

PROCEEDINGS

C.-IN-CHIEF

S. V., U. S. A.

1896-98

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

.. OF THE ..

FIFTEENTH

ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

.. OF THE ..

SONS OF VETERANS

U. S. A.

HELD
IN..

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

SEPTEMBER, 8TH, 9TH AND 10TH

1896

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1896



The Desplains Press



W. H. RUSSELL,
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, 1895-1896.

LACROSSE, KANSAS, October 12th, 1896.

The following is a true and correct report of the proceedings of the Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., held at Louisville, Ky., September 8, 9 and 10, A. D. 1896.

C. BORIN,
Past Adjutant General.

W. H. RUSSELL,
Past Commander-in-Chief.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON MEETING.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., September 8th, 1896.

The Fifteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., convened in Music Hall at 2:30 o'clock p. m., with Commander-in-Chief W. H. Russell in command.

ENCAMPMENT CALLED TO ORDER.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The officers and members of the Fifteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will now come to order.

The Adjutant-General will call the roll of the officers of this Encampment.

ROLL-CALL OF OFFICERS.

The Adjutant-General called the roll of officers, and the following officers of the Commandery-in-Chief answered to their names:

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF OFFICERS.

Commander-in-Chief, W. H. Russell.
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, W. R. Cooper.
Adjutant-General, C. Borin.
Quartermaster General, R. Loebenstein.
Judge Advocate General, N. J. McGuire.
Surgeon General, Dr. Dan S. Gardner.
Chaplain-in-Chief, Rev. F. B. Cole.
Council-in-Chief, R. M. Buckley.
Council-in-Chief, D. F. Goulding.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL: Commander, the roll of officers has been called. All have answered present except Elwood T. Carr, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, deceased; Frederick C. Stillson, Inspector-General, and H. V. Speelman, member of the Council-in-Chief.

JUNIOR VICE C. IN C. COOPER SUCCEEDS AS SENIOR VICE C. IN C.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: By the Constitution the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief succeeds, upon the death of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, to the latter office, and Brother Cooper will now assume the rank and station of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE C. IN C.

With the approval of the Encampment, I will appoint Cerdric G. Marsh, of Illinois, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

I will appoint Col. Arthur B. Spink, of Rhode Island, Acting Inspector-General for this session. Gen. Stillson is in the city, but is indisposed and unable to be present at this session. He will be in attendance hereafter.

Are there any members of the Grand Army of the Republic, or honorably discharged Union soldiers, sailors or marines who served in the army or navy

in the war of '61-'65 present who have not been obligated? If so they will please rise and the Inspector-General will conduct them to the altar. If there are none the Inspector-General will examine those present, and ascertain if all present are in possession of the semi-annual pass-word and countersign, and the Camp and Picket Guards are at their respective stations. The Surgeon-General will assist on the left.

THE ACTING INSPECTOR-GENERAL: Commander, your order has been obeyed, and all present are entitled to remain.

The Commandery-in-Chief was opened in due form.

COMMANDERY DECLARED READY FOR THE TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: I now declare the Fifteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., duly opened for the transaction of such business as may legally and properly come before it.

FURTHER APPOINTMENTS.

Before proceeding further, I will appoint Col. Arthur B. Spink, of Rhode Island, Officer of the Day, and Bro. A. W. Vogle Officer of the Guard.

The Officer of the Day will detail a Camp and Picket Guard for each session of the Encampment.

OFFICER OF THE DAY APPOINTMENTS.

OFFICER OF THE DAY SPINK: First Sergeant Halger will act as Picket Guard and W. Landers as Camp Guard. The detail will consist of Corporal Kraig and Privates William Cloud and Ben Collins, of Lieut. John Fowler Camp No. 1.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It would also, perhaps, be in order at this time for the Commandery-in-Chief to approve the appointment by the Commander-in-Chief of Bro. Marsh as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, in order that there may be no question as to the legality of the selection.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, had not that better be done after the report of the Committee on Credentials, in order to make it regular?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: That is true. The suggestion is a good one. Next in the order of business, then, is the appointment of the Committee on Credentials. I will appoint the following brothers to serve on that committee:

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

C. Borin, Adjutant-General, Chairman by virtue of his office.

Frank J. Durston, of New York.

Abe S. Bickham, of Ohio.

Robert E. Hanna, of Colorado.

Frank Coffinberry, of Illinois.

The Committee on Credentials will assemble at the Adjutant-General's desk at once and take up the work of that committee. The Chair would suggest that a recess might now be taken for twenty minutes to enable that committee to make a report.

MOTION TO TAKE RECESS.

SURGEON-GENERAL DAN S. GARDNER: Commander, I move you that the Commandery-in-Chief be at ease for fifteen minutes, pending the meeting of the Committee on Credentials.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion that the Commandery-in-Chief be at ease for fifteen minutes pending the meeting of the Committee on Credentials. Any remarks?

LEWIS A. DILLEY, of Iowa: Commander, I move an amendment to the motion to strike out fifteen minutes and insert "at the call of the Comman-

der-in-Chief," so that the motion will be that the Commandery-in-Chief be at ease until called to order by the Commander-in-Chief.

SURGEON-GENERAL GARDNER: Commander, with the consent of my second, I accept that amendment.

RECESS SUBJECT TO CALL OF C. IN C.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The motion then stands that the Encampment take a recess, subject to the call of the Commander-in-Chief. Are you ready for the question? All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion is carried, and the Commandery is at recess.

RECESS.

Three o'clock and thirty minutes, p. m.

COMMANDERY CALLED TO ORDER.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Commandery will be in order. I understand we are about to be favored by a visit from the Ladies' Aid Society,—that they will call upon the Commandery in a few minutes, under the escort of the Officer of the Day. If the Commandery is willing we will receive them, permitting the Committee on Credentials to proceed with its work in the meanwhile. It will save that much time. Is there consent? (Cries of "Consent," "Consent.") The Committee from the Ladies' Aid will be received at this time.

RECEPTION OF COMMITTEE FROM THE L. A. S.

The committee from the Ladies' Aid Society entered and were escorted to the altar by Officer of the Day Arthur B. Spink, the officers and members of the Commandery-in-Chief rising to their feet.

OFFICER OF THE DAY SPINK: Commander, I have the honor to introduce to you the Committee on Greeting from the Ladies' Aid Society:

Miss Kate G. Raynor, of Ohio.
Miss Ella L. Jones, of Pennsylvania.
Mrs. A. P. Davis, of Pennsylvania.
Miss E. May Ayer, of Illinois.
Miss Pauline Buckley, of Kentucky.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Ladies, we are pleased to have you with us.

The Officer of the Day will escort the ladies to seats on the platform.

MISS KATE G. RAYNOR, of Ohio, Chairman of the Committee:—Commander-in-Chief Russell and Brothers of the Sons of Veterans: It has been the custom in former years to send a Committee of Greeting from the Ladies' Aid Society to you with some offering of love and devotion, angels' food, kisses, flowers; but this being leap year, this committee have brought only themselves. They bring to you the loving hearts and the willing hands of five thousand members of the Ladies' Aid Society, and this greeting:

GREETING OF COMMITTEE FROM THE L. A. S.

LOUISVILLE, September 9th, 1896.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE FIFTEENTH NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT OF THE SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.:

Your auxiliary, the Ladies' Aid Society, extend to you most fraternal greetings.

May your future be so bright and your prosperity so great that you will be second only to that greatest of all great organizations, the Grand Army of the Republic.

Sons of noble sires, your inheritance is beyond price. Guard it as your fathers did before you—with your lives.

Keep this Union forever, Liberty as a watchword, and the banner our fathers made glorious, the emblem of "peace and good will toward men"—then "the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave

O'er the land of the free
And the home of the brave."

KATE G. RAYNOR, Ohio.
ELLA L. JONES, Pennsylvania.
MRS. A. P. DAVIS, Pennsylvania.
E. MAY AYER, Illinois.
PAULINE BUCKLEY, Kentucky.

Committee.

REPLY OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF RUSSELL.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Sisters of the Ladies' Aid Society, we appreciate very much, indeed, and thank you for this kindly greeting. We know that the hearts of our sisters of the Ladies' Aid Society all beat in unison with ours; that you are striving in the same cause that we so devotedly love; we know that you are our sisters in the work in which we are engaged, and that you will always, earnestly and efficiently help us in that work.

If there are any brothers whom you would like to hear in response to the greeting, we should be pleased to call them up. I would like to hear from Past Commander-in-Chief Maccabe.

[Cries of "Maccabe," "Maccabe."]

PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF MACCABE: Commander, and Ladies, I should perhaps say Sisters and Brothers—It is a difficult task at this time, after the entertainment that has just been given by the Hayden Society from the intellectual City of Boston, which the brothers have all enjoyed with such exquisite pleasure, for me to respond to the warm and tender words of welcome that were read by that sweet lady, who acts as Chairman of the committee of the sweetest ladies in any part of our great country.

It seems hardly fair that the Commander-in-Chief should have called on me, but no matter under what circumstances, whenever I am called upon in the name of the Ladies' Aid Society, I shall respond to the very best of my ability. The committee from the Ladies' Aid is now seated on the platform, and I presume that we might consider it positively their first appearance on any stage, and we sit in the front rank of bald heads. [Laughter.]

We listened to your words with pleasure. We also regard them as comfort, for in these days we realize that it is not only difficult to keep level with the times, owing to the extreme depression, but that our order is suffering thereby; and if any panacea could be produced at the present time to offset the difficulties under which we are laboring, and awaken new courage in our hearts, it is, in my humble opinion, the influence of the bright and beautiful faces, the support and encouragement that we receive from the ladies of the Ladies' Aid Society [Applause]. Do not applaud me, my brothers; I am not accustomed to public speaking, and it will rattle me. [Laughter.] I am morally certain that I speak for ninety-nine per cent. of this organization when I say that if we had more of the ladies identified with that splendid auxiliary organization, the Ladies' Aid, we would to-day be double in numerical strength what we actually are. [Applause.] These may sound extravagant words, but, my brothers, I speak from experience, and I know whereof I affirm. Ladies, for one at least, I am glad to see you here; I am glad to have you come to participate, though briefly, in our deliberations. I would say to you, help the camps in your respective districts and you will build up and rear such a patriotic fabric as will make this country grand and glorious and superior to all teachings of anarchy or attempts at tyranny. The Sons of Veterans, whom I may say by nature love all women, love and admire especially their sisters of the Ladies' Aid. They rely on you for support and encouragement, and I ask you to do your duty. There is one thing which I desire to call your attention to; I would have you, my brothers and my sisters, seriously consider it. There seems to be an icy barrier existing between our two organizations. Why that should be, I don't know; but in some way that icy barrier must be melted

by the warmth of our love and affection, until it will run along like Ten-nyson's brook, and then we can exclaim in the language of the poet,

"Men may come, and men may go,
But we go on forever."

[Applause. Cries of "Bundy," "Bundy."]

PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF BUNDY: Commander-in-Chief, Brothers and Sisters of the Ladies' Aid Society, I desire to say that I come from a community that appreciates the good work of the Ladies' Aid Society. I come from a community in which they have been of great assistance to our local organization; and throughout the entire division of Ohio it has been our general observation that wherever there was a Ladies' Aid Society there was a prosperous and substantial camp of Sons of Veterans.

I am heartily in accord with everything that Past Commander-in-Chief Maccabe has so eloquently said concerning the members of the Ladies' Aid Society. For myself and for the community from which I come I want to express my appreciation of the work that is done by this organization, and thank them for the kindly greetings that they have extended to us.

[Cries of "Marsh," "Marsh."]

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER CERDRIC G. MARSH: Commander and Brothers and Sisters—It is not necessary to take up time in making any extended speech. The ladies know that if it were not for the honors and duties imposed upon this Chair I would probably not be in this Encampment to-day! I would have remained, rather, with them, or at least spend a good portion of my time there, I love them so well. I love them too well to make any speech at this time. I can do that a little better when there are only two of us present.

[Cries of "Cole," "Cole."]

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chaplain-in-Chief is called for.

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF COLE: Commander and Brothers and Sisters—It was my fortune or misfortune to be called upon to respond to a toast at Boston at the meeting of the Encampment there, and the toast was "The Ladies." All brothers of Massachusetts who are here, and the Commander-in-Chief, will recollect, perhaps, that I said at that time that I saw no reason why I should be called upon, except one. You remember the man who said there were three genders, male, female, and preachers. I suppose it is because I am neither a man nor a woman, and therefore can view things from a neutral standpoint that I have been called upon to respond to the ladies this afternoon.

I don't know much about Ladies' Aid Societies—those in Rhode Island—I am sorry to say. I wish I knew more. I believe that one of the greatest things that our order can do is to support the Ladies' Aid Society wherever it may exist, to co-operate with them wherever they may be called into existence, to further the work in every way that is possible. The boys run after the girls—they always have done it and they always will; and I presume that where the ladies of the Ladies' Aid are gathered together, there you will find the boys. Certainly if they form their society in every town, whether there are Camps there or not, very soon you will find Camps along side of the societies.

As to the object of their order, to tell the honest truth, I know but very little about it, except that they sustain the same relation to us that the Woman's Relief Corps sustains to the Grand Army of the Republic. If their objects are as grand and honorable, and their association and relation to us is as that of the Woman's Relief Corps to the Grand Army of the Republic, we have cause to be proud of them and reason to thank them for all that they are doing and have done for us. For one, I congratulate them, and I am conceited enough to congratulate myself on the fact that we have such an organization kindred and belonging to us. [Applause.]

MISS KATE G. RAYNOR: Commander and Brothers—We don't want to take up any more of your time. Thanking you for your kindly words, we will withdraw.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF RUSSELL: Ladies, before you go, on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief, I wish to ask you to convey to your society in

convention assembled, the thanks of the Commandery-in-Chief for the words of greeting and cheer you have so kindly brought us. Convey to them our fraternal love, and in the language of Tiny Tim of Dickens' land, "God bless you, every one."

Before the committee retires I would like to present each member with a delegate's badge, and also with one for the National President, which I will ask the committee to deliver to her with our fraternal love.

The committee from the Ladies' Aid retired, escorted by Officer of the Day Spink.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Is the Committee on Credentials ready to report?

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL: Commander, the Committee on Credentials is ready to make a partial report.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The committee will proceed.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL: Commander, your committee find the following named brothers entitled to seats and votes in this National Encampment.

PAST COMMANDERS-IN-CHIEF.

FRANK P. MERRILL..... Boston, Mass.	CHAS. F. GRIFFIN.....Hammond, Ind.
A. P. DAVIS.....Pittsburg, Pa.	GEO. T. BROWN.....Brooklyn, N. Y.
GEO. W. MARKS.....Brooklyn, N. Y.	EDWIN EARP.....Lynn, Mass.
WALTER S. PAYNE.....Fostoria, Ohio.	BARTOW S. WEEKS..New York, N. Y.
LOUIS M. WAGNER..Philadelphia, Pa.	MARVIN E. HALL....Hillsdale, Mich.
GEO. B. ABBOTT.San Pedro Sula, Hond.	JOS. B. MACCABE..East Boston, Mass.
	WM. E. BUNNY, Cincinnati, Ohio.

PAST GRAND DIVISION COMMANDERS.

FRANK H. CHALLIS.Manchester, N. H.	A. P. DAVIS..... Pittsburg, Pa.
I. S. BANGS..... Waterville, Me.	WALTER S. PAYNE.....Fostoria, Ohio.
W. E. W. ROSS..... Baltimore, Md.	R. M. J. REED.....Philadelphia, Pa.
RAFAEL TOBIAS....New York, N. Y.	CHAS. S. CRYSLER..Independence, Mo.
	E. HOWARD GILKEY, Columbus, Ohio.

CONSTITUTIONAL LIFE MEMBERS.

W. E. W. ROSS.....Baltimore, Md.	W. S. ELDRIDGE.....Portland, Me.
I. S. BANGS.....Waterville, Me.	R. M. J. REED.....Philadelphia, Pa.
J. A. RODRIGO.....Newark, N. J.	R. M. LINTON.....Somerset, Pa.
WM. H. PIERPONT..New Haven, Conn.	O. B. BROWN.....Dayton, Ohio.
JNO. A. THOMPSON ..Baltimore, Md.	JOHN E. MILLS.....Bradford, Mass.
A. P. DAVIS.....Pittsburg, Pa.	WM. LUTHER DAVIS..Cincinnati, Ohio.

ALABAMA and TENNESSEE.

COMMANDER E. R. CARTER, Knoxville, Tenn.

PAST COMMANDERS.

M. D. FRIEDMAN.....Birmingham, Ala.	H. I. VEAZEY.....Harriman, Tenn.
R. W. BIESE.....Chattanooga, Tenn.	V. GIBB, JR.....Birmingham, Ala.
W. R. COOPER.....Knoxville, Tenn.	J. W. V. R. PLUMMER.....Koy West, Fla.
W. D. GOOD.....Greenville, Tenn.	J. G. CRUMBLISS.....Kingston, Tenn.

DELEGATES.

H. T. COOPER.....Knoxville, Tenn.	E. PRESCOTT.....Coal Creek, Tenn.
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ALTERNATES.

D. E. PIPER.....Fitzgerald, Ga.	JNO. R. PIERCE.....Wanta, Tenn.
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CALIFORNIA.

COMMANDER CHAS. C. HOUCK, Santa Cruz, Cal.

PAST COMMANDERS.

I. DEP. CALLAHAN.....Los Angeles, Cal.	FRED W. WOOD.....Oakland, Cal.
C. J. CALLAHAN.....Los Angeles, "	S. L. BLODGETT.....Bakersfield, "
C. E. ROBINSON.....Oakland, "	F. W. BUNNELL.....Los Angeles, "
E. W. CONANT.....San Jose, "	F. C. SHIPLEY.....Oakland, "
	L. E. SCHROEDER, San Francisco, Cal.

DELEGATES.

H. E. PRATT.....Lamanda, Cal.	H. J. SHIRLEY.....Santa Cruz, Cal.
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ALTERNATES.

GUY BARE.....Tulare, Cal.	OSCAR JUDE.....Oakland, Cal.
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COLORADO.

COMMANDER ADAM C. PATTON, Greeley, Colo.

PAST COMMANDERS.

F. C. McARTHUR.....	Denver, Col.	L. W. KENNEDY.....	Denver, Colo.
H. D. KENDIG.....	"	C. H. ANDERSON.....	" "

GEO. H. FRYE, New Windsor, Colo.

DELEGATES.

ROBT. E. HANNA.....	New Windsor, Colo.	H. C. DODGE.....	Boulder, Colo.
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ALTERNATES AT LARGE.

PAUL H. LUMBACK.....	Denver, Colo.	H. W. HAWLEY.....	Fort Collins, Colo.
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CONNECTICUT.

COMMANDER GEO. E. COX, Hartford, Conn.

PAST COMMANDERS.

W. H. PIERPONT.....	New Haven, Conn.	A. E. CHANDLER.....	Norwich, Conn.
G. B. SMITH.....	Hartford, "	B. R. SINGLETON.....	Waterbury, "
H. W. WESSELS.....	Litchfield, "	F. S. VALENTINE.....	Derby, "

W. H. BARBER, Meriden, Conn.

DELEGATES.

C. E. BATCHELOR.....	Ansonia, Conn.	C. F. LOOMIS.....	Waterbury, Conn.
J. B. BOWEN.....	Putnam, "	E. D. BROOKS.....	So. Manchester, "
F. C. BUNTEN.....	Stamford, "	W. L. PARMELEE.....	Ansonia, "

No returns from the Division of the Gulf.

ILLINOIS.

COMMANDER W. G. DUSTIN, Dwight, Ill.

PAST COMMANDERS.

R. V. MALLORY.....	Decatur, Ill.	GEO. H. HURLBUT.....	Belvidere, Ill.
G. B. ABBOTT.....	San Pedro Sula, Honduras, C. A.	C. G. MARSHT.....	Oak Park, "
F. McCHILLIS.....	New York, N. Y.	JNO. D. HALL.....	Peoria, "
GEO. B. STADDEN.....	St. Louis, Mo.	F. L. SHEPARD.....	Chicago, "

DELEGATES.

F. COFFINBERRY.....	Chicago, Ill.	J. C. GRIMES.....	Springfield, Ill.
C. J. TISDEL.....	Chicago, "	FRED SANFORD.....	Chicago, "

INDIANA.

COMMANDER R. B. OGLESBEE, Indianapolis, Ind.

PAST COMMANDERS.

J. W. NEWTON.....	Winchester, Ind.	NEWTON J. MCGUIRE.....	Indianapolis, Ind.
GEO. C. HARVEY.....	Danville, "	FRANK MARTIN.....	" "

DELEGATES.

FRANK GRAHAM.....	Bloomington, Ind.	S. S. MULLEN.....	Indianapolis, Ind.
S. C. TRITTON.....	South Bend, "	G. W. KRITENSTEIN.....	Terre Haute, "

ALTERNATES.

GEO. RETTER.....	Farmland, Ind.	R. J. BOSWORTH.....	Winchester, Ind.
H. J. CLINE.....	Jonesboro, "	H. H. STROHM.....	Krutland, "

The Division of Indiana in debt to the Commandery-in-Chief.

IOWA.

COMMANDER H. M. HANSON, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.

PAST COMMANDERS.

J. D. ROWEN.....	Des Moines, Iowa.	J. H. PICKETT.....	Oskaloosa, Iowa.
L. A. DILLEY.....	St. Louis, Mo.	J. O. SMITH.....	Des Moines, "

A. L. SORTER, JR., Mason City, Iowa.

DELEGATES.

H. H. CANFIELD.....	Boonsboro, Iowa.	E. R. SATER.....	Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.
FRANK DOW.....	Davenport, "	E. E. WAGNER.....	Rock Rapids, "

W. O. LAVAKE, Dubuque, Iowa.

ALTERNATES.

WILEY RANKIN.....	Mason City, Iowa.	L. J. FISHER.....	Anamosa, Iowa.
GUY R. CARSON.....	Des Moines, "	T. R. SMITH.....	Clinton, "

E. A. GREAVES, Rock Rapids, Iowa.

KANSAS.

COMMANDER G. W. HARRINGTON, Hiawatha, Kan.

PAST COMMANDERS.

C. D. JONES.....	Norton, Kan.	E. H. MADISON.....	Dodge City, Kan.
F. A. AGNEW.....	Omaha, Nebr.	W. Y. MORGAN.....	Hutchinson, "

H. W. HUFFMAN, Denver, Col.

DELEGATES.

CHAS. F. HORNE.....	Mankato, Kan.	L. B. PRICE.....	Mulvane, Kan.
E. C. ROSE.....	Lawrence, "	W. V. WILCOX.....	Emporia, "

J. F. FULTON, Marysville, Kan.

ALTERNATES.

W. P. FEDER.....	Great Bend, Kan.	M. R. WEYNETH.....	Wichita, Kan.
H. A. RUSSELL.....	LaCrosse, "	A. G. ALDRICH.....	Lawrence, "

J. B. MORRIS, LaCrosse, Kan.

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT.

KENTUCKY.

COMMANDER B. F. MCCLELLAND, Louisville, Ky.

PAST COMMANDERS.

GEO. H. CAPITO..... Louisville, Ky. W. R. HEFLIN..... Maysville, Ky.
 F. G. SINGLETON..... Newport, " W. N. EVANS..... Augusta, "
 WILL A. FIELD, Augusta, Ky.

DELEGATES.

T. Z. MORROW..... Somerset, Ky. GEO. S. WEIMAR..... Augusta, Ky.

ALTERNATES.

W. L. MOORE..... Williamsburg, Ky. J. J. DUNCAN..... Louisville, Ky.

MAINE.

COMMANDER L. L. COOPER, Augusta, Me.

PAST COMMANDERS.

A. S. LIBBY..... Portland, Me. A. C. CLOUDMAN..... Cumberland Mills, Me.
 CHAS. H. RICE..... Bangor, " E. C. MORAN..... Rockland, "
 E. K. GOULD..... Rockland, " F. E. FAIRCHILD..... Eastport, "
 T. G. LIBBY..... Vinalhaven, " C. E. MERRILL..... Auburn, "
 W. H. PERRY..... Portland, " R. L. WHITCOMB..... Portland, "
 C. F. HUTCHING..... Bangor, " H. C. CHIATTO..... Rockland, "

DELEGATES.

WM. H. LOONEY..... Portland, Me. J. C. COLEBY..... Waterville, Me.
 C. S. WILSON..... Freeport, " DAVID O. BROWN..... East Stonham, "

ALTERNATES.

E. H. R. BORROUGHS..... Danford, Me. E. WOODBURY..... Waldoboro, Me.
 F. W. WEEKS..... East Vassalboro, " L. H. HARDING..... Pittsfield, "

MASSACHUSETTS.

COMMANDER HARRY D. SISSON, Pittsfield, Mass.

PAST COMMANDERS.

F. J. BRADFORD..... Lawrence, Mass. C. K. DARLING..... Fitchburg, Mass.
 J. B. MACCABE..... East Boston, " WM. A. STEVENS..... Arlington, "
 C. F. SARGENT..... Lawrence, " W. H. DELANO..... Sharon, "
 H. S. CROSSMAN..... Springfield, " A. C. BLAISDELL..... Lowell, "
 J. H. HINKLEY..... Beverly, " D. F. GOULDING..... Boston, "
 N. C. UPHAM..... Fitchburg, " F. E. BOLTON..... " "
 D. B. PURBECK..... Salem, " G. W. KNOWLTON..... " "

EDWIN EARP, Jr., Lynn, Mass.

DELEGATES.

W. R. WATERMAN..... Hanover, Mass. C. D. ROONEY..... Winchester, Mass.
 T. J. HANNON..... Boston, " C. H. MESSENGER..... Franklin, "
 O. S. FISH..... Pittsfield, " E. H. LOUNSBURY..... Woburn, "
 H. L. FROST..... " S. A. PICKERING..... Lowell, "
 G. H. SMITH..... Roxbury, Mass. GEO. L. BRAY..... Lynn, "

ALTERNATES.

HOWARD F. EATON..... Boston, Mass. A. A. TILDEN..... Arlington, Mass.
 C. H. HILLMAN..... Medford, " EDWIN F. TUTTLE..... Uxbridge, "
 J. H. CAIRN..... Gloucester, " F. H. JONES..... Malden, "
 C. F. PERKINS..... Salem, " CHARLES G. KELLEY..... Roxbury, "
 EMERY COULTER..... Needham, " A. G. JEWETT..... Medford, "

MARYLAND.

COMMANDER F. O. PETERSON, Baltimore, Md.

PAST COMMANDERS.

MILES W. ROSS..... Baltimore, Md. E. R. CAMPBELL..... Washington, D. C.
 SHERMAN J. BROWN..... Washington, D. C. JOHN R. NERLY..... Wilmette, Ill.
 ROBT. W. WILSON..... Baltimore, Md. OTTO L. SUESS..... Washington, D. C.
 FRANK A. WHITE, Easton, Md.

DELEGATES.

CHAS. S. DAVIS..... Washington, D. C. F. T. F. JOHNSON..... Washington, D. C.

ALTERNATES.

E. E. HEROLD..... Baltimore, Md. IRBY W. REID..... Washington, D. C.

MICHIGAN.

COMMANDER H. E. COWDIN, Rockford, Mich.

PAST COMMANDERS.

MARVIN E. HALL..... Hillsdale, Mich. F. C. STILLSON..... Battle Creek, Mich.
 B. M. FELLOWS..... Bronson, " FRANK M. GIER..... Hillsdale, "
 F. M. WILLIAMS..... Grand Rapids, " FRED. M. TWISS..... " "
 F. D. EDDY..... " F. J. MCMURTRIE..... Three Rivers, "
 E. R. HENDERSON, Hadley, Mich.

DELEGATES.

C. E. COGSWELL..... Grand Rapids, Mich. J. A. MABBS..... Holland, Mich.
 G. T. CHAPPELL, Rockford, Mich.

MINNESOTA.

COMMANDER GEO. P. KELLEY, Tracy, Minn.

PAST COMMANDERS.

E. M. VAN CLEVE	Minneapolis, Minn.	GEO. H. SHEIRE	Evansville, Minn.
E. H. MILHAM	St. Paul, "	FRANCIS G. DREW	Minneapolis, "
A. S. MORGAN	Minneapolis, "	C. E. MCCOLLEY	Winnebago City, "
E. D. MORRIS	Red Wing, "	I. C. PATTERSON	Princeton, "

DELEGATES.

W. D. SMITH	Winnebago City, Minn.	LOUIS DELESTRY	St. Paul, Minn
		G. W. DWINNELL	Glencoe, Minn.

ALTERNATES.

LUTHER WILSON	Minneapolis, Minn.	D. W. SPALDING	Princeton, Minn.
		CECIL HORN	Rochester, Minn.

MISSOURI.

COMMANDER MANLY WREN, Bethany, Mo.

PAST COMMANDERS.

J. J. SPEAKER	Kansas City, Mo.	B. W. FRAUENTHAL	St. Louis, Mo.
A. H. VANDIVER	Bethany, "	E. W. RAYMOND	" "
E. R. DURHAM	" "	F. E. ERNST	St. Joseph, "
R. LOEBENSTEIN	Chicago, Ill.	E. L. GOTSCHALK	St. Louis, "
H. J. KLINE	" "	W. J. ZIMMERSCHIED	Sedalia, "

W. K. WEST, Chicago, Ill.

DELEGATES.

E. C. CHERRINGTON	Ohio, Mo.	J. E. BAIRD	Kansas City, Mo.
F. S. MOSS	Coy, "	MAX DOBLIE	Concordia, "

ALTERNATES.

E. W. DIETERLE	St. Louis, Mo.	F. SIEMANS	St. Joseph, Mo.
A. L. CHAMBERS	Mt. Moriah, "	W. F. ANDERSON	St. Louis, "

NEBRASKA.

COMMANDER GEO. F. WOLZ, Fremont, Neb.

PAST COMMANDERS.

F. J. COATES	Washington, Neb.	J. C. ELLIOTT	West Point, Neb.
F. P. CORRICK	Cozad, "	W. B. MCARTHUR	" "
P. A. BARROWS	St. Edward, "	F. E. WAY, M. D.	Wahoo, Neb.

DELEGATES.

J. H. HEINE	Hooper, Neb.	C. M. BRANSON	Lincoln, Neb.
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NEW HAMPSHIRE.

COMMANDER W. S. WILLEY, Somersworth, N. H.

PAST COMMANDERS.

F. H. CHALLIS	Manchester, N. H.	JAMES H. JOYCE	Somersworth, N. H.
F. E. LIBBY	Somersworth, "	BURT E. FISHER	Batavia, N. Y.
MICHAEL CROWLEY	Charleston, Mass.	FRANK C. SMITH	Enfield, N. H.
F. B. PERKINS	Manchester, N. H.	O. H. LITTLE	Manchester, "
BEN O. ROBEY	Nashua, "	JNO. H. TWOMBLY	Dover, "

DELEGATES.

EDWIN H. SWEET	Somersworth, N. H.	W. S. TARBELL	So. Lyndeboro, N. H.
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ALTERNATES.

W. O. STYLES	Reeds Ferry, N. H.	H. F. BELLOWS	Bennington, N. H.
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NEW JERSEY.

COMMANDER JAMES B. ADAMS, Atlantic City, N. J.

PAST COMMANDERS.

ED. C. WHITE	Cocoa, Fla.	T. H. EDMONDS	Trenton, N. J.
FRED B. MORSE	Elizabeth, N. J.	A. L. SPARKS	Camden, "
ANDREW DERRON	New York, N. Y.	GEO. W. POLLITT	Paterson, "
GEO. H. PERKINS	Atlantic City, N. J.	JAS. E. PIERSON	Hopewell, "

DELEGATES.

A. I. VESCELIUS	Paterson, N. J.	JAMES MATHEWS	Trenton, N. J.
		GEO. B. HULIT	Hopewell, N. J.

ALTERNATES.

F. F. C. WOODWARD	Trenton, N. J.	E. W. McCANN	Atlantic City, N. J.
		BENJ. H. FORD	Red Bank, N. J.

NEW YORK.

COMMANDER A. G. COURTNEY, Syracuse, N. Y.

PAST COMMANDERS.

M. J. DOWNING	Brooklyn, N. Y.	W. H. WYKER	Goshen, N. Y.
E. W. HATCH	Buffalo, "	A. HOFFLINGER	Brooklyn, "
J. C. SAWYER	Matteawan, "	C. C. HOLMES	Mt. Vernon, "
J. E. HEDGES	New York, "	W. S. OBERDORF	Danville, "
GEO. ADDINGTON	Albany, "	W. H. ROBERTSON	Peterboro, "

L. J. MACY, Pulaski, N. Y.

DELEGATES.

A. C. LISTMAN.....	Syracuse, N. Y.	H. H. PARKER.....	Gloversville, N. Y.
CHAS. KINNEY.....	Brocton, "	N. G. EHLE.....	Pulaski, "
J. F. DURSTON.....	Syracuse, "	CHAS. HAGEN.....	Lansingburg, "
J. V. B. CLARKSON.....	New York, "	M. U. MONROE.....	Auburn, "
W. H. MONYHAN.....	Rochester, "	D. E. SPENCER.....	Seneca Falls, "

ALTERNATES.

H. C. H. COOPER.....	Jamestown, N. Y.	W. A. PERSONIUS.....	Waverley, N. Y.
O. E. WITHERELL.....	Auburn, "	GEO. MATTHEWS.....	Brocton, "
FRED. BINGHAM.....	Lockwood, "	IRA A. ALLEN.....	New York, "
W. H. GUERNESY.....	Rome, "	H. P. HOLLISTER.....	Mt. Vernon, "
W. D. SPEAR.....	Yonkers, "	THOS. O. RIVERS.....	New York, "

OHIO.

COMMANDER D. Q. MORROW, Hillsboro, Ohio.

PAST COMMANDERS.

E. H. GILKEY.....	Columbus, Ohio.	WM. E. BUNDY.....	Cincinnati, Ohio.
H. R. BACON.....	Toledo, "	C. J. DECKMAN.....	Malvern, "
E. W. POE.....	Columbus, "	J. V. HILLIARD.....	Newark, "
W. C. WYCKOFF.....	"	FILLMORE MUSSER.....	Portsmouth, "
F. W. MYERS.....	Parkersburg, W. Va.	DAN. S. GARDNER.....	Massillon, "
HENRY FRAZER.....	Cleveland, Ohio.	DON C. CABLE.....	Nelsonville, "
		L. V. WILLIAMS.....	Ripley, Ohio.

DELEGATES.

H. D. DAVIS.....	Hillsboro, Ohio.	E. W. CABLE.....	Cincinnati, Ohio
A. S. BICKHAM.....	Dayton, "	A. E. B. STEPHENS.....	Cleves, "
HARRY MASON.....	Cleveland, "	GEO. H. IRONS.....	Frankfort, "
		F. O. WILKINSON.....	Cincinnati, Ohio.

ALTERNATES.

E. H. ARCHER.....	Columbus, Ohio.	J. N. DEVAULT.....	Covington, Ohio
R. E. ROSE.....	Balunbridge, "	M. H. HALBERT.....	Springfield, "
G. C. SPREEN.....	Lockland, "	C. W. BARNES.....	Xenia, "

C. H. WATROUS, Ashtabula, Ohio.

The Division of Oregon is not represented.

PENNSYLVANIA.

COMMANDER JAS. H. TAWNEY, Philadelphia, Pa.

PAST COMMANDERS.

J. H. CLOSSON.....	Philadelphia, Pa.	G. P. BROCKWAY.....	Oil City, Pa.
R. M. J. REED.....	"	J. L. RAKE.....	Reading, "
E. W. ALEXANDER.....	Reading, "	W. B. MCNULTY.....	Philadelphia, "
W. H. SMITH.....	Allentown, "	G. W. GERHARD.....	Hamburg, "
H. H. HAMMER.....	Reading, "	H. M. REBELE.....	Alleghany, "
A. K. HOWARD.....	Oil City, "	L. M. WAGNER.....	Philadelphia, "
F. M. HARTZELL.....	Pittsburg, "	A. P. DAVIS.....	Pittsburg, "
J. H. SEIFERTH.....	"	WALTER E. SMITH.....	Allentown, "
H. M. RUSSELL.....	Philadelphia, "	H. M. LOWRY.....	Indiana, "
C. J. MILLER.....	"	CHAS. J. JOHN.....	Mt. Carmel, "
		C. E. DIEFENDERFER.....	Reading, Pa.

DELEGATES.

C. ELMER JOHN.....	Mt. Carmel, Pa.	H. A. SOPER.....	Harrisburg, Pa.
J. J. LEWIS.....	Mt. Carmel, "	ELMER HORN.....	Lebanon, "
LOUIS ARNOLD.....	Philadelphia, "	JOHN D. DAVIS.....	Alleghany, "
A. W. MOORE.....	York, "	ROBERT PATRICK.....	Williamsport, "
H. EISENBEISE.....	Reading, "	R. H. STEVENS.....	Philadelphia, "
E. POERSTEL.....	Alleghany, "	GEORGE WEAVER.....	"

ALTERNATES.

JNO. A. ANDREWS.....	Carlisle, Pa.	CHAS. O. HOHE.....	Etnaus, Pa.
FRED ROW.....	Reading, "	H. BURKENSTOCK.....	Allentown, "
JOHN SALEM.....	Hazleton, "	J. I. MUMFERT.....	Gettysburg, "
A. K. MCHENRY.....	Berwick, "	JOHN A. GRIMM.....	Phoenixville, "
B. F. HOLLENACK.....	Reading, "	GEO. L. MARTIN.....	Philadelphia, "
REUBEN SCHWARTZ.....	Shamokin, "	SAMUEL LEE.....	"

RHODE ISLAND.

COMMANDER H. S. THOMPSON, Providence, R. I.

PAST COMMANDERS.

CHAS. S. WEST.....	Newport, R. I.	T. M. SWEETLAND.....	Pawtucket, R. I.
T. A. BARTON.....	Providence, "	WM. M. P. BOWEN.....	Providence, "
W. B. RUSSELL.....	"	R. H. DEXTER.....	Pawtucket, "
		A. B. SPINK.....	Providence, R. I.

DELEGATES.

CHAS. POTTER.....	Chepachet, R. I.	H. D. GIFFORD.....	Providence, R. I.
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ALTERNATES.

J. F. LEAHY.....	Pawtucket, R. I.	W. R. CONGDON.....	Providence, R. I.
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SOUTH DAKOTA.

COMMANDER Z. C. GREEN, White, S. D.

PAST COMMANDERS.

L. D. LYON..... Watertown, S. D. D. L. PRINTUP..... Britton, S. D.
DELEGATES.

F. A. BURDICK..... White, S. D. CHAS. A. WHEELON..... Pierre, S. D.

ALTERNATES.

FRED WILLIAMS..... Pierre, S. D. THOMAS B. COOPER..... Huron, S. D.

VERMONT.

COMMANDER ARTHUR I. HOWE, Brattleboro, Vt.

PAST COMMANDERS.

J. C. RUTHERFORD..... Providence, R. I. E. T. GRISWOLD..... Bennington, Vt.

F. D. PROCTOR..... Proctor, Vt. H. O. BIXBY..... Chelsea, "

C. F. R. JENNE..... Brattleboro, " GEO. O. WEBSTER..... St. Albans, "

G. E. TERRILL..... Underhill, " WM. M. SARGENT..... So. Royalton, "

JOHN E. FOX..... Haverhill, " F. L. GREEN..... St. Albans, "

E. T. MONAHAN, Underhill, Vt.

DELEGATES. ?

G. A. WILKINS..... Underhill, Vt. W. W. SLACK..... Springfield, Vt.

S. W. DUNTON, Dorset, Vt.

(No delegates so far certified from Washington or West Virginia.)

WISCONSIN.

COMMANDER W. J. PATTON, Green Bay, Wis.

PAST COMMANDERS.

F. J. WALTHERS..... Milwaukee, Wis. GEO. W. WING..... Kewaunee, Wis.

J. P. SHERIDAN..... E. Saginaw, Mich. R. L. MCCORMICK..... Hayward, "

C. H. HUDSON..... Madison, Wis. W. C. WINTER..... LaCrosse, "

H. S. FULLER..... Milwaukee, " B. H. WOOD..... Hawthorne, "

THOS. L. JACOBS, Neenah, Wis.

DELEGATES.

C. C. TOWNSEND..... Benton, Wis. WM. DESTRENE..... Fond du Lac, Wis.

ALTERNATES.

F. D. HUMPHREY..... Green Bay, Wis. A. G. BRABAND..... Milwaukee, Wis.

In addition to the list of delegates and past officers, the committee report that the following brothers who are members of the standing Committee on Blue Book and the standing Committee on Ritual are entitled to seats and votes in this Encampment according to precedent heretofore established:

Blue Book Committee—William M. Eames and Frank O. Wilkinson, of Ohio.

Committee on Ritual—T. C. Harter, of Pennsylvania, and A. G. Alrich, of Kansas.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the report of the Committee on Credentials. What is the pleasure of the Commandery in regard to it?

OBJECTION TO THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

FRANK COFFINBERRY, of Illinois: Commander and Brothers of the Commandery, perhaps I am wrong, but I think that the Chairman of our Committee on Credentials misunderstood what I concurred in, or rather what I was willing to recommend to this convention on the credentials submitted to us. As the report made by the Chairman of our committee reads—

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Allow the Chair to suggest that a motion to adopt the report should be made, and then remarks will be in order.

FRANK COFFINBERRY, of Illinois: The Commander-in-Chief does not understand what I am going to say. I think I am right in the position I am going to take. As I understood the report of the Chairman of the Committee on Credentials, it is not what I, as a member of that committee, agreed to recommend to this Commandery. That is, that the list as read by the Chairman be adopted or concurred in as the list of those who are entitled to seats and votes in this Commandery.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Then a minority report would be in order.

FRANK COFFINBERRY, of Illinois: But, Commander, I don't desire, and I don't think it is necessary to make a minority report, because I think the Chairman of the Committee on Credentials was laboring under a wrong impression when he read all the alternates as entitled to representation in this Commandery.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is any misunderstanding between the members of the committee and the Chairman, I think the report had better be re-committed, and let them get together and straighten it out.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE REPORT AS READ.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I move that the report of the committee be received and adopted as read.

LEWIS A. DILLEY, of Iowa: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, it is moved and seconded that the report of the committee be adopted as read. Are there any remarks?

DISCUSSION ON THE QUESTION: ARE MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEES ENTITLED TO SEATS AND VOTES IN THE ENCAMPMENT?

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, I want to know by what authority the committee recognizes as entitled to seats and votes in this Commandery the members of these committees. I would like to know what constitutional right they have to do that.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair would say, in answer to the brother from Wisconsin, that perhaps from a constitutional standpoint there is no authority for it. The committee reports that it makes this recommendation in regard to seating the members of standing committees in pursuance to precedents heretofore established, and they refer the Commandery to the precedent. It is my impression that there is no constitutional provision of any kind on that subject.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Then, Commander, can we admit them? Have we authority to admit them as delegates without a constitutional provision?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: I think that rests with the Commandery. These brothers are members of standing committees of the Commandery; and I think the matter of seating them rests entirely with the Commandery-in-Chief.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, I have several objections to the report of the committee, one of which is purely formal on account of the indebtedness of various divisions to the Commandery-in-Chief, which would deprive them of the right of representation in this body until such time as this indebtedness is liquidated; but another matter that I desire to call attention to is that the seating of the members of these committees in the Encampment contemplates the payment of their expenses by the Commandery-in-Chief. Now there is absolutely no necessity for the presence here this year, of one of these committees, and that is the Blue Book Committee; there is certainly no reason why the Commandery-in-Chief should pay the expenses of the members of that committee if they do come. That point should be understood by the Encampment before they vote to seat the members of this committee in this body.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION OFFERED.

W. Y. MORGAN, of Kansas: Commander, I move to amend the motion before the house so that it will read to adopt the report of the committee as read with the exception of that clause recommending the seating of the members of these two committees; and that the committee be continued.

FRED E. BOLTON, of Massachusetts: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the amendment to the motion to the effect that the report of the committee as read be adopted with the exception of that part which recommends the seating in

this Encampment of the members of the two standing committees, the Blue Book Committee and the Ritual Committee. The question is on the amendment. Are you ready for the question?

DISCUSSION ON AMENDMENT.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, I would like to ask again whether all these conditions in relation to reports to the Chaplain-in-Chief and the Inspector-General and the Surgeon-General have been complied with by the officers of the various divisions which it is necessary under our rules should be complied with before the divisions are entitled to representation? I think that was an important amendment made to the constitution last year, that they all should report, and if they didn't, they were not entitled to representation on this floor. I want to know if the Committee on Credentials considered that matter when they reported that the divisions are entitled to have their delegates seated?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: In answer to the question of Col. Patton, I would say that the Chair is not informed as to whether all these divisions have made reports to the members of the staff or not.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I understand it is the duty of this committee to determine these things. They have reported that these men are entitled to representation. It is the duty of that committee to know about those things before they make a report. If the committee has not done their duty in this regard we ought to know it.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Of course it is to be presumed that the committee has investigated the matters that it should investigate. It is certainly a part of its duty to pass upon all questions concerning the sufficiency of the credentials of the delegations and all other matters that would affect their right to sit as delegates in this Encampment.

ROBERT E. HANNA, of Colorado of the committee: Commander, no staff officer of this Commandery-in-Chief has reported to this committee any Division that has failed to make the proper reports, and therefore not entitled to representation. The Adjutant-General has made a report, but the other staff officers, I believe, have made no report whatever on this subject, and as a matter of course there was nothing before the Committee on Credentials which would have justified them in denying any Division representation on this account; hence the only thing the committee could do was to make such a report as they have made.

WALTER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Commander, I rise for information. I would like to ask whether this body can seat and give a vote to anyone that the constitution does not provide should be members of this body. Can we do that without amending the constitution?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If the brother desires an answer from the Chair, the Chair will state that we can not, except as we follow a precedent that has already been established by the Commandery-in-Chief. If the Commandery-in-Chief sees fit to follow a precedent of that character, that is the business of the Commandery-in-Chief.

WALTER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Commander, can we establish a precedent which conflicts with the constitution?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is objection, perhaps not.

WALTER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Commander, if it is right to have the members of these committees seated, then they should be seated properly and legally. I am not objecting to their being seated, but I object to their being seated in any irregular way, and without proper authority. I would be willing to move an amendment to the constitution so that they can be seated. I don't rise to object to seating the members of these committees, but let us keep within the law. Until the constitution is amended, I don't see how the members of that committee can be seated and given votes in this Encampment.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair is clearly of the opinion that whatever is done in this matter, ought to be done with a clear understanding in regard to the effect of our action and in regard to the expense that will be incurred by the Commandery-in-Chief in seating the members of these committees. That is the interest that the Chair feels in this matter. Are there any further remarks?

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, so far as the seating of these committees is concerned as I said before, it carries with it the payment of their expenses. I apprehend that the payment of the expenses of the members of any committee that is under the orders of the Commandery-in-Chief, or from which the Commandery-in-Chief requires a report, must be borne by the Commandery-in-Chief; but there is no necessity for seating the members of these committees in this Encampment. They have no report to make, and their presence here is not necessary. And if we seat them we become liable thereby for the payment of their expenses. That is what we will do. If we seat the members of this Blue Book Committee, they then become members of the Commandery-in-Chief, and by implication are here under orders, and their expenses should be paid. Again, there are several Divisions which are indebted to the Commandery-in-Chief on account of supplies. They certainly are not entitled to representation until this indebtedness is liquidated. The Division of the Gulf, the Division of Indiana, the Division of Oregon, and the Division of Washington are all indebted to the Commandery-in-Chief, and are not entitled to representation until their indebtedness is paid. And another matter, the language used by the Adjutant-General in making the report of the Committee on Credentials would certainly seat as members of this Encampment all the alternates as well as the delegates. I know such was not the intention of the committee, but the language used would seat the alternates whether the delegates are here or not. They are entitled to seats, but not entitled to votes in the Encampment.

FRANK COFFINBERRY, of Illinois: Commander, that is the point that I was making.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, I learn that there are Divisions delinquent in reports to the officers of the Commandery-in-Chief. Now our constitution is something or nothing. If our constitution and by-laws can be overridden without protest whenever brothers or officers of Divisions see fit to do so, it is useless for us to meet here year after year for the purpose of legislating upon these subjects. Let us do business in a businesslike way. We passed laws last year saying that those Divisions whose officers were derelict in their reports to the officers of the Commandery-in-Chief, would not be entitled to representation on this floor. Let us stick to it, or let us throw everything down. I am not in favor of overriding the constitution by seating the members of these committees. I do not know them. They may be excellent men, and they may have done excellent work for the order; but it is establishing a precedent that some day may come back to us with peculiar force. I am in favor of a fair and square interpretation of the constitution.

[Cries of "Question," "Question."]

A SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT PROPOSED.

W. Y. MORGAN, of Kansas: Commander, since I made my amendment a few moments ago another question has arisen, the one just spoken of by my Brother Patton. I am convinced that no Division should be entitled to representation until its officers have made the proper reports to the Commandery-in-Chief, and if I may be permitted, I would change my amendment that the report of the Committee on Credentials be adopted as read except the recommendation that the members of these committees be seated, and that no Division be allowed seats in the Encampment until their Division officers have made the proper reports to the officers of the Commandery-in-Chief. That makes it a little awkward, but it is the best thing I think of to do just now.

DISCUSSION CONTINUED.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I don't think it makes a particle of difference whether they be seated in this way, or not. Brother Wilkinson is the only member of the Blue Book Committee that will be here, and he is a delegate from Ohio, so it makes no difference whether you seat him as a member of the Blue Book Committee, or not. I don't know anything about the Ritual Committee. I don't know whether the brothers of that committee are also entitled to seats upon the floor as delegates or not; but so far as the Blue Book Committee is concerned, I think the Committee on Credentials might withdraw the part of their report that refers to that

committee, so that the question might be brought squarely to an issue on the Ritual Committee. For my part, I don't see how the Committee on Ritual is going to make a report to this convention unless they are entitled to seats in this convention. Are they going to send it in by messenger boy? Are you going to appoint a Committee on Ritual of members of this order and have them come here to present their report and then not give them the courtesy of a seat on this floor after they have done all that work? [Applause.] I say to you that from the time of the establishment of this order down to the present moment the standing committees of this body have always had a vote and seat upon the floor of our Encampments; and there is nothing in the constitution that prohibits it. I don't know that there is anything in the constitution especially authorizing it, but this is the supreme body of the order, we are the sole judges of this matter. If we are not the sole judges of this question, there is nobody, unless it is the Supreme Commander above, who can decide who are entitled to seats upon this floor. It is for this convention to determine from the report of the Committee on Credentials who are entitled to sit here. We are not overriding the constitution. The constitution simply says that certain brothers shall be entitled to seats. It don't say that nobody else shall be entitled to seats. If the members of standing committees are not seated I don't see how they are going to come here and present their report. I merely offer that as a suggestion. So far as the Blue Book Committee is concerned, it is out of consideration. It has made its report and Brother Wilkinson is the only member of that committee here present, and he is here also as a delegate from the Division of Ohio, so that as far as he is concerned it don't make any difference what is done; but I ask for information as to whether or not the members of the standing Committee on Ritual are delegates and regularly accredited representatives to the Encampment? If not they ought to be seated.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair is not definitely informed on the subject, but is under the impression that two members of the committee are entitled to seats, in the Commandery-in-Chief, through their past rank, or as delegates, and that one is not.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I would like to state that the Kansas member of the Committee on Ritual is a member of this Encampment, a delegate from the Division of Kansas, and the remarks of Brother Bundy with relation to Brother Wilkinson apply with equal force to him.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The other members of the Committee on Ritual are Brother Stillson of Michigan and Brother Harter of Pennsylvania. The Chair understands that Brother Harter is not entitled to a seat in this Encampment except as a member of this standing committee. This committee was appointed in pursuance of a resolution adopted at the Fourteenth Annual Encampment, authorizing the Commander-in-Chief to appoint a standing Committee on Ritual, of which the Inspector-General should be Chairman, to consider changes and suggestions regarding the ritual, and that committee was to report at this meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief.

F. L. SHEPARD, of Illinois: Commander, it seems to me by virtue of the fact that all the members of one committee and a majority of the members of the other committee are accredited delegates to this Encampment every argument presented by Brother Bundy as to their inability to present their report is overcome; and in view of the fact that it is a dangerous precedent to seat men whom we have no authority to seat except by the arbitrary action of this Encampment—I feel it to be a dangerous precedent—I don't think it would be a wise thing for the order to do.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Standing committees have always been accorded the courtesy of the floor. Of course if one member has the floor all the members of that committee should have, because the one who is left out might be the one who is best informed upon the propositions that are to be submitted to the Commandery-in-Chief.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, conceding the correctness of your statement—and it is correct—the Commandery-in-Chief is empowered by the constitution to grant the courtesy of the floor to the members of any committee, to brothers of the order or comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic; there is nothing to prevent their doing that;

but the constitution, rules and regulations of the order say who shall constitute the Commandery-in-Chief. It explains in detail who shall be the members of the Commandery-in-Chief, and while it is true that this Commandery is the supreme source of power in the order, we have rules and regulations for the government of this body, as we have for the government of the Divisions and the Camps; and if you desire to seat other brothers as members of this body you have a prescribed method for doing so by amending the constitution, rules and regulations, and not otherwise. [Applause.]

H. H. PARKER, of New York: Commander, I move the previous question.

The motion was not seconded.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

ABE S. BICKHAM, of Ohio: Commander, I move that this report be re-committed to the Committee on Credentials to adjust this matter.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Strictly speaking, the motion is out of order, as there is already a motion before the house; but the Chair thinks the best course to pursue is to re-commit the report to the Committee on Credentials, and, if there is no objection, the Chair will put the question on Brother Bickham's motion. Is there objection? The Chair hears none. The question is on the motion to re-commit the report to the Committee on Credentials for further consideration. Any remarks?

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I seconded Brother Bickham's motion for the reason that the Committee on Credentials is the only body that can properly consider this matter and sift it out and bring it before the Encampment in tangible shape. If the question is put on the adoption of the report of the Committee now, I wouldn't know what I was voting for, what parts were to be left out, and I don't believe anybody else would. I think the Committee should consider the suggestions that have been made upon the floor, and then present us with a complete and definite report.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Before putting the question, the Chair would suggest that it is the duty of the officers to whom the reports from Division officers should come, to report to the Committee the Divisions whose officers have failed to make the proper reports. They should not wait for the Committee to hunt them up and ask them if everything is all right in the different Divisions. All those in favor of the substituted motion to re-commit the report to the Committee on Credentials will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The ayes seem to have it; the ayes have it, and the report is re-committed to the Committee on Credentials.

The Chair will now declare a recess, subject to the call of the Commander.

RECESS.

Four o'clock and thirty minutes, p. m.

COMMANDERY CALLED TO ORDER.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Commandery-in-Chief will come to order. We will now hear the supplemental report of the Committee on Credentials. The Adjutant-General will read the report.

The Adjutant-General read the following report of the Committee on Credentials:

"To the Commander-in-Chief, Officers and Members of the Fifteenth Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.:

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

The Committee on Credentials would respectfully submit the following amended report: That the list of delegates, or their alternates, heretofore recommended in the former report, be entitled to representation in the Encampment, except the Division of the Gulf, the Division of Oregon, the Division of West Virginia and the Division of Washington, which Divisions are

deprived of representation by reason of indebtedness to the Commandery-in-Chief and failure to make required reports; and the Committee would also recommend that the members of the standing Committee on Ritual and the standing Committee on Blue Book be given seats and votes in this Encampment."

MOTION TO ADOPT REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I now renew my motion that the report be adopted and the Committee continued.

W. Y. MORGAN, of Kansas: Commander, I second the motion.

POINTS OF ORDER.

F. L. SHEPARD, of Illinois: Commander, I rise to a point of order.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The brother will state his point of order.

F. L. SHEPARD, of Illinois: Commander, I desire a ruling from the Commander-in-Chief upon that part of the report of the Committee which refers to the seating and giving votes to the members of the committees referred to, namely, the Committee on Ritual and the Committee on Blue Book. My point of order is that the Committee have no authority to report on that subject, and therefore so much of their report is out of order.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I rise to a point of order.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The brother will state his point of order.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, my point of order is that the point raised by the brother from Illinois is a point for the Commander-in-Chief to determine and not for the Commander-in-Chief.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair is under the impression, from the fact that a motion is pending at this time to adopt the report of the committee, that the point of order is well taken. Any further remarks? All those in favor of the motion to adopt the report of the Committee as read, and continue the Committee, please give their assent by the usual voting sign of the order——

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, I understand the ruling of the Chair correctly, do I not, that the point of order was well taken, and that, therefore, that part of the report of the Committee in relation to the seating of the members of the committees named was out of order?

RULING OF THE C. IN C.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair ruled that the point of order raised by Brother Harrington against the point of order raised by Brother Shepard was well taken; that is, that the point of order raised by Brother Shepard was not in order. The last point of order raised, of course, was the point of order upon which the Chair ruled, because it was made to affect the point of order raised by Brother Shepard.

MOTION TO AMEND REPORT BY STRIKING OUT ALL REFERENCE TO STANDING COMMITTEE.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Then, Commander, I move to amend the report of the Committee on Credentials by striking out all reference to the two Standing Committees.

F. L. SHEPARD, of Illinois: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the amendment, that the motion to adopt the report of the committee be amended by striking out the names of the brothers belonging to the Blue Book and Ritual Committees from the report of the Committee on Credentials. Are you ready for the question?

WALTER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Commander, I understand that gives them a seat in the Commandery, but not a vote. Certainly, any Son of a Veteran has a right to a seat in the Encampment.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Certainly, the Chair would hold that any committee that has to make a report to this Encampment has a right

to seats and the courtesy of the floor. Brothers, you have heard the motion. Are you ready for the question?

DISCUSSION: ARE MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEES ENTITLED TO SEATS AND VOTES IN THE ENCAMPMENT?

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, it seems to me this is a matter of serious business. I appeal to the members of the order who are members of other organizations, I ask you, is there a single organization to which you belong in which there would be an attempt to give a seat and a vote, in any State or National meeting of that organization, to one who was not legally a member of that meeting? We know it is not done. We have heard it said here today that we can do it by the act of the Commandery-in-Chief, that it is in the hands of the Commandery-in-Chief. Brothers, it is not in our hands. Is it possible any delegate, or any members of this Order, can come in and ride over the Constitution, Rules and Regulations at any sitting of this Commandery? We have a method prescribed for amending the Constitution. Don't let us be unconstitutional, and do a thing simply because we have the power, and no one but the Almighty himself can stay us. The Constitution expressly says who are members of the Commandery-in-Chief, making no allusion whatever to standing committees. I think the fact is that standing committees in other organizations are members of the State or National body, and not simply those who are members today and not members hereafter. Let us stick to our Constitution, and stand fairly and squarely upon it, and do our business in a business-like way. [Applause.]

A. E. B. STEPHENS, of Ohio: Commander, this Committee was appointed last year to do a certain duty. At that time they were members of the Commandery-in-Chief. Now the question is, if they were members of the Commandery-in-Chief last year and the Commandery-in-Chief appointed them to do a certain duty and they have to report to this meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief, how can a committee report here unless they are allowed a vote on the floor, or allowed representation. If they are here today, or if they come to this meeting tomorrow to make a report on Ritual, we surely would have to allow them to make their report, and they certainly ought to be granted the privilege of voting on that report. If they were members of the last Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, they are surely still members, and will continue so until they are discharged.

A. S. BICKHAM, of Ohio: Commander, it seems to me we are about to do these gentlemen a great injustice. They were put on a committee to report to this Encampment. They returned home. If I had been a member of that committee and my name was suggested as a delegate to this Encampment, I would not have permitted myself to be elected. I would have said I am already a member of the Commandery-in-Chief; there are others in the Division who would like to go; send them as delegates; and then, after having refused an election, I would come here and find the doors closed upon me. That is the case of one member of the Committee on Ritual. If in the future the Encampment wishes it understood that members of standing committees are not to have seats and votes in the Encampment that would be all right. It would be very proper for the Commander-in-Chief, in appointing standing committees, to appoint only those on such committees as he knows will be in the next Encampment. There are plenty of brothers, who, by virtue of their past rank, will be entitled to sit in all subsequent Encampments, and the standing committees could be made up of such brothers; but I don't think it would be fair to apply that rule now without there having been any previous intimation that such a rule was to be enforced. I therefore believe that the Committee on Credentials have reported properly in honoring the act of the last Encampment at Knoxville, and I think the report should be adopted just as it stands.

MICHAEL CROWLEY, of New Hampshire: Commander, what the brothers say is all very well, but that does not make it right. The Constitution says what the membership of this Encampment shall be, and that is what we ought to stick to.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I have been listening to a great deal of talk about the Constitution, and what the Constitution states

and what it says, and the opinions of these various brothers on the construction of what is in the Constitution. Every brother who has spoken on that side of this question has held aloft the Constitution as the sacred law of the Order. Now let us just see what the Constitution does provide. On page 36 it says:

"The membership of the Commandery-in-Chief shall be made up as follows:

"First—Its own elective and appointive officers and life members, except special Aides and Aides-de-Camp, Assistant Inspector Generals and Non-Commissioned Staff."

Now, turning to Article 4, on page 39, we find who shall compose the officers of the Commandery-in-Chief. There is not a single word with regard to Special Aides and Aides-de-Camp, Assistant Inspector Generals and Non-Commissioned Staff. Then why was that exception put in there? The very committee that adopted this Constitution at Minneapolis came there at the expense of the Commandery-in-Chief and had a seat and vote in the Encampment. Talk about establishing a dangerous precedent. Is it any time now to begin doing injustice to these gentlemen by breaking down a precedent that has been in force since the adoption of your Constitution? The Standing Committee on Ritual went clear across the United States, at an expense of hundreds of dollars to the Commandery, to present their report to the Commandery at Helena, and the members of that committee had seats and votes in that Encampment. At a time when there was some contest in the Ohio Division as to the right of some brother to sit in the Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief Brother Maccabe, who was then the Commander-in-Chief, held that this was the supreme court of the body, and that we had a right to decide that question: that we were the sole judges as to who should be seated here.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: If Brother Bundy will permit a question, I desire to ask him if he is not aware that the precedents he has cited were in the years 1891 and 1892; and that we are now working under the Constitution adopted at Davenport, Iowa, in 1894?

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: I will ask Brother Lobenstein if there has been any changes in these particular Sections of the Constitution since that time? If he will point out to me any change in these particular sections, then I can see the pertinency of his question; otherwise not. [Applause.]

Now, my brothers, I am just putting this in all fairness. It is a question of one vote. Are you going to put a brother out of this Commandery-in-Chief who, following the precedents heretofore established, thought he was a member and refused to be a candidate for election as delegate for that reason? Let there be a ruling by the Commandery for the future, if you think there ought to be, that members of standing committees are not by virtue of that fact members of the Commandery-in-Chief; but follow the precedent until that ruling is made. What is there in the Constitution in regard to standing committees? Is there a word about it? There is not. But we recognized the members of standing committees as members of the Encampment at Knoxville. It has been done at many Encampments preceding that time. The Constitution does not provide that standing committees shall be appointed at all, a standing committee on this and a standing committee on that. That is a matter that rests with the Encampment of the Commandery. It is for the Commandery itself to say whether these brothers shall have the right to sit and vote on this floor.

F. L. SHEPARD, of Illinois: Commander, it seems to me that a consideration of that part of the Constitution that was referred to by Gen. Bundy would aid us a little bit in the discussion of this question. The Constitution, as he read, prescribes who shall be seated in this Encampment. It says "Its own elective and appointive officers and life members, except Special Aides and Aides-de-Camp, Assistant Inspector Generals and Non-Commissioned Staff," and then goes on to Past Commanders-in-Chief, etc. Then it designates who are elective and appointive officers on Page 39. Nowhere in our Constitution does it provide for any special or standing committee to be seated upon this floor, and no one is allowed, under our Constitution, a seat and vote upon this floor unless he is specifically provided for in our Constitution, and the manner in which the Camp appoints is provided for. I submit to you.

Commander-in-Chief and brothers, that it is high time to break this bad precedent, and I am in favor of breaking it now.

T. Z. MORROW, of Kentucky: Commander, as I understand, this is a legislative body, and while I have heard frequently of a judicial body being governed by precedent, I have never heard of a legislative body being governed by precedent. I can not conceive that gentlemen have a right to overrule the Constitution of this order by precedent, because it is strictly a legislative body, and there can be no question of precedent in a legislative body.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I would like to ask the brother a question. I want to ask him who is to rule in the construction of this section of the Constitution? It is capable of various constructions. I will ask the brother what is the judicial determination of this question, or if there ever has been any, unless it is established by precedent, and if precedent does not make common law?

T. Z. MORROW, of Kentucky: Commander, the Commandery-in-Chief, beyond all doubt, has ruled on this question, but the Commandery-in-Chief has also established and adopted a Constitution. There can be no reason and no right to put a precedent against and as superior to the Constitution. There is only one way whereby these men can be given seats on this floor and a vote in this Encampment, and that is by an amendment to the Constitution.

WALTER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Commander, the second paragraph of the section of the Constitution quoted by Brother Bundy says, "Its own elective and appointive officers and life members, except Special Aides and Aides-de-Camp, Assistant Inspectors General and Non-Commissioned Staff." I would say that a Special Aide appointed by the Commander-in-Chief for a year's work, if he has done his duty, has earned the right to a seat and vote in the Encampment far more than the member of any committee. The member of a committee is appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, the Special Aide is appointed by the same authority. The Special Aide is appointed for the whole year, and the committeeman is appointed for a certain duty; it may take him a month; but the Special Aide who does his duty works for the whole year; and by special provision of the Constitution he is deprived of the right to claim a vote and seat in the National Encampment. I think this makes a very strong argument against giving the members of standing committees seats and votes.

[Cries of "Question." "Question."]

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: All those in favor of the amendment which is in effect, that the names of the members of these two committees, the Blue Book Committee and the Ritual Committee, be stricken from the report of the Committee on Credentials will so signify by the usual voting sign of the order.

J. B. MACCABE, of Massachusetts: Commander, I rise for information. I want to know what amount of service this so-called Committee on Blue Book has rendered this Commandery-in-Chief this year, and whether or not the Committee on Blue Book is prepared to submit another report to this Encampment. I ask for that in the way of information.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair is unable to inform Past Commander-in-Chief Maccabe as to any duty that has been performed by this committee during the past year. The committee was appointed at Davenport and performed its duties during the year succeeding that Encampment; it was not discharged at the Knoxville Encampment, but was carried over until the work which it had then prepared could be printed under its supervision.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I just want to make one remark in answer to Brother Payne. On Page 46 of the Constitution, it says: "The person first named on all Standing and Special Committees shall act as Chairman until another is chosen by the Committee, and no Committee shall be finally discharged until all debts legally contracted by it are settled."

This committee has never been discharged, and still continues a standing committee of this body, and consequently they are members of the body.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair would say, in reply to Brother Bundy, that so far as the debts contracted by the committee are concerned they were all discharged at the last Encampment, but the committee was

not discharged because the Encampment provided that the Blue Book should be printed under its editorial supervision. The Blue Book has never yet been printed, and therefore the committee is a standing committee of this Encampment.

GEORGE F. WOLZ, of Nebraska: Commander, was this committee appointed by order of the last Commandery-in-Chief?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Ritual Committee was appointed by authority of the last Commandery-in-Chief; the Blue Book Committee by the previous Commandery-in-Chief. [Cries of "Question," "Question."] Brothers, are you ready for the question? All those in favor of the amendment will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the order. Hands down. Those opposed the same sign. [Cries of "Division," "Division."] A division is called for. All those in favor of the amendment will rise and stand until they are counted by the Adjutant-General. The Adjutant-General will count. Be seated. Those opposed will rise.

The Adjutant-General reported fifty-one in favor of the amendment; thirty-nine against it.

AMENDMENT AND REPORT AS AMENDED ADOPTED.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Fifty-one brothers having voted in favor of the amendment, and thirty-nine against it, the amendment is carried. The question now recurs on the motion as amended. All those in favor of the motion as amended please give your assent by the usual voting sign of the order. Hands down. Those opposed the same sign. The ayes seem to have it; the ayes have it, and the report of the committee is adopted as amended, and the committee continued.

The Adjutant-General will now call the roll of the accredited members of the Encampment who, as their names are called, will respond, come forward and receive their delegate badges from the Quartermaster-General.

The Adjutant-General called the roll of accredited members.

[Roll call No. 1.]

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL: Commander, that completes the roll as far as reported.

MOTION TO CONFIRM APPOINTMENT OF CERDRIC G. MARSH JUNIOR VICE C. IN C.

F. L. SHEPARD, of Illinois: Now, Commander, if I am in order, I move that the action of the Commander-in-Chief in appointing Cerdric G. Marsh Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, to fill the vacancy in that office occasioned by the promotion of the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Brother Elwood T. Carr, of Pennsylvania, be approved, and Cerdric G. Marsh be declared Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., for the unexpired term.

The motion was seconded.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I rise to a point of order.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The brother will state his point of order.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, my point of order is that that matter has already been settled by the adoption of the report of the Committee on Credentials. The Committee on Credentials reported this brother here as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, and we adopted and concurred in their report.

APPOINTMENT OF CERDRIC G. MARSH CONFIRMED.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair will hold that the point of order is not well taken. The question is before the house. All those in favor of the motion that the appointment of Brother Cerdric G. Marsh as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., for the unexpired term be confirmed, will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The ayes seem to have it. The ayes have it, and the motion is agreed to.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

The Chair will now announce the committees, as follows:

ON CONSTITUTION, RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Newton J. McGuire, Indiana, Chairman.
 Z. C. Green, South Dakota. Manly Wren, Missouri.
 Geo. E. Cox, Connecticut. Harry D. Sison, Massachusetts.

ON OFFICERS' REPORTS AND DISTRIBUTION OF WORK.

J. B. Maccabe, Massachusetts, Chairman.
 Geo. W. Marks, New York. R. B. Oglesbee, Indiana.
 L. M. Wagner, Pennsylvania. F. W. Meyers, Ohio.

ON RITUAL.

F. C. Stillson, Michigan, Chairman.
 Lewis A. Dilley, Iowa. W. J. Patton, Wisconsin.
 A. G. Alrich, Kansas. E. B. Cole, Rhode Island.

ON RESOLUTIONS.

Wm. G. Dustin, Illinois, Chairman.
 Charles S. Davis, Maryland. M. Crowley, New Hampshire.
 George F. Wolz, Nebraska. E. R. Carter, Tennessee.

The Chairmen of the several committees will have the committees convene at as early a date as possible, that they may begin their work at once, because in a short time now the work in the Commandery-in-Chief will be at a standstill until these committees are ready to report.

PRESS COMMITTEE AUTHORIZED.

ROBERT E. HANNA, of Colorado: Commander, I move that the Chair appoint a Press Committee of three members.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It is moved and seconded that the Chair appoint a Press Committee of three members. All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the order. Hands down. Those opposed the same sign. The motion seems to be carried. The motion is carried, and the Chair will appoint Brother E. W. Cable, of Ohio, Chairman of that committee. The Chair will not appoint the other members of that committee at this moment, but will take a little time, and wait until he becomes acquainted with some of the newspaper men who are members of the Encampment.

RECESS MOVED.

W. F. ANDERSON, of Missouri: Commander, I move that the Commandery now take recess until nine o'clock tomorrow morning.

The motion was seconded.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

JUDGE ADVOCATE-GENERAL M'GUIRE: Commander, before the question is put on that motion, I would like to make an announcement that the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations will meet at Room 324, at the Galt House, at eight o'clock.

R. M. BUCKLEY, of Kentucky: Commander, I would like to say that if this motion to take recess until nine o'clock tomorrow morning is carried that it would probably interfere with the parade that is arranged for tomorrow morning. The parade is to move at ten o'clock, and if the Commandery should meet it would be at best a very short session, unless the brothers should not join in the parade. It is expected, of course, that the brothers of the Commandery-in-Chief will take part in the parade, and I think it would be better if we were to take recess until tomorrow at two o'clock.

VALENTINE GILB, JR., of Alabama: Commander, wouldn't this be a good place to meet to form for the parade?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair would inquire of Brother Buckley where the parade is to form, if anywhere near here?

R. M. BUCKLEY, of Kentucky: On Main Street, Commander, near the Galt House. This would be a very good place to meet.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair thinks we might as well meet here and do an hour's work in the morning, and then we will all be here ready to form and march over to the Galt House and take part in the parade.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, in regard to the Press Committee, a motion has just been made to appoint a Press Committee, and one member of that committee has been appointed. I think that matter should be pushed at this Encampment. I have been disappointed, greatly so, at the action of the press in reporting the sessions of our Encampment heretofore; and I have gone home and ascertained that in the local papers at home there had been nothing at all concerning our Encampment, except a brief notice, possibly, that the Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans had been held; not more than an inch of space had been devoted to our proceedings. Let us push this matter. Let us appoint a Press Committee, and let them go to work actively and see that our proceedings receive proper notice.

ENTERTAINMENT BY MRS. HIRST.

R. M. BUCKLEY, of Kentucky: Commander, before the motion to adjourn it put, I would like to make a further announcement. My brothers are all aware of the fact that we have the honor to have residing here in Louisville the President of the Ladies of the G. A. R., the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic, in the person of Mrs. Catherine Hirst. Mrs. Hirst has issued an invitation to the members of the Commandery-in-Chief to an entertainment tonight, at which refreshments will be served, in the hall just below this. Your badges will admit you, and she earnestly desires your presence and wants to make your acquaintance. She has worked very hard and spent her money freely for the G. A. R. and Sons of Veterans, and all other patriotic organizations, and she would be pleased to meet each of you individually; and through me she extends to each of you a cordial invitation to be present at this entertainment. I hope as many of you as possibly can come will be here tonight. [Applause.]

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the announcement. I am sure the members of the Commandery-in-Chief highly appreciate Mrs. Hirst's kindness, and will take pleasure in accepting her hospitality.

W. G. DUSTIN, of Illinois: Commander, I desire to announce that the Committee on Resolutions will meet at Room 217, Galt House, at eight o'clock this evening; also I desire to request all those who have resolutions to submit to the committee to please hand them in at that time.

L. W. KENNEDY, of Colorado: Commander, I move you, sir, to amend the motion to take recess until nine o'clock tomorrow morning so that it will read to take recess until eight o'clock tomorrow morning. [Cries of "No," "No," "No."] The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brother Kennedy, of Colorado, moves to amend the motion to take recess until nine o'clock tomorrow morning by striking out "nine" and inserting "eight." All those in favor of the motion will signify the same by the usual voting sign of the order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The noes seem to have it. The noes have it, and the motion is not agreed to.

MRS. HIRST'S INVITATION ACCEPTED.

GRANT W
the Comm
Hirst and
Chief accep.

ROBERT E.
THE COMMANDER
As many as are in favor
order. Down hands. Tl
unanimously.

Commander, it seems to me that
way this invitation from Mrs.
ve that the Commandery-in-
as far as possible.
Commander, I second the motion.
Brothers, you have heard the motion.
their assent by the usual voting sign of the
posed the same sign. The motion is carried

RECESS TAKEN.

The question is now on the motion to take recess until nine o'clock tomorrow morning. All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion is agreed to, and the Commandery-in-Chief takes recess until tomorrow morning at nine o'clock.

WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, September 9th, 1896, nine o'clock a. m.
The Encampment met pursuant to adjournment.

ENCAMPMENT CALLED TO ORDER.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Encampment will come to order. Brother Inspector-General, are you satisfied that all present are entitled to remain?

THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL: Commander, I am.

PRESS COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Before proceeding with the order of business I will announce the other two members of the Press Committee; Brother H. E. Cowdin, of Michigan, and William Davies, of Kentucky. The Press Committee now consists of E. C. Cable, Chairman, and the two brothers just named.

CALL FOR COMMUNICATIONS FROM DIVISIONS.

The next thing in the order of business is the reception and reference of communications from Divisions, the roll to be called by the Adjutant-General. The Adjutant-General will call the roll of Divisions.

The Adjutant-General proceeded to call the roll of Divisions. When the Division of Missouri was reached:

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, Missouri has some communications to present to the various committees, and asks the privilege of presenting them to the committees direct.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The communications from the Division of Missouri may be presented to the committees direct, on the application of that Division, unless there is objection. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

When the Division of Wisconsin was called:

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, the Division of Wisconsin has one or two small matters that it would like to refer to the proper committees.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The communications will be referred as requested, if there is no objection. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

The Adjutant-General concluded the calling of the roll.

CALLS FOR COMMUNICATIONS FROM CAMPS AND INDIVIDUALS.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The next in order is the reception and reference of communications from Camps and individuals. Are there any communications to be presented from Camps or from individual members of the Order? If so, now is the time for their presentation. There seems to be none.

The Chair will state that it delayed the calling of the roll this morning when the Encampment first opened for the reason that there were so few present. The Adjutant-General will now call the roll, and those brothers present will answer when their names are called.

The Adjutant-General called the roll and announced a quorum present.
[Roll call No. 2.]

GEORGE S. WYMER, of Kentucky: Commander, my name was not called. I would like to be marked present.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Adjutant-General will mark the brother present.

R. M. J. REED, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I would like to be marked present.

JOHN Q. DAVIS, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I would like the Adjutant-General to mark me present.

F. J. M'MURTRIE, of Michigan: Commander, I am present, and would like to be so recorded.

H. EISENBEISE, of Pennsylvania: Commander, ——

W. Y. MORGAN, of Kansas: Commander, I rise to a point of order.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The brother will state his point of order.

BROTHERS NOT PRESENT AT ROLL CALL, BUT COMING IN LATER,
NOT TO BE RECORDED PRESENT.

W. Y. MORGAN, of Kansas: Commander, I don't think it is fair to those who are present at the proper time to answer to their names when the roll is called to credit those present who come in afterwards. It is the business of the members of this Commandery to be here promptly and answer to their names; and to permit those who come in afterwards to be marked present is not fair to those who are here promptly.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The point of order is well taken, and no more corrections will be made.

R. M. BUCKLEY, of Kentucky: Commander, I have just received a message from the Chief Marshal of the parade requesting the Commander-in-Chief and his staff and the members of the Commandery to be at the Galt House and take their place in the parade not later than 9:50. Horses will be furnished for the Commander-in-Chief and his staff.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It is now 9:45.

RECESS MOVED.

EMIL POERSTEL, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I move that the Commandery-in-Chief take recess until two o'clock, p. m.

The motion was seconded.

W. Y. MORGAN, of Kansas: Commander, I move an amendment that we take recess until immediately after the parade, when we shall return to this hall and attend to business.

EMIL POERSTEL, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I accept the amendment.

RECESS TAKEN.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion, that we take recess until immediately after the parade. All those in favor of the motion will so signify by the usual voting sign of the order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion is carried, and the Commandery-in-Chief stands at recess until after the parade.

RECESS.

11:50 a. m.

The Commandery-in-Chief met pursuant to adjournment.

COMMANDERY CALLED TO ORDER.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Commandery will be in order. What is the further pleasure of the Encampment?

LEWIS A. DILLEY, of Iowa: Commander, I move we dispense with the taking up of the password and countersign, and take recess until two o'clock.

The motion was seconded.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, I believe we can save some valuable time if Brother Dilley will consent to amend his motion so as to meet at 1:30.

LEWIS A. DILLEY, of Iowa: Commander, I will accept the amendment.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, we can save no time by doing that. There are several committees that are to meet at half-past one o'clock.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, the committees can not possibly complete their work before the next session, even if we adjourn until two o'clock. If we meet at half-past one these reports could be read.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The committees can meet and be at work in the various rooms in this building, on the stage and in the boxes.

W. Y. MORGAN, of Kansas: Commander, we cannot get dinner now for a half hour. I believe we ought to go ahead and receive the reports of the officers so that they can be referred to the committees, and the committees can go to work and be ready to report after dinner.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, I am fully in accord with Brother Morgan as to the expediency of getting to work and losing no time, but I think it is certainly an injustice to the officers of this order to ask them to read their reports to empty seats. I think it is only justice to them to wait until such time as we are in regular session before they are called upon to read their reports.

MICHAEL CROWLEY, of New Hampshire: Commander, I think the reports should be read when there is a full attendance. It is important that the members of the Commandery-in-Chief should hear these reports and the recommendations contained in them.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: All those in favor of the motion to take recess until half-past one o'clock please give their assent by the usual voting sign of the order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion seems to be lost—and is lost.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, I move we take recess until two o'clock.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF MARSH: Commander, I second the motion.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL BORIN: Commander, I rise to a question of privilege, and would like to say a few words. I desire to call the attention of the Encampment to the fact that the next thing in order is the report of the Commander-in-Chief. That report is a lengthy one, an exhaustive one, and treats of subjects of interest to every member of this order. It takes up questions that ought to be considered by every person who is a delegate to this Encampment. There is a very small attendance present now, and it is not the fault of the members of the Encampment, because the Commandery did not take recess to any definite time, and I think we certainly should not require the Commander-in-Chief to present his report now, but that we certainly ought to take recess.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: So far as the Commander-in-Chief is concerned, he is ready to read his report whenever it is reached in the order of business.

J. V. B. CLARKSON, of New York: Commander, I would say to the members of this Encampment that I think, as a matter of courtesy to the Commander-in-Chief, we should take recess until two o'clock. It is not right that the report of the Commander-in-Chief should be read at this time, when there are only a few members present.

RECESS UNTIL 2 O'CLOCK P. M.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The question is on the motion to take recess until two o'clock. All those in favor of the motion will so signify by the usual voting sign of the order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion seems to be carried. It is carried, and the Encampment will take a recess until two o'clock p. m.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Two o'clock p. m.

The Encampment met pursuant to adjournment.

COMMANDERY CALLED TO ORDER.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Commandery will come to order. The Adjutant-General will call the roll.

The Adjutant-General called the roll and announced a quorum present.

[Roll call No. 3.]

C. J. TISDEL, of Illinois: Commander, I would like to be credited present.

FRANK MARTIN, of Indiana: Commander, I would like to be recorded present.

W. Y. MORGAN, of Kansas: Commander, I rise to a point of order. If these brothers want to be recorded present they should be here at the proper time and answer to their names.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If it is a matter of correcting the roll, accrediting delegates who have not been reported, it may be attended to. If it is simply recording members present who were not here in time to answer when their names were called that is not proper. Was Brother Martin's name called at all?

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL: Brother Martin's name was called and he did not answer.

BROTHERS NOT PRESENT AT ROLL CALL, BUT COMING IN LATER,
NOT TO BE MARKED PRESENT.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Then the roll should stand as it is. It has always been customary at previous Encampments to appoint a committee to visit the Ladies' Aid Society. What is the pleasure of the Commandery on that subject at this time?

MOTION TO APPOINT COMMITTEE TO VISIT L. A. S.

ROBERT E. HANNA, of Colorado: Commander, I move you that the Chair appoint a committee of three, or five, as the Chair may think best, to visit the Ladies' Aid Society.

CHARLES S. DAVIS, of Maryland: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion. Those in favor of it will signify so by the usual voting sign of the order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion is carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO VISIT L. A. S.

The Chair will appoint as that committee:

George H. Hurlbut, of Illinois, Chairman.

James L. Rake, of Pennsylvania.

Frank Martin, of Indiana.

R. M. Buckley, of Kentucky.

Fred E. Bolton, of Massachusetts.

The next thing in the order of business are the Officers' reports.

GAVEL PRESENTED.

FREMONT GARRETT, of Indiana: Commander, I ask the indulgence of the Commandery for a few minutes only.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brother Garrett asks unanimous consent to be heard for a few moments. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and the brother will proceed.

GAVEL MADE FROM THE LIMB OF A TREE THAT GREW ON CHICK-
AMAUGA BATTLEFIELD PRESENTED TO C. IN C. BY
FREMONT GARRETT, OF INDIANA.

FREMONT GARRETT, of Indiana: Commander, thirty-two years ago next week one of the most sanguinary battles of the Great Rebellion was fought on the Battlefield of Chickamauga. Last year I had the pleasure of visiting that great battle ground, and while there I had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of George C. Kelley, who lived on the celebrated Kelley farm, near the spring where the gallant 72nd Indiana Regiment fought all day for possession of the water. After that great battle, years afterwards, he cut from a tree standing on that battlefield near that celebrated spring, a limb. When I was there I said to him that I had a brother who lost his life on that sanguinary field. He said to me, "Brother Garrett, I desire to make you a present of a limb from the tree near that spring," and he gave me a piece of that limb with a bullet in it. I have preserved it from that time until now, and have only cut the ends off to make it shorter, in order that I might have the pleasure today of presenting it to the Commandery-in-Chief, to be used as the gavel in this National Encampment. It is fitting that it should be in the hands of the Sons of Veterans as a gentle reminder of the times from 1861 to 1865, when our fathers were struggling for the perpetuity of this Union, and for the glory of our flag.

Commander, I don't desire to make any speech in presenting this gavel; I simply desire to present it to the Commandery-in-Chief and place it in your hands, to be used by you as the presiding officer of this Encampment. [Applause.]

ACCEPTANCE BY THE C. IN C.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brother Garrett, on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief I accept this gavel, and I tender to you the thanks of the order. It will be to us a reminder of the times that tried men's souls, a memorial of the time when our fathers sacrificed their lives, many of them, for our country. Let it be a reminder to each member of the Commandery-in-Chief of our solemn duty to the order because of the heritage that is ours through the deeds and sacrifices of our fathers. Again we thank you for this token. [Applause.]

If the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief will assume command, I will now read my report.

The Commander-in-Chief read his report, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,

SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.,

LACROSSE, Kansas, September 5th, 1896.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL
MEETING OF THE COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, SONS OF VETERANS,
U. S. A.:

BROTHERS:—One year ago, in Knoxville, you placed me in command of this great patriotic order, and now, in Louisville, I meet you to give back into your charge the high office with which you honored me, with the hope that you may find no trust betrayed, no confidence violated. The results of the labors of the year are not entirely satisfactory to me, and I cannot, therefore, hope to find them so to you; but arduous as have been the duties, and sorely depressed as have been the financial conditions, your Commander has earnestly endeavored to do his whole duty to the order to the best of his ability, with what success you are to judge.

Headquarters were established September 25th, in rooms 1-2 National Bank Block, LaCrosse, Kansas, where the office furniture was received a few days later. My bond, in the sum of ten thousand dollars, was promptly submitted to and approved by the Council-in-Chief. The bond of the Adjutant-General was approved by me, and the business of that office has been admirably conducted, both by Brother Speelman and Adjutant-General Borhn, ac-

ording to the splendid system found in vogue. All records have been kept up, and all correspondence from whatever source has received the prompt and careful attention of the Adjutant-General.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF CARR.

The saddest event within the year was the death of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Elwood T. Carr, of Colonel Owen Jones' Camp, No. 45, of Radnor, Pennsylvania, which was noted in General Order No. 4.

Those of you who attended the past three sessions of the Commandery-in-Chief will remember him as a loyal and conscientious Son of a Veteran, a faithful brother, a courteous official, and ever true to the highest duties devolving upon him, both as a member of our order and as a citizen of our beloved country.

This meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief should prepare special resolutions in memory of our deceased brother, which should be spread upon the records of this Encampment, and a copy furnished to his immediate relatives and the Camp of which he was a member.

CONSTITUTION, RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The C. R. & R. has given very general satisfaction, and has been found broad enough to cover almost every case arising during the year. I think we should let well enough alone, and make no amendments in our fundamental law. In this connection, however, I feel constrained to call your attention to the legislation enacted at the Knoxville meeting in relation to "suspensions," and which will be found on page 217 of the Journal of the Knoxville Encampment. Almost all the troubles that have arisen regarding the construction of the legislation of that Encampment, and which have called for a number of decisions, struck at that legislation. It was not, in my opinion, wise legislation, but for reasons which are apparent is pernicious in its effects, and is calculated to make our membership, to a certain extent, fictitious. The legislation in question should be repealed.

RITUAL.

In compliance with the recommendation of Commander-in-Chief Bundy, adopted at Knoxville, a Committee on Ritual was appointed to consider suggestions and changes in the Ritual. This committee will submit its report to you at this meeting.

THE BLUE BOOK.

The last Encampment authorized the printing of the "Blue Book" revised by the special committee, and which was not printed last year for want of funds. Upon consultation with the Quartermaster-General, it was deemed impossible, owing to the condition of our finances, to comply with the instructions of the Commandery-in-Chief and preserve the credit of the order. The estimated cost of printing the book—\$600—could not possibly have been met this year on account of the heavy draft made upon our funds by the payment of the "Rowley" judgment, which, as will be noted elsewhere, cost the order more than \$600. I trust and believe that it will be possible to have the book printed soon.

COURTS MARTIAL.

Only three courts martial proceedings have been received by this administration. This, compared with nineteen in 1889, twenty-six in 1890, twenty-four in 1891, ten in 1892, sixteen in 1893, twenty-five in 1894, and fifteen in 1895, shows a remarkable decrease for the year in discipline for violations of our laws, and this is certainly gratifying if it means that violations have been reduced to a minimum. That this is true is apparent from the fact that but very few complaints of disobedience or infractions of law in any form, reached your Commander. The proceedings in each case were passed upon by Judge Advocate-General Oglesbee, as will more fully appear in that excellent official's report, all of his opinions in these and other matters being approved.

A form for service and proof of same for use in courts martial was prepared early in the year, and has been included with each set of court-martial blanks sent out during the year.

DECISIONS.

Twenty-eight decisions, relating largely to the construction of our laws regarding eligibility, and the matter of suspensions, were rendered during the year and are attached to this report. Many letters deciding matters not of a general nature were written, but were not made in the form of official decisions. Attention is especially directed to Decision No. 3, relating to the removal of Camp No. 53, located at Fort Buford, in the Division of South Dakota, to the Division of Washington. This Camp was composed wholly of members belonging to the Regular Army, and the Regiment to which they belonged was ordered to Fort Assinaboine, Mont., in the Division of Washington. The Camp desired to remove and retain its organization, and so petitioned. No objection was offered upon the part of any one, and the prayer of the Camp was granted on the recommendation of the Commander of the Division of South Dakota, and on the authority of decisions of both Commanders-in-Chief Webb and Weeks, permitting the removal of Camps from one point in a Division to another, and on the theory that it is always right to save a Camp to the order. The removal was accomplished and the Camp is in good standing to-day.

THE ROWLEY JUDGMENT.

This source of unlimited trouble to the Commandery-in-Chief and the Pennsylvania Division was settled as one of the first acts of this administration, on the basis approved by the Commandery-in-Chief at its last meeting, to-wit: the payment of \$500, and the costs of the Berks County (Pennsylvania) Court. In addition to these amounts an attorney's fee of \$25 was paid the attorneys employed to defend the original action, for which fee the Commandery-in-Chief was clearly responsible.

MEMBERSHIP.

A year ago we thought we had seen the lowest stage of the depression in the financial conditions with which the country had been burdened. This depression has not only continued, but has grown even more burdensome the past year than ever before. Notwithstanding that fact and all it signifies to an order of young men of limited means, we are pleased to report that the order generally, is in a healthy condition. The reports for the successive quarters ending June 30th, 1896, show a gain of 456 members, which though small is yet a gain.

Sixteen Divisions show gains for the year, the greatest of these being Pennsylvania with 319, Vermont with 294, Maine with 278, South Dakota with 252, Missouri with 245, Michigan with 129, Colorado with 105, Washington with 103, and Kansas with 102, the others ranging from 86 in Connecticut to 14 in West Virginia. Thirteen Divisions show losses ranging from 8 in New Hampshire to 602 in Ohio, five-eighths of the aggregate loss of the year being in Indiana and Ohio.

Out of the experiences of those who have been successful in building up our order, in the exchange of the views of each and in the consideration of the various plans of those who have had experience in active Division work, much good might result. Those who are comparatively new in official position might thus gain new ideas and theories that, put into practice, would result in an increased interest and an added membership. With this in mind I suggested to the local committee to provide for a conference of Division Commanders and all others interested in the welfare of our order. A session of the Encampment might, with profit, be devoted to a discussion of this character, but in any event a conference should be held at some time during this Encampment to discuss the important work that lies before us, and the conditions that confront us.

Our order is founded almost wholly on the sentiment of patriotism. Patriotism is a fundamental principle in man, active in time of real or apparent danger, latent in time of tranquillity. When over two million and a half of loyal men went out under the flag to sacrifice their lives, even, if necessary, for their country, patriotism was at a higher tide than now. In the earlier history of our order, the hearts of our soldier heroes were yet stirred

with the visions of war through which they had passed. This feeling was cultivated in their sons, our brothers. Patriotism then was active. It was alert. Then twenty-seven thousand one hundred and eight were mustered into our order in a single year. Aside from general prosperity which would contribute in a large measure to increase our membership, the way to secure an increased prosperity to our organization, the way to add to our own devotion to the principles we espouse, is, by every legitimate means we know, to stir into activity the patriotism that slumbers in every heart. There is as much need for active patriotism now as there has been at any period in our history. Let us continue to talk of and carry out the sublime object of our order, and so far as lies in our power, let us inculcate patriotism among all the people, for by so doing we become our country's defense, and lay, too, the foundations of our own growth and power. By thus doing ours will become the greatest patriotic order of our land.

MEETINGS.

I have long been impressed with the desirability of the Commandery-in-Chief meeting at the same time and place as the Grand Army of the Republic. I know this has not been and may not now be popular with the Commandery-in-Chief. Now may not be the time, but the time will come when the Grand Army and the Sons of Veterans will meet together. The reasons that have been urged against such a plan are two.

First—That because of the great number of people who usually attend the National meetings of the Grand Army, the membership of our Encampments would be scarcely noticed—indeed, that we would be a very small factor in a very large gathering.

Second—That because of the great number of people attending the Encampments, satisfactory hotel accommodations would be impossible to obtain except by the payment of excessive rates.

There has been some reason in these objections, but they have lost much of their force. The National Encampments of the Grand Army will not be so largely attended in the future. The old guard dwindles. The nation's heroes are brushing the dew from the willows on the banks of the swiftly running river of Death and are crossing over into the eternal Encampment of God at the rate of many thousands every year. As the years go running on, more rapidly than ever will they pass from life unto death. No longer will there be too many of them, or too many of all of us, for any of our larger cities to accommodate and entertain in a manner highly satisfactory. Should our hotel bills amount to a little more, which I much doubt, the difference would be more than made up in the railway fare saved through the lower rates granted the Grand Army. So far as any additional expense to the Commandery-in-Chief would be concerned, I feel assured that in the increased growth sustained by our order as a result of the closer feeling and more fraternal relations that would obtain between the Grand Army and the Sons of Veterans, the Commandery-in-Chief would be enabled to easily meet any added expense. We should meet with our fathers and have a part in paying them the tribute of honor and devotion due them from us, as from all the people of the nation. To march shoulder to shoulder with the heroes of Gettysburg and Appomattox; to visit their Encampment, and to have them visit ours; to meet with them around the Camp-fire; to receive from an association of this character a deeper draught of earnestness and patriotic feeling; to exhibit a deeper interest in the welfare of the remnant of the once grandest army ever marshalled upon the continent; to arouse in the hearts of the soldier-heroes of our nation a deeper, closer, warmer feeling of comradeship for us and for our organization—all these would be but the legitimate results of following to the letter the express objects of our order as laid down in our constitution. More nearly would we be carrying out the true objects of our fraternity; much more would we be like sons of fathers whom we delight to honor. Their cause should be our cause; their pathway should be our pathway; their days should be our days. We should be glad to have the opportunity to see them honored by the devotion of a grateful people. Thus would we gain a prestige more valuable to us than could possibly be obtained by meeting at a different place. By reason of the more

cordial relations thus established they would evince a more practical interest in our organization, bearing richest fruit in the addition to our membership of many more of those young men whose fathers adventured their lives afar in the troublous times of war, and in the increased prosperity that would surely come to us as a reward for our devotion to the highest dictates of duty and the wisest suggestions of policy.

TEN YEAR SERVICE BADGE.

As authorized by the Fourteenth Annual Encampment, I early appointed a committee to prepare a design for, and provide for the manufacture of the Ten Year Service Badge provided for by that meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief. The committee has agreed upon a design, but as it differs from the specifications of the resolution adopted by the Commandery-in-Chief, the committee has not made any contract for the manufacture, but will submit a report of its deliberations, and ask this meeting to approve the design submitted by the committee.

FINANCES.

We are now endeavoring to run the order on the same per capita tax, sixteen cents per annum, that we had as an income when the membership was at its highest figure. To do this and keep out of debt requires strict economy in all the departments of the Commandery-in-Chief.

On assuming command we had just \$211.95 in cash and a surplus of \$2,658.90, which latter amount was at once reduced in the sum of \$606.06, the amount of the Rowley claim, made a liability by the action of the Knoxville Encampment, as compared with \$1,083.04 in cash and a surplus of \$4,298.75 at the beginning of Commander-in-Chief Maccabe's administration, and \$1,494.66 in cash and a surplus of \$4,131.26 at the beginning of Commander-in-Chief Bundy's administration.

We have studiously avoided any unnecessary expenditures, maintaining the most rigid economy in the conduct of the affairs of the order the past year. We are out of debt, and have \$1,427.32 in cash, and a surplus of \$3,601.24 on hand. The estimated expense of this Encampment will be \$600, leaving \$827.32 in cash and the surplus of \$3,000 to turn over to the succeeding administration. In the report of the Quartermaster-General will be found a detailed account of the financial transactions of the year.

DIVISIONS.

The Division of Michigan at its annual meeting in 1895 failed to select a time for the annual meeting this year. The Division Commander without consulting the Division Council, selected June 23, 24, 25, 26, as the time, and this action was published in Division Order No. 1, March 18th, 1896, as the action of the Council. On June 19th, Commander Henderson issued a special order changing the time to July 14th to 17th. Upon receipt of this order at Commandery-in-Chief Headquarters, Commander Henderson was wired and written that the selection of such dates was in violation of the C., R. & R., and that the Council only had power to act in the premises. Under date of June 27th, Commander Henderson wrote that he had changed the time in compliance with my instructions, and had fixed upon the 9th to 17th of July as the time for holding the Encampment. He was at once wired that the selection of that time was also in violation of the law of the order and that the Encampment must be held within the constitutional limit. No response was made to this message, and nothing has since been heard from Brother Henderson.

Under date of July 1st, the Chairman of the Division Council, Brother W. A. Cowles, wrote that the Division Commander had ignored the Council in the selection of a date for the Division Encampment, and had then fixed upon a date beyond the constitutional limit, and that the Council, exercising its prerogative, had fixed the time for holding the Encampment for July 7, 8, 9, at the same place as previously announced in Division Orders. It seems, however, that nothing came of this action of the Council, for the Encampment was held July 14-17.

Division Commander Henderson's action was clearly illegal, and no excuse has yet been offered to justify the arbitrary methods resorted to in this

instance. His action cannot be too severely condemned, especially in attempting to cover up the irregularity by notifying the Commander-in-Chief that the Encampment would be convened July 9th, when it was not intended to be and was not convened until July 14th.

Any action taken by the Encampment so held, including the election of officers, the enactment of legislation and the fixing of the per capita tax, was certainly irregular, if not entirely void. H. E. Cowdin, who was elected Division Commander at this Encampment, has filed the usual bond and has been recognized as the de facto Commander.

The whole matter, together with all correspondence and records relating thereto, is referred to the Commandery-in-Chief for action, with the suggestion that the election of officers, and the legislation of the Encampment not inconsistent with the C., R. and R. be legalized, this, because to do otherwise might cause the Division of Michigan irreparable injury.

Frank G. Cornwell was elected Commander of the Division of West Virginia at the Division Encampment held in April, but on July 9th, he resigned, and Senior Vice Commander A. B. Rule was placed in command with instructions to convene the Division Council to elect a Commander to serve out the unexpired term. On August 20th, at a meeting of the Council held for that purpose, Robert F. Adams, of Huntington, was elected to fill the vacancy. He has been duly installed.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

I was permitted to visit the Division Encampments of Kansas, Missouri, Ohio and Massachusetts. I would gladly have taken the time to have made other official visits, had the financial condition of the order justified it, for I think too much importance cannot be attached to these official visits, and would the condition of the finances warrant it, the Commander-in-Chief should visit every Division Encampment either in person or by some able representative. It has also been my pleasant duty and high privilege to represent the order upon many occasions at meetings of our own and kindred organizations.

RELATIONS WITH THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

A closer, warmer feeling of comradeship between the members of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the organization in which we are enrolled can only be productive of beneficial results to our order. It has been my earnest effort to encourage to the utmost such a feeling. An official address calling attention at some length to the principles and objects of our order, and asking the earnest co-operation and assistance of the Grand Army in building up, and extending the usefulness of our organization, was issued early in the year, and having received the cordial endorsement of Commander-in-Chief Ivan N. Walker, was, through his kindness, read in every Post in that order. The many practical responses made to this appeal testified to me of a deep interest in our welfare. From every Department came requests from Post Commanders for blanks and instructions for the organization of Camps. In every instance coming under my notice the past year, the members of the Grand Army have proven themselves to be our sincere friends and comrades. General Walker has, on many occasions during the year, proved himself to be our most loyal friend as did his worthy predecessors. He has been the direct means of the formation of a number of Camps, and at all times has been ready to encourage and aid the growth of our order. This Encampment should not fail to show its appreciation of his devotion to our cause, by providing for some token of love and esteem to be presented General Walker.

In this connection, I desire to extend the grateful thanks of our order to the Women's Relief Corps, and especially to Mrs. Lisabeth A. Turner, National President, for the aid and encouragement which were so kindly rendered us upon many occasions.

LADIES' AID SOCIETY.

In extending acknowledgements to our kindred societies, I would remember with gratitude the faithful work of our splendid auxiliary, the Ladies'

Aid Society. Wherever a Camp enjoys the companionship of an Aid, our order is the gainer, and I hope the time may come when every Camp will be blessed with the refining and inspiring influence of a Ladies' Aid Society.

God bless the girls. Though other hearts grow weary, theirs never do. Though other hands may falter, theirs will yet hold up the colors and point us to the future.

MILITARY.

About February 1, 1896, a bill was introduced in the lower house of Congress providing in substance as follows:

That upon proper application made, the Secretary of War may provide for the inspection of any organization of Sons of Veterans in any state or territory, for the purpose of making the same a part of the military reserve of the United States. That any organized company to the number of fifty making the application, and passing the satisfactory inspection shall be recognized as a part of the military reserve of the United States. That the Secretary of War is authorized to arm and equip any such authorized organization. That after July 1, 1897, the Secretary of War may, in his estimates for appropriations, include such amounts as may be necessary to provide for these organizations of Sons of Veterans, recognized as part of the military reserve.

The matter was brought to my attention at once. I thought favorably of the plan, and immediately took up the matter with all the Division Commanders, requesting them to do every thing in their power to secure the support of the Senators and Representatives of their respective Divisions, for the bill. Numerous petitions were presented to the Committee on Military Affairs of the House, praying for a favorable report on the measure. Many personal letters were written friends of the order in both House and Senate, and many were the assurances of support received.

That a law of this nature would solve the question of the military features of our order, will, I think, be conceded. That it would prove of great benefit to our organization in encouragement to those who are partial to the military feature, is also true.

I am not informed as to the status of the bill, but it is probable that the measure will be taken up at the next session of Congress. It should receive the endorsement of the Commandery-in-Chief, which would greatly aid its passage.

BONDS OF DIVISION COMMANDERS.

The Fourteenth Annual Encampment provided for a special form of bond for Division Commanders. A form suitable for Division Commanders and all other officers required to give bond with the qualification of the sureties attached was prepared and has been in use the past year. The bonds of all the Division Commanders, except that of the Commander of the Division of Oregon, have been received at headquarters, duly approved, and filed with the Quartermaster-General. In this instance, a satisfactory reason for the delay has been given. The bond will be submitted to my successor at an early date.

THE STAFF.

No Commander-in-Chief was ever rendered under deeper and more lasting obligations to the members of his staff. Each officer has been earnest and conscientious, and has proven himself loyal to the highest requirements of his position.

Your most careful consideration is invited to the admirable reports submitted by each for your information as to the state of the order.

TRANSPORTATION AND LOCAL COMMITTEES.

The splendid work of the Committee on Transportation, and the untiring efforts of the several local committees for the entertainment of this Encampment, merit the highest approbation of the Commandery-in-Chief. The citizens of Louisville have well sustained their enviable reputation for hospitality, and have earned for themselves the grateful appreciation of all who may attend this meeting.

CONCLUSION.

In laying aside the badge and the many responsibilities of my office, I desire to express to all my sincere appreciation of the generous treatment ac-

corded me, and the splendid support that my efforts for the good of the order have received from the rank and file of our membership.

Especially am I indebted to Adjutant-General Borin, who has proved himself a most loyal and conscientious official, a true friend and faithful brother. His services to the order have been of such a character as to earn for him a recompense that can never be paid. To him and Quartermaster-General Loebenstein, and the other members of my most faithful staff, is due largely whatever of success has been attained and whatever of worth has crowned the efforts of this administration.

In conclusion, permit me to express the hope that in this Encampment, in the exchange of thought, and out of the experiences of the past, we may be enabled to draw lessons that will inspire us to consecrate ourselves anew to the work that lies before us as true Sons of Veterans and loyal citizens of our beloved country. May God bless our order and grant that it may be the great rock of security to this nation of liberty-loving and law-abiding people. Yours, very sincerely,

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

RECOMMENDATIONS.

In accordance with the views expressed in the body of my report I would make the following recommendations:

1. That a committee of three be appointed to draft resolutions in memory of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Elwood T. Carr, and that the said resolutions be spread upon the records of this Encampment, and a copy furnished the immediate relatives of Brother Carr and the Camp of which he was a member.
2. That no amendments be made at this time to the C., R. and R.
3. Should any amendments be made to the C., R. and R. that they be promulgated only through the medium of general orders, thus saving the expense of an extra edition.
4. That the incoming administration be instructed to have a sufficient number of copies of the revised "Blue Book" printed as soon as, in the opinion of the Commander-in-Chief and the Quartermaster-General, the condition of the finances will justify the expense.
5. That the election of officers and all legislation enacted at the Encampment of the Division of Michigan, held July 14-17, 1896, not inconsistent with the C., R. and R., be, by this meeting, legalized to all intents and purposes the same as if the said Encampment of the Division of Michigan had been held in conformity to the law of our order.
6. That a committee of three be appointed to procure a suitable token to be presented General Ivan N. Walker as a testimonial of our regard for him and appreciation of his efforts in behalf of our order during the past year.
7. That a meeting be arranged for some convenient time during this Encampment for a conference of Division Commanders and others, upon the state of the order.
8. That this Encampment provide by resolution for the annual meetings of the Commandery-in-Chief being held hereafter at the same time and place as the National Encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic.
9. That this Encampment endorse the measure introduced in the present Congress, providing for the recognition of organizations of Sons of Veterans as part of the Military Reserve of the United States.

DECISIONS.

DECISION NO. 1. (J. A. Gen. Opinion No. 1.)

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Oct. 17, 1895.

The findings in this court-martial case of Captain William B. Coman, of General W. F. Draper Camp No. 44, Division of Massachusetts, for the reasons given in Opinion No. 1, of Judge Advocate-General Oglesbee, are approved and the punishment is mitigated to degradation from office and suspension from the order for a period of two years, dating from December 2d, 1893.

See Decision No. 3, of Commander-in-Chief Bundy, dated November 27th, 1894; also see Section 1044, Page 111, Regulations for the Army of the United States, which provides as follows:

"The power to pardon or mitigate punishment, prescribed by a court martial, is vested in the authority which confirms the proceedings."

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

Official: H. V. Speelman, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 2.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Oct. 18, 1895.

CAPTAIN GEO. H. BLISS, COMMANDING JOHN M. SIMMS CAMP NO 49,
STAMFORD, CONN.:

Dear Sir and Brother: In your letter of October 9th, received this day from Past Commander-in-Chief Bundy, you inquire as to whether the regular order of camp business can be legally interrupted by a motion to adjourn.

I answer, Yes; but by referring to Section No. 19, Page 84, of the C., R. and R., you will observe that while this is true, the Camp must be closed in form according to the ritual. Fraternally yours, in F., C. and L.,

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

Official: H. V. Speelman, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 3.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Oct. 18, 1895.

This question comes from the Commander of the Division of South Dakota:

Gen. Whistler Camp No. 53, located at Fort Buford, North Dakota, in the Division of South Dakota, is composed almost entirely of members belonging to the Regular Army. The Regiment to which they belong has been ordered to Fort Assinaboine, Montana, in the jurisdiction of the Division of Washington. The Camp desires to move, continuing its present organization. A decision as to whether this may be done is desired.

The constitution is silent upon the point of the removal of a Camp from its chartered location to any other point; but yet it has repeatedly been held that a Camp may remove from one point to another in the same Division, upon presenting a statement of the reasons therefor to the Division Commander, it being the duty of the Commander to approve of the Camp's action, if satisfied that it is for the good of the Division, and that a new charter should be issued, showing such change of location. (See Gen. Webb's Decision No. 31; also Gen. Weeks' Decision No. 11.)

The circumstances of this case are, of course, somewhat different from a removal within a Division, but it would seem very essential for the good of the order-at-large that the Camp be permitted to so remove. If the permission is denied and the Camp disbanded, the Camp is not only lost to the order, but from the circumstances probably the entire membership also. In case of removal, the Division from which it removes loses no more than it would should the Camp be compelled to disband.

Where the entire membership of the Camp desires to remove the same as is practically the case in this instance, and such removal can only be conducive to the best interests of the order at large, it would seem only just and equitable that all technicalities be laid aside, and that permission should be granted for such removal.

I would therefore hold that the Commander of the Division of South Dakota should approve such action of the Camp, and upon the payment of all debts (if any) due the Division, issue to said Camp a certificate, under the seal of the Division, giving authority for such removal, which said certificate, when presented to the Commander of the Division of Washington, accompanied by the sum of four dollars, two dollars of which sum shall be immediately forwarded to these headquarters, shall entitle said Camp to be enrolled upon the records of the said Division of Washington as a regularly constituted and lawful Camp of said Division, and thereupon a new charter, showing such change in location, will be issued to said Camp.

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

Official: H. V. Speelman, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 4.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Nov. 4, 1895.

W. W. SPARKS, COMMANDER WASHINGTON DIVISION, S. V., U. S. A.:

Dear Sir and Brother: You submit the following question: "Can a boy whose mother married his step-father when the boy was but one year old, join our order, the boy's step-father being an old soldier and a member of the G. A. R.?"

He is not eligible to membership in our order for the reason that he is not a descendant of an honorably discharged Union soldier, sailor or marine of the war of 1861-1865.

Fraternally yours, in F., C. and L.,

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

Official: H. V. SPEELMAN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 5.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Nov. 20, 1895.

COMMANDER FRIED E. BOLTON, BOSTON, MASS.:

My Dear Commander: Replying to your favor of the 15th, relative to filing of Division Surgeon's report, he having already filed one with the Surgeon-General during his term of office, I would say that if the report of your surgeon was filed with the Surgeon-General prior to the Knoxville Encampment, and was made a part of his report at said Encampment, then it will be necessary for your surgeon to again gather data for a report to the Surgeon-General for the current year, which began at the close of the Knoxville Encampment, and will close with the Louisville Encampment in 1896. The reports from the several Camps should be filed with the Division Surgeon on or before December 30th. It is certainly his duty to then prepare his report before his term of office expires, and file the same with the Surgeon-General, that he may have a report from your Division to use in the compilation of his reports to the National Encampment.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 6.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Nov. 22, 1895.

COMMANDER H. W. HUFFMAN, EMPORIA, KANSAS:

My Dear Commander: Replying to your favor of November 21, asking "is the son of a daughter of a veteran eligible to membership in our order?" I would answer, Yes.

Section 1, Art. 5, Chap. 1, of the C., R. and R., provides that: "All male descendants, not less than eighteen years of age, of deceased or honorably discharged soldiers, sailors or marines, etc.," shall be eligible to membership in our order. (See Decision No. 34, of Commander-in-Chief Weeks, Proceedings of the Eleventh Annual Encampment. Also Decision No. 45, of Commander-in-Chief Bundy, which will appear in the Proceedings of the Fourteenth Annual Encampment. Also Decision No. 1, of Commander-in-Chief Hall, Proceedings of the Twelfth Annual Encampment.)

From the section above quoted and the Decisions cited, you will readily see that "The son of a daughter of a veteran [is] eligible to membership in our order."

Yours faithfully,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 7.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Nov. 26, 1895.

COMMANDER FRANK A. WHITE, EASTON, MARYLAND:

My Dear Commander: In reply to your inquiry of November 22d, asking if U. S. Grant Camp No. 3, of Wilmington, Delaware, Maryland Division, which you state was disbanded March 31, 1895, after being suspended one year, can be reinstated. No Camp that has been legally disbanded can be reinstated. A Camp at disbandment drops out of existence. This Camp was properly suspended by the Division Commander, who acted under the provisions of Section 4, Art. 1, Chap. 5, of the C., R. and R. It was disbanded by the Division Commander in strict compliance with the C., R. and R. (See Section 5, Art. 4, Chap. 5.)

Members of this Camp who were in good standing at the time of its dissolution are provided for in the C., R. and R. (See Section 4, Art. 4, Chap. 2.)

I regret very much the condition as to this Camp, but the law is plain and must be followed. Upon application a charter could issue under the same name and number, provided the same name or number has not been appropriated by some other Camp.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 8. (J. A. Gen. Opinion No. 2.)

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Nov. 27, 1895.

COL. CHARLES E. DIEFENDERFER, COMMANDER PENNSYLVANIA DIVISION, SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A., READING, PENNSYLVANIA:

Dear Commander: I hand you herewith the court-martial proceedings in the case of Brother A. Wesley Weikel, of the Division Council of your Division, together with Opinion No. 2 of the Judge Advocate-General, in relation thereto.

This brother was charged with the commission of a scandalous crime against the laws of the land, and with conduct unbecoming a member in his relation to the order, and was found guilty, and sentenced to be dishonorably discharged and dismissed from the order.

I am of the opinion that the charges and specifications are sufficiently plain and explicit, and that the evidence is sufficient to sustain the findings.

The findings and sentence are therefore hereby approved, and you are directed to at once have the sentence carried into effect.

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

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 9.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Nov. 29, 1895.

COL. FRED. E. BOLTON, BOSTON, MASS.:

My Dear Commander: You ask a Decision upon two propositions:

First—The effect of the legislation of the Knoxville Encampment regarding suspension of members for non-payment of dues, upon Section 3, Art. 4, Chap. 5, of the C., R. and R.

The section above referred to reads as follows: "Any member of a Camp who is six months in arrears in the payment of his dues shall be prohibited from voting; shall not be permitted to enter any Camp room while the Camp is in session; shall be ineligible to any office in the Sons of Veterans, and shall be reported 'suspended' in the quarterly reports to the Division Headquarters until such dues are paid," etc.

The legislation in question was as follows: "The suspension of a member for non-payment of dues shall rest entirely upon the vote of the Camp," etc.

The foundation for the enforcement of Sec. 3, Art. 4, Chap. 5, existed in the suspension, which now, by the legislation above mentioned, rests entirely upon the vote of the Camp. If a brother is six months in arrears in the payment of his dues and is suspended by a vote of his Camp, then Sec. 3 is operative in so far as results are concerned. If he is not suspended by the vote of his Camp, however much in arrears he may be, the provisions of Sec. 3 are nugatory, and do not apply, for until he is legally suspended he is in good standing, and entitled to all the rights and privileges of a member in good standing. It follows as a matter of course that until the member is lawfully suspended by the vote of his Camp, the per capita tax for said member must be remitted to Division Headquarters.

Second—The manner of depriving a commissioned officer of past privileges, or rank, for failure to submit reports within a reasonable time after the same are due, and the authority therefor.

Section 1, Art. 4, page 53, of C., R. and R., provides: "Any Division in arrears for reports or dues shall be excluded from all representation in the Commandery-in-Chief until the same are paid."

Section 2—"Any camp in arrears for reports or dues shall not be allowed any representation in the Division Encampment to which it is attached until the same are paid."

The Knoxville Encampment, by resolution, provided: "That commissioned officers failing to submit reports from all their Departments within a specified time after they are due, be deprived of the privileges accorded to Past Captains or Colonels. (Commanders.)"

Another resolution adopted was: "That Sections 1 and 2, Art. 4, page 53 of C., R. and R., be interpreted so as to specifically mean that any Camp or Division in arrears for reports due the Departments, either Division or National, of the Adjutant-General (Adjutant), Quartermaster-General (Quartermaster), Surgeon-General (Surgeon), Inspector-General (Inspector), or Chaplain-in-Chief (Chaplain), shall be denied all representation in their respective Division (and also in the National) Encampments in so far as appertains to the sitting (Captain or) Division Commander and regularly elected and appointed delegates or alternates to the convention."

The resolutions seem somewhat ambiguous, but, considered together, would seem to indicate an intention, not to deprive any member of his past rank, but only to deprive him, during his term of office, of his seat in the Encampment, Division or National, which seat he would have by reason of the past rank he holds, as a punishment for dereliction of duty.

I would therefore hold that for failure to submit such reports within the specified time, whatever that may be, a commissioned officer may be deprived, for the time being, of his seat in the Division or National Encampment, and this notwithstanding he may claim such privilege by virtue of a past rank.

The manner in which this may be enforced lies in the making up of the Encampment Roll, which is done by the Adjutant, under the direction of the Division Commander, or the Adjutant-General, under the direction of the Commander-in-Chief.

Yours sincerely,

W. H. RUSSELL,

Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 10.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Nov. 29, 1895.

CAPTAIN CHAS. H. VANCIL, GREAT BEND, KANSAS:

My Dear Captain: Your favor asking a decision upon the question as to whether a majority vote is necessary in the election of Camp officers, is before me.

I would answer in the affirmative. The C., R. and R. is silent upon this matter, but it will be noted that, in the Division Encampment, a majority vote is necessary to elect all but the Council and delegates. In the Commandery-in-Chief a majority vote is required to elect all the officers. The latter is the general rule in all societies of similar nature to ours. Cushing's Manual, which, by our laws, shall govern when our regulations are silent, would require a majority vote in the election of officers.

You also ask, "Is it necessary that a member be present to be elected to a Camp office?"

I would answer, No. The C., R. and R. specifically requires a member to be present to be elected to a Division or a Commandery-in-Chief office, but it does not contain such provision regarding Camp officers, and it is evident that the intention was not to require a member to be present to be elected to an office in the Camp. The reason for this is obvious: The Division or Commandery-in-Chief officer elected is expected to be installed at the meeting then in session, hence he should be present. The Camp officer is not installed for one month after his election, and, if not present at the time of his election, may be easily notified, and his attendance secured at the time of installation.

Yours faithfully,

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

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 11. (J. A. Gen. Opinion No. 4.)

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Dec. 13, 1895.

COMMANDER F. E. WAY, WAHOO, NEBRASKA:

My Dear Commander: The Proceedings in the Court-Martial of Brothers Dennis Huff and Frank H. Pulliam, of Camp No. 5, in your Division, are respectfully returned herewith, together with Opinion No. 4, of the Judge Advocate-General, in which I concur.

The Findings and Sentence are hereby disapproved.

I would, further, concur in the recommendation of the Judge Advocate-General that a new Court be appointed and a new trial had.

Yours fraternally,

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

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 12. (J. A. Gen. Opinion No. 3.)

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Dec. 13, 1895.

COMMANDER A. B. SPINK, PROVIDENCE, R. I.:

My Dear Commander: I hand you herewith Opinion No. 3 of the Judge Advocate-General, in which I fully concur.

I would suggest, however, that as much uniformity as possible should exist at all times in each Division and in each Camp, in the matter of uniforms. While the regulation uniform of the United States Army may be worn by "members of the order," as well as the regulation uniform of the order, as provided at length in the C., R. and R., yet Camp Captains and Division Commanders should endeavor to secure such a degree of uniformity as will make the membership the most presentable.

Yours faithfully,

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

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 13.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Dec. 19, 1895.

COL. GEO. H. FRYE, COMMANDER COLORADO DIVISION, NEW WINDSOR, COLORADO:

Dear Commander: You ask:

I.—“Is an ex-member of a disbanded Camp, who was in good standing but failed to obtain a transfer card at time Camp disbanded, eligible to become a charter member of a new Camp?” Yes; by obtaining a transfer card from the Division Commander, which may be done if the member was in good standing.

II.—“If not eligible, in what manner may he obtain relief?” The answer to the former question answers this also.

III.—“Must not a transfer card, granted by a Division, bear date of the disbandment of the Camp to which the brother belonged?” Not necessarily. It has been the custom to issue same at any time upon proper application and satisfactory showing as to right to the card at the hands of Division Commander.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 14.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Dec. 19, 1895.

COMMANDER J. E. PIERSON, HOPEWELL, NEW JERSEY:

My Dear Commander: You ask: “If a Post of the Sons of Veterans is mustered in as a Camp of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will its past Post Commanders and those brothers in good standing who have served as Department Commanders of the Post System, Sons of Veterans, be allowed a vote upon their past rank?”

I would answer this question in the negative. The last legislation regarding the terms of the consolidation of the Camp and Post systems was at the St. Joseph Encampment, 1890, which embodied the following:

“That all Posts coming into the order of S. of V., U. S. A., on or before December 31, 1890, shall be entitled to a Camp packet and Charter free of charge, and that all Division officers and Post officers who shall come in with their Posts prior to December 31, 1890, or who have heretofore come in, shall be accorded corresponding rank and past honors as they are at the time entitled to; and sitting officers shall rank as past officers.” (Pro. Ninth National Encampment, page 178.)

By the terms of this resolution it was necessary for the officers to come in with their Posts prior to December 31, 1890, to retain the past rank they had secured in the Post system. I see no reason why the members of a Post may not be mustered into our order as a Camp, as any other Camp would be organized, at this time, but I see no way to secure to Commanders and Past Commanders of said Posts their past rank obtained by virtue of their services in the Post system, or the vote to which such rank would entitle them.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 15.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Dec. 20, 1895.

COL. H. H. HAMMER, ADJUTANT PENNSYLVANIA DIVISION, READING, PENNSYLVANIA:

My Dear Colonel: Answering your query of the 16th as to what name an applicant for membership in our order should give as his father's name—his father having enlisted and been discharged under an assumed name—I would suggest that the applicant sign his own name, give his father's correct name, and also his alias, with an explanation, and satisfactory evidence that

the applicant is the son of "A." who enlisted and was honorably discharged as "B." In the case you mention I understand the applicant has the honorable discharge granted to "B." It therefore seems to me it will not be difficult for the applicant to establish the fact that his father and the individual named in the discharge were one and the same person.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 16.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Dec. 21, 1895.

COMMANDER THOMAS L. JACOBS, COMMANDING DIVISION OF WISCONSIN, NEENAH, WISCONSIN:

Dear Commander: Your favor asking what disposition should be made of flags, furniture and other property of a Camp which has surrendered its Charter under the provisions of Section 3, Art. I, Chap. V., of the C., R. and R., is before me.

The section referred to only provides for the return to the Division of the specific "property of the Division or Order, including all books of record, Orders, Rituals, and Camp papers," and therefore can not be held to include the property of the Camp, such as funds, flags, furniture, etc.

The disposition of the Camp property, therefore, lies solely within the province of the Camp. (See Decision 19, General Weeks.)

Yours faithfully,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief,

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 17. (J. A. Gen. Opinion No. 5.)

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Jan. 3, 1896.

H. LOEBENSTEIN, ESQ., QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL S. V., U. S. A., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

Dear General: I have submitted the proposition recommended by you, regarding an increase, by action of the Council-in-Chief, in the per capita tax due from Divisions to the Commandery-in-Chief, to Judge-Advocate-General Oglesbee for an opinion as to the power of the Council-in-Chief in the premises, and enclose herewith his opinion No. 5 relating to this matter.

I would hold with Judge-Advocate-General Oglesbee that the Council-in-Chief is not authorized by the C., R. and R. to change the per capita tax, but that that power lies only in the Commandery-in-Chief at its stated yearly meeting. (See Decision No. 13 of General Weeks construing a similar proposition in the Constitution for the Government of Divisions.)

Yours faithfully,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 18.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Jan. 25, 1896.

COL. WALTER S. WILLEY, COMMANDER DIVISION NEW HAMPSHIRE, SOMERSWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE:

My Dear Commander: You ask how many representatives to the Division Encampment a Camp is entitled?

I would answer that the Division Constitution (Sec. 1, Art. II., fourth clause) authorizes representation as follows: One Representative-at-large from each Camp, and one additional Representative for every fifty members

or major fraction thereof, in good standing. Each Camp is entitled to at least one Delegate, and if the Camp has over twenty-five members it is entitled to one additional Delegate. If over seventy-five members it is entitled to two additional Delegates. If over one hundred and twenty-five members three additional Delegates, and so on to the limit of the membership of any Camp.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 19.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Feb. 3, 1896.

COL. C. E. DIEFENDERFER, COMMANDING DIVISION OF PENNSYLVANIA S. V., U. S. A., READING, PENNSYLVANIA:

My Dear Commander: The following matter comes on appeal from Camp No. 29 of your Division:

Camp No. 29 held its last meeting for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1895, on the evening of December 31, at which meeting the Camp, by vote, suspended several brothers for non-payment of dues, among others Past Captain H. J. Cunningham, who, the books showed, was then in arrears seventy-one cents, a statement of his dues having been sent him on December 3, notifying him of the amount to be due December 31, inclusive. After the order of business under which the suspension took place was passed, but before the meeting closed, Past Captain Cunningham, who was not present at the meeting, sent in to the Quartermaster-Sergeant the amount of his dues, according to the statement rendered him, seventy-one cents, which the Quartermaster-Sergeant refused to receive, for the reason that the accounts of the members for the quarter and the year had been closed. At the next meeting, January 7, 1896, Captain Cunningham again tendered the amount of his dues, seventy-one cents, asking that it be placed to his credit as of the date December 31, 1895. The money was accepted by the Quartermaster-Sergeant, who refused to credit the amount paid as of the date December 31, 1895, and offered Captain Cunningham a receipt for the amount paid, dated January 7, 1896, which he refused to accept, and then demanded that the amount be refunded to him, which demand was refused by the Q. M. Sgt. The Camp also refused to reinstate Past Captain Cunningham, and appealed to the Division Commander to sustain the action of the Camp. The Division Commander, however, refused to sustain the action of the Camp, holding that Past Captain Cunningham should have been reinstated by the Camp, he having tendered the amount of all dues at the last meeting of the Camp for the quarter ending December 31, 1895. From this Decision of the Division Commander the Camp appeals to the Commander-in-Chief.

The appeal must be overruled and the Division Commander sustained in his decision, under the statement made by the Camp of the facts. Captain Cunningham had a right at any time before the last meeting of the quarter closed to pay up his arrearages to the Camp, and having offered to do this, the offer being refused, a tender of the whole amount again being made at the next meeting with the demand that the amount be credited as of the date of the previous tender, and the Camp accepting the amount then tendered, Past Captain Cunningham had then done and performed all that was required of him to entitle him to be placed in good standing in the Camp, and the Camp should have then vacated the premature order of suspension.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 20.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, March 7, 1896.

COL. THOS. L. JACOBS, COMMANDER WISCONSIN DIVISION, NEENAH, WISCONSIN:

Dear Colonel: Answering your query as to whether the son of a member of the United States Engineer Corps is eligible to membership in the Sons of Veterans:

If the service of his father in such capacity was during the Civil War of 1861-65, then the son is eligible to membership, providing, of course, that he is otherwise eligible under the provisions of our law. The "Army and Navy," as used in the broad sense of our eligibility clause, comprehends all branches of the service, such as the Engineer, Medical, Pay, Ordnance and Signal Corps.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 21.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, April 6, 1896.

COL. W. W. SPARKS, COMMANDER DIVISION OF WASHINGTON, VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON:

Dear Commander: Answering your question, "Must a Camp pay per capita tax on a member mustered during the past quarter?" I would answer in the affirmative. The only exception to this is found in the provisions of Section 2, Art. 5, on page 53, C., R. and R., which provides that "neither Camps nor Divisions shall be required to pay per capita tax on any Camp for the quarter in which the Camp was mustered." This does not exempt the Camps, mustered the previous quarter, from paying tax upon the individual members mustered during any succeeding quarter, but the tax must be paid for the quarter in which the member was mustered, unless he was mustered during the quarter in which the Camp was mustered.

Your faithfully,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 22.

April 24, 1896.

CAPTAIN JOHN T. SUTTER, NEW YORK CITY:

Dear Sir and Brother: Your favor appealing from the ruling of Col. L. J. Macy, wherein he holds that certain transfer cards issued by the officials of Camp No. 28 are illegal, has not come to me through the proper channel, as it should come through the Division Commander, but I will take jurisdiction thereof, and would respectfully answer as follows:

The Camp was not authorized to issue the transfer cards, it being under suspension, and they are therefore illegal. The First Sergeant should have sent the Division Commander a list of the Brothers in good standing at the time, June 30, as soon as the Camp voted to surrender its Charter, and the Commander should have issued transfer cards to those under the authority of Section 4, page 11, of the C., R. and R., and this without expense to the Brother receiving the card. It is not necessary for the Camp now to be reinstated for the Commander to issue the cards. As soon as he is furnished the proper list it will be his duty to issue the transfer cards to those entitled to receive them. There is no doubt as to the Camp being suspended, it having failed to make the reports and pay the tax required by the C., R. and R.

Yours very fraternally,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 23.

May 4, 1896.

R. LOEBENSTEIN, QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

Dear Sir and Brother: Your valued favor in relation to the Ten-Year Service Medal, asking for a Decision on the following questions, is at hand.

(1) Has the Committee authority to select a design for such medal and to contract for its manufacture prior to its report to the Louisville Encampment and without further action on the part of the Commandery-in-Chief?

(2) Is it necessary that the ribbon mentioned in the resolution be adhered to for use on the medal, or can another ribbon be substituted at the pleasure of the Committee?

(3) Is it necessary that the "pendant shall be suspended from a bar," or may the bar be dispensed with, at the pleasure of the Committee?

To question No. 1 I would answer that the Resolution gives the Committee full authority in the premises, and that the Committee may select a design and contract for the manufacture of the badge without further action of the Commandery-in-Chief.

To questions Nos. 2 and 3 I would answer that, if the Committee decides to select the design and contract for the manufacture of the badge, then the Committee must follow the instructions of the Resolution adopted by the Encampment, and not vary the same in any particular.

Yours fraternally,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 24. (J. A. Gen. Opinion No. 6.)

May 15, 1896.

COL. H. D. SISSON, COMMANDER MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION, PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS:

Dear Commander: In the matter of the application of J. H. Manning I hand you Opinion No. 6 of Judge Advocate-General Oglesbee. I have given this case a very careful consideration, and feel constrained to concur in the conclusion reached by General Oglesbee, that Mr. Manning is not eligible to membership in our Order.

Surgeon Manning went to the front with all a patriot's zeal, and while he rendered valuable aid and assistance to suffering Massachusetts soldiers during the few weeks he was at Alexandria and Washington, yet the evidence is undisputed that his proffered services were not accepted by the Government, and that he returned home without having been either mustered into the service of the United States or having served in any other capacity than as a civil surgeon.

My sympathy goes out strongly, in his effort to become a member of our Order, to the son of this loyal Massachusetts surgeon who was willing to give his invaluable services, yes, even his life, in behalf of his country, but under the law of our Order, I can only hold him ineligible to such membership, much as I regret to be compelled to do so.

Yours very fraternally,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 25.

June 16, 1896.

COMMANDER J. B. ADAMS, ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY:

Dear Commander: Answering your question as to whether "a member of a Camp is entitled to admission to his Camp when not wearing the regulation badge of the Order," I would say no. He should be provided with the regulation badge before he enters the Camp room. This may be done either before or when he enters the ante-room. The usual plan followed is to have extra badges in the ante-room, and if any brother comes without his badge he can then "clothe himself in the proper regalia" before entering the Camp room.

You also ask, "Is a member of a Camp entitled to transact business in his Camp when not wearing the regulation badge of the Order?"

I would answer this in the negative. The C., R. and R. expressly provides that the regulation badge of the Order shall be worn in Camp, on parade, or other duty. It has previously been held that to be entitled to vote the member must be wearing the regulation badge of the Order. The provision of the C., R. and R. is certainly mandatory. The legal construction universally placed upon the word "shall" will admit of no other construction of this provision. It is then mandatory that the regulation badge of the Order be worn when in the Camp room.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 26.

July 2, 1896.

COL. G. W. HARRINGTON, HIAWATHA, KANSAS:

Dear Colonel: Yours of June 29, submitting an appeal from your Decision, at hand.

The questions as submitted to you are as follows:

No. 1. Does it require the vote of a Camp to suspend members six months in arrears for dues?

No. 2. Has the Camp the power to keep them from being suspended otherwise than by the remission of dues?

Your answer to both questions was in the negative, holding that "a member stands suspended by virtue of his being in arrears."

The Knoxville Encampment adopted the following legislation: "The suspension of a member for non-payment of dues shall rest entirely upon the vote of the Camp," etc.

This is in effect an amendment to the C., R. and R., and renders the provisions of Section 5, Art. 4, Chap. 5, so far as that section pertains to the manner of suspension, nugatory and inoperative. If the member is not suspended by the vote of his Camp, however much in arrears he may be, he must be held to be in good standing, for until suspended legally he is certainly entitled to all the rights and privileges of a member in good standing.

My attention has been called to the action of the Knoxville Encampment deciding not to amend the C., R. and R. at that meeting, and therefore the unconstitutionality of any amendments adopted at that time. It is true that the Encampment adopted the Commander-in-Chief's recommendation that no amendments be made. The Encampment also adopted the recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief that, if any amendments be made, they be printed on "inserts" or in General Orders to avoid a new edition of the C., R. and R. The Encampment did amend the C., R. and R. in other particulars, for instance, in providing for five Rituals, instead of four, and this, too, when it was well understood, and was announced by the Commander-in-Chief, to be an amendment to the C., R. and R.

The amendment in question was embodied in a recommendation of the Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, and was favorably reported by the Committee on Officers' Reports. At the time of the presentation of this report the Encampment was working under a rule that, if no objection was made, the recommendation of the Committee should stand adopted. In the case before us the Commander-in-Chief asked if there was any objection to the report of the Committee, and none being heard, declared the report of the Committee concurred in by the Encampment. This was in effect a unanimous vote of the Encampment, and sufficient to amend the C., R. and R. The Commander-in-Chief is not convinced of the wisdom of this legislation, but it is not in his province to make law, but to interpret it as found. The Decision made by you on both questions is reversed.

Yours fraternally,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 27.

July 24, 1896.

H. M. HANSON, COMMANDER OF THE DIVISION OF IOWA, MT. PLEASANT, IOWA:

Dear Brother Hanson: In the matter of the appeal of Camp No. 120, your Division, from your Decision requiring the payment of fifteen cents per capita for the quarter ending June 30, 1896, the per capita tax having been increased from fifty cents to sixty cents per annum for the "ensuing year," at the Division Encampment, April 28-30, 1896, the Camp claiming that this legislation should not take effect for the quarter during which the Encampment was held and this resolution passed, I would hold that your Decision is right, and the same is hereby sustained and the appeal of Camp No. 120 is overruled.

Section 2, of Art. 3, page 52, C., R. and R., says: "Each Division Encampment shall, at its stated yearly meeting, assess a per capita tax on each Camp within its jurisdiction not exceeding one dollar on each and every member in good standing, * * * and it shall be payable in four installments of equal parts, * * * on the first days of January, April, July and October."

The stated yearly meeting was held in April, and that meeting fixed the tax for the "ensuing year" at sixty cents, or fifteen cents per quarter. The next stated yearly meeting, it is fair to be presumed, will not be held for a year from the time the one in question was held. The tax cannot be changed until that time, and at that meeting it can be changed to suit the Encampment, within the constitutional limit. It therefore follows that this legislation was intended for the year for which this meeting had the right to legislate. This was for the quarter ending June 30, September 30, December 31, 1896, and March 31, 1897, or the "ensuing year." But one month of the year for which this meeting was to legislate had elapsed, when the per capita tax of the year was fixed. It seems entirely right and proper that the first installment of that yearly tax should be due and payable June 30, 1896, and such is my Decision.

Yours very sincerely,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

DECISION NO. 28.

August 14, 1896.

R. LOEBENSTEIN, QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL, S. V., U. S. A., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

My Dear General: You ask for an official Decision as to the time limit of the liability of the principal and sureties upon the bond of a Division Commander, and how long the bond should be held by you prior to its cancellation and delivery to the principal upon said bond.

I would hold that the liability of the principal and sureties continues for the period of one year after the retirement from office of the principal and until the affairs and accounts of the succeeding Commander are passed upon by the Division Council. Then if the affairs and accounts of the principal in question still appear to be and are correct, and are so certified by the Division Council, the liability shall cease, and the bond may be cancelled by the Quartermaster-General and delivered to the said principal upon said bond.

Yours very fraternally,
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant-General.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is no objection the report of the Commander-in-Chief will go to the Committee on Officers' Reports under the rule.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Senior Vice Commander, I move that that part of the Commander-in-Chief's report referring to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations be referred direct to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

The motion was seconded.

THE SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion. Are you ready for the question? Those in favor of the motion will so signify by the usual voting sign of the order. Down hands. Contrary, the same sign. The motion seems to be carried. It is carried, and it is so ordered.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF (Resuming Command): Next in the order of business is the report of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief read his report as follows:

REPORT OF THE SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

KNOXVILLE, Tennessee, Sept. 5, 1896.

TO THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF AND MEMBERS OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT, SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.:

Dear Sirs and Brothers: I am somewhat in doubt as to the duties of the Senior Vice Commander as regards the matter of a report. There seems to be no established custom governing reports from Vice Commanders; yet there appears in the records of this Encampment an occasional report from the Senior and Junior Commanders. In consequence of the vacancy existing at the station of the Senior Vice-Commander I feel that it would not be out of place to recognize the death of General Elwood T. Carr, in an official manner, assume command and rank as Senior Vice-Commander, and submit to you this report. The Constitutional duties of the Vice-Commander are few and in part remote, and which are liable to be realized only in cases of emergency. By virtue of the office the Vice-Commander is a member of the Council-in-Chief, whose duties are set forth in the C., R. and R. During the past year, by appointment of the Commander-in-Chief, it has become my duty to inspect and report upon the condition of the Headquarters of the Alabama and Tennessee Divisions, which duty was performed with fidelity. It has also become my duty during the year to inspect J. V. Pearce Camp, No. 33, of the Alabama and Tennessee Division, which was done, and due report thereof made to Division Headquarters.

On the 2d day of July, 1896, it was my privilege to assist the Division Commander of Alabama and Tennessee, Col. E. R. Carter, in the muster of Col. Lawless Camp, No. 8, in the City of Nashville, Tennessee, with twenty-three charter members. The official correspondence of this office has not been excessive, though it has been my pleasure to receive and file a large number of General Orders from the various Divisions, both of the Sons of the Veterans and Ladies' Aid, which I am pleased to acknowledge in this official manner. In the discharge of my duties as a member and as an officer in this Order I have been deeply impressed with the exclusive and distinguished privilege enjoyed by every son of a Veteran soldier of this great Republic, that of possessing a prerogative, eligibility for membership, that does not obtain in any other fraternal organization. We cannot deny our heritage of eligibility if we would, and we would not deny, if we could, that we are Sons of Veterans. Let us ever honor the name of our sires the Veteran Soldier in the war for the Union of 1861-5.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

To make our precepts more practical I would recommend first, that an Altar Flag of prescribed size and quality be adopted and furnished with each set of supplies to every new Camp upon its muster. I would recommend, second, that this National Encampment petition the Congress of the United States to consider favorably H. R. No. 5562, now pending before that body, wherein it is provided that the organization of the Sons of Veterans may become a part of the Military Reserve of the United States, and to urge that the same become a law. Such a recognition of the Order of the Sons of Veterans would dignify and utilize the Order as nothing else can do.

THE ENCAMPMENT AT KNOXVILLE.

The meeting of this Encampment South in 1895 at Knoxville, Tennessee, was a series of object lessons from Louisville to Atlanta. In August, 1894, I had the honor of presenting to this Encampment at Davenport, Iowa, an in-

visitation from the Alabama and Tennessee Division to come South and hold its Convention, in which Ex-Confederates joined with an assurance of a most hearty welcome and liberal hospitality. When the invitation was presented we were met with the inquiry: "If we go South will we be treated courteously?" to which we replied, "Come and see." The invitation was accepted, you came, you saw Knoxville with her hospitality and attractions and the renowned battle-field of "Fort Saunders," and added to the history of our Order the Battle Field Encampment at Knoxville. You touched at Chattanooga and viewed her battle-fields from Lookout Mountain, where Hooker fought above the clouds. You passed to the battle-field of Chickamauga, where General Rosencranz contended with General Bragg for the key to Chattanooga, and in wonderment beheld the unfolding panorama of Fraternity and Patriotism with the blending of a comrade's fellowship, as the once hostile columns met again, not in deadly combat, but in peace as brothers, pledging their united purpose and lives to guard unsullied that flag of a reunited country, the grand old Stars and Stripes. You stood in the way of the gate city, Atlanta, and there contemplated the scenes of Kennesaw Mountains, with General John A. Logan's assaulting columns, from whose topmost heights was wafted that typical message from General Sherman, "Hold the Fort, for I am coming with reinforcements." In front of Atlanta General McPherson received his mortal wound, whose name is honored by Comrade, Post and Camp. From out the walls of the Gate City, General Sherman moved on his famous march to the sea—Atlanta—the magic city, you saw, you wondered and returned home without the loss of a man. Brothers, with these experiences I leave you to answer the questions, "If we go South will we be received with hospitality and treated courteously?" You Sons of Veterans were the first to break over the traditional lines, the once "Trocha of America," and pitch your tents on the battle-fields where our fathers fearlessly met the cruel saber and deadly bullet, more than thirty years ago. Our fathers, of the Grand Army of the Republic, quickly followed the example of the boys, and moved South, to Louisville. We camped in 1895 where our fathers camped in 1861-5; we camped in 1896 in Louisville, where the G. A. R. camped in 1895.

SONS OF VETERANS IN THE SOUTH.

What is here and now stated may not be applicable to any great extent, nevertheless, there are localities in the South where there are Sons of Veterans of sufficient numbers to maintain good Camps, but owing to the conditions surrounding them the impression seems to prevail that to be known as an affiliated Son of a Veteran is insufficient to render such one unpopular in the social circle and militate against his chosen business or profession. We do not say that there is just cause for such conception, but that such conditions exist in some communities, there can be no doubt. We believe with a deeper sense of the character and dignity of the Order and a fuller acquaintance with its objects and teachings would remove prejudice and disarm criticism. Into this territory has migrated a large number of ex-Union Soldiers since the war, which, added to the respectable number of native Union soldiers of the South, furnishes a State Department of the G. A. R. for nearly every Southern State, respected and of respectable numbers. Wherever there are Grand Army men it is but fair to expect plenty of boys, loyal and true to the Flag of our Country, constituting a fruitful field for the work of this Order. At one point in the State of Georgia there is a Camp of Sons of Veterans made up within a colony formed by ex-Union soldiers who migrated from the North during the last few years. The Camps of the South generally are more or less isolated and need encouragement.

The Alabama and Tennessee Division is perhaps the largest in territorial limits of any jurisdiction, and embracing a larger proportion of the Southern States where the greatest number of battles were fought during the late war than any other Division. The boys of the Alabama and Tennessee Division may not be heard often, but they are making history by their work, exemplifying their loyalty to the memory of the deceased veteran soldier. On the 15th day of October next they will participate with the G. A. R. in laying the corner stone of a monument to the memory of the Union soldiers in the National Cemetery at Knoxville, Tennessee. The Trustees of the Monument Fund in the promotion of this enterprise are composed of two Grand Army

men and one Son of a Veteran. For a number of years these two organizations have combined their efforts in a Fourth of July celebration to raise a fund for the erection of this monument. Several of the Camps of this Division have made individual contributions to the Monument Fund, and a respectable amount of the sum now on hand has been realized through the efforts of Camp No. 3 at Knoxville. It is but fair to state that these Fourth of July picnics given under the management of the G. A. R. and S. V.'s have been participated in by ex-Confederate veterans, thereby giving it moral and material recognition.

THE TENNESSEE CENTENNIAL.

During the year 1897, by arrangement, the State of Tennessee will celebrate at Nashville—the capital—her one hundredth anniversary as the sixteenth State admitted into the National Union. The purpose of this celebration is as a Commonwealth to compare herself for a period of one hundred years, to develop and enlarge the spirit of patriotism, locally and in general, and to promote social and industrial enterprise and communication. The development of this exhibition has assumed a proportion such as to give assurance of an International character, and will afford an exceptional opportunity for the Order of the Sons of Veterans to impress itself more favorably upon the country, and especially the South, in the promotion of a stronger national fraternity among our young men. The Alabama and Tennessee Division joins heartily in the invitation of the City of Nashville and of Tennessee for this Encampment to hold its 1897 Convention in that city concurrent with the Tennessee Centennial Celebration.

It may appear a little immodest to urge at this time the special claims of Nashville, Tennessee, but let it be remembered that within the borders of Tennessee there were fought more battles than in any other State, save that of Virginia. The number of battles fought on the soil of Tennessee, great and small, from April 6, 1862—The Battle of Pittsburg Landing to the close of the War—was 298. There are buried in the six National Cemeteries in Tennessee 57,085 Union Soldiers, the greatest number contained in any State except Virginia, which has seventeen National Cemeteries, containing 74,153 graves of Union soldiers. Nashville, Tennessee contains the second largest National Cemetery in the Union, with 11,825 known and 4,701 unknown graves; total, 16,526. Vicksburg, Mississippi, contains the largest number of Union soldiers of any National Cemetery, 16,600 graves, and Arlington, Virginia, third, with 16,264 graves. These figures may seem startling to the younger men, but they forcibly remind us of the sacrifices of our fathers and of our duty to the Nation they died to save, and whose honor we are bound to sustain untarnished. From the State of Tennessee went more than 30,000 white men into the Union Army, whose percentage of losses was greater than that of any other State. At the same time, Tennessee furnished at least 100,000 troops to the Confederate Army. With such conditions is it any wonder that Tennessee was a battle-field during the entire period of the war? At Nashville was fought under old "Pap" Thomas for the Union, opposed by forces under General Hood, one of the most severe and decisive battles of the late war. Nearby is the battle-field of Murfreesboro and Stone River, and not far distant are the battle-fields of Pittsburg Landing and Shiloh and Franklin. These associations of events lying so contiguous with the Centennial offer the rarest attractions for the place of meeting in 1897.

Brothers, I voice not only my own grateful acknowledgments for honors conferred, but also that of the Alabama and Tennessee Division and of the City of Knoxville, for the honor conferred upon her by holding within her borders your Convention in 1895.

With malice toward none and charity for all, we press forward, as we are given to see the right, in the contest for the national honor and integrity, and to see that "the government of the people, by the people and for the people, shall not perish from the face of the earth." Yours in F. C. and I.,

W. R. COOPER,

Senior Vice-Commander.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The report of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief will go to the Committee on Officers' Reports under the rule. Next in order is the report of the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

REPORT OF JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF MARSH: Commander, the duties devolving upon the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief have been so arduous, and his time has been so entirely taken up seeing that the Brothers were entertained properly, that he has been unable to prepare a report. He hopes that he will be excused from making a report. [Laughter and applause.]

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The report will follow the usual course. [Laughter.] Next in the order of business is the report of the Adjutant-General.

The Adjutant-General read his report as follows:

REPORT OF THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL.
HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,
SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Sept. 5, 1896.

W. H. RUSSELL, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:

Commander: Fulfilling the requirements imposed upon my office, I submit the following report of service for the year about to close:

On November 16, 1895, in obedience to your summons, I took charge of the office of Adjutant-General, with the following important record books and papers:

- One Record of Charter Applications.
- One Record of Dispensations.
- One Record of Commissions.
- One Record of Courts-Martial.
- One Record of Division Charters.
- One Record of Adjutant-General's Consolidated Reports.
- One Adjutant-General's Cash Book.
- One Book of Numbered Receipts.
- One Roster of Commandery-in-Chief, Grand Division and Division Elective and Staff Officers.
- One National Encampment Roll Record.
- One Record of Camps, two volumes.
- One Filing Case of Miscellaneous Papers.
- One General Index to Documents in Filing Case.
- Forty-six Files of General and Division Orders.

On my induction to office it was my purpose and constant study to learn what was required of me, and to strive to meet every requirement. I have since my appointment earnestly and faithfully labored to do what duty decreed, not alone as a duty, but as a high and solemn privilege.

The record work of the office is of the first importance, as the data relating to the life and growth of the order are thus given permanent form, and its history preserved. The record books of most value in this connection are the "Roster of the Commandery-in-Chief, Grand Division and Division Officers," the "Applications for Charter" record and the "Record of Camps," the last named in two volumes. Difficult it is to procure the data required for the proper keeping of these records, and some of them are sadly incomplete, especially as to records of former years. In this work I have been greatly assisted by the various Division Commanders and Adjutants, who have almost invariably responded promptly when called upon, and have shown an earnest interest and a ready willingness to aid me by all means in their power. I desire to most gratefully thank them for their ready responses and able assistance.

But one new record book is required for the work of the office, a "Commission Record." The present volume is filled.

QUARTERLY REPORTS.

The greatest difficulty which has confronted me has been the securing of Quarterly Reports from many Divisions on time. This is occasioned by

a few laggard Camps in such Divisions failing to send reports to Division Headquarters, thus causing much vexatious delay.

Reports for the four quarters ending Sept. 30, 1895, Dec. 31, 1895, March 31, 1896, and June 30, 1896, are appended in the statistical tables which constitute a portion of my report. These reports show the membership of the order, in good standing, to be as follows.

September 30, 1895,	1,327 Camps and 33,753 members.
December 31, 1895,	1,388 Camps and 34,572 members.
March 31, 1896,	1,391 Camps and 34,964 members.
June 30, 1896,	1,325 Camps and 34,252 members.

You will note that the June report shows an appreciable increase over the report for September, and this during a time of the most depressed financial and commercial condition of the country since our order was instituted. The gains have been small it is true, but even small gains argue well for our continued growth and prosperity.

THE CORRESPONDENCE

Of the office of Adjutant General is necessarily of great importance to the order, both by reason of its nature and its large volume. Information is sought and counsel desired on almost every conceivable question in any way relating to the work or the interests of the order. All this in addition to the routine work relating to official communications, makes the correspondence of this office an arduous task. The chief pleasure of my work has been, however, connected with the correspondence, for I have thus been brought in touch with the inner lives of hundreds of Brothers, and have formed many warm and lasting friendships through the earnest and loyal sentiment thus revealed to me. It has been my earnest care to answer promptly, and as fully as possible, all inquiries or communications requiring replies.

THE TABLES

That are of importance as related to the work of my office I have compiled to accompany this report, as follows:

- Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4. Adjutant General's Consolidated Reports.
- Table 5. Roster of Division Elective (Commissioned) Officers, 1896-97.
- Table 6. Roster of Division Adjutants and Quartermasters, 1896-97.
- Table 7. Times and Places of holding Division Encampments, 1896.
- Table 8. List of Charter Applications approved and Charters issued during the year.
- Table 9. List of Furniture at Commandery Headquarters.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE.

Six General Orders, two circular letters, and fifteen Special Orders have been issued by this Administration. Ninety-eight Commissions have been issued to Commandery-in-Chief and Division officers, and thirty-four Dispersations to muster Camps, without first submitting the Applications to the Commander-in-Chief for approval, have been granted to Division Commanders. Twenty-eight Decisions have been rendered and five Opinions given. One Official Question has been submitted to the Council-in-Chief and their votes placed on file. Applications have been approved and Charters issued for two hundred and twenty-seven Camps. The findings are recorded in three cases of Court-Martial, two being approved and one disapproved. The receipts of this office for the year have been as follows:

Charter Fees	\$483.00
Per Capita Tax.....	6,246.20

IN CONCLUSION.

I must again most heartily and gratefully thank the Brothers in all the Divisions of our beloved order for their many acts of kindness and evidences of good-will that have made my labors a constant delight. May rich blessings flow in upon you, and may peace and happiness abide with you.

And to you, General Russell, who by your able counsel, your wise directive power, your ready sympathy and your earnest and devoted friendship have contributed so largely to whatever of merit has been in my labors, I desire to herein express some measure of the grateful love for you that shall ever abide in my heart. Throughout the long months of our constant and most intimate companionship never a hasty or unkind word to me has crossed your lips. Kinder than a brother you have been to me. May the God we all trust and revere bestow grace, love and joy upon you and these Brothers, and may the order we all so dearly love increase ever in numbers and in power for good.

Cordially and fraternally yours,

C. BORIN,
Adjutant-General.

STATISTICAL TABLES

Accompanying Adjutant General's Report.

TABLE No. 5.

Roster of Division Elective Officers, 1896-'97.

DIVISION.	COMMANDER.	SENIOR VICE COM.	JUNIOR VICE COM.
Alabama and Tennessee.	E. R. Carter..... Knoxville, Tenn.	L. W. Friedman..... Birmingham, Ala.	T. A. Rambo. French, Tenn.
California	Chas. C. Houck..... Santa Cruz.	Harry E. Pratt..... Lamanda.	E. M. Billings, Benecia.
Colorado	A. C. Patton..... Greeley.	H. C. Luther..... Denver.	F. H. Dunnington, Colorado Springs.
Connecticut	George E. Cox..... Hartford.	W. W. Wheeler..... Derby.	James A. Cook, N. Grosvenordale.
Gulf	Geo. H. Tinkor..... New Orleans.	C. W. Dale..... New Orleans	Edward Gross, New Orleans.
Illinois	Wm. G. Dustin..... Dwight.	Chas. H. Nichols..... Chicago.	Wm. Perry, Elizabeth.
Indiana	R. B. Oglesbee..... Indianapolis.	Walter L. Keys..... Frankfort.	Chas. J. Russell, Indianapolis.
Iowa	H. M. Hanson..... Mount Pleasant.	J. E. Wright..... Centerville	S. A. Wolcott, Belmond.
Kansas	G. W. Harrington..... Hawatha.	Wm. J. Leech..... Fort Scott.	Jos. H. Young, Oberlin.
Kentucky	B. F. McClelland..... Louisville.	John S. Steely..... Williamsburg.	J. C. Lovitt, Somerset.
Maine	L. L. Cooper..... Augusta.	Arthur M. Soule..... Portland.	E. E. Allen, Freeport.
Maryland	F. O. Peterson..... Baltimore.	Edw. B. Russ..... Washington, D. C.	Chas. A. Six, Frederick.
Massachusetts	Harry D. Sisson..... Pittsfield.	H. F. Williamson..... Canton.	Orange H. Cook, Melrose.
Michigan	H. E. Cowdin..... Rockford.	W. A. Holley..... Holland.	Thos. F. Stockton, Flint.
Minnesota	Geo. P. Kelley..... Tracy.	A. O. Allen..... Wells.	Henry Stodleck, Jr., Minneapolis.
Missouri	Manly Wron..... Bethany.	M. W. Bauer..... Union.	A. V. Cashlon, Perryville.
Nebraska	Geo. F. Wolz..... Fremont.	W. H. Davis..... Wilbur.	A. W. Whiting, Albion.
New Hampshire	W. S. Willey..... Somersworth.	E. R. Mitchell..... Meredith.	Roy E. George, Concord.
New Jersey	Jas. B. Adams..... Atlantic City.	Fremont Tietze..... Riverside.	J. R. Dungan, Somerville.
New York	A. G. Courtney..... Syracuse.	E. W. Estes..... New York.	C. L. Demorest, Waverly.
Ohio	D. O. Morrow..... Hillsboro.	F. W. Hendrix..... Springfield.	W. D. Klittinger, Akron.
Oregon	D. W. Dwire..... Salom.	O. L. Clark..... Corvallis.	G. G. Milles., Woods.
Pennsylvania	J. H. Tawney..... Philadelphia.	John R. Frazier..... Shamokin.	A. Mouchthrop, DuBois.
Rhode Island	H. S. Thompson..... Providence.	Geo. H. Wightman..... Provoang.	Wm. R. Congdon, Providence.
South Dakota	Z. C. Green..... White.	T. R. Cooper..... Huron.	S. E. Tubbs, Henry.
Vermont	Arthur I. Howe..... Brattleboro.	Smith J. Davis..... Johnson.	W. H. Griffith, Danby.
Washington	W. F. Locke..... New Whatcom.	H. H. Hubbard..... Cheney.	T. A. Fix, Orting.
West Virginia		A. B. Rute..... Clarksburg.	C. F. Randall, Shunnsston.
Wisconsin	W. J. Patton..... Green Bay.	R. M. Smith..... Marquette.	G. A. Gelsler, Sheboygan.

TABLE No. 6.

Roster of Division Adjutants and Quartermasters, 1896-1897.

DIVISION.	ADJUTANT.	QUARTERMASTER.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	E. E. Carter..... Knoxville, Tenn.	O. M. Tato, Knoxville, Tenn.
California.....	George J. Reudling..... Santa Cruz.	G. E. Abbott, Santa Cruz.
Colorado.....	Robert E. Hanna..... New Windsor.	W. H. Thompson, Greeley.
Connecticut.....	A. O. Warner..... Hartford.	A. T. Bogie, Hartford.
Gulf.....	Josiah Gross..... New Orleans.	Eugene Vandergriff, New Orleans.
Illinois.....	Joseph K. Bullham..... Dwight.	S. H. Boyer, Dwight.
Indiana.....	S. S. Mullen..... Indianapolis.	
Iowa.....	Edgar R. Sater..... Mount Pleasant.	H. W. Crane, Mount Pleasant.
Kansas.....	J. F. Hauber..... Hawatha.	O. H. Graves, Emporia.
Kentucky.....	Herman Volkerding..... Louisville.	Will G. Davies, Louisville.
Maine.....	George H. Bangs..... Augusta.	Thomas A. Cooper, Augusta.
Maryland.....	Miles W. Ross..... Baltimore.	Irby W. Reid, Washington, D. C.
Massachusetts.....	D. M. Peck..... Pittsfield.	B. F. Woodward, Pittsfield.
Michigan.....	G. T. Chapel..... Rockford.	C. J. Post, Grand Rapids.
Minnesota.....	Geo. H. Shelre..... Evansville.	Geo. H. Shelre, Evansville.
Missouri.....	Ed. Skinner..... Bethany.	Ludwig Hesse, St. Louis.
Nebraska.....	J. A. Collins..... Fremont.	W. H. Haven, Fremont.
New Hampshire.....	R. H. Locke..... Somersworth.	John W. Dufney, Somersworth.
New Jersey.....	George H. Bally..... Atlantic City.	Ernest W. McCann, Atlantic City.
New York.....	J. Frank Durston..... Syracuse.	George B. Cathers, Syracuse.
Ohio.....	E. V. Barrere..... Hillsboro.	H. V. Speelman, Columbus.
Oregon.....	H. E. Hodges..... Silverton.	G. V. Haynes, Silverton.
Pennsylvania.....	William D. Orr..... Philadelphia.	William B. McNulty, Philadelphia.
Rhode Island.....	Theodore A. Barton..... Providence.	Joseph Frankland, Providence.
South Dakota.....	H. A. Parsons..... White.	E. E. Tompkins, White.
Vermont.....	Victor W. Boyden..... Brattleboro.	Alson L. Harris, Brattleboro.
Washington.....	Arthur W. Clothier..... New Whatcom.	Phil. Gallaher, New Whatcom.
West Virginia.....		
Wisconsin.....	W. B. Krouse..... Green Bay.	Thomas L. Jacobs, Neenah.

TABLE No. 7.

Time and Places of Holding Division Encampments. 1896.

DIVISION.	PLACE.	TIME.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	Knoxville, Tenn	May 12 and 13.
California.....	Santa Cruz.....	April 22, 23 and 24.
Colorado.....	Denver.....	April 23 to 25.
Connecticut.....	Bridgeport.....	February 12.
Gulf.....	New Orleans, La.....	July 4.
Illinois.....	Chicago.....	May 20 and 21.
Indiana.....	Frankfort.....	July 1 to 3.
Iowa.....	Cedar Rapids.....	April 28 to 30.
Kansas.....	Beloit.....	April 21 to 23.
Kentucky.....	Somerset.....	May 19 and 20.
Maine.....	Freeport.....	June 10 and 11.
Maryland.....	Baltimore.....	February 11 and 12.
Massachusetts.....	Boston.....	February 21 and 22.
Michigan.....	Holland.....	July 14 to 17.
Minnesota.....	Wells.....	June 16 and 17.
Missouri.....	Cameron.....	February 17 and 18.
Nebraska.....	Albion.....	February 18 to 20.
New Hampshire.....	Concord.....	April 16 and 16.
New Jersey.....	Trenton.....	February 20.
New York.....	Plattsburgh.....	June 23 to 25.
Ohio.....	Hillsboro.....	February 18 and 19.
Oregon.....	Independence.....	June 12.
Pennsylvania.....	Gettysburg.....	June 3 and 4.
Rhode Island.....	Providence.....	February 12.
South Dakota.....	Watertown.....	June 3 to 5.
Vermont.....	Manchester Center.....	July 1 and 2.
Washington.....	Tacoma.....	June 16 and 17.
West Virginia.....	Clarksburg.....	April 30.
Wisconsin.....	Marquette.....	June 9 to 11.

TABLE No. 8.

List of Charters Issued upon Applications Approved by this Administration.

DIVISION.	Number of Camp.	LOCATION.	Date of Approval.	Number Approved.	Date of Muster.	Number Mustered.	Date of Charter.
Alabama and Tenn.	33	Huckleberry Springs.	Aug. 22, 95.	33	July 17, 95.	35	Sept. 6, 95
"	34	South Knoxville.	Oct. 25, 95.	37	Aug. 19, 95.	37	Oct. 28, 95
"	35	Fitzgerald, Ga.	Jan. 16, 96.	55	Jan. 24, 96.	63	Mar. 26, 96
"	6	Westvale, Tenn.	June 24, 96.	24	June 13, 96.	24	June 24, 96
"	"	Sequachee, Tenn.	June 29, 96.	40	"	"	"
"	8	Nashville, Tenn.	Aug. 5, 96.	22	July 2, 96.	22	Aug. 5, 96
"	"	Sardis, Tenn.	Aug. 31, 96.	20	"	"	"
California	4	Honolulu, H. I.	Feb. 11, 96.	15	Mar. 11, 96.	15	Apr. 3, 96
"	8	Modesto.	June 1, 96.	15	June 26, 96.	26	July 8, 96
"	40	Visalia.	June 16, 96.	23	June 6, 96.	23	June 16, 96
Colorado	6	Alamosa.	Dec. 21, 95.	21	Dec. 2, 95.	15	Jan. 17, 96
"	6	Delta.	Dec. 27, 95.	23	Jan. 18, 96.	23	Feb. 3, 96
"	6	Grand Junction.	Mar. 5, 96.	29	Mar. 28, 96.	26	Apr. 4, 96
"	6	Loretand.	Apr. 4, 96.	29	Apr. 11, 96.	18	Apr. 16, 96
"	8	Cortez.	June 13, 96.	22	July 3, 96.	16	Aug. 5, 96
Connecticut	11	Bridgeport.	Nov. 11, 95.	40	Dec. 2, 95.	21	Dec. 30, 95
"	28	Greenwich.	Mar. 12, 96.	24	Mar. 24, 96.	24	Mar. 30, 96
"	28	Norwich.	Mar. 25, 96.	22	Apr. 10, 96.	22	Apr. 20, 96
"	4	Seymour.	Apr. 14, 96.	30	Apr. 29, 96.	26	May 4, 96
Gulf.	12	Boton Rouge, La.	Mar. 31, 96.	15	Feb. 24, 96.	15	Mar. 31, 96
Illinois	64	Thompsonville.	Nov. 6, 95.	18	Dec. 26, 95.	20	Jan. 29, 96
"	67	Carmel.	Feb. 14, 96.	23	Feb. 19, 96.	19	Mar. 21, 96
"	66	Herrick.	Feb. 14, 96.	21	Feb. 21, 96.	19	Mar. 21, 96
"	68	Waverly.	Mar. 21, 96.	20	Apr. 13, 96.	17	Apr. 20, 96
"	69	DeKalb.	Mar. 24, 96.	32	Apr. 21, 96.	21	May 4, 96
"	70	Dixon.	Apr. 1, 96.	68	June 3, 96.	53	July 6, 96
"	72	Calro.	June 3, 96.	23	Apr. 12, 96.	23	June 3, 96
"	73	Atwood.	June 3, 96.	22	May 18, 96.	22	June 3, 96
Indiana	344	Fredonia.	Sept. 7, 95.	16	Sept. 23, 95.	15	Oct. 22, 95
"	58	South Bend.	Nov. 29, 95.	40	Dec. 10, 95.	30	Jan. 18, 96
"	380	Boonville.	Jan. 18, 96.	38	Feb. 3, 96.	35	Jan. 1, 96
"	17	Wabash.	Jan. 29, 96.	26	Feb. 3, 96.	16	June 1, 96
"	350	Bloomfield.	Jan. 29, 96.	29	Feb. 27, 96.	29	Apr. 24, 96
"	352	Evansville.	Mar. 23, 96.	26	Apr. 3, 96.	18	June 19, 96
"	81	Decatur.	Mar. 23, 96.	40	Apr. 9, 96.	43	May 4, 96
"	20	Muncie.	Apr. 4, 96.	25	Feb. 22, 96.	25	Apr. 4, 96
"	353	Williamsport.	Apr. 4, 96.	25	Apr. 4, 96.	24	Apr. 22, 96
"	351	North Vernon.	Apr. 4, 96.	42	Apr. 11, 96.	42	Apr. 24, 96
"	"	Indianapolis.	June 5, 96.	22	"	"	"
"	5	Parristown.	July 17, 96.	15	July 16, 96.	17	Aug. 28, 96
Iowa	3	Cedar Rapids.	Oct. 21, 95.	62	Sept. 1, 95.	35	Oct. 22, 95
"	31	Mt. Pleasant.	Oct. 21, 95.	22	July 22, 95.	15	Oct. 22, 95
"	226	Bellevue.	Oct. 21, 95.	17	Aug. 16, 95.	15	Oct. 22, 95
"	38	Belfast.	Jan. 23, 96.	15	Feb. 5, 96.	16	Feb. 10, 96
"	117	Nora Springs.	Mar. 21, 96.	16	Nov. 6, 95.	16	Mar. 21, 96
"	39	Alherton.	Apr. 4, 96.	30	Mar. 12, 96.	30	Apr. 4, 96
"	20	Troy Mills.	Apr. 4, 96.	27	Mar. 28, 96.	27	Apr. 4, 96
"	56	Vinton.	Apr. 29, 96.	29	Mar. 27, 96.	29	Apr. 29, 96
"	28	Unionville.	May 11, 96.	21	May 25, 96.	15	June 19, 96
"	4	Rofe.	May 11, 96.	17	Apr. 26, 96.	17	May 11, 96
"	49	Storm Lake.	May 11, 96.	21	Apr. 15, 96.	23	May 11, 96
"	58	Fort Dodge.	June 1, 96.	25	Apr. 26, 96.	25	June 1, 96
"	61	Corn Rapids.	June 19, 96.	15	May 15, 96.	15	June 19, 96
"	134	Wapello.	June 19, 96.	28	June 23, 96.	24	July 24, 96
"	89	Clarinda.	Aug. 6, 96.	20	July 31, 96.	20	Aug. 6, 96
"	37	Burhinal.	Aug. 6, 96.	17	July 31, 96.	17	Aug. 6, 96
"	96	Grant.	Aug. 14, 96.	15	Apr. 18, 96.	15	Aug. 14, 96
"	126	Mediapolis.	Aug. 31, 96.	15	July 15, 96.	16	Aug. 31, 96
Kansas	171	Bever, Okla.	Oct. 31, 95.	28	Nov. 30, 95.	19	Dec. 9, 95
"	176	Lamborn.	Nov. 1, 95.	16	Dec. 1, 95.	16	Jan. 4, 96
"	182	Colwich.	Jan. 28, 96.	15	Feb. 4, 96.	15	Feb. 11, 96
"	180	Nowata, I. T.	Mar. 12, 96.	22	Mar. 28, 96.	27	Apr. 1, 96
"	125	Quenemo.	Mar. 12, 96.	23	Mar. 17, 96.	31	Mar. 30, 96
"	105	Saffordville.	Mar. 12, 96.	47	Feb. 22, 96.	47	Mar. 12, 96
"	198	Westphalia.	Apr. 1, 96.	21	Apr. 13, 96.	15	May 11, 96
"	113	Fort Riley.	May 29, 96.	18	June 8, 96.	16	June 19, 96
"	163	Kinsey.	June 17, 96.	15	July 11, 96.	17	July 24, 96
"	"	Clanute.	June 27, 96.	45	"	"	"
"	197	Alta Vista.	July 3, 96.	17	Aug. 1, 96.	15	Aug. 14, 96
Kentucky	10	Louisville.	Oct. 14, 95.	23	Oct. 3, 95.	17	Feb. 26, 96
"	5	Louisville.	July 11, 96.	16	"	"	Aug. 31, 96
"	6	Georgetown.	July 28, 96.	19	Aug. 19, 96.	19	Aug. 28, 96

TABLE No. 8—Continued.

List of Charters Issued upon Applications Approved by this Administration.

DIVISION.	Number of Camp.	LOCATION.	Date of Approval.	Number Approved.	Date of Muster.	Number Mustered.	Date of Charter.
Kentucky	11	Somerset	July 30, 96.	15	Aug. 12, 96.	16	Aug. 21, 96
Malne	27	Guilford	Jan. 16, 96.	19	Jan. 31, 96.	18	Feb. 24, 96
"	41	Alfred	Apr. 1, 96.	17	Mar. 14, 96.	17	Apr. 1, 96
"	41	New Sharon	Apr. 29, 96.	20	Apr. 18, 96.	20	Apr. 29, 96
"	46	Bath	May 12, 96.	50	Apr. 16, 96.	50	May 12, 96
"	48	Pozeroff	May 18, 96.	15	May 9, 96.	15	May 18, 96
"	42	Carmel	May 22, 96.	24	May 2, 96.	24	May 22, 96
"	27	North Turner	June 5, 96.	23	May 23, 96.	22	June 5, 96
"	19	Edes Falls	June 16, 96.	19	June 7, 96.	19	June 16, 96
"	20	Mechanic Falls	June 19, 96.	17	June 8, 96.	17	June 19, 96
Maryland	11	Norfolk, Va.	Dec. 17, 95.	15			
"	2	Unionville	Dec. 23, 95.	15	Dec. 31, 95.	15	Jan. 27, 96
"	1	Hagerstown	Apr. 6, 96.	21	Apr. 10, 96.	23	Apr. 18, 96
"	1	Washington, D. C.	July 4, 96.	22	July 6, 96.	24	July 31, 96
Massachusetts	7	Millbury	Oct. 31, 95.	24	Dec. 5, 95.	24	Jan. 6, 96
"	97	Adams	Jan. 18, 96.	32	Jan. 27, 96.	26	Feb. 3, 96
"	100	Walpole	Mar. 23, 96.	26	Apr. 11, 96.	23	Apr. 21, 96
"	96	Boston	Apr. 9, 96.	17	Mar. 13, 96.	17	Apr. 9, 96
Michigan	121	Northfield	July 10, 96.	23	July 21, 96.	22	July 29, 96
"	79	Kalkaska	Feb. 24, 96.	21	Feb. 29, 96.	34	Mar. 16, 96
"	126	Mason	Feb. 24, 96.	40	Mar. 2, 96.	35	Mar. 7, 96
"	49	St. Johns	Mar. 12, 96.	22	Mar. 21, 96.	25	Mar. 28, 96
"	120	Coleman	Mar. 16, 96.	16	Mar. 25, 96.	17	Apr. 8, 96
"	24	Marion	Apr. 8, 96.	18	Apr. 28, 96.	24	June 23, 96
"	81	Ironwood	June 29, 96.	15	Apr. 14, 96.	15	June 23, 96
"	84	Saginaw	June 29, 96.	15	Apr. 25, 96.	15	June 23, 96
"		Big Rapids	June 29, 96.	25			
Minnesota	101	Litchfield	Nov. 1, 95.	21	Oct. 24, 95.	21	Nov. 1, 95
"	105	Kimball Prairie	Mar. 12, 96.	16	Feb. 11, 96.	16	Mar. 12, 96
"	106	Morton	Mar. 24, 96.	15	Mar. 5, 96.	15	Mar. 24, 96
"	39	Little Falls	Apr. 9, 96.	21	Mar. 28, 96.	21	Apr. 9, 96
"	100	Rochester	May 14, 96.	24	Mar. 31, 96.	24	May 14, 96
"	33	Fulda	May 15, 96.	26	Apr. 7, 96.	20	May 15, 96
"	2	Heron Lake	June 6, 96.	18	July 10, 96.	22	July 24, 96
"	11	St. Francis	June 23, 96.	22	July 24, 96.	21	Aug. 10, 96
"	10	Minneapolis	June 23, 96.	26	July 20, 96.	21	Aug. 10, 96
Missouri	2	Oseola	Sept. 9, 95.	21	Aug. 31, 95.	16	Sept. 9, 95
"	31	Cuba	Sept. 9, 95.	26	Aug. 31, 95.	18	Sept. 9, 95
"	32	Houston, Tex.	Oct. 21, 95.	15	Sept. 25, 95.	15	Oct. 22, 95
"	31	Stockton	Oct. 21, 95.	22	Oct. 12, 95.	22	Oct. 22, 95
"	10	Bethel	Nov. 1, 95.	22	Nov. 23, 95.	17	Nov. 28, 95
"	30	Sulphur Springs	Aug. 19, 95.	15	Aug. 30, 95.	15	Nov. 23, 95
"	31	Plew	Sept. 4, 95.	27	Sept. 7, 95.	22	Dec. 9, 95
"	37	Denison, Tex.	Dec. 16, 95.	35	Dec. 30, 95.	18	Jan. 4, 96
"	38	Waco, Tex.	Jan. 11, 96.	22	Feb. 26, 96.	16	Mar. 12, 96
"	25	Adrian	Jan. 23, 96.	18	Feb. 1, 96.	18	Feb. 3, 96
"	39	Kirbyville	Feb. 7, 96.	19	Feb. 18, 96.	15	Mar. 6, 96
"	40	Louisiana	Feb. 24, 96.	15	Mar. 13, 96.	18	Apr. 28, 96
"	41	Kirksville	Mar. 5, 96.	23	Feb. 29, 96.	22	Mar. 12, 96
"	45	Lathrop	May 11, 96.	16	May 23, 96.	18	June 1, 96
"	44	St. Charles	May 25, 96.	20	May 18, 96.	20	May 25, 96
"	48	Grant City	July 25, 96.	15	July 9, 96.	15	July 25, 96
"	49	San Antonio, Tex.	July 30, 96.	17	July 10, 96.	17	July 30, 96
"		Braynor	Aug. 10, 96.	21			
Nebraska	34	St. Edward	Oct. 7, 95.	27	Oct. 25, 95.	19	Dec. 21, 95
"	168	Ponca	Mar. 5, 96.	28	Mar. 21, 96.	25	Mar. 28, 96
"	169	North Platte	June 29, 96.	40	July 23, 96.	19	Aug. 17, 96
New Hampshire	4	Troy	Jan. 25, 96.	15	Feb. 3, 96.	20	Feb. 10, 96
"	9	Tilton	Apr. 24, 96.	27	Apr. 14, 96.	27	Apr. 24, 96
New Jersey	9	Bloomfield	Nov. 29, 95.	28	Dec. 7, 95.	19	Jan. 9, 96
"	4	Trenton	Feb. 4, 96.	10	Jan. 9, 96.	16	B. D. 4, 96
"	14	Hammonton	Feb. 4, 96.	29	Jan. 21, 96.	26	Feb. 4, 96
"	45	Mount Holly	May 22, 96.	22	Mar. 27, 96.	22	May 22, 96
"	15	Port Morris	May 22, 96.	16	Mar. 27, 96.	16	May 22, 96
"	6	Bayonne	June 12, 96.	32	May 18, 96.	32	June 12, 96
New York	89	Apalachin	Sept. 3, 95.	25	Nov. 16, 95.	23	Dec. 18, 95
"	82	Boonsville	Oct. 21, 95.	24	July 29, 95.	20	Oct. 24, 95
"	83	Moers	Oct. 21, 95.	26	Aug. 23, 95.	27	Oct. 22, 95
"	79	White Plains	Nov. 12, 95.	26	Oct. 22, 95.	22	Nov. 12, 95
"	9	Gloversville	Dec. 14, 95.	37	Dec. 26, 95.	32	Jan. 13, 96
"	90	Herkimer	Jan. 31, 96.	16	Dec. 5, 95.	16	Jan. 31, 96
"	101	Brooklyn	Jan. 31, 96.	23	Dec. 30, 95.	23	Jan. 31, 96

TABLE No. 8—Continued.

List of Charters Issued upon Applications Approved by this Administration.

DIVISION.	Number of Camp.	LOCATION.	Date of Approval.	Number Approved.	Date of Muster.	Number Mustered.	Date of Charter.
New York	33	Jamaica	Apr. 6, 96.	24	Jan. 23, 96.	24	Apr. 6, 96
"	106	Newburgh	Apr. 6, 96.	29	Mar. 10, 96	29	Apr. 6, 96
"	1 2	Ovid	Apr. 6, 96.	21	Feb. 28, 96.	21	Apr. 6, 96
"	123	Lodi	Apr. 6, 96.	22	Mar. 2, 96.	22	Apr. 6, 96
"	60	Rochester	May 4, 96.	104	Feb. 18, 96.	104	May 4, 96
"	54	Central Square	May 12, 96.	24	Apr. 24, 96.	24	May 12, 96
"	170	Cape Vincent	June 1, 96.	21	May 14, 96.	21	June 1, 96
"	11	Andes	July 2, 96.	15	June 15, 96.	15	July 2, 96
"	46	Marathon	July 2, 96.	19	June 10, 96.	19	July 2, 96
"	93	New Rochelle	July 2, 96.	15	Apr. 13, 96.	15	July 2, 96
"	30	Morrisville	July 2, 96.	17	June 16, 96.	17	July 2, 96
"	28	Brooklyn	July 13, 96.	140	May 26, 96.	140	July 13, 96
"	55	Warwick	July 20, 96.	32	June 29, 96.	32	July 29, 96
"		Evans Mills	July 24, 96.	32	.....	.....	.....
"		Haverstraw	Aug. 10, 96.	24	.....	.....	.....
Ohio	22	Ironton	Oct. 9, 95.	21	Oct. 19, 95.	22	Oct. 28, 95
"	311	De aware	Oct. 21, 95.	32	Nov. 20, 95.	35	Feb. 15, 96
"	32	Walnut Hills, Cin	Nov. 2, 95.	17	Nov. 11, 95.	21	Nov. 18, 95
"	161	Washington, C. H.	Jan. 29, 96.	24	Dec. 2, 95.	24	Jan. 29, 96
"	218	Rothand	Feb. 6, 96.	19	Jan. 29, 96.	16	Feb. 6, 96
"	30	Delance	Ma. 12, 96.	28	Mar. 25, 96.	56	Apr. 18, 96
"	90	Lebanon	Apr. 11, 96.	37	Apr. 11, 96.	37	May 15, 96
"	104	Piqua	Apr. 11, 96.	26	May 28, 96.	24	June 29, 96
"	4	Groveport	Apr. 18, 96.	19	Feb. 18, 96.	19	Apr. 18, 96
"	316	Canton	May 24, 96.	34	June 6, 96.	23	July 21, 96
"	33	Athens	June 29, 96.	15	May 25, 96.	15	June 29, 96
"	55	Johnstown	July 21, 96.	18	June 30, 96.	18	July 21, 96
"	105	Wooster	Aug. 10, 96.	31	July 27, 96.	31	Aug. 10, 96
Oregon	10	Independence	Oct. 7, 95.	15	Sept. 26, 95.	29	Dec. 21, 95
"	7	J. seph	Oct. 21, 95.	15	Aug. 28, 95.	15	Oct. 22, 95
"	11	Poland	Dec. 21, 95.	23	Jan. 16, 96.	28	Feb. 28, 96
"	9	P. no	Sept. 27, 95.	23	Sept. 19, 95.	23	Dec. 21, 95
"	14	Hillsboro	Feb. 28, 96.	20	Mar. 7, 96.	26	June 22, 96
"	16	Woods	Apr. 3, 96.	18	Apr. 25, 96.	15	J. no 1, 96
Pennsylvania	100	Delta	Oct. 7, 95.	15	Nov. 11, 95.	15	Dec. 25, 95
"	24	Langhorne	Jan. 4, 96.	17	Jan. 27, 96.	15	Mar. 20, 96
"	225	Watson town	Feb. 24, 96.	31	Mar. 2, 96.	31	Mar. 12, 96
"	24	Grove City	Apr. 3, 96.	27	Apr. 14, 96.	31	Apr. 24, 96
"	84	Ruffs Dale	Apr. 7, 96.	18	May 6, 96.	16	May 13, 96
"	26	Lewistown	May 11, 96.	49	May 15, 96.	26	May 22, 96
"	66	Philadelphia	June 1, 96.	16	June 30, 96.	17	July 20, 96
"	50	Conemaugh	July 14, 96.	42	July 29, 96.	21	Aug. 8, 96
"	51	Willamstown	Aug. 6, 96.	31	Aug. 17, 96.	24	Aug. 28, 96
"		Greenwood	Aug. 14, 96.	16	.....	.....	.....
"		Pottsville	Aug. 17, 96.	35	.....	.....	.....
"		Elwood City	Aug. 20, 96.	20	.....	.....	.....
"		Sandy Lake	Aug. 27, 96.	29	.....	.....	.....
"		Tamaqua	Aug. 31, 96.	41	.....	.....	.....
Rhode Island	21	Pascoag	Feb. 27, 96.	19	Jan. 29, 96.	19	Feb. 27, 96
South Dakota	17	Columbia	Dec. 9, 95.	16	Jan. 3, 96.	15	Jan. 14, 96
"	18	Higmore	Feb. 6, 96.	15	Feb. 29, 96.	17	Mar. 7, 96
"	13	Arlington	Feb. 6, 96.	19	Feb. 19, 96.	32	Mar. 6, 96
"	7	Hillsboro	Mar. 12, 96.	15	Apr. 18, 96.	30	May 18, 96
"	1	B-field	Mar. 16, 96.	23	Apr. 2, 96.	23	Apr. 11, 96
"	54	Pankuton	Mar. 30, 96.	15	May 9, 96.	18	May 18, 96
"	35	Lead City	Apr. 5, 96.	22	May 9, 96.	24	June 1, 96
Vermont		Bethel	Oct. 16, 95.	15	.....	.....	.....
"	12	Wilmington	Jan. 18, 96.	27	Feb. 22, 96.	22	Mar. 3, 96
"	13	Okcut	Apr. 17, 96.	23	Mar. 30, 96.	28	Apr. 17, 96
"	11	East Fairfield	Apr. 23, 96.	21	Apr. 17, 96.	20	Apr. 25, 96
"	14	Dorset	June 9, 96.	30	May 27, 96.	30	June 9, 96
"	21	West Charleston	June 13, 96.	15	June 5, 96.	15	June 15, 96
"	3	Woodstock	June 15, 96.	28	June 5, 96.	15	June 15, 96
"	19	Rutland	June 22, 96.	20	May 29, 96.	20	June 22, 96
"	20	Montpelier	June 27, 96.	28	June 9, 96.	28	June 27, 96
"	17	Chester	June 27, 96.	17	June 2, 96.	17	June 27, 96
"	22	Wolcott	June 30, 96.	18	June 21, 96.	18	June 30, 96
"	23	Newport	June 30, 96.	16	June 23, 96.	16	June 30, 96
Washington	3	Pullman	Oct. 10, 95.	21	Oct. 24, 95.	15	Nov. 4, 95
"	7	Mt. Vernon	Oct. 21, 95.	18	Sept. 14, 95.	16	Oct. 22, 95
"	38	Coffax	Dec. 20, 95.	30	Jan. 4, 96.	17	Jan. 14, 96
"		Coeur d'Alene	Apr. 17, 96.	23	.....	.....	.....

TABLE No. 8—Continued.

List of Charters Issued upon Applications Approved by this Administration.

DIVISION.	Number of Camp.	LOCATION.	Date of Approval.	Number Approved.	Date of Muster.	Number Mustered.	Date of Charter.
Washington.....		Columbia Falls, Mon.	Apr. 18, 96.	18	May 2, 96	15	May 22, 96
".....	42	Iiwaco.....	June 17, 96.	27	June 8, 96.	17	June 27, 96
West Virginia.....	3	Moundsville.....	Mar. 6, 96.	25	Mar. 22, 96.	15	Apr. 2, 96
".....	19	West Union.....	Apr. 2, 96.	36	Apr. 11, 96.	15	Apr. 16, 96
Wisconsin.....	2	New Richmond.....	Oct. 21, 95.	18	July 13, 95.	17	Oct. 22, 95
".....	26	Rhinclander.....	Nov. 1, 95.	22	Nov. 15, 95.	19	Dec. 10, 95
".....	27	Blanchardville.....	Feb. 24, 96.	21	Mar. 7, 96.	20	Mar. 14, 96
".....	21	Downing.....	Mar. 23, 96.	33	Apr. 24, 96.	18	May 22, 96
".....	30	Butternut.....	June 27, 96.	24	July 13, 96.	15	July 24, 96
".....	29	Elkhorn.....	July 3, 96.	15	May 27, 96.	15	July 3, 96
".....		Racine.....	July 29, 96.	30			

TABLE No. 9.

List of Furniture Belonging to the Department of the Commander-in-Chief and Adjutant General.

2 Cabinet Desks.	6 Portraits Commander-in-Chief (Abbott, Griffin, Webb, Hall, Maccabe and Bundy).
1 Typewriter Cabinet.	1 Stand Commandery Colors.
1 Letter File Cabinet and Base.	2 Seals.
7 Chairs.	1 Letter Press.
1 Book Case.	1 Yost Typewriter.
1 Case Embroidered Cap Marks.	1 Typewriter Traveling Case.
1 Edison Mimeograph.	
1 Small Table.	

GENERAL ORDERS.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Oct. 10, 1895.

General Orders, No. 6, Series of 1895.

I. Having been duly elected and installed Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., at the Fourteenth Annual Encampment, held at Knoxville, Tennessee, September 16-18, 1895, I hereby assume command and establish Headquarters in Rooms numbers 1 and 2, First National Bank Block, LaCrosse, Kansas.

II. The following officers were duly elected and installed at the Fourteenth Annual meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief, and they will be respected and obeyed accordingly:

Commander-in-Chief, W. H. Russell, LaCrosse, Kansas; Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Elwood T. Carr, Radnor, Pennsylvania; Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, W. R. Cooper, Knoxville, Tennessee; Council-in-Chief, H. V. Speelman, Cincinnati, Ohio; R. M. Buckley, Louisville, Kentucky; D. F. Goulding, Somerville, Massachusetts; Quartermaster General [elected for a term of three years], R. Loebenstein, 84 La Salle Street, Chicago, Illinois.

III. The following staff officers have been appointed and installed and will be respected and obeyed accordingly:

Adjutant General, H. V. Speelman, Cincinnati, Ohio [Address, LaCrosse, Kansas]; Inspector General, Frederick C. Stillson, Battle Creek, Michigan; Judge Advocate General, R. B. Oglesbee, Indianapolis, Indiana; Surgeon General, Dr. Dan. S. Gardner, Massillon, Ohio; Chaplain-in-Chief, Rev. F. Bradford Cole, Olneyville, Rhode Island.

IV. Past Commander W. Y. Morgan, of Emporia, Kansas, is hereby detailed as Personal Aide to the Commander-in-Chief and to that end will be respected and obeyed accordingly.

V. Louisville, Kentucky, was selected as the place for holding the Fifteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, the same to be held in the month of September, 1896, the exact date to be determined by the Council-in-Chief.

VI. No changes were made either in the Ritual or the C. R. & R. by the Knoxville Encampment, with one exception. Article XX, Chapter V, page 77, was amended. The word "four" in line three was changed to "five." Hereafter Camps will be permitted to use five Rituals. The same may be procured from the Quartermaster General, through Division Headquarters, upon the payment of twenty cents each, or one dollar per set of five.

VII. The Fourteenth Annual Encampment by resolution provided for a "Ten-Year Service Badge" and for the appointment of a Committee to design the same, of which Committee the Quartermaster General should be a member. In accordance with the resolution, the membership of said Committee is completed by the appointment of the following Brothers: James P. Porter (to whom is due the suggestion for such badge), St. Paul, Minnesota; Commander Edward T. Monahan, Underhill, Vermont.

VIII. Division Commanders are urged to send in promptly the quarterly reports of their Adjutants and Quartermasters. Prompt action in matters of this kind will greatly aid in the facilitation of business at National Headquarters.

IX. Inspection time is here. Let Division Commanders see that every Camp in their respective jurisdictions is thoroughly inspected. Don't put it off. Delay is dangerous.

X. W. H. Russell having been elected Commander-in-Chief, forwarded his resignation as Commander of the Division of Kansas to Commander-in-Chief Bundy, on September 18th, 1895. The same was accepted and Senior Vice-Commander L. B. Price was placed in command of the Division, with instructions to convene the Division Council to fill the vacancy. At a meeting of the Division Council held at Emporia, Wednesday, October 8th, H.

W. Huffman, of Emporia, was elected and installed as Commander of the Kansas Division for the unexpired term and he will be respected and obeyed accordingly.

XI. The Official Stenographer is busily at work making a transcript of the proceedings of the Fourteenth Encampment. The same will be printed and ready for distribution at the earliest possible date.

XII. The Blue Book Committee has completed its work of digesting and compiling the decisions of Commanders-in-Chief. This book will be printed as early as practicable and a copy of same will accompany each Camp Packet.

XIII. Mustering Officers should exercise particular pains in having all names plainly written and correctly spelled. A strict compliance with this request will avoid embarrassment, confusion and mistakes.

XIV. Division Adjutants are requested to place the names of all Commandery-in-Chief officers on their mailing lists.

XV. Remittances for charter fees and per capita tax must be sent to the Adjutant General. Requisitions (by Divisions) for supplies must be drawn upon the Quartermaster General. Requisitions (by Camps) for supplies must be made upon the Division Quartermaster. A strict compliance with this order will avoid much confusion and annoyance.

XVI. In obedience to the action of the Encampment, all Divisions hereafter will add twenty-five per cent to the cost of supplies, in filing requisitions for Camps.

XVII. All correspondence must be conducted through the proper channels. Camps and individual members desiring information will communicate through their respective Division headquarters. All official business from these headquarters will be transacted directly with Division officers.

XVIII. The announcement, in General Orders No. 5, that inspection blanks would be furnished free of charge, was an error. Division Commanders may procure these blanks by requisition upon the Quartermaster General. The price charged is one dollar per hundred.

XIX. We are to be congratulated upon the very friendly relations existing between the Grand Army of the Republic and our order. A resolution favoring the admission of members of the Order of Sons of Veterans into Post meetings, as guests, was submitted to the recent G. A. R. National Encampment, at Louisville. After a free discussion, the resolution was referred to the Committee on Rules and Regulations, with instructions to report at the St. Paul Encampment in 1896. This is encouraging. Commander-in-Chief-elect Walker pledges our order his most loyal support—such as characterized the administrations of Generals Adams and Lawler, to whom we are under lasting obligations. The best of results are following from the encouragement they offered and the good work they gave.

XX. The crisis has passed. The appalling losses have been checked. A net gain of over sixteen hundred in membership was made during the past year, and with this change for the better should come renewed hope, and stronger effort to secure a larger growth and a greater prosperity to our beloved order.

Brothers, the year dawns auspiciously and is bright with the promise of a prosperous future. May each member of the order do his duty in the dissemination of the exalted principles upon which our order is founded, and by every effort add to the membership of his Camp.

Let us plant our banner upon a higher point of vantage than our membership has ever heretofore reached. It can be done. Let us do it.

May each one be firm in his support of the law, energetic in the inculcation of patriotism to the government and loyalty to the flag, not forgetting the Veteran, who by his sacrifices in the service of his country earned the eternal and substantial gratitude of every citizen of the Republic.

By command of

W. H. RUSSELL,

Commander-in-Chief.

Official: H. V. SPEELMAN, Adjutant General.

CHICAGO, Ills., Sept. 19, 1895.

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

Dear Sir and Brother: I have the honor to submit the following report, supplemental to my report to the Fourteenth Annual Encampment; this report covering the business of this Department up to the beginning of your administration:

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

Dr.			Cr.
Cash on hand as per report..	\$2,037 16		
		Paid General Expenses.....	\$ 50 23
		Paid Office Expenses.....	104 16
		Paid General Orders.....	55 99
		Paid for Supplies.....	317 70
		Paid for Salaries.....	250 00
		Paid for Traveling Expenses..	93 75
		Paid for Expense- Fourteenth	
		Annual Encampment.....	953 38
		Cash on hand.....	211 95
	<u>\$2,037 16</u>		<u>\$2,037 16</u>

GENERAL ACCOUNT, SEPT. 18, 1895.

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
Furniture	\$ 640 35	A. P. Davis	\$ 236 40
Supplies.....	1,503 80	Indiana	20
Cash.....	211 95	Iowa	10
Oregon.....	1 48	Maine.....	37
Pennsylvania.....	461 11	Wisconsin.....	01
Gulf.....	13 79	Surplus.....	2,658 90
Cameron, Amberg & Co.....	63 50		
	<u>\$2,895 98</u>		<u>\$2,895 98</u>

PROFIT AND LOSS, TO SEPT. 18, 1895.

LOSSES.		GAINS.	
To General Orders.....	\$ 55 99	By Balance (net loss).....	\$1,531 31
To Salaries.....	250 00		
To Traveling Expenses.....	93 75		
To Supplies.....	23 80		
To Office Expenses.....	104 16		
To General Expenses.....	50 23		
To 14th Nat'l Encampment...	953 38		
	<u>\$1,531 31</u>		<u>\$1,531 31</u>

R. LOEBENSTEIN,
Quartermaster General.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, October 15, 1895.

General Orders, No. 7, Series of 1895.

I. The following Assistant Inspectors-General have been appointed to inspect Headquarters of the several Divisions:

Division.	Inspector.	Address.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	W. R. Cooper.....	Knoxville, Tenn.
California.....	Frank C. Shipley.....	Oakland, Cal.
Colorado.....	Claud H. Clark.....	Greeley, Col.
Connecticut.....	Rev. Frederick B. Cole.....	Olneyville, R. I.
Gulf.....	James Lewis, Jr.....	New Orleans, La.
Illinois.....	Frederick C. Stillson.....	Battle Creek, Mich.
Indiana.....	Frederick C. Stillson.....	Battle Creek, Mich.
Iowa.....	Rev. C. E. McColley.....	Winnabago City, Minn.
Kansas.....	H. V. Speelman.....	LaCross, Kansas.
Kentucky.....	Wm. E. Bundy.....	Cincinnati, Ohio.
Maine.....	Walter S. Willey.....	Somersworth, N. H.
Maryland.....	Charles D. Roueey.....	Washington, D. C.
Massachusetts.....	L. J. Macy.....	Pulaski, N. Y.
Michigan.....	Frederick C. Stillson.....	Battle Creek, Mich.
Minnesota.....	E. H. Miham.....	St. Paul, Minn.
Missouri.....	J. J. Speaker.....	Kansas City, Mo.
Nebraska.....	Grant W. Harrington.....	Hiawatha, Kansas.
New Hampshire.....	Albert C. Blaisdell.....	Lowell, Mass.
New Jersey.....	R. M. J. Reed.....	Philadelphia, Penn.
New York.....	H. H. Hammer.....	Reading Pa.
Ohio.....	Will A. Field.....	Augusta, Ky.
Oregon.....	W. W. Sparks.....	Vancouver, Washington.
Pennsylvania.....	E. R. Campbell.....	Washington, D. C.
Rhode Island.....	G. E. Cox.....	Hartford, Connecticut.
South Dakota.....	L. D. Lyon.....	Watertown, So. Dakota.
Vermont.....	Frank L. Greene.....	St. Albans, Vt.
Washington.....	H. L. Wells.....	Portland, Oregon.
West Virginia.....	F. W. Myers.....	Parkersburg, W. Va.
Wisconsin.....	Rev. W. J. Patton.....	Milwaukee, Wis.

The expenses of Assistant Inspectors-General will be borne by the Divisions whose respective Headquarters they inspect. Economy should be practiced in every instance. Assistant Inspectors-General will arrange satisfactory dates with Division Commanders, at the earliest convenience.

II. Division Commanders are requested to advise these Headquarters, for publication in General Orders, as to the times and places for holding Division Encampments.

The Encampment of the Division of Missouri will be held at Cameron, February 17th and 18th, 1896.

III. Pursuant to the recommendation of Commander-in-Chief Bundy, which was concurred in by the Knoxville Encampment, the following Ritual Committee is hereby appointed: Inspector General Frederick C. Stillson, Battle Creek, Michigan, Chairman; Dr. T. C. Harter, Bloomsburg, Penn.; Capt. C. Borin, Oberlin, Kansas. The Committee is to consider suggestions and propositions for changes in the Ritual, and will report at the Louisville Encampment, in 1896.

IV. The Fourteenth Annual Encampment, by resolution, provided for the appointment of a Committee of five members, whose duty it shall be to inquire into the expediency of the Sons of Veterans erecting monuments upon the battlefield parks at Gettysburg, Chickamauga and Shiloh, and also to consider the subject of the Sons of Veterans U. S. A. uniting with the Confederate Sons of Veterans in erecting Peace monuments upon these battlefields. Conforming to the provisions of this resolution the following Committee is hereby appointed: Major E. R. Campbell, 1221 K. Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., Chairman; Hon. Webster Davis, Kansas City, Missouri; Col. W. S. Oberdorf, Dansville, N. Y.; Col. Josiah Gross, 48 Exchange Place, New Orleans, La.; Capt. George F. Wolz, Fremont, Nebraska.

V. All Camps are urged to prepare for the proper observance of Union Defenders Day, February 12th, 1896. Chaplain-in-Chief Cole will prepare a special service for this day and a sufficient number of printed copies of such program will be sent to each Division Commander to supply the Camps of his Division.

VI. Following is a synopsis of some of the most important business transacted by the Fourteenth Annual Encampment:

The suspension of a member for non-payment of dues rests entirely with the Camp; i. e., if the Camp wishes to carry him by paying per capita tax to the Division it may do so.

Surgeons' reports must be made out by Camp Captains and sent to Division Surgeon between October 30th and December 30th. New blank form No. 47 must be used. Division Surgeons will use new blank form No. 48. All old blank forms numbers 47 and 48 must be destroyed.

Divisions will continue to pay sixteen cents per annum, four cents per quarter, per capita tax to National Headquarters.

Commissioned officers failing to submit reports from all departments within a reasonable length of time after due will be deprived of privileges accorded to Past Captains or Past Division Commanders.

A new form No. 12 is being prepared, the same to be used by Quartermaster Sergeant in notifying members of indebtedness.

An additional form will be added to page 2 of each set of Court-Martial blanks, being a blank for proper service and return by the Judge Advocate of the Court.

VII. Upon the recommendation of the Commanders of their respective Division, the charters of the following Camps are hereby annulled and declared forfeited:

Alabama and Tennessee, Camps Nos. 16 and 23.

Missouri, Camp No. 181.

Vermont, Camp No. 66.

VIII. Division Commanders who have not already done so are requested to send Division Rosters to these Headquarters at once. Don't delay.

IX. Again the attention of mustering officers is called to the necessity of writing plainly and spelling correctly the names of all recruits mustered. It would be difficult even for an expert to decipher some of the hieroglyphics that come to these Headquarters.

X. The attention of Division Commanders and Camp Captains is hereby called to the "Address to the Grand Army" issued from these Headquarters.

Division Commanders will see that at least one copy is mailed to each Camp with this order, and Captains will have the same read at the first meeting following its receipt. As much publicity as possible should be given this address by securing its publication in local newspapers, especially Grand Army and Sons of Veterans Journals and Magazines. Through the kindness and courtesy of Commander-in-Chief Walker, of the Grand Army, the address will be read in every Post room of that organization, and thus, it is hoped, a deeper interest in our welfare will be kindled, and a more determined effort in our behalf will be made by our fathers.

By command of

W. H. RUSSELL,

Commander-in-Chief.

Official: H. V. SPEELMAN, Adjutant General.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, January 15, 1896.

General Orders, No. 1, Series of 1896.

I. As the New Year comes to us, it comes with new and enlarged opportunities, upon which our membership should be prompt to seize. The various Camps in our Organization are, with newly elected and appointed officers, in the best possible condition to increase and strengthen their membership. The prospects for the year are bright for our Order, as events of international importance have awakened the people of our beloved country to renewed Loyalty and Patriotism, and all who are eligible to membership as Sons of Veterans will be the more eager to join an Organization of which these principles are the corner stones. Brothers, we should live up to our glorious privileges, and make the most of our opportunities. No effort should be spared to enlist these new recruits in our grand army of loyal defenders of the Nation our Veteran Fathers gave their lives to save.

II. On account of private business matters in Ohio requiring his immediate return, Brother H. V. Speelman tendered his resignation as Adjutant General on November 9th, to take effect November 16th. The same was accepted and Brother C. Borln, of Oberlin, Kansas, was appointed and installed

as his successor, and will be respected and obeyed accordingly. Brother Speelman was a very capable officer, and thoroughly qualified to discharge the arduous duties of the position. During his brief stay in Kansas he made many friends, who regretted his return to the East. It is to be hoped that the Order may still enjoy the benefit of his able counsel and loyal heart in the years that are to come.

III. On the recommendation of the Quartermaster General, Past Captain Harry T. Moore, of Camp No. 6, Division of Illinois, has been appointed Assistant Quartermaster General.

IV. Past Captain H. A. Russell, of Camp No. 223, Division of Kansas, has been appointed Assistant Adjutant General.

V. These Headquarters are very much in need of copies of the Proceedings of the Fourth and Sixth Annual Encampments of the Commandery-in-Chief, to complete Headquarters files. Any brother who can favor the Order with these Proceedings, may send them by express, at the expense of this office.

VI. "Union Defenders' Day," February 12, should be commemorated in public exercises by every Camp, where practicable. This day, the eighty-seventh anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, of blessed memory to every lover of liberty the world over, should be a day of grateful memories of the great-hearted Martyr-President, a time of tender tribute to his unswerving loyalty, his unselfish devotion, his long-suffering charity, his unflinching patriotism, and his inspired guidance of the Nation safely through that terrible crisis of its history, the awful civil war. The Chaplain-in-Chief has prepared a simple and most appropriate order of service for that day, which has been distributed to the Camps of the Order. This beautiful service gives much freedom to Camps in making up the numbers of their programs, and should be followed as closely as possible.

VII. Division Encampments will be held as follows: Maryland, February 11 and 12, at Baltimore; Missouri, February 17 and 18, at Cameron; Massachusetts, February 21 and 22, at Boston; New Hampshire, April 15 and 16, at Concord; Kansas, April 21, 22 and 23, at Beloit; Pennsylvania, June 3, 4 and 5, at Gettysburg; New Jersey, February 20, at Trenton.

VIII. As directed by the Fourteenth Annual Encampment, a form for "Proof of Service" in Courts-Martial has been prepared and printed and sent to Commanders of Divisions. Division Commanders should see to it that a copy of this form is included in every set of Court-Martial blanks sent out from their Headquarters. In this connection attention is called to the fact that a Court-Martial must be constituted of five, and only five members. It would not seem to be necessary to call attention to this fact, as the C. R. and R. is very plain on this point, but Court-Martial proceedings are frequently received at the Commandery-in-Chief Headquarters, wherein the Courts-Martial are constituted of from three to nine members, thus vitiating the proceedings.

IX. The Proceedings of the Fourteenth Annual Encampment, at Knoxville, Tennessee, are about ready for distribution. Copies may be procured from Division Commanders, or Quartermaster General R. Loebenstein, 84 LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois, upon the payment of postage, eight cents per copy.

X. All Divisions have reported, and the new Pass Word and Countersign have been promulgated.

XI. Preliminary steps have been taken to secure the passage by Congress of a joint Resolution which provides: "That the distinctive badge adopted by the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., may be worn, in their own right, upon all public occasions of ceremony, by officers and enlisted men of the Army and Navy of the United States, who are members of said organization." Copies of this resolution will be sent Division Commanders, who are hereby requested to write each member of Congress from their respective Divisions, enclosing a copy of the resolution, and asking his support of the measure. All Sons of Veterans should exert all personal influence possessed upon members of Congress with whom they have any acquaintance, or whom they can reach through others, to secure the passage of this legislation.

XII. In the court-martial of Captain William E. Coman, of General W. F. Draper Camp No. 44, Division of Massachusetts, who was found guilty of violation of his obligation and of conduct prejudicial to good order and disci-

pline and sentenced to be dishonorably discharged, the sentence has been mitigated to degradation from office and a suspension from the Order for a period of two years, dating from December 2, 1893. In the court-martial of A. Wesley Weikel, a member of the Division Council of Pennsylvania Division, who was found guilty of a scandalous crime against the laws of the land and of conduct unbecoming a member in his relation to the Order and sentenced to be dishonorably discharged, the proceedings, findings and sentence have been approved, and the sentence ordered carried into effect.

XIII. On recommendation of the Division Commanders the charters of the following Camps are hereby annulled and declared forfeited. Division of Nebraska, Camps Nos. 14, 34, 148, 149; Division of Massachusetts, Camps Nos. 97, 105; Division of New Hampshire, Camps Nos. 3, 48; Division of Missouri, Camps Nos. 1, 2, 6, 10, 14, 24, 30, 39, 41, 43, 44, 49, 55, 57, 59, 61, 62, 64, 67, 71, 80, 81, 83, 84, 88, 89, 90, 92 to 96, 101 to 105, 107 to 109, 111 to 115, 117 to 120, 122 to 129, 131 to 134, 136, 138 to 140, 142, 143, 147 to 150, 154 to 157, 161, 163 to 165, 168 to 173, 176, 178, 183, 185 to 187, 190, 193, 197, 198, 200 to 202, 207, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 221, 225, 226, 228. A great many of these Missouri Camps have been dead for many years, and the numbers have, in a number of cases, been already assigned to other Camps.

By command of

W. H. RUSSELL,

Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant General.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, April 1, 1896.

General Orders, No. 2, Series of 1896.

I. Once more the unceasing flight of time brings to us that sad, solemn, and sweetly, tenderly mournful anniversary held sacred to the memory of the Nation's dead—Memorial Day. From out of the voiceless past come the shadows of numberless known and unknown heroes who gave their all of life to perpetuate human liberty and to preserve the Union. They picture the dark days of the Rebellion, when cannon roared and musketry rattled, dealing out death and destruction everywhere; and little mounds of earth were heaped over fallen heroes, in irregular rows, in all the Southland. Of the veterans who returned home, one after another, answering the call of time, has dropped from the ranks, so that now, aside from the thousands who lie in their dreamless sleep in the great national cemeteries, every graveyard, every secluded burial ground in the North is hallowed by the presence of the green tents of sleeping heroes. Loving thoughts of these known and unknown dead suggested the beautiful custom of decorating their graves with the choicest flowers of spring, thus avowing grateful remembrance and proclaiming to the children and unto the generations forever that the deeds of these men who died for God and Country shall be remembered as long as courage is rated as a virtue and liberty is loved as a priceless heritage. There will be more soldiers' graves to decorate this Memorial Day than ever before—the old guard dwindles. May the mystic chords of memory, reaching from the heroic dead to the patriotic living, sound the music that shall call us one and all to our duty to the memory of him who fought for the right, and in fighting triumphed, and in the triumph died.

On this occasion let us take a new draught of courage that will aid us in the future in the performance of our duty as the Sons of those whose memory we honor on this Memorial Day. Let us consecrate ourselves anew to the work that lies before us. In the ministrations of a loving memory to the dead, may we not forget the living.

Every Camp should be found in the line of duty, and every member of the Order should do his part to make the observance of this Memorial Day more general than ever before, and let it be in the right way. No Son of a Veteran should be found desecrating the day, dishonoring his father or his father's memory, and disgracing himself by engaging in the amusements, ball playing, horse racing, dancing, etc., so common in many localities. Make it a day of tender, loving service, of grateful remembrance, and of patriotic inspiration. Make it what it should be—the most sacred of all the days consecrated to the American Soldier.

II. Past Captain A. G. Alrich, Lawrence, Kansas, is hereby appointed as a member of the Ritual Committee appointed by General Order No. 7, series of 1895, vice Adjutant General Borin, resigned.

III. The Committee on Transportation for the Fifteenth Annual meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief is hereby appointed, and is constituted as follows: R. Loebenstein, Chairman, Chicago, Ills.; Gen. A. W. Jones, Youngstown, Ohio; Geo. W. Knowlton, Boston, Mass.; John V. B. Clarkson, New York City; Louis E. Schroder, San Francisco, Cal.

IV. Division Commanders have been elected and installed as follows: Connecticut, Geo. E. Cox, 48 State St., Hartford; Maryland, Frank O. Peterson, 1326 Hollins St., Baltimore; Massachusetts, Harry D. Sisson, Pittsfield; Missouri, Manly Wren, Bethany; Nebraska, Geo. F. Wolz, Fremont; New Jersey, James B. Adams, Atlantic City; Ohio, D. Q. Morrow, Hillsboro; Rhode Island, Herbert S. Thompson, box 1355, Providence.

V. Division Encampments will be held as follows: California, Santa Cruz, April 20, 21, 22; Colorado, Denver, April 22, 23, 24; Indiana, Frankfort, July 1, 2, 3; Kansas, Beloit, April 21, 22, 23; New Hampshire, Concord, April 15, 16; Pennsylvania, Gettysburg, June 3, 4, 5; Michigan, Holland, June 23, 24, 25, 26; New York, Plattsburgh, June 23, 24, 25.

VI. All remittances, both to these Headquarters and to the Quartermaster General, must be made in the shape of New York or Chicago Exchange, or Postoffice or Express Money Orders. Personal checks, or drafts on other than New York or Chicago banks, cannot be accepted.

VII. On recommendation of the Division Commanders, the Charters of the following Camps are hereby annulled and declared forfeited: Ellsworth Camp, No. 2, Maryland; David Cole Camp, No. 18, South Dakota; Wm. H. Mallory Camp, No. 11, Connecticut.

VIII. By reference to the Consolidated report of the Adjutant General, accompanying this Order, it will be noted that the net gain of the organization for the quarter ending December 31, 1895, is eight hundred and nineteen members. This evidence of growth is most gratifying, as it shows an awakening in patriotism and zeal, and a renewal of the spirit of loyalty, that not only strengthens the Order but also broadens and deepens and cements the living wall of defenders of the Union. The accessions during the current quarter, as evidenced by applications made to the Commandery Headquarters, will show another large increase in membership for the first quarter of 1896. While no effort should be spared to gain new members, the weak Camps in the various Divisions should be earnestly aided and encouraged. Those members who have grown careless and indifferent should be again warmed by kindling once more within them the fires of liberty and loyalty. A member or a Camp held is equal to one gained. By earnest, zealous work let each Son of a Veteran show forth his deep devotion to his country and his flag; faithfully, loyally, lovingly, dauntlessly standing by the Order and the grand principles it embodies.

By command of

W. H. RUSSELL,

Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant General.

CHICAGO, Jan. 25, 1896.

W. H. RUSSELL, Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A., LaCrosse, Kansas.

Dear Sir and Brother: I have the honor to submit my report for a period beginning on the 19th day of September, 1895, and ending on the 31st day of December, 1895:

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

DR.	CR.
Cash on hand, as per last report.....	
Received for supplies.....	Paid for:
Received for P. C. tax.....	General expenses.....
Received for charter fees.....	Office expenses.....
Received from R. Loebenstein (advanced by him).....	General orders.....
	Supplies (including cost of shipping).....
	Salaries.....
	Fourteenth Nat'l Encampment.....
	Rowley claim.....
	Furniture.....
	R. Loebenstein (repaid him)....
	Miscellaneous.....
	Cash on hand.....
\$4,243 08	\$4,243 08

December 31, 1895, supplies on hand, as per inventory.....\$1,442 43

GENERAL ACCOUNT, DECEMBER 31, 1895.

ASSETS.	LIABILITIES.
Various Divisions.....	Various Divisions.....
Furniture.....	A. P. Davis.....
Supplies.....	Surplus.....
Cash.....	
\$3,084 90	\$3,084 90

PROFIT AND LOSS, DECEMBER 31, 1895.

LOSSES.	GAINS.
General Orders.....	Charter fees.....
Salaries.....	P. C. tax.....
Office expenses.....	Supplies.....
General expenses.....	Balance (net loss).....
Fourteenth Nat'l Encampment.....	
Rowley claim.....	
\$2,187 26	\$2,187 26

R. LOEBENSTEIN,
Quartermaster General.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, July 10, 1896.

General Orders, No. 3, Series of 1896.

I. Division Commanders have been elected and installed as follows: Alabama and Tennessee, E. R. Carter, Knoxville; California, Charles C. Houck, Santa Cruz; Colorado, Adam C. Patton, Greeley; Connecticut, George E. Cox, 48 State Street, Hartford; Illinois, William G. Dustin, Dwight; Indiana, R. B. Oglesbee, Indianapolis; Iowa, H. M. Hanson, Mount Pleasant; Kansas, Grant W. Harrington, Hiawatha; Kentucky, B. F. McClelland, 502 West Main Street, Louisville; Maine, Llewellyn L. Cooper, Augusta; Maryland, Frank O. Peterson, 204 Courtland Street, Baltimore; Massachusetts, Harry D. Sisson, Pittsfield; Minnesota, George P. Kelley, Tracy; Missouri, Manly Wren, Bethany; Nebraska, George F. Wolz, Fremont; New Hampshire, Walter S. Willey (re-elected), Somersworth; New Jersey, James B. Adams, Atlantic City; New York, A. G. Courtney, Syracuse; Ohio, D. Q. Morrow, Hillsboro; Oregon, D. W. Dwyer, Salem; Pennsylvania, James H. Tawney, Fifth and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia; Rhode Island, Herbert S. Thompson, box 1355, Providence; South Dakota, Z. C. Green (re-elected), White; Washington, W. P. Locke, New Whatcom; Wisconsin, W. J. Patton, Green Bay. The bonds of nearly all these newly elected Commanders have already been submitted and approved, and the new administrations have taken up the work of the Order with earnestness and enthusiasm. Regret at the loss officially of old and tried friends and brothers is thus tempered with joy over the ability and zeal displayed by their successors, who are most loyally aided by those who have surrendered the leadership of Divisions to take up the work in their home Camps as "high privates in the rear ranks."

II. The Password and Countersign for the term beginning July 1st have been promulgated to all Divisions.

III. On April 3rd, 1896, a Charter was issued for a Camp at Honolulu, H. I., and the Camp attached to the Division of California, that Division having been instrumental in the organization of the Camp. At the Encampment of the Division of California, April 23, the name of the Division was changed to the "Division of California and Hawaiian Islands," and the change of name has been approved.

IV. Division Commanders will see that the reports of the Surgeon and Chaplain are at once forwarded to the Surgeon-General and Chaplain-in-Chief.

V. The Committee on Transportation for the Fifteenth Annual Encampment to be held at Louisville, Ky., September 8-11, is hard at work, and reports the probability of very liberal railroad rates for the Encampment. The Chairman of the Committee gives out the following information: "The 'Trunk Line Association' (which covers the territory from Buffalo, Pittsburg and East thereof, except in New England) are willing to grant a rate of fare and a third for the round trip account Louisville meeting—on certificate plan. The Central Passenger Committee authorize an open rate of one fare for the round trip from all points in their territory; tickets on sale September 7th and 8th, return limit to initial point to be midnight of September 13th. Southern States Passenger Association authorize rate of one fare for round trip; tickets to be sold September 6th and 7th, good for return to September 15th. Western Passenger Association will undoubtedly conform to Central and Southern rates." Division Commanders and others desiring additional information regarding routes and rates will correspond with Quartermaster General R. Loebenstein, Chairman of the Committee, 84 La Salle Street, Chicago.

The various Committees of the Sons of Veterans of Louisville and also the Citizens Committees are earnestly at work preparing for the Encampment, and will soon be ready to announce the program, and give full information regarding the Encampment. Everything indicates a very successful meeting, with as large, if not a much larger, attendance than ever before. Any one desiring particulars should address Hon. Wm. Cornwall, Jr., General Manager Citizens Committees, Louisville, Ky.

VI. Division Commanders must be prompt in forwarding reports for the Quarter ending June 30th. Much work will devolve upon these Headquarters from this time until the Encampment, and the Adjutant General's Consolidated report for the quarter must be out of the way by August 1st.

VII. The Consolidated report of the Adjutant General for the quarter ending March 31 shows a net gain of nearly four hundred members for the quarter, notwithstanding the terrible loss in Ohio, and the heavy losses in Illinois and Massachusetts. Seventeen Divisions show gains, some of them material ones, while six show very slight losses. There has been much pruning of dead branches, and the Order was never in a better condition for growth. This golden opportunity should be improved by every member of the Order, in doing his utmost to strengthen and build up our membership.

By command of

W. H. RUSSELL,

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant General.

Commander-in-Chief.

CHICAGO, April 6, 1896.

W. H. RUSSELL, Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A., LaCrosse, Kansas.

Dear Sir and Brother: I have the honor to submit my report for the quarter ending March 31, 1896:

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

DR.			CR.
Cash on hand, as per last report	.....	\$ 947 69	
Received for supplies	.....	1,671 89	
Received for P. C. Tax	.....	1,570 99	
Received for Charter Fees	....	122 00	
			Paid for:
			General expenses
		
			Office expenses
		
			General orders
		
			Supplies (including cost of shipping)
		
			Salaries
		
			Fourteenth National Encampment
		
			Rowley claim (legal services)
		
			Traveling expenses
		
			Miscellaneous
		
			Cash on hand
		
		\$4,312 57	\$4,312 57

March 31, 1896, supplies on hand as per inventory\$1,607 92

GENERAL ACCOUNT, MARCH 31, 1896.

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
Various divisions	.....	Various divisions	.....
Furniture	.....	Thayer & Jackson	.....
Supplies	.....	Surplus	.....
Cash	.....	
	\$2,505 43		\$2,565 43

PROFIT AND LOSS, MARCH 31, 1896.

LOSSES.		GAINS.	
General orders	.....	Charter fees	.....
Salaries	.....	P. C. Tax	.....
Traveling expenses	.....	Supplies (profit)	.....
Office expenses	.....	
General expenses	.....	
Fourteenth National Encampment	.....	
Rowley claim	.....	
Supplies (obsolete forms destroyed)	.....	
Balance (net gain)	.....	
	\$1,054 28		\$1,954 28

R. LOEBENSTEIN,
Quartermaster General.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Aug. 17, 1896.

General Orders, No. 4, Series of 1896.

I. Death has entered the ranks of the Commandery-in-Chief and taken from his high place in our order Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Elwood T. Carr, of Radnor, Pennsylvania.

Brother Carr was an active member of Colonel Owen Jones Camp, No. 45, Division of Pennsylvania, and had held many positions of responsibility in his Camp and Division. He attended the National Encampment at Cincinnati in 1893, as a delegate from his Division; also the National Encampment at Davenport in 1894, as delegate-at-large from his Division. At Davenport he was elected a member of the Council-in-Chief, and at the National Encampment at Knoxville, in September, 1895, he was unanimously elected Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, holding that position at the time of his death.

Brother Carr was born September 22, 1850, and died July 28, 1896.

"In death a hero, as in life a friend."

As a testimonial of respect to our dead brother, all brothers of the Order are hereby ordered to drape their badges in mourning for a period of thirty days from the reading of this Order in Camp. The charter, altar and all flags and banners of Camps shall be draped in mourning for a like period. The badges and side arms of the officers of the Commandery-in-Chief shall be draped for a period of thirty days from the date of this Order.

II. The first session of the Fifteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief will convene at 2 o'clock p. m., Tuesday, September 8, in the city of Louisville, Kentucky.

The official Transportation Circular heretofore issued from this office gives all necessary details as to rates. The New England Passenger Association, the Trunk Line Association and the Western Passenger Association have made a rate of one and one-third fare for the round trip upon the certificate plan. The Central Passenger Committee and the Southern States Passenger Association have made an open rate of one fare for the round trip.

The Commander-in-Chief and party will leave LaCrosse Sunday morning, September 6, over the Missouri Pacific to Kansas City and St. Louis, arriving at Kansas City Sunday evening, and at St. Louis Monday morning, leaving there at 8:20 a. m. over the Baltimore & Ohio South Western, arriving at Louisville at 5:55 that evening.

The local committee recommends the following hotels:

Galt House (Commandery-in-Chief headquarters), \$3.00 per day.

Louisville Hotel, \$3.00 per day and upwards.

Willard Hotel, \$2.50 per day.

Victoria Hotel, \$2.00 per day.

Enterprise Hotel, \$1.00 per day.

The Committee on Arrangements has decided to offer the following prizes for a competitive drill to take place during the Encampment:

First prize, \$500.

Second prize, \$250.

Third prize, \$100.

Particulars regarding the drill may be obtained from Wm. Cornwell, chairman Citizens Committee, Louisville, Kentucky.

It was fully expected that a complete copy of the program as arranged by the local committee, could be given in this Order, but it has failed to reach these Headquarters up to this date. The local committees are laboring hard and will royally entertain the Encampment and all visiting brothers. Every brother who possibly can, should attend this Encampment, for it promises to be a notable one in the history of the Order.

III. R. B. Oglesbee, having been elected Commander of the Division of Indiana, tendered his resignation as Judge Advocate General. The resignation was accepted, and Past Commander Newton J. McGuire, of Indianapolis, Indiana, was appointed to fill the vacancy, and having been installed, will be respected and obeyed accordingly.

IV. The following Division Commanders have been elected and installed since the issue of General Order No. 3:

Gulf, George H. Tinker, 54 Barrone St., New Orleans.

Michigan, H. E. Cowdin, Rockford.

Vermont, Arthur I. Howe, Brattleboro.

Frank G. Cornwell, Commander-elect of the Division of West Virginia, has resigned, and A. B. Rule, Senior Vice Commander of the Division, has been placed in command.

V. Several Division Inspectors and Division Chaplains have not yet forwarded their reports to their respective chiefs—Inspector General F. C. Stillson, Battle Creek, Michigan, and Chaplain-in-Chief F. B. Cole, Holden St., Providence, Rhode Island. Such as are delinquent must at once attend to this duty, or their Divisions will be denied representation in the Louisville Encampment, September 8-11.

The attention of Division Commanders is especially directed to this matter. See Proceedings of Knoxville Encampment, page 198.

VI. In this, his last official communication through the medium of General Orders to the brothers of our beloved organization, the Commander-in-Chief earnestly desires to call to the attention of the entire membership the urgent need of the exemplification of practical patriotism in the application of our principles to the social and political relations we maintain with each other, with our kindred Orders, with society, and with our country. Faithful, loyal and true as our patriotic brotherhood has ever been, the great need of the times is a faithful inculcation and an earnest practice of the principles of true patriotism as enunciated in our Constitution. If ever this grand government should go down it would be in the ashes of a dead patriotism. On the carrying out of these principles rests not only the well being of the Order, but the perpetuity of our country. God grant that our Order may grandly grow and that this nation may be preserved.

The Commander-in-Chief takes this opportunity to most heartily thank the brothers, one and all, for their cordial co-operation with him in all affairs relating to the administration of his high and responsible office, and in the arduous and often complex duties he has been called upon to discharge. He would reverently invoke on their behalf the blessings and benisons of the God of Nations, by whose grace we are preserved.

By command of

W. H. RUSSELL,

Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant General.

CHICAGO, July 11, 1896.

W. H. RUSSELL, Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A., La Crosse, Kansas.

Dear Sir and Brother: I have the honor to submit my report for the quarter ending June 30, 1896:

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

DR.	CR.
Cash on hand, as per last report.....	Paid for:
.....\$ 223 07	Supplies, including cost of shipping.....
Received for supplies.....	.....\$1,455 84
.....1,610 20	General expenses.....
Received for P. C. Tax.....	.....39 40
.....1,424 92	Office expenses.....
Received for Charter Fees....	.....186 48
.....184 00	General orders.....
Received for Miscellaneous... ..	.....44 09
.....4 64	Salaries.....
	.....750 00
	Fourteenth National Encampment.....
	.....247 08
	Miscellaneous.....
	.....8 74
	Cash on hand.....
	.....715 25
\$3,446 83	\$3,446 83
June 30, 1896, supplies on hand, as per inventory.....	\$1,756 99

GENERAL ACCOUNT, June 30, 1896.

ASSETS.	LIABILITIES.
Various Divisions.....	Various Divisions.....
.....\$ 45 66	.....\$ 2 44
Furniture.....	Surplus.....
.....664 10	.....3,179 55
Supplies.....	
.....1,756 99	
Cash.....	
.....715 25	
\$3,181 99	\$3,181 99

PROFIT AND LOSS, JUNE 30, 1896.

LOSSES.	GAINS.
General Orders.....	Supplies (profit).....
.....\$ 44 09	.....\$ 287 08
Salaries.....	Charter Fees.....
.....750 00	.....184 00
Office expenses.....	P. C. Tax.....
.....186 43	.....1,424 92
General expenses.....	
.....39 40	
Fourteenth National Encampment.....	
.....247 08	
Balance, net gain.....	
.....628 95	
\$1,895 95	\$1,895 95

R. LOEBENSTEIN, Quartermaster General.

OFFICIAL CIRCULARS.

Official Circular, No. 1.

LA CROSSE, Kansas, November 20, 1895.

ADDRESS TO THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC:

The Sons of Veterans apply to the members of the Grand Army of the Republic for active support and assistance, and respectfully request a careful study of the principles and objects of the Order:

PRINCIPLES.

Section 1. A firm belief and trust in Almighty God, and a realization that under His beneficent guidance the free institutions of our land, consecrated by the services and blood of our fathers, have been preserved, and the integrity and life of the Nation maintained.

Sec. 2. True allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, based upon a respect for, and devotion and fidelity to, its Constitution and Laws, manifested by the discountenancing of anything that may tend to weaken Loyalty, incite to Insurrection, Treason or Rebellion or in any manner impair the efficiency and permanency of our National Union.

OBJECTS.

Section 1. To keep green the memories of our fathers, and their sacrifices for the maintenance of the Union.

Sec. 2. To aid the members of the Grand Army of the Republic and all honorably discharged Union soldiers, sailors and marines in caring for their helpless and disabled veterans; to extend aid and protection to their widows and orphans; to perpetuate the memory and history of their heroic dead, and the proper observance of Memorial Day and Union Defenders' Day.

Sec. 3. To aid and assist worthy and needy members of our Order.

Sec. 4. To inculcate patriotism and love of country, not only among our membership, but among all the people of our land, and to spread and sustain the doctrine of equal rights, universal liberty, and justice to all.

ELIGIBILITY TO MEMBERSHIP.

Section 1. All male descendants not less than eighteen years of age, of deceased or honorably discharged soldiers, sailors or marines, who served in the Union army or navy during the Civil War of 1861-1865, shall be eligible to membership, provided that no person shall be eligible who has ever been convicted of any infamous crime, or who has, or whose father has, ever borne arms against the Government of the United States of America.

The Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic are most earnestly urged to plant a Camp by the side of every Post of their organization, and to visit, encourage and assist the Sons of Veterans in increasing their membership, and in thus extending their influence throughout the country.

Every eligible young man in the land should be a member of this patriotic society. It is an inexpensive one; its ritualistic work is simple, yet beautiful and touching; its motives are pure, and its objects beyond reproach; its principles are of the loftiest—they inspire within the heart the highest ideal of Fraternity, awaken the broadest conception of Charity, and arouse that Loyalty that distinguished our fathers in the war for the preservation of the Union. Within its castle walls are sown the seeds of a true and patriotic American citizenship which shall bear fruit in the future integrity of our great Nation, the perpetuity of our free institutions, and the honor and glory of the flag from which your blood washed the stain of treason.

Help us build up a society that teaches its members to

"Hunt the flag and stay with it,
Hunt the flag and keep it flying"—

Rate—One and one-third fare upon certificate plan. Regulations and limits are identical with those of New England Passenger Association, enumerated above. Don't forget your Certificate.

WESTERN PASSENGER ASSOCIATION.

(Territory—Points west of Chicago and Peoria, Ill, and St. Louis, Mo.)

Rate—One and one-third fare upon certificate plan. Regulations and limits are identical with those of New England Passenger Association, enumerated above. Don't forget your Certificate.

CENTRAL PASSENGER COMMITTEE.

(Territory—North of Ohio River and from Buffalo, N. Y., and Pittsburg, Pa., west to Chicago and Peoria, Ill., and St. Louis, Mo.)

Rate—One fare for the round trip. Buy round trip ticket from starting point to Louisville and return. No certificate is necessary, unless agent refuses to sell round trip at one-fare rate, in which event insist upon receipt for amount paid. Tickets will be on sale Sept. 7 and 8, good going only on date of sale as stamped on back by selling agent, and to reach Louisville not later than 3 p. m. Sept. 9, and good returning to initial point of ticket not later than midnight of Sept. 13.

SOUTHERN STATES PASSENGER ASSOCIATION.

(Territory—South of the Ohio River.)

Rate—One fare for the round trip. Buy round trip ticket from starting point to Louisville and return. No certificate necessary, unless agent refuses to sell round trip at one-fare rate, in which event insist upon receipt for amount paid. Tickets will be on sale Sept. 6 and 7, limited for return to Sept. 15, 1896.

In view of the fact that all roads interested have joined in the above rates, your Committee respectfully recommends that no "official routes" be designated.

Fraternally yours,

R. LOEBENSTEIN,

Chairman National Committee on Transportation.

Sec. 3. Any further information desired may be obtained from the members of the National Transportation Committee: R. Loebenstein, Chairman, 84 La Salle St., Chicago; J. V. B. Clarkson, 40 Broadway, New York City; Hon. A. W. Jones, Youngstown, Ohio; Geo. W. Knowlton, 19 Pearl St., Boston; Louis E. Schroder, Holly Park, San Francisco, Cal.

By Command of

W. H. RUSSELL,

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant General.

Commander-in-Chief.

SPECIAL ORDERS.

Special Orders, No. 1:

LA CROSSE, Kansas, October 9, 1895.

TO ARTHUR B. SPINK, COMMANDER RHODE ISLAND DIVISION, S. V., U. S. A., PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND:

Dear Sir and Brother—You are hereby authorized and directed on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief to duly install Brother F. Bradford Cole as Chaplain-in-Chief of the Order for the present administration, upon his acceptance of said appointment and presentation to you for installation; and this Special Order shall be your authority for so doing. You will report to the Commander-in-Chief all of your acts performed by virtue of this order.

Fraternally yours in F. C. and L.,

W. H. RUSSELL,

Official: H. V. SPEELMAN, Adjutant General.

Commander-in-Chief.

Special Orders, No. 2:

LA CROSSE, Kansas, October 9, 1895.

Past Captain Harry T. Moore of Camp 6, Division of Illinois, is hereby detailed as Assistant Quartermaster General and will report to the Quartermaster General for orders.

By Command of
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: H. V. SPEELMAN, Adjutant General.

Special Orders, No. 3:

LA CROSSE, Kansas, October 9, 1895.

TO L. B. PRICE, SENIOR VICE COMMANDER KANSAS DIVISION, S. V., U. S. A., MULVANE, KANSAS:

Dear Sir and Bro.—You are hereby authorized and commissioned to install Brother H. W. Huffman as Commander of the Kansas Division, S. V., U. S. A., he having been duly elected to said position by the Division Council, to fill the vacancy and to serve for the unexpired term caused by the resignation of Commander W. H. Russell, who was, at the Knoxville Encampment, elected and installed as Commander-in-Chief. This shall be your authority and you will report your acts by virtue of this order to these Headquarters.

By Command of
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: H. V. SPEELMAN, Adjutant General.

Special Order, No. 4:

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Oct. 19, 1895.

Past Captain H. A. Russell of Camp No. 223, Division of Kansas, is hereby detailed as Assistant Adjutant General, and will report to the Adjutant General forthwith for orders.

By Command of
W. H. RUSSELL,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official: H. V. SPEELMAN, Adjutant General.

Special Order, No. 5:

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Nov. 16, 1895.

H. V. Speelman, having tendered his resignation as Adjutant General on Nov. 9th, 1895, to take effect Nov. 16th, and the same having been accepted, I do now therefore appoint Columbus Borin, of the Division of Kansas, Adjutant General, to fill the vacancy caused by the said resignation, and he will be respected and obeyed accordingly, with rank from Nov. 16th, 1895.

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

Official: H. A. RUSSELL, Assistant Adjutant General.

Special Order, No. 6:

LA CROSSE, Kansas, Dec. 4, 1895.

Brothers Grant W. Harrington and Rev. Frederick B. Cole having tendered their resignations as Assistant Inspectors General, and the same having been accepted, I hereby appoint Past Colonel W. B. McArthur, of Lincoln, Nebraska, as Assistant Inspector General to inspect the Headquarters of the Division of Nebraska, and Colonel Arthur B. Spink, of Providence, Rhode Island, to inspect the Headquarters of the Division of Connecticut, to fill the vacancies caused by the said resignations. Generals McArthur and Spink will be respected and obeyed accordingly, with rank from Dec. 4, 1895.

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

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant General.

Special Order, No. 7:

LA CROSSE, Kansas, March 30, 1896.

Harry T. Moore has resigned the office of Assistant Quartermaster General, and his resignation is hereby accepted. Lieutenant Fred J. Sanford is hereby appointed Assistant Quartermaster General to fill the vacancy, and will be respected and obeyed accordingly, with rank from March 30, 1896.

W. H. RUSSELL,

Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant General.

Special Order, No. 8:

LA CROSSE, Kansas, July 7, 1896.

Commander Frank G. Cornwell, of the Division of West Virginia, having resigned, and the resignation having been accepted, Senior Vice Commander A. B. Rule, of Clarksburg, West Virginia, is hereby placed in command and ordered to convene the Division Council for the purpose of electing a Division Commander. He will be respected and obeyed accordingly.

By Command of

W. H. RUSSELL

Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant General.

Special Order, No. 9:

R. B. Oglesbee, having been elected Commander of the Division of Indiana, has resigned his position as Judge Advocate General. The resignation has been accepted, and Past Division Commander Newton J. McGuire, of Indianapolis, Indiana, is hereby appointed Judge Advocate General to fill the vacancy. He will be respected and obeyed accordingly.

By command of

W. H. RUSSELL,

Commander-in-Chief.

Official: C. BORIN, Adjutant General.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Adjutant General's report will take the usual course. The Chair is informed that a committee of ladies representing the Woman's Relief Corps of the City of Louisville, or the Department of Kentucky, are in attendance and desire to be admitted to extend greetings to the Commandery-in-Chief. What is the pleasure of the Commandery?

RECEPTION OF COMMITTEE FROM THE WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

L. W. KENNEDY, of Colorado: Commander, I move that we take recess and admit the ladies.

GEO. F. WOLZ, of Nebraska: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion. All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion seems to be, and is carried.

The Chair will appoint as a committee to receive the ladies:

Surgeon General Dan S. Gardner, of Ohio, Chairman;

H. E. Cowdin, of Michigan;

Z. C. Green, of South Dakota.

The Encampment is now in recess.

The Committee representing the Womans' Relief Corps, Mrs. Nelukirk, Chairman, entered, escorted by the Committee appointed to receive them.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, I have the pleasure of introducing Mrs. Nelukirk, Past National President of the Womans' Relief Corps.

MRS. NEINKIRK'S REMARKS.

MRS. NEINKIRK: Commander, and Sons of Veterans, it affords me great pleasure to be with you this afternoon. I am very proud to say that we of the Relief Corps realize that as our organization passes away, and as the Grand Army passes away, you and your sister society must step forward and do our work. I have just returned from St. Paul, and am hardly rested from the trip, but I desire to tell you something of our treatment there during the Encampment of the G. A. R. We were royally welcomed. Everything was done that could be done to make our stay pleasant, and my successor was there elected, as you know.

I desire particularly to speak to you concerning the action that we took in regard to the Andersonville Prison property. There may be some of you old enough to have been in the service and been even in the Andersonville prison. We have had the matter under discussion for quite a while. Some time ago the Commander of the Department of Georgia announced that their Department could no longer take care of the Andersonville prison property. The subject was brought before us, but we hesitated about taking charge of it. The Grand Army, who we think can advise us on all subjects, thought it was most too big a thing for us to take hold of. The matter rested for a year or two, but this year in our Convention we were asked to take it off the hands of the Georgia Department of the Grand Army. There was a mortgage on the property and the Womans' Relief Corps raised \$672 to help pay off that debt; and we were asked to take charge of it. Our president, Mrs. Turner, visited Andersonville a month ago and went over the property, and I wish you could have heard her when she came back. Perhaps some of you don't know her. She is one of our loyal women, not a soldier's wife or daughter, but a good, loyal woman who is willing to come in and give her time and money to the work. She visited this place, and when she came back she begged us with tears in her eyes to take charge of it and preserve it as a monument to the brave soldiers who suffered and died there. She told us how more soldiers lost their lives in that prison than fell on any one battle field during the war. She told us of that spring that was brought forth there by such a miracle; and when she concluded, we with one accord decided to take charge of that property and take care of it. We are going to build a stockade there, not of stone, but a wooden one, around the twenty-five acres on the lines where the old stockade was built, so that parties visiting there may be able to form some idea of how it looked during the war. We feel that our work is progressing. We are proud of our Order. We are proud to aid the Grand Army, proud and glad to do everything that we can to aid them; and I wanted to come and say to you, the Sons of the Soldiers of the Grand Army, that we bid you welcome to our Southern City. Although a Buckeye myself, I have learned to love this State and this City, and I feel that the coming of the Grand Army and the Womans' Relief Corps to Louisville last year has been a blessing to us. It has brought the two organizations before the people so that they realize what we are. Why, when we were talking about decorating this city last year, just before the Grand Army came, a lady friend of mine, a soldier's wife and a good loyal woman, told me of a remark that one lady made here in Louisville. She went to ask my friend about decorating, and she said she didn't feel like she cared to decorate very much; she didn't really want to decorate; but she said she had been told that if she didn't decorate, the old soldiers would come down here, and when they found her house without any decorations on it, they would tear it down over her head. Now just think of people living in a place like this, with ideas of that kind about the old soldiers. I think to-day they understand it better than they did before the Grand Army met here. I am glad they came last year, and I am glad you are here to-day. I bid you welcome to our city, and we hope your stay may be pleasant and profitable. (Applause.)

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Ladies, we thank you for your words of welcome and of fraternal love, and bid you God-speed in your work for the old soldier. We are engaged in the same work ourselves, and we are glad to have your assistance and co-operation.

MRS. NEINKIRK: And, Commander, I just want to say, in addition to what I have said, that I have joined the Ladies' Aid Society, so that I can work with you and your sisters. (Applause.)

The Committee retired, escorted by the Committee appointed for that purpose.

REPORT OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The next business in order is the report of the Quartermaster General.

The Quartermaster General read his report, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
84 La Salle St., Chicago, Sept. 1, 1896.

To W. H. RUSSELL, Commander-in-Chief:

SIR:—I have the honor to submit my report of the business of the Quartermaster-General's Department for the year ending August 31st, 1896:

REPORT SUPPLEMENTAL TO REPORT TO 14TH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT.

Cash on hand, as shown by report.....		\$2,037.16
Paid for General Expenses.....	\$ 50.23	
“ Office Expenses.....	104.16	
“ Supplies.....	317.70	
“ Expenses 14th Annual Encampment.....	953.38	
“ General Orders.....	55.99	
“ Salaries.....	250.00	
“ Traveling Expenses.....	93.75	1,825.21
Balance cash on hand at beginning of administration.....		\$ 211.95

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FROM SEPTEMBER 19TH, 1895, TO AUGUST 31ST, 1896.

RECEIPTS.		
Cash on hand.....		\$ 211.95
“ received for Supplies.....	\$5,509.45	
“ “ “ Per Capita Tax.....	6,072.29	
“ “ “ Charter Fees.....	475.00	
“ “ from Loebenstein (advanced).....	500.00	
“ “ “ Minnesota Division.....	.88	
“ “ “ California Division.....	1.75	
“ “ “ Washington Division.....	2.89	
“ “ “ Michigan Division.....	1.68	12,563.64
Total Cash Receipts.....		\$12,775.89

EXPENDITURES

Expenses of the 14th Annual Encampment, in addition to those paid by preceding administration:—		
W. S. Garber, Stenographer.....	\$ 71.15	
Proceedings.....	512.08	
Postage on Proceedings.....	23.50	
Boxes and Drayage on Proceedings.....	9.15	
Expenses Blue Book Committee.....	35.15	
“ Transportation Committee (1895).....	6.40	\$ 660.43
Traveling Expenses:—		
Commander-in-Chief.....	\$ 123.30	
Adjutant-General.....	23.10	\$ 146.40
Supplies:—		
Badges and Decorations.....	\$3,162.40	
Camp and Division Supplies.....	1,313.21	
Cost of Shipping.....	179.59	
Wrapping Paper, Twine, Etc.....	14.89	
Electrotypes, Etc.....	25.05	\$ 4,695.17

The account of Profit and Loss from September 1st, 1895, to August 31st 1896, is as follows:—

PROFIT AND LOSS, SEPTEMBER 1ST, 1895, TO AUGUST 31ST, 1896.

Dr.	Losses.	Gains.	Cr.
To Supplies (obsolete forms destroyed)	\$ 25.17	By Charter Fees.....	\$ 475.00
" " (insurance on same).....	23.50	" Per Capita Tax.....	5,692.65
" Furniture (10 per cen. reduction).....	65.41	" Supplies.....	989.31
" Office Expenses.....	1,070.31	" Balance (Net Loss).....	658.97
" General Expenses.....	751.33		
" General Orders.....	337.89		
" Salaries.....	3,600.00		
" Traveling Expenses.....	*240.15		
" 14th National Encampment.....	1,613.81		
" 15th ".....	11.00		
" Rowley Claim.....	604.06		
	<u>\$7,747.93</u>		<u>\$7,745.93</u>

*\$93.75 of this amount incurred by preceding administration.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF RECEIPTS.

	1893-'94.	1894-'95.	1895-'96.
Received from Predecessor.....	\$ 1,083.04	\$ 1,394.68	\$ 211.95
" " for Supplies.....	5,214.17	6,645.52	5,500.45
" " Per Capita Tax.....	6,498.16	6,249.20	6,672.29
" " Charter Fees.....	319.50	464.40	475.00
" " Miscellaneous.....	849.62	403.80	507.20
	<u>\$13,459.49</u>	<u>\$14,259.18</u>	<u>\$12,775.89</u>

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EXPENDITURES.

	1893-'94.	1894-'95.	1895-'96.
Debts of Preceding Administration.....	\$.....	\$.....	(A) \$ 1,072.86
Expenses of preceding Annual Meeting, in addition to those paid by preceding administration.....	810.06	783.43	669.43
Traveling Expenses of Commander-in-Chief and Staff.....	488.85	193.07	146.40
Supplies:—			
Badges and Decorations.....	2,722.60	3,453.40	2,695.60
Camp and Division Supplies.....	1,193.94	1,751.10	1,313.24
Cost of Shipment (B).....		47.68	39.94
Wrapping Paper, Insurance, Etc.....	36.32	173.50	25.75
Furniture.....		291.93	281.90
General Orders.....	336.21	3,000.00	2,750.00
Salaries.....	3,000.00		
Office Expenses:—			
Rent.....	830.00	830.00	445.00
Telegrams, Postage and Stationery (C).....			
Miscellaneous.....	51.75	84.75	61.09
General Expenses:—			
Transfer Commandery Headquarters.....	56.43	31.40	185.34
Records.....	19.75		20.85
Miscellaneous.....	289.70	350.08	479.62
Stationery.....	105.56	174.89	118.38
Telegraphing.....	76.23	80.17	73.23
Postage.....	162.46	271.68	228.45
Cost of Shipping Supplies and other extra charges.....	185.22	303.72	199.69
Other Items.....	374.29	398.32	532.00
Totals.....	<u>\$10,754.38</u>	<u>\$12,222.02</u>	<u>\$11,348.57</u>

(A) Includes the amount paid on account " Rowley Claim."
 (B) Included in express item.
 (C) Included in telegraph, postage and stationery items.

The amount of cash on hand at the beginning of the present administration was \$211.95. The surplus account had a credit of \$2,658.90. From this surplus it is but justice to deduct the amounts subsequently paid on account of the Rowley Claim, inasmuch as the amount of said claim became a liability of the Commandery-in-Chief by action of the Knoxville Encampment. Deducting the \$606.06 paid to settle the above named liability, leaves the actual surplus at the beginning of this administration \$2,052.84. We had on hand at the close of business on August 31st, 1896, \$1,427.32 in cash, and a surplus of \$3,601.24.

It should be understood that this creditable showing has been made possible only by unusual effort upon the part of those in charge of the affairs of the Order during the year now closing, and while this Department has endeavored to reduce expenses wherever possible, I am cognizant of the cause of the larger part of the saving and am anxious that proper credit should be given where credit is due. Commander-in-Chief Russell and Adjutant-General Borin have given to the order an administration of economy and frugality that will ever stand as an example worthy of emulation by those who are to succeed them in their positions of responsibility and trust. They have labored unceasingly to meet necessary expenditures with inadequate revenues, and that success has crowned their efforts the preceding tabular reports will, upon a careful examination, clearly show.

It is a matter of regret that our financial condition during the year has precluded the publication of the Blue Book as ordered by the Knoxville Encampment. At no time during the year has there been a sufficient amount of money on hand, over and above liabilities then about due, to permit contracting for this work, and the Commander-in-Chief agreed with me that it were better to defer publication than to chance embarrassing the finances of the order.

Divisions are indebted to the Commandery-in-Chief as follows: California, 02c.; Gulf, \$6.42; *Indiana, \$27.51; *Kansas, \$19.33; *Michigan, 06c.; Oregon, \$1.37; *South Dakota, 05c.; Washington, 66c.; and the following Divisions have balances due them: Colorado, 75c.; Iowa, 15c.; Kentucky, \$1.00; Massachusetts, \$2.05; Nebraska, 03c.; Pennsylvania, 03c.; Rhode Island, 21c.; Vermont, 29c.; West Virginia, 02c.

Notwithstanding the fact that we have sold \$1,136.07 less of supplies this year than last, the profit on supplies has increased from \$975.84 to \$989.31.

I have received the bonds, duly approved by the Commander-in-Chief, of all Division Commanders elected during the current year, the bond of the Division Commander of Oregon excepted.

I have no recommendations to make relative to changes in blanks in use by the Order, and am pleased to be able to report that experience has proven the wisdom of the changes recommended to and authorized by the last session of the Commandery-in-Chief.

In closing this, my fourth annual report to the Commandery-in-Chief, I would be untrue to myself did I fail to express my appreciation of the pleasant relations which have existed between General Russell and his staff.

To the members of the staff and to the Council-in-Chief I am grateful for the fraternal spirit manifested upon all occasions, and for their uniform courtesy to me.

And to Commander-in-Chief Russell and Adjutant General Borin I am deeply indebted for many acts of kindness, and I beg to assure them that the personal friendship that has existed between us for many years has been made dearer to me by our being associated in the work of the Order during the year, and that their friendship is prized by me as one of life's brightest jewels. May their walks be laid in pleasant places, and may their efforts be ever attended with the same success that they have achieved in the administration of the affairs of the Order of Sons of Veterans.

Faternally yours, in F., C. and L.

R. LOEBENSTEIN,
Quartermaster-General.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The report of the Quartermaster General will take the usual course and be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports. The next business in order is the report of the Inspector General, Fred C. Stillson.

The Inspector General read his report, as follows:

INSPECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT.

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., Sept. 5, 1896.

WILLIAM H. RUSSELL, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, AND BROTHERS OF
THE COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF:

Gentlemen—The General Order of Commander-in-Chief Russell, No. 7, of 1895, contained the instructions and detail for the inspection of the Various Division Headquarters.

*Paid prior to meeting of this Encampment.

The corrected list of Assistant Inspectors General follows, and to those Brothers, in this public manner, I now desire to tender my thanks for their most effective services:

Division.	Inspector.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	W. R. Cooper.
California	Frank C. Shipley.
Colorado	P. F. Ackerman.
Connecticut	Arthur B. Spink.
Gulf	James Lewis, Jr.
Illinois	Frederick C. Stillson.
Indiana	Frederick C. Stillson.
Iowa	C. E. McColley.
Kansas	H. V. Speelman.
Kentucky	L. Vern Williams.
Maine	Walter S. Willey.
Maryland	E. R. Campbell.
Massachusetts	L. J. Macy.
Michigan	Frederick C. Stillson.
Minnesota	E. H. Milham.
Missouri	J. J. Speaker.
Nebraska	W. B. McArthur.
New Hampshire.....	S. A. Pickering.
New Jersey.....	W. B. McNulty.
New York.....	Frederick C. Stillson.
Ohio	Will A. Field.
Oregon	W. W. Sparks.
Pennsylvania	E. R. Campbell.
Rhode Island.....	G. E. Cox.
South Dakota.....	L. D. Lyon.
Vermont	Frank L. Greene.
Washington	H. L. Wells.
West Virginia.....	F. W. Myers.
Wisconsin	W. J. Patton.

From the reports made by these officials, we gather the following facts:

1—Each and every Division has a Charter.

2—All of the Divisions have a regularly adopted set of by-laws except the Gulf, and they all accord with the C. R. & R., except in Michigan and New Hampshire.

3—Records are complete except in the following Divisions: Kansas, Michigan, Oregon, Vermont and Wisconsin have no written up Black Books. The Ledger of the Rhode Island and Wisconsin Divisions were incomplete, as well as the Adjutant's Cash Book in Wisconsin, and the records of Division Council and Encampment proceedings in New Jersey.

4—The Quartermasters of Oregon and Wisconsin do not keep an account with each Camp as provided for.

5 and 6—The Gulf Division seems to suffer on these two questions, as it has not forwarded reports due Commandery-in-Chief Headquarters, nor were their Division accounts properly kept and receipts for money issued.

7—Indiana heads the list of Divisions reporting indebtedness with the greatest amount, viz., \$500.00, while Kentucky owes \$26.75, the least amount. The total indebtedness of Divisions is \$1,243.05.

8—Every Division reported cash on hand excepting California, Gulf and Nebraska. Pennsylvania had the most, \$688.25 and Iowa the least, or \$1.04. The total amount of cash was \$3,540.28.

9—There was no Division without supplies, and the total amount of them was \$1,566.68.

10—The Division of Washington was the only one reported as having supplies other than of current issue.

11—Each Division had filed, as provided for in the C. R. & R., a Bond for \$2,000.00, by its Commander, except the Gulf, whose Commander gave a Bond for \$4,000.00, and Maryland, from which no Bond by its Commander, had been given.

12—All Division Quartermasters have given Bonds except those of the Divisions of Gulf, Oregon, Ohio and Wisconsin, for amounts ranging from \$500.00 to \$2,000.00.

13—The total amount of salaries paid the different Adjutants is \$2,681.00, and the Quartermasters receive in salaries \$2,351.00. Eight of the Divisions pay their Adjutants nothing, and nine of the Quartermasters work for glory alone. The average salary to Adjutants is \$92.45, and to Quartermasters is \$81.07. Pennsylvania expends annually the greatest amount for salaries by paying the Adjutant and Quartermaster \$400.00 and \$300.00, respectively.

14 and 15—There were 34,848 members in good standing in 1,372 Camps, an average of about 25 members to each Camp in the Order.

16 and 17—The total number of Camps organized is 4,494, and of those 3,122 have been disbanded.

18 and 19—One thousand three hundred and sixty-six Camps have been suspended and not reinstated, of which number 370 were during the past year.

20—The answers to this question indicate a universal observance of Memorial Day in conjunction with the G. A. R. Kentucky rendered especial service at the National Grand Army Encampment in Louisville in 1895, and Massachusetts donated \$50.00 to the Soldiers' Home and \$100.00 to the Andersonville Flag Fund.

21—Field Days were held in the Divisions of Nebraska, New York, Iowa and Rhode Island only.

22, 23 and 24—Most fortunately every Division in the Order gives prompt attention to all correspondence and to Camp requisitions, while all General Orders of the Commander-in-Chief are promptly mailed to Camps.

25—Alabama and Tennessee seems to be the only Division in which the Commander and his staff are not familiar with the secret work.

26—Alabama and Tennessee, New Jersey and the Gulf Divisions report the issuance of no circulars to, nor correspondence, the past year, with G. A. R. Posts relative to organization of new Camps.

27—Alabama and Tennessee reports a desire for more hearty support from the G. A. R., while California reports sympathy with our Order in portions of the State only; in all other Divisions the relations are very helpful and cordial.

28 and 29—Sympathy is due to the Brothers of the Alabama and Tennessee, California, Connecticut, Gulf, Kentucky, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and South Dakota Divisions because no Ladies' Aid Societies are organized in their Divisions. In all other Divisions these Societies are in existence and reported of most material advantage to our Order.

30—The Social feature of the Order predominates in a majority of the Divisions; those which take the most interest in Military matters are California, Connecticut, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Nebraska, New York, Rhode Island and South Dakota.

31 and 32—The cost of Charters ranges from \$12.00, in the Gulf Division, to \$35.00 in Pennsylvania, for which amount Camps paraphernalia is included with Charter and Camp Packet.

33—The total cost of these inspections was \$192.49, an average of \$6.63, or 15 cents per Division less than last year.

CAMP INSPECTIONS.

This, the first complete report on the Inspection of Camps under use of new Three Degree Ritual, will doubtless prove instructive if not interesting. By a dint of continuous correspondence and telegraphing the report from every Division Inspector is in my hands, but two of them, those from West Virginia and the Gulf, arrive too late to be incorporated in the tables prepared showing averages and percentages. I believe this is the first time in several years that every Division has been represented in the report of the Inspector General. The first Division to mail report, which was received by me January 6th, was Rhode Island, and it was not only the first report received, but an absolutely correct one. Out of the 1,393 Camps reported as in good standing, 1,087 of them, or 78 per cent, were inspected. In the following Divisions every Camp was inspected: California, Maine,

Rhode Island and Vermont. Indiana, unfortunately, makes the poorest showing in this respect, but 20 per cent of the Camps in that Division being inspected.

1—Out of the number reporting, 248 Captains have committed all of their work, 295 have it learned so well that they are marked "Good," 314 have a mark of "Fair," and 243 of them can be marked but "Poor." 43 per cent of the Captains in Massachusetts have a mark of "Excellent," that being the best percentage. New Hampshire is a close second with 42 per cent, while Oregon is distanced, none of the Captains having completely committed their work.

2—Two hundred and ninety First Lieutenants are fully conversant with their work; 274 are "Good," 245 "Fair," and 275 are "Poor." Again does Massachusetts lead with a percentage of 43 for "Excellent" work, while Oregon can receive no mark in the percentage table on this point.

3—The Second Lieutenants do not seem to be inclined to prepare their portions of the Ritual as well as do the First Lieutenants, as but 273 of them are perfect, 256 are "Good," 270 are "Fair," and 287 are "Poor." New Hampshire's percentage for "Excellent" is the highest, viz., 52 per cent.

4—Unfortunately, I think, but 208 of the Chaplains considered the spiritual welfare of their Camps of sufficient importance to commit to memory the part assigned to them in the Ritual; 218 were marked "Good," 259 were "Fair," and 338 were "Poor." Massachusetts, with a percentage of 32, is the highest on "Excellent" work, with California and New Hampshire each 31.

There does not seem to be a Chaplain in Colorado, Oregon or South Dakota who is correct in his work.

5—Two hundred and eighty-five Sergeants of the Guard have learned their important work in the Ritual; 295 of them know it well enough to be marked "Good," 204 of them are "Fair," while 283 are "Poor." Connecticut and Massachusetts tie on a percentage of 35 of "Excellent" Sergeants, while Oregon fails to indicate any percentage.

6—The officers are sufficiently interested in their work in 285 Camps to be regular in their attendance at meetings; 371 are marked "Good," 372 Camps are marked "Fair," and 102 are "Poor." Rhode Island has a percentage of 69 on "Excellent."

7—Three hundred and ninety-five Camps report a gain during the last year, and Rhode Island leads in this matter, with a percentage of 53.

8—In 354 Camps the records are complete and well kept.

9—"Excellent" is the mark given to 586 Camps on their appearance, and I think the Order is to be congratulated over that fact; 325 are "Good," 132 are "Fair," and 84 are "Poor." The percentage of Massachusetts for "Excellent" is 72, while Connecticut and Rhode Island are each 69.

10—Of the whole number of Quartermaster Sergeants, 887 have filed their bonds and financial matters receive prompt attention; 92 per cent of these Sergeants have filed their bonds in Rhode Island, and over 80 per cent of them are filed in Maine and Massachusetts.

11—Five hundred and sixty-seven Camps report their officers uniformed, while 487 are uniformed to some extent. Every officer in the Rhode Island Division is reported as uniformed, while Oregon fails to report a uniform.

12—The officers of 469 Camps receive a marking of "Excellent" on their General Appearance, while 283 are "Good," 168 are "Fair," and 131 are "Poor." Massachusetts leads with 86 per cent, its officers making an "Excellent" appearance. Indiana suffers by our computations, showing a percentage of but 6.

13—Proper equipments and furnishing are found in 921 Camp rooms, while 164 of them are "Good," 63 are "Fair," and 49 are "Poor." Again does Massachusetts lead with a percentage of 96 on "Excellent."

14—The members of the Staff in 547 Camps are provided with proper Chevrons, and in 403 Camps none are to be found. Every non-commissioned officer in Rhode Island is provided with the insignia of his rank, while in the Division of Alabama and Tennessee but 6 per cent are so provided.

15—In 488 Camps every member is uniformed, while they are uniformed to some extent in 557 Camps. The best showing on this point is made by Massachusetts with 88 per cent, and Rhode Island with 85 per cent of uniformed members. Uniforms do not seem to be in fashion in Colorado, as none are worn there.

16—For some inexplicable reason, badges are presented to recruits at their muster in only 943 Camps. Why the remainder of the Camps fail in this respect I can not imagine. Several Divisions have a percentage of 100 on this point, so I will not make specific mention of same.

17—In 94 per cent of the Camps the General Orders are regularly read and filed in the Camps. No Division has a percentage of 100 on this question, as it seems as though there should be, but several have over 90 per cent.

18—The memory of those dead heroes, our fathers and their comrades in arms, was observed by 1007 Camps on Memorial Day; 100 per cent, or every Camp in Rhode Island, and 98 per cent of the Camps in Massachusetts, a most delightful showing, turned out. The percentages in other Divisions are very good, many having over 80.

19—Eight hundred and twenty-seven Camps forwarded their quarterly reports and dues to Division Headquarters promptly, while 161 were more or less delinquent in this respect. Fortunately for the Divisions of Rhode Island and Vermont, none of their Camps failed in this respect.

20—I consider it a favorable indication that 968 Camps, or 90 per cent of them, forwarded promptly their Chaplain's and Surgeon's reports. Not a Camp in California, Rhode Island nor Vermont failed to do this, while in Minnesota only 15 per cent of the Camps had reported.

21—The number of members in the Order in good standing as reported to this Department is 29,987, an average of 20 members to each Camp.

22—The total number of members dropped during the past year was 4,134.

23—Five hundred and ninety-three of the different Camps have aided their local G. A. R. Posts or Women's Relief Corps, while 487 of them have not found it necessary to do so.

24—The total value of properties owned by the different Camps is \$221,990.85, an average of \$8,221.88 to the Division, and \$159.36 to each Camp. The Camps of Pennsylvania head the list by owning \$47,737.81 worth of property.

25—\$53,844.09 is the amount of money reported on hand with the Camps. Of that, Pennsylvania Camps hold \$21,112.17. To have the average amount, each Camp should have \$37.87.

26—The average amount of annual dues is \$1.97.

27—The average amount of muster fee proves to be \$1.55.

28—1,500 special meetings have been held since last inspection.

29—The principle of Charity in our order seems not to have been forgotten, as 940 members have been relieved during the past year and the money expended for this purpose was \$2,275.27, over 50 per cent of this sum being in Massachusetts.

30—Charity does not extend alone to members of the order, but to veterans and their families, and this was done during the past year to the amount of \$2,830.54. New York did the most in this direction, a sum of \$1,198.08 being expended in that Division.

31—With 278 Camps are Ladies' Aid Societies attached.

32—Members of the G. A. R. attend the meetings and encourage 546 of the Camps, while 444 Camps report that such interest is not taken with them.

33—306 Camps engage regularly in Company drill, while 752 do not.

34—Out of the number of Camps that are armed and equipped, 21 are Artillery, 39 are Cavalry and 660 are Infantry. There are in addition to the foregoing a Signal and an Ambulance Corps.

35—Total number of armed and equipped men is 9,583, an average of 13 men to each Camp so equipped. The greatest number of men is to be found in Pennsylvania, while Oregon has none.

36—748 Camps hold Social Gatherings, while 319 of the Camps do not find it advisable or necessary to do so.

37—The total cost of the Camp inspections was \$1,590.82, an average of \$1.14 to each Camp, but in the Divisions of Alabama and Tennessee and Oregon no expense is reported. Wisconsin paid the most for this purpose, the sum of \$230.90. The general averages of the Divisions range from 15 for Indiana to 89 for Rhode Island, and to this last mentioned loyal little Division is awarded the honor of the best general average; 635 of all the

Camps are First Class, 58 per cent of them; 379, or 35 per cent are Second Class, and 73, or 7 per cent are Third Class.

It seems to me proper and fitting, considering it is the Infant Division of the Order, and that we are all interested in its welfare, to incorporate herein, the report, while irregular, of the Inspector of the Division of the Gulf. It is as follows, to-wit: "I have the honor to report that I have inspected the several Camps of this Division, and find them in a fair condition. The Camps have been somewhat slow in paying their per capita tax, but considering that this division was organized a little over a year ago under great difficulties, and also taking into consideration the dull times, especially among our colored Camps, I think that they have done exceedingly well. Our Division is steadily increasing, and there were no Camps suspended during the past year. Great credit is due to past Col. Josiah Gross and the other officers of the Division, who by much effort and labor maintained the integrity of each Camp, and in every way sought to promote the growth and well-being of the Order.

Fraternally Yours in F. C. and L.,

(Signed) H. W. ROBINSON,

Inspector of the Division of the Gulf."

I notice by the reports of my predecessors in this Department that Division Commanders have been repeatedly importuned to appoint thoroughly competent brothers for such a class of work as is required by the office of Inspector, but I regret to say that the reports I have received have caused an endless amount of correspondence, several had to be returned to be completed or corrected and with very few exceptions, I have found it necessary to review and revise every total, average and percentage. I feel that this may to a certain extent be attributed to ambiguity of the blanks and for the consideration of my successor, I herewith submit revised Camp Inspection and Division Inspectors' reports and Instructions to Inspecting Officers, with the recommendation:

Recommendation No. 1—That these revised blanks be promptly submitted to the newly elected Commander-in-Chief for his approval and their issuance for the coming fall inspections. Division Inspectors were sorely troubled over the matter of uniforms, that they might be positive as to the regulation. In accordance with Sections 1 and 6 of Article XIII, General Rules and Regulation, and Section 11 of General Bundy's Order No. 1, Series of 1895, three different uniforms may be worn and each be proper, if certain requirements be fulfilled. For uniformity in this matter, I accordingly recommend:

Recommendation No. 2—That the committee on C., R. and R. of this Encampment be instructed to prepare a Section for this C., R. and R. which shall definitely provide for the Regulation Uniform and which shall take the place of the Sections of the C., R. and R. above referred to. I am of the opinion that better results occasioned particularly by a continuance of interest in Camp work will obtain, if each officer and member of the Staff of every new Camp is provided with the insignia of his rank. There should be no trouble or great expense attached to this move. These articles can be labelled in a manner to readily determine to which office each applied and a set placed in every Camp Packet and transferred from officer to officer as changes are made in Camp positions.

The installation service in Camp can be made more impressive should these insignia be given to and worn by the officers elect at that time. I consequently recommend:

Recommendation No. 3—That at the expense of the Commandery-in-Chief, insignia of rank for each Camp officer and member of Staff, be provided and placed at the disposal of the different Divisions, one set to accompany each Camp Packet; that the Divisions be charged for the same or not as this Encampment may determine; that all Camps be notified of the ability of their respective Division Headquarters to supply them with insignia for their officers at a stated price.

I believe the concurrence with this recommendation will tend to increase the standing of Camps at their inspection.

From search of the C., R. and R., I am unable to determine that any insignia of rank is therein indicated for a Camp Chaplain, and I recommend:

Recommendation No. 4—That the Committee on C., R. and R. prepare and devise an insignia of rank for a Camp Chaplain and report same to this Encampment for adoption. Question No. 12 of the Camp Inspection blank asks if the officers wear rank straps. Question No. 14 of the same blank asks if the staff are provided with proper chevrons. I can not tell why a Camp Chaplain is not a member of the Staff, but what does he wear as an indication to the Inspector of his Camp that he is provided with the insignia of his office?

Other than by my duties as Inspector General, I have been called upon officially but once, then to represent the Commander-in-Chief at the Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan G. A. R. Delightful recognition as such representative was accorded me by both the Department officials and Col. Walker, who with a number of his Staff was in attendance.

The following Exhibits are hereto appended, to-wit: "A," a table showing the totals for the first twenty questions; "B," a table showing the percentages for the first twenty questions; "C," Circular Letter No. 1 from Department of Inspector General.

To the Brothers, who, as Division Inspectors, have assisted me during the past year in the work of my Department, I thank you. While in many instances the work has been laborious and tedious, yet our relations have been the most cordial and pleasant. I ask a continuance of the same for my successor.

General Russell, at your hands and from the members of your Staff I have received most courteous consideration and assistance. I prize most highly the honor conferred on me in my appointment as your Inspector General and trust I have not been found lacking in any respect to increase the benefits derived for our Order from your most successful administration.

Faternally Yours,

FREDERICK C. STILLSON,
Inspector General.

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT.

EXHIBIT "A."
Table showing Totals for First Ten Questions.

DIVISION.	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10																	
	Excellent.	Fair.	Good.	Poor.	Excellent.	Fair.	Good.	Poor.	Excellent.	Fair.	Good.	Poor.	Excellent.	Fair.	Good.	Poor.	Excellent.	Fair.	Good.	Poor.																
Ala. and Tenn.	2	3	12	1	17	0	3	0	15	1	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	14	7	3	3															
California	3	1	11	0	13	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	3	2	1															
Colorado	3	1	11	0	13	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	3	2	1															
Connecticut	5	1	13	0	16	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	4	1	0															
Del.	1	1	11	0	13	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	3	2	1															
Illinois	2	1	11	0	13	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	3	2	1															
Indiana	5	6	10	0	16	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	4	1	0															
Iowa	11	19	17	10	9	23	11	13	8	4	7	13	8	4	7	13	8	20	12	6	4															
Kansas	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	6	0	0															
Kentucky	2	2	11	0	13	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	3	2	1															
Maine	3	1	11	0	13	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	3	2	1															
Maryland	5	3	19	1	23	6	9	16	23	6	9	16	23	6	9	16	23	31	16	23	6															
Massachusetts	5	3	19	1	23	6	9	16	23	6	9	16	23	6	9	16	23	31	16	23	6															
Michigan	3	7	10	4	17	9	12	8	17	9	12	8	17	9	12	8	17	22	16	10	4															
Minnesota	6	11	27	7	34	11	12	18	34	11	12	18	34	11	12	18	34	47	24	17	9															
Missouri	5	4	17	3	20	9	13	10	20	9	13	10	20	9	13	10	20	26	16	10	4															
Nebraska	8	3	17	4	21	10	14	11	21	10	14	11	21	10	14	11	21	28	16	10	4															
New Hampshire	4	13	4	5	13	3	4	4	13	3	4	4	13	3	4	4	13	17	11	5	0															
New Jersey	26	14	36	29	24	33	25	18	27	36	23	18	27	36	23	18	27	36	47	34	14															
New York	23	29	26	13	34	17	26	14	26	19	23	17	26	19	23	17	26	35	24	13	6															
Ohio	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	6	0	0															
Oregon	1	3	3	1	7	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	5	0	0															
Pennsylvania	1	8	3	4	11	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	7	0	0															
Rhode Island	5	16	13	4	22	10	14	11	22	10	14	11	22	10	14	11	22	30	16	10	4															
South Dakota	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0															
Vermont	10	3	6	1	17	6	8	0	17	6	8	0	17	6	8	0	17	24	13	4	0															
Washington	2	2	3	12	1	17	0	3	0	15	1	1	12	1	1	1	1	14	7	3	3															
West Virginia	2	2	3	12	1	17	0	3	0	15	1	1	12	1	1	1	1	14	7	3	3															
Wisconsin	2	2	3	12	1	17	0	3	0	15	1	1	12	1	1	1	1	14	7	3	3															
Totals	248	293	314	243	290	274	245	275	273	256	270	287	208	218	259	338	485	671	872	102	893	919	171	213	854	219	70	33	586	325	432	64	887	81	50	84

EXHIBIT "C."

(Circular Letter No. 1.)

BATTLE CREEK, MICH, Oct. 14, 1895.

In accordance with advices this day received from Commander-in-Chief Russell, this Circular Letter is promulgated for the information and instruction of Division Commanders and Inspectors. Each Assistant Inspector should receive a copy of the letter through the medium of Division Headquarters.

Especial attention is directed to Art. XVIII of General Russell's order No. 6, and it is to be hoped that requisite blanks for a most thorough inspection of every Camp have been ordered and are before this received by each Division Commander.

Some misapprehension about a clear understanding of Articles XIV and XV of "Instructions to Inspecting Officers" as issued by my predecessor seems to prevail and farther explanation is deemed advisable. Attention is asked to Sec. 6, Art. 13, General R. and R. and to that portion of General Order No. 1, issued by General Bundy, which reads as follows, viz: "Full dress uniforms may be worn by any Camp in a body, if so decided by a majority vote at any regular meeting thereof." The importance of thorough drill upon the three degree ritual is doubtless appreciated by all and the entire work of each degree in the long form, should be carried out by every Camp before its inspector. Each Assistant Inspector should be perfectly familiar with the work and in a position to lend all assistance necessary.

It would seem that Division Inspectors should be in a position to forward to this Department their consolidated reports very soon after January 1st, 1896, and such promptness will be appreciated.

Again is repeated, when you are in doubt regarding any question or point relating to inspection, consult your superior officer at once. Be prompt, brothers, be thorough, and let it be plainly evident that we are all competent to fill and proud of the positions conferred upon us.

Very truly yours in F. C. and I.,

FREDERICK C. STILLSON.

Inspector General.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I move you that that part of the report of the Inspector General containing the recommendations which would naturally go to the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations, be referred to that Committee, and the rest of the report be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

MICHAEL CROWLEY, of New Hampshire: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion. If there is no objection it will be taken by consent. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and the report of the Inspector General will be so referred.

COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORTS RECONSTRUCTED.

I would like to inquire if Past Commanders-in-Chief Joseph B. Maccabe, George W. Marks and Col. Oglesbee, of Indiana, are in the room? (After a pause.) These brothers were appointed upon the Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work, together with Brother Wagner, of Pennsylvania, and Brother Meyers, of Ohio. It seems that the brothers, aside from the two last named, are not attending to their duty. There is plenty of work for this Committee on Officers' Reports to do, and the delinquent members have been notified that there would be plenty of work for them to do this afternoon and they should be here; consequently I will revise that committee (Applause), and it will now stand as follows:

Louis M. Wagner, of Pennsylvania, Chairman.

F. W. Myers, of Ohio.

Frank L. Shepard, of Illinois.

F. C. Bunton, of Connecticut.

F. J. McMurtrie, of Michigan.

The Brothers named will constitute the Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work, and proceed at once to the discharge of the duties of that Committee.

The next business in order is the report of the Judge Advocate General, Newton J. McGuire.

JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL MCGUIRE: Commander, I will first read the report of my predecessor in office, which is as follows:

REPORT OF JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OGLESBEE.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., July 4, 1896.

W. H. RUSSELL, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:

Having been honored by you at Knoxville with the appointment of Judge Advocate General I was commissioned with rank from September 18, 1895, and served until July 3, 1896, at which time I was elected Commander of the Indiana Division and resigned as Judge Advocate General.

During the period of my service I have rendered six opinions, but three of which were in courts martial. I also examined the by-laws of one Division, and prepared a blank form for the return of service upon the accused in courts martial, as recommended by my predecessor in his report. The six opinions rendered by me are attached to and made a part of this report. Of the numerous unofficial opinions and letters of advice I have preserved no record.

In closing I desire to express my thanks to you, and to the other officers with whom I have been brought in contact, for the uniform courtesy and friendship with which I have been treated.

Loyally yours,

R. B. OGLESBEE,

Judge Advocate General.

OPINIONS.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Oct. 14, 1895.

OPINION 1.

In the matter of the Court Martial of Captain William E. Coman, of Gen. W. F. Draper Camp No. 44, Division of Massachusetts.

The proceedings are respectfully returned with the following memorandum:

There are two charges, the first being, "Violation of obligation given at the time he assumed the office of Captain of the Camp aforesaid," with one specification, showing neglect of duty in absenting himself from the meetings of the Camp; the second being, "Conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline," with two specifications, the first stating "that the said brother did as alleged in the first specification of the first charge neglect his duties as Captain of the Camp aforesaid," the second charging him with the use of certain unbecoming language therein set forth.

The evidence, as it appears in the record, is not clear upon the issues presented and contains much matter that is wholly irrelevant and should not have been admitted. There is sufficient evidence, however, to make out a case of neglect of duty and of using unbecoming language. But while it is true that the use of the language appearing in this case was very reprehensible, and especially so coming from the commanding officer of a Camp, yet it does not appear that it was used in a public manner or that the Camp was injured by it; and while it is also true that the continued absence of the accused from meetings, if he did so absent himself, was a serious neglect of duty, yet the evidence is so unsatisfactory, and there is so much evidence in the record, (irrelevant, it is true,) that hints at other grievances and causes for the unfortunate condition of the Camp, that I am compelled to regard the sentence of dishonorable discharge as much more severe than the offense would justify.

I am therefore of the opinion and would recommend that the sentence and findings be either modified or wholly disapproved.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. and L.,

R. B. OGLESBEE,
Judge Advocate General.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Nov. 19, 1895.

OPINION 2.

In the matter of the Court Martial of Brother A. Wesley Weikel, of the Division Council of Pennsylvania Division.

The record of the proceedings is respectfully returned with the following memorandum:

The specifications in this case are seriously defective, and fail to state the essential facts of the offense charged, and the evidence would be insufficient to sustain a conviction in a court of law, but enough facts can be gathered and inferred from an inspection of the entire record to give ground for the belief that the accused was guilty of a gross wrong and that the sentence of the court was none too severe.

I am therefore of the opinion, and recommend, that the findings and sentence of the court should be approved.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. and L.,

R. B. OGLESBEE,
Judge Advocate General.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Nov. 27, 1895.

OPINION 3.

QUESTION.

Does the C. R. and R. in Chap. V., Art. XIII, Sec. 6, which states: "The regulation uniform of the U. S. Army may be worn by members of the Order" place any restriction or limitation upon the right of any member of the Order to wear the regulation uniform of the U. S. Army complete in every particular as prescribed in the Regulations for the Army of the United States?

OPINION.

No. The section quoted was adopted at the Thirteenth Annual Encampment held at Davenport, Iowa, in 1894, and the Commandery-in-Chief, at the same Encampment, by a motion duly made and agreed to, construed the words, "The regulation uniform of the United States Army," to mean "shoulder straps, shoulder knots, and all the paraphernalia and regalia incident to the uniform of the U. S. Army." In the discussion leading to the presentation of this motion, a member of the committee that reported the section stated to the Encampment by way of explanation that it was the idea of the committee "to provide for the whole matter, shoulder straps and sabre bolts." The section is permissive only, and is not limited in its application.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. and L.,

R. B. OGLESBEE,
Judge Advocate General

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Dec. 9, 1895.

OPINION 4.

In the matter of the Court Martial of Brothers Dennis Huff and Frank H. Pullum, of Camp No. 5, Division of Nebraska.

The record of the proceedings is respectfully returned with the following opinion:

1. The Court Martial in this case consisted of nine members, six of whom only were present at the trial. It is an established rule in this Order that a Court-martial must consist of five members exactly, and that all of them must be continuously present throughout the trial.

2. Service of notice of the Court-martial was not had on the defendants. A detached sheet, in no manner incorporated in the record or referred to therein, contains a statement, made by a person who is a total stranger to the record, that he did certain things by way of serving notice, and a letter from one of the defendants contains an admission that he received such a notice. But the well known modes of serving such a notice were in no respect complied with, and neither defendant was present at the trial. Further, it appears from the record on the day fixed for trial, "there was not enough present to do business." It does not appear how many were present, or that an adjournment to any other time was had, but four days later, without any notice of any kind to anybody, a majority of the detail sat and a trial was had.

3. The specification is not sufficient to sustain the charge, in that it fails to state facts sufficient to constitute a crime.

For these reasons it is my opinion that the proceedings are fatally defective and that the findings and sentence cannot be approved. It is apparent from the evidence, however, that both defendants are probably guilty of grossly immoral conduct, and I therefore recommend that the proceedings be returned and a new Court-martial ordered and trial had; and that the specification of charge 1 be so amended as to state a crime under the laws of Kansas, or, if that be impossible, a charge be added alleging conduct unbecoming a member in his relation to the Order.

Respectfully submitted,

R. B. OGLESBEE,
Judge Advocate General.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Dec. 26, 1895.

OPINION 5.

Question (submitted by the Commander-in-Chief, Dec. 24, 1895):

Has the Council-in-Chief power to increase the per capita tax due from the Division to the Commandery-in-Chief, the Annual Encampment having fixed this tax at a specific sum?

OPINION.

It is provided, in mandatory terms, that "the Commandery-in-Chief shall, at its stated yearly meeting, assess a per capita tax on each Division of not exceeding twenty cents on each and every member in good standing." (C. R. and R., Chap. V., Art. III., Sec. 1.) Our organic law contains no other provision for fixing the amount of per capita tax for the Commandery, and this provision seems to be clear and specific.

The duties of the Council-in-Chief in relation to the funds and revenues of the Commandery are as follows: "They shall be charged with the control and provision of the investment of the funds. * * * They shall devise and recommend such measures as will enable the Commandery to meet all its necessary expenditures." They shall, also, audit the books, bills and accounts. (C. R. and R., Chap. V., Art. III., Sec. 1.) Our organic law contains no class of their duties are thus expressly limited to controlling and supervising investments of the funds, and devising and recommending measures for raising funds, and they have no power to put into effect any measure they may devise, as by increasing the tax, but may recommend such measure for the action of the Commandery.

I am therefore of the opinion that the question must be answered in the negative.

R. B. OGLESBEE,
Judge Advocate General.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., May 9, 1896.

OPINION 6.

In the matter of the application of J. H. Manning, of Massachusetts, for a decision upon the question of his eligibility to membership in this Order.

From copies of the official papers submitted, the following facts appear: On August 30th, 1862, the Surgeon General of Massachusetts, acting under the order of the Secretary of War, telegraphed to O. E. Brewster to proceed in company with other surgeons to the battleground of Chantilly. On September 1st, 1862, under the authority of said telegram, twelve surgeons, including the father of the applicant, were, by Wm. A. Hammond, Surgeon General, U. S. A., given permission to proceed to Alexandria to report to the surgeons in charge for duty with the sick and wounded, and authorizing that they receive subsistence. The services of these surgeons were not accepted, as is shown by the report of the Surgeon General of Massachusetts for 1860 and 1866, pages 16 and 17, of the report of December 1st, 1862, but it is stated that they labored for weeks among the sick and wounded, furnishing supplies of hospital stores and dressings and collecting the names and ascertaining the wants of Massachusetts soldiers then in hospital in Washington.

In a letter written by the applicant it is stated that his father was stationed at Alexandria four weeks and then returned home an invalid and died in November, 1863.

There is no evidence submitted that the applicant's father was mustered into the service of the United States, or that he was in any manner connected with the army other than as a volunteer in a special service for a short time. He certainly was not honorably discharged, nor is it claimed that he died while in the service. It is specifically stated in the Surgeon General's report above referred to that he was not then, nor afterwards, a contract surgeon. These facts do not bring the applicant within the eligibility clause of our constitution. I am therefore of the opinion, and so advise, that the sons and grandsons of the surgeon herein referred to are not eligible to membership in the Sons of Veterans.

Respectfully submitted,
R. B. OGLESBEE,
Judge Advocate General.

REPORT OF JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL McGUIRE.

The following is the report of the present Judge Advocate General succeeding Judge Advocate General Oglesbee.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Sept. 7, 1896.

W. H. RUSSELL, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—Having been honored by you with the appointment of Judge Advocate General to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Gen'l. Oglesbee, I beg to make the following report:

During the period of my services, covering about two months, I have not had the honor of making a single decision, hence my duties have not been very laborious, and the record of my doings is not at all voluminous.

Kindly accept my sincere thanks for the high honor conferred and all I ask in return for the very hard work which I have done, is the friendship and good will of the members of this, which in my estimation, is the grandest and most patriotic organization in the world.

Fraternally yours,

NEWTON J. McGUIRE,
Judge Advocate General.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The reports presented by Judge Advocate General Oglesbee and Judge Advocate General McGuire will take the usual course.

Next in order of business is the report of the Surgeon General, Dan. S. Gardner.

Surgeon General Gardner read his report as follows:

REPORT OF THE SURGEON GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, SONS OF VETERANS,
U. S. A., SURGEON GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

MASSILLON, Ohio, Sept. 1st, 1896.

TO WILLIAM H. RUSSELL, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, AND THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT OF THE COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF:

BROTHERS:—In accepting this office I was fearful lest the obstacles to be overcome would prove insurmountable, thereby rendering futile every effort to secure a report which would be a credit to myself and of service to the Commandery-in-Chief.

Years of careful study devoted to this Department had resulted in the formation of ideas which I was hopeful would elevate the office in the respect of our members, and increase its statistical usefulness with reference to its Military features as well as to ascertain the possibility of ever attaching an Insurance Department.

The Military feature is of importance in the event of war when it would be well to be able to hurriedly and accurately ascertain the number of men we would have available for every class of service. For years Insurance as applied to our membership has been discussed in all its phases but while I have at no time participated in those discussions I have been led to believe that before the subject can receive serious consideration at the hands of the Commandery-in-Chief it becomes necessary to accurately determine—

1st. Our mortality. Thereby determining the premium rate of Insurance.

2d. The fatal diseases most prevalent among our membership, and in what sections of our country are these diseases most often found. At present we have no such data. With this we could hope to ascertain the possibility of excluding certain sections of the country.

3d. How does our mortality compare with that of standard Insurance Companies? This last and possibly most important feature would furnish us the information whether or not it would be possible for an institution of the kind to exist.

It was therefore with much disappointment I learned that the suggestions made by my predecessor and sanctioned by you at Knoxville, were

not capable of amendment and that the blanks so authorized were the ones to be used and they without alteration.

Mention of this is made necessary, inasmuch as I believe that when the separate departments of the Commandery-in-Chief were created it was with some definite object in view.

Whether this has been accomplished in this Department I know not, but I feel it has outgrown its original usefulness and, unless it can be made to show some material benefit we would be serving a greater purpose by legislating this expensive luxury out of existence. After labor out of all proportion to the ends attained I am able to present a report from every Division. While this, at first thought, should be a matter for congratulation, the warmth of it needs necessarily be much dampened when it is known that many of the reports are practically valueless.

Some questions were answered only in part; others were not answered at all. Some reports came to me upon blanks long since obsolete, and no effort upon my part succeeded in prevailing upon them to prepare one on the proper form which I would enclose.

In one instance a letter was received to the effect that there had been no calls for medical assistance and no deaths, therefore he had nothing to report—a beautiful conception of the duties of a Division Surgeon.

The failure to receive correct reports in this Department—and I feel the same holds good in the other branches of the Commandery-in-Chief—is due to the abandonment of our Military principles. Where the uniform is disregarded—where there is no longer a Military spirit pervading the camps and Division Encampments—there is found the same laxity in the discharge of their several duties.

While I know there is advocated a disbandment of all things savoring of the Military, my judgment is, that had the discipline which is so integral a part of Military law been adhered to in every Department, from the Commandery-in-Chief to the smallest camps, there would be today reports, the accuracy of which need not be questioned.

The statistical report is as follows:

Number of members mustered.....	59,463
Number of members in good standing.....	30,939
Number of members mustered since last report.....	3,712
Number in State Militia.....	1,184
Number in U. S. Army.....	40
Number in U. S. Navy.....	13
Number of G. A. R. Members.....	826
Total number of drilled men.....	9,314
Number of members able to bear arms.....	29,122
Number of members over 45 years of age.....	923
Age of oldest member (Mass.), years.....	81
Average age of all members, years.....	27½
Number of widowers.....	429
Number of married members.....	12,507
Number of unmarried members.....	17,308
Number of deaths within one year.....	180
Number of cases of sickness during year.....	1,330
Number of injuries during year.....	350
Total number weeks disability (sickness).....	4,820
Total number weeks disability (injury).....	1,560
Number of camps paying funeral benefits.....	176
Number of camps paying sick benefits.....	190
Number of camps engaged in regular drill.....	324
Number of members foreign born.....	179
Number of clergymen.....	156
Number of physicians.....	249
Number of dentists.....	96
Number of attorneys.....	420
Number of teachers.....	593
Number of students.....	933
Number of artists and draughtsmen.....	190

Number of musicians.....	520
Number of merchants.....	1,769
Number of salesmen.....	1,151
Number of clerks and bookkeepers.....	2,900
Number of electricians.....	228
Number of telegraph operators.....	209
Number of mechanics.....	3,611
Number of engineers.....	839
Number of railroad conductors.....	133
Number of printers.....	715
Number of sailors.....	100
Number of farmers.....	5,203
Number of miners.....	290
Number of skilled laborers.....	2,336
Number of laborers.....	5,260
Miscellaneous.....	2,058
Number of camps in divisions.....	1,472
Number of camps reporting.....	1,184
Number of divisions.....	29
Number of divisions reporting.....	29

While reading the reports of the former Surgeons General, I find them universal in the statement that they feel the incompleteness of the reports received makes them of little statistical value.

While in the aggregate I find this to be true much can be said in commendation of the excellent reports received by me from the Divisions of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri and Washington.

Were it possible to exclude the data from the other Divisions and compile a report from those above mentioned I would have no hesitancy in recommending it as a basis for any legislation you may have in mind relative to insurance.

The report of the Division of Massachusetts stands first and is in every particular the "ideal"—a model for completeness and exactness.

Too much in praise cannot be said for the indefatigable energy of Surgeon Upton. The same is true to a large extent of the other New England Divisions, and, I desire to take this means of extending my sincere thanks to Surgeons Burroughs of Maine, Cook of New Hampshire, Howe of Vermont, Barber of Connecticut, Traver of Rhode Island, Allen of New York, Kingsley of Pennsylvania, Gardner of Michigan, Mallory of Minnesota, Humphrey of Wisconsin, Bronson of Missouri, and Brock of Washington.

It will be seen from my consolidated report that Massachusetts leads in point of oldest member, the age being 81 years. While California holds first place in point of average age—29½ years.

The average age for all members in the order being 27½ years.

Our death and sickness rate is as follows:

	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896
Death rate per 1,000.....	5.71	6.04	5.36	8.75	6.59	6.43	....	5.80
Weeks sickness per 1,000....	216	206	204	207	215	178	....	207

Possibly the most interesting examination of these reports will be found in their comparison with those of the U. S. Army:

	Sons of Veterans, 1896.	U. S. Army, 1895.
Strength as shown by the Surgeon-General.....	30,939	25,376
Deaths from all causes.....	180	185
Death rate per thousand.....	5.7	6.69
Number of days lost on account of sickness.....	41,660	321,428
Average for each man.....	1.33	12.6

Without offering a further statistical report it is evident that the mortality rate as presented by myself and the reports of my predecessors must

be inaccurate in that our mortality rate is less than that of the selected body of men which constitutes the U. S. Army. Nor does it compare with the death record of eleven of the leading life insurance companies. I am informed by the actuary of one of the leading Life Assurance Societies that we could successfully conduct an Insurance Department if our mortality rate did not exceed one and one-half per cent. From the reports at hand our death rate is but a fraction over one-half per cent.

As a result of this investigation I am led to offer two suggestions which I feel are the remedies necessary to our future success.

The first of these would be to establish an Insurance Department. At first I believe it should be constructed along the lines of the Prudential plan—policies with small premiums, and only enlarged as success may attend our efforts.

The second of these suggestions is a return to the Military Order. The objection raised to a return to the Military plan is that the gold lace and trappings are not to our purpose yet it will not be gainsaid that we will secure the discipline so necessary to effective work and, having accomplished this, we can hope for more material returns. Referring to the management of the affairs of this Department I would recommend that future Surgeons General be placed in entire command of the work of that Department. That they prepare such blanks as in their judgment will obtain the best statistical results, and place the distribution of such blanks and other printed matter which may be required under their immediate care for distribution. Make Division Surgeons responsible only to the Surgeon General and the Camp Captains in return to be subject to the jurisdiction of Division Surgeons in the matter of reports—a request for a resignation or a removal for dereliction of duty to have the same effect as though it emanated from the Commander-in-Chief or Division Commanders.

While I regret the necessity for making these suggestions, it is evident to me, that no rules that this Commandery-in-Chief may formulate, under the present system, will compel obedience upon the part of Camps or Divisions in securing reports in this or other Departments. The penalty of debarment from representation in Encampments either Division or National is not enforced, and, even though it were, presents no terrors to those to whom it applies. Either they care so little as to be indifferent to this penalty or they feel we fear to enforce it as we are in need of their presence—which is probably largely true.

General Russell:—My appreciation of the honor conferred upon me is beyond the expression of words. While possibly my labors have been disappointing to you, I hope you may yet have cause for gratification, should the suggestions of this report, if adopted by the Commandery-in-Chief, result in success.

To my colleagues, upon the Staff, who have so kindly assisted me in various ways, I desire to return my hearty thanks.

To my brothers who may be disposed to criticise the work of the year I beg to say that in abandoning theoretical lines for those more practical in nature I felt was subserving the better interests of the order. While I know it lacks the ability displayed in the work of my eminent colleagues, Generals Wilcox, Young and Averdick, yet it represents my best labors and a year of unceasing toil. Respectfully submitted,

DAN S. GARDNER, M. D.,
Surgeon General.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The report will take the usual course. Next in order will be the report of the Chaplain-in-Chief, Rev. Cole.

The Chaplain-in-Chief submitted his report as follows:

REPORT OF THE CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF RUSSELL—BROTHERS OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT:

I have the honor to submit for your consideration the Report from the Department of the Chaplain-in-Chief.

It is presumed that the Consolidated Report and the accompanying tables will be printed in the Journal of Proceedings of this Encampment. I therefore call your attention only to summaries and recapitulations.

The work of the Department has been hampered. Divisions have neglected to send in reports at specified date. Forms now obsolete were filled out. Many reports were not added to find totals. Some were almost unintelligible. No one can claim that we have not been lenient. Plenty of time was allowed at the outset. A considerable extension was granted. A notice was sent to delinquents who had even then many days of grace. It was only at the last moment that the report was closed and the ink is scarcely dry on its pages.

It was my supposition that every man inducted into office knew his duty and was able to perform it. I saw no reason why the United States mails should be burdened with pleading letters and begging postals. Nor do I believe that it is right that time, money and no end of energy should be wasted over some dilatory subordinate. The law is printed at the head of each report, with penalty attached, and the quotation of the C. R. & R. together with their interpretation in the Journal of '95, was considered ample notification this year—and where that has failed let the law take its course.

Two years' experience as Division Chaplain and this one as Chaplain-in-Chief gives me the key to a strategic position. This—that when the individual members of our Order rise to the fulfillment of sacred oaths and obligations; when the installed officer realizes the responsibilities taken; when we cease in the Camp room from mocking soldiery and become men daring to hurl into the teeth of an unsympathetic surrounding the principles on which we base our corporate life. When duty is done, not toyed with, then—and not till then—will this Order attain the success through God that it deserves. In other words, if members are not loyal enough to obey the commands of an Order to which they belong, how in the name of heaven can they hope to educate youth to the idea of Patriotism?

I refile old saws. This Order has a future. Would it dare success? It must have one policy and that quality not quantity.

This department has under its official eye Union Defenders' Day and Memorial Day. The proper observance of these days is one of the rocks on which we are built.

As a member of the Rhode Island Division I introduced at the last Division Encampment a resolution addressed to this Honorable Body on the subject of Memorial Day. I did not then venture any discussion of the ways and means which would tend to a more fitting celebration of the day, nor dare I now.

Sixty-two per cent of the members of the Order took part in the day's exercises. Only 54 per cent in those of Memorial Sunday. This is a small gain over last year, but still a lamentable showing.

Thirty-one per cent of those in line were armed and 52 per cent were uniformed. I care not how many were armed, whether the garment was silk or rags, but 62 per cent. Better an organization of twenty-five, each one on Memorial Day scattering the tribute of thanksgiving, praise and peace. Better an organization of twenty-five where each one devotes by virtue of the vow his thoughts to the quick and the dead, who ransomed his home, his life, his fatherland. Better this than 62 per cent, than 29 per cent.

The slumbering power of this Order's creed will teach a foreign population American ideas and constitutional principles. It will quench the fever of capital and labor by turning the wheels of industry, it will uplift politicians to statesmanship. It is the friendship, the charity and the loyalty which will teach the law of sacrifice for the common weal, which will bring men eye to eye, face to face, that they meet on a common level in a common brotherhood.

Never again shall I have the privilege to address this body, but I go back to my work thankful for the lessons learned, for the high aims inspired. I go back having resolved one thing, that he who is the Son of a Veteran and lives up to the principles of the Order is the highest type of the Christian citizen.

Submitted,

FREDERICK B. COLE,
Chaplain-in-Chief.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Resolved:

1. That all reports of Division Chaplains must be in the hands of the Chaplain-in-Chief on or before the day four weeks previous to the meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief.
2. That the reports of Camp Chaplains must be in the hands of the Division Chaplain on or before July 1.
3. That failure to forward such reports deprive Camps and Divisions of representation, and Commissioned Officers failing to submit such reports be deprived of rank and privileges.
4. That the present consolidated report of Division Chaplains be enlarged and changed in arrangement.
5. That Division Chaplains issue at least two circular letters to Camps in their divisions, one concerning the objects and duties of Memorial Day, the other aims and intents of Memorial Day.
6. That said letter be published as far as is feasible in the newspapers of the city or town where there is a Camp or Camps of the Order.

RECAPITULATION.

Division with highest percentage: Connecticut, Maryland, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, South Dakota, each have 100; Indiana, 95; Maine, 94; Massachusetts, 93; rest below 90.

Camp having largest membership is: No. 16, Pennsylvania, with 217 brothers; second, No. 8, of New Jersey, with 138; third, No. 89, of Ohio, with 135.

Camp having largest number in line Memorial Day: No. 16, Pennsylvania, 189 brothers; second, No. 18, New Hampshire, 70 brothers; third, No. 89, Ohio, 65 brothers.

Camp having greatest number of brothers in line and armed Memorial Day is: No. 2, Pennsylvania, 65 brothers; second, No. 6, Connecticut, 55 brothers; third, No. 81, Massachusetts; No. 8, New Jersey; No. 10, Rhode Island, each 40.

Camp having greatest number of brothers in line and uniformed: No. 16, Pennsylvania, 178 brothers; second, No. 18, New Hampshire, 70; third, No. 25, Massachusetts, 60 brothers.

Camp having greatest attendance at Memorial Sunday services: No. 16, Pennsylvania, 170 brothers; second, No. 60, New York, 101 brothers; third, No. 169, Indiana, 52 brothers.

Greatest number of firing squads furnished was by Pennsylvania, 60; Kansas, 42.

Number of orators furnished: Pennsylvania, 66; Kansas, 45.

Number of Camps observing Union Defenders' Day: Pennsylvania, 80; Massachusetts, 57.

Number of deaths: Massachusetts, 30; Pennsylvania, 24.

Funerals attended: G. A. R., Pennsylvania, 123; Ohio, 69. Sons of Veterans, Pennsylvania, 27; Massachusetts, 24.

Burial services conducted: G. A. R., Kansas, 13; New York, 8. Sons of Veterans, Pennsylvania, 22; Massachusetts, 12.

May I pause in recognition of a Higher Power. Even here and to-day are we touched by the feeling of our weakness, as we reach out to solve the great beyond. A face familiar to you but unknown to me has passed. Ye who knew him best can best eulogize him. But I have the right to say to you that word which shall turn all minds to the knowledge of a Power that makes us bow, and a Presence that brings us peace and joy. Stronger than life, Death speaks both that Power and Presence.

To-day and for the last time are the dead numbered for this past year.

"Into Thy merciful hands, O Lord, we commend them into the sacred rest of thy everlasting peace and into the glorious estate of thy saints in heaven."

"Grant them eternal rest and may light perpetual shine upon them."

Memorial Day services used: "A." Pennsylvania, 24; Ohio, 18. "B." Pennsylvania and Ohio, 19; Indiana, 17.

Division with largest number of Camps: New York, 246; Pennsylvania, 158.

Membership: Pennsylvania, 4,908; Massachusetts, 4,293.

Division to send in report first, Minnesota; second, Michigan; third, Connecticut.

It was my privilege to respond for the Commandery-in-Chief at the reception and banquet to Commander-in-Chief Ivan N. Walker, at Providence, Feb. 20, by G. A. R. of Rhode Island.

On Union Defenders' Day I delivered the oration "Unwritten Heroes," before the Rhode Island Division.

Feb. 21, on invitation, I attended the annual banquet of Division of Massachusetts and responded to toast assigned. And on the 22nd visited the Annual Encampment of this Division.

On Memorial Day, at the invitation of a G. A. R. Post I delivered two addresses and took part in the religious exercises.

From time to time I have been called upon for work in G. A. R. Posts, W. R. Corps, Circles Ladies of G. A. R. I have never forgotten to urge our willingness and to pledge our support.

It was with vast regret that I resigned the offered warrant as Assistant Inspector-General, my pressure of work forbidding.

Two circular letters were written during the year, one concerning Union Defenders' Day, the other Memorial Day.

DEPARTMENT OF CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF.

OLNEYVILLE, R. I., January 4, 1896.

BROTHERS:—

We are again bidden to observe Union Defenders' Day. In order that this day might be fitly recognized, a resolution was passed at the last encampment at Knoxville that the Chaplain-in-Chief set forth a program. Pursuant to that order I have issued from these headquarters the accompanying order of exercises.

It is the skeleton for Camps to work with. They may add to it or detract from it as they see fit. Two numbers (4 and 6) have been left for selection by the Camp Committee. I would urge that Number 7 be carried out, if possible, and that some "Son" or a prominent citizen be asked to deliver the address. Number 9, the poem by Whittier, can be found in any book of his poems.

And now, Brothers, above all things let me urge upon you what we have sworn to do—to observe Union Defenders' Day. Let us pause in the midst of the throbbing and pulsing of a busy, laboring life and view the past. Let this thought come to us as we lie in a vision of by-gones:—That to-day is made possible because of yesterday; that what we enjoy has only been at infinite sacrifice, one which can never be measured. Our fathers, living and dead, have given us this goodly land to enjoy, have preserved the hearthside and given us the home.

Their loss has been our gain. And yet, are we so heartless, has a selfish world gotten such a hold upon us that we cannot stop to remember their brave deeds and their heroic deaths? Around one figure clusters all the past,—it is a father, a sweetheart or a son.

Oh, will you in the home of Liberty, in the name of Fraternity, in the name of a manhood of which you love to boast, will you, my Brothers, gather on Union Defenders' Day to reverence, to hallow, to praise those who fought of yore? And from that hour, from that blest communion with the thoughts and lives of noble men, will you, each one, go forth to meet the new questions of the day, offering your best to a Nation's need—integrity, simplicity and the manly creed, "Doing as you would be done by."

Would that I could grasp you all by the hand, would that my heart could touch your heart till we burned with the common love of "God and Home and Native Land."

Chaplains, it is your duty! Captains, yours! Division Officers, yours!

The greater the office the greater the responsibility. See to it then that February 12, 1896, sees the hour-glass reversed and no longer idle. See that the sands run free, and on that day, as one vast body, let us send to

heaven and to the hearts of men the message of truth which our Order holds—
 "Friendship, Charity, Loyalty, Now and Forever, One and Inseparable."

Yours, in F., C. and L.,

FREDERICK B. COLE,
 Chaplain-in-Chief.

OFFICE OF CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF, HOLDEN STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.
 SONS OF VETERANS:—Greeting and Prosperity to Our Beloved Order.

After the grand and inspiring order issued by the Commander-in-Chief it was deemed best not to issue the Circular Letter from these Headquarters until just prior to our Day of Days.

And now what can we say to bring home to you the importance of Memorial Day—"It is better not to vow, than vow and not to pay." We have vowed—no more solemn oath could we have taken, witnessed before God and men—to perpetuate the memory of those men who gave so much that the Nation might be preserved. It is to strew flowers upon their graves in the Spring-time of the year, symbolizing the resurrection and the renewing of a sanctified and hallowed life.

But Memorial Day celebrations and observations do not end with once a year scattering garlands or calling to mind men now gone to answer a final roll-call. Beyond this and greater lies the principle. Into our Nation is drifting an element unused to such ceremonies—in part, not in sympathy with them. A scientific spirit has a trend to cast down old institutions and customs. To both we say: Stranger, Welcome! Hail science enlightening the world. We condemn as unjust, as opposed to the foundation of our American Nation any influence which would destroy the essential elements of our life, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.

It is to be the outcome of our Memorial Day worship, to teach the wanderer from the foreign shore—to leaven the unhallowed science of the age—engrafting upon each "a love of God, of home and native land."

It is a momentous duty that awaits us. A duty fit for highest manhood, a duty divine—to let the whole world know that we love a past, and that from that past we can learn the lessons that it would teach—greater love of God, greater valor for country, greater charity for man. Weave garlands then, scatter flowers, sing hymns, sound the victories on Memorial Day. But above all else, rise to the importance of the moment and teach an unsympathetic forgetful national life that the lesson of Memorial Day is the keynote of this Republic's future prosperity.

In the name of God, by whom we were created and by whose mercy we enjoy what we do enjoy—Young Man! you, a Son of a Veteran, rise to the need of the moment, up to the call of the hour. Forget not the past, but reach into the future, that Loyalty, Charity and Friendship may be stamped, and that forever, on coming men.

I appeal to you as Sons. I call to you as American citizens. Strike—not with the sword, not with argument, but with and by your examples on our Memorial Day—not a sad day, but the Easter Day of our Nation's life, for from it rises the ambitions, the hopes, the aims for a better and higher and a nobler life.

Division Chaplains should send their reports to me as soon before the 1st of July as is possible. It is no time for delay. Yours in the bonds of
 F. C. & L.,

FREDERICK B. COLE,
 Chaplain-in-Chief.

Pursuant to resolution of last year I issued the program for Union Defenders' Day. How far it was used I cannot say. Only 29 per cent of Camps observed the day at all. Perhaps this will repay for the labor and money and time.

There was an advance over last years' report. The program was very favorably received if I can judge from the newspapers sent me from far and wide.

Most excellent letters were issued by many Division Chaplains. There is nothing in our C. R. R. that necessitates this work and it lies wholly with the option of him who is appointed to the office. I wish that it might be required by or at least be the sentiment of this body that every Division Chaplain issue a circular letter surely twice a year to the Camps. Once previous to Union Defenders' Day and again just before Memorial Day. A

few short incisive words will stir men up to think and act. That these letters also be published in the newspapers of the city or town as far as is feasible. Securing the co-operation of the public press we can hope for great things. What we need is the circulation of the meaning and objects of the Order. I know of no better way than letting our efforts center around the 12th of February and the 30th day of May.

J. F. Farne, Pennsylvania, Rev. D. P. Grosscup, Minnesota, U. S. Villars, Illinois, P. C. Whittemore, Connecticut, and M. R. Gilmore, Nebraska, sent ringing appeals to their respective Divisions. There were no doubt others published.

Memorial Day, if I may judge by the program sent me, was well solemnized in New Orleans, an esteemed member of our Order, Dr. Gross, writing the ode for the occasion.

I think that Division Commanders could do more than they do for both our Days.

Division Commanders Monahan, of Vermont; Sparks, of Washington; Thompson, of Rhode Island; Sisson, of Massachusetts; Peterson, of Maryland; Wolz, of Nebraska, and Willey, of New Hampshire, issued orders relative to Memorial Day.

The crowning order of all came from the pen of Commander-in-Chief, and no doubt many felt as I, that little was left to be said.

My list of orders and letters from the different Divisions is nowhere near complete, and I know that others promulgated orders which were not received by me.

TABLE No. 1.
Showing percentage of Camps reporting from each Division.

DIVISION.	Per Cent.	DIVISION.	Per Cent.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	79	Missouri.....	89
California.....	60	Nebraska.....	71
Colorado.....	57	New Hampshire.....	100
Connecticut.....	100	New Jersey.....	73
Gulf.....		New York.....	65
Illinois.....	55	Ohio.....	67
Indiana.....	95	Oregon.....	
Iowa.....	45	Pennsylvania.....	75
Kansas.....	88	Rhode Island.....	100
Kentucky.....	33	South Dakota.....	100
Maine.....	94	Vermont.....	
Maryland.....	100	Washington.....	50
Massachusetts.....	93	West Virginia.....	
Michigan.....	59	Wisconsin.....	77
Minnesota.....	60		

TABLE No. 2.
Showing Camp with largest Membership in each Division.

DIVISION.	Camp No.	Members.	DIVISION.	Camp No.	Members.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	35	68	Missouri.....	51	90
California.....	5	42	Nebraska.....	5	48
Colorado.....	1	52	New Hampshire.....	18	87
Connecticut.....	6	80	New Jersey.....	8	138
Gulf.....			New York.....	60	107
Illinois.....	6	38	Ohio.....	89	135
Indiana.....	169	76	Oregon.....		
Iowa.....	49	48	Pennsylvania.....	16	217
Kansas.....	78	82	Rhode Island.....	10	63
Kentucky.....	1	68	South Dakota.....	13	32
Maine.....	4	114	Vermont.....		
Maryland.....	1	61	Washington.....	4	62
Massachusetts.....	25	88	West Virginia.....		
Michigan.....	125	43	Wisconsin.....	25	38
Minnesota.....	1	88			

TABLE No. 3.

Showing Camp with greatest number of Brothers in line Memorial Day in each Division.

DIVISION.	Camp No.	Members	DIVISION.	Camp No.	Members.
Alabama and Tennessee...	35	24	Missouri	74	24
California	5	21	Nebraska	{ 5 }	28 ea.
Colorado	3	30	New Hampshire.....	18		70
Connecticut	6	55	New Jersey	8	60
Gulf .....	.....	.....	New York	20	50
Illinois	6	38	Ohio	89	65
Indiana	169	55	Oregon.....	.....	.....
Iowa.....	{ 20 }	27 ea.	Pennsylvania.....	16	189
Kansas.....	{ 25 }		Rhode Island.....	10	40
Kentucky.....	78	60	South Dakota.....	13	30
Maine.....	1	62	Vermont.....	.....	.....
Maryland	4	56	Washington.....	4	42
Massachusetts.....	2	29	West Virginia.....	.....	.....
Michigan.....	25	60	Wisconsin.....	43	27
Minnesota.....	23	28			
	1	39			

TABLE No. 4.

Showing Camp with greatest number of Brothers in line and Armed on Memorial Day, in each Division.

DIVISION.	Camp No.	Members.	DIVISION.	Camp No.	Members.
Alabama and Tennessee...	35	10	Minnesota.....	1	29
California.....	35	10	Missouri	17	20
Colorado.....	1	20	Nebraska.....	34	24
Connecticut.....	6	55	New Hampshire.....	18	10
Gulf.....	.....	.....	New Jersey.....	8	40
Illinois.....	4	25	New York.....	120	30
Indiana.....	33	26	Ohio.....	89	32
Iowa.....	{ 49 }	12 ea.	Oregon.....	.....	.....
	{ 58 }		Pennsylvania.....	2	65
Kansas.....	{ 10 }	24 ea.	Rhode Island.....	10	40
	{ 21 }		South Dakota.....	.....	.....
Kentucky.....	1	45	Vermont.....	.....	.....
Maine.....	52	36	Washington.....	4	36
Maryland.....	2	26	West Virginia.....	.....	.....
Massachusetts.....	81	40	Wisconsin.....	91	20
Michigan.....	55	20			

TABLE No. 5.

Showing Camp with greatest number of Brothers in uniform and in line on Memorial Day, in each Division.

DIVISION.	Camp No.	Members.	DIVISION.	Camp No.	Members.
Alabama and Tennessee...	1	15	Missouri	65	20
California.....	{ 35 }	10 ea.	Nebraska.....	5	28
Colorado.....	{ 7 }		New Hampshire.....	18	70
Connecticut.....	1	20	New Jersey.....	8	58
Gulf.....	6	55	New York.....	20	45
Illinois.....	4	25	Ohio.....	89	56
Indiana.....	146	30	Oregon.....	.....	.....
Iowa.....	47	25	Pennsylvania.....	16	178
Kansas.....	180	28	Rhode Island.....	10	40
Kentucky.....	1	48	South Dakota.....	5	23
Maine.....	52	36	Vermont.....	.....	.....
Maryland.....	1	28	Washington.....	4	36
Massachusetts.....	25	60	West Virginia.....	.....	.....
Michigan.....	55	21	Wisconsin.....	{ 9 }	20 ea.
Minnesota.....	89	35		{ 43 }	

TABLE No. 6.

Showing Camp having greatest attendance at Memorial Sunday Services, in each Division.

DIVISION.	Camp No.	Members.	DIVISION.	Camp No.	Members.
Alabama and Tennessee...	35	36	Missouri.....	74	30
California.....	33	30	Nebraska.....	5	40
Colorado.....	3	26	New Hampshire.....	18	52
Connecticut.....	6	50	New Jersey.....	5	48
Gulf.....			New York.....	60	101
Illinois.....	6	41	Ohio.....	89	76
Indiana.....	169	52	Oregon.....		
Iowa.....	56	30	Pennsylvania.....	16	170
Kansas.....	78	45	Rhode Island.....	10	42
Kentucky.....	1	35	South Dakota.....	(1 & 56) (76 & 13)	20 ea.
Maine.....	4	50	Vermont.....		
Maryland.....	2	35	Washington.....	4	49
Massachusetts.....	2	49	West Virginia.....		
Michigan.....	125	30	Wisconsin.....	43	25
Minnesota.....	{ 45 } { 89 }	35 ea.			

TABLE No. 7.

Showing number of Camps furnishing Firing Squads in each Division.

DIVISION.	No.	DIVISION.	No.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	3	Missouri.....	6
California.....	4	Nebraska.....	12
Colorado.....	6	New Hampshire.....	1
Connecticut.....	4	New Jersey.....	10
Gulf.....		New York.....	7
Illinois.....	3	Ohio.....	34
Indiana.....	21	Oregon.....	
Iowa.....	14	Pennsylvania.....	60
Kansas.....	42	Rhode Island.....	5
Kentucky.....	0	South Dakota.....	7
Maine.....	8	Vermont.....	
Maryland.....	6	Washington.....	8
Massachusetts.....	16	West Virginia.....	
Michigan.....	13	Wisconsin.....	13
Minnesota.....	19		

TABLE No. 8.

Showing Number of Addresses delivered by Members of the Order on Memorial Day, in each Division.

DIVISION.	No.	DIVISION.	No.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	8	Missouri.....	34
California.....	2	Nebraska.....	17
Colorado.....	5	New Hampshire.....	2
Connecticut.....	7	New Jersey.....	10
Gulf.....		New York.....	23
Illinois.....	20	Ohio.....	32
Indiana.....	27	Oregon.....	
Iowa.....	21	Pennsylvania.....	66
Kansas.....	45	Rhode Island.....	8
Kentucky.....	5	South Dakota.....	3
Maine.....	6	Vermont.....	
Maryland.....	7	Washington.....	12
Massachusetts.....	33	West Virginia.....	
Michigan.....	4	Wisconsin.....	6
Minnesota.....	10		

TABLE No. 9.

Showing Number of Camps Observing Union Defenders' Day in each Division.

DIVISION.	No.	DIVISION.	No.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	4	Missouri	16
California.....	1	Nebraska.....	12
Colorado.....	4	New Hampshire.....	7
Connecticut.....	9	New Jersey.....	15
Gulf.....	.....	New York.....	41
Illinois.....	11	Ohio.....	27
Indiana.....	24	Oregon.....	.....
Iowa.....	8	Pennsylvania.....	80
Kansas.....	32	Rhode Island.....	10
Kentucky.....	0	South Dakota.....	4
Maine.....	14	Vermont.....	.....
Maryland.....	7	Washington.....	6
Massachusetts.....	57	West Virginia.....	.....
Michigan.....	15	Wisconsin.....	10
Minnesota.....	20		

TABLE No. 10.

Showing Number of Deaths during year past in each Division.

DIVISION.	No.	DIVISION.	No.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	1	Missouri.....	7
California.....	0	Nebraska.....	4
Colorado.....	0	New Hampshire.....	3
Connecticut.....	8	New Jersey.....	2
Gulf.....	.....	New York.....	14
Illinois.....	8	Ohio.....	15
Indiana.....	9	Oregon.....	.....
Iowa.....	3	Pennsylvania.....	24
Kansas.....	11	Rhode Island.....	4
Kentucky.....	1	South Dakota.....	1
Maine.....	12	Vermont.....	.....
Maryland.....	5	Washington.....	2
Massachusetts.....	30	West Virginia.....	.....
Michigan.....	1	Wisconsin.....	3
Minnesota.....	5		

TABLE No. 11.

Showing Number of Funerals Attended by Camps in a Body in each Division.

DIVISION.	G.A.R.	S.V.	DIVISION.	G.A.R.	S.V.
Alabama and Tennessee...	3	1	Missouri.....	12	5
California.....	2	0	Nebraska.....	13	3
Colorado.....	10	2	New Hampshire.....	2	2
Connecticut.....	2	6	New Jersey.....	22	6
Gulf.....	.....	.....	New York.....	1	8
Illinois.....	15	11	Ohio.....	69	13
Indiana.....	21	8	Oregon.....	.....	.....
Iowa.....	12	3	Pennsylvania.....	123	27
Kansas.....	33	12	Rhode Island.....	5	2
Kentucky.....	0	1	South Dakota.....	No report	
Maine.....	5	8	Vermont.....	.....	.....
Maryland.....	5	3	Washington.....	6	2
Massachusetts.....	11	21	West Virginia.....	.....	.....
Michigan.....	2	1	Wisconsin.....	7	2
Minnesota.....	9	3			

DIVISION.	No. Camps Reporting	No. Camps Not Reporting	Total No. Camps.	Per-cent % Camps Reporting	Total Member-ship of Camps.	No. Brothers in line Memorial Day.	No. Brothers in line Armed.	No. Brothers in line Uniformed.	No. Camps Furnishing Firing Squads.	No. Ad-dresses by Mem-bers of Order.	No. Brothers at Memo-rial Sunday Services.	No. Camps Observ'g Uni-on Defend-ers' Day.	No. Deaths in Divi-sions.	Funerals Attended.		Burial Services Conducted.		Memorial Service Used.		Report Received at Head-quarters.	DIVISION CHAPLAINS.	
														G.A.R.	S. V.	G.A.R.	S. V.	"A."	"B."		NAME.	ADDRESS.
Ala. and Tenn.	11	3	14	79	292	146	28	42	3	8	114	4	1	3	1	.....	1	1	.....	Aug. 4...	John R. Self.....	Greenville, Tenn.
California	7	5	12	60	149	88	27	20	4	2	20	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	June 29...	Wm. F. Mason...	Los Gatos, Cal.
Colorado	8	6	14	57	322	140	44	45	6	5	122	4	.....	10	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	Aug. 11...	E. S. Clapp.....	Canon City, Col.
Connecticut	29	.....	29	100	894	447	204	380	4	7	421	9	8	2	6	.....	3	4	3	June 26...	Pres. H. Whittemore...	Putnam, Conn.
Gulf	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Illinois	41	33	74	55	1659	668	107	139	3	20	594	11	8	15	11	5	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Indiana	50	3	53	95	1446	915	278	287	21	27	799	24	9	21	8	1	4	9	3	Aug. 19...	W. S. Villars.....	Byron, Ill.
Iowa	36	43	79	45	817	562	103	153	14	21	473	8	3	12	3	6	2	3	17	July 20...	S. Light.....	Wabash, Ind.
Kansas	83	16	99	83	1907	1214	385	373	42	45	1168	32	11	33	12	13	9	13	14	July 13...	John S. Ely.....	Cedar Rapids, Ia.
Kentucky	3	6	9	33 1/3	131	102	45	64	.....	5	61	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	Aug. 11...	O. J. Morse.....	Marysville, Kan.
Maine	51	3	54	94	1473	828	220	621	8	6	611	14	12	5	8	3	6	4	8	July 1...	Geo. E. Leighton.	Skowhegan, Me.
Maryland	27	.....	27	100	535	331	110	230	6	7	262	7	5	5	3	2	1	5	2	Aug. 11...	A. E. Cameron...	Nor-h East, Md.
Massachusetts	132	9	141	93	4293	3134	550	2930	16	33	2373	57	30	19	24	.....	12	7	13	July 22...	Geo. N. Howard...	Melrose, Mass.
Michigan	25	17	42	59	561	304	133	126	13	4	304	15	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	June 25...	O. H. Buckley...	Benton Harbor, Mich.
Minnesota	31	21	52	60	816	532	187	299	19	10	416	20	5	9	3	2	.....	.....	.....	June 19...	D. P. Grosscup...	Beaver Creek, Minn.
Missouri	51	6	57	89	1195	483	60	196	6	34	376	16	7	12	5	7	4	7	11	Aug. 14...	P. F. Bohe.....	St. Louis, Mo.
Nebraska	27	10	37	71	453	376	220	111	12	17	347	12	4	13	3	1	2	6	7	July 13...	M. R. Gilmore...	Valley, Neb.
New Hampshire	21	.....	21	100	661	453	35	391	1	2	298	7	3	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	July 22...	E. W. Dow.....	Troy, N. H.
New Jersey	22	8	30	73	652	372	248	292	10	10	334	15	2	22	6	2	3	2	1	July 30...	H. J. Martin.....	Plainfield, N. J.
New York	160	86	246	65	2238	1405	278	913	7	23	2090	41	14	1	8	8	9	8	9	Aug. 19...	W. E. Grey.....	Utica, N. Y.
Ohio	90	44	134	67	2248	1512	539	835	34	32	1277	27	15	69	13	3	8	18	19	Aug. 19...	J. D. Darling.....	Moscow, O.
Oregon	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pennsylvania	119	39	158	75	4908	3259	1620	2687	60	66	2669	80	24	123	27	4	22	24	19	July 23...	E. M. Ballantine.	Philadelphia, Pa.
Rhode Island	15	.....	15	100	428	268	143	254	5	8	222	10	4	5	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	July 30...	A. C. Hardy, Jr.	East Prov., R. I.
South Dakota	17	.....	17	100	345	216	.....	51	7	3	183	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Aug. 14...	R. J. Courtney...	O'Kobojo, S. D.
Vermont	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Washington	14	15	29	50	335	232	83	135	8	12	195	6	2	6	2	2	2	1	4	July 31...	D. E. Lyon.....	Hoquian, Wash.
West Virginia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wisconsin	21	7	31	77	470	297	136	133	13	6	254	10	3	7	2	1	3	3	2	Aug. 19...	A. F. Ellison.....	Eau Claire, Wis.
Totals.....	1094	480	1474	74	29206	18287	5766	9506	317	413	15989	434	175	398	153	60	99	125	177			

RECAPITULATION.

No. Divisions reporting to date 25
 No. Divisions not reporting to date..... 4
 Percentage 86

Divisions not reporting, Oregon, Gulf, West Virginia, Vermont.

62 per cent of members in line Memorial Day.
 31 per cent of these armed.
 52 per cent of these uniformed.
 54 per cent of members at Sunday Services.
 29 per cent of Camps observed Union Defenders' Day.

TABLE No. 12.

Showing Number of Burial Services Conducted by Camps in each Division.

DIVISION.	G.A.R.	S.V.	DIVISION.	G.A.R.	S.V.
Alabama and Tennessee...	0	1	Missouri.....	7	4
California.....	0	0	Nebraska.....	1	2
Colorado.....	0	1	New Hampshire.....	0	2
Connecticut.....	0	3	New Jersey.....	2	3
Gulf.....	.....	.....	New York.....	8	9
Illinois.....	5	3	Ohio.....	3	8
Indiana.....	1	4	Oregon.....	.....	.....
Iowa.....	6	2	Pennsylvania.....	4	22
Kansas.....	13	9	Rhode Island.....	0	2
Kentucky.....	0	0	South Dakota.....	.....	.....
Maine.....	3	6	Vermont.....	.....	.....
Maryland.....	2	1	Washington.....	2	2
Massachusetts.....	0	12	West Virginia.....	.....	.....
Michigan.....	0	0	Wisconsin.....	1	3
Minnesota.....	2	0			

TABLE No. 13.

Showing Number of Camps using Memorial Services, and which in each Division.

DIVISION.	A.	B.	DIVISION.	A.	B.
Alabama and Tennessee...	1	0	Missouri.....	7	11
California.....	0	3	Nebraska.....	6	7
Colorado.....	0	0	New Hampshire.....	1	1
Connecticut.....	4	3	New Jersey.....	2	4
Gulf.....	.....	.....	New York.....	8	9
Illinois.....	1	3	Ohio.....	18	19
Indiana.....	9	17	Oregon.....	.....	.....
Iowa.....	3	14	Pennsylvania.....	24	19
Kansas.....	13	14	Rhode Island.....	2	3
Kentucky.....	.....	.....	South Dakota.....	.....	.....
Maine.....	4	8	Vermont.....	.....	.....
Maryland.....	5	2	Washington.....	1	4
Massachusetts.....	7	13	West Virginia.....	.....	.....
Michigan.....	2	6	Wisconsin.....	3	2
Minnesota.....	5	9			

TABLE No. 14.
Comparative Statement.

	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895
1. Number of Divisions reporting.....	17	19	22	22	21	20	20	28
2. Number of Divisions not reporting.....	10	11	11	9	11	1	.....	.....
3. Number of Camps reporting.....	751	1030	976	1055	1028	1011	1049	1142
4. Number of Camps not reporting.....	.....	.....	.....	760	750	515	288	388
5. Percentage of Camps reporting.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75
6. No. of brothers belonging to Camps.....	.....	.....	2841	32285	32539	32012	31793	31536
7. No. of brothers in line Memorial Day.....	15589	16437	19857	20432	20281	18519	19018	20621
8. No. of brothers armed and in line Memorial Day.....	3613	3688	4863	5673	.....	.....	.....	5662
9. No. of brothers uniformed and in line Memorial Day.....	924	9328	11619	13259	13447	13014	14182	13675
10. No. of firing squads furnished.....	.....	.....	193	212	264	277	333	347
11. No. of addresses made by Sons of Veterans.....	.....	.....	182	163	211	221	256	432
12. No. of brothers attending Memorial Sunday Services.....	11370	12561	13839	14115	15935	14166	15903	16954
13. No. of Camps observing Union Defenders' Day.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	370	311	357	350
14. No. of deaths in Division during last twelve months.....	89	119	123	163	180	185	207	163
15. No. of funerals attended by Camps in a body.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	{G.A.R. 419 {S.V. 123
16. No. of burial services conducted by Camps.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	{G.A.R. 63 {S.V. 79
17. Number of Camps using Memorial Services.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	{A. 99 {B. 178

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The report will take the usual course. Next in order is the report of the Council-in-Chief. Is the Council-in-Chief ready to report?

CONCERNING REPORT OF COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER: Commander, the Council-in-Chief has made progress in its work, but it is not yet prepared to submit its report.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: When will the report be ready?

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER: I think, Commander, we can have the report ready by tomorrow morning.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF SUGGESTS NIGHT SESSION OF THE C. IN C.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: I think it would be well for the Encampment, inasmuch as we have been greatly delayed in our work, to have a meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief to-night; and if the Commandery-in-Chief decides to meet to-night, I would inquire, can the Council-in-Chief be ready to report after supper?

R. M. BUCKLEY, of Kentucky: Commander, before it is decided to have a meeting to-night, let me say on behalf of the Citizens' Committee of Louisville that they have gone to a great deal of trouble to entertain our visiting brothers, and they have arranged for a Camp Fire to-night. I know business is business and should be attended to in the proper way, but I think we will have ample time to attend to our business to-morrow, and attend the speaking to-night at the Camp Fire. The Commander-in-Chief is down for a speech and the other members of the Order will all want to go, and I hope we will not have any session to-night. We could work after the Camp Fire, if necessary, and we can work harder to-morrow. I am sure that the Council-in-Chief will make their report early to-morrow morning and we will get that out of the way. You know these are hard times, and I have made great promises on the part of the Sons of Veterans, and the Citizens' Committee and the people of Louisville have made great efforts to entertain you, and we have gotten up this Camp Fire, and we hope you will not go back on us. Do not let us have a meeting to-night. Let us go to the Camp Fire. (Applause.)

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: So far as the Commander-in-Chief is concerned, he expressed the opinion of but one member of this Encampment, but he is under the impression that he can serve the Order better by using his influence to have a session to-night than by any speech he could make at the Camp Fire; but that matter rests with the Commandery. I simply suggest it because we have not been as expeditious as we should have been in the transaction of the business before the Commandery up to this time.

MOTION TO TAKE RECESS TILL 8:30 A. M.

R. M. BUCKLEY, of Kentucky: Commander, I move that the Commandery-in-Chief takes recess until to-morrow morning at half past eight.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: I hope Brother Buckley will not insist upon that motion. It is only a quarter of five now, and there is plenty of time to work between this and supper time.

R. M. BUCKLEY, of Kentucky: Then, Commander, I will move that when the Commandery-in-Chief takes recess, it be until to-morrow morning at half past eight o'clock.

MICHAEL CROWLEY, of New Hampshire: Commander, I second the motion.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I understand the Council-in-Chief is not ready to report, but I move we proceed with the regular order.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The motion is not in order. There is a motion pending, that when we close this session we take recess until half past eight o'clock to-morrow morning, and that motion takes precedence.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I move that that motion be laid on the table.

OFFICER OF THE DAY SPINK: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It is moved and seconded that the mo-

tion that when we close this session we take recess until half past eight o'clock tomorrow morning be laid on the table. Those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The Chair is in doubt. All those in favor of the motion will please rise and stand until they are counted by the Adjutant-General. The Adjutant-General will count. Be seated. Those opposed will now rise and stand until they are counted.

The Adjutant-General reported forty-nine voting in favor of the motion, and twenty-one against it.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Forty-nine having voted in favor of the motion, and only twenty-one against it, the motion is carried, and the motion that when we take recess it be until half past eight to-morrow morning is laid upon the table.

R. M. BUCKLEY, of Kentucky: Commander, I move you, sir, that when we take recess it be to convene to-morrow morning at a quarter to nine o'clock.

The motion was seconded.

R. M. J. REED, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I have not talked much this session, and I don't want to do it, but I want to appeal to the common sense of the Brothers here. I presume I have as much sympathy for the Local Committee and appreciate their kindness as much as any one; but we come here for business, and we have now sacrificed nearly two days and have accomplished very little. We have left our homes at the sacrifice of our personal comfort and left our business at some financial sacrifice, and we want to transact the business of this Encampment and get back. If there is any fun and pleasure going let those who have the time stay here and enjoy it after the work of the Encampment is over.

R. M. BUCKLEY, of Kentucky: Commander, when I stood on the floor of the Encampment at Knoxville, Tennessee, and invited this body to come to Louisville, I intended that they should be entertained as well as we knew how to do it. Since that time complications have arisen in the financial world owing to which the attendance at this meeting is very small, and owing to which it was extremely hard to raise the amount of money necessary to entertain this Encampment, but the Local Camp worked hard, and the Citizens' Committee have worked hard and they have gone to a great deal of expense and a great deal of trouble to entertain you to-night at Phoenix Hill. It is only for a few hours, and it is only common courtesy to these men who have tried to help us, for the Encampment to adjourn and for the members to attend this Camp Fire to-night. I do hope you will not have a business meeting to-night. I appeal to you, my Brothers, not to do so. I have tried to do what I could for the Sons of Veterans since I have been in the Order, and I hope you will stand by me in this matter. I am willing to work with you all night after that is over, and all day to-morrow; but don't let us have a meeting that will conflict with this Camp Fire. (Applause.)

J. A. AVERDICK: Commander, I rise to a question of privilege. I am not a delegate, but I am an old Son of a Veteran, and a member from Kentucky, and your Past Surgeon General, and I ask to be heard.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Will the Commandery hear Brother Averdick? (Cries of "Consent," "Consent.") By unanimous consent Brother Averdick may proceed.

J. A. AVERDICK, of Kentucky: Brother Commander, and Brother Sons of Veterans, those of you who have been here in times past know that I am an old standby Son of a Veteran, and you have never found me wanting when you needed me. You are now upon the soil of Kentucky, a State that I love with my whole heart, and you are enjoying Kentucky hospitality, that has a reputation all over this land. In this city they have done all they possibly could to entertain you; they have gone to great expense at a time when money is very scarce. Now, Brother Sons of Veterans, it is not the proper thing to ignore the arrangements that have been made by the Local Committee here. You don't come to your Encampments to do such an enormous amount of business. You come to enjoy yourselves. You are away from home and having a pleasant time, and you want to go to the Camp Fire to-night. We want you to go to the Camp Fire because we want to

show you what Kentucky hospitality means. I beg of you in the name of the City of Louisville, and its press and those who have taken part in your entertainment, not to have a meeting to-night, but to give your attention to the Camp Fire and listen to the eloquence of Kentucky orators and see the beauty of Kentucky ladies; because I tell you, Brothers, I care not where you go, nor where you come from, you can not find prettier women anywhere than here in the State of Kentucky. (Applause.)

Now with all due respect to my Kansas friend, I want to say to him that you have plenty of time to get through what business you have to attend to to-morrow, and I hope all the brothers will think just as I do and come to the Camp Fire this evening. (Applause.)

H. H. CANFIELD, of Iowa: Commander, I want to say that I voted against Kentucky a short time ago, but the classic eloquence of our friend on the right, has converted me, and if I have an opportunity I am ready to vote with him.

WALTER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Commander, there is an unwritten attribute that I think belongs to the Sons of Veterans and should be added to Friendship, Loyalty and Charity, and that is Honor. We as an organization are in honor bound to appreciate and accept the hospitality which is tendered us by Kentucky. (Applause.) Now there is a law of the land that no law shall be enacted which is retroactive in its nature, and the action that is contemplated by this motion is of that nature. If you are going to do a thing of that kind, if you are going to reject the hospitality of any city to which we may go, let us fix that here for the future, so that the next Committee on Arrangements will know what to depend on. Let us not go back on our honor and put the Local Committee in the position they would be put in if we, after they have made all arrangements for a Camp Fire for us, refuse to attend, or even adjourn our regular session for it. Let us stand by the Committee on Arrangements.

MICHAEL CROWLEY, of New Hampshire: Commander, I coincide with my Brother on the right. For the honor of our National Encampment I think we ought to stand by the Local Committee on Arrangements. If we have a meeting to-night and thus refuse to attend the Camp Fire and show our appreciation of the hospitality of this city I think it would be a shame, and we would be rebuked by the press from one end of the country to the other. I think we should give way to-night for the entertainment that the citizens of this beautiful city have provided for us. (Applause and cries of "Question," "Question.")

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, this all sounds very nice, but there is a limit to all things. Kentucky has taken our time, last night for a reception and to-day for a parade. I know there are not two dozen men who would go to the Camp Fire. Now, why can not the members of this Encampment who are here to do business come and hold a session to-night and close up our business. As a matter of fact we are just beginning it. I am in hopes that this motion will be put down.

R. M. BUCKLEY, of Kentucky: Commander, at a great deal of trouble and expense the people of Louisville have tried to entertain the members of this Encampment. Owing to the hard times, notwithstanding all our efforts we were unable to provide as much entertainment as we desired to, and there was nothing to be done for you last night, when a noble-hearted lady of this city, a western woman who has come here and made her home with us, went down in her pocket, when the Committee had not the means, and provided the entertainment to which you were invited last night. (Applause.) And yet my friend from Kansas talks about Kentucky making unreasonable demands upon your time. I do not think anything further need be said on this subject.

(Cries of "Question," "Question," "Question.")

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, the motion is that when we take recess, we take recess until a quarter to nine o'clock to-morrow morning. All those in favor of the motion will please give their assent by rising and standing until they are counted. The Adjutant General will count. Those opposed will rise.

The Adjutant General reported thirty-four voting in favor of the motion and twenty-five against it.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The vote standing thirty-four in favor of the motion and twenty-five against it, the motion is carried, and when the Commandery takes recess it will be until to-morrow morning at a quarter to nine o'clock.

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION MOVED.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I desire to move an amendment to the Constitution as follows:

To strike out the following words in the order of business on Page 47, Article 9, "except that the election and installation of officers shall not be held until all other work of the Commandery-in-Chief has been completed."

SURGEON GENERAL GARDNER: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It is moved by Brother Bundy, of Ohio, and seconded by the Surgeon-General, that the Constitution be amended by striking out the words indicated by him in Article 9, on Page 47, of the Constitution.

POINT OF ORDER—ALL AMENDMENTS TO C., R. AND R. MUST GO TO COMMITTEE ON C., R. AND R.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, I rise to a point of order.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Brother will state his point of order.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, my point of order is that this amendment is out of order because it should be referred to the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations and come before the Encampment from that Committee. It would require unanimous consent to consider it at this time.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair will hold the point of order well taken. The amendment can only come before the Commandery at this time by unanimous consent; it can only come before the house otherwise under its proper head and order of business as prescribed in the Constitution.

MOTION TO TRANSPOSE ORDER OF BUSINESS.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I move that the order of business be transposed so that we can now hear the report of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

SURGEON GENERAL GARDNER: Commander, I second the motion.

MICHAEL CROWLEY, of New Hampshire: Commander, I hope that motion will not pass.

A. G. COURTNEY, of New York: Commander, I rise to a point of order. I failed to see the second to that motion rise and salute the Chair, and I raise a point of order on that account.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair is under the impression that he heard a second. If there are no further remarks the question is on the motion to transpose the order of business. All those in favor will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion seems to be carried—a division is called for. All those in favor of the motion will rise and stand until they are counted. The Adjutant General will count. Those opposed will now rise.

The Adjutant General reported fifty-six voting in favor of the motion and eight against it.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The vote standing fifty-six in the affirmative and eight in the negative the motion is carried.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER: Commander, I have a matter that I would like to speak of at this point. I wish to do it now because it may require a committee.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: There is nothing in order now but the report of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations, except by unanimous consent. If there is no objection Brother Cooper may proceed.

CONCERNING THE LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE OF THE MONUMENT TO THE MEMORY OF THE LOYAL SOLDIERS OF EAST TENNESSEE IN NATIONAL CEMETERY AT KNOXVILLE.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER: Commander, I will only detain the Commandery a moment. On the fifteenth of October of this year we in Knoxville, Tennessee, are going to lay the corner stone of a monument that is being erected in the National Cemetery to the memory of the loyal soldiers of East Tennessee. In the erection of that monument the Sons of Veterans have participated to a large extent. I believe it would be fitting and right that the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans should be represented when that corner stone is laid, and I now suggest, with the request that I am not placed upon the Committee, that a committee be appointed to prepare such fitting memorial as should go in that corner stone upon that occasion; and I make the request, Brother Commander, that some steps be taken that the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans be recognized on that solemn occasion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion that a committee be appointed to participate in the memorial exercises at the laying of the corner stone of the monument to the loyal soldiers of East Tennessee in the National Cemetery at Knoxville. All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Hands down. Those opposed the same sign. The motion seems to be and is carried. The committee will be appointed by the incoming Commander-in-Chief.

The next thing in the order of business as transposed by the Commandery is the report of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations. Is that Committee ready to report? The Chairman of that Committee is Brother McGuire, but he does not seem to be present.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, I desire unanimous consent to introduce a resolution which pertains to the reading of the reports of Committees and action thereon.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Has the Quartermaster General unanimous consent to present a resolution? (Cries of "Consent." "Consent.") Brother Loebenstein may proceed.

RESOLUTION CONCERNING ACTION ON COMMITTEE REPORTS.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: The resolution I desire to offer is as follows:

RESOLVED, That all reports of committees be considered section by section, and if no objection is made they shall be considered adopted. If objection is made the committee shall be understood to move concurrence in their report, and the question shall be upon that motion.

Commander, I move the adoption of the resolution.

CHARLES S. DAVIS, of Maryland: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The question is on the adoption of the resolution. All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Those opposed the same sign. The motion seems to be carried and the resolution is adopted.

The Committee on Constitution does not seem ready to report.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I understand the sense of Brother Bundy's motion to be that we take up the next order of business, which was reports of committees. That would include the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and on Resolutions and on Ritual. That is, that the motion not only included the report of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations, but the other committees as well.

RULING OF THE CHAIR ON BRO. BUNDY'S MOTION TO TRANSPOSE ORDER OF BUSINESS.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The motion of Brother Bundy was that we transpose the order of business so that we might hear the report of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations at this time. From

the fact that the order of business provides for the reports of Committees, and under that head would come the report of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations, the Chair is of the opinion that the report of any committee could be heard at this time. Is there any other committee ready to report? The Committee on Resolutions? Has the Committee on Credentials a supplementary report to make?

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL: The Committee on Credentials has no further report to make at present.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES APPOINTED LAST YEAR CALLED FOR.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: At the last Encampment provision was made for the appointment of a number of standing committees. I don't remember what they were, but reference to the proceedings of the last Encampment would disclose the committees and for what purpose they were appointed, and the reports of those committees might be heard at this time. There was a Committee on Memorial Monuments in connection with the Confederate Sons of Veterans. Brother Wolz is the only member of that committee present.

PARTIAL REPORT FROM MONUMENT COMMITTEE.

GEORGE F. WOLZ, of Nebraska: Commander, as I am the only member of the Monument Committee appointed by you on the order of the last Encampment present, I would like to read a letter from Brother E. R. Campbell, Chairman of that Committee. It is as follows:

"WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 6, 1896.

MY DEAR BROTHER:—

At the last minute I find that in consequence of illness I am unable to attend the meeting of the Fifteenth Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief S. of V. I am unable to express my disappointment in thus being deprived of the pleasure of meeting the boys.

Will you kindly see Bro. Oberdorff, of N. Y., and express my regrets and disappointment, also request him to make my excuses to the Encampment and report the action of the Monument Committee appointed by Commander-in-Chief Russell of which he, Oberdorf, is Secy.

The correspondence had with the Sons of Confederate Veterans has been unsatisfactory for the reason that they have no permanent organization and the subordinate bodies fail to respond except in a doubtful sneering manner.

I would recommend postponement of the whole matter until the Order of S. of V., U. S. A., shall have become strong enough to carry the project into effect and complete the monuments.

Otherwise it may be well to continue a committee authorized by the Encampment which may consist of all the Past Commanders-in-Chief until the work is finished. Any action by our Committee will be satisfactory to me.

When the committee comes up for action, please have Brother Oberdorf attend to it.

Wishing success to our noble Order,

I am very truly in F., C. and L.,

E. R. CAMPBELL.

P. S.—Please express my kind regards to all the boys, as well as the disappointment to me in not being able to see them face to face.

C."

Commander, being the only member of that Committee present, I would recommend that this Committee be either continued, or discharged, being unable to do anything further at this time.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the report of the Committee and its recommendation. What is the pleasure of the Encampment?

MICHAEL CROWLEY, of New Hampshire: Commander, I move that the Committee be continued.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER: Commander, I second the motion.

WAITER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Commander, I move an amendment to that motion that the Committee be continued, and without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief.

MICHAEL CROWLEY, of New Hampshire: Commander, I accept the amendment.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: For the information of the Encampment I will read the resolution under which this Committee was appointed.

"RESOLVED, That the Order of the Sons of Veterans assembled in National Convention at Knoxville, Tennessee, propose to, in conjunction with the Sons of the ex-Confederate soldiers of the war of 1861-5, erect on the three National Battle-field Parks of the U. S. A., each a peace monument, and recommend a committee be appointed and report thereon, without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief."

Now Brothers, are you ready for the question?

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER: Commander, we understand this to be a motion to accept this report and continue this committee. Is it not possible that some of the members of the present committee may be disqualified by physical disability or otherwise. I have in mind particularly Col. Oberdorf. He may not be able to continue his work on this committee.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair is not informed as to anything of that kind. The motion as amended is to continue the committee without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief. Those in favor of the motion will give their consent by the usual voting sign of the Order? Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion seems to be carried and is carried and the Committee is continued without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief.

Are there any other committees that were appointed either at the last Encampment or under its authority that are ready to report at this time?

W. Y. MORGAN, of Kansas: Commander, would it be a proper thing to make a motion to request them to meet at once and report to us?

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair has an announcement from the Committee on Resolutions. Chairman Dustin requests that all the members of the Committee on Resolutions meet him at Room 217 of the Galt House immediately upon recess of the Commandery.

GEORGE F. WOLZ, of Nebraska: Commander, it has always been customary to have a roll call of the States for the reception and reference of communications from the Divisions. That has not been done this year.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Brother is mistaken. That has been done. If the Brother has anything to offer, however, it may be offered and will go to the proper committee.

INSPECTOR GENERAL STILLSON: Commander, the Committee on Ritual will hold a meeting at Room 207 at the Galt House at seven o'clock this evening.

CONCERNING R. R. CERTIFICATES AND DELEGATES' BADGES.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, I desire to announce to the Brothers that all the railroad certificates issued have not yet been turned in, and it is absolutely necessary that they be turned in before to-morrow. The agent will be here on to-morrow only and all these tickets must be signed by him, or they will not be honored for return passage. That applies to all the certificates issued by the Western Association, the New England Association and the Trunk Line Association.

I desire to make the further announcement that the supply of delegates' badges is about exhausted, and if any have not been provided they should make immediate application for the same.

CONGRATULATORY LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL: Commander, if there is nothing further to come before the Encampment this evening I have a number of letters and telegrams of greeting which might be read now.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Adjutant General will read the letters and telegrams.

The Adjutant General read the following letters and telegrams:

COVINGTON, Ky., Sept. 5th, 1896.

TO THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT SONS OF VETERANS, GREETING:

The Department of Ky. Woman's Relief Corps send greetings to the Sons of Veterans in session, pledging themselves to assist in advancing the interests of their Order.

In F., C. and L.,

BELLE ROSS LUDWIG,

Dept. Pres.

HANNAH DONALDSON,

Dept. Sec

MARY LYLE REYNOLDS,

Past Nat'l. J. V. Pres. W. R. C.

READING, Pa., Sept. 2, 1896.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF RUSSELL, Louisville.

Camp 16 sends greeting with best wishes for success of the Sons of Veterans. Give us a rake.

GEN. GEO. G. MEADE CAMP.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Sept. 8, 1896.

C. BORIN, ADJUTANT GENERAL, care Galt House, Louisville.

Sanders Camp, in regular session, sends fraternal greetings to the Commandery-in-Chief.

S. V. CHANDLER,

Captain.

DENVER, Colo., Sept. 9, 1896.

COMMANDER RUSSELL, S. OF V., Louisville, Ky.

Farragut Camp, in session, send greeting to Commandery-in-Chief.

P. H. LIMBACH.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Sept. 9, 1896.

C. BORIN, ADJ. GEN. SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A., care Galt House, Louisville.

Alabama and Tennessee Division sends fraternal greeting to the Fifteenth National Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief.

E. E. CARTER,

Adjutant.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Sept. 7, 1896.

W. H. RUSSELL, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, S. OF V., U. S. A., care Galt House, Louisville.

Lincoln Camp, in session assembled, extend greeting.

GEO. B. ARNOLD,

Captain Commanding.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Sept. 8, 1896.

GEN. WILLIAM H. RUSSELL, Galt House, Louisville, Ky.

Rhode Island sends greetings and wishes for a successful encampment.

HERBERT S. THOMPSON,

Div. Comdr.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I move that these greetings be incorporated in the proceedings of the Encampment.

W. P. FEDER, of Kansas: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It will be taken by consent if there is no objection. The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE TO CONVEY S. OF V. GREETINGS TO C.-IN-C. CLARKSON
OF THE G. A. R. AUTHORIZED.

GEORGE F. WOLZ, of Nebraska: Commander, I move that a Committee of three be appointed to convey the greetings of the Sons of Veterans U. S. A. to Commander-in-Chief T. S. Clarkson of the Grand Army.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion. Any remarks? All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The ayes seem to have it, and the ayes have it and the motion is carried.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I desire to offer the following resolution and move its adoption.

RESOLUTION TO DISCONTINUE ALL CAMP FIRES, RECEPTIONS AND
PARADES AT C.-IN-C. SESSIONS.

RESOLVED, That hereafter the meetings of the Encampment be business sessions, and that all Camp Fires, receptions and parades be done away with.

(Cries of "No," "No," "No.")

The motion to adopt the resolution was seconded.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I don't believe there is a quorum present, and I demand a call of the house. I raise the point of order that there is no quorum present.

W. Y. MORGAN, of Kansas: Commander, it seems to me that this Committee on Resolutions could meet right now and prepare their report, and then we could go ahead with its consideration. They could do it in twenty minutes.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I desire a roll call so that we can show who are here attending to the business of the Encampment, and who are neglecting it.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The motion has been made and seconded to adopt the resolution as read. Upon that a roll call is demanded. The Adjutant General will call the roll.

CHARLES S. DAVIS, of Maryland: Commander, there was also a point of order raised that there is no quorum present.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The point of order has been raised that there is no quorum present. Upon that question the Adjutant General will call the roll.

The Adjutant General called the roll (roll call 4) and announced eighty-two members present.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The roll call showing eighty-two members present, the Chair holds that a quorum is present. The question is on the motion to adopt the resolution offered by Brother Harrington of Kansas.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I have my resolution now in the shape that I want it.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The resolution as reduced to writing may be substituted for the one introduced by unanimous consent. Bro. Harrington will read it.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I desire the resolution to read as follows:

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this Encampment that at future meetings of the Commandery-in-Chief all parades, receptions and Camp Fires shall be dispensed with until after the business of the Commandery-in-Chief has been completed.

I move the adoption of that resolution.

The motion to adopt the resolution was seconded.

CHARLES S. DAVIS, of Maryland: Commander, I move the resolution be laid on the table.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The motion is to lay the resolution on the table. All those in favor of the motion will rise and stand until counted.

Be seated. Those opposed will now rise. Thirty-four having voted in favor of the motion and thirty-five against it, the motion to lay on the table is lost.

C. S. DAVIS, of Maryland: Commander, I demand a roll call on my motion.

LEWIS A. DILLEY, of Iowa: Commander, I second the demand.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER: Commander, I also second the demand for a roll call.

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF COLE: Commander, are remarks in order?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: No, debate is not in order. A roll call has been demanded upon the motion to lay on the table.

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF COLE: Commander, I move as an amendment to the motion that the resolution be referred to the proper committee.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair will hold that that motion is not in order, not having precedence at this time. The Chair was under the impression that the roll call had been demanded by at least two divisions. The Chair wants to be sure about that.

CHARLES S. DAVIS, of Maryland: Commander, Maryland, Iowa and Tennessee demand a roll call.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I don't see the object of having a roll call now on this motion. This motion that has been defeated was simply a motion to lay on the table. Let the question be put on the adoption of the resolution, and then if we lose I will join the Brother in demanding a roll call.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It occurs to the Commander-in-Chief that Brother Bundy's suggestion is a good one.

LEWIS A. DILLEY, of Iowa: Commander, I rise for information. How does this resolution come before the Encampment without having gone before the Committee on Resolutions?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Commandery-in-Chief decided by unanimous consent some time ago to hear the resolutions.

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF COLE: When the motion to lay on the table was voted down was not the original motion then before the house?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: No. A roll call on the motion to lay on the table was demanded by more than two divisions, and the Chair held that the roll should be called on the demand of the constitutional number of divisions.

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF COLE: Had the Chair so declared when I rose and asked if remarks were in order?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair holds that the only thing in order now is the roll call, unless the Brothers withdraw their application for it.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I beg these Brothers to withdraw their demand for a roll call merely upon a motion to lay on the table. We may have to have another roll call afterwards upon the motion to adopt the resolution, so that there would be nothing gained by it. Let us vote upon the original motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Adjutant General will call the roll.

WALTER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Commander, I ask unanimous consent that we vote upon the original resolution without calling the roll. If we don't vote it down beyond question then we can have a roll call and see how the matter stands.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The only way that the roll call can be dispensed with at this time is by the withdrawal of the demand for it.

LEWIS A. DILLEY, of Iowa: Commander, I withdraw my demand for a roll call providing the roll is called on the original motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It is the understanding of the Order that the roll is to be called upon the original motion.

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF COLE: Commander, if the roll call is to be demanded on the original motion, I claim the right to be heard. I have a right to talk on any motion that is before the house.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Demand for a roll call on the motion to lay on the table being withdrawn, debate is in order on the original motion.

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF COLE: Commander, I want to say that I hope very sincerely that this motion will be voted down, or at least referred to the proper committee. It does not seem to me that there are enough Brothers here to fairly consider such a resolution. It should be considered by a full house. To my mind it takes away the incentive of a great many men to attend an Encampment of this sort. It has no weight with me, it would have no weight with me in future years. But I know there are men in this organization who take their vacation at this time and spend it in attending our Encampment, and if we say to the citizens of the cities in which we hold our Encampments that we can not enjoy their hospitality, if we say they shall not do anything for our entertainment, we will deprive our Encampments of a great attraction to a great many members of the Order. The great advantage of these things is that we get before the public. The more we are entertained by the public at large the more attention we attract, and the more we come into public notice the better they will understand us and the more they will be in sympathy with the Order of the Sons of Veterans. You can put that in your pipe and smoke it. (Applause.) There are a great many people east and west who do not know anything about this Order. They think we are celebrating something that has gone by. They do not understand the principles on which we are founded. Are you going to cut off the only means we have of making them better acquainted with us? If we come here and shut ourselves up within four walls, refuse to show ourselves in public and give out nothing of our deliberations very few would know we were in town at all. We want the public to know what kind of a body of men we are. They don't know our moral caliber; they do not know our intellectual caliber; they do not know anything about us; and that is one great trouble with the order. (Applause.) Now if you want to make it worse than it is, adopt this resolution offered by my Brother from Kansas. (Applause.)

W. Y. MORGAN, of Kansas: Commander, I move the previous question.

H. T. COOPER, of Tennessee: Commander, I second the motion.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander—

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: I will recognize Brother Harrington to close the debate.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander and Brothers, it seems to me the sooner we recognize the fact that this is a deliberative body the better. The fact of the matter is we are in disgrace in all of the cities where we have held our Encampments, except in the city of Knoxville, because we have held out to those cities that we were going to bring great crowds of people there, and the Local Committees have got the citizens to subscribe money and get up entertainments because of the great big crowd that was coming to the city; and when we meet the people are disappointed and the Order goes out of that town disgraced. The sooner we recognize the fact that we are a deliberative body only, and that we come simply for the purpose of attending to business, and that we do not come to see the town nor to see the people, the better it will be for us. We did not come down here to see the citizens of Louisville. We came here to renew our acquaintance with old members and make new acquaintances among the members of the Order. If the citizens of Louisville desire, after we get through our deliberations, to extend to us certain social advantages, all well and good for those who desire to stay here and enjoy them. Do not let them break in on our deliberations. Those things should be put off until after the business of the Encampment is completed. We have now wasted two days on account of the attractions of the city of Louisville. They gave a reception last night and a parade to-day and a Camp Fire to-night. If we had properly attended to the business of this Encampment, we would be through with it at this time. Those of us who have business that requires attention at home, want to go home, and those who are here on a vacation, as my friend says, can stay here and enjoy themselves for a week, if they want to.

LEWIS A. DILLEY, of Iowa: Commander, I rise to a question of personal privilege. The Brother has stated that the Sons of Veterans have gone in disgrace out of every town that they have been in; that they have represented to those towns that a much larger number would be there than did come. I want to say that in making the arrangements for the Encampment at Davenport I said in the papers that there would be about five hun-

dred there, and there was no misrepresentation made to the citizens of that town, and you did not leave the City of Davenport in disgrace. You fulfilled within fifty the promises made; and the people of Davenport gave their money cheerfully because they wanted to entertain you; and we did entertain you to the best of our ability.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER: Commander, I rise to a question of personal privilege. I want to say that the Sons of Veterans did not leave the City of Knoxville in disgrace. The citizens of Knoxville were not disappointed, and they look forward to some day when they will have the pleasure of seeing you again in that city, and they will entertain you as they did before.

(Cries of "Question," "Question.")

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I want to call Brother Cooper's attention to the fact that I excepted the City of Knoxville in what I said.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair will state that the Commander-in-Chief and the Adjutant General took pains this year to impress upon the Local Committees that this was a delegate body and that probably there would not be to exceed a hundred of us present at the most, outside of the membership of this Commandery-in-Chief. The Adjutant General will call the roll on the adoption of this resolution. Those who are in favor of this resolution will vote aye and those opposed will vote no.

LEWIS A. DILLEY, of Iowa: Commander, we withdraw the demand for a roll call.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Then all those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the order. Hands down. Those opposed the same sign. The Chair is in doubt. All those in favor of the motion will rise and stand until they are counted. Be seated. Those opposed will now rise. Thirty-four having voted in the affirmative and forty-one in the negative the Chair declares that the resolution is not adopted. (Applause.)

MOTION TO TAKE RECESS.

H. T. COOPER, of Tennessee: Commander, I move the Commandery-in-Chief do now take recess until to-morrow morning at 8:45 o'clock.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I rise to a point of order. The motion is out of order because the time has already been fixed to which the Commandery-in-Chief will take recess.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The point of order is well taken.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Now, Commander, I would like to know what is the matter with the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations—if we can not have a partial report at least?

H. M. HANSON, of Iowa: Commander, I move we take recess.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The ayes seem to have it; the ayes have it, and the Commandery-in-Chief takes recess until to-morrow morning at 8:45 o'clock.

THIRD DAY.

September 10th, 1896. 8:45 a. m.

The Encampment met pursuant to adjournment.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Commandery will come to order. The Inspector General will take up the password and countersign, assisted by the Officer of the Day.

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL: Commander, I find all present are entitled to remain and that the doors are properly secured.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Adjutant General will call the roll and credit those present.

The Adjutant General called the roll and announced a quorum present. (Roll call No. 5).

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The first thing this morning, under the order of business as transposed last evening, will be the report of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations. Is that Committee ready to report? The report will be read by Commander Harry D. Sisson.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON C., R. AND R.

HARRY D. SISSON, of Massachusetts: Commander, the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations submits the following report.

TO THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF AND OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT, S. OF V., U. S. A.:

CONCURRENCE IN RECOMMENDATION OF C. IN C. IN REGARD AMENDMENTS AND SUSPENSIONS.

Your Committee recommend concurrence in the following recommendation contained in Commander-in-Chief Russell's report:

"The C., R. and R. has given very general satisfaction and has been found broad enough to cover every case arising during the year. I think we should let well enough alone and make no amendments in our fundamental law. In this connection, however, I feel constrained to call your attention to the legislation enacted at the Knoxville meeting in relation to 'suspensions' and which will be found on page 217 of the Journal of the Knoxville Encampment. Almost all the troubles that have arisen regarding the construction of the legislation of that Encampment, and which have called for a number of decisions, struck at that legislation. It was not, in my opinion, wise legislation, but for reasons which are apparent, is pernicious in its effects, and is calculated to make our membership, to a certain extent, fictitious. The legislation in question should be repealed."

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Unless there is objection, under the rule adopted on yesterday the recommendation of the Committee will stand approved by the Commandery. Is there objection? The Chair hears none and it is so ordered.

Secretary Sisson resumed the reading of the report as follows:

NON-CONCURRENCE IN RECOMMENDATION OF INSPECTOR GENERAL IN REFERENCE TO UNIFORMS.

"The Committee deem it inexpedient to change the present constitutional provision in regard to the uniform, as recommended by the Inspector General, so long as Camps are constitutionally allowed to equip in any branch of the military service. We would recommend the strict enforcement of our present law relating to uniforms and equipments pertaining to the branch of military service which the Camp may adopt."

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Unless there is objection the recommendation of the Committee will stand approved. Is there objection?

INSPECTOR GENERAL STILLSON: Commander, it seems to me the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations have not really gotten the idea of my recommendation. I think it is very evident that three uniforms can be worn. We have a regulation Sons of Veterans uniform in one section, and in another section it provides for the United States Army uniform. If you go into some of these country Camps you can see all sorts and conditions and make-up of uniform, and you question any of the members of the Camp on inspection and he says I am ununiformed according to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations. How are you going to get around it? If he has a pair of blue pants with a stripe down the legs and a blue coat he is in uniform. The next man may be in an entirely different uniform, but being in accordance with some branch of the service, he is all right. It seems to me the time has come for some uniform that is uniform. I labored last year with the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations trying to prepare something for them to present here, an article or section of the Constitution which would provide for a uniform. I can call your attention to several points on which our present Constitution, Rules and Regulations is entirely blank. I would like to know what authority any one has in the Sons of Veterans for putting any marks on the collar of his coat? We all have them. I have some on mine. Is that regulation? Who is going to determine whether my coat is regulation, or whether any other brother's coat is regulation? I do not see why this Order can not have a regulation uniform as well as other Orders. This is simply carrying the matter over. You do nothing, and we go on making ourselves the laughing stock of all the military people of this country. We aim to be a military organization and we are only an abortion, so far as uniforms are concerned.

I do not want to take up the time of gentlemen who are anxious to get away, or anxious to proceed with the election, by bringing up any such unimportant matter as the uniform, but I hope that in due course of time there will be fifteen or twenty minutes to spare in which the Commandery-in-Chief may consider the matter of uniform and adopt something as the regular uniform of this Order.

MICHAEL CROWLEY, of New Hampshire: Commander, I move concurrence in this section of the report of the Committee.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Under the rule adopted yesterday, such motion is unnecessary. When objection is made to any section of the report of a committee, the committee is understood to move the adoption of the report. The question is upon that motion. Are you ready for the question on the adoption of this section of the report of the Committee on C., R. and R.? All those in favor of the adoption of the recommendation of the Committee will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The ayes seem to have it. The ayes have it and the recommendation of the Committee is concurred in.

Secretary Sisson resumed the reading of the report as follows:

RECOMMENDING NO CHANGE IN THE CONSTITUTION.

"While several other matters were presented to your committee, they were mostly of a minor nature, and aside from recommendations already made above, we heartily concur in the opinion expressed in the report of the Commander-in-Chief that no material changes be made in our fundamental law this year.

NEWTON J. McGUIRE,

MANLY WREN,

GEO. E. COX,

Z. C. GREEN,

H. D. SISSON,

Committee on C., R. and R."

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON C., R. AND R. ADOPTED AS A WHOLE.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The report of the Committee has already been adopted by sections. The question is now before the Encampment on the motion to adopt the report of the Committee as a whole as read. All those in favor of the motion will so signify by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The ayes seem to have it. The ayes have it, and the report as a whole is adopted.

F. L. SHEPARD, of Illinois: Commander, I move the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations be discharged with thanks.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It is moved and seconded that the Committee, on Constitution, Rules and Regulations be discharged with thanks by the Commandery. If there is no objection that will be taken by consent, and the Committee is discharged with thanks.

Next under the special order of business will be the report of the Committee on Ritual, Inspector General Stillson, Chairman. Is that Committee ready to report?

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RITUAL.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT OF THE S. V., U. S. A.:

NO CHANGES IN THE RITUAL THIS YEAR, AND STANDING COMMITTEE ON RITUAL RECOMMENDED.

Your Committee on Ritual has the following report to offer: Be it

I. RESOLVED, That in the opinion of this Committee it is not advisable to make changes in the Ritual at this time, for the following reasons: Lack of funds, there being already the necessary expenditures before the Commandery of printing the Blue Book and the ten years' service badge. This Committee recommends that this Commandery-in-Chief have a committee appointed to prepare and present a Ritual to the Commandery at some future Encampment, the Commandery to pay the expenses of such committee, provided that the new Ritual reported by such Committee is adopted.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is no objection the resolution reported by the Committee will be concurred in. The Chair hears no objection and it is so ordered.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

II. RESOLVED, That the changes suggested by different Divisions, individuals, and this Committee, be referred to a Standing Committee to be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief elect, to be incorporated in the Ritual at such time as it may be deemed advisable to revise said Ritual.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is no objection, the resolution offered by the Committee will stand adopted. The Chair hears no objection and it is so ordered.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

ONLY ONE DEGREE OF RITUAL TO BE WORKED IN AN EVENING.

III. RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the Ritual now in vogue be thus interpreted: that only one degree be worked in an evening.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and the resolution is adopted.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

CANDIDATES TO PASS EXAMINATION IN PRECEDING DEGREE BEFORE TAKING A HIGHER.

IV. RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of this Committee that a candidate pass a satisfactory examination in one degree before he be allowed to take another degree; and that he be tested by the Captain upon his knowledge before the assembled Camp opened in that degree.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is no objection the resolution offered by the Committee will be adopted. The Chair hears no objection.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of his report as follows:

CORRECTIONS IN PRESENT RITUAL.

The Ritual Committee of the Fifteenth Annual Encampment beg leave to call attention to the following points in the Ritual which in their opinion need revision and correction:

That portion of instructions for the movement of the square contained in brackets on page 23, to read as follows:

"Sergeant of the Guard marches to front of Captain's station; at his command the Advance Guard 'about face,' the escort and recruit 'left face.'" On page 23 next to last line substitute "escort" in lieu of "Sergeant of Guard."

On page 30, add to instruction of Sergeant of Guard in brackets at top of page, "and gives command 'Twos left.'"

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is no objection the corrections offered by the Committee will be adopted. Is there objection? The Chair hears none and the changes are adopted.

The Chairman of the Committee continued the reading of the report as follows:

BALLOTING ON CANDIDATES.

"That at the election of candidates that the 1st Sergeant shall present the ballot box to the 2d and 1st Lieutenant in order named for inspection of the vote before presenting it to the Captain, who shall announce the result."

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Is there objection? The Chair hears none and the recommendation of the Committee is concurred in.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

The suggestions as to changes in the Ritual, other than those suggested by this Committee, are to be found in the communications from Major Davis and the resolutions of the Missouri Division, all of which are hereto appended as a portion of this report.

(Signed)

F. C. STILLSON,
LEWIS A. DILLEY,
W. J. PATTON,
T. C. HARTER,
F. B. COLE,
A. G. ALRICH."

The communications from Maj. Davis and the resolutions of the Missouri Division which were not read but appended as a part of the report of the Committee, being as follows:

COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAJOR DAVIS.

PITTSBURG, Pa., July 31st, 1896.

MY DEAR DOCTOR AND BROTHER HARTER:—

I have at hand yours of the 27th inst. and have read the same with great interest. I now embrace the first opportunity to reply.

You say you think the prayers are all right, but that the closing song is too long. I agree with you fully. I do not now recall who composed it but it was—if my memory is correct—the production of some New England Brother. You will not, on a second look, find it in either of the Rituals I sent you. Its history is as follows:

In the summer of 1884 the third National Encampment was held in the city of Philadelphia, Pa. At this meeting Brothers that had been members of the old so-called Philadelphia Branch, which had given up its existence (excepting a few camps) in 1883, joined hands with Brothers from New England who had been organized by the said Philadelphia Branch, and thus gained a majority of the votes and controlled the Encampment. The results were a general upsetting and ripping up of everything. When the Encampment closed no one knew what had passed and what had not, and the records were in a greatly confused and disorderly state. Commander-in-Chief Arnold, who was elected at this meeting, gave into the hands of General Ross, of Baltimore, all of the proceedings of the Encampment, he having volunteered to make an effort to untangle them and to get them ready for the printing, which was done under his direction. General Ross did the best he could, and what was missing in the Constitution, General Rules and Regulations, Ritual, etc., he fixed up and supplied as best he could and according to his ideas.

In the new Ritual, which was promulgated Nov. 10th, 1884, the closing Ode, to which you refer as being too long, etc., is not, in my opinion, all that it should be. It was not found as acceptable and did not give the satisfaction as the old time and simple Doxology that appears in the original Rituals prepared by myself. Every one is familiar with the Doxology and its music; all can sing it. It also has the merits of being short and appropriate. I would like to see it retained. Still we possibly have half a dozen or so of Brothers (not more) in the Order who do not believe in its terms and will offer opposition of an unimportant nature.

A word more in relation to the opening and closing Prayers and the prayer for Recruits. As I before informed you, at the time I wrote those prayers I was a little uncertain whether they exactly suited the case in all respects or not. To satisfy myself I submitted them to two leading Doctors of Divinity and to a number of Clergymen of different denominations. To my great surprise and satisfaction, they one and all most heartily approved and no one suggested any change. The various Oaths were submitted to the criticism of able parties who were experts in such matters, and belonged to the G. A. R. and other Orders. Everything was fully considered and tested before the Ritual was put in use. At the National Encampment held in Helena, Montana, in 1892, some brother from Kansas introduced a resolution to the effect that the original Prayers be restored to the Ritual and that they were not to be changed during my natural life. I fail to remember the name of the Brother, and also fail to find any record of the matter in the Journal of Proceedings. I think I can make out the reasons why all mention of the matter was left out of the Journal, but will not attempt to further comment upon it.

During the present week I received the last issue of the "Ohio Soldier," a paper of considerable circulation and influence. They have quite a strong editorial on the subject of our having the two systems, and highly approve it. It has been a perfect success when tried elsewhere.

Wishing your Committee a full measure of success in the work entrusted to you, I am very truly yours in F. C. & L.,

(Dictated.)

A. P. DAVIS.

P. S. I will enclose two extra copies of this letter to you so that if you desire to send the same to the other members of the Committee you can do so. The Minnesota Division will offer a resolution at Louisville which will make the way all clear and plain for your Committee before the Encampment.

PITTSBURG, Pa., June 4, 1896.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF W. H. RUSSELL, OF SONS OF VETERANS,
U. S. A., Lacrosse, Kansas:

MY DEAR FRIEND AND BROTHER: You have for a long time been aware that I have taken little or no part in shaping the legislation of the Order. I have not taken this course, in any degree, because my interest has grown less, for I still have, and will continue to have while my life lasts, the same deep interest in the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., that I did during their earlier and weaker days. When the Order reached a point in membership and talent and ability that insured its success, I felt that I could well, in a measure, drop out and leave to others the work that they were better fitted, both mentally and physically, to perform than myself.

From time to time, a matter of importance has been presented to me, and I now feel it my duty to write you on the subject. It is regarding our Ritual, and through you I greatly desire to gain the attention of the Committee on the same, accompanied by your own views on the important question. My attention was again called to the matter on "Memorial Day."

This morning a Brother working at my house, who bids fair to see his Camp go under, explained to me the trouble and I at once decided to write you and to reach the Committee, whose names and addresses are not known to me. You will recall that some years ago a demand arose for more elaborate work and a more extended Ritual and that legislation was had on the subject. After some delay, a three degree Ritual was presented and adopted and the one degree Ritual in use at the time was abandoned. This was all right and well enough if the existing conditions for the adoption of three degree

work were favorable. If a Camp had the necessary membership and attendance to properly handle and carry out the prescribed work of a third degree Ritual, it has been all well and good, but to the many, many well-meaning and earnest Camps of the country, who, by circumstances have a limited membership and a still more limited attendance, the amplified work meant loss of interest, discouragement, and in due time in far too many cases, death.

I have personal knowledge of more than one Camp that has been forced to give up altogether or unite with some other Camp, as they were wholly unable to handle the extended work. This is too bad and is greatly to be regretted. It is deplorable to have a large number of our Camps wholly unable to handle the amplified work, and, as a consequence, to see their membership drop off or fail to attend the stated meetings. Investigation will develop to you all that I say on the subject, and the matter is far too important to be covered up or lightly passed over.

Again, we can well profit by the past sad experience of the Grand Army of the Republic in solving this important question. In its early days, this Organization started out on a simple and practical one degree basis. In 1868, a demand sprang up for more elaborate and extended work and at the third annual encampment, held in Cincinnati in May, 1869, an entire change was made in Rules and Regulations and Ritual, providing for what was called the grade or three degree system. The change proved a very unfortunate one. It is stated by the G. A. R. Official Historian, Comrade Beath of Philadelphia, Pa., that when the three degree system was adopted, it was estimated that the G. A. R. was claimed to have some two hundred and forty thousand enrolled members. After two years' trial, the system was entirely abolished. Comrade Beath states that when the abolishment of the three degree system was made, less than twenty-five thousand members remained. Since then, the G. A. R. has used a one degree system and no other. The change back from three degrees to one resulted in restoring harmony, in restoring confidence, and in an early and steady increase in membership.

We can well heed the experience of our parent association, and can also well profit by it. It is of vital importance that we have a Ritual or Rituals that are suited to the location, condition and circumstances that surround each Camp. You will now probably desire to know what I have to offer and what I aim to propose. I do not feel like proposing anything further than I would earnestly suggest and urge that the Order take such a course at its next Annual Encampment as will enable it to better hold its Camps and membership, and, at the same time, furnish no grounds for opposition or complaint from any locality or from any source.

To this end, I would sustain and plead for the adoption of a course as follows:

First, I would suggest that for the present, at least, we retain and keep in use the present three degree work in its present shape, or as it may from time to time be changed. No doubt, the Committee now at work will present some very desirable and acceptable changes that will be duly adopted. To attempt to abandon the three degree work and Ritual would be inexpedient. It would cause dissatisfaction and develop opposition.

Second, I would also earnestly suggest that a one degree Ritual be provided and adopted at the next Annual Encampment, and that it be left optional with the Camps to use either of the two systems, as their circumstances and conditions may approve and demand. The original Ritual of October 18, 1882, or that in use in 1883-84, printed by Commander-in-Chief Merrill, will, I believe, be acceptable or will form an easy basis to work from, and the arrangement of the work can be done at little loss of time or labor. The two systems could be printed and bound together in the same book, and the increased cost would be small and unimportant.

A plan like the foregoing will enable the Order to far better hold its Camps in line, especially the weaker and more isolated ones, and will also enable the Camps to hold and increase their membership. As we now go on, one after another of our old Camps drop out, we organize new ones, they go on for a period, and then an unfortunate and large proportion of them dwindle and die.

My dear Brother, I beg of you to take this matter into serious consideration, and to study it carefully and well. To my mind, the subject (outside

of a system of life insurance, which I have always favored) is one of the utmost importance.

Our Order is not prospering as it should, and if my judgment is of any value, it seems to me that the foregoing views properly carried out offer a remedy and source of relief.

I will enclose to you some duplicate copies of this communication, which I trust you will lay before your Committee on Ritual, and others, as your judgment may dictate. Yours most truly in F. C. & L.,

A. P. DAVIS.

RESOLUTIONS OF MISSOURI DIVISION.

Resolved, That in the Degree of Friendship, on page 17, in the Sergeant of the Guard's part, in forming the detail for Muster Ceremonies, between the commands "Right Dress" and "Count Twos" the word "Front" should be inserted.

Resolved, That in the Degree of Friendship, on Page 18 of Ritual, the command of Sergeant of the Guard should be changed from "Side Step to the Left" to "Left Step" to conform to U. S. A. Drill Regulations.

Resolved, That in the "Order of Business," Page 10 in the Ritual be changed from Captain as chairman of the Visiting Committee to Chaplain as Chairman of the Visiting Committee, to conform with the C. R. and R.

Adopted at Twelfth Annual Encampment, Missouri Division Sons of Veterans, at Cameron, Mo., February 18th, 1896, and respectfully submitted.

MANLY WREN,
Division Commander.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Committee moves the adoption of the report. Are there any remarks?

C. J. TISDEL, of Illinois: Commander, it seems to me that unless the communications from the Missouri Division and from Brother Davis are read, or a clear statement made of the recommendations made by the various Divisions to this Committee, we cannot intelligently act upon this report. I understand that one clause of the report provides that the suggestions made by the different Divisions shall be referred to the Standing Committee and be by them incorporated in the Ritual at such time as may be deemed advisable. It makes these recommendations a part of the Ritual and leaves it to the Standing Committee to fix the time when they shall be incorporated in it. Now I for one want to know what they are before I vote for them. In the next place I do not know what this communication from the Missouri Division is. I have no recollection as to what Brother Davis has written. I believe, too, that the suggestions made by the Committee with reference to changing the Ritual are not changes that affect it materially, and I do not think that the advantages to be gained by the proposed changes are commensurate with the cost of reprinting the Ritual.

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF COLE: Commander, in regard to the report of this Committee, I want to say this much: That the recommendations as made by the Missouri Division, and the recommendations made by the Committee itself, are simply in regard to grammatical errors and to the omission of some military commands, and to military commands which cannot be properly interpreted. They are no more and no less. They do not affect the Ritual. The Committee recommend that no new Ritual, or changes, be made at this time; but that these recommendations be placed on file, so that when the new Ritual is to be put in force, these changes may be made if deemed proper. Certainly we need a Ritual which is an ideal Ritual; and while a great deal of credit, a vast amount of credit, is due to those Brothers who composed the present Ritual, I think in course of time, by reason of constant use, and by gathering together information from every Division, and from our coming together in this Commandery-in-Chief, we can improve on that Ritual. There are some grammatical errors and some wrong military commands. It seems to me that in order that this be a perfect Ritual the whole matter should remain in the hands of the Standing Committee; that they should consider it and make such changes as are necessary; and at the same time have all these suggestions before them so that whenever the Commandery-in-Chief shall see fit, the whole thing may be rewritten and put into a more perfect form. I think that is the idea and purpose of the

Committee in making the report they have made. The changes that are recommended do not affect the Ritual materially. The others do not go into force because they are simply put on file, and those that are recommended, wherever they may be, are only the correction of grammatical errors which any officer, with the necessary knowledge, would be bound to correct as he used the Ritual. For instance, in one place I remember especially that the Guard is halted and dressed to the right, and then the Sergeant of the Guard goes on with his work without giving the command "Front," which is necessary from a military standpoint. There are many such corrections as that, simply by supplying the omission of some words in order that the Ritual may be precise and understood.

CHARLES S. DAVIS, of Maryland: Commander, the three degree Ritual that we now have is said to contain grammatical errors and rhetorical errors and military errors, but we made the error of our life when we adopted the three degree Ritual at all. It has been the experience of the Camps in my Division that they are utterly incapable of coping with it. It takes a large number of men to properly handle it, to make it interesting, and make it worth while to try to use it; and we sincerely hope the time will come when we can return to a one degree Ritual similar to the one we discarded. One change that has been made in adopting the new Ritual that Maryland heartily approves of is having the Chaplain administer the obligation. With that change and possibly a little change in the reading of the Chaplain's words, we would be glad to go back to the original Ritual, and I hope that a Committee will be appointed by this Commandery to revise the Ritual and go back to the old one degree Ritual with such slight changes as it may find advisable. It is the prayer of the Maryland Division that we do this. I had a letter from the Commander of the Maryland Division in response to my request for instructions; he says: "For heaven's sake, do all that you can to have this three degree Ritual done away with. It is killing our Division." Most of the Camps in Maryland are small; they are in little villages and are utterly incapable of coping with the three degree Ritual. Unless you want to kill off all such Camps as these you want to make a change in your Ritual.

J. B. MACCABE, of Massachusetts: Commander, the question of the Ritual has always been a very fruitful theme for discussion by the members of this Encampment. I am of the opinion myself, after an honest consideration of this matter, that the proper way to get a Ritual is to employ a ritualistic writer to write one [Applause]; and if you desire something elaborate, you have got to pay an elaborate sum of money. Now I for one am of the opinion that the three degree Ritual is not of the slightest help or benefit to our organization [Applause]; and I speak from experience on that point. I am also of the opinion that this convention would do an exceedingly wise thing if it would adopt a motion, or resolution or a constitutional provision which would make the use of the Ritual absolutely optional with Camps. I am in favor now, as I was at Davenport, of a single degree Ritual in preference to a three degree Ritual. [Applause.] I believe that a single degree Ritual can be and should be utilized in the interest of patriotism just as well as a three degree Ritual. Now, Mr. Commander, I did not intend to indulge in any recital of opinions, and particularly did not intend to indulge in any expression of my own opinion upon this Ritual; but I want to say here that if this Committee on Ritual can not correct certain typographical errors in it, then certainly a standing committee can not do it. I have the utmost faith that my good Brother on the right can make that Ritual just as we want it, by perhaps striking out a word here and the insertion of a word there. If this proposition is to go through, I appeal to the Commandery-in-Chief to at least have these words added: "Said Committee shall be composed of the Chaplain-in-Chief, the Inspector-General, and if needs be the Junior or the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, and that this Committee shall not incur any expense by virtue of its sittings in any other place than at the annual meeting of the next Commandery." In short I want the treasury of the Commandery protected. I do not want to see any more standing committees. Those of you who attended the Encampment at Helena will bear me out that I stood upon the floor and protested against a certain standing committee which had been parading all over the country

and receiving compensation from the treasury of this organization. My only objection, urged in this desultory way, but sincerely nevertheless, is on the ground of expense. There should be some provision made here so that this standing committee will not have its expenses paid by the Commandery; and we can depend upon our Chaplain and our Inspector-General and our Surgeon-General to perform this duty at no extra expense to the Commandery-in-Chief. [Applause.]

INSPECTOR-GENERAL STILLSON: Commander, it seems proper to me to call the attention of Brother Maccabe to the fact that the Committee recommend that the Standing Committee on Ritual is to do its work at no expense to the Commandery-in-Chief.

CHARLES S. DAVIS, of Maryland: Commander, do I understand that by this resolution the standing committee is appointed?

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RITUAL AUTHORIZED.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair understands that the report recommends the appointment of a standing committee to consider this whole Ritual matter, the committee to do its work without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief. All those in favor of the adoption of the report of the committee will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The ayes seem to have it. The ayes have it and the report of the committee is adopted.

The next thing in order is the report of the Committee on Resolutions, Commander W. G. Dustin, Chairman. Is that Committee ready to report?

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Col. W. G. Dustin, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, submitted the following report:

THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT, S. OF V., U. S. A.:

Your Committee on Resolutions beg leave to submit the following resolutions and recommend their adoption:

CONCERNING DEATH OF SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ELWOOD T. CARR.

Whereas, Death has entered the ranks of the Commandery-in-Chief and has taken from his high position and from his Brothers in the Order SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ELWOOD T. CARR, of the Division of Pennsylvania, and

Whereas, In his death we recognize the loss of a valued member of the Order, whose long continued services to his Camp, Division, and this body, have endeared him to every member of the Order, therefore be it

Resolved, By the members of the Fifteenth Annual Encampment, S. of V., U. S. A., that in his death we are deprived of the services of one of the most efficient and active members of the Order, and the companionship and friendship of a Brother whose devotion to the principles of our Order has won the respect and love of all his Brothers.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased Brother.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and under the rule the resolutions recommended by the Committee are approved by the Encampment.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

CONCERNING THE SICKNESS OF BROTHER W. S. OBERDORF.

Whereas, We, the members of this Encampment, have learned with profound sorrow of the serious illness of our esteemed Brother, W. S. Oberdorf, Past Colonel of the Division of New York, therefore be it

Resolved, That we extend to him our fraternal greetings with the hope of a speedy restoration to his accustomed good health; and be it further

Resolved, That the Adjutant-General send a copy of this resolution to Brother Oberdorf.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Without there is objection the resolution will stand adopted. The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

CONCERNING THE G. A. R.

Resolved, That to the Grand Army of the Republic we once more extend our sincere love and respect. That we deplore the sorrowful fact that their ranks are becoming thinned by death, and we pledge ourselves with renewed energy to perform our highest duty to them, and make ourselves worthy to gradually take up the grand work they have so nobly performed.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is no objection the resolution will stand adopted. The Chair hears none, and the resolution is adopted.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

CONCERNING THE L. A. S., W. R. C., DAUGHTERS OF VETERANS AND LADIES OF THE G. A. R.

Resolved, That to the Ladies' Aid Society, Woman's Relief Corps, Daughters of Veterans and Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, we extend a most cordial greeting in their noble efforts in behalf of the Grand Army of the Republic and Sons of Veterans.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is no objection the resolution is adopted. The Chair hears no objection.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

CONCERNING PAST C. IN C. I. N. WALKER OF THE G. A. R.

Resolved, That we extend to Past Commander-in-Chief I. N. Walker, of the G. A. R., our sincere thanks for his many kindnesses and especially for the following eloquent and loving tribute paid to the Sons of Veterans in his annual address at St. Paul: "The Sons of Veterans are our natural successors. They are the reserve of the Grand Army. They have already become of great assistance to our organization, and are destined to exert a powerful influence for patriotism and loyalty long after we have passed away. The storm and sunshine of thirty years have successively come and gone since the ranks from which the Grand Army can be recruited have been forever closed. The struggles and privations of half a century have whitened the locks and impaired the energy of the majority of our comrades and the summit of our lives has been reached. As we go marching with ceaseless tramp, but ever lessening tread, down the slope toward the great hereafter, there comes up on the other side with sturdy stride and ever quickening pace, the Sons of Veterans to take the place we have filled. They sing the songs we sung, and carry the same flag under whose starry folds we fought. As we come off guard and take up our line of march to the eternal camping ground, we shall be more content if the picket line is still manned and the uniform is blue."

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is no objection, the resolution recommended by the Committee is adopted. The Chair hears none, and the resolution is adopted.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH G. A. R.

Resolved, That the Commandery-in-Chief heartily concur in the recommendations of Commander-in-Chief Russell in regard to holding our National Encampments in conjunction with the Grand Army of the Republic.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The resolution is adopted unless there is objection. The Chair hears no objection.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

COMMITTEE OF FIVE TO ATTEND G. A. R. NATIONAL ENCAMPMENTS.

Resolved, That it be the duty of the present Commander-in-Chief and all succeeding Commanders-in-Chief to appoint a committee of five, of which the retiring Commander-in-Chief shall be chairman, whose duty it shall be

to visit the next and succeeding National Encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic as accredited representatives of our Order. Provided, however, that the visit be made without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The resolution is adopted unless there is objection. The Chair hears no objection.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

RECOGNIZING THE COURTESY AND HOSPITALITY OF THE CITIZENS OF LOUISVILLE.

Resolved, That the Commandery-in-Chief highly appreciate the generous hospitality and courtesy extended to its members by the citizens of Louisville and vicinity during the Fifteenth Annual Encampment. We are pleased to acknowledge the magnificent welcome and the continuous entertainment given us by the loyal citizens of Kentucky.

C. J. TISDEL, of Illinois: Commander, let me suggest that out of courtesy to Kentucky we adopt this resolution by a rising vote. [Applause.]

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The question is on the adoption of this resolution recommended by the Committee. All those in favor of the adoption of the resolution will please rise. The resolution is adopted unanimously. The Committee will proceed.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

COMMENDING THE DIVISION OF KENTUCKY.

Resolved, That the successful efforts of the Division of Kentucky, and especially of the local Camps of Louisville, and the local Committee of Arrangements, to make the stay of the Commandery-in-Chief pleasant, receive our highest commendation.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: We will adopt this resolution in the same manner. Those in favor of the adoption of this resolution will please rise. The resolution is adopted unanimously by a rising vote.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

THANKING PRESS OF LOUISVILLE.

Resolved, That to the press of Louisville we extend our thanks for its fairness and for the comprehensive and intelligent manner in which the proceedings of the Commandery-in-Chief have been given to the general public.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: All those in favor of the adoption of this resolution will please rise. The resolution is adopted unanimously by rising vote.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

COMMENDING C. IN C. RUSSELL AND HIS STAFF.

Resolved, That we earnestly commend the untiring efforts of Commander-in-Chief Wm. H. Russell and his able staff for their earnest work in behalf of the Order, and that we extend to them our love and regard and wish them success as Sons of Veterans and citizens.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is no objection the resolution will stand adopted. It is so ordered.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO ACT WITH COMMITTEE OF G. A. R. ON MONUMENT TO THE WOMEN OF THE WAR 1861-65.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to act in conjunction with a committee appointed by the late G. A. R. Encampment, for the purpose of considering the erection of a monument commemorative of the "Devotion and heroic deeds of the Women of the War for the Preservation of the Union." Provided, however, that no expense to the Commandery-in-Chief be incurred.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Without there is objection, the resolution will stand adopted. The Chair hears no objection and the resolution is adopted.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION.

CHAIRMAN DUSTIN: Commander, there are some other resolutions which have been submitted to the Committee concerning which the Committee has no recommendation to make, but submits them to the Encampment without recommendation. They are as follows:

Whereas, At the Fourteenth Annual Encampment of the Massachusetts Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., held in Boston on February 21-22, 1896, the following resolution was unanimously agreed to:

"Whereas, The Annual Encampments of the Commandery-in-Chief have never been held further east than Paterson, New Jersey. One-fourth of the entire membership of this organization is located in New England. Therefore it is apparent that an invitation to the National body to meet within our jurisdiction would receive favorable consideration, and furthermore the attendance, particularly from the Eastern Divisions, would be greatly augmented, thereby creating a renewal of interest, and proving beneficial to the Order. It is recommended,

"That this Encampment by suitable resolutions extend to the Commandery-in-Chief, at its next Annual Encampment, an invitation to hold its Sixteenth Annual Session (1897) in the City of Boston; also that proper committees for this Division be designated to arrange the details thereof."

In obedience to this instruction the Massachusetts delegates to the Fifteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., respectfully invites the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., to hold its Sixteenth Annual meeting in the City of Boston, Mass., and submits the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Sixteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., be held in the City of Boston, Mass.

Attest:

H. D. SISSON,
Commander.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Does the Chair understand that the Committee on Resolutions makes no recommendation concerning this resolution?

CHAIRMAN DUSTIN: Commander, that is the case.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, what is the pleasure of the Commandery concerning this resolution submitted by the Committee without recommendation?

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I would like to inquire if the resolution which has just been reported by the Committee and adopted, that hereafter we meet with the Grand Army, does not climinate this resolution? I understand the Committee reported a resolution adopting the Commander-in-Chief's recommendation that hereafter we meet with the Grand Army of the Republic; and the Commandery concurred in the resolution.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair will reply to Brother Harrington, that it is the understanding of the Chair that the effect of the resolution adopted by the Commandery is that hereafter the meetings of the Commandery-in-Chief will be held with the Grand Army of the Republic; but the Chair does not want to rule arbitrarily on this matter. While technically that is the effect of the resolution, I do not want to shut the Commandery out from an opportunity to pass upon this proposition.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, I did not understand that the Committee on Resolutions took any action.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: None at all on this resolution. It turned it over to the Commandery.

C. D. ROONEY, of Massachusetts: Commander, the Division of Massachusetts submitted that resolution under the instructions of the Division Encampment. They voted also to sustain the recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief to hold the Encampment with the Grand Army of the Republic. That is the position of the Division of Massachusetts upon the matter.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I move that this resolution be placed on file and incorporated in the proceedings of this body.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion. Are you ready for the question?

WALTER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Commander, I would suggest that the word "received" be left out. We have already received the communication and all that is necessary is to put it on file.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I will accept the suggestion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion is agreed to and the resolution will be placed on file and incorporated in the proceedings of the Encampment.

CHAIRMAN DUSTIN: The Committee also submits the following resolution without recommendation:

Whereas, The State of Tennessee by its Executive, the City of Nashville, by its Executive and Commercial Clubs, with the Centennial Management, strongly supported by the representative members of the Confederate Veterans' Association of Tennessee, and the Division of Alabama and Tennessee, have extended to this National Encampment a pressing invitation to hold its Sixteenth Annual Convention in the City of Nashville, Tennessee, the same being a special occasion and the patriotic celebration of a special and important event, the admission of the Sixteenth State into the National Union, therefore be it

Resolved, That this National Encampment, in view of the fact that the invitations are so numerous and pressing from the highest authorities of the State for this Encampment to join them in 1897 in the celebration of an important event, that it waives the usual courtesy of alternating as it were in the place of meeting and here accept the invitation to meet in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1897.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the resolution which is submitted without recommendation.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, I move that it be placed on file and incorporated in the proceedings.

ROBERT E. HANNA, of Colorado: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion, are you ready for the question? All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion is agreed to and the resolution will be placed on file and incorporated in the proceedings.

CHAIRMAN DUSTIN: Commander, the committee has some further resolutions which have just been handed to the Chairman, which the committee have had no opportunity to consider, and concerning them we will ask leave to make a supplementary report hereafter.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is no objection, leave will be granted the committee to make a supplementary report later. The question now recurs upon the adoption of the report as a whole so far as it has been submitted to this body. Are there any remarks?

MOTION TO RECONSIDER VOTE ADOPTING RESOLUTION TO MEET HEREAFTER IN ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT WITH THE G. A. R.

LEWIS A. DILLEY, of Iowa: Commander, I move the reconsideration of the resolution which would place the next annual Encampment at Buffalo, New York, as I have here in my hands a telegram from Buffalo which makes it very important that we reconsider that resolution.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: You have heard the motion to reconsider. Are there any remarks? All those in favor of reconsidering the vote by which the resolution providing that hereafter we hold our encampments with the Grand Army of the Republic was adopted, will please rise and stand until they are counted by the Adjutant-General. Be seated. Those opposed will now rise. The Chair will hold that the motion to reconsider is carried. The question now recurs upon the question of the adoption of the resolution of the committee which is in substance that hereafter the Encampments of the Commandery-in-Chief be held at the same place and time as the annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. Are there any remarks?

LEWIS A. DILLEY of Iowa: Commander, I think that the Committee were unanimously of the opinion on yesterday that we would like to meet with the Grand Army at Buffalo, New York, next year; and sent the following telegram to the Mayor of Buffalo:

"Does Buffalo want the next Encampment of the Sons of Veterans in connection with the Grand Army of the Republic? If so wire W. H. Russell, Commander-in-Chief."

This is the reply received from the Mayor:

BUFFALO, New York.

W. H. RUSSELL, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, S. OF V.

SIR: Buffalo would be pleased to see the Sons of Veterans, but am afraid we would not be able to accommodate them suitably in connection with the Grand Army of the Republic.

EDGAR G. JEWETT.

Mayor."

WALTER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Commander, I can not imagine that such a meeting as we have here would overflow Buffalo. I have lived in Buffalo three years. There is not a pleasanter city in the world that I know of outside of Ohio. I can not imagine that the Mayor, if he knew the number of delegates and brothers in the habit of attending the National Encampments of the Sons of Veterans, would have sent any such message. He imagines that the Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans is something like the National Encampment of the G. A. R.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, I feel quite sure that the Mayor of Buffalo does not understand the situation. As has already been suggested, he imagines we are a large body, and that idea prevails in many cities of the country until an Encampment of the Sons of Veterans has been held there. [Laughter.] I am convinced that the time has come when we ought to meet at the same time and place with the Grand Army of the Republic. [Applause.] I am confident, Commander, that we would occupy a very different position in the eyes of the country at large. If any of the brothers here present have attended any of the Encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic they are well aware of the fact that there are some fifteen or twenty times as many members of the Sons of Veterans at the G. A. R. Encampments as at any Encampment we have held; and whenever we go to an Encampment of the G. A. R. we command a position and recognition. I cite the National Encampment at Boston. There our boys made such an impression on all present that President Harrison no less than four or five times to my knowledge mentioned the fact, and referred to the organization of the Sons of Veterans. He was evidently surprised to see the show we made there. That is only one instance. Here we meet year after year, a little insignificant body, in numbers—not in brain power, or political trickery—[Laughter and applause] but in numbers insignificant, and we create no impression. The city expects thousands, and we come with a hundred or two. They enjoy us, they speak well of us; they speak well of our morals and decorum, and our early hours at night and all that sort of thing [Laughter and applause] but we make no good impression on any community so far as our numerical strength or our organization is concerned. I am sure if we placed before the Mayor of Buffalo the facts, they would embrace us with open arms. I hope this question will remain as it is and that the recommendation of the committee will be carried out.

J. B. MACCABE, of Boston: Commander, I have a painful recollection that we met once at Buffalo, and if my recollection serves me right, my Honorable friend Gen. Payne was Commander-in-Chief on that occasion. I have always had a very vivid recollection of our meeting there and the reception that was accorded us, and the fact that we had but a mere handful of men. The City of Buffalo, in anticipation of our coming, had erected magnificent arches over the principal streets throughout the city that said "Welcome to the Sons of Veterans." The stores and public buildings welcomed us as well as the gin mills; and I tell you candidly, my Brothers, the spectacle presented by the parade we indulged in there will be forever in my memory. It was a most lamentable failure. The people turned out en masse expecting to see fifteen or twenty thousand men parade. When they saw us marching along fifteen or twenty strong, you can imagine the dull

sickening thud. (Laughter.) Now I have an impression that the Mayor of Buffalo remembers the Sons of Veterans. (Laughter and applause.) In the City of Buffalo we have a distinguished Brother, a member of the Superior Bench, and I presume he is a member—he was at that time—of the Buffalo Camp. The Camp is not a very bright progressive Camp at the present time, and I imagine that his Honor the Mayor, before he wired us his reply, at least consulted somebody, and this telegram means perhaps a great deal more than it reads. I desire to call attention of the Convention to another thing. Brother Patton has very correctly said that there was a splendid demonstration upon the occasion of the Grand Army Encampment at Boston. I want to tell you now that should this resolution prevail—I do not know that I am strongly opposed to it, only I want to call this fact to your attention—that perhaps Boston will never have the honor of entertaining the Sons of Veterans. We do, or at least I do, before I cross the silent river, want to see Boston entertain the Sons of Veterans; I want to show you what sort of a demonstration the Sons of Veterans will make there. Massachusetts alone will parade 4,500 men. Rhode Island will come in, New Hampshire will come in, Connecticut will come in, and we will show you a demonstration that will send the blood throbbing through your veins, and we will sing that old song "We are Coming, Father Abraham, We are Coming 10,000 strong." But if this resolution prevails Boston will not have the great honor, for you will remember that Boston has but recently entertained the Grand Army and it is not likely that it would be back there again, at all events not very soon. Now I want you to come sometime, if not this year, then certainly next year, when times are better and when we can entertain you as we want to entertain you, entertain you in true Boston style. I have no objection to meeting with the Grand Army of the Republic. On the contrary, I feel that it might remove some of the ridicule which attends our Encampments in some of these large cities; I do believe that cities like Boston should be given some consideration in this matter, and if you will agree to except Boston from the operation of this resolution, I am willing to consent that we make the experiment and meet one year with the Grand Army. I say that if you will make an exception in favor of Boston, I am in favor of the resolution with both hands.

CHARLES S. DAVIS, of Maryland: Commander, Brother Maccabe seems to have an ax to grind. It strikes me if he can get to Boston with forty-five hundred men, he can get across the State of New York to Buffalo with at least half that many, and that, with the usual contingent from the rest of the country, would make a very good showing. It is not such an awful great distance, so that if his argument is good, now is the time for us to redeem ourselves in the eyes of the people of Buffalo; and so I am in favor of going with the Grand Army from now on, without making any exception. The Grand Army may go to Boston—I do not know whether it will or not—and if it does we will go with it, but Boston will have just as good an opportunity to entertain us as it can want. I believe this is going to be a good thing for the Order; it is going to be the commencement of the rejuvenation of this Order. We can point to the Grand Army Encampment at Detroit, where fifteen or seventeen hundred Sons of Veterans turned out in line, as well as the G. A. R. Encampment at Boston. I believe we can do just as well by meeting at Buffalo, and I hope that the resolution will be adopted, and that we will go to Buffalo, and that wherever the Grand Army goes hereafter, we will go with it.

J. V. B. CLARKSON, of New York: Commander, on behalf of the New York Division, I would ask this Commandery-in-Chief who is to pay the expenses of the Encampment if we go to Buffalo? The Camp at Buffalo is a new Camp, the old Camp of which Brother Maccabe spoke has been dead for two or three years. The new Camp is only two or three months old, and it could not do anything towards entertaining us. The New York Division is not particularly anxious for the Encampment next year, and who will pay the expenses, or will take care of the entertainment of the Sons of Veterans?

R. M. J. REED, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I want to say to the Brothers, that if this Commandery-in-Chief wants to sink its identity, we can take no surer course at present than to meet at the same time and place with the Grand Army of the Republic. (Applause.) Another business propo-

sition that concerns us is the fact that the Council-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic year after year re-consider and often times change the place where they had concluded to meet. They did it this year. They frequently do it. It would cause confusion in our organization. The Grand Army of the Republic is so well known that citizens and municipal governments are prepared for their reception and their entertainment and entirely forget us. And another consideration is that fact that many of the Sons of Veterans are left at home at that time to care for business interests while their fathers are away. (Applause.) I am of the opinion that the time is coming, in ten years perhaps, when it will be the proper thing for us to meet with the Grand Army of the Republic. That time is not here yet, but it is coming. The members of the Grand Army are rapidly crossing over the dark river and camping on the other side, and the time is coming when they will not be able to take such hold of the people in their encampments as to entirely swamp all other organizations; I am opposed at this time to the Sons of Veterans taking any step to meet with and at the same time as the G. A. R. I would suggest that it would be a very proper thing that during the coming year the Grand Army be consulted on this matter, their wishes asked for, and whatever they desire, if they think it is the proper thing, and the advisable thing at this time for us to meet with them, then it could come up for our consideration next year and we could legislate wisely on the subject; but it is unwise at this time to resolve that in the future we will meet with the Grand Army of the Republic.

RESOLUTION TO MEET WITH G. A. R. VOTED DOWN.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, are you ready for the question? All those in favor of the adoption of the resolution as recommended by the committee, will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The noes seem to have it. The noes have it, and the resolution is lost. The question now recurs upon the adoption of the report as submitted and amended. All those in favor of the adoption of the report as submitted and amended by the Commandery will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion seems to be carried. The motion is carried and the report is adopted as amended.

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL RELATIONS WITH G. A. R. SUGGESTED.

WALTER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Commander, I want to offer a resolution that may lead to something if the Commandery-in-Chief concurs; and that is that until such time as the Commandery-in-Chief of the Grand Army are willing to recognize us to the extent of admitting us to their Post Room that the Commander-in-Chief of this body shall appoint a committee—I do not care of what number, but composed of Grand Army men who are also Sons, which shall be a Fraternal Committee, or a Committee on Fraternal Relations between the two bodies, and this committee shall so far as possible attend the Encampments of the Grand Army, without expense to this body, and bring before them in substance that we desire to establish closer relations between us. Such a committee, if composed of Sons of Veterans might be refused admission to the National Encampment of the Grand Army, but if composed of Grand Army men who are also Sons—and we have a great many of them in our Order; it will be no trouble at all to find plenty of them—these men can enter the Encampment of the Grand Army, and while there can present our claims and our cause in a way that will be acceptable. I think we can establish a closer relation between the Grand Army and the Sons by such an arrangement.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair will request Brother Payne to reduce his resolution to writing. If it is to be considered it should be reduced to writing and referred to the committee. The committee is not yet discharged. The next in order is the report of the Committee on Officers Reports, F. W. Myers, Secretary. Is that Committee ready to report?

F. W. MYERS, of Ohio: Commander, the Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work is not ready to make a complete report. We have not been able to get the report of the Council-in-Chief. Aside from that we are ready to report.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If it is the pleasure of the Encampment, we will hear the report of the Committee in so far as they are ready to report. Brother Myers, Secretary of the Committee, will proceed.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORTS AND DISTRIBUTION OF WORK.

Secretary Myers of the Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work submitted the following report:

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT, GEN. W. H. RUSSELL, COMMANDER:

Your Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work beg leave to make the following report:

ON RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED IN REPORT OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

We heartily approve of your recommendation of Resolutions of respect for our deceased Brother, Gen. Elwood T. Carr, and have referred the same to the Committee on Resolutions.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: That has already been passed upon by the Committee on Resolutions and will stand approved.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

"Your recommendation concerning the C., R. and R. has been referred to the Committee on C., R. and R. by vote of the Encampment."

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is no objection the recommendation of the Committee will stand approved under the rule.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

BLUE BOOK.

"We recommend that the action of the Knoxville Encampment, in reference to its publication, be repealed, as in our judgment, we at this time are not in a financial condition that would warrant such an expense."

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Unless there is objection the recommendation of the Committee will stand adopted. The Chair hears no objection, and it is so ordered.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

MEETINGS.

We concur in your suggestion regarding time and place of meetings.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: That has already been disposed of by the Commandery-in-Chief in opposition to the recommendation of the Committee, and the recommendation will stand as not adopted.

SECRETARY MYERS: Commander, you state in your report that while it would be a good thing, you do not consider this the time, and in that the Committee concur.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: I stated in my report that now may not be the time, but in my opinion it is.

SECRETARY MYERS: And the Committee agree with you.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Very well, proceed with the report.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

SERVICE BADGES.

We suggest that the action of the Fourteenth Annual Encampment, insofar as it refers to the Ten Years Service Badge be repealed.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Unless there is objection the report of the Committee will stand adopted. The Chair hears no objection.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

FINANCES.

We commend the Commander and officers of his staff for the prudent and able manner in which the finances of the Order have been handled.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Approved, unless there is objection. The Chair hears none.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

DIVISION OF MICHIGAN.

We recommend that the action of the Michigan Division Encampment at Holland be legalized by the approval of the Commandery-in-Chief.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Unless there is objection the recommendation of the Committee will stand adopted.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

RELATIONS WITH THE G. A. R. AND W. R. C.

We have referred this recommendation to the Committee on Resolutions.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: That has already been passed upon by the Encampment.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

LADIES AID SOCIETY.

This recommendation we have also referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Already passed upon by the Encampment.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

MILITARY.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

THE STAFF.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

TRANSPORTATION.

Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The action of the Committee in referring these matters to the proper Committees is concurred in if there is no objection. The Chair hears none.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

GEN. I. N. WALKER.

Recognizing Gen. Walker's efforts on our behalf we heartily endorse your recommendation.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The recommendation of the Committee is concurred in if there is no objection. The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

MEETING OF DIVISION COMMANDERS.

We can see how great good may be accomplished by a Conference of Division Commanders, and recommend the adoption of your recommendation.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Approved unless there is objection. The Chair hears none.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

LEGISLATION BY CONGRESS.

We believe that the endorsement of this measure or a similar one would be beneficial to the Order.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Approved unless there is objection. The Chair hears none.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

REPORT OF SENIOR VICE COMMANDER—ALTAR FLAGS.

We recommend that the suggestion relative to Altar Flags be not concurred in as we believe that all Camps are in possession of, or will secure Flags.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Unless there is objection the recommendation of the Committee will stand adopted. The Chair hears none and it is so ordered.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

Recommendations Nos. 2 and 3 have already been taken cognizance of in recommendations of the Commander.

SECRETARY MYERS: These recommendations have already been taken cognizance of in the report of the Committee upon the recommendations of the Commander-in-Chief. The report continues:

ON REPORTS OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL AND QUARTERMASTER GENERAL.

We congratulate these efficient officers upon their complete, careful and comprehensive reports.

INSPECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT.

The Recommendations Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 were referred to the Committee on C., R. and R.

JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S REPORTS.

The report of the Judge Advocate General indicates a commendable compliance with the Laws and requirements of the Order.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is no objection the recommendations of the Committee in reference to the reports of these officers are concurred in. The Chair hears no objection and it is so ordered.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

SURGEON GENERAL'S REPORT.

We have referred the recommendations of Surgeon General Gardner to the Committee on C., R. and R.

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF'S REPORT.

We have referred recommendations 1, 2, 3 and 4 to the Committee on C., R. and R., and we recommend that Recommendation No. 5 (relative to Circulars of Division Chaplains) and Recommendation No. 6 (relative to publication) be concurred in.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The recommendation of the Committee is concurred in unless there is objection. The Chair hears none.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF'S REPORT.

1st. The recommendation of the Council-in-Chief, to publish 3,000 copies of the Proceedings of the Encampment is concurred in.

2nd. As to Per Capita Tax, the recommendation that it remain as it now is, is concurred in.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Is there any objection to concurring in the action of the Committee on the recommendations of the Council-in-Chief? If not, the same will stand as the action of the Commandery.

The Secretary of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

TRIBUTE TO GEN. RUSSELL.

And in conclusion, your Committee, after having carefully examined the reports hereinbefore mentioned, congratulate Gen. Russell upon his efficient work and the splendid showing he has made, and we believe that his able and prudent administration has not only stamped him as one of our ablest Commanders, but has been of lasting benefit to our Order.

The work and zeal of his staff is conclusive evidence of the wisdom of his choice.

Respectfully submitted,

LOUIS M. WAGNER, Chairman,
FRANK C. BUNTON,
FRANK L. SHEPARD,
FRED J. McMURTRIE,
F. W. MYERS, Secy."

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, the question is now upon the adoption of the report of the Committee on Officers' Reports as a whole. All those in favor of the adoption of the report as read please give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The ayes seem to have it, the ayes have it and the report as so far made is adopted.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, may I at this time read a communication and present a resolution?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brother Patton asks unanimous consent to read a communication and present a resolution. Is there objection? The Chair hears none and Brother Patton may proceed.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, the communication I desire to read is as follows:

COMMUNICATION FROM W. O. PIERCE, OF WINCHESTER, IND.

WINCHESTER, Ind., Sept. 7, 1896.

COL. FREMONT GARRETT, Winchester, Ind.

DEAR BROTHER:—Your efforts in bringing the Sons of Veterans as an organization, and the only legitimate successor of the Grand Army of the Republic, into favorable National recognition by securing the adoption of "The Banner of Beauty and Glory," as the Sons of Veterans' National Hymn, have been crowned with success. There remains more to be done in the same direction, which will redound to the good and glory of the Order. Will you, therefore, allow an old veteran to suggest the following as worthy of the most serious attention of the National Encampment to convene at Louisville, Ky., to-morrow.

First to ask for, and secure the appointment of, a Standing Committee to consider the advisability of and to have full power to act on the following:

(1) That the Chaplain-in-Chief of the Order place the National Hymn in the program for Lincoln's Day.

(2) That arrangements be made with the publisher of the National Tribune, the organ of the G. A. R. of the U. S., to use every legitimate means for securing notices of the Hymn, editorially and otherwise, in the columns of that paper, and thus popularizing it.

(3) That every effort consistent with judicious patriotism be made to secure the adoption of the S. V. National Hymn by the "Sons of the Confederacy," who hold their next Annual Meeting at Nashville, Tennessee.

Hoping these suggestions will find favor in your judgment, as they will certainly, if carried out, increase the reputation of your beloved Organization, I remain,

Yours in F., C. and L.,
W. O. PIERCE.

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Commander, I now move that in conformity with the request of Comrade Pierce a committee of five of which Col. Garrett of Indiana be Chairman, shall be appointed in this matter; and if the motion is placed before the house I desire a few moments in which to speak upon the question.

W. Y. MORGAN, of Kansas: Commander, I would like to ask the mover of that motion if that Committee will serve without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief?

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, that is understood; but I will accept that as a part of my motion.

W. Y. MORGAN, of Kansas: Commander, then I will second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion that a committee of five, of which Brother Garrett, of Indiana, shall be Chairman, be appointed to carry out the provisions of the resolution read in your hearing. The Committee to serve without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief. Are you ready for the question?

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander—

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander—

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair recognizes Quartermaster General Loebenstein.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOBENSTEIN: Commander, I will give way to Brother Patton, if he desires to make any remarks upon this subject.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, I am in no hurry.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: My purpose in rising, Commander, is to move to lay the resolution upon the table. I desire to give way to Brother Patton if he desires to make any remarks upon the subject before I make that motion.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, as the Brothers who were present at the Knoxville Encampment last year will remember, I have felt considerable interest in this subject of the proper observance of Union Defenders' Day. I realize the importance of any legislation which will in any degree secure better observance of Union Defenders' Day, and I wish to heartily endorse this proposition. In the first place it will be without any expense to the Commandery-in-Chief. No possible expense will be entailed on the Commandery-in-Chief. In the next place it will place before every man in the Order his duty in doing something to aid in carrying out the idea of Union Defenders' Day, and to assist the Chaplain-in-Chief every year. It will be of great assistance to him in making up the program for the proper observance of Union Defenders' Day. It is a hymn which has been sung in our presence, at Knoxville last year and here this year, and there is opportunity for the exercise of considerable ingenuity in its enlargement if we see fit to give it. It is a good thing. We are not doing anything in any way to the discredit of our Order in adopting this as the hymn of our organization and I trust that this motion will prevail and this Committee will be appointed and this work shall go forward, and we shall have this as a nucleus for the gathering together of an admirable program for the observance of Union Defenders' Day.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, it occurs to me that we have had a full year's trial of the merits of this National Sons of Veterans' Hymn, and I believe that it is able at this time to stand upon its merits, and I do not believe it is policy to make the Commandery-in-Chief a vehicle to advertise the production of anybody. We are not prohibited from using this. If the Chaplain-in-Chief deems it of sufficient importance to incorporate it in his program for Union Defenders' Day he is at full liberty to do so; and I believe, sir, we are abusing this privilege of appointing committees, simply because they can be appointed without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief. I therefore move you, sir, that the resolution be laid upon the table.

EMIL PORSTEL, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Those opposed, the same sign. The motion seems to be carried. It is carried, and the motion is laid upon the table.

With the consent of the Commandery, in order that the Committee on Officers' Reports may have an opportunity to conclude its labors, I will now recur to "Reports of Committees" in the order of business, and call upon the Council-in-Chief. Is the Council-in-Chief ready to report?

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER (Secretary of the Council): Commander, the Council-in-Chief is ready to report.

The Council-in-Chief submitted the following report:

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Sept. 10, 1896.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT, SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

BROTHERS: The Council-in-Chief organized for the year, September 18, 1895, at Knoxville, Tennessee, by choosing R. M. Buckley as Chairman, and H. V. Speelman as Secretary.

The Council-in-Chief has not been called to consider any matters involving any considerable interest intervening the sessions. In obedience to the call of the Chairman, the Council-in-Chief met at the Galt House in the City of Louisville, Ky., on the 7th day of September, 1896, and carefully

examined all books and papers showing receipts and disbursements for the term ending August 31, 1896, pertaining to the Departments of the Quartermaster General and Adjutant General's offices, and found the accounts and entries to be properly made and the balance correctly shown. The cash on hand August 31, 1896, as shown by the Records and Reports and counted was \$1,427.32.

PUBLICATION OF 3,000 COPIES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ENCAMPMENT RECOMMENDED.

The Council recommend:

1st. That the Quartermaster General contract for three thousand (3,000) copies of the proceedings of the Encampment, and that they be edited under the direction of the retiring administration.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Unless there is objection, the recommendation in the report of the Council-in-Chief will stand adopted, or should we refer this matter to the Committee on Officers' Reports—it has not been discharged yet—what is the pleasure of the Commandery? We can expedite business by accepting or rejecting these recommendations now.

L. M. WAGNER, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I will state as a member of that Committee that the Committee on Officers' Reports have already considered them.

C. D. ROONEY, of Massachusetts: Commander, I would like to move as an amendment that these reports shall be ready for distribution inside of ninety days from the adjournment of the Encampment. It seems to me we ought to be able to get the reports of the Proceedings of the National Encampment in time to have them distributed to Camps before we come to the next National Encampment.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER: Commander, the Council-in-Chief will accept the suggestion and amend our report so that it will read:

First, that the Quartermaster General contract for three thousand copies of the proceedings of this Encampment, and they be edited under the direction of the retiring administration, to be ready for distribution within ninety days.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: If there is no objection the recommendation of the Council-in-Chief with the amendment as accepted, will be adopted by the Commandery-in-Chief. Is there objection? The Chair hears none.

The Secretary of the Council resumed the reading of the report as follows:

FIXING PER CAPITA TAX AT 16 CENTS PER ANNUM.

2nd. That the per capita be fixed at sixteen cents per annum.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Unless there is objection the recommendation of the Council-in-Chief will stand adopted. The Chair hears no objection, and it is so ordered.

The Secretary of the Council resumed the reading of the report as follows:

The Council-in-Chief has had under consideration the increase of the per capita tax, but deem it inadvisable owing to the financial condition of the country, to attempt an increase of the tax at this time.

In the absence of Gen. H. V. Speelman, upon this meeting, the Council-in-Chief selected W. R. Cooper as Secretary pro tem.

The Council-in-Chief is pleased to recognize and commend the splendid condition in which the books and accounts have been kept in the departments of the Adjutant and Quartermaster General and specially the continued splendid system and condition of Brother Loebenstein's books and accounts. (Applause.) It is with a feeling of sadness that the Council-in-Chief records for the first time in the history of this Order the death of one of its official family, Gen. Carr, a member of our Council whom we all loved.

We unite in expressions of sympathy for his bereaved family.

R. M. BUCKLEY,
D. F. GOULDING,
W. R. COOPER Secy."

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The question recurs upon the question of the adoption of the recommendations of the Council-in-Chief as set forth in this report. All those in favor of the adoption of the recommendations will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed, the same sign. The motion is carried and the recommendations are adopted.

I will now call upon the Ten-Years' Service Badge Committee for a report. Is that Committee ready to report?

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEN YEARS' SERVICE MEDAL.

Quartermaster General Loebenstein, Chairman of the Committee, submitted the following report:

TO W. H. RUSSELL, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Your Committee on Ten Years' Service Medal respectfully recommend the adoption of the design submitted by Mr. Warwick of St. Paul, Minnesota, and further recommend that the Committee be empowered to contract for the manufacture of said medal.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,

R. LOEBENSTEIN,

JAS. P. PORTER,

E. T. MONAHAN,

Committee.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, what will you do with the report of this Committee?

F. L. SHEPARD, of Illinois: Commander, in view of the fact that the Commandery-in-Chief has already taken action on that question I move that the report be made a matter of record and that the Committee be discharged with the thanks of the Commandery-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded.

OFFICER-OF-THE-DAY SPINK: Commander, I hope this motion will not prevail from the fact that there have been several medals submitted to the Committee which have not been acted upon. I wrote to the Quartermaster General some six weeks ago and asked him if I should be in time if I brought the designs before the Committee here. He wrote in return that if I presented them at Louisville it would be in ample time. I will state that he is the only member of that Committee here. I have three designs to submit to this Commandery that the Committee have not acted upon. I hope that the Commandery will consider this matter, as I have spent a great deal of time in getting these designs to submit to you, and I say that the Committee, as a committee, have not seen them at all.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair would remind Brother Spink that the Commandery has already repealed the Knoxville legislation on this subject. Are you ready for the question?

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, I feel that a statement from me is necessary in justice to myself more particularly than to any of the other members of the Committee. I desire to corroborate the statement of Col. Spink of Rhode Island. I had every reason to believe that the Committee on Ten Years' Service Medal would have a quorum present, and that we could consider all designs submitted. I so wrote to Col. Spink. Now if the Commandery-in-Chief proposes to adhere to the legislation enacted at Knoxville it is fair and just that these Brothers be given permission to submit their designs. I will be frank in stating that my personal desires are not in accord with the recommendation of the Committee. I have labored during the year to secure a majority of that Committee to favor a service medal that I believed was appropriate and that would be worn by every member of the organization entitled to wear it. I realize that I am placed by the statement I am now making in a rather peculiar position; but the majority of the Committee having voted against me, and having decided in favor of the design submitted by Mr. Warwick I felt in duty bound to sign this report, being the only member of that Committee here present. I apprehend that this report has already been acted upon by the Commandery-in-Chief, and that the report of this Committee is a mere matter of form; that the object of the Committee is at an end; that the object of the Committee was at an end when the report of the

Committee on Officers' Reports was adopted. A report from this Committee was due the Commandery, was called for, and has been made. If any designs are to be submitted or any adopted, I apprehend that that can not be done except upon a reconsideration of the action already taken. It is but just to these Brothers who have gone to the expense of having designs prepared that they be given some consideration. It was impossible for me, being only one member of that Committee, to give them any consideration. If I had been in favor of their design I could only have made a minority report, and I did not feel justified in doing so. With this statement of the case, as one member of the Committee, I leave it to your consideration.

OFFICER-OF-THE-DAY SPINK: Commander, in the resolution adopted at Knoxville it was provided that the design should be controlled by Major A. P. Davis, the father of our Order, or some member of the Order. Now I will state that this man whose design has been adopted is not a member of the Order. I hope you will consider this matter very seriously. I submit to this Commandery one badge made up of gold, that I went to the expense of getting up, besides two designs; I hope the Commandery will give them some consideration.

WALTER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Commander, I move to amend the motion so that it will read that the Committee be continued without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief, instead of its being discharged.

F. L. SHEPARD, of Illinois: Commander, I rise to a point of order.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Brother will state his point of order.

F. L. SHEPARD, of Illinois: Commander, in view of the fact that the resolution in reference to a service medal has been repealed, it seems to me that a Committee upon a service medal is out of order.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair is of the opinion that it is a matter within the power of the Commandery-in-Chief and will hold the point of order not well taken.

JOSEPH B. MACCABE, of Massachusetts: Commander, I believe four out of five men in this Convention do not understand where we are. In the first place the legislation in reference to the Ten Years' Service Badge enacted at Knoxville last year has been repealed by virtue of the adoption of the report of the Committee on Officers' Reports. Now in comes the Committee on Ten Years' Service Badge with a report which practically sets forth the terms of a contract, and goes on to recommend that a contract be awarded A, B and C. It strikes me if we are sincere and do not desire that a Ten Years' Service Badge be adopted there is no need of this Committee to report, and it is creating confusion. A good many are laboring under the impression that we are going to have a Ten Year Service Medal. There is no need of this report except that you desire to compliment the Committee and not to snub it.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It was the desire of the Chair to give the Committee an opportunity to report the result of its labors and the Chair therefore called on the Committee for such report.

J. B. MACCABE, of Massachusetts: Commander, I do not like the way the report reads. If that report is to be adopted the words empowering the Committee to enter into a contract with Mr. Warwick should be stricken out. If that is done, then I have no objection to complimenting the Committee by receiving their report; but let us understand it that no Ten Years' Badge is to be worn by any of us if we stand by the legislation enacted at this meeting.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The motion of Gen. Payne was not seconded. The question is upon the motion to file this report of the Committee, make it a part of the proceedings of this Encampment and that the Committee be discharged. Are you ready for the question? All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The ayes seem to have it. The ayes have it and the motion is adopted.

J. B. MACCABE, of Massachusetts: Commander, does that discharge the Committee?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Committee is discharged under the action of the Commandery.

CONCERNING NEW BLANKS FOR DEPT. OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.

INSPECTOR GENERAL STILLSON: Commander, it seems to me that there has been one matter overlooked, in which I am particularly interested, and that is new blanks for the Department of Inspector General. I made but one recommendation, and the Committee on Officers' Reports referred it to the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations. The Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations informs me that they did not consider that it belonged to them, and they gave it no consideration. Now new blanks will have to be printed. I submitted copy for the new blanks designed from my experience last year. I flatter myself that they are improvements over the old ones. I would like to have the matter of that recommendation taken up and considered by the Commandery-in-Chief.

L. M. WAGNER, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I desire to state that the Committee on Officers' Reports considered that the Constitution, Rules and Regulations provided what constituted a Camp Packet, and as the original Camp Packet contained these necessary blanks, it was our opinion that the Committee on C., R. and R. was the proper Committee to consider that recommendation with Brother Stillson. We were further of the opinion that the Inspector General had the privilege of preparing his own blanks so as to facilitate the work in his department. I simply state that on behalf of the Committee, so that the Brothers will not think we attempted to ignore recommendations made by their officers.

As a supplementary report we are perfectly willing to concur in the recommendation of the Inspector General. I will, on behalf of the Committee, report that we concur in the recommendation of the Inspector General and recommend that it be carried out. That will avoid unnecessary delay and discussion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Committee not having been discharged that proposition can be considered at this time. Unless there is objection the recommendation of the Committee on Officers' Reports in regard to the Inspector General's blanks will be adopted. Is there objection? The Chair hears none and it is so ordered.

IN REFERENCE TO NEW BLANKS FOR CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF'S DEPT.

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF COLE: Commander, will the suggestions of the Chaplain-in-Chief receive the same consideration? They were referred to the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations and nothing further heard of them. I am informed by the Quartermaster General that the blanks for the Chaplain-in-Chief are at a low ebb, and I made out a form which necessitated no new questions but was simply a rearrangement of the old questions, and I respectfully submitted that, but we have heard nothing from it at all except that it was not concurred in.

L. M. WAGNER, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I move that the same action be taken in regard to the Chaplain-in-Chief blanks.

The motion was seconded.

L. M. WAGNER, of Pennsylvania: Commander, the Committee on Officers' Reports makes that recommendation.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the recommendation of the Committee on Officers' Reports. Unless there is objection the recommendation will be considered adopted. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered. Is the Committee on Resolutions ready to make a final report?

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

W. G. DUSTIN, of Illinois (Chairman): Commander, the Committee on Resolutions report concurrence in the following resolution passed by the Massachusetts Division in regard to W. E. Fish which has been submitted to us.

RESOLUTION RESTORING PAST RANK TO W. E. FISH, OF MASS. DIV.

Whereas, W. E. Fish, a charter member of Geo. A. Custer Camp 11, Division of Massachusetts, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., served to the end of his term as Captain of said Camp; Whereas, Brother Fish did take a trans-

fer card from Camp 11, but, for good and sufficient reasons (the disbandment of the Camp in which he was about to deposit his transfer, and the sickness of his family), he allowed the time to expire before joining any Camp of the Order, and, Whereas, said Brother has since joined this Camp, and is and always has been an earnest and faithful worker for his Camp and the Order, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, officers and members of Geo. A. Custer Camp No. 11, Division of Massachusetts, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., of Whitman, Massachusetts, in regular meeting assembled, do hereby petition the Massachusetts Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., to petition the Commandery-in-Chief at its next regular session to restore to Brother Fish the rank of Past Captain.

L. W. BLANCHARD, Captain.

FRED L. PORTER, First Sergeant.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Unless there is objection the action of the Committee on the resolutions will stand approved by the Commandery-in-Chief. The Chair hears no objection and it is so ordered, and the rank of Past Captain is restored to Brother Fish.

Chairman Dustin continued the reading of the report as follows:

TIME FOR HOLDING SESSIONS OF THE C-IN-C. TO BE FIXED IN ADVANCE AND LOCAL COMMITTEES TO GOVERN THEMSELVES ACCORDINGLY.

RESOLVED: That the Commander-in-Chief, previous to an Annual Encampment, arrange with the Local Committee having the same in charge, the time that should be reserved for the transaction of its regular business, stating what forenoon, afternoon and evening sessions are required in which there should be no plans of entertainment, and that this condition must be accepted by any Local Committee having in charge the arrangements for the entertainment of an annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief.

The Committee recommend the adoption of this resolution.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Is there any objection to the recommendation of the Committee on this resolution?

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, I understand that that does away with all entertainment by the Local Committees until the business of the Encampment has been completed?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Not necessarily so. It provides first, as I understand it, that the Commander-in-Chief shall inform the Committee having charge of arrangements for the entertainment of the Commandery, what sessions of the Commandery will be held, and when, and during the time set apart for the sessions of the Commandery-in-Chief, no arrangements for entertainment shall be made by the Local Committee, that would interfere with those sessions, but the time not specified to be taken up by those sessions of the Commandery-in-Chief may be devoted to entertainments, and the Local Committee may provide entertainment filling up the rest of the time, if it see fit. That is the purport of the resolution. If there is no objection the recommendation of the Committee will stand adopted. Is there objection? The Chair hears none and it is so ordered. (Applause.)

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

CONCERNING A GRAVE-MARKER.

"RESOLVED, That the grave-marker submitted by the Missouri Division be accorded official recognition by the Commandery-in-Chief."

The Committee recommend the adoption of the resolution.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Is there objection to this section of the report of the Committee?

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, before any action, favorable or unfavorable, be taken on this resolution, it seems to me some explanation is due as to the intent of this resolution. It was thought that the design would be on exhibition here this morning, but owing to unfortunate circumstances attending the arrival of some members of the Missouri Division on this Committee the design is somewhat delayed. It is a design intended to be used by the Camps of Sons of Veterans where they

desire to mark the grave of some member of the Order. It is similar to the grave-marker of the Grand Army of the Republic. It is a reproduction on a large scale of the pendant of the membership badge. There is nothing in it savoring of a contract or anything of that sort. It is simply a recognition of this marker if the members of the organization desire to use such an article to mark the grave of a deceased Brother.

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF COLE: Commander, may I ask if remarks are in order upon this resolution?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The matter stands, under the rule, upon a motion to adopt the resolution. It is debatable, certainly.

THE CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF: Commander, it seems to me this is going a step too far. It is well enough it seems to me for the Grand Army of the Republic to mark the graves of their deceased comrades. They have reason for doing it; but when we go to work and have a special insignia by which the graves of Sons of Veterans are to be marked, I think we overstep the bounds of reason and common sense. There is no reason why the grave of a Son of a Veteran should be marked except the desire his friends may have to mark it. We have no distinctive place in the United States except as an organized body to teach Friendship, Charity and Loyalty. We have done nothing for the Government of the United States except by individual contact, as men with men, and it does not seem to me that it is necessary for the rising generation to know, after we are gone, that we were Sons of Veterans; and if this thing goes on, where in the name of Heaven will it stop? We should with equal propriety put markers on the graves of the Daughters of Veterans' members of the Ladies Aid Society. We are to take up the work of the Grand Army of the Republic, but we are taking it up altogether in a wrong spirit, we are taking it up not in memory of what they have done, not in memory of the cause for which they died, but in a spirit of mimicry. We should be taking up the principles for which they fought, take them up and practice them in the daily walks of life, it is not because the war was fought, because these men have died, but it is the life they lived, the principle for which they fought and contended that we are organized. There is a distinction there; it is subtle, but it is a distinction which I think real. A resolution of this sort is altogether out of place, out of reason, and inconsistent with the ideas and aims and the objects of our Order. The world knows well enough what we are, what we can do and what we are doing, and I say let the world speak for us after we are gone, and so with the individual member of the organization. If he has not done anything worth remembering, do not mark his grave with any insignia of office, mimicing the Grand Army.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, I desire to correct a misapprehension which seems to prevail. It is not the purpose in introducing this resolution to do honor to ourselves, nor more than ordinary honor to our deceased Brothers. It is not to infringe upon the prerogatives of the members of the Grand Army, men whom we honor and esteem, and whose memory we honor and esteem. It is simply a matter of convenience so that we can distinguish the members of our Order who are buried in cemeteries where they can not be readily located. I feel the necessity for this in view of my experience when I went out to the cemetery at Chicago. There are many Brothers buried there and when we went out to decorate their graves we were prevented from discharging that duty because of our inability to locate them. This grave marker is not intended to be commemorative of any virtue or any honor that should be accorded to us as Sons of Veterans, but simply that we may readily locate a Brother's grave and decorate that grave on Memorial Day. That is the object of the grave marker. The Brothers of the Missouri Division are not vitally interested in the adoption of this resolution, but I do desire to correct the misapprehension which seems to prevail. I believe the Brothers of the Missouri Division have as proper an idea of our own position, and we are as willing to honor the Grand Army of the Republic in every respect as any Brother of this Encampment, and once for all I desire to dispossess the minds of my Brothers that we are intending to arrogate unto ourselves extraordinary honors.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The question is on the adoption of the resolution reported by the Committee. Those in favor of the resolution

will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The noes seem to have it. The noes have it, and the recommendation of the Committee is not concurred in.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL RELATIONS WITH THE G. A. R. RECOMMENDED.

RESOLVED, That until such time as the Grand Army of the Republic shall extend to the members of the Order of the Sons of Veterans the privilege of visiting their Posts and Encampments, the Commander-in-Chief of our Order shall appoint each year a Committee on Fraternal Relations with the G. A. R. Said Committee to consist of five Sons of Veterans in good standing who are also members of the Grand Army of the Republic. Said Committee to incur no expense to the Commandery-in-Chief.

The Committee recommend the adoption of the resolution.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Unless there is objection the recommendation of the committee on this resolution will be concurred in.

J. B. MACCABE, of Massachusetts: Commander, I would like to have that resolution read again.

The Chairman of the Committee read the resolution.

J. B. MACCABE, of Massachusetts: Commander, I want to say now and here that I have an objection to that resolution, a most decided objection.

WILLIAM DE STEESE, of Wisconsin: Commander, I am a veteran also, and a Son of a Veteran, and I object to the resolution. We can do a great deal more individually than we can acting under such a resolution as this, appointing us a Committee to visit officially the Grand Army of the Republic. The Brothers here who are also comrades of the Grand Army will bear me out in the statement that we cannot allow Sons of Veterans under our rules and regulations at present to sit in our Posts. We can not allow Sons of Veterans to make any remarks in our Post either by the consent of the Commander of the Post, or of the Post itself. The Grand Army of the Republic will have to revise their Ritual and their work completely before Sons of Veterans can be allowed in the Post Room. We are doing things all the time that antagonize the old Veterans. Now let us let the old Veterans alone. There are enough old Veterans who are Sons of Veterans and members of different Divisions to carry this work on quietly, and if you let us alone we will get on the right side of Pa after while. Pa don't want to lend us his jack-knife for fear we will take the edge off of it; he don't think we are quite old enough to be trusted with his watch, his pocket-book and his secrets. So let us go a little slow with our legislation in the Commandery-in-Chief and in the Division; let us go a little slow in approaching the Grand Army. Just let them alone a while. We can not make it at present, but the time is fast approaching when the Grand Army will make us their auxiliary.

(Cries of "Question." "Question.")

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: I will recognize the Chairman of the Committee if he has anything to say on the resolution.

CHAIRMAN DUSTIN: Commander, I have nothing to say.

WALTER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Commander, it is evident that the last Brother who spoke does not understand this resolution. We are not asking that the Sons of Veterans be admitted into the Post Halls.

WILLIAM DE STEESE, of Wisconsin: I understand that, Commander.

WALTER S. PAYNE, of Ohio: Your remarks will not apply to a Veteran who is also a Son of a Veteran. If that Committee is composed of Sons of Veterans who are also Veterans and comrades of the Grand Army they can visit the National Encampment of the G. A. R. as the mouthpiece of the Sons of Veterans, and communicate with them.

WILLIAM DE STEESE, of Wisconsin: Commander, I understand all that. I am a Past Commander of my Post and I am a Past Captain of my Camp, and I can go in with them and do more good work in one moment with my Post, as a comrade, than I could in a year as a member of a Committee appointed by the Sons of Veterans. I am opposed to this Commandery-in-Chief, or any Division of the Order, or any Camp in the Order, taking the initiative in their hands and going to the Grand Army of the Republic. (Applause.)

R. M. J. REED, of Pennsylvania: Commander, as a member of the Grand Army of the Republic I am compelled to take issue with Past Commander-in-Chief Payne. I have been in this work for fourteen years and I know something of the pulse of the Grand Army of the Republic, and the longer we leave them alone, the better it will be for us. They know a good thing when they see it and they are gradually being educated up to the point of recognizing that we are their natural heirs, and when the proper time comes they will be first to invite us to participate in their meetings. (Applause.) At present I am unalterably opposed to making any advances, or knocking at their door for admission. Let us stand on our own merits. We have merits, and the Grand Army of the Republic will in their own good time, and at the proper time, recognize us, and open their doors and say, "Boys, come in; God bless you."

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: All those in favor of the resolution will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed, the same sign. The motion seems to be lost. It is lost and the recommendation is not concurred in.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

CONCERNING SESSIONS OF THE C.-IN-C.

RESOLVED, That hereafter, until this action is revised, the National Encampment shall not suspend its regular hours for sessions, day or evening, for any Camp Fire or Reception, except on the evening of the first days' session.

The Committee recommend that this resolution do not pass.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Without there is objection the recommendation of the Committee will stand adopted. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and the recommendation of the Committee is concurred in.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

CONCERNING THE SESSIONS OF THE C.-IN-C.

RESOLVED, That hereafter the time of the commencement of our yearly National Encampments be set for and be announced as being Monday of the week and month duly agreed upon, the day being set apart for the reception of reports and meeting of such Committees and for such other business as the Commander-in-Chief may designate.

The Committee recommend that this resolution do not pass.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Without there is objection the recommendation of the Committee will be concurred in. The Chair hears none, and the resolution will stand not adopted.

The Chairman of the Committee resumed the reading of the report as follows:

RESOLVED, That the close of the said Encampments shall be set for and announced to take place on Friday of the said week, all of which shall be stated in General Orders in due time and form, and prior to each Encampment.

The Committee recommend that this resolution do not pass.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Unless there is objection the recommendation of the Committee will be concurred in. The Chair hears no objection and the recommendation is concurred in and the resolution is not adopted.

CONCERNING COURT MARTIAL PROCEEDINGS IN THE DIV. OF NEW JERSEY.

CHAIRMAN DUSTIN: Commander, I will state that a few moments ago the Committee was handed a report from the Division of New Jersey in regard to a Court Martial Proceedings. Unless this Encampment shall stay over another day or two days it will be impossible for us to consider it and make a report concerning it.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, I will say that a court martial took place in the Division of New Jersey some time last year. The matter was passed upon by Commander-in-Chief Bundy at that time. His

decision was approved by the last meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief. This matter, I believe, is an appeal from the decision of Past Commander-in-Chief Bundy.

CHAIRMAN DUSTIN: Commander, I will state that the Committee read a couple of pages of this and looked it over and found it would be impossible to finish it up to-day; from what we read the judgment of the Committee was that Past Commander-in-Chief Bundy's decision in the matter was all right, and that his decision should be approved.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Committee having concluded its report the question now is upon the adoption of the report as a whole. All those in favor of the adoption of the report of the committee will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The report of the committee is adopted and the committee is discharged with the thanks of the Commandery-in-Chief.

S. OF V. A RESERVE OF THE U. S. A.

W. J. PATTON of Wisconsin: Commander, I would like to ask whether any action was taken on the recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief in reference to the bill introduced in Congress last February making the Sons of Veterans a military reserve of the United States Army? I have not noticed it this morning.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair has no recollection of any action taken in regard to that.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: I hope, Commander, we are not going to pass that matter by, or ignore it.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Will Brother Wagner, Chairman of the Committee on Officers' Reports, please inform the Commandery as to the status of the matter inquired about by Brother Patton. The Chair understands it went to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

L. M. WAGNER, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I do not remember of it in the report of our Committee, but I think the recommendation was concurred in. The Commander-in-Chief made the recommendation and we concurred in the recommendation. We were in favor of it and recommended that some legislation be taken by the Commandery-in-Chief in behalf of it.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Is that satisfactory to Brother Patton?

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, it seems to me that something more than this ought to be done. We ought to have a standing committee to push this matter during the coming year. If it is everybody's business it will be nobody's business. It is an important act of legislation. It is of immense importance to our Order and it requires the prompt attention of a committee composed of capable men to look after it. This next coming Congress is the time to attend to it. I move that a committee of five be appointed, of whom the present Commander-in-Chief shall be Chairman, to attend to this legislation during the coming year.

CHARLES S. DAVIS, of Maryland: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Is it understood this committee will serve without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief?

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Yes, Commander; I will incorporate that in my motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion seems to be carried, and is carried. That committee will be appointed by the new Commander-in-Chief.

The Special Order of Business having been completed, we are now under the head of Unfinished Business. Is there any unfinished business before the Commandery? If not, we will proceed to the next order of business, New Business.

PLACE OF HOLDING NEXT ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I move you that we now proceed to select a place for the meeting of the next Annual Encampment, and that nominating speeches be limited to five minutes.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion. All those in favor of it will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion is agreed to. Nominations are now in order.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I suggest that each delegation get together under the direction of its Division Commander, so that no time will be lost, as there was last year, in counting up.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It is suggested that the delegations get together so that the Chairman may readily consult each delegate and be able to announce the vote of the delegation without delay.

Before proceeding with this matter I will call upon the Committee on Credentials for a final report, if any it has to make. Has the Committee on Credentials any further report to make?

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL: Commander, the Committee on Credentials has completed its labors and has no further report to make.

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS DISCHARGED.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Committee then will be discharged with the thanks of the Commandery.

Nominations are now in order for the place of holding the next Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief. I suppose it is not necessary to call the roll of Divisions.

NASHVILLE, TENN., NOMINATED FOR 1897 ENCAMPMENT.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER: Commander, I desire on behalf of the City of Nashville, Tennessee, to place that city in nomination for the place of holding the next Annual Encampment and ask permission to read the invitation from that city.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Brother will be accorded the five minutes allowed for this purpose.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER: I am not sure that I will be able to read them in five minutes, but I will do my best.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Chair wants to give notice now that he will hold the Brothers strictly to the limit fixed by the Commandery.

SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER: Commander, I desire to present the invitation extended by Gov. Turney on behalf of the State of Tennessee.

Sept. 8, 1896.

SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A., Louisville, Ky.

GENTLEMEN: Permit me, on behalf of the State of Tennessee, to invite you to hold your next Convention in the City of Nashville. The State of Tennessee will celebrate the One Hundredth Anniversary of its admission into the Union by holding a grand Exposition in the City of Nashville during the Spring, Summer and Fall of 1897.

Our people are making elaborate preparations to receive and entertain all visiting associations, and it is the desire of the people of the State, expressed through me, that the members of your Association give us the pleasure of your presence at some time during the continuance of the Exposition. Yours respectfully,
P. TURNEY, Governor.

Also the invitation tendered by the representatives of the Daily Press of Nashville.

NASHVILLE, Tennessee, Sept. 8, 1896.

SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A., Louisville, Ky.

DEAR SIR: As representatives of the Daily Press of Nashville, we join most cordially in inviting your association to hold its next meeting in this city. We will gladly publish all proceedings of your meetings, and will extend such other courtesies as are usually due from the Press on such occasions.

THE AMERICAN,
By Sam C. Bennet.

THE BANNER,
By E. M. Foster, Business Manager.

THE SUN,
By H. L. Rowe, Business Manager.

Also the invitation tendered by the Nashville Chamber of Commerce.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NASHVILLE, Tenn, Sept. 8, 1896.
 SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A., Louisville, Ky.

GENTLEMEN: The Chamber of Commerce of Nashville, Tenn., together with other official bodies of this city, beg very respectfully to tender herewith a most cordial and pressing invitation for your Association to hold its Annual Convention of 1897 in the City of Nashville during the pendency of our Tennessee Centennial Exposition, opening May 1, 1897, and continuing six months.

We can assure you a most hearty and cordial welcome, and will use all possible means to make your stay among us pleasant, and we feel sure that the recollections of your visit to Tennessee will be a matter of pleasure both to yourselves and the people of our city.

The many attractions and inducements that our State and city have to offer for the meeting here of the different organizations of the country in our Centennial year, 1897, are set forth in part in the accompanying circular. Side trips to any and all points of interest, the many battlefields, Hermitage, Lookout Mountain, celebrated stock farms, etc., etc., can be made in a few hours' ride at greatly reduced rates. Many of the principal points can be reached without charge.

Trusting to have the presence of your Association in our city next year, we remain, very respectfully,

NASHVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
 By A. J. Harris, President.
 A. W. Wills, Secretary.

Also the invitation extended by William M. McCarthy, Mayor, on behalf of the City of Nashville.

Sept. 8, 1896.

SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A., Louisville, Ky.

GENTLEMEN: I take pleasure in endorsing the invitation extended by the Chamber of Commerce to your honorable body to hold your next Annual Convention in this city during our Centennial year. We will see that you receive a most cordial, hearty greeting, and that your stay shall not only be pleasant, but profitable to each of you. Yours respectfully,

WM. M. MCCARTHY,
 Mayor.

Also the invitation extended by A. S. Williams, President, on behalf of the City Council.

September 8, 1896.

SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A., Louisville, Ky.

GENTLEMEN: The City Council of Nashville, Tenn., begs most heartily to unite in extending a most cordial invitation to your Association to hold its Annual Convention in Nashville during our Centennial year, 1897. We will receive you with open arms. Respectfully,

NASHVILLE CITY COUNCIL,
 By A. S. Williams, President.

Also the invitation of the Board of Public Works and Affairs at Nashville, per George W. Stamback, Chairman.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., September 8, 1896.

SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A., Louisville, Ky.

GENTLEMEN: The Board of Public Works and Affairs of Nashville, Tenn., joins with His Honor, the Mayor, and others, in extending a most cordial invitation to your Association to meet in Nashville in 1897. Respectfully,

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND AFFAIRS,
 Per Geo. W. Stamback, Chairman.

Also the invitation extended by E. C. Lewis, Director-General, on behalf of the Tennessee Centennial Exposition.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., September 8, 1896.

SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A., Louisville, Ky.

GENTLEMEN: The Tennessee Centennial joins most heartily in the accompanying invitations, and will be greatly pleased to have you visit our beautiful city in 1897.

We propose to hold one of the grandest Industrial Expositions ever witnessed in this country for the purpose of celebrating the One Hundredth Anniversary of the admission of the State of Tennessee into the Federal Union.

On account of the many conventions to assemble in Nashville next year, we will be able to secure for you a very low transportation rate, and will have the necessary convention hall in which to hold your meetings furnished gratuitously.

We will also take pleasure in arranging excursions at greatly reduced rates, should you desire to visit Lookout Mountain, Mammoth Cave and other noted places in this vicinity.

We deem it proper to state to you, however, that owing to the large number of associations which will visit us in 1897, we cannot arrange for the entire management of entertainments, programs, etc., prepared for the different conventions, but will aid you all in our power, and have organized a special department for the purpose.

Trusting that you may decide to come to see us, we remain, yours very truly,

TENNESSEE CENTENNIAL,
By E. C. Lewis, Director-General.

Also the invitation extended by the State Association of Confederate Soldiers and the Sons of Confederate Soldiers, signed by John P. Hickman, Secretary.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., September 7, 1896.

MR. W. R. COOPER, Louisville, Ky.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 4th inst. received. The State Association of Confederate Soldiers and the Sons of Confederate Soldiers, Tennessee Division, extend to the Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., a cordial invitation to hold their Annual Encampment in the City of Nashville, Tenn., in the year 1897. Should the Sons of Veterans accept our invitation, we pledge a cordial reception from not only the Confederate Soldiers and their sons, but also the citizens of Tennessee. Very respectfully,

JOHN P. HICKMAN,
Secretary.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Any further nominations?

DENVER, COL., NOMINATED.

ROBERT E. HANNA, of Colorado: Commander, I desire to present a formal invitation from the officers of the Denver Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade in which the Governor of Colorado and Mayor of Denver unite.

DENVER, Colorado, August 27, 1896.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT,
SONS OF VETERANS, IN CONVENTION AT LOUISVILLE, KY.

GENTLEMEN: In behalf of the Denver Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade, an organization with a membership of 550 of Colorado's most influential citizens, we hereby extend to your Association a most cordial invitation to hold your Annual Convention of 1897 in Denver.

All things being considered, Denver is perhaps the most desirable city in the Union for the holding of conventions. Her ample and splendid hotel accommodations are unsurpassed, and while the most luxurious tastes can be satisfied, persons of moderate means can always procure what they desire at reasonable rates.

The acceptable manner in which Denver entertains her guests is well known throughout the country. Her ability to entertain was thoroughly tested at the Knights Templar Conclave in 1892, when 115,000 people arrived

in this city within three days, and all were comfortably cared for. Experience has demonstrated that, as a rule, people gather in larger numbers at conventions held in Denver than in other cities, because of her excellent facilities for entertaining visitors, and the great number of attractions she offers.

The work of a convention being done visitors and delegates can leave the city by the different lines of railroad in the morning; spend the day viewing the grandest mountain scenery in the world, and return to the city by six or eight o'clock in the evening.

It is but true to say, that there is no city on the continent where the attractions of a metropolis and the grandeur of mountain scenery are in such close proximity to each other.

Should you decide to come, we will do all in our power to make your convention a success, and your stay with us as pleasant as possible. Very respectfully yours,

M. C. JACKSON,
Secretary.

We heartily join in the above invitation and pledge you a cordial reception.

A. W. M'INTIRE,
Governor of Colorado.
T. S. M'MURRAY,
Mayor of Denver.

Also an invitation from the Colorado Division.

HEADQUARTERS COLORADO DIVISION, SONS OF VETERANS.

GREELEY, Col., June 1, 1896.

DEAR BROTHER: At the Annual Encampment of the Colorado Division, S. of V., held April 21-24, a resolution was unanimously adopted instructing our delegates to invite the National Encampment, S. of V., to meet at Denver, Col., in 1897. I hope you will give us your hearty support in this first request of the Colorado Division.

We have at different times enjoyed the hospitality of the North, South, East and Central States. Now let the hospitality of each and all of these sections be extended by us and accepted by you for 1897. Our membership is made up of men from nearly every State in the Union and the combined hospitality of North, South, East and West we extend to you for the next Commandery Encampment.

Denver is a magnificent modern city with ample hotel accommodations for large crowds. Our mountain scenery is as fine as the world knows; our atmosphere as pure as our mountain snows; our mines are pouring their yellow riches into the lap of the world; our erstwhile cactus plains have been conquered by the hand of science; our irrigated farms yield the richest of harvests, and smile a glad welcome upon all in this the dawn of a new century. All this will be new and inspiring to the delegates and friends who attend the encampment.

"Come with us and we will do thee good."

Yours in F., C. and L.,
A. C. PATTON,
Commander Colorado Division, S. of V.

Now, Commander, the great journalist of the cause of freedom once said: "Go West, young man, and grow up with the country." Responding to that call, men from every section of the Eastern, Southern and Central States crystalized that suggestion into a reality.

They left the smoky cities of the East, the farms where the long branches of the giant trees waved their sweetest matins with every breath of morning; they closed the doors of their cottages by the sea where the blue waves continually come to kiss the pebbly beach, and turning their faces toward the setting sun, took up their march across the prairies of the West, which with their roll and swell and their boundless expanse so nearly resembled the mighty main that involuntarily they would reach forward and listen, as if perchance to hear the roaring of the surf. They crossed the boundaries of the arid West out into the sun-scorched desert, and on the

banks of the South Platte River reared a magnificent modern city, which city today extends to you its hospitality for 1897.

The city which in its comparatively short term of years has grown to be one of the most colossal of Western civilization; a city whose buildings are built of Nature's most beautiful stone, and whose lofty cornices almost wedge open the gates of heaven, and whose skylights are as youthful eyes gazing into the dwelling-places of our fallen Comrades. There we have our stately capitol, a living monument of our State's handiwork and thrift; and from its stately dome looks down our Goddess who with our loyal boys of the Sons of Veterans and our patriotic citizens now asks you to come and be the guests of a Western Division.

Denver is nestled on the Eastern slope of the mighty Rockies. It lies thrust into the bosom of the world's richest mining region whose gold and silver are now being poured into the lap of the world. Here lies the Queen City of the Plains, who asks you to cast your nets in the West.

Come to us, Brothers, for the first time; drink in the draughts of the purest air the world knows, and gaze with us as our guests on such scenery as not even the old beauty grounds of Europe can equal. Our scenery is the most beautiful the world knows. Ride with us and see God's most wonderful architecture. Go with us unto canon threaded now by rails and ties, where the Indian and his wigwam have long since given place to the steam steed of steel which leads you to the grandest of summer resorts. All this is only a few hours ride from Denver, and next year when we meet you at our handsome Union Depot, we shall show you all of these ere you depart.

The rock-ribbed gorges, set with minerals, valleys and mountains studded with hamlet and town, and our railroads penetrating the deep gloom of cavernous gorges where God's sunlight has never yet kissed into being any form of life. Bounding again for the barren, cold but beautiful peaks, where only snow turns its smiling purity to the radiant rays of a Western sun.

Again go with me around our famous Horn, the desert where once the buffalo and Indian were monarch of the cactus-covered hill and dale, but now mellow with the harvests of autumn; all this made possible by the hand of science.

The Eastern states have had their Encampments, and year after year have Commanders been chosen from the Eastern and Central portions of our Republic. The middle states have received from your hands the privilege of entertaining you as have the East. The Brothers of my cousin Divisions have had the Commandery-in-Chief Officers down to its Council-in-Chief. Your sections have been honored by receiving from our present Commander-in-Chief and those who have preceded him the majority of their staff appointments.

Colorado Division has never yet asked from this Commandery an elective office. She has never been favored with an appointment of the Commander-in-Chief.

She does now come to you bearing one request, which we earnestly hope you will honor us by granting. Colorado Division now invites you to come to Denver for your Sixteenth National Encampment. We feel that this, our first request, should be granted, and we assure you a loyal Centennial State's welcome, as any body of young men could one of sweet sixteen.

Let me go back to the members of my Division, and tell them that you have accepted our invitation. A thrill of new life will go through our veins, and our membership will go on until we are numbered in the A column. We beseech you to come and sit down to the feast we will prepare for you. We ask you to allow us the opportunity of wedding the beautiful and fair maiden of the East to our daring and manly youth of the West. We ask that you would lie down in our green pastures beside our still waters where you need fear no evil. The God that led our fathers to victory will be with you.

Then we will carry the Encampment up into the eternal snow, and on the summit of grand old Pike's Peak, where Heaven kisses earth we will raise the Stars and Stripes, and send forth to the world our message of loyalty, the Union forever, one and inseparable. (Applause.)

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Any other nominations?

BOSTON, MASS., NOMINATED.

FRED E. BOLTON, of Massachusetts: Commander, I only want to make a simple statement that the Division of Massachusetts by its resolution at its last Encampment voted to invite the Commandery-in-Chief to meet in Boston in 1897. I extend to you a plain and simple Sons of Veterans welcome to come at that time. (Applause.)

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Any further nominations?

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., NOMINATED.

R. B. OGLESBEE, of Indiana: Commander, in behalf of the Division of Indiana I desire to ask the privilege of the floor at this time for Past Adjutant General Charles A. Bookwalter, of Indiana. (Applause.)

CHARLES A. BOOKWALTER, of Indiana: Commander, like the gentleman who is at this time occupying a considerable part of the public eye, I have come into "the enemy's country" to make a speech in favor of the Capitol City of Hoosierism. The people of the City of Indianapolis, the people of the State of Indiana, represented by the Chief Executive of the State and Mayor of the City have authorized us to extend to this Encampment an invitation to meet with them in 1897. In extending this invitation I wish to say that we have the assurance of the Commercial Club of Indianapolis, composed of six hundred representative citizens of that town, that if you will come there in 1897 they will see that the entertainment furnished is second to none ever given the Commandery in its history. (Applause.)

Commander, we say that if you will come to Indianapolis there are several reasons why the Encampment will prove a success. We have the authority of the officers of the State of Indiana to say to you that if the Encampment come to Indianapolis the hall of the House of Representatives of the Indiana Legislature will be thrown open to you for your deliberations; one of the finest halls in one of the finest public buildings in the United States. In addition, it is peculiarly fitting that the city which has erected to the memory of the brave soldiers of the late Rebellion the grandest monument in the United States, should be given an opportunity to demonstrate to you that the feeling of patriotism and loyalty exemplified in the person of the great War Governor, Oliver P. Morton, (applause), still lives; for there is the fact that 24,000 of the Sons of Hoosierdom offered up their lives on Southern battle fields. All those things taken into consideration warrant us in saying that if you will come to Indianapolis the patriotic sons of that city, the patriotic citizens of Indiana will give the Commandery-in-Chief a reception that you will always remember. We have not built up the anticipations of our people to expect a great outpouring of Sons of Veterans. They are not keyed up to expect ten or twelve thousand. We have not told them there will be 1,500 armed and uniformed Sons of Veterans; but you may expect from the millions of liberty loving citizens of Indiana a welcome that will warm the cockles of your heart. We will not be able to serve up to you so many delectable articles of diet as my friend Maccabe knows how they serve up on the New England coast; we are not so strong on beans, but we are just as strong on patriotism, love of country and zeal for this most excellent organization. I have no letters to read to you, but we have the assurance of Gov. Matthews, Mayor Taggart, the President of the Board of Trade, and the officers of the Commercial Club that if you come to Indianapolis they will not only attend to your material wants, but we will do everything in our power to minister to your mental moral and spiritual needs. (Applause.) By coming to Indianapolis you will again place upon its feet the Division of Indiana. The Indiana Division should have to-day and will have with your assistance one year from now at least four thousand loyal Sons to welcome you. Brothers, come to Indianapolis, and you will never regret it. (Applause.)

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Are there any further nominations? If not the nominations will be declared closed. The Adjutant General will call the roll of Divisions. When the name of a Division is called the delegates present will rise and the Chairman of the delegation will announce the vote of the delegation.

The Adjutant General called the roll of the Divisions. Before the result was announced:

MANLY WREN, of Missouri: Commander, Missouri desires to change her vote to seven votes for Indianapolis.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Adjutant General will note the change.

H. T. COOPER of Tennessee: Commander, Alabama and Tennessee desires to change her vote to Indianapolis.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Adjutant General will note the change.

ROBERT E. HANNA, of Colorado: Commander, I move you that Indianapolis be now made the unanimous choice, by acclamation, of this Encampment, for the place of holding the next annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded

NEXT ENCAMPMENT OF THE C.-IN-C. TO BE HELD AT INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It is moved and seconded that Indianapolis be declared the choice of this Encampment as the place for holding the next annual Encampment. All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed, the same sign. The ayes have it and the next annual Encampment will be held at Indianapolis. (Applause.)

IN REFERENCE TO CONFERENCE OF DIVISION COMMANDERS.

Some one of the various committees recommended the selection of a time for the Conference of the Division Commanders present. That time should be fixed if it is deemed advisable to hold such a Conference. The Commandery decided that it should be held and the time should be fixed under the head of new business. What is the pleasure of the Encampment?

LEWIS A. DILLEY, of Iowa: Commander, to test the sense of the house, I move you that the next Encampment be held before the first day of September, 1897.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brother Dilley does not understand the proposition. I think it was the Committee on Officers' Reports made the recommendation, and the recommendation was adopted, that a time be fixed during this meeting by the Commandery-in-Chief for a Conference of Division Commanders upon the condition of the Order. It is in order now, under the head of new business, to fix that time, if it is the pleasure of the Commandery.

JAMES H. TAWNEY, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I move you that the matter of fixing the time for holding the next Encampment be placed in the hands of the new administration, or Council-in-Chief.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brother Tawney does not understand the proposition. The Commandery has decided to have a meeting of the Division Commanders here present at this time, that is, at this session of the Commandery-in-Chief, for the purpose of consultation and discussion as to the condition and needs of the order. Under the head of new business it is now in order to fix the time for such meeting. What is the pleasure of the Commandery?

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I suggest that the Commander-in-Chief call a meeting to be held immediately after the adjournment of this session.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Immediately after the adjournment of this session of the Commandery?

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Let it be after this session. When they get together they can agree to meet another time if necessary.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Do you make that as a motion?

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I make that motion.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion. Those in favor will signify their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed, the same sign. The ayes seem to have it, the ayes have it and the motion is agreed to. The Division Commanders here present are hereby called upon to meet at Room 201 at the Galt House immediately after the adjournment of this session of the Commandery-in-Chief.

ROBERT E. HANNA, of Colorado: Commander, I would like to ask if any representative who is here from the Division of Colorado can take part in this Conference. The Division Commander is not present.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: By general consent any member of this Commandery may attend that meeting and give voice to his views. What is the further pleasure of the Commandery? We are acting now under the head of new business.

FIXING TIME FOR HOLDING NEXT ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT REFERRED TO COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

GEORGE H. HURLBUT, of Illinois: Commander, I move you that the matter of fixing the time of holding the next Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief be left with the Council-in-Chief.

D. F. GOULDING, of Massachusetts: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion. Those in favor of it will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed, the same sign. The ayes seem to have it. The ayes have it and the motion is agreed to.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Any further new business? If not we will pass to the next order of business, election and installation of officers. The first thing in order will be nomination for the officers of the Commandery-in-Chief. Nominations for Commander-in-Chief are now in order.

H. T. COOPER, of Tennessee: Commander, I move you that the nominating speeches be limited to five minutes.

The motion was seconded.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, it is moved by Brother Cooper and seconded that all nominating speeches be limited to five minutes. Brother Harrington's motion is to lay that motion on the table. The question is on the motion to lay on the table. All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed, the same sign. The noes seem to have it. The noes have it, and the motion to lay upon the table is lost. The question now recurs upon Brother Cooper's motion to limit nominating speeches to five minutes. Are you ready for the question? All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed, the same sign. The ayes seem to have it. The ayes have it, and the motion is carried, and nominating speeches will be limited to five minutes.

Nominations for Commander-in-Chief are now in order. The Adjutant General will call the roll of Divisions.

The Adjutant General proceeded to call the roll of Divisions.

When the Division of Alabama and Tennessee was called:

E. R. CARTER, of Tennessee: Commander, Alabama and Tennessee gives way to Pennsylvania.

JAS. L. RAKE NOMINATED.

R. M. J. REED, of Pennsylvania: Commander-in-Chief and Brothers, it is a privilege and a pleasure of mine to present for Commander-in-Chief of this organization, a young man in whom all those who know him have implicit confidence. I want to say right here that whispers have been indulged in as to certain methods that have been practiced by this Brother in years gone by. At the time that Grant was drawing his lines around Vicksburg, President Lincoln was visited by a committee who told him that General Grant was indulging to excess in rum drinking, and Lincoln said to the committee, "Tell me what kind of rum he drinks, and I will at once send a barrel to all the rest of my Generals." (Applause.) I want to say to the Brothers right here, that those who know our candidate for Commander-in-Chief will echo that sentiment, and say send a barrel of those methods to every Division of this Order in the country. (Applause.) I have come here

in connection with other members of the Pennsylvania Division not because of any political scheme, not because I desired to come, but simply because of the wish on the part of every member of the Pennsylvania Division to see at the head of this organization a man peculiarly fitted by nature, by education, by experience, to make one of the best Commanders-in-Chief that we have ever had. In 1888 the Division of Pennsylvania notwithstanding the fact that she had rocked the cradle of this organization and had grown in strength and influence, found itself in a chaotic condition, owing to the conduct of a Brother who had been elected to command. This candidate of ours was called to the field. He took charge, and in fourteen months from the time of attempting command of the Pennsylvania Division, notwithstanding the fact that he found us in debt over two thousand dollars, hanging our head and lacking confidence, in fourteen months he returned to us the command and honor given to him with all the debt paid off, seven hundred dollars in the Treasury and fifty-two Camps to his credit. I want to say to you that the man whom I shall name for the Commander-in-Chief has erected a monument for himself that will challenge comparison with that of any other member of this organization; that where he is best known he is best respected; that those who know him best love him best for his manhood, for his worth and for the good that he has done the community and this organization.

I am here to-day to present his name because we in Pennsylvania know him thoroughly and we love him from the bottom of our hearts. Whenever we have been in difficulty, whenever the Division of Pennsylvania has been in difficulty, whenever the Camp has been in difficulty and needed some men with solid brain and good backbone we called this man into our counsels and we have never been led astray. I know that I am limited to five minutes, but I could talk for five hours on this subject. But it is entirely unnecessary, I am satisfied there is not a Brother in this room whom I can proselyte to-day for every one of you are convinced that the best man whose name will be presented for your suffrage here is the man whom, without further remarks, I shall have the honor and pleasure to name. In answer to the unanimous vote of the Pennsylvania Division at the Encampment held at Gettysburg directing us to use all honorable means—and I desire to emphasize those words—all honorable means for his election, I nominate James L. Rake, of Reading, Pennsylvania as candidate for Commander-in-Chief. (Applause.)

I want to make this one prediction. That if you elect him—and I know you will—when we meet in Indianapolis one year hence, there will not be a man of you that will come there but what will be more than proud of your Commander-in-Chief and the record that he will make. He will not know an enemy and he will not recognize a friend in the performance of his duty. His duty will be first and last all the time; and in the language of the martyred Lincoln, "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives him to see the right he will finish the work he has so well begun." (Applause.)

The Adjutant General concluded the calling of the roll.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: There being no further nominations, nominations will be closed. The Adjutant General will now call the roll of Divisions for ballot for the election of the Commander-in-Chief. As the Adjutant General calls the name of a Division the delegates will rise and the Chairman of the delegation will announce the vote of the delegation for Commander-in-Chief.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, I move you that the Constitution, Rules and Regulations be suspended and that the Adjutant General be directed to cast the unanimous vote of this Encampment for James L. Rake for Commander-in-Chief.

V. GILB, JR., of Alabama: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, it has been moved and seconded that the Constitution, Rules and Regulations be suspended and that the Adjutant General be directed to cast the unanimous vote of this Encampment for Brother James L. Rake of Pennsylvania, for Commander-in-Chief. Are you ready for the question? (Cries of "No," "No," "No," "Roll call," "Roll call.") The Chair will hold that the Commandery may, by a

two-thirds vote suspend the rules and direct the Adjutant General to cast the vote of the Encampment.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, if I may be permitted to do so, I beg to withdraw my motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brother Bundy withdraws his motion, and the Adjutant General will proceed to call the roll of Divisions.

When the Division of Illinois was called, and the vote of that Division announced eight votes for Bookwalter.

CHARLES A. BOOKWALTER, of Indiana: Commander, I desire to say that I am not a candidate. I did not know my name was to be presented until this moment. I do not desire the Brothers of this Order to vote for me.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The Brothers have heard the announcement of Brother Bookwalter. The roll call will proceed.

The Adjutant General concluded the calling of the roll.

The Adjutant General reported the result of the ballot to the Commander-in-Chief.

J. L. RAKE ELECTED COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, the following is the result of the ballot. The total membership of the Commandery is 129 delegates. Total number of votes cast 128; of which James L. Rake, of Pennsylvania received 89; Charles A. Bookwalter, of Indiana, 9; Lewis A. Dilley, of Iowa, 30. Brother Rake having received a majority of all the votes cast, is declared elected Commander-in-Chief of the Order for the ensuing year.

(Great applause and cries for "Rake," "Rake.")

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF-ELECT JAMES L. RAKE: Brothers, I do not desire to detain you by any speech. I return thanks for my election without any feeling against those who opposed me. I simply ask of all of you your hearty co-operation. You will find me actuated so far as I possibly can be by the same ambition that stimulates you; and if there are any wrongs within this organization, with your assistance I will endeavor to correct them; and I hope to meet you at Indianapolis, and then you can say whether I have succeeded. (Applause.)

NOMINATION FOR SENIOR VICE C.-IN-C.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Nominations are now in order for candidates for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. The Adjutant General will call the roll of Divisions.

The Adjutant General proceeded to call the roll of Divisions.

LEO W. KENNEDY, OF COL., NOMINATED FOR SENIOR VICE C.-IN-C.

When the Division of Ohio was called:

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, without delaying the Encampment with any extended address detailing the merits of the candidate I desire to present, I wish only to say that he is a Brother from a Division that we recognize and accord a high place in this organization. He is Past Commander of his Division and has served with credit. He joined this organization in 1882. There are Brothers in this Encampment who have known him year after year. They know that he is competent and able in every respect to fill this position; that if anything should happen to our Commander-in-Chief he is a man who would be competent to take his place. I therefore, on behalf of the Division of Ohio, because Brother Hanna is too modest, have the honor of presenting for your suffrages Brother Leo W. Kennedy, of Colorado, for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. (Applause.)

The Adjutant General concluded the calling of the roll of Divisions.

WILLIAM E. BUNDY, of Ohio: Commander, as there are no other nominations, I move that the rules be suspended, and the Adjutant General be directed to cast the vote of this Encampment for Leo W. Kennedy as Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded.

LEO W. KENNEDY ELECTED SENIOR VICE C.-IN-C. BY ACCLAMATION.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, it is moved and seconded that the Adjutant General be directed to cast the vote of this Encampment for Leo W. Kennedy as Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Are you ready

for the question? All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed, the same sign. The motion seems to be and is carried, and the Adjutant General will cast the ballot.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL: Leo W. Kennedy receives 128 votes for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. (Applause.)

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The total membership of the Encampment is 129. Brother Kennedy having received 128 votes, a majority of the votes cast, he is declared duly elected Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

(Applause and cries of "Speech," "Speech.")

LEO W. KENNEDY, of Colorado: Commander and Brothers, I desire simply to thank you for this election. I will do my very best in the interests of the Order in the position to which you have elected me. (Applause.)

NOMINATIONS FOR JUNIOR VICE C.-IN-C. CALLED FOR.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Nominations for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief are now in order. The Adjutant General will call the roll of Divisions.

The Adjutant General proceeded to call the roll of Divisions.

R. M. BUCKLEY, OF KY., NOMINATED.

When the Division of Kentucky was reached:

T. Z. MORROW, of Kentucky: Commander, in the name of Kentucky and in the name of the City of Louisville I wish to present a name for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief; I wish to present one of Kentucky's favorite sons; I wish to present the name of a man who has labored night and day for the welfare of our Order; I wish to present a man that makes the welfare of the Sons of Veterans his ideal. Nominate him, place him as second mate upon our grand old Ship, and the wrecks of disaster and the lightnings of the air cannot daunt us, and we will move on toward success. Kentucky nominates for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief our intrepid son, our gallant soldier, Captain R. M. Buckley. (Applause.)

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brother Buckley of Kentucky is placed in nomination. The roll call will proceed.

When the Division of Maryland was called:

CHARLES S. DAVIS, of Maryland: Commander, I simply desire on behalf of the Maryland Division to second the nomination of Brother Buckley.

When the Division of Missouri was called:

MANLY WREN, of Missouri: Commander, Missouri desires to second the nomination of Brother Buckley.

When the Division of Nebraska was called:

GEORGE F. WOLZ, of Nebraska: Commander, Nebraska seconds the nomination of Brother Buckley.

When the Division of Pennsylvania was called:

R. M. J. REED, of Pennsylvania: Commander, Pennsylvania seconds the nomination of Brother Buckley.

The Adjutant General completed the calling of the roll.

H. D. SISSON, of Massachusetts: Commander, I move that the rules be suspended and that the Adjutant General be directed to cast the vote of the Encampment in favor of the election of Brother Buckley as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It is moved and seconded that the rules be suspended and the Adjutant General be directed to cast the vote of the Encampment for Brother Buckley for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Are you ready for the question? Those in favor of the motion will so signify by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed, the same sign. The ayes seem to have it. The ayes have it and the motion is carried. The Adjutant General will cast the ballot of the Encampment for Brother Buckley, of Kentucky, for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL: 128 votes are cast for R. M. Buckley, of Kentucky, for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

R. M. BUCKLEY, OF KY., ELECTED JUNIOR VICE C.-IN-C.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brother Buckley having received a majority of all the votes cast is declared duly elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., for the ensuing year.

(Applause and cries for "Buckley.")

R. M. BUCKLEY, of Kentucky: Commander-in-Chief and Brothers, I assure you I consider this the crowning honor of my life. I thank you not only on my own account but on account of my state and my city. (Applause.)

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF CALLED FOR.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: We will now proceed to the nomination of candidates for Council-in-Chief. The Adjutant General will call the roll of Divisions.

GRANT W. HARRINGTON, of Kansas: Commander, before the roll is called, in accordance with the usual custom of making the retiring Adjutant General a member of the Council-in-Chief, I move that the rules be suspended, and the Assistant Adjutant General be instructed to cast the vote of the Encampment for the election of General Borin as a member of the Council-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It is moved and seconded that the rules be suspended and that the Assistant Adjutant General be instructed to cast the vote of the Encampment for the election of Adjutant General Borin as a member of the Council-in-Chief for the ensuing year. Are you ready for the question? All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed, the same sign. The motion seems to be and is carried and the Assistant Adjutant General will so cast the vote of the Encampment.

THE ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL: Commander, I have cast the 128 votes of the Encampment for the election of Gen. Borin as a member of the Council-in-Chief.

ADJUTANT GENL. BORIN ELECTED A MEMBER OF COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brother Borin having received a majority of the votes cast is declared duly elected a member of the Council-in-Chief for the ensuing year. Nominations are now in order for two additional members of the Council-in-Chief. The Adjutant General will call the roll.

The Adjutant General proceeded to call the roll of Divisions.

When the Division of Alabama and Tennessee was called:

E. R. CARTER, of Tennessee: Commander, Alabama and Tennessee gives way to Illinois.

FRED E. BOLTON, OF MASS., NOMINATED.

C. J. TISDEL, of Illinois: Commander, I esteem it an honor as well as a great privilege to stand here to present to you the name of the Brother I will nominate for a member of the Council-in-Chief. It is not necessary for me to detail to you the importance of having upon the Council-in-Chief men of capacity, men of brains, men who are devoted to the Order, and whose record is absolutely clear. I come to you to-day to present the name of a Brother who sits in this Encampment to-day as a Past Colonel of his Division. He has served his Division for many years in almost every capacity of honor and trust which could be given to him. He has been its Adjutant for two terms under the most capable of Division Commanders that his Division ever had. He served his Division as the Commander, efficiently and well. He has founded new Camps, not as Colonel or Commander, or Division Adjutant, but in his private capacity; and pushed them forward until they stand among the best Camps in his State and in his Division. He has attended these Commanderies-in-Chief since the days when he first became a member of the Order, and never on any occasion has he been found wanting when called upon to work. And now on behalf of the Division of Illinois, I have the very great pleasure and honor of presenting to you and

asking you to elect as a member of the Council-in-Chief Past Col. Fred Bolton, of Massachusetts. (Applause.)

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brother Bolton is placed in nomination. The Adjutant General will proceed with the calling of the roll.

When the Division of Massachusetts was called:

J. B. MACCABE, of Massachusetts: Commander, I desire to follow in the wake of my esteemed friend and Brother from Illinois, and lay my personal tribute upon the altar to Fred Bolton. I knew him as a little fellow, and I know him as a big fellow, and I give you my word and honor, my Brothers, that a more loyal little fellow or a more loyal big fellow never lived in this country. (Applause.) He is a man of capacity and ability, and if elected a councillor of this organization will reflect great credit, and be of incalculable assistance in the administration of the affairs in the Order. I therefore on behalf of the Old Bay State present him to you, and deem it an honor to present his name. We trust that you will give it a favorable consideration, moved by his simple manliness of character and splendid ability. (Applause.)

When the Division of Nebraska as called:

J. H. HEINE, OF NEB., NOMINATED.

GEORGE F. WOLZ, of Nebraska: Commander, I desire to place in nomination as a candidate for a position on the Council-in-Chief one who is in every way fitted for the duties of that position. For a long while we felt that our Division was on the down grade and now we feel that we have got it to going the other way; we do not feel that our work has received any recognition in the Commandery-in-Chief, and we think it would be a great assistance to us if the Division was recognized by the Commandery to the extent of honoring one of its Brothers with a position on the Council-in-Chief. I therefore take pleasure in nominating Brother J. H. Heine, of Nebraska, as a candidate for Council-in-Chief and hope you will all vote for him.

When the Division of New Hampshire was called:

MICHAEL CROWLEY, of New Hampshire: Commander, it gives me great pleasure to coincide with the sentiments expressed by Brother Tisdell, of Illinois, and Brother Maccabe, of Massachusetts, and I think Brother Fred Bolton is the man to elect.

F. W. MYERS, OF OHIO, NOMINATED.

When the Division of Ohio was called:

D. Q. MORROW, of Ohio: Commander, the Ohio Division has asked for no position in this Commandery up to this time, and expects to ask for but one. I have the honor to be selected by my Division to present to this Commandery the name of the person that Ohio asks to be honored. I do not wish to take up the time of the Encampment in making a speech, but I wish to call your attention briefly to the fact that the gentleman I present has occupied every position almost, from Colonel of the Ohio Division to the minor offices of the Camp. He is a gentleman who in the Ohio Division has at all times and under all circumstances been found willing and anxious to do his part and more than his part. He is one of those Brothers who in the dark days of the Ohio Division gave his time and mind and energies to the work of placing that Division on its feet, and putting it in the position that it occupies to-day. He is a gentleman whom the Ohio Division have cause to honor and love and they hope his merits will be recognized by the Encampment. I desire to present to this Encampment the name of that magnificent specimen of American manhood, that splendid specimen of everything that makes up a Son of a Veteran, Frederick W. Myers, of Ohio. (Applause.)

When the Division of Pennsylvania was called:

R. M. J. REED, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I simply want to say on behalf of the Pennsylvania Division that we have known Brother Myers for years and Pennsylvania desires to second his nomination.

When the Division of Rhode Island was called:

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF COLE: Commander, I do not come here to represent Rhode Island. I hold nobody's vote but my own, and in casting that

one vote, I will cast it as my own free will shall dictate, giving due credit to all the nominations that have been placed before this Convention; but I have known one of those nominees for some time and known him well. He is a man who is prominent in his own home, a man of upright character, a man who is loved best by those who know him best, a man who is well fitted, by reason of his attainments and present position, to be a member of the Council-in-Chief. It is with sincere delight, it is with great pleasure, that I myself, personally, second the nomination of Fred E. Bolton, of Massachusetts. (Applause.)

The Adjutant General concluded the calling of the roll.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The nominees are Fred E. Bolton, of Massachusetts, J. H. Heine, of Nebraska, and F. W. Myers, of Ohio. If there are no further nominations to be made, nominations will be declared closed. There are two members of the Council-in-Chief to be chosen and the candidates receiving the highest and the next highest number of votes will be elected. The Adjutant General will call the roll of Divisions and the Chairmen of Delegations will announce the vote of their delegations as heretofore.

The Adjutant General called the roll and reported the result to the Commander-in-Chief:

HEINE AND MYERS DECLARED ELECTED MEMBERS OF COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, the vote stands Bolton, 76, Heine 90, Myers 80, Fuller 3. Brothers Heine and Myers having received the highest and next to the highest number of votes, and each having received a majority of all the votes cast, are declared duly elected members of the Council-in-Chief for the ensuing year. (Applause.)

What is the further pleasure of the Commandery-in-Chief. It is now half past twelve o'clock.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, I move we take recess until 2:30 p. m.

The motion was seconded.

OFFICER-OF-THE-DAY SPINK: Commander, I would like to ask what further business is to come before the Commandery except the installation of Officers?

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: There is nothing of which the Chair is informed.

OFFICER-OF-THE-DAY SPINK: Commander, then I move we proceed with the regular order of business.

W. J. PATTON, of Wisconsin: Commander, I move we lay the motion to take recess on the table.

The motion was seconded.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: It is moved and seconded that the motion to take recess until 2:30 o'clock be laid on the table. Are you ready for the question? All those in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed, the same sign. The Chair is in doubt. Those in favor of the motion to lay the motion to take recess on the table will please stand. Be seated. Those opposed to the motion will rise. The motion to lay on the table seems to be carried—it is carried.

PRESENTATION OF PORTRAIT OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF RUSSELL.

ADJUTANT GENERAL BORIN: Commander, I rise to a question of privilege for a few minutes only.

Sentiment has ever controlled and is now governing the world. It was sentiment that caused the Lord of Glory to leave his eternal throne, when He "bowed the heavens" and came down to earth. It was sentiment that caused Him, the "Man of Sorrows, and acquainted with grief," to go about doing good. It was sentiment that caused Him to bear in His body on the Cross the sins of the world, and to there suffer and die. When Esther, the beautiful Queen, knowing she courted death, went into the presence of King Ahasuerus pleading for her people, she was impelled by sentiment. When Pythias stood ready to die for Damon he was moved by sentiment.

When we are ready to die for those we love we are controlled by sentiment. When our veteran fathers offered up their life-blood to be poured out, a libation to Liberty, they were governed by sentiment. It is sentiment that binds us together as Brothers. It is sentiment that makes us good citizens, loyal and true. It is on behalf of sentiment that I now take of your time. Somewhat more than a year ago the loyal boys of the Kansas Division took it into their heads and their hearts to honor the Division by honoring one of its brightest and bravest members in the selection of Capt. W. H. Russell to be Commander of our Division. (Applause.) Such was our trust and confidence in Brother Russell that no competitor appeared, and he was made the unanimous choice of that Encampment. Resolutions were also unanimously adopted by the Division Encampment endorsing him for the high and responsible office of Commander-in-Chief. Many of us went to Knoxville, and there at our National Encampment we told of Brother Russell's nobility of character; we told of his sound judgment; we told of his high merits; we told of his abiding interest in the Order and his zeal in its up-building, and of his pure and blameless life. Many were the friends we found in our advocacy of Brother Russell, friends from every Division who had learned to know and to love him in fraternal association. I know the Brothers who gave him their suffrages in that election are satisfied that Commander Russell has been a good Commander-in-Chief. I know they feel assured in their hearts that the duties of his high office have been faithfully, ably, and most zealously discharged, and that he has won a place of honor in your affections. The Division of Kansas then comes to you to-day with this tribute of sentiment. (Unveiling a life-size crayon portrait of Gen. Russell.) This is a testimonial of our love and esteem for Gen. Russell, and our grateful regard for you. We trust you will accept it as a Kansas love token. This portrait will be in good company, for the likenesses of many others, noble, gifted and true hold their place of honor on the walls at Commandery-in-Chief headquarters, and could they speak they would welcome this one to their midst with the same fraternal love and cordial good will that their living originals are extending to Brother Russell. This is not a picture of a dandy, nor a beauty, but here is the outline of an earnest thoughtful face, and the eyes that look so kindly upon you are the windows of a great and loving soul, patient, honest, faithful, loyal and true. Those of us who know Gen. Russell best love him most and carry his image graven in our hearts. (Great applause.)

ACCEPTED BY SENIOR VICE C-IN-C. COOPER FOR THE COMMANDERY.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COOPER: Adjutant General Borin, I have no words with which to express the appreciation of the members of this Commandery of this gift. It is indeed a pleasure to add to the galaxy of this Commandery-in-Chief the face of one who has served us so well for the past twelve months. There is no necessity for adding words or phrases. Brothers, we live, we toil, we succeed or fail together. We gratefully accept this tribute and place it among the archives of the Commandery-in-Chief, to hand down to our successors of future generations, marking the progress and aggressive character of this organization and the impression it makes upon the country. Thanking you, Gen. Borin, for this tribute to worth and excellence, we accept it and place it along side of the other Past Commanders-in-Chief of the Order, and will guard it with honor and fidelity. (Applause.)

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: We will now proceed to the installation of the officers-elect of the Commandery-in-Chief. I will ask Inspector General Frederick C. Stillson to act as Installing Officer on this occasion.

The Officer-of-the-Day will assist him in conducting the newly elected officers to the altar.

Inspector General Stillson, acting as installing officer, proceeded to install Brother James I. Rake, of Pennsylvania, as Commander-in-Chief, Brother Leo W. Kennedy, of Colorado, as Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief and Brother R. M. Buckley, of Kentucky, as Junior Vice Commander-in-

Chief, and Brothers C. Borin, of Kansas, J. H. Heine, of Nebraska, and F. W. Myers, of Ohio, as members of the Council-in-Chief.

The installation having been completed, the newly elected and installed Commander-in-Chief assumed command, and the Senior and Junior Vice Commanders-in-Chief took their respective stations.

APPOINTMENT OF C-IN-C'S STAFF DEFERRED.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: (James L. Rake, of Penn.): Brothers, I beg to say that staff appointments have not been decided upon. I desire a little more time for considering them, and the appointments will be announced later in the day, and the officers installed at the Galt House.

I am informed that the Adjutant General has some further congratulatory telegrams and letters. They may as well be read at this time.

CONGRATULATORY LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS.

The Adjutant General read the following letters and telegrams:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA, LADIES OF THE G. A. R.

LOGANSFORT, Ind., Sept. 7, 1896.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE FIFTEENTH NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT OF SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A., IN CONVENTION ASSEMBLED:

The Department of Indiana, Ladies of the G. A. R., extends greetings to the noble sons of patriotic sires.

The record of your fathers is the grandest and holiest possession you may ever hope to attain. Were the world to lay riches and honor at your feet, they would have no comparison to the treasure of glory and patriotism bequeathed to you by your brave fathers.

Trusting you may derive both pleasure and profit from your deliberations, I remain fraternally, in F. C. & L.,

MRS. ETTA TOBY,
Dept. Pres. Ladies of G. A. R.

MRS. OLIVE ALLISON,
Dept. Secretary, Logansport, Ind.

PRINCETON, Minn., Sept. 8, 1896.

W. H. RUSSELL, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF S. V., LOUISVILLE, KY.:

Impossible to be with you; will meet with boys in ninety-seven when General Rake retires.

ISAAC C. PATTERSON.

SEATTLE, Wash., Sept. 8, 1896.

WM. H. RUSSELL, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF SONS OF VETERANS, GALT HOUSE, LOUISVILLE:

Impossible to be with you. Heartiest greetings. May harmony and wisdom characterize your deliberations.

E. WELDON YOUNG.

DES MOINES, Ia., Sept. 10, 1896.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF W. H. RUSSELL, CARE NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, ENCAMPMENT SONS OF VETERANS, LOUISVILLE, KY.:

Convey to the Brothers my very best wishes.

GUY W. CARSON.

PRESENTATION OF JEWEL TO COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF RUSSELL.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Brother Russell, during a membership of many years in the Sons of Veterans I have been called upon to perform many pleasing duties, but the duty which now devolves upon me is the most pleasant which it has ever been my privilege to per-

form. It is needless, sir, for me to convey to you any assurance of appreciation or any indication of personal friendship, but I desire, on behalf of your Brothers, those Brothers whom you have served so faithfully and so well during the past year, to voice their sentiments toward you, and to express our appreciation of the devotion which you have given to our Order and to its interests. No words of mine can add lustre to your fame. Your record has been made and your record is appreciated by your Brothers in the Order of Sons of Veterans. We desire to bestow upon you the emblem of your past rank, and we desire to do so in no perfunctory manner. We desire you to feel that this testimonial comes from us with a wealth of love which no words of mine can adequately express. The Brothers of this Order from almost every Division of the United States have asked the privilege of joining in this testimonial to you; and in pinning it upon your breast I do so with a firm conviction that it will ever be worn with honor to yourself and with credit to the Order (pinning the jewel upon the breast of Past Commander-in-Chief Russell). I believe, sir, that I voice the sentiment of every member of the Order of the Sons of Veterans when I conclude by saying, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." (Applause.)

RESPONSE OF PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF RUSSELL.

PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF RUSSELL: Commander-in-Chief and Brother Loebenstein: Kind words are more than coronets. Proud as any monarch might be to receive a kingly crown, prouder am I to receive this token, at your hands, of that kindness of heart that has characterized the action of every member of the Order toward me during the past year. I shall prize this badge for what it means to me, for its story of the devotion and friendship of my Brothers, and the support they have given me the past year; but more valuable than that to me, brighter in my heart than the bright gems shining from out this jewel, will be the memory of the kindness and the courtesy and good will that has been offered to me by every Brother of the Order. I thank you for this jewel. I will prize it for its worth. Not for what it is worth intrinsically alone, but for its worth as an expression of the kindness that dwells in your hearts; not that that kindness, not that that courtesy, not that that good will has been merited as you have measured it out to me. I have laid down the duties of this office, but I hold an humble position in my Camp and have held it for many years, that of Quartermaster Sergeant; I shall return to the duties of that position, and as long as I am thus honored by the members of that Camp I shall earnestly endeavor to carry out the duties of that office as I have earnestly and honestly endeavored to carry out the duties of the high position which I have now given back to your hands. The Order of the Sons of Veterans means much to me. I love the Order with a devotion that has never faded in the past, and I trust will never fade as long as these jewels shall shine. I want to be an active member of this Order. I want to continue in its patriotic work, and, God willing, I shall. Brothers, whenever I can do anything for any of you you know that I am your humble servant. I thank you. (Applause.)

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, is there any further business to come before the Encampment at this time?

STENOGRAPHER'S REPORT MADE OFFICIAL.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL LOEBENSTEIN: Commander, I move you that the proceedings of this Encampment, as taken down by the Official Stenographer, be made the official record of this Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief.

EMIL PORSTEL, of Pennsylvania: Commander, I second the motion.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, you have heard the motion. All in favor of the motion will give their assent by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed, the same sign. The motion is carried.

SOUVENIRS OF KENTUCKY.

R. M. BUCKLEY, of Kentucky: Commander-in-Chief and Brothers: I see that you are all preparing to go to your homes, but I want to say that

it will be a long time before most of your trains go, and the citizens of Louisville have arranged to take you a ride on the trolley cars through our system of parks and through the residence portion of the city, to wind up with a reception and dance at Fountain Ferry Park, tendered by the ladies of the Woman's Relief Corps. I hope our Brothers will take advantage of and accept this courtesy. The trolley party will leave the Galt House at three o'clock.

But before you leave, I desire to say, on behalf of the members of the Kentucky Division, that they have prepared a little souvenir of Kentucky for you (a small bottle of Kentucky Bourbon appropriately decorated and marked), and we want each Brother to take one home with him. (Applause.)

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Brothers, the announcements of staff appointments will be made within the next hour or two, and the appointees will be notified in time to appear at the Galt House for installation. Is there any further business to come before the Encampment? If not, I will now proceed to close the Fifteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., in due form.

ENCAMPMENT CLOSED IN DUE FORM.

There being no further business to come before the Commandery, the Commander-in-Chief, James L. Rake, closed the Encampment in due form; and the Encampment adjourned sine die.

INSTALLATION OF ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERALS.

Pursuant to orders from Commander-in-Chief Rake, the installation of Adjutant-General Horace H. Hammer, Reading, Pa., and Inspector-General Arthur B. Spink, Providence, R. I., took place at Temporary Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., at Galt House, Louisville, Kentucky, after adjournment of Commandery-in-Chief Encampment, September 10th, 1896, at 2 o'clock p. m., Major R. M. J. Reed, of Philadelphia, Pa., Constitutional Life Member, acting as Installing Officer, assisted by Past Surgeon-General Dr. Dan S. Gardner, of Massillon, O.

RECORD OF ROLL CALLS
OF THE
FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

OF THE COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, S. V., U. S. A.

This record contains the names of those accredited members of the Encampment answering to one or more roll calls.

In the following table, "1" signifies present; "0" absent.

	1st call, page 25.	2d call, page 28.	3d call, page 31.	4th call, page 128.	5th call, page 132.
COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF OFFICERS.					
Commander-in-Chief—W. H. Russell.....	1	1	1	1	1
S. V. Commander-in-Chief—W. R. Cooper.....	1	1	1	1	1
J. V. Commander-in-Chief—Cedric G. Marsh.....	1	1	1	1	1
Adjutant General—C. Borin.....	1	1	1	1	1
Quartermaster General—R. Loebenstein.....	1	1	1	1	1
Inspector General—Fred. C. Stillson.....	0	1	0	1	1
Judge Advocate General—Newton J. McGuire.....	1	0	0	1	1
Surgeon General—Dr. Dan S. Gardner.....	1	1	1	1	1
Chaplain-in-Chief—Rev. Frederick B. Cole.....	1	1	0	1	1
Council-in-Chief { R. M. Buckley.....	1	1	1	0	0
{ H. V. Speelman.....	0	0	0	0	0
{ D. F. Goulding.....	1	0	0	0	1
PAST COMMANDERS-IN-CHIEF.					
Major A. P. Davis.....	0	0	0	0	1
Geo. W. Marks.....	1	1	1	0	1
Walter S. Payne.....	1	1	1	1	1
Louis M. Wagner.....	0	0	1	1	1
Joseph B. Maccabe.....	1	0	0	0	1
Wm. E. Bundy.....	1	0	1	1	1
PAST GRAND DIVISION COMMANDER.					
R. M. J. Reed.....	1	1	1	1	1
ALABAMA AND TENNESSEE.					
Commander—E. R. Carter.....	1	0	1	0	0
Past Division Commander { M. D. Friedman.....	1	0	1	1	0
{ V. Gilb, Jr.....	1	0	0	0	0
Delegate-at-Large—H. T. Cooper.....	1	1	0	1	1
Delegate—E. C. Prescott*.....	1	1	0	0	0

*Substituted; Alternato Joseph Hall.

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COLORADO.					
Past Division Commander—L. W. Kennedy.....	1	1	1	1	1
Delegate-at-Large—Robt. E. Hanna.....	1	1	1	1	1
CONNECTICUT.					
Division Commander—Geo. E. Cox.....	1	1	1	1	1
Delegate—James B. Bowen.....	1	1	1	1	1
Delegate—F. C. Bunton.....	1	1	1	1	1
Alternate-at-Large—C. F. Loomis.....	1	1	1	1	1
ILLINOIS.					
Division Commander—Wm. G. Dustin.....	1	1	1	0	1
Past Division Commanders {	Geo. H. Hurlbut.....	1	1	0	1
	C. G. Marsh.....	1	1	1	1
	Frank L. Shepard.....	1	0	1	1
Delegate-at-Large—Frank Coffinberry.....	1	1	0	0	1
Delegates {	Clark J. Tisdell.....	1	0	1	0
	Joseph C. Grimes.....	1	1	1	0
	Fred. J. Sanford.....	1	0	0	1
INDIANA.					
Division Commander—R. B. Oglesbee.....	0	0	0	0	0
Past Division Commander—Frank Martin.....	0	0	1	1	0
Delegate-at-Large—Frank Graham.....	1	1	0	1	1
Delegates {	S. C. Tipton.....	1	1	0	1
	Geo. W. Kreitenstein.....	1	1	0	1
Alternate Delegates {	S. S. Mullen.....	1	1	0	0
	R. J. Bosworth.....	1	1	0	1
IOWA.					
Division Commander—H. M. Hanson.....	1	0	1	0	1
Past Division Commander—Lewis A. Dilley.....	1	1	0	1	1
Delegate-at-Large—H. H. Canfield.....	1	0	1	1	0
Delegate—Wm. O. LaVake.....	0	0	0	0	1
Alternate Delegates {	Frank Dow.....	1	1	1	1
	E. R. Sater.....	1	1	1	1
KANSAS.					
Division Commander—Grant W. Harrington.....	1	1	1	1	1
Past Division Commander—W. Y. Morgan.....	1	1	1	1	1
Alternate Delegates {	M. R. Weyneth.....	1	1	1	1
	W. P. Feder.....	1	1	1	1
	H. A. Russell.....	1	1	1	1
	A. G. Alrich.....	1	1	1	1
KENTUCKY.					
Division Commander—B. F. McClelland.....	0	0	0	0	1
Past Division Commander {	Geo. H. Capito.....	0	0	0	0
	W. R. Heflin.....	1	1	0	0
	W. N. Evans.....	0	1	1	0
	Will A. Field.....	1	1	1	0
Delegate-at-Large—T. Z. Morrow.....	1	1	1	1	1
Delegate—Geo. S. Welmer.....	0	1	1	0	1
Alternate Delegate—J. J. Duncan.....	1	0	0	0	0

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MARYLAND.					
Delegate-at-Large—Chas. S. Davis.....	1	1	1	1	1
MASSACHUSETTS.					
Division Commander—Harry D. Sisson.....	1	0	0	1	1
Past Division Commander—Fred. E. Bolton.....	0	0	0	0	1
Delegate-at-Large—W. R. Waterman.....	1	1	0	0	1
Delegates { O. S. Fish.....	1	0	0	1	1
{ G. H. Smith.....	1	1	0	0	1
{ H. L. Frost.....	1	1	0	1	1
{ C. D. Rooney.....	1	0	0	1	1
Alternates { Chas. F. Perkins.....	1	0	0	0	1
{ A. A. Tilden.....	1	0	0	0	1
MICHIGAN.					
Division Commander—H. E. Cowdln.....	0	1	1	1	1
Past Division Commander—F. J. McMurtrie.....	1	1	1	1	0
MINNESOTA.					
Delegate—G. W. Dwinell.....	0	1	1	1	1
MISSOURI.					
Division Commander—Manly Wren.....	1	0	0	1	0
Past Division Commander—Fred. E. Ernst.....	0	0	0	0	1
Delegate-at-Large—E. C. Cherington.....	1	1	1	1	0
Delegates { F. S. Moss.....	0	0	1	1	0
{ Max Doble.....	1	1	0	1	1
Alternate Delegates { A. L. Chambers.....	1	1	0	1	1
{ W. F. Anderson.....	1	1	0	0	0
NEBRASKA.					
Division Commander—Geo. F. Wolz.....	1	1	1	1	1
Delegate-at-Large—J. H. Helne.....	1	0	0	1	1
NEW HAMPSHIRE.					
Past Division Commander—Michael Crowley.....	1	0	1	1	1
NEW JERSEY.					
Delegate—James Mathews.....	1	1	1	1	1
NEW YORK.					
Division Commander—A. G. Courtney.....	1	1	1	1	0
Delogate-at-Large—Adam C. Listman.....	0	0	0	0	0
Delegates { J. Frank Durston.....	1	1	0	0	1
{ H. H. Parker.....	1	1	0	0	1
{ Chas. Hagen.....	1	1	1	0	1
Alternate Delegates { O. E. Witherell.....	1	0	1	1	1
{ W. D. Spear.....	1	0	0	0	1
{ J. V. B. Clarkson.....	1	0	0	0	1
{ M. Y. Monroe.....	1	0	0	1	1

	1st call, page 25.	2d call, page 28.	3d call, page 31.	4th call, page 128.	5th call, page 132.
OHIO.					
Division Commander—D. Q. Morrow.....	0	0	0	1	1
Past Division Commanders {	F. W. Myers.....	1	1	1	1
	Filmore Musser.....	0	0	0	1
	Don C. Cable.....	1	1	1	1
	L. Vern Williams.....	0	0	1	1
Delegates {	A. S. Bickham.....	1	0	0	0
	E. W. Cable.....	1	0	1	1
	A. E. B. Stephens.....	1	0	1	1
	F. O. Wilkinson.....	0	0	1	0
Alternate Delegates {	M. H. Halbert.....	1	1	0	0
	J. A. Averdick.....	0	0	0	0
PENNSYLVANIA.					
Division Commander—James H. Tawney.....	0	0	0	1	1
Past Division Commanders {	E. W. Alexander.....	1	1	1	1
	Horace H. Hammer.....	1	1	1	1
	James Lewis Rake.....	1	1	1	1
	Wm. B. McNulty.....	0	0	1	1
Delegate-at-large—C. Elmer John.....	C. E. Diefenderfer.....	1	1	1	1
	Harry W. Eisenbise.....	1	1	0	1
Delegates {	H. A. Soper.....	1	1	1	1
	John Q. Davis.....	0	1	1	1
	Geo. Weaver.....	1	1	1	1
Alternate Delegates {	Fred. Row.....	1	1	1	1
	Ben F. Hollenbach.....	1	1	1	1
	Newton E. Diem.....	1	1	1	1
	Thomas Leubach.....	1	1	1	1
	John J. Lewis.....	1	1	0	1
	Lewis Arnold.....	0	0	0	1
Emil Poerstel, Jr.....	1	1	1	1	
RHODE ISLAND.					
Past Division Commander—Arthur B. Spink.....	1	1	1	1	1
SOUTH DAKOTA.					
Division Commander—Z. C. Green.....	1	0	1	1	1
WISCONSIN.					
Division Commander—W. J. Patton.....	1	1	0	1	0
Past Division Commander—H. S. Fuller.....	1	0	0	0	0
Delegate—Wm. DeSteele.....	1	1	1	0	1

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