold office until their successors are installed.

In Chapter III, Article VII, strike out all after the words *Post Commanders*, and substitute the following:

to the Department Commander, and through him to the Commander-in-Chief, whose decisions shall be final, unless reversed by the National Encampment; but all decisions appealed from shall have full force and effect until reversed by competent authority.

In Chapter IV, Article II, Section 1, for second paragraph substitute the following:

Of the Commanders, Vice Commanders, and Assistant Adjutant Generals of the several Departments, and the Commander and Assistant Adjutant General of each Provisional Department for the time being (for whom no proxy or substitute can act): and

In Chapter IV, Article III, make a new Section, to be numbered 3.

The Order of Business and Rules of Order adopted by the Sixth Annual Encampment at Cleveland, in May, 1872, shall be enforced at the sessions of the National Encampment.

For Chapter V, Article IX, substitute the following:

SECTION 1. Departments may adopt a uniform for their own members. Where no uniform is prescribed by a Department, each Post may adopt a uniform.

SECTION 2 The membership badge of the Grand Army of the Republic shall be in form and material, that adopted at the special meeting of the National Encampment in New York, October 27, 1869, and no other shall be worn as the badge of the Grand Army, except that prescribed for officers, in Section 3.

SECTION 3. The badge designating official position in the Grand Army of the Republic, adopted at the meeting of the National Encampment, held in New Haven, May 14 and 15, 1873, may be worn by all National, Department and Post officers, in the Grand Army of the Republic, when on duty or on occasions of ceremony, and no shoulder straps or other badge shall be worn to designate official position in the Grand Army of the Republic.

Presentation Badges—The rules seem to prohibit a member from wearing a badge of membership, of any material except the one adopted in 1869. It has often happened that members desire to procure for themselves, or for presentation to a Comrade, a more stylish and expensive badge than the one prescribed. I recommend that the Commander-in-Chief, or a Department Commander, be authorized to grant permission in particular cases, to members to have and wear such badges,

Certificates.—Some Comrades have expressed a desire to possess a certificate of membership, in a handsome and durable form, similar to that issued by some other fraternal and benevolent Orders I sympathize with them, and recommend that action be taken at this session to provide one.

CONCLUSION.

I am happy to be able to say, that I believe the Order is in the main, prosperous. There have been years when there were more names on the rolls, but we have now, I trust, attained a position among the soldiers, and before the country, where we may achieve a vast amount of good for ourselves and the families of our deceased Comrades, and at the same time foster a fervent spirit of loyalty to our loved country. How recreant to every noble instinct must that man be, who would retard our growth, or imperil our existence by attempting to use the Grand Army for his own personal aggrandizement, or to aid a political party?

My thanks are due to the Department officers and to the officers at

Headquarters, for the uniform kindness I have ever received at their hands.

With the best wishes for the prosperity of the Grand Army, and for the happiness of its individual members, I submit the above report.

In F., C. and L.,

HENRY R. SIBLEY,
Adjutant-General.

REPORT OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.
QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE.
BOSTON, May 1, 1874.

H. R. SIBLEY,
Adjutant-General.

COMRADE: I have the honor to submit the following report for the year 1873:

RECEIPTS.

Cash received from C. G. Attwood, late Quartermaster-General	$2486 47
Cash received from Roswell Miller, late Adjutant-General, (As per account audited to May 10, 1873, by N C. of A.)	166 73
Cash received from Roswell Miller for 6 badges sold	4 80
" " " sales of books and blanks	438 20
" " " " badges (114 at 80 cts.)	91 20
" " " M. B. Goodrich, late Inspector-General, expenses charged National Headquarters, refunded	21 00
" " " A. Demarest, commission on badges sold by him	189 18
(of which $77.03 was applied on account to purchase of badges.)	
Cash received for dues as per statement appended	3217 77
" " from T. Lubey, late Quartermaster-General, as per agreem nt at seventh Annual Encampment	120 87
Total	$6736 22

EXPENDITURES.

Paid Harwood Bros. for testimonial to Quartermaster-General Attwood		$295 00
" Patterson & Lavender, desk and chair for headquarters		73 00
" C. G. Attwood, late Quartermaster-General, expenses to 7th National Encampment		25 00
" for P. O. box		4 35
" E. S. Dodge & Co, for printing books, blanks, &c., sold to departments	$109 00	
" E. S. Dodge & Co., for reports, general ordrs, &c.	245 00	
		354 00
" D. R. Larned, rent in New York to May 1, 1873		129 17

Paid Henry B. Peirce, A. D. C., salary, May 20 to December 31, 1873		612 88
" E. D. White for reporting proceedings 7th Annual Encampment and expenses		65 00
" W. T. Collins, late Adjutant-General, balance due him as per books of late Q M. Gen		8 48
" W. W. Douglas, Judge Advocate-General, expenses of office and to 7th Annual Encampment		20 50
" Guild & Delano, testimonial to Louis Wagner, Past Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief		50 00
" Doane & Greenough for printing books and blanks, sold to departments	$689 00	
" Doane & Greenough for printing proceedings, reports, general orders, stationery, &c	618 97	
		1307 97
" Corlies, Macy & Co., lithograph charters, $15.00, and commissions, $30.00		45 00
" Roswell Miller, expenses of A. G., I. G., and A. D. C., 7th Annual Encampment		64 89
" Corlies, Macy & Co. for stationery		4 60
" M. B. Goodrich, late Inspector-General, inspection expenses.		9 35
" J. A. Hughes & Co. for shelving vault		10 30
" Roswell Miller's bill for boxes, porterage, &c		18 56
" Patterson & Lavender, replacing desk and chair, destroyed by the fire		73 00
" Henry B. Peirce, A. D. C., bill for rent, heat, postage, express, &c		257 77
" A. Demarest, for badges (on account commission)		77 03
" Department of New Mexico, on account of amount standing to its credit		8 81
" Department of Texas, on account of amount standing to its credit		01
" Department of Georgia, on account of amount standing to its credit		03
Cash on hand		3221 52
Total		$6136 22

Total assets of National Headquarters, December 31, 1873:

Amount due from departments for books, blanks, &c	$252 84
Value of books, blanks, &c., on hand	520 53
" " 11 badges "	7 70
" " Furniture and stationery on hand (estimated)	150 00
Cash on hand	3221 52
	$4,152 59

Total known liabilities of Department, Dec. 31, 1873:

Amount standing to credit of Department of Delaware	$0 86	
" " " " Virginia,	02	
" " " " Louisiana,	04	
" " " " Mississippi,	03	
" " " " Iowa,	18 84	
" " " " Alabama,	01	
" " " " New Mexico,	4 87	
Due to A. Demarest, balance of badge account.....	10 47	
		35 14
Excess of assets over liabilities.....		4117 45

In addition to the above there was remaining in the hands of the late Quartermaster-General, as per his report, from the sum contributed by the Order for the Relief of comrades in Chicago, and which was turned over to me..... .... $63 95

Of which there was expended during the year..... 6 50

Leaving a balance in my hands of..... $57 45

The Quartermaster General's report for the year 1872, showed the assets in cash and property to be $4,126.83, being but $9.38 more than the assets for the year 1873, as shown in the foregoing report. Had it not been for the fire of May 30. 1873, however, the assets would have been increased some $1,500, that being the estimated value of the property destroyed.

In this connection it is due to my predecessor, Comrade Attwood, to state that the testimonial voted him by the last Encampment, had been procured, engraved and presented some time before the fire occurred, otherwise he would not have accepted it under any circumstances.

STATEMENT OF SOURCES FROM WHICH DUES WERE DERIVED.

MAINE.

1873.	1st quarter.....	$29 01
	2d "	29 61
	3d "	30 30
	4th "	30 45
		$119 37

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

1873.	1st quarter.....	$16 62
	2d "	13 56
	3d "	12 69
	4th "	16 83
		59 70

VERMONT.

1873.	1st quarter.....	$17 07
	2d "	17 31
	3d "	14 88
	4th "	23 46
		72 72

MASSACHUSETTS.

1872.	3d quarter (supp.)	$3 90
	4th " "	5 04
1873.	1st "	332 34
	2d "	341 46
	3d "	327 57
	4th "	332 64
1872.	4th " (supp.).....	1 20
1873.	1st " "	90
	2d " "	2 64
	3d " "	8 88
		1356 57

RHODE ISLAND,

1873.	1st quarter.....	24 75
	2d "	23 76
	3d "	21 27
	4th "	21 78
		91 56

CONNECTICUT.

1873.	1st quarter	35 19
	2d "	32 94
	3d "	29 97
	4th "	31 26
		129 36

NEW YORK.

1871.	3d quarter (supp.)	45 18
1873.	1st "	113 22
	2d "	105 72
	3d "	50 67
	1st and 2d qr. (supp.)	8 97
	4th quarter	139 41
	(supplementary)	73 86
		537 03

NEW JERSEY.

1873	1st quarter	31 29
	2d "	29 58
	3d "	33 18
	4th "	32 19
	(supplementary)	6 69
		132 93

PENNSYLVANIA.

1873.	1st quarter	97 80
	2d "	99 57
	3d "	103 80
	4th "	109 41
		410 58

VIRGINIA.

1873.	1st quarter	10 26
	2d "	7 38
	3d "	6 57
	4th "	6 45
		30 66

GEORGIA.

1873.	1st quarter	25
	2d "	1 26
	3d "	1 26
	4th "	1 26
		4 03

TEXAS.

1873.	1st quarter	10 97

POTOMAC.

1873.	1st quarter	6 87
	2d "	6 15
	3d "	4 11
	4th "	3 99
		21 12

CALIFORNIA.

1872.	3d and 4th qrs. (add.)	4 02
1873.	1st quarter	6 45
	2d "	6 99
	3d "	6 66
	4th "	5 76
		29 88

OREGON.

1873.	1st quarter	2 55
	2d "	3 12
	3d "	3 12
	4th "	3 12
		11 91

NEW MEXICO.

1873.	1st quarter	3 12
	2d "	2 70
		5 82

OHIO.

1873.	1st quarter	23 04
	2d "	21 78
	3d "	17 01
	4th "	14 85
		76 68

INDIANA.

Lindsey Post (Newtonville.)

1873.	1st quarter	33
	2d "	42
		75

J. A. Mower Post 1, New Orleans.			ILLINOIS.		
1873. 1st quarter	1 02		1873. 1st quarter	6 99	
			2d "	8 91	
			3d "	9 21	
			4th "	15 36	
				40 47	

MINNESOTA.		WISCONSIN.	
1873. 1st quarter	13 05	1873. 1st quarter	5 01
2d "	15 33	2d "	5 49
3d "	13 47	3d "	4 62
4th "	12 99	4th "	4 68
	54 84		19 80

Several months since it was my misfortune to meet with an accident, from the effects of which I am still suffering, and in consequence of which I have been unable to give that care to the preparation of this report which would have been a pleasure, as it is a duty, and I have relied almost wholly upon others. Our financial condition must certainly be considered a subject for felicitation. With substantial assets and nominal liabilities for a basis, we are now in a condition which will admit of a slight reduction of the per capita tax from Departments, the exigencies which made the present tariff necessary no longer existing. I have no recommendations to offer, but beg to assure you that the assistance rendered me from your office is heartily appreciated.

Very truly yours, in F., C. and L,

A. B. R. SPRAGUE,
Quartermaster General.

HARRISBURG, PENN., May 13, 1874.

To the Commander-in-Chief and Comrades of the National Encampment:

Your Committee appointed by the Council of Administration to audit the accounts of the Quartermaster-General, would respectfully submit the following report:

The report submitted to us, together with the vouchers, have been carefully examined, found to be correct, and the footings as given in the printed report.

J. R. GOBLE,
AUGUSTUS WOODBURY,
GEORGE A HANAFORD,
Committee.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

HENRY R. SIBLEY,

Adjutant-General G. A. R.:

COMRADE:—In compliance with the Rules and Regulations I have the honor to submit to the National Encampment my report for the year ending December 31, 1873.

Not having received the appointment of Inspector-General. vice A. Wilson Norris, resigned, until the 13th February, 1874, I have been unable to get in communication with all the Inspectors-General, and in consequence am compelled to submit a much less complete Report than I had hoped.

The result of the Inspections in the Departments which have reported to this date is as follows:

MAINE.

Number of Posts in good standing	21
" " inspected	19
" " disbanded	2
Average muster-in fee	$ 2 92
" per capita tax	1 52
6 Posts have relief fund, aggregate	1023 25
Average per Post	170 52

Several of the Posts have muskets loaned by the State. Two posts only pay weekly benefits, each three dollars.

Two Posts have been disbanded during the year: two defunct Posts re-established, and two new Posts organized, making a net gain of two.

The Department Inspector, Comrade W H. Pennell, aside from his tabular report, what is unusual among the Department Inspectors, gives a general review of the result of his inspections for the year, the result of which is very flattering indeed. He reports having personally visited every Post in the Department but two, and finds that there is a general feeling of confidence among the Posts. That the work in the Ritual is properly performed, the members better equipped even than last year, and that the interest and attendance is very gratifying. The Department is on a sound basis, and promises much good for the future.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Number of Posts in good standing	17
Number of Posts inspected	17
Posts having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	10
13 Posts have relief fund	$4087 89
Average	314 45
Muskets in 5 Posts	34
Average muster-in fee	2 35

I quote the following from the report of Comrade A. S. Eaton, Department Inspector:

"I have personally inspected part of the posts and find the Order in a healthier condition than last year. There has been a falling off of five posts and an increase of two. What there is of the Order now are alive, and I have no doubt the Order in this State will increase one-third the coming year, under its efficient Commander, T. W. Challis."

VERMONT.

Number of Posts reported in good standing	16
Number of Posts inspected	16
Number of members in good standing	615
Number of guns owned by 4 Posts	30

Number of Posts having relief fund	3
Aggregate amount of relief fund	$243 00
Average per capita tax	81
Average muster-in fee	1 78
Amount of money in relief fund	243 52
Amount expended for charity	605 75

MASSACHUSETTS.

Number of Posts in good standing	147
Number of Posts inspected	138
Number of Posts having officers and guards equipped	93
Number of muskets owned	530
Average muster-in fee in 147 Posts	$2 53
Average benefits in 13 Posts	3 71
Total amount on hand for charitable purposes	64519 89
Average	438 89
Amount expended for charitable purposes	33540 32
Average	221 35
Number of members in good standing	11,223

The inspection shows two less posts in the Department than last year, but the general standing of the Order in the Department is even better than at the last report Massachusetts still maintains her position at the head of our Grand Army in every respect.

CONNECTICUT.

Number of Posts in good standing	18
Number of Posts inspected	11
Number of members in good standing in 11 Posts	559
Average muster-in fee	$2 81
Five Posts have a charity fund of	288 00
Average of	57 60

NEW YORK.

Number of Posts in good standing	87
" " inspected	64
Total membership of Posts inspected	3478
Average muster-in fee	$2 00
Average per capita tax	12½
Amount of money in hands of Posts for charitable purposes	$2839 03
Amount expended for charitable purposes	5520 46

NEW JERSEY.

Number of Posts in good standing	17
Number of members in good standing	1213
Amount expended for charity in 9 Posts	$1778 86
Average amount per Post	197 65

PENNSYLVANIA.

Fifty posts were inspected during the year, developing the fact that a few of them were in poor condition, many of them in good condition, and some

excellent, but in all there seems to be a better spirit pervading the organization than for the past two or three years. Seven posts were reorganized during the year. The services of reunions and official visitations instituted by the Department Commander, was of considerable benefit to the Order, resulting, particularly in Philadelphia, in a decided revival of interest, and a gain of several hundred members. Particular attention has been paid by the Order to the Soldiers' Orphan Schools and Homes in the State, in procuring situations and homes for those discharged at sixteen years of age, and additional legislation in their behalf has been urged upon the Legislature. The muster-in fee ranges from $1 00 to $5.00, and averages about $3.25 The annual assessment of members ranges about $4.25 on the average About half the posts have a regular beneficial system, paying about $4.00 per week to sick members. The work of charity to the widows and orphans and needy members of the Order, has been well attended to, but no full statistics have been reported upon this point. Many posts of the Department have given the *muster-in service* especial attention, and in this respect, there is a very noticeable improvement over previous years—much to the benefit of those posts. Post 2, of Philadelphia, deserves special mention in this connection, as surpassing any others, in making these services exceedingly impressive. The use of the book is entirely dispensed with—each officer being required to have his part memorized perfectly. Posts 88 and 151, of Alleghany county, have adopted this feature of muster-in. It works well, and should be practised in every Post in the country.

Department records have been well kept, and the staff officers deserve great credit for their attention to duty.

The Department may be said to be in a flourishing condition.

POTOMAC.

Number of Posts in good standing	5
" " inspected	4
Muster-in fee in each Post	$5 00

The membership of this Department has been greatly reduced, but yet the Order does a good work there.

CALIFORNIA.

Number of Posts in good standing	8
" " inspected	5
Whole number of members in 7 Posts	220
Average muster-in fee in 4 Posts	$11 01
Two Posts pay weekly benefits $7.50 and	4 00
Amount of money in relief fund 3 Posts	744 00
Average	248 00

ILLINOIS.

Number of Posts in good standing	10
" " inspected	10
4 Posts charge muster-in fee of	$3 00
6 Posts charge muster-in fee of each	2 00

Per capita tax in each Post	0 37½
No relief fund reported	
Amount expended for charity	214 00
Whole number of members in good standing	512

The prospect in this Department is very favorable. There is a gain of several posts, and the membership has doubled during the year.

OHIO.

Number of Posts inspected	8
Number of members good standing in 8 Posts	478
Average muster-in fee in 8 Posts	$3 59
Two Posts pay weekly benefits $3 00 and	5 00
Amount in hand as relief fund	119 00
Average in 3 Posts	39 66
Amount of charity fund expended not reported	

The Assistant Adjutant-General writes, January 26, "There is every reason to believe that the end of 1874 will find us with additional posts, and a largely-increased membership."

OREGON.

Number of Posts reported	3
" " inspected	2
Number of members	104

Muster-in fee two and three dollars in the Posts inspected.

The following facts in regard to the condition of the Order in several of the Departments are gleaned from letters to Headquarters, and from reports to the heads of other Departments, as the Inspection Reports have not come to hand.

RHODE ISLAND.

Number of Posts in good standing	11
" " members in good standing	726

This department is in good condition, as it has always been well officered.

VIRGINIA.

Number of Posts in good standing	8
" members in good standing	215

In this Department there is a considerable lack of interest, several of the Posts being sustained with great difficulty.

GEORGIA.

Number of Posts in good standing	2
" members in good standing	42

The membership in this Department must always be small, by reason of the lack of material and the prejudices of the people. The two Posts (at Savannah and Brunswick) can probably be maintained.

WISCONSIN.

Number of Posts in good standing	4
" members in good standing	156

The Post at Oshkosh has been revived since January 1, 1874, under favorable auspices. Some persons of influence who have heretofore opposed the Grand Army, believing it to be a political organization, have learned their mistake, and have joined the Order. The prospect for an increase in interest and membership is quite encouraging. The Department Commander is working with enthusiasm, and has started a G, A. R. paper to increase the interest in the Order.

MINNESOTA.

Number of Posts in good standing..... 10
" members in good standing.....433

The Order is prosperous in this Department.

COLORADO AND WYOMING.

Two new Posts have been chartered during the year, both at military stations in Wyoming Territory. There are nine other Posts in the Department, but they have made no reports, and little appears to be known at the Department Headquarters concerning their condition.

KENTUCKY.

I have received no report from this Department. The Order there is apparently not prosperous, nor do the people rightly understand its objects.

TEXAS.—No information has come to hand in regard to this Department.

MISSISSIPPI AND LOUISIANA.—Little interest is manifested in the Grand Army of the Republic in these States. Notwithstanding the small number of soldiers residing there, and the prejudices of the people, good Posts could be maintained, but for the disposition of some to use the Order for their own political advancement.

NEW MEXICO.—No meetings are held at present by either of the Posts, and the charters of all but one have been returned.

IOWA.—No report received by this or by any of the staff departments. There are two Posts in the State at least, and a Provisional Department Commander, but he has communicated nothing to National Headquarters.

INDIANA.—The Inspector-General reported last year that there was a Post at Newtonville. No tidings have been received from it since July, when there were fourteen members in good standing. There is a Post at South Bend, with about eighty members.

KANSAS.—Comrade W. S. Jenkins, Provisional Department Commander, states that owing to the pressure of business and the removal of his Assistant Adjutant-General from the State, he had not been able to visit the Posts, or get returns from them. He says: "I propose to start out soon to reorganize the Posts and establish new ones. Within a few months I hope to have the Order in good working condition. I have received several applications lately for the organization of new Posts."

In closing my report I desire to say that it is with deep regret I am compelled to forward so meagre and incomplete a statement of the affairs in the Inspector's department of our Order. With the material at hand, I am, however, unable to furnish more than is herewith submitted. I am not disposed to cast the blame—

if indeed there is any—upon the Department Inspectors, for I am not unmindful of the fact, that months ago I should have personally invoked the aid of pen and ink to urge forward the data, with which to make up an intelligible report. The mistake was in waiting until *too late*, with the expectation that all the Departments would be heard from in time. I must, however, beg to be exonerated, in part, from neglect in this matter, as I received my appointment too late to become conversant with the duties imposed, in time to calculate what amount of solicitation would be demanded.

On the whole, I find but little in the material at hand, to discourage any one as to the prosperity of the Grand Army of the Republic. That the Order must *decrease* rather than *increase* may as well be understood and admitted. The material out of which to recruit old Posts or build new ones, is as surely slipping from our grasp as are the years—"gone beyond the flood." The duty of the hour is to *hold fast that which is ours.* and this can be done only by F., C. and L.

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. BROWN,
Inspector-General

Report of the Judge Advocate-General.

Judge Advocate-General W. W. Douglas then submitted his report, as follows:

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Judge Advocate-General's Office,
Boston, May 1, 1874.

CHARLES DEVENS, JR.,
Commander-in-Chief

Comrade: In obedience to the Rules and Regulations, I have the honor to submit to the National Encampment my report of the business of this office for the year past.

It has consisted in giving the opinions, on various questions referred to me, which are hereto annexed.*

These have been fewer than in either of the preceeding two years I have held this office, because, as I am happy to believe, the Regulations are now generally understood, and most questions, which were at first doubtful, have been satisfactorily settled.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,

WM. W. DOUGLAS,
Judge Advocate-General.

Report of the Surgeon-General.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Surgeon-General's Oefice,
Boston, Mass., May 1, 1874.

HENRY R. SIBLEY,
Adjutant-General, G. A. R.

Comrade.—I have the honor to submit herewith the report of the Sur-

* See Appendix.

geon-General, Grand Army of the Republic, from the date of his election (May 15, 1873,) to the close of that year.

On October 31, 1873, the Commander-in-Chief caused circular No. 2 to be issued, requiring Department Commanders, Medical Directors, Post Commanders and Surgeons, to have blank Forms G and F, filled for the year ending December 31, 1873, and requesting information and statistics as to wounded and disabled Comrades in the ranks of our organization. In response to which, full and complete returns have been received from the following Departments, with the accompanying results:—

	No. of Comrades who lost right arm in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost left arm in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost both arms in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost a leg in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost both legs in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost a leg & an arm in battle.	No. of Comrades who have been wounded.	No. of Comrades injured other than in battle.
California	2	1	...	1	...	...	22	9
Connecticut.....	4	5	1	8	1	...	173	9
Georgia.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	1
Illinois.....	7	5	2	7	3	7	80	107
Massachusetts ..	48	43	2	80	...	2	1,528	277
New Hampsh'e.	2	3	...	5	...	...	78	20
New Jersey.....	10	5	...	12	...	...	286	47
New York.....	73	70	...	94	1	3	1,202	93
Ohio	16	12	...	49	..	...	92	62
Oregon.....	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Potomac.....	7	4	...	8	...	...	32	3
Rhode Island...	3	3	...	7	1	1	77	13
Vermont	11	8	...	6	...	...	119	3
Total	183	160	5	278	6	13	3,703	635

Efforts were made to have a complete return from every Department, so as to secure a full and reliable report of every honorably discharged soldier, sailor, or marine, who is a comrade in our noble Order. This could be easily accomplished if, in the future, Post officers would see that the name of every member and applicant for membership, who has received any honorable wound, scar, or injury, is properly entered in the Descriptive Book. This matter is so often neglected, that attention is most earnestly and respectfully directed to it.

Owing to the financial embarrassment throughout the whole country during the past year, the services of Department and Post Medical officers, have been in great demand, among not only comrades and their families, but those who are not connected with the Grand Army of the Republic, and who, perhaps, have sought our aid, advice, or assistance in larger numbers than ever before. It is estimated that since the close of the war, the value of the services donated by such officers in the Department of New York alone, amounted to $4,464.67. Many posts are without proper medical officers. It is very desirable, particularly in country districts, that efforts be made to have regular surgeons attached, if practicable, to each Post, and attention is directed to the recruiting of such.

The applications made "by poor and distressed comrades, discharged soldiers and sailors, and the widows and orphans of such, for aid, advice, and assistance," to this office from almost every Department during the past year, have been unusually large, amounting to 325, most of which have been aided or relieved, and thanks are respectfully returned to the *Ladies' Union Relief Association of New York City*, and to similar organizations throughout the country, for their valuable labors in the cause of all poor, sick, wounded, and distressed soldiers and sailors, irrespective of rank or color, from almost every State and Territory in the Union. The deaths of two Medical Directors, Comrade Garvin M. Boyd, Medical Director, Department of Ohio, G. A. R., and Comrade W. W. Brown, Medical Director, Department of New Hampshire, G. A. R., have been reported. The organization has lost in them, during the year, two faithful, efficient comrades whose services it will be difficult to replace.

Attention is drawn to the fact that several departments have failed to report at the time mentioned in General Orders, and although a very marked improvement has taken place in this regard, the Surgeon-General is far from being satisfied, and trusts that as the years roll on, and our ranks grow weaker, comrades will see the necessity of gathering these valuable statistics. They will, in time, be all that remain of the thousands and thousands who have joined the ranks of those who have gone before, and whose only record is that of faithful and valiant service, rendered to our beloved country in its dark days of peril and need.

Thanks are gratefully rendered for uniform kindness received and appreciation of the high honor conferred upon;

Very respectfully yours,

In F., C., and L.,

HANS POWELL,

Surgeon-General, G. A. R.

Report of the Chaplain-in-Chief.

Providence, April 20, 1874.

HENRY R. SIBLEY,

Adjutant General.

Dear Sir and Comrade:—I beg leave to submit my report, as Chaplain-in-Chief, to the National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic, for the year 1873-74. I know of nothing which has, in any way, detracted from the high character and good repute which the Grand Army has heretofore sustained. On the other hand, it would seem as though the Order had secured, to a remarkable degree, the public confidence and good will, and promises, in the future, to work out commendable results for the national welfare.

The duty of the Chaplain in-Chief, during the year has not been very burdensome. On Memorial Day, May 30, 1873, I delivered an address before Jesse L. Reno Post, No. 60, Department of Massachusetts, in Whitinsville, Mass., and in the evening of the same day I conducted the devotional services on the occasion of the observance of the anniversary, by the posts in

the City of Providence, Department of Rhode Island. This latter service was attended by the Department officers. On the 28th of October, 1873, I participated in the dedication of a monument, erected by the State of Rhode Island, in the cemetery at Dutch Island, over the remains of several members of the Fourteenth Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, offering the dedicatory prayer. The exercises were under the direction of Ives Post, No. 13, Department of Rhode Island, and the officers of the 14th Regiment Association. The visiting Post, with the Department Commander, Staff and invited guests, were courteously received by Comrade Judson, Captain of Engineers, U. S. A., commandant of the Island, who had perfected the preliminary arrangements for the dedication. On the 31st of March, 1874, I attended a memorial service held in the city of Providence, in commemoration of three members of Prescott Post No. 1, Department of Rhode Island, who had died during the past year, and delivered an address.

The last named service was of such a character as to induce me to bring the subject especially to the notice of the National Encampment. It consisted of prayer, singing, chants, responses, reading the military record of the Comrades deceased and an address. It seems to me eminently proper that in every Post of the Grand Army a commemorative service should, at stated periods, be performed in grateful and devout remembrance of deceased Comrades. It tends to awaken a cordial sympathy with the friends bereaved, to keep alive the memory of Comrades who have finished their earthly course, and to impart a certain tender and solemn interest to the exercises of the Order itself. The ritual is simple, the music appropriate, and the words of the speaker will be sure of an appreciative audience. The entire effect will be unquestionably profitable and good for all concerned. I commend the subject to the National Encampment, with the hope, that it may receive a favorable consideration.

All of which, in F., C. and L., is respectfully submitted.

AUGUSTUS WOODBURY,
Chaplain-in-Chief, G. A. R.

The following Proceedings of the National Council of Administration were presented by the Recorder:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
HARRISBURG, PENN., May 13, 1873.

The National Council of Administration met pursuant to General Order No. 9, C. S., at Grand Army Hall, at 9.30, A. M.

Present, the following members: the Commander-in-Chief, the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General, the Inspector-General the Chaplain-in-Chief, Comrades Beal, Metcalf, Lee, Orr, Lubey and Hanaford.

Three members of the Committee on Credentials, appointed last year, were absent, and it was

Voted, that the Commander-in-Chief appoint three members to serve in their stead.

The following were appointed: the Inspector-General and Comrades Beal and Lubey.

Upon motion of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, it was

Voted, to appoint a committee of three to audit the accounts of the Quartermaster-General.

The following were appointed: the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, the Chaplain-in-Chief and Comrade Hanaford.

The Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That hereafter no Department or Post of the Grand Army of the Republic shall be permitted to commit the Grand Army, through the public press or otherwise, to the decoration of the graves of the Confederate dead in connection with the decoration of the graves of our fallen Comrades.

Comrade Beal stated that the Department of Maine desired that the next session of the National Encampment be held at Portland, Me.

Comrade Hanaford suggested Chicago, and stated that Comrades in the West desired it.

The Inspector-General moved that the Council recommend to the National Encampment that the meeting be held at Chicago. Motion withdrawn.

A resolution to make the *Grand Army Gazette*, a paper published in New York by Comrade Joel, the official organ of the Grand Army of the Republic, was introduced; but it was not deemed advisable, and the Council so voted.

The following resolution, however, was substituted, and adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the efforts of the proprietors of the *Grand Army Gazette*, published at New York city, and of the *Grand Army Sentinel*, published at Milwaukee, Wis., to advance the interests of the Grand Army of the Republic, are fully appreciated by the National Encampment, and their publications are cordially commended to the favorable consideration of the members of the Order at large.

Voted, to accept the report of the Auditing Committee.

The Committee on Credentials reported.

Adjourned.

H. R. SIBLEY, *Adjutant General.*
Recorder of the Council.

Report accepted and recommendations adopted.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

The following committees were then appointed by the Commander-in-Chief:

On Address of the Commander-in-Chief—Comrades Beal, of Maine; Boone, of Ohio; Kenney, of Virginia; Ward, of New Jersey; Patrick, of Alabama.

On Reports of the Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General—Comrades Jardine, of New York; Henry, of Vermont; Sprague, of Potomac; Disbrow, of Connecticut; Drew, of New Jersey.

On Reports of the Inspector-General, Judge Advocate-General, and other officers—Comrades Hanaford, of Wisconsin; Aldrich, of New Hampshire; Hilliard, of Illinois; Fay, of Massachusetts; Greene, of Pennsylvania.

On Rules, Regulations, and Ritual—Comrades Merrill, of Massachusetts; Beath, of Pennsylvania; Barber, of Ohio; Langbein, of New York; Metcalf, of Rhode Island.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS.

Comrade White, of Maine, presented a proposition for the reduction of dues, and a question as to the display of flags upon Memorial Day, whether they should be placed at half-mast or at the mast-head.

The Department of New Jersey asked that Congress be petitioned to make Memorial Day a legal holiday.

Comrade Norris, of Pennsylvania, as instructed by his Department, asked the National Encampment to amend the Rules and Regulations, so that appointed officers should have no voice in Encampments.

Comrade Rhodes, of Rhode Island, offered a proposition to make Past Department Commanders members of the National Encampment.

Comrade Wagner, of Pennsylvania, introduced a resolution instructing the Adjutant-General to omit from the roll the names of any past officers of the National Encampment not reported to him as in good standing in their respective Posts.

Comrade Perry, of New York, offered the following:

"*Whereas*, The duties of citizenship make it impracticable to carry out courts-martial with any degree of accuracy, often dragging over long waits and imperfect proceedings; therefore be it

"*Resolved*, That the National Council of Administration be authorized to prepare a method of discipline other than courts-martial, and that such method be promulgated, and take effect as soon as prepared."

Comrade Sprague, of the Department of the Potomac,

offered the following, which was adopted unanimously, without reference:

"*Whereas*, General M. C. Meigs, Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, has caused to be erected at the National Cemetery at Arlington, Va., a beautiful amphitheatre dedicated to the uses of Memorial Day; therefore be it

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Grand Army of the Republic are due, and are hereby extended by the National Encampment to Major-General M. C. Meigs, Quartermaster General, for causing the erection of said amphitheatre, and for the interest and zeal he has manifested in assisting the Grand Army of the Republic in making the thirtieth day of May a national Memorial Day; and be it further

"*Resolved*, That this preamble and resolution be published in the proceedings of this Encampment, and an engrossed copy forwarded to General Meigs."

Comrade Sprague introduced a resolution prohibiting Posts of the Grand Army from decorating Confederate graves, giving as a reason that two Departments had been reported through the public press as intending such action.

Comrade Jardine moved to table the resolution, but withdrew the motion.

Comrade Barber moved to refer to the Committee on Resolutions and the Judge Advocate General.

Comrade Jardine thought that this Encampment should not instruct the Departments, and thought there was no harm in such decoration.

Comrade Merrill thought that action should be suspended until the committee had reported.

Comrade Perry moved to indefinitely postpone.

Comrade Wagner thought that such summary disposition of the resolution would be unfair; it should take the usual course.

Comrade Patrick was of the same opinion.

Comrade Goble moved that all resolutions be referred to the proper committees without debate.

Comrade Reeder thought that the Encampment should dispose of all resolutions without referring, as the number would be few, and in this case we should not be behind the confederate soldiers in generosity, citing cases where they had decorated Union graves;

Point of order by Comrade Lubey; question of the matter, and not its reference.

Ruling, "Not well taken;" and Comrade Reeder continued in the same vein.

Comrade Kenney said that the Department of Virginia had heretofore decorated without distinction, and he hoped the Encampment would not interfere.

The motion to indefinitely postpone did not prevail.

Comrade Reeder, although opposed to the resolution, moved to adopt it without reference.

Comrade Wagner raised a point of order, that the motion to refer to the Committee on Resolutions and Judge Advocate General takes precedence.

Ruling, "Well taken;" and the motion to so refer was carried.

The Surgeon General introduced a resolution of thanks to the philanthropic societies throughout the country for assistance rendered Comrades in distress during the past year.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions, as was the proposition of Comrade Stiles, of the Department of the Potomac, to urge the passage by Congress of a bill to provide for the payment of female nurses during the war.

Upon motion of Comrade Rhodes, the following special committee was appointed to consider and report a badge for past officers—Comrades Rhodes, Goble, White, Underwood and Reeder.

Comrade Norris, Commander of the Department of Pennsylvania, announced a banquet to be given at the Lochiel House, at nine o'clock this evening, complimentary to the National Encampment.

Comrade Henry desired that the vacancy in the National Council of Administration, caused by the absence of the member from Vermont might be filled.

Ruled, that no vacancy existed.

Comrade Norris asked to be excused from serving upon the Committee on Resolutions, because of other and press-

ing duties looking to the entertainment of the visiting Comrades.

Excused, and Comrade Bosbyshell appointed.

Voted, to adjourn until three P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The National Encampment reassembled as above, and the first business was the report of the Committee on Resolutions.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
HARRISBURG, PENN., May 13, 1874

The Committee on Resolutions beg leave to submit the following report:

It is the unanimous recommendation of the committee, in which Comrade Judge Advocate-General concurs, that the resolution referring to the decoration of the graves of the Confederate dead be indefinitely postponed; the committee believing that the subject is sufficiently provided for in Art. XIV, Chapter V, of the Rules and Regulations, which Article prescribes a Memorial Day for the commemmoration of the deeds of our fallen comrades only.

The resolution of instruction to the Adjutant-General respecting the omission from his report of Past officers in arrears, the committee believe is already provided for in Sec. 1, Art. II, Chap. IV, Rules and Regulations, and they would therefore recommend its indefinite postponement. In this connection the committee beg leave to offer the following amendment to Sec. 1, Art. II, Chap. V, Rules and Regulations; after the word "applicants" add "and the names of all Past National or Department officers, members of their Post, not in good standing"

The committee respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That, urging Congress to pass House bill 1555, providing for the payment of female nurses during the war.

2. Respecting the increase of pensions, with the alteration putting in the words "a sum sufficient for the maintenance," and omitting the words "one thousand dollars per year."

3. The resolutions of thanks to the relief as-ociations throughout the country.

4. The printed preamble and resolution respecting the holding of the National Encampment in Philadelphia, in 1876, excepting the committee recommend that the day be left vacant.

The committee deem it inexpedient for the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic to designate any paper as its official organ.

Respectfully submitted,

O. C. BOSBYSHELL,
W. S. JENKINS,
Commit.ee.

Comrade Underwood moved to accept.

Carried.

Comrade Wagner moved to consider by respective clauses.

Carried.

Comrade Perry moved to strike out the word "only" at close of clause referring to decoration.

Comrade Wagner moved that the whole matter be laid on the table for one year, and that departments be notified that final action is to be taken at that time. He said there was a wide diversity of opinion upon the subject.

Comrade Underwood thought we should have no hesitating opinions, and that we ought not to dodge the question, but meet and settle it now and here.

He said he had none but the kindliest feelings toward those who fought against us, respected their gallantry, bore them no malice, and would bury past differences and unite under one flag; but Memorial Day is the day on which we commemorate the memory of our fallen comrades, and let it be forever understood that we distinguish between loyalty and disloyalty; the latter is the treason against which we fought, and the former we pay respect and tribute to—to the loyalty, bravery, and heroism of those who fell in *defence* of the flag and not arrayed against it.

Comrade Sprague defended the report.

He said it prohibited the Grand Army from decorating other than Union graves, and he thought we should put ourselves in a proper light before the country. Honor disloyal dead and you dishonor the loyal dead. The loyal people of the South will endorse the action of this Encampment, if the report of the committee is adopted. Put no stumbling-blocks in the way of the Confederates, if they wish to decorate upon the same day, but show the country that we mean to do right.

Comrade Bosbyshell stated that the word "only" was added to make the resolution *emphatic.*

Comrade Wagner stated

That the Department of Pennsylvania have very positive opinions upon the subject, that they have obeyed the Rules and Regulations in this regard, that Provisional Departments say it has been the custom with them to decorate both, and that there is a diversity of action. The question will come up year after year; the people outside of the Order understand that we decorate rebel graves. He thought that any action now would alienate us, and that we should fix upon a time to settle it; the organization is a national one, and we should try to make it so by every means in our power. We

should wait a year, as some localities labor under different circumstances from those which we encounter.

Voted, not to lay on the table for one year.

Voted, not to strike out the word "only."

Motion, to adopt report.

Comrade Patrick moved to amend by inserting the words

"But in this action the National Encampment desires to express no opinion upon the action of individual members."

The amendment was lost and the report was adopted.

Comrade Wagner moved to amend Chapter V, Article II, Section 2, of the Rules and Regulations, by adding the words

"This report shall also contain a list of the names of all past officers, of the National Encampment entitled to membership therein, reported as in good standing in the several Posts of each Department."

Adopted, as was the committee's report upon this subject, after being amended by striking out the word "not," and requiring Assistant Adjutants–General to forward names of past National officers, in compliance with Comrade Wagner's motion.

The committee recommended the adoption of Comrade Stile's preamble and resolution, viz.

"*Whereas*, A bill (No 1555) has been introduced in the House of Representatives, providing for certain compensation to the female nurses of the Union soldiers during the late war; therefore, be it

"*Resolved*, That the National Encampment recognizing their self-sacrificing devotion and faithful labors, most earnestly urge upon the Congress of the United States the passage of said bill."

Carried.

The committee reported the following preamble and resolutions, offered by Comrade Hilliard, and by them amended:

Whereas, It appears that great injustice and hardships are inflicted upon our Comrades in arms by the insufficiency of pensions paid to wounded and disabled soldiers; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the solemn conviction of the representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic that pensions should be increased in every grade; that all of the totally disabled should receive a sum sufficient for their maintenance; and that all other grades of disability should be so increased in due proportion that these brave men may not become objects of charity so long as they may survive.

Resolved, That the Commander-in-Chief be requested to forward a copy of this resolution in such terms as in his judgment he may see fit, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, and ask that Congress take immediate and favorable action thereon.

The report was adopted.

The resolution offered by Comrade Powell was amended so as to read

Resolved, That the thanks of the National Encampment Grand Army of the Republic, be tendered to the Ladies' Union Relief Association of New York city for their valuable assistance and aid to all Comrades in distress during the past year.

Resolved, That the Adjutant General be requested to communicate this resolution to the officers of said organization.

Adopted.

The following are the preambles and resolution offered by Comrade Langbein, as amended by the committee and adopted by the Encampment:

Whereas, The Congress of the United States of America, on the 3d day of March, 1871, enacted a law providing for "the celebration of American Independence by an international exhibition of the arts, manufactures, and natural resources of this and other countries, under the auspices of the Government of the United States;" and

Wherea , The commissioners appointed under said law have selected the city of Philadelphia as the most fitting locality at which to celebrate the birth of American Independence; therefore

Resolved, That this Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, composed mainly of the survivors of the nation's defenders during its struggle for the perpetuation of that glorious birth of Independence which, but for its soldiers and sailors, would never reach its centennial, recommend that the Annual Encampment in 1875 choose the city of Philadelphia as the place for the Annual Encampment in 1876; also recommend that on the previous day a Grand Convention be held of the Grand Army of the Republic; each Post throughout the United States and Territories to send as many delegates and alternates as it is entitled to in the Department Encampment, and that in addition thereto the Senior Vice Commander and Junior Vice Commander of a Post be also entitled to a seat in the last named Convention.

The report of the committee on the address of the Commander-in-Chief was then submitted, viz:

HARRISBURG, PENN., May 13, 1874.

The committee to which was referred the report of the Commander-in-Chief, respectfully submit the following report:

That the report of the Commander-in-Chief be accepted.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. L. BEAL,
THOS. C. BOONE,
S. B. KENNEY,
WILLIAM WARD,
GEO. H. PATRICK, *Committee.*

Adopted.

Comrade Jardine, chairman of the committee on the reports of the Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General, reported on behalf of that committee that the reports had been examined and found correct.

Voted, to accept the report.

Recommendations of Adjutant-General referred to the Committee on Rules and Regulations.

The following is the report of the committee on the reports of the Inspector-General, Judge Advocate-General, Surgeon-General and Chaplain-in-Chief:

To the Commander-in-Chief and Officers and Comrades of the National Encampment.

Your committee, to whom was referred the reports of the Inspector-General and other officers, beg leave to respectfully report—

That we have performed the duty assigned, and have to recommend that the reports of the Inspector-General, the Judge Advocate-General, the Surgeon-General (amended by striking out of the second paragraph, on page 41, the words "since the close of the war," and inserting "during the last year") be approved and published with the proceedings.

With reference to the recommendation of the Chaplain-in Chief, contained in the last paragraph of his report, that this National Encampment consider the propriety of establishing some commemorative service to be performed by Posts in grateful remembrance of our deceased comrades, we would say that the thought meets with our cordial approbation; and, in order to secure the carrying out of the idea, we respectfully recommend that the Commander-in-Chief be directed to appoint a special committee of five, whose duty it shall be to prepare a proper service to meet the suggestion, and submit the same to the Commander-in-Chief for his approval; and in case it receives his sanction, to be published and furnished to Posts at the smallest possible cost. Respectfully submitted.

GEO. A. HANAFORD,
H. HILLIARD,
JOHN S. FAY,
LEVI L. ALDRICH, *Committee.*

Voted, to accept the report, and to adopt its suggestions

The special committee to whom was referred the question of a badge for past officers, reported as follows:

HARRISBURG, PENN., May 13, 1874.

To the Commander-in-Chief and Comrades of the National Encampment:

Your committee, appointed to consider the propriety of allowing past officers to wear an official badge, respectfully recommend that this Encampment authorize past officers in the Grand Army of the Republic to wear a badge designating the position which they formerly held; and therefore recommend the following amendment to Chapter V, Article IX, Section 11, of the Rules and Regulations, so as to read:

Past officers in the Grand Army of the Republic may wear the strap of the official badge proper for the highest position held by them in the Grand Army, with a clasp upon the ribbon proper for such position, beneath the bronze eagle of the membership badge, to which the whole shall be pendant.

Respectfully submitted,

E. H. RHODES,
DANIEL WHITE,
J. R. GOBLE,
A. B. UNDERWOOD,
FRANK REEDER,
Committee.

Adopted by a unanimous vote.

Comrade Merrill, on behalf of the Committee on Rules and Regulations and Ritual, reported as follows:

1. That the *per capita* tax from departments to National Headquarters be reduced to eight cents per year, beginning July 1st of the present year.

Adopted.

2. That the opening ceremony of the Ritual be amended by striking out, on page 5, all before "Comrades, this is," &c, and substituting a form less cumbersome.

After considerable discussion, it was finally

Voted, that posts be permitted to dispense with the "procession," or to use it, at their option.

3. In Chapter II, Article III, change Section 1 to the following:

A comrade having a valid transfer card, may be admitted to any Post, or readmitted to the Post which granted the transfer card, by a two-thirds vote, after his name has been proposed, referred and reported upon, as in case of an applicant for membership; or he may be admitted a charter member of a new Post.

Adopted.

4. In Chapter II, Article IV, Section 1, insert the following:

The words "in person or by letter" after *therefor*, in the first line, and "not exceeding twelve months," after *specified time*, in the third line.

Adopted.

5. In same Chapter and Article, for Section 2, substitute the following:

Any comrade against whom no charges exists, and who has paid all dues, shall receive, upon verbal or written application to the Commander, at a meeting of the Post, a transfer card, attested by the Adjutant. Upon presentation of it to any Post, within one year from date of its issue, he may be admitted in the manner prescribed in Article III of this Chapter. If at the expiration of the year he has not been admitted to membership in any Post, the transfer card shall be void, and the holder be considered as honorably discharged from the Order.

Amended so that after the word "chapter" shall be added,

"in the meantime he shall remain for purposes of discipline only, under the jurisdiction of the Post granting the transfer card."

Adopted, as amended.

6. In Chapter II, Article VII, for Section 1, substitute the following:

The Post officers (the Adjutant, Sergeant Major and Quartermaster Sergeant excepted) shall be elected at the last stated meeting in December, by ballot, unless a ballot be dispensed with by unanimous consent. They shall be installed into their respective offices at the next stated meeting after their election.

At the installation of officers the Post Commander shall appoint the Adjutant, and upon the recommendation of the Adjutant and Quartermaster respectively, he shall also appoint the Sergeant Major and the Quartermaster Sergeant. They shall enter upon their duties at once, and all officers, whether elected or appointed, shall hold office until their successors are installed.

Adopted.

7. In Chapter III, Article VII, strike out all after the words *Post Commanders*, and substitute the following:

to the Department Commander, and through him to the Commander-in-Chief, whose decisions shall be final, unless reversed by the National Encampment; but all decisions appealed from shall have full force and effect until reversed by competent authority.

Adopted.

8. In Chapter IV, Article II, Section 1, for second paragraph substitute the following:

Of the Commanders Vice-Commanders and Assistant Adjutant Generals of the several Departments, and the Commander and Assistant Adjutant-

General of each Provisional Department for the time being (for whom no proxy or substitute can act.)

For third paragraph substitute

Of Past Department Commanders, so long as they remain in good standing in their several Posts.

Change paragraph 3 to paragraph 4.

Adopted.

9. For Chapter V, Article IX, substitute the following:

SECTION 1. Departments may adopt a uniform for their own members. Where no uniform is prescribed by a Department, each Post may adopt a uniform.

SECTION 2. The membership badge of the Grand Army of the Republic shall be in form and material, that adopted at the special meeting of the National Encampment in New York, October 27, 1869, and no other shall be worn as the badge of the Grand Army, except that prescribed for officers, in Section 3.

SECTION 3. The badge designating official position in the Grand Army of the Republic, adopted at the meeting of the National Encampment, held in New Haven, May 14 and 15, 1873, may be worn by all National, Department and Post officers in the Grand Army of the Republic, when on duty or on occasions of ceremony, and no shoulder straps or other badge shall be worn to designate official position in the Grand Army of the Republic.

Adopted.

In connection with the above, the committee reported in favor of adding

"*Provided,* That the Commander-in-Chief may grant permission to Comrades to wear badges of other material, generally conforming to the regulation badge."

This gave rise to some discussion.

Comrade Merrill stated its object, that many Comrades had been presented with badges which did not conform in all particulars to the Regulations, and that they should have the privilege of wearing them.

Comrade Drew opposed giving power to the Commander-in-Chief to authorize anything different from the regulation badge.

Comrade Wagner said that they were not Grand Army badges, and thought no action should be taken. Comrades might wear the presentation badge as an ornament, but the bronze badge should be worn in addition as the badge of membership.

Moved, to strike out the "proviso." Carried.

10. Add to Chapter II, Article IV, Section 3.

and upon his election, he may be admitted, without muster, on taking *anew* the obligation.

Adopted.

11. Add to Chapter I, Article II, paragraph 1,

and to perpetuate the memory and history of the dead.

Adopted.

12. In Chapter IV, Article VII, and in Chapter III, Article VIII, add

Provided, That no appointed officer shall have a right to vote.

After a short discussion a motion to adopt was lost.

At this point Comrade Buckbee moved that when we adjourn, it be to meet at the State Capitol committee rooms 11 and 12, at seven o'clock P. M., as the Opera House was engaged for other purposes during the evening.

Carried.

Comrade Merrill then resumed.

Upon the following propositions the committee report adversely:

1. Reducing the number of members required to constitute a quorum by amending Chapter II, Article V, Section 3.

Voted, not to amend.

2. To amend Section 4, Article IV, Chapter V, Rules and Regulations, striking out the words "time of being dropped," and substituting the words "date of application to be reinstated."

Voted, not to amend.

3. In Chapter IV, Article III, make a new Section, to be numbered 3.

The Order of Business and Rules of Order adopted by the Sixth Annual Encampment, at Cleveland, in May, 1872, shall be enforced at the sessions of the National Encampment.

Voted, not to amend.

4. To re-establish the grade system.

Voted, not to change.

5. To change the time at which National and Department officers should be installed.

Voted, to adopt the report.

Voted, that we proceed to the election of officers at half-past seven o'clock, P. M., by special assignment.

At this point the Commander-in-Chief was obliged to retire, and the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief presided during the remainder of the session.

Comrade Reeder moved to reconsider the vote fixing time for election of officers. Carried.

Comrade Reeder moved to proceed to election of officers.

After some discussion, Comrade Kimball moved to adjourn.

Carried.

EVENING SESSION.

The Encampment was called to order in rooms 11 and 12, State Capitol, at half-past seven o'clock, the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief in the chair.

Comrade Wagner moved to proceed to the election of officers.

Carried.

THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Comrade Wagner nominated for Commander-in-Chief, Comrade Charles Devens, Jr., of Massachusetts.

Comrade Lubey moved that the Adjutant-General be instructed to cast one ballot for Comrade Devens.

The motion was unanimously adopted, and Comrade Charles Devens, Jr., was declared duly elected Commander-in-Chief.

For Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Comrade Sperry nominated Comrade Edward Jardine, of New York, which nomination was seconded by the New Jersey delegation.

On motion of Comrade Wagner, the Rules were suspended, and Comrade Jardine was elected by acclamation.

For Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Comrade Guy T. Gould, of Illinois, was placed in nomination.

The Rules were suspended, and Comrade Gould was elected by acclamation.

For Surgeon-General, Comrade Hans Powell, of New York, was nominated.

The Rules were suspended, and Comrade Powell was elected by acclamation.

For Chaplain-in-Chief, Comrade Wagner nominated Com-

rahe John W. Sayers, of Pennsylvania, but afterward withdrew the nomination.

Comrade Sprague then nominated Comrade Augustus Woodbury, of Rhode Island.

The Rules were suspended, and Comrade Woodbury was elected by acclamation.

The following comrades were then elected to be members of the National Council of Administration:

Maine	Comrade Edward Moore,
New Hampshire	" William P. Moses.
Vermont	" F. A. Lewis.
Massachusetts	" C. G. Attwood.
Rhode Island	" T. W. Higginson.
Connecticut	" S. M. Smith.
New York	" E. A. Perry.
New Jersey	" A. M Way.
Pennsylvania	" James W. Latta.
Potomac	" Amos J. Gunning.
Virginia	" H. B. Nichols
Ohio	" J. H. Seymour.
Illinois	" J. J Palmer.
Wisconsin	" Gabe Bouck.
Minnesota	" James George.
Kansas	" William Emmerson.
California	" David J. Simmons.

Comrade Jardine the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief elect, was then introduced to the Encampment. He thanked the comrades from the bottom of his heart for the honor they had conferred upon him, and promised to give his time cheerfully to the work.

A question arose as to the eligibility of Provisional Departments to representation in the National Council of Administration.

Comrade Patrick stated that the Provisional Department of Alabama had been so represented, and asked the sense of the Encampment.

Comrade Underwood was of the opinion that they were not entitled.

Comrade Wagner said that Provisional Departments did not hold meetings, and consequently could not elect representatives.

The Judge Advocate General gave it as his opinion that they could not, and it was so ruled.

Comrade Merrill, on behalf of the Committee on Rules and Regulations, then reported upon the propositions of Comrade Hanaford.

"To permit Posts to hold meetings and transact business when less than a quorum is present, through dispensation from the Commander-in-Chief or a Department Commander."

Comrade Wagner opposed, and suggested that it could be so arranged that a majority of members should constitute a quorum where Posts numbered less than fifteen members.

Comrade Hanaford thought that a half-way measure; one that would not give the necessary relief.

Comrade Wagner did not understand how a Post could request a dispensation. unless they had a quorum, and made a motion in accordance with his first suggestion.

Comrade Rhodes sympathized with weak Departments; had visited a great many; found them composed of a very few members, but they were earnest and faithful, and he did not believe that any advantage would be taken if Posts were so permitted. He hoped the Encampment would adopt every measure that could in any way contribute to their relief.

Comrade Barber said that Posts labored under the same difficulty in his Department, often found it hard to get a quorum together, and hoped something would be done, if it were possible without detriment to the principles of the Order.

Comrade Lubey thought that the power should be vested in the Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Fowler said that several Posts in Connecticut had been obliged to suspend because they could not get a quorum together to hold a meeting.

Comrade Jardine hoped that New York would be left out; thought it would be injurious to grant such power.

Comrade Lubey moved that the power be delegated to the Commander-in-Chief, upon written application of a Department Commander.

Comrade Barber thought that a Post applying for such dispensation should state the business to be acted upon.

Comrade Underwood said it should apply to conferring the Ritual alone.

Comrade Hanaford wished that Department Commanders might have the privilege to muster recruits without the usual form of referring to committee and delay of action.

A motion to lay the whole matter on the table prevailed at this point.

The following was offered by Comrade Perry:

Resoleed, That all orders, circulars and decisions fron National Headquarters, Grand Army of the Republic, be furnished for publication in the *Grand Army Gazette* and *Grand Army Sentinel,* as soon as they are ready for promulgation; provided, no charge be made for such publication.

Adopted.

The following resolution was introduced by Comrade Wagner.

Resolved, That the Adjutant-General be and he is hereby authorized and directed to transmit to the proper officer of each Department, one copy of the revised Rules and Regulations for each Post aud each member of the National Encampment in the several Departments, as soon as the same shall be printed.

Adopted.

Comrade Henry offered the following:

Resolved, That the Quartermaster-General be instructed to furnish copies of the Rules and Regulations for the use of members at each meeting of the National Encampment.

Adopted.

Comrade Beath moved that the next annual meeting be held in Chicago, Illinois.

Carried, and Comrade Hilliard promised the delegates a warm reception.

The following resolution, offered by Comrade Underwood, was adopted by a rising vote and the Grand Army cheer.

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of the National Encampment are due and are hereby tendered to the Committee of arrangements, to the Legislature and the executive department of the State of Pennsylvania, and to the citizens of Harrisburg, for the courtesy and hospitality which have contributed so much to our comfort and pleasure during the session of this Encampment; also, to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and such other companies as gave reduced rates of fare to our delegates.

The following resolution, offered by Comrade Barney, was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Encampment be tendered to Comrades J. R. Goble and Edward Ferguson, the retiring Senior and Junior Vice Commanders-in-Chief, for their services during the past year.

Comrade Langbein offered the following, which was adopted.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Encampment be and the same are hereby extended to Post 58, Department of Pennsylvania, for the prompt and efficient manner in which said Post has discharged the duties of guard during the session.

The Encampment finally adjourned at half-past eight o'clock, P. M., and the delegates, headed by Beck's Philadelphia band, visited the Executive mansion to pay their respects to Governor Hartranft, and were very kindly received and entertained by the Governor and Mrs. Hartranft; after which they escorted the Commander-in-Chief to the Lochiel Hotel, to partake of a banquet tendered the Grand Army by the citizens of Harrisburg.

HENRY R. SIBLEY,
Adjutant-General

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NINTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT,

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

HELD AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS,

May 12 *and* 13, 1875.

THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT of the Grand Army of the Republic assembled in McCormick's Hall, Chicago, Ill., on Wednesday, May 12, 1875. The Encampment was called to order at 12.30 P. M., by the Commander in-Chief, Comrade Charles Devens, Jr. Prayer was offered by Comrade E. C. Whitney, of Massachusetts, the Chaplain-in-Chief being absent.

Comrade A. M. Way, of New Jersey, and James W. Latta, of Pennsylvania, having resigned their positions as members of the Council of Administration, Comrades F. W. Sullivan, of New Jersey, and Charles S. Greene, of Pennsylvania, were elected to fill the vacancies.

The following is the report of the Committee on Credentials:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
CHICAGO, Ill., May 12, 1875.

The Committee on Credentials respectfully report that they find the following Departments entitled to representation in

the National Encampment by the ex-officio members, as prescribed in the Rules and Regulations, and by the number of representatives set against each, viz:

Maine	2	Virginia	1
New Hampshire	2	Ohio	2
Vermont	2	Illinois	2
Massachusetts	12	Wisconsin	1
Rhode Island	2	Minnesota	2
Connecticut	2	Iowa	1
New York	8	California	1
New Jersey	2	Colorado	1
Pennsylvania	5	Missouri	1
Potomac	1		

H. R. SIBLEY, *Adj. Gen.*,
G. T. GOULD,
J. J. PALMER,
S. M. SMITH,
Committee on Credentials.

Voted, to accept the report.

The roll was called by the Adjutant-General as follows.

ROLL OF THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

NOTE.—Those present are marked thus (*)

Commander-in-Chief	Chas. Devens, Jr.*
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief	Edward Jardine.*
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief	Guy T. Gould*
Surgeon-General	Hans Powell.*
Chaplain-in-Chief	Augustus Woodbury.
Adjutant-General	H. R. Sibley.*
Quartermaster-General	A. B. R. Sprague.
Inspector-General	W. W Brown.
Judge Advocate-General	W. W. Douglas.*

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

Edward Moore.	E. A. Perry.	J. J. Palmer.*
Wm. P. Moses.	F. W. Sullivan.*	Gabe Bouck.*
F. A. Lewis.	C. S. Greene.*	James George.
C. G. Attwood.	A. J. Gunning.	Wm. Emerson.
T. W. Higginson.	H. B. Nichols.	D. J Simmons.
S. M. Smith.*	J. H. Seymour	

PAST NATIONAL OFFICERS

Past Commanders-in-Chief,	John A. Logan.	1867–'70.
	A. E. Burnside.	1871–'72.

Past Senior Vice-Commanders-in-Chief, James B. McKean. 1867.
Louis Wagner.* 1871–'72.
John R. Goble. 1873.
Past Junior Vice Commanders-in-Chief, J. R. Hawley. 1868–'69.
James Coey. 1871.
J. Warren Keifer. 1872.
Edw. Ferguson.* 1873.

MAINE.

Commander, Selden Connor; Senior Vice Commander, Isaac Dyer. Junior Vice Commander, J. T. Richards; Assistant Adjutant General, S. J. Gallagher.

Delegates: Joseph Littlefield, A. W. Wildes.

Alternates: F. M. Drew, Elliott King.

Past Department Commanders: George L. Beal, Charles P. Mattocks, Daniel White.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Commander, Alvin S. Eaton; Senior Vice Commander. J. E. S. Pray; Junior Vice Commander, C. J. Richards; Assistant Adjutant General, Ross C. Duffy.*

Delegates: Ross C. Duffy, Andrew White.*

Alternates: Levi L. Aldrich, C. Henry Holt.

Past Department Commanders: William R. Patten, A. H. Bixby, T. W. Challis.

VERMONT.

Commander, Stephen Thomas; Senior Vice Commander, J. N. Culver, Junior Vice Commander, L. E. Knapp; Assistant Adjutant General, J. O. Livingston

Delegates: J. W. Newton,* J. H. Goulding.

Alternates: P. P. Pitkin, F.S. Stranahan.*

Past Department Commanders: George P. Foster, W. W. Henry, W. G. Veazey.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Commander, George S. Merrill;* Senior Vice Commander, C. Frank Luther;* Junior Vice Commander, J. P Maxfield;* Assistant Adjutant General, Henry B. Peirce.*

Delegates: Thomas Sherwin, Charles H. Taylor, George H. Fullerton,* John McKay, jr., George E. Curtis, Jacob Silloway*,jr., E. B. Blasland*,W. A. Simmons, M. J. Ferren,* E. C. Whitney,* W. O. Fiske, George E. Goodrich.*

Alternates: J. Pickett,* H. Fairbanks,* P. F. Murray,* W. F. Hutchins, W. E. Lewis, Charles Castle, T. M. Kenney,* Horace C. Lee,* William Spalding, S. C. Chamberlin, H. S. Briggs,* J. F. Searles.

Past Department Commanders: Henry R. Sibley, A. B. Underwood, John W. Kimball, A B. R. Sprague, F. A. Osborne, James L. Bates, Wm. Cogswell.

CONNECTICUT.

Commander, Charles J. Buckbee; Senior Vice Commander, William E. Disbrow;* Junior Vice Commander, Frank G. Otis;* Assistant Adjutant General, Charles E. Fowler.

Delegates: John G. Healy.* H. M. Calder.*

Alternates: D. W. Raymond, H. L. Harrison.

Past Department Commanders: Edward Harland, Theo. G. Ellis, Wm. H. Mallory, L. A. Dickinson.

RHODE ISLAND.

Commander, E. C. Pomroy;* Senior Vice Commander, Charles H. Williams; Junior Vice Commander, Thomas Chambers; Assistant Adjutant-General, James E. Chace.*

Delegates: Isaac M. Potter,* William H. Seamans.*

Alternates: Wm. H. Palmer, J. A. Babcock.

Past Department Commanders: Wm. Sprague, Horatio Rogers, Charles R. Brayton,* E. H. Rhodes, Edwin Metcalf.

NEW YORK.

Commander, John Palmer; Senior Vice Commander, Joseph Egolf; Junior Vice Commander, E J. Loomis; Assistant Adjutant-General, Wm. H. Terrell.

Delegates: Benjamin A. Willis, John B. Murray, William F. Rogers,* John G. Copley,* James S. Graham,* E. C. Parkinson,* Richard Kennedy,* J. L. DePeyster

Alternates: R. H. Schooley, A. M. C. Smith, Jr., Henry C. Perley,* George W. Kennedy, H. Clay Hall, George N. Brown, Isaac Keith, Albert H. Nash.

Past Department Commanders: Daniel E. Sickles, John C. Robinson,* Henry A. Barnum,* Stephen P. Corliss.

NEW JERSEY.

Commander, Charles Burrows;* Senior Vice Commander, E. W. Davis;* Junior Vice Commander, E. L. Campbell; Assistant Adjutant-General, John W. Drew.

Delegates: George B. Carse, J. W. Romaine.*

Alternates: W. S. Sulger,* F. W. Sullivan.

Past Department Commanders: William Ward,* R. H. Lee.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Commander: W. W. Tyson;* Senior Vice Commander, S. Irvin Givin;* Junior Vice Commander, William H. Martin; Assistant Adjutant-General, Norman M. Smith.*

Delegates: John F. Hartranft,* Norman M. Smith,* N. F. Lightner,* Levi Huber,* W. W. Jennings.*

Alternates: David Branson,* W. C. Barns,* D. F. Moore, R. F. Potter.

Past Department Commanders: O C. Bosbyshell, Howard J. Reeder, Frank Reeder, Robert B. Beath,* A. Wilson Norris.

VIRGINIA.

Commander, Wm. H. Appenzeller; Senior Vice Commander, Phillip Ritzerl; Junior Vice Commander, James E. Fuller; Assistant Adjutant-General, William N. Eaton.

Delegate

Past Department Commanders: H. Carlisle, S. B. Kenney, William N. Eaton.

POTOMAC.

Commander, James T. Smith;* Senior Vice Commander, George E. Corson; Junior Vice Commander, B. F. Hawkes;* Assistant Adjutant-General, W. B. Brown.*

Delegate, R. R. Bronner.

Alternate, H. Dingham.

Past Department Commanders: T. Lubey,* F. H Sprague.*

OHIO.

Commander, A. C. Voris; Senior Vice Commander, J. S. Clemmer;* Junior Vice Commander, D. W. Thomas; Assistant Adjutant-General, U. L. Marvin.

Delegates: T. D. McGillicuddy,* E. A. Curtis.

Alternates: T. C. Boon, M. J. Enright.

Past Department Commanders.

ILLINOIS.

Commander, H. Hilliard;* Senior Vice Commander, T. G. Lawlor;* Junior Vice Commander, W. H. Cain;* Assistant Adjutant General, J. S. Reynolds.*

Delegates: R. A. Smith,* E S. Weeden.*

Past Department Commanders.

KENTUCKY.

Commander, H. H. Johnson; Senior Vice Commander, J. P. Hicks; Junior Vice Commander, George M. Thrasher; Assistant Adjutant General, W. M. Collins.

Delegate: George W. Northup.

Past Department Commanders: C. P. Wilcox.

MINNESOTA.

Commander, D. W. Albaugh;* Senior Vice Commander, George H. Johnston;* Junior Vice Commander, J. Meese; Assistant Adjutant General, C. W. Johnson.*

Delegates: True S. White;* L. P. Plummer.*

Alternate: James Murison.

Past Department Commanders: Frank Daggett, H. G. Hicks, J. C. Hamilton,* H. A. Castle.*

WISCONSIN.

Commander: George A. Hanaford,* Senior Vice Commander, John

Hancock;* Junior Vice Commander, Henry G. Rogers;* Assistant Adjutant General, S. L. Flutter.*

Delegate: Henry B. Harshaw.*

Alternate: Griff J. Thomas.

Past Department Commanders: Thomas S. Allen, A. J. McCoy.

CALIFORNIA.

Commander, Edward Carlson; Senior Vice Commander, William Crosby; Junior Vice Commander, Stephen Fennel; Assistant Adjutant General H. W. Thain.

Delegate: W. H. Armstrong.

Alternate: H. H. Linnell.

Past Department Commanders: G. S. Evans, W. L. Campbell, W. E. McArthur, W. H. Aiken.

KANSAS.

Commander: W. S. Jenkins.

TEXAS.

PROVISIONAL DEPARTMENTS.

GEROGIA: Commander, J. T. Collins.

OREGON: Commander, C. P. Crandall.

MISSISSIPPI AND LOUISIANA: Commander, J. Tarbell.

IOWA: Commander, J. C. Parrott; Assistant Adjutant-General, L. S. Tyler.

ALABAMA: Commander, George H. Patrick.

NEBRASKA: Commander, Paul Vandervoort.

MOUNTAIN: Commander, Andrew Taylor; Assistant Adjutant General, Henry A. Joy.

MISSOURI: Commander, T. E. Lonergan.*

The Commander-in-Chief announced as Committee on Credentials for the following year, the Adjutant-General, the Inspector-General, and the members of the Council of Administration from Pennsylvania, Illinois and Connecticut.

Next in the order of business came the

ADDRESS OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

COMRADES:—We have assembled in full numbers and cordial spirit, for the transaction of the business which devolves upon the National Encampment, having reference to the conduct and management of the affairs of the organization for the year upon which we are about to enter, fully believing that our association is one, alike agreeable in the relation in which it places its various members to each other, and important and valuable in maintaining the great principles of patriotism and fidelity to

the Union. We desire to review what has been done during the past year, in order that we may in the future, if possible, render it more efficient for the purposes it was intended to accomplish.

While meetings of this nature are for business only, I deemed it not improper at our last Encampment to call your attention to the principles upon which the organization is founded. If I remind you of them to-day, even at the risk of just criticism on account of repetition, it is because a frequent recurrence to them is important and even essential.

OBJECTS OF THE GRAND ARMY.

In some of its forms, and in the modes in which it enables its members to recognize each other, the Grand Army of the Republic is a secret organization. But its secrecy is limited to these; in all its real purposes and objects it has no concealments or reservations, nothing it is not ready to spread before the world fully and frankly. It seeks no objects that are not sought by every true man who endeavored, whether in the field or out, to do what he could for the preservation of the Union so lately imperiled, and who is ready now to honor and cherish those by whose efforts it was saved.

NON-POLITICAL.

It has no system of politics in which all cannot unite, whatever other differences they may have as to men or measures, who agree that what was done to maintain the government was demanded by the highest considerations of patriotism and duty. Did it have any political objects in a narrow or individual sense; was it intended to elevate this man or party to power and place, or prevent another from obtaining it, a proper and deep distrust would and ought to prevail in reference to it. No body of citizens, even if they have been soldiers justly entitled to esteem for their valor and their services in the hour of danger, can be allowed to separate themselves in their political relations from the great body of their fellow citizens, and to form a distinct class, without just ground of objection and complaint.

Certain attempts have been made from time to time, not necessary to be carefully stated, to solicit the influence of our Order in regard to mtaters merely political, such as appointments to office, or the election of individuals. I am confident of your approval, when I state that deeming such attempts a violation of the spirit of our Order as well as of its Rules and Regulations, they have never received any sanction from me. Nor am I aware that in recent years there has been in any one of our various Posts any just complaint in this respect. The lesson we have received on this subject must be kept forever in mind.

Wherever in any Posts or Departments, in former years, the organization has been prostituted to any undue political purposes, the punishment has been almost instantaneous in the withdrawal of the general public confidence from them, in discord and dissatisfaction in such Posts and Departments, and in diminution or utter destruction of their real usefulness.

"WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE, WITH CHARITY LOR AFL."

Nor is it our desire to keep alive any ill feeling which has been engendered during the war of the rebellion. The object of every war that can be justifiably waged, is that thereby peace may be secured, and those who forced upon us by insulting our flag, by attacking our army, by battering down our fortresses, this strange and unnatural conflict, were our countrymen. Let the necessary and logical results of our triumph be preserved inviolate, alike in the union of these States, and in liberty to every man who treads their soil, and the passions and bitterness of the conflict should be allowed to die. But we cannot and we ought not to allow the memory of those by whom these results have been achieved to sink into indifference and oblivion; justice to their cause, gratitude for their services demand that we at least should claim for them the place to which they are rightfully entitled among the heroes and martyrs of liberty.

MEMORIAL DAY.

The services of Memorial Day, by which we have endeavored to commend forever to the tender and grateful recollections of their countrymen, the brave who died, not for themselves, but on behalf of the great cause for which they offered themselves a willing sacrifice, continue to excite the deepest interest. The observance of the day, according to the Regulations, is to take place on the 30th day of May, and it is further provided that when this day occurs on Sunday, the day previous shall be the one observed. I learned, however, that two, at least, of the States where we had Department organizations, had recognized the day as a legal holiday, with a proviso, that when the 30th day of May occurred on Sunday, the day *after* should be observed. In issuing the order for Memorial Day, I suggested that in such departments the comrades should proceed to make their preparations for the observance of the day after, recognizing that I had no authority to alter the Regulations on this matter, but stating that it was probable that at the coming National Encampment such change would be made as would permit the day after to be observed. An extract from General Order No. 12, will be found in the report of the Adjutant-General, and I respectfully recommend that the Regulations be changed so as to provide for the contingency referred to therein.

OUR CHARITIES.

While by the services of Memorial Day we would pay due honor to the brave dead, the brave living are equally worthy of our regard, and the past year has been one in which the demand upon our charity funds have been heavy and constant. It has been a year of much depression in business, and in many places the sums expended have been very large, considering the means at our command. It should be fully recognized that in many instances generous assistance has been afforded to the posts by the communities in which they are situated, from a feeling that whatever is entrusted to them is carefully expended, with the fullest and tenderest regard to the just

pride of brave men who have been compelled sometimes, most reluctantly, to accept assistance. That there are imposters now, just as there were shirks and deserters during the war, is certainly true; but it is not the less true that by the majority of our less fortunate comrades their privations and misfortunes are nobly and uncomplainingly borne. They have the same feeling which prompted on one occasion a fine Irish soldier of my own regiment to say to me, "Colonel, I feel that I am an old man now, and pretty near the end of my march, and I don't like to take charity from any man." Thus, many calmly suffer, rather than call for assistance which they are fairly entitled to ask.

The reports which will be submitted will show how much has been expended in the various departments, and it is my most anxious wish that each should make renewed efforts to meet the various calls for charity to which it is now subject, and which must of necessity increase as we advance in life, and the infirmities of age are added to those which have been brought upon our comrades by wounds, sickness and hard service.

AID FOR SUFFERERS IN THE WEST.

In two instances, that of the suffering by the fire at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, during the last summer, and that of the suffering occasioned by the locust plague in Minnesota, I have thought proper, by circular, to call the attention of the Order to the condition of comrades in those departments. The immediate pressure at home upon all the posts was such that not so much was done as could have been wished; more, however, was done in regard to the sufferers in Minnesota than to the others adverted to, because undoubtedly it was felt that the calamity was there more general in its character. Whatever was received, I have every reason to believe, was most judiciously expended in the Department. In this connection I should state that there was a donation of about four hundred dollars forwarded to the Commander of the Department of Minnesota, by the Commander of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, at Boston, which was suitably acknowledged and appropriately expended by him. There have been many military societies growing out of the war, but ours is the only one that includes soldiers of every rank, regiment and army, as well as the sailors of the navy; and all others have been willing to recognize the Grand Army of the Republic, which includes and represents all. Acts of the kind to which I have alluded, done by other societies towards our own or any of our comrades, will always receive our most grateful recognition.

OUR DISABLED COMRADES, &C.

In connection with the subject of charity, I desire to report that the recommendations of the last National Encampment, in reference to the passage of the bills for increase of pensions, and for certain compensation to female nurses, were forwarded immediately after the adjournment to Congress, and were by me, from time to time, enforced by conversations and correspondence, but I regret that I cannot report any favorable result.

Even if there should be no general increase of pension, I am clearly of

opinion that there should be an increase to those who suffered the loss of a leg or arm, and that it is our duty to respectfully urge this upon the attention of the National Legislature.

The carefully prepared report of the Surgeon-General will afford you many interesting facts as to the number and kind of disabilities existing among our numbers.

OUR CONDITION IN MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCES.

In reference to our membership, I am happy to state that notwithstanding the existence of many causes to retard our growth, there has been some increase during the past year; and we have added numerous Posts of active and interested comrades, from whose exertions more may be anticipated in future. Fully convinced of the benefits of the organization, I have neglected no means to extend its influence, and have had a general and hearty co-operation in nearly every quarter. While there may be exceptions to the statement, it may be properly said that our Posts and Departments are directed by officers who are desirous of discharging their duties faithfully, and not merely of enjoying their positions without corresponding labor. The reports of the Adjutant-General and of the Inspector-General will give you in detail, and by Departments, the condition of the organization, and the efforts made to develop it.

There have been 270 deaths reported, and the number mustered in has been over 6,300, which has more than supplied the place of those dropped from the rolls for various causes.

In connection with this subject I would respectfully submit whether power should not be entrusted to the Commander-in-Chief to reduce a Department to the position of a Provisional Department when it shall have fallen below a certain number of Posts, or a certain number of comrades, which numbers should be fixed by the National Encampment. At present no such power exists, and whether it should be given to the Commander-in-Chief under limitations such as I have suggested, is a matter to be considered by the Encampment. The most important bearing of the question is in relation to its effect upon representation in the Encampment itself.

I am happy to inform you that the financial position of the national organization is satisfactory. I made the recommendation which was adopted by the last Encampment that the dues payable to the National Headquarters should be reduced by one-third with some anxiety, but it is apparently justified by the result. Notwithstanding this reduction has now been in operation for half the year, we were better off by about one thousand dollars than we were a year since. It is impossible for me, however, to recommend at present any further reduction, although I have much hope that hereafter the future Commander-in-Chief may be able to do so. In view of the unfortunate condition of our finances but a few years since, I have much pleasure in calling your attention to their favorable condition as exhibited in the report of the Quartermaster-General.

DECISIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS.

The Rules and Regulations impose upon the Commander-in-Chief the

duty of deciding all questions of law or usage arising under them. All such questions were referred in the first instance, to the Judge Advocate-General for his advice. Fewer have been presented during the past year than heretofore. It has been my good fortune to have in that position the aid of Comrade W. W. Douglas, a most able and faithful officer, whose opinions have not been overruled in a single instance, either during my own term or that of my predecessor. His report is worthy of your careful perusal.

THE NEW COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE.

With the other reports to which I have heretofore alluded, I respectfully refer you to the report of the Chaplain-in-Chief. The last Encampment adopted a recommendation of this officer in reference to a service commemorative of departed comrades. In conformity with its direction I appointed a committee upon this subject, of which Chaplain Woodbury was chairman, and a touching and beautiful service was prepared and promulgated for the use of the Order.

THE STAFF.

I desire to express my thanks to all the officers of the National Staff alike those to whose reports I have called your attention as well as those who have served in other capacities, for the interest and zeal they have exhibited in the performance of their duties, and their constant devotion to the interests of the Order. I am quite sure that it will not be felt by them that I am making an invidious distinction in stating that those of the Adjutant-General, Comrade H. R. Sibley, have been so peculiarly onerous and important, as to deserve especial mention, and in recommending that some appropriate testimonial be made to him by the Encampment, which will show their appreciation of him.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, comrades, as the duties which you have for the past two years imposed upon me draw to a close—I have heretofore announced that I should not be a candidate for re-election—it remains only to thank you for the honor you have done me by two successive elections, and to assure you of my most cordial wishes for your individual prosperity and that of this important organization. You will do me, I know, the justice to think that I have done my utmost for the furtherance of the objects which we all have at heart. I am fully rewarded by the belief which a careful examination and comparison will justify, that the condition of the organization has improved both numerically and financially during the past two years, and that its spirit and patriotism have not diminished. The relations which I have held towards you have been most agreeable; you have always generously sustained me, and if there is regret that the time has now arrived when we must sever them, I recognize that as I take my place again as a comrade in the ranks of the Order, they will not be less pleasant and satisfactory in that changed position.

The following reports were submitted in print:

Report of the Adjutant-General.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Adjutant-General's Office,
Boston, May 3, 1875.

CHARLES DEVENS, Jr.,
Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade—I have the honor to submit to the National Encampment, a report of the business of the Adjutant-General's Office, for the year ending December 31, 1874.

The clerical labor in the office has been performed (as in the previous year,) by Comrade Henry B. Peirce, A. D. C., whose energy. zeal and fidelity has largely facilitated the prompt discharge of the duties of this office.

ORDERS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

Twelve General Orders have been issued. These relate to various matters of more or less importance, but as they have been so thoroughly promulgated, it is not deemed necessary to give them in detail. Attention is directed, however, to some observations in regard to General Order No. 12, which are made in this report, under the head of "Memorial Day."

In consequence of action taken by the Department Encampment of Minnesota, the following circular was issued:

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Boston, Aug. 15, 1874.

CIRCULAR No. 1.

Comrades of the Grand Army:

Through the Department Commanders I desire, most urgently to call the attention of the Posts, and of all individual comrades to the call for aid which is presented to us from our brethren in the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin.

I am informed by a communication from Comrade H. A. Castle, Commanding Department of Minnesota, (sent by direction of the Encampment of that Department) that the desolation which has been occasioned by the destruction of the crops by the ravages of the locusts will fall most heavily upon and occasion the deepest distress to our fellow citizens who were formerly soldiers, and who have been induced by the government grants to settle there within the last four years. In the seven counties of Southwestern Minnesota, where at least three-quarters of the crop is now destroyed, according to a most careful estimate, about one-half of the whole population of twenty-five thousand consists of ex-soldiers and their families In 1873 the crop was substantially destroyed in three counties, but, although the settlers were all poor, most had then enough to subsist through the winter, and the utterly destitute were provided for by the benevolent from other localities. All hoped to retrieve themselves by the crop of 1874, the sowing of which exhausted all their valuable means, and their distress, by the failure of that also, cannot now easily be described. There is a flourishing Post of seventy-five members (Stoddard Post, No. 34,

Worthington, Noble county), through whose hands any contributions can be effectively distributed; and it is earnestly hoped that every Post, that feels competent to do so, will send of their own means, and will further endeavor to interest all our fellow citizens in this urgent call for charity.

I am further informed by a communication from Comrade Hanaford, commanding Department of Wisconsin, that the fire at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, which substantially destroyed that flourishing town, has occasioned much distress among our own comrades there, and that any contributions for their aid will be most gratefully received and carefully distributed by Comrade H. B. Jackson, Aide-de-Camp, at Oshkosh, Wis.

I earnestly trust that the contributions which all comrades make in their own posts, for general relief, will not render them indifferent to the calls for special aid which from time to time come to us from our comrades in various parts of the country.

Much will be done for their relief by the citizens of both States, but to prevent distress throughout the coming winter, help should be extended, in the name of Fraternity and Charity, by all comrades whose means will permit.

CHARLES DEVENS, JR.,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:—HENRY R. SIBLEY,
Adjutant-General.

The promptitude and liberality of the responses made by the posts in different parts of the country, though the appeal was made in a season of great depression of business, was most gratifying. It was then shown conclusively that our members cherish the great virtues of Fraternity and Charity, not as saying "Be ye warmed and be ye clothed," but as living principles, sincere, earnest and effective. The contributions amounted to several hundred dollars, nearly all for Minnesota, as it was found that the wants of the comrades in Wisconsin could be and would be, relieved by the people of that State.

The correspondence has been very large, as an effort has been made to ascertain the condition and prospects of the Order in all localities, and particularly to strengthen it where it is weak.

It is believed that the departments have been brought into closer relations with the National Headquarters than ever before. I regret that in some cases the Commanders of Departments, and notably of Provisional Departments, have neglected to reply to my communications referring to important matters.

THE DEPARTMENTS.

The following departments have made the required reports to this office, and to that of the Quartermaster-General, and have paid all dues for the four quarters of 1874:

Maine.	New York.	Illinois.
New Hampshire.	New Jersey.	Wisconsin.
Vermont.	Pennsylvania.	Minnesota.

Massachusetts.	Potomac.	Iowa.
Rhode Island.	Virginia.	California.
Connecticut.	Ohio.	Colorado.

The foregoing list is the same as that contained in my report one year ago, with these exceptions: Iowa and Colorado gained, and Georgia and Oregon dropped, no reports having been received from Georgia for the third and fourth quarters, and none from Oregon for any part of the year.

MAINE.—This Department is in a more prosperous condition than ever before, and a gain in membership over last year is shown.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—The affairs of this Department are well administered, and strong hopes are entertained that several new posts will be established the present year A reunion and parade of the posts was held the past year, which I attended; it was carried out in good style, and must be productive of good results. The reports show an increase in membership of nearly ten per cent.

VERMONT.—The reports submitted to the Department Encampment, and the spirit displayed by the members of that body, proves that there is no decline of interest on the part of the comrades in this Department. The address of the Commander to the Encampment was an admirable statement of our purposes, and well calculated to inspire every survivor of the Union Army and Navy with enthusiasm for our organization.

MASSACHUSETTS.—This Department maintains its former rank in the Grand Army. There is no abatement in the zeal of the comrades, nor in the favor with which the people regard our cause. Eleven hundred recruits were mustered in during the year, over thirty-four thousand dollars was expended for relief, while there remained in the Relief Fund of the Posts not less than seventy-two thousand dollars.

RHODE ISLAND is in good condition in every respect. The citizens are proud of the existence of such an Order among them, and the comrades strive to merit the public confidence. Having been present at a session of their Department Encampment, you are aware of the earnestness and zeal which characterizes our members there. There was a gain of one Post during the year.

CONNECTICUT.—The Department officers have worked hard to promote the growth and increase the efficiency of the Posts. Commander Buckbee has appreciated the value of official visits, and he was able to report to the Annual Encampment, that the Department officers had visited during the year, every Post in the State. By that means, and by an interchange of visits between the Posts, a true fraternal spirit has been aroused which will strengthen the Order and exert a powerful influence for good.

NEW YORK exhibits splendid gains. The Assistant Adjutant-General reported to the Encampment, at Rochester, a net increase of fourteen Posts, and more than one thousand members, while the amount expended for relief exceeds twenty-seven thousand dollars. Speaking of a prejudice against our Order, which formerly existed, but is now rapidly passing away, Comrade Palmer said:

"I believe our Order has been ridiculed more through ignorance than through any intention to do us injury. But even those who considered it political and partisan in its objects, can no longer use the argument against us, for in our ranks to-day can be found many of our most illustrious citizens, of every shade of political and religious opinion, and they do not deem it derogatory to their dignity of character, or to the distinguished rank they bore in the service to take an active and earnest part in the work of our Order."

To a comrade in Albany belongs the credit of proposing for membership *one hundred and twenty-two* candidates, all of whom were accepted by his Post. The subject of establishing a Home for disabled soldiers, is engaging the attention of comrades, and there is every reason to believe they will carry out their patriotic and benevolent purpose, in a manner worthy the cause, and of the "Empire State."

New Jersey has about the same membership as last year, and has gained one Post. A grand parade and reunion was held last summer under the auspices of the Department. Three thousand veteran soldiers were in line. The occasion was one of great enjoyment; and the Grand Army of the Republic was undoubtedly made stronger, among soldiers and people alike. Commander Burrows has made many official visits to the Posts, with the same beneficial results which always attend the performance of that duty. The State maintains a Home for disabled soldiers at Newark and an Orphans' Home at Trenton.

Pennsylvania.—The past year was one of great prosperity for the Grand Army in this Department. The official reports to the Department Encampment, at Chester, January 7, gave the following gratifying results: a net gain of six Posts and three hundred and thirty-six members; seventy-five Posts in good standing, one of them, Louis Bell Post, of Easton, numbering five hundred and three comrades. Every Post was inspected during the year, and both they and the Department was reported in better condition than at any time since 1871. Generous provision has been made in this State for soldiers' orphans.

Virginia.—Much credit is due to the noble comrades who uphold the Grand Army of the Republic's standard in a State where the few Union soldiers are not regarded with favor by the people. But there are seven Posts in Virginia, and there were twenty-four comrades present and entitled to vote in her Department Encampment, held at Hampton, January 20. No great increase can be expected in that Department; but we give to our comrades there, both white and colored, a soldiers greeting, bid them God-speed in the good work, and express the hope that, keeping their ranks well closed up, they will long maintain their place in the line of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Potomac.—The membership here is small; but I am not advised as to the causes of so great a falling off. There seems to be no good reason to expect a return to the prosperity which attended this Department a few years ago.

OHIO.—There has been a decline in the number of the Posts, and in the membership. The Annual Encampment at Akron, January 21, was an occasion of much interest. The new Department Commander has at his command the means to largely increase the Posts and their membership, and he has entered upon his duties with enthusiasm, I look for tidings from Ohio a few months hence, which will gladden our hearts. Ohio has a Soldiers' Orphan Home.

ILLINOIS.—The persistent work of a few plucky comrades, who loved the Grand Army, and were willing to fight for it, has brought forth its fruit, in an increase in the membership in the past year, of *over a hundred per cent.* There is every indication of a greater increase for the present year. The Illinois soldiers are just catching the Grand Army of the Republic step; they mean business, and will insist on having a position up somewhere near the right of the line.

WISCONSIN.—This Department is very prosperous, showing a gain in numbers of more than fifty per cent., while the prospect for further gains is excellent. Our cause is bound to succeed there, both because it *ought* to do so, and because some brave fellows in that State are determined it *shall* do so.

MINNESOTA has made a gain in the number of comrades, which is creditable to the Department and Post officers. Four of the Posts are located within the district overrun by the grasshoppers; but the liberal aid furnished the members by their brethren, will spare them from suffering, and inspire them with still greater faith in the Fraternity of the Grand Army of the Republic. Minnesota is all right.

IOWA is a Provisional Department. Last year she had but one Post in working condition; now she has four. With a little effort a large increase can be had, particularly if a few of the prominent soldiers, men who led the Iowa volunteers in battle, and who now possess high standing in civil and social life, would *enlist.*

COLORADO.—The Posts in this Department are those established at the army forts in the Rocky Mountains. They are all doing well. Since the commencement of the new year the Department of Colorado has been discontinued, and the Provisional Mountain Department substituted, with headquarters at Fort Sanders, Wyoming Territory. There are four Posts already, and one or two more will soon be established.

CALIFORNIA.—The membership in this Department was greater at the close than at the beginning of the year. The report of the proceedings of the Annual Encampment states that the Assistant Adjutant-General and the Assistant Quartermaster-General reported the Department increasing in numbers, and doing well.

The following Departments and Provisional Departments have not made the required reports:

GEORGIA has two Posts, but no reports have been received from them for several months.

KENTUCKY.—The organization here has not been very prosperous of late. The Department is in arrears for dues At the Annual Encampment it was decided to issue "a circular, for distribution among the ex-soldiers and sailors, setting forth the principles and objects of the Order," with a view to increasing the membership. That is a step in the right direction, and is likely to succeed.

KANSAS.—Reports and dues have been received up to January, 1874. There are several Posts in the State, including one at least recently organized, but the Department Commander writes that he was unable, for want of time, to visit different localities and organize new Posts.

NEBRASKA has two or three Posts. A new Provisional Commander was appointed last August, but he has not thought it possible to do anything without involving the Grand Army of the Republic in politics. No friend to our Order will consent to that, but my judgment is, that there is no occasion to fear it, if the right man is at the head. Some comrade who has courage and tact, will yet have the honor of establishing the Order in this young but growing State upon a firm footing.

OREGON.—Here are three or four Posts, but they have not reported regularly. The Commander of this Department has resigned, on account of removal from the State, but pending the receipt of his returns his resignation has not been accepted.

ALABAMA.—Comrade George H. Patrick, Provisional Commander, writes that there are four Posts in this Department, and that he expects to organize more, as there are several hundred men in the State who served in the Union army. The reports required by the Rules and Regulations have not been made for either of the quarters of 1874.

In addition to the foregoing there are some Posts which are not included in either of the Departments.

JOS. A. MOWER POST No. 1, at New Orleans, Louisiana, is required to report direct to National Headquarters. When last heard from it was doing well. The members do not strive to increase their numbers very much, as their object is largely that of social enjoyment and improvement.

GENERAL J. J. REYNOLDS POST No. 2, at Frederick, Maryland, has made the required reports and paid all dues. The membership has increased somewhat, but is yet small.

A Post was organized at St. Louis, Missouri, on the 27th of April, the present year, under very favorable auspices, by Comrade Hilliard, of Illinois. The members are quite confident that several posts can be established and maintained in Missouri.

I have no information respecting the posts at Jackson, Mississippi, and South Bend, Indiana, but am inclined to think, that the latter at least is alive.

GAINS AND LOSSES.

In spite of the depression of business in every part of the country, we have more than maintained our numerical strength of a year ago—we have made a decided gain. The returns are incomplete, but I estimate the in-

crease at five per cent. The following is an approximate statement of our gain and loss:

	1873.	1874.
GAIN—By Muster	5,599	6,308
" Transfer	473	463
From Suspended	2,932	2,323
Total Gain	9,004	9,094
Loss—By death	307	282
" Discharge	246	270
" Suspension	5,045	3,559
" Transfer	519	529
" Dishon. disch	27	99
Dropped	3,321	3,567
Total loss	9,465	8,306

There seems to be no good reason why an increase in membership may not be had for several years to come. This is the only association of surviving soldiers and sailors which embraces men of all ranks, armies and fleets; and as the prohibition of political discussion and action is expressed in our Rules and written on our hearts, our Grand Army should be dear to every man who is proud of his military service, and has preserved the old feeling of comradeship.

RELIEF.

The reports of disbursements, for relief, are incomplete, although an effort has been made to secure fulness and accuracy. I believe the amount of relief disbursed will exceed seventy-five thousand dollars. As usual, a considerable part of this has been expended for the benefit of persons not connected with the Grand Army. That our organization has expended such a large sum for the relief of the suffering soldiers and their families—a work of patriotism as well as of benevolence—is matter for congratulation to ourselves, and should commend our organization to the favor of all good citizens. The Commander-in-Chief remarked, in his address last year:

"As true homage must consist not in words but in deeds, we have always held that no higher honor could be paid to the just fame of the brave men who defended the Republic, than to assist by kind words and material aid, all true soldiers, who by wounds, disease, old age, or misfortune, have become dependent, and tenderly to care for the widows and orphans of the fallen. I believe no charities have ever done more good, or been more wisely, kindly and affectionately bestowed, than those which we have been able to proffer"

MEMORIAL DAY.

The observance of this day has become, in many parts of the country, almost universal. The sublime lessons taught by the promptitude, courage, and constancy of the American people in the day of fearful peril, is incul-

cated, the nation's gratitude is expressed, and loyalty is fostered by such an observance. In the States of New York, Pennsylvania, Maine, Connecticut and Rhode Island, the day has been made a legal holiday. The customary "Memorial Day" Order, from these Headquarters, contained the following paragraph:

"The attention of the Commander-in-Chief has been called to the fact that several States; which have made Memorial Day a legal holiday, have provided that whenever the 30th day of May occurs on Sunday, the day *following* shall be observed. He advises, therefore, that comrades in those departments go forward and make preparation for the observance of that day, as he has much confidence that the National Encampment, which will meet at Chicago, on the 12th day of May, in order to ensure full recognition of the day, will modify, so far as those departments are concerned, the Regulation which now requires the day *preceding* to be the one observed."

It is desirable that some action should be taken at the present session to meet, by an amendment to the Rules and Regulation, that difficulty. In my judgment, Monday will everywhere be a more convenient day for the observance than Saturday.

THE GRAND ARMY PRESS.

I regard it as the duty of our members to sustain liberally the newspapers which are published in the interest of and for the benefit of our organization They are powerful auxiliaries in our work, serving to disseminate information concerning the Grand Army; to keep alive the zeal of our members; and to represent the needs of the surviving soldiers and sailors of the Republic. We have the *Gazette*, published in New York, and the *Sentinel*, at Berlin, Wisconsin, both monthly. Comrade Joel, proprietor of the former, has, in addition to his editorial labors, given an immense amount of his time to visiting different localities, having been present at the meetings of several hundred of the Posts, as well as many reunions and campfires. He deserves our hearty thanks. The *Sentinel* is ably managed, and supplies a great need in the West. Let all our members resolve to back up the enterprising comrades who conduct both papers, so that they may soon send us weekly numbers, instead of monthly. Comrade Fowler, Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Connecticut, has rendered good service by editing a Grand Army department in the *Connecticut Journal*, at New Haven.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In many Departments, the "camp-fire" has proved a most potent means of creating renewed interest among the soldiers. No class of persons have a stronger craving for enjoyment, and it is wise for us to minister to it, using it as a means and not an end.

Frequent mistakes, and the making of many needless inquiries at Headquarters, would be avoided, if the officers of Posts would supply themselves with copies of the Rules and Regulations. In many Posts not a copy of the Rules, in force to-day, can be found. A Post Commander, without one, may be compared to a mariner at sea without a compass.

The Encampment of last year adopted the following preambles and resolution, which, as will be seen, is a recommendation to the one now convened:

Whereas, The Congress of the United States of America, on the 3d day of March, 1871, enacted a law providing for "the celebration of American Independence by an internatioual exhibition of the arts, manufactures and natural resources of this and other countries, under the auspices of the Government of the United States;" and

Whereas, The commissioners appointed under said law have selected the city of Philadelphia, as the most fitting locality at which to celebrate the birth of American Independence; therefore

Resolved, That this Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, composed mainly of the survivors of the Nation's defenders during its struggle for the perpetuation of that glorious birth of Independence, which, but for its soldiers and sailors, would never reach its centennial, recommend, that the Annual Encampment of 1875 choose the city of Philadelphia as the place for the Annual Encampment in 1876; also recommend that on the previous day a Grand Convention be held of the Grand Army of the Republic; each Post throughout the United States and Territories to send as many delegates and alternates as it is entitled to in the Department Encampment, and that in addition thereto, the Senior Vice Commander and Junior Vice Commander of a Post be also entitled to a seat in the last named convention.

The resolution does not name the month or day of meeting, but if it is proposed to hold our Annual Encampment in July, it will be necessrry to suspend the Rules, as they require the meeting to be held on the second Wednesday in May. It may be thought expedient, however, to hold a session elsewhere in May, and adjourn to meet at Philadelphia in July. This plan would obviate the necessity of a change in the Rules.

CONCLUSION.

There is much that is cheering in the future prospects of our Order. We are gaining in numbers, all seem to be actuated by the determination to adhere to the legitimate work for which the Grand Army of the Republic is formed, and in the Western States (whence must come great gains in numbers, if they come at all) there are signs of a decided revival. Much will depend upon the zeal and fidelity of those who hold positions of responsibility; but every comrade, however humble, can do something to promote the good work. Let us, in everything pertaining to the Grand Army, lay aside all motives of ambition, all personal feeling, and make everything subordinate to the welfare of our noble association. Then shall we be rewarded with abundant success, and be prouder than ever of our connection with an Order which, while it does its work of fraternity and benevolence, also quickens and stirs many patriotic emotions.

Submitted in F., C. & L.

HENRY R. SIBLEY,

Adjutant-General.

Report of the Quartermaster General.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic.
Quartermaster-General's Office,
Boston, Mass., May 1, 1875.

HENRY R. SIBLEY,
Adjutant-General, G. A. R.

Comrade:—I have the honor to submit the following report for the year 1874:

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand, January 1, 1874	$3221 52
" received from sales of books, blanks, badges and furniture	1087 39
" " " A. Demarest, commission on badges sold by him (applied on account of purchase of badges and ribbons.)	202 70
Cash received for dues as per statement appended	2696 16
" " " interest on deposits	75 50
Total	$7283 27

EXPENDITURES.

Paid Doane & Greenough for printing books and blanks, sold to departments	$557 50
" Doane & Greenough for printing proceedings, reports, general orders, stationery, &c	500 30
" J. A. Joel for advertising in *Grand Army Gazette*	94 50
" Henry B. Peirce, A. D. C., salary, 1874	1000 00
" Henry B. Peirce, A. D. C., bill for expenses of National Headquarters at 8th Annual Encampment, for rent of office, heat, postage stamps, &c., &c	444 88
" A. Demarest for badges and Ribbons	137 12
" A. Demarest for badges and ribbons, (on account of commission	202 70
" W. W. Douglas, J. A. G., expenses at National Encampment	30 62
" B. F. Hawkes, A. I. G., expenses organizing Post 2, Frederick, Md	6 25
" R. B. Beath, bill for Burnside testimonial	125 00
" E. J. Howard, for engrossing resolutions complimentary to Major-General M. C. Meigs, Q. M. G., U. S. A	15 00
Cash on hand, Dec. 31, 1874	4169 30
Total	$7283 27

Total assets of National Headquarters, Dec. 31, 1874:

Amount due from departments for books, blanks, &c.	$241 28
Value of books, blanks and badges on hand	552 29
Value of furniture and stationery on hand (estimated)	105 00
Cash on hand	4169 40
Total	$5,067 97

Total known liabilities of National Headquarters, Dec. 31, 1874:

Amount standing to credit of Department of Louisiana	$1 00	
" " " " Delaware	0 86	
" " " " Mississippi	03	
" " " " Alabama	01	
Due A. Demarest, balance of badge account	10 65	
Doane & Greenough, blanks, printing, &c.	142 25	
		154 80
Excess of assets over liabilities		4,913 17

CHICAGO RELIEF FUND.

On hand last report	57 45
Of which there was expended during the year	25 00
Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1874	$32 45

STATEMENT OF THE SOURCES FROM WHICH DUES WERE DERIVED.

MAINE.

1874.	1st quarter	$31 29
	1st " (supp.)	48
	2d "	31 74
	2d " (supp.)	48
	3d "	20 32
	3d " (supp.)	36
	4th "	19 44
		$104 11

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

1874.	1st quarter	$15 87
	2d "	15 63
	3d "	10 44
	4th "	12 20
		$54 14

VERMONT.

1874.	1st quarter	$15 57
	1st " (supp.)	2 22
	2d "	17 76
	3d "	10 50
	4th "	18 68
		$56 77

MASSACHUSETTS.

1873.	1st quarter (supp.)	$1 77
	2d "	1 11
	3d "	1 14
	4th "	4 77
1874.	1st quarter	329 76
	1st " (supp.)	3 24
	2d "	327 60
	2d " (supp.)	3 30

1874.	3d quarter	$215 40
	4th " (supp.)	1 36
	4th "	210 82
		$1100 27

RHODE ISLAND.

1874.	1st quarter	$20 61
	2d "	22 26
	3d "	14 98
	4th "	13 62
		$71 47

CONNECTICUT.

1874.	1st quarter	$26 10
	2d "	26 46
	3d "	17 62
	4th "	17 28
		$87 46

NEW YORK.

1874.	1st quarter	$101 67
	1st " (supp,)	32 16
	2d "	137 55
	3d "	95 08
	4th "	117 02
		$483 48

NEW JERSEY.

1874.	1st quarter,	26 58
	1st " (supp.)	2 64
	2d "	29 43
	2d " (supp.)	2 45
	3d "	14 42
	3d " (supp.)	5 32
	4th "	20 06
		$100 90

PENNSYLVANIA.

1874.	1st quarter	$89 76
	1st " (supp.)	20 43
	2d "	113 10
	2d " (supp.)	2 49
	3d "	61 80
	3d " (supp.)	11 44
	4th "	79 66
		$378 68

POST 2, DEP'T OF MARYLAND.

1874.	2d quarter	$0 36
	3d "	28
	4th "	30
		$0 94

POTOMAC.

1874.	1st quarter	$3 12
	2d "	2 82
	3d "	1 50
	4th "	1 70
		$9 14

VIRGINIA.

1874.	1st quarter	$5 97
	2d "	6 36
	3d "	3 84
	4th "	3 40
		$19 75

GEORGIA.

1874.	1st quarter	$1 14
	2d "	1 14
		$2 28

ALABAMA.

1873.	All quarters	$4 50

KENTUCKY.

1873.	1st quarter	$2 22
	2d "	2 22
	3d "	2 22
	4th "	2 22
		$8 88

OHIO.

1874.	1st quarter	$12 81
	2d "	12 15
	3d "	7 32
	4th "	7 70
		$39 98

ILLINOIS.

1874.	1st quarter	12 87
	2d "	13 05
	3d "	11 52
	4th "	13 02
		$50 46

WISCONSIN.

1873.	4th quarter (supp.)	$0 78
1874.	1st "	5 16
	2d "	7 80
	3d "	5 74
	4th "	6 00
		$25 48

MINNESOTA.

1874.	1st quarter	$11 79
	2d "	8 91
	3d "	7 08
	4th "	8 94
		$36 72

IOWA.

1874.	4th quarter	$1 24

COLORADO.

1873, and 1st and 2d qrs. 1874		$13 00
1874.	3d quarter (Post 11)	50
	4th " (Post 11)	62
		$14 12

CALIFORNIA.

1874.	1st quarter	4 29
	2d "	4 20
	3d "	2 64
	4th "	2 94
		$14 07

KANSAS.

1873. All quarters.....$31 50

Of the amount due from Departments for blanks, I would recommend that the National Encampment authorize my successor to charge the following accounts to profit and loss, (all of the Departments, except Kansas, being obsolete), and thus close them:

Indiana	$9 00
Tennessee	4 56
Missouri	1 90
Kansas	91 17
Florida	1 38
Michigan	16 13
Frank Nolen, (Department of Delaware), for badges	26 25
	$150 39

Of the amounts standing to credit of Departments there is eighty-six cents which applies to Department of Delaware, now extinct, and I recommend that the amount be credited to the profit and loss account.

By a vote of the last National Encampment the per capita tax from Departments was reduced from twelve to eight cents, taking effect July 1. This change applying to the 3d and 4th quarters of the year reduced the income from that source some five hundred dollars, and yet our financial condition is better than it was a year ago, showing that the suggestions offered in my report at that time were well considered. By economical management I see no reason why the present substantial surplus should be impaired. With sentiments of the highest esteem and regard,

I remain very truly yours, in F., C. and L.,

A. B. R. SPRAGUE,

Quartermaster-General.

HEADQUATERS GNAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
CHICAGO, May 12, 1875.

Your committee appointed by the Council of Administration to audit the accounts of the Quartermaster General, respectfully submit the following report:

The report submitted to us, together with the vouchers, we find to be correct, and the footings correct as given in the printed report:

GABE BOUCK,
CHAS. S. GREENE,
F. W. SULLIVAN,
Committee.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE.
May 1, 1875.

HENRY R. SIBLEY,
Adjutant-General.

COMRADE: I have the honor to submit to the National Encampment the following report of the transactions of the Inspector-General's Department, for the year ending December 31, 1874.

My report, which was nearly prepared for the printer, was on the night of April 21, entirely consumed by fire, together with nearly half of the Assistant Inspector-Generals reports in my possession. I have therefore been compelled to make up my report to a large extent from memory, omitting entirely therefrom statements of the condition of several Departments, which I otherwise might have placed before the National Encampment.

Early in the year I addressed a circular to each of the Assistant Inspectors-General, urging an early report, together with general remarks, in each case, upon the status of the Department, believing that such a report would be more satisfactory, than such as could be gleaned from tabular statements alone. The response to this request was on the whole very gratifying, but as nearly all these general statements were consumed by the fire referred to, I am unable to give the Encampment the character of information I had anticipated, and which is in my opinion very much needed. I have, however, been fortunate in preserving the report of Inspector-General, W. H. Pennell, of the Department of Maine, and which (it being first in order) I take pleasure in making numerous extracts. I do so for the reason, first, that I deem the information to be derived therefrom of great value to the Order, both as encouragement and admonition, and, second, as a model of earnest, painstaking attention to the duty imposed upon that officer.

PORTLAND, February 20, 1875.

W. W. BROWN,
Inspector-General, G. A. R.

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE—I enclose you my report to the Department Headquarters, giving the results of personal visits to the various Posts. I

think our Department stands better, to-day, than ever before. Many of the Posts have large funds invested safely; Post No. 2 having over $6,000 earned by hard labor by the comrades. I think it safe to say that *that* Post will not die *very soon*, at least not from want of interest.

I remain, truly yours, in F. C. and L.,

W. H. PENNELL.

[*Extracts from the Report of the Inspector Department of Maine, for* 1874.]

S. C. CAMPELL POST, No. 1, PEMBROOKE. This Post is in its second year and is prospering finely. They number 29 in good standing, and are all uniformed.

BOSWORTH POST, No. 2, PORTLAND. This is the largest Post in the Department. They have a good Post fund and several thousand dollars in their Relief fund, earned by hard work. A weekly benefit is paid to comrades when sick * * * It is also necessary to drop all comrades in arrears, as no one can draw benefits unless in good standing. This will account for the loss in numbers the past year. There has not been that attention the past year to those matters for which the Post has been heretofore so famous. The officers have neglected to uniform themselves when on duty, and this laxity of discipline and dignity has been the cause of a loss of interest in the meetings by some of the comrades. But the matter has been corrected by the new officers. * * * A fair was held in October last, for the benefit fund, that netted $4,000. This is about equal to two years' disbursements. There are two hundred and one members in good standing, nearly all uniformed.

POST A. A. DWINAL, No. 3, MECHANICS FALLS. This Post was very remiss in forwarding their reports during the first part of the year, and a visit to the Post was made to correct the difficulty. As soon as the matter was properly understood, the Adjutant and Quartermaster were relieved, and others appointed in their stead. Since then the returns are more prompt. This decisive action by the Commander is commendable There seemed to be a lack of dignity and military discipline among the officers of the Post, which we hope to find changed in the future. The Post numbers forty-nine in good standing, nearly all uniformed.

POST FARRAGUT, No. 4, BRIDGTON. This Post, after struggling along with inefficient officers during the year, finally voted to disband, and surrender their charter at their annual meeting, December 18. They reported twenty-two in good standing at the close of the third quarter. They had never been uniformed, and met only monthly; two items that seem to explain, partly, the loss of the Post

POST GERRY, No. 5, MONSON. This Post was organized in June, 1873. It was visited, for the first time since its organization, in December, 1874. Although in a small village, and far from any other post, great interest is shown in the work of the Order, and much better attention is given to the work of the Ritual and the Rules and Regulations than in some older Posts.

Post Heath, No. 6, Gardiner. This Post was visited in October, and although there was good interest shown, there was not that dignity among the officers, nor that knowledge of the Ritual, that has marked this post in the past. This is plainly the result of carelessness on the part of the officers, and has been remedied, I think. This Post adopted a novel way to replenish their relief fund this year. They formed themselves into a fire company, and for duty as such for the year they received four hundred dollars, which is turned into their relief fund.

Post Vincent Mountfort, No. 7, Brunswick. This Post has had hard work to live for the past year. They had a debt to carry, incurred on Memorial Day, and a large number of Comrades who were no real assistance to them. They have cleared their books of all such, and have taken a smaller hall; and from the interest shown by the comrades present at their annual meeting, I think they will recover in the future what they have lost in the past.

Post H. F. Safford, No. 8, Dexter. This Post was organized in October, 1874, and now number thirty members, partly uniformed. They are wide awake, and propose to be among the best Posts of the Department.

Post Knox, No. 9, Lewiston. This Post has been carrying a heavy financial load for several years, in hiring a large and expensive hall. This has exhausted the revenues of the Post, without any adequate return. * * * The Post number fifty-nine in good standing, and are uniformed.

Post Berry, No. 10, Lisbon. This Post is so situated that it can never hope to be large, but it can outlive some of the larger Posts. The Comrades go on the even tenor of their way, without gaining much, or without losing those they have. They number twenty-five in good standing, and are uniformed with cross-belts only.

Post J. W. West, No. 11, East Machias. The Comrades show great interest in keeping up the organization. * * * They are not uniformed, and this works to their disadvantage, since Post 15, four miles away, will take many who like a showy turn-out. They number seventeen in good standing.

Post B. H. Beale, No. 12, Bangor. This Post has always paid great attention to uniforming when on duty. Each Comrade keeps his cap at the armory, and a Regulation of the Post requires each Comrade present at a meeting to wear it. * * * It would be greatly to the advantage of the Department, if all Posts would adopt this plan of wearing fatigue caps when on duty. It is implied in the Ritual, recommended by General Order, and advised by the Judge Advocate-General, in a recent decision. This Post now number seventy-nine in good standing, nearly all uniformed.

Post Seth Williams, No. 13, Augusta. This Post reports nearly one-half its total membership as suspended. For this I think the officers are to

blame. During the summer months, when many Comrades could meet as well as not, the meetings were entirely suspended for several months. * * * Officers have not worn side-arms or paid that attention to the Ritual that they should; but reform is promised for the future. * * * It now numbers thirty-four, not uniformed.

Post W. S. Heath, No. 14, Waterville. This Post was organized December 29, 1874, with fourteen members. I think we have reason to expect good reports from this Post in the future.

Post Bradbury, No. 15, Machias. This Post is in a very flourishing condition. They number forty-four in good standing, all uniformed.

Post Daniel White, No. 19, Kenduskeag. This Post was visited, in company with Past Department Commander Daniel White, in one of the worst storms of the year: and in spite of the storm, and although it was hardly thought there would be a meeting, we found a good number in attendance. * * * They number twenty, not uniformed, but officers wear side-arms when on duty.

Post Chamberlain, No. 24, Skowhegan, is in a very fair condition, but suffers from meeting only monthly, instead of weekly. I hope a determined effort will be made to get weekly meetings. * * * They now number twenty-seven in good standing, partly uniformed.

Post F. E. Wardwell, No. 25, Bucksport. * * * I think the Post is very thoroughly demoralized. The last report showed sixteen members.

Post Sheridan, No. 25, Biddeford. This Post is in a very flourishing condition, and is one of the few that reports a gain over last year. Their relief fund is kept replenished by hard work among the comrades, and they are fully alive to all the objects of the Order. * * * They have now eighty-eight members in good standing, all uniformed.

Post Theo Lincoln, No. 38, Dennysville. This is the smallest Post in the Department, and can never hope to be much larger. Reports come in promptly, however. * * *

Post Roach, No. 40, Eastport. This Post still keeps its membership good. Their number the last quarter was sixteen in good standing. They are not uniformed, but wear side-arms when on duty.

Post Folsom, No 44, Auburn. This Post is in many respects the best in the Department. They have made a larger gain in membership this year than any other Post; and what is also encouraging, they have been obliged to enlarge their hall to accommodate their meetings. * * * It would be well if comrades from other Posts could visit this Post, and become imbued with the spirit these comrades exhibit.

Post Cutler, No. 48, Togus. This Post, located at the National Soldiers' Home, Togus, is still prospering finely. Composed as it is of the inmates of the Home, its meetings are more fully attended than any other

Post meeting in the Department. The interest exhibited is always good, and a visit to the meetings will always leave a good impression to the visitor. * * * They now number sixty-five in good standing, and are uniformed.

This completes a review of the Posts of the Department. We had twenty-one Posts at the beginning of the year. We have gained two and lost one, if not two, during the year. In closing finally my term of office as Inspector, * * * I wish to thank the many comrades in the different Posts of the Department who have so kindly assisted me in my duties, and beg to offer them my heartfelt wishes for their future welfare.

MAINE.

Number of Posts in good standing	21
" members in good standing	1,024
" Posts disbanded	1
Average for muster-in fee	$2 92
" per capita tax	1 76
10 Posts have a charity fund, aggregate	3,495 00
Average per Post	349 50

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Number of Posts in good standing	14
" " inspected	14
" " having officers and guards uniformed and equipped	12
" " having relief fund	14
Average amount of relief funds	$176 84
Number of muskets in 2 Posts	16
Average muster-in fee	3 72

MASSACHUSETTS.

Number of Posts in good standing	141
" " inspected	134
" " having officers and guards equipped	114
" muskets owned	609
Average muster-in fee in 134 Posts	$2 80
" per capita tax in 134 Posts	73
" benefits in 12 Posts	3 08
Total amount on hand for charitable purposes in 106 Posts	73,071 29
Average	689 34
Amount expended during the year for charitable purposes	34,845 77
Average	295 30
Number of members in good standing	10,541

I quote the following from the report of Comrade E. B. Blasland, Department Inspector:

"In my capacity as Inspector I have visited Posts in all parts of the State, choosing the smaller ones, those which needed encouragement,

rather than the larger ones, and find everything in good condition. In most of the Posts the Ritual is committed to memory, which I think adds greatly to it. Only a very few of our Posts are reported weak, and I am in hopes that the coming year will strengthen them. The great thing is to keep up the interest of the comrades. We have done this by having parades by counties, camp fires, &c.; also by visits of the Department Commander and his staff, and though we have lost some members and a few Posts, yet I think the Grand Army in Massachusetts never was stronger in everything that makes an organization strong, than now.

NEW JERSEY.

Number of Posts in good standing	16
Number of members in good standing	1,094
Amount expended for charity	$2,034 75
Amount of charity fund remaining	1,482 53
Number of muskets owned by Posts	55
" of Posts paying benefits	9
" " disbanded	3
" " either re-established or mustered	2

OHIO.

Number of Posts in good standing	8
" members in good standing	383
Amount of charity fund expended	$216 90
" " " remaining	650 00

POTOMAC.

Number of Posts in good standing	4
" members in good standing	85

PENNSYLVANIA.

Number of Posts in good standing	60
" members in good standing	3,914
Amount expended for charity	$3,062 11
" of charity fund remaining	9,663 04

RHODE ISLAND.

Number of Posts in good standing	12
" members in good standing	665
Amount of charity fund	$3769 00

WISCONSIN.

Number of Posts inspected	6
" members in good standing	295
Average muster-in fee	$2 33
Number of Posts having officers and guards equipped	4
" " having relief funds	2
Amount of relief funds expended	$486 69
" " " remaining	159 23

CALIFORNIA.

Number of Posts in good standing, inspected	4
" members in good standing	132
Average muster-in fee	$4 00
Total amount in relief fund	450 00
" expended	225 00

It is with great pleasure that from the reports of the several departments, I am able to conclude that our Order is in a very gratifying condition throughout the country. By this I do not mean to say that it is increasing much in numbers, for the aggregate is not far from that of one year ago, but the general morale is better, and the members of the organization are full of vigor and of hope. To the Grand Army, the vast majority of those who understand its mission and meaning, "cling with more than filial affection." Each year develops more clearly the certainty of the truth, sooner or later to be understood, that when all other organizations, composed of soldiers of the late war, have yielded to the mutations of time, the Grand Army of the Republic will still unfurl its blessed banner, bearing thereon the immortal trio—Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. BROWN,
Inspector-General.

JUDGE ADVOCATE-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
BOSTON, May 1, 1875.

HENRY R. SIBLEY,
Adjutant-General.

COMRADE:—I have the honor, in compliance with the Rules and Regulations, to submit to the National Encampment the following annual report.

My duties have consisted in examining the records and findings of two courts-martial, where the approval of the Commander-in-Chief was required, and in the preparation of the several opinions which are submitted herewith *

The court-martial cases presented no questions which need to be specially mentioned.

The third opinion, of January 25, 1875, arrives at the conclusion that the Rules and Regulations do not allow any charge to be made for discharges or transfers. I am aware that in many posts it has been the custom to charge a small fee for these papers. If the National Encampment wish to confer the right, it will be easy to do so by an amendment. I consider it my duty to call the matter to their attention, though personally of the opinion that no action is desirable.

All of which is respectfully submitted

In F., C. and L.,

WM. W. DOUGLAS,
Judge Advocate-General.

*See Appendix.

Surgeon-General's Report.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Surgeon-General's Office,
Boston, May 1, 1875

HENRY R. SIBLEY,

Adjutant-General, G. A. R.

Comrade:—I have the honor to submit herewith the report of the Surgeon-General, Grand Army of the Republic, for the year ending December 31, 1874.

Earnest efforts have been made, since the date of the last annual report from this office, to have a full and complete return of all honorably discharged soldiers, sailors and marines, who were wounded or crippled during the late war, who are members of the Grand Army of the Republic. To this end, the Commander-in-Chief issued Circular No. 2, dated September 30, 1874, requiring Department Commanders, Medical Directors, Post Commanders, and Surgeons, to have the name of each member and applicant for membership, who received such injuries, properly entered in the descriptive book of his Post. This requirement, I am pleased to state, has, for the first time in the history of our Order, been generally observed; and posts that never kept a record of the wounds, injuries, or cause of death, of its members, now invariably do so. On November 30th, 1874, the Commander-in-Chief again issued a circular, copy of which was forwarded to each National and Department officer, and Post Commander and Surgeon, as follows:

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Boston, Nov. 30, 1874.

CIRCULAR No. 3.

Department Commanders will require from each Post in their respective Departments, for the year ending December 31st, 1874, a Medical report (Form F.,) to be consolidated by the Medical Director on Form G. for the use of the Surgeon-General.

On or before December 31st, 1874, each Post Commander will cause blank Form F. to be filled in duplicate, one for preservation in the archives of the Post, and one to be forwarded *promptly* to Department Headquarters. In the absence of a Post Surgeon, the report will be prepared and signed by the Post Adjutant. The Medical Director will consolidate the Post reports into a Department report on Blank Form G, and transmit it *promptly* to National Headquarters, on or before February 1st, 1875.

Department Commanders will, if necessary, detail a comrade to assist the Medical Director in making up his report. Blanks are ready for issue to Departments from these Headquarters, and will be forwarded immediately upon application. Special attention is directed to the importance of having a full and complete record of every member of our organization, who received any wound or injury while in the service, during the war of the re-

bellion, properly entered, and reported through Department to National Headquarters, as a full and detailed report is required for presentation to the National Encampment.

By order of

CHARLES DEVENS, Jr.,
Commander-in-Chief.

HANS POWELL,
Surgeon-General.

Official:—HENRY R. SIBLEY,
Adjutant-General.

with the accompanying results:

Name of Department.	No. of Comrades who lost right arm in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost left arm in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost both arms in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost a leg in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost both legs in battle	No. of Comrades who lost a leg & an arm in battle.	No. of Comrades who have been wounded.	No. of Comrades injured other than in battle
California	1	...	...	1	...	...	18	1
Connecticut.....	3	6	1	12	1	1	113	11
Iowa.....	1	1	...	2	...	...	18	...
Illinois.....	8	7	2	8	3	...	97	24
Maine.....	14	11	...	20	...	...	360	30
Massachusetts..	46	31	5	59	...	3	1,322	256
New Hampsh'e.	1	4	...	6	...	...	124	16
New Jersey.....	9	6	...	13	..	...	306	12
New York.....	60	50	...	83	1	1	1,443	88
Pennsylvania...	27	25	...	43	...	1	732	67
Potomac.....	5	7	...	11	...	...	43	2
Colorado.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	...
Total	175	148	8	258	5	6	4,604	517

Since the date of the last National Encampment, the mortality of the members of our organization has been unusually large, perhaps larger than in any one year since the Order was first established, nearly every Department losing one or more of its most active members, particularly during the inclement, severe winter through which we have lately past. Hundreds of those who have escaped the privations and exposures of a four year's active service, have succumbed from the seeds of disease, and destruction to healthy constitutions, incurred during that period. Each year thins the ranks of those who now, or "who should" be, members of the Grand Army of the Republic; and too much attention cannot be paid, not only to recruiting new comrades, but maintaining and preserving those who are already enrolled.

The death of a past Medical Director has been reported, viz: Comrade Howard W. King, Department of Rhode Island. No comrade performed his duties more conscientiously, and in his death, our organization loses a valuable member.

Applications made to this office by poor and distressed comrades, discharged soldiers and sailors, and the widows and orphans of such, for advice and assistance, from almost every Department, during the past year, have been large, amounting to two hundred and ninety, most of which have been aided or relieved; and thanks are again cheerfully and respectfully extended to the Ladies' Union Relief Association, and to similar organizations throughout the country, for their valuable charitable labors, without which many a brave and gallant honorable discharged soldier, sailor or marine, would have died during the past year for the want of the common necessaries of life.

Attention is again drawn to the fact that several Departments have failed to report within the time mentioned in General Orders. In many instances no response has been received to communications from this office, and action is earnestly asked to cover such cases in the future. It is impossible for National officers to make complete reports, without having first received the necessary returns from Departments and Posts. Those statistics are of the most valuable nature, and will be prized highly in after years. They are all that will remain to tell the story of the thousands who fought and died for their beloved country; certainly those who are spared to keep their memories green, should preserve the records of their deeds and sufferings. Several communications have been forwarded to this office from Departments and Posts, suggesting and recommending that the National Encampment be urged to allow or appoint such officers as Assistant Medical Directors, Assistant Post Surgeons, and Hospital Stewards. I cannot concur in the recommendation, as several Departments and Posts are without properly qualified medical officers, and the filling of the positions by non-qualified comrades, would bring discredit and reproach to our noble organization.

Earnest thanks are sincerely tendered for many acts of kindness and uniform courtesy received, and deeply regretting more has not been accomplished, with appreciation of the distinguished honor conferred upon, I am,

Very respectfully, yours,

In F., C. and L.,

HANS POWELL,
Surgeon-General.

Report of the Chaplain in-Chief.

Providence, May 1, 1875.

Col. H. R. SIBLEY,
Adjutant-General, G. A. R.

Comrade:—The labors of the Chaplain-in-Chief, in connection with the Grand Army of the Republic, have been light and comparatively unimportant. They have not been characterized by any stirring incident, or marked with any conspicuous result. On Memorial Day, May 30, 1874, I performed devotional service on the occasion of its observance in Providence, R. I., in the morning, delivered an address at Worcester, Mass., in the afternoon, and participated in a second service at Providence in the

evening. I have also taken part in three memorial services, two of comrades belonging to Prescott Post, No. 1, Department of Rhode Island, and one of comrades belonging to Slocum Post, No. 10, of the same Department. The Order, so far as I have been informed, and so far as I have had an opportunity of judging, sustains the same manly and honorable character which has distinguished its career from the beginning of its existence.

In closing this brief report, I would beg leave to tender my thanks to my comrades for the honor they have been kind enough to confer upon me, and respectfully decline being a candidate for re-election.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

AUGUSTUS WOODBURY,
Chaplain-in-Chief, G. A. R.

The following proceedings of the Council of Admini tration were presented by the Recorder:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
CHICAGO, Ill., May 12, 1875.

The National Council of Administration met pursuant to General Orders No. 11, Par. II, C. S., at Grand Pacific Hotel, at 9.30 A. M.

Present—the Commander-in-Chief, the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General, the Judge Advocate-General, Comrades Greene, of Pennsylvania; Palmer, of Illinois; Sullivan, of New Jersey; Smith, of Connecticut, and Bouck, of Wisconsin.

Voted, that a committee of three be appointed to audit the accounts of the Quartermaster-General. Comrades Bouck, Greene and Sullivan appointed.

The Commander-in-Chief appointed the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief and Comrades Palmer and Smith a Committee on Credentials to fill vacancies.

Adjourned.

H. R. SIBLEY, *Adjutant-General,*
Recorder of the Council.

Voted, to accept the report.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

The following committees were then appointed by the Commander-in-Chief:

On Address of the Commander-in-Chief—Comrades Hanaford, of Wisconsin; Otis, of Connecticut; Pickett, of Massachusetts; Jennings, of Pennsylvania, and Lawler, of Illinois.

On Reports of the Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General—Comrades Burrows, of New Jersey; Weeden, of Illinois; White, of New Hampshire; Maxfield, of Massachusetts, and Plummer, of Minnesota.

On the Reports of the Inspector-General, the Judge Advocate-General, the Surgeon General, and the Chaplain-in-Chief—Comrades Newton, of Vermont; Seamans, of Rhode Island; White, of Minnesota; Blasland, of Massachusetts, and Hancock, of Wisconsin.

On Rules and Regulations—Comrades Beath, of Pennsylvania; the Judge Advocate-General; Castle, of Minnesota; Parkinson, of New York, and Hawkes, of Potomac.

On Resolutions—Comrades Merrill, of Massachusetts; Tyson, of Pennsylvania; Albaugh, of Minnesota; Duffee, of New Hampshire, and McGillicuddy, of Ohio.

Comrade Seamans, of Rhode Island, introduced a resolution, by unanimous consent, inviting the National Encampment of 1877 to meet with the Department of Rhode Island in Providence. Accepted by unanimous vote.

Several communications were received from Departments, Posts and individual comrades, which were referred to the proper committees.

Voted, to adjourn until 4 P. M., and that arrangements be made in the meantime, if possible, to hold remainder of meetings in the Grand Pacific Hotel.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Re-assembled at 4.30 P. M., in the Ladies' Ordinary of the Grand Pacific Hotel.

Comrade Davis, of New Jersey, introduced the following:

"*Resolved*, That the next Annual Session of the National Encampment be held in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the 6th day of July, 1876, and that so much of the Rules and Regulations as otherwise fixes the date, be suspended for the time being, and that measures be taken by the Council of Administration to secure, in connection with the Convention and the Centennial Celebration of that year, a Mass Convention of the Grand Army, on the 4th of July."

Amended by leaving the whole matter with the Council. Carried as amended.

The Commander-in-Chief read the following telegram, which he had just received from Past Commander-in-Chief A. E. Burnside:

NEW YORK, May 12.

"Am sorry not to be able to be with you to-day. Fraternal greetings to comrades, and best wishes for a happy and harmonious Encampment."

A. E. BURNSIDE.

The applause bestowed indicated the firm hold which Comrade Burnside has upon the affections of his comrades everywhere.

The Adjutant-General read a telegram received from Comrade George H. Patrick, Provisional Commander, Department of Alabama, reporting condition of that Department.

Comrade Newton, in behalf of the Committee on Reports of Inspector-General, Judge Advocate-General, Surgeon-General, and Chaplain-in-Chief, submitted the following:

CHICAGO, May 12, 1875.

To CHARLES DEVENS, JR.,
Commander-in-Chief.

Your committee appointed to pass upon the published reports of the Inspector-General, Judge Advocate-General, Surgeon-General and Chaplain-in-Chief, would respectfully say: We have carefully examined the Reports submitted, and would recommend that they be accepted and adopted. We find no new measure requiring an opinion, and have only to say we judge from the reports that the several officers have carefully and faithfully performed the duties pertaining to their office, and are well deserving the thanks of this Encampment.

All of which is very respectfully submitted.

J. W. NEWTON, of Vermont,
W. H SEAMANS, of Rhode Island,
T. S. WHITE, of Minnesota,
E. B. BLASLAND, of Massachusetts,
JOHN HANCOCK, of Wisconsin,
Committee.

Voted, to accept the Report.

Comrade Merrill, in behalf of the Committee on Resolutions, reported as follows:

1. Offered by Department of Connecticut.

Whereas, We consider the Charter now furnished to Posts by the National Headquarters, Grand Army of the Republic, quite insufficient in design and finish to represent the high standing to which the Grand Army has attained, as well as the sacred memories which cluster around our association; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Department of Connecticut most respectfully recommend to the National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic, that they take the matter into consideration, and if deemed practicable, have a new Charter designed and printed, the same to be distributed to the different posts throughout the United States, to take the place of the ones now in use, and also for the use of new posts that may hereafter be organized.

The committee did not deem it feasible and so reported. Report adopted.

2. Offered by Comrade Stephen Kelly, of Post 8, Department of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, 1st, That the entire dialogue and signs be changed forthwith, and the countersign be changed every three months.

2d. That there be a side degree instituted by the National Encampment to be composed of women who are relatives of soldiers, for the purpose of attending to sick or deceased comrades and other purposes.

3d. That there be a Cadet Corps instituted by the National Encampment, to be composed of sons of living and deceased comrades, to be under the control of posts of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The committee reported upon the first resolution "inexpedient," and the report was *adopted*. Upon the second and third, the committee recommended that the matter of instituting Side Degrees and Cadet Corps be referred to departments with full powers.

Comrade Givin, of Pennsylvania, spoke in favor of the resolutions, considered that their adoption would give to the Grand Army a valuable auxiliary, and thought that the Grand Army should be handed down to the children of those who served the country during the rebellion.

Comrade Davis, of New Jersey, said that if he understood the report of the committee, its adoption would give departments authority to institute Side Degrees and Cadet Corps, and if such authority was to be granted the National Encampment should give its endorsement.

Comrade Merrill stated that should we adopt the resolutions we must take the whole machinery of the Grand Army for the purpose of carrying out their provisions all over the country, and asked if we could do this; if the Departments of Ohio and Illinois have not all they can do, without taking upon their shoulders these additional burthens; if the history

of the Grand Army, to-day, does not show that we have about all we can take care of. Was willing that posts should have the power, but did not feel that the National Encampment should assume control of it.

Comrade Palmer, of Illinois, thought that posts could take up Side Degrees without impairing their usefulness.

Comrade Maxfield, of Massachusetts, endorsed the committee's report. Felt that we should not entail upon the Grand Army any additional burdens, rendering it necessary that the Order should assume the expenses. The comrades of the Grand Army as a whole are not men of wealth, and he was not ready to assume that they from their own means shall support two distinct organizations. We have already the assistance of our wives, without any of the complications which would arise from Side Degrees.

Comrade Wagner said that the question ought to be disposed of, that it came up every year, and moved that the matter be referred to Comrades Davis, of New Jersey; Givin, of Pennsylvania, and Palmer, of Illinois, to be reported upon at the next National Encampment.

Comrade Maxfield moved that it be laid upon the table.

Carried.

3. Offered by Comrade George B. Halsted, of Post 2, Department of New Jersey.

Preambles and Resolutions looking to a reunion of those who wore the blue with those who wore the gray, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, during the Centennial year

The committee reported inexpedient for the Grand Army to take any action.

Report adopted.

4. A resolution offered by the Department of Illinois, and amended by the committee, viz:

Resolved, That the equalization of bounties to honorably discharged soldiers and sailors of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps of the United States, is a subject which should receive early and final settlement, and we respectfully urge immediate and careful attention thereto by Congress.

Comrade Weeden, of Illinois, spoke in favor of the original resolution. Was aware that the bounty question was an old

story, but he felt that it should not have been before the country after three or four years after the close of the war. Only two acts concerning bounties had been passed by Congress since the war ended, and there were a large number of soldiers, in every way worthy and deserving, who did not derive any benefit from either.

The resolution reported by the committee was adopted.

A resolution offered by the Adjutant-General, that during the present session no comrade should speak more than three minutes on any one question, was tabled.

4. The resolution concerning a certain class of deserters, introduced by the Department of Illinois, was amended by the Committee to read as follows.

Whereas, Many brave and honorable soldiers who bore a noble part in the war until the suppression of the rebellion, but thereafter imprudently absented themselves from their commands, and were, in consequence, branded as deserters, but whose absence is believed to have been from a desire to protect their families. and with no purpose of evading any duty to the Union cause; therefore, be it

Resoleed, That we, the representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic in National Encampment assembled, respectfully ask of Congress that a law be passed removing the charge of desertion from all such soldiers, and that the Adjutant-General be empowered and directed to give to all such, on due application and satisfactory proof, an honorable discharge, which shall entitle them to all pay and allowances remaining due and unpaid in consequence of such charge of desertion, to the date of said wilful absence

And the committee recommended that the resolution as amended be adopted.

Comrade Barnum, of New York, moved to amend, by adding the words, "a premium offered for desertions in the next war." The motion was not seconded.

Comrade Healy, of Connecticut hoped the resolution would not pass.

Comrade Bouck, of Wisconsin, felt that there was an injustice in the restoring of cashiered officers by the War Department, and refusing to reinstate enlisted men. Stated that a member of his regiment served four years, went to his home after Lee's surrender, and was reported as a deserter; that he undertook to have the man's disabilities removed,

but that the Secretary of War informed him that there was no remedy.

Comrade Barnum thought there was a way.

Comrade Maxfield hoped the resolution would not pass, that the stigma would not be removed from any man who took the risk to desert.

Comrade Seamans moved to table, but withdrew the motion.

Comrade Weeden thought we had more sympathy for a rebel, than for a man who left the service without permission, having served until the war was over.

Comrade Merrill stated that the committee were well aware of the difficulty in reporting upon the resolutions. They were only intended to provide for such soldiers as lived in that part of our country which was infested with bushwhackers at the close of the war; they had followed the old flag through blood and smoke and battles for four long years, then, feeling that their discharge was only a form to be gone through with, and knowing that there was fire and slaughter at their very hearthstones, they went to protect their families from the guerrillas.

Comrade Briggs, of Massachusetts, thought that such disabilities could be removed, but if there was any doubt, that an act of Congress should give authority to the Secretary of War to make the record clean where no fault attaches.

Comrade Merrill did not understand how any except the class referred to, could be benefitted by the resolution.

Comrade Ward, of New Jersey, said that those soldiers would be found ready to-morrow to serve their country, if another war should come.

Comrade Graham, of New York, spoke in favor of the resolution.

Comrade Wagner called for previous question.

Carried.

Main question carried, and resolution adopted by a vote of 49 to 20.

The following communication was received from the Chicago Board of Trade :

CHICAGO, May 12, 1875.

TO. GEN. CHARLES DEVENS, JR.,
Commander-in-Chief National Encampment
Grand Army of the Republic, at Chicago.

DEAR SIR :—I take great pleasure in behalf of this Board of extending to you, and through you to the members in attendance upon the meeting of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic about to assemble in this city, a cordial invitation to visit the rooms of this Board, if it should be found convenient and agreeable during your stay in the city. Our Exchange Hall is open from 9 30 A. M. to 1.15 P. M., and again from 3 to 4 P. M.; High Change from 11 A. M. to 1.15 P. M.

With high consideration, I have the honor to be

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES RANDOLPH,
Secretary.

A communication was also received from the Board of Public Works, inviting the Encampment to visit the crib at the terminus of the Lake Tunnel, on Friday, and placing a steam tug at its disposal.

Comrade Hilliard, Commander Department of Illinois, informed the Encampment that a band of music would be in attendance at the Grand Pacific Hotel, at 7 o'clock P. M., to escort the members to the Exposition Building, where a reception would be held by the Governor and Mayor;

Voted, That it was the sense of the Encampment that the invitations should be accepted.

The following is the report of the Committee on Commander-in-Chief's address:

CHICAGO, Ill., May 12, 1875.

To the Officers and Members National Encampment
Grand Army of the Republic:

Your committee, to whom was referred the address of the Commander-in-Chief, beg leave to report that they have performed the duty assigned them, and recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That in view of the fact that one State, at least, observes Saturday as a legal memorial holiday, when the 30th of May occurs on Sunday, in harmony with our Rules and Regulations, and of the further fact that an amendment would leave the question practically unsettled, it is deemed inadvisable to recommend any change at the present time. In order to secure, however, the observance of a day uniformly throughout the land, the

Commander-in-Chief is hereby instructed to submit the following resolution to the Senate and House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States:

Resolved, By the Grand Army of the Republic, in National Encampment assembled, that we respectfully and earnestly request and urge that the Congress of the United States enact a law designating the 10th day of June in each year (and when such day occurs on Sunday, the Saturday preceding) as Memorial Day, which Memorial Day shall be a legal holiday.

Resolved, That the remarks of the Commander-in-Chief, under the head of "Disabled Soldiers," are in accordance with our sentiments; and we, feeling it to be our duty to urge upon Congress the justice of increasing pensions to those who suffered the loss of a leg or an arm, or were otherwise similarly disabled, request that the Commander-in-Chief continue, as our representative, to enforce by conversation and correspondence the claims of this class of pensioners, until such time as the necessary relief is granted.

Resolved, That the recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief, with reference to the duties performed by Comrade H. R. Sibley, Adjutant-General, is eminently appropriate and well deserved. Every comrade with whom Comrade Sibley has had official relations, during two years' administration of the office of Adjutant-General, will, we feel sure, testify to the marked ability, patience and devotion to the Grand Army always exhibited by him. The Commander-in-Chief, when elected, is therefore authorized to appoint a committee of three, whose duty it shall be to prepare a suitable testimonial expressive of the estimation in which he is held by the Encampment, and of our appreciation ot his valuable services, and present the same to Comrade Sibley, with the compliments of the Encampment.

Resolved, That this Encampment recognize with the most profound satisfaction the remarkable success of the Order under the administration of Comrade Devens and his able assistants, in the persons of his various staff officers. Our gratitude is due them for their zeal and fidelity in the discharge of their duties, and we cordially express our thanks to them for having placed the Order in its present proud and invulnerable position.

Resolved, That a committee consisting of Comrades William Ward, of New Jersey; George S. Merrill, of Massachusetts, and Robert B. Beath, of Pennsylvania, is hereby appointed, with authority to procure a suitable testimonial to be presented to Comrade Devens, as a substantial and permanent recognition of his services as Commander-in-Chief, and of our fraternal regard to him as a comrade; and such money as may be necessary in the judgment of the committee to pay for said testimonial is hereby appropriated from the funds in the hands of the Quartermaster-General.

The address of the Commander-in-Chief—such portions as are not otherwise alluded to—are approved by the committee, and we recommend that the same be adopted as the sentiments of the Encampment.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. A. HANAFORD,
FRANK G. OTIS,
WM. W. JENNINGS,
J. PICKETT.

This report was accepted, and the complimentary clauses were first acted upon. All were adopted; Comrade Gould Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, putting the motion concerning the Commander-in-Chief, which was carried with great enthusiasm. Comrade Devens thanked the Encampment most cordially for the kind manner in which the resolutions were adopted.

A resolution amending the Rules and Regulations concerning Memorial Day, was introduced at this point, but inasmuch as the Committee on Rules and Regulations had the same subject under consideration at the time, it was tabled, after some discussion.

Comrade Beath moved that when we adjourn it be to meet at 9 o'clock in the evening. Carried.

Comrade Wagner moved that the election of officers take place at 10 o'clock P. M.

Comrade Merrill moved to amend, by assigning that business to 4 o'clock P. M., on the day following.

Comrade Bouck moved to adjourn, but gave way to permit Comrade Smith, of Potomac, to introduce some resolutions, which were referred to the proper committee, after which Comrade Bouck renewed his motion, which was carried.

EVENING SESSION.

The Encampment re-assembled at 9.30 P. M.

Comrade Wagner moved that a committee of three be appointed to confer with the general reunion committee, to report upon the hour for our meeting the day following. Carried. Comrades Wagner, Hilliard, and Chace appointed.

The resolution concerning pensions offered by the Committee on Address of the Commander-in-Chief, was taken up, and it was voted to substitute the word "similarly" for the word "totally," and the resolution as amended was adopted. No action was taken upon their resolution in regard to Memorial Day.

The Committee on Reports of the Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General submitted the following, which was adopted:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.
May 12, 1875.

The committee to whom the reports of the Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General were referred, hereby recommend that said reports be accepted and the thanks of this Encampment extended to the Adjutant-General and the Quartermaster-General for the able manner in which they have performed their duties; also that the Quartermaster-General be instructed to credit to Profit and Loss Account the sum of eighty-six cents now standing to the credit of the Department of Delaware, said Department being no longer in existence.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,

CHAS. BURROWS,
L. P. PLUMMER,
ANDREW WHYTE,
JARED P. MAXFIELD,
E. S. WEEDEN,
Committee.

Comrade Beath, in behalf of the Committee on Rules and Regulations, reported as follows, congratulating the Encampment that so few propositions were presented for consideration, and stated that some of them would be recognized as having been disposed of by previous Encampments:

1. Offered by Department of Pennsylvania.

To amend Article IV, Chapter I, Rules and Regulations, by inserting after the word "time" and before the word "borne" the word "voluntarily."

Committee reported adversely. Report adopted.

2. Offered by Department of New Jersey.

To amend Section 1, Article II, Chapter III, by inserting the words "and Past Post Commanders" after the word "Commanders" in second line of said section

Committee reported adversely.

Comrade Davis, of New Jersey, said that at the last National Encampment, Past Department Commanders were made permanent members of the National Encampment, and that, in his opinion, the same reason existed for making Past Post Commanders permanent members of Department Encampments.

Comrade Hanaford said this was a matter in which Departments were deeply interested, and that Departments should have the power to decide for themselves.

Comrade Ward said that the Department of New Jersey, in seeking to have the Rules thus amended, were governed by the belief that there should be a reward for good service rendered.

Comrade Merrill gave statistics to show that if the amendment prevailed the Department Encampments would become too cumbersome,

Comrade Hanaford offered the following substitute:

"And past Post Commanders of the Department in good standing, if the Department by by-laws or otherwise so elect."

Comrade Graham said that the amendment was evidently to encourage the smaller Departments, and that if they wanted it they ought to have it

Comrade Ward said that the Department of New Jersey could not afford to lose the experience of its past officers,

Comrade White, of Minnesota, favored the substitute.

Comrade Jennings, of Pennsylvania, opposed it.

Comrade Hanaford thought that the National Encampment should not decide who should be members of the Department Encampments.

Comrade Whitney, of Massachusetts; favored the substitute. Thought that the stronger Departments could afford to give that much to the weaker.

Comrade Davis favored the substitute.

The amendment was substituted by a majority vote, but was lost upon motion to adopt, by a vote of 26 in the negative, to 40 in the affirmative (two-thirds required).

3. Offered by Post 75, Department of Massachusetts.

To amend Section 4, Article II, Chapter II, so as to read "If, on a count of the balls deposited, it appears that not more than one-third of the ballots cast are black, the candidate shall be declared elected," after the words "with ball ballots shall be had."

The committee reported adversely. Report adopted.

4. Offered by Comrade Phillips, of Post 19, Department of Massachusetts.

To amend Section 5, Article II, Chapter II, by striking out "a third application shall not be received," and altering the clause which reads "a second application shall be in the same form," &c., so that it will read "a second *and all subsequent* applications," &c.,

The committee reported affirmatively. Report adopted.

5. Offered by Comrade Fox, of Post 68, Department of Massachusetts.

To amend Section 2, Article VII, Chapter II, by striking out all after the word "choice," thus doing away with the necessity for dropping the name of the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes in the election of officers.

The committee recommended that the clause referred to be amended so as to read "on the first two ballots," instead of "on the first ballot." Which was adopted.

6. Offered by Post 113, Department of Massachusetts.

To amend Article XIV, so as to allow Posts to observe Memorial Day upon Sunday, when the 30th of May occurs upon that day, if they so desire.

The committee reported adversely, but recommended a change in the legislation in those States where the *succeeding* day has been made legal a holiday, that they may conform to the Article as it now stands. Neither the proposition or the recommendation of the committee were adopted.

Comrade Wagner offered an amendment to Article XIV, to insert the words "or succeeding," after the word "preceding."

Comrade Bouck offered an amendment to that amendment, by adding "unless the Department desires to decorate on Sunday." Comrade Bouck's amendment was lost.

Comrade Merrill offered as a substitute, "except when by legal enactment the succeeding day is made a holiday, when such day shall be observed." Lost.

Comrade Wagner's amendment was adopted. (Reconsidered next day, and Comrade Merrill's proposition adopted).

7. Offered by the Adjutant-General.

To add a Section (numbered 10) to Article II, Chapter II, to read as follows:

The applications for membership of persons who were Comrades before the introduction of the grade system, but who never took the obligation of the third grade, shall be received and acted upon the same as if the applicant had never belonged to the Grand Army.

The committee reported affirmatively Report adopted.

8 Offered by the Adjutant-General.

To add to Section 1, Article I, Chapter III, the following: Provided also, that he may remand to a provisional condition any Department which has less than five Posts, or less than one hundred members in good standing.

The committee reported adversely. Report adopted.

9. Offered by Post 113, Department of New York.

We respectfully call the attention of the National Encampment to page 6 of our Ritual, and to the section in relation to charity, in which it states: "Has any Comrade knowledge of deserving soldiers, or the families of those deceased, living within our limits, who need assistance."

We respectfully request that the above paragraph be modiffed to read so that we will aid and assist the families of those who fell in service during the war of the Rebellion, for the following reasons:

We find the majority of cases, are those of men who have died since their return from the war, and who never have joined our Order.

As we are obliged, by the above-mentioned clause in our Ritual, to aid and assist all of those who apply, and as they are increasing, we find that it is impossible to give aid, and do justice to our own Comrades.

The committee reported adversely to any change in this respect; saying that

"The Relief Fund established under Article XII, Chapter V, Rules and Regulations, is a special fund to be used only for the purposes therein stated, and that Posts can and should establish a *Post* Fund, to be used specially for the relief of their own members."

Report adopted.

10. Offered by Department of Wisconsin.

I. *Resolved,* That the Rules and Regulations be so amended that reports aud dues shall be made and forwarded semi-annually, on the first days of January and July of each year, instead of quarterly, as at present.

II. *Resolved,* That the National Encampment prescribe by regulation a uniform to be used and worn by Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The committee reported adversely. Report adopted.

11. Offered by Comrade Seamans, Department of Rhode Island.

To amend Art. V, Chap. III; add Sec. 4. "No Past Department Commander, and none of the officers mentioned in Art. IV, Sec. 2, of this Chapter, except the Commander, Senior Vice Commander, and Junior Vice Commander, shall, by virtue of their *ex-officio* membership in the Department Encampment, be entitled to vote in the Encampment or Council of Administration, in the election of officers, or in fixing the amount of annual dues to the Department"

The committee reported to cover the above points the following amendments:

To Article II, Chapter III, after the words "Past Department Commanders," in first paragraph, add, "who served for a full term of one year, or who, having been elected to fill a vacancy, shall have served to the end of the term, so long as they remain in good standing in their respective Posts, &c., &c"

In Paragraph 3, Article 11, Chapter IV, insert the same words as suggested above.

The amendments offered by the committee were acted upon separately, and both adopted.

12. A proposition to make all Post officers, except the Adjutant, elective.

Withdrawn after some discussion.

13, To amend Section 1, Article V, Chapter III, by striking out "the Assistant Quartermaster-General, the Inspector, the Judge Advocate, and the Chief Mustering Officer."

Comrade Wagner opposed this change, but thought that those officers should be deprived of their vote.

Comrade Blasland opposed the change, and the sentiments of Comrade Wagner also.

Comrade Bouck moved to lay the whole upon the table.

Carried.

14. To amend Article VIII, Chapter V, by changing "title" to read "Titles of address and honors," and by adding a new section as follows:

"No comrade shall be entitled to any right, privilege or honor, as a past officer, unless he held the office to which such right, privilege or honor is attached, at the close of the prescribed term."

Lost.

Comrade Wagner reported from the committee that the Encampment would not be expected to parade on the following day, but that it was invited to review the procession at 1.30 P. M.

On motion of Comrade Blasland, it was voted, that when the Encampment adjourn, it should be to meet at 3 P. M.

Voted, That the election of officers should take place by special assignment at 3.30 P. M.

On motion of Comrade Beath, it was voted to visit the crib at the terminus of the Lake Tunnel at 10 A. M., Friday.

Voted, To exemplify the secret work before final adjournment.

Voted, To visit the Board of Trade at 12.30 P. M. Friday.

Voted, To assemble at noon to-morrow for the purpose of proceeding to the review.

Voted, To adjourn.

THURSDAY'S SESSION.

Assembled at 3 P. M.

The following communication was received and referred to the Committee on Credentials:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.
AUSTIN, TEXAS, April 27, 1875.

Comrade W. C. Carroll, of Sedgwick Post No. 4, San Antonio, Texas, and Aid-de-Camp to the Department Commander, is authorized to represent this Department at the Grand Encampment at Chicago, Ill, in May, 1875.

E. J. DAVIS.

WM. C. CARROLL,
Aid-de-Camp.

The committee reported that the Department of Texas, has no organization, in fact, and is not entitled to representation. Report adopted.

The Commander-in.Chief read a telegram from the citizens of Utica, New York, inviting the tenth National Encampment to assemble there, and tendering the hospitalities of the city.

Comrade Palmer stated that Past Commander.in-Chief, Hurlbut, was in the hotel, and wished to sit in the Encampment, and moved that he be invited to take a seat with us, not as a delegate, but as Past Commander-in-Chief.

It appeared that Past Commander-in-Chief Hurlbut is not a member of the Grand Army at the present time.

Comrade Graham rose to a point of order, that the motion was out of order.

Ruling, "Well taken."

The Committee on Resolutions reported the following:

Resolved, That the Judge Advocate-General is hereby authorized and instructed to compile a Digest of Opinions rendered by him or any preceding

Judge Advocate-General upon the Bules and Regulations now in force, and that the Quartermaster-General cause the same to be printed in convenient form and furnished to Posts with other supplies.

Adopted.

The committee reported inexpedient to take action upon the resolutions of Comrade Smith, of Potomac, concerning the employment of those who served during the war in the army and navy by the Government in the civil service, and they were being actively discussed, when Comrade Wagner called for the orders of the day, it being 3.30 o'clock, the hour assigned for the election of officers. Afterward, Comrade Smith asked the unanimous consent of the Encampment to withdraw the resolutions, which was granted, and they were withdrawn.

The Commander-in-Chief appointed Comrades, Wagner, of Pennsylvania, Pomeroy, of Rhode Island, and Harshaw, of Wisconsin, a committee to receive, assort and count the votes.

Nominations being in order, Comrade Palmer, of Illinois, nominated Comrade Julius C. White, of Illinois, for Commander-in-Chief. Comrade Weeden, of Illinois, seconded the nomination, and asked to be heard for the sake of the Order in the West, dwelling at some length upon the impetus which the Order would receive in that section, if a western comrade was placed at its head.

Comrade Brown, of Potomac, nominated Comrade J. F. Hartranft, of Pennsylvania. Comrade Merrill, in behalf of the Massachusetts delegation, seconded the nomination, and thought it eminently desirable that the National Headquarters during the centennial year should be in Pennsylvania, and while it was easier to commend than criticise, yet he felt that it was not modest for Illinois to press her claims at this time the Commander-in-Chief having been selected from that Department for five years already.

Comrade Calder, of Connecticut, nominated Comrade, Devens, who had already declined a re-nomination, and who again positively declined.

Comrade Hanaford, nominated Comrade Wm. Ward, of

New Jersey, and said that while his admiration for Comrade Hartranft was second to that of no comrade in the Encampment, and while he had no fears that the position, if given him, would be diverted, yet he was afraid that some political significance would be attached by others.

Comrade Parkinson, of New York, nominated Comrade Edward Jardine, of New York, and advocated his election.

Comrade Graham seconded the nomination.

The name of Comrade White was withdrawn by the Illinois delegation.

A motion was made to dispense with the calling of the roll, but was lost.

The roll was called, and the following is the result of the ballot for Commander-in-Chief:

Whole number of votes	84
Necessary for a choice	43
J. F. Hartranft	47
Edward Jardine	22
William Ward	13
Julius White	1
Blank	1

And Comrade Hartranft was declared elected.

Comrade Parkinson, in behalf of Comrade Jardine, moved to make the election unanimous.

Comrade Hanaford seconded the motion, in behalf of Comrade Ward. Carried.

Comrade Hanaford moved that a committee of three be appointed to wait upon the Commander-in-Chief elect, notify him of his election, and request his presence. Carried.

Comrades Hanaford, Parkinson, and Clemmer were appointed. The committee performed that duty, and returned with Comrade Hartranft.

Commander-in-Chief Devens introduced Comrade Hartranft to the Encampment, saying: "His deeds are his eulogy, and they need no words of mine."

The new Commander-in-Chief was received with enthusiastic and long-continued cheers. He said:

Comrades:—I thank you for the high honor I have experienced at your hands; and I appreciate it the more because it comes from men who stood

side by side in the defense of the Union. I am reluctant to accept the position and take the responsibility. I should not feel thus reluctant if it were not that the Order has assumed such proportions and been so prosperous under the gallant Commander who sits here. (Great cheering for Commander Devens.)

I have been present at every National Encampment since the organization was formed, and in the first one the question came up that has nearly divided the Order in times past. It is the question of politics. In 1866 it was decided that the element of politics should not enter the Order, and that gives us the privilege of being here to-day. It is difficult to prove, in the face of hostile assertion, that the element of politics does not enter the Order, and the only way left for us is to keep on in the even tenor of our way as we have for the last eight years, and let our conduct prove our intentions. (Applause.)

I myself am more of a politician than I wish I was. I am a Republican in politics, but I do not desire to belong to any secret society that would be a tag and tail to any party. My opinions are well known on this subject in my own State, and I pledge you that I will use every exertion to keep the Order pure and above all political suspicion. (Applause.) This I know is a threadbare subject; but if we want the Order to live, the course I have laid down is the only one to pursue.

He spoke at some length upon the subject of the election of officers, and stated that although in the past it had proved wise, in his opinion the time had come to pronounce against a second term for the Commander-in-Chief. He gave notice that later in the session he should offer an amendment to the Rules and Regulations, making the first three officers of the National Encampment ineligible for re-election, and closed by again thanking the Encampment for the honor they had done him, and hoping that they would not be disappointed in the choice they had made. He was saluted with cheers at the close of his remarks.

Comrade Chace was appointed upon the committee to receive, assort, and count votes, vice Pomroy, who asked to be excused.

Comrade Palmer nominated Comrade H. Hilliard, of Illinois, for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Hilliard declined, and nominated Comrade J. S. Reynolds, of Illinois.

Comrade Wagner nominated Comrade Gabe Bouck, of Wisconsin.

Comrade White, of Minnesota, nominated Comrade G. A. Hanaford, of Wisconsin.

Comrade Calder nominated Comrade C. J. Buckbee, of Connecticut.

Comrade McGillicuddy, of Ohio, nominated Comrade G. M. Barber, of Ohio.

A motion to call the roll was *tabled.*

The following is the result of the ballot for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief:

FIRST BALLOT.

Whole number of votes	77
Necessary for a choice	39
J. S. Reynolds	32
Gabe Bouck	28
G. A. Hanaford	7
G. M. Barber	5
C J. Buckbee	4
C. R. Brayton	1

And there were no choice.

Comrade Hanaford withdrew his name. Comrade Buckbee's name was dropped.

SECOND BALLOT.

Whole number of votes	78
Necessary for a choice	40
J. S. Reynolds	41
Gabe Bouck	36
G. M. Barber	1

And Comrade Reynolds was declared elected.

On motion the election was made unanimous.

Comrade Hanaford nominated Comrade D. W. Albaugh, of Minnesota, for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Healey nominated Comrade C. J. Buckbee, of Connecticut.

Comrade Seamans nominated Comrade James Shaw, Jr., of Rhode Island.

Comrade Sprague nominated Comrade Timothy Lubey, of Potomac.

Comrade Lubey declined to have his name used.

Comrade Duffy, of New Hampshire, nominated Comrade A. F. Stevens, of New Hampshire.

Comrade Davis, of New Jersey, was appointed upon the committee to receive, assort and count votes, vice Wagner, who asked to be excused.

The following is the result of the ballot for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief:

FIRST BALLOT.

Whole number of votes	72
Necessary for a choice	37
Chas. J. Buckbee	29
James Shaw, Jr	19
D. W. Albaugh	15
A. F. Stevens	8
H. A. Castle	1

And there was no choice.

SECOND BALLOT.

Whole number of votes	68
Necessary for a choice	35
Chas. J. Buckbee	34
D. W. Albaugh	19
James Shaw, Jr	15

And there was no choice.

THIRD BALLOT.

Whole number of votes	67
Necessary for a choice	34
Chas. J. Buckbee	42
D. W. Albaugh	23
James Shaw, Jr	2

And Comrade Buckbee was declared elected.

On motion of Comrade Albaugh the election was made unanimous.

At this point Comrade Robert Henry Hendershott, "The Drummer Boy of the Rappahannock," who was severely wounded at the battle of Fredericksburg, was introduced, and favored the Encampment with soul stirring music, upon

the drum presented to him by the late Horace Greeley. Rousing cheers were given for the drummer boy.

Comrade Hanaford nominated Comrade John M. Woodworth of Potomac, for Surgeon-General.

Comrade Douglas nominated Comrade John W. Foye, of Massachusetts.

Comrade Duffy nominated Comrade George B. Greeley, of New Hampshire.

Comrade Givin, of Pennsylvania, was appointed upon the committee to receive, assort and count votes, vice Chace, who asked to be excused.

Ballot for Surgeon-General.

Whole number of votes	64
Necessary for a choice	33
John W. Foye	34
John M. Woodworth	29
George B. Greeley	1

And Comrade Foye's election was made unanimous.

Nominations for the Council of Administration were then offered, and Comrade Sprague moved that, inasmuch as no nominations had been made for the Departments of Maine and California, the members of last be considered as candidates for re-election.

Carried.

The following comrades were elected as members of the Council of Administration, by acclamation.

Maine	Edward Moore	Portland
New Hampshire	Aaron F. Stevens	Nashua
Vermont	F. Stewart Stranahan	St. Albans.
Massachusetts	Josiah Pickett	Worcester.
Rhode Island	C. H. Barney	Providence.
Connecticut	John G. Healy	New Haven.
New York	John G. Copley	Elmira.
New Jersey	F. W. Sullivan	Newark.
Pennsylvania	Levi Huber	Pottsville.
Potomac	John A. Darling	Washington.
Ohio	James Barnett	Cleveland.
Illinois	J. J Palmer	Rockford.
Wisconsin	Henry G. Rogers	Milwaukee.
Minnesota	True S. White	St. Paul.
California	David J Simmons	Sacramento

Comrade Myron W. Reed, of Wisconsin, was elected Chaplain-in-Chief, by acclamation.

Comrade Huber, of Pennsylvania, moved to reconsider the amendment to Article XIV, Chapter V, of the Rules and Regulations, and gave it as his opinion that no little confusion would arise with the Rule as it then stood.

Carried.

The Adjutant-General stated that in his judgment there would be a diminution in the observance of Memorial Day if an option was given as to which day should be observed when the 30th of May occurs upon Sunday, that some would observe one day, some the other, and some neither, and that only one State had made the succeeding day a legal holiday. He moved to amend the last paragraph of the Article so that it would read

"When such day occurs on Sunday, the preceding day shall be observed, except when by legal enactment the *succeeding* day is made a holiday, when *such* day shall be observed."

Carried, and the paragraph as amended was adopted, by a vote of 50 to 7.

Comrade Hartranft offered the following amendment to Section 1, Article IV, Chapter IV, of the Rules and Regulations, to add:

"But the Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, and Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, shall be ineligible to re-election to their respective offices."

After considerable discussion the proposition was indefinitely postponed, by a vote of 31 to 28.

Comrade Merrill moved that the question of salaries for the National Staff officers be referred to the Commander-in-Chief, with full powers.

Carried.

Comrade Sprague moved to amend paragraph 3, Article II, Chapter III, of the Rules and Regulations, by adding after the words, "more than half that number," the words,

"in Departments having three thousand members or more. But in those Departmeuts having a membership of less than three thousand, the ratio shall be one representative for every twenty-five members in good standing,

and one additional representative for final fraction of more than half that number."

Adopted.

Comrade Robinson, of New York, introduced the following by unanimous consent:

"*Resolved,* That the thanks of this Encampment are due, and are hereby extended to Messrs. Drake & Co., for their courtesy in furnishing us with a room in the Grand Pacific Hotel in which to hold our deliberations."

Adopted.

Comrade Palmer obtained the unanimous consent of the Encampment to state that Past Commander-in-Chief Hurlbut had been charged with saying that the Grand Army of the Republic was a political machine, and that he would have nothing to do with it, that he (Hurlbut) most emphatically denies it, and that any measure recommended by the Grand Army while he is in Congress, will be most heartily urged by him.

Comrade Powell introduced the following:

"*Resolved,* That the thanks of the National Encampment be, and hereby are, extended to our comrades of the Department of Illinois, and to those of the city of Chicago; to the public authorities of said State, and to the officials of those railroads kindly making reduction in their usual rates of fares."

Adopted.

Comrade Kenny, of Massachusetts, moved that Comrade Robert Henry Hendershott, of Illinois, be, and hereby is appointed Drum Major of the National Encampment Grand Army of the Republic.

Comrade Maxfield moved to substitute that the Commander-in-Chief be requested to detail Comrade Hendershott as Drum Major at National Headquarters, and the substitute was *adopted.*

Comrade Sprague moved that a committee of three be appointed, of which Comrade Sibley shall be chairman, to prepare an installation service to be used in installing National officers, and to be referred to the next National Encampment.

Carried.

The secret work was then exemplified by the Adjutant-General, assisted by Comrade Whitney.

Comrade Graham moved that the Commander-in-Chief be requested to cause the secret work to be carefully prepared in cipher and communicated to departments.

Carried.

Comrade Devens in a few words expressed his gratitude to the members of the Encampment for their kindness to him, and read General Orders No. 14, a copy of which is appended. After bidding farewell to the members of the Encampment in his official capacity, and welcoming them in his private capacity as a comrade, he transferred the gavel to Commander-in-Chief Hartranft, amid hearty cheers for both. It was

Voted to adjourn *sine die.*

HENRY R. SIBLEY,
Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
CHICAGO, Ill., May 13, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 14.

In returning into the hands of my comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic the important authority with which they invested me, and which I have exercised for the past two years, I congratulate them upon the improved condition of the Order, numerically and financially, during the past years, and thank them most cordially for the generous and hearty support which has been afforded to me by all during the term in which I have administered the affairs of the organization.

In the firm belief that the principles of the Order are beneficial alike upon the immediate members and in their effect upon the patriotism of the whole country, I respectfully urge upon the comrades a continuance of the same confidence in my successor. This is due to him on account of the great responsibility you have laid upon him, while his services, both in military and civil life, are a sufficient guaranty that the trust you have reposed in him will be faithfully and judiciously exercised.

I desire to recognize my obligations to the various members of the official staff, by whom I have been in every way most faithfully served, and especially to commend the exertions of the Chief of Staff, Adjutant-General Henry R. Sibley, whose labors have been most zealous, constant and valuable, and such as entitle him to the gratitude of the whole organization.

CHARLES DEVENS, JR.,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
A. D. C.

HOSPITALITIES

EXTENDED BY THE

CITY, STATE, AND G. A. R. OF THE DEPARTMENT,

TO THE

Ninth National Encampment,

IN CONNECTION WITH ITS SESSION IN

Chicago, Illinois, May 12 and 13,

1875.

———:o;———

MAY 12.

At 11 o'clock A. M. the Grand Army of Illinois, under command of Comrade H. Hilliard, Department Commander, headed by Nevins's Band, received the members of the National Encampment at the Grand Pacific Hotel, and escorted them to McCormick's Hall, where the first session was held. At 7 o'clock P. M., under escort of a band of music, the members of the Encampment were taken to the Exposition Building, where a reception was held, presided over by Comrade Julius White, of Chicago. His Honor, Mayor Colvin, welcomed the visitors on behalf of the city, and was followed by Governor Beveridge, who delivered an eloquent address, which was responded to by Comrade Charles Devens, Jr., Commander-in-Chief. After which Comrade J. F. Hartranft, Governor of Pennsylvania, was introduced and made a short but effective speech.

The exercises of the evening were interspersed with instrumental music by the Great Western Band, of Sandusky, Ohio, and with singing. After the reading of letters of

regret from distinguished soldiers and civilians, the meeting adjourned, with three cheers for the city's guests.

MAY 13.

At noon the members were escorted to the balconies of the Exposition Building, from which point they reviewed the grand procession of citizen soldiery which had been arranged in connection with the reunion of that day of the soldiers of the Northwest. Later in the day many of the members availed themselves of an invitation to visit and study the great war painting, "The Battle of Lookout Mountain," which was then on exhibition in the Exposition Building. In the evening the members were invited to attend a Promenade Concert given at the same place.

MAY 14.

The members were taken to the crib at the lake terminus of the tunnel, in a steam tug, kindly furnished by the Water Board, and at noon to the Board of Trade, where they were the recipients of the courtesies of that body, being welcomed with a speech by its President, responded to by Governor Hartranft and the Adjutant-General. Later in the day many attended the competition drill between the Governor's Guard, of Springfield, Illinois, and the Myers Cadets of Toledo, Ohio, the Adjutant-General acting as ond of the judges.

The members of the Ninth Annual Encampment then separated, carrying to their homes pleasant recollections of the beautiful city of Chicago.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

TENTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT,

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

HELD AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.

June 30, 1876.

The National Encampment convened in the Hall of Post No. 2, Thirteenth and Spring Garden Streets, Philadelphia, at 9.30 A. M., Friday, June 30th, and was called to order by the Commander-in-Chief, Comrade J. F. Hartranft.

Prayer was offered by Comrade Paul S. Adams, Chaplain, Department of New Hampshire.

The following guard detail was made of Comrades of Post 2, Philadelphia:

Officer of the Day, Charles W. Schuellerman.

Officer of the Guard, George W. Tittle.

Guards, Jas. M. Stewart, Henry J. Snyder, Jos. Cusick, James A. Jackaway.

Orderlies, Harry Guernella and Harry Williams.

The countersign was then taken. The roll of officers was called and absentees noted. (See list following.)

CREDENTIALS.

The following Comrades were appointed a Committee on Credentials: Chetlain, of Illinois; Dalton of Massachusetts; Wood of Potomac; Sullivan, of New Jersey, and the Adjutant-General.

In presenting the report of the Committee on Credentials, the Adjutant-General stated that the Departments of Maryland and Alabama had been organized since January 1st, had presented the required reports and were entitled to admission; that Post No. 1, of Oregon, not organized as a Department, had two members present, and the question of their status was left to the Encampment.

ROLL OF MEMBERS.

Those present are marked thus.*

Commander-in-Chief	John F. Hartranft.*
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief	J. S. Reynolds.*
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief	Chas. J. Buckbee.*
Surgeon-General	Dr. John W. Foye.
Chaplain-in-Chief	Rev. Myron W. Reed.
Adjutant-General	Robt. B. Beath.*
Quartermaster-General	Wm. Ward.*
Inspector-General	W. F. Rogers.*
Judge Advocate-General	W. W. Douglas.*

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

Edward Moore, Portland, Me.	Levi Huber, Pottsville, Pa.
Aaron F. Stevens, Nashua, N. H.	John A. Darling, Washington, D. C.
T. Stewart Stranahan, St. Albans, Vt.	Jas. Barnett, Cleveland, Ohio.
Josiah Pickett, Worcester, Mass.	J. J. Palmer, Rockford, Ill.*
C. H. Barney, Providence, R. I.*	Henry G. Rogers, Milwaukee, Wis.
John G. Healy, New Haven, Conn.	True S. White, St. Paul, Minn.
H. C. Perley, New York city.*	D. J. Simmons, Sacramento, Cal.
J. R. Woodruff. Trenton, N. J.*	T. W. Dew, Baltimore, M. D.*
Thos. Arnold, Hampton, Va.*	F. W. Sullivan, Newark, N. J.*

PAST NATIONAL OFFICERS.

Reported in good standing.

Past Commanders-in-Chief,	S. A. Hurlbut,	1867.
	Ambrose E. Burnside,	1871-2.
	Charles Devens, Jr.,	1873-4.
Past Senior Vice Commanders-in-Chief,		
	Louis Wagner,*	1871-2.
	John R. Goble,*	1873.
	Edward Jardine,*	1874.
Past Junior Vice Commanders-in-Chief	Jos. R. Hawley,	1868-9
	Louis Wagner,*	1870.
	James Coey,	1871.
	Ed. Ferguson,*	1873.
	Guy T. Gould,	1874.

MAINE.

Commander,	Nelson Howard, Lewiston.
Senior Vice Commander,	J. M. Andrews, Biddeford.
Junior Vice Commander,	F. E. Heath, Waterville.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	R. M. Mason, Lewiston.
Representatives.	*Alternates.*
Isaac Dyer, Skowhegan (at large.)	S. J. Gallagher, Augusta.
E. M. Shaw, Lisbon.*	

Past Department Commanders.

Geo. L. Beal, Portland.	David White, Bangor.
C. P. Mattocks, Portland.	Selden Connor, Augusta.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Commander,	C. J. Richards, Great Falls.*
Senior Vice Commander,	Stephen A. Oliver, Pittsfield.
Junior Vice Commander,	Ross C. Duffy, Nashua.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	Kirke W. Moses, Great Falls.
Representatives.	*Alternates.*
Dr. J. E. S. Pray, Exeter.*	E. E. Parker, Nashua.
Rev. Paul S. Adams, Newport.*	O. A. Hamblet, Milford.

Past Department Commanders.

W R. Patten, Manchester	T. W. Challis, Manchester.
W. H. Trickey, Dover,	A. S. Eaton, Nashua.

VERMONT.

Commander,	T. S. Peck, Burlington *
Senior Vice Commander,	Elijah Wales, Brattleboro.
Junior Vice Commander,	C. D. Williams, Northfield.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	Eben Taplin, Burlington.
Representatives.	*Alternates.*
K. Haskins, Brattleboro.	Fred'k E. Smith, Montpelier.*
Warren Gibbs, Burlington	L. G. Kingsley, Rutland.

Past Department Commanders.

George P. Foster, Burlington	W. G. Veazey, Rutland.
Wm. W. Henry, Burlington.	Stephen Thomas, Montpelier.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Commander,	Horace Binney Sargent, Boston *
Senior Vice Commander,	J. L. Skinner, Amherst.
Junior Vice Commander,	Herbert E. Hill, Somerville.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	J. F. Meech, Boston.*
Representatives.	*Alternates.*
Thomas Sherwin, Dedham (at large.)*	A C. Kinney, Chicopee (at large.)
J. P. Maxfield, Lowell.*	J. S. Baldwin, Worcester.
E. P. Clark, Holyoke.	J. W. Locke, Wakefield.

Representatives.	*Alternates.*
Geo. E. Curtis, Abington.	Chas. Philbrick, Lawrence.
J. F. Dalton, Salem.*	H. B. Brewster, Pittsfield.
Geo. R. Kelso, Boston.	J. F. Kingsbury, Newton.
W. F. Draper, Milford.	R. T. Nash, Natick.
H. W. Briggs, New Bedford.*	C. T. Perkins, Watertown.
M. Burns, Taunton.*	C. F. Allen, S. Abington.
Thaddeus Churchill, Boston.*	John McDonough, S. Boston.*

Past Department Commanders.

A. B. R. Sprague, Worcester.	A. B. Underwood, Newton.
Wm. Coggswell, Salem.	John W. Kimball, Fitchburg.
Henry R. Sibley, Charlestown.	Geo. S. Merrill, Lawrence.*

RHODE ISLAND.

Commander,	Chas. H. Williams, Providence.*
Senior Vice Commander,	Amos M. Bowen, Providence.
Junior Vice Commander,	Fred. A. Arnold, Providence.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	W. H. Palmer, Providence.*

Representatives.	*Alternates.*
Chas. C. Gray, Providence (at large.)*	H. J. Spooner, Providence.
Solomon J. Morton, Providence.*	Henry F. Jenks, Pawtucket.

Past Department Commanders.

Horatio Rogers, Providence.	Edwin Metcalf, Providence.
Chas. R. Brayton, Providence.*	Ed. C. Pomroy, Providence.
E. H. Rhodes, Providence.	

CONNECTICUT.

Commander,	W. E. Disbrow, Bridgeport.*
Senior Vice Commander,	Frank G. Otis, West Meriden.
Junior Vice Commander,	Chas. E. Fowler, New Haven.*
Assistant Adjutant-General,	J. W. Knowlton, Bridgeport.

Representatives.	*Alternates.*
Geo. M. White, New Haven.	V. B. Chamberlain, New Britain.
Henry C. Baldwin, Naugatuck.	P. W. Hudson, North Manchester.

Past Department Commanders.

Edward Harland, Norwich.	L. A. Dickinson, Hartford.
Theo. G. Ellis, Hartford.	Chas. J. Buckbee, New Haven.*
Wm. H. Mallory, Hartford.	

NEW YORK.

Commander,	Jas. Tanner, room 139, 111 Broadway, N. Y. city.*
Senior Vice Commander,	John G. Copley, Elmira.*
Junior Vice Commander,	F. J. Loomis, Norwich.*
Assistant Adjutant-General,	Geo. B. Squires, New York city.*

Representatives.	*Alternates.*
Abraham B. Lawrence, Warsaw.*	Geo. F. Hopper, P. O., N. Y. city.
Stewart L. Woodford, Brooklyn.	J. M. Farquhar, Buffalo.*
E. W. Brueninghausen, 395 Canal st., N. Y. city.*	Wm. Kincaid, N. Y. city.
	J. C. Pinckney, N. Y. city.
R. H. McCormic, Albany.*	Fred. R. Jaschke, Brooklyn
Frank M. Clark, No. 4, Irving Place, N. Y. city.	Sam'l Minnes, N. Y. city.
E. C. Parkinson, Brooklyn.	
Dr. James L. Watson, Brooklyn.*	

Past Department Commanders.

Daniel E. Sickles.	Stephen P. Corliss, Albany.*
John C. Robinson, Binghamton.*	Ed. Jardine, New York city.*
Henry A. Barnum, New York city.	John Palmer, Albany.

NEW JERSEY.

Commander,	E. W. Davis, Newark.*
Senior Vice Commander,	John Mueller, Newark.*
Junior Vice Commander,	Sam'l Hufty, Camden.*
Assistant Adjutant-General,	F. W. Sullivan, Newark (Box 112.)*

Representatives.	*Alternates.*
John W. Drew, Paterson.*	James Benson, Hoboken.
W. S. Sulger, Trenton.*	Willson F. Smith, Elizabeth.

Past Department Commanders.

Wm. Ward, Newark.*	John R. Goble, Hoboken.*
R. H. Lee, Camden.*	Chas. Burrows, Paterson.*

PENNSYLVANIA.

Commander,	Jas. W. Latta, Philadelphia.*
Senior Vice Commander,	S. A. Losch, Sch. Haven.*
Junior Vice Commander,	Dan'l O'Neill, Philadelphia.*
Assistant Adjutant General,	John M. Vanderslice, 1208 Chestnut St. Philadelphia.*

Representatives.	*Alternates.*
Norman M Smith, Pittsburgh. (at large.)*	A. M. K. Storrie, Philadelphia *
	W. F. Willoch, Birmingham.
David Branson, Philadelphia.*	J. R. C. Ward, Philadelphia.*
Charles T. Hull, Athens.	E. J. Smith, Philadelphia.
E. B. Young, Allentown.	Chill. W. Hazard, Monongahela City.
Thos. Lees, Chester.*	
Mariott Brosius, Lancaster.*	

Past Department Commanders.

Louis Wagner, Philadelphia.*	Robert B. Beath, Philadelphia.*
O. C. Bosbyshell, Philadelphia.*	A. Wilson Norris, Philadelphia.*
Howard J. Reeder, Easton.*	W. W. Tyson, Pittsburgh.*
Frank Reeder, Easton.*	

VIRGINIA.

Commander,	W. H. Appenzeller, Portsmouth.*
Senior Vice Commander,	John Miller, Portsmouth.
Junior Vice Commander,	A. C. Fuller, Portsmouth.*
Assistant Adjutant General,	S. B. Kenney, Portsmouth; Box 142.*

Representative.	*Alternate.*
W. J. Middlebrook, Nat. Sold. Home, Hampton.*	James B. Dempsey, Portsmouth.*

Past Department Commanders.

H. Carlisle, Norfolk.	S. B. Kenney, Portsmouth.
Wm. N. Eaton, Portsmouth.	

POTOMAC.

Commander,	Benj. F. Hawkes, Washington, D. C.*
Senior Vice Commander,	A.H.G.Richardson, Washington, D C.*
Junior Vice Commander,	Wm. H. Kuhns, Washington, D. C.*
Assistant Adjutant-General,	Geo. E. Corson, Washington, D. C.*

Representative.	*Alternate.*
G. J. P. Wood, Washington, D. C.*	Wm. Gibson, 1012 Pa. Av. Wash. D.C.

Past Department Commanders.

T. Lubey, Washington, D. C.*	James T. Smith, Washington, D. C.
F. H. Sprague, Washington, D. C.*	

OHIO.

Commander,	Wm. Earnshaw, Nat. Soldiers' Home.*
Senior Vice Commander,	Jas. S. Clemmer, Salem.
Junior Vice Commander,	T. D. McGillicuddy, Akron.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	Geo. A. Blocher, Nat. Soldiers' Home.

Representative.	*Alternates.*
H. G. Neubert, Toledo.*	James M. Weaver, Nat. Mil. Home.
	T. C. Boone, Salem.*

Past Department Commanders.

G. M. Barber.	A. C. Voris, Akron.

ILLINOIS.

Commander,	H. Hilliard, Springfield.*
Senior Vice Commander,	T. G. Lawlor, Rockford.
Junior Vice Commander,	P. L. W. Jansen, Chicago.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	J. T. Foster, Eaglewood.*

Representatives.	*Alternates.*
A. L. Chetlain, Chicago,* (at large).	T. B. Coulter, Aurora.
Hubert A. McCaleb, Ottawa.*	C. G. Culver, Watseka.

Past Department Commander.

Guy T. Gould, Chicago.

MINNESOTA.

Commander,	G. H. Johnson, St. Paul.
Senior Vice Commander,	Jacob Meese, St. Paul.*
Junior Vice Commander,	F. Siebold.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	F. M. Finch, St. Paul.
Representative.	*Alternate.*
Washington Pierce.	

Past Department Commanders.

Frank Daggert, Wabash.	J. C. Hamilton, Rochester.
Henry G. Hicks, St. Paul.	H. A. Castle, St. Paul.

WISCONSIN.

Commander,	John Hancock, Oshkosh.
Senior Vice Commander,	H. G. Rogers, Milwaukee.
Junior Vice Commander,	Griff. J. Thomas, Berlin.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	Wm. Wall, Oshkosh.
Representative.	*Alternate.*
Henry B. Harshaw, Oshkosh.*	John M. Ewing, Milwaukee.

Past Department Commanders.

Thomas S. Allen, Oshkosh.	Ed. Ferguson, Milwaukee *
A. J. McCoy, Beaver Dam.	Geo. A. Hanaford, Milwaukee.

CALIFORNIA.

Commander,	Wm. Crosby, San Francisco.
Senior Vice Commander,	A. C. Bagley, Vallejo.
Junior Vice Commander,	D. J. Simmons, Sacramento.
Assistant Adjutant General,	Chas. H Eldredge, San Francisco.
Representative.	*Alternate.*
J. R. Scupham, San Francisco.*	N. N. Brown, Vallejo.*

Past Department Commanders.

Edward Carlson, San Francisco.	W. H. Aiken, San Francisco.

MARYLAND.

Commander,	E. B Tyler, Baltimore.*
Senior Vice Commander,	H. L. Emmons, Jr., Baltimore.*
Junior Vice Commander,	Geo. W. Walker, Hagerstown.*
Assistant Adjutant-General,	Harrison Adreon, Baltimore.*
Representative.	*Alternate.*
J. C. Lynn, Cumberland.*	G. W. Harris, Baltimore.*

Past Department Commanders.

A. W. Denison, Baltimore.†	E. T. Daneker, Baltimore.

KANSAS.

Commander,	John Guthrie, Topeka.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	J. C. Walkinshaw, Leavenworth.*

† Reported after close of Encampment.

ALABAMA.

Commander,	Geo. H. Patrick, Montgomery.
Senior Vice Commander,	Morris W. Wickersham, Mobile.
Junior Vice Commander,	Zach. E. Thomas, Huntsville.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	Datus E. Coon, Selma.
Representative,	Willard Warner, Tecumseh.
Alternate,	Chas. W. Buckley, Montgomery.

PROVISIONAL DEPARTMENTS.

MICHIGAN.

Commander,	D. B. Purinton, Coldwater.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	John Mansfield, Coldwater.

GEORGIA.

Commander,	J. T. Collins, Brunswick.*
Assistant Adjutant-General,	H. T. Dunn, Brunswick.

MISSISSIPPI.

Commander,	J. Tarbell, Jackson.†
Assistant Adjutant-General,	Marion Campbell, Jackson.

IOWA.

Commander,	J. C. Stone, Burlington.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	A. A. Perkins, Burlington.

NEBRASKA.

Commander,	Paul Van Dervoort, Omaha.*
Assistant Adjutant-General,	Wm. Coburn, Omaha.*

MOUNTAIN.

Commander,	Andrew Taylor, Fort Sanders, W. T.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	H. A. Joy, Fort Sanders, W. T.

MISSOURI.

Commander,	Ford Smith, St. Louis.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	H. Hiemen, St. Louis.

POSTS REPORTING DIRECT.

Post No. 1, Louisiana,	York A. Woodward, P. C., New Orl.
Post No. 1, Oregon,	W. S. Newbury, P. C., Portland.

Comrades C. E. DuBois* and E. W. Ryan.*

The Commander-in-Chief stated that if no objection was made, the representatives of Departments, as read, would be admitted.

There being no objection, he so declared.

The Commander-in-Chief then made the following address:

ADDRESS OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

COMRADES:—As the representative of the Grand Army of the Republic, you have assembled here to-day in accordance with an annual custom, to deliberate and take council with each other upon all matters of interest to our loved Order which demand attention. I am happy to state that the tender twig which for years past required so much nourishment and care, and which so often bent to the storms of prejudice and adverse criticism, has stretched its roots so widely and deeply, and has become so firm and strong, that it no longer needs that ceaseless watchfulness exercised by former commanders to protect it from public opinion without or weakness from within. The wisdom of the comrades composing the National Encampments in the past has destroyed the growth of all disturbing elements which would have retarded the development or drawn their sustenance from the life or prosperity of our Order; and, thanks to their foresight, our organization is no longer subject to the suspicion that we are united for selfish or party purposes, and we are free to perform the sacred duties our comradeship imposes upon us, without stopping to do battle with misconception and falsehood.

Surely the fraternity of those who stood side by side in the many bloody conflicts of the late war is a natural tie that needs not to be cemented with any binding obligation, and is it strange that from this feeling of fraternity there should spring a sentiment of charity for the sufferings of those who had passed through the fearful ordeal of war, or had left impoverished and helpless families behind them? And is it not logical if we cherish a recollection of that war, and nourish a feeling of kindness for those whom its casualties have in part or in whole deprived of support, that we should nurse with a fervent and holy regard the spirit of patriotism or loyalty that prompted us to incur all the terrible chances of battle to save the integrity of the Union and preserve the flag of our choice?

These three simple principles are the articles of our Grand Army creed—the cultivation of a habit of fraternity among Comrades; the exercise of a daily charity to the maimed and helpless, and the constant renewal of our allegiance to the Government for which we periled so much; and they meanly asperse us who impute other than these motives to our actions as Grand Army Comrades.

Despite the hard times and the general prostration of business and industry, the prosperity of the Order has been marked and encouraging, and the steady increase in our numbers gives promise of large accessions to our ranks so soon as the distrust that now pervades all classes of our people is destroyed and money is released once more for legitimate enterprise. Our growth has not only been in numbers, but in Posts and Departments, and we may congratulate ourselves that our organization is extending its benefits and usefulness into every corner of the land.

It is a pleasure to observe, likewise, that we are financially in a good

condition, notwithstanding the extra and necessary expenditures made, as will appear in the reports of staff officers.

It is alike interesting and creditable to remark that a large amount of money has been expended by the Posts in charitable work, and this worthy object of our Order has been zealously and religiously pursued.

For details as to growth, work, discipline and future purposes of the Order, I refer you to the reports of the staff officers, whose duties, it gives me pleasure to state, have been performed with great fidelity and diligence, and with the good and advancement of our cherished Order always in view.

When you visit the great Exposition of art and industry now open in this city, you will be gratified to see the substantial contributions made by our nation to the comfort, luxury and progress of humanity, and as you witness this Exhibition I feel assured you will experience no greater pleasure than in the thought that, through your efforts in part, our great nation was preserved in its integrity for a future of usefulness, honor and glory, and, with the natural and just pride that comes of this thought, let there go apace a resolution to do your share towards effecting a true reconciliation between the sections of our common country, and to advance every effort that will unite with you our late foes, in promoting the prosperity of our country and enlarging the scope and purpose of our free institutions.

The Adjutant-General stated that the Department of Virginia, by some oversight, had not been accorded a member of the National Council, and the Department officers asked that Comrade Thos. Arnold be elected to fill the vacancy.

The Departments of Maryland and Alabama were also entitled to members, and the former named Comrade, T. W. Dew. Comrade Sullivan, of New Jersey, had tendered his resignation, and the Department officers named Comrade J. R. Woodruff to fill the vacancy.

The Commander-in-Chief stated that if there was no objection, the Comrades named would be declared as elected members of the Council of Administration.

Comrade Earnshaw (Ohio) stated that his Department had elected two representatives, and both were present; that they now found by the report that they were entitled to but one. He stated that his Department had gained a sufficient number since January 1st, to give them this additional representation, and he asked that it be so accorded.

It was decided that this could not be allowed under the Rules.

The Adjutant-General presented, in print, the reports of the Adjutant-General, Quartermaster-General, Inspector-General, Surgeon-General and Judge Advocate-General.

On motion of Comrade Storrie (Pa.), the reading of these reports was dispensed with.

Report of the Adjutant-General.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Philadelphia, June 26th, 1876.

Gen. JOHN. F. HARTRANFT,
Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade:—In presenting the report of the Adjutant-General for the tenth annual meeting of the National Encampment, it seems proper to refer briefly to the earlier history of the Order.

This national organization was formed in the city of Indianapolis, November 20, 1866, by representatives from the States of Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kansas, Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York and Missouri, and the District of Columbia; departments having been therein organized in the order named.

The actual facts relative to the formation of the Order are involved in doubt, no records seem to have been preserved, or are known to exist, that would show to whom we are indebted for the work that brought this Order into existence; but it seems certain that the first Post was formed in Springfield, and that Illinois was first formed as a Department, its Commander, acting as Commander-in-Chief, issued the call for that Convention.

Prior to this, any Department could issue charters or authority for the formation of posts, even in distant States; different Rituals and Rules were in use in many of them.

At this first Encampment a Ritual and Rules and Regulations were adopted for the government of the Order.

That the Order spread most rapidly in the West is well known, but it is not so well known that some of these first departments never made a report to Headquarters, or that the strength claimed was purely fictitious.

It will not be profitable now to review the reasons for the decline of the Order in the Great West, where it had its origin. It is a pleasant thing to report that it is, slowly but surely, reviving, and, with continued efforts on the part of those most directly interested, a permanent Department will yet be formed in every Western State.

It is right and proper here, as Illinois has been referred to as the birthplace of the Order, and it is known that it declined in numbers to but a handful, to state that within the last year it has taken wonderful strides forward, mainly through the energetic work of its present Commander.

Kentucky, that reported a small membership in 1874, did not report in 1875, though it is known that the Department met and elected new officers a few weeks ago.

No report has been received from Missouri, though I was informed that six posts were ready to form a permanent Department.

Though the reports show little aggregate gain in numbers, quite a number of departments have gained largely, and the forty-five additional posts reported will give us many more members

The determination is expressed in the backward departments to recover lost ground, and they are certainly doing so.

During the year we lost 371 comrades by death.

Since these reports closed, permanent departments have been organized in Maryland and Alabama, and there is every reason to believe that Kansas, Nebraska* and Iowa will be so organized during the summer.

Through the efforts of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Reynolds a foothold has been obtained in Michigan. A Provisional Department has been organized, and it is believed a number of posts will be well under way this fall.

The same officer has made efforts to establish posts in Indiana; one was formed at Valparaiso, but must have been struck by the old blight that cursed that State years ago.

The work in these mission-fields should be still prosecuted, for there is hope that the warm feeling of fraternity alive amongst the veterans will necessarily bring them into closer companionship in our Order.

RITUALS.

The supply of Rituals is about exhausted, and a new edition is required at once.

With a view to economy, as well as to remedy in a measure, the evil of having so many books with the obligation therein in Posts, the parts of the S. V. C., J. V. C, and the Chaplain were printed on separate cards. Two copies of the Ritual with these cards, should be sufficient for any Post.

As we have now to reprint, it is a good time to consider whether the charge of the P C. could not be abbreviated with advantage.

The National Encampment ought to establish the charge for Ritual by D partments to Posts; there is great diversity in this regard.

FORMS OF REPORTS.

During the year, some of the forms for reports have been modified, with a view to reducing their cost. Department officers have been requested to report any further changes shown by their experience, as yet needed to make them perfect.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

In view of the large number of Rules and Regulations, edition of 1874, on hand, the Encampment should decide whether there shall be a reprint to include the changes made since.

The amendments by the last Encampment were printed on slips to be

*Com. Vandervoot reported the formation of seven posts in Nebraska, and that a permanent Department would be formed on his return.

pasted in the copies in use, but it is evident that many Post Commanders are careless as to their use.

PRINTED PROCEEDINGS.

By the courtesy of several comrades, I have been enabled to secure copies of the Proceedings of National Encampments, making, with those I had myself preserved, sufficient to complete thirteen sets, which have been bound for better preservation and distribution to the executive staff officers, and Headquarters of different Departments, that in the event of another fire at National Headquarters, these copies, at least, may be secure. In this connection, the attention of the National Encampment should be called to the fact that despite the liberal and gratuitous distribution of the printed minutes, in comparatively few cases have they been preserved by Posts; the copies evidently having been accepted in many instances as the personal property of the recipient. To remedy this, one should be issued to each Post, marked to be retained as Post property.

BADGES.

Through General Orders and circulars from these Headquarters, the Order has been informed of a change in the manufacture of Grand Army badges.

The reasons for this change, involving as it did a technical departure from the Rules and Regulations, it was deemed best to withold from the Order generally, until the facts could be fully presented to the National Encampment.

By a confidential circular, dated November 5, 1875, sent to the officers and members of the National Council of Administration; and also to Department Commanders for the information of themselves and their immediate staff, the facts were fully stated, and their approval was asked and unanimously given to resolutions covering this departure.

The Quartermaster-General and myself visited the manufacturer, Mr. A. Demarest, to complain of the very inferior workmanship of badges that had been issued for some months then past, and to require from him strict compliance with his contract.

In answer to the question, Mr. Demarest stated that none of the badges were made of *captured* cannon, as no such material had been furnished him. He had received an order from Headquarters to enable him to secure a cannon from the Brooklyn Navy Yard, but its removal involved an expenditure he did not care to make.

Special attention is asked at this point to previous legislation on this subject.

Sec. 2, Art. IX, Chap. V, R. and R.

"The membership badge of the Grand Army of the Republic shall be in form and material that adopted at the special meeting of the National Encampment in New York, October 27, 1869, and no other shall be worn as the badge of the Grand Army, except that prescribed for officers in Sec 3, and for past officers in Sec. 4."

The action of the National Encampment referred to above is stated in these resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That the design of badge submitted by the Council of Administration be adopted, and that the badge made shall be cast from bronze composed of cannon captured during the late rebellion.

"*Resolved*, That the Quartermaster-General be authorized to contract with A. Demarest, of New York city, for the badge above adopted, upon the condition that the Grand Army of the Republic shall have the sole legal right to the patent of the said badge, and that it shall be furnished to comrades at a cost not to exceed one dollar and fifty cents."

And in Circular No. 2, dated Washington, February 18, 1870, reciting these resolutions, is added, "the badge is of bronze, composed of cannon captured in different decisive battles during the rebellion."

Succeeding administrations adopted this in good faith, and under these representations over 25,000 badges were sold to members.

With this direct knowledge of the deceit practiced, and the record before us of the positive guarantees made to the Order, we could not become parties to it by continuing the same course.

It was believed that the publication of the facts would be injurious to the Order, and the question, what to do, in the face of the provisions in the Rules and Regulations quoted, and to meet the constant demand for badges was serious and perplexing.

Some time was lost in ascertaining the legal status of the badge, whether Mr. Demarest could continue to make and sell the same without consent of the National Encampment.

No papers covering these points could be found at Headquarters; but both Comrade Lubey, the Quartermaster-General serving at the time these badges were authorized, and Mr. Demarest, agreed that there was no written contract—only a verbal agreement for their manufacture.

It was found that the device of the badge was patented in the name of Comrade Lubey, as it could not be held legally in the name of the Order, and he, when requested, assigned the same to yourself. When this was settled, and no one could legally use the device without your authority, Mr. Demarest was notified to discontinue making these badges.

To cease entirely the issue of badges until the meeting of the National Encampment would have been a great annoyance to our members, to whom, with such a refusal, a full explanation could not be given; and we knew that for the next Memorial Day there would be a heavy demand that should be provided for.

Experts in the manufacture of medals and badges were called on, and all agreed to the following:

That cannon metal could not be used for badges, except as a casting.

That the badges in use, though good as castings, were not made of cannon metal.

That the only practicable way for the manufacture of "bronze badges," so called, was by stamping from dies, and that the best metal for that purpose was copper by itself, or alloyed with nickel or tin.

The Coiner of the mint, who has made this subject a special study, was positive that copper, afterwards bronzed by chemical action, would prove the best for our purpose.

The Council of Administration was asked to authorize an expenditure for dies, to manufacture badges at the United States Mint.

The die for making the eagle used on Medals of Honor was believed to be then in the Mint, and we were to have the use of it, so that no estimate was made for the cost of that die or the necessary cutters. The die, however, had been mislaid or broken, and one was made after the original, but decidedly poor pattern.

The dies for the star were cut by an engraver of the Mint, and were supposed to be perfect when transferred to us. They were first used on an alloy of copper and nickel in the regular medal press of the Mint, but owing to the hardness of this metal, itself very much softer than cannon metal, the reverse die broke.

A new reverse die was made, and other alloys, looking towards a bronze medal, were tested, but the damage to the dies was such that it became necessary to substitute copper.

A new obverse die was ordered, but it proved inferior to the first, and badges were not turned out as perfect as they ought to have been.

As even amongst the few who were aware of the facts, there was a strong feeling of doing away entirely with this large badge, and there was no authority for any further expenditures, we concluded to do the best possible with these dies until the pleasure of the National Encampment could be known.

The pressure upon the mint for badges and medals of all kinds has been so great that our orders have been delayed very much, although, through the courtesy of the coiner, we have been favored in having them pushed in ahead of others, and have thus, in a measure, partially supplied the wants of the Order.

In view of the fact that the old badges are intrinsically without value; that they are in the hands of thousands of comrades no longer of us, and adorn the breasts of many itinerants; it appears to me the time has come for considering the practicability of having a smaller badge, of a different form, possibly, or to reduce the size of the present one-half; making and selling them, as at present, giving the National Encampment the benefit of any profit made, except when old badges are returned, when cost price only should be charged.

If, however, it be deemed best to continue the present form and size, authority should be given at once for new dies and cutters; and it would also be well for the National Encampment to order as to the color of the badge—whether to use fire-gilt or the dark-bronze color, as at present.

I am satisfied that with new dies, a medal somewhat thinner can be made perfect at the price now charged, and leave profit enough to cover all reasonable contingencies.

The actual cost without dies is a fraction over 45 cents each, showing a profit to the National Encampment of nearly 30 cents; which will now

justify the ordering of new dies. This profit may appear large, but when the chances of breaking dies is considered, it would not be right to reduce it.

AN APPEAL.*

Mr. F. C. F. desires to have presented to the National Encampment his protest against the action of a Department Commander in summarily dismissing him from the Order.

The facts are given at length with the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General, in his report, here submitted. F. had made application to one Post and had been rejected. Subsequently, he made application to another Post, withholding the fact of his former rejection.

Whether this was innocently done, as he claims, or not, is not now material.

He was accepted by the Post, was duly mustered, and served a number of months as an officer.

The matter was brought to the attention of the Department Commander, who issued a General Order, declaring F. no longer a member.

There may be occasions, and have been, when summary action of this kind is necessary, as when a person having no right in the Order, by some carelessness, has been admitted; but in this case, it appears to me, the comrade should have been tried by court-martial for any offence committed.

Mr. F., having no status, cannot present an appeal in proper form, and the question, "Whether a Department or Post Commander may summarily dismiss a comrade" is submitted for action of the National Encampment.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The following is a recapitulation of my receipts and expenditures, as per detailed statement and vouchers, to December 31st:

RECEIPTS.

From departments for the Demarest badges	$387 56	
For supplies	378 08	
From the Quartermaster-General	231 92	
		$997 56

EXPENDITURES.

For express charges, telegrams, postage and incidentals	$138 99	
Paid to Mr. Demarest for badges, in full	275 24	
Salary allowed to Adjutant-General, under resolution of Encampment, 7 months	583 33	
		$997 56

*NOTE.—The Adjutant-General, with more knowledge on this matter, would now prefer the statement of the case by the Judge Advocate-General. See Opinion No. 72

RECAPITULATION OF SUPPLY ACCOUNT TO DECEMBER 31ST.

Cost of Invoice from Adjutant-General Sibley	$493 45	
Supplies purchased since	224 31	
		$717 76
Charged to Departments	383 62	
Value of blanks on hand	460 31	
		$843 98
Showing profit on blanks		$125 17

This apparent profit will be reduced by blanks of old form F and G on hand that are really useless, and on Rules and Regulations, if a new edition should be ordered.

OLD BADGE ACCOUNT.

Bills of Mr. Demarest		$357 00
Received for same	$387 56	
Ribbons on hand	14 80	
		$402 36
Actual profit		$45 36

There was a further profit of $38.06 for commissions due the preceding administration.

I repeat the recommendation of my predecessor, that the following uncollectable accounts be closed to profit and loss:

Indiana	$ 9 00
Tennessee	4 56
Missouri	1 90
Kansas	91 17
Florida	1 38
Michigan	16 13
Frank Nolen (badges)	26 25
	$150 39

It is an annoyance to account for these each year, when they can never be collected. Some of the accounts were opened and allowed, in the belief that credit would help comrades laboring in the States named; and if new organizations should be formed therein, they should not be charged with these amounts.

TESTIMONIALS.

At the last National Encampment, a committee consisting of Comrades Ward, Merrill and Beath was appointed, "with authority to procure a suitable testimonial to be presented to Comrade Devens, as a substantial and permanent recognition of his services as Commander-in-Chief."

In accordance therewith, a beautiful gold badge was prepared and presented to Comrade Devens with appropriate ceremonies. The Post of which

Comrade Devens is a member (No. 10, of Worcester) made the occasion memorable by handsomely entertaining the members of the committee present (Comrades Ward and Meriill), and the invited guests.

The same committee was appointed to carry out the resolutions of the Encampment in reference to Comrade H. R. Sibley, expressive of the estimation in which he was held by the Encampment, and in appreciation of his valuable services; and now Comrade Sibley tells the time-o'-day by a fine watch that will always remind him of the kind regard of his comrades.

MILAN B. GOODRICH.

Since our last session the death of Comrrde Milan B. Goodrich has been reported. Comrade Goodrich was a charter member of Crocker Post. No. 45, Auburn, New York. He served on the staff of Commander-in-Chief Burnside, as Assistant Adjutant General and as Inspector-General. In these positions, and in his whole connection with the Grand Army. he was noted for zeal and interest in the Order.

He entered the service on the first call for troops, and served to the close of the war, receiving the rare compliment of special mention, on two occasions for gallantry in the field, and earning successive promotions for efficiency and fidelity.

CLOSING.

In closing I express the belief that the Order, generally, is in good condition, yet that there are Departments where prompt measures are needed to prevent further losses, and these should receive close attention from Department officers.

I have been enabled, during the year, in the pursuit of my business, and on one special Grand Army trip, to see and converse with the officers at Headquarters of a number of Departments, and to stimulate and encourage them; and also to visit quite a number of Posts.

The usual clerical and executive duties at these Headquarters, as a rule, have been promptly attended to; and whilst there have been imperfections, it is hoped and believed, on the whole, the work has resulted satisfactorily to the Grand Army of the Republic.

Yours in F. C. and L.,

R. B. BEATH,
Adjutant-General.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S REPORT.

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL, G. A. R.
NEWARK, N. J., June 26, 1876.

ROBERT B. BEATH,
Adjutant-General.

COMRADE:—The following report of the business of this office for the year 1875 is respectfully submitted.

According to the reports handed me by my prèdecessor, Comrade A. B. R. Sprague, the following amounts were received and expended by him after the close of his printed report:

Balance per last report (page 334)	$4,169 40
Receipts from Departments marked* (on page 394) Dues	52 48
" " sales of books, blanks and furniture	392 35
A. Demarest, commission on badges sold (applied to purchase of badges, per statement)	45 65
Interest on deposits	1 84
	$4,661 72
Expended by him:	
Doane & Greenough, printing, &c	$497 10
J. A. Joel, advertising in Grand Army Gazette	63 00
H. B. Peirce, A. D. C., salary, office rent and expenses	553 78
Expenses paid for 9th Annual Encampment	236 70
Corlies, Macy & Co, printing charters	15 00
A. Demarest, for badges and ribbons	45 65
Balance, cash	3,250 49
	$4,661 72

STATEMENT OF ASSETS, MAY 24TH, 1875.

Due from Departments for supplies*	$306 32
" A. Demarest, commission on badges	11 47
Sales of books, blanks and badges, turned over	493 45
Cash, as above	3,250 49
Total assets May 24th	$4,061 73

RECEIPTS SINCE.

Cash received from Comrade Sprague, as above	$3,250 49
Received for dues, as per statement appended	2,095 95
Interest on deposits	75 00
Total receipts	$5,421 44

DISBURSEMENTS.

Moss & Co., printing and stationery	$ 93 78
Merrihew & Son, printing	308 61
Doane & Greenough, Boston, printing Proceedings 1875	282 00
R. B. Beath, account, salary and office expenses	231 92
Guild & Delano, Boston, presentation badge to Past Commander-in-Chief Devens	100 00
Presentation watch to Adjutant-General Sibley	225 00
Macy & Co., lithograph charters	33 00
S. C. Smith, engrossing commissions	40 00
Expenses Council of Administration, Dec. 2, 1875	60 30
Office expenses Q. M. G., stamped envelopes, etc	14 63
Cash on hand, Dec 31st	4,032 20
	$5,421 44

*150 39 uncollectable (see Quartermaster-General's Report, 1875, page 337)

CHICAGO RELIEF FUND.

June 10th, 1875, received from Com. Sprague	$24 95
Sept. 28th, " appropriated to relief of soldiers' widows	10 00
Balance	$14 95

RECEIPTS FROM DEPARTMENTS AND POSTS, FOR EACH QUARTER, 1875.

	Supplementary.	1st Qr.	2d Qr.	3d Qr.	4th Qr.	Total.
Maine		*$19 54	$22 58	$23 58	$23 76	$89 46
New Hampshire		*10 68	13 58	13 60	13 92	51 78
Vermont		10 22	9 64	9 66	9 68	39 20
Massachusetts	*$201	206 60	198 60	192 82	188 92	788 95
Rhode Island		13 76	14 14	13 12	12 88	53 90
Connecticut		*18 04	17 68	18 46	17 66	71 84
New York		112 56	115 78	111 12	115 76	455 22
N. Jersey		15 04	10 24	23 02	20 04	68 34
Pennsylvania		78 24	74 88	80 82	91 20	325 14
Maryland Post 1.			70	70	70	2 10
" " 2.		* 30	34	34	34	1 32
Potomac		* 1 58	1 36	1 32	1 64	5 90
Virginia		3 74	3 52	3 28	3 34	13 88
Ohio		7 70	7 54	6 84	7 44	29 52
Illinois		13 58	15 48	12 54	20 14	61 74
Kentucky						7 35
Minnesota		10 10	3 48	7 04	11 66	32 28
†Wisconsin						
Michigan						56
Mountain		* 2 34	2 36	2 28	3 42	10 40
Missouri			96			96
Post 1, La	5 40	2 16	72	76	78	9 82
Georgia		3 42	76	76	76	5 70
California		2 56	2 52	2 20	2 18	9 46
Oregon	4 65	66	66	66	60	7 23
Iowa		1 26	1 62	1 66	1 84	6 38

The above presents the financial standing to December 31st, as required by resolution of the National Encampment, but for the information of this Encampment, I would report

Cash reported above	$4032 20
Receipts and estimated receipts for dues for first quarter	520 00
Due for interest to July 1st	84 75
	$4636 95
From which deduct expenses from January 1st to June 26th	1211 94
Available Cash, per estimate	$3425 01

* Received by A. B. R. Sprague, and included in my account. † Paid Since.

And there is reported by the Adjutant-General to June 25th, 1876,

Dues for supplies, good accounts	$ 557 60
Blanks on hand, cost	268 40
Furniture, say	150 00
Cash in his hands	160 31
	$4561 14
Uncollectable Debts	150 39
	$4711 53

There is due for bills not yet presented some $300.00, making net cash assets about $4,200.

CENTENNIAL STOCK.*

The following named Posts have forwarded subscriptions for Certificates of Centennial Stock, and the same was duly forwarded to Chairman, Centennial Finance Committee:

1875, December 21, Lincoln No. 11, New Jersey, 1 share, $10.00.
" 25, Joseph A. Mower, 1, Louisiana, 1 share, $10.00.
" 31, Elias Howe, Jr., 3, Connecticut, 1 share, $10.00.
1876, January 3, Buckley, 12, Ohio, 1 share, $10.00.
" 4, Reynolds, 71, Pennsylvania, 2 shares, $20.00.
" 15, Stanley, 11, Connecticut, 1 share, $10.00.
" 21, Admiral Foote, 17, Connecticut, 1 share, $10.00.
" 24, General Mansfield, 4, Wyoming Territory, 1 share, $10.00.
" 29, Thos. Fran. Meagher, 15, Soldiers' Home, Virginia, 1 share, $10.00.
February 12, Major Howe, 47, Massachusetts, 1 share, $10.00.
" 16, Littlefield, 8, New Hampshire, 1 share, $10.00.
March 16, Bidwell, 9, New York, 1 share, $10.00.

SOLDIERS' MONUMENT IN CHALMETTE NATIONAL CEMETERY, LA.

The following named posts have responded to the call of Jos. A. Mowrer Post, No 1, New Orleans, for aid in completing the Soldiers' Monument in Chalmette National Cemetery, Louisiana:

1876, January 15, Reynolds No. 1, Pennsylvania	$ 2 50
" 18, Burnside, 92, "	1 00
" 18, E. R. Canby, 11, Wyoming Territory	2 50
" 21, Department of Connecticut	25 00
" 21, Admiral Foote, 17, Connecticut	5 00
" 22, J. K. Taylor, 182, Pennsylvania	2 00
" 23, General Mansfield, 4, Wyoming Territory	10 00
" 26, Joseph W. Allen, 9, New Jersey	2 50
" 29, Wilde, 25, Pennsylvania	5 00
" 29, Greble, 64, New York	4 00
February 4, Stanley, 11, Connecticut	2 00

*Other Posts had previously sent subscriptions direct. A. G.

February 5,	General Lander, 5, Massachusetts	5 00
" 5,	Whittier, 10, Illinois	5 00
" 8,	Major Howe, 47, Massachusetts	5 00
" 8,	H. S. Greenleaf, 20, Massachusetts	2 00
" 9,	Post 5, Pennsylvania	5 00
" 12,	George H. Thomas, 2, Fort Fetterman, W. T.	3 00
" 16,	Littlefield, 8, New Hampshire	5 00
" 23,	Chas. Beck, 56, Massachusetts	5 00
" 24,	Abraham Lincoln, 11, Massachusetts	5 15
" 25,	Ely, 97, Pennsylvania	5 00
" 26,	Geo. A. Ward, 10, Massachusetts	5 00
" 29,	E. V. Sumner, 19, "	5 00
" 29,	Hexamer, 34, New Jersey	5 00
" 29,	John A. Andrew, 15, Massachusetts	5 00
March 7,	W. H. McKittrick, 46, New York	3 00
" 7,	Nathaniel Lyon, 61, Massachusetts	5 00
" 8,	Fred. Taylor, 19, Pennsylvania	2 00
" 8,	Phelps, 124, Pennsylvania	1 25
" 9,	Robert McCook, 22, Illinois	2 00
" 11,	Thomas Francis Meagher, 15, Virginia	5 00
" 13,	Ward, 90, Massachusetts	3 88
" 13,	Allen, 67, Massachusetts	3 00
" 14,	Major Boyd, 151, Massachusetts	1 50
" 14,	General Mansfield, 48, Pennsylvania	1 20
" 18,	Aurora, 26, Illinois	5 00
" 20,	Hays, 3, Pennsylvania	3 50
" 20,	P. Stearns Davis, 57, Massachusetts	5 00
" 21,	76, "	2 00
" 21,	Lincoln, 11, New Jersey	5 00
" 21,	Prescott, 1, Rhode Island	5 00
" 23,	Kit Carson, 2, Potomac	5 00
" 23,	Kilpatrick, 71, Massachusetts	2 00
" 27,	Major J. A. Pratt, 59, Massachusetts	2 00
" 29,	W. A. Streeter, 145, Massachusetts	5 00
" 30,	Ulric Dahlgren, 25, New Jersey	5 00
" 31,	Bidwell, 9, New York	5 00
April 8,	Berry, 10, Maine	2 00
" 14,	Geo. H. Thomas, 29, New Jersey	4 00
" 15,	Gowen, 23, Pennsylvania	3 55
" 17,	W. Logan Rodman, 1, Massachusetts	5 00
" 18,	Koltes, 32, New York	10 00
" 20,	J. J. Andrews, 70, Pennsylvania	4 00
" 28,	Daniel Elsworth, 12, New York	1 00
May 6,	Tower, 17, Rhode Island	5 00
" 13,	J. Cushing Edmonds, 102, Massachusetts	5 00
" 16,	Fletcher Webster, 13, Massachusetts	4 00
June 17,	Department of Illinois	5 00
		$252 53

I can but express my regret that the appeal made by Jos. A. Mower Post, No. 1, New Orleans, for aid in completing Soldiers' Monument in Chalmette National Cemetery, Louisiana, should have met with such a feeble response.

As our official relations are now about to end, I desire to extend to the Commander-in-Chief and yourself my sincere thanks for the uniform courtesy and kindness I have experienced from headquarters.

Fraternally yours,

WILLIAM WARD,
Quartermaster-General.

Inspector-General's Report.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,
Inspector General's Office,
June 27th, 1876.

ROBERT. B. BEATH,
Adjutant-General.

Comrade:—I have the honor to submit to the National Encampment the following report of the Inspector-General's Department for the year ending December 31st, 1875.

It will be perceived that several departments have failed to forward their reports.

MAINE.

Posts holding charters	23
" inspected	23
" in first-rate condition	3
" fair	20
" bad	...
Average muster-in fee	$3 52
" dues	1 80
" paid for benefits	2 67
Total paid for charity	2,110 70
Average " "	162 36
Amount remaining in 9 Post funds	1,522 79

9 Posts report relief funds.
3 " pay stated benefits.
12 " reported uniformed.—Gain of 211 members.

Post No. 2 reports a Post fund of $6,000 invested, and expended for charity alone, $1,096.39.

The Inspector reports the Department in flourishing condition, having inspected personally 21 posts.

Reports only 2 posts that dispensed with the ritual by each officer committing their parts. Thinks it a great advantage.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Posts in good standing	17
" inspected	17

One reported in poor condition, one fair, and the rest favorably reported.

Average muster-in fee	$2 35
" dues	1 79
" paid for benefits	4 00
" " charity	40 94
Total " "	695 95
Total amount in relief fund	3465 40

4 Posts own 30 muskets.

The officers and members of 11 Posts are reported fully uniformed and equipped.

Comrade T. W. Challis, A. I. G., reports the books, papers, &c., at Headquarters in a satisfactory condition under the present management. States that retained copies of the A. Q. M. General's Department have not been turned over, causing some trouble, and suggests as a remedy for this, that books should be prepared, in which all Post reports should be recorded.

This matter should be attended to by the Department officers.

Comrade Challis states that Comrade C. J. Richards, Department Commander, has given fully one-third of his time to the Order, and has been efficiently sustained by the other officers. He suggests that books for reports similar to the blanks should be prepared, in which copies should be retained for future reference. On the whole this report is a very good one.

VERMONT.

No report from this Department.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Comrade Chas. O. Welch, A. I. G., inspected the Headquarters of this Department, and reports that though the present A. A. G. had been in charge but a few weeks, the records in his Department, as well as for the A. Q. M. G., were in good condition; that the Council of Administration met monthly for the consideration of business, and all the officers were active in the discharge of their duties.

The report as per form E not received.

RHODE ISLAND.

Posts in good standing	12
" inspected	12
" in first-rate condition	3
" fair	9
Average muster-in fee	$2 41
" dues	1 31
" paid for charity	157 86
" " benefits	3 00
Total for charity	789 30

Amount remaining in relief fund.....307 31

5 Posts reporting relief fund.
2 " " stated benefits.
8 " " uniformed.
4 " " 37 muskets owned.

Comrade James E. Chace, A. I. G., reports records of this Department in good condition, and that business is conducted in a commendable manner. The Medical Director has been unable to complete his report by reason of the descriptive books failing to give the data required.

CONNECTICUT.

Posts holding charters, Dec. 31	20
" in good standing	12
" inspected	15
" in first-rate condition	9
" fair	3
" bad	3
Average muster-in fee	$2 25

But two Posts report relief funds, one $600.00, another $318.94.

Post 3 is reported having expended in charity $318.94 Post 8, $300.

Four Posts pay stated benefits.

Officers of 5 Posts fully or partly equipped.

The report warrants the inference that a thorough shaking-up is needed in quite a number of these Posts, and the attentiou of the Department Officers is called to the same.

Comrade Jas. Oliver, A. I. G., reports records at Headquarters properly kept. Two files of orders are kept in separate buildings, to guard against total loss by fire.

NEW YORK.

Posts holding charters	103
" inspected	101
Amount expended for charity	$17,400
" remaining in Post fund	19,700

Comrade Parkinson, Department Inspector, recommends that the Council of Administration specify certain Posts to be visited by the Department and staff officers in their respective localities without any special notice.

Reports that the committee appointed at the last annual Encampment to establish a "Soldiers' Home," have procured a charter and elected trustees June 1, 1876, and raised by subscription $22,500. The Home is entitled, "The Grand Army of the Republic Soldiers' Home," of the State of New York.

The comrades composing the Board of Trustees have entered upon the discharge of their duties with a determination that argurs the successful inauguration of a home for our indigent and disabled comrades in the Department during the present year. The Department is represented as very efficient and satisfactory. The report on form E not received.

NEW JERSEY.

Posts holding charters	22
" inspected	20
" first rate condition	14
" fair	3
" bad	3
Average muster-in fee	$ 3 50
" dues	1 23½
" paid for benefits	4 00
Total spent for charity	2,165 75
Amount remaining in 9 Posts funds	1,106 88

13 Posts report relief funds.
10 " pay stated benefits.
7 " reported uniformed.

Total number of members	894

Reports a slight decrease in numbers, but the Order was never in better condition or more respected by the people

PENNSYLVANIA.

Number of Posts in good standing	83
Number of Posts inspected	33
Amount expended in charity (one quarter)	$3,500 00

The Posts are mainly uniformed in whole or in part.

During 5 months, the membership in Philadelphia has increased over 500.

This report is not as complete as it should be, and it is hoped measures will be instituted for a general inspection in this large and growing Department.

VIRGINIA.

Posts holding charters	6
" inspected	6
" first rate condition	1
" fair	3
" bad	2
Average muster-in fee	$2 75
" dues	6 00
" paid for benefits	3 00
Amount paid for charity	32 50

All the Posts report stated benefits.

One Post not reported.

Comrade Carlisle, Assistant Inspector-General, reports the records at the Headquarters of this Department complete since December 14, 1870. He gives it as his opinion that the Order cannot be numerically large in that State, but that the Department officers neglect no opportunity of advancing the interest of the Order therein, and are active and efficient in the performance of all duties.

OHIO.

Posts in good standing	10
" inspected	9
" in first rate condition	2
" fair	8
Average muster.in fee	$ 2 60
" dues	
2 Posts paid for charity	291 10
2 " have relief fund	401 59
2 " pay stated benefits	3 00
1 " reported uniformed.	

Owing to the indisposition of the Assistant Inspector-General of this Department, no fuller report could be obtained.

CALIFORNIA.

Only three posts are reported as inspected in this Department, and these in good condition. Muster-in fees range from $1.00 to $7.00.

It will require renewed energy on the part of the officers to keep up this Department. It seems to have been retrograding for several years.

MOUNTAIN.

Posts holding charters	5
" in good condition	5
Average muster-in fee	$2 00
" dues	3 00
Amount expended for charity	1 00

This Provisional Department is composed of posts in Colorado, Wyoming and Utah Territories, and it is safe to assert that no Department is more prompt in making full reports to headquarters

A new Post (Henry Wilson, No. 5,) was chartered May 30th.

The inspection of the five posts shows them all to be in excellent condition.

No reports have been received from the Departments of the Potomac, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and Colorado.

A general desire is expressed for a change in the Commander's charge in the Ritual, as being too long and of little practical importance.*

It is proven that the most interesting meetings are those where the use of the printed book is discarded, and each officer recites accurately from memory.

*When the Inspector-General made this recommendation he had not seen the muster-in services as carried out in Post No. 2, Philadelphia. Here, in a beautiful hall, adorned with many fine pictures and decorations—the services being memorized during the Commander's charge, slowly recited, appropriate pictures are thrown on a screen by a stereopticon. The effect on the recruit, and upon the members, is most impressive.

Notwithstanding the efforts made for some years, there is still a great lack of uniformity in proceeding with the unwritten work. Some departments use a Department countersign, others none; there certainly ought to be uniformity in this and all other respects—and I recommend that the Encampment adopt a mode of instruction to recruits, to be printed with the Ritual, leaving asterisks for that part of it necessarily secret.

The membership of the Grand Army is very small compared with the number who entered the military service of the country during the war, and measures should be adopted to increase the interest of all honorably discharged soldiers in our organization. To keep alive this interest, we must strengthen the Order, and the question arises, how can we bring into the organization the vast number of men whose sympathies are with us? As far as the cities and large towns are concerned, this question is answered by the posts already established. But in the rural districts, where the men are widely scattered, the expense of organizing and sustaining posts has retarded the advance of the Order.

Under these circumstances I have the honor to suggest to the National Encampment a proposition which seems to me worthy of serious consideration, viz.:

1. To give posts located in the large cities and towns jurisdiction over the territory outside of such cities and towns, and midway between them and the next Post. All posts in cities to have concurrent jurisdiction.

2. All honorably discharged soldiers and sailors residing beyond the limits of cities and towns where posts are stationed to be allowed to join the nearest Post as non-resident members.

3. The initiation fee of non-resident members to include and entitle them to a Grand Army badge, under a pledge that such badge shall be returned to the Post should he voluntarily dissolve his connection with the Order. When death dissolves this connection, the badge to become the property of his heirs.

4 The annual dues of non-resident members to be fixed at a merely nominal sum, and to cover the per capita tax paid to the Department.

5. Members of posts, which have surrendered or forfeited their charters, be obliged to affiliate with the nearest Post in order to maintain their standing in the Order.

Some such system, if inaugurated, could be made with little effort on the part of comrades, to add materially to the strength and efficiency of Posts and Departments. As time lapses, all who served their country faithfully will feel the want of a badge which recognizes their service, and makes it manifest to all with whom he may come in contact, that such service was faithfully rendered It would become an heirloom in his family, and as such, be sacredly preserved as a memento of the great struggle in which the father bore himself honorably, in preserving and perpetuating the Government founded by the patriots of the revolution. What would the descendants of those who participated in that struggle not now give for a badge bearing evidence of their faithful service in the field, with Washington and his compatriots?

Hence, it is our duty, as the representatives of those who participated in the last great struggle, to place within the reach of the rank and file of the great army which breasted the rebellion of 1861-'5 a suitable memorial, at little cost, of their faithful service. The National Encampment of the Grand Army is the only avenue through which they may be supplied with a badge of recognition, which will prove more and more valuable as the event which it commemorates becomes more and more distant, and the actors disappear from "life's parade."

Thus can we eventually enlist thousands who are eligible to membership, thereby strengthening the ties of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty among those soldiers of the Republic "who have passed through the furnace of war and been tried by fire," keeping alive in their hearts the principles and objects for which they periled their lives. Each Memorial Day will gather them around the flag to participate in its interesting ceremonies—while it will inculcate a spirit of patriotism in the generations which come after us; and though in the lapse of time, the Grand Army of the Republic may cease to exist, our descendants will not fail to recognize a day consecrated to the memory of their fathers,

Respectfully submitted,

WM. F. ROGERS,

Inspector-General.

Judge Advocate-General's Report.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic.
Judge Advocate-General's Office,
Philadelphia, June 30, 1876.

R. B. BEATH,

Adjutant-General.

Comrade: I have the honor to report as required by the Regulations, the business transacted by me during the past year. It has consisted, as usual, to a large extent, in the preparation of the opinions which are hereto annexed. In addition to these, and in compliance with a resolution of the National Encampment, passed by the annual session in 1875. I prepared a brief summary or digest of all the opinions issued from this office previous to January, 1876; which had not become obsolete; and the same has been printed and distributed in pamphlet form.

It is hoped that this publication may contribute to uniformity in the construction of the Regulations and the general good of the Order.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L,

WM. W. DOUGLAS,

Judge Advocate-General.

(See Appendix.)

Surgeon-General's Report.

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic.
Surgeon-General's Office,
Boston, June 26, 1876.

ROBERT B. BEATH,
Adjutant-General G. A. R.

Comrade:—I have the honor to submit herewith my report as Surgeon-General, Grand Army of the Republic, for the year ending December 31, 1875.

The report has been delayed till the last moment in the hope that I might be able to present a complete and accurate record of all the wounded members of the Order, and I regret exceedingly that the earnest measures taken to bring about that result should have failed of realization. Recognizing the importance of obtaining a full list of wounded comrades, I early entered into a correspondence with the Medical Director of each Department, and impressed upon them the necessity of prompt action and thorough returns, and I am at a loss to account for the neglect that has been manifested in several departments in not furnishing any report whatever, and which has thus prevented, in this Centennial year, the completion of a work that will be regarded of inestimable value as the years roll on, and our diseased and crippled comrades rapidly drop from the ranks.

The preparation of a descriptive book by each Post, containing the minutest details in relation to wounds received by its members, would involve but little labor, and might be the means of accomplishing a great deal of good in the future. There is hardly a comrade who has not personal knowledge of the difficulties attending the procuring of pensions for wounded soldiers, in many instances on account of the failure to secure the required proof, and a descriptive book in every Post, as above suggested, would tend to obviate many of the disadvantages that otherwise might arise, as the information therein contained would enable the applicant to take the first and most important step towards securing the pittance to which he would be justly entitled. For the lack of just such details, cases are daily arising where brave men are prevented from obtaining pensions; and as the vicissitudes of life may place others, not now dependent, in similar positions, I feel that I cannot urge too strongly upon the National Encampment the taking of action which will bring about the desired result. In this connection I take great pleasure in alluding to the report of the Medical Director of the Department of New York, Comrade James L. Watson, who, by great perseverance and energy, has succeeded in procuring an almost perfect record of the wounded comrades in the several posts of his Department, with a statement as to the nature and extent of wounds, and the circumstances under which, and when and where they were received.

As but few reports have been received in form "F," it has been found impossible to give, in an independent table, information and data which would have been useful and highly prized, and in the grouping together

of the statistics obtained, form "G" has been adhered to, with the following result:

Name of Department.	No. of Comrades who lost right arm in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost left arm in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost both arms in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost a leg in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost both legs in battle.	No. of Comrades who lost a leg & an arm in battle.	No. of Comrades who have been wounded.	No. of Comrades injured otherwise than in battle.
New York.....	29	30	...	56	1	...	540	8
Connecticut.....	5	3	1	4	...	...	80	...
California	1	1	...	3	...	...	25	...
Virginia.....	4	3	...	4	...	...	40	23
Illinois.....	4	4	...	7	...	...	110	24
Rhode Island...	2	1	...	5	1	1	97	22
Maine.....	14	10	...	10	...	...	293	...
Massachusetts ..	40	27	5	50	..	2	1,279	230
Mountain.....	6	4	...	3	...	...	8	...
Total	105	83	6	142	2	3	2,466	307

Wilson Post No. 1, of Baltimore, reports 2 comrades that have lost arms, and 12 otherwise wounded.

Several communications have been forwarded to this office in relation to more complete and comprehensive medical returns, and some of the suggestions are deserving of serious consideration. The fact seems to be generally recognized that although complete Surgeons' reports have not, to any extent, been obtained from posts, yet they could be, if measures were devised to make them of practical value. The assertion in one communication that, under the present system, the returns are a mere obedience to a form having no substance, has in some respects considerable force, as many interesting and useful details are not provided for in such forms. To prepare blanks that would meet every case would, of course, be almost an impossibility, but the within enclosed form, which was forwarded to me by the Medical Director of the Department of Pennsylvania, embraces several new and valuable ideas, and is worthy the attention of the National Encampment.

Another comrade, who truly says that the importance of the medical department of the Grand Army seems never to have been fully realized, recommends as a measure in the direction of more interest in, and complete returns from, that Department, the appointment of an Assistant Surgeon-General, and an Assistant Medical Director in each department, and in each Post an Assistant Surgeon, and Hospital Steward, the Steward to be nominated by the Surgeon, and appointed by the Post. What the effect of such additions might be would depend largely upon the competency of the appointees, and while the proposition in some respects strikes me favorably, yet I should not feel at liberty to urge the adoption of such recommenda-

tions, preferring that the matter should be settled by those better qualified, by their more immediate association with Posts, to judge of the practicability of the measure.

Trusting, however, that some action will be taken towards securing greater efficiency in this department, I am,

Very respectfully, yours in F., C. and L.,

JOHN W. FOYE,

Surgeon-General.

Report of National Council of Administration.

Philadelphia, June 29, 1876.

TO THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

Comrades:—The National Council of Administration assembled at headquarters this date, in pursuance of Orders.

Comrade John G. Copley, of New York, tendered his resignation as a Member of Council, and, on the recommendation of the Department Comrade H. C. Perley was elected to fill the vacancy.

The Council of Administration then proceeded to audit, first, the accounts of Comrade A. B. R. Sprague, as Quartermaster-General from January 1st, 1875, to date of transfer of office to Comrade Ward, and found the same correct.

The accounts and vouchers for receipts and disbursements of Quartermaster-General William Ward, and Adjutant-General R. B. Beath, from dates of appointment to December 31st last, and from January 1st to the present date, were then examined and found correct.

The officers were directed to report the same to the National Encampment.

Respectfully submitted,

J. S. REYNOLDS,

S. V. Commander-in-Chief, President pro tem

Robert B. Beath, *Recorder.*

It is a matter for regret that the report of the Medical Director, Department of Pennsylvania, failed to reach the Surgeon-General. This remarkably interesting report gives in detail, for a number of Posts reported, the numbers under each of the respective headings: Nationality, Branch of Service, Army, times Wounded, Ages when Wounded, Year when Wounded, Locality of Wounds, Result of Wounds, Cause of Wounds, Engagements, Regiments represented.

This involved considerable labor, and only represents the statistics reported by a small number of Posts, but the reading of these statistics should inspire all comrades to renewed diligence, in order that such a report may be made for the Grand Army.

After presentation of the reports, several representatives stated that they did not understand the decision of the Commander-in-Chief in reference to the admission of officers and members of the new Departments of Maryland and Alabama. The Commander-in-Chief stated his action to be, that, on the statement of the Adjutant-General that those Departments had duly reported, if there was no objection, he would declare them entitled to seats.

Comrade Chetlain, from the Committee on Credentials, said that the action of the committee was based on the fact that the new Departments referred to were duly entitled to admission, but the question of the standing of the comrades from Oregon was referred to the Encampment for settlement.

The Adjutant-General, in response to a question, stated that Departments could not organize on their own motion, but only by orders from the Commander-in-Chief, which had been duly given in these cases.

Comrade Goble, New Jersey, moved that the full report of the Committee on Credentials be adopted. Agreed to.

On motion of Comrade Lawrence, N. Y., the privileges of the floor were accorded Comrade Boone, the additional representative of the Department of Ohio.

The following committees were announced by the Commander-in-Chief.

On Rules and Regulations—Comrades Hilliard, Ill; Meech, Mass.; Barney, R. I.; Harshaw, Wis.; and Pray, N. H.

On Reports of Officers—Comrades Merrill, Mass.; Tyler, Md.; Smith, Pa.; Squires, N. Y.; Kenney, Va.

Comrade Storrie, Pa., moved that nominations for officers be now made, and the election be held at 4 P. M.

Comrade Wagner moved as an amendment that the election be held in the evening.

Both ruled out of order, as inconsistent with the Rules of Order.

Comrade Branson, Pa., moved that the Rules be suspended to go into nominations for officers.

The motion was laid on the table.

Resolutions and communications from Departments and

from members, were received and referred to the appropriate committees. These will be found in full under reports of committees.

Comrade Sargent, Mass.. presented the following letter from Past Commander-in-Chief, Charles Devens, Jr.

WORCESTER, MASS., June 27, 1876.

To the Commander-in-Chief and Members of National Encampment.

COMRADES:—I desire to acknowledge most cordially and gratefully the receipt from the committee appointed for that purpose and by the hands of Comrade Ward, of New Jersey, of the beautiful complimentary badge which was voted to me by the National Encampment of the past year, at the conclusion of my term of service as Commander-in-Chief.

I thank all the Comrades of the Order for their graceful testimonial, and whilst I cannot feel that I have merited it by any service I have been able to render them, and recognize fully that it proceeds from their generosity rather than from any deserving, I shall strive always by my devotion to their true interests to show that I am not unworthy of the confidence and kindness they have shown towards me.

I regret that imperative official engagements have compelled me to be absent from the meeting, where I would gladly take all once more by the hand With sincere regard in F., C. and L., Your Comrade,

CHARLES DEVENS, JR.,

Comrade Sprague, Potomac, moved that the letter of Comrade Devens be received and entered on the minutes.

Adopted.

Comrade Hilliard, Ill., moved that a Committee on Resolutions be appointed, to whom all communications not requiring an alteration in the Rules and Regulations be referred.

Adopted.

The following comrades were appointed on said committee: Tanner, N. Y.; Brosius, Pa.; Meese, Minn., Scupham, Cal.; Earnshaw, Ohio.

Comrade Palmer, Ill., moved an adjournment until 1.30 P. M.

Comrade Wagner moved as an amendment that when the recess be taken it be until 3.30 P. M.

Comrade Vanderslice, Pa., stated that the Department Encampment of Pa. was called for a short business session at 2 o'clock, and they would be gratified to have an adjournment as proposed.

The amendment of Comrade Wagner, was adopted.

There being no reports ready from committees, nominations were then made for

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Comrade Wagner, Pa., nominated for the position Comrade William Ward, of New Jersey.

Comrade Chetlain, Ill., nominated Comrade J. S. Reynolds, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Corliss, N. Y., nominated Comrade James Tanner, Commanding Department of New York.

Comrade Jardine, N. Y., nominated Comrade John F. Hartranft for re-election.

The nomination of Comrade Hartranft was seconded in brief addresses by Comrade Reynolds, S. V. Commander-in-Chief, and Comrade Vah Dervoort, of Neb.

Comrade Merrill, Mass., and Lawrence, N. Y., seconded the nomination of Comrade Tanner.

The Commander-in-Chief stated that he had highly appreciated the honor conferred upon him by his election last year, and that whilst he had been strongly urged not to retire at this time, he desired the members in casting their ballots to select another than himself for the position.

A recess was then taken until 3.30 P. M., to partake of lunch prepared by Post No. 2.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 3.30 P. M. the Encampment re-assembled, and the roll was called.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Comrade Merrill, from the Committee on Reports of Officers, presented the following report:

PHILADELPHIA, June 30th, 1876.

The committee to whom was referred the reports of the various officers of the National Encampment, G. A. R., having given the matter such attention as the time at their disposal permitted, beg leave to report:

The financial accounts having been carefully passed upon by the Council

of Administration, the committee have not felt called upon to consider the same, even had time allowed, and they have deemed it necessery to present special recommendations only in matters of the appeal of F. C. Floyd, and the question of badges, presented in the report of the Adjutant-General.

Your committee, therefore, recommend:

1. That the several reports be accepted.

II. That in the matter of F. C. Floyd, the decision of the Judge Advocate-General be affirmed.

III. That the entire matter of badges be referred to a special committee of five, to be appointed by the new Commander-in-Chief, with full powers to make the best possible contract, with sufficient guarantee for the manufacture of badges of the present *form*, *size* and *design*, to be made, as now required, of bronze cannon, captured during the rebellion.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. S. MERRILL, *Chairman.*
E. B. TYLER,
GEO. B. SQUIRES,
NORMAN M. SMITH,
S. B. KENNE,
Committee.

The report was, on motion, accepted, and the Encampment proceeded to the consideration of the recommendation *seriatim.*

The first resolution, that the several reports be adopted, was carried unanimously.

To the second resolution, that in the matter of F. C. Floyd the decision that the Judge Advocate-General be affirmed; after discussion by Comrades Wagner, Tanner and Beath against affirming the principle involved, and by Comrades Merrill and Norris in favor, Comrade Tanner offered the following as an amendment:

Resolved, That when the documentary records of a Post of the G. A. R, proves that a man has been illegally mustered into the Order, it is the duty of the Commander of the Department in which such Post is located, to order that such person shall be dropped from the rolls, and that no comrade properly mustered can be summarily dropped by decree of any official.

Comrade Corliss, New York, moved the previous question, and it was duly ordered.

The amendment of Comrade Tanner was not adopted. The recommendation of the committee was adopted by 61 yeas to 12 nays.

To the third resolution, in regard to badges, Comrade Wagner moved that the powers therein given to a committee be delegated to the officers of the National Encampment, contending that no committee should be permitted to enter into any contract.

Comrade Merrill opposed any change in the resolution, on the ground that the National officers were heartily tired of the subject.

The amendment was lost, and the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Comrade Hilliard, from the Committee on Rules and Regulations, reported the following:

On the various resolutions and propositions submitted, the committee respectfully report:

I. Offered by Department Commander Crosby, California.

1. To amend Sec. IV, Art. VI, Chap. V, by adding, "In case the accused is charged with an offence under Par. 3, Section I, of this Article, the record of his conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be conclusive evidence of his guilt of the offence of which so convicted."

The committee recommend the proposed amendment, substituting *prima facie* for "conclusive," and "charged" for "convicted;" making the additional sentence read:

"In case the accused is charged with an offence under Par. 3, Sec. I, of this Article, the record of his conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be *prima-facie* evidence of his guilt of the offence of which he is so charged."

2. In regard to the proposition to amend Par. 3, same Sec. and Art., by inserting after the words "the commission of a" the words, "felony or," so that it should read, "The commission of a felony or a scandalous offence, etc" Your committee are of the opinion that no change is necessary, and report adversely.

3. On the proposition to so amend Art. VI as to require the hearing of any charge before the Post, and a court martial to be ordered only in extreme cases, the committee report adversely.

4. To establish grades for past officers of Posts and Departments or the National Encampment; the committee report adversely.

II. To the propositions from the Department of Illinois.

1. To strike out words in Sec. 1, Art. III, Chap. II, and insert, "An application for admission to another Post by transfer, shall be subject to the requirements prescribed for a recruit," the committee report adversely.

2. In regard to the two propositions that the present style of badges be discarded, and some other form substituted; and that the "charge of the Post Commander in the Ritual" be abbreviated, the committee recommend that this matter be referred to a special committee, to be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief at this time, to report to the next meeting of the National Encampment.

III. In regard to the amendments proposed by the Department of Connecticut,

To amend Sec. III, Art. IV, Chap. V, by striking out "six months" and inserting "one year," and

Sec. IV, by striking out "dropped" and inserting "suspended," thus requiring Comrades to be twelve months in arrears before they can be suspended.

Your committee fail to see the feasibility of making such change on account of the necessity that would follow of printing new forms, and of paying *per capita* taxes for the additional time specified.

IV. In regard to the change proposed by Department of Massachusetts:

1. To make such a change in the Rules and Regulations as will allow inspections to be made at any time during the official year, thereby avoiding the absurdity of correcting the work of officers whose term of service is about to expire, rather than those who have just entered upon their positions.

Your committee regard any change unnecessary, Art. V, Chap. V, Rules and Regulations, gives full power to Department officers in relation to inspections.

2. To amend the Rules and Regulations, so that the annual election of Post officers shall take place at the first regular meeting in December, instead of the last.

Your committee recommend that Sec. 1, Art. VII, Chap. II, be amended to read as follows:

SEC 1. The Post officers (the Adjutant, Sergeant-Major and Quartermaster-Sergeant excepted) shall be elected at the first stated meeting in December, by ballot, unless a ballot be dispensed with by unanimous consent. They shall be installed into their respective offices at the first stated meeting in January following.

V. In reference to the resolution offered by the Department of New Jersey,

"That from and after this date badges denoting past rank in the G. A. R. be dispensed with,"

Your committee believe the change would not be productive of good results, and that every Comrade who has served an honorable term should be entitled to wear the badge of his past rank.

VI. In regard to the communication presented through Comrade Wagner from Comrade J. McCarthy, of New Haven, recommending the adoption by the G. A. R. of the odes and music accompanying the same,

the committee believe that, whilst the odes are such as should commend themselves to all Comrades, they do not deem it necessary to recommend their adoption by the National Encampment, as most Posts have already made and printed their own selections, and this matter may be well left to their discretion.

VII. In reference to the proposition from Comrade Crosby, Department of California, amending Sec. 2, Art. II, Chap. II,

"That applicants be required to give the names of two references other than the proposer,

This substantially takes away the necessity for a committee of investigation. It is presumed that no Comrade will knowingly recommend an unworthy candidate for membership; and if a committee appointed to investigate the claims of a candidate for membership fail to perform their duty under the present law, the addition of references proposed would scarcely add any force to the final verdict.

(Signed)

H. HILLIARD.
H. B. HARSHAW.
JAMES T. MEECH.
J. E. S. PRAY.
C. H. BARNEY.
Committee.

Comrade Palmer, Illinois, moved that the report of the committee be accepted as read.

Notice was given that, as the report contained propositions to amend the Rules and Regulations, a two-thirds vote would be required.

The resolution of Comrade Palmer was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS.

Comrade Tanner presented the report of the Committee on Resolutions. It was accepted as a whole, and the resolutions acted upon *seriatim*, as follows:

I. Resolutions of Department of Pennsylvania:

Whereas, By law, enlisted men who afterwards became commissioned officers, forfeited their claims to the bounty offered by the General Government; therefore

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that such provision of law is unjust, and we will use every effort to bring the subject before the National Encampment for the purpose of having it brought to the notice of Congress, that some provision may be made whereby such enlisted men may yet receive the bounty offered at the time of their enlistment.

Resolved, That similar action be taken with a view to secure the equalization of bounties to enlisted men.

The Committee reported favorably.

On motion, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

II. On the communication from Post No. 5, New Jersey:

Whereas, Many persons thoughtlessly use the National Flag as a means for advertising their business, by attaching their cards thereto or printing thereon, thus detracting from the honor of the flag.

Resolved, That the Commander-in-Chief be instructed to issue such order to the Posts throughout the country as shall induce an influence throughout their several localities to have this practice abolished.

Resolved, That if there is not already a law of Congress to that effect, that this Encampment endeavor to have a law passed by Congress making this offence a penal one.

The committee reported against the adoption of the resolutions.

Comrade Tanner presented also a minority report, recommending the adoption of the resolutions.

The subject was debated by Comrade Tanner in favor of the adoption of the minority report, and by Comrade Brosius, Pa., against.

The report of the majority was adopted.

III. The committee reported in favor of the adoption of the preamble and resolutions submitted by Comrade Tyson, Pa., as follows:

Whereas, The present homestead bill does not offer sufficient inducement to honorably discharged soldiers, sailors and marines to take advantage of its provisions, and

Whereas, A wise financial policy on the part of the Government would justify the expenditure of sufficient money to enable the poorer classes of those referred to, to emigrate to the unoccupied lands of the West and South, thereby relieving the population of the large cities; therefore

Resolved, That Congress be asked to amend the present homestead law so as to provide:

1st. For the transportation of all honorably discharged soldiers of the late war, and their families, to the land selected.

2d. To provide rations for at least one year.

3d. To provide materials for the erection of necessary buildings.

4th. To provide the necessary farming implements.

Provided, That the whole sum thus expended over and above any sum due on the equalization of bounties, to be repaid to the Government in six

annual payments, commencing four years after payments; and that as a security, title to the lands so occupied be withheld until payment is made as aforesaid.

Comrade Palmer moved to lay the motion to adopt the resolution on the table, and it was carried.

IV. The committee recommend the adoption of the following, offered by Comrade Lees, of Pa.:

Whereas, The forms adopted for medical reports heretofore have very generally been deficient, and have failed to secure any lasting or practical results, and

Whereas, The form of report submitted by the Medical Director of the Department of Pennsylvania has been endorsed by the Surgeon-General, adopted by the Department of Pennsylvania, and has proven, upon use, to fully meet the requirements of such a report; therefore

Resolved, The form above referred to be adopted as the recognized form of Medical Reports, for use in all the departments of the G. A. R.

The report of the committee was adopted.

V. The committee also recommend the adoption of the following:

Whereas, Some of the Department Encampments are not usually well attended by the delegates elected thereto; and,

Whereas, It is necessary to have a full representation; therefore,

Resolved, That all Past Post Commanders in good standing shall be admitted as members of the Department Encampment in the jurisdiction in which they belong.

Comrade Wagner made the point that the proposition involved a change in the Rules and Regulations, and would, therefore, require a two-thirds vote.

On motion, it was referred to the Committee on Rules and Regulations.*

Comrade Tanner again presented the resolution offered by him, as an amendment, when the case of F. C. Floyd was pending, as follows:

Resolved, That when the documentary records of a Post of the G. A. R. prove that a man has been illegally mustered into the Order, it is the duty of the Commander of the Department in which such Post is located, to order that such person shall be dropped from the rolls, and that no comrade properly mustered can be summarily dropped by decree of any official.

*This was not afterwards acted upon.

On motion of Comrade Brosius, the resolution was laid on the table.

On motion, the Encampment proceeded to the

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Comrade Tanner took the floor, and in an earnest speech, after referring to the fact that his name had been mentioned for the position against his own wishes, moved that the Adjutant-General be directed to cast the ballot of the Encampment for Comrade Jno. F. Hartranft.

Comrades Ward and Reynolds also withdrew their names in favor of Comrade Hartranft.

Comrade Corliss, having nominated Comrade Tanner, stated that, as that comrade had withdrawn, the Department of New York was unanimous for the re-election of the Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Lawrence, New York, expressed his hearty concurrence.

Comrade Sargent expressed the great gratification of the representatives of Massachusetts, at the happy turn this matter had taken in the expressions of the comrades who had preceded him, and warmly commended Comrade Hartranft.

Comrade Maxfield, Mass., stated that at the Encampment at Chicago, where Comrade Hartranft had placed himself on record as opposed to a re-election and had offered an amendment to that end, he had opposed it, believing that the National Encampment should have the right, as it had to-day, to re-elect one so deserving.

The motion of Comrade Tanner was unanimously adopted.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

For this position Comrade Tanner nominated Comrade W. F. Rogers, present Inspector-General.

Comrade Chetlain, Ill., nominated Comrade J. S. Reynolds, the present incumbent.

Comrade Wood, Potomac, nominated Comrade T. Lubey.

Comrade Lubey withdrew his name.

Comrades Goble and McCormic were appointed tellers.

The election for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief resulted as follows:

Comrade Rogers	received	34	votes.
" Reynolds	"	54	"
Blank	"	1	vote.

Comrade Reynolds was declared elected, and on motion of Comrade Tanner his election was made unanimous.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Comrade Hawkes (Potomac) nominated Comrade Frank H. Sprague, Potomac.

Comrade ——— nominated Comrade Chas. J. Buckbee, present incumbent.

Comrade E. B. Tyler, Md., was nominated but withdrew his name.

The ballot resulted as follows:

Comrade Sprague	received	23	votes.
" Buckbee	"	29	"
" Tyler	"	1	vote.
Blank	"	1	"

Comrade Buckbee was declared elected, and, on motion, his election was made unanimous.

SURGEON-GENERAL.

For Surgeon-General, the Adjutant-General was ordered, by unanimous vote, to cast a ballot for the Encampment for Comrade Jas. L. Watson, of New York.

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF.

Comrade Sargent presented the name of Comrade Jos. F. Lovering, of Mass., for Chaplain-in-Chief, and on motion of Comrade Tanner the Adjutant-General was directed to cast the ballot of the Encampment for Comrade Lovering.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

The following named comrades were presented by the delegation, or appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, in accordance with the resolution of National Encampment, and declared duly elected:

Maine	John D. Myrick	Augusta.
New Hampshire	Levi L. Aldrich	Manchester.
Vermont	Geo. J. Stannard	Burlington.
Massachusetts	Jacob Silloway, Jr	Canton.
Connecticut	Edward W. Marsh	Bridgeport.
Rhode Island	Charles C. Gray	Providence.
New York	Henry C. Perley	N. Y. city.
New Jersey	Jos. C. Lee	Camden.
Pennsylvania	Marriott Brosius	Lancaster.
Maryland	T. W. Dew	Baltimore.
Potomac	Geo. Edgar Corson	Washington.
Virginia	Wm. Ryder	Portsmouth.
Ohio	Thos. C. Boone	Salem.
Illinois	J. J. Palmer	Rockford.
Wisconsin	H. B. Harshaw	Oshkosh.
Minnesota	Albert Scheffler	St. Paul.
California	C. Mason Kinne	San Francisco.
Alabama	Geo E. Spencer	Decatur.

The Commander-in-Chief was directed to fill vacancies in the list, after consulting with Department Commanders.

Comrade Brayton, R. I., offered the following amendment to the Rules and Regulations, stating that there was no absolute necessity for the Encampment meeting each year at the time now fixed, that it may occur that a change would be of decided benefit, and at this particular time, the comrades from Rhode Island desired to extend an invitation to the Encampment to meet in Providence, and that a somewhat later date than the second Wednesday of May would suit them much better and would add much to the enjoyment of the occasion:

That Sec. 1, of Art. III, Chap. IV, Rules and Regulations be amended by striking out the words "the second Wednesday in May," and inserting the word in lieu thereof, "At such time between the second Wednesday in May and the first Wednesday of July, as may be fixed by the Commander-in-Chief, by consent of the Council of Administration.

The amendment was unanimously adopted

Comrade Brayton moved that the next meeting of the National Encampment be held in the city of Providence.

Adopted.

The following resolution was offered by Comrade Fowler, Conn.

Resolved, That the thanks of the National Encampment are due, and are hereby tendered to the officers and comrades of Post No. 2, of the Department of Pennsylvania, G. A. R. for the use of their beautiful hall and the entertainment furnished the members of the Encampment.

Adopted unanimously.

An invitation was accepted from Post No. 2, to attend divine service on Sunday, July 2d.

The delegation of the Department of Virginia presented to the Commander-in-Chief, for the use of the National Encampment, a gavel made from the wood of the rebel ram "Merrimac," to which was attached a strip of the flag which was flying at the foremast head of the U. S. ship "Congress" when she was sunk by the former vessel at Hampton Roads, March 9th, 1862.

Comrade Hartranft, in closing the Encampment, thanked the members for the very gratifying manner in which they had honored him in the re-election to the position of Commander-in-Chief, and promised that he would use every endeavor to advance the interests of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Adjourned.

ROBERT B. BEATH,
Adjutant General.

UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS.

COURTESIES EXTENDED TO THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT AND VISITING COMRADES.

The sessions of the Tenth Annual Meeting of the National Encampment were held in the hall of Post No. 2, Philadelphia, at the northwest corner of Thirteenth and Spring Garden streets, Comrade W. R. Peddle, Post Commander.

Under the supervision of the Hall Committee, aided by the comrades generally, the beautiful hall of the Post was tastefully arrayed for the occasion, and was kept open night and day for the reception of visiting comrades.

A large number of comrades, including nearly all the national officers, attended the meeting of the Post June 29th, and witnessed the muster-in services, as performed in the most impressive manner, with appropriate illustrations from a stereopticon.

The general arrangement for the reception and entertainment of the National Encampment and visiting comrades, was confided by the Department of Pennsylvania to the following named comrades as a

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE.

Post No. 1 R. W. P. Allen.
2 O. C. Bosbyshell.
5 William B. Jones.
6 J. R. Martindell.
7 C H. Dwyer.
8 William D. Connelly.
10 Smith D. Cozzens.
12 Joseph Hirst.
18 Isaac W. Sitler.
19 G. J. R. Miller.
21 James E. McLane.
Post No. 24 David T. Davies.
27 Thomas J. Griffin.
46 William J. Kramer.
51 C. J. Costello.
55 J. Emory Byram.
56 James Nacy.
63 Jacob G. Fennimore.
71 R. B. Brown.
77 H. J. Stager.
94 J. F. Williams.
228 Herman Jæckel.

AUXILIARY MEMBERS.

John F. Hartranft, Commander-in-Chief.
Robert B. Beath, Adjutant-General.
James W. Latta, Commander Dept. Penna
Samuel A. Losch, S. V. D. C.
Daniel O'Neill, J. V. D. C.
John M. Vanderslice, A. A. G.
S. Irvin Givin, A. Q. M. G.

OFFICERS.

O. C. Bosbyshell, Chairman.
J. Emory Byram, Secretary.
David T. Davies, Cor. Sec. and Treas.

This committee received, as it deserved, earnest encomiums for the manner in which it performed its work.

As a change from the usual programme on such occasions the committee decided on a

RIDE AND BREAKFAST

in Fairmount Park.

The officers and members of the National Encampment and of the Department of Pennsylvania, with a number of special guests, met early on the morning of the first of July, at the hall of Post 2.

Here coaches were provided, the leading one having sixteen horses, and the party was taken through some of the principal streets in that section of the city, to and through the East Park, passing the Lincoln monument, which was appropriately saluted by the comrades; then crossing the bridge at Falls of Schuylkill, they were landed at Belmont Mansion for

BREAKFAST.

The ride had sharpened the appetites of the comrades generally, and the well-served breakfast was first passed upon and pronounced a success.

The Commander-in-Chief presided, supported by Comrade O. C. Bosbyshell, chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, Comrade Horace Binney Sargent, commanding Department of Massachusetts, and Comrade James Tanner, commanding the Department of New York.

After the eating, speeches were in order, and it was intended by the committee that this part of the entertainment should be, as it was, entirely informal.

Governor Hartranft expressed his great gratification at the fact that Philadelphia had again been honored with an opportunity to welcome the veteran soldiers, and in the name of the City and State that had made such a proud record in this respect during the war, he extended to all the heartiest of welcomes.

The toasts were as follows:

1. *Our Country.*—Response by Comrade Horace Binney Sargent, of Massachusetts.

2. *The Grand Army of the Republic.*—Response by Comrade Marriott Brosius, of Post 84, Lancaster, Pa.

3. *Philadelphia and the Centennial Exhibition.*—Response by General Robert Patterson, of Philadelphia.

4. *The American Soldier.*—Response by Comrade James Tanner, of New York.

5. *Our Invited Guests.*—Response by Hon. W. E. Littleton, of Philadelphia

6. *The Press.*—Response by Frank Wells, Esq., Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin.*

By invitation, Comrade Jas. L. Farley, of New York, recited his beautiful and thrilling poem, "Memories of Camp Life," and Comrade George B. Squires, Assistant Adjutant-General of New York, recited the poem entitled "The Return of the Standards," written by General Horace Binney Sargent.

Both were rendered in the most masterly and effective manner, and were rapturously applauded.

No reports were made of the speeches, and any bare synopsis would do the speakers injustice. It was conceded by comrades who had attended many soldier or Grand Army reunions, that on no prior occasion was there any better speaking.

Comrade Sargent appropriately awoke the patriotic memories of the past, and his speech was in harmony with the leading principle of our organization, loyalty to country.

Comrade Brosius, though suffering from indisposition, eloquently presented the objects of the Grand Army.

General Robert Patterson was introduced by Comrade Hartranft, as one of Philadelphia's first citizens, who not only labored to advance its interests as a business man, but had served in three different wars.

The General was enthusiastically received. He commenced by saying that it was the fashion in Philadelphia to call him an *old* man, and he admitted to eighty-four years of work in the world, and was willing to have people say that he had served, as he had, in 1812, but when they charged him with not only taking part in the Revolutionary War, but with having also served on Braddock's staff, he thought it time to enter a most decided protest.

He referred briefly but earnestly to Philadelphia and its great work for the Centennial as well as during the war, and closed by exhorting the soldiers to meet often, talk over old times, and so keep alive the strongest fraternal feelings.

Comrade Tanner, of New York, surprised many who had not heard him before by his bursts of earnest eloquence. The theme—the American soldier—was one near his heart, and his treatment of it elicited enthusiastic applause.

Mr. Littleton responded very happily to "Our Invited Guests."

Possibly the speech that elicited the wildest enthusiasm was that of Mr. Frank Wells. Altogether unstudied, it was a marvel of witty and patriotic sentiments.

He was "cheered to the echo," and it seemed a fit close to what had been a most enjoyable morning.

After the breakfast, the comrades were treated to a view of the Exhibition grounds from the high observatory in rear of the Mansion, and when they reached *terra firma* the parade was pronounced dismissed, and many of the comrades spent the remainder of the day in the Exhibition, where they broke off in squads, and wandered at their own sweet will.

One incident should be recorded: The War Eagle, "Old Abe," on exhibition in the grounds, was at all times the

center of attraction. On this occasion, around him gathered an enthusiastic crowd of veterans, and they proceeded to revive old memories by saluting "Old Abe" with rousing cheers—first the Grand Army shell, then the volley salute, then the yells—until Abe fairly entered into the spirit of it, and screamed with the loudest. He seemed to recognize the boys.

THE PARADE.

On the third of July was had the first parade of more than one Department.

It was not as large in numbers as was first anticipated. Many of the comrades were detained at home by different reasons, and others in the city were prevented from parading by the excessive heat. It is nevertheless a pity that thousands more did not make this their first duty, as the occasion seemed to demand it. The participants will ever remember it as a pleasant and interesting event.

The line moved in the following order: John F. Hartranft, Commander-in-Chief; Robert B. Beath, of Philadelphia, Adjutant-General; William W. Douglas, of Rhode Island, Judge Advocate-General; J. J. Palmer, of Illinois, National Council of Administration; Chaplain Wm. Earnshaw, Commander Department of Ohio.

Aids—G L. Brown, Minersville, Pa.; H. G. Neubert, Toledo, Ohio; J. R. Woodruff, Trenton; Charles S. Greene, Philadelphia; Thad. L. Vanderslice, Philadelphia; J. Emory Byram, Philadelphia; Robert L. Orr, Philadelphia; David T. Davies, Philadelphia; Dr. L. W. Read, Norristown; J. N. Richardson, Baltimore, Md.; Wm. Leonards, Philadelphia, and Charles E. Clark as orderly.

Special Escort to the Commander-in-Chief

Post No 1, Philadelphia, mounted, Commander, J. R. Mullikin; Adjutant, Wm. H. H. Wallace, 20 men.

Platoon of policemen, under Lieutenant Crout.

Comrade Horace Binney Sargent, Department Commander of Massachusetts, with full staff, mounted.

Post No. 5, Lynn, Mass, with brass band of 20 pieces. Commander, J. G. B. Adams; Adjutant, Wm. L. Baird, 165 men, all of whom carried swords, and their good marching and soldier like appearance attracted much attention.

Post No. 68, of Boston, Commander, E. Moulton, Jr.; Adjutant, S. A. Cushing, Jr., 25 men

Post No. 42, of Lowell, Mass., Commander, E. W. Thompson; Acting Adjutant, Senior Vice Commander, M. H. Mealy, 28 men.

Department of New York, under command of Comrade John G. Copley, Senior Vice Department Commander.

Post No. 32, of New York, Commander, A. Nitschey, 200 men, with several regimental and national flags, very much battered. Detachments of various Posts.

Department of New Jersey, E. W Davis, Commander and staff. Post No. 10, of Vineland, N. J., Commander, W. G White; Adjutant, C. E. Green, 27 men.

Post No. 5, Camden, N J., Commander, S Hufty; Adjutant, Alexander Nicholas, 25 men.

Department of Maryland, E B. Tyler, Department Commander, and staff. Post No. 7, Baltimore.

Department of Pennsylvania, James W. Latta, Commander, and staff; J. M. Vanderslice, Assistant Adjutant-General.

Beck's Band

Post No. 2, Commander, Wm. R. Peddle; Adjutant, S. P. Town, 200 men This Post carried a noticeable collection of tattered battle flags, having with them the war colors of the 61st, 119th, 99th, 72d, 109th, 127th and 28th Regiments, Pennsylvania Volunteers, and two flags of the 29th Pennsylvania Volunteers, the flag of Gen. Gregg's Cavalry Division, and of the 33d Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Post No. 3, Commander, G. W. Baldwin; Adjutant, C. J. Barr, 15 men.

Post No. 88, Commander, A. Patterson; Adjutant, James A. McLaughlin, 28 men. Accompanying this Post was a small cannon drawn by a number of Soldiers' Orphans from the Lincoln Istitute.

Detachment of Soldiers' Orphans from the Northern Home, under command of Captain Spicer. Inscribed on a banner carried by them were the words, "We represent ninety Regiments." They were armed with "Quaker" guns and looked and marched well.

Great Western Band.

Post No. 5, Commander, Dr. Wm B. Jones; Adjutant, John Stewart, 100 men.

Lanark Cornet Band.

Post No. 6, Louis Wagner commanding; Adjutant Wm. Logan, 30 men.

Richmond Drum Corps.

Post No. 7, Commander, Joseph E. Stewart; Adjutant, C. H. Dwyer, 100 men.

Post No. 8, Commander, H. Schauer; Adjutant, Wm. D. Connelly, 30 men.

Marion Cornet Band.

Post No. 10. Commander, S. C. Coleman; Adjutant, E. G. Carpenter, 150 men. This Post was accompanied by a representation of an encampment in a large four horse wagon, in which were boys from the Lincoln Home. On placards was the name of "Camp Benton," and the usual camp equipments were to be seen.

Shiffler Cornet Band.

Post No 19, Commander, G. J. R. Miller; Adjutant, I. D. Williamson, 70 men.

Post No. 71, Commander, R. B. Brown; Adjutant, Wm J. Murphy, 86 men. with 17 sailors, in uniform, and carrying a miniature full-rigged frigate.

Detachment of Post No. 16.

Excelsior Cornet Band.

Post No. 21, Commander, J. Gœtz; Adjutant, H. Roll, 50 men.

Post No. 228, Commander, Wm. P. Brown; Adjutant, J. B. Eckert, 45 men.

Oglesby Band.

Post No. 25, Commander, William A. Todd; Adjutant, D. Caruther, 60 men.

Post No. 27, Commander, W. T. Morris; Adjutant J. P. Adams, 20 men.

Sixth Regiment Drum Corps.

Post No. 46, Commander, Charles Stratton; Adjutant, F. Quester, 26 men; had with them a large platform truck, upon which was the representation of a camp, showing conspicuously a box marked "Hard-tack," and a camp-fire over which the regulation army kettle was hung, preparatory to getting breakfast.

National Cornet Band.

Post No. 51, Commander, Wm. J. Caskey; Adjutant L. A. Ewell, 150 men. A number of carriages with disabled members followed this Post.

Drum Corps.

Post No. 56, Commander, J. S. Franks; Adjutant, E. F. Hann, 40 men.

Athletic Cornet Band.

Post No. 63, Commander, W. S. Smith; Adjutant, R. C. Miller, 40 men.

Mutual Cornet Band.

Post No. 94, Commander, Jos. S. Williams; Adjutant, I. W. Sheugh, 160 men.

Post No. 182, Commander, P. O. Sneller; Adjutant, R. C. Kleckner, 12 men, Bethlehem, Pa., carried in line the old flag of the first brigade, First Division, Twentieth Army Corps, and also the flag of Co. A; First Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, presented to this company when it was mustered into the service for the three months' campaign.

Post No. 117, Commander, R. Stoughton; Adjutant, Thos. McCune, 13 men.

Post No. 151, Commander, J. Dietrick, 25 men.

Post No. 24, Commander, P. Dick; Adjutant, Joseph A. Clark, 25 men.

Post No. 55, Commander, W. D. Baldwin, 35 men.

Detachments were also present of Department of Pennsylvania, for the following Posts: Nos. 11, 12, 13, 18, 23, 26, 28, 29, 31, 35, 40, 42, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48, 49, 89, 168, 170, 177, 182, 189, 202, 214, 227, and others.

The Thomas Francis Meagher Post, of Hampton, Va., all wounded soldiers, were also in line.

There were also a large number of barouches and ambulances in line containing crippled and sick comrades.

THE RE-UNION, JULY FIFTH.

The gala day at the Schutzen Park was intended for the entire membership of the Order, to bring them together for a good social time.

The sub-committee having this special entertainment in charge labored zealously to make it a success, and succeeded.

It is estimated that nearly eight thousand persons—men, women and children—visited the grounds during the day.

Comrades spent the day pretty much as they pleased—looked at the athletes, the dancers, the games, or wandered around, chatting, greeting old friends, and making scores of new ones.

Many of the city posts had tents, where they received company all day. Dr. Sitler had charge of a large hospital tent, and relieved a number of cases of suffering through the day. Everything for comfort as well as fun was liberally provided.

It was agreed that the only formality should be the reception of the Commander-in-Chief and officers of the National Encampment, and distinguished guests. For this purpose, two lines were formed, and during the "wait" a number of comrades were undignified by being passed through the lines, receiving a slap from every file. They enjoyed it.

Comrade H. Binney Sargent, commanding Department of Massachusetts, was first received with all the honors.

Comrade Hartranft arrived shortly afterwards, and when his presence was made known at the gate there was a general rush in that direction, and he received possibly the most enthusiastic reception of his life

He was escorted to the large hall, where he made a short address, followed by Comrades Sargent, Latta and others.

Not until a late hour did the comrades separate—the strangers glad that they had been so favored, and their hosts equally glad that the duties of the occasion had passed off so pleasantly.

It should be noted as a pleasing incident of this reunion that a number of the "boys in gray" were present by invitation, and expressed themselves highly gratified at the cordial reception given them.

OFFICERS NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT, 1876-7.

Commander-in-Chief,
JNO. F. HARTRANFT,
Harrisburg, Pa.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief,
JOHN S. REYNOLDS,
Chicago, Illinois.

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief,
CHARLES J. BUCKBEE,
New Haven, Conn.

Surgeon-General,
DR. JAS. L. WATSON,
Cor. Schermerhorn and Bond streets,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Chaplain-in-Chief,
REV. JOS. F. LOVERING,
Watertown, Mass

Adjutant-General,
ROBERT B. BEATH,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Quartermaster-General,
WILLIAM WARD,
Newark, New Jersey.

Inspector-General,
WILLIAM F. ROGERS,
Buffalo, New York.

Judge Advocate-General,
W. W. DOUGLAS,
Providence, Rhode Island.

Aids-de-Camp at National Headquarters,
JNO. M. VANDERSLICE, DAVID T. DAVIES,
1208 Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

Council of Administration.

Maine,	JNO. D. MYRICK,	Augusta.
New Hampshire,	LEVI L. ALDRICH,	Manchester.
Vermont,	GEO. J. STANNARD,	Burlington.
Massachusetts,	JACOB SILLOWAY, JR,	Canton.
Connecticut,	HENRY HUSS,	Bridgeport.
Rhode Island,	CHARLES C. GRAY,	Providence.
New York,	HENRY C. PERLEY,	N. Y. City.
New Jersey,	JOS. C LEE,	Camden.
Pennsylvania,	MARRIOTT BROSIUS,	Lancaster.
Maryland,	T. W. DEW,	Baltimore.
Potomac,	GEO. EDGAR CORSON,	Washington.
Virginia,	WM. RYDER,	Portsmouth.
Ohio,	THOS C. BOONE,	Salem.
Illinois,	J. J. PALMER,	Rockford.
Wisconsin,	H. B. HARSHAW,	Oshkosh.
Minnesota,	ALBERT SCHEFFLER,	St. Paul.
California,	C. MASON KINNE,	San Francisco
Alabama,	GEO. E. SPENCER,	Decatur.

RULES OF ORDER

For the National Encampment.

I.

Order of Business.

1. Opening of the National Encampment in due form.
2. Calling Roll of Officers.
3. Report of Committee on Credentials.
4. Calling Roll of Members.
5. Reports of Officers, beginning with that of the Commander-in-Chief.
6. Appointment of Committees to consist of five members each, as follows:
   1st. Committee on Credentials for the following year, the Adjutant-General to be Chairman of the Committee.
   2d. Committee on Reports of Officers.
   3d. Committee on Rules and Regulations and Ritual.
7. Reception and reference of communications from Department Encampments, to be called according to seniority.
8. Reception and reference of communications from individuals.
9. Reports of Committees.
10. Unfinished Business.
11. New Business.
12. Election and Installation of Officers.
13. At the second and each succeeding session, the minutes of the preceding session shall be read immediately after the opening ceremonies. This shall also be done before the closing exercises at the last session.
14. This order of business may be suspended at any time for a definite purpose, by a two-thirds vote of the National Encampment, to be taken without debate.

II.

The Commander-in-Chief shall state every question properly presented to the National Encampment, and before putting it to vote shall ask, "Is the Encampment ready for the question?" Should no member offer to speak, he shall rise to put the question, and after he has risen no further discussion shall be in order.

III.

The Commander-in-Chief may speak to points of order in preference to other members, rising for that purpose; he shall announce all votes and decisions, and decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the National Encampment by any two members, which appeal, if required, shall be in writing.

IV.

When an appeal is taken from the decision of the presiding officer, said officer shall surrender the chair to the officer next in rank, who shall put the question thus: "Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the National Encampment?"

V.

When the decision of any vote is doubted, the Commander-in-Chief shall

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V.

When the decision of any vote is doubted, the Commander-in-Chief shall

direct the Adjutant-General to count the votes in the affirmative and negative, and report the result to him.

VI.

When two or more members rise to speak at the same time the Commander-in-Chief shall decide which is entitled to the floor.

VII.

A motion must be seconded and stated by the Commander-in-Chief before any action thereon is in order, and if required by any two members, shall be reduced to writing.

VIII.

A motion may be withdrawn by the mover and seconder before a vote is had thereon, and if withdrawn, no record thereof shall be made on the minutes.

IX.

The name of a member making a motion or offering any business shall be entered on the minutes.

X.

A division of a question containing two or more distinct propositions may be demanded by any member.

XI.

When a member wishes to speak, he shall rise and respectfully address the Commander-in-Chief, confining his remarks to the question before the National Encampment, and avoiding personalities and unbecoming language.

XII.

No member shall be interrupted while speaking except by a call to order, or by a member to explain.

XIII.

No member shall speak more than twice upon the same question, except for explanation when misrepresented, nor longer than ten minutes at any time, without a vote of the National Encampment, to be taken without debate.

XIV.

No member shall, in debate, impeach the motives of a fellow member, treat him with personal disrespect, or pass between him and the Chair while he is speaking.

XV.

Any conversation calculated to disturb a member while speaking, or to hinder the transaction of business, shall be deemed a violation of order, and if persisted in, shall incur censure.

XVI.

On questions of order there shall be no debate, unless the Commander-in-Chief shall invite it, or unless an appeal is taken.

XVII.

When a member is called to order, he shall at once take his seat until the point of order is decided.

XVIII.

When a member is called to order for words spoken in debate, the objectionable words shall, if required, be reduced to writing.

XIX.

When a question is before the National Encampment, the only motions in order shall be—

1st. To adjourn.
2d. To lay on the table.
3d. The previous question.
4th. To postpone indefinitely.
5th. To postpone to a definite period
6th. To postpone.
7th. To refer.
8th. To amend,

to take precedence in the order named, and the first three to be decided without debate.

XX.

When the previous question is moved and seconded it shall preclude all other motions and all debate. It shall be put in this form: "Shall the main question be now put?" If decided in the affirmative the vote shall be at once taken without debate, and in the same order as if the previous question had not been ordered.

XXI.

A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, except—

1st. While a member is speaking.
2d. While a vote is being taken.
3d. When to adjourn was the last preceding motion.

A motion to adjourn cannot be amended, but when to adjourn to a given time or place, it is open to amendment or debate.

XXII.

The reading of any paper relating to the subject under consideration shall always be in order.

XXIII.

When a blank is to be filled, the question shall be first taken upon the highest sum or number, or longest time, or in the order of nomination, if it is to be filled with the name of a person.

XXIV.

The yeas and nays may be required and entered upon the minutes at the call of any three members representing different departments, as provided in Chapter IV, Article 7, Rules and Regulations.

XXV.

When a matter is postponed indefinitely it shall not again be in order at the same session of the National Encampment.

XXVI.

But two amendments can be pending at the same time.

XXVII.

A motion to reconsider shall be in order at any time during the same session of the National Encampment, but must be made by those voting with the majority, or those voting in the negative in case of equal division. A motion to reconsider once made and negatived shall not be renewed at the same session

XXVIII.

All reports and resolutions must be submitted in writing, and when from a committee they must be signed by a majority of such committee.

XXIX.

All members entitled to vote shall vote on all questions, unless excused by a vote of the National Encampment, to be taken without debate.

XXX.

When a majority report is followed by a report from the minority of a committee, the former, after being read, shall lie upon the table until the latter is presented, after which, on motion, either may be considered.

XXXI.

When a report has been read it shall be considered properly before the National Encampment without any motion to accept.

XXXII.

When a report is submitted with a resolution attached, action shall be had on the resolution only, unless the report be considered improper or incomplete, when it may be recommitted. When no resolution accompanies the report, such report may be altered or amended.

XXXIII.

No report or resolution properly before the National Encampment shall be withdrawn without its permission, to be given or refused without debate.

XXXIV.

Questions not debatable :

1st. To adjourn, when to adjourn simply.
2d. To lay on the table.
3d. For the previous question.
4th. To take up any particular item of business.
5th. Granting leave to speak.
6th. Granting leave to withdraw a report or resolution
7th. To excuse from voting.
8th. Questions of Order where no appeal has been taken, or where the Commander-in-Chief has not invited discussion.

XXXV.

These Rules of Order may be altered or amended at any regular session of the National Encampment, upon proposition in writing, and by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.

(**APPENDIX.**)

OPINIONS

OF THE

Judge Advocate-General,

REPORTED TO THE

Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENTS,

AND APPROVED BY THEIR AUTHORITY,

WITH A DIGEST AND NOTES REFERRING TO CHANGES IN THE REGULATIONS.

PREPARED BY

WILLIAM W. DOUGLAS,

Judge Advocate-General.

MAY, 1877.

OPINIONS.

OPINION I, JULY 1, 1871.

The question is proposed to me, "Can a member of the G. A. R. be dishonorably discharged therefrom without trial by Court Martial, and if so, by what mode of proceeding?"

The facts which require an opinion constitute an extreme case. A comrade of this Order, being in the service of the United States, deserted from that service, was apprehended, and is now awaiting trial by General Court Martial.

The Rules and Articles of War, are, to persons in the military service of the United States, a part of the laws of the land, in the intent of Chapter V, Art. 6, Sec. 1, Par. 3, of the Rev. Rules and Regulations of the G. A. R. Desertion from the U. S. Army is one of the gravest offences known to military law, and when committed by a member of the G. A. R. constitutes one of the offences recognized by the paragraph referred to.

The National Encampment, following the enlightened principles of modern criminal codes, has provided for the trial of all charges against members of the Order by courts composed of their comrades before whom the accused may have opportunity to be heard, if they desire to appear and contest the accusations brought against them. See Rules and Regulations, Chap. V, Art. 6, Secs. 3 and 4.

The only exception to the regulation requiring trial and sentence of a Court Martial to precede the expulsion of a member of the Order, is found in the Amendment to Sec. 4, Art. 3, of the same chapter, passed at the May Session of the National Encampment, A. D. 1871, providing that if a member be one year in arrears, in the payment of dues, he shall be dropped from the rolls, which is obviously not applicable to this case.

OPINION II, JULY 3, 1871.

Charles Frego, a soldier in the United States Army, made application to join McRae Post, No. 1, Department of New Mexico, located at Santa Fe, and before his application could be acted on, in order to re-enlist in the army, he was obliged to remove from the vicinity of the Post; and when he was notified of his election, he was serving in Company H, 15th Infantry, about 200 miles from Santa Fe. He was therefore unable to present himself for muster within the three months limited by the Regulations.

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The questions are asked, "Can the second clause of Sec. 7, Art. 2, Chap. II of the Rev. Rules and Regulations be suspended in this case?" and, secondly, "Can the Post remit the forfeiture of the admission fee which accompanied his application?"

The first question is answered by the 15th Article of Chap. V, Rev. Rules and Regulations, which gives the power to suspend any part of the Rules to the National Encampment alone, by unanimous vote at the annual meeting.*

It is suggested, however, that though the election of Mr. Prego is void, it is within the power of the Department Commander to detail a staff officer to receive him into the Order, provided he is at a distance from any Post, if in the opinion of the Department Commander such action is desirable. After being mustered into the G. A. R., Mr. Prego would be able to join the Post, without necessarily being present. It would perhaps be better for the applicant if he is likely to be ordered to Santa Fe, to wait until he arrives there, and then renew his application for membership.

The second question is not directly answered by the Regulations. The money forwarded is forfeited, and has become the property of the Post; but the forfeiture is not of the nature of a punishment for a misdemeanor—the Rule requiring the admission fee to accompany the application, being rather intended to secure a pledge that the application is made in good faith. The Regulations do not require the admission fee to be forwarded with the application, but only that it shall be paid before enlistment and muster. It was forwarded in the present case in accordance with a by-law of the Post. The money being now the property of the Post, and entirely under their control, the Post may appropriate from their funds an equal amount to the sum paid by the applicant, if they desire to relieve him from the pecuniary loss which he has unfortunately incurred. I am the more confident in this expression of opinion from the spirit of the provision of Sec. 3 of Art. 4, Chap. V, which specifically gives to any Post the power to remit the dues of members who are unable, by reason of sickness or misfortune, to pay them.

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* NOTE.—By amendment to Chap. II, Article II, Sec. 7, National Encampment, May, 1872, a dispensation may be given to the Post to muster an applicant who fails to present himself within the specified time.

OPINION III. AUGUST 11, 1871.

(The facts will sufficiently appear in the opinion.)

I. I am of opinion that Section 2, Art. 4, Chap. II, of the Rules and Regulations, gives to any member in good standing, whose dues are paid, the right to demand a transfer paper, and that no Post can impose any restriction upon this right in the form of a fee or otherwise.

II. It is also my opinion that Sec. 3 of the same article does not require a

personal application, but that a written application is sufficient. The requirement that the application shall be made at a regular meeting, is doubtless designed to give such publicity to the desire of the comrade to withdraw, that any facts affecting his good standing may become known.

Opinion IV. August 11, 1871.

The case of an applicant for admission to the Grand Army, who had been in the early part of the war forced into the rebel service, comes directly within the letter and spirit of the second clause of Sec. 1, Art. 4, of Chap. I, of the Rules and Regulations: "And no person shall be eligible to membership who has at any time borne arms against the United States."

The fact that the service against the Union was involuntary, does not constitute this case an exception to a rule so clearly and unreservedly expressed. There were no persons whom the framers of this rule could have contemplated but this very class who served in the Confederate Army, and afterwards in our own; for at the commencement of the rebellion, all who had then borne arms against the United States in any foreign war, must have become too old for our service, unless there were any who fought against us in Mexico, and for us during the rebellion. If there were any such persons their number must be too small to have been thought of when this regulation was passed.

Clearly, therefore, the applicant in this case is ineligible.

There may be instances, and the present may be one of them, where this rule works harshly, but it is of far more importance that the loyalty of every member of our Order should be above reproach; than that we should omit from our roll a few good men, who showed weakness at least, if they escape the suspicion of disloyalty.

Opinion V. August 14, 1871.

The question is referred to me, "whether the former tax upon members for advancement to the second and third grades, shall be still imposed upon recruits and soldiers, and upon new members, and if so in what manner?"

I answer—

1. It is within the power of any Post to fix the amount of the initiation fee to be paid by new members, provided that it shall not be less than one dollar, vid. Chap. II, Art. 2, Sec. 8, Rules and Regulations. This initiation fee should be fixed by the Post By-Laws, and may be altered at the discretion of the Post, in the manner that such By-Laws may prescribe, in the case of other amendments.

2. The amendment to the Rules and Regulations passed at the last session of the National Encampment, May, 1871, and the resolution adopted at the same time, published in General Orders, C. S., dated New York, June 14, 1871, abolished the system of grades of membership, and consequently all differences of privilege or standing founded on such distinctions;

and admitted all who are now members of the Order in good standing to full membership, upon their complying with the directions contained in the resolution.

It is pertinent to the consideration of this question to remember that, whenever the posts under the old organization had the power to levy taxes or fees, the power was derived from express provisions in the Regulations.

They were expressly authorized or directed to assess annual taxes, initiation fees, and fees for the advancement of recruits and soilders. We should have expected therefore that if the Encampment had intended that fees should be charged the present soldiers and recruits on their reception as full members, it would have been so provided in this carefully drawn and well considered resolution. But there is nothing of the kind there. Post Commanders are directed immediately on such applicants presenting themselves, to administer to them the new obligation, and to admit them to full membership in the Post.

Here is not only no direction to assess a tax, but such immediate action is evidently contemplated as would give no time for any tax to be assessed or imposed; for a previous meeting of the members of the third grade would be necessary in order that the amount of such tax should be fixed by them.

We shall search in vain anywhere else for authority to impose the tax.

I am therefore of the opinion that no tax can be, or ought to be, imposed upon the members of the first and second grades who are now admitted to full membership with the veterans.

Opinion VI. September 7, 1871.

I am of opinion that a Paymaster's Clerk in the Navy is a sailor of the United States Navy in the intent of Article 4, Section 1, of Chapter I, of the Rules and Regulations.

He is appointed by the Paymaster subject to the Captain's approval, and is then sworn or mustered into the service and receives a warrant which assigns him definite rank. If he leaves the ship without permission, he is a deserter and is liable to punishment as such. He is borne on the ship's roll and is paid by the Government, and has a station and a command given him in time of action. I consider him as eligible to membership as an Engineer or Assistant in the Navy, or as a Hospital Steward in the Army. When his cruise is over he receives a discharge, so that he has been in the service, subject to regulations, liable to command men in action, and every way entitled to be associated with those who served in other capacities during the war.

Opinion VII. September 12, 1871

1. Can the Commander-in-Chief authorize a Post to print the Ritual in German for its own use?

2. Can he authorize a Post to use a written translation into German?

My opinion on the points submitted is as follows:

1. I do not regard the language in which it is written as a material part of the Ritual. I think its ceremonies would be as well performed in German or in French as in English: but the preparation of such a translation should be under the immediate supervision and direction of the Commander-in-Chief. He might detail any competent Comrade to make the translation, and could employ any Comrade to print it. The copies printed should all be in his custody, and issued from National Headquarters, as the Ritual in English is.

2. Under the restrictions as to the mode of supplying the Ritual in a foreign language which I have just stated, I think the Commander-in-Chief may authorize its use by a Post composed of persons who speak the language proposed better than English.

OPINION VIII. SEPTEMBER 12, 1871.

If the officers of a Department of the G. A. R. neglect their duty, omit to make returns and reports as required by the Rules and Regulations, and allow their Departments to become demoralized and practically defunct, has the Commander-in-Chief authority to annul the Charter of the Department, and remand it to a Provisional condition?

Has the Council of Administration this authority?

After a careful consideration of this subject, I submit my opinion as follows:

I. There is no authority given by the Rules and Regulations to the Commander-in-Chief to withdraw the Charter of a Department. The subject of Charters is considered in Chapter V, Article 1, of the Regulations. That Article contains a provision, (Sec. 4) that Charters of Posts may be suspended or annulled by the Department Commander with the advice and consent of the Council of Administration; but there is no such power granted to the Commander-in-Chief and the National Council of Administration with respect to Departments, though the mode of issuing Charters to Departments, and the fees to be paid for them, are specified in the next section of the same article. Following an almost inflexible rule of construction, the inference is unavoidable, that such power was not intended to be given to the Commander-in-Chief.

It does not seem to me that such a power can be claimed either, as one of the necessary prerogatives of the office of Commander-in-Chief, like his right to issue orders on various subjects not specifically provided for in the Regulations It is a power of such importance, and so liable to abuse or error in its exercise, that it should not be claimed without express authority of the Constitution of the Order.

II. The regulations no where confer this power specifically upon the National Council of Administration any more than upon the Commander-in-Chief.

Is this power, then, implied in the provision, Chapter IV., Art. 6, Sec. 9. "It (the Council of Administration) * * * shall represent in all matters the National Encampment in the interval between its sessions."

This provision does not relate to the exceptional powers of the National Encampment, like that, for instance, of altering or amending the Regulations, for the exercise of that power is conferred by Chapter V, Article 15, to the National Encampment at its annual meeting. It must, therefore, confer powers to be exercised under those Rules and Regulations, not amounting to an amendment of them, and can only include the general and ordinary matters of administration which are by the Regulations entrusted to the National Encampment.

But can the National Encampment itself annul the charter of a department, for certainly it has not conferred on the Council of Administration greater powers than its own?

Such an act would be in the nature of a forfeiture or punishment, and could only be performed by the passage of a resolution declaring that the charter had been misused, and had therefore become forfeited. Such a resolution, however, would be an *ex post facto* law which is now universally reprobated. It would be affixing a punishment not prescribed by the law under which the offence was committed. The only course for the National Encampment in the premises would be to pass an amendment to the Rules and Regulations providing a remedy for such a condition of affairs in the future, by giving the Commander-in-Chief and the Council of Administration, or the National Encampment itself power to act if the neglect of all the department officers should be repeated or continue after the passage of such a law.

Again, the revocation of the charter of a department would remove all the department officers; but, as the regulations now stand, this is impossible without a court martial.

So much for the extreme power to annul a department charter, which does not seem to me to be lodged in any Officer or Body of the Grand Army The representation of such a department in the National Encampment is suspended, by existing regulations, while the disability exists.

III. The policy of the National Encampment, as expressed in the Rules and Regulations, seems to have been to prevent any department getting into a demoralized condition by the system of inspection by officers appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, and responsible, through the Inspector General to him alone. By this means, any delinquency on the part of Department Officers would be immediately reported, and if occasioned by mistake, would be corrected; or if arising from intentional insubordination or carelessness, would be the occasion for trial by court martial. One such exercise of discipline would, in most cases be sufficient to recall the department to its duty. The advantages of having at Headquarters of each department a representative of the Commander-in-Chief in the person of an Assistant Inspector-General, are obvious, from the fact that a personal interview with the Department Commander is a mode of communication much more easy and effective than by letter or order.

IV. In regard to the present power of the Commander-in-Chief, it is clear that if the Commander of any department refuses or neglects to forward his returns, or to obey lawful orders, he may be placed in arrest, *i. e.*, suspended from his office, on charges being preferred against him. Then his duties devolve on the Senior Vice Commander, and after a reasonable time, if his conduct is the same, he may be treated in the same way. The Junior Vice Commander then succeeds, and if he also proves negligent or disobedient he must likewise be suspended. Then it would, I think, be the duty of the Commander-in-Chief to detail a comrade as Acting Commander of the Department, with instructions to call immediately a meeting of the Department Council of Administration for the election of Department Officers for the remainder of the current year. Until the holding of such a election the Acting Commander would hold the office.

If all the Department Officers were removed or resigned, the Acting Commander could be appointed at once; but no act could be done affecting the charter of the Department, and a regular election of Department Officers must be held as soon as possible. All the remedies now given by the Regulations are personal, by the prosecution and removal, after trial, of the officers who neglect their duty.

The only justification of the act of the Commander-in-Chief in appointing an Acting Department Commander would be the necessity of filling the office until an election could be held.

Finally: I cannot avoid these conclusions, although in one instance it seems as if the late Commander-in-Chief, Comrade J. A. Logan, did exercise some such power as the one we are considering, in respect to the Departments of Missouri and Iowa, as appears by G. O. No 3, par. 6, Hd. Qrs. G. A. R., Washington, Feb. 5, 1871; but it does not appear whether these were provisional or regularly constituted departments, nor does it appear that the charter of either Department was revoked. Par. 7, of the same order, simply carries out the Rule which *suspends* departments from representation while their reports or dues are in arrears.

If it was the fact that the Departments which were virtually ignored by the order to the Posts to report directly to National Headquarters, had been regularly constituted, and were by this order remanded to a provisional condition, while still holding the same opinion as to the illegality of the act, I should be compelled to say that the question has been decided by the precedent thus made for the present and future cases. Yet I regard such a precedent as a most dangerous one, and should not advise that it be followed.

If the question is a new one, the course of argument I have pursued seems to me conclusive; but the Commander-in-Chief is made the final arbiter of all questions of law and usage, and if he thinks the necessity of the case demands extraordinary powers, he may exercise them, subject to appeal to the National Encampment.

NOTE.—By amendment to Chapter V, Article I, adding Sec. 6, National Encampment, May, 1872, the power of revoking the charter of a Department is given to the National Encampment, or to the Commander-in-Chief and Council of Administration.

Opinion IX. Sept. 15, 1871.

If a Department Organization neglects to hold Annual Encampments for electing officers, can they hold their offices indefinitely?

Can the Commander-in-Chief order the Department Commander to call an Encampment, and name time and place, when the Department Commander has failed to do so?

I say decidedly, Yes, to both questions—to the first, because the Regulations prescribe that the officers shall hold their positions until their successors are installed; to the second, because it is the duty of the Commander-in-Chief to issue all orders required to enforce the Rules and Regulations. If a Department Commander fails to perform a duty prescribed by the Regulations, the Commander-in-Chief should order him to do it; and when the matter of calling a meeting is in his hands, by virtue of the neglect of the Department Commander, he may take jurisdiction of the whole matter, and may fix the time and place in his order to the Department Commander.

Opinion X. Sept. 15, 1871.

The Commander-in-Chief having power to order the permanent organization of a Department when it comprises ten Posts, can he not place it again in a Provisional condition when the number of Posts become less than ten?

I answer, No. It must be expected that our organization, composed of men past their early youth, will gradually diminish in numbers, until it is finally extinguished by the death of all who have joined it. This cause, it is evident; will reduce one Department after another to a less number of Posts than ten, and yet it would be desirable I think, that the few survivors of our glorious army should keep up the regular organization to the last. At any rate, the contingency is one which sooner or later will arrive in every Department, and the subject of providing for it may be left for the future. Any decision of the question now, in view of the fact that it must come before the National Encampment by-and-by, would be premature. And certainly any decision with reference to one Department, without considering how it will apply in the future to all, would be injudicious.

I think also that the course of argument I pursued in Opinion VIII is not avoided by the different manner of putting the question. If the Commander-in-Chief cannot revoke a Department charter, as I there argued, under any circumstances, it will be useless to consider whetner any particular Department charter ought to be revoked.

(See note to Opinion VIII.)

OPINION XI. SEPT. 29, 1871.

Post No. 7; Department of New Hampshire, voted upon an application for admission at the same meeting at which it was received. The applicant was declared elected, and was thereupon mustered into the Post. Some of the members of the Post appealed from its action to the decision of the Department Commander. Comrade Frank D. Woodbury, Judge Advocate, Department of New Hampshire, decided that the action of the Post was illegal and void. The Department Council of Administration decided nevertheless that the applicant should be retained as a comrade.

From this decision the appellants appeal to the Commander-in-Chief.

I am of opinion that the appeal should be sustained, and the decision of the Council of Administration reversed. The opinion of Comrade Woodbury is correct, and his conclusion is not disputed, that the election and muster were illegal.

If the man was not legally introduced into the Order he is not a member. All the proceedings in his case subsequent to the reference to the committee are null and void. The Post Commander should be directed to cause the committee to make a new report, a new election should be held, and then if the applicant is elected he should be re-mustered. The reason of the rule requiring the interval between two meetings to elapse between an application and the vote on the question of admission, is to give notice to the members of the Post, that facts may be ascertained which would prevent the election of improper persons. If the applicant in this case is a suitable person for election he will no doubt be elected again; if not, he should not be a member of the Order.

It will be readily seen, I think, that the condonation by the Council of Administration of the illegal act of the Post Commander, in putting the question of the applicant's admission at the same meeting at which the application was received, and the adoption of the result of that act by considering the person a member, is arrogating to the Council the same power to avoid the Rules and Regulations which the Post Commander assumed.

The Post By-Laws should also be modified, so as not to conflict with the Rules and Regulations.

OPINION XII. OCTOBER 1, 1871.

(The questions proposed appear sufficiently in the opinion.)

1. I think that all the members of the National Council of Administration may sit, whether the departments they come from are in arrears or not.

1st. Because the clause of exclusion, in terms, only applies to representa-

tion in the National Encampment, and penal statutes are always to be construed strictly.

2d. Because the Council of Administration are National Officers of the G. A. R., elected by the National Encampment, not by departments, and are not the representatives of departments, except in the most general sense. I think the members of the Council should no more be dependent, for their right to sit there, on the status of their departments, than the Commander-in-Chief would be or any other of the National Officers.

II. Chap. IV, Art. 6, Sec. 1, says: "He (the Commander-in-Chief) shall decide all questions of law or usage, subject to an appeal to the National Encampment." I do not understand that an appeal lies from a decision of a Department Commander or Department Encampment, directly to the National Encampment, but first to the Commander-in-Chief, then, after his ruling, to the National Encampment.

See Chapter III, Article VII, as amended. National Encampment, May, 1874.

Opinion XIII. October 12, 1871.

Does a comrade holding a Department office forfeit such office when the Post of which he is a member neglects its duty, and becomes practically disorganized?

If posts are unmindful of their duties, their charters should be suspended or annulled by the Department Commander and Council of Administration, but it is altogether too harsh a doctrine to hold the private members of the Post responsible for the neglect of its officers. The remedy is either against the whole body, as above, or by court martial of the officers, the responsible parties. The status of members of such posts is recognized in Sec. 4 of Art. 4, Chap. II, Rules and Regulations, which provides that if the members themselves are in good standing, even when the Post is disbanded, they may take transfer cards and join other posts.

I think, therefore, that while it would not be advisable to appoint to any office, a member of such a Post, yet, after the comrade is appointed, he is not rendered ineligible to retain his office by his Post lapsing into an undisciplined condition. If it should be necessary to revoke the Charter of the Post, the comrade holding office should be required to connect himself with another at once.

Opinion XIV. October 19, 1871.

"Can a Provisional Department Commander appoint a Department Inspector?"

I think that Art. X of Chap. V, Rules and Regulations, limits the staff of a Provisional Commander to the officers there named. It seems to be contemplated that the duties of inspection should be performed by the Aides, four of whom would be able to attend to any number of posts less than ten.

The Inspector-General may nominate as many assistants as he thinks necessary; one for each Provisional Department, as well as for regularly constituted departments, if he chooses.

OPINION XV. NOVEMBER 6, 1871.

Has a comrade the right to blackball a worthy discharged soldier, on purely personal grounds?

The mode of election by ballot gives to every comrade voting an unquestionable right and opportunity to express his opinion. The ballot should be conducted so that no comrades vote should be known, and he cannot from the nature of the case be called in question for exercising his choice. No comrade ought to be influenced by personal dislike or malice, but should decide in every case upon his honest convictions. Yet, if he does not, he cannot be restrained of his privilege. He must answer to his own conscience.

The Regulations prescribe that before the vote is taken an opportunity shall be given to any Comrade to state his objections to the candidate, and, if this is complied with, the friends of the candidate will ordinarily withdraw his application, if it becomes probable that he will not be elected; or if invalid objections are presented, after friendly discussion they may be removed.

OPINION XVI. NOVEMBER 26, 1871.

1. "Has a Post the power to exclude suspended members from its meetings?"

2. "May members of the Grand Army on parades appear with the insignia of rank worn in the service?"

3. "Does the Ritual contemplate that Comrades shall remain covered during the ceremonies?"

1. The general regulations prescribe that a suspended member is not eligible to office, and has no vote. Any regulation adopted by a Post on the subject, not inconsistent therewith, will be valid. Such by-law may provide that suspended Comrades be debarred the privilege of attending the meetings of the Post.

2. By reference to the published proceedings of the Fifth Annual Meeting of the National Encampment, page 36,* it will appear that the clause in Chapter V., Article 9, Section 1, allowing the use of the uniform worn in the service was not stricken out, but that such uniform is still one of the optional uniforms of the Grand Army. If it is worn, the accustomed insignia of rank will be retained. If civilians clothes or the blouse are chosen, no insignia of rank having yet been adopted by the National Encampment, there is no badge of Grand Army rank suitable to be worn with them.

3. There is no regulation which answers this question precisely. My own construction of the language of the Ritual is that it does contemplate

* Page 129, this book.

the use of forage caps in the opening ceremonies. Whether Comrades who have only their ordinary caps or hats should remain covered or not is rather a question of taste or propriety than law. If the object of wearing the forage cap is to give uniformity to the line, and as much of a military appearance as possible, I think that object would be nearer attained by not wearing different styles of head coverings when the forage cap is not supplied. But I should defer entirely to the judgment of the Inspector-General upon this point.

NOTE. See Chap. V, Art. IX, Sec. 1, amended May, 1872, May 1874.

OPINION XVII. DECEMBER 5, 1871.

"Is a person who served as a scout in the Union Army, during the entire war of the Rebellion, eligible for admission into the Grand Army of the Republic?"

I do not understand that scouts were generally attached to the Army for definite terms of enlistment, or that they were actually mustered into and out of the service, in such a way as to make them strictly a part of the Army. Civilians were usually employed for special services, and then paid and discharged. Sometimes enlisted men were detailed or volunteered for such work In the latter case, of course no question could arise as to their eligibility to membership. But in the case of civilians who were employed temporarily as scouts or who were hired as detectives at home, I cannot see that our regulations admit them.

The matter is perhaps of sufficient importance to be laid before the National Encampment for their construction of the law. Until they take action, I should advise that such applications be not received.

OPINION XVIII. DECEMBER 29, 1871.

(The question appears sufficiently from the opinion.)

I am of opinion that the expression "the year following," in the Regulations, Chap. III, Art. 2, Sec. 3, taken in connection with the rule that the election of delegates shall take place at the last post meeting "in each year;" and the Regulation, Chap. II, Art. 7, Sec. 1, that the Post election shall take place "at the last stated meeting in December," refers to the calendar year, beginning on the first day of January, and consequently that the term of office of delegates to Department Encampments is from January 1 to January 1.

Members elect of Department Encampments therefore are entitled to all the privileges and liable to all the duties of that office on the first day of January next after their election in December. The provision that a copy of their credentials shall be forwarded immediately after their election to the Assistant Adjutant-General, is designed to afford him the means of making up the roll of the Department Encampment, previous to the annual meeting, and to facilitate the organization of the Department Encampment when it meets.

OPINION XIX. JAN. 2, 1872.

When a Post has voted to disband, and has surrendered its charter, do its officers still retain the authority to grant transfer cards to members wishing to join other posts?

The question is decided by Chap. II., Art. 4, Sec. 4, of the Rules and Regulations, When a Post has voted to disband and surrender its charter, all the papers and property of the post are to be turned over to Department Headquarters. If any of the members desire to join other posts, the records of the post, in the hands of the Assistant Adjutant-General, will show the standing of such members, and he will grant transfer papers to such as were in good standing, and who desire it.

OPINION XX. JANUARY 11, 1872.

If a Department has over five hundred members and less than one thousand, how many representatives in the National Encampment is it entitled to?

The meaning of Chap. IV, Art. 2, Sec. 1, par. 2, is, in my opinion, that 1,000 members in good standing shall constitute the unit of representation of a Department in the National Encampment, and that a final fraction of more than half of that unit, that is more than 500 members shall count as 1000.

Every Department would, therefore, be entitled to the representative at large; and if composed of between 501 and 1,500 members to one representative in addition—counting for representation every 501 members to 1,500 members as 1,000—every 1,501 to 2,500, as 2,000 &c.

In the case stated, the Department would be entitled to elect one representative at large, and one additional representative for the 501 members.

As suggested by the comrade proposing the question, the paragraph is not altogether lucid, but I think a strict construction of the whole section will support my opinion.

OPINION XXI. JANUARY 15, 1872.

The reports of a Department for the third quarter of 1871, exhibited many Posts in arrears, and not reporting. If these Posts or any of them, pay their dues, and make reports to secure representation in the Department Encampment, ought not the Assistant Adjutant General of the Department to send a supplemental report for that quarter, and the Assistant Q. M. General to pay dues therefor?

Would it be their duty to do so without special orders?

I am of opinion that on the reception of any report from a Post after the consolidated report has gone forward, which would vary the footings of

the consolidated report, the Department Commander should send a supplemental report, showing the true number of members in his Department, in good standing for the quarter to which such report relates.

No order to do so is necessary, but an order may be issued, if it is neglected. Dues should be paid for the actual number when ascertained.

OPINION XXII. JANUARY 29, 1872.

Is a cashiered officer of the Army, who afterwards has the disability of the sentence removed by General Order from the War Department, eligible to membership in the Grand Army of the Republic?

The answer to the question must turn upon the extent of the order removing the disability of the sentence. If the officer was granted an honorable discharge, he is eligible to membership, though previously he had been dishonorably discharged. So if a person once dishonorably discharged, has the order cashiering him revoked, and he is reinstated in the Army, he will then be eligible to membership.

It must be borne in mind, however, that we ought not to elect to membership all persons who are eligible to apply for it. The post receiving an application should make proper inquiries in regard to the character of the applicant, and if there is anything in his past record or present character which they deem sufficient to make him an unsuitable companion for themselves, they should reject his application. The Regulations place this power in their hands, and it is expected that they will exercise it for the good of the Order, with impartiality, and without personal feeling.

The question in this case is generally stated, and I can therefore only answer it in general terms. If the facts of the particular applicant for admission in the present case were detailed I might make my decision more specific.

OPINION XXIII. FEBRUARY 3, 1872.

1. Can a Comrade be appointed Provisional Commander of a Department when he does not reside within the Department?

2. Can a Post provide by By-Law that an officer shall forfeit his office by absence from a certain number of meetings?

I answer the questions in order:

1. I think that no comrade residing out of the territorial limits of a department is eligible to appointment to any department office.

2. The General Regulations fix the term of officers of posts, and provide further that all charges shall be tried by court martial. It seems a fair inference that a Post cannot elect a commander to hold office during good

behavior, or on condition that he will attend meetings, or with any such conditional limitation.

I think they may, however, provide by by-law that absence shall be punished by fine; but this penalty on a Post Commander would have to be recovered through a court martial convened by the Department Commander. Continued neglect of the duties of the office would furnish ground for prosecution, without any by-law.

OPINION XXIV. FEBRUARY 3, 1872.

Can a person who has been dishonorably discharged from the Grand Army of the Republic be readmitted, on reformation, by the Post of which he was a member?

There is no provision in the Regulations on the subject of the readmission of dishonorably discharged members. I should, therefore, hold the opinion that such a person, on reformation, might be admitted by the Post which discharged him, on a new application and elected as a recruit, such application being first approved by the officer who approved the sentence of the court martial.

OPINION XXV. FEBRUARY 3, 1872.

Has the Commander-in-Chief power to fill a vacancy occurring in the National Council of Administration, in the interval between its sessions?

The Regulations, Chap. IV, Art. 5, Sec. 3, provide that vacancies in the national offices occurring during the year shall be filled by the National Council of Administration. I cannot imagine any necessity for filling a vacancy except when the Council are together, and then they can fill it themselves. The members of the Council have no duties except in their meetings. No doubt, in case of other officers who have duties to perform at all times, the Commander-in-Chief may detail a comrade to act until the Council of Administration meet. I think, therefore, in this case the Commander-in-Chief has no power.

OPINION XXVI. FEBRUARY 24, 1872.

Can a Post reinstate, without payment of dues, a comrade who had been dropped for arrearages, and who died after his name had been dropped?

The power given to posts in Chapter V, Art. 4, Sec. 3. to remit the dues of a comrade six months in arrears, should be exercised, if at all, when the case is reported. It must be done by the Post of which he "is a member." It is too late after his connection with the Post is severed by death.

Sec. 4 confers an entirely different power—that of restoring to membership a former comrade who had been dropped for non-payment of dues for a year. That the powers are dissimilar, appears from the provision that

the power to remit dues requires a two-thirds vote, while the power to reinstate a comrade rests with a majority. When a comrade is dropped in accordance with Sec. 4, he ceases to be a member, and the Post of which he "was" a member, has no longer any power to remit his dues. They must be paid either by himself or some other person, as a condition precedent to his readmission. I should consider the appropriation of Post funds to such a purpose an unconstitutional use of its money. The present case would be decided by the fact that no dead person could be admitted to a Post, either as a recruit or by being restored to membership.

Opinion XXVII. March 1, 1872

The Commander of a provisional Department having organized ten Posts therein, requested of the Commander-in-Chief information as to "the manner of procedure necessary to secure" for the Provisional Department "recognition as a Department."

In reply he was informed—"The permanent organization of a Department is by order of the Commander-in-Chief, calling a Department Encampment * * * An order will at once be issued upon your naming the time and place for the assembly of the Department Encampment, and forwarding the charter fee of $20, required by Regulations. This matter will receive prompt attention at National Headquarters, in order that there may be no delay in the organization."

In reply to the next letter, saying, "Please hurry up charter," he was informed that "the order for Department Encampment cannot be issued before a full and complete report is received from your Department." This condition was rendered necessary by the failure of the Provisional Commander to forward reports and dues for the quarter next preceding, which had meanwhile become due.

Nothing further was received until the receipt of a communication informing the Commander-in-Chief that the Department had been permanently organized, without orders from the Commander-in-Chief.

Was the action of the Provisional Commander in accordance with the Rules and Regulations? Is it valid? What is the power and duty of the Commander-in-Chief in the matter; according to the Rules and Regulations?

The mode of organizing a permanent Department is prescribed in the Regulations, Chapter V, Article 10, Sec. 2. The order for organization must be issued by the Commander-in-Chief. The action of the Provisional Commander is therefore illegal and void.

The further question, "What is the power and duty of the Commander-in-Chief in the premises," is not so easily answered. He has the power to declare the law, and to remove and court martial the Provisional Commander, who has violated it; but whether he should exercise that power in the present instance, depends upon how such action will effect the interests of the Grand Army. If the act of the Department Commander were a perverse and arbitrary exercise of authority not delegated to him, he should be punished, and his action declared void; but if it appears

that he took the letter from Headquarters as approving the idea of the organization, and innocently went beyond his power, the Commander-in-Chief may ratify the action now. Either course will be legal, and the character of the Provisional Department Commander would furnish a reason for deciding one way or the other. If the Commander-in-Chief issues an order ratifying the act of the Department Commander, as he has entire discretion in the premises to do, that will put the Department on a legal foundation.

I cannot presume to say what is best to be done in the premises The power is clear. The expediency of using it is for the Commander-in-Chief to decide upon.

OPINION XXVIII. MARCH 16, 1872.

Can the Commander of a Post require an application for a transfer paper to be made in writing?

It is a general rule of parlimentary law to require any motion to be presented in writing, at the suggestion of the presiding officer or of any member. The meetings of Posts are governed in the absence of express regulations, by the general principles of deliberative bodies. I think, therefore, the Post Commander has discretionary power to require such an application, as the question relates to, to be reduced to writing, before entertaining it.

OPINION XXIX. APRIL 2, 1872.

Has a Post Commander authority to transfer or discharge Comrades, without a vote of the Post upon the application?

The Regulations make it the imperative duty of the Commander to grant a Comrade in good standing, applying therefor at a meeting of the Post, a transfer or discharge. A vote of the Post instructing the Commander not to do so, would be void.

The reason for requiring the application to be made at a Post meeting, is not that a vote may be taken, but that the members may know of the application, and may state any legal objection to it.

OPINION XXX. APRIL 15, 1872.

"If a Post court martial a Comrade can they reveal the sentence to the outside world, or can the injunction of secrecy be removed if the Post vote to do so, and the case be exposed to people generally?"

It has not been our practice to divulge any of the proceedings of Posts, except the names of officers elected. And although there is no direct injunction of secrecy in regard to the sentence of Courts Martial, the spirit of our regulations is against such publication. It seems wrong that any punishment which we inflict should extend beyond our Order. I do not

think we have any right to divulge to the world any information concerning a man's character which we have obtained by means of his membership in the Grand Army.

The Regulations do prescribe that no information as to the causes or means of the rejection of applications for membership, shall be divulged, and I think the same reason would forbid the publication of any sentence of a Court Martial.

I am of opinion, therefore, that the Post has no right to order such publication.

OPINION XXXI. APRIL 15, 1872.

The question is proposed, whether a woman who served with the First Regiment Rhode Island Detached Militia as Daughter of the Regiment, and who received a discharge in ordinary form from the service as Daughter of the Regiment and who was afterwards received as a member of a Post of the G. A. R., was lawfully mustered into our Order?

I do not know of any position in the Army according to the Regulations described as Daughter of the Regiment. Our Regulations prescribe as a condition for membership that the applicant shall have been a soldier or sailor in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States, &c. Whatever a Daughter of the Regiment may have been, I do not understand that she was a soldier in the United States Army. She may have done good service in the suppression of the rebellion, as nurses in hospitals, and agents of the Sanitary Commission and Christian Commission, and many patriotic citizens at home did; but as she does not come in the classes of persons whom our Regulations make eligible to membership, I think the action of the Post admitting her was illegal and void.

The discharge which was given her, I suppose was a complimentary testimonial to her patriotism, rather than a certificate that she had been technically in the service.

OPINION XXXII. APRIL 15, 1872.

Is it proper for a Post by vote to collect and have read in open Post evidence involving the character and reputation of a comrade?

The facts upon which this question arises are as follows: A comrade having been indicted for larceny, and having pleaded guilty, was sentenced and committed to jail. He wrote to an officer of the Post of which he was a member, asking the aid of the Post to procure his pardon or relief. The Post, by vote, directed the Commander to collect information in the case. He wrote to the comrade imprisoned

and the sheriff of the county, and the replies to these letters were, by vote of the Post, read in open meeting.

From this action of the Post the comrade who asks the question appeals.

I should have no hesitation in answering the general question in the negative. If any comrade knows anything in the conduct of any other, which makes him an unfit associate of the members of the Post, he should prefer charges, and have his knowledge brought before a Court Martial, in the form of evidence.

But this case seems as suggested by the Post Commander an exceptional one. The comrade here invites the inquiry of his comrades into his conduct and circumstances, by asking their assistance. He writes to them confessing his guilt. I think that any right he may have had to object to the publication in Post meeting of evidence tending to convict him of crime, was waived by his communication to them, asking their interference; and certainly by his second communication, directed to the Adjutant, and evidently intended by him to be shown to the Post. The objection that the same comrades who heard this confession might be detailed to sit on a court martial for the trial of the comrade; is not so valid as the same objection would be to their sitting on a jury in a common law court.

In the first place; the record of the conviction of the comrade by the State Court would supersede his written confessions as evidence before the Court Martial, and he would probably plead guilty, as he did at first And secondly, if he desired it, the Department Commander, under our regulations, would detail a Court Martial from other Posts, whose members were not acquainted with the facts.

In the present case, therefore, I think the action of the Post was right.

Opinion XXXIII. April 20, 1872.

The question is proposed: "What is the meaning of the expression 'not otherwise provided for,' in the clause of Chap. I, Art. 8, Sec. 1 of the Regulations, which makes it the duty of the Post Commander to detail all officers and committees not otherwise provided for? Does it relate to officers and committees whose appointment is not provided for in the Regulations, or by the Post?"

The expression, in my opinion, imposes a sort of residuary or alternative power and duty upon the Post Commander. If the Regulations prescribe the mode of selecting a certain officer, neither the Post nor the Commander can pursue a different mode of appointment. If the Regulations are silent and the Post sees fit to provide by By-law or by vote in a particular case, it may do so; but in case of the selection of a committee or the detail of an officer, when the Regulations are silent as to the method of selection, and

the Post does not choose any method, the clause in question places the power and duty in the hands of the Post Commander.

Opinion XXXIV. April 20, 1872.

The question is proposed, "Can a Post refuse to admit a Department officer to its rooms, on the ground that it is holding an executive session? Can a Post exclude comrades belonging to other Posts on the same grounds?"

Our Regulations do not recognize any such thing as an executive session. The term is a misnomer when applied to any meeting, except a session of a legislative body, which possesses also certain executive powers—like the power which the U. S. Senate has of confirming or rejecting certain appointments of the President, or its power of ratifying treaties, &c.

A Post of the G. A. R. has no executive powers, and consequently cannot hold executive sessions.

There may frequently come before a Post business which it would not desire to have discussed by or before comrades not members. In such a case, on the approach of a Department officer on duty, such business should be temporarily laid on the table, and the officer admitted.

Comrades from other Posts could not, however, claim the same precedence and the Post would be at liberty to consult its own convenience about admitting them, with due regard always to the principles of courtesy and fraternity.

Opinion XXXIV. May 25, 1872.*

1. Can a comrade who has been dropped from the rolls of his Post, for non-payment of dues, join a new Post, as an initiate, without first obtaining an honorable discharge from the Post of which he was previously a member?

2. Should a charter be granted to a body of comrades who desire to form a new Post, when such comrades have been dropped from their old Posts for arrears of dues, and have not been regularly discharged therefrom?

3. Can a Department Commander issue a charter to form a new Post, to members of an existing Post, who are in arrears for their dues?

As is suggested by the comrade proposing the first two questions, the second is involved in the first; and I answer both in the negative. Chap. V, Art. IV, Sec. 4, decides the point. The word "reinstated" in that section must signify reinstated as a member of the Grand Army; and the section prescribes in effect, that such a person as it refers to can only re-join the Order by being admitted through the Post which dropped him. The same answer must be given to the third question. Chap. II, Art. I, Sec. 1, pre-

scribes that a new Post shall be formed of persons "eligible to membership in the Grand Army of the Republic," evidently contemplating persons not already members. There are only two classes of persons who fulfil this requirement, former comrades, honorably discharged, and persons possessing the qualifications mentioned in Chap. I, Art. IV, who have never been members of the G. A. R.

A comrade can leave the Post to which he belongs, only by transfer, to join an existing Post; by honorable discharge, which places him in the same relation to the Order which he occupied before he first entered it; by dishonorable discharge by court martial, which obliges him to apply for readmission, through the Post of which he was a member, with the approval of the officer who approved his sentence; or by being dropped for non-payment of dues, when he can only be readmitted to the Order by vote of the Post which formerly bore his name on its roll. A comrade, in good standing, may obtain a transfer paper, if he wishes to join an existing Post, or an honorable discharge if he is to become a charter member of a new Post.

A comrade, who is in arrears, can only leave his Post by dishonorable discharge, or by being dropped from the rolls. In either case he is not eligible to join any other existing Post, or to form part of a new one.

*See, also, Opinion XLII, December 19, 1872. Post.

Opinion XXXVI. June 5, 1872.

1. Must a Post court martial be composed of three members only, and must they be Post officers? If so, must the Junior officer act as Judge-Advocate?

2. Should a Post muster applicants, who reside nearer any other Post, without first obtaining permission from the Post nearest the residence of the applicant?

1 Our Rules and Regulations are silent upon the points suggested by the first question. They must, therefore, be decided by military usage and United States Army Regulations In regard to the constitution for the court, it may be said that our universal practice has been to consider any comrade eligible to any office. Details for courts martial may, therefore, be made from any comrade in the jurisdiction of the officer ordering the court. There is no intimation in our Rules and Regulations that Post courts martial shall correspond to regimental courts martial in the army, or shall be differently constituted from our Department or National courts martial; and, I think, that the United States Regulations for the organization and government of general courts martial apply to all courts of the Grand Army alike.

It was usual, in the service, for the officer ordering the court to exercise a wide discretion in deciding, of how many members the exigencies of the service would permit the court to consist. I think that, in detailing our

courts, the same discretion may be exercised. The Judge-Advocate should be detailed with reference to his qualifications for performing his duties without regard to his official position.

2. Posts may admit properly qualified applicants, without regard to their residence. Unless such persons have made previous applications for membership, no other Post has any jurisdiction in the matter.

OPINION XXXVII. JULY 1, 1872.

1. Can a Post ballot, on the application of a person for membership, when the application is not presented by the Committee of Investigation, at the meeting when said ballot is cast?

2. Can the verbal report of a Committee of Investigation be accepted and acted on by a Post, and the candidate thereupon balloted for?

3. If the above acts of a Post be illegal, can a candidate, who has been balloted for as above, and rejected, be balloted for again before the time prescribed in the Rules and Regulations?

The facts which give rise to the above questions are stated substantially as follows:

An application was received and properly referred. At a subsequent meeting the committee stated, verbally, that they had signed a favorable report upon the application, and had sent the papers by a comrade to the Post Commander, who was absent from the meeting. The Senior Vice Commander, presiding, ruled that this statement was sufficient as a report, and put the question to a vote upon the applicant's admission. The applicant was rejected.

Chapter II, Art. II, of the Rules and Regulations prescribes very exactly the mode of proceeding upon an application for admission. Sec. 3 provides that the committee shall make their report at a meeting subsequent to their appointment, by indorsement upon the application; and Sec. 4 continues, "after the reading of the report, etc." Clearly, therefore, the report must be in writing, and on the application, and must be presented in that form at the meeting. The committee need not be present to offer it. It may be previously forwarded to the Adjutant, and read by him or the Post Commander at the meeting, but until it is in possession of the Post, in writing, it cannot be acted on. It may be said that the production of the application with the report indorsed upon it, is only evidence that it has been made, and that the statement of that fact by the committee is just as good evidence of it, if it is not doubted or contradicted. This view would be pertinent if the application, after being filed with the report upon it, had been lost. It would, indeed, then be allowable to supply a new copy from memory. But a report required to be in writing, is not a report of the committee for the

purpose of action by the Post, until it is actually filed and in their possession at a meeting. Until then, it is constructively in the hands of the committee, and is actually liable to be changed by them.

The first two questions, then, I answer in the negative, applying the limitation to the first, that the report may be sent in, as well as actually presented by the hands of the committee. It only remains to say, in answer to the third question, that the proceedings should be resumed at the point where the irregularity occurred, that is, the report, indorsed on the application, should be filed; and at any meeting of the Post, in the proper place in the order of business, the report should be read and a new ballot taken.

Opinion XXXVIII. July 19, 1872.

Has a comrade the right to use, in assisting in his own private business, the initials G. A. R.

The facts which suggest the question are as follows:

A comrade, engaged in business, had the letters G. A. R. painted upon his business sign, and his comrades in the Post objected to this use of the initials of the Order.

The question cannot be brought within the scope of our regulations or discipline. It is merely one of good taste and propriety, which must be settled by the individual, and where the largest liberty must be permitted.

As a matter of right, two of the objects of our Order are fraternity and charity, which include the assistance of comrades, and as the duty and privilege are reciprocal, which imply also the reception of aid and favor as much as the giving of them. If a comrade is in good standing and a worthy member of the Order, he may claim from others relief and help when he needs them, and with that object may make known his membership in any intelligible manner. It is difficult to see why he may not invite the patronage of his comrades to a lawful business, when he does not ask charity but gives an equivalent for the aid desired, by publishing the fact of his connection with the G. A. R., by painting the letters on his sign as well as by wearing the badge or presenting a traveling card or letters of introduction.

A manufacturer of cigars, for instance, may call a certain brand the G. A. R., and if, by so doing, he gets the patronage of his comrades, he will have accomplished a fair and ingenious business device, and will certainly have expressed a very complimentary opinion of the value of membership in the Order

So the composer of a piece of music may dedicate it to the Grand Army, or to a Post, or may name it with reference to the G. A. R., ostensibly as a compliment, but really in order to promote the sale of it, and this would be a legitimate business transaction.

I cannot separate, in principle, these supposed cases from the one under consideration. In all of them the connection of the person with the Grand

Army of the Republic is used by him to promote his business interests; and if the business is honorable he profits by his membership without injuring the Order, his comrades, or the public.

OPINION XXXIX. SEPTEMBER 2, 1872.

What is the condition of a comrade who, having taken a transfer paper to join another Post, has delayed two years to present it, and now wishes to rejoin the Post from which he took the paper? Should he pay the dues which have been assessed for the two years past?

The only provisions of the Rules and Regulations on this subject are found in Articles III and IV, of Chapter II. Art. IV, Sec. 2, provides that until the reception of a comrade who has taken a transfer paper, by some other Post, "he shall remain, for all purposes of discipline only, under the jurisdiction of the Post granting the transfer paper;" and Art. III, Sec. 1, that "a member of any Post having a transfer card, may be admitted to another Post by a two-thirds vote by ballot, after having his name proposed and referred, as in case of an applicant for membership," the number of ballots required to elect constituting the only difference in the reception of such a candidate from the admission of a recruit.

There is no provision requiring a transfer paper to be presented within a limited time, as perhaps there should be; and the neglect of the comrade, so long continued, is no violation of the Regulations. The first paragraph quoted above seems to settle the question of dues. The payment of dues is not a part of discipline in the intent of that section. The man's name must have been dropped from the rolls of the Post when his transfer paper was granted, and I think he stands in no other relation to it than the relation he occupies to any other Post which he might wish to join. I am of opinion that he should make application to be readmitted under Sec. 1, of Art. III, and that he should be proposed and voted for as there provided. His transfer paper should be forwarded with the application, and will be conclusive evidence of the facts it recites.

NOTE.—The validity of a transfer paper is now limited by amendment to Chapter II, Article IV, Sec. 2, National Encampment, May, 1874.

OPINION XL. SEPTEMBER 16, 1872.

A post was chartered under the district system as No. 5, District No. 2, Department of ———. On the abolition of districts, the Post received the number 17, and now desires to have the charter changed to conform to this numbering. Can this be done; and if so, should the names of those not now members be omitted? And what should be the date of the charter?

It was a mistake on the part of the Department officers not to number the Post 17 originally, as all the Posts in the Department should have been numbered continuously from the one first constituted, not beginning at number 1 in each district.

A new charter should have been granted when districts were abolished, or as soon as the mistake was discovered, and there is no impediment to making the correction now. The new charter should contain the same names as the original one, and should either be dated back to conform to the date of the formation of the Post, or should refer to the fact that it is given as a substitute for one of that date, and to correct a mistake therein.

Perhaps it may be better, since so long a time has elapsed, for the Post to retain their original charter.

OPINION XLI. DECEMBER 7, 1872.

Can a public entertainment given by a Post be opened and closed according to the Ritual?

Chapter V, Article XIII, Sec. 1, provides that the Ritual of the Grand Army shall be kept secret. The request to divulge a portion of the work cannot be granted without violating this law.

OPINION XLII. DECEMBER 19, 1872.

Certain comrades were dropped from the roll of their Post for non-payment of dues. They now desire to re-enter the Grand Army, but, meanwhile, the Post to which they formerly belonged has been disbanded. How can they be restored to membership in the Order?

So long as the Post was in existence from which these persons were dropped, as stated in Opinion I, of May 25, 1872, from this office, they could only rejoin the Order by being voted into that Post, and paying the dues which were in arrears at the time they were dropped, Chapter V, Article IV, Section 4. This is now manifestly impossible, and the state of facts is one not contemplated in that Opinion. Do the Regulations preclude these persons from ever rejoining the Order? I think a fair construction of the section will lead to the conclusion that it is intended to apply only when the Post still exists. If its prohibition is universal, then its object, which is generally to provide an equitable mode of restoring comrades who have been dropped, must fail in such cases as the present, through the dissolution of the means by which that restoration is to be effected. I think the section was designed to be operative, only when it could operate, viz., so long as the means it provides are effective and attainable. It does not intend to cut off a person who has been dropped from rejoining the Order, but to facilitate his restoration. If we can so construe this section that its main object and spirit shall be fulfilled in this contingency

where the means it provides fail, we shall, I think, be observing it most faithfully, and shall be adhering most closely to its true intent. After the dissolution of a Post, where can this power of readmitting comrades to the Order be most reasonably supposed to reside? I think in the Department which becomes the successor of a Post when it is dissolved and which inherits its property and records. Let the applicants for readmission then fulfil the requirements which this section makes of them by paying into the Department Treasury the amounts they owed their Post; and the Department Commander, in his discretion, may readmit them to the Order and organize them into a new Post, or approve their application to join other posts.

By this procedure, the candidates will have done all that the Regulations require of them; and the proper officer will have performed the duty of discrimination which belonged to the Post while it existed.

Opinion XLIII. January 7, 1873.

Can the obligation be read to recruits, consecutively, before being administered?

The resolution of the National Encampment, passed at the session of 1871, at Boston, adopting the present Ritual, prescribes that after the receipt thereof, it shall be strictly conformed to in all respects, in the ceremonies of opening, closing and muster-in. No officer of the Grand Army has power to limit or alter this enactment.

Opinion XLIV. January 14, 1873.

A Post, having paid all dues and forwarded all returns, votes to disband for one year, and forwards a copy of the vote to Department Headquarters. What is the duty of the Department Commander in the premises?

He should inform the Post that the Rules and Regulations do not permit the surrender of a Post charter, contingently, or for a limited time; and, when a Post charter is surrendered, the provisions of Chapter II, Art. I, Sec. 2, must be complied with, to render such surrender valid. Should it appear doubtful, however, whether the Post ought to be continued, he may, if he thinks proper, call a meeting of the Department Council of Administration, and they may declare the charter of the Post forfeited for neglect to hold monthly meetings. The first course, I think, will be preferable, as the Post seems to desire to dissolve legally.

Opinion XLV. February 26, 1873.

Does Section 3, of Chapter II, Article IV, of the Rules and Regulations make it compulsory for a Post to grant a discharge?

Is it necessary that the discharge be granted at once, or can it be delayed to afford opportunity for drawing up charges against the applicant?

I think the intent of the section is clear. A person who is "in good standing" is one who has committed no offence for which charges may be preferred. When the application is received, the section referred to requires that it shall be continued to a subsequent meeting, for no other purpose than to ascertain the standing of the applicant, and to give opportunity to comrades to prefer charges against him, if he has committed any offence against the Order. The discharge may be delayed long enough to give time for the preparation of charges, but not vexatiously, or without probable cause, or for an unreasonable time.

If, after reasonable delay, no charges are preferred, it is compulsory upon the Post to grant the discharge.

Opinion XLVI. March 24, 1873.

Is it proper to suspend a Post Commander, who is also a member of the Department Council of Administration, when accused by members of the Post, of appropriating Post funds to his own use?

The Department Commander should direct charges to be preferred if he is satisfied that there is any foundation for the accusations; and should then suspend the accused until the finding of the court. The charges in this case should be tried by a court convened by order of the Department Commander.

Opinion XLVII. April 11, 1873.

Is an officer in the Revenue service, who served during the war in that capacity, and part of the time on his vessel, in conjunction with vessels of the Navy, in suppressing blockade-running, eligible to membership in the Grand Army of the Republic?

The Regulations admit only those who served in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps, during the war. I do not think that either of these classes can be construed to include the Revenue service. The latter is a part of the Treasury Department, and its officers are merely the armed officers of Customs. The regulations for the collection of revenue and the prevention of smuggling, etc., are enforced by them on the seas, exactly as they are by custom-house officers and United States marshals on shore. The fact that a revenue vessel is detailed for extraordinary duty during a time of urgent necessity, does not alter the relation of its officers to the Government, or attach them to the Navy.

OPINION XLVIII. APRIL 17, 1873.

1. Is it the duty of Posts or comrades to observe Memorial Day, without any other authorization or direction than that contained in the Rules and Regulations, Chapter V, Article XIV?

2. Is it discretionary with Posts and comrades, whether they shall observe Memorial Day?

3. Would the failure of a Post to make arrangements for the observance of Memorial Day, as a Post, relieve any member of that Post from the duty of its observance?

4. Do the Rules and Regulations leave the method of the observance of Memorial Day, and the arrangements therefor, to the discretion of Posts and comrades?

5. Has the Commander-in-Chief, or a Department Commander, authority to prescribe any plan of action by Posts in the arrangements for the observance of Memorial Day, or to interfere with the arrangement of any Post or comrade for its observance, either as a Post by itself, or in conjunction with other Posts, or as comrades individually?

1. I answer the first question in general terms in the affirmative. I consider that the Rules and Regulations enjoin upon every Post and comrade the duty of observing Memorial Day, and that this provision creates the duty, whether any orders are issued by Department or National authority or not.

2. The nature of the duty makes each comrade, necessarily, the judge of how he shall perform it. It is analogous to the obligation which he assumes to relieve the wants of a needy comrade, or his duty to attend the meetings of his Posts. Each of these duties will be acknowledged by a comrade, who feels his responsibility as a member of the Order. Yet, from the nature of the case, no Post can say what private circumstances are sufficient to excuse a member from giving charity in any particular instance, nor whether he properly waives the obligations to attend a meeting, in favor of another duty, which seems to him to claim the preference. In all these matters, the Grand Army must leave the conduct of each comrade to his own sense of right.

In the case of a Post, I think somewhat less discretion is allowable. Posts are organized, among other things, for just this purpose. The perpetuation of the memory of our fallen comrades, not only among ourselves, but in the grateful regard of the whole people, whose life they saved, by our annual processions to the resting places of the heroic dead, and the floral decoration of their urns, is one of the most prominent and beautiful objects of our

Order, none the less important that it was not inaugurated till after the Grand Army had been some time in existence. I think, therefore, that a Post which should omit this ceremonial, repeatedly, or for a frivolous cause, or which should deliberately pass resolutions of contempt for the observance of it—if such a thing can be imagined—would be amenable to discipline by higher authority, as properly as if it should fail, for a long period, to hold meetings, or in its capacity as a Post, should commit any other act of insubordination.

3. If the Post, to which any comrade belongs, were to fail to make arrangements for the observance of the day, I think that it would not be obligatory upon such comrade to engage in any public ceremonies in its observance. Yet, if inclination prompts him to join with some other Post, or to assemble with other comrades, or alone to visit and decorate the graves of the fallen, such voluntary service will be a becoming expression of the sentiments which the Grand Army inculcates and fosters

4. The Rules and Regulations prescribe the observance of the day by the members of the Order. The primary organization of the members is by Posts, and consequently, in the absence of specific orders or regulations, the duty first devolves upon each Post. It is generally the case throughout the country, that there is only one Post in each town or village; and, therefore, the day has been usually observed by each Post in its own way. In cities, where there are more Posts than one, and where there are, perhaps, different cemeteries to be visited, it has been the custom, and an entirely proper one, for several Posts to unite voluntarily in this service.

5. The ordinary duties of a Department Commander, relate to his Department as a whole. On occasions when the whole Department is ordered out, or assembles for any duty, he takes command. When a Post is assembled by itself, or when several Posts unite voluntarily, for the purpose of a parade, a reception, or a fair or any such object, the Department Commander would hardly assume the direction of affairs. If one Post, or any number of Posts, were to assemble or combine for an illegal object, or one detrimental to the interests of the Order, the Department Commander would have the right, and it would be his duty to interfere and stop such proceedings.

Clearly, whatever right a Department Commander has, in his own Department, the Commander-in-Chief has throughout the Order; and, if the Department Commander interferes in matters relating to a Post in his jurisdiction, the Commander-in-Chief may, in his discretion, approve or revoke the order of the Department Commander.

I may add, in application of the foregoing principles, to the facts which suggested the questions submitted, that no Department Encampment, or Department Commander, has the power to order various posts to send delegates to a committee, which shall control their action as posts upon any public occasion, because

1st. Such action is in effect forming a new organization, unknown to our Rules and Regulations, and giving it a command, which belongs to the senior officer present.

2. Such action, where pecuniary expense is to be incurred under direction of such committee, is giving to an unauthorized body the power to levy a special tax upon the posts concerned.

Of course any number of posts, conveniently located for the purpose, may voluntarily combine for any lawful object, and may act through a committee of their own choice, as they see fit, in securing their object, and in collecting the means for defraying the expense incurred.

Opinion XLIX. April 23, 1873.

The Rules and Regulations provide that returns and reports shall be forwarded to the Assistant Adjutant-General, or the Adjutant-General, as the case may be; what is evidence before an Encampment that this is complied with? Is it sufficient evidence for representation, that they were mailed and addressed to the proper receiving officer, or must the said officer testify to their receipt; or, if he certifies they were not received, does the testimony of any subordinate officer, proper to make returns, that they were made out, signed, addressed and mailed to the proper person, entitle them to delegates; and is it a complete compliance with articles of Rules and Regulations?

It is difficult to lay down an exact rule for all cases. If a report should not be received at headquarters, soon after it was due, it would be the duty of the Adjutant-General, or Assistant Adjutant-General, to notify the delinquent Department or Post, that such a report had not been received; and a Post or Department Commander, who had made out and mailed a report, would have a right to suppose that it had been received, unless he should get such a notification. If a report miscarried, and the sender was notified, he should forward another copy.

At a meeting of an Encampment, the first evidence which would be presented to it, in regard to the reception of reports, would be the statement of the Adjutant-General, or Assistant Adjutant-General. This, if not contradicted, would be conclusive. But, if the statement should then be made, that the report was actually sent, and no notice had issued from headquarters, of its non-reception, I think that the Encampment would consider that the reporting officer had done all that was required of him, with the information he possessed, and the delegates would be admitted to the Encampment, it being understood, of course, that a new copy of the missing report should be forwarded as soon as possible. All our reports are made due by Regulations sufficiently long before the meetings of Encampments, to give time to send for new copies, if they are not forwarded when due. And to entitle a Post or Department to representation, reports may be forwarded at the last moment before the Encampment meeting, or even sent in by the hands of the delegates.

Opinion L. April 25, 1873.

Opinion VI, rendered September 7, 1871, from this office, is not intended to apply to the case of a clerk of an army paymaster. I do not think that such service renders a person eligible to membership in the Grand Army. None of the reasons assigned for Opinion VI apply to his case. He is universally considered a civilian. He wears no uniform, is not mustered into the service, has no command, and is never ordered into action; is liable to be discharged at any time. or can leave without becoming a deserter. He is in a similar position to that occupied by a clerk in the Quartermaster's Department, the Ordnance Bureau, or any Government office. In a vessel of the Navy every person on board must participate in an engagement, and consequently every one is assigned some post in action. A large number of persons connected with the Army, more or less remotely, are required, by their duties in relation to property in their charge, to keep out of action. If the word "soldier" in Article IV, Section 1, Chapter I, of the Rules and Regulations has any significance, it seems to me to exclude this class of persons.

Opinion LI. April 28, 1873.

Can a member, or an alternate, elected by a Post, subsequent to the last stated meeting in the year, be legally admitted to a seat in the Department Encampment as a representative of such Post, under existing Rules and Regulations?

Before the passage of the present Rules and Regulations it was the practice when representatives or delegates from any Department were unable to attend the meeting of the National Encampment, to elect or detail comrades from that Department to take their places. There were also instances in some Departments of Posts being formed after the beginning of the year, and electing delegates to the Department Encampment. In some Departments they were admitted, and in others rejected. On the adoption of the present Rules and Regulations; a uniform rule was established in both the representation of Posts and Departments. Chapter III, Art. II, par 3, and Chap. IV, Art. II, Sec. 2, in substantially the same language, provide that only the representatives, or alternates chosen at the time and in the manner specified, shall be admitted to seats. The chance that vacancies may occur among the representatives, is the only reason for allowing alternates to be elected. If vacancies could be filled when they occur, it would be entirely unnecessary to fill them thus in advance. I therefore answer in the negative.

Note.—By amendment to Chap. III, Art. II, Sec. 3, National Encampment, May, 1873, vacancies in Department Encampment may be filled.

OPINION LII. JANUARY 6, 1873.

The following Opinion upon the record of a Court Martial and various questions raised by the reviewing officer in relation thereto, is inserted here, as some of the principles discussed may find application in other cases:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
JUDGE ADVOCATE-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
JANUARY 6, 1873.

The statement and correspondence submitted show that after receiving due notice of the time and place appointed for his trial, the accused wilfully neglected to present himself and plead to the charges and specifications. On the day after the time appointed by the court, he addressed a note to the Post Commander, by whose orders it had convened, requesting a copy of the charges and specifications. These were not furnished him, but he was subsequently notified of the time and place to which the court had adjourned. At the second meeting he did not appear until a late hour, when the court was deliberating upon their sentence, having already found him guilty. Instead of requesting to be allowed to plead or to have further time given him for a defence, he addressed the court in an abusive manner, and was ordered, in consequence, to leave the room. The next day he addressed a communication to the Department Commander, requesting a trial by a general Court Martial, and alleged that the proceedings against him were characterized by malice and unfairness.

The position taken by the Post Commander that the Rules and Regulations do not require that the accused should be furnished with a copy of the charges and specifications, is perhaps correct when he does not request it; but in this case the request was made, as appears from the correspondence, before any action had been taken by the court beyond organizing and entering the plea of not guilty. The Regulations prescribe that the mode of proceeding of Courts Martial shall be in accordance with U. S. Army Regulations, and established military usage, Chap. V, Art. VI, Sec. 4. This provision would require that the request of the accused should be granted, and if he had appeared at the adjournment of the court, and there renewed his request, it would have been the duty of the court to furnish the copy and give him time to plead and prepare his defence. But it does not appear that he ever acknowledged the authority of the court, or informed them that he desired to know the charges, or to appear and defend himself. So far as they were concerned their conduct in the premises was regular and legal. They were simply to inquire whether he had received notice as required by the Regulations, and if they were satisfied that such was the case, they were to proceed as if he had been present and pleaded not guilty, which would imply that he knew what the charges were. It appears from the record that they did this.

The appeal to the Department Commander, and the request for trial by a Department Court Martial, was not intended to be made after trial by a

Post Court, so as to give the accused two trials. It should be made before the time fixed for the meeting of the court, or, at the latest, at the time when the court first meets before the opening of the case. If the defendant, by his wilful neglect, permitted the court to take jurisdiction, he must be considered as waiving his right to object to it. Nor does this interpretation of the Regulations unjustly affect the accused; for any objection which he might make to the court in respectful language would be forwarded with the copy of the case for the review of the proper officer, and would influence his judgment of the sentence.

The record of the court is then before the Department Commander for his examination and approval or disapproval, and orders in the case.

His first duty is to see that the proceedings appear to be regular, and then to decide if the findings are supported by the evidence But in this record there is no report of the evidence. It is impossible, therefore, for the reviewing officer to say whether the findings are warranted by the testimony or not, and he cannot say whether the sentence ought to be executed or not. This is a radical defect in the record. If the evidence can be supplied from minutes taken at the time, the record may be amended by its insertion, and signed again and reforwarded for the reviewing officer's examination; but if not, and it does not appear to me to be possible, then the sentence cannot be carried into effect, and a new trial must be ordered. It is for the Department Commander to say whether, if a new trial must be had, it will not be best, under the circumstances to order a Department Court composed of comrades who have not already formed an opinion upon the guilt or innocence of the accused, as the members of his Post must now have done.

Opinion LIII. July 9, 1873.

Does the last clause of Section 5, Chapter II, Article II, of the Rules and Regulations forbid the reception of an application for membership from a person who has been twice rejected by the same Post under the old organization?

It is my opinion that it does forbid the reception of such an application.

The question proceeds upon an erroneous assumption. It implies that there have been different organizations succeeding each other under the common name of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Order in fact has been one continuous body, with the same objects, and with substantially the same plan of operations.

The only important changes in its system have been the introduction and abandonment of grades of membership, and it will be observed that this system was embodied in one article of the Regulations, Art. V. Chap. I, eds. 1869—1870, and was eliminated by striking out that article and making brief verbal alterations in a few other sections. By that article certain members were given peculiar powers, and new recruits were placed for a

time on probation In May, 1871, by the repeal of these provisions, all members were again placed upon the same footing. Always, however, they were comrades of the same order, banded together for the support of the same principles. A person who applied for admission to a Post of the Grand Army in 1867, desired to join the same society which an applicant in 1873 wishes to enter. Any particular Post of the Grand Army is the same body and holds substantially the same relations to the Order which it held from the beginning.

It is quite within the power of any voluntary association to say who shall be eligible to membership in its ranks, and to change its requirements at will; and a person who applies for admission must be governed by the law as he finds it at the time of his application. In this case the prohibition has the same effect as if it had been inserted in the section which prescribes the classes of persons who may or who may not be admitted.

The clause in question first appears in the revision of the Regulations, adopted at Cincinnati. May, 1869, at the same time that the system of grades was adopted. Previous to that time an applicant might present himself indefinitely at intervals of six months. At the same session the clause was adopted making ineligible those who at any time had borne arms against the United States. Until then a reconstructed rebel, for anything in the Regulations, might have been proposed and admitted to membership; but, as it seems to me both the clauses adopted at Cincinnati have the similar effect of preventing the reception of either class of applicants after that time.

NOTE.—By an amendment to Chaper II, Article II, Sections 5 and 10, National Encampment. May, 1875, the restriction forbidding a third and subsequent application has been removed.

OPINION LIV. JULY 19, 1873.

A. B. enlisted in the Union Army during the rebellion. Because of the persecution of his commanding officer, he deserted his company, came north, and again enlisted in the Union Army as A. C. He now makes application in his own name, A. B., for membership in our Order. Can we muster him? It is argued that he is admissable, as President Lincoln's proclamation pardoned all deserters, and men of the Post who served with A. B. justify his desertion, and vouch for his subsequent honorable service under the assumed name.

I may say in the beginning, that as I understand the law which I am called on to interpret, no oppression will justify a soldier's leaving the service he has sworn to perform and take a new enlistment, with probably a larger bounty, at his will. I apprehend that the cases are very few where,

on application, to the proper authorities, a man's wrongs would not be redressed, or he be allowed a transfer into the companyof another commander. And by orders from the War Department it was made the privilege of any enlisted man to take a transfer to the navy whether his commanding officer approved or not.

Our Rules and Regulations of 1868 expressly provided that "No soldier or sailor who has been convicted by Court Martial of desertion, or any other infamous crime. shall be admitted." When the revision of the Regulations was made in 1869, it was considered that many soldiers were convicted of technical desertion, who had never had any intention of actually leaving their colors, and it was not thought best in the General Regulations to go behind an honorable discharge, except where the soldier had been in the rebel service, so this clause was omitted.

This action practically left the case of all such persons who should apply for membership to the decision of the ballot, and allowed them to be mustered if they could win the suffrages of the prescribed majority of the Post. It must be remembered that not all persons who are permitted to become candidates ought to be received. Every comrade in voting should express his opinion of the fitness of the applicant, and one who has been a deserter, though afterwards pardoned or never apprehended and tried, would usually be coldly received by men who performed faithfully the difficult and dangerous duties as well as the easier ones the service imposed.

The case of A. B's eligibility then must be decided by the answer to the question whether he can present an honorable discharge. If he can he may apply for admission I do not go so far in answering this question as to say that the fact that his honorable service and discharge were under an assumed name would render him ineligible. But when a discharge is presented which bears *prima facie* marks of fraud, we are warranted in inquiring how he obtained it, and what was his motive in concealing his true name. If we find, as in this case, that the name was assumed to shield him from the punishment of a crime which, if known, would nave prevented him from receiving the discharge, it would be a misuse of language to call a discharge so obtained an honorable one.

The proclamation of the President has nothing to do with the case. A pardon does not annul the crime; it only waives the punishment. I think that A. B. is not eligible.

Opinion LV. September 29, 1873.

A number of posts have been in the habit of suspending a large number of comrades on the quarters ending March 31, June 30, and September 30, and reinstating them on the quarter ending December 31. Should not the respective posts pay the per capita tax to the Department for each quarter the comrade was in arrears at the time he was reinstated and placed in good standing?

If a comrade in arrears is reinstated and placed in good standing, is not that sufficient evidence that he has paid all arrears, the number shown in good standing upon the face of an Adjutant's roll, either by muster, transfer, or reinstated, being the basis of representation?

On principles of general equity a Post should pay Department dues for any quarter on the number of members who pay Post dues for that quarter, whether the comrades pay their Post dues at the proper time or afterwards. If the payments to the posts are made at any time after the quarterly report of the Post has gone forward, a supplemental report should be required, or the fact of the additional collections should appear in some subsequent report.

The regulations allow a comrade's dues to be remitted in certain circumstances; and while they are so remitted, the comrade is not counted in representation, or in estimating the Department tax. It does not seem to me that the Regulations require such remitted dues to be paid before the comrude is reinstated, as upon that construction the remission would only be a postponement of the time of payment, and this would be a small favor to a needy comrade. I am rather of the opinion that the Regulations permit such a person to be restored to the list of comrades in good standing, when he recommences to pay his dues regularly, so that if his dues are remitted for the second and third quarters of the year and he pays for the fourth, he may be reported in good standing on the first of January succeeding. In some exceptional cases this may give a Post an advantage over others in its representation in the Department Encampment, but it would require a two-thirds vote of the Post in twenty-five cases, on the average, to gain one representative, and this result is hardly worthy of consideration.

It can only be inferred, therefore, that a comrade who is "reinstated" from "suspended" has begun to pay his dues regularly, not that he has paid all that were in arrears. Yet as he may have been reinstated on payment of arrearages, a report should be made by the Post at some convenient time in the year, say at the time the report for the fourth quarter is forwarded, distinguishing the different classes who have been reinstated during the year, and showing for how many quarters while they were reported suspended, such comrades have paid back dues.

I think this might be shown by a proper addition to the regular report including the same information in regard to amounts received from comrades dropped, as well as suspended and restored.

OPINION LVI. OCTOBER 29, 1873.

The question is proposed whether a Post who have ordered a trial of a member by a Post court martial, upon the conviction of the accused and the reversal of the sentence of dishonorable discharge by the Department Commander, the

officer next superior to the officer ordering the court, have a right to appeal to National Headquarters from the order of the reviewing officer?

Appeals from acts of Post Commanders are given by Chapter III, Article VII of the Rules and Regulations. Such appeals are, I think, intended for the protection of members who are aggrieved by the acts from which appeal is taken. The course of appeal is from the decision of the Post Commander to the Post, thence to the Department Commander, thence to the Department Encampment or Council of Administration, if either is in session, and afterwards, or if they are not in session, directly to the Commander-in-Chief, and from him to the National Encampment or Council of Administration.

The right of appeal from the original acts of a Department Commander or Department Encampment is nowhere given in express terms in the Regulations, but has been invariably claimed and allowed as a consequence of the relative subordination existing between the various officers and organizations of the Order.

A right thus established and not defined by positive enactment, must be construed with reference to the properties of the case, the nature of the question, and the regulations indirectly bearing upon it.

If the appeal claimed refers to a subject which is considered in the Regulations, what they say about its treatment will throw considerable light upon the question whether an appeal is proper.

The whole subject of discipline is treated in Article VI, of Chapter V, and the provisions which apply to this case are contained in Sections 4 and 6 of that Article.

No general regulations for the government of courts martial (which I consider to be the meaning of the words "such orders as may be issued from Headquarters") have ever been promulgated; so a court is to be governed by military usage, and no intimation is given that the decision of the proper reviewing officer is subject to appeal any further than military usage gives one. In this case the proper reviewing officer passed upon the sentence and returned the papers with his orders therein.

Upon the principles of criminal law, civil and military, a decision in favor of the accused is generally conclusive, and no appeal is granted to the prosecuting authority From humane considerations objections by a prisoner are allowed, and if found valid, even where his substantial guilt is established he is discharged or a new trial is granted him. It would be introducing an anomaly into criminal practice to subject a prisoner to a second trial even, after he had been acquitted by the ruling, though presumedly incorrect, upon the merits of the case, of the authority legally constituted to decide it.

If the reviewing officer had approved the sentence of the court in this case, and the accused had appealed from the sentence, would not the Post have urged that, in a case like the present the Regulations had granted full power and authority to the Department Commander to approve and execute the findings of the court?

No doubt if the Department Commander were uncertain of the law, he might submit to National Headquarters such questions as occurred to him, and would be governed in his decision of the case by the answers he should receive, but this is in his discretion. He has not seen fit to do so, and has decided the questions which are raised and have never been decided by higher authority. I do not see that an appeal should be granted to the prosecutor, where one could not be claimed by the accused.

OPINION LVII. OCTOBER 29, 1873.

The committee on an application for admission to a Post reported favorably, and on ballot the applicant was elected. Immediately after, at the same meeting and before his muster, it was stated to the Post by a member not present at the time of balloting, that the candidate was an unfit person to become a member, and the committee then acknowledged that they had neglected their duty, and had not seen the candidate in person. Must the Post proceed to muster him or what can they do in the premises?

The Post in electing the candidate acted on the faith that the Investigating Committee as implied by their favorable report, had performed their duty. If they had known the truth that they had not before them the information they had a right to possess before balloting, it is to be presumed that they would have postponed action. I think the Post ought not to be debarred from a true expression of their opinion and wishes by the negligence of the Committee. In ordinary cases I should hold an election to be conclusive, but it appears to me that the circumstances of this case are so peculiar as to call for the interposition of the Department Commander. I think he should order the report and vote to be declared void, and the Committee, or a new one to investigate and report at a subsequent meeting, and thereupon a new ballot to be taken.

As the applicant has not been mustered, he can have no claims in the matter.

OPINION LVIII. JANUARY 1, 1874.

The question is referred to me whether the election of an officer by a Post which has in force a rule of order requiring that all members entitled to vote shall vote on all questions (unless excused by a vote of the Encampment to be taken without debate), is valid, when all the members present do not vote, though none were excused, and attention was called to that fact before the result of the ballot was declared?

The rule of order is not inconsistent with the General Regulations; indeed it is an exact copy of one of the rules of order of the National Encamp-

ment. It is therefore binding upon the Post until it is repealed. If no notice had been called to the fact that some members did not vote, and the vote had been declared, it would have been a matter of inference that the rule had been complied with, but the point was taken at the very time when the rule of order was intended to apply.

The Post Commander should then have enforced the rule. The Posts have by this rule of order limited themselves to a certain prescribed way of expressing their decisions, viz, by a full vote of all members present. The declaration of a vote by the presiding officer is a declaration in effect that the Post have expressed their will upon the question pending, as this rule prescribes they shall do. But it is admitted in this case that such was not the fact.

I think the vote was invalid, and the election is void. A new election should be held to fill the vacancy as soon as possible under the Regulations.

Opinion LIX. January 22, 1874

At the annual election of Officer-of-the-Day, there were three candidates nominated. Upon the first ballot there was no choice. A second ballot was ordered and the Commander called the attention of the Post to the Regulations, Chapter II, Article VII, Section 2, requiring the person who had received the lowest number of votes to be dropped.

The ballots were collected and counted, and the vote stood E. T. C., 37; D. H., 36; and one ballot for the candidate who had received the lowest number of votes on the first ballot.

The Commander ruled that the scattering vote should be counted in the aggregate, and that therefore there was again no choice.

From this decision appeal is taken.

The Commander then ordered a third ballot, and after all had voted who desired, declared the polls closed. The ballots were counted by the tellers, and announced to the Commander as follows:

Whole number of votes cast, 74. Necessary for a choice, 38. H. has 37; C. has 37. The Commander not having voted then deposited a ballot for C., and declared him elected.

From this action appeal is taken by H.

The questions raised are points of parliamentary law, and do not involve the Regulations of the Grand Army. I am of the opinion that according to the best usage in this country, the presiding officer's decision was errone-

ous in both cases; but having reached that conclusion in regard to the first ruling, it is unnecessary to discuss the second.

In counting the number of votes cast to determine whether or not a candidate has a majority, the settled rule seems to be to ignore all ballots cast for ineligible candidates. Certainly this is the rule when the candidate is ineligible under the regulations governing the assembly, and attention is called to the regulations at the time the polls are opened. The contrary decision would put it in the power of the minority, who voted for the candidate who stood lowest to postpone a choice indefinitely, and would defeat the object of the regulation. The scattering ballot should not have been counted in the "whole number of votes cast," and consequently E T. C. received a majority and was elected.

In Cushing's Law and Practice of Legislative Assemblies, Chapter VI, paragraph 180, p. 67, the following language is used upon the point in question.

"In reference to elections in which an absolute majority is requisite for a choice, and in which consequently the whole number of votes received is first to be ascertained, votes given for ineligible persons must of course be excluded from the enumeration for the reason that, as the whole balloting would be void, and all the votes were excluded if they were all for such candidates, it would be preposterous to enumerate such votes when they constituted a part only of any of the votes given in. If in consequence of such exclusion, the result of the election would be different from what it would otherwise be, the whole proceedings must, perhaps, be held void or valid, according as the electors have actual or presumed knowledge of the ineligibility of the persons for whom the excluded votes are given."

The appeal from the first decision is in my opinion well taken, and the candidate elect should be installed.

NOTE.—Chapter II, Article VII, was amended by National Encampment, May, 1875.

OPINION LX. APRIL 18, 1874.

At the organization of a Post, one of the comrades who had rendered efficient services to the Grand Army, was assured by that Post that he should be exempt from dues, and no dues have been demanded of him to the date of the communication, Nov. 7, 1873. At a post meeting held November 7, a comrade insists upon the enforcement of that provision of the Regulations relating to the assessment of a per capita tax, and that the remission to the comrade is illegal.

The Post urge that inasmuch as the action of the Post was previous to the passage of the law, it was not intended to apply to the case, and would not affect the status of the com-

rade. The comrade is able to pay the taxes, but the Post wish to remit them as a compliment to him.

By inspection of the Rules and Regulations, ed. 1868, adopted at the first National Convention, it will appear that the imposition of a tax upon each member of the Post was obligatory. Article XII, Section 1, reads as follows:—

"The annual dues to a Post from each member shall not be less than one dollar."

The Department in which this Post is situated was organized February 20, 1868, a little more than a month after the regulation was adopted, and the law did not then allow exemptions or remissions except for the same causes as at present. But if it had been otherwise, any action of the Post must have been subject to the liability of being repealed or overruled by a new enactment or change of the Regulations by the National Encampment, and would have become void from the time such new regulation went into operation.

The next year, 1869, the Regulations were thoroughly revised, and Section 3, of Chapter V, Article III, was then adopted, in the same words which are now in force.

This section gives to each Post the power to assess a per capita tax upon its members, and Section 3, of Article IV, of the same chapter, permits a Post to remit the dues of a comrade who is unable from sickness or misfortune to pay them. The latter section has also remained unaltered to the present time.

The right to assess a tax is only granted on condition that it shall be a *per capita* one; that is that it shall be assessed upon each member, and it is plain that no remission of a tax once assessed can be made, except for the causes and in the manner prescribed in the section last above referred to.

If a Post may exempt one of its members from the payment of a tax, at its will, it may so compliment two or more, or all but one, and so may throw upon one unfortunate comrade the whole expense of conducting it. So long as such a burden is unanimously submitted to, no one complains, and practically there is no damage and no remedy; but as soon as one comrade, as in this case, calls for the enforcement of the law it must be put in operation.

In as much as the comrade has not refused to pay his tax, but the Post are in error in not demanding it, I would recommend that they begin the collection of the tax from the time when the error was discovered.

Opinion LXI. December 5. 1874.

H. M., a comrade in good standing, of Post No. 13, Department of ———, on the third day of July, 1874, addressed a communication to the Post in these words:—

"July 3, 1874.

"*To the Officers and Members of* ———*Post, No.* 13, *G. A. R.:*

"I respectfully ask for my withdrawal card from your Post. Enclosed please find one dollar for dues for the quarter ending June 30, and fifty cents to pay for my card. Hoping it will meet with your approval,

"I remain yours in F., C. and L.,

"H. M."

"P. S.—Forward the card to me as soon as possible.

"H. M."

The Commander of the Post understood this to be a request for a discharge, and on July 5th granted and forwarded such discharge. Some time afterwards H. M. applied to be readmitted to the Post, and his application was voted upon and rejected. It appears from the report of the Inspector who was directed to examine this case that H. M. intended by his first application to make a request for a transfer card, but after receiving a discharge he was advised to regain his membership by a new application. After his rejection he applied to the Department Commander to order a reconsideration of the ballot against him, on the ground that such ballot was "wilfully, designedly conducted so as to oust him from the Post," and was the action of J. F., a comrade of the Post, "on an old political bias, for political purposes." In the appeal, certain charges against this comrade are recited, apparently to substantiate the statement on which the appeal is founded, and to show personal hostility on his part.

On the first day of October, 1874, the Department Commander, having received the report of the Department Inspector on the facts of the case, issued a special order, "rescinding, annulling, abrogating and declaring void," all the acts and doings of the Post in respect to the case, and restoring the said M to membership in the Post, and directing the Post, upon his application, to grant him a transfer card.

From this decision the Post appeal to National Headquarters.

1. Because the appeal of M. was not forwarded through the proper channels.

2. Because the Post were justified in the construction they put upon the application of M., he having been an officer of the Post for nearly three years, and competent to understand the proper terms in which to apply for a transfer card, if he desired one.

3. Because M. never informed the Post that they had mistaken the meaning of his application, or asked them to rectify the mistake, until after he had made a new application to be admitted and this application had been rejected.

4. Because M., in applying for readmission, in the ordinary form, recognized the fact that he was no longer a member of the Order, and waived all right to have the former action of the Post reviewed.

5. Because a Department Commander has no power to annul a ballot, or to inquire into the motives of those who vote to reject an application.

6. Because the action of the Post can only be set aside on evidence that there was a conspiracy to defraud M., contrary to the Rules and Regulations, of which there is no evidence, 7, 8, 9, 10, because various statements in the appeal, reflecting on the Post, are untrue.

Upon the full record of the case referred to me, I am of opinion that the appeal of the Post must be sustained

I am reiterating the substance of a former opinion, and the ruling of a former Commander-in-Chief, in saying that when a comrade of the G. A. R. deposits a ballot upon the question of the reception of an applicant, he is only responsible to his own conscience for this exercise of his right of choice. From the very nature of the act he cannot be called in question for it.

But it does not follow that every ballot is therefore valid. The applicant may be ascertained to have been ineligible, or his application may not have been regularly before the Post for its action, and in such cases affirmative action would be invalid, or he may have been already a member of the Post, and in such case a rejection would be harmless. If the Department Commander were justified in annulling the discharge given to M., that act would necessarily avoid any subsequent proceedings of the Post on M's application to become a member. If he were already a member, his application and the ballot upon it would be alike idle.

The first objection of the Post can hardly affect this case, as, if the Post are sustained in holding to the validity of the discharge, M. was not a member of the Order, and might well address directly any of its officers. They may, however, draw from this circumstance an inference that M. understood himself to be outside the Grand Army.

The case rests, then, upon the decision of the question, whether the 2, 3 and 4 points of the Post's appeal are well taken, and I have no hesitation in saying that I think they are conclusive. The first mistake arose on the part of the applicant. When he used language capable of two constructions, he gave the Post the right to act upon such of the two as they chose to place upon it, and it seems to me that they did take the more natural construction. A withdrawal, to be sure, might be absolute or only to join another Post; but if designed to be limited, the limitation would naturally be expressed. A person who had been officially familiar with the business of the Post for a long time, ought to have qualified an application for leave to sever his relations with the Post, unless he desired to leave the Order altogether.

But when the discharge was received, if it had been immediately returned with a request to have a transfer card substituted, no doubt on reasonable proof that a mistake had been committed, the Post would have corrected it, or, perhaps, on application, the Department Commander might have compelled such correction.

It does not appear, and it is expressly denied by the Post, that any such request was made. The discharged comrade seems to have accepted the situation, and applied again for admission to membership. I cannot look upon this act as anything else than an absolute waiver of any claim to be

considered still a member, and of any right to challenge the previous action of the Post. Indeed, M. himself takes the same position in his communication to the Department Commander. He does not apply to have the transfer car substituted for a discharge, but he asks "for a reconsideration of the final ballot." He desires to renew his attempt to join, in the same mode that proved unsuccessful before.

I think, then, that the action of the Post should be sustained, inasmuch as if mistaken, the mistake was caused by the applicant, and was acquiesced in by him in such a manner as to now estop him from appealing from it. It is not material to consider the various allegations of misconduct made by M., and denied by the Council of Administration. There is no evidence to support them, and the defence is *prima facie* complete; a demurrer would have been the more proper answer.

OPINION LXII. JANUARY 20, 1875.

G. W. B. joined Post No. 3, Department of ———, April 7, 1871; was reported "reinstated from suspended," June 30, 1872; reported January 7, 1873, as eight months in arrears; no action taken till March 27, 1873, when, having received notice, neglecting to pay his dues, he was suspended. It appears that he never attended a meeting of the Post after his muster, and that he did not take the new obligation when grades were abolished. Having been informed, as he says, that his name was dropped from the rolls of Post 3, he applied, in the usual form to join a new Post, No. 16, and was admitted and reinstated therein September 25, 1874.

Post 16 having subsequently learned the fact of his former connection with Post 3, applied to that Post for information of his standing, and proposed the question of his status to the Department Commander. Upon reference of the case to him, the Department Judge Advocate submitted his opinion as follows:

"HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ———, G. A. R
"November 6, 1874.

"*Commander:*

"I have the honor to submit the following opinion, in answer to the case as presented by Post No. 16, G. A. R.

"The facts as presented are as follows: G. W. B., in 1870 or 1871, was duly mustered into Post No. 3, did not attend any of its meetings, but the Post never has taken any official action in his case, and he has never been discharged therefrom. That afterwards, and while still a member of said Post, he was mustered into Post No. 16, and is now in the anomalous con-

dition of being an apparent member of two posts. By reference to Chapter I, and Article II, Sections 1 to 7, Articles III and IV, of Chapter II, it will be seen that when a person once becomes a member of our organization, he does not cease to be one except he and his Post, acting together, shall, in a regular manner, absolve him from his duties to that Post; that mere non-attendance or non-payment of dues do not relieve him from its jurisdiction over him. Now, Comrade B. is still a member of Post 3, and his muster into Post 16 is irregular and voidable.

"He, or Post 16, or both together, must apply to Post 3 for their consent to relinquish their jurisdiction over him, and with this the Commander will issue the necessary dispensation for Comrade B. to become a full affiliated member of Post 16.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"In F., C. and L.

"L. N. F.,

"*Judge Advocate.*"

Post 16 transmitted a copy of this opinion to Post 3, and requested a dispensation from Post 3, allowing the muster of B. in Post 16.

In reply, Post 3 voted to grant B. a transfer card on the payment of accrued dues for one year ($4.00.) Post 16 now appeals from the decision of the Department Commander approving the Opinion of the Judge Advocate, taking the ground that B, having been mustered into the Grand Army of the Republic before the present work was adopted, ceased to be a member January 1; 1872, because he did not take the new obligation before that time; that he then was as fully separated from the Order as if he had never joined; that he was not considered a member by comrades of Post 3; and that these features of the case were not considered by the Judge Advocate in his Opinion. They further remark that they cannot see the application of the references to the Regulations contained in the Opinion.

It is evident that the citation of the Regulations was incorrectly copied by some one, in the Opinion sent to the Post. The Regulations are plain enough, however, on the points decided by the Judge Advocate.

If B, when he applied to be admitted into Post 16, was in the condition simply of a Comrade who had been dropped from the rolls of Post 3, he could only be reinstated in the Grand Army through Post No. 3

Regulations, Chap. V, Art. IV, Section 4.

See also Opinion I, Judge Advocate-General's office, May 25, 1872, and Opinion XLII, December 19, 1872.

This appears from the records to have been his position. But it is objected, that the adoption of the new work gave the Comrade the choice either to come forward and take the new work, or by neglecting to do so for a certain time, to discharge himself from the Order and all his obligations to it. If such was the result of his neglect, he did place himself outside the Order, and could not be affected by the action of the Post suspending him, or debarred from joining any Post which would vote him in.

The system of Grades was adopted May, 1869, and abandoned May, 1871. A resolution was adopted by the National Encampment at the latter date, allowing all former members. of the grades of recruit and soldier, to take the new obligation at any meeting of their Posts at which they might present themselves; and continuing the membership of Comrades of the third grade without requiring of them any new obligation.

Proceedings of the National Encampment. 1871, page 46, General Order No. 3, Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic, New York. June 14, 1871.

In this resolution no time is limited within which the election must be exercised. The Comrade might have appeared at any meeting of the Post, before he was dropped for arrears, and have taken the new obligation. His neglect up to that time had not deprived him of his membership. He had made and could make no choice which would preclude him from coming in when he saw fit. He was then, to all intents and purposes, in the condition of a Comrade who had not received a new countersign, but was entitled to have it communicated to him on application.

The Regulations then, as now; provided a method of leaving the Post if he desired, that is, by asking for a discharge or transfer paper. His option, then, was to take the new obligation and remain in the Post in full membership, or to receive a discharge or transfer. He had never exercised this option, and was still liable to pay dues when he was dropped from the rolls. His admission to another Post was contrary to the Regulations, and void. The recital, in his application, that he had not made previous application to join any Post was untrue, or, if that was omitted, the mustering officer neglected his plain duty.

The offer of Post 3, to grant him a transfer on the payment of one year's dues only, is so favorable, that it seems strange he should hesitate to accept it.

NOTE,—Chapter II, Article II, Section 10, as amended by National Encampment, May, 1875, requires a comrade, who has neglected to take the present obligation, to make application to be admitted as a recruit

OPINION LXIII. JANUARY 25, 1875.

Nineteen comrades of Post 79, Department of ———, having paid their dues in advance for the current quarter, asked for transfer cards at a regular meeting of the Post. The Post, by laws adopted while these nineteen members were comrades of the Post, imposed a fee of one dollar, to be paid for each transfer card. This fee was demanded, and finally paid under protest. The comrades became charter members of Post No. 80, Department of ———, and that Post presented the case to the Department Commander, who

referred the same to the Judge Advocate, who holds that the word 'dues," in Chap. II, Art. IV, Section 2, of the Rules and Regulations, includes the transfer fee, because the members of the Post, by adoption of the by-law, had contracted to pay such fee, and made it "due" to the Post from themselves or others desiring transfers, and therefore the fee was legally collected. From this decision, Post No. 80 appeals to National Headquarters.

It would perhaps be sufficient to say, in answer to the ruling of the Judge Advocate, that the question has been settled by Opinion III, of August 11, 1871, approved by the then Commander-in-Chief and subsequently by the National Encampment, held May, 1872, and promulgated in their Proceedings, page, 68; but as that Opinion contained no discussion of the question, it may be well to consider the reasons which support it. The word "dues" in our Regulations, occurs first in the first edition adopted at Philadelphia January 1868, as part of the title of Article XII.

"DUES AND REVENUE."

The first section of that article is as follows:

Section 1. "The annual dues to a Post from each member shall not be less than one dollar."

Section 2 provides, "The Department dues shall not be less than ten cents per annum upon each member upon the rolls of the Posts within the Department," &c.

Section 3. "Departments as soon as organized, may fix such higher rates in Post and Department dues as their special necessities may require."

* * * * * * * * *

Section 5. "The dues to the National Encampment shall be two cents per annum upon each member of the Order," &c.

In 1869, a thorough revision of the Rules and Regulations was adopted, and the subjects treated of were carefully classified.

Under the head of "Dues and Revenues," as the title of Article III, of Chapter V, we find the same language which defines the term in every edition of the Regulations since that time.

The word "dues," therefore, in the universal usage of the Grand Army, from the moment that it became a recognized national organization, has signified the regular annual taxes paid by comrades to their Post, by the Posts to the Department, and by the Departments to the National Treasury of the Order.

It is never used in our Regulations in any other than this restricted and technical sense. For instance, take the first section of Article IV, of the same chapter: "Any Department in arrears for reports or dues shall be deprived of all representation in the National Encampment until the same are forwarded" Can it be supposed that if a Department had forwarded

its reports and the annual tax to National Headquarters, and had not paid a bill for blanks furnished,its representatives would thereby be excluded under this section from their seats in the National Encampment? If such had been the intention, the language would have been: "Any Department indebted to the National Encampment, or whose reports have not been duly forwarded, shall," &c. In Article IV, of Chapter II, there is nothing to indicate that the word is used in any other sense. The first section, in providing for granting leaves of absence, says, "Provided he * * * has paid in advance all dues *for the time specified in the furlough*" How can the applicant pay dues *for a future time*, unless such "dues" are the ascertainable proportionate part of a sum fixed with regard to time? I cannot think of anything to which this language can apply except the annual tax.

It is not likely that in the very next section the framers of the Regulations should have used the word in any different sense, when it would have been so easy to specify a fee as a second condition to the granting of the paper. The Judge Advocate is in error in supposing that all powers not specifically forbidden by the Regulations may be exercised by the Posts. The intention of our Regulations is to bring membership in the Grand Army within the reach of all honorably discharged soldiers who are not personally objectionable. The power, therefore, of a Post to make compulsory assessments upon its members is limited by Section 3 to the levy of an annual tax. This may be made sufficient, in any Post, to meet all its expenses. If it is fixed at a figure which is beyond the ability of some of the comrades, the door must be left open to them to withdraw, without fee, to some cheaper Post.

The position, that a comrade, by voting for a Post by-law which is in violation of the Rules and Regulations, may make it obligatory upon him as a contract, is subversive of all ideas of the subordination of the various organizations of the Order. Such a by-law is void *ab initio*. If it relates to the payment of money, the comrade may fulfil it if he chooses; but the Post is forbidden to enforce it, and money paid compulsorily, under its provisions, may be recovered.

Opinion LXIV. March 16, 1875.

Has a Post commander power to pardon a comrade condemned by sentence of Post Court Martial to suspension for one year?

In the absence of any regulation permitting the remission of a penalty regularly ordered, I am of the opinion that no such power exists. I think that by military usage, the reviewing officer has the power to mitigate a sentence when it is sent up for his approval, but not after he has once passed upon it. His action then becomes final, and he cannot afterwards reverse or modify it.

Opinion LXV. June 30, 1875.

The following opinion was given upon a case submitted to

me by the Commander-in-Chief, in which questions arose in regard to his powers and duties, upon the receipt of certain charges and specifications against a Department Commander and another comrade, and a request had been made to him to order a Court Martial for the trial of the same.

The charges are:

1. Violation of the pledge of membership.

2. The commission of a scandulous offence against the laws of the land.

3. Conduct unbecoming a soldier and a gentleman in his relations to the Grand Army of the Republic.

4. Conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline.

The specifications under the several charges are identical, and consist in the statement that the accused, who are editors and proprietors of a newspaper, published therein certain slanderous words concerning the comrade who prefers the charges, who was also editor of another newspaper. One of the accused is a Department Commander, and the accuser is an Assistant Inspector-General The words are not technically actionable at common law, unless special damage has ensued; and such a question can be best decided in the civil courts.

They do not constitute such a libel as an indictment would lie for in a criminal court of any State with whose laws I am acquainted. and so cannot support the second charge.

As I understand the third charge, it must be interpreted with reference to the universal construction put upon the similar expression in the Army Regulations, "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman," by all authorities in military law. In that view, not every ungentlemanly act is meant by this expression, but only those acts of a peculiarily mean and dishonorable kind which no one could perform and still remain a gentleman. The high penalty affixed to the crime by Army Regulations—"Cashiering, without option by the court to substitute a lesser punishment,"—could only be intended to apply to the gravest derelictions, such as unfit a man for the society of gentlemen and make him an outcast from society; and necessarily excludes from this category mere impolite or ungentlemanly acts which may not proceed from a depraved character. If the accused had taken advantage of his position as a Department Commander to issue in orders to his Department the injurious language which he has published in the newspaper, it might support the charge as showing such malignity as would be inconsistent with a proper conception of his position and duties. I do not think the language, as used in an editorial: can be brought within the scope of the charge.

The fourth charge is quite as wide of the mark. Slander of an Assistant Inspector-General by a Comrade, not of his Department, cannot materially affect the order and military discipline of the G. A. R.

People do not believe everything in the newspapers, and the statements which make least impression on the public credence are probably those which contain commendations of themselves and abuse of their rivals. A newspaper fight is a contest in which no one is killed, and the wounded leave the field in good order.

The specification might possibly be construed to support the first charge. The tone of the language is very far from that which a spirit of genuine fraternity would prompt.

Yet newspaper editors, who are personally very good friends, do sometimes permit themselves to indulge in questionable language of each other, when the claims of their respective organs are at issue. It is apparent that we are presented here with one portion of such a discussion. If each had not appropriated the name of our Order, for the purpose of assisting his circulation, I think no one would consider the Grand Army in any way involved.

It seems to me to be a case where the Commander-in-Chief may exercise a sound discretion in refusing to order a court to try these questions, until one of the parties has shown a real and substantial injury, by obtaining judgment against the other in the civil courts.

If the damage is real, it will inevitably be ascertained by a resort to the proper tribunals, whether a Court Martial is assembled to try the case or not. If the charges are only preferred as a move in the contest, the interests of our Order seem to me to require that we do not lend its aid to any such object.

Opinion LXVI. July 30, 1875.

The question is proposed, whether a Post Commander may suspend a member of the Post against whom charges have been preferred, before the decision of the case.

I agree with the Department Judge Advocate, that he has no such power by reason of charges preferred.

The question whether a Commander may not temporarily place in arrest a comrade who is disorderly on parade or in a Post meeting, is not the one under discussion, and this discrimination, if borne in mind, will assist in the decision of the point proposed. I think that the fear of the Department Commander that the Judge Advocate's decision would be subversive of discipline, arose from his overlooking this fact.

The object of arrest in a criminal suit, or in the case of charges being preferred in military service, is to secure the attendance of the accused at the trial, and that he may be within reach of the sentence. Obviously, the state of arrest is inconsistent with the performance of duty by a private soldier, or the exercise of authority by an officer.

In our code of discipline it makes no difference whether the accused is present at the trial or not. If he wilfully absents himself after notice, the Court may hear testimony and determine the case in his absence. We have neither the power nor the motive to restrain him of his liberty, and the

deprivation or suspension of his rights as a member, which would be the natural result of duress, cannot be inflicted except from such a necessity. The fact of arrest being absent, the incidents of arrest fail. As the Judge Advocate suggests, to suspend a comrade from his privileges in the Post because charges are preferred against him, would be to anticipate the judgment of the court, and to inflict punishment upon a man whom the law as yet presumes to be innocent.

The case of an officer is somewhat different. It might be, in certain cases, improper for the official duties of a Post to be performed by a person against whom charges were pending; he might even have the official custody of the proofs of his guilt; and so the Regulations give the Department Commander or Commander-in-Chief the power to suspend an officer who is accused of an offence against the Regulations from the exercise of his office. The framers of the Regulations thought it necessary to confer this power by positive enactment, and it is to be inferred that they did not consider that the preferring of charges would give the power by implication.

Even in the case of an officer, the accused is not suspended from his rights as a member of the Post, but only from his office

The decision of the Post Commander should be overruled and the comrade restored from suspension.

Opinion LXVII. September 3, 1875.

A transfer card was granted T., June 8, which he presented at the organization of a new Post, June 9, and he was mustered as one of the charter members. He neglected to sign the by-laws of the new Post, and to attend its meetings after the first one, and on July 27th the new Post voted to return his transfer card to his former Post, with a request to them to withdraw it.

After the presentation of his transfer card and his muster into the new Post, as others were mustered, Comrade T. must be considered a member of the new Post. The regulations imply that all members shall sign the by-laws within a reasonable time, but no specific time is mentioned. He may therefore sign now, and complete his membership, A transfer card is generally conclusive upon the Post which issues it, except in case of fraud.

Opinion LXVIII. October 14, 1875.

A Department Commander ordered a General Court Martial, composed wholly of Post Commanders, and named one of them President. Another member of the Court protests against the appointment of the President by the Department Commander, taking the ground that the senior officer detailed

must preside, and asks, What determines rank in the Grand Army?

The Department Commander assumes that all the officers of the Court were of equal rank, and hence necessarily that a choice must be made by him.

If such were the fact, inasmuch as no army precedent could be adduced, and our Regulations do not provide for such a case, I should hold that he had assumed a convenient and necessary power. The only other admissible alternative would seem to be to direct the members to draw lots for temporary seniority; but to direct the court how to select their President would be exercising an authority very nearly the same as to select him at once, and would be substituting a cumbrous proceeding for a direct and certain action.

When a commanding officer exercises a discretionary power which falls upon him from the necessities of an unanticipated case, he can only be held to the exercise of his best judgment; and if he does not on the moment select the course which on mature reflection would seem most wise, yet, having acted in good faith, he will be sustained.

If, on the other hand, the members of a court are of different rank, the army regulations must be our guide and the senior officer will preside.

I do not know that we have any means of deciding questions of seniority between two Grand Army officers of the same official grade, unless we follow the analogy of the service, and decide in favor of the one who has been longest in office. But between two Post Commanders who are elected for the first time in the same December, and installed at the next stated meetings of their respective Posts, though one Post should hold its meeting earlier in the month than the other, I do not see that any distinction can justly be made.

Upon this point, as upon all similar ones which must be decided somewhat arbitrarily, I conceive that any rule established by the Commander-in-Chief would be acquiesced in as correct; and until some uniform rule is adopted, the decision of the Department Commander in his own jurisdiction must stand.

Opinion LXIX. October 14, 1875.

It is stated that certain applicants for membership in the Grand Army were reported, upon their regimental returns in the army, as deserters, having been unavoidably detained on furlough longer than their allotted time, and the question is asked, Are these men eligible?

The same question arises in the case of T. J., who has been mustered into a Post of the Grand Army, but is afterwards discovered to be recorded in the State roll of volunteers as a deserter.

These questions must be answered by ascertaining whether the candidates can present honorable discharges. If so, notwithstanding the fact of a technical violation of military law, they are eligible to be ballotted for as candidates. The members of the Post, by their votes, will decide whether the offence committed in each case was of such a nature as to prove the applicant unworthy to be received among true soldiers. If they have not honorable discharges from the army, they are not eligible to be voted for.

In the case of T. J., the same rule holds: if he presented an honorable discharge, he is properly elected. and the Post cannot invalidate its action; if he did not have such a discharge, he must be dropped, and the Post is deserving of severe censure for not requiring it before the ballot.

I would refer, also, to the case discussed in Opinion LIV, July 19, 1873.

Opinion LXX. December 30, 1875.

The question is proposed whether a Past Department Commander, whose connection with the G. A. R. has been severed by the disorganization of the Department and Post to which he belonged, regains his privileges as such Past Officer on again becoming a member of his Post in good standing.

The question is upon the construction of the provisions of Section 1st, Article II, Chapter III, and Section 1, Article II, Chapter IV, Rules and Regulations.

I think the words, "so long as they remain in good standing in their several posts," apply to all Past Department Commanders who are not at the time under any disability to act as members of their Post, and that they may sit as members of the Department and National Encampments.

If such officer asks to be admitted to a seat the question is: is he in good standing in his Post? If so, he should be admitted.

Opinion LXXI. December 30, 1875.

An applicant for membership in the G. A. R., enlisted in the U. S. Army, Co. F, Twenty-third U. S. Infantry, June 29th, 1865, and was honorably discharged, by expiration of term of enlistment, June 29th, 1868.

Is he eligible to membership?

The question depends upon whether the applicant served in the Army of the United States during the late rebellion.

I suppose that the exact locality of service in the Army of the United States cannot be taken by any one as a criterion of service in the suppression of the rebellion. Those parts of the army that were garrisoned

in forts in the Northern States, out of reach of any enemies' guns, formed an essential part of our force, and as truly served as if they had been in the front of the conflict; and this service continued until the last portion of rebel territory was reclaimed. The question of the duration of the rebellion is the only one requiring attention.

Upon this point we have the decisions of the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Departments of the Government. The President issued his proclamation April 19th, 1861, recognizing the existence of rebellion in South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas. Congress and the Supreme Court of the United States have accepted this date as the commencement of the war.

The Protector, 12 Wallace, 700. United States *vs* Anderson, 9 Wallace, 56. On the 2d of April, 1866, the President issued his proclamation, announcing that the rebellion was terminated in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas; and finally, on the 20th of August, 1866, his proclamation, declaring that the rebellion was ended in Texas, and peace restored throughout all the United States.

Congress recognized the declarations as fixing the period of the rebellion by many enactments, and the Supreme Court, in the cases above referred to declare that the first official declaration we have on the part of the Executive that the rebellion was wholly suppressed is the President's proclamation of August 20th, 1866; and hold that the war began and ended according to the declaration of the several proclamations referred to. These decisions have been followed in Phillips *vs.* Hatch, 1 Dillon, Cr. Ct., Rep, 5, 71, and other cases which it is unnecessary to refer to. It is, then, settled that the late rebellion began April 19th, 1861, and finally ended August 20, 1866.

The applicant served in the Army of the United States during that period and was honorably discharged, and is eligible.

OPINION LXXII. MARCH 22, 1876.

F. C. F. applied for admission to Post 32, of Department of Massachusetts, and was rejected. He then applied to Post 82, and was accepted and mustered without the consent of Post 32. He did not state in his application to Post 82 that he had made a previous application. From Post 82 he was regularly transferred to Post 125, and the fact transpiring that he had been improperly admitted to Post 82, he was dropped as never having been a member of the G. A. R. The Department Commander sustained the action of Post 125, holding that the initiate fraud or error vitiated the subsequent proceedings.

From this decision, embodied in General Orders No. 6, Headquarters Department of Massachusetts, October 27, 1875, Par. III, F. C. F. appeals.

The provision of Chapter II, Art. II, Sec. 5, of the Rules and Regulations, that a rejected candidate shall be forever after ineligible for admission to any other Post of the G. A. R., without the consent by a two-thirds vote of the Post rejecting him, is in terms absolute and unqualified.

Can a Post by its action or omission waive the application of the rule in a particular case? The appellant claims that Post 82 did so because one of its members informed him that he need not comply with the Regulations. The principle of the organization of our Order is subordination of Posts to Departments, Departments to the National Encampment, and the whole Order to written regulations, which form our constitution. These Regulations can only be altered, amended, suspended or repealed by the National Encampment, not by Posts, whose powers are limited by the Regulations themselves. Nor can any comrade, on behalf of the Post, lawfully do what the Post itself has not the right to do.

The applicant, therefore, was not lawfully proposed and elected. But the case involves the further question, how far the unlawful act is void.

Two things are necessary for the admission of a candidate to the Grand Army. He must be eligible to membership under the express provisions of the Regulations, and he must be elected by a duly authorized body. If not eligible, the Post has not the right to muster him, though they may unanimously vote to admit him. Certain general qualifications are stated in the Regulations; the peculiarities of character of the applicant are left to the investigation of the committee and the decision of the ballot. If an applicant who comes within the general requirements of the Regulations is elected by a Post, and it is afterwards discovered that he had been guilty of crime, or is of such a temper and disposition as to unfit him for the society of gentlemen, the action of the Post, as a general rule, must stand, because they have decided the matter which lay in their discretion.

Even in this case, if the Post acted on mistaken information, and it was discovered before muster, their action might, in some circumstances, be reversed. See Opinion LVII, October 29, 1873. In such a case the comrade, if once mustered, though unfit for membership, would remain a member, and could not be stricken from the roll except for some subsequent offence. In brief, I should hold that the muster of a recruit would conclude the Post upon all questions left by the Regulations to the Post to decide.

In the present case, the Post have not acted injudiciously upon a question submitted to them, but they have taken jurisdiction where the Regulations give them none. Their action in this case was required to be concurrent with that of the Post which first rejected the candidate.

If they had the means of knowing the fact of the previous rejection, as it seems they should have had, in their files of General Orders, or by insisting upon the proper filling of the blanks in the application, they were guilty of carelessness and disregard of their obligations of the Order. Yet they cannot bind the Order of which they form a apart, or waive the rights of Post 32, to whose jurisdiction the candidate first voluntarily subjected himself.

The action of the Post, therefore, in admitting the appellant was void, and the National Encampment only can provide any remedy for the case.

If it were an instance where the vital interests of the Order were at stake, it may be that the Commander-in-Chief, in the intervals between the sessions of the Encampment, might assume the power to act. But it is not apparent that any such pressing necessity exists, either arising from an equitable regard for the position of the appellant, or from the interests of the Grand Army involved.

1. The candidate was furnished with a blank form of application, containing a statement of the fact whether or not he had made previous application for membership, and had no right to rely upon the unofficial statement of his friend, that he might suppress the fact of his previous rejection. Common prudence would have led him to read the Regulations of a society which he intended to join, when those Regulations were open to his free inspection. His familiarity with the rules of other secret societies, shown in his argument, must have taught him that his rejection by a local organization was a material fact which could not be without influence in the action on this second application, and that the printed form for such a statement could not be a dead letter. The dropping of his name from our rolls can throw no imputation upon his character beyond what is necessarily inferred from his own acts. He may make a new application to any Post, and, with the consent of Post 32, may be regularly elected and mustered.

2. Our organization differs in many respects from other secret societies. Our Regulations expressly recognize the termination of membership in the Order, either voluntarily, by honorable discharge, by neglect, or by sentence of Court Martial. There are, therefore, many men not now members of the Grand Army, who have been comrades, and who have filled high and important offices in the Order. The addition of one name to the list does not seem to be likely to affect the interests of the Order to such an extent as to warrant an arbitrary suspension of the Regulations.

It is suggested that the appellant has acted as a Post officer, and it is apprehended that if it is decided that he has never been lawfully a member, his official acts must be declared void.

I do not understand this to be the law. The only practicable rule to adopt in such cases is to consider the acts of a *de facto* officer, so far as they were lawful in themselves, as of the same force and effect as if performed by one holding the office *de jure.*

On the other hand, unless the illegal act of the Post in this case is held void, there is no possible mode of enforcing the Regulation. Either this Regulation and all others relating to the eligibility of candidates are void—for there is no punishment provided for their violation—or else an act done contrary to them is void *ab initio,* and when discovered must be so declared.

I think the appeal must be dismissed.

Opinion LXXIII. May 10, 1876.

A Post tries a Comrade by Court Martial. His offence is a grave one, and deserves the utmost punishment in the

power of the court to inflict. The Comrade pleads guilty, and the sentence of the court is merely nominal—entirely disproportioned to the offence. Can the Department Commander order the case to be reviewed by the court? Is there any remedy?

If the sentence of a Court Martial is inadequate in the opinion of the reviewing officer, he may send back the proceedings for *revision* before the court is dissolved, stating his reasons and views to the court. If they still adhere to their sentence, he is powerless—except to disapprove the sentence or to order the execution of it.

This power is implied in words "orders in the case," occurring in our Rules and Regulations, Chap. V, Art. VI, Sec. 6, where they are quoted from the 65th Article of War; or, perhaps, it is a power directly flowing—to use the words of Mr. Benét—from the very constitution of courts, as a consequence of the right of confirming and disapproving the sentence; at any rate, it has been fixed by custom, and is the established practice in the United States service.

The mode of procedure on revision is stated fully in Chap. XIII of Benét's Law and Practice of Courts Martial, which will be accessible to and should be consulted by the Judge Advocate of the court—see page 146, *et seq.*, also De Hart's Military Law page 204 *et seq.*, to the same effect.

If the reviewing officer has already passed upon the sentence, there is no remedy.

DIGEST OF OPINIONS.

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A.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL—See Reports.

APPLICATION—See Ballot, Discharge, Membership, Transfers, Grades.

APPEAL—From Department Commander, or Department Encampment, lies to the Commander-in-Chief, and from him to National Encampment.

Opin. XII, October 1, 1871.

(But see amendment to Chap. III, Art. VII. May, 1874.)

See Court Martial.

ARREARS—ARREARAGES—Department being in, does not exclude members of National Council of Administration from their seats.

Opin. XII, October 1, 1871.

Comrades in, cannot be chartered as a new Post.

Opin. XXV. May 25, 1872.

Comrades dropped for being in, cannot be restored without payment of dues.

Opin. XXVI, February 24, 1872.

Nor join a new Post without being restored.

Opin. XXV, May 25, 1872. 1, 2, 3.

But may be readmitted by Department Commander, on payment of dues, when Post to which he belonged has been disbanded.

Opin. XLII, December 19, 1872.

Comrade suspended for, cannot join another Post till restored.

Opin. LXII, January 20, 1875.

B.

BALLOT—

Comrade must express his opinion by, according to his own conscience alone.

Opin. XV, November 6, 1871.

After a favorable ballot on an application for membership, but before the muster of the candidate, it appeared that the committee had not seen the candidate and that he was an unfit person to be received; held, that the ballot might be set aside and committee ordered to make further investigation.

Opin. LVII, October 29, 1873.

BALLOT—Continued.

On the second ballot, under the rule requiring the person who received the lowest number of votes on the first ballot to be dropped, a ballot cast for such candidate cannot be counted in the aggregate in determining the number required to make a majority, but the person who receives the majority of all the votes cast for eligible candidates is elected.

Opin. LIX, January 12, 1874.

NOTE—Modified by amendment to Chapter II, Article VII, National Encampment, May, 1875.

See Membership.

BUSINESS—See G. A. R.

BY-LAW—See Forfeitures.

BY-LAWS—Must be signed by recruit within reasonable time after muster-in.

Opin. LXVII, September 4, 1875.

C.

CASHIERED OFFICER—See Membership.

CHARACTER OF COMRADE—Not generally proper to discuss in Post meeting.

Opin. XXXII, April 15, 1872.

Circumstances may render it proper.

Id.

CHARTER—See Arrears.

Of Post, granted under District system, may be changed to conform to new numbering.

Opin. XL, September 16, 1872.

Should contain same names as original.

Id.

Cannot be surrendered contingently or for a limited time

Opin. XLIV, January 14, 1863.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF—See Department Encampment.

See Court Martial.

May ratify unauthorized action of Provisional Department Commander.

Opin. XXVII, March 1, 1872.

COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION—See Reports.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT OF—See Post Commander.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION—See Arrears.

Vacancy in, cannot be filled in the interval between its sessions.

Opin. XXV, February 3, 1872.

COURT-MARTIAL—Sentence of, should not be published outside the Order.

Opin. XXX, April 15, 1872.

May be composed of any comrades in jurisdiction of officer ordering the court.

Opin. XXXVI, June 5, 1872.

Judge Advocate of, to be chosen for personal qualifications, Id.

Decision of reviewing officer, final except where otherwise provided.

General principles regarding.

Opin. LII, January 6, 1873.

No appeal from decision of reviewing officer can be taken by the prosecutor.

Opin. LVI, October 29, 1873.

Commander-in-Chief may refuse to order, for trial of charges that one editor has used intemperate expressions in his paper against another editor, though both are officers in the Grand Army, and the expressions are undignified and improper.

Opin. LXV, June 30, 1875.

Officer ordering Court, composed of members of equal rank in the Grand Army, may appoint president, so long as no contrary rule of precedence is established.

Opin. LXVIII, October 14, 1875.

May be directed to review a case, and reconsider the sentence, when in the opinion of the Department Commander, or other reviewing officer, it is inadequate to the offence.

Opin. LXXIII, May 10, 1876.

See Discharge. Post Commander.

D.

DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT—See Membership.

DEPARTMENT, COMMANDER—

Provisional, cannot appoint Department Inspector.

Opin. XIV, October 19, 1871.

Must reside within the Department.

Opin. XXIII, February 3, 1872.

Cannot organize Department except by order of Commander-in-Chief.

Opin. XXVII. March 1, 1872.

See Arrears, Court Martial, Muster-in, Post.

ENCAMPMENT, Members of, hold office from January 1, succeeding their election.

Opin. XVIII, December 29, 1871.

DEPARTMENT, COMMANDER—Continued.

Meeting of, may be ordered by Commander-in-Chief, if Department Commander fails to name time and place.

Opin. IX, September 15, 1871.

OFFICER, does not forfeit office when his Post becomes disorganized.

Opin. XIII, October 12, 1871.

On duty must be admitted by Post.

Opin. XXXIV, April 20, 1872.

See Past Officer.

REPORTS—See Reports.

DECEASED COMRADE—Dropped during his life-time for non-payment of dues cannot be reinstated on the roll.

Opin. XXVI, February 24, 1872.

DESERTER—See Membership.

DISCHARGE—Defined.

Opin. XXXV, May 25, 1872.

Application for, must be granted if applicant be in good standing, No vote of Post necessary.

Opin. XXIX, April 2, 1872.

Action on application for, may be delayed a reasonable time for investigation.

Opin. XLV, February 26, 1873.

When application for "Withdrawal Card" is construed by Post Commander to mean "discharge," though intended to be for a "transfer," and the discharge paper is accepted by the applicant who makes application for readmission as a recruit, and is rejected, the mistake cannot then be corrected.

Opin. LXI, December 5, 1874.

Dishonorable, must be by sentence of court martial, except for non-payment of dues.

Opin. I, July 1, 1871.

Comrade dishonorably discharged readmissable, on reformation and with approval of officer approving the sentence.

Opin. XXIV, February 3, 1872.

DUES—See Arrears, Discharge, Transfer.

Not payable by comrade who holds a transfer and desires to rejoin the Post, from and after the date of transfer paper.

Opin. XXXIX, September 2, 1872.

NOTE—Chap. II, Art. IV, Sec. 2, has been amended by National Encampment, May, 1874.

To be paid by posts to Department Encampment on restored comrades for the time such dues are collected from them on their being reinstated.

Opin. LV, September 29, 1873.

DUES—Continued.
Cannot be remitted by a Post out of compliment to a comrade.
Opin. LX, April 18, 1874.

E.

ELIGIBILITY—See Membership.
ENTERTAINMENT—See Ritual.
ELECTION—See Ballot, Voting.
EXECUTIVE— SESSION—Posts cannot hold.
Opin. XXXIV, April 20, 1872.

F.

FEES—See Transfer.
FORAGE CAPS—See Ritual.
FORFEITURE OF OFFICE—Post By-Law cannot provide for.
Opin XXIII, (2) February 3, 1672.
FOREIGN LANGUAGE—See Ritual.

G.

G. A. R.—Initials may be used by comrade in promotion of his lawful business.
Opin. XXXVIII, July 19, 1872.
GRADES—No time limited by Regulations in which a comrade who joined the Grand Army under the Grade System must take the new obligation.
Opin. LXII, January 20, 1875.

NOTE—Changed by Amendment to Chap. II, Art. II, Sec. 10. National Encampment May, 1875. Such comrade must now make new application as a recruit.

The adoption and abandonment of, have not changed the character or personality of the order.
Opin. LIII, July 9, 1873.

I.

INSPECTOR, DEPARTMENT—See Department Commander.

L.

LANGUAGE, FOREIGN—See Ritual.

M.

MEETINGS—See Post. Department Encampment.
MEMBERSHIP—
Applicant who has served in the Rebel army, not eligible to.
Opin. IV, August 11, 1871.

MEMBERSHIP—Continued.

Applicant who has been twice rejected under the old organization (so-called), not eligible to.

Opin. LIII, July 9, 1873.

NOTE,—Changed by Amendment to Chapter II, Article II, Sections 5 and 10, National Encampment, May, 1875.

Applicant for, may be admitted, though residing nearer to other Posts.

Opin. XXXVI. June 5, 1872.

Daughter of the Regiment, not eligible to.

Opin. XXXI, February 24, 1872.

Officer of Revenue Service, not eligible to.

Opin. XLVII, April 11, 1873.

Cashiered officer who has been restored and granted an honorable discharge, eligible to.

Opin. XXII, January 29, 1872.

Comrade who has presented a transfer card and been mustered as member of a new Post is entitled to membership, though he has not signed the By-Laws, but may sign within a reasonable time.

Opin. LXVII, September 5, 1875.

Applicant who presents an honorable discharge from the army eligible to, though records of the Adjutant-General of the State bear his name as a deserter, if the discharge was obtained without fraud.

Opin. LXIX, October 14, 1875.

Deserter who again enlisted under a false name, and obtained discharge under such assumed name, not eligible to.

Opin. LIV. July 19, 1873.

Paymaster's Clerk in the army, not eligible to.

Opin. L, April 25, 1873.

Paymaster's Clerk in the Navy, eligible to.

Opin. VII, September 7, 1871.

Scout, not eligible to, unless an enlisted man.

Opin. XVI, December 5, 1871.

The rebellion commenced April 19, 1861, and ended August 20, 1866. A candidate who served in the U. S. army between these dates eligible to.

Opin. LXXI, December 30, 1875.

See Ballot.

MEMORIAL DAY.

Duty of Posts and Comrades to observe.

Opin. XIV, April 18, 1873, 1.

Duty to some extent discretionary.

Id. 2,

MEMORIAL DAY—Continued.

Failure of Posts to make arrangements for observance, would relieve comrades from public observance of.

Id. 3.

Method of observance left to discretion of Posts.

Id. 4.

Power of Department Commander to interfere with arrangements of Posts for observance of, doubtful.

Id. 5.

MISTAKE—See discharge.

MUSTER-IN—Of recruits who, though previously rejected by another Post, neglects to state the fact in his application, is void, and Department Commander should so declare it when the the facts are established.

Opin. LXXII, March 22, 1876.

N.

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES—See Arrears. Discharge.

O.

OFFICER—See Department. Voting.

OBLIGATION—See Ritual. Grades.

P.

PARDON.

Post Commander has no power to pardon comrades condemned by sentence of Post Court Martial.

Opin. LXIV, March 16, 1875.

PAST-OFFICER—Who is entitled to membership, *ex officio*, in the Department or National Encampment, only loses his membership temporarily by forfeiting good standing in the order by his Post becoming disorganized, and regains his seat in the Encampment when he resumes his good standing in his Post.

Opin. LXX, December 30, 1875.

PAYMASTER'S CLERK—See Membership.

POSTS—May exclude suspended members from meetings.

Opin. XVI, November 26, 1871.

May refuse to admit comrades from other Posts.

Id.

See Arrears, Charters, Department, Executive Session, Forfeitures, Pardons, Reports, Transfer. Voting.

POST COMMANDER—May appoint committees when mode of appointment is not provided for by General Regulations, or By-Laws or vote of the Post.

Opin. XXXIII, April 20, 1872.

POST COMMANDER—Continued.

May be suspended by Department Commander when charges are preferred against him.

Opin. XLVI, March 24, 1873.

Cannot suspend comrade against whom charges are preferred, before conviction.

Opin. LXVI, July 30, 1875.

PROCEEDINGS—Void for illegality, must be recommenced at point where illegal action occurred.

Opin. XXXVII, July 1, 1872.

PROVISIONAL DEPARTMENT—See Department.

R.

REBELLION—Duration of. See Membership.

REPORTS—Supplemental should be forwarded by Departments, if Post reports are received after regular reports have been forwarded.

Opin. XXI, January 15, 1872.

Should be forwarded by Posts; if regular reports do not show all dues received for the quarter.

Opin. LV, September 29, 1873.

Duties of Adjutant-General and Assistant Adjutant-General, in regard to.

Opin. XLIX, April 23, 1873.

Evidence to Encampment that reports have been forwarded.

Id.

RESIDENCE OF APPLICANT—See Membership.

REPORT—Of Committee of Investigation must be in writing.

Opin. XXXVII, July 1, 1872.

REVENUE SERVICE—See Membership.

REVIEWING OFFICER—See Court Martial.

RITUAL—Commander-in-Chief may authorize printing in foreign language.

Opin. VII, September 12, 1871.

Contemplates use of forage caps during opening.

Opin. XVI, (3) November 26, 1871.

Cannot be used to open and close public entertainment given by a Post.

Opin. XLI, December 7, 1872.

Obligation in cannot be read consecutively to recruits before being administered.

Opin. XLIII, January 7, 1873.

RULES AND REGULATIONS—Construed in opinions.

Chapter I,	Article IV,				Opin. IV,	August 11, 1871.
"	"				" VI,	September 7, 1871.
"	"				" XVII,	December 5, 1871.
"	"				" XXII,	January 29, 1872.
"	"				" XXXI,	April 15, 1872.
"	"				" XXXVI,	June 5, 1872.
"	"				" XLVII,	April 11, 1873.
"	"				" L,	April 25, 1873.
"	"				" LIV,	July 19, 1873.
"	"				" LXIX,	October 14, 1875.
"	"				" LXXI,	December 30, 1875.
"	II,	"	I, Sec. 1,		Opin. XXXV,	3 May 25, 1872.
"	"		"	2,	" XLIV,	January 14, '73.
"	"	II,			" XXXVII,	July 1, 1872.
"	"				" LXX,	December 30, '75.
"	"		"	3,	" XI,	September 29, 1871.
"	"		"	4,	" XV,	November 6, '71.
	"		"	4,	" LVII,	October 29, '73.
"	"		"	5,	" LXXII,	March 22, 1876.
"	"		"	7,	" II,	July 3, 1871.
"	"		"	8,	" V,	August 14, '71.
"	"		"		" LXVII,	September 3, '75.
"	"	III,			" XXXIX,	September 2, '72.
"	"	IV,	"	1,	" XXXIX,	September 2, '72.
"	"		"	2,	" III,	August 11, 1871.
"	"		"	2,	" LXIII,	January 25, '75.
"	"		"	3,	" III,	August 11, 1871.
"	"		"	3,	" XXIX,	April 2, 1872.
"	"		"	3,	" XLV,	February 26, '73.
"	"		"	4,	" XIII,	October 12, '71.
"	"		"	4,	" XIX,	January 2, '72.
"	"	VII,	"	2,	" LVIII,	January 1, 1874.
"	"		"	2,	" LIX,	January 22, '74.
"	"	VIII,	"	1,	" XXXIII,	April 20, 1872
"	"	X,	"	1,	" XXIII,	2, February 3, 1872.
"	"		"	1,	" LXX,	December 30, 1875.
Chapter III,	"	II,	"	3,	" XVIII,	December 29, 1871.
"	"				" XLIX,	April 23, 1873.
"	"	VII,			" LVI,	October 29, 1873.
Chapter IV,	"	II,	Sec. 1,		" XV,	January 11, 1872.
"	"				" LXX,	December 30, '75.
"	"		"	4,	" XII, 1,	October 1, 1871.
"	"		"	4,	" XLIX,	April 23, 1873.
"	"	V,	"	3,	" XXV,	February 3, '72
"	"	VI,	"	1,	" XII, II,	October 1, 1871.
"	"	I,	"	6,	" VIII,	September 12, 1871. Note.

RULES AND REGULATIONS—construed in opinions.

Chapter V, Article II, Sec. 1, Opin. XXI, January 15. 1872.
" " III, " 2, " LV, September 29, 1873.
" " " 3, " LX, April 18, 1874.
" " IV, " 3, " II, July 3, 1871.
" " " 3, " XVI, November 26, 1871.
" " " 3, " XXVI, February 24, '72.
" " " 4, " I, July 1, 1871.
" " " 4, " XXXV, 1, 2, May 25, '72.
" " " 4, " XLII, December 19, 1872.
" " VI, " LVI, October 29, '73.
" " " 3, " I, July 1, 1871.
" " " 2, " XXIV, February 3, 1872.
" " " 3, " LXV, June 30, 1875.
" " " 4, " LXVIII, October 14, 1875.
" " " 6, " LXXIII, May 10, 1876.
" " " 8, " LXVI, July 30, 1875.
" " " 8, " XII, March 24, 1872.
" " " 8, " LXVI, July 30, 1875.
" " IX, " 1, " XVI, 2, November 26, 1871.
" " X " 1, " XIV, October 19, '71.
" " " 1, " XXIII, February 3, '72.
" " " 2, " XXVII, March 1, 1872.
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Application for, may be in writing.
Opin. III, August 11, 1871.

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