

PROCEEDINGS

C.-IN-CHIEF

S. V. U. S. A.

1882-89

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

EIGHT ANNUAL ENCAMPMENTS

OF THE

Commandery-in-Chief Sons of Veterans,

U. S. A.,

For the Years 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887,
1888 and 1889. Bound and Published
April 1, 1890.

BY AUTHORITY.

C. A. BOOKWALTER,
Adjutant-General.

CHARLES F. GRIFFIN,
Commander-in-Chief.

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1890

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

FOURTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., Sept. 17, 1885.

In obedience to orders issued by the Commander-in-Chief, H. W. Arnold of Johnstown, Pa., the Commandery-in-Chief assembled at Headquarters of Custer Post, G. A. R., with H. W. Arnold, Commander-in-Chief, in the chair.

On roll call the following officers answered to their names :

Commander-in-Chief,	H. W. Arnold.
Lieut.	" F. B. Perkins.
V. Lieut.	" J. B. Maccabe.
Past	" F. P. Merrill.
Chief-of-Staff,	A. E. Case.
Adjutant General,	R. M. Linton.
Q. M.	" W. H. Statler.
Inspector	" C. Day Rudy.
Chief Mustering Officer,	G. W. Penniman.
Chaplain-in-Chief,	C. Hayford.
Sergeant of the Guard,	C. H. Whitcomb.
Camp Guard,	E. Hemingway.
Picket Guard,	E. H. Wines.

The Encampment was then opened in due form.

The Commander-in-Chief appointed the following Committee on Credentials : Bros. Smith, Mooney, Hayford, Kohler and Williams.

Bro. Mooney moved that we take a recess until 5 o'clock, p. m. Motion amended by Bro. A. E. Case, that we take a recess for thirty minutes. Motion carried as amended.

The Encampment re-assembled, and the Committee on Credentials not being ready to report asked for more time.

Bro. Albert moved that we take a recess until 5 o'clock. Motion amended, we take a recess until 5:30 o'clock. Motion as amended carried.

5:30 p. m.—The Encampment re-assembled, with Chief of Staff A. E. Case in the chair ; H. L. Wright, acting Lieut. Comd'r ; J. C. Blake, acting V. Lieut. Comd'r ; E. G. Worden, acting Chief M. O. ; A. W. Batchelder, acting Adjutant General ; E. R. Vincent, acting Encampment Guard.

Opened in due form.

Bro. E. G. Worden moved that a committee of three be appointed to inquire into the absence of the Commander-in-Chief and the Committee on Credentials. Carried. The Chair appointed Bros. Payne, Vancleve and Thomas. The committee retired and returned with the Com'dr-in-Chief H. W. Arnold, who took the chair.

Bro. A. W. Batchelder moved that the Commander-in-Chief appoint his committees upon getting the report of the Committee on Credentials, and post them upon his door at the hotel. Carried,

Moved and seconded that a committee of three be appointed to procure quarters for a meeting this evening. Carried.

Moved to adjourn to Comd'r-in-Chief's headquarters in the evening. Carried.

Reassembled at Comd'r-in-Chief's headquarters, and adjourned to attend a public muster.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 18th, 1885.

MORNING SESSION.

The Encampment reassembled at 8:30 a. m., with the following officers present :

Commander-in-Chief, H. W. Arnold.
 Lieut. " F. B. Perkins.
 V. Lieut. " J. B. Maccabe.
 Chief of Staff, A. E. Case.
 Adjutant General, R. M. Linton.
 Q. M. General, W. H. Statler.
 Inspector General, C. Day Rudy.
 Chief Mustering Officer, G. W. Penniman.
 Chaplain-in-Chief, C. Hayford.

The Committee on Credentials made the following report :

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., Sept. 17th, 1885.

To the Officers and Members of the Commandery-in-Chief:

DEAR SIBS AND BROTHERS—Your Committee have performed their duty, and find the following brothers present and entitled to seats in this Encampment :

First Grand Division.—Delegate at Large, L. F. Burpee ; Maine Division, delegate at large, H. L. Wright ; Massachusetts Division, delegate at large, A. W. Batchelder.

Second Grand Division.—Walter S. Payne, Comd'r ; W. D. Thomas, delegate at large. New York Division—F. W. Kohler, delegate ; H. H. Wincholl, delegate at large. East Pennsylvania Division—O. M. Paul, delegate at large ; L. V. Rausch and E. J. Smith, delegates. Ohio Division—E. R. Vincent, delegate at large.

Third Grand Division.—E. G. Worden, delegate at large ; G. B. Abbott, alternate. Illinois Division—O. L. Mooney, delegate at large ; R. V. Mallory, Past Commander. Michigan Division—L. A. Baker, delegate at large ; W. A. Morse, delegate. Minnesota Division—E. H. Milham, delegate at large ; E. M. Vancleve, Past Commander. Missouri Division—J. J. Speaker, delegate at large ; B. F. Speaker, delegate. Iowa Division—J. D. Rowen, delegate at

large; J. S. Rawlins, delegate. Indiana Division—Credentials of appointment of Ed. W. Wilkerson were submitted to the committee. There being a doubt as to the legality of the appointment, the committee refers the case to the Encampment with the recommendation that Bro. Ed. W. Wilkerson be admitted as the delegate from the Division of Indiana.

The following life-members of the Commandery-in-Chief are also entitled to seats in this Encampment: W. E. W. Ross, A. P. Davis, R. M. J. Reed, J. A. Thompson, J. A. Rodrigo, I. S. Bangs, W. H. Pierpont, W. S. Eldridge.

Bros. H. H. Hammer and H. P. Kent claim seats in this Encampment; the former on the grounds of being the present Commander of the East Pennsylvania Division, and the latter on the grounds that he is the Commander of the First Grand Division. In the first case, the committee would recommend that Bro. H. H. Hammer be not admitted. In the case of Bro. H. P. Kent, General Order No. 8 of Commander-in-Chief having relieved Bro. Kent from command, the committee refer the whole to the Commandery-in-Chief.

Respectfully submitted,

R. M. Linton,	E. J. Smith,	} Committee
Fred W. Kohler,	C. F. Hayford,	
Chas. Mooney,	E. H. Milhom,	

Bro. Mooney moved that so much of the report upon which no doubt or recommendation rested be received and adopted. Carried.

Bro. Perkins moved that Bro. Kent be allowed to remain in the room until his case be settled by Encampment. Carried.

Bro. R. M. Linton moved that all motions, resolutions, etc., presented during the session of this Encampment, be made in writing and forwarded to the Adjutant General's desk immediately after being read by mover. Mover in all cases to sign his name to the proposition. Carried.

Bro. Payne of Ohio seconded by Bro. Penniman of Minnesota, submitted the following: That the recommendation of the Committee on Credentials, with reference to the case of Bro. H. H. Hammer, be not concurred in, and that Bro. Hammer be declared entitled to a seat in this meeting as a Division Commander. Carried.

Bro. Smith of Pennsylvania presented the following: *Resolved*:—That Bro. Wilkerson be given a seat in this convention. Carried.

Bro. Mallory moved that all speakers on questions be limited to three minutes, and brothers shall not speak more than twice on the same question. Seconded by Speaker, of Missouri. Carried.

Bro. Mallory moved that the case of Bro. H. P. Kent be taken up. Carried.

Bro. Payne, of Ohio, moved that Bro. H. P. Kent be seated as a member of this Encampment. Seconded by J. J. Speaker, of Mo. Carried.

Moved by Bro. Smith that the charges against Bro. H. P. Kent be read. Carried.

Adjutant General commenced to read charges preferred against Bro. Kent, whereupon Bro. Payne of Ohio objected, as the charges were not in any form but more of a protest or tirade against the brother.

Bro. Vincent moved that we proceed with regular order of business.—
Carried.

Bro. E. M. Vancleve, seconded by Bro. Mallory, moved that Illinois delegates name a delegate at large. Carried.

The roll of delegates was then called, and the following answered to their names, viz:

First Grand Division.—H. P. Kent, Commander, L. F. Burpee; Maine, H. D. Wright; Massachusetts, A. W. Batchelder.

Second Grand Division.—Walter S Payne, Commander, W. D. Thomas; New York, F. W. Kohler and H. H. Winchell; East Pennsylvania, C. M. Paul, L. W. Rausch, E. J. Smith, H. H. Hammer and R. M. J. Reed; Ohio, E. R. Vincent.

Third Grand Division.—E. G. Worden, G. B. Abbott, alternate; Illinois, R. V. Mallory; Michigan, L. A. Baker and W. A. Morse; Minnesota, E. H. Milham and E. M. Vancleve; Missouri, B. F. Speaker; Iowa, John S. Rollins; Indiana, Ed. Wilkerson; Illinois, G. B. Abbott.

The Commander-in-Chief then appointed the following committees:

Committee on Reports of Officers.—Walter S. Payne of Ohio, J. B. Maccabe of Mass.; R. V. Mallory of Illinois; E. M. Vancleve of Minn.; John C. Blake of Maine.

Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations.—Milham of Minn.; Reed of E. Penn; Burpee of Conn.; Case of Ill.; Morse of Mich.

Committee on Rituals, etc.—Perkins of N. H.; Merrill of Maine; Rudy of E. Penn.; B. F. Speaker of Mo.; Thomas of W. Penn.

Committee on Resolutions.—Mallory of Ill.; Rausch of E. Penn.; Guerin of Ohio; Batchelder of Mass.; Worden of Iowa.

The Illinois delegation reported that they had chosen E. T. Roe to fill vacancy in their delegation.

Commander-in-Chief, H. W. Arnold, read his report as follows, which was referred to Committee on Report of Officers:

REPORT OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

OFFICERS AND BROTHERS:—As I look over this assemblage of faces from all parts of our country it seems to me that the remark made by a prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic when he said, "the Sons will in a very few years be up to if not outstrip their fathers, and will have an organization in every state and territory in the Union," was prophetic, and will be proven. We have now shown the people that we have come to stay. When I became your Commander more than twelve months ago there were then opposing us a large number of the Grand Army who have since become some of our firmest friends, and also an organization known to us as the "Earp," or Philadelphia branch, which had in Massachusetts alone some 36 camps and in December, 1884, they all with, I believe, one exception, came over to our ranks and for which we can thank Brothers Sargent, Kent and Maccabe; next the only camp of that branch in Maine, located at Biddeford, wheeled into line; then Lieutenant-Commander Perkins went into Rhode Island and in a very few days brought them over to our organization in a body, and to him should the gratitude of our order be extended as he has shown himself to be one of the hardest and most successful workers our Order has ever had. About the time that the Massachusetts consolidation was effected, the post at Jamestown, N. Y., of the New York post system, opened a correspondence with me, and were mustered in by Brother Walter S. Payne, within a very few weeks after receiving a copy

of our constitution, rules and regulations and are now one of our finest camps in the state. The next successful move was made in Ohio, when Brother Ensign captured the 20 "opposition" camps in that state, and the next in Indiana, where they had but two after having a short correspondence with their commander I referred the matter to Brother Cupter, who has informed me of their muster. We have also extended our lines south and west, having through the efforts of Adjutant Gen. Linton, formed a camp in New Orleans and Gen. Ross has mustered one at Norfolk, Virginia. In California we have camps at Los Angeles and San Louis, and some time since I was informed that another was ready for muster, but thus far have not received any report of it being done. On Sunday last, after having been in correspondence with the committee appointed by the "Earp branch" in Eastern Pennsylvania, I met them at the Bingham house in Philadelphia, Brothers Hammer, Stetler and myself were representing our order, and having Hopkins, Clossin and Deifenderfer present. The committee asked for our terms which we gave as follows: Their camps to receive charters free, supplies at cost to the division, badges \$9.00 per dozen, and they pay the mustering officer's expenses. They found no objection to our constitution and rules and regulations, but their Colonel, who was present, will present the matter to their camps for action in his next general order, and the camps will then vote upon the matter and report their decision to him. They claim to have 34 camps and 1,551 members enrolled, but from reliable authority I have no reason to doubt that fact. Our order has been growing steadily, notwithstanding the fact that the past year has been one of great hardship to the working classes, and in fact business of all kinds has been greatly depressed and we could not expect to make the strides which in years of prosperity will make such a showing which will not only astonish ourselves but those who are holding back. We should congratulate ourselves upon the fact that we are now recognized by all as an organization which is the most unselfish and patriotic that our country has ever seen, excepting, of course the G. A. R. Many Brothers have asked the question, "Why don't the Grand Army give us a formal recognition, we being the largest organization of the S. of V.?" I would answer by saying that we don't need that, until we have absorbed all the outside bodies known as Sons of Veterans and have shown the comrades that we are not formed merely for pleasure but to aid them when the time comes and that time is fast approaching when we must take up their work, aid their sick and helpless, their widows and orphans, and carry out so far as we can the work of perpetuating their memories and now is the time for us to prepare ourselves for it; we must devise ways of accumulating means to assist as they call upon us, for if we wait till the day comes then we will find that we have delayed too long and are not ready. The homes provided for disabled veterans are now insufficient for the number that are crowded in them and every year there are more to follow, showing that they are beginning to feel the effects of the hardships they have undergone, and must soon nearly all be so enfeebled as to be unable to provide for themselves and we must not let one of them suffer if it is in our power to prevent it. We also need more attention paid to discipline, the lack of which has been of great harm to the order. Camp commanders have been negligent in not seeing that their reports and per capita tax has not been forwarded and in many instances division commanders have been kept back in their work by neglect on this point until they were severely reprimanded by their grand division commanders, and grand division commanders received the same from commander-in-chief. This has been the case in some cases between the officers and myself, but I have always passed these things by, well knowing from experience that they are not always to blame. The grand divisions have, in my opinion, performed the work for which they were intended and should be abolished at once, as they are the means of keeping up the expenses and have in many instances been a hindrance rather than a help during the past year and by their abolishment of the work will be simplified and much "red tape" got rid of. I would advise that the officers be paid a living salary and thus enable them to

give their entire attention and time to the order which it must have. I would also recommend that the constitution, rules and regulations be so changed as to require the quarter-master general to publish a statement of the financial condition of the order at least twice a year, say February 1st and August 1st. I would also recommend that the commander-in-chief be authorized to call a meeting of the council-in-chief at some central point at least once during the term and that meeting to take place between the first of February and the first of July to advise and consult upon means of advancing the order and upon the financial business of the order. I would point with pleasure to the work done by Brother G. W. Penniman during the past winter, which shows for its if and needs no praise from me. To Brother Rowleson, of Michigan, I extend my congratulations, as he took command of his division when it was almost ruined by mismanagement of his predecessor, and he has most nobly redeemed it by bringing it up with monster strides which will make some of our older divisions blush if they don't hurry up their laggards and increase their membership.

During my term I have granted a number of dispensations, most of which were to division commanders upon request of their grand division commander, and have made some forty decisions upon the constitution, rules and regulations, most of which were of a trival character and needed only reading and a knowledge of the English language to be fully understood. As to supplies, Brother Merrill turned over to me a large quantity of goods, which by the changes made in the constitution and ritual were rendered useless, and I was compelled at once to have new forms issued, and just as they were finished a fire burned out my printer and threw us back for several weeks at a time when I most needed supplies of all kinds. In my appointed officers I have been very fortunate, but in the selection of first adjutant general I was decidedly unfortunate, as, although he was thoroughly competent, yet in a very short time I found him to be very untrustworthy and a man of intemperate habits, which, after endeavoring to keep him up, I was compelled to revoke his commission, and on July 15 he kindly relieved me of my private account book, containing a full account of my business with the order, and I have since found that he also abstracted quite a number of regulations which were in our hands, and which has caused me much trouble. In conclusion I would thank all the officers and brothers whom I have come in contact with, either officially or otherwise, and I trust that my successor may meet with a hearty co-operation from all.

To Gen. W. E. W. Ross, who, by his counsel and assistance, has done so much for our order, I cannot find words adequate to express my obligation, and to Brothers Webb, Perkins, Reed, Rowleson, Rice, Wright, Soule, Payne, Bohn, and a host of others, I can only say you have my sincere thanks and in leaving you, "God speed." To my personal staff I shall not part without some feeling upon my side that we may never meet in the same positions again, but I think our parting had better be done in private that our brothers may not see any snivelling. To the National Tribune, that noble soldiers' paper, this order owes more than it can ever repay, as from the first it has been our firm friend and during the past six months has done a wonderful amount of good for us, not only through its columns but by forwarding all inquiries relative to our order to my headquarters, of which I have received some twenty since July 1. I ask my successor, whoever he may be, to not forget such kindness and to keep in mind Comrade John McElroy, who will ever be ready to aid you in any manner you desire. There is one matter which I have had my attention called to in the past year, and that is an insurance or beneficial features in connection with our order, and which I think should receive careful attention from this encampment, and I would suggest that a committee of five be appointed who are familiar with the different forms of insurance to formulate a plan to be presented to the various divisions at their next encampment for their sanction, and then adopt a final report, and it may be so arranged as to

be passed finally at our encampment of '86. I would bespeak for White & Graham, the printers who have been so kind to us during the past year, a continuance of our patronage so far as it can be given them. And now I will close, hoping this meeting will be harmonious and result in great good to the order.

Respectfully,

H. W. ARNOLD.
Commander-in-Chief.

REPORT OF ADJUTANT GENERAL.

Adjutant General's Report as follows was read and referred:

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF S. OF V. U. S. A., }
JOHNSTOWN, PA., September 12, 1885. }

H. W. ARNOLD,

Commander-in-Chief:

DEAR SIR AND BRO.—The time for the Fourth Annual Encampment of our Order is rapidly approaching, and reminds me that I have one duty to perform which cannot be postponed any longer. I refer to my report of the condition of the Order during the past year. Of the first months of your administration I know naught, except that you were rapidly placing the Commandery-in-Chief in working order when my predecessor yielded to temptation and overthrew the work of months by destroying or concealing books, papers, etc., which were of no earthly use to him, but of the greatest value to the Order. This act of yours first Adjutant General combined with the destruction by fire of a large amount of supplies, greatly retarded the work of the Commander-in-Chief; but, notwithstanding, the work has gone steadily on, until now the work of the officers is almost reduced to a system.

The past year being one of great business depression, I cannot report so large an increase numerically as I had hoped, but the growth has been healthy and substantial. The report of the Adjutant General for the term ending August 27th, 1884, shows a total membership of 4,316. The reports for term ending June 30, 1885, show a total membership of 6,903, divided as follows;

First Grand Division	2,371
Second " "	3,043
Third " "	1,489
Fourth " "	no report
Fifth " "	no report

Total reported..... 6,903

This makes a net gain for the year of 2,587, but by no means indicates the strength or growth of our Order. No complete returns have been received by me, and of course my totals do not include half of our membership. As an example of the lack of attention shown by Division and Camps to the duty of sending their quarterly reports, I would state that one Division and sixty camps in the First Grand Division made no report for the term ending June 30th, and three Divisions and eighty camps in the Third Grand Division made no report for the same term. The number of camps in the Second Grand Division not reporting has not been forwarded to me. Taking all things into consideration, I feel safe in estimating the number of members in good standing, at this date, at 25,000.

The principal cause of the trouble in securing exact reports seems to me to be in the amount of red tape the Grand Divisions necessarily tie around the work of the Order. They interrupt and retard the general work greatly, and I most earnestly suggest and recommend their abolishment from the time of the adjournment of the Forth Annual Encampment. They serve no practical purpose, why should we continue them?

The want of promptness of the officers in the several bodies is working great injury to the Order, and immediate steps should be taken to compel all officers to attend to their duties or resign their positions. No one who desires to see the Order grow will retain an honorable position, without doing the work that accompanies the honor. Disobedience to orders issued by superior officers is another growing evil. The tendency of some officers to run the Order "on their own hook" should be suppressed by the suspension of those disobeying. The general orders of the Commander-in-Chief have not been obeyed by one-third of the Divisions. Why is it? Is it want of love for the Order? We think not, but rather hold to the idea that the Grand Division "go-between" is the root of most of our evils.

Under your instructions the following General Orders have been issued from this office:

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, S. OF V., U. S. A., }
JOHNSTOWN, PA., Oct. 3, 1884. }

General Orders—No. 1.

I. Having been elected Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., I hereby assume command, with headquarters at Johnstown, Pa.

II. The following named officers are appointed, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:

Chas. W. Marsh, Johnstown, Pa., Adjutant General.
W. H. Statler, Johnstown, Pa., Quartermaster General.
O. D. Rudy, Harrisburg, Pa., Inspector General.

III. The following officers were elected at the Commandery Encampment at Philadelphia, August 28, 1884:

F. B. Perkins, Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief, Manchester, N. H.
Jos. B. Maccabe, Vice-Lieut. Commander-in-Chief, Boston, Mass.
A. E. Case, Chief-of-Staff, Chicago, Ill.
C. Frank Hayford, Chaplain-in-Chief, Lewiston, Maine.

COMMANDERY COUNCIL.

First Grand Division—H. P. Kent, Mass.; Geo. E. Cox, Conn.; John C. Blake, Maine. Second Grand Division—J. H. Closson, Penn.; H. F. Guerin, Ohio; C. L. McBride, N. Y. Third Grand Division—Geo. W. Penniman, Minn.; F. W. Rowison, Mich.; R. V. Mallory, Ill.

IV. Announcement of Aides-de-Camp and non-commissioned Staff will be made in future orders.

V. At the Commandery meeting in Philadelphia, in deference to the expressed desire of many members of other organizations of Soldiers' Sons having similar objects, a careful revision of the provisions of our organic law was had and it was unanimously resolved to eliminate all objectionable features to which our attention had been called by correspondence or through the press by brothers of the other orders, and a constitution was reported and adopted—to go into effect immediately—that should remove all obstacles to the consolidation of the several organizations of Soldiers' Sons by whatever names they may be known.

VI. The eligibility clause, to which the greatest objection was made, was altered so as to make but one class—i. e., the sons of Veterans who are of

eighteen years and over. Swords and shoulder straps, and high titles for officers, were dispensed with and unnecessary offices abolished.

In accordance with the rules adopted at the last Encampment of Commandery-in-Chief, the following is hereby promulgated for the information and guidance of all whom it may concern.

Past Camp Commanders will be entitled to wear the Iron Cross, to be suspended by a plain blue-corded silk ribbon.

Past Division Commanders will be entitled to wear the Silver Cross, suspended by a plain red-corded silk ribbon.

Past Grand Division Commanders will be entitled to wear the Gold Cross, to be suspended by blue ribbon with narrow yellow stripes.

Past Commanders-in-Chief will wear the Gold Star of the Order.

And now, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Commander-in-Chief, and in behalf of the brothers of this Commandery, I extend a cordial invitation to all brothers who are connected with Camps, Posts, or Cadet Corps, whose objects are similar to ours, to join with us in perpetuating the memories of our fathers who stood united on the field of carnage, and to take up the touch of the elbow and march on united and victorious.

VII. Division Commanders will furnish blank applications for charters to any Division, Department or Camp that may apply, and upon the return of such application properly filled up, will muster them free of charter fee, and furnish them with Rituals and Constitutions without charge.

VIII. All Past officers of such Commandery, Department, Division, Post or Camp will be entitled to the same rights and privileges of Past officers of similar rank and position in this order, and Division Commanders will see that their names are properly entered on the rolls of their several divisions.

IX. The Division Commanders of this Commandery are as follows:

Maine—Charles H. Rice, Bangor, Me. New Hampshire, Edwin E. Badger, Lake Village, N. H. Vermont—Fletcher D. Proctor, Sutherland Falls, Vt. Massachusetts—Jos. B. Maccabe, Boston, Mass. Rhode Island and Connecticut—W. H. Pierpont, New Haven, Conn. New York—L. B. Stanton, Amsterdam, N. Y. Ohio—F. W. Myers, East Liverpool, O. New Jersey—H. E. Hatfield, Newark, N. J. East Pennsylvania—Robert E. Hopkins, Milton, Pa. West Pennsylvania—H. W. Arnold, Johnstown, Pa. Potomac—M. A. Dillon, Washington, D. C.

X. The Grand Division Commanders are as follows:

First Grand Division (New England States)—F. H. Challis, Manchester, N. H. Second Grand Division (Ohio to Maryland, Middle States)—O. M. Cott, Columbus, O. Third Grand Division (Western States)—L. J. Webb, Topeka, Kansas. Fourth Grand Division (States west Mississippi River)—Fifth Grand Division (Southern States)—Wm. E. W. Ross, Baltimore, Maryland.

XI. The new Constitution and Rituals will be ready for delivery early in October, and Division Commanders will do well to estimate how many they will need to supply camps, and draw on the Quartermaster General for them. Be it remembered that the old Constitution has been entirely superseded by the one now in press; that its provisions have been so altered as to render it entirely useless after the new one is officially promulgated, so that all camps will have to provide themselves with the new, which will be sold at about the cost of printing.

XII. At all times, but especially at the present, it is requested that all members refer to Article XXI and XXII, Camp Constitution, relating to "Religion and Politics."

The discussion in the camp of any subject based upon politics, or bearing upon the success of any of the political parties is *strictly prohibited*.

No committee shall be elected or appointed from, or any brother act for, any camp, for the purpose of furthering the interest of, or in antagonism to, any partisan scheme.

A member of the order may expose the cause of any political party he wishes as an individual, but violates one of the fundamental principles of our order when he seeks to do or uses his influence in this direction.

No brother shall, under any circumstances, wear the Sons of Veterans uniform, cap, buttons or badge in any political parade, or at any political meeting. No relation whatever shall exist between the Sons of Veterans and any political organization. Officers are instructed to strictly enforce this rule, and any violation of such must be reported at once to these headquarters,

XIII. I shall devote my time and energies to the success of the order, and I beg of all my brothers a cheerful and hearty support.

By command of

H. W. ARNOLD,

Commander-in-Chief:

C. W. MABSH.

Adjutant General.

JOHNSTOWN, PA., Nov. 1, 1884.

General Orders—No. 2.

1. The New Constitutions and Rituals are now ready for delivery, and will be sent directly to the camps in accordance with the list submitted by Grand Division Commanders by direction of Circular No. 1 of these headquarters.

2. Camps which have not made requisitions on their Division Commanders, will do so at once, stating particularly *the name and post-office address* of the person to whom they are to be sent, and enclosing ten cents for each copy of the Constitution ordered, and thirty cents for set of Rituals. Every camp should draw not less than ten Constitutions.

3. By direction of the Commandery Encampment I have to proclaim that the use of the edition of the Constitution of 1882 is superseded by the edition of 1884 on and after Nov. 10, 1884, and that the Rituals used at this date is forbidden on and after the same date. Inspectors and assistants will report any violation of this order to their respective Grand Division Commanders.

4. Division Commanders who have not forwarded their list of orders received from camps to their Grand Division Commanders, *will do so at once*, and Grand Division Commanders will consolidate them and send immediately to these headquarters. Orders will be filled immediately on receipt of the list from Grand Division Commanders and Camp Commanders not receiving their supply will communicate at once with these headquarters and find out the cause of the delay.

5. Particular attention is called to the change in the *eligibility clause* in the Camp Constitution; to the abolition of all titles above the grade of Captain; to the change in Division, Grand Division and Commandery representation; to the change of semi-annual terms of camp officers to annual terms; also, the dates of election and installation of camp officers, and to the various changes in the Rules and Regulations. It is important that all Camp Commanders should post themselves upon all provisions of the law that they may intelligently decide questions which are constantly brought before them.

6. In order to expedite delivery, these orders are sent directly to Divisions, and Division Commanders will see that they are sent out by Adjutants immediately on receipt, so that every camp and every brother may be able to secure a copy of the Constitution previous to November 10th.

By command of

H. W. ARNOLD,

Commander-in-Chief.

C. W. MABSH,

Adjutant General.

[To be read in Camp the First Meeting after Receipt.]

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, S. OF V., U. S. A. }
JOHNSTOWN, PA., Dec. 10, 1884 }

General Orders.—No. 3.

I. Bro. R. M. J. Reed, of West Philadelphia, Pa., is hereby appointed Special Aid to the Commander-in-Chief, with rank of Grand Division Commander (corresponding with his past rank) and assigned to duty in charge of arranging for the bringing together and uniting in one indissoluble fraternity all branches of Sons of Veterans. All communications addressed to him on the subject will receive prompt and courteous attention.

Bro. E. R. Kennington of Camp No. 56, Philadelphia, Pa., is hereby appointed Special Inspector, with rank of Lieutenant Colonel, and assigned to the duty of making inspections of all Camp and Division headquarters in New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia.

Bros. L. L. Drake, of Elizabeth, N. J.; Waldo H. Perry, of Portland, Me.; F. W. Plaisted of Bangor, Me.; J. C. Foote, of Baltimore, Md.; and John J. Williams, of Wilmington, Del., are appointed Aides-de-Camp on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief.

All the above officers will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

The commission of Bro. C. W. Marsh as Adj. Gen. is hereby revoked. All communications should hereafter be addressed to the Commander-in-Chief. Bro. R. M. Linton, of Johnston, Pa., has consented to fill the position of Adjutant General until the vacancy can be filled.

II. The new Constitutions and Rituals have been sent out from these Headquarters to all camps whose orders have been received, and if, in any instance they have failed to reach their destination, the Camp Captain will communicate at once with these Headquarters. The secrecy surrounding the Ritual work rendered it necessary to send the Rituals by mail sealed, and, at the low figure at which they are furnished, the Commandery, in view of its embarrassed condition, is not justified in advancing the full amount of postage necessary (sixteen cents per set); and believing that the best interests of the camps and the Order are subserved by husbanding its resources for the purpose of procuring supplies and blanks, of which the Order is in pressing need, it was deemed advisable to mail the Rituals at one full rate of postage, trusting to the generosity of the camps to assist in putting its Supreme Body in a condition financially to perform its trust, by relieving it of extraordinary expense. The balance of fourteen cents per set divided among the camps works no hardship to any, but if paid by the Commandery, on all the packages mailed, would have added to its indebtedness and to some extent have operated against the policy of the administration to put the Order on a good financial basis, clear it of all indebtedness and fit out the Quartermaster General's Department with a full stock of supplies.

III. A new form of Charter has been prepared, of different shape and style from the old, against which there was considerable complaint, and will be ready for issue upon receipt of this order. Camps which desire to substitute the new charter form for the old, will send fifteen cents to their several Division Headquarters, which will draw on the Grand Division Headquarters for a supply at once. Cash must accompany all requisitions for supplies, as nothing will be furnished from these headquarters without pre-payment.

IV. A new price list, and all forms of printed supplies, are now in the hands of the printers, and in a short time everything necessary to conduct the Order with system and in accordance with the requirements of the constitu-

tion will be ready. The preparation of these forms involves considerable expense, as, in order to furnish subordinate branches at a low figure and keep up the supply it will be necessary to order in large quantities. This is true economy, and explains the necessity of requiring pre-payment for supplies in all cases.

V. Camps that have not ordered Constitutions and Rituals must do so at once as the old constitutions are void and of no effect, and camps now working under the old rituals are doing so in violation of law and general orders.

VI. The election for camp officers and delegates takes place on the *last* meeting night in December, and the installation of officers on the *first* meeting night in January. Division Commanders will assign, as far as practicable officers to conduct the installations, which may be public or private at the option of the camps, or in event of no particular officer being designated to install the officers of any particular camp, the Senior Past Commander present is authorized by law to do so; but no installing officer is authorized to proceed with the installation of new officers, or divulge the new password and countersign, except all reports and returns, both of orderly sergeants and quartermaster sergeants, have been made to the Division Adjutant, and the per capita tax paid for the quarters ending September 30th and December 31st. (See Ritual, under head of "Installation of Officers.>"). If Orderly and Quartermaster Sergeants will commence the preparation of their reports in time, it will require but a few moments on the last meeting night of the quarter to finish them and enclose the amount of per capita tax. Blanks for the purpose will be furnished by Division Commanders to each camp commander at least ten days prior to the end of the term, and Division Commanders will see that the necessity for prompt returns is impressed upon their camp commanders, who are alone responsible for the failure of their subordinates. This is a most essential requisite to the success of the Order, as the superior bodies cannot live except from the sustenance they draw from subordinate branches, and the machinery of the order is disarranged by the failure of the camp commanders to perform a simple duty.

VII. A new password and countersign will be furnished Grand Division and Division Commanders for use from January 10, but they will not furnish the same to any camp until returns and reports due December 31st are received at Division Headquarters.

By command of

R. M. LINTON,
Acting Adjutant General.

H. W. ARNOLD,
Commander-in-Chief.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, S. OF V., U. S. A., }
JOHNSTOWN, PA., March 31, 1885. }

General Orders—No. 4.

I. Owing to the many Encampments of our own Order, and those of the G. A. R., these General Orders have been delayed. It is with great pleasure that the acquisition of the following camps from the Massachusetts Division of the Earp or Philadelphia branch of the Sons of Veterans, is announced. These camps have voluntarily come into our Order, and are now working under our Constitution Rules and Regulations. The numbers, names and locations of the camps are as follows:

No.	Name	Location.	Captain.	Ord Sergt.
1	Dadd and Whitney	Lowell	J. H. Farley.....	P. H. Lahiff.
3	Capt. Richard Phillips..	Marblehead..	H. P. Stacey.....	A. H. Winslow.
4	N. J. Bowditch.....	Dorchester..	E. P. Oakman.....	W. E. Cowdin.
5	Maj. A. A. Powers	Hudson.	A. A. Pike.....	E. F. Worcester.
6	John Low	Beverly.....	C. H. Shackley.....	J. H. Hinkley.
7	John B. Hanson.....	Danvers	C. H. Walker.....	W. Peabody.
8	Lt. Col. H. Merritt.....	Salem	C. H. Stickney.....	E. H. Dalton.
9	Lincoln.....	N. Adams ..	E. P. P. Hewett.....
10	J. K. Jenness	Haverhill....	C. E. Ford.....	A. R. Pemberton-
11	Geo. A. Custer	S. Abington. G. B. Reed.....		L. R. Goulding.
12	Gen. Burnside.....	Georgetown. A. B. Chase.....		W. H. Chase.
13	John A. Andrew.....	Stoughton ..	H. S. Wood	C. E. Taylor.
14	Col. F. J. Coffin.....	Newburyp't..	E. F. Choate.....	C. P. Ricker.
15	L. A. Tift.....	Springfield..	C. A. Chapin.....	H. S. Crossman.
16	H. B. Leighton.....	E. Cambridge	W. J. McMann.....	G. B. Howard.
17	Col. Ellsworth.....	Bro kton.....	S. O. Moreland....	F. C. Parker.
18	Maj. Sheppard.....	Ashland.....	W. Honendon.....	J. C. Medcalf.
19	Lt. W. H. H. Johnson...	Milford.....	L. Hayden.....	E. L. Pond.
20	John C. Paiue.....	Groveland ..	H. L. Hopkinson...	A. L. Nales.
21	Col. L. D. Sargent.....	Lawrence....	E. Webb.....	G. W. Davis.
23	Robert Crossman.....	Taunton	E. W. Dennett.....	D. V. Leahy.
24	J. Franklin Dyer	Gloucester ..	C. E. Story.....
25	W. A. Andrews, Jr.....	Essex	E. B. Kimball....	W. H. Burnham.
26	Gen. J. Hooper.	Chelsea.....	J. S. Dudley.....	H. S. Thompson.
27	T. G. Colt	Pittsfield....	E. J. Coombs.....	R. H. Peck.
28	C. A. Simonds.....	Fitchburg....	J. F. Wholly.....	F. W. Rice.
29	Gen. G. M. Thomas.....	Adams	H. Steele	C. W. Wells.
31	D. F. Farrigut.....	Waltham	G. W. Gragg	W. Johnson.
33	Col. H. P. Woodbury....	Manchester..	L. D. Cullen.	C. R. Pert.
35	J. A. Hawes.....	New Bedford.	A. J. Aiken.....	G. W. Dennison.
36	Capt. J. A. Greeley.....	Amesbury....	C. E. Kendrick....	C. G. Hazleton.
37	Charles Sumner.....	Gardner.....	J. Dodwell.....	A. E. Heywood.
38	Wendell Phillips	Plymouth....	F. Cole	T. F. Rogan.
39	Herman Sparrow	W. Medway..	D. E. Messenger.	H. G. Bullard.

The above camps were induced to join our branch of the Order through the exertions of Brothers J. B. Maccable, H. P. Kent, F. B. Perkins and several others and they deserve the thanks of the whole Order for their untiring efforts to secure this consolidation.

Word has just reached these Headquarters of the muster of the camp at Biddford, Maine, which was the only camp of the Philadelphia branch in that State. We can now rest assured that the other order does not number in the whole country as many as our Division of Massachusetts, and we feel that it is only a matter of a short time until all the Sons of Veterans will be united in one National Order.

II. Thus far none of the Grand Divisions have made their reports for the quarters ending September 30th and December 31, 1884, and it is now imperatively ordered that each and every Camp Division or Grand Division that has failed to comply with the Rules and Regulations in this respect must do so at once. These Headquarters cannot be run without money, and hereafter the per capita tax must be paid promptly and reports forwarded at the proper time. Promptness in all our actions is essential to the growth and preservation of our Order.

III. The following Brothers are hereby appointed Aides-de-Camp on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief: F. W. Plaisted, Bangor, Me.; Waldo H. Perry, Portland, Me.; Edward K. Gould, Rockland, Me.; Parker M. Edgerly,

Biddleford, Me.; Charles Kockersperg, Jamestown, N. Y.; L. V. Rausch, Mahanoy City, Pa.; C. J. Miller, Philadelphia, Pa.; Louis Hettinger, Pittsburg, Pa. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly. R. H. McCullough is hereby detailed for special service in Western Pennsylvania, to recruit and muster camps. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

IV. The Commander-in-Chief again urges Division and Grand Division Commanders to forward the names of energetic Brothers in their jurisdictions for appointment on his Staff. He wishes to appoint no one who is not deserving, and who will not work in harmony with the other officers. He must therefore depend on the Commanders of the several Divisions and Grand Divisions for suggestions as to the proper persons to appoint.

V. Orders are constantly being received for rank straps, wreaths, caps, uniforms, etc. As such articles are not included in the supplies of the Commandery-in-Chief, it is recommended that all Brothers, Camps and Divisions desiring to purchase uniforms, etc., communicate with R. M. J. Reed, Special Aid, who is thoroughly familiar with the R. and R., and knows what is wanted. Samples already made by him prove that he is doing good work, and the interest taken by him in our order when it was young and weak entitles him to our patronage. All communications addressed to R. M. J. Reed, No. 146 South Fourth street, Philadelphia, Pa., will receive prompt and courteous attention.

VI. The following invitation explains itself, and the Commander-in-Chief desires to have all camps of the Order that can possibly do so send as many members to Baltimore as possible. Further particulars will be given in next General Orders:

BALTIMORE, MD., March 24, 1885.

H. W. Arnold, Commander-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.,

SIR: We have the honor, through you, officially to extend an invitation to the Sons of Veterans under your command to participate in the ceremonies of the reception and entertainment of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, in this city, May 6 and 7, 1885, and request the promulgation of this invitation in your next General Orders. Recognizing the patriotic purposes of your organization, and realizing that in a short time all that is dear to the survivors of the war for the Union, the memories of the past, and the care of the Nation's dead, must be committed to your charge; we desire to bring you in personal contact with those whose services and sacrifices you are organized to perpetuate.

I am, very truly yours, etc., etc.

ROBERT G. KING,

Chairman Committee on Sons of Veterans.

Address: Baltimore, Md., P. O.

VII. It is advisable for every camp to be fully uniformed and equipped, and to provide themselves with *side arms* for the officers and at least one dozen muskets. It is hoped that every camp will be fully equipped by next "Memorial Day."

VIII. "The S. of V. Guide" by Aid-de-camp E. K. Gould, of Rockland, Maine, is recommended to the order. Every member, officer especially, should procure a copy, as it will be a great aid to them in properly conducting the business of the order.

By command of

H. W. ARNOLD,

Commander-in-Chief.

R. M. LINTON,

Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, S. OF V., U. S. A., }
JOHNSTOWN, PA., May 11, 1885. }

General Orders—No. 5.

The observance of Memorial Day in an appropriate manner by all camps of our Order is hereby ordered, and the present is a fitting time to bring before the officers and members of the Order the necessity of taking an active part in the ceremonies of which all the nation should share. In the near future we shall be called upon to perpetuate and honor the memories of that noble band of heroes who sacrificed so much that our nation might be preserved. To us, as sons of that grand army, will fall the care of the widow and orphan and those of that grand body who are needy and unable to provide for themselves, and it is now time that the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., fully realize the work they have before them.

The Grand Army of the Republic has now reached its zenith, and will naturally grow less each succeeding year. Every day we hear the muffled beat of the drum, which tells us that another hero has gone to join the grand army above; every day the tottering, enfebled and maimed forms on our streets remind us of those days of war and carnage twenty odd years ago, when men were falling on the field of battle, and when our fathers were at their posts giving their lives for the grand old flag. The time is fast approaching when to the Sons of Veterans will fall the duty of strewing flowers o'er the graves of the nation's dead, and let each and all of us prepare ourselves to continue that work of love and show the nation that we are sons worthy of our sires.

Grand Division and Division Commanders have issued proper orders for the observance of the day, and it is expected that each camp and brother of the order will implicitly obey them.

By command of

H. W. ARNOLD,

Commander-in-Chief.

R. M. LINTON,
Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, S. OF V., U. S. A., }
JOHNSTOWN, PA., June 12, 1885. }

General Orders—No. 6.

I. The attention of the Commanders of all branches of the order is called to *Article IV, Sections 1, 2 and 3, Rules and Regulations*. These sections must be strictly followed. The failure to make out the quarterly reports is a growing evil, and steps must be taken to correct the tendency to neglect important duties. The time for hesitating to take extreme measures is past, and hereafter Camps, Divisions and Grand Divisions neglecting to comply with the Rules and Regulations in forwarding reports and tax, must suffer the penalty for such neglect.

II. By letter dated the 20th of April, Bro. Chas. M. Cott tendered his resignation as Commander of the Second Grand Division which was accepted, and Lieutenant Commander Tobias notified to assume command. Owing to the short time yet remaining in this term, it was deemed best for Bro. Tobias to act until the next Encampment of the Second Grand Division, and thus avoid the expense of calling a meeting of the Council. All communications for the Commander of the Second Grand Division should be addressed to R. Tobias, box 1409, New York City.

III. The following brothers are hereby appointed Aides-de-Camp on the Staff of Commander-in-Chief: M. F. Crawley, Portsmouth, N. H.; G. Fred, Farnham, Conn.; Charles W. Burpee, Waterbury, Conn.; Walter F. Carter Meridon, Conn.; Charles Knight, Worcester, Mass.; T. Q. Whited, Topeka, Kan.; D. A. King, Larned, Kan.; A. E. Weed, Chicago, Ill.; A. W. McFarland, Bloomington, Ill.; E. A. Millham, St. Paul, Minn.; L. E. Hale, Minneapolis, Minn.; P. V. Carey, Des Moines, Ia.; John Thomas, Dewitt, Ia.; J. J. Speaker,

Independence, Mo.; W. A. Hirt, St. Louis, Mo.; H. G. Clark, Dorchester, Neb.; G. H. Barber, Edgar, Neb.; F. D. Wyman, Yankton, Dak.; Phil. Cheek, Jr., Baraboo, Wis.; F. J. Walthers, Milwaukee, Wis.; J. E. Steele, Ellettsville, Ind.; N. W. Swafford, Huntington, Ind.; Truman Havens, Hillsdale, Mich.; L. A. Baker, Lansing, Mich. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly. F. M. Shackford, Lake Village, N. H. is hereby appointed Special Mustering Officer, and detailed for duty in the New Hampshire Division. F. D. Soule, of Manchester, N. H. is hereby appointed Special Inspector for the Division of New Hampshire. J. B. Ludwick, of New Orleans Camp No. 1, New Orleans, La. is hereby appointed Special Aid and detailed for special services in Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, and Texas. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

IV. The Commander-in-Chief would again urge every brother to do his utmost to extend and strengthen our beloved order. Every Member, whether he be an officer or not, should work with a view to make the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., a power for good and a fear to the enemies of our country and our country's good.

By command of

(Official:)

R. M. LINTON,
Adjutant General.

H. W. ARNOLD.

Commander-in-Chief.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, S. OF V., U. S. A., {
JOHNSTOWN, PA., July 27, 1885. }

General Orders--No. 7.

1. The Fourth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans U. S. A. will be held in Grand Rapids, Mich., September 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th. Delegates, Commandery-in-Chief Officers, and all members of the Order are hereby notified to be present.

2. Preparations for the Encampment are being rapidly completed. Our Brothers in Grand Rapids, under the leadership of Frank W. Rowleson, Commander of Michigan Division, are arranging all the details, and will do their best to make the stay of all Delegates and visiting Brothers pleasant and enjoyable. Negotiations are now pending to secure reduced rates of fare on the trunk lines. Brothers residing at remote points will be obliged to make arrangements for transportation to central points, and there secure reduced rates for Grand Rapids. Liberal reductions in hotel rates have been secured, and preparations for camping under tents made. Brothers desiring to secure accommodations while in Grand Rapids can do so by addressing F. W. Rowleson, Judge Advocate General, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

3. The change of place for meeting from Detroit to Grand Rapids was made at the urgent request of the Division of Michigan, and with the consent of a majority of the Council-in-Chief.

4. Full particulars as to rates, parades, headquarters, etc., will be announced in future General Orders. In the meantime it is urged that every Brother who can possibly do so make his arrangements to attend the Encampment. All Brothers are entitled to a seat in the Convention, but only the Delegates have a voice and a vote.

5. The attention of all Divisions and Grand Division Commanders is called to Section 4, Article II, Commandery Constitution. The names and addresses of all Delegates and Alternates to Commandery-in-Chief Encampment, of all past Division Commanders, and past and present Grand Division Commanders, should be forwarded to these Headquarters at once.

6. All Officers of Commandery-in-Chief are expected to be present in full uniform and with side arms. Delegates should also have on the regulation uniform.

7. Attention is called to Article X., Commandery Constitution, relating

to Amendment to Constitution, Rules and Regulations. Such proposed alterations must be forwarded immediately for promulgation.

8. The Council-in-Chief will meet in annual session on September 16th, at 2 o'clock P. M. Place will be announced in future General orders.

9. All persons having bills against Commandery-in-Chief are requested to present them at once duly authentic. All persons owing the Commandery-in-Chief will please remit amount of their indebtedness prior to September 1st.

10. Any Grand Division not forwarding its reports and per capita tax in term ending June 30th before August 25th will not be entitled to representation in Encampment. Divisions reported by Grand Division as "not reporting or forwarding per capita tax before August 10th," will not be entitled to representation.

11. The Commandery cap mark, to be worn by all Officers of the Commandery-in-Chief is as follows: A five-rayed star, the five points representing and having the colors of the U. S. Military service, the circle in the centre representing the Commandery-in-Chief; the whole to be embossed in gold bullion on silk velvet. All Officers of the Commandery are expected to provide themselves with this badge previous to the Encampment. They can be procured from these Headquarters for \$1.25 each.

12. John Kirgisner and George A. Hozier, of Little Rock, Ark., and J. B. Ludwick, of New Orleans, La., are hereby appointed members of the Council-in-Chief from the Fifth Grand Division; W. S. Messerer, of Cheyenne, Wyoming, Simon W. Cantril, of Denver, Col., and John D. Fleming, of Leadville, Col., are hereby appointed members of the Council-in-Chief from the Fourth Grand Division. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

13. The following Brothers are hereby appointed Aides-de-Camp on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief; W. W. Brainerd, South Haven, Mich.; H. E. Gerry, Chicago, Ill. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

14. No supplies will be issued from these Headquarters after August 25th. Grand Divisions in need of blanks, etc., will see that requisitions for same are forwarded immediately.

15. Division Inspectors will send copies of their reports to the Inspector General and Assistant Inspector General at once, so that they can make up their reports in time for the Commandery Encampment. All reports from the Assistant Inspector General must be forwarded to the Inspector General not later than August 25th. All Inspectors, who have not already done so, will order blanks from their Headquarters at once. The reports from all inspectors must be made, and any failure to do so will be the cause of severe censure, if not more serious consequences. Division and Grand Division Commanders will see that this order is promptly obeyed.

16. Information is wanted at these Headquarters concerning the present whereabouts of C. G. Ludwig, a member of Old Abe Camp, No. 16, of Kansas. He is in height 5 feet and 7 inches, has brown eyes, dark brown hair, is partially left-handed, and is 17 years of age, but on account of his size would be taken for at least 20. Any information concerning him should be forwarded at once.

17. The Commandery-in-Chief would call attention to that sad event—the death of the Nation's Hero, GENERAL U. S. GRANT—which has cast gloom and sorrow over our land and torn the heart-strings of friend and foe throughout the civilized world. A nation now mourns his departure for that "undiscovered land from whence no traveler returns," and it is fitting that we, the sons of those brave men who honored and revered him during life and who aided him in upholding our common country should now unite in doing him honor after death. Cool, brave and unflinching during the war, he was no less cool, brave and unflinching when Death wound its icy fingers around him. His life was one continued act of devotion, and no better example of a patriot has ever lived. It is requested that all camps take proper action towards a fitting observance of the day of his funeral. By order of

H. W. ARNOLD,
Commander-in-Chief.

OFFICIAL:

R. M. LINTON,
2 Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, S. of V., U. S. A., }
JOHNSTOWN, PA., August 31, 1885. }

General Orders—No. 8.

I. All arrangements for the fourth annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, to be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, September the 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th, are about completed. As this encampment will be one of great importance, it is earnestly urged that all Brothers who can possibly make it convenient be present to aid with their advice and counsel.

II. The Council-in-Chief and Encampment meetings will be held in Custer Post Hall, under the tower clock. All Commandery officers and delegates will report upon their arrival in Grand Rapids to Adjutant-General Linton, at Room No. 21, in "Arcade," over the fountain.

III. The following hotel rates have been secured:

Sweets' Hotel.....	\$2.50 and \$3.00 per day.
Morton House.....	2.50 and 3.00 "
Eagle House.....	2.00 "
Rathburne House.....	2.00 and 2.50 "
The Etropean Hotel.....	1.25 "
Clarendon Hotel.....	1.50 "
Bridge Street House.....	1.00 "
The Brunswick.....	2.00 "

Brothers desiring to secure accommodations can do so by addressing Col. Frank W. Rowison, Grand Rapids, Mich.

IV. The Commander-in-Chief has secured rooms at Sweets' Hotel for the week. All communications after September 10th should be addressed to him there, as that will be his headquarters.

V. A number of the Divisions have failed to send a list of delegates to the Adjutant-General, and very few have forwarded the names of the Past Division Commanders. All who have neglected to forward such list will do so immediately on receipt of this.

VI. Arrangements for a grand parade and banquet are being made by our Michigan Brothers. Full particulars concerning same will be given upon arrival in Grand Rapids.

VII. Frank W. Rowison, Commander of Michigan Division, will detail Brothers of his division to act as sergenant of guard, corp of guard, camp and picket guards, during the sessions of the Encampment.

VIII. Arrangements have been concluded with the Lehigh Valley Railroad and the Michigan Central Railroad for round trip tickets to Grand Rapids at the following rates.

From Philadelphia.....	\$21.75
From New York.....	19.75
From Buffalo, N Y.....	11.75

Delegates from Philadelphia and vicinity will purchase tickets at 836 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. Those from New York and Eastern States will secure their tickets at 235 Broadway, New York, over Lehigh Valley and Michigan Central Railroads. Delegates reaching Buffalo from other points will purchase tickets over Michigan Central Railroad at 57 Exchange Street.

These special rate tickets will be sold to all Brothers and friends of the Order on presentation of order for same signed by Brother R. M. J. Reed, who will furnish orders on application addressed to him at 833 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Railroad tickets will be good on any day on any train from September 12th to 23d, inclusive.

The Brothers of Eastern Pennsylvania have arranged to start in a body on train leaving Ninth and Green Streets, Philadelphia, on the morning of September 14th, meeting the officers of Commandery-in-Chief at Buffalo, N. Y., the same evening. It is desired that all Brothers going this route will meet the party at Buffalo. A stop at Niagara Falls will be one of the pleasures by this route, which, added to the beauty of the scenery through Canada and the cheapness of rates, make it a most desirable one to use.

All Brothers from Western States will receive full information concerning

rates, route, etc., upon application to Brother F. W. Rawlson, Grand Rapids, Mich. Arrangements with Western roads will be completed in a few days.

IX. Having been officially notified of the fact that Brother H. P. Kent was elected Commander of the First Grand Division at the annual encampment held at Lake Village, N. H., on August 25th and 26th, and proofs being placed in my hands of the fact that Brother Kent has been dropped from the rolls of his camp and is therefore not eligible to *any office* in our Order, I therefore order Brother Lucian F. Burpee to assume command at once, and Past Commander F. H. Challis will upon receipt of this order deliver all property belonging to the Grand Division to said Brother L. F. Burpee, who will continue to act pending the action of the Commandery-in-Chief.

X. The following amendments and alterations to Constitution, Rules and Regulations have been recommended by the Several Divisions and Grand Divisions:

MAINE DIVISION.

1. *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Encampment that it is for the good of the Order that so much of the Rules and Regulations as relates to Grand Divisions be stricken out, and that from the day of adjournment of the Commandery-in-Chief in 1885 they cease to exist.

2. *Resolved*, That this Encampment recommend the adoption of a camp charter, same as design shown by Brother Horace P. Kent, of Massachusetts.

MISSOURI DIVISION.

Resolved, That the Constitution should be amended in the following particulars:

1. Grand divisions and divisions and camp council should be abolished.
2. Divisions should be required to fix a permanent place of holding annual encampments, and the system of state encampments "on wheels" be abolished.
3. That provisions should be made for an organization in each Division.
4. That the powers of Grand Divisions should be modified.
5. That if the Grand Divisions be abolished the per capita tax of Camps be reduced.

MICHIGAN DIVISION.

1. That Constitution be so changed that all Committees appointed by any Division, Grand Division or Commandery-in-Chief hold over during the year in which they are appointed, and that each member of such committee shall be empowered to receive and make suggestions and submit the same through the chairman for approval at the next annual meeting of said Division, Grand Division or Commandery-in-Chief.

2. That the committee on reports and officers be abolished.

3. That the power now in the hands of the Grand Division Commanders to approve Camp Charter applications and to issue Charters, etc., be transferred direct to Division Commanders, thus saving much valuable time.

NEW YORK DIVISION.

1. That the titles of officers be changed to the rank of General, Colonel and so down, so that under no circumstances can the officers title be confounded with the G. A. R.

2. That a National Password be given for the admittance of members of the G. A. R. to any encampment.

3. That a card be given to each member of the G. A. R. obligated so that Veterans may visit other Camps without being obligated. To remain in force as long as vouched for on the card semi-annually by signature of Commander of Post to which the Veteran belongs.

4. That the privilege of electing Surgeons and Chaplains be restored to Camps and Divisions.

5. That a fine of \$1.00 be established for non-attendance on Memorial Day ceremonies without suitable excuse.

EAST PENNSYLVANIA DIVISION.

1. The following amendment to Article 4, Section 6, Constitution: That the words, "and shall not be entitled to enter the camp room as a member," shall be inserted in above article, and shall immediately follow the clause, "Shall be ineligible to any office in the Sons of Veterans."

2. WHEREAS The Grand Divisions serve no practical purpose and are a source of expense and delay to the Divisions of the Order in the performance of their executive duties; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Delegate of the Second Grand Division and Commandery-in-Chief be and are hereby instructed to use all honorable means to have the Grand Division abolished.

THIRD GRAND DIVISION.

Resolution No. 1. *Resolved* That we recommend to the Commandery-in-Chief that the Constitution be amended so as to abolish Grand Divisions. the same to take effect upon the assembling of the Commandery-in-Chief in 1886. And the Grand Division officers elected in the several Grand Divisions in the year 1885 hold their office until the meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief in 1886. And that said Grand Divisions hold no more encampments, except when called by the Commander and Council of Grand Division in case of necessity.

Resolution No. 2. *Resolved*, That the Third Grand Division recommend to the Commandery-in-Chief the adoption of a uniform set of books and blanks to be kept by officers of the several Grand Divisions, Divisions and Camps of our Order.

Resolution No. 3. *Resolved*, That the Third Grand Division ask the Commandery-in-Chief to reduce the price of regulation badges.

All the above Divisions and Grand Divisions have also recommended certain changes in the Ritual.

By order of

H. W. ARNOLD,

Commander-in-Chief.

OFFICIAL:

R. M. LINTON,
Adjutant-General.

The following special order has also been issued:

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, S. OF V, U. S. A.,
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL,
HARRISBURG, PENNA., March 24, 1885.

Special Order—No. 1.

Owing to the delay, occasioned by various causes which could not be avoided, in the adoption and promulgation of the Revised Ritual, and Constitution, Rules and Regulations, a general Inspection of Camps had not been urged until such time should elapse for camps to familiarize themselves with the revised work, and supply themselves with the belongings made necessary by the changes.

It is now ordered, that Grand Division and Division Commanders who have not yet ordered an Inspection since January 1st, 1885, will cause a thorough inspection of all camps to be completed on May 1st, 1885.

Division Commanders will see that all reports of Inspector and Assistant Inspector of camps be at their headquarters by June 1st, 1885.

Division Commanders will forward copies of the reports on Inspection to these Headquarters before July 15, 1885.

Division Commanders will see that prompt compliance to instructions relating to their department in this respect, be given, that ample time may be allowed the various officers to make out full reports on Inspection, to be transmitted to these Headquarters.

Division Commanders will appoint when practical, Assistant Inspectors who shall inspect the camps nearest to their own; who will cause the ritualistic work of the order to be fully exemplified by the camp, in their presence, and

see that all errors are corrected; they will fill out a complete and impartial report, as indicated by the blanks, and make such remarks, recommendations or suggestions, as they believe for the good of the camp, with the return of their report to the Division Headquarters.

Camps not having the number of muskets required by the work of the Ritual, are urged to procure them as the muster ceremony cannot be considered perfectly or properly performed without their use.

Grand Division Commanders will cause an inspection at an early date, of all Division Headquarters under their jurisdiction.

Complaints have been made of delays occasioned to important correspondence of camps, and are with-holding supplies ordered by camps to unnecessary lengths of time. Let the Inspection in the various branches and departments be made fully in all its details, and immediate attention be given to the condition of camps and their wants promptly supplied.

Article V., Rules and Regulations bearing on the subject of Inspection will further guide the officers in the performance of their duties.

By command of

H. W. ARNOLD,

Commander-in-Chief.

G. DAY RUDY,

Inspector General.

Much could be said on the present condition of the order that would encourage all, but as you will doubtless include such items in your address to the encampment, I will merely mention the consolidation of rival branches as one of the most encouraging signs. Nearly all of the Earp or Wagoner Faction has joined our ranks and I am just in receipt of a letter from one of our working brothers of the New York Division informing me of the bright prospects of our soon embracing the New York Post System.

The work of the Commander-in-Chief and his personal staff is becoming so voluminous that it requires almost their whole time to properly carry on the work of our highest body. To expect young men just entering the active paths of life to attend to this work without recompense is expecting too much. A living salary should be paid to our higher officials in order that they may devote their entire time to their official duties. Until this is done the order can not reach its full tide of prosperity for work must be done to carry on the routine duties of each office and such work can not be done on wind or love alone.

The yearly change of headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief during the present formative period, is producing a difficulty that can hardly be estimated. The new officers have hardly become acquainted with their duties before they are called upon to surrender their positions and return to the ranks. This might work after the organization is fully made but at present it is disastrous. Continue the Commandery officials for two years and much more can be accomplished in those two years than can, under the present system be effected in four. I would recommend the changing of the official tenure for Commandery officers from one to two years.

In conclusion, Commander, permit me to thank you for your continued assistance and advice as well as for your courteous treatment during my term as Adjutant General. I also desire to thank the many brothers who have rendered me much and valuable assistance during the past year. With regret I surrender my official pen, for though the work has been somewhat burdensome there is much that is pleasant. In relinquishing my office I do not surrender my love for the order and expect always to yield that strict obedience to my superiors that should be characteristic of a Son of a Veteran.

I am sir, yours truly, F. C. and L.,

R. M. LINTON,

Adjutant General.

REPORT OF QUARTER-MASTER GENERAL.

Q. M. General's Report was read and referred as follows:

JOHNSTOWN, PA., September 16, 1885.

H. W. ARNOLD, *Commander-in-Chief of S. of V.:*

SIR:—I have the honor to submit my report of the business done in my office during the past year which was as follows:

Dr. To cash received from all sources.....	\$1,903 31
Cr. By cash expended for all purposes.....	1,865 43

Balance on hand.....	\$ 37 88
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Our assets are as follows:

Supplies on hand at price to Grand Divisions.....	\$631 00
Amount due from Grand Divisions.....	103 44

Total,	\$734 44
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LIABILITIES.

Bill of Major A. P. Davis, (Balance),	\$124 75
Bill of Brown Publishing Co.,	20 00
Bill of F. R. Merrill,	117 82
Bill of White & Graham,	165 00

Total,	\$427 57
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Assets,	734 44
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Balance over Liabilities,	\$306 87
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NOTE.—Of the \$631.00 supplies on hand as above, \$535.00 will have to be destroyed, as they are for Grand Divisions, which are abolished. We also have amount due from Grand Divisions—the amount \$103.44 due from them, and have \$125.00 of indebtedness of Third Grand Division and \$75.00 of Fourth Grand Division to assume, making a total of \$838.44, which is a total loss. This will leave us in debt \$104.00 besides sundry bills not mentioned above.

The brothers should bear in mind the fact that this administration has not incurred the larger portion of this debt but on the contrary has only run behind \$165, which was mainly incurred by the necessity of having by the changes in the Constitution, Rules and Regulations and Ritual, been compelled to have almost an entire new set of blanks printed, thus rendering useless a large quantity of forms which otherwise would have been quite an income to the Commandery. I desire to thank the Commander-in-Chief for the assistance he has rendered me at all times during the year and hope my successor may have a pleasant and successful year. I do not covet another office of the same kind and hope my successor may be remunerated.

Yours Fraternally,

W. H. STATLER,
Quarter-Master General.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.

Report of Inspector General, as follows, was read and referred:

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL, S. OF V., U. S. A., }
HARRISBURG, PA., Sept. 10, 1885. }

H. W. ARNOLD, *Commander-in-Chief:*

SIR AND BROTHER—When you honored me with the position on your Staff, I accepted the office with the determination to make it a success to the good of the order. I issued, through your Headquarters, Circular No. 1. In it I had set a period of time for holding inspections of Camps, subject to the orders of Division Commanders, the returns of each inspection to be sent in to Division Headquarters no later than May 15th, in order that the same be consolidated

and reported at Division Encampment, etc. I believed, in order to get full returns of camp inspection and learning the exact standing, condition and needs of camps, I allowed sufficient time to each branch or department of our order through which they would pass in consolidating the returns and transmitting copies to this office—that I might consolidate and tabulate the reports as a whole, in complete form, as a ready reference—making a report comparing with those of the Adjutant General and Q. M. General.

I set out by special correspondence with each Division Headquarters, to procure such data as would prove beneficial to this department, and while I received hearty responses from a few Divisions the majority failed to echo my endeavors in this direction. As time drew near for receiving reports from Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors General, I addressed myself to them by letters requesting them to forward reports, and when failure to comply was apparent, to urge the necessity for action, etc.

I have found that one of the causes for failure is the fact that many Division Commanders have not instituted camp inspection early enough within the time specified in Circular No. 1. Some General Orders from Divisions, received by me, show that inspection of camps is just now being instituted. When their reports are to come in and be consolidated is more than I am able to guess. It is evident that in order to have successful inspection and complete returns, a regular time must be set for holding such inspection, and be made universal in every Division, so that the returns be reported at the same time as those of the Adjutant and Q. M. at the encampments of the various branches of our order, and copies forwarded to this office.

I am unable to make a consolidated report from returns, that would be in any manner full or indicative of the condition of our order. I have received, through the kindness of Past Asst. Adjt. Gen. Bowers, a "guessed at" report of the Second Grand Division. None from the First Grand Division. Asst. Inspector General of First G. D. kindly (?) referred me to the report of Asst. Adjt. Gen. and Quartermaster Gen., made at their recent Encampment, for such information as I wished or that would be of service to me in making out my report. I have received no returns from divisions in First Grand Division. I have been in communication with the Asst. Insp. Gen. of Third Grand Div., who has written for information, etc., who states that but few divisions have yet reported inspections up to date. I yet look for a report from this Grand Division.

The necessary blanks have been sent by me to the Asst. Inspector Generals, giving ample time to consolidate the reports. I have been at expense of considerable time in my correspondence and efforts to gather or cox in something like a report. The bundle accompanying this letter is the result of my work, or rather, the lack of attention to duty on the part of others. While I know that the order has advanced, I am unable to give the necessary data in proper form or draw comparisons with the work of last year.

I have found that Grand Divisions are a barrier to prompt work and absorbers of revenue without giving aid and I most heartily endorse the sentiments so loudly expressed that they be abolished and the Commandery-in-Chief be paid a living salary, in compensation for the additional work.

My expenses as Inspector General during the year would aggregate to over \$100 which I have cheerfully donated to the cause.

Owing to the incompleteness of the returns from Divisions and Grand Divisions, I am unable to make out tabulated report so shall in lieu of a consolidated report submit to you what I have received. There is an evident lack of understanding or ignorance of the constitution governing our order and failure to comply with instructions issued through General Orders issued on the part of many Division Commanders.

I would request that this letter be placed on file with the reports.

I trust that my successor in office may be able to establish what I endeavored to do—system in inspection which can be done when the officers intervening between the Commandery-in-Chief and Divisions have been abolished.

I remain yours fraternally,

C. DAY RUDY, *Inspector General Com.-in-Chief.*

Chief Mustering Officer and Chief of Staff made verbal reports.

REPORT OF JUDGE ADVOCATE.

Report of Judge Advocate was read and referred as follows :

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., September 18, 1885.

H. W. ARNOLD, *Commander-in-Chief S. of V's., U. S. A.:*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—I submit to you my report as Judge Advocate General for the term ending at this encampment. During my term of office one case of court martial has been referred to me for my official decision. The case was that of J. W. Kinney, former commander of the Michigan Division. He was duly suspended from command of said division. Charges were preferred against said J. W. Kinney, a court martial ordered by the Third Grand Division Commander, and a court convened at Lansing, Mich., June 3d, 1885. He was tried, convicted and sentenced to be dishonorably discharged from the order. I wish to make a suggestion in regard to the duties of a Judge Advocate of a Division, Grand Division, or Commandery-in-Chief. I think that the Judge Advocate of a Division should, on receipt of a communication from individuals or camps, either make his report at once to the Judge Advocate General, or consolidate and report semi-annually, on blanks prescribed for that purpose, giving in detail all points of law brought up by the different camps. This will enable the Judge Advocate General to make a complete report to the annual meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief, showing what points in the law the different camps, where the life of our order is, desired changed. This plan, I think, would help the committee on rules and regulations in making all recommendations. Submitting this report meagre as it is, I am

Fraternally yours,

F. W. ROWLSON, *Judge Advocate General.*

Bro. Rudy moved that Bro. Penniman report proceedings to the papers. Bros. Hammer and Worden were added. Bros. Penniman, Hammer and Worden were appointed a committee to report proceedings to papers of the city.

Resolutions from Davis Camp No. 1, presented by W. D. Thomas, of West Pa., were referred to Committee on Resolutions.

HEADQUARTERS DAVIS CAMP No. 1, W. PENN. DIV. S. OF V., U. S. A., }
PITTSBURG, August 29th, 1885. }

This is to certify that a stated meeting of this camp held on the evening of August 27th, 1885, the following preamble and resolution were unanimously passed :

WHEREAS, "It is the unanimous and most earnest wish of this camp and its members that the Commandery-in-Chief restore to us our original position and place in some proper manner, (by means of a foot note or otherwise), in the next issue of the General Rules and Regulations, the recognition given us in the same under Article XV, Section 8, of the editions of 1882 and 1883, as the said distinction was given to our camp as a return for having without charge, cheerfully given up and turned over to the Commander-in-Chief the charter of the order, obtained from and granted to us by the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The patent on our bronze medal and the copyright on our coat of arms, all of which were furnished, provided for and secured by our officers at considerable expense to our camp and its members. Be it hereby

Resolved, That Bros. W. R. Willheide, Otto Hanch and W. D. Thomas be and are hereby appointed a committee with full power to act or delegate their authority to others, with instructions to prepare an appeal stating all the facts in the case, including our desires in the premises and to present or have same presented to the Commander-in-Chief at its coming meeting at Grand Rapids, Michigan, praying for favorable action in our behalf."

[SEAL.]

A. L. PEARSON, Jr.

Capt. Com. Camp-

Attest: E. W. LEITMANN,
Act. Ord. Sgt.

HEADQUARTERS DAVIS CAMP No. 1, WEST PENN. DIV. S. OF V., U. S. A., }
 PITTSBURG, PA., September 12th, 1885. }

*To the Officers and Members of the Commandery-in-Chief of the S. of V's., U. S. A.,
 Grand Rapids, Michigan :*

OFFICERS AND BROTHERS.—The undersigned having, in accordance with the accompanying unanimously passed preamble and resolution, been duly appointed a committee in behalf of our camp with full power to act or to delegate our authority to others and for the purpose of laying before this encampment certain matter of vital interest and importance not only to our camp and its members but to our many friends in this section, would beg leave to state as follows :

Our camp was organized on the twelfth day of November, 1881, it being the first or parent camp of your organization known as the "Sons of Veterans of the United States of America."

Early in the succeeding month of December the members of our camp and the friends of your then infant order decided that its good and extension required a charter from the commonwealth so drafted as to form a foundation to build from and to be good in any locality.

At that time no branches of your order existed except that of camps and they (outside of camp No. 1) were only two in number, and not fully organized or mustered. Their existence at that time was only nominal and prospective.

On this account it was concluded that our camp should apply for, obtain and hold the charter, which during the latter part of said month was, on due legal application, made by our member, granted by the commonwealth.

The cost of obtaining the same, including the court and attorney's fees, was of serious moment to our then weak and struggling organization.

Early in the year of 1882 the necessity of having a bronze medal or badge of general membership and a coat of arms and a motto was keenly felt ; and by common expressed wish the duty and labor of arranging for and providing the same fell upon and was cheerfully assumed by camp No. 1 and its special friends. The results were that no time and exertions were spared and that all of the foregoing was as quickly and fully provided for as possible.

To this end the necessary designs were prepared and after going through various changes and modifications were duly approved.

This being accomplished it was then decided and deemed necessary to protect the design of the bronze badge, including its motto, ribbon and bar pin by "Letters Patent" and the coat of arms by copyright.

This duty also by common consent and wish devolved upon and was performed by the officers of our camp; and the said patent and copyright were applied for and duly obtained during the month of March, 1882.

The securing of the same was accompanied with considerable labor and cost to the members of our camp and its friends.

Armed with this protection our officers during the following month of April, had the coat of arms engraved and electrotyped and made a contract with Messrs. Bailey, Banks and Biddle, of Philadelphia, for the manufacture of the badges, guaranteeing them against loss by the venture. The said contract is now in existence and full force.

At the Annual Encampment held in this city (Pittsburg) October 18, 1882, (the first commandery meeting of your order), our camp and its officers being still mindful of the common good, cheerfully turned over to the Commander-in-Chief then elected, all of the foregoing named papers to be held perpetually by him and his successors in said office and for the use and benefit of the Commandery and order as a whole and it was then and there agreed by mutual and common consent, that in lieu of other recompense and as a just return for the labor and services rendered by the officers and members of our camp who had so freely spent their times and means to forward the movement and secure the foregoing named advantages, that the camp under its appropriate name and number should be allowed to have and permanently hold the distinction

granted under Article XV, Section 8, pages 93 and 94 of General Rules and Regulations, edition of 1882, to wit:

As a mark of distinction Davis Camp No. 1, of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, as the parent charter camp of the order, shall, in addition to its other flags, be entitled to have and use a flag of yellow silk, of the same size, (viz: Six and a half by six feet) and made up and trimmed in the same general manner as its blue silk camp color.

On that occasion not a single objection was raised against the granting of this favor.

We will here note that our camp has never asked for and never received one cent of royalty from the sale of the said badges or electrotypes, and we will state that we are informed and aware that large profits have been derived by the Commandery-in-Chief and other branches of the order from that source alone.

At the second annual Encampment held in the city of Columbus, Ohio, August 6th and 7th, 1883, the said General Rules and Regulations came up in due form and were duly approved a *second time*, it being on that occasion generally and freely conceded that the distinction allowed our camp had been well and fairly earned and that no cause existed why it should not be permanently continued per original agreement.

The third annual Encampment was held in the city of Philadelphia, August 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th, 1884. At the said meeting quite an extended revise of your Constitution, General Rules and Regulations and Ritual was made and on the afternoon of August 30th, and while the said changes were in progress, the said section 8 heretofore given in full was, on motion made and carried, cut out and as a consequence does not appear in the book of Organic Laws, known as the "Revised edition of 1884."

The said action was secured in open meeting and was not based on a report of the committee of revision which had agreed to allow the section to stand.

This conclusion, (the striking out,) was of course a great surprise and a source of deep regret to our camp and all of its friends. We had no notice or intimation of the proposed action and consequently could not properly present our case. The matter came up and went through in such a manner that grave doubts have been expressed as to the equity and correctness of the proceedings.

It is not strange that we keenly felt the injustice of the same, still we were aware that we were not duly represented, that the matter came up unexpectedly and the circumstances of the case not being understood the motion prevailed before the merits of the transaction had been generally known or fairly weighed in the scale.

We are aware and will here state that at an adjourned meeting held on the evening of said day an effort was made to repair the wrong as well as could be then done, and the privilege contained in said section 8 was contained by resolution which will be found in the official record of the proceedings of the said meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief.

The foregoing is in brief the history of the case and we now, as we have steadily done for the past year, indulge in the belief that due consideration and reflection will at once lead to a restoration of the privilege in the manner and form we so much desire.

As things now stand and having in mind due regard for the present prescribed manner and form in which your organic laws shall be added to or amended we do not deem it best to urge, at this time a restoration of the said section 8 as it stood under article XV of the editions of the General Rules and Regulations of 1882 and 1883, but we most earnestly ask for and plead that the full substance of said section by resolution be allowed to appear in future editions of the said General Rules and Regulations in the form of a simple foot note, the same to appear in the appropriate place at the bottom of the page in small type.

The granting of this just request can do no harm or work any injury to anyone.

It will be all that is desired by our camp, its members and our friends

who, during the earlier and weaker days of our order kindly gave to the then infant movement, their most cordial sympathy and substantial support.

Trusting and believing that the matter will receive at your hands the kind and favorable consideration which in just it merits, and with sentiments of high respect for your honorable body, we remain very respectfully your obedient servants,

W. R. WILLHIEDE, }
 OTTO HANCH, } Committee.
 W. D. THOMAS, }

Approved and respectfully submitted.
 [SEAL.]

A. L. PEARSON, JR.,
Capt. Com, Camp.

Attest: E. W. LEHMANN,
Act. Ord. Sgt.

Adopted as read.

Moved by E. R. Vincent, seconded by Mooney, that the rules be suspended and that the election of officers be made the special order of business for five o'clock this afternoon. Amended by Bro. Rudy and seconded by Bro. Payne, that the nomination and election of officers be the order of business immediately after the adoption by this Encampment of the changes made in Constitution, R. and R., as recommended by report of Committee on Constitution, R. and R. Carried as amended.

By motion of Bro. Smith, the Encampment took a recess until 1:15 p. m.

Encampment called to order at 1:30 p. m.

The Committee on Constitution, R. and R., reported as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION, RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Your Committee having carefully considered all the proposed changes in the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, which have been laid before them from various sources in our order, beg leave to report as follows :

We recommended

1. That all Grand Divisions be abolished and shall cease to exist within sixty days from this day ; and each shall dispose of all money and property on hand, and arrange for the payment of all its debts, by assessment or otherwise as each shall determine, within said time.
2. That all the present officers of Grand Divisions shall be entitled to their respective past ranks after the foregoing amendment has taken effect.
3. That depots of supplies shall be established at Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago, and each Division shall send all requisitions to the depot nearest to its headquarters.
4. That every sitting Division Commander shall be entitled to a voice and vote in the Commandery-in-Chief.
5. That no past rank shall be allowed to such officers of any other branch of the Sons of Veterans as shall join our order without their respective Commands, or as individuals.
6. That Article IV, Sec. 6, page 61, General Rules and Regulations, shall be amended to read as follows : "Any member of a camp who is one year in arrears in the payment of dues, shall be dropped from the roll, and shall be reinstated only by the camp which dropped him, and in the same manner as is provided in Article II, Section 1-7 of the Constitution."
7. That Article V, Section 1, page 5, shall be amended by inserting the following words after the word "membership," in the sixth line : "Provided

that, upon the unanimous recommendation of the Captain and Lieutenants of any camp, the Div. Commander may grant authority to muster into this order any candidate who is not less than sixteen years of age."

8. That all officers of this order shall be called by the military titles of their respective ranks; and that Article IV, page 64, Commandery-in-Chief Constitution, shall accordingly be amended to read, in the fourth, fifth and sixth lines, as follows: "First, General and Commander-in-Chief; second, Lieutenant General; third, Major General;" and that Article IV, page 26, division constitution, shall be amended to read as follows, in the second, third and fourth lines: "Shall consist of a Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel, Major;" and that all provisions of the constitution, rules and regulations contrary to, and inconsistent herewith, shall be abolished or accordingly changed.

9. That the "per capita" tax shall be fixed in the manner now provided, and that the sum formerly paid to the Grand Division shall hereafter be paid to the Commandery-in-Chief.

10. That Article III, Section 1, page 45, shall be amended by inserting the word "August" for the word "September" in the third line thereof.

11. That Article IV, Section 1, page 68, shall be amended by striking out the words "without braid" in the last line thereof.

12. That whereas, certain misunderstandings have arisen as to the proper interpretation of various provisions of the constitution, rules and regulations, a committee of three shall be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief to prepare a digest of authoritative rulings and decisions regarding our laws, and to report the same for action at the next encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief; and that, until the adoption of the aforesaid digest by said encampment, the compilation of G. A. R. rulings and decisions, known as the "Blue Book," shall be accepted as final authority upon all questions arising in our order.

13. That all provisions in the constitution, rules and regulations inconsistent with any recommendation adopted at this encampment, shall be abolished or so changed as to conform therewith.

14. That all changes in the constitution, rules and regulations at this encampment shall be printed on slips of paper of convenient size to be pasted into the edition now in use, and distributed to Division Quartermasters.

15. Your committee would also report with special commendation the samples of books and supplies for keeping the records and transacting the business of camps, shown by Comrade Stillings, of the firm of E. B. Stillings & Co., of Boston, Mass., and recommend them for universal use, as neat, complete and cheap.

Dated Friday, Sept. 18, 1885.

Adjourned to Saturday, 9 a. m.

LUCIEN F. BURPEE,

On behalf of Committee.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 19, 1885.

Your Committee on Rules and Regulations beg leave to further recommend:

1 That any member who is six months in arrears for dues shall not be permitted to enter any camp room while the camp is in session.

2 That the constitution, rules and regulations hereafter published shall be properly indexed.

3. That the rank of all officers of this order shall be indicated by shoulder straps, as prescribed by the United States army regulations of 1861-'65.

4. That all officers shall wear the sword belts prescribed by United States army regulations for officers of corresponding rank.

5. That all officers shall wear swords of the pattern devised by F. D. Eddy, Mustering Officer, Michigan Division, a sample of which has been exhibited to this encampment.

6. That the uniform cap shall remain as it is; that is, such as is prescribed as the fatigue cap of the United States army with gold braid.

6½. That all officers entitled to past rank may indicate the same by wearing the proper miniature strap.

7. That all Past Commanders-in-Chief, and that all Past Adjutant Generals, and that all Past Quartermaster Generals shall have each a vote in all Commandery-in-Chief and Division encampments; and that all Past Assistant Adjutant Generals and all Past Assistant Quartermaster Generals shall have each a voice and a vote in all Commandery-in-Chief encampments.

8. That all past elective officers of the rank of Colonel and higher shall be entitled to wear the prescribed gold or silver cross of the order.

9. That the Adjutant General and Quartermaster General shall each be paid a salary of \$100 per annum.

10. That Article IV, page 47, line 4, be amended to read as follows: "And a Council-in-Chief, consisting of the above named officers, and one member elected from each Division."

11. That in Article V, page 26, first line, the word "camp" be changed to the word "division."

12. That Article IV, Section 2, page 10, shall be amended by inserting after the word "seal" in eighth line, the words: "Such brother shall remain under the jurisdiction of the camp granting such transfer, shall pay all dues of the camp, and so long as he shall do so, shall retain whatever past rank he may hold, and he shall be eligible to any office within his division." Also by inserting, after the word "issue" in the tenth line, the words: "Together with satisfactory proof that his dues have been paid to date."

Also by inserting after the word "camp" in the eleventh line, the words: "And the Orderly Sergeant of the latter camp shall at once notify the Orderly Sergeant of the camp granting the transfer, who shall thereupon strike the name of such member from the rolls of his camp." The words from "in" to "transfer" in the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth lines shall be erased.

13. That the Commander-in-Chief, immediately after his election, shall appoint a Chief-of-Staff, a Judge Advocate General, a Chief Mustering officer, and a Chaplain-in-Chief.

Nearly, if not quite, all of the many recommendations placed in the hands of your committee have been incorporated in some form, into the foregoing recommendations; if any have been omitted, it may be understood that the committee did not think them desirable and must report unfavorably upon them. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Grand Rapids, Sept. 19, 1885.

LUCIEN F. BURPEE,
On behalf of the Committee.

N. B.—The foregoing report was submitted to the consideration of the encampment section by section, and final action was taken on each section as it was read. At the outset Adjutant General Linton requested me to keep a record of the action taken on the several recommendations. I did so, and the copy hereto annexed is a correct transcript of my minutes made at that time, and endorsed on the original draft of the committee's report.

LUCIEN F. BURPEE.
Col., &c.

Waterbury, Conn., October 1, 1885.

MINUTES OF ACTION ON ABOVE REPORT.

Sections 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 and 14 of the principal report were adopted without change.

Section 15 was rejected entirely.

Section 2 was amended by inserting after the word "exist" in second line, the words: "On and after September 30th, 1885, and each Grand Division shall wind up its affairs within ninety days from said date." The words "within, day," in second and third lines were stricken out. In this shape it was adopted.

Section 12 was amended by adding the words: "All officers above the rank of Captain may wear the full dress uniform coat of the United States army, as prescribed in the regulations of 1861-'65." With this addition it was adopted.

Of the Supplementary report, sections 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 6½, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, were adopted as read.

Section 11 was rejected.

Section 3 was amended by striking out the words from "shoulder strap to 65," inclusive, and inserting the words: "Miniature rank, straps as now worn and prescribed in constitution, rules and regulations." The section was then passed.

Section 12 was withdrawn, and the following was substituted and adopted: "Any member of this order who shall have taken a transfer from his camp and shall not have deposited it with any other camp, shall be permitted to enter any camp, but shall not be eligible to any office in this order."

On motion, the changes in Constitution, R. and R. be printed on slips of the size of Constitution and sent to Division Quartermasters. Carried.

Resolutions from Camp 1, of Pittsburg, approved by committee, were presented and on motion adopted.

The following resolution, offered by W. D. Thomas of W. Pa., was adopted:

"Resolved, That the action of the last Commandery-in-Chief Encampment, in striking out Sec. 8, Art. XV, of the general R. and R., as set forth in the revised editions of 1882 and 1883, be declared out of order and unconstitutional, as the Encampment cannot vitiate any contract without the consent of the other party thereto, and that said Sec. 8, Art. XV, of said editions of 1882 and 1883 be restored and put in full force."

Moved by E. R. Vincent, seconded by H. H. Hammer, of E. Pa., that the rules be suspended and the Commandery-in-Chief proceed to the election of the three highest officers and Council-in-Chief. Amended by Worden, that all officers be elected. Amendment lost, motion carried.

Bro. Worden moved that the first ballot for Commander-in-Chief be an informal one. Carried.

Amended by J. J. Spenker, that the first three ballots be informal.— Amendment was lost.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Bros. Penniman, Blake and Smith were appointed tellers.

For Commander-in-Chief, Bro. Payne presented the name of A. E. Case, of Illinois. Bro. Vancleve seconded the name of A. E. Case.

Bro. Mallory presented the name of E. T. Roe.

Bro. Perkins presented the name of H. W. Arnold.

Pro. Maccabe presented the name of G. W. Penniman. Bro. Worden seconded the name of G. W. Penniman. Bro. Penniman withdrew his name.

Bro. Rudy seconded the nomination of H. W. Arnold.

Bro. Morse presented the name of F. W. Rawlson.

On motion of Bro. Rudy nominations closed, and an informal ballot was taken with the following results: Case 8, Arnold 9, Penniman 1, Roe 6, Rawlson 5, Payne 8.

Moved and seconded that notwithstanding that charges have been presented against Bro. H. P. Kent, and notwithstanding his suspension, he be allowed to have a vote and voice in this encampment. Carried.

Bro. Rudy moved we take another informal ballot. Carried. Ballot taken with the following results: Case 6, Arnold 9, Payne 10, Roe 8, Rawlson 2.

A motion to take a recess for five minutes was lost.

A motion to take an informal ballot was lost.

A motion to proceed to formal ballot was carried.

First Ballot.—Case 6, Arnold 11, Payne 10, Roe 8, Rawlson 3.

Second Ballot.—Case 5, Arnold 13, Payne 11, Roe 9, Rawlson 1.

Third Ballot.—Roe 6, Arnold 15, Payne 18.

Fourth Ballot.—Roe 9, Arnold 14, Payne 16.

Fifth Ballot.—Roe 6, Arnold 13, Payne 19.

Sixth Ballot.—Roe 15, Rowlson 5, Payne 19.

Seventh Ballot.—Roe 12, Rowlson 8, Payne 19.

Eighth Ballot.—Roe 13, Rowlson 6, Payne 18.

Ninth Ballot.—Roe 4, Rowlson 9, Payne 23.

W. S. Payne, of Ohio, declared elected Commander-in-Chief.

A motion to adjourn until 8 o'clock in the morning was lost. A motion to proceed to the nomination and election of Lieut. Comd'r was carried.

Bro. Worden nominated J. J. Speaker; Bro. Thomas nominated F. W. Rowlson; Bro. Maccabe nominated A. E. Case; Bro. Mooney nominated Bro. Milham (withdrew); Bro. Milham nominated L. F. Burpee.

A motion to close nominations was carried.

Bro. A. E. Case declared elected Lieut. Commander.

A motion to proceed to nominate and elect a Vice-Lieut. Comd'r was carried.

Bro. Maccabe nominated Bro. Kohler; Bro. Smith nominated Brother Rudy. Bro. F. W. Kohler declared elected Vice-Lt. Commander.

A motion to adjourn, by Bro. Hammer, was lost.

A motion to proceed to the election of Council-in-Chief, by Vincent, was carried.

A motion to take a recess of fifteen minutes to prepare ballots for Council-in-Chief, by Vincent, was carried.

The election of Council-in-Chief resulted as follows: First Grand Division, H. L. Wright.

At 7:30 P. M., adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock to-morrow.

The Encampment opened at 9 o'clock A. M., in due form, with Lieut-Commander Perkins in the chair.

The report of Committee on Rituals was read, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RITUALS.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., Sept. 18, 1885.

To the Officers and Members of the Commandery-in Chief Encampment:

Your Committee have the honor to make the following report:

1. We recommend that the position of Musicians, in muster, be before the Sergt. of Guard at head of column. (See page 15, under notes.)
2. That, on page 15, the C. O. should say, "Bro. Ord. Sergt., you will detail the required escort, who will take position in rear of guard."
3. That first and second lines as notes, (page 16), be expunged, and that the following command be inserted: "Escort, into line, march!"
4. That command by Sergt., "left face," be given when column comes to a halt before stations of 1st and 2d Lieuts. (See page 17).
5. That on page 19, instead of command "Countermarch!" the command "Column Right!" be repeated.

6. The words "Guards," on page 20, read "Escort."

That a committee be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief to draft Memorial Service, Funeral Service, and Open Installation Service. Same to be printed separate from Ritual. Said committee be instructed to submit their report to Commander-in-Chief for approval on or before December 15, 1885.

That recommendations Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 be printed on one slip, same to be pasted in back of Ritual, and that future editions of Ritual be printed with corrections in proper place in same.

That a new grip be adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

W. D. THOMAS, }
C. DAY RUDY, } Committee.
J. J. SPEAKER. }

Bro. G. B. Abbott, of Illinois, is seated as alternate to delegate-at-large from Illinois.

Roe's minority report of Com. on Rituals was read:

MINORITY REPORT OF RITUAL.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., Sept. 10, 1885.

To the Officers and Members of the Commandery-in-Chief Encampment:

As a member of your Committee on Ritual, I would most respectfully report that while I concur with the Brothers on this committee in sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, of the report, so far as to say the changes would improve the work, yet I do not consider the changes of enough importance to warrant our issuing new rituals to every camp in the order; and when changes are printed on slips of paper and pasted in back of Ritual, as in case of our old Ritual, they are continual stumbling blocks to our officers.

The balance of their report I respectfully recommend.

F. B. PERKINS,
Chairman of Committee.

Majority report of Com. on Rituals is adopted.

Motion by Bro. Baker, of Mich., that W. W. Brainard act as alternate to delegate-at-large of Michigan, in absence of L. A. Baker. Carried.

It is moved that the officers who have been elected be installed. Carried.

W. S. Payne was installed Commander-in-Chief.

A. E. Case " " Lt. Commander-in-Chief.

F. W. Kohler " " Vics-Lieut. Commander-in-Chief.

H. L. Wright, of First Grand Div., and E. H. Milham, of Third Grand Div., were installed as members of Council-in-Chief.

Moved and seconded that the Commandery-in-Chief proceed to the election of a place to hold the next session of the same in 1886. Carried.

Nominations.—Thomas, of Pa., nominates New York City, N. Y.; Worden, of Iowa, nominates DesMoines, Ia.; Wright, of Maie, nominates Boston, Mass.; Kohler, of N. Y., nominates Buffalo, N. Y. Nominations for place of meeting were closed.

First Ballot.—Buffalo 11, New York 1, DesMoines 8, Boston 8.

Second Ballot.—Buffalo 20, DesMoines 3, Boston 6.

Buffalo was declared the choice of the Encampment.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. R. M. J. Reed, of E. Pa., was adopted.

WHEREAS, Bro. H. W. Arnold, while serving as Commander of the W. Pa. Division, was elected Commander-in-Chief, and

WHEREAS, by said election he was prevented from gaining the past rank

of a Division Commander, which entitles him to a vote in his division meetings—therefore,

Resolved, That this Encampment confer on Bro. H. W. Arnold the rank of Past Division Commander.

The report of Committee on Reports of Officers was read and adopted :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REPORTS OF OFFICERS.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., Sept. 18th, 1885.

To the Officers and Delegates of the Commandery-in-Chief :

Your Committee on Officers' Report beg leave to report as follows :

We have examined the reports of officers with the following result :—We find a full and concise report of the Commander-in-Chief with reference to his work in this office. We find that he has done a noble work for this order and is entitled to our highest commendation. We fully endorse his report with reference to the Grand Army of the Republic and its intimate connection with our order. We also heartily endorse what the Commander-in-Chief says about discipline. If Camps and Divisions do not enforce discipline they become ineffective and almost lifeless. Reports *must* be promptly made and forwarded. The delay or neglect of *one* officer entails delay on the whole order above him, and *must* be avoided.

We also endorse the recommendation that Grand Divisions be abolished as soon as their business can be arranged, and reports made to the Commandery-in-Chief. The time not to exceed sixty days from this date.

The recommendation with reference to paying the officers a living salary, we would approve with a modification or a direct specification that the Adjutant General and Quartermaster General be paid a sufficient salary to enable us to have the offices filled by thoroughly competent men. Your committee are opposed to paying any other officers of the Commandery-in-Chief a salary, unless it be the Chief Mustering Officer, whom we think should be paid well if he works well.

We would *amend* the recommendation with reference to our Q. M. Gen. publishing a semi-annual report, that the Q. M. General be required to make a semi-annual report to the Commander-in-Chief, and that the Commander-in-Chief, publish this report in his next General Order.

We understand that the Commander-in-Chief *already has the power* to convene the Council-in-Chief at any time that the exigencies of the case may demand. We fully endorse the *good* work done by Chief Mustering Officer George W. Penniman ; his work extends from the Atlantic to the Mississippi River. We fully endorse the words of praise bestowed upon Bro. Frank W. Rowson, of Michigan Division.

With reference to Dispensations and Decisions, we don't approve or disapprove the Commander-in-Chief's action, as we have no copies of those decisions and dispensations, but we have all confidence in the good judgment of our Commander-in-Chief ; but we would recommend that hereafter copies of all dispensations and decisions be submitted with the report of the Commander-in-Chief, that the body may approve or disapprove of his action.

With reference to making the Sons of Veterans a beneficiary organization it is the opinion of your committee that the time has not yet arrived for this action, as many camps find it difficult to collect even the regular dues.

We would recommend the striking out from the Commander-in-Chief's report the last clause referring to printing, &c.

We find the report of the Adjutant General to the point and it shows plainly that if the Commander-in-Chief made a mistake in his first selection he did not make any mistake in his next selection, and the order has received valuable services from Bro. Linton. We do not concur with the Adj. General

in his recommendation that "a living salary be paid to our higher officials." We think this should only apply to the Adj. General and Q. M. General, and the Mustering Officer, provided he devotes his whole time to the work.

We do not concur in the recommendation for permanent headquarters. The order is too young to afford this luxury. Other orders change their presiding officer once a year and their seems to your committee to be no reason why we should not do the same.

Your committee are fully satisfied with the able manner in which the Inspector General has discharged his duty and regret that he has not had more *working* support from the Division Inspectors, and the Division Inspectors have our sympathy from the fact that they did not get the necessary reports from camps.

As before stated, we as a committee are opposed to paying any salary, except as before named.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.

WALTER S. PAYNE,
E. M. VANCLEVE,
JOHN E. BLAKE.

The following resolution offered by C. Day Rudy, of W. Pa., was read :

Resolved, That understanding that it is expected that this Encampment make apology to certain parties in Grand Rapids who uttered disloyal sentiments in public, which were repeated and strongly commented upon at the banquet by Bros. Payne and Penniman, this Encampment sustains the sentiments of Bros. Payne and Penniman. (Resolution laid on table.)

The following resolution, offered by W. D. Thomas, of W. Pa., was read and adopted :

Resolved, That this Encampment, recognizing the worth and quality of the goods manufactured by Bro. R. M. J. Reed, of Philadelphia—they being known to us, and having been approved by several Divisions and many of our officers—we heartily recommend them to the Commandery-in-Chief and to the brothers at large.

The report of Committee on Resolutions was read. The committee was instructed to draw up its report in proper form.

REPORT.

GRAND RAPIDS, September 19, 1885.

To the Commander-in-Chief, Officers and Members of the Fourth Annual Encampment S. of V., U. S. A.:

Your Committee on Resolutions beg leave to report the following :

We recommend the adoption of resolution No. 2 from Eastern Pennsylvania Division as follows :

WHEREAS, certain doubts have existed in the minds of some in regard to the sufficiency of a certificate of election as credentials to membership in the Commandery-in-Chief and Division Encampment. Therefore

Resolved, That in the future all delegates, officers and members of the Commandery-in-Chief and Division Encampments be required to furnish to the committees on credentials certificates of good standing in their respective camps, and that this resolution be promulgated immediately. Passed.

Also resolution No. 3 is recommended.

Resolved, That recognizing the value of a periodical devotion to the good of the order and believing that the efficiency of such will be increased by the endorsement of this encampment the S. of V. *Advocate*, published at Bloomington, Ill., is hereby declared to be the official organ of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

The resolution offered by Bro. Worden is recommended for adoption.

Resolved, That the Sons of Veterans encourage the formation of Ladies' Aid Societies, the membership to consist of daughters of Veterans and loyal ladies. Passed.

A. B. BATCHELDER, }
 E. G. WORDEN, }
 L. V. ROUSCH. } Committee.

The delegation from Third Grand Div., report G. B. Abbott of Ill. as a member of Council-in-Chief. Bro. Abbott resigns. Resignation accepted. Third Grand Div. nominates Rollins of Iowa to fill vacancy. The Adjutant General is instructed to cast ballot for Rollins. Rollins was declared elected. Report of the Council-in-Chief is read as follows:

COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF OF THE SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A. }
 GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., Sept. 16, 1885. }

The Council-in Chief convened at Headquarters Custer Post, G. A. R., with Past Commander F. P. Merrill in the chair.

On roll call the following members were found present:

H. W. Arnold, Commander-in-Chief.
 F. B. Perkins, Lient. " "
 J. B. Maccabe, V.-Lt. " "
 F. P. Merrill, Past Commander-in-Chief.
 C. F. Harford, Chaplain-in-Chief.
 W. H. Statler, Q. M. General.
 R. M. Linton, Adjutant General.
 A. E. Case, Chief of Staff.
 C. D. Rudy, Inspector General.
 G. W. Penniman, Chief Mustering Officer.

FIRST GRAND DIVISION.

H. P. Kent, of Massachusetts.
 J. C. Blake, of Maine.

THIRD GRAND DIVISION.

G. W. Penniman, of Minnesota.
 F. W. Rowson, of Michigan.
 R. V. Mallory, of Illinois.

The accounts of Q. M. General, W. H. Statler, were audited and approved.

A motion offered by Bro. Case, that a letter be written to the Michigan Central R. R. officials, stating that the Order, though poor, paid a bill of a corporation.

Bill of Past Commander-in-Chief, F. P. Merrill, for money paid out by him during his term as Commander-in-Chief, were allowed, and bill of \$46 ordered paid out of first monies received by the next Comd'r-in-Chief.

Bills of Comd'r-in-Chief H. W. Arnold; R. M. Linton, Adjt. Gen., and W. H. Statler, Q. M. Gen., for actual expenses to Encampment at Grand Rapids, were allowed.

Bills of expenses of Past Comd'r F. P. Merrill, Past Q. M. Gen. J. C. Blake, and Past Adj. Gen. H. P. Kent, while attending Third Annual Encampment, were allowed and ordered paid.

Bro. Rudy moved we take a recess until 9 o'clock.

Council met in extra session.

Bill of W. A. True, for printing badges for delegates, approved.

Bro. F. B. Perkins moved that we recommend that if Grand Divisions be abolished the per capita tax remain the same, and Divisions pay the Comd'y-in-Chief the same amount they now pay to Grand Divs. Carried.

Bro. C. D. Rudy moved that any department ordering supplies from a superior body, such supplies cannot be returned to the superior body in payment of debt incurred by said subordinate body. Carried.

Bro. G. W. Penniman moved that we recommend that Commandery-in-Chief officers should refuse to issue supplies to the subordinate bodies unless orders for the same be accompanied by the cash in payment for the same. Carried.

Bro. A. E. Case moved that the Council-in-Chief recommend that the Encampment pass resolutions endorsing the *Sons of Veterans' Advocate*, and make it the official organ of the Commandery-in-Chief. Carried.

Bro. A. E. Case moved that the bill of H. T. Rowley be rejected until an itemized bill be presented to the Council-in-Chief by said H. T. Rowley. Carried.

Bro. G. W. Penniman moved that we adjourn. Lost.

Bro. A. E. Case moved that action on the bill of A. P. Davis be postponed until next meeting of Council, and said Davis be requested to present an itemized bill of his claim accompanied by vouchers. Carried.

Moved by A. E. Case, we adjourn. Carried.

The following resolutions, offered by Bro. R. M. J. Reed, of E. Pa., were read and adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Encampment are due and are hereby tendered to Col. F. W. Rowson and brothers of Michigan Div., and citizens of Grand Rapids, for their hearty and manifest hospitality extended to the officers and delegates of this Commandery in the Fourth Annual Session assembled, and that we shall all return home with many kind recollections of the people of this city of the west, and also feeling that it was good for us to be here; and that these resolutions be published in said papers of Grand Rapids.

The following paper from the President of the Ladies' Aid Society of East Pa., was read.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE LADIES AID SOCIETIES OF THE SONS OF }
 VETERANS, U. S. A., EAST PENN. DIV., }
 LANCASTER, Sept. 9, 1885. }

To the Officers and Members of the Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans U. S. A.:

GENTLEMEN AND BROTHERS.—At the meeting of your honorable body in August, 1884, in the city of Philadelphia, you kindly recognized our organization and recommended it to the favorable consideration of your order. Since then and with the encouragement thus given we have during the past year made fair, and under our circumstances and financial condition, reasonable progress, especially in this section of our state.

Having become impressed with the belief that the time is now at hand when we can say with safety and success extend our association and make it national, I have, as the President of the senior division of the same, been induced to take charge of the movement and introduce our societies outside of Pennsylvania where we have not at present any establishment. I would hesitate to assume the responsibility and trust and to act as Provisional National Pres't., if it were not for the fact that I have been kindly promised the cordial co-operation and support of different prominent brothers of your order upon whose judgment and experience I feel that we can rely, and the often repeated assurance and widely spread belief, that our association can in due time be made a most valuable auxiliary in the carrying out of your principles and objects, and upon which our structure is based and reared. An inspection of the simple and clearly defined organic laws under which our association is operated will at once satisfy all, that we have not been unmindful of the ends and aim that you have in view and in order that we may the more cheaply and quickly place ourselves in a national position to aid and assist in the carrying out of the same, I have been advised and requested to adopt the following course and plan of extension :

First.—That in all states and localities, and where we have no substantial establishment, and in addition to our own best exertions made in the usual manner and form, we invite and ask for the co-operation and assistance of the brothers of your order as a whole, and especially to urge and request that your Commander-in-Chief, and all Grand Division, Division and Camp Commanders, give the movement such kindly notice as they may deem proper; and that they aid us and assume charge of the establishment, organization and master of our Societies in their respective localities, and within the limits of their respective commands. To this end we will on application cheerfully furnish all the necessary blanks and information needed and required, and will forward to duly selected and properly vouched for mustering officers, approved by your Commander-in-Chief or any one of your several Grand Division or Division Commanders, the required authority, etc., to enable them to properly attend to their duties in behalf of the movement.

Second.—As the proposed extension and spread of our association is unavoidably accompanied with more or less expense for printing and the purchase of necessary supplies, we would at this time deeply appreciate any financial assistance given us, and to this end would most respectfully suggest that in the shape of a loan we would be greatly helped and pleased to accept such moderate aid as your members, as individuals, and the several organized bodies of your order, may see fit to grant us. A sum from each Division, which we can in due time return, ranging from \$5 to \$20, according to size and locality, will, in addition to the moderate muster fee we have adopted, enable us to fully and promptly fill all calls made upon us and fairly offset all of the requirements of the case.

Relying upon your continued sympathy and support, I can, with our past experience and success in mind, confidently assure you that in due time we will be able to present to you a compact and well established National Body. I respectfully solicit correspondence on the subject with all interested in the same.

I remain, in F. O. & L., fraternally yours,

Laura F. Martin,
President.

No. 525 W. King street, Lancaster, Pa.

Resolutions adopted by the New York Division at their last session, as follows, were read and referred to appropriate committee:

RESOLUTIONS

Adopted at the State Encampment of the New York Division, May 12, 1885:

RITUAL.

1. That the word "Officers," in the first sentence of the Opening Ceremonies, be stricken from the Ritual.

2. That the words "It is my will and pleasure," that etc., (page 6, 4th sentence from bottom of page), be stricken from the Ritual.
3. That the rounds of the camp room be made by the Sergeant of the Guard before any members of the G. A. R. are obligated.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION, RULES AND REGULATIONS.

4. That the titles of officers be changed to the rank name of General, Colonel, and so down, so that under no circumstances can the officers' titles be confounded with those of the G. A. R.
5. That a National Password be given for the admittance of members of the G. A. R. to any Encampment.
6. That a card be given to each member of the G. A. R. obligated, so that veterans may visit other camps without being obligated. To remain in force as long as vouched for semi-annually by signature of Commander of Post to which veterans belongs.
7. That the privilege of electing Surgeons and Chaplains be restored to Camps and Divisions.
8. That a fine of \$1 be established for non attendance on Memorial Day ceremonies without suitable excuse.

A correct copy from the records of the Second Annual Encampment of New York Division.

UTICA, N. Y., May 25, 1885.

GEORGE J. FOSTER,
Commanding Division.

Attest:

FRED'K W. KOHLER, *Adjt.*

Proposed changes in Con., R. and R., and Ritual, offered by the Vermont Division, were read and referred to appropriate committee:

BRATTLEBORO, VT., Sept. 11, 1885.

H. W. Arnold, Commander-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.:

DEAR SIR AND BRO.—The Vermont Division respectfully submits the following suggestions as to changes in the Constitution and Ritual. Will you kindly see that they are placed where they will be considered, as we have been badly disappointed in that none of the delegates elected can go.

Fraternally,

F. H. ALLEN, *Adjt.*

CONSTITUTION.

That Section 1, Article V., be amended by striking out the word eighteen and substituting the word sixteen. [Rejected.]

RITUAL.

1. That there be some suitable form for opening and closing Division Encampments.
2. (Page 5.) That after roll call Captain give command, "Right Face, Forward!" and "Column left, to your posts march!"
3. Page 10—Order of Business. That the first two lines be expunged.
4. That the Sergeant give command of "Left face!" at stations of 1st and 2nd Lieutenants in muster of recruits.

Proposed amendments and additions to the Con., R. and R., adopted by the Michigan Division at their last session, June 4th, 1885, were read.—The 4th Section was referred to Committee on Ritual; balance rejected:

4. RITUAL—That a suitable form for burial service be inserted in present Ritual.

Submitting the same to attention of Third Grand Division, I am, with great respect,

Yours, &c.,

F. W. ROWLSON,
Commanding Div. of Mich., S. of V., U. S. A.

The following resolution, offered by First Grand Div., was read and adopted:

LAKE VILLAGE, N. H., Aug. 25, 1885.

R. M. LINTON,

Adj. Gen. Commandery-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.:

DEAR SIR AND BRO.—At the Second Annual Encampment of the First Grand Division, held at Lake Village, N. H., August 25th, 1885, the following recommendations to the Commandery-in-Chief were adopted:

1st. That Grand Divisions be abolished as soon as may be expedient.

2d. That all sitting Division Commanders be entitled to voice and vote in the Commandery-in-Chief Encampment

[OFFICIAL.]

H. E. WEBSTER,
Asst. Adj. General.

Proposed amendments to Con., R. and R., adopted by the Missouri Division, were read. First two sections referred to Committee on Ritual; balance rejected:

Resolved, That the Constitution should be amended in the following particulars:

RITUAL.

1. A suitable burial service should be adopted and added to the Ritual.
2. A suitable form of memorial service to be used on Memorial Day only, should be adopted and added to the Ritual.
3. Grand Division, Division, and Camp Councils should be abolished.
4. Divisions should be required to fix a permanent place of holding Annual Encampments, and the system of State Encampments "on wheels" be abolished.
5. That provision should be made for an organizer in each Division.
6. That the powers of Grand Division should be modified.
7. That if Grand Divisions be abolished the per-capita tax of camps be reduced.

Recommended by the unanimous vote of the Missouri Division, February 17th, 1885.

J. J. SPEAKER,
Adjutant.

O. S. CRYSLER,
Comd'r Mo. Div. S. of V., U. S. A.

The following resolution, adopted by the Maine Division, was read and referred to appropriate committee:

HEADQUARTERS MAINE DIVISION, S. OF V., U. S. A., }
AUBURN, ME., July 25, 1885. }

To the Officers and Members of the Commandery-in-Chief Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.:

Be it known that that the following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted by the Maine Division Encampment of the Sons of Veterans of the United States of America, convened at Bangor, in the State of Maine, on

the 6th day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five, and in the one hundred and ninth year of the Independence of the United States of America :

1. *Resolved*, That the representatives of this Division to the Commandery-in-Chief be instructed to have the Ritual of our order so changed that the recruits shall at all times, when receiving instructions from officers, stand facing the same. [Ritual.]

2. *Resolved*, That said representatives bring to the attention of the Commandery-in-Chief the matter of having suitable burial service. [Ritual.]

3. *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Encampment that it is for the good of the order that so much of the Rules and Regulations as relates to Grand Divisions be stricken out, and that from the day of adjournment of the Commandery-in-Chief, in 1885, they cease to exist.

4. *Resolved*, That this Encampment recommend the adoption of a Camp Charter, same as design shown by Bro. Horace P. Kent, of Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted to Brig. Gen. R. M. Linton, Adjt. General.

[OFFICIAL.]

JOHN C. BLAKE,

FRED. L. EDGECOMB,

Col. Commanding Div.

Adjutant.

The following resolution from the Iowa Division was read and referred to appropriate committee :

At the Annual Encampment at DesMoinos, in June, 1885, resolutions were adopted, asking—

That Grand Divisions be abolished.

That the price of membership be reduced.

That a Funeral Service be formulated and published in rituals.

JAMES D. ROWEN,

Adjutant.

Chief of Staff, W. D. Thomas, of W. Pa.; Chief of Mustering Officer, G. W. Penniman, of Minn., and Chaplain in-Chief, C. F. Hayford, of Maine, were obligated.

A motion to have proceedings printed for distribution was carried.

Adjourned.

[OFFICIAL.]

WALTER S. PAYNE,

Commander-in-Chief.

L. G. CARLISLE,

Adjutant General.

