

PROCEEDINGS

C.-IN-CHIEF

S. V., U. S. A.

1905-09



COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF EDWIN M. AMIES

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

TWENTY-SIXTH
ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

—OF THE—

Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.



DAYTON, OHIO

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

August 20, 21, 22

1907

PROCEEDINGS

Twenty-sixth Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Held at Dayton, Ohio, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday,
August 20, 21 and 22, 1907

The only business transacted the first day was the meeting of the Council-in-Chief, the result of which is shown by its report published later on in the proceedings.

TUESDAY MORNING SESSION.

The morning was devoted to preliminary exercises, held at the Old Guard Hall. Called to order at 10 o'clock, by T. E. Long, of the Local Executive Committee.

The following was the order of exercises:

Singing of "America" by the audience.

Prayer by Rev. D. G. Latshaw.

Hon. A. L. Harris, Governor of Ohio, on behalf of the State, welcomed the members of the encampment.

Hon. C. D. Wright, Mayor of Dayton, address of welcome on behalf of the City of Dayton.

John A. Bommhardt, Commander of the Division of Ohio, address of welcome on behalf of the Division of Ohio.

Judge W. S. O'Neal, Adjutant General, address on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief, Grand Army of the Republic.

Hon. O. B. Brown, of Dayton, address of welcome on behalf of the Sons of Veterans of Dayton.

Commander-in-Chief Edwin M. Amies, response on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

Mrs. Julia A. Moynihan, National President, response on behalf of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary.

Col. W. F. Rodgers, Department Commander, Grand Army of the Republic, address of welcome on behalf of the Department of Ohio.

H. V. Speelman, Past Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A., response on behalf of the Order.

Benediction by Rev. D. G. Latshaw.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Twenty-sixth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., convened in the Old Guard Hall, 134 South Jefferson Street, Dayton, Ohio, at 2 o'clock p. m., with Commander-in-Chief Edwin M. Amies in the chair.

The Encampment was called to order, which was followed by a roll call, showing the following officers present:

Edwin M. Amies, Commander-in-Chief.

F. T. F. Johnson, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

H. H. Hammer, National Secretary.

Thomas J. Hannon, Council-in-Chief.

Ralph Sheldon, Council-in-Chief.

Thomas W. Blair, Council-in-Chief.

R. M. J. Reed, Chief-of-Staff.

W. T. Church, National Counselor.

Rev. J. G. VanNess, D. D., National Chaplain.

Geo. E. Cox, National Inspector.

Rev. W. J. Patton, D. D., National Patriotic Instructor.

After the National Inspector, assisted by Past Commander-in-Chief G. B. Abbott, had made the rounds of the encampment and found all present entitled to remain, the encampment was opened in due form.

Past Commander-in-Chief E. R. Campbell was selected to act as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Two members of Earnshaw Camp were selected to act as Camp and Picket Guard, respectively.

Commander-in-Chief: I will appoint the following brothers as the Committee on Credentials: H. H. Hammer, National Secretary, Chairman; F. A. Kremer, of Wisconsin; W. A. Personius, of New York; T. J. Hannon, of Massachusetts; J. J. Van Gorder, of Ohio.

The Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief assumed the station of Commander-in-Chief.

Past Commander-in-Chief F. L. Shepard, of Illinois, took station of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief: If there is no objection, we will hear the report of the Commander-in-Chief.

The report was read as follows:

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S REPORT.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.
Altoona, Pa., August 20, 1907

To the Officers and Members of the Twenty-sixth Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Brothers: Pursuant to the practice heretofore established, and following the spirit of the Constitution and Laws of our Order, the following report of your Commander-in-Chief is herewith respectfully submitted:

When, at Peoria, Ill., you chose to confer upon me the unexpected and highly honorable position of Commander-in-Chief, I promised, by my work, that I hoped you would not regret the step that you had taken, and later, upon presentation of the emblem of authority, I said that then I fully realized the power that was then in me vested—How

little I comprehended the magnitude of duties I then and there assumed! How vague the conception of the true meaning of the office of Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.! Taken "from the floor" and made your Commanding Officer seemed honor enough, but I soon realized that the honor was not all. Confronted immediately with work of which I had no intimate knowledge, I soon learned that he, who would be Commander-in-Chief, must needs be, if a true Son of Veteran, more than that of being styled Commander-in-Chief. I found that to administer the duties of the office, as I conceived them, that constant, untiring devotion and hard conscientious application of my time and energy was absolutely necessary. This I have endeavored to do and give as I saw and found it and the perusal of this report will give at least a slight conception of what has been accomplished.

And now, as we are assembled in the Twenty-sixth Annual Encampment as the legal and authorized representatives of that grand and great and loyal and patriotic organization of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., to consider the work of the past and plan for the coming years. I want to extend my congratulations to each and all of you, singly and collectively, as the National body, as Divisions and Camps. You are worthy of it and entitled to it. We have attained a position today never before by us yet reached. Practical recognition has been accorded us, and we are regarded as the coming leading-patriotic organization of our glorious country. Our position is indeed a proud one, and our membership has a standing of merit and character, universally respected and admired, and the perpetuity of the Order is assured.

National Officers.

At the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment held at Peoria, Ill., August 21, 1906, and succeeding days, the following National Officers were elected and appointed:

Commander-in-Chief, Edwin M. Amies, Altoona, Pa.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief F. D. Wolfrom, San Francisco, Cal.

National Secretary, Horace H. Hammer, Reading, Pa.

National Treasurer, James Lewis Rake, Reading, Pa.

Council-in-Chief, Thomas J. Hannon, Dedham, Mass.;

Ralph Sheldon, M. D., Albany, N. Y.; Thomas W. Blair, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Chief-of-Staff, R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia, Pa.

National Counselor, William T. Church, Chicago, Ill.

National Chaplain, Rev. J. G. VanNess, D. D., Mt. Vernon, Iowa.

National Inspector, George E. Cox, Hartford, Conn.

National Patriotic Instructor, Rev. Walter J. Patton, Mason City, Iowa.

Headquarters.

Headquarters were immediately established by the Commander-in-Chief in rooms 28-30-32, Central Trust Building, in the city of Altoona, Pa., where all of the business,

relating to the Commandery-in-Chief has been transacted. During the whole of the past term, these headquarters have been open. While absent upon official business and visits, the routine work was not neglected nor delayed. At all times the business of the Commandery-in-Chief has been carried along without delay or hindrance.

Orders.

Following the mandates of the Commandery-in-Chief and fulfilling its contract with The Banner, the official organ, all general orders have been published. These contain, as you are aware, the general information and instruction, which must be disseminated for the general welfare of the Order.

In this connection, there has been published and made part of each general order the financial statement of condition as it exists at the end of each month, of the Order. Your executive officers have adopted the plan of paying all bills on the first of each month, thereby being enabled to show with each issue of a general order, monthly, the exact status of the financial condition of the Order.

Copies of all orders issued during the year are herewith attached and made part of this report.

Officers.

I cannot allow the opportunity to pass to offer to one and all of the National Officers my deep sense of appreciation for the many favors, admirable advice and excellent assistance and service rendered during my administration. At any and all times have I been accorded that help, aid and assistance which one must necessarily have while attempting to discharge the duties of such an honorable and important a position. Nothing was too small nor too great to ask of these worthy brothers but what it was forthcoming, merely by requesting. To specialize or individualize any of this loyal body of men, would do injustice to some. Their reports to this Encampment will follow, and I am sure the membership will then know that the trusts reposed in them have been well and faithfully administered.

Committees.

By authority of the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment, the following special committees were appointed:

The Banner.

Past Commander-in-Chief H. V. Speelman, chairman;
Past Commander-in-Chief Frank L. Shepard, Past Commander Leonard C. Couch.

On Memorial University.

This committee was continued and consists of the following:

Rev. Walter J. Patton, D. D., Mason City, Iowa, chairman; Past Commander-in-Chief W. G. Dustin, Illinois; Hon. Albert J. Beveridge, of Indiana; James H. Clossin, M. D., of Pennsylvania; Sherman Arter, of Ohio.

The Committee on Ritu.

Which consisted of James B. Adams, of New Jersey; Malcolm D. Rudd, of Connecticut, and Theodore C. Cazeau.

of New York, made a partial report to the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment, and was, by action of said Encampment, continued with instructions to report to the Commander-in-Chief. A further report on this subject will follow. Malcolm D. Rudd, one of the committee, resigned during the year.

National Patriotic Instructor.

By virtue of the recommendation of Past Commander-in-Chief H. V. Speelman and the action of the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment, the office of National Patriotic Instructor was created. Your Commander-in-Chief has the great honor and pleasure to announce that he succeeded in inducing the Rev. Walter J. Patton, D. D., President of Memorial University, to accept this new and important office. Dr. Patton had necessarily to virtually create the working basis of the position. How well he succeeded will appear during this Encampment under the proper head of its business. Your Commander-in-Chief has been thrown in contact with Dr. Patton frequently during his administration and has had opportunity of judging his manner of performing his duties. He has entered into the spirit of the work and his loyal, energetic and patriotic demonstration of the practical side of the office has indeed made the office of National Patriotic Instructor more than that of name only. He is to be commended for his patriotic demonstration.

Memorial University.

It is with gratifying pleasure that your Commander-in-Chief can include in this report a statement concerning Memorial University, covering my views had from personal observation and inspection. On the 25th of May last, a visit was made to Mason City and the University. Much has been said at our Annual Encampments concerning Memorial, reports have been made, resolutions passed, addresses delivered, subscriptions pledged, promises of support assured, and we have been impressed with the fact that our organization had an institution for which it stood sponsor, but all of these resolutions, promises, addresses, pledges and other items of information failed and passed into utter insignificance, when for the first time I had the opportunity of seeing our institution about which I had heard and read so much. Not only was I surprised but I was gratified to know that through the efforts of the Sons of Veterans a magnificent institution of learning was already erected and in active operation, having a corps of professors and teachers well versed in the professions and a curriculum, the mastery of which would entitle any of its students to enter the more advanced institutions of learning. A personal inspection of the main building was made from top to bottom and there was found a magnificent building thoroughly equipped for instruction and in active operation, for the school term had not yet closed, and had the pleasure of seeing and hearing how the principles of our Order, patriotism, was being inculcated into the minds and hearts of its students, the young people of our land, impressing me most forcibly that our Order had at last started an institution of learning where truthful history, patriotism and loyalty were being taught.

Situated as it is at the most desirable point within the municipal limits of Mason City, the main building is surrounded by a beautiful campus, used by the students for their sports and drill and parade ground and camping purposes. Other buildings used by the students also immediately adjoin, so that in all it constitutes an ideal spot for an institution of learning. A few words as to its history and materiality.

Seven years ago next month this movement was legislated into existence. For five years it has been known as the creation of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. It is no longer a theory but a fact. It is no longer an experiment but has demonstrated its practicability.

Notwithstanding the meagerly assistance which it has received from the Order at large, the opposition it encountered early in its history, and the prejudice which was engendered by a total misunderstanding of its organization and aims, yet it has steadily moved onward, making history for itself, and bringing honor and credit to our Order. Year after year the Commandery-in-Chief has listened to reports from the officers of the Memorial and from the National committee, unanimously setting the seal of its approval upon the movement, accepting the recommendations without a dissenting vote, and the Order at large paid no attention whatever to the movement.

This cannot longer continue without inviting disaster to the institution and bringing lasting discredit and dishonor to our Order. The time has come when we must accept reports, pass resolutions commending the upbuilding and maintenance of this University—monument, but we must carefully and judiciously consider ways and means, and legislate in a broad and statesmanlike manner as becomes so important a subject.

Article 11, Section 2, of our constitution declares that one of the purposes of our existence is "To inculcate patriotism and teach truthful history." The Grand Army of the Republic and the Woman's Relief Corps, now occupy all other fields of aspiration along these lines.

In the work carried on at Memorial, as I understand it, we are but carrying to its logical conclusion the work of these parent organizations. They have sought to set up a standard for patriotism and truthful history in the public schools of the land. We perpetuate, not alone their memory, but also their work, by enlarging the field and carrying the theory of patriotic education into the field of university work.

In this manner, not alone are we erecting a monument that is the only one of its kind in the country, but we are doing a work which is recognized by thoughtful people and too long neglected and, therefore, occupying a field of operations peculiarly of our own selection and creation.

If it were a question which demanded a lavish expenditure of money, or called for any sacrifice of time or labor, or even was of doubtful expediency and usefulness, we might properly hesitate before going farther, if such action might be taken and the honesty of our public declaration be maintained. But when the efficiency of the move-

ment is a demonstrated fact, when it calls for no sacrifice of time and when the amount required from the Order at large is such a comparatively insignificant sum, we can not, with honor to our Order, permit the work longer to languish for lack of our support. And yet, for lack of that support, it is a question still whether the splendid property, worth \$250,000.00, with its history of five years of usefulness, may not yet pass out of our hands.

Considering the fact that never before, during the twenty-six years of our history as an Order, have we attempted to erect a monument of any sort to the memory of our sires, while all over the land are memorials costing many millions of dollars, representing the appreciation of the deeds of our fathers by others, it would seem as though our oft repeated declaration of principles were nothing more than a form of words without meaning. Again considered from a purely selfish and mercenary view-point the advertising given our Order nationally by the Memorial University would be worth many times the cost.

Our position as pioneers in the work of making American history and patriotism the leading courses in the curriculum of a national university, must give us an enviable position in history, in fact giving us a position in the realm of peace and education, which our fathers enjoy in that of war and politics.

What is best to be done and how to do it is for us at this moment to decide. To allow it to pass from us after being by us conceived cannot be tolerated. I do not believe that taxation by the levying of a per capita tax would meet with the hearty cooperation or unanimous consent of the Order at large, but I do believe and think that this body should by its action make a substantial contribution or allowance as would befit so worthy an institution and object.

Sons of Veterans Reserves.

The reserves are no longer an experiment. Its practicability as a necessary adjunct to the parent body is daily being demonstrated. From a confused mass of unrecruited and untrained boys, it has developed into a body of well-trained and fully organized Sons of Veterans Reserves, subject to military order and control. The demonstration made at Scranton by the Pennsylvania Department, where eleven hundred men were under canvas, fully officered and equipped, conclusively convinced your Commander-in-Chief of the necessity of the Reserves. Too much praise cannot be given this department for its military exhibition and bearing and the gentlemanly conduct and deportment of its membership.

Reports have reached these headquarters that where companies of Reserves are attached to Camps, the Camps are alive and well doing. Not only do these reports come from one state alone but wherever the Reserves are organized do these same reports come. It is therefore suggested to the membership at large that wherever possible and permitted companies of Reserves should be organized for by so doing it is believed that a large membership could be attained.

Much additional proposed legislation and changes of same, relative to the Reserves, will be presented to this Encampment for your enactment. It is urged and hoped that the most careful and conscientious consideration be given to it.

More extended remarks as to the Reserves would have been given, and possibly some other recommendations would have been made had it not been for the fact that these resolutions are in the hands of the committee, and therefore I take it that it would not be good policy to make certain suggestions, or otherwise, which might in any way affect the work of the Committee on Constitution and Laws.

Visitations.

Believing that much good would result from personal visitations and believing further that it is the duty of the commanding officer, whenever possible, to attend the annual encampments of the various Divisions, I have during the year visited the Divisions of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and Michigan. In addition I have inspected and visited the Memorial University at Mason City, Iowa, and many Camps and state and local functions held by the Sons of Veterans. I had also the honor of visiting the Departments of Massachusetts and Ohio, Grand Army of the Republic.

In all of these visitations I had the pleasure of addressing the different meetings. The reception accorded your Commander-in-Chief was most welcome and loyal. The courteous treatment accorded was always marked, and evidences of patriotism were always apparent. A most generous hearing was given me at the Departments of Massachusetts and Ohio, and I am frank to say that we believed we conveyed to them a better knowledge of our organization.

In this connection I want to say that the personal visitations of the Commander-in-Chief, whoever he may be, is conducive of good results. I have learned this from practical demonstration. Perhaps it was fortunate for the Order and myself that the first of the divisions to be visited was that of Massachusetts. I do not want to draw any comparison but I will assert that I was so impressed with the patriotic demonstration and loyalty and enthusiasm of this Division, that I then and there resolved that I would personally visit every Division possible, and I did. The result to me so far as the Order is concerned, has been satisfactory, and if good has come out of such visitations, let others judge.

I most strongly urge my successors upon assumption of the office of Commander-in-Chief to resolve firmly to devote his time and attention to this particular function of the office, for good will surely follow.

Divisions.

No increase in the number of Divisions has been made. It remains the same as of the last Encampment. All of the Divisions are commanded by men of ability and integrity and of known worth to the Order.

I cannot speak too highly of the most cordial relationship which has existed between the recently retiring commanders and those just elected. At all times have they rendered these headquarters their most hearty co-operation, with all of them the business of the Order has been conducted in the most orderly manner. The courteous treatment, the loyal support and the pleasant relationship have redounded to the good of the Order.

Each Division will show an increase in membership, not large, but in the aggregate. This particular feature of the Order will be more fully brought to your notice through the medium of the Secretary's report.

Discipline.

Unfortunately an otherwise most pleasant administration was marred by two courts martial.

Those of John Bower, Jr., and Wm. B. McNulty, against James H. Tawney. The finding of the court in the case of John Bower, Jr., against James H. Tawney, was guilty and recommended that he be suspended for two years with loss of rank. That in the case of William B. McNulty against the same defendant was guilty and that he be dishonorably discharged from the Order. The finding and sentence of the court was approved and orders have been issued to that effect.

Let me explain this. The order carrying into effect the sentence of these courts-martial has been issued, and it will appear in the next issue of the official organ. It will be known as General Order No. 3 1-2.

A word and suggestion as to discipline. It frequently happens that through ignorance or otherwise that charges are often made by brothers against brothers without the knowledge of the proper procedure in such cases. During the year many instances of this kind have occurred. There have come into my hands charges of the most violent character direct from individual members of the Order against other members in all such cases, in fact in every case, I have returned them direct to the sender with the information that they may be forwarded through the regular channel meaning thereby that they can only reach the Commander-in-Chief through the Division Commander. The result of this ruling has been that only one case has been tried before a properly constituted court. My object in this ruling was to have such cases properly examined by the Camps originating them, and for the further reason that the Division Commander should, at all times, be advised of the transactions of his Division.

It is true that all proceedings of court martial must be forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief, but it is also true that the Commander-in-Chief must not order the convening of a court martial upon any and every wrong, real or fancied, and he therefore has the right to have a thorough investigation of charges before putting a Division or Camp to useless expense and litigation.

One other point I might mention here, and which I overlooked, and which I would recommend. It frequently happens that, in Camps especially, disputes arise as to points

of order, and many other important or unimportant subjects. Hypothetical questions are often asked by Camps direct to the Commander-in-Chief, and his opinion and decision requested. In all such cases, I have returned the communications to the party sending them, with notice that these questions under all circumstances must come through the regular channels, beginning in the Camp, through the Commander on up until it reaches the Commander-in-Chief. The reason for that is this: Suppose, for instance, some member of a Camp, upon a question, either real or hypothetical, would write to the Commander-in-Chief for his construction of the Constitution, and the Commander-in-Chief would in the goodness of his heart render a decision. The result of that is that in case the Commander-in-Chief has already decided that point, and it comes up to him again with additional reasons for changing his opinion, the Commander-in-Chief puts himself in the place of one who must necessarily reverse himself. Whoever may succeed me, I would advise, and advise most strenuously, that all matters of this kind be referred back to the sender.

Memorial and Union Defenders' Days.

As the years go by our duty in observing these days is becoming more apparent and obligatory, it is gratifying to note that our organization is becoming of great assistance to the Grand Army of the Republic in relieving them of much of the physical labor required particularly on Memorial Day. In many instances the Sons of Veterans have sole charge of the observance of this day. In others we are proud to lend assistance to the Grand Army of the Republic. This day is to us a day of reverence and it is a most sacred duty on our part to see to it that it is properly observed.

It will be the duty of the National Chaplain to render his report concerning the part taken by our Order on these days, and it will follow later on.

San Francisco Relief Fund.

At the last annual encampment, Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman suggested that this fund, in the hands of the California Division, be disposed of in some final manner. No action was taken and the fund was allowed to remain in the hands of the Commander of the California Division in conjunction with the Commander-in-Chief, Past Commander George W. Conart at the expiration of his term of office turned over to J. Frank Lesler the balance in his hands of \$374.92, which was augmented by contributions to the sum of \$388.17. Commander J. Frank Lesler, during his administration, paid out for the use of his Division the sum of \$316.37, leaving a balance on hand of \$72.80 which together with supplies, leaves a balance of stock and cash on hand of \$97.05. This has been turned over to the present Commander, C. F. Kimball.

The report, made by Past Commander J. Frank Lesler, has been audited and found correct.

It is suggested that this fund be and remain as it is, to be administered by the California Division. Experience

gained during the years tends to the belief that the Commander of the California Division is more conversant with the needs of his Brothers than any one else.

Grand Army of the Republic.

It is with a great deal of pride that I approach this part of my report. I am happy to say that our relations with our parent organization, the Grand Army of the Republic, are most cordial, pleasant and fraternal. Our duty to them is one of the principles laid down in our laws and a strict observance of this duty is being most rigidly adhered to. Daily our organization is growing closer and closer to this most unique of all fraternal and patriotic societies, and as time glides swiftly by, our duty and allegiance to them and their principles becomes more and more imperative and obligatory. It will be our duty only too soon to take their places, and the responsibility is enormous. Their burdens and their cares will soon rest upon our shoulders and when that time does come, I know the order of Sons of Veterans will be ready as their fathers were, when in the dark days of 1861-'65, they answered the call of their country. With that same patriotism, which prompted them to give their services and their lives that this country might survive, we renew our pledge to perpetuate those sacrifices, to inculcate patriotism and teach truthful history and to help, aid and assist those honorable and vallant men and their widows and orphans.

During the year, I have been thrown in personal contact with Commander-in-Chief Brown. His words of comfort, cheer and advice came from the heart of a true soldier and a sterling patriot. He has commended us upon our work and praises our membership and wishes us God-speed, and bestows his paternal blessing.

It is with great pleasure that I can say to the membership that the highest honor yet accorded our order by the Grand Army of the Republic came to your Commander-in-Chief, during his administration. For the first time in its history your Commander-in-Chief was invited to attend the annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, to be held in Saratoga in September next. This, I take it, to be a recognition of which we should all be proud.

Let us here now renew our allegiance to the Grand Army of the Republic. Let us ever strive to merit their confidence and esteem and let us, so long as one of them lives, so deport ourselves as to merit their approval and friendship.

And when the dissolution of that great organization does come, let us take up their sacred duties and discharge them as only their sons can, with that same patriotic devotion and sacrifice of which they have set so beautiful an example.

Kindred Organizations.

To the Women's Relief Corps, Ladies of the G. A. R., Sons of Veterans Auxiliary and Daughters of Veterans, we extend our fraternal greetings. It was my pleasure to address numerous bodies of these different organizations during the past year and the same patriotism and love of

country permeates their organization as does ours. That these bodies of loyal women are a necessary and useful adjunct to the Camps and Posts to which they are attached is too well known. Time and time again have they demonstrated their allegiance to them by their unceasing work and assistance.

To our sister organization, the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary I do most heartily extend our brotherly affection. They have been untiring in their devotion and their work has been shown by their good deeds.

May God bless them all.

Official Organ.

The agreement entered into with the publisher of "The Banner" will expire with the current year, so decreed by the Boston Encampment in 1904. Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman, in his report, called attention to this fact, and recommended that a committee be appointed to make a thorough investigation of all phases of the official organ question, and report at this Encampment. This recommendation was adopted and in conformity therewith the committee mentioned in another part of this report was appointed. In addition to much correspondence and investigation, this committee met once at Decatur, Ill., and will at this Encampment make their report.

At this writing your Commander-in-Chief is not conversant with the contents of this report, nor the nature of it and therefore hesitates to make any extended remarks. It was understood that this committee would receive bids from members of the Order for the publication of an official organ and receive what other suggestions it might tend to the betterment of such an organ. What this committee will report, as before stated, I do not know, but of one thing I am convinced I believe it to be an absolute necessity, that the Order of Sons of Veterans should have an official organ. I am convinced that by the means of such an organ, every Son of a Veteran in the Order knows or should know the official doings of the Order, for through the official organ the orders and news of the Order is promulgated. Through this medium the orders are published, an interchange of news and thought is had and the interest is kept alive. In country districts especially is an official organ most useful and beneficial.

Some investigation on my part has developed this fact, that when the contract was originally made with The Banner, the membership of the order was 23,000, now it is 31,000. Whether or not The Banner was responsible for this increase in membership need not be discussed here, but the fact remains that such increase did occur.

The opposition to an official organ seems to be founded on the belief that it is paid for by means of compulsory subscriptions. I do not want to enter into any argument with any one concerning this feature either, only let me ask can we have an official organ any cheaper? Suppose with a membership of 31,000, each member was to receive an order, and each Division was in turn to publish the order. Do you see where printing and postage would run without counting the cost of clerk hire, etc.?

I only mention these matters to confirm my belief that I am convinced that an official organ is absolutely necessary.

It is hoped that this question will be amicably and equitably adjusted and settled and that the committee will render such a report as will meet all requirements.

Death Benefit Association.

This organization is steadily growing. By reason of receiving official recognition, it is deserving of the hearty co-operation of all the brothers. It is now composed of Camps from nearly every Division. It has a membership of 8500. To date it has paid out \$115,125.00. It now has a Reserve fund of over \$5,000.00. It has been found by experience that Camps, which have adopted protection through the Death Benefit Association, are strong, and it has a tendency to increase membership. It is to be commended.

Inspections.

The continuation of rigid inspections is to be commended. A thorough investigation of a Division or Camp by a disinterested brother is always conducive of good. The appointment of inspectors, however, should always be done with a view to having the best material to so inspect, with also a due regard to cost of holding same, as well as to the nearness of location of the residence of the inspector. Much time and labor could be saved by the appointment of inspectors nearest the place of holding inspections.

Special Aides.

Following the custom heretofore set, a number of Special Aides have been appointed to serve upon the staff of the Commander-in-Chief. Before making these appointments, communications were had with the different Division Commanders with a view of having the best material available. Their judgment in suggesting these appointments has been verified by the unanimous co-operation given by each and every one of them. At all times, have I received their unqualified support and in many instances have they been instrumental in forming and obtaining new Camps and bolstered up old ones. I tender my thanks for their devotion and support, accorded me during this administration.

Encampment Date.

The Council-in-Chief, by their unanimous vote, per paper filed, designated the week of August 19th, 1907, as the time of holding the Twenty-sixth Annual Encampment at Dayton, Ohio. In accordance with such action, general orders were so issued. Reference to the official proceedings of the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment will show that Dayton, Ohio, was the place selected by the Commandery-in-Chief.

Permanent Headquarters.

I wish to endorse every word uttered by Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman, relative to the establishment of permanent headquarters, and the wisdom thereof. During the year, I have been in daily correspondence with the National Secretary and National Treasurer, regarding the business of the Order, and so well and orderly has the work

been handled that our respective desks have been cleared with the closing of each day. The method of conducting the business of the Commandery-in-Chief by the National Secretary and National Treasurer, is to be commended to the different Division Secretaries and Treasurers. Their method is an excellent pattern and could with good grace be copied by all.

Proceedings.

No better method of preserving the proceedings of the transactions of the Commandery-in-Chief can be suggested than by the printing of them in pamphlet form. It is the best way of promulgating the actions of this body and the expense in so publishing them warrants the belief that it should be continued.

Membership.

Many of my predecessors have discussed this topic, until it seems that there is no other suggestion to offer, that would be new or that would help to recruit the order in the number of its membership.

And that position I feel like assuming today. I have nothing new to offer nor have I any ways or means to suggest to this body as to how obtain an increased membership, other than to call your attention to your duty as Sons of Veterans.

The fundamental principles of our Order are so well grounded that the perpetuity of the order is at once assured, and the application in your daily life, of its objects, stamps you as representative patriotic American citizens. It, therefore, behooves you, to so conduct yourselves as Sons of Veterans and as citizens as to win the meritorious commendation, not only of the Grand Army of the Republic but the citizenship at large, and by so doing the recruiting of the Order will naturally follow and be an assured fact. I flatter the order and myself that we belong to an Order which does not require the going out into the highways and byways to seek membership, but on the contrary, I believe that I belong to an Order, the principles and objects of which are so high and lofty that he, who desires membership, and is so entitled, must seek admission of his own volition. We know that money cannot buy membership. We know that our fathers' lives and blood bought our heritage, and what greater price has been paid for an honorable membership in any organization?

You have pledged yourselves to many things in this Order but analyzed they crystalize themselves into but two or three ingredients, true citizenship, patriotism, loyalty, and reverence to the Grand Army of the Republic, and exponents of truthful history. Out of these principles grow your duty and it is for you to practice them daily. Tell the world who and what you are; tell them how you came by your membership, tell them that your father bought for them their country and their citizenship, tell them that Memorial Day is a day of reverence for the men who made this country the home of the free and oppressed, and will permit but one flag to wave over us, teach them truthful history, not garbled statements, teach them that our belief is founded in a Supreme Being, and that God was with our fathers in

time of danger and peril and gave us this glorious country. Do this and more my brothers, and your duty will have been amply performed and Commanders-in-Chief now and to come will need not have to ask or suggest ways and means to increase its membership. By this, you are not to imply that your duty is all performed. Believing as you do in all of what I have said you must apply these principles and beliefs to your daily life, and see to it that your advice and admonition will be sown where it will be gathered with abundant harvest.

I will not enter into statistics, relative to the growth of the order, but leave that with the National Secretary, but sufficient for the purposes of my report, to say that we have gained in membership handsomely. And it is a growth of which we may all be proud. Our membership is assuming that standing in character and mental worth, the equal of any and peer of many, and daily we are approaching that position which will cause us to be the leader. To this end, you must strive and by a strict adherence to our principles and objects success must crown our efforts.

Incorporation.

It was recommended at the Peoria Encampment that the National Secretary be instructed to secure a charter for the Commandery-in-Chief. This recommendation was adopted and in conformity therewith the matter was placed in the hands of that eminent and loyal law firm of Brothers Church and Shepard. It was discovered that on the first day of October, A. D., 1888, articles of incorporation were issued to the Commandery-in-Chief, but through neglect or oversight the corporation ceased to exist for the reason that the annual tax was not paid. Acting therefore under this state of affairs, all arrearages of tax and fines were paid and the Commandery-in-Chief stands as an incorporated body as of the said original date, October 1, 1888, with the same rights and privileges as primarily granted.

Without reward or promise thereof, our good friends and Brothers, Church and Shepard, have rendered us professional services for which this Commandery-in-Chief is under obligations.

Finances.

During the present administration, itemized and detailed statements have been published monthly in the general order, so that the membership at large could inform itself as to the exact standing of the Order. In addition to this, the National Secretary and National Treasurer will, according to law, submit their respective reports, giving in minute detail all of the business transaction accruing to date. These reports will show that the order is on a firm financial basis. All bills and expenses are paid to date and some balance will be shown.

I am not prepared to recommend a reduction of the per capita tax, as was hoped for by Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman. I do not think we are yet ready for so radical a move. It is better to move along with a small balance in the treasury than to stint the order by allowing the funds to become so low as to destroy the magnificent system now

in vogue. Better pay our bills promptly as is now being done, than to await the quarterly reports in order to obtain funds to tide us over until the next quarter. Our balances are not as large as to warrant the recommendation of a reduction in per capita tax, at least, at present.

Commandery-in-Chief Ribbon.

It was deemed advisable for the good of the order that all of the Commandery-in-Chief ribbon, known to be in the hands of Mrs. A. B. Davis, be secured and purchased. This has been done and the Commandery-in-Chief now knows that all of this ribbon, known to be extant, has been secured. It would be well to be prepared now that we know this to provide for the future.

It may be that the National Secretary will have some thing to say about this ribbon. After a good bit of labor I finally secured this ribbon from Mrs. Davis, paying therefor something over one hundred dollars for all the ribbon she had. In doing this we felt we were saving the Commandery-in-Chief at least \$1000, as we were advised that in order to create a new loom, or new machine, in order to get the kind of ribbon we wanted, it would cost from \$1200 to \$1500. So now we have the ribbon question settled. The supply will last several years.

The Ritual Committee.

As indicated in a previous paragraph, further reference is herewith given—

This committee, after reporting partially to the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment, proceeded with its duties and submitted to the Commander-in-Chief a further report. Upon examination, it was believed by your Commander-in-Chief that the ritual as submitted did not meet the requirements and after consultation it was rejected. Up to this time, nothing further has been done except the resignation of Brother Rudd and the continuation of the Committee. The Commander-in-Chief has, however, endeavored to obtain something out of which a ritual might be framed. To this date, but one proposition has been received, and it will be presented to this Encampment in due form.

Following the action of the Peoria Encampment, the Ritual Committee now consists of the Commander-in-Chief, the National Secretary, the National Treasurer, Brothers Adams and Cazeau.

It is suggested that a Committee be immediately appointed to consider such matters as may be presented.

Resignation.

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief F. D. Wolfrom, of California, tendered his resignation on the twelfth day of June, 1907, and the same was accepted.

National Secretary and Treasurer.

I want to especially express publicly my appreciation of the valuable advice and assistance given your Commander-in-Chief by these two officers. An acquaintanceship and friendship formed at the inception of our Order has grown into the love of brothers. At all times have I received their

loyal and cordial support. To them must I give some credit for whatever success I have achieved during my term. Their advice and admonition was at all times helpful and I assure them I thank them from the bottom of my heart. I trust we may never have cause to sever the ties which now bind us.

Digest of Decisions.

Perhaps the shortness of the number of decisions rendered by the Commander-in-Chief has been explained by the remarks with reference to "communications." The results of the publication of that order have been that very few requests for opinions, and decisions have come to the hands of the Commander-in-Chief.

(Numerous other decisions have been rendered but they have been in strict compliance with the C. R. & R., and are not here published.)

I. Candidates for membership must be balloted for singly and alone.

II. A member cannot change his ballot.

III. Members of Camp Council can only be elected for one year.

IV. A brother cannot be elected to office or as a delegate unless he be present at the election.

V. One convicted of a heinous crime such as murder is not eligible to membership.

VI. A company of Reserves shall consist of thirty privates, inclusive of non-commissioned officers.

VII. Restoration of past rank dates from original election and not from date of action of Commandery-in-Chief in said restoration.

VIII. A brother not in good standing in his Camp, loses all rights and privileges thereof, and as a matter of course is not entitled to remain longer in Reserves, and must be dropped.

IX. A Division Commander has the right to fill vacancies in delegations, caused by the absence of an accredited representative.

X. A muster of a new Camp, cannot proceed unless the constitutional number of charter applicants be present.

XI. A member of the Order cannot become a member of another Camp until he shall have procured a transfer card from his Camp.

Recommendations.

I. The continuation of the present rate of per capita tax.

II. The publication in pamphlet form, under the direction of the retiring administration, of fifteen hundred copies of the Twenty-sixth Annual Encampment for distribution among the several Camps and Divisions.

III. The substantial recognition be made either by cash or some other valuable method, of the Memorial University, of Mason City, Iowa.

IV. The promulgation of all General Orders, both of civic and military bodies, by publication only in the Official Organ, during the coming year.

V. The general observance of Memorial and Union Defenders' days.

VI. The appointment of a Committee on Ritual to immediately conclude this important matter.

Conclusion.

This concludes my Report and with this Encampment ends my term as your Commander-in-Chief.

I have endeavored as best I knew to perform my duties as I saw them, having constantly in mind a strict adherence to our principles and objects. More time than I could well afford has been devoted to the execution of the manifold duties as they arose. I tried to give the Order a term of hard work and conscientious effort in order that our organization might attain that standard of prominence and power which it rightfully deserves. I have visited many Divisions and other gatherings of Sons of Veterans in the hope that some good would result, losing time and opportunity, which rightfully belonged to my profession. But in performing the functions of the office, as I saw and found them, I have always consoled myself with the belief that I was accomplishing something and at least spreading the seed which in time will bring its reward, and while personally my term has been one of hardship to me. I give it to you ungrudgingly, complying with my promise and pledge to do my work well.

The personal sacrifice, which has been made, however, has well been repaid. Old associations and friendships have been revived and new ones formed, which are dear to me and prized highly. I will always carry with me the thought that among my assets none will be valued more than memory of the loyal patriotic men, whose friendship supported me during one of my most eventful years.

Perhaps I have made mistakes, perhaps I have left undone something which might have been done, perhaps I have failed to accomplish all that was expected, if so, judge me not harshly, but give me credit with at least attempting to do what the limited term allowed me to try to do, and, if you will, spread the mantel of charity over my shortcomings. I have done the best I could and you should not ask more.

It is not pleasant to sever these official relations from a body composed of the flower of the land, but your laws have so decreed that the scepter of authority shall pass to another, and I lay it down with some regret. This administration and its work is open to you. If the stewardship has been well performed, if it meet with your approval and approbation, I will be satisfied and well repaid.

As I said in the beginning of my term, I reiterate now, that I fully appreciate the honor of being and having been your Commander-in-Chief, and no matter what honor comes to me, privately, politically or socially, I will always regard the honor of being your Commander-in-Chief the highest I can ever attain.

And while, I now relinquish this command to other hands, and take my place among you in the ranks, I do so with the belief that my duty as a Son of a Veteran has really only begun in earnest. Believing firmly in all of

our principles and objects and with the thought ever before me of him who gave his life at Gettysburg, I renew my obligation and pledge myself ever ready to do my duty as a Son of a Veteran.

Fraternally submitted,

E. M. AMIES, Commander-in-Chief.

SPECIAL ORDERS.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

Special Orders, Altoona, Pa., March 14, 1907.

No. 1,

Series of 1907.

A Court Martial is hereby appointed to try all matters at variance preferred by W. B. McNulty, Secretary Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., against James H. Tawney, Past Commander Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., on a date to be fixed as soon as practicable for the trial of the said James H. Tawney.

Said Court to consist of:

R. M. J. Reed, Chief of Staff, S. V., U. S. A., Philadelphia, Pa., President.

William H. Redheffer, Jr., Camp 5, 1328 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Judge Advocate.

Commander Harry O. Hanlon, Camp 1, 2047 N. Lawrence Street, Philadelphia.

Commander Theodore O. Dost, Camp 2, 1948 E. Stella Street, Philadelphia.

Commander Edward Way, Camp 9, (Ellis), 5814 Knox Street, Philadelphia.

Commander James F. Rodgers, Camp 10, 2225 Gerritt Street, Philadelphia.

Commander K. F. Endress, Camp 27, 2014 Sansom Street, Philadelphia.

Commander Fred L. Reger, Camp 228, 232 George Street, Philadelphia.

By command of the Commander-in-Chief.

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

Special Orders, Altoona, Pa., March 14, 1907.

No. 2,

Series of 1907.

A Court Martial is hereby appointed to try all matters at variance preferred by John Bower, Jr., Past Commander Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., against James H. Tawney, Past Commander Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., on a date to be fixed as soon as practicable for the trial of the said James H. Tawney.

Said Court to consist of:

R. M. J. Reed, Chief of Staff, S. V., U. S. A., Philadelphia, Pa., President.

William H. Redheffer, Jr., Camp 5, 1328 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Judge Advocate.

Commander Harry O. Hanlon, Camp 1, 2047 N. Lawrence Street, Philadelphia.

Commander Theodore O. Dost, Camp 2, 1948 E. Stella Street, Philadelphia.

Commander Edward Way, Camp 9, (Ellis), 5814 Knox Street, Philadelphia.

Commander James F. Rodgers, Camp 10, 2225 Gerritt Street, Philadelphia.

Commander K. F. Endress, Camp 27, 2014 Sansom Street, Philadelphia.

Commander Fred L. Reger, Camp 228, 232 George Street, Philadelphia.

By command of the Commander-in-Chief.

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,

Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Altoona, Pa., May 13, 1907.

Special Orders,

No. 3,

Series of 1907.

1. The Court Martial heretofore appointed and convened to try all matters at variance, preferred by W. B. McNulty, Secretary of Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., against James H. Tawney, Past Commander, Pennsylvania Division S. V., U. S. A., is hereby disbanded and dismissed and the power and authority therein conveyed is revoked.

2. A Court Martial is hereby appointed to try all matters at variance, preferred by W. B. McNulty, Secretary Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., against James H. Tawney, Past Commander Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., on a day to be fixed as soon as practicable for the trial of the said James H. Tawney.

3. Said Court shall consist of:

R. M. J. Reed, Chief-of-Staff, S. V., U. S. A., Philadelphia, Pa., President.

William H. Redheffer, Jr., Camp 5, 1328 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa., Judge Advocate.

Harry O. Hanlon, Camp 1, 2047 N. Lawrence Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

James P. Rodgers, Camp 10, 2225 Gerritt Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Fred L. Reger, Camp 228, 232 George St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Steven N. Denges, Camp 114, 2819 Crosky Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Allan M. Henry, Camp 236, 2831 Coral Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

By the order of the

Attest:

Commander-in-Chief.

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,

Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Altoona, Pa., May 13, 1907.

Special Orders,

No. 4,

Series of 1907.

1. The Court Martial heretofore appointed and convened to try all matters at variance, preferred by John Bower, Jr., Past Commander Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., against

James H. Tawney, Past Commander Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., is hereby disbanded and dismissed and the power and authority therein conveyed is revoked.

2. A Court Martial is hereby appointed to try all matters at variance preferred by John Bower, Jr., Past Commander Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., against James H. Tawney, Past Commander Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., on a day to be fixed as soon as practicable for the trial of the said James H. Tawney.

3. Said Court shall consist of:

R. M. J. Reed, Chief-of-Staff, Philadelphia, Pa., President.
William H. Redheiter, Jr., Camp 5, 1328 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa., Judge Advocate.

Commander Harry O. Hanlon, Camp 10, 2047 N. Lawrence Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

James P. Rodgers, Camp 10, 2225 Gerritt Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Fred L. Heger, Camp 228, 232 George St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Commander Steven H. Denges, Camp 114, 2819 Crosky St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Allan M. Henry, Camp 236, 2831 Coral Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

By the order of the

Attest:

Commander-in-Chief

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.
Altoona, Pa., May 31, 1907.

Special Orders,
No. 5,
Series 1907.

1. The commission of Brigadier General Fred Tschudy, of the Department of Pennsylvania, Sons of Veterans Reserves, will expire on the first day of June, A. D. 1907. No order for election of the successor of the said Brigadier General Tschudy having been issued, and no election having taken place for that purpose, the commission of the said Fred Tschudy as Brigadier General of the Department of Pennsylvania, Sons of Veterans Reserves, is hereby continued and he will remain in command of said brigade until his successor is elected.

By order of

Commander-in-Chief

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.
Scranton, Pa., June 19, 1907.

Special Orders,
No. 6,
Series of 1907.

By virtue of the power and authority vested in me, believing such course to be for the best interests of the service of the Sons of Veterans Reserves, Brigadier General Fred Tschudy is hereby directed to convene the Field and Line

officers of the Brigade at Brigade Headquarters, Wednesday, June 19th, at 8 p. m., for the purpose of holding an election for the successor of Brigadier General Tschudy, Commanding Pennsylvania Brigade.

By order of,
 Official: EDWIN M. AMIES,
 H. H. HAMMER, Commander-in-Chief.
 National Secretary.

GENERAL ORDERS.

H'dq'rs Commandery-in-Chief, S. of V., U. S. A.
 Altoona, Pa., Sept. 6, '06.

General Orders,
 No. IX,
 Series of 1906.

The twenty-fifth annual encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., was held at Peoria, Ill., August 21-23, 1906.

Officers.

The following officers were elected and installed: Commander-in-Chief, Edwin M. Amies, Altoona, Pa.; Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.; Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, F. D. Wolfrom, San Francisco, Cal.; Council-in-Chief, Thomas J. Hannon, Boston, Mass.; Ralph Sheldon, Albany, N. Y.; Thomas W. Blair, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Headquarters.

National Headquarters have been established as follows: Commander-in-Chief, Edwin M. Amies, Rooms 28, 30 & 32 Central Trust Building, Altoona, Pa. National Secretary, Horace H. Hammer, Reading, Pa. Chief of Staff, Gen. R. M. J. Reed, Commanding Sons of Veterans Reserves (Military Department) 2510 W. Lehigh Ave., Phila., Pa.

Staff Officers.

The following Staff Officers have been appointed: National Counselor, William T. Church, Chicago, Ill.; Chaplain-in-Chief, Rev. James G. Van Ness, D. D., Mt. Vernon, Iowa; National Inspector, George E. Cox, Hartford, Conn.; National Patriotic Instructor, Rev. W. J. Patton, Mason City, Iowa; Personal Aid, Sons of Veterans, D. Sherman Smith, Lancaster, Pa.

Inspection.

Division Commanders will arrange at once with their Division Inspectors for an inspection of all Camps in their respective Divisions, in accordance with Article XXII, Constitution & Laws. The inspections should begin promptly and early in October, and must be concluded prior to December 31st. Inspection blanks will be furnished by the National Secretary on requisition in due form at a cost of \$1.00 per hundred. One inspection report will be forwarded to the Division Inspector of the Camp inspected, and if the Division Commanders desire, a report can also be furnished each Camp inspected. Divisions will, however, provide for this as only one blank will be necessary to furnish the Division Inspector.

In order that there may be a general and thorough inspection, Division Commanders and Division Inspectors are urged

to communicate at once with National Inspector, George E. Cox, Hartford, Conn., for necessary instructions.

Charter Applications.

Applications for Camp Charters have been approved, since last announcement, as follows:

Aug. 16	Salamonia,	Ind.	21
Aug. 28	Riverside, East Providence,	R. I.	15
Sept. 8	38 Magnolia,	Ohio	27

Camp mustered since last announcement:

Aug. 1	97 Coatesville,	Penna.	20
Aug. 28	Magnolia,	Ohio	28

Charters for new Camps will be issued by the National Secretary upon receipt of mustering officer's report.

Applications for Charter for new Camps should be forwarded to the National Secretary. At all times the charter fee must accompany the application. No application will be approved which is not accompanied with the proper remittance.

National Patriotic Instructor.

By the action of the Commandery-in-Chief at its 25th annual encampment held at Peoria, Ill., the office of the National Patriotic Instructor was created, with power to the Commander-in-Chief, to appoint a suitable person upon his staff to be called National Patriotic Instructor.

Your Commander-in-Chief takes great pleasure in announcing the appointment of Rev. W. J. Patton, of Mason City, Iowa, to this very important office.

Division Commanders will immediately report the name and address of the Division Patriotic Instructor appointed by them to the National Secretary, to complete the rosters of the various Divisions.

They will also report the name and address of the said officer to the National Patriotic Instructor, Rev. W. J. Patton, Mason City, Iowa, without delay, so that the work of this new Department can be gotten under way without unnecessary delay.

Requisitions.

All requisitions for supplies will be sent to H. H. Hammer, National Secretary, Reading, Pa., accompanied by Money Order or Draft, made payable to him. All remittances must always be made payable to the National Secretary and must be sent to Reading, Pa.

Supplies will be shipped with express prepaid, as per requisition note—provided they do not exceed five per cent of the value or amount of the requisition, except the Division of California, Colorado and Washington, to which ten per cent is allowed.

No supplies will be forwarded unless ordered on Requisition, officially, and the remittance accompanies same, made payable to the National Secretary.

Many Divisions use old form requisitions with Chicago, Ill., as the headquarters of the National Treasurer. It is requested that these forms be destroyed and new or present forms of requisitions be substituted and supplies ordered thereon in future.

Division Commanders will notify the National Secretary **AT ONCE** of the number of copies of Constitution & Law they

have on hand at the various Headquarters of the Divisions, and how many inserts containing the amendments, alterations and changes made to the Constitution & Laws at Peoria, will be required, for the stock of the Constitution & Laws each Division has on hand. Give this immediate attention. These changes will be promulgated to the Divisions having a stock of the Constitutions on hand, to include in same when distributed or sold to Camps.

Per Capita Tax.

Per Capita Tax to the Commandery-in-Chief remains unchanged, and must always accompany reports to the Division Secretary and Division Treasurer.

The attention of Division Commanders and Division Secretaries is called to Article XVIII, Constitution & Laws whereby it is required that per capita tax and reports must be in the hands of the National Secretary on or before the last day of October.

The National Secretary is directed to close up his report and books on that date and Divisions failing to report and pay tax by that time, will be reported as delinquent. Due and timely notice of this fact is hereby given.

Consolidated Reports.

Division Secretaries are directed through the respective Division Commanders to use in future the revised or improved Form 37 in making out their Consolidated Reports and all forms of that number of the old series are to be destroyed.

Deaths.

It is with sincere regret and sorrow that the death of two of our most valued and loyal brothers must be announced:

Past Division Commander Frederick E. Carpenter, of Rhode Island Division, died suddenly on Thursday, August 30, 1906, and Bro. E. H. Jenkins, Division Secretary, of Nebraska, on Thursday, August 23rd, 1906.

The Order at large and the Division of Rhode Island and Nebraska particularly are assured of the sympathy of the brothers generally. The loss of such brothers is indeed sorely to be deplored.

Report of National Secretary.

I have the pleasure of appending hereto the financial statements of the National Secretary for period of August 1st to 11, 1906, inclusive:

Commander-in-Chief Sons of Veterans,

Esteemed Sir and Commander:

I have the honor to submit herewith the following report of the financial transactions of this department for period August 1st to 11th, 1906, inclusive:

To Balance July 31st, 1906.....	\$1255.94
Received for Per Capita Tax.....	1157.91
Received for Charter Fees	10.00
Received for Supplies	44.10
Total Receipts.....	<u>\$1212.01</u>
	\$2467.95

ENCAMPMENT

29

By Expenditures:

General Expenses:		
Headquarters		
For Stock	\$	3.10
Shipping Supplies		4.25
Total Expenditures		<u>7.35</u>
Balance, August 11th.....		\$2460.60

Supplemental Report.

August 12th-22nd, 1906, inclusive:		
To Balance August 11th.....		2460.60
Rec'd from National Treasurer as interest on deposit of funds Oct. 1, 1905, Aug. '06.\$	26.92	
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax:		

Indiana	\$	9.00
Illinois .....		.90
Penna		930.35
Minn.		46.38
Ohio		215.53
Wisconsin		44.73
Kansas		38.08
Michigan		18.10
New York		301.69
		<u>1604.76</u>

Rec'd for Charter Fees:

Indiana		5.00
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Rec'd for Supplies:

Colorado79
Indiana		5.00
Minnesota		1.14
Washington		1.01
		<u>7.94</u>

1644.62

Total Receipts

\$4105.22

By Expenditures:

General Expenses:		
25th National Encampment	\$	660.95
Miscellaneous—R'tual Committee		166.68
Miscellaneous—Bal. Military Dept. 1904-05....		34.18
Miscellaneous—Sr. Vice Comd'r-in-Chief.....		34.00
Miscellaneous—National Inspector		6.00
The Banner, August, 1906. Subscription.....		491.18
Salaries—Nat'l Sec'y & Nat'l Treas. Sept. 21, 1905-Aug. 21, 1906		2108.33

\$3501.42

Office Expenses:

Headquarters:		
Postage	\$	9.34
Expressage .....		.25
		<u>9.59</u>

Commander-in-Chief:

Postage		11.60
Stenographer and Office		24.80

Telegrams	1.00
Expressage .....	.40
	37.80
Total Expenditures	47.39
	\$3548.81
Balance, August 22nd, 1906.....	\$ 556.41

Receipts.

For Per Capita Tax.....	\$11,149.65
Supplies	2,963.99
Charter Fees	430.00
Miscellaneous (Interest on deposit funds) ..	37.72
Balance received from preceding Administration	284.56
Total Receipts	\$14,865.92

Expenditures

General Expenses	\$12,588.80
Office Expenses:	
Headquarters	\$790.93
Commander-in-Chief:	929.78
	1720.71
Total Expenditures	\$14,309.51
Balance, August 22nd, 1906	\$ 556.41

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Peoria Encampment.

Detailed information concerning the proceedings of the 25th annual encampment cannot be promulgated through this order. At this moment these headquarters are without the transcript of the stenographic notes of the encampment. Time has not been had to transcribe and forward them to these headquarters by the stenographers.

A full and complete record of the proceedings will follow in the next general order and be published in the next issue of The Banner.

This delay will explain why certain committees are not announced and why certain information is not promulgated herewith. Your Commander-in-Chief is without the official record, and cannot therefore furnish intelligent transmission.

Fraternal Greetings.

To our parent organization, the Grand Army of the Republic, to the Woman's Relief Corps, the Ladies of the G. A. R., the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, the Daughters of Veterans, and to all other kindred patriotic societies, we extend fraternal greetings. We desire the good will and support of all, and we pledge anew our fealty to our

Principles and Objects.

Founded upon a trust in Almighty God, with a realization that under his beneficial guidance the free institutions of our land, consecrated by the services and blood of our fathers, have been preserved, and upon a true allegiance to the government of the United States of America, pledging fidelity to law and order, this society declares its objects to be:

First. To perpetuate the sacrifices of our fathers and their services for the maintenance of the Union.

Second. To inculcate patriotism, and to teach truthful history and to spread and sustain the doctrine of equal rights, universal liberty and justice to all.

Third. To help the members of the Grand Army of the Republic and all honorably discharged Union Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, to extend aid to their widows and orphans, and to honor the memories of their heroic dead through historical exercises, and proper observances of Memorial Day and Union Defender's Day.

Fourth. To aid and assist worthy and needy members of the Order.

Acknowledgment.

The election of myself to the proud position of Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., carries with it, to my mind, a responsibility with which I am deeply impressed, and a distinction which I highly prize. I realize full well the duties which I assume and the obligations concurrent therewith, and it will be my earnest desire and endeavor to perform my trust with impartiality, honor and credit.

The unanimity with which the office was conferred causes me to feel that I must work doubly hard to maintain the confidence which was reposed in me at Peoria, but I cannot labor alone, I want the help of every brother of the Order. I want all to join in and make this administration one of the best in its history. The objects of the Order are grand, they are glorious. Founded primarily upon a trust in Almighty God, through whom we perpetuate the sacrifices of our fathers, inculcate patriotism, render assistance and aid to the members of the Grand Army of the Republic and kindred organizations, and assist our own, it does seem to me that the field is wide, and the work plenty, and the harvest at hand. Cannot we get together and make abundant progress this year?

I am truly grateful for the honor conferred, and hope at the close of my term to merit your approval.

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,

EDWIN M. AMIES,

Commander-in-Chief

Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

Hdq'rs Commandery-in-Chief, S. of V., U. S. A.
Altoona, Pa., October 3, '06.

General Orders,

No. X,

Series of 1906.

The stenographic report of the Encampment, held at Peoria, Illinois, has been received at these headquarters and a resume of the work accomplished there is herewith promulgated.

Official Organ Committee.

The Commander-in-Chief was instructed "to appoint a Committee of three to give the matter of Official Organ a careful and considerate investigation, said committee to report to the Encampment of 1907. In accordance with that instruction the Commander-in-Chief appoints to serve upon that committee

Harley V. Spelman, Ohio, Chairman; Frank L. Shepard, Illinois, and Leonard C. Couch, Massachusetts.

Supplies.

All supplies for both the civic and military branches of the Order are to be purchased by requisition made upon the National Secretary, through proper civic and military channels, the revenues from the Reserves supplies to go direct to the Reserves Department headquarters, the same as the revenues from Camp supplies go to Division headquarters; the prices of all military supplies to be fixed by Chief of Staff, the National Secretary and National Treasurer.

The various Division headquarters should carry a complete stock of supplies. The practice of having National Headquarters fill Camp Packets should be discontinued. These should be supplied by Division Headquarters. The expense of shipping supplies from National Headquarters to individuals as it were, ought to be abolished. It is hoped Division Commanders will assist in this matter.

Publication of Orders.

General Orders of both the civic and military branches will be promulgated only through publication in The Banner during the coming year, and the publisher thereof is requested to send a copy of each issue to each Camp Secretary for filing purposes, in addition to the copies now furnished the membership.

Memorial and Union Defenders' Days.

The recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief concerning the observance of Memorial and Union Defenders' Days were concurred in. Too much stress cannot be laid upon the fitting observance of these occasions, especially Memorial Day.

Restoration of Honors.

Rank of Past Division Commander restored to Augustus S. Libby, of Shepley Camp, No. 4, Portland, Me.; George Shere, of St. Paul Camp, No. 1, Minn.

Rank of Past Camp Commander restored to Harry L. Harrington, of T. W. Hyde Camp, Bath, Me.; Dr. Ward E. Hunt, of New York Division; Wm. E. Baker, of New York Division; John H. Morton, of New York Division; George Denniston, of New York Division; Lyman Odell, of New York Division; Frank Curtiss, of New York Division; W. K. Towner, of New York Division.

Memorial Committee.

As in the report of the Memorial Committee there was a recommendation that a similar committee be continued, and as the report was adopted, the appointment of such a committee is in order. In accordance with this recommendation the committee is continued.

Amendment of Constitution.

The action of the second session of this Encampment in amending the constitution so as to require payment by a dropped member of one year's dues to Camp dropping him and the muster, was reconsidered, with the result that Section 3, Art. XIX remains as it stands.

Place of Meeting.

Dayton, Ohio, was selected as the place for holding the next Encampment, the Council-in-Chief to fix the time.

Per Capita Tax.

Division Commanders are hereby ordered to have their reports of their Division Secretaries and Division Treasurers with per capita tax for the quarter ending September 30th in the hands of National Secretary by October 31st. Make all remittances payable to H. H. Hammer, National Secretary. Divisions not paying tax or reporting by the period stated, will be noted in next General Order as delinquent and will be suspended.

Per capita tax must be paid on all members reinstated for the quarters which they have been suspended and reinstated. If a member is suspended for one, two, three or four quarters, etc., respectively, and reinstated, tax must be paid for each and every quarter, such have been reinstated for. The report of Division Secretaries will show this. Use new Form 37—Division Secretary's Consolidated Quarterly Report.

Inspection.

Attention is called to General Order No. 9 of September in The Banner relative to inspection. Division Commanders will order inspection blanks on requisition from the National Secretary at once, and have their inspection of Camps under way and completed by the time specified. Inspection Blanks will be furnished at \$1.00 per hundred.

Requisition.

Division Headquarters Officers are again reminded to destroy old forms of requisitions and to use only the revised form. The blank issued from Chicago is obsolete and will be destroyed.

Miscellaneous.

1500 copies of the proceedings of the Encampment are to be printed for distribution throughout the Order.

National Secretary was instructed to obtain articles of incorporation in such state as he may deem advisable, or to revive present charter in Illinois, if thought best. The incorporation of the Commandery-in-Chief was delegated to P. C. C. Frank L. Shepard.

Camps are to be formed in parade in accordance with seniority of the Camps participating.

Decisions of Commander-in-Chief were approved.

Uniform card system, as recommended by the National Inspector, for use of Divisions in keeping membership records, was adopted and the same is to be included in supplies and to be sold by the National Secretary on proper requisition.

The membership badge of the Order is to remain the same; and the official buttonhole decoration is the bronze shield.

Committee on ritual is continued, with instruction to prepare a ritual and to have 1000 copies of the same printed in pamphlet form and to be submitted to the Camps and Divisions before December 1st, 1906.

Applications and Musters.

Since last announcement applications for Charters for Camps have been approved as follows:

Date	No.	Location	Division	No. App.
Sept. 8	3	Augusta	Missouri	18
Sept. 6	64	Dexter	Maine	21

Sept. 22		Clyde	New York	22
Sept. 25	33	Delton	Wisconsin	22
Sept. 25	41	Tippecanoe City	Ohio	41
Oct. 1	99	Drums	Pennsylvania	15
Camps mustered and chartered were:				
June 29	5	Farrington	New Hampshire	52
Sept. 2	3	Augusta	Missouri	18
Sept. 4	41	Tippecanoe City	Ohio	26
Sept. 13	33	Delton	Wisconsin	18
Sept. 24	64	Dexter	Maine	26

Financial Statement.

Following is the report of the National Secretary for the period of August 23 to September 30th, 1906, inclusive:

Reading, Pa., Oct. 1, 1906.

To Edwin M. Amies,
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
Esteemed Sir & Commander:

I have the honor to submit report of the financial transactions of this department for the period August 23rd to September 30th, 1906, inclusive, as follows:

RECEIPTS:

To Balance August 22nd, 1906.....		\$ 556.41
Received for Per Capita Tax.....	\$ 90.11	
Charter Fees	30.00	
Supplies	285.72	
Miscellaneous (Sale of waste paper \$1.25); sale of Past Com-in-Chief H. V. Speelman's office furniture (\$24.00); typewriter (\$20.00); Return of Trunk Line Agent's fee for attendance at Peoria Nat'l Encampm't (\$11.00)	56.26	
Total Receipts		<u>462.09</u>

BY EXPENDITURES: \$1018.50

General Expenses: Headquarters.....	\$605.11	
Office Expenses:		
Headquarters....	\$90.30	
Comd'r-in-Chief..	77.39	
	<u>167.69</u>	
Total Expenditures		<u>\$ 772.80</u>

Balance, Sept. 30th..... \$ 245.70

Itemized Expenditures:

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Headquarters:

For Stock and Supplies.....	\$ 39.20
The Banner (September).....	496.00
Printing	15.85
Moving Headquarters	6.85
Reserves	4.50
Shipping Supplies	10.21
Bonds, National Officers.....	32.50
	<u>\$ 605.11</u>

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Light .....	.58
Postage	15.70
Express .....	.79
Telegrams .....	.25
Stationery, Nat'l Officers	72.98

 \$ 90.30

Commander-in-Chief:

Rent	21.50
Postage	4.00
Telegrams	1.02
Traveling	30.18
Stenographer and Office Supplies....	15.00
Express	5.69

 \$ 77.39

 Total Expenditures..... \$ 772.80

Yours fraternally, H. H. HAMMER, National Sec'y.

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

EDWIN M. AMIES,

Commander-in-Chief,

Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

H'dq'rs Commandery-in-Chief, S. of V., U. S. A.
 Altoona, Pa., Nov. 3, 1900.

General Orders,
 No. 11,
 Series of 1906.

Inspections.

Attention is again called to the matter of inspections. Division Commanders will have their Division Inspectors arrange at once for the inspection of the Camps in their respective Divisions, to the end that all may be completed and all Camps inspected by the end of the present quarter—December 31st.

Inspection blanks should be ordered from the National Secretary. Price \$1.00 per hundred.

Division Inspectors will place themselves in communication with National Inspector George E. Cox, Hartford, Conn., on the subject of inspection.

Request for Encampment Proceedings.

Copies of the proceedings of the Encampments of 1888, 1895, and 1900 are requested to be furnished the National Headquarters. It is earnestly hoped that these be supplied to complete the files and records, as there are none of these at headquarters. It will be conferring a favor if these will be forwarded the National Secretary.

Special Aides.

Your Commander-in-Chief realizing that it is impossible for him to carry on the work of the Order alone and single handed has deemed it advisable, with the aid, assistance and advice of the different Division Commanders, to appoint a corps of able, energetic and patriotic brothers as Special Aides to serve in that capacity during the present administration. The selection of these brothers has been made after a thorough canvass and all have come highly recommended. It is expected

therefore, that they will give to the Order their best and most patriotic work so that your Commander-in-Chief will have the satisfaction of knowing that their appointment was well merited. It is hoped further that they be so heard from by their work that the Commander-in-Chief and the Order at large will have pleasure and profit by their appointment.

The following is a partial list of the Special Aides so far appointed; the balance of the appointees will appear in the next number of The Banner although notice will be made to them prior to that time:

Special Aides.

California: A. S. Ormsby, No. 1115 Broadway St., Oakland; C. F. Kimball, Redding; C. E. Montgomery, No. 403 Oak St., San Francisco; J. C. Baker, Pasadena; Fred E. Munsey, No. 406 Broadway St., Los Angeles; H. W. Culver, Long Beach.

Iowa: J. R. Harker, Ute; N. M. Nelson, Clear Lake; C. J. W. Sanders, Jr., Dubuque; J. E. Blodgett, Central City; H. L. Garrison, Boone; Chas. Rhinehart, Dallas Center.

Indiana: W. F. Geller, Fort Wayne; J. W. McNay, Valparaiso; R. J. Bosworth, Winchester; W. A. Books, Goshen; F. E. Watson, Goldsmith; S. C. Tipton, South Bend; R. E. Warner, LaFayette.

Kansas: Charles B. Martin, Parsons; E. Chellis, Gypsum; R. G. Richard, Valley Center; D. C. Tillotson, Topeka; W. P. Feder, Great Bend.

Maine: Orrin Ricker, Augusta; Wesley L. Gribbon, Portland; Charles L. Chase, Newport; Wilbur S. Cross, Anderson; Clarence Chick, Kittery.

Maryland: F. P. Gentley, No. 2524 W. 18th St., Wilmington, Del.; D. M. Rittenhouse, Covington and Clement Sts., Baltimore, Md.; C. S. Davis, Colonial Mansion, Tacoma Park, D. C.; Edgar Allan, Jr., Richmond, Va.; Edwin C. Irelan, Baltimore, Md.

Massachusetts: Dr. E. N. Bates, East Weymouth; E. E. Emerson, West Springfield, Merrick Station; Lyman J. Loyd, Manchester; Charles H. Schofield, Oxford; F. H. White, Roxbury; Francis H. Brocks, Athol; F. H. Southwick, Brockton.

Nebraska: F. J. Coates, Grand Island; Harry W. Rogers, Jr., Fremont; W. H. Dav's, Wilber; George W. Haine, Hooper; George C. Townsley, Aurora; W. L. Rowley, Columbus.

New York: John J. Raczkiwicz, Brooklyn; T. Austin Williamson, Albany; George W. Toell, Brooklyn; Robert Attridge, Rochester; Adam Listman, Syracuse; Charles W. Wilcox, Peeksville.

New Hampshire: V. M. Morse, Washington St., Concord; John W. Dufrey, Somersworth; Harry L. Lewis, Keene; M. P. Bennet, No. 8 Milk St., Dover; Frank Boynton Gray, Nashua.

Ohio: J. E. Shanck, Tadmor; Adelbert M. McKay, Waynesville; Arthur E. Risser, Findlay; Frank L. Probert, Salem; O. L. Butts, East Palestine.

Wisconsin: Felix A. Kremer, Madison; B. P. Armstrong, Racine; John A. Hazelwood, Jefferson; B. S. Fox, Meehan; Charles H. Hudson, Madison; R. M. Smith, Peshtigo; J. G. Bogart, No. 100 Wisconsin St., Milwaukee; Dr. F. H. B. McDowell, Racine.

Ala. and Ten.: S. John Routledge, Blossburg, Ala.; John H. Patton, Chattanooga, Tenn.; P. A. Schaulfer, Cullman, Ala.; Elmore E. Carter, Knoxville, Tenn.; Wade P. Harding, Atlanta,

Ga.; W. L. Copeland, R. F. D. No. 1, Wheat, Tenn.; C. W. Stapleton, St. Augustine, Fla.

Missouri: Wm. E. Koch, Augusta; Chas. Spahn, No. 1703 S. 8th St., St. Louis; C. E. Cashion, Perryville; W. E. Woods, Joplin; Wm. Heintz, No. 3730 N. 9th St., St. Louis; Hugo Essen, Pond.

New Jersey: Fred W. Gentieu, Penn's Grove; W. J. Lenox, No. 357 First Ave., Elizabeth; Isaac W. Richtmeyer, P. O. Box No. 69, Toms River; Andrew Foulds, Jr., Passaic; Ezra T. Beers, Bayard St., Trenton; Edw. C. Wills, No. 80 New St., Newark.

Camp Elections.

The time of the year is drawing near, when the different Camps will be called upon to elect officers for the ensuing term. It is hoped and desired that the very best material will be selected by the different Camps in the selection of their officers. Exercise your best judgment, as the success of the Camps rests very largely upon those whom you choose for these honorable positions.

Public Installations.

In conformity with precedents heretofore established, public installations are recommended, and a general dispensation is hereby granted for conducting them. It is suggested whenever practical that joint installations with the G. A. R., W. R. C. and S. V. Auxiliary and other kindred societies be encouraged.

Charter Applications.

Applications for Charters for new Camps have been received since last General Order, as follows:

Date.	Location.	Division.	No. Appl'ts
Oct. 12	North Adams,	Mass.	28
Oct. 27	Farmland,	Indiana,	29
Oct. 27	Anchorage,	Kentucky,	15

Camps Mustered.

Date.	Camp No.	Location.	Division.	No. Must.
Sept. 21		Riverside,	R. I.	21
Oct. 1	99	Drums,	Pa.	16

New Ritual.

In answer to the numerous inquiries regarding the promulgation of the new Ritual, as per the action of the Peoria National Encampment, it is hereby announced, that the Committee on Ritual has not been able to make any arrangements regarding the completion of the work or the delivery of the Ritual, thus far, and the matter is in the same condition, as reported at the Encampment referred to.

Efforts are being made to have the material produced and the Ritual promulgated as directed by the Encampment, at the time specified, but if it is not, no blame should attach to those to whom the matter was delegated.

Financial Statement No. 2.

Report of the National Secretary for the month of October, 1906.

Reading, Pa., Nov. 1, 1906.

To Edwin M. Amies, Commander-in-Chief of Sons of Veterans. Esteemed Sir and Commander: I have the honor to submit report of the financial transactions of the Department of National Secretary for the month of October, 1906, as follows:

RECEIPTS:

To Balance, September 30th, 1906.....		\$245.70
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax.....	\$192.08	
Charter Fees	25.00	
Supplies	234.54	
Total Receipts		<u>451.62</u>
		\$697.32

EXPENDITURES:

General Expenses: Headquarters	\$587.90	
Office Expenses: Headquarters	18.10	
Commander-in-Chief	86.86	
Total Expenditures		<u>692.86</u>
Balance, October 31st, 1906...		\$ 4.46
Itemized Expenditures.		

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Headquarters:		
Stock and Supplies	\$251.90	
The Banner—October Subscription (497.56) on account	300.00	
Printing	3.96	
Shipping Supplies	12.04	
Miscellaneous (Charter Incorporation)	20.00	
		<u>\$587.90</u>

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Headquarters:		
Light (\$0.25); Postage (\$14.89); Express (\$2.09); Stationery (\$0.87)		18.10
Commander-in-Chief:		
Rent (\$14.50); Postage (\$7.50); Traveling (\$17.86); Stenographer and Office Sup- plies (\$47.00)		86.86
Total Expenditures		<u>\$692.86</u>

Yours fraternally,

H. H. HAMMER, National Sec'y.

Amendment to Constitution and Laws.

At the Peoria Encampment, Past Commander-in-Chief, H. V. Speelman, in his report to said encampment recommended the following:

"2. The adoption of a badge of uniform design for all members of the Order, with privileges of the use of different materials in its manufacture for Past Commanders-in-Chief, Past Division Commanders, and the general membership, the full description of th's regulation badge to be contained in the constitution."

By the action of the Encampment this recommendation was adopted, and in pursuance thereof the following inscription of the regulation badge is hereby promulgated, and to Article VIII, Section 1, Page 23, of the Constitution and Laws is added the

New Paragraph.

The regulation badge shall be of bronze. On the face of the

badge is a medallion with the monogram of the letters "S. V." and the inscription "Gratia Dei Servatus, MDCCCLXXXI," the inscription being between two concentric circles of the medallion, the inner circle inclosing the monogram and also rays radiating from the centre behind the monogram. Surrounding the medallion is a wreath of laurel and the ends of two cannon, which apparently cross at the back of the wreath and medallion, and the top of the medal is surrounded by an eagle. Upon the back of the badge is the representation of a belt with the ends buckled together, which surrounds the monogram "S. V., U. S. A." On the belt is the inscription "Filii Veteranorum."

The badge is suspended from a ribbon, which is attached to a fastening pin consisting of a bar having a rim and bearing the inscription "Filii Veteranorum."

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

EDWIN M. AMIES,
Commander-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

H'dq'rs Commandery-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.
Altoona, Pa., Dec. 8, 1906.

General Orders

No. 12.

Series of 1906.

Password and Countersign.

I. The password and countersign for term beginning January 1st, 1907, has been issued to all Divisions forwarding reports and per capita tax for the Quarter ending September 30th, to the National Secretary.

Camps paying tax and forwarding reports for Quarter ending December 31st, 1906, and being in good standing at that date, will receive this new password and countersign.

Only Camps in good standing December 31st, 1906, will receive the new password and countersign.

Inspections.

II. Division Commanders who have not yet ordered inspections of their Camps will do so at once. This must be completed by the end of this Quarter—December 31st, 1906.

Blanks can be procured on requisition, from the National Secretary, by forwarding \$1.00 per hundred, in payment of same.

Attention is called to the fact that where no Inspection Report is received, of a Division, representation in the National Encampment of that Division cannot be had. The same applies to Camps.

Commissions.

III. All elective officers of a Camp are entitled to receive Commissions. This includes the members of Camp Council. Division Commanders will be governed and act accordingly.

Request For Proceedings.

IV. The National Secretary again requests that Proceedings of the National Encampment of 1888, be forwarded to him to complete the printed records of the various Encampments.

Reports and Tax.

V. Notice is hereby given that reports and tax for the

present Quarter ending December 31st, 1906, must be in the hands of the National Secretary, as soon as possible.

Membership.

VI. The depreciation in membership as between the last (September) Quarter and the June Quarter, is due very materially to the insistence of reports being forwarded with per capita tax, within the period specified by the Constitution. Many of the Divisions have suffered thereby, having been compelled to suspend numerous Camps. These Camps not having reported in time for the Division Commanders and Division Secretaries to include same in their reports, and not carrying such Camps as neglected to pay tax and forward reports, are not accredited as being in good standing.

Decisions.

VII. The attention of the Division Commanders, Division Secretaries, and others, is respectfully called to the habit, which seems to be growing alarmingly, of requesting the Commander-in-Chief and the National Secretary to decide various questions, involving points of law, parliamentary usage, and to determine the construction to be placed upon the constitution, rules and regulations, and other matter pertaining to the government of our Order.

It is suggested that, when questions such as are indicated above arise, the regular and orderly method of procedure be followed; that questions arising in Camps be submitted to the designated authorities and, if dissatisfaction arise, appeal be taken; that questions arising in Divisions be submitted to designated authority and, if dissatisfaction arise, appeal be taken. This method will save considerable annoyance and correspondence. The reason for this must be apparent, for possibly the Commander-in-Chief would be called upon to decide matters, which finally might come before him for adjudication and decision.

Encampment Notes.

VIII. It is requested that, as soon as possible, these Headquarters be advised of the time and place of holding Encampments of their respective Division in 1907.

Special Aides.

IX. The following Special Aides on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief have been appointed. This to be read in conjunction with the list as published in General Orders No. XI.

California: Monroe J. Orr, San Francisco.

Illinois: Geo. D. Kessler, No. 1389 Jackson Blvd., Chicago; Percival E. Foote, No. 2034 Wilcox Ave., Chicago; John T. Stockton, The Rookery, Chicago; H. P. Beedle, East St. Louis; Chas. C. Hatcher, Times Bldg., Chicago; Charles Moses, No. 4335 Ellis Ave., Chicago; M. Trinkause, Pekin.

Maine: G. G. McAllister, East Stoneham.

Maryland: Capt. Francis E. Cross, No. 319 9th St., N. E., Washington, D. C.; Robert L. Rippeon, Frederick, Md.; Robert B. Wade, No. 1119 Kirkwood St., Washington, D. C.

Minnesota: H. L. Lizer, Aitken; W. J. Courtney, Page, N. D.; R. K. Whitely, Brainard; A. L. Foster, Duluth, No. 17 E. 3d St.; S. S. Scott, St. Paul; Geo. W. Turner, Minneapolis.

New York: Frank M. Marlow, Henry B. Davis, Frank

T. Watson, James Black, George E. Snyder, Charles Hagen, Edward W. Beers, Albert Severs, Wm. L. Gaynor, Troy; Dr. Wade C. Hunt, Little Falls; Wm. J. Klein, Syracuse; Dr. Joseph T. Cook, Buffalo; Wm. A. Personius, Waverly; Wm. J. Campion, New York; F. A. Soper, Watertown; George A. Burnham, Newark, N. Y.; Fred A. Smith, Peekskill.

Pennsylvania: Karl Stewart, Harrisburg; A. S. Strausser, Shamokin; L. C. Myers, Downingtown; George H. Savery, Wilkesbarre; F. A. McKelvey, Pittsburg; Titus Ruch, Hellertown; C. C. Morton, Philadelphia; Charles T. Charters, Harrisburg.

Vermont: Ira E. Morse, Cambridge; Herbert I. Bixby, Chelsea; Arthur L. Cheney, Norrisville; Will L. White, Hardwick; F. W. Spear, Bennington.

Wisconsin: Harry S. Fuller, Milwaukee.

Headquarters' Inspectors.

X. The following Assistant National Inspectors have been appointed and are detailed to inspect Division Headquarters as indicated:

Division Inspectors.

Alabama and Tennessee, L. W. Friedman, Birmingham, Ala.
California, Frank B. Wilson, San Francisco.

Colorado and Wyoming, F. A. Whitney, Denver.

Connecticut, George E. Cox, Hartford.

Illinois, Jas. E. Seabert, Dwight.

Indiana, Wm. G. Dustin, Dwight, Ill.

Iowa, Rev. W. J. Patton, Mason City.

Kansas, C. B. Martin, Parsons.

Kentucky, H. V. Spelman, Cincinnati, Ohio.

New York, H. H. Hammer, Reading, Penna.

New Jersey, R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia, Penna.

Ohio, Edwin M. Amies, Altoona, Pa.

Pennsylvania, Jas. B. Adams, Atlantic City, N. J.

Maine, Thos. J. Hannon, Boston, Mass.

Maryland, R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia, Penna.

Massachusetts, Arthur B. Splink, Providence, R. I.

Michigan, H. E. Cowdin, Rockford, Mich.

Missouri, H. G. Wassen, Peoria, Ill.

Minnesota, A. L. Sorter, Jr., Minneapolis.

Nebraska, to be supplied.

New Hampshire, Arthur M. Soule, Portland, Me.

Rhode Island, Arthur T. Bogue, Hartford, Conn.

Vermont, Wm. A. Stevens, West Roxbury, Mass.

Washington, Charles Pitchford, Asotin.

Wisconsin, Frank L. Shepard, Chicago, Ill.

These Assistant Inspectors are requested to communicate with National Inspector George E. Cox, Hartford, Conn., from whom the necessary blanks may be secured. The expenses of the Assistant National Inspectors are to be borne by the Division inspected.

Charter Applications.

XI. Since last announcement, applications for Charters for Camps were received from:

Nov. 5,	Wrightsville, Penna.,	29 applicants
Nov. 27,	Charlotte, Mich.,	25 applicants

Camp No. 39, N. Y., 25 recruits, was mustered and chartered since last announcement.

Standing of Divisions, Quarter Ending Sept. 30, 1906.

XII.		In good standing Sept. 30, 1906.		
In good standing June 30, 1906.	Camps.	Members.	Divisions.	Members.
10	260		Ala. & Tenn.	229
15	498		California	411
2	66		Colo. & Wyoming	62
19	572		Connecticut	569
42	1,180		Illinois	1,066
37	1,181		Indiana	1,004
13	329		Iowa	323
14	393		Kansas	406
8	189		Kentucky	103
32	1,055		Maine	826
10	330		Maryland	263
122	4,487		Massachusetts	4,516
8	118		Michigan	118
14	478		Minnesota	289
16	589		Missouri	558
7	72		Nebraska	70
32	953		New Hampshire	941
23	1,074		New Jersey	1,032
75	3,197		New York	3,198
69	2,309		Ohio	2,117
153	9,616		Pennsylvania	9,139
10	320		Rhode Island	309
29	737		Vermont	457
5	150		Washington	150
15	448		Wisconsin	365
780	30,601		Total	28,521

Financial Statement.

XIII. Report of the National Secretary for the month of November, 1906.

To Edwin M. Amies,

Commander-in-Chief Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Esteemed Sir & Commander:

I have the honor to submit report of the financial transactions of the Department of the National Secretary for the month of November, 1906, as follows:

RECEIPTS:

To Balance October 31st, 1906.....	\$ 4.46
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax.....	\$1205.93
Charter Fees	5.00
Suppl'es	299.37
Miscellaneous—From Chief of Staff for Sept. and Oct. and Nov., 1906.....	2.44
Total Receipts	\$1512.74

EXPENDITURES:

General Expenses: Headquarters.....	\$1182.79
Office Expenses: Headquarters	115.82
Office Expenses: Commander-in-Chief.....	80.44

Total Expenditures	\$1379.05
Balance, November 30th, 1906.....	\$ 138.15

Itemized Expenditures.

'GENERAL EXPENSES:

Headquarters:

Stock and Supplies	\$ 467.42	
The Banner (Balance due on October Sub- scription \$197.56) and November Sub- scription (\$498.75)	696.31	
Printing	4.25	
Miscellaneous (Copy Charter Incorporation)	2.25	
Shipping Supplies	12.56	
		<u>\$1132.79</u>

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Headquarters:

Rent (Sept.-Dec., 1906, inc.)	\$ 92.00	
Express, Postage, Light	15.66	
Appurtenances and material for covering Stock	8.16	
		<u>\$ 115.82</u>

Commander-in-Chief:

Rent (\$14.50); Postage (\$3.00); Traveling (\$42.94); Stenographer (\$20.00)	\$ 80.44
--	----------

Total Expenditures \$1379.05

Yours fraternally,

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Greetings.

To the brothers of the Order and the members of kindred organizations, the Commander-in-Chief extends the greetings of the season. A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year is wished and hoped for one and all. While the good things of the beautiful Yuletide season come to you individually, do not forget the tenets of our Order. Let us help, aid and assist some less fortunate one.

May peace, prosperity and good will come to you all.

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,
EDWIN M. AMIES,

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

H'dq'rs Commandery-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.
Altoona, Pa., January 7, 1907.

General Orders

No. 1,

Series of 1907.

Grand Army Report.

1. At the 40th Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, held at Minneapolis, Minnesota, August 17, 1906, the following report was adopted:

"Your Committee on Fraternal Relations with the Sons of Veterans would respectfully report that this organization is founded to perpetuate the memory of the great sacrifices and paramount importance of the services of the fathers of its members in the War for the Union, and to inculcate in the minds and hearts of the young of our land such patriotism and such

right thinking and right acting as will bring results creditable to themselves and add to their country's glory.

That we consider the Sons of Veterans an organization of great usefulness and value to the country, and extend to it our earnest congratulations and best wishes for its continued growth and success in the work in which it is enlisted. That we recommend that its members be invited to attend and take part in all open meetings of our Order, to participate with us in the observance of Memorial Day, and that when any Post disbands for lack of members, a Sons of Veterans Camp should be organized if possible to take its place and discharge its public duties and that all Posts of our Order encourage the formation of a Camp of Sons of Veterans, where not already organized, to assume and discharge these sacred duties to which it will so soon succeed."

Wm. H. Armstrong, Chairman,
 Ell Torrance,
 A. G. Weissert,
 R. W. Tirrill,
 Robert Mann Woods.

In order that the benefit of the work of my predecessors in the recent past may be derived for the Order it is suggested and earnestly requested of the Division Commanders throughout the country, that they communicate with the various Grand Army Posts in their respective states and urge the work of organizing and recruiting Camps in their different localities.

Circular matter bearing on the organization, and data of a nature that will interest the Comrades of the G. A. R. and result in them instituting Camps, should be provided to all Posts. It is requested that this be done at once.

The two previous National Administrations have paved the way for this work and it is urged upon all Divisions to profit by the same and urge the matter of organization of Camps throughout their Divisions.

Supplies.

II. The practice of Divisions obtaining paraphernalia and Camps securing supplies from a source different from that prescribed by the Constitution and Laws, should be discontinued and attention is called to the fact that the procuring of such Forms, Supplies, or other portions of the paraphernalia or articles, as specified by the Constitution, is a violation thereof and it is hoped same will not be necessary to again refer to.

Encampment Proceedings.

III. The Proceedings of the National Encampment of 1906, held at Peoria, Ill., have been promulgated. Members desiring same can procure a copy from the National Secretary by forwarding 5 cents in postage therefore. No request will be complied with unless postage is forwarded.

Card Index System.

IV. The Card Index System, adopted for Divisions, at the recent (Peoria) National Encampment, is now ready and can be supplied to Divisions. In ordering same write number desired on the Requisition Form 1½, and enclose remittance therefore. The cost is \$1.00 per hundred. One Card is necessary for each Camp. In accordance with the action of the Encampment, pages 127, 131 and 132, recommendation by Past National In-

Inspector E. K. DePuy, adopted by the Encampment, it is strongly urged upon all Division Headquarters to supply themselves with these cards immediately and put into practice the recommendation and action of the Encampment. Attention is again called to the price, viz: \$1.00 per hundred, and one card is necessary for each Camp. The cards are only for Division Headquarters.

Charter Applications Approved.

V. Since last announcement applications for the charter of Camps were approved as follows:

Date.	No.	Division	Location.	No.	Appl'ts.
Dec. 4	39	Ohio.	Stockdale,		30
Dec. 11	83	Penna.	Chester,		23
Dec. 31	16	Ill.	Chebanse,		25*
Dec. 31	98	Ill.	Anna,		18*

Camps were mustered and chartered as follows:

Nov. 5		Penna.	Wrightsville,	29
Aug. 25	39	Ohio,	Stockdale,	30
Oct. 30	39	Mass.	North Adams,	28
Nov. 30	9	Ind.	Farmland,	18
Oct. 12	5	Ind.	Salmonia,	32
Oct. 25	16	Ill.	Chebanse,	25
Nov. 23	98	Ill.	Anna,	18

*Mustered U. D.

Financial Statement No. 4.

VI. Report of the National Secretary for the month of December, 1906.

RECEIPTS:

To Balance November 30th, 1906.....		\$ 138.15
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax.....	\$1276.21	
Charter Fees	15.00	
Supplies	225.06	
Miscellaneous	36.00	
Total Receipts.....		\$1552.26
		<u>\$1690.41</u>

EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses—Headquarters	\$1041.60	
Office Expenses—Headquarters	25.54	
Commander-in-Chief..	42.62	
Total Expenditures		\$1109.76
Balance, Dec. 31, 1906.....		\$ 580.65

Itemized Expenditures:

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock and Supplies	\$ 182.54
The Banner, December Subscription.....	475.00
Encampment (1906) Proceedings.....	370.30
Shipping Supplies	13.76
	<u>\$1041.60</u>

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Headquarters: Light, Postage, Express, Telegrams, Stationery	\$ 25.54
Commander-in-Chief: Rent (\$14.50); Postage (\$3.12); Office & Stenographer ((\$25.00)	42.62
Total Expenditures.....	\$1109.76

Yours fraternally,

H. H. HAMMER,
Nat. Secretary.

Send Division Orders.

VII. Attention is called to the oversight of the Division officers in neglecting to send to these Headquarters, as well also as to the National Secretary, two copies of all Division Orders issued. Division officers will kindly see to it that this practice is continued and that these orders reach headquarters regularly as soon as issued.

Special Aides.

VIII. In General Order No. 12, the address of Charles H. Hatcher, Special Aide to the Commander-in-Chief from Illinois, should have been given Times Bldg., Pekin, instead of Chicago, Illinois.

Death.

IX. It is with regret and profound sorrow that announcement is made of the death of Past Division Commander Edward H. Lounsbury, of the Massachusetts Division, which occurred on the 3rd ult. He was ill but a few hours before death came. He had been an active member of the order for a number of years, was a man of splendid attainments, a skilled lawyer, and staunch in his devotion to the order.

Division Encampments.

X. It is requested that as soon as the dates of the respective Division Encampments are fixed that these Headquarters be advised immediately.

Union Defenders' Day.

XI. Attention is called to this day, viz: February 12th. One of the principles and objects of the Order, as specifically set forth in the third section of article two, declares for the proper observance of Union Defenders' Day. In view of this fact and the growing observance of this day, as well as being our duty, it is recommended that each Camp of the Sons of Veterans do fittingly observe it. The loving respect to the memory of him who gave the name to the day, Abraham Lincoln, is sufficient cause in itself for us to render respect to the day.

Fraternally yours,

EDWIN M. AMIES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest: H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Headquarters Com.-in-Chief S. V., U. S. A.
Altoona, Penna., February 4th, 1907.

G. O. No. 2,
Series of 1907.

Encampment Dates.

1. Division Encampments, the dates for which have been

fixed and of which these Headquarters have had notice, will be held as follows:

Rhode Island, at Providence, February 5th.

Nebraska, at Columbus, February 13th-14th.

Massachusetts, at Boston, February 19th-20th.

Kansas, at Topeka, May 8th-9th-10th.

Illinois, at Decatur, May 21st-22nd-23rd.

Maine, at Augusta, June 5th-6th.

Ohio, at Canton, June 11th-12th-13th-14th.

As dates are fixed for Encampments, Division Commanders will please notify these Headquarters at once.

Special Aides.

II. In addition to the Special Aides to the Commander-in-Chief, heretofore appointed, the following are to be added for the Connecticut Division:

R. T. Alcorn, Hartford, Conn.; A. J. Merritt, Security Bldg., Bridgeport; C. E. Batchellor, Ansonia; W. N. Barber, Meriden; H. H. Gorton, Naugatuck; Charles W. Davis, No. 419 Montauk Ave., New London.

Frequent inquiries have been made to these Headquarters, relative to the duties of the Special Aide to the Commander-in-Chief. Replying generally to all of these inquiries, it may be stated that the duties of a Special Aide are to render what assistance such appointee may be capable of, to enhance the good of the Order and to promulgate when and wherever possible the principles and objects of the Order, so that such work may rebound to the benefit of the Order in his locality and to the Order at large generally, and to hold himself in readiness at all times to do and perform such duties as may be requested of him by the Commander-in-Chief.

Commissions have been issued to all of the appointees and forwarded to the commanders of the respective Divisions. The insignia of rank of Special Aide may be obtained from the National Secretary, by communicating with him and enclosing five cents.

Ritual.

III. Notwithstanding the order made at the Peoria Encampment, that the Ritual Committee have ready for distribution, by the 1st of December one thousand (1000) copies of same, for unavoidable reasons this has been impossible.

The work so far submitted has not met with the approval of the Commander-in-Chief, the National Secretary, and the National Treasurer, and the work of the Ritual Committee submitted was rejected. A conference in all probability will be held during this month and ways and means taken to complete the work, so far done by the Ritual Committee, and information of same will be promulgated in the next general order.

National Inspector's Report.

IV. Attention is directed to the report of the National Inspector, page 124, of the Peoria Encampment Proceedings.

By-Laws.

V. The Divisions having failed to adopt by-laws will do so and report same to Headquarters for approval.

The Divisions having adopted by-laws and which have not

been approved by the Commander-in-Chief, will refer the same at once to Headquarters for approval.

Divisions—Camp Accounts.

VI. The four Divisions, not keeping cash accounts with Camps, if not doing so now, will at once do so.

Requisitions For Supplies.

VII. All requisitions for supplies must be promptly filled and Camps supplied without delay.

Bonds.

VIII. Bonds must be furnished by the Officers designated in Article 1, of the Constitution and Laws. This is mandatory and Division Commanders will give this their immediate attention.

Commissions, Badges, and Recognition.

IX. All Division Commanders are hereby directed to issue Commissions, to all officers and staff officers as heretofore directed and specified.

It is imperative that all Camps be properly equipped and it is hereby ordered that this matter be given attention by Division Commanders, who are directed to forthwith have all their Camps properly equipped.

Every member of the Order should have a Badge and Buttonhole Decoration or Recognition Mark of the Order. Division and Camp Commanders will give this their earnest and immediate attention and see that same are provided to their members.

All Past Commanders should be provided with the Iron Cross and those completing their terms with 1906, should have that insignia.

Decisions.

X. Division and Camp Commanders having decisions to render will be governed by the decisions of Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman, all of which were adopted and approved by the Peoria Encampment, and are consequently the legal and properly construed laws of the Order and as such are published in the Proceedings of the Encampment, pages 24-27.

Seals.

XI. Every Camp should have a seal, according to the regulations. Requisition should be made for the same by all not having a seal. Every Camp should be completely and properly equipped and it is hoped Division Commanders will have this done immediately.

Delinquents.

XII. Division and Camp Commanders will strictly enforce the law requiring a member to be in good standing by the payment of dues, or to be suspended. The privileges of the Order cannot be granted to those not in good standing. Dues should be promptly collected and paid.

Report and Tax.

XIII. Consolidated Reports of the Division Secretaries and Division Treasurers, for quarter ending December 31st, 1906, must be in the hands of the National Secretary by February 25th. Per capita tax must accompany the reports, made payable to the National Secretary. Reports and tax not received by the date

specified, will show such Divisions as not having paid tax, not reported and not in good standing.

Memorial Day.

XIV. Memorial and Decoration Days will be upon us only too soon, when we shall be called upon to perform the sacred duties, imposed upon us and usurped by the Sons of Veterans, as their prerogative to honor the memories of their fathers, and assist the Grand Army of the Republic in the proper observance of this day. It is not too early to begin preparations for these observances. Attention is reverently called to the 3rd paragraph of Article 2, of the Constitution and Laws, and it is recommended and suggested that church services be observed wherever possible, and that the sacred duties of the 30th day of May be performed by the respective Camps and assistance rendered to the Grand Army Posts in the performance of our beautiful ceremony and reverential duty.

Statement No. 5.

XV. Report of the National Secretary for month of January, 1907.

RECEIPTS:

To Balance December 31st, 1906.....		\$580.65
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax.....	\$117.04	
Charter Fees	30.00	
Supplies	269.78	
	<hr/>	
Total Receipts		\$416.82
		<hr/>
		\$997.47

EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses—Headquarters.....	\$609.78	
Comd'r-in-Chief.....	28.35	
Office Expenses—Headquarters.....	35.30	
Comd'r-in-Chief.....	40.30	
Total Expenditures		\$713.73
	<hr/>	
Balance, January 31st.....		\$283.74

Itemized Expenditures:

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock and Supplies	\$112.80	
The Banner, January Subscription	481.83	
Shipping Supplies	11.26	
Incident to proposed New Ritual	32.24	
	<hr/>	
		\$638.13

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Headquarters: Light, Postage, Express, Tele- graphing, Stationery	\$35.30	
Comd'r-in-Chief: Rent, Postage, Stenographer, Expressage	40.30	
	<hr/>	
Total Expenditures		\$713.73

H. H. HAMMER, National Secretary.

XVI. Since last announcement applications for Charters for Camps were approved, and Camps mustered as follows:
Approved:

1906	No.	Location.	Division.	No. App'ts.
Dec. 20	4	Decatur,	Illinois	41
1907.				
Jan. 10		Huntsville,	Indiana	23
Jan. 21	6	Iberia,	Missouri	48
Jan. 17	33	Amesbury,	Mass.	27
Mustered:				
1906.				
Dec. 28	83	Chester,	Penna.	37
Dec. 20	4	Decatur,	Illinois	41
1907.				
Jan. 17	33	Amesbury,	Mass.	22
Jan. 10	6	Iberia,	Missouri	30

Fraternally yours,

Attest: EDWIN M. AMIES,
Commander-in-Chief.
H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Headquarters Com.-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.
Altoona, Penna., March 4th, 1907.

General Orders,
No. 3,
Series of 1907.

Division Encampments.

I. Division Encampments, the dates of which have been fixed and of which these Headquarters have had notice will be held as follows:

New Hampshire, at Concord,, April 17-18.
Kansas, at Topeka, May 8-9-10.
New Jersey, at Newark, May 8-9.
Colorado, at Colorado Springs, May 14-15-16.
Illinois, at Decatur, May 21-22-23.
Maine, at Augusta, June 5-6.
Ohio, at Canton, June 11-12-13-14.
Pennsylvania, at Scranton, June 17-18-19-20.
New York, at Elmira, week of July 1st, (probably.)
California, at San Jose, July 4-5-6.

Nebraska Division.

II. These Headquarters have been advised by Bert J. Galley, Commander of said Division, that the Encampment of this Division, which was to have been held at Columbus, on February 13-14, has been postponed and adjourned on account of floods and high water. Commander Galley has been ordered to remain in command of said Division until his successor has been elected.

National Encampment.

III. It is altogether likely that the National Encampment will be held at Dayton, during the week of August 18th. This time has been selected by the local Committee of Arrangements at Dayton. Official notice will be made in the next General Order.

Ritual.

IV. Malcolm D. Rudd, one of the members of the Ritual Committee has tendered his resignation and it has been accepted. It is with regret that Brother Rudd insists upon the acceptance of his resignation.

Your Commander-in-Chief has nothing new to report at this time concerning a new ritual.

Special Aides.

V. Additional Special Aides have been appointed as follows:

Indiana, Carl Thompson, Winchester, Ind.
New York, Frank J. Maples, Jr., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Commissions.

VI. Commissions to Division Officers will be issued upon receipt of Form No. 49 in duplicate. These can be secured on requisition Form 1½ from the National Secretary, and all elections in Division Encampments must be certified on said form in duplicate.

Statement No. 6.

VII. Report of the National Secretary for the month of February, 1907:

RECEIPTS:

To balance January 31st, 1907.....		\$ 283.74
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax.....	2317.44	
Charter Fees	40.00	
Supplies	285.66	
Miscellaneous (Chief of Staff).....	4.72	
	<hr/>	
Total Receipts		2647.82
		<hr/>
		\$2931.56

EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses—Headquarters	\$ 601.91
Office Expenses—Headquarters	30.27
Commander-in-Chief	186.47
	<hr/>
Total Expenditures	\$ 818.65
	<hr/>
Balance February 28th, 1907....	2112.91

Itemized Expenditures:

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock and Supplies	\$ 48.82
The Banner, February Subscriptions	482.55
Shipping Supplies	11.39
Miscellaneous	59.15
	<hr/>
	\$ 601.91

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Headquarters, Wrapping Paper, Postage, Express, Telegrams, Stationery	\$ 30.27
Commander-in-Chief: Rent, Postage, Telegrams, Stenographer, Office, and Traveling	186.47
	<hr/>
	\$ 818.65
	<hr/>
Total Expenditures	\$ 818.65

H. H. HAMMER, Nat'l Secy.

Charter Applications.

VIII. Applications for Charters for new Camps have been approved since last announcement as follows:

Date	No.	Division.	Location	No. Ap.
Feb. 6	51	Penna.	California,	35
Feb. 8	64	Mass.	Ashland,	17
Feb. 11	65	Maine,	Damariscotta,	32
Feb. 18	47	Ohio,	Lebanon,	26
Feb. 19	76	Mass.	Amherst,	44
Feb. 19	2	Kansas,	Enid, Okla. Ty.,	50
Feb. 26	44	Wisconsin,	North Freedom,	20
Feb. 26	85	New York,	Buffalo,	26

Camps have been mustered and chartered as follows:

Nov. 24, '06	47	Ohio,	Lebanon,	26
Dec. 26, '06	65	Maine,	Damariscotta,	32
Jan. 23, '07	2	Kansas,	Enid, Okla. Ty.,	42
Jan. 28, '07	64	Mass.,	Amherst,	44
Jan. 29, '07		Mass.	Ashland,	17
Feb. 6, '07	85	New York,	Buffalo,	26
Feb. 7, '07	44	Wisconsin,	North Freedom,	18

Report of the Chief of Staff.

IX. For December, 1906:

Receipts: None. Expenditures—Postage\$3.65

For January, 1907:

Receipts: For Commissions issued.....10.00

Expenditures—Postage 5.28

Balance for Jan'y, paid to Nat'l Sec'y..... 4.72

For February, 1907:

For Commissions issued 4.00

Expenses for Postage 6.15

(Signed) R. M. J. REED,

Chief of Staff.

Memorial University.

X. The splendid and unique enterprise, which we are fostering at Mason City, Iowa, is receiving the highest commendation from intelligent people in all parts of the land.

The Memorial University is destined to become the rallying point of the Sons of Veterans. Having inaugurated the movement, it illy becomes us to permit it to fall by withholding the small financial support to sustain it until a sufficient endowment is secured.

This is the crucial year of the institution and the attention of our Order is hereby called to the needs of this, our monument to the nation's heroes and heroines, and the work of national patriotic instruction. Correspondence with the University or with the National Committee will secure any desired information relative to the scope of the work on the immediate requirements of the College.

Camps and Membership.

Division	Sept. 30, 1906.		Dec. 31, 1906.	
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.
Alabama & Tennessee	8	229	8	230
California	12	411	11	467
Colo. & Wyoming	2	62	3	71
Connecticut	20	569	18	547

ENCAMPMENT

53.

Illinois	36	1,066	37	1,102
Indiana	35	1,004	33	906
Iowa	13	323	12	283
Kansas	12	406	17	446
Kentucky	4	103	6	120
Maine	26	826	33	1,042
Maryland	7	263	9	306
Massachusetts	125	4,516	126	4,633
Michigan	8	118	No. R. or T.	
Minnesota	6	289	11	411
Missouri	16	553	16	549
Nebraska	7	70	7	70
New Hampshire	32	941	27	861
New Jersey	23	1,032	22	1,043
New York	75	3,198	80	3,392
Ohio	61	2,117	55	1,899
Pennsylvania	134	9,139	152	9,701
Rhode Island	10	309	11	328
Vermont	15	457	18	565
Washington	5	150	5	159
Wisconsin	12	365	14	392
	704	28,521	731	29,524

Attention is called to Section 4, Article 18, Constitution and Laws. This, in the future, will be observed. Division and Camp Officers will govern themselves accordingly and take heed.

Attest:

Fraternally yours,

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

EDWIN M. AMIES,
Com-in-Chief.

Headquarters Com-in-Chief S. V., U. S. A.

Altoona, Penna., April 8, 1907.

General Orders,

No. 4,

Series of 1907.

National Encampment.

I. The twenty-sixth annual encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will be held in the City of Dayton, Ohio, on the 19-20-21-22 days of August, A. D. 1907. The Council-in-Chief has unanimously approved this date. Further information will be promulgated in General Orders from time to time.

Division Encampments.

II. Division Encampments, the dates of which have been fixed and of which these Headquarters have had notice will be as follows:

New Hampshire, at Concord, April 17-18.

Kansas, at Topeka, May 8-9-10.

New Jersey, at Newark, May 8-9.

Colorado, at Colorado Springs, May 14-15-16.

Illinois, at Decatur, May 21-22-23.

Indiana, at Bluffton, June 4-5-6.

Maine, at Augusta, June 5-6.

Ohio, at Canton, June 11-12-13-14.

Pennsylvania, at Scranton, June 17-18-19-20-21.

New York, at Elmira, week of July 1st, (probably.)

California, at San Jose, July 4-5-6.

Commissions.

III. Commissions for Division Officers elected and installed, will be forwarded upon receipt of Form 49 in duplicate sent to the National Secretary, and bond of Division Commander, in accordance with Article 1 of the Laws of the Constitution.

Division Commanders have thirty (30) days (and no more) in which to file said bond, which must be forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief for approval.

Reserves.

IV. From and after the 17th day of November, 1906, all fees received from commissions at the several headquarters of the Reserves are hereby directed to be divided as follows:

One-half of said fee to the office of the Chief-of-Staff and one-half to each of the Departments of the Reserves issuing said commissions. This order is issued in pursuance with a meeting held at headquarters, the result of which said conference was approved unanimously by the Council-in-Chief and the Commander-in-Chief.

Formation in Line of Parade.

V. In accordance with the action of the Peoria National Encampment, having adopted the recommendation of Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman to that effect, Division and Camp Commanders will give the following their prompt and immediate attention and govern themselves accordingly.

PARADE FORMATION OF CAMPS:

Chief Marshal (The Camp Commander.)
 Music,
 Reserves of armed bodies (if any),
 National Officers,
 Past National Officers,
 Division Officers,
 Past Division Officers,
 Past Camp Commanders,
 Camp Secretary (acting as First Serg't of Company.)
 The Camp.

Upon entering Cemetery at funerals on Memorial Day the formation will be reversed, except the music, the Camp Commander being the last in line.

Ancestor's Records.

VI. It must be understood that records of ancestors can only be obtained through the proper channel upon request made for that purpose, which can be obtained from the National Secretary. The War and Navy Departments will furnish no ancestors' records without the request coming through the Commander-in-Chief. This must be borne in mind by all Camp and Division Commanders.

Special Aides.

VII. The following Special Aid has been appointed since the last Order:

Massachusetts Division, W. O. Cutler, Natick, Mass.

Memorial Day.

VIII. Attention is respectfully called to the approaching important, solemn, and sacred day when we will be called upon again to render the beautiful ceremony to the memory of our de-

parted Fathers. It is hoped and urged that, at every meeting of Camps, from now on until Memorial Day, constant and incessant preparations be made for the observance of the day. Where possible, all Camps will serve or offer their services to all Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic and where no Post is in existence let the different Camps take charge of the services on that day. It might be well to add that in conformity with the practice and the law on Memorial Day as well as on all other occasions where Camps turn out in a body the Camp Commander is in charge of the line.

Appomattox Surrender House Association.

IX. It will possibly be recalled that at the Encampment held at Peoria, last year we were addressed in behalf of this association, which is a movement of the patriotic women of the country to purchase and restore the McLean House, at Appomattox, where General Lee surrendered the army of Northern Virginia to General Grant, on April 9, 1865, and to turn over to the government the Peace Memorial, the property to be acquired. The Order has been requested to take part in helping these patriotic women in their work in purchasing and restoring the McLean House, and any of the Brothers, desiring to so participate, may communicate with Christine Walton Dunlap, 1450 Corcoran St., Washington, D. C. The movement is a commendable one.

Statement No. 7.

X. Report of National Secretary for the month of March, 1907.

RECEIPTS:

To balance, February 28th, 1907.....		\$2112.91
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax.....	\$ 548.82	
Charter Fees	45.00	
Supplies	409.65	
	<hr/>	
Total Receipts		1003.47
		<hr/>
		\$3116.38

EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses—Headquarters	\$637.95	
Office Expenses—Headquarters	107.87	
Office Expenses—Comd'r-in-Chief	93.45	
	<hr/>	
Total Expenditures		\$ 839.27
		<hr/>
Balance, March 31st, 1907.....		\$2277.11

Itemized Expenditures.

GENERAL EXPENSES:		
Stocks and Supplies	\$ 131.65	
The Banner, March Subscription.....	478.90	
Reserves	9.50	
Shipping Supplies	17.85	
	<hr/>	
		\$ 637.95

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Headquarters: Light, Postage, Express, Rent, Jan.-Mar. Inc. Miscellaneous (Porter, Janitor.	\$ 107.87
--	-----------

Commander-in-Chief: Rent, Postage,
Traveling, Stenographer, Office furniture... 93.45

Total Expenditures \$ 839.27

Applications and Musters.

XI Since last announcement applications for new Camps have been approved as follows:

Date.	No.	Location.	Div.	No. Appts.
Mar. 5		Forestville,	Conn.	57
Mar. 13	14	Algona,	Iowa,	43
Mar. 14		Needham,	Mass.,	28
Mar. 15		Greenville,	N. H.	17
Mar. 18	5	Salem,	Ill.	36
Mar. 19	151	Northumberland,	Pa.,	28
Mar. 21	12	Davenport,	Iowa,	46
Mar. 23	27	Burtrum,	Minn.,	22
Mar. 28	17	Jefferson,	Iowa,	25

Mustered.

Mar. 8	14	Salem,	Ill.,	36
Mar. 8	12	Davenport	Iowa,	46
Mar. 18	14	Algona,	Iowa,	36
Mar. 26	151	Northumberland,	Pa.,	21
Mar. 18	51	California	Penna.	29
Mar. 20	10	Huntsville,	Ind.,	15
Mar. 28	77	Needham	Mass.,	25
Oct. 28,'06	3	Anchorage	Ky.,	16
Nov 30,'06	252	Charlotte,	Mich.,	35

Report of the Chief of Staff.

XII. For the month of March, 1907.

Receipts: None.

For Postage\$8.15
For Expressage30

Total\$8.45

(Signed) R. M. J. REED,
Chief of Staff.

Fraternally submitted,

EDWIN M. AMIES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Headquarters Com.-in-Chief S. V., U. S. A.

Altoona, Penna., May 4, 1907.

General Orders

No. 5,

Series of 1907.

National Encampment.

1. The 26th annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will be held in the City of Dayton, O., on the 19th, 20th, 21st, 22d days of August, A. D. 1907. The headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief will be established at the Algonquin Hotel.

The Commander-in-Chief made a personal visit to the City of Dayton and completed arrangements, so far as the establish-

ment of headquarters was concerned, and while there was assured of a successful Encampment.

The Committee on Arrangements is laboring hard and assiduously to the end that the 26th annual Encampment will be one of the best held during our history. The Committee desires a full attendance of all entitled to participate in the Encampment, as well as all others who can attend.

Dayton is a growing and prosperous city, its hotels commodious, its people hospitable, and the city beautiful. Let all attend who possibly can.

Division Encampments.

II. Division Encampments, the dates of which have been fixed and of which these headquarters have had notice will be as follows.

Colorado, at Colorado Springs, May 14-15-16.

Kentucky, at Louisville, May 14-15-16.

Illinois, at Decatur, May 21-22-23.

Missouri, at Moberly, May 21-22.

Indiana, at Bluffton, June 4-5-6.

Maine, at Augusta, June 5-6.

Ohio, at Canton, June 11-12-13-14.

Pennsylvania, at Scranton, June 17-18-19-20-21.

New York, at Elmira, week of July 1st (probably).

California, at San Jose, July 4-5-6.

Commandery-in-Chief, at Dayton, Ohio, August 19-20-21-22.

Consolidated Reports.

III. Division Commanders and Division Secretaries and Division Treasurers, are hereby ordered to have their Consolidated reports and per capita tax in the hands of the National Secretary for the quarter ending March 31st, 1907, NOT later than May 20th.

On that date the National Secretary has been directed to close up his books and accounts. Divisions will take notice that reports and tax not received by the date specified, will result in accordance with the Constitutional requirement.

Upon payment of this tax and rendering reports the new password and countersign will be issued.

Transportation Committee.

IV. The following brothers are hereby appointed to serve upon the Transportation Committee for the next Encampment: Brother William A. Stevens, Arlington, Mass.; Brother D. Sherman Smith, Lancaster, Penna.; Brother T. C. Lindsay, Dayton, Ohio.

Special Aides.

V. The following Special Aide to the Commander-in-Chief is hereby appointed:

Brother W. H. Collins, Oakland, Cal.

Memorial Day.

VI. Attention is respectfully called to Section 8 of General Order No. 4, published in last month's Banner relative to the observance of this day and the preceding Sunday. It is hoped that all members of the Order will devote some part of the day to rendering some service in the due observance of the sacred rites, incident to its celebration.

Statement No. 8.

VII. Report of the National Secretary for month of April, 1907.

RECEIPTS:

To balance, March 31st, 1907.....		\$2277.11
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax.....	\$ 246.81	
Charter Fees,.....	40.00	
Supplies,.....	528.33	
Total Receipts,.....		<u>815.14</u>
		\$3092.25

EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses—Headquarters	\$ 752.78	
Office Expenses—Headquarters.....	21.14	
Office Expenses—Commander-in-Chief ...	190.94	
Total Expenditures,.....		<u>964.86</u>
Balance April 30th, 1907.....		\$2127.39

Itemized Expenditures:

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock and Supplies.....	\$ 258.80	
The Banner, April Subscription	481.76	
Shipping Supplies,.....	12.22	
		<u>\$ 752.78</u>

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Headquarters: Light, Postage, Stationery, Miscellaneous,.....	\$ 21.14	21.14
Commander-in-Chief: Rent, Postage, Tele- grams, Traveling, Office, Stenographer, Express,.....	190.94	190.94
Total Expenditures,.....		<u>\$ 964.86</u>

Charter Applications and Camps Mustered.

VIII. Applications for new camps have been approved since last announcement, as follows:

Date.	Ap. No.	Location.	Division.	Memo.
April 4	19	Oelwein	Iowa	22
April 4	43	Wilton	New Hampshire	18
April 5	49	Coshocton	Ohio	35
April 8	55	Omro	Wisconsin	29
April 8	66	Darlington	Wisconsin	29
April 15	300	Warren	Ohio	16
April 18	130	Philipsburg	Pennsylvania	29
April 22	44	Naples	New York	42
April 22	26	Portsmouth	Ohio	22
April 22	30	Newberg, Ore.	California	26
Camps mustered are as follows:				
Mar 14	54	Forestville	Connecticut	51
Mar 27	6	Greenville	New Hampshire	19
April 4	27	Burtrum	Minnesota	23
April 9	17	Jefferson	Iowa	30
Apr'l 11	43	Wilton	New Hampshire	20

April 9	30	Newberg, Ore.	California	25
April 12	44	Naples	New York	26
Mar 27	49	Coshocton	Ohio	35
Mar 14	55	Omro	Wisconsin	19
Mar 29	66	Darlington	Wisconsin	23
Mar 25	19	Oelwein	Iowa	22
Mar 29	300	Warrar	Ohio	16
Mar 13	26	Portsmouth	Ohio	22

Fraternally submitted.

Attest:

EDWIN M. AMIES,

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Commander-in-Chief.

Headquarters Com.-in-Chief S. V., U. S. A.

Altoona, Penna., June 3, 1907.

General Order,
No. 6,
Series of 1907.

National Encampment.

I. As heretofore announced the 26th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will be held in the City of Dayton, Ohio, on the 19-20-21-22nd days of August, A. D. 1907. The headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief will be established at the Algonquin Hotel.

The local committees, relative to the government of the National Encampment, will be published in the next General Order.

Division Encampments.

II. Division Encampments, the dates of which have been fixed and of which these Headquarters have been advised, will be held as follows: Ohio, at Canton, June 11-12-13-14; Maryland, at Baltimore, June 18-19; Pennsylvania, at Scranton, June 17-21, inclusive; New York, at Elmira, July 1-2-3; California, at San Jose, July 4-5-6; Commandery-in-Chief, at Dayton, August 19-20-21-22.

Special Aide.

III. The following Special Aide to the Commandery-in-Chief is hereby appointed: R. C. Clark, Aurora, Ill.

Reports and Per Capita Tax.

IV. Division Commanders will give their prompt and personal attention, viz: Reports of Division Secretaries and Division Treasurers, TOGETHER WITH PER CAPITA TAX, for the QUARTER ENDING JUNE 30, MUST BE IN THE HANDS of the National Secretary NOT LATER THAN AUGUST 1st.

The National Secretary MUST HAVE THESE REPORTS AND TAX ON AUGUST 1st.

This is owing to the National Encampment meeting the week of August 18th.

Failure to comply with the above will prevent Divisions from having representation in the National Encampment at Dayton, Ohio.

Division Commanders should immediately upon receipt of this Order, communicate with the Camps in their Division, and urge their prompt reports and payment of per capita tax for the quarter ending June 30th, so that the year's work can be closed

up and ALL Divisions be in good standing, and so reported, at the Dayton Encampment.

No extension of time in forwarding reports can be granted, so that Division Commanders will govern themselves accordingly and BE SURE and have reports and tax in the National Secretary's hands by the date specified.

Pass Word and Countersign.

V. The new pass word and countersign operative July 1, will shortly be issued to Division Commanders. They will be sure to promulgate same, only to those Camps that pay per capita tax and render reports of all kinds for the quarter ending June 30th, 1907.

Camp Commanders will carefully observe that only members in good standing and paying their dues for quarter ending June 30th, will receive the said pass word and countersign. Members not in good standing June 30th Quarter cannot have the new pass word and countersign. Neither can Camps have same furnished.

Proposed Amendments.

VI. Attention is called to the provisions of the Constitution and Laws, with regard to proposed amendments, alterations or changes thereto, as per Art. 25. At least sixty (60) days before the first session of the Commandery-in-Chief Encampment at Dayton, Ohio, such changes or proposed changes must be promulgated. All such will be forwarded direct to the Commander-in-Chief, at Altoona, Pa.

Statement No. 9.

Report of the National Secretary for month of May, 1907:

RECEIPTS:

To Balance, April 30th, 1907.....		\$2127 39
Rec'd for Per Capita Fees.....	\$2392 80	
Charter Fees.....	70 00	
Supplies	603 23	
	<hr/>	
Total Receipts		\$3666 42
		<hr/>
		\$5193 48

EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses—Headquarters	\$ 830.64	
Office Expenses—Headquarters	53.81	
General Expenses—Com.-in-Chief.....	113.80	
Office Expenses—Com.-in-Chief.....	173.44	
Total Expenditures		\$1171 69
	<hr/>	
Balance, May 31st, 1907.....		\$4021 79

Itemized Expenditures:

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock and Supplies	\$ 317.50
The Banner, May Subscription.....	494.10
Reserves	28.40
Shipping Supplies	19.21
Miscellaneous—Official Organ Committee....	85.40

\$ 944.44

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Light, Postage, Stationery.....	7.32	
Stationery National Officers, and Forms	46.49	
		\$ 53.81
Commander-in-Chief—Rent, Postage, Tele- grams, Traveling, Office, Stenographer, etc	\$ 173.44	173.44
Total Expenditures.....		\$1171.69

H. H. HAMMER, National Secretary.

Report of Chief of Staff.

Headquarters Commander-in-Chief S. V., U. S. A.
Department of Chief of Staff.

Philadelphia, Pa.

For month of April, 1907:	
Receipts—None. Expenditures for Postage.....	\$6.35
For month of May, 1907:	
Receipts—None. Expenditures for Postage.....	\$7.20
(Signed) R. M. J. REED, Chief of Staff.	

Membership.

VIII. Consolidated Report of the National Secretary. Quar-
ter ending March 31st, 1907.

	Dec. 1906.		Mch. 1907	
	Camps.	Mem.	Camps.	Mem.
Ala. & Tenn.....	8	230	8	230
California	11	467	11	442
Colorado & Wyoming....	3	71	3	82
Connecticut	18	547	18	578
Illinois	37	1102	39	1160
Indiana	33	906	33	1041
Iowa	12	283	16	408
Kansas	17	446	16	405
Kentucky	6	120	8	137
Maine	33	1042	31	1120
Maryland	9	306	10	315
Massachusetts	126	4633	128	4722
Michigan	8	149	8	149
Minnesota	11	411	13	438
Ohio	55	1899	60	1966
Missouri	16	549	17	600
Nebraska	7	70	6	63
New Hampshire	27	861	31	929
New Jersey	22	1043	22	1062
New York	80	3392	81	3389
Pennsylvania	152	9701	157	9901
Rhode Island	11	338	11	321
Vermont	18	565	20	564
Washington	5	159	4	146
Wisconsin	14	392	19	487
	739	29,672	770	30,655

No. Dropped, 182.

Cash on hand Division Headquarters.....\$ 5346.06

Cash on hand in Camps.....	72248.50
Expended for Relief	7662.90
No. Veterans or their families relieved.....	39
No. Members or their families relieved.....	226
Total Gain in all Divisions—50 Camps, 2602 Members.	
Total loss in all Divisions—19 Camps and 1619 Members.	

Fraternally submitted,

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

EDWIN M. AMIES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.
Altoona, Penn'a, July 8, 1907.

General Order,
No. 7,
Series of 1907.

I. As previously announced the 26th annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will be held in the City of Dayton, Ohio, August 19-20-21-22, and continue until the business of the Commandery-in-Chief is concluded.

A full list of all committees, both local and general, will be announced in the August General Order. Full and detailed information will then be promulgated of the business of the Encampment.

Hotel Rates.

II. National Headquarters will be established in Parlor "A." Algonquin Hotel, rates\$2.50 to \$3.00.
Phillips Hotel, rates 2.00 to 3.50, American Plan.
Atlas Hotel, rates 2.50, American Plan.
..... .75 to 1.50, European Plan.
Daytonia Hotel, rates 1.50 to 2.00, American Plan.
Knecht Hotel, rates 1.00 to 1.50, American Plan.
National Hotel, European Hotel.

From all information received and from personal knowledge the Dayton Encampment promises to be one of the best, if not the best Encampment yet held by the Commandery-in-Chief. Assurances from brothers throughout the Order have been received, which gives us reason to believe that the attendance will far exceed any yet held.

The local committee at Dayton and the Camp are working hard to this end and it is hoped and expected that all entitled to a seat in the Commandery-in-Chief as well as all others will endeavor to be present.

Returns of Elections:

III. Attention is directed to the fact that some Divisions have not reported on Form 49, Certificate of Election, the election of officers at their Division Encampments. Commissions cannot be issued and the National Roster cannot be completed until Certificates of Election are received. These must be forwarded in duplicate to the National Secretary on Form 49.

Per Capita Tax.

IV. Division Commanders, Division Secretaries and Division Treasurers are again notified that their per capita tax and reports for the quarter ending June 30th, MUST be in the hands of the National Secretary NOT LATER than August 1st. This

is imperative and is necessary by reason of the convening of the National Encampment at Dayton, O., the week of August 13th. No extension of time can be granted and all reports and tax must be promptly forwarded.

Statement No. 10.

V. Report of the National Secretary for the month of June, 1907:

RECEIPTS:

To Balance May 31st, 1907.....		\$4021.79
Received for Per Capita Tax.....	\$ 337.30	
Charter Fees	45.00	
Supplies	292.64	
Total Receipts		<u>674.94</u>
		\$4696.73

EXPENDITURES:

By General Expense—Headquarters.....	\$ 706.68	
Office Expenses—Headquarters	29.76	
Office Expenses—Commander-in-Chief	275.86	
Total Expenditures		<u>1012.30</u>
Balance June 30th, 1907.....		\$3684.43

Itemized Expenditures:

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock and Supplies.....	\$ 59.30	
The Banner, June Subscription.....	496.60	
Shipping Supplies	10.29	
Miscellaneous	140.49	
		<u>\$ 706.68</u>

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Headquarters: Light, Postage, Express, Stationery—National Officers	\$ 29.76	29.76
Commander-in-Chief: Rent, Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Stenographer.....	275.86	275.86
Total Expenditures		<u>\$1012.30</u>

VI. Since last announcement applications for charters for new Camps have been approved as follows:

Date.	No.	Location.	Division.	No.	Date	No. Must.	No. Must.
May 4	77	Oshkosh,	Wis.	29	Apr.	29	19
6	3	Roseland, Chicago,	Ill.	42	Feb.	7	42
6	7	Vandalia,	Ill.	20	Mar.	29	20
6	8	Canton,	Ill.	99	Apr.	9	99
6	11	Shannon,	Ill.	24	Apr.	19	24
6	9	Vienna,	Ill.	19	Apr.	27	19
6		Lisbon,	N. H.	20			
8	10	Thompsonville,	Ill.	42	Apr.	12	42
14		Townsend,	Mass.	28			
17	12	Austin,	Ill.	22	Apr.	23	22
20	7	Dexter City,	Ohio	18	May	10	18
22		Vineland,	N. J.	29	June	3	28
	130	Phillipsburg,	Penn.	29	Apr.	23	27

	44	Naples,	N. Y.	42	Apr.	12	26
	30	Newburg, Oregon,	Calif.	26	Apr.	9	25
June	3	66	Rumford Falls,	Maine	25	May	21 23
	3	67	Livermore Falls,	Maine	29	May	23 24
	3		Salt Lake City, Utah,	Colo.	37		
	5	47	Palmerton,	Penn.			
	8	31	Eugene, Oregon,	Calif.	41	May	13 41

Report of Chief of Staff.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,
Dept. of Chief of Staff.

Philadelphia, Pa.

VII. Statement for month of June, 1907:

Receipts: None. Expenditures—Postage \$6.98
(Signed) R. M. J. Reed,

Chief of Staff.

VIII. Request has been made to these Headquarters for the proceedings of the Commandery-in-Chief Encampment of 1900. Should a copy of these proceedings be in possession of any one who can spare it, the thanks of the Commandery-in-Chief are tendered in advance for a copy of the same.

Faternally submitted,

Attest:

EDWIN M. AMIES,

Commander-in-Chief.

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Headquarters Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.
Altoona, Pa., August 3, 1907.

General Orders No. 8, Series 1907.

National Encampment.

I. The 26th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will be held in the city of Dayton, Ohio, on the 19-22, days of August, 1907. The headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief will be established at the Algonquin hotel, and will be open for the transaction of business at ten o'clock on the morning of August 19th. A detailed program follows in the subsequent part of this order and the attention of all is thereto directed.

The Council-in-Chief and the Committee on Constitution and Laws will hold their preliminary meeting at headquarters on Monday, the 19th of August, 1907, at 3 p. m.

Encampment Program.

II. Monday, August 19th. 3:00 p. m. Meeting of Council-in-Chief, and Committee on Constitution and Laws.

8:00 p. m. Reception for Commander-in-Chief and Staff at headquarters Algonquin hotel, parlor A.

Tuesday, August 20th, 9:00 a. m. Open meeting, prayer, Rev. D. G. Latshaw. Address of welcome on behalf of State of Ohio, Gov. A. L. Harris. Address of welcome on behalf of city Mayor C. D. Wright. Address of welcome on behalf of G. A. R., Commander-in-Chief R. B. Brown.

Address of welcome on behalf of local Camp of Sons of Veterans, Hon. O. B. Brown. Response on behalf of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Edwin M. Amies, Commander-in-Chief. Response on behalf of Sons of Veterans Auxilliary, Mrs. Julia Moynihan, National President.

2:00 p. m. Opening business session of the 26th annual encampment Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. at old Guard Hall, No. 131 S. Jefferson street. Officers reports will be read and appointment of encampment committees.

7:00 p. m. Joint memorial services will conclude session, General reception by Women's Relief Corps and Ladies of the G. A. R. and auxiliaries at Algonquin hotel.

Wednesday, August 21st, 1907. 9:00 a. m. Business session of Encampment.

1:00 p. m. Sons of Veterans Parade with Grand Army Escort.

2:00 p. m. Trip to Soldiers' Home.

8:00 p. m. Grand Military Ball at Armory.

8:00 p. m. Grand Army Camp Fire.

Thursday, August 22, 1907. 9:00 a. m. Business session of Encampment.

1:00 p. m. Trip to the National Cash Register.

4:00 p. m. Trip to White City and Fairview Park.

Friday, August 23rd, 1907. 9:00 a. m. Unfinished business of Encampment. Election and installation of officers. Encampment adjourns sine die.

Local Committees.

III. The following is a list of the chairmen of the different committees. Any information, which may be desired, relative to the encampment at Dayton, can be had by addressing any of the chairmen of the different committees.

Chairman, W. S. Reeder; vice-chairman, M. H. Bennett; secretary, T. E. Long; treasurer, Dr. H. J. Guy.

Committee, Halls and Decorations—Wilbur F. Sine, 442 Quitman street.

Committee, Reception and Ball—Dr. H. J. Guy, 2706 E. 3rd street.

Committee, Reserves—P. O. Lawton, 142 Montgomery street.

Committee, Printing and Program—A. W. Hudson, 141 Campbell street.

Committee, Delegates Badges—W. S. Reeder, 60 Reuben avenue.

Committee, Hotels and Railroads—T. E. Long, 1500 E. Third street.

Committee, G. A. R. and Auxiliaries—M. H. Bennett, 65 Green street.

Committee, Bureau of Information—Walter Apple, 131 S. Jackson street.

Committee, Parade and Music—A. G. Daugherty, 221 S. Linden avenue.

Commandery-in-Chief Committees.

IV. The following committees for the Dayton Encampment are herewith announced:

Constitution and Laws: H. V. Speelman, Cincinnati, Ohio; R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia, Penn'a; F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.; Fred E. Bolton, Boston, Mass.; William T. Church, Chicago, Ill.

Credentials.

V. Immediately upon arrival at Dayton, it is earnestly suggested and requested that delegates at once repair to the Nat-

ional Headquarters and file their credentials with the National Secretary.

Hotels.

VI. Reference to General Order No. 7, published in the July number of The Banner will furnish full information, relative to hotels and rates.

Railroad Rates.

VII. Card orders are being distributed by Thomas E. Long, 1500 E. Third street, Dayton, Ohio, Secretary of the Local Committee, and he has full charge of the issuance of same. Any information relative to transportation, will be gladly given by him.

Division Commanders.

VIII. The following Division Commanders have been elected and installed during the year:

Alabama and Tennessee—H. M. Austin, Birmingham, Ala., Box 494.

Connecticut—C. E. Batchelor, Ansonia, Conn.

California—C. F. Kimball, Redding, Cal.

Colorado and Wyoming—William S. Paul, Denver, Col., 916 E. 16th avenue.

Iowa—Lewis A. Dille, Davenport, Iowa.

Illinois—Will C. Creighton, Champaign, Ill.

Indiana—Charles C. Hartzell, Portland, Ind.

Kansas—Charles B. Martin, Parsons, Kan.

Kentucky—Geo. H. Stebbins, Cincinnati, Ohio, 812 Vine St.

Maine—George H. Bangs, Augusta, Me.

Missouri—William Schneider, St. Louis, Mo., 3902 S. Broad-

way.

Maryland—Harry L. Streib, Baltimore, Md., 1628 N. Broad-

way.

Massachusetts—James H. Wentworth, Boston, Mass., 15 Beacon street.

Michigan—F. N. Ripley, Fenton, Mich.

Minnesota—John Harrison, Aitkin, Minn.

Nebraska—Bert J. Galley, Columbus, Neb.

New York—Wm. A. Personius, Waverly, N. Y.

New Hampshire—Samuel S. Smith, Exeter, N. H.

New Jersey—Harry E. Pennell, Atlantic City, N. J., 2025 Caspian avenue.

Ohio—John A. Bommhardt, Cleveland, Ohio.

Pennsylvania—C. C. Fulton, Mauch Chunk, Pa.

Rhode Island—Herbert J. Briggs, Providence, R. I.

Vermont—Fred E. Terrill, Burlington, Ver.

Washington—Frank S. Griffith, Seattle, Wash.

Wisconsin—Felix A. Kremer, Madison, Wis., Marston Block.

Statement No. 11.

IX. Report of the National Secretary for month of July, 1907:

RECEIPTS:

To balance June 30th, 1907.....		\$3684.43
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax.....	\$ 488.27	
Charter Fees.....	60.00	
Supplies	362.78	
Total Receipts		911.06
		<hr/>
		\$4595.48

EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses, Headquarters.....	\$1131.78
Office Expenses, Headquarters.....	161.30
Office Expenses, Commander-in-Chief....	266.20
Total Expenditures.....	\$1559.28
Balance July 31st, 1907.....	\$3036.20

Itemized Expenditures:

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock and Supplies.....	\$ 218.40
Memorial University, for Camps Mustered....	210.00
The Banner, July Subscription.....	499.88
Printing	7.25
Reserves	29.90
Shipping Supplies	16.35
Miscellaneous	150.00
	\$1131.78

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Headquarters: Light, Postage, Rent (April-Aug. inc.), Janitor.....	161.30
Commander-in-Chief: Rent, Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Stenographer, Express, Supplies	266.20
Total Expenditures.....	\$1559.28

Since last Order's announcement the following applications for new Camps were approved, and Camps mustered as follows:

Date	No.	Location	Divis.	App.	Muster	No.
July 1	1	Salt Lake City, Utah	Colo.	July	15	32
	47	Palmerton,	Penn.	June	10	24
	31	Eugene, Ore.,	Calif.	May	13	41
	28	Plainfield,	N. J.	May	7	24
	232	Holly,	Mich.	May	28	22
July 1		Cripple Creek,	Colo.	26		
4	1	Dorrance,	Kansas	21	June	20 21
4	4	Helena, Okla.,	Kansas	47	July	6 23
5		New Market,	N. H.	28		
5	45	Sacketts Harbor,	N. Y.	17	June	24 17
8	65	Reedsburg,	Wis.	38	June	28 38
9	183	Altoona,	Pa.	20	July	17 20
11	11	Xenia,	Ohio	54	June	5 54
11	140	Mt. Blanchard,	Ohio	21	June	6 21
19	87	Whitesboro,	N. Y.	24	June	21 21
29	13	Harvard,	Ill.	15	May	15 15
31	15	Montpeller,	Ohio	21	June	25 21
31	50	Washington C. H.	Ohio	34	July	26 34
31		Jersey City,	N. J.	35		

Standing of Divisions.

No. of Camps and membership of Divisions:

Divisions	Camps Members		Camps Members	
	March 31, 1907		June 30, 1907	
Ala. & Tenn.....	8	230	9	240
California & Oregon.....	11	442	15	555

Colorado & Wyoming	3	82	4	110
Connecticut	18	578	19	598
Illinois	39	1160	41	1301
Indiana	33	1041	23	799
Iowa	16	408	13	359
Kansas	16	405	18	485
Kentucky	8	137	8	143
Maine	31	1120	31	1063
Maryland	10	315	8	271
Massachusetts	128	4722	127	4896
Michigan	8	149	8	153
Minnesota	13	438	10	407
Missouri	17	600	17	623
Nebraska	6	63	6	66
New Hampshire	31	929	31	994
New Jersey	22	1062	24	1155
New York	81	3389		*
Ohio	60	1966	62	2071
Pennsylvania	157	9901	158	10233
Rhode Island	11	321	11	322
Vermont	20	564	21	582
Washington	4	146	4	146
Wisconsin	19	487	18	522

770 30655

*Report not received owing to late date of Encampment.

Report of Chief-of-Staff:

Headquarters Dep't of Chief-of-Staff, S. V. U. S. A.
Philadelphia, Pa.

For month of July, 1907:

Receipts: None. Expenditures For postage.....\$7.29

(Signed) R. M. J. REHL

Chief of Staff.

Conclusion

X. With the coming Encampment to be held at Dayton, the present administration will close. What our efforts have brought forth and what our work has accomplished rests with the membership to judge. Suffice it is to say, that on our part, our duty was performed as we saw it and to the best of our ability. It is true that some things were left undone, which might have been done, but on the whole the results justify the belief on the part of the Commander-in-Chief, at least that some good has come out of the work and labor expended in behalf of our beloved organization.

I express, publicly to the members at large, my appreciation of the assistance rendered me at all times, your support has been loyal, earnest and patriotic. Universally, there existed on the part of all, a desire to make the present administration a success, and to render and give advice whenever needed and requested. This, indeed, was most gratifying and my thanks are thus publicly acknowledged.

The growth of the Order has been steady and sure, and the increase in membership, in character, numbers and standing, is but one of the many indications, which points to the stability, integrity and patriotism of our Order and that its perpetuity is assured.

The financial standing and condition of the Order were never better. It is firm and stable and secure.

And, now, in conclusion, permit me to admonish, recognizing the substantiality of our Order, the prestige we have gained as an institution, the character and worth of our membership, the beautiful sentiment of our objects and principles, let us go forward, hand in hand, in the performance of our duties and obligations, which we assumed at the time of our muster. Let us ever remember that we are the heirs of the grandest and greatest body of men, who ever trod God's foot stool, that the heritage bequeathed us by them is sacred and holy, and that the deeds done by them and the valor shown at the time of battle, and their sacrifices and heroism and devotion to mankind, are ours to perpetuate and maintain. That so long as one of that noble army of men survives, we shall try by our conduct and services to meet their approbation and consideration. That we shall ever revere their memory and keep green their last resting places. And from it all let us deduct the principle of patriotism and teach it to all the people, and by so doing and with the help of the Supreme Commander of all, become useful, law abiding, patriotic citizens, and devoted, conscientious Sons of Veterans.

Fraternally submitted,

EDWIN M. AMIES,
Com.-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

Headquarters Com.-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

Altoona, Pa., August 10, 1907.

General Order No. 8½, Series of 1907.

Court Martial Finding and Decision.

I. In the matter of Court Martial proceedings of John Bower, Jr., against James H. Tawney, Past Commander of the Pennsylvania Division, the report of the Judge Advocate, together with the finding thereon, has been received.

The charge in this case was "Violation of obligation and disobedience of orders," under which five specifications were attached.

Verdict.

The verdict of the court was "guilty" as to specifications "1, 2, 4 and 5" and the sentence of the court was "that James H. Tawney be sentenced to suspension for two years with loss of rank."

Decision.

After a thorough examination of the evidence as submitted the finding of the court thereon is approved, and the following order concerning same is hereby promulgated.

In the matter of the Court Martial proceedings of the case of John Bower, Jr., Past Commander of the Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., the court, which was appointed to try all matters at variance preferred by the said John Bower, Jr., against the said James H. Tawney, adjudged that the verdict under the charge was guilty:—as to specification I guilty; as to the specification II guilty; as to specification III not guilty; as to specification IV guilty; and as

to specification V guilty, and the court further decided that James H. Tawney be sentenced to a suspension of two years with loss of rank.

Now, therefore, in conformity with Art. XXIV, Courts Martial, section 4, page 26, the above finding is approved.

The Commander of the Pennsylvania Division is hereby directed to so conform to the above sentence that the result thereof shall be duly promulgated to the parties interested throughout said Pennsylvania Division.

Given under the hand and seal of the Commander-in-Chief, at Altoona, Pa., this tenth day of August, A. D. 1907.

EDWIN M. AMIES,
Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

II. And also in the matter of Court Martial Proceedings of William B. McNulty against James H. Tawney. Past Commander of the Pennsylvania Division, the report of the Judge Advocate, together with finding thereon has been received.

The charge in this case was "Violation of the obligation and disobedience of orders" under which nine specifications were attached.

Verdict.

The verdict of the Court was "guilty of the charge and specifications" and the sentence of the Court was "that James H. Tawney should be dishonorably dismissed from the Order."

Decision.

The finding of the Court seems to be warranted by the evidence submitted and it is hereby approved, and the following order concerning same is hereby promulgated:

In the matter of the Court Martial proceedings of the case of W. B. McNulty, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., against James H. Tawney, Past Division Commander of the Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., the Court, which was appointed to try all matters at variance preferred by the said W. B. McNulty against the said James H. Tawney, adjudged that the "Defendant was found guilty of the charge and specifications" and the sentence of the Court was that James H. Tawney should be dishonorably dismissed from the Order."

Now, therefore, in conformity with Art. XXIV, Courts Martial section 4, page 26, the above finding is approved, and it is hereby ordered, under the power and authority therein given, that the said James H. Tawney, be and he is hereby dishonorably discharged from the Order of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

The Commander of the Pennsylvania Division is hereby directed to so conform to the above sentence that the result thereof shall be duly promulgated to the parties interested, throughout said Pennsylvania Division.

Given under the hand and seal of the Commander-in-Chief, Altoona, Pa., this tenth day of August, A. D. 1907.

EDWIN M. AMIES,
Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief: You have heard the report of the Commander-in-Chief. If there be no objections, it will be received and referred to the Committee on Officers reports.

No objection being offered, it was so referred.

The Commander-in-Chief then resumed the chair.

We will now have the report of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief:

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S REPORT.

Dayton, Ohio, August 20, 1907.

To the Officers and Members of the 26th Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Brothers: Since my installation as Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief no matters of any moment have been referred to me for consideration or action, and, therefore, I have no particular report as to the conduct of my office to submit.

I take this opportunity, however, to thank the several officers of the Commandery-in-Chief, and particularly Commander-in-Chief Amles for the many courtesies extended to me during my term of office. I also wish to thank the membership of the Commandery-in-Chief for the confidence reposed, and the great honor conferred in electing me to the office of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

I have no recommendation to submit for your consideration.

Again thanking you, one and all, for your indulgence and many courtesies, I remain,

Yours in F. C. & L.,

F. T. F. JOHNSON.

Commander-in-Chief: Under the rules, the report of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief will be referred to the committee on officers' reports.

The reports of the following officers were then read, in the order named, the report of the National Treasurer being read by Thomas J. Hannon, of Mass., the National Treasurer being absent on account of sickness, and as each report was read there being no objections offered, it was referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I rise to a point of personal privilege, to offer the following telegram as coming from this encampment:

Dayton, Ohio, August 20, 1907.

J. L. Rake, Reading, Pa.

The twenty-sixth annual encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief extends greetings and hopes for your speedy and complete restoration to health.

Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

I move you that the telegram be sent to our National Treasurer.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

REPORT OF NATIONAL SECRETARY.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief, S. of V., U. S. A.,
Department of National Secretary,

Reading, Pa., August 22, 1907.

To Edwin M. Amies, Esq., Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. Dear Sir and Brother:—In compliance with the constitution and laws, I have the honor to submit herewith a report of the work and transactions of this department, during your term of office, ending with this, the 26th National Encampment.

In summing up for the year there is so much that might be said that I cannot find words to express all. The uniform courtesy, assistance and kindness shown and extended me from all over this great country of ours, throughout and in this great Order of ours—covering the length and breadth of this great land—"the land of the free and home of the brave"—places me under everlasting obligations to those with whom I have had transactions.

Especially to you, am I unable to express my feelings—with regard to the personal relations we have had—not only in this past year, but for a period covering a quarter of a century. Nearer and closer than Brothers is a tie that defies expression. You have been a Commander-in-Chief. You have always done your duty; you have done it with a consciousness of doing for the Order; you have rendered service second to none and your efforts and work will go into the history of this Order never to be forgotten.

You will pardon me for not referring further to our personal and official relations; I don't want to feel that they will ever be severed. We have been of "one mind" and in accord and agreed upon in everything every day in this term. What more can I say in the way of tribute to a man, a gentleman, a Brother, a Commander-in-Chief?

Deeply regretting that the time has come to separate officially, I hope and trust it will not be for many, many years, that the final separation will take place; but wish you all that life holds good for yourself and yours for long years to come.

The sacrifice you have made the past year, to serve the Order, will, I know, be repaid to you by the appreciation of your services by the general membership, and this is unstintedly accorded you.

To my colleagues—the National officers and Staff—I express my appreciation of their encouragement, aid and kind expressions, and in making reference to my immediate associate—National Treasurer J. L. Rake—personally, for the assistance and favors he has rendered me, I am in small measure rendering that which is due him whom we all honor and admire.

The year has had its trials, and the results far from what they should be and far what desired, must be of record and follow:

Standing of Divisions.

Number of Camps and Members in Divisions:

Division.	June 30, 1908		June 30, 1907	
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members
Alabama & Tenn.....	10	260	9	240
California & Oregon.....	15	498	15	555
Colorado & Wyoming.....	2	66	4	110
Connecticut	19	572	19	598
Illinois	42	1180	41	1301
Indiana	37	1181	28	881
Iowa	13	329	13	359
Kansas	14	393	20	509
Kentucky	8	189	8	143
Maine	32	1055	31	1063
Maryland	10	330	8	271
Massachusetts	122	4487	127	4896
Michigan	8	118	8	153
Minnesota	14	478	10	407
Missouri	16	589	17	623
Nebraska	7	72	6	66
New Hampshire	32	953	31	994
New Jersey	23	1074	24	1155
New York	75	3197	83	3450
Ohio	69	2309	62	2071
Pennsylvania	153	9616	158	10233
Rhode Island	10	320	11	322
Vermont	29	737	21	582
Washington	5	150	4	146
Wisconsin	15	448	18	522
Totals	780	30601	776	31650
Mustered since June 30th.....			14	450

Good standing at this date.....790 32100

While the foregoing figures apparently represent our actual number of Camps and members, June 30th, 1907, such is not the real fact, for the reason that many of the Divisions have had to suspend Camps that could not get in their reports and tax in time to be represented in the foregoing. Those Divisions are as follows:

Suspended	Camps.	Members.
Illinois	4	149
Indiana	7	258
Iowa	3	60
Kansas	2	26
Maine	3	164
Maryland	2	56
Massachusetts	1	127
Michigan	3	47
Minnesota	4	81
Nebraska	1	5
New Hampshire	1	43
New York	21	1092
Wisconsin	3	58
Totals	55	2556

Many, if not all, of these Camps will be reinstated. It will be observed that New York suspends one-third its membership in the report for June quarter. In justice to the Division officers it should be borne in mind that this is a result of that Division having held its Encampment in July. This necessarily delayed the transfer of the Division effects from the previous to the present Headquarters; and naturally interfered with and prevented the present Division Commander and his Headquarters officers from securing reports and tax and reaching their Camps in time to be included in the report for June 30th quarter.

This is an object lesson, in the way of experience for all Divisions to consider the successful features of a fixed or so called permanent Headquarters. In this case, until the new Division Commander could get in communication with his Camps his reports and tax were due at our Headquarters. In the time he could obtain but one-third (practically) of his Camps reports. The same applies to the Camps, for they had not means of knowing to whom to report, and, if they did, waited for advice from Headquarters on the subject.

The ordinary number of suspensions will not exceed 1,200 members for this quarter (June 30th) judging from past records, as a basis; and by the time these Camps are reinstated and their tax is secured, many of which have already reported, we will have shown a gain for the year of approximately 1,000.

The feature I have called attention to as applying to New York Division, in the matter of having a late date for holding Encampment, also applies to several other Divisions, which is accountable for the showing of camps and members June 30. No Division should hold its Encampment after June 15th.

That the suspensions as reported and referred to are temporary losses, and from which there will be a recovery, the records show.

GAIN:

From and including July 1, 1906:

	Camps.	Members	Camps	Members
Mustered	89	6973		
By transfer		243		
Reinstatement	98	2812		
	—	—		
Total Gain			178	10028
LOSS:				
By Disbanded	10	168		
Death		187		
Honorable Discharge		139		
Transfer		135		
Suspension	194	9341		
	—	—		
Total Loss			204	10020

Actual gain of members of eight (\$) June 30th, 1907.

Increase in mustered in over 1906—1,343.

This Encampment should legislate requiring Divisions to hold their Encampments at such dates as will not so

materially interfere with the matter of reports and per capita tax, to National Headquarters and not prevent the actual number of Camps and members from being reported at the annual National Encampments.

During the year 648 members were dropped. Many Divisions do not report the number of dropped. This should be reported and Camps be instructed by Division Commanders to report this loss regularly.

Divisions have on hand at their Headquarters (June 30.)

Cash	\$ 4888.92
Camps	49805.19

(Several Divisions have not reported these items.)

Expended for relief of members and their families, and veterans and their families, during the year, \$33,479.19.

Number of members and their families relieved, 674;
No. of Veterans and their families relieved, 126. (Not all Divisions have rendered reports as to these items.)

Stock and Supply Account.

Aug. 11, 1906 To Am't. stock and supplies on hand		\$1458.55
To Am't. purchased during year		2091.23
		<hr/>
To account for	\$3549.78	
Aug. 10, 1907 Am't. on hand	\$1878.68	1878.58
Less obsolete	63.04	
		<hr/>
Aug. 10, 1907 Actual stock	\$1815.54	
		<hr/>
Cost of stock and supplies sold	\$1671.20	
Cost of shipping supplies....	148.75	
Cost of wrapping paper and twine	4.34	
Obsolete stock and supplies..	63.04	
		<hr/>
Total cost and expense of stock	\$1887.33	
To amount received for stock and supplies	\$3839.68	
Cost and expense of stock sold.	1887.33	
		<hr/>
Profit	\$1952.35	

There are a number of Divisions which apparently have no stock or supplies on hand and do not carry same at their Headquarters. This is wrong. All Divisions should carry a complete stock on hand. The practice of having requisitions filled for Camps and shipped direct to Camps (or their officers) should be discontinued, and this Encampment should enact some legislation along this line.

It seems to me that if Divisions were allowed to add 15 or 20 per cent or some per centage to the amount of the requisition received from a Camp, that, then, a Division might realize a profit and be enabled to purchase supplies to carry same in stock. The expense in each instance that a small requisition is filled for a Camp from National Head-

quarters is proportionately greater than to fill requisitions in large fairly large quantities direct to Division Headquarters; for National Headquarters to supply Camps is directly opposite to the fundamental principle governing the Order; for it is the National Headquarters which is to deal with Divisions, and Divisions with Camps; not National Headquarters direct with Camps.

During the year 346 requisitions were filled which number was 51 more than last year.

The amount received for supplies was greater this year than last in the sum of \$883.63. Increase in profit over last year was \$636.04. An investment in supplies and stock of \$449.67 greater than last year was made.

Charter Members.

No new Camps were mustered in five (5) Divisions during the year. Divisions mustering new Camps were:

Divisions.	No. Camps.	No. Members.
Cal. & Ore.....	2	66
Colo. & Wyo.....	1	32
Connecticut.....	1	51
Illinois.....	12	403
Indiana.....	3	65
Iowa.....	4	134
Kansas.....	3	86
Kentucky.....	1	16
Maine.....	4	105
Massachusetts.....	6	186
Michigan.....	2	57
Minnesota.....	1	23
Missouri.....	3	72
New Hampshire.....	4	117
New Jersey.....	3	70
New York.....	5	115
Ohio.....	15	464
Pennsylvania.....	8	203
Rhode Island.....	1	21
Wisconsin.....	6	135
Totals.....	85	2421

Recruiting.

I strongly urge the importance and I feel confident the greatest results would be achieved, of devoting more interest and attention to the western Divisions and the section of the country embraced therein.

There is a great field there awaiting organization. Our Division Commanders, by reason of the condition of their Divisions, in that section of the country, are not able to cope with the possibilities and they need every assistance. National officers and the Commander-in-Chief have every opportunity in that section of the country, to materially strengthen our Order, organize new Camps, secure a stronger membership in our existing Divisions and Camps and work up a large and enthusiastic membership. I hope that this will be done during the coming year and that every attention will be devoted to the work in the west.

I realize that you were not neglectful of this matter and know that you were greatly interested in this feature. I know that under the conditions and experiences you had to contend with, you felt that the field there needed attention, and you gave it all you could; I also know that you consider this section a great field for our work in the future and that it is your desire to have this organized and recruited, and that you would have done so, could you, in addition to the splendid service you have rendered during the past year.

Receipts and Expenditures.

1906

Aug. 22 To balance cash.....	\$ 556.41
Bal. due on 1905 acc't for supplies from	
Indiana	\$10.49
Iowa	8.51
Minnesota	15.43
Pennsylvania	81.31
	<u>115.74</u>
	\$ 115.74
Bal. due on 1906 acc't for supplies from	
Cal. & Ore.....	\$142.82
Indiana	10.23
Kentucky .....	.63
Michigan .....	.28
	<u>153.96</u>
To due from Divisions.....	269.70

Receipts.

Aug. 22, 1906, to Aug. 22, 1907, Inc.	
To am't Rec'd for per capita tax \$11,793.84	
Charter fees	440.00
Supplies	3839.68
Miscellaneous	138.05
Chief of Staff.....	7.16
	<u>16213.73</u>
Total receipts	\$17044.84
By cash on 1905 acc't. for supplies from	
Iowa	\$ 8.51
Pennsylvania	81.31
	<u>89.82</u>
By bal. due from	
Indiana	\$10.49
Minnesota	15.43
	<u>25.92</u>
	115.74
By cash on 1906 acc't. for supplies from	
Cal. & Ore.....	\$142.82
Indiana	10.23
Kentucky .....	.63
Michigan .....	.28
	<u>153.96</u>
	269.70

Expenditures	
Aug. 22, 1906, to Aug. 22, 1907.	
By general expenses.....	\$12483.90
Office expenses	698.72
Commander-in-Chief	1633.62
	<hr/>
	14816.24
By balance	1958.90
	<hr/>
Total	\$17044.84

Itemized Expenditures.

GENERAL EXPENSES:

For stock and supplies	
Badges	\$1081.19
Ribbon	210.25
Decorations	151.80
Supplies	644.89
	<hr/>
	\$2091.23
Memorial University on new Camps.....	210.00
The Banner	5881.04
Encampment (1906-\$370.30) (1907-\$707.20)	1077.50
Printing	\$ 31.31
Moving Headquarters	6.85
Reserves	137.37
Shipping supplies	148.75
Bonds, National officers	32.50
Miscellaneous	567.35
Salaries	2300.00
	<hr/>
Total general expense	\$12483.90

OFFICE EXPENSES—Headquarters:

Light	\$ 2.54
Wrapping paper and twine	4.34
Postage	157.69
Express	8.43
Telegraphing	1.00
Stationery Nat'l officers and office	167.39
Rent	276.00
Miscellaneous, (Janitor, Porter, etc.).....	81.33
	<hr/>

Total office expenses \$ 698.72

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES:

Rent	\$ 181.00
Postage	68.16
Telegrams	23.39
Travelling	1019.68
Office (Stenographer, supplies, etc.).....	311.00
Express	13.94
Miscellaneous	16.45
	<hr/>

Total expenses Commander-in-Chief .. \$1633.62

Aug. 10, 1907—Total expenditures \$14816.24

Compared with last year the records show:

ENCAMPMENT

79

RECEIPTS:	Aug. 10—1905-'06	1906-'07
For Per capita tax	\$11149.65	\$11793.84
Supplies	2963.99	3839.68
Charter fees	430.00	440.00
Miscellaneous	37.72	133.06
Balance	284.56	556.41
Chief of Staff		7.16
Totals	\$14865.92	\$16775.11
EXPENDITURES:		
General Expenses	\$12588.80	\$12483.90
Office expenses—Headquarters	790.93	693.72
Commander-in-Chief's expenses	929.78	1633.62

\$14309.51 \$14816.24

Respectfully submitted, in F. C. & L.
H. H. HAMMER, Nat'l Sec'y.

REPORT OF NATIONAL TREASURER.

Reading, Pa., August 20, 1907.

EDWIN M. AMES, Commander-in-Chief, Sir:—I have the honor to submit to you this summary of the financial transactions of the Commandery-in-Chief for the year just closing.

It is pertinent here to remark that whatever results have been attained have been due in large measure to the inauguration of improved methods in the conduct of the administrative offices of the national body, coupled with that rigid enforcement of economy which should be observed in conducting a patriotic or fraternal society no less than in the management of a business venture.

Heretofore the National Treasury has been one in name only, and any reference to its available funds might rightly have been considered a sarcasm or worse. The debit and credit columns have been so harmoniously in accord that any sudden emergency in the past would have necessitated a recourse to the private funds of your officers. Prudence would suggest that while a plethoric treasury might prove a curse, an available cash balance should be provided for protective purposes, and I take the liberty of suggesting that the present per-capita tax rate be continued for another year with this end in view.

The following amounts consisting of Cash Balance carried over from previous year, and sundry amounts received from the National Secretary on dates shown, have been charged against this department:

1906.

Aug. 22 Cash Balance	\$ 556.41
Aug. 28 Receipts...	.59

Credit has been taken for disbursements on the certified vouchers of the National Secretary and approved by the Commander-in-Chief, as follows:

Voucher 84.....	\$ 44.75
" 85.....	6.20

Sept.	4	"	...	142.79	"	86.....	27.38
"	13	"	...	73.99	"	87.....	496.00
"	16	"	...	24.13	"	88.....	6.85
"	25	"	...	166.01	"	89.....	31.83
"	28	"	...	55.20	"	90.....	32.50
Oct.	6	"	...	42.58	"	91.....	21.90
"	12	"	...	45.16	"	92.....	28.00
"	16	"	...	62.21	"	93.....	77.39
"	26	"	...	142.97	"	94.....	248.80
"	31	"	...	158.70	"	95.....	3.10
Nov.	3	"	...	528.62	"	96.....	303.96
"	7	"	...	183.51	"	97.....	28.57
"	12	"	...	107.59	"	98.....	.70
"	17	"	...	189.74	"	99.....	.87
"	24	"	...	75.72	"	100.....	20.00
"	26	"	...	139.57	"	101.....	86.86
"	30	"	...	287.99	"	102.....	6.20
Dec.	4	"	...	468.97	"	103.....	164.00
"	11	"	...	953.37	"	104.....	301.47
"	19	"	...	56.17	"	105.....	696.31
"	31	"	...	73.75	"	106.....	30.47
1907.							
Jan.	5	"	...	153.73	"	107.....	92.00
"	21	"	...	89.67	"	108.....	8.16
"	31	"	...	173.42	"	109.....	80.44
Feb.	2	"	...	180.51	"	110.....	72.54
"	5	"	...	616.95	"	111.....	90.00
"	7	"	...	127.25	"	112.....	865.30
"	13	"	...	296.10	"	113.....	37.15
"	18	"	...	35.62	"	114.....	2.15
"	23	"	...	74.88	"	115.....	42.62
"	26	"	...	257.57	"	116.....	65.00
"	28	"	...	1,058.91	"	117.....	41.60
Mch.	6	"	...	587.96	"	118.....	6.20
"	12	"	...	170.36	"	119.....	481.83
"	18	"	...	81.82	"	120.....	68.65
"	23	"	...	80.88	"	121.....	28.20
"	30	"	...	82.45	"	122.....	19.50
Apl.	9	"	...	80.33	"	123.....	2.75
"	16	"	...	88.17	"	124.....	6.20
"	20	"	...	115.48	"	125.....	42.62
"	22	"	...	171.58	"	126.....	482.55
"	27	"	...	147.18	"	127.....	59.15
May	2	"	...	248.95	"	128.....	41.66
"	6	"	...	137.86	"	129.....	186.17
"	7	"	...	61.36	"	130.....	77.40
"	9	"	...	165.38	"	131.....	44.25
"	16	"	...	124.95	"	132.....	19.55
"	20	"	...	162.80	"	133.....	478.90
"	23	"	...	131.89	"	134.....	31.72
"	25	"	...	553.58	"	135.....	69.00
"	27	"	...	382.55	"	136.....	25.00
"	29	"	...	349.19	"	137.....	93.45
"	31	"	...	7.60	"	138.....	18.85
Jun.	1	"	...	964.20	"	139.....	74.30
"	3	"	...	352.09	"	140.....	167.50
"	7	"	...	68.12	"	141.....	481.76

ENCAMPMENT

81

"	13	"	...	75.28	"	142.....	31.51
"	15	"	...	57.45	"	143.....	190.94
"	25	"	...	51.69	"	144.....	89.00
"	29	"	...	58.49	"	145.....	230.00
Jul.	3	"	...	102.46	"	146.....	9.30
"	10	"	...	81.51	"	147.....	494.10
"	17	"	...	102.69	"	148.....	201.84
"	22	"	...	110.77	"	149.....	26.56
"	27	"	...	70.89	"	150.....	22.75
"	31	"	...	403.05	"	151.....	62.65
Aug.	3	"	...	1,165.93	"	152.....	7.80
"	5	"	...	1,056.87	"	153.....	22.95
"	6	"	...	107.08	"	154.....	4.74
"	12	"	...	252.44	"	155.....	275.86
"	19	"	...	162.05	"	156.....	27.05
					"	157.....	9.30
					"	158.....	50.00
					"	159.....	496.60
					"	160.....	134.35
					"	161.....	6.14
					"	162.....	4.60
					"	163.....	8.40
					"	164.....	119.25
					"	165.....	98.00
					"	166.....	43.30
					"	167.....	210.00
					"	168.....	499.88
					"	169.....	32.65
					"	170.....	150.00
					"	171.....	115.00
					"	172.....	25.00
					"	173.....	266.20
					"	174.....	3.10
					"	175.....	522.11
					"	176.....	1.58
					"	177.....	35.79
					"	178.....	72.75
					"	179.....	13.75
					"	180.....	47.00
					"	181.....	56.50
					"	182.....	75.00
					"	183.....	56.00
					"	184.....	106.92
					"	185.....	300.00
					"	186.....	4.00
					"	187.....	2.50
					"	188.....	51.90
					"	189.....	23.80
					"	190.....	64.12
					"	191.....	66.72
					"	192.....	2000.00
					"	193.....	264.95
					"	194.....	13.50

Total Receipts...\$16,775.14 Total Disbursements\$14,816.24

Balance Account.

Total Receipts.....	\$16,775.14
Total Disbursements.....	14,816.24
Cash Balance.....	\$ 1,958.90

Every obligation has invariably been satisfied prior to the tenth of the month following that in which it was incurred, and by the creation of a definite rule for settling accounts the Commandery-in-Chief has established its credit and thus enabled the National Secretary to avail of the lowest market prices for the materials purchased, and often of special discounts, resulting in a considerable saving.

The duties of office have been made pleasurable by the unbroken harmony which has marked your administration no less than by the example of my associates in office who have so uniformly and intelligently labored for the success of the organization.

Even a cursory examination of the records of your National Secretary will confirm my prediction of a year ago as to the intelligence and business method he has brought to his department. I can attest to his constant application to his duties and to his complete mastery of the task he has undertaken.

To you, Sir, I am thankful after a personal friendship begun in the cradle-days of the Order and continued uninterruptedly since, to have had the honor of serving the organization as a part of your administration; more honor I do not crave.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & I.,
J. L. RAKE,
National Treasurer.

NATIONAL COUNSELOR'S REPORT.

To Edwin M. Amies, Esq., Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Sir: The services required of me in my official position during the past year have been in an inverse proportion to the success and brilliancy of this administration. In fact my duties have been so exceedingly light, that I have but held an honorary position on the staff of a Commander-in-Chief whose eminent ability is such as to enable him to admirably discharge the manifold duties of his station without creating any labor for me as his counselor, and yet leave me deeply sensitive of the honor conferred by the appointment.

I have the honor to remain,

WILLIAM T. CHURCH,
National Counselor.

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

National Chaplain J. G. Van Ness: My appointment as Chaplain was a surprise, the happy prejudice of some Son of a Veteran. The duties involved were new, but have been performed to the best of my knowledge and ability. During the year we have received some pleasant communications from the various Camps scattered throughout the United States. We sent out a special plea to all the Division Chaplains urging a fitting observance of Memorial Day, both in the places where such observance is customary and in such possible places as

had not formerly given the day due attention. We have also given various addresses during the year in behalf of our Order. The reports from the various Division Chaplains are, I regret to say, incomplete, and some of those from whom I have heard expressed great difficulty in securing needed data from the local Camps. Unless some of our Chaplains are more faithful in their prayers than in their reports, the outlook is not greatly encouraging. Though fewer Division Chaplains have reported than last year, and this in spite of repeated letters, the gain in Camps and in membership is marked. I have greatly appreciated the courtesies shown me by my superior officers, and have prized all loyalty coming from the Division officers and their Camps. I wish to express my gratitude for this year of privileged association.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & L.,

JOHN G. VAN NESS,

National Chaplain.

Recapitulation.

Number of Camps Reporting.....	472
Number of Camps not Reporting.....	184
Percentage of Camps Reporting.....	72
Number of Brothers belonging to Camps.....	26047
Number of Brothers in line Memorial Day.....	12670
Number of Brothers Armed and in line Memorial Day....	4172
Number of Brothers Uniformed in line Memorial Day.....	7482
Number of Firing Squads Furnished.....	192
Number of Addresses by Members of Sons of Veterans....	318
Number of Brothers Attending Memorial Services Sunday..	9246
Number of Camps Observing Union Defenders' Day.....	202
Number of Deaths in last Twelve Months.....	146
Number of Funerals attended by Camps in a Body, G. A. R.	438
Number of Funerals Attended by Camps in a Body, S. V....	117
Number of Burial Services Conducted by Camp, G. A. R....	69
Number of Burial Services Conducted by Camp, S. of V....	81
Number of Camps Using Memorial Service "A".....	78
Number of Camps Using Memorial Service "B".....	56

TOTALS		Per Cent of Camps Reporting	
Number Camps Not Reporting		100	0
Number of Camps Reporting		100	100
Did Camp Use Memorial Service?	"A"	100	100
	"B"	100	100
Number of Burials Conducted by Camp	G. A. R.	100	100
	S. V.	100	100
Number Funerals Attended in a Body	G. A. R.	100	100
	S. V.	100	100
Number of Deaths in Camps in Last 12 Months		100	100
Did Camp Observe Union Defenders' Day?		100	100
Number Brothers Attending Memorial Services Sunday		100	100
Number of Addresses Delivered by Sons of Veterans		100	100
Did Camp Furnish Firing Squad?		100	100
Number of Brothers Uniformed in Line		100	100
Number of Brothers Armed and in Line		100	100
Number of Brothers in Line Memorial Day		100	100
Number of Brothers Belonging to Camps		100	100

Alabama and Tennessee.....	240	107	44.6
California.....	2475	196	7.9
Colorado.....	62	30	48.4
Connecticut.....	567	373	65.8
Illinois.....	801	418	52.2
Iowa.....	228	188	82.5
Kansas.....	187	104	55.6
Indiana.....	600	440	73.3
Maine.....	1153	886	76.9
Maryland.....	310	90	29.0
Massachusetts.....	4800	3180	66.3
Minnesota.....	397	171	43.1
Missouri.....	70	23	32.9
Nebraska.....	967	637	65.9
New Hampshire.....	1645	527	32.0
New Jersey.....	1377	902	65.5
Ohio.....	5610	4928	87.9
Pennsylvania.....	325	208	64.0
Rhode Island.....	116	10	8.6
Washington.....	690	400	58.0
Wisconsin.....	26047	12670	48.7
TOTALS.....	26047	12670	48.7

REPORT OF CHIEF OF STAFF.

Headquarters S. V. Reserves,
Dayton, Ohio, August 20, 1907.

Edwin M. Amies, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U.
S. A.

Sir: I have the honor to submit my report for the year ending July 31st, 1907.

During the year just passed, the efforts of the commanding officer of the Reserves and members of his personal staff, have been directed along the lines of extension in the organization of the military, principally in the Western states and New York.

The principal obstacle confronting us, has been a lack of understanding of the relative position the Reserves hold as to their liability to service in the State or Nation, and what will be expected or required of them after their organization of a military company. Whether they will be subject to arbitrary and stringent rules, difficult to comply with and inconsistent with a service like ours.

The correspondence has been greater than ever before and we have striven to give explicit and full information in every case.

Many of the Division officers have been willing and valuable assistants in the work, recommending the organization of the military in their circulars and in several Divisions the Commander has taken an active hand in the work. These brothers have enabled us to accomplish more than would have been otherwise possible, and to them we extend our warmest thanks.

While these gratifying conditions have characterized the official acts of many of the Division officers, some have been unable to see the utility of the movement and have either withheld their valuable aid, or have discouraged the military spirit altogether.

We have found, that when the movement has once been started and a few companies mustered, the work of extension is comparatively an easy matter. In Pennsylvania, where the Reserves were first organized in 1899, they have been their own sponsors and it is no longer a matter of education or difficult to organize. The movement is popular with nearly all Camps and it is but necessary to gather the harvest, the results of earnest efforts in 1899 to 1904. This department has lately held a most successful camp at Scranton, Pa., in which was gathered a body of soldiery that is a credit to the Division and the Order in general.

No report of this camp has been submitted to the Chief-of-Staff and I am therefore unable to make proper report of the same.

In Department of New York, under the supervision of Col. Ralph Sheldon, M. D., splendid results have followed. A magnificent regiment has been camped the last week at the Thousand Islands. One company of said regiment has the honor of being spoken of by the Regular Army officers, as the equal of the very best. There has been no time, since the close of camp, for either Col. Sheldon or Major Prittle of the headquarters staff, to make their report, to enable me to lay the full details before this Commandery encampment.

The Department of Ohio, under Colonel Winfield S. Ruhl, has made gratifying advancement, and the first Regiment of Ohio speaks for itself and the untiring work of Colonel Ruhl.

The Division Commanders of Minnesota, Colorado and California have won the hearts of the headquarters staff by their earnest and well directed efforts, and one year hence we predict for California, Minnesota, Colorado and Washington net results that will be a gratifying surprise to all who have given to the Sons of Veterans Reserves their influence and support.

I have made special effort to respond promptly to all letters of inquiry and made it a point to never send answer that was difficult to understand or in any way ambiguous. While the work has frequently called for many sacrifices of time and needed recreation, we have been sustained by the hope that our work shall live after the bugle shall sound "lights out" for the founders of the Reserves.

It has been our constant aim to answer all calls made upon our time and it has been my good fortune to be called on to speak at many gatherings of the Grand Army and of the Sons of Veterans.

During the past year I have addressed more than half a hundred meetings of the aforesaid organizations and comfort myself with the belief that good has resulted.

It has been the constant aim of the headquarters of the Reserves to make no unreasonable demand, or use harsh measures in any case, notwithstanding our patience and forbearance may have been severely tried. We believe that our duty is a recognition of the rights of all, to avoid setting up any personal opinion, acting on the proposition that all others are wrong and we alone are pursuing the just and legal course. We hold that while it is most desirable to maintain a reasonable semblance of army regulation, it is unjust and harmful to expect and require a strict compliance with rules which can only be reasonably demanded of regularly enlisted soldiers. It is duty to respect each the other and thereby deserve the respect of others. I believe now, as I did in 1899, that the Reserves if properly handled, will prove themselves one of the most valued adjuncts of the Order, but if ever permitted to be used in the interest of any ambition, or to satisfy petty spite, then they must prove a hindrance to the growth of the Order and a stain on its bright escutcheon.

While unable from my experience and viewpoint to wholly approve of the proposed amendments, as published in The Banner, I am most willing to abide by the good judgment of this Commandery-in-Chief encampment. Some of the alterations and changes might prove of advantage, while I cannot but believe that others would be most injurious and harmful. But it seems reasonable to point out that we have grown and prospered under the present law; why not? As one Division Commander puts it: "Why try experiments?"

I leave this question to the judgment of the brothers of this Commandery-in-Chief and promise that whatever you do, I will most willingly abide by and respect.

Commander-in-Chief Amles has shown me many marks of his good will and valued friendship. While it has sometimes been my ill fortune to add to his manifold duties and annoyances,

he has the first time to pay me back with other than kindest and fraternal consideration. While I cannot pay the debt, I can always carry with me the pleasant memory that it was an honor to have served under him.

But what is true of the Commander-in-Chief, is also applicable to all the officers of the Commandery-in-Chief, as well as the several Divisions, with which I have had official or friendly relations.

In conclusion permit me to hope that whatever has been done or attempted, has been actuated by promptings of the heart and with a single desire to promote the best interest of the Order of Sons of Veterans, a work in which my whole ambition has been to see this Order an honored successor to the fathers whose magnificent achievement and heroic sacrifices have placed the American soldiers' name highest on the scroll of fame, have made the flag the proudest on earth an emblem of Freedom, Prosperity and Justice, floating by the side of the proudest of Europe and on an American equality.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & L.,

R. M. J. REED,

Major General, Chief of Staff,

Commanding Sons of Veterans Reserves, U. S. A.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

Comander-in-Chief: We will now have the report of the Committee on Credentials.

National Secretary H. H. Hammer, chairman of the committee, submitted a partial report at this time, which was revised from time to time, and the complete report as finally submitted by this committee shows the following members present:

Commandery-in-Chief Officers.

Commander-in-Chief, Edwin M. Amies, Altoona, Pa.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.

National Secretary, H. H. Hammer, Reading, Pa.

Council-in-Chief: Thos. J. Hannon, Boston, Mass.; Dr.

Ralph Sheldon, Albany, N. Y.; Thos. W. Blair, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Chief-of-Staff, R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia, Pa.

National Counselor, Wm. T. Church, Chicago, Ill.

National Chaplain, Rev. J. G. Van Ness, D. D, Mt. Vernon,

Iowa.

National Inspector, Geo. E. Cox, Hartford, Conn.

National Patriotic Instructor, Rev. W. J. Patton, D. D, Mason City, Iowa.

Past Commanders-in-Chief.

George B. Abbott, Chicago, Ill.

R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia, Pa.

Frank L. Shepard, Chicago, Ill.

Edward R. Campbell, Washington, D. C.

W. G. Dustin, Dwight, Ill.

H. V. Speelman, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Past Grand Division Commanders.

R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia, Pa.

Constitutional Life Members.

R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia, Pa.
Isaac Cutter, Camp Point, Ill.

Divisions.

Alabama & Tennessee:

Past Commander L. W. Friedman, Birmingham, Ala.
Past Commander Charles A. Brake, Birmingham, Ala.

Connecticut:

Commander Clifford E. Batchelor, Ansonia, Conn.
Past Commander Geo. E. Cox, Hartford, Conn.
Delegate Robert T. Alcorn, Hartford, Conn.
Delegate C. E. Remer, Ansonia, Conn.

Illinois:

Commander Will C. Creighton, Champaign, Ill.
Past Commander G. B. Abbott, Chicago, Ill.
Past Commander Geo. B. Stadden, Springfield, Ill.
Past Commander Wm. G. Dustin, Dwight, Ill.
Past Commander F. L. Shepard, Chicago, Ill.
Past Commander Wm. T. Church, Chicago, Ill.
Past Commander James E. Seabert, Dwight, Ill.
Past Commander Bruce H. Garrett, Rockford, Ill.
Past Commander Harry G. Wasson, Peoria, Ill.
Delegate R. F. Locke, Rockford, Ill.
Delegate John T. Stockton, Chicago, Ill.
Delegate E. F. Buck, Peoria, Ill.
Delegate E. S. Scott, Springfield, Ill.

Indiana:

Commander Chas. C. Hartzell, Portland, Ind.
Past Commander Wm. H. Armstrong, Indianapolis, Ind.
Past Commander Newton J. McGuire, Indianapolis, Ind.
Past Commander H. O. P. Cline, Jonesboro, Ind.
Past Commander Geo. W. Kroltenstein, Terre Haute, Ind.
Past Commander Geo. F. Ogden, Wabash, Ind.
Past Commander L. A. Handley, Richmond, Ind.
Delegate W. F. Geller, Fort Wayne, Ind.
Delegate F. E. Watson, Goldsmith, Ind.
Delegate J. S. Sego, Valparaiso, Ind.

Iowa:

Commander Lewis A. Dilley, Davenport, Iowa.
Past Commander W. F. Muse, Mason City, Iowa.
Past Commander Fremont S. Gibson, Mason City, Iowa.
Delegate James E. Blythe, Mason City, Iowa.

Kansas:

Commander Charles B. Martin, Parsons, Kans.

Kentucky:

Commander Geo. H. Stebbins, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Delegate D. S. Miller, Paris, Ky.

Maryland:

Past Commander Edward K. DePuy, Washington, D. C.
Past Commander F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.
Past Commander Edward R. Campbell, Washington, D. C.
Delegate Chas. A. Sidman, Washington, D. C.

Massachusetts:

Past Commander Wm. A. Stevens, Arlington Heights, Mass.
Past Commander Leonard C. Couch, Taunton, Mass.
Delegate Herbert A. Mayo, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Delegate P. L. Parker, Marlboro, Mass.
 Delegate John J. Keenan, Boston, Mass.
 Delegate Arthur D. Patterson, Webster, Mass.
 Delegate Ralph F. Peck, Taunton, Mass.
 Delegate Frank L. Chubbuck, Milton, Mass.
 Delegate Lyman W. Floyd, Manchester, Mass.

Michigan:

Commander J. N. Ripley, Fenton, Mich.

Minnesota:

Delegate H. A. Wing, Duluth, Minn.

Missouri:

Commander Wm. Schneider, St. Louis, Mo.
 Past Commander E. E. Schoening, St. Louis, Mo.
 Delegate E. H. Schuermon, St. Louis, Mo.
 Delegate L. P. Philo, St. Joseph, Mo.

New Hampshire:

Delegate B. S. Davis, Keene, N. H.

New Jersey:

Commander Harry E. Pennell, Atlantic City, N. J.
 Past Commander James B. Adams, Atlantic City, N. J.
 Delegate A. I. Vescellus, Paterson, N. J.

New York:

Commander Wm. A. Personius, Waverly, N. Y.
 Past Commander Clarence E. Holmes, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.
 Past Commander E. W. Estes, Jersey City, N. J.
 Past Commander Ralph Sheldon, Albany, N. Y.
 Past Commander W. B. Moynihan, Rochester, N. Y.
 Delegate Chas. F. Sherman, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.
 Delegate W. L. Gaynor, Troy, N. Y.
 Delegate Ward E. Hunt, Little Falls, N. Y.
 Delegate L. M. Alexander, New York, N. Y.
 Delegate E. A. Bolton, Lansingburg, N. Y.
 Delegate M. H. Nelson, Waverly, N. Y.
 Delegate Burton Perry, Albany, N. Y.

Ohio:

Commander John A. Bonnhardt, Cleveland, Ohio.
 Past Commander L. V. Williams, Ripley, Ohio.
 Past Commander E. H. Archer, Columbus, Ohio.
 Past Commander F. W. Hendrix, Mechanicsburg, Ohio.
 Past Commander H. V. Speelman, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Past Commander W. S. Reeder, Dayton, Ohio.
 Past Commander W. T. Shrieve, Lancaster, Ohio.
 Past Commander P. F. Yeungling, Salem, Ohio.
 Delegate R. J. Williams, Columbus, Ohio.
 Delegate J. J. Van Gender, Seiceto, Ohio.
 Delegate M. H. Bennett, Dayton, Ohio.
 Delegate E. M. Lowe, Uhrichville, Ohio.
 Delegate I. Levy, Washington C. H., Ohio.

Pennsylvania:

Commander C. C. Fulton, Mauch Chunk, Pa.
 Past Commander John Bower, Jr., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Past Commander H. H. Hammer, Reading, Pa.
 Past Commander Alf. G. Loyd, Pittsburgh, Pa.
 Past Commander A. S. Moulthrop, DuBois, Pa.
 Delegate A. S. Rhoades, Milton, Pa.
 Delegate D. W. Cotteral, Harrisburg, Pa.
 Delegate W. Smedley, Philadelphia, Pa.

Delegate R. M. Wright, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Delegate A. J. Ulmer, Easton, Pa.
 Delegate D. Sherman Smith, Lancaster, Pa.
 Delegate John E. Sautter, Aspinwall, Pa.
 Delegate W. R. Harvey, Belle Vernon, Pa.
 Delegate J. A. McKelvey, Pittsburg, Pa.
 Delegate Thos. A. Parfitt, Johnstown, Pa.
 Delegate M. A. Ritter, Hellertown, Pa.
 Delegate Geo. Stevenson, Wilkes Barre, Pa.
 Delegate John H. Folk, Easton, Pa.
 Delegate F. Tschudy, Johnstown, Pa.
 Delegate E. C. Xander, Hellertown, Pa.
 Delegate C. T. Charters, Harrisburg, Pa.
 Delegate E. B. Hartman, Pittsburg, Pa.
 Delegate F. H. Snowwhite, Braddon, Pa.
 Delegate C. L. Buckman, Philadelphia, Pa.

Vermont:

Commander Fred E. Terrill, Burlington, Vt.
 Past Commander Fred W. Spear, Bennington, Vt.
 Delegate Allan S. Holbrook, Dwight, Ill.

Wisconsin:

Commander Felix A. Kremer, Madison, Wis.
 Past Commander Fred W. Graff, Sheboygan, Wis.
 Delegate G. E. Buckstaff, Oshkosh, Wis.
 Delegate V. V. Vose, Oshkosh, Wis.

Commander-in-Chief: The following standing committees are announced:

Appointment of Standing Committees.

Committee on Resolutions: E. R. Campbell, of Maryland, F. S. Gibson, of Iowa; H. A. Wing, of Minnesota; J. N. Ripley, of Michigan; E. W. Estes, of New York.

Committee on Constitution and Laws: H. V. Speelman, of Ohio; F. T. F. Johnson, of Maryland; Wm. T. Church, of Illinois; R. M. J. Reed, of Pennsylvania; Fred W. Spear, of Vermont.

Committee on Officers' Reports: G. B. Abbott, of Illinois; H. E. Pennell, of New Jersey; Charles B. Martin, of Kansas; F. E. Watson, of Indiana; Wm. Schneider, of Missouri.

Press Committee: L. W. Friedman, of Alabama and Tennessee; Wm. A. Stevens, of Massachusetts; James B. Adams, of New Jersey.

The committee on ritual will be announced later.

Reception and Reference to Communications.

Commander-in-Chief: I will now read the following communications which I have received:

Rochester, N. Y., August 16, 1907.

Hon. Edwin M. Amies, Commander-in-Chief, S. of V., U. S. A. Dayton, Ohio.

My dear Amies: I find at the very last moment that it will be impossible for me to attend the Dayton convention, and it is with the deepest chagrin and annoyance on my part that I have been unable to deliver the goods with reference to the Ritual Committee.

Riddell was surely a great disappointment to me. His letters were all that a man could ask and led me to believe that he could produce a suitable manuscript, but what a fizzle he made out of it.

I have been unable since the last convention to hear from Adams or Rudd, my contemporaries, and I trust that McNulty of your Division will deliver something that will be acceptable.

I herewith tender a statement for postage, telegrams and stationery used for the past year. Hoping that the reports of your administration will prove it to be one of the most successful and trusting that you are enjoying the best of health, believe me to be

Very Sincerely yours,

THEO. C. CAZEAU.

Bankerhill, Russell County, Kans.

Edwin M. Amies, Dayton, Oh'io, Algonquin hotel.

Dear Brother Commander: Accept my regrets at not being able to attend the encampment. I hope a good and profitable encampment will be held.

Yours in F. C. & L.,

CLARENCE PECK,

Past Div. Com. Kansas Div.

Trenton Junction, N. J., August 19, 1907.

Edwin M. Amies, Commander-in-Chief, S. of V., U. S. A., Dayton, Ohio.

My dear Commander: I regret very much that I will not be able to be with you at the Dayton encampment.

The pleasant relations we have had while I was Division Commander binds me very closely to you.

The New Jersey Division felt highly honored with your presence at our state encampment.

Congratulating you and your splendid administration as Commander-in-Chief and wishing you a successful encampment, I remain,

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,

CHAS. C. LAWRENCE,

Past Div. Com. N. J. Div.

Boston, Mass., August 19, 1907.

Edwin M. Amies, Commander, S. of V., U. S. A., Dayton, Ohio.
2500 Sons of Mass. send F. C. & L. to you.

BATES.

Chicago, Ill., August 19, 1907.

Edwin M. Amies, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.
Dear Brother: To you and the brothers of the Sons of Veterans in convention at Dayton, Oh'io. greetings and good wishes from your sisters, the Daughters of Veterans. May God guide you in your councils and speed you in all good work.

Sincerely yours in F. C. & L.,

MYRTLE G. KRAMER,

National President.

Attest:

CLARA F. HOOVER,
National Secretary.

Duluth, Minn., August 18, 1907.

Edwin M. Amies, Commander-in-Chief, Dayton, Ohio.

My dear Commander: It is with regret that I am unable to meet with you this day in the beautiful city of Dayton at the Twenty-sixth Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans.

May your deliberations be such that it will be beneficial to our beloved Order.

Loyally in F. C. & L.,

E. F. HELLER,
Past Div. Com. Minn. S. of V.

Burg Hill, Ohio, August 19, 1907.

My dear Hammer: For some time I have been promising myself a splendid reunion with old friends at Dayton, but "The best laid schemes of mice and men," etc., came true.

On Saturday I received notice of an important and not to be delayed business meeting that I am compelled to attend, whereby my dreams of reunion vanished in a moment and for which I am extremely sorry.

Please give my kind regards to the boys and believe me,

Yours fraternally,

A. W. JONES.

To H. H. Hammer, Algonquin hotel, Dayton, Ohio.

Boston, Mass., August 18, 1907

Edwin M. Amies, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.
Dayton, Ohio.

My dear Commander: I regret more than the term can express, to advise you that engagements of a personal and business nature, that permit no other course, oblige me to forego the pleasure, so long anticipated, of attending the encampment at Dayton this week.

To be deprived of the privilege of attending the annual meeting of the Commandery, to which I look forward as a distinct and special event of each succeeding year; to be detained at home when my great desire is to be with my friends and brothers in Dayton, is a great disappointment.

This year I had even more special and personal reasons for wishing to be at the annual meeting, as you will appreciate, when you recall the fact that my associates in Massachusetts had honored me with their endorsement, and had made me their choice, for the high office you now occupy. Under such circumstances you may be assured that only the strongest and compelling reasons prevent my attendance.

May I ask you Commander, to convey to the delegates my regrets, and extend for me the most cordial and fraternal greetings to all of my friends. I have much to thank the brothers for in the honors they have bestowed in the past, and this year to many who will be present, I am most grateful for the renewed assurances of good will they have expressed.

I wish also to heartily congratulate you Mr. Commander, on the splendid achievements of your administration, to which you have given so generously of your time and the strength of your able personality. You have good reason to be proud, as the Order is proud, of your work.

God speed the organization in its work, and grant a com-

plete degree of success to every effort that is made in behalf of the loyal principles it represents.

You may be sure that I may be with you all in spirit if not in person, if such a thing be possible, and that my thoughts and heart beats are vibrating in unison even at this distance.

Wishing all a pleasant and memorable reunion, and a productive encampment for the good of the Order, I am,

Sincerely yours in F. C. & L.,

FRED E. BOLTON.

To the Commander-in-Chief, officers and members of the twenty-sixth annual encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

Brothers: At the twenty-seventh annual encampment of the Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., lately held at Scranton, Pa., the following resolution was unanimously adopted: That we respectfully request the twenty-sixth encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief to restore past camp commanders rank to Brothers Frank Richardson, Camp No. 1; F. S. Zinn, Camp 33 Ruhl, and D. W. Kemble and Jos. Gibson, Camp 225, Division of Pennsylvania, and instructing the Pennsylvania delegation to use all honorable means to have this request carried out.

C. C. FULTON,

Division Commander.

Attest:

W. B. McNULTY,

Division Secretary.

Kirkwood, Mo., August 16, 1907.

Officers and members of the twenty-sixth annual encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Brother E. J. Hardt desires the restoration of his ranks as past commander of R. C. Allen Camp, No. 65, Missouri Division, Sons of Veterans, which he lost while away and had entrusted his affairs to a brother who failed to carry out the agreement.

Being my home Camp and knowing well the conditions, this little request, if granted, will be well applied.

JOHN C. BERTHOLD,

Secretary-Treasurer.

Headquarters General J. C. Fremont Camp, No. 65, Sons of Veterans, Missouri Division, U. S. A.

St. Louis, Mo., May 17, 1907.

To the officers and members of the twenty-third annual encampment of the Missouri Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

The following resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the General J. C. Fremont Camp, No. 35, and we request that the same be adopted by this encampment and carried to the Commandery-in-Chief:

Whereas, Brother John N. Hutchinson has been reinstated into the Order and has asked to have his past honors restored, and,

Whereas, Brother John N. Hutchinson was always a loyal and faithful worker for the organization in the past, and that

at the time of his discontinuation from the Order his circumstances were such that it was impossible for him to keep up the dues, therefore be it

Resolved, That this Camp do all in its power to have the rank of Past Camp Commander restored to Brother John N. Hutchinson.

A. G. GERDEL,
CHAS. WIPPO,
A. W. MARX,
E. MOHR,
T. MOHR,
W. KNOCKE,

Committee.

Adopted as above stated.

Attest:

WM. HIENZT,
Secretary.

THEO. H. MOHR,
Commander.

Missouri Division, Sons of Veterans.

Kirkwood, Mo., May 24, 1907.

The above was favorably acted upon at the 23rd annual encampment and the delegates instructed to lay the matter before the Commandery-in-Chief.

Attest:

JOHN C. BERTHOLD,
Secretary-Treasurer.

WM. SCHNEIDER,
Division Commander.

Wm. R. Marshall,

Philadelphia, Pa., June 2, 1907.

Mr. McNulty.

Dear Sir: Would you kindly let me know whether I am eligible to join another Camp outside of Capt. P. R. Schuyler Camp, No. 2, meeting at Sepvya and Norris streets, Philadelphia. If not? Why not? Why I quote you these questions is because I am one of the thirty-five members that has been dishonorably discharged through The Banner, for what reason I do not know, as I have never since I belonged to the Order of Sons of Veterans had any too much to say. The only thing that I can account for was the day Camp No. 2 was being tried, I was doing nothing and to pass the day I went to see the proceedings in which this is a common thing for me to do as I am doing this same thing right to the present day. You will favor me with a reply as I am now an ex-member of the Sons of Veterans, also with a reply would you kindly let me have a roster of Sons of Veterans of Pennsylvania.

Yours in F. C. & L.,

WM. R. MARSCHALL,
Cor. Birch and Coral Sts.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Philadelphia, Pa., June 5, 1907.

Dear Sir: In reply to yours of the 2nd, would say, that we have no power to reinstate you in the Order. That can only be done by action of the Commandery-in-Chief encampment.

I am glad to see that you are anxious to be a member of the Order of the S. V., U. S. A., the grandest Order in existence, outside the G. A. R. It is growing stronger and stronger every day, and is going to grow and grow with worthy people in it.

We want all the good honest sincere people we can get and I regret that you were mixed up in the number you speak of and I am glad you want to be loyal.

Write out an appeal to the Commandery-in-Chief, saying officers and members of the Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A., make a brief statement of how you came to be discharged and ask for reinstatement or the removal of the disability preventing you from becoming a member, then send it to me and I will see that it gets to the Commander-in-Chief.

The Commandery-in-Chief meets at Dayton in August.

Fraternally,

W. B. McNULTY.

Philadelphia, Pa., June 5, 1907.

Officers and members of the Commandery-in-Chief, S. of V., U. S. A.

I, Wm. R. Marschall, of Capt. P. R. Schuyler Camp, No. 2, of Philadelphia, Pa., being one of the thirty-five members that has been dishonorably discharged from the Order of Sons of Veterans, for reasons unknown to me, although I have some reason to think why this has occurred.

1st. Being at the court room listening to the proceedings, for which this is a common thing for me to do, as I am always there when opportunity is offered me in spare time.

2nd. Do not understand why I could have been dishonorably discharged without a trial. As I am now an ex-member of the Order would like to join another Camp. Please make a statement why this has happened and keeps me out of the Order in general, hoping for a reply.

Yours in F. C. & L.,

WM. R. MARSCHALL.

Portsmouth, N. H., August 9, 1907.

Sir: I have the honor to request that past honors earned while affiliated with the Vermont Division, Sons of Veterans, be restored to me, and the matter brought before the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, at the next annual session for their consideration and action. These honors were forfeited by reason of the disbandment of the Camp of which I was then a member.

I was a charter member of General George T. Childs Camp, No. 36, located at St. Albans, Vermont, which Camp was mustered April 19, 1887 and disbanded at the close of 1898, and filled the Camp offices of sergeant of the guard, quartermaster sergeant, second lieutenant and commander, the latter during the year 1893. I also served the Vermont Division as adjutant two years ago under Division Commanders Frank L. Greene and George O. Webster.

On May 23, 1901, I became a charter member of Marcus M. Colliss Camp, No. 53, of Portsmouth, N. H., and on March 1, 1903, transferred to Colonel Mark F. Wentworth Camp, No. 20, Kittery, Maine, of which Camp I am now a member. In the latter Camp have held the office of treasurer three years.

Very respectfully,

LEON G. YOUNG.

The Commander Maine Division, Sons of Veterans,
Augusta, Maine.

Rockland, Maine.
 Resolved that in accordance with the request of Lieut. W. H. Miller Camp of Sanford that our delegation to the Commandery-in-Chief be instructed to secure the restoration of the rank of Past Commander to Alfred P. Brown, Benj. F. Dyer and Frank W. McCann and that a similar request be made for E. W. George and L. S. Higgins of Appomatox Camp of Brunswick.

Headquarters New Hampshire Div., S. of V., U. S. A.
 August 15, 1907.

Resolution No. 1.

Whereas, Geo. L. Wakefield, was formerly a member of the Order of the Division of Wisconsin, and a past commander of J. A. Griffin Camp, No. 5, S. of V., U. S. A., and now a resident of New Hampshire and a member of W. W. Brown Camp, No. 1, S. of V., U. S. A., of Manchester, N. H., desires that his rank of past camp commander be restored to him; therefore it was,

Resolved by the New Hampshire Division in encampment ensembled to respectfully request the Commandery-in-Chief to restore the rank of Past Camp Commander to Brother Geo. L. Wakefield.

CHAS. G. M. MATHON,
 Delegate-at-Large to Commandery-in-Chief
 Encampment.

Resolution No. 2.

Whereas, Herbert J. Allard and John J. Smith were formerly members of Lieut. Geo. S. Cobb Camp, No. 28, and Past Commanders of said Camp, and were members in good standing when said Camp disbanded, and are now members of said Camp, which has been reorganized, desire that their rank of Past Camp Commanders be restored to them; therefore it was,

Resolved by the New Hampshire Division in encampment ensembled to respectfully request the Commandery-in-Chief to restore the rank of Past Camp Commander to Brothers Herbert J. Allard and John J. Smith.

CHAS. G. M. MATHON,
 Delegate-at-Large to the Commandery-in-Chief
 Encampment.

Resolution No. 3.

Whereas, John W. Derby and Perley E. Sheldon were former members of Charles L. Fuller Camp, No. 33, S. of V., U. S. A., and were Past Camp Commanders of said Camp when said Camp disbanded, and are now members in good standing of said Camp, which has been reorganized, desire that their rank of Past Camp Commanders be restored to them. Therefore it was,

Resolved, by the New Hampshire Division in encampment ensembled to respectfully request the Commandery-in-Chief to restore the rank of Past Camp Commanders to Brothers John W. Derby and Perley E. Sheldon.

C. G. M. MATHON,
 Delegate-at-Large to Commandery-in-Chief
 Encampment.

Resolution unanimously adopted by the Vermont Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., at its 25th annual encampment at Hardwick, Vermont, June 5th, 1907:

Resolved, that the Vermont Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., in encampment assembled, earnestly petitions the Commandery-in-Chief of the Order to restore past honors as Division Commander (Colonel) to Brother E. T. Griswold of Camp No. 9, Bennington. These honors were lost through no fault of Brother Griswold whose administration as Colonel of the Division was one of the most successful and brilliant in the history of the Division, and who has always been recognized as one of the ablest and most efficient workers for the good of the Order in the Vermont Division, and who has held nearly every office in the gift of his Camp and Division.

Resolved that the Division delegates to the next national encampment of the Order are hereby instructed to present this resolution, and press the matter to a conclusion.

Dayton, Ohio, August 21, 1907.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was unanimously adopted at the 25th annual encampment of the Vermont Division held at Hardwick, June 5th, 1907.

FRED E. TERRILL,

Division Commander.

Commander-in-Chief: I have here invitations from the following commercial bodies, municipal corporations, etc., inviting the Commandery-in-Chief to hold its next encampment at the places mentioned:

From the Albany Chamber of Commerce, Albany, N. Y.

From the Atlantic City Bureau of Information and Publicity, Atlantic City, N. J.

From the Chicago Commercial Association, Chicago, Ill.

They will be considered at the proper time.

I will read the following communications:

"Allentown, Pa., August 19, 1907.

Edwin M. Amies, Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

My dear Sir and Brother: Please accept my personal congratulations for your splendid and successful administration. Regret my inability to be with you at Dayton, in person, but I assure you my heart is with you.

Yours very respectfully in F. C. & I.,

WALTER E. SMITH,

Past Div. Com., Penna. Div.

"Headquarters Lt. S. C. Potts Camp, No. 12,

Div. of Penna., S. of V., U. S. A.

Altoona, Pa., August 19, 1907.

To the 26th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A., assembled and in session at Dayton, Ohio: Camp 12, of Altoona, Penna. Division, the home of our Commander-in-Chief, sends greetings and congratulations to the supreme power of our Order, so cohesive, so incisive, and so potential a factor and teacher of patriotism, that our country is safe and secure in the hands of the men that you represent, the only true royal blood of this great U. S. A. We wish you

God speed, and hope and trust that the administration of Commander-in-Chief Amies will be worthy to emulate.

By the unanimous vote of the Camp,
Attest: H. G. DETWILER."

—
"Rockford, Mich., August 19, 1907.

H. H. Hammer, Dayton, Ohio.

My dear Hammer: Have kept hoping until the very last minute that there might be some way provided for me to be with you at Dayton. But with sickness of my help and a little misfortune of my own, have been obliged to give it up.

Hope that the encampment may be a very pleasant and successful one, and trusting that everything that is done will be for the Order's best interests, wish to extend my heartiest congratulations to Commander-in-Chief Amies, and yourself, for the good showing that has been made the past year. Would like to be remembered to all my friends.

Respectfully yours,
H. E. COWDIN."

—
"Battle Creek, Mich., August 19, 1907.

My dear Brother Amies: Am sorry to advise you that now at the last minute I find it impossible to leave for Dayton. Business exigencies require my chief clerk going to St. Louis tomorrow, and I cannot well be away at this time of the year without his presence here.

I regret this, and so does Mrs. Stillson, who was to accompany me.

Here's hoping you cover yourself with glory and credit in the conduct of the encampment, and that from every standpoint is a success.

With all possible good wishes, believe me,

Fraternally yours,
FRED C. STILLSON."

—
The Albany Chamber of Commerce would extend a most cordial invitation to the National Encampment Sons of Veterans to hold their next convention in Albany, New York. Good hotels and boarding houses, beautiful parks, well kept streets, attractive public buildings, all combine in making Albany an ideal convention city.—William B. Jones, Secretary.

—
Atlantic City, N. J., June 3, 1907.

Mr. H. H. Hammer, Secretary, Sons of Veterans National Convention, Reading, Pa.

Dear Sir: Under separate covers I am mailing you our bureau literature which will give a very fair idea of America's greatest pleasure and health resort.

I would like to obtain your next convention for Atlantic City and trust that at the proper time and place you will present in its strongest and most favorable light this, our hearty invitation.

Our resort is an ideal convention city and its attractions are unsurpassed anywhere, while its hotel accommodations are practically unlimited, being the most modern and reasonable of any similar place in the world. Our railway facilities

are the best in the United States, being only one hour's ride from Philadelphia and three from New York City. Transportation can be arranged for at as low rates as any point in the country. We would have no trouble whatever in taking the best of care of the delegates who attend your convention. If not inconsistent with your official position I desire to enlist your personal aid in this matter and assure you that if your representatives met here once they would return again. If there are any other officers or members of your organization whom you think it would be proper for me to communicate with in order to secure their influence I would like you to send me their names and addresses.

This invitation is extended not only by the Bureau of Publicity but also on behalf of the Atlantic City Board of Trade, The Atlantic City Hotel Men's Association and the Atlantic City Business League.

Should Atlantic City be favored with your next meeting please so advise me and, if desired, I will be happy to cooperate in making it a success to all interested. Should you wish any further specific information I will cheerfully correspond with you relative to the same, and if any more of the literature could be used to good advantage I will be pleased to mail it to such addresses as you suggest.

Will you please let me know how many persons usually attend your convention, and what is the probable date and duration of your next one? Do you think it would help our chances if I would personally attend your coming meeting?

Trusting to hear from you at your earliest convenience and thanking you in advance, I am, Very truly yours, George S. Lenhart, Secretary-Director.

Chicago, Ill., August 9, 1907.

Mr. H. H. Hammer, Secretary, Sons of Veterans National Convention, Reading, Pa.

My dear sir: You will perhaps recall invitation which Chicago extended to your organization at Peoria, last year, to convene the present year's meeting in this city. While we were not successful in landing the event, Dayton, as it seems, having been honored, same to be held there beginning August 19th, we are desirous to renew herewith our invitation to the Sons of Veterans, National Encampment, to honor us with the 1908 annual. Certainly no greater honor could be given Chicago than by holding an annual of your organization here, and, were we thus honored, we would do everything within our power toward making that gathering a most pleasant and successful one. If you will kindly bring the enclosed invitation before the officers and members of the S. of V. National Convention, at the proper time, it will be deeply appreciated.

Thanking you in advance for this kindness, and hoping that Chicago may be honored as suggested above, I am, Very truly yours, Curt. M. Treat, Sec'y-Gen'l Mgr. Convention Bureau.

Chicago, Ill., August 9, 1907.

To the Officers and Members of the Sons of Veterans National Convention, in session at Dayton, Ohio.

Gentlemen: The Chicago Association of Commerce de-

sires herewith to renew its invitation of a year ago to the Sons of Veterans National Convention, to convene its next meeting in this city.

It is unquestionably needless for me to refer to the great advantages which Chicago possesses as to a meeting place for an organization of this kind. Her geographical location; her unexcelled railway facilities; her extraordinary features of special attraction; her ideal hotel accommodations, etc., etc., are points that insure large attendance upon convention events—the first great requisite for a successful meeting.

With'n a single night's ride of Chicago, fifty million people reside. There are something like 2000 daily trains going and coming over twenty-six great trunk lines centering here, thus affording the opportunity for the greater number of your members to come and return, should your convention be held here, during a single night's ride, and practically without losing a single business hour in coming to and returning from your session.

In Chicago there are innumerable means of entertaining your members, their ladies and their guests, while you are engaged in business session; and I feel certain that, if you honor us with your presence, you will here realize one of the most pleasant, and in every way successful gatherings that your organization has ever experienced.

Trusting and hoping that we may be honored with the 1908 annual meeting, I am, Sincerely yours, Curt. M. Treat,
Sec'y-Gen'l Mgr. Convention Bureau.

A. E. B. Stevens, of Ohio: I move that we now receive the ladies, and proceed to the joint memorial services.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

Alf. G. Loyd, of Pennsylvania: I move that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

Alf. G. Loyd, of Pennsylvania: I move that the regular order as laid down in the program be proceeded with.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

Commander-in-Chief: Past Division Commander Stephens, of Ohio, will you select your detail and bring in the ladies from the ante-room.

A. E. B. Stephens, of Ohio, escorted Mrs. Julia A. Moynihan, National President of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, with party, to the platform.

JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICES.

Commander-in-Chief: In accordance with the usual custom observed by the Sons of Veterans and kindred organizations, we are met here this afternoon for the purpose of paying what slight tribute we can to those of our members who have passed away during the year. The services proper of this meeting will therefore be under the supervision of the respective chaplains of the different bodies. I have the honor to relinquish the chair, for the time being, to Past Commander-in-Chief H. V. Speelman, of Ohio, who will take charge of the ceremonies.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: It is both fitting and proper, in my judgment, that services of this character should be held

by the Order of Sons of Veterans and its Auxiliary. As has been stated by our Commander-in-Chief, this practice has been in vogue for several years, and we are met here today to pay tribute to the memory of those of our respective organizations who have died during the year that is now coming to a close. At this time I wish to introduce to this assemblage, Sister Milham, of Minnesota, the National Chaplain of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, who will speak on behalf of that organization.

Mrs. Milham, National Chaplain, Sons of Veterans Auxiliary: Officers and members of the Sons of Veterans and Auxiliary. Thirty-nine members of our Order have been reported as having died during the year: each one doing her best for the interests of the Order. May we so live that when the time comes for us to pass away, it may be said of us, that the world is better for our having lived in it. May we be true to ourselves. In that way we will be better prepared for that greater life.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: We will now listen to remarks by Mrs. Moynihan, National President of the Auxiliary.

Mrs. Julia A. Moynihan, of New York: This is indeed a solemn occasion. This time is set aside to consider, remember and eulogize the good deeds of those who have gone before. It is fitting for an Order of this kind to hold such a meeting. I regret to see so few of the members here on this occasion, and so few of our sisters. I think it is owing to the lateness of the hour. We meet here to do reverence to our loved ones who have passed to that great beyond, to their eternal rest. During the past year the national Sons of Veterans Auxiliary has been called upon to mourn the loss of one of their best workers, Sister Margaret Wykoff, Division President of Pennsylvania. She was loyal to the Auxiliary and to the Sons of Veterans. She worked hard and well for both Orders, and was called away right in the midst of her good deeds, and well may we say at this time, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter into your eternal rest."

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: We will now listen to Gen. R. M. J. Reed, of Pennsylvania, who will speak on behalf of our organization.

R. M. J. Reed, of Pennsylvania: Ladies of the Auxiliary, and members of the Sons of Veterans. I regret exceedingly that it was not my good fortune to have had some intimation that I would be called upon today to say something at this memorial services. I had known that such was to be held, but I had not the remotest idea that I would be called upon to say something. My mind travels back to 1903, when these memorial services were first inaugurated. They commend themselves to the thoughtful mind of both organizations. On that occasion it was specially fitting that we should hold memorial services, for we had lost two past commanders-in-chief of the Sons of Veterans, one from Ohio, and one from Pennsylvania. They have crossed over to the other shore; they are not dead, but are still living memories with you and me, and we love to think over the days that are past, and to recall to our minds the pleasant recollections of the days that we spent with them in the past quarter of a century trying to do some good for the great Orders that we represent. The brothers and sisters

who have answered that last roll-call have gone to the other shore, and are camping in what to us is unknown ground, but they only await our coming. It particularly appeals to my sensibilities when I remember that I am possibly the oldest member of this encampment and in the natural course of events I suppose it will not be many years until I too shall be called upon to bid goodbye to earth and earthly things; and it is one of my fondest hopes that when I cross to the other shore and taps shall sound for me, that the members of the Auxiliary and the brothers of the Sons of Veterans will have a kindly recollection, as we have, of the brothers and sisters who have gone, of the work in which they were engaged and tried to do their best as they understood their duty. Memorial services naturally in an Order like this connects itself with the beautiful memorial services inaugurated by the Grand Army at Philadelphia, and let us take pride in following their example. The sisters and brothers who have gone from our midst and are no longer on our active roll are remembered by you and me, and the several organizations to which they belonged, and to which they did honor and credit, and we hope that these services will forever be maintained, and that we come to the national encampments of the Sons of Veterans and the Auxiliary and express our regards for those that have gone from us. I love to remember those that were with us on the active roll, and touch elbows. As was said in the services of the meeting, you of the Sons of Veterans are not striving to gather some of the honor or some of the credit that was so well earned by the gallant boys of 1861 to 1865, but we are only emulating their example and striving to show our appreciation of what they did for you and me. We want to show our appreciation of the services and sacrifices of those gallant boys in blue, and our reverence to the immortal Lincoln, who said that this was a government by the people, and for the people. We are proud of the boys of 61 to 65 who brought back the flag, since which time the stars have grown until they number forty-six on its blue field, due to the sacrifices of your fathers. I feel that I am honored by being called upon by the chairman of this meeting to express not only our sympathy for those who have gone before, but that I have the opportunity to express the appreciation of those who are here for the services of our fathers. I hope this memorial service will be maintained year after year. Let us resolve that the sacrifices of our fathers shall not have been made in vain. Let us go on with the work so magnificently begun. (Applause).

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: We have with us at this time a past commander of the Division of Iowa. I would like to call upon Fremont S. Gibson, of that Division, to speak at least for a few minutes.

Fremont S. Gibson, of Iowa: Mr. Chairman, and members of the allied patriotic societies: This is indeed a surprise to me. If I had supposed I was to take part, I would have made some preparation. It is a service that I take great interest in. It is a service that ought to commend itself to every member of the Sons of Veterans and to every member of the Auxiliary. It is a service that touches the heart and takes us back to those who have passed over. And whether they are sons of veterans, or fathers, or mothers, sisters, or sweet-

hearts, but it cannot help to benefit us, as we think of those who have passed and gone. It is a service that should be followed up. I am sorry that there are so few here. We have with us an old pastor of mine, a man whom I hold in the highest esteem—our National Chaplain—a man to whom I listened for three or four years in a pulpit in Mason City. I know he has something good for you today. I know that he can say something that will bring this subject to your hearts better than I can.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I know that we will all be glad to have a few words from Past National President Addie Wallace, of the Auxiliary.

Addie Wallace, Past National President, S. V. Auxiliary: It is common with the brothers who have just spoken, I can only say that I regret that there are not more here this afternoon. I think that all of us are too apt to pass by these things. With Brother Reed my mind goes back to our first memorial services. We are all brought just a little closer together on these occasions; in our busy life we should stop and pay our respects to those who have gone; let us do it in the future. For the brothers and sisters who have, there are many aching hearts. The world will, of course, go on just the same, after we have stepped out, but it is well for us to have these services. I regret that I am not able to say more at this time, but I do want to say that in the future I shall insist that our girls come in greater numbers and pay more respect to this occasion.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I see we have with us a member who I have heard before in service of this kind. I am going to call upon Hyde E. Davis, of Ohio, to say a few words on this occasion.

Hyde E. Davis, of Ohio: Ladies, sisters and brothers. I want to say that this is a disappointment to me, to see so few of the members of this fraternity assembled upon an occasion like this. There should be more. If there is a time in the history of ones life that is important it is the time when he is about to change from this life to the other, and if there is a time when we, as men and women, should stop to think with reference to the present and to the future, it is upon memorial occasions, it is a time when we are assembled for the purpose of thinking of those who have gone before. We stop but a few times during the year to give that reverence to those who have gone. We are busy every hour. We have but little thought of the future, and for the lack of thinking of the future, many of us wander by the wayside. Many of us become weak, many of us fall into forbidden paths, owing to the fact that we give but little thought to the future; the future has much to do with our actions, our daily actions. But, my brothers and my sisters, this is a good time to stop once a year, and think just a little of how we are living. There is not one of us but believes that sometime, somewhere we are going to live again. Most of us expect to live again. If we have not that hope, there is nothing to live for. It is the hope that somewhere we are to live again. If that be true, then, we should prepare for that new life. We should think a little at least for those who have passed away. I call to mind that splendid character who belonged to this Order of ours; who lived in this grand old state; that man was so full of magnetism that he

never rose in a convention that he did not enthuse those who heard him; I refer to that splendid fellow, Billie Bundy. He may have had his faults, but the goodness overbalanced the faults, in my judgment. Somewhere in the far away his spirit is this afternoon in sympathy with this gathering. I am a believer that the spirit of our loved ones are about us most of the time. I want to live and die believing that the spirit of my dear old mother has been a help to me; I want to believe she looks upon me, watches my actions, and I believe that the spirits of our brothers are not very far away from us this afternoon. Let us make this memorial occasion a sacred one. Let us join together in sympathy with those who are living, when the spirits of those who have gone to rest, so that when the last day shall come, it may be the brightest in our life's history.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: The concluding address of this service, as is our custom, will be delivered by our National Chaplain, and it is now my privilege to present to you Rev. Dr. J. G. Van Ness, of Iowa, who will speak to us.

Rev. J. G. Van Ness, D. D., of Iowa: Our heritage—our responsibility. The meeting of the encampment is not a small event. It has great significance. A great truth, a great need is here represented, illustrated. This organization stands for something the nation cannot do without. It is its heart, its life. We are here to rejoice and hope and enlist for the country's best. I recall how, years and years ago, in the march of events, when certain soldiers were home from the seat of war, one of those men with a metallic head and a metallic heart, and for whom the nation had little use and less regard, was unkind enough to cheer for Jefferson Davis. Shakespeare asks, "What's in a name?" There was a good deal in that cheered name to the soldiers, and they were not very good christians, and their tempers were not under very good control, and they were not very tired of fighting, and, well, there was a catastrophe. The cheering having failed to cease under orders, they took the half drunken man and without his consent strung him to the nearest tree and ordered him to "Hurrah for Lincoln." He sturdily refused, until the knot became uncomfortably tight, and realizing something of the desperate courage of those men, finally said; "Hurrah for Lincoln—under the circumstances." There are circumstances.

Three hundred years ago a little band of people lashed the prow of their vessel to Plymouth Rock. They were convicts. They had been convicted of loving freedom and hating oppression; of desiring to be as noble and great as the Almighty had planned them to be; of following their conscience instead of a tyrannical king. Convicts they were, sentenced to manhood by the King of Kings; sentenced to be the pioneers of the greatest country the stars ever lighted; sentenced to be the hope and inspiration of the down trodden everywhere; sentenced to show to the world the vow of Pallnurus, "O! Neptune, you can save, you can sink me if you will, but whatever comes I will keep my rudder true." With these men in view, under the circumstances, and without the rope, we are inclined to hurrah for the new born country.

The country with such a foundation had to grow. Its territory pushed far beyond the bounds of the rocky coast, out.

past prairies and over mountains, out until the islands of the sea became its children, out until on its far flung possessions the sun never sets. What intelligence has been developed. From the hour when a struggling preacher laid a few books on the table and Harvard college had a being, sections of the country have been racing with each other to give the rising generation finest literary advantages. Every school day two hundred thousand doors swing their welcome to twenty million of children, while colleges and universities beg young people to accept intellectual hospitality. The "Three Rs" have given place to the "Three Hs," and head and heart and hand compass the perfect equipment. The thrift of the people is something astonishing. The American does twice as much work as the average non-American. This intensity of toil coupled with its fine direction has given this land a prosperity unknown elsewhere. The common laborer puts lace curtains to his windows and a grand piano in the parlor. Under the circumstances, our stretch of country, the intelligence and thrift of its people; under the circumstances, we may well "Hurrah."

But that which has enlarged its boundaries and developed its resources, fostered its schools, protected its thrift, is its government. There was no guide. America pioneered the way. Ours is neither a monarchy nor a theocracy. The greatest American God ever grew stood in the sobbing silence of Gettysburg cemetery and declared that "This was a government of the people, for the people and by the people, and that it should not perish from the earth." The angels of wisdom and truth presided over its birth and wise men brought their best and laid it at the feet of the infant nation. The child's first words were "Equality, Liberty." For such a government millions were glad to live and would not fear to die. Under the circumstances we have a right to hurrah for the land we love.

In 1861, when the Civil war opened, wise men, both north and south, called it national suicide. It was civilization against civilization; conviction against conviction; bravery against bravery; wealth against wealth; prayer against prayer; children of the same mother, brave and tearless, fought in opposite armies. Europe laughed to scorn the idea of relying on volunteer troops for our protection, and crowned heads and titled aristocrats gloried when the stars and stripes were wet with the blood of defeat. Our government could offer only small pay, deep wounds, probable death. Citizens with hearts hot with the love of country leaped from the matrix of the nation's life, and gave themselves to individual sovereignty, and died in that awful holocaust. Nearly a million men were killed, wounded, or died of disease, or sent down the path of the years weakened or maimed. It was these men who, when the flag was shot away, and not a star was left nor a fragment or blue waved, that the frantic cry, "Rally round the pole, boys, rally round the pole," gave quick response. It was these men who, hurrying up the heights while General Grant looked aghast at their commander, who, having truth on his side, cried "General, Hell can't stop them," rushes to victory. It was these men and their none less heroic wives, for it is a problem who suffered the more, who braved the more, the soldier who went away, or the wife who battled at home, grown on the plains of freedom, that were our fathers and mothers, and under

the circumstances, we can rightfully hurrah for their stainless lives led by a stainless flag. That Son of a Veteran who has no love for country, and no fidelity for his country, is fit only for treason, stratagems and spoils and the service of the devil. What we have is ours because of our sires. We are what we are because they were what they were. The price of our liberty, prosperity, was paid by them in the coinage of blood and pain. And yet every age brings duties, obligations, perils. The heroes gone and the heroes lingering late met the peril of that hour. Shall their sons be as brave?

The dangers are not the same. There is little fear of another war. In the chief chair of a nation sits a man so great that he would rather make a mistake than make nothing, but who is for peace. As a peace maker, as well as for other great things, he will live in history. We have resolved on a worthy navy, and a bible for every deck. A peace palace has been built, and the wisest of the world gather to plan perpetual peace. But other evils, subtle, magnetic, dangerous, threaten, and every true Son of a Veteran must stand in enlisted line.

Commercialism is a formidable foe to much that is good. The cursed lust of gold is upon us. Trusts, like pirate ships, scuttle unsuspecting and weaker vessels, and send them to the bottom. Finance manipulators, with ways that are dark and tricks not vain, wreck with specious advertisement and honeyed words whole communities. Womanhood is politely told that she is not expected to live on wages paid, but must supplement her income with the friendship of some gentleman friend. We follow hard after the Patagonians, who barter their children to slavery, or the New Guinea people, who sell theirs for merchandise, by putting ours in factories, dwarfing, almost dehumanizing them, by our narrow lust for gold. Children and legislatures are knocked down to highest bidders, while society, morality, religion, with justice, virtue and patriotism, are polluted with barter and sale. The revelation in the last five years of man's mastery in public and private, by some form of purchase, is amazing, bewildering, startling. One longs to hear Agassiz say again, "I have no time to make money."

There is also a marked tendency to lawlessness.

Seldom is a plain truth better put than when William McKinley said "Liberty to make laws does not give a man a license to break them." Nothing astonishes the foreigner so much as the facility with which we make laws, and the ease with which we violate them. In an eulogy over a notorious gambler, who recently died in Chicago, the officiating priest pointed with pride to the political career of this notorious outlaw, whose whole life had been given to lawlessness with reference to home and business and government. We heard a prominent and popular socialist orator say, "I will never work again." That simply means that law or no law he will have the answer of his need. There is in this country a combination of the Nihilism of Russia, the Black Hand of Spain, the Commune of France, the Mafia of Italy, the Socialism of Germany. In the name of liberty, red flags and black flags, they have floated the motto "No God, no Master;" it is borne through our streets, all in the name of liberty. It was Webster who said, "If America fall in popular government, the knell of popular liberty

would be sounded throughout the earth." Sons of Veterans have a duty here.

A nation is but a bundle of individuals tied together. Individual manhood is national perpetuation. It is then to the unit of society we must look for the basis of strength. Every man his best is the country's life. His best as a man of integrity. Traditional history says that when the birth pangs were upon the colonies and it was a question whether the child Republic would be born or not, England sent an embassy to General Reed, who held large and sacred colonial interests, and offered him five thousand pounds to give into England's hands the powers he held in his. General Reed rose in righteous wrath, and said, "Go back, go back to Old England, and tell her I am poor, that I am very poor, but that she has not money enough to buy me." So deep has this nation written his name in history, that it will endure until stars are slag and cinder, if the nation shall last so long. The captain called his cabin boy to the vessels deck and said, as the little fellow saw the rigging wrecked, the spars floating, and noted the great waves of the wrathful sea sweep over the deck, "Boy, we shall soon be at the bottom." The child hurried to the part of the hold he calls his own, and taking the little Testament, warm with his mother's last kisses, sobbed, "Little book, if I go down, you shall go with me." Better go down amid the sea of adverse circumstances, swamped by the waves of unspeakable misfortunes, than to live a life false, untrue. Better have a little grave unmarked by marble slab and unknown to man, where angels looking over the battlements of Heaven, can read in waving grass, there lies an honest man; better that, than a marble mausoleum throwing the shadows over a life unpatriotic and false.

"There must be a benevolent spirit toward the man next to us.
There are souls like stars that dwell apart in the fellowless
firmament.

There are pioneer souls that blaze their path where highways
never run.

But let me live in my house by the road and be a friend to
man.

Let me live in my house by the side of the road, where the
race of men go by;

The men who are good, the men who are bad, as good and as
bad as I.

I ne'er would sit in scorner's seat nor hurl the cynics ban.

But let me live in my house by the road and be a friend of
man.

I see from my house by the side of the road, by the side of the
highway of life.

The men who press with the ardor of hope, the men who faint
in the strife.

I see them now in their smiles and their tears, both part of an
infinite plan;

But let me live in my house by the road and be a friend to
man."

There must be towards the government a public spirit.

Voltaire said that opportunities for doing mischief were found an hundred times a day, but for doing good, but one. That is in harmony with some other of his statements. John Adams, in that memorable Colonial Congress, arguing for the Declaration of Independence, said, "We may die; die colonists; die slaves; die, it may be, ignominiously on the scaffold. Be it so, be it so. If it be the pleasure of Heaven that my country shall require the poor offering of my life, the victim shall be ready at the appointed hour of sacrifice, come when it may. But, while I live, let me have a country, or at least the hope of a country, and that a free country." Lafayette, born to a high name and rich inheritance, and educated in a rich and voluptuous court, married to a beautiful woman, leaving all, came here to fight the battles of strangers; he had heard that a gallant people had made a stand against oppression.

When the Sons of Veterans, with a spirit of altruistic forgetfulness, in the name of the public weal, count not their lives dear unto themselves that the nation may be saved, then, and only then, are they worthy sons of splendid sires.

We visited Crystal Palace, London. We were not there to study marine specimens, in the basement; nor natural history from glass cases in the gallery. At length we found ourselves seated with more than twenty-one thousand other folks. Before us was a great organ surrounded by four thousand musicians. Madame Albani, Miss MacIntyre, the English tenor Lloyd, and that marvelous bass, Santley, were the soloists. The baton was lifted, and four thousand throats opened. The listener bowed his head and wept. They sang softly of a promised Christ who should come, the world's hope. As divine pledges became clearer, the mus'c took the exultant tone. At length, more than eight hundred soprano voices, ringing with a great joy, shouted, "Lift up your heads, Oh! ye gates." "Who is this King of Glory," cried the many, while all shouted, "The Lord, He is the King of Glory; Lift up heads, Oh! ye gates." Had the crystal roof parted, and the King in royal robes, appeared, there would have been no surprise. This great chorus had been drilled in twos and tens and twenties throughout the whole kingdom, and brought together at last to sing the immortal "Messiah," making the music of earth antiphonal to the music of Heaven.

Our little Camps are here, there and yonder. The whole round to drill the lives we meet, until the song of love to God, and love to man, and love of country, shall echo and re-echo sweetest music of the earth, certain music of the skies.

This is our heritage; this is our responsibility.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: This closes the memorial services.

WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION, AUGUST 21.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Encampment resumed business at 10 o'clock a. m., Wednesday, August 21, 1907, with Commander-in-Chief Amies in the chair.

After the National Inspector, assisted by Past Commander-in-Chief G. B. Abbott, had made the rounds of the Encampment and found all entitled to remain, the Encampment was called to order.

Commander-in-Chief: I will read the following communications:

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

Brothers: Being unable to be with you in person at this Encampment by circumstances over which I had no control, I have forwarded an invitation from our civic bodies and from the three transcontinental lines terminating in the city of Los Angeles to have you hold your National Encampment for 1909 in the city of Los Angeles.

You will readily see that this is not a "hot air" proposition. The different bodies above mentioned are ready and willing to furnish you everything that would make an encampment here one of the grandest and most successful that we have ever held in our organization. The railroad companies have assured me that they will give us a rate as low as any other organization could get, and it goes without saying that we are entertainers. These rates would be open to the members of the Grand Army of the Republic, Ladies of the Relief Corps, Ladies of the G. A. R., and the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, which would insure a large number of people who would take advantage of these rates.

The Division of California is heartily in favor of having our brothers come to the coast. Should you be unable at this Encampment to come to a definite understanding in regard to the above date, give us an expression of the Encampment assembled what we could expect in a year or two later. I recognize the difficulty of laying a matter of this kind before your body and not being present in person, but should our representatives that have been elected to go be there they will no doubt be able to answer all questions in regard to the above proposition, and I can also rely upon Brother Dustin who has had a taste of Southern California and can substantiate all that I have said.

Wishing you a pleasant and successful Encampment, I remain,

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,
GEO. W. CONART,

Past Division Commander of
California & Oregon.

Los Angeles, Cal., August 1, 1907.

To the Officers and Members, National Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Dayton, Ohio.

Gentlemen: I have just had a conversation with Mr. Geo. W. Conart, Past Division Commander, Division of California, in connection with a matter which I believe he has had up with your honorable body, and I des're to say in behalf of this Company, that should you decide to hold your next National Encampment in 1909 in the city of Los Angeles, we will be more than pleased to co-operate with you in every way possible in making it the best and most interesting Encampment ever held by your national bodies. For reference as to what we can do in the way of entertainment, we would refer you to members of the Shrine who attended the Shrine meeting held in this city last May. They, you know, are a representative body of men like yourselves, and I believe they will tell you they never had a more interesting meeting than the one held in Los Angeles.

With your permission we will be glad to send one of our representatives to attend the Dayton meeting and give you such further information as you may desire. We will also send some of our interesting California literature which I would be pleased to have you present to your delegates.

Thanking you for any consideration you may give this letter, beg to remain,

Very cordially yours,

T. C. PECK,

G. P. A. Salt Lake Route.

Los Angeles, Cal., June 26, 1907.

Mr. Geo. W. Conart, 468 Beaudry avenue, Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Sir: Referring to the matter of desire to secure the 1909 meeting of the Sons of Veterans for California:

I desire to say that we took up the matter with our Passenger Traffic Manager who advises he will be very glad to help in any way possible to secure this meeting here.

If it is desired we will be pleased to send good California literature, including copies of the "Road of a Thousand Wonders," and also convention set of pictures which we think can be used to advantage at the Dayton, Ohio, meeting in August, and if so requested we would also be pleased to send representative of our company to that point to work with the California delegation in line with the above. We will also be pleased to have a representative attend the California meetings and work in connection with your committee, and suggest that we could arrange to have commercial agents of California join in sending invitations for holding the 1909 meeting in California.

If you will kindly keep me advised of any movements in connection will inform our people in the north from time to time what is desired and arrange accordingly.

Yours truly,

T. A. GRAHAM.
G. P. A.

Los Angeles, Cal., August 1, 1907.

To the Officers and Members of the National Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Dayton, Ohio.

Gentlemen: A hearty and urgent invitation is hereby extended to you to hold your National Encampment in 1909 in Los Angeles. We have earned a reputation as royal entertainers of different conventions and gatherings and we bespeak for you a true Southern California welcome and entertainment.

Respectfully yours,

F. J. ZEEHANDELAAR,

Secretary.

Los Angeles, Cal., June 7, 1907.

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

By unanimous vote of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, I was instructed to extend to you a most cordial and hearty invitation to hold your Encampment of 1909 in the city of Los Angeles.

We can assure you that you can find here a city provided with all the facilities for holding and handling a large public convention. In addition, we agree to furnish you the most delightful climate to be found anywhere.

Trusting that we may have the pleasure of welcoming you in this city, I remain,

Yours truly,

H. B. GURLEY,

Acting Secretary.

Los Angeles, Cal., August 2, 1907.

To the Officers and Members of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., in encampment assembled, Dayton, Ohio.

Gentlemen: Having been informed that an invitation has been officially extended to you by the city of Los Angeles to hold your Encampment of 1909 in this city, I wish to add our assurance to the others you have that we stand ready to do anything in our power to insure the convention coming here, and if it is the desire of your honorable body to have a representative of our company appear at your convention, we will be glad to so arrange.

Yours truly,

JNO. J. BYRNE.

REPORT OF NATIONAL INSPECTOR.

Dayton, Ohio, August 20, 1907.

To Edwin M. Amies, and Members of the Twenty-sixth Annual Encampment.

I herewith submit my report of the inspection of Division Headquarters and Camps.

I received the reports of inspections of twenty-three Division Headquarters and fifteen consolidated reports of Camp inspections by Division Inspectors.

Consolidated Reports of the Inspection of Camps.

Number of Camps in Divisions.....	524
Number in good standing.....	482
Number inspected	454

Number properly equipped	426
Number having necessary paraphernalia.....	432
Number in which secret work is committed.....	207
Number keeping records correctly.....	430
Number keeping accounts correctly.....	430
Number forwarded all reports.....	435
Number having roster complete.....	422
Number paid all dues to headquarters.....	432
Number having password and countersign.....	431
Number members in good standing last quarter.....	18799
Number members gained	2739
Number members suspended	1840
Number members dropped	872
Number of Camps not having By-Laws approved.....	96
Number presenting badge to recruits.....	424
Number audit accounts	337
Total value of property of Camps.....	\$109,601.24
Total indebtedness of Camps.....	2,125.25
Number of Camps not free from debt.....	20
Total amount invested	\$49,463.24
Number of Camps having military companies.....	83
Number of Chaplains forward reports promptly.....	403
Number in charge Memorial Day exercises.....	147
Number having Ladies Auxiliary.....	117
Number in harmony with G. A. R.....	427
Number observe Union Defenders Day.....	28
Number Camps beneficial	121
Amount paid since December 31 for death benefits	} \$21,944.69
Amount paid since December 31 for sick benefits	
Number of Camps attending funeral of members.....	332
Expended for relief of G. A. R.....	\$902.93
Expended for relief of Veterans.....	163.77
Expended for relief of Sons of Veterans.....	51.50

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & L.,

GEO. E. COX,

National Inspector.

Inspections of Division Headquarters.

To Edwin M. Amies, Commander-in-Chief:

25 Division Headquarters in Commandery-in-Chief.

23 Division Headquarters inspected.

20 Divisions have adopted By-Laws.

20 Division records correct and in good order.

1 Division record fair.

1 Division record poor.

21 Division membership records correct.

1 Division membership record fair.

1 Division membership record poor.

20 Divisions record of Charter Commission and Dispensation correct.

1 Division record of Charter Commission and Dispensation fair.

2 Divisions record of Charter Commission and Dispensation poor.

23 Divisions Treasurer's books are correctly kept.

20 Divisions keep cash account with each Camp.

- 3 Divisions do not keep cash accounts with each Camp.
- 23 Divisions fill requisitions promptly.
- 21 Divisions answer correspondence promptly.
- 1 Division answers correspondence fair.
- 1 Division answers correspondence poor.
- 2 Divisions have indebtedness of \$280.00.
- Value of supplies on hand \$1097.90.
- Amount in treasury \$2767.24.
- 9 Commanders receive salaries.
- 15 Secretaries receive salaries.
- 13 Treasurers receive salaries.
- 6 Secretaries are elected.
- 9 Treasurers are elected.
- 17 Treasurers are bonded.
- 21 Divisions issue commissions to all officers.
- The relations of the Sons of Veterans with the G. A. R., W. R. C., Ladies of the G. A. R. and S. of V. Auxiliary are reported as of the best from all Divisions.
- 22 Divisions send reports to National Headquarters promptly.
- 1 Division sends reports to National Headquarters fair.
- 14 Divisions paid \$108.10, average \$7.72.
- 9 Divisions had no expense to pay.

GEO. E. COX,
National Inspector.

Commander-in-Chief: We will now hear the report of the National Patriotic Instructor, Rev. W. J. Patton.

Rev. W. J. Patton, of Iowa: The following is my report as National Patriotic Instructor:

REPORT OF NATIONAL PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR.

Edwin M. Amles, Commander-in-Chief, Commander:

The twenty-fifth annual encampment of the Commander-in-Chief, S. of V., U. S. A., upon the recommendation of Commander-in-Chief H. V. Speelman, established the office of Patriotic Instructor. The incoming Commander-in-Chief was authorized to add to the list of his staff officers that of National Patriotic Instructor.

On the 15th of Sept., 1906, I received orders from you, Commander-in-Chief Edwin M. Amles, to accept the appointment of National Patriotic Instructor, and to at once enter upon my duties.

Upon assuming the office and taking up the duties of the newly created department, I found myself confronted by two serious obstacles. In the first place I had no precedents to follow, no established rules and regulations to guide me; no blanks or forms upon which Division or Camp Instructors might submit a report of work done, or which might be a guide to them in carrying out the tasks assigned them.

In the next place, I had no authority to enforce any order issuing from my office, because there was no penalty attached to neglect of duty nor for failure to appoint a Division or Camp Instructor, nor for omitting to report to the Division or National Instructor.

As a consequence of this raw legislation I am unable to give any detailed information of work accomplished.

As nearly as I can ascertain, not one-half of the Camp Commanders appointed a Camp Instructor in compliance with the orders of the Commander-in-Chief. For this reason the faithful efforts of many Division Instructors were rendered abortive. Several of the Divisions were fortunate in having for Patriotic Instructor able, intelligent, and earnest men, who realized the dignity and importance of the office, and who zealously endeavored to organize their respective Divisions, but who were unable to accomplish any effective work for the reasons assigned.

I have presumed this briefly to refer to these facts in order that emphasis may be given to the recommendations which follow in this report.

On the 12th day of November, 1906, I issued the following circular letter:

My dear Sir and Brother:

In compliance with the orders of Commander-in-Chief Ames, Division Patriotic Instructors have been appointed in the following named Divisions: New Jersey, John L. Reeger, 101 Hancock St., Trenton; Ohio, John A. Bomhardt, Cleveland; New York, Rev. Francis R. Wade, Livonia; Nebraska, Rev. L. R. DeWolf, Columbus; Maryland, Parker Trent, 519 Third St., N. W., Washington, D. C.; Pennsylvania, M. F. Kane, Shamokin; Massachusetts, E. Roscoe Hazen, 61 Oxford St., Cambridge.

Division Commanders who have not yet appointed, or reported the Patriotic Instructor for their Division will greatly assist us by doing so at once, in order that valuable time may not be lost in the organization of this extremely important department.

Division Instructors will at once place themselves in touch, by correspondence, with the Department Patriotic Instructors of the G. A. R., of the W. R. C., and of the Ladies of the G. A. R., of their several departments, and confer freely with them. Let it be the policy of this department of our Order that, through its Division Instructors the most hearty co-operation with their Department Instructors of the allied patriotic orders shall prevail.

Divisions Instructors will advise the Camp Instructors of their several Divisions of the necessity of similar co-operation between them and the allied patriotic orders of their several communities. In this way perfect unity of purpose and plan shall be realized, and our united work accomplish the desired results.

Just a word of suggestion to Division Commanders who have not yet appointed Instructors. We are most urgent in our request that no one be appointed a Division Instructor who has not first been apprised of the duties of the office; who will not give the necessary time to the work in his Division, and who will not promptly attend to all correspondence, and thoroughly organize the work in his department.

As this work has not heretofore been attempted by our Order, it is the earnest wish of this headquarters that the department be organized in a business-like and dignified manner, in order that there be few mistakes to correct in coming years. Let us prove ourselves to be logical, as

well as the natural successors of the G. A. R., in this laudable work of National Patriotic Instruction.

I am, Fraternally yours,

W. J. PATTON,
Nat'l Patriotic Instructor, S. V., U. S. A.
Mason City, Iowa.

Approved Nov., 1906.

Edwin M. Ames, Commander-in-Chief.

And on the first of Feb., 1907, a second letter was published:

Dear Sir and Brother:

The time is at hand for our department to be actively at work. We must make a record of something accomplished, even though we have no precedents to follow, and while we are in process of organization.

In the first place, I would advise you to correspond with the patriotic instructors of the W. R. C., the Ladies of the G. A. R., and of the G. A. R., of your department, offering the services of our Order, to co-operate with them in the work. Place them upon your mailing list for any circular letters you may send out to your Camp Instructors.

In the next place, it is of importance that a Patriotic Instructor be appointed in every Camp in your jurisdiction. Keep after delinquent Camp Commanders until they attend to this duty, and urge all to appoint the most intelligent and enthusiastic man in the Camp to the position. I would further urge you to insist that every Camp in your Division shall, in some fitting manner, observe Union Defenders Day, Feb. 12th. This is OUR national day. On May 30th we assist the G. A. R., and other patriotic bodies in the observance of that solemn day. No organized effort has done more to nationalize Feb. 12th, than our Order, and it is a disgrace to a Camp, however weak, which cannot muster up patriotism enough to hold exercises of some kind on that day.

In addition to this personal celebration, Camp Instructors should visit the pastors of local churches and request them to observe the Sabbath day preceding Feb. 12th, Feb. 22nd, May 30th, July 4th, and similar anniversaries. Also, Superintendents of Sunday schools, and, where the duty has not been attended to by the older patriotic orders, principals of schools.

The thought I wish you might make dominant is, in what manner can our department assist and further the great business of patriotic instruction, to old and to young, throughout the land. With this thought uppermost, doors of opportunity will open, plans will be devised, ways and means will be provided.

A flag should be in every school room, and float over every school building in your Division. Careful attention should be given to the histories and readers used in the schools. The flag salute should be introduced, and practiced by the children.

I inclose a copy of the flag drill, published by the National Patriotic Instructor of the Ladies of the Grand Army, Mrs. Della R. Henry. If you will call the attention of Camp Instructors to this leaflet, I shall be glad to supply

them with as many copies as they will use, through the courtesy of Mrs. Henry.

The Grand Army of the Republic is having prepared a bronze tablet, of artistic merit, size 22x29 inches, containing the complete text of the Gettysburg Address of President Lincoln. Such a memorial should find a welcome in every public building in the land.

I urge you to zealous co-operation in this splendid opportunity.

National Patriotic Instructor Warren Lee Goss, of the G. A. R., in his circular to the Posts says: "We hope to see this beautiful and enduring memorial largely adopted for the Post halls and for public buildings, especially schools. It can also be adopted to serve in place of a corner stone for the preservation of historical records."

Seeking your earnest co-operation in, and prompt attention to the work of our department, I am,

Fraternally yours,

W. J. PATTON,

Nat'l Patriotic Instructor, S. of V., U. S. A.

Approved Jan. 1907.

Edwin M. Amies, Commander-in-Chief.

In addition to the above the following earnest request to Division Commanders was promulgated:

Commanders of the following Divisions are earnestly requested to report to this department their respective Division Patriotic Instructors:

Alabama and Tennessee, Colorado, Connecticut, Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota.

It is of grave importance that this department of our Order should be organized in every Division, however weak it may be numerically, and that the work should be pushed energetically to the extent of our influence and ability. Therefore, an immediate reply is earnestly requested by

Fraternally yours,

WALTER J. PATTON,

Nat'l Patriotic Instructor, S. of V., U. S. A.

As the result of persistent correspondence with Division Commanders, the following Division Instructors were appointed for their respective Divisions:

New Jersey, John L. Reeger, 101 Hancock St., Trenton; Ohio, John A. Bommhardt, Cleveland; New York, Rev. Francis R. Wade, Livonia; Nebraska, Rev. L. R. DeWolf, Columbus; Maryland, Parker Trent, 519 3rd St., N. W. Washington, D. C.; Pennsylvania, M. F. Kane, 1271 Onrlda St., Shamokin; Massachusetts, E. Roscoe Hazen, 61 Oxford St., Cambridge; Illinois, Geo. B. Abbott, 79 Dearborn St., Suite 1344, Chicago; Missouri, A. E. Cashion, Perryville; Rhode Island, William J. Mawson, Pawtucket; Kansas, Jacob Snackman, Wilson; Indiana, McClure Tate, Noblesville; New Hampshire, Rev. V. M. Morse, Worcester, Mass.; Washington, W. W. Wilshire, New York Bldg., Seattle; Vermont, H. S. Foster, N. Calais; Iowa, Prof. Geo. B. Jackson, Mason City; California, N. J. Shirley, 11 Pleasant Ave., San Jose; Minnesota, Rev. G. L. Morrill, Minneapolis.

The varied nature of the work of the department of Patriotic Instruction necessitates a wide range of action, mainly because in no two Divisions will precisely the same conditions be found to exist. Therefore, it would be a difficult task to secure a compiled report of the entire work accomplished by Camp and Division Instructors. Nevertheless, I have prepared, and herewith submit, a series of blanks for Camp and Division Patriotic Instructors, and, present this plan for several reasons.

First, because of the necessity of some common and general basis of action which may serve both as a guide and as an incentive. Another reason is that these forms reveal whether or not the Camp or Division Instructors have been at work trying to do something, or have merely held the position for the honors.

Another, and my main reason for the order of blanks submitted is, because I have followed, as far as was practicable, the plan of work outlined by the G. A. R., in the belief that the day is all too near when the task that our fathers and their comrades are performing in patriotic instruction must, if performed at all, become our task and duty. I therefore recommend:

(1) That we adopt the series of blanks for reports herewith submitted.

(2) That all the rules and regulations, with penalties attached for neglect to appoint the officer or failure to report his duties, which attach to the other departments of the various staff officers of the Commander-in-Chief be made to apply to the department of the National Patriotic Instructor.

Mr. Commander, it is my firm conviction that only once during our history of twenty-five years, has legislation of such vital importance to our order as the inauguration of the work of Patriotic Instruction been transacted by the Commandery-in-Chief.

When the history of our Order shall have been written I believe that the National Encampments of Syracuse and Peoria will be marked as a turning point in the growth and usefulness of the Order of Sons of Veterans. In this legislation we have at last set the pace which makes for greatness and a lofty place in history for our organization. A steady adherence, aggressively pursued, to the plans already set in motion, and our future numerically and dynamically, is assured.

Under our system of government the educator is a major factor in the life of the Republic. The truth, plainly expounded and correctly applied, makes and keeps men free. And in the nation's life, the truth for which the government stands, and loyalty to that truth, must be of first importance, and stand at the head of the curriculum in the nation's University of Applied Patriotism. Therefore, a Patriotic Order, of all organizations of whatsoever nature, must have reasons sentimental, traditional, historical, and patriotic, for its being, and as such has a right to public recognition only to such an extent as it seeks to become an educational factor in the life of the Republic.

"As Sons of Veterans we occupy a peculiar relation to the country which was preserved to us by our fathers.

There are certain possessions which are ours, through no choice or effort on our part. To appropriate to ourselves as a free gift what was secured by the donors at prodigious cost, and be content with a negative, passive, possession resting solely upon ancestral merit, would invite the just criticism, if not the scorn of the nation.

"We cannot negative the fact that we are Sons of Veterans, whether we are in or out of the order. By the laws of heredity we have the distinguished honor to be the possessors of the nature of our veteran ancestors of the Civil War, and we cannot avoid either the influences of such heredity, nor the responsibilities which it brings with it.

The millions a year of immigrants coming to our land must be assimilated, and instructed in patriotism. The child of the immigrant must be early taught to reverence the Old Flag, to observe the nation's great days and obey its laws, become familiar with the nation's history and make the names of the nation's heroes as familiar household words as are the saints of the calendar to the devout religionist.

And in all this broad and fertile land of promise, who so well qualified, who should be more aroused to the need, who more willing to consecrate their powers now and for life to this great work, than those in whose veins flows the blue blood of a martial nobility, purer in patriotism than the bluest blood of any ancient aristocracy of the old world, whose nobility is not one of deeds and character, but is based upon the long ago exploded dogma of the divine right of Kings.

Our fathers are laying down their tasks, quite unfinished. The great Temple of American Liberty is not yet complete. Much remains to be done. Shall we take up the tasks of the nation as their trembling hands release their grasp, and at the close of our generation, shall it be said of us, as Commander Tanner proudly boasted of his comrades? Shall we meet the armies of the aliens coming to our shores, all too many of them with weapons as destructive of the nation's life as those carried by the rebels forty-five years ago; shall we meet them in the "spirit" with which our fathers met the rebels, though with the implements of peace and the ammunition of sterling patriotism? Or, shall we play the part which the copper-head acted during the war, and seek selfish ease, or personal aggrandizement as did those shirkers of duty and abettors of the rebellion?

Commander, as an organization we never yet have risen to a realization of the magnitude of the task which our fathers have placed in our hands. I pray God that He will open the eyes of the members of our Order everywhere, that they may see our opportunity before it be forever too late, and then that we all may have the moral courage of a Luther, as he says: "God help me; here I stand, I can do no other."

The ultimate effects upon the country at large of our Order as a Patriotic Educator, long before our generation shall have been gathered to our fathers, will be evident, and the good accomplished by our consecrated devotion to the traditions of the Grand Army of the Republic must be incalculable.

Like Lincoln, in the debates with Douglas in 1858, when he said, "I am killing larger game than the senatorship. The battle of 1860 is worth a hundred of this." So we must affirm, to ourselves and to the world, that we are after larger things than merely immediate results, that we are striving against all the adverse forces of the times, looking out into the larger life, with unselfish efforts, a loftier patriotism. We are building the Temple of American Liberty for the ages, and for the whole wide world.

In closing, I want to plead for a recognition of the stupendous importance of our assuming, and at once, to occupy the position, before the nation of a factor, if not the factor in the realm of Higher Patriotic Education. Let it be assumed and resolved, and then maintained by our noble, unselfish devotion, that we do presume to stand as an organized example of loftiest patriotism, and our place in history beside that of our fathers is an assured fact.

My Commander, what a Golden Age of opportunity confronts us with gates lifted up. Our hands may mold and fashion the state our fathers saved from dismemberment, and make it the wonder and admiration of the whole wide world. Our minds may grasp a conception of patriotism that will transform the lives of millions. Our devotion to duty and loyalty to the traditions of the Civil War period may attach coming generations to the 20th century's chariot of national progress; move the nation up the hills of difficulty, and hasten the consummation of the purposes of God concerning the Great Western Republic.

And in the accomplishment of such a high destiny, we have two great memorials to maintain: Memorial Day, the greatest National Day in the world, our Westminster of the Nation's Dead; and Memorial University, the greatest institution of Applied Patriotism in the world, the temple from which shall go forth the "spirit" that shall "move the world along," overthrow the strongholds of disloyalty and anarchy, and bind all to the heart of universal peace.

Commander, I am profoundly grateful to you for the great honor conferred upon me in receiving at your hands, the appointment to a position on your staff.

It is with deep regret that I am compelled to sever the most brotherly relations which have bound us together in our official intercourse, and shall ever be proud of the fact that I was a member of your official family.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & L.,

W. J. PATTON,
Nat'l Patriotic Instructor.

The reports of the National Inspector and National Patriotic Instructor were referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

Commander-in-Chief: As indicated in my report, my administration was marred by two courts martial. By virtue of the authority in me vested by your body, the matter came to me for decision. In both cases I approved the findings of the court, and issued an order to that effect. Since then an appeal has been filed, and I desire that it take its regular

course of business, so that you may fully understand why this matter is presented to this body before the action of a committee to which I shall refer the appeal. I will read the general order on the subject, which has not yet been published officially. You will notice in the finding of the court imposing a greater sentence than that imposed in the lesser, that the order carrying out the findings of the court is promulgated in the order relative to that in the other case. The Constitution provides that this body shall be the court of last resort in all cases of courts-martial, and that its decision shall be final. In view of the fact that an appeal is filed, and in view of the fact that the Constitution does not provide any method of considering this appeal, I will, under the power which I believe I have, refer this whole matter to the Committee on Constitution and Laws, for them to report as to the findings of the court. If there be anybody here to represent James H. Tawney, let him make his presence known to the chairman of the Committee on Constitution and Laws.

The appeal and general orders referred to are as follows: In the matter of the Court Martial proceedings of the case of W. B. McNulty, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., against James H. Tawney, Past Division Commander of the Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., the court, which was appointed to try all matters at variance preferred by the said W. B. McNulty against the said James H. Tawney, adjudged that the "Defendant was found guilty of the charge and specifications and the sentence of the court was that James H. Tawney should be dishonorably dismissed from the Order."

Now, therefore, in conformity with Art. XXIV, Courts Martial, Section 4, page 26, the above finding is approved, and it is hereby ordered, under the power and authority therein given, that the said James H. Tawney, be and he is hereby dishonorably discharged from the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

The Commander of the Pennsylvania Division is hereby directed to so conform to the above sentence that the result thereof shall be duly promulgated to the parties interested, throughout said Pennsylvania Division.

Given under the hand and seal of the Commander-in-Chief, at Altoona, Pa., this tenth day of August, A. D. 1907.

EDWIN M. AMIES,

Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

In the matter of the Court Martial proceedings of the case of John Bower, Jr., Past Commander of the Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., against James H. Tawney, Past Commander of the Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., the court, which was appointed to try all matters at variance preferred by the said John Bower, Jr., against the said James H. Tawney, adjudged that the verdict under the charge was guilty: As to specification I, guilty; as to specification II, guilty; as to specification III, not guilty; as to specification IV, guilty, and as to specification V, guilty, and the court further decided that James H. Tawney be sentenced to a suspension of two years with a loss of rank.

Now, therefore, in conformity with Art. XXIV, Courts Martial, Section 4, page 26, the above finding is approved.

The Commander of the Pennsylvania Division is hereby directed to so conform to the above sentence that the result thereof shall be duly promulgated to the parties interested throughout said Pennsylvania Division.

Given under the hand and seal of the Commander-in-Chief, at Altoona, Pa., this tenth day of August, A. D. 1907.

EDWIN M. AMIES.

Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

Philadelphia, Pa., August 16, 1907.

To the Officers and Members of the 26th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, Dayton, O.

Dear Sirs and Brothers: I beg to enter my protest against your honorable body approving so much of the Commander-in-Chief Edwin M. Amies' report that applies to Court Martial and Findings thereof in the case of John Bower and Wm. B. McNulty against myself James H. Tawney of the Penna. Division, for the following reasons:

(First) Because the laws governing Court Martials were not adhered to in either case.

(Second) Because I was denied the opportunity to present a defense in the case of Bower's charges which were without truth or reason.

(Third) Because in the case of McNulty I did not know I was tried on any charges until Aug. 12, '07, when I received word from the Commander-in-Chief that he was sorry he had to approve said findings of the Court. I don't know now when the Court did sit, if ever. I was out of the city from July 6th until July 22nd, 1907. During that time I was in Ursina, Somerset county, Pa., 351 miles from Philadelphia, and when I came back I asked my attorney if he had any information about the Court, and he said he did not get any word, but that he would advise the Judge Advocate that I was now in the city and ready to proceed. I have not nor did I receive any words from the Courts meeting in any way.

(Fourth) That my attorney did notify the proper officers of said Court that I was out of the city and would not be back until the 22nd of July.

(Fifth) That the Court Martial Laws under which they claimed I was being tried, the U. S. A. Laws were rankly violated, for they clearly say in case of forced absence of the accused, the Court SHALL be postponed.

(Sixth) Because the Court in either case was not competent to sit in judgment.

1st. Because they did not know or understand the first thing about the laws or duties of a court.

2nd. Because Wm. B. McNulty was the creator of the Court.

3rd. Because the President of the Court was at the mercy of Wm. B. McNulty, and had to do his bidding, and he or both lie if they tell your honorable body different. This information I got from McNulty's own mouth.

(Seventh) Because the charges were brought about through malice, for while I was Secretary of the Penna. Division I preferred Court Martial charges against Bower as Division

Commander; McNulty as Division Treasurer, and H. H. Hammer as National Secretary for using their offices for dishonorable purposes, and I still have the papers to prove all I charged against them under their own names or otherwise. These charges were squashed by then Commander-in-Chief Speelman through the recommendation of National Treasurer J. L. Rake, a member of Hammer's Camp, No. 16.

Now my dear brothers if these gentlemen are so clean in office and I am so foul, what do they have to fear by your honorable Body answering my prayer through this protest by you recommending that a Court of nine Past Division Commanders of Penna. Division sit in judgment upon the charge against myself. Then again, why should they not give me all the opportunity the laws will permit? If I am guilty I am sure there is nothing to fear on their part.

Hoping you may see your way clear not to have me disgraced without any wrong ever being committed against the Order by myself in any way, and at the same time give me a chance to save the Order from disgrace by having such men at its head. I ask this for fairness to myself and for the Order's sake.

From one whose record in the Pennsylvania Division has never been surpassed for honesty and fairness and results of work for the Order. Always been active and still am active, being Secretary of the Camp of which I belong.

Four times I was Commander of the Camp in which I belong.

Once Division Commander in 1896-7.

Four years Division Secretary.

Boys give yourself a chance to see what is back of all this. With best wishes to all, I am,

Very truly yours,

James H. Tawney,

5604 Spruce St., Phila., Pa.

Court Martial Proceedings.

Philadelphia, Pa., August 16th, 1907.

John Bower vs. James H. Tawney, Specifications No. 2.

William B. McNulty vs. James H. Tawney, Specifications No. 1.

To the Officers and Members of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, Twenty-sixth Annual Encampment, Dayton, O.

Brothers: In accordance with U. S. A. Court Martial Proceedings and the privilege of your honorable Body, I herewith enter an appeal, from the findings of our Honorable Commander-in-Chief, in the proceedings or caption above mentioned, and pray that as brothers, your Honorable Body may fully consider and grant the privilege of a re-hearing in both cases and we ever pray.

Specifications No. 2.

(First) Because Specifications No. 2, were tried before Specifications No. 1, of which there has never, to my knowledge, been any convening of the court for the trial of specifications No. 1.

(Second) Because in the trial of Specifications No. 2, the attorneys for the Defendant asked for, at the adjournment, a

copy of the proceedings in order that they may verify the same, which was denied them.

(Third) That the said Court trying Specifications No. 2, had agreed with the said Defendant that the Court was to be an open Court, after the convening of the same all persons were denied admittance, notwithstanding several protests entered by the Attorneys for the Defendant, with the exception of the latter part of the proceedings, when the Court recognized our protests and admitted two or three uninterested persons of the Order.

(Fourth) Because each and every juror sitting at this Court were prejudiced against the defendant and before the convening of the said Court our worthy brother, the Defendant, was allowed the privilege of stating his objections to the Court, after which the Court over-ruled him and allowed the jurors, who he had proven were prejudiced against him, to sit and try him in both proceedings.

The above, your Honorable Body, I consider sufficient for an appeal of Specifications No. 2.

Specifications No. 1.

(First) That the said Court did within thirteen days of the convening, notify the Defendant of the time and place of trial but upon receiving the same, we did on July 10th, 1967, several days before the convening of said Court, sent notice to the Judge Advocate, of which you will find hereto attached, asking for a postponement, which is in accordance with the regulations of Court Martial Proceedings, that we would be unable to attend on the above date owing to the fact that the Defendant was out of the city and the Attorneys had also made arrangements to be away on that date.

(Second) And that no further notice has ever been received from the said Judge Advocate in regard to any sitting of the Court whatsoever.

(Third) And that if the said Court did convene, without notice to the Defendant, or his attorneys, that they rankly violated the laws of Court Martial Proceedings, under which they were trying this Defendant.

The above Specifications No. 1, I consider have not been carried on in the right and proper manner and we pray your Honorable Body to grant the above appeal and name a Court for the trial of both Specifications No. 1, and Specifications No. 2, for the good and welfare of one of the noblest and grandest Orders in existence, and that we may be able to find out where the evil root exists and thereby eject it from among us and if the above statements are found to be correct and true and the proceedings of Courts Martial violated, then we will most humbly ask your Honorable Body to find Defendant not guilty, and restore to him the pleasures we all so greatly enjoy, instead of depriving him of the same.

If we are to expel brothers who have honestly and truthfully worked and earned their honors in our Order for personal grievances that exist, how can we expect to gain and go on to success unless justice is shown.

Yours fraternally,

Harry A. Durst, Attorney for Defendant,
Commander Post 2, Camp 299, S. of V. Philadelphia, Pa.

Filed at Headquarters this 17th day of August, 1907.

Edwin M. Amies,
Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

July 10th, 1907.

Court Martial proceedings, Wm. B. McNulty vs. James H. Tawney.

To Judge Advocate William H. Redheffer, Jr., Esq., 1328 Arch street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir and Brother: I would ask that you kindly have meeting in the Court Martial Proceedings of McNulty vs. Tawney postponed until some date convenient to you and the Court, after the 21st of this month.

My reasons for postponement are as follows:

The Defendant, Brother Tawney, is out of the city and did not receive your notice in time to arrange or postpone his trip.

Second: That the other attorney and myself will both be absent from the city on Saturday the 13th inst., at which time you have convened the said Court.

I sincerely hope you and the said Court will confer the favor upon the defendant by allowing a postponement at this particular time. As I deem this a just cause for postponement which is in strict accordance with the Army Rules and Regulations of Court Martial Proceedings.

Hoping this to be satisfactory, I remain,

Yours fraternally,

(Signed) Harry A. Durst.

Attorney for Defendant.

A. E. B. Stephens, of Ohio: I desire to submit a resolution for the consideration of the members of this encampment, in regard to our memorial services. We held memorial services yesterday afternoon with out any particular stated hour. I desire to move that hereafter a particular time or hour be set apart for joint memorial services.

Commander-in-Chief: And that it constitute one of the features of the regular program?

A. E. B. Stephens, of Ohio: Yes, sir.

The motion was seconded.

Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved that an official place be given upon the program of future encampments, and an hour appointed for the holding of a joint memorial service.

A. E. B. Stephens, of Ohio: The reason I submit this resolution was that yesterday we found upon the program the announcement that there would be memorial services after a certain amount of business was performed. We held memorial services; there were perhaps fifteen of the members of the Sons of Veterans at these services. The ladies of the Auxillary, with but few exceptions, had left; we had, may be, fifteen or eighteen ladies. The only Past Commander-in-Chief present was General Reed, and we had a speech from him. We had Brother Hyde Dav's, General Reed, Brother Gibson, of Iowa, and perhaps a dozen others. It is one of the important duties that we owe this organization, to attend these services, as well as to attend the business exercises of our encampments. I felt ashamed yesterday afternoon that we should have such

a poor attendance. We have patriotic duties to perform. It is our duty to be here. If not, I am favor of doing away with memorial services entirely. It seems to be the feeling of the brothers and sisters, that we should have these memorial services, and I take this occasion to bring this before the encampment.

The motion was put and carried.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there any unfinished business?

H. H. Hammer, of Pennsylvania: Under unfinished business, I will make a verbal report relative to reviving the articles of incorporation of our organization. It has been done, through the efforts of Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard and Past Division Commander Church, as well as Past Commander Longenecker, and I have incorporated the record in the back portion of the Constitution and Laws, as printed, so that the members would know what our articles of incorporation are.

Visit of Committee From Woman's Relief Corps.

Commander-in-Chief: I am advised that the committee from the Woman's Relief Corps is in waiting. I will appoint Brother A. E. B. Stephens and Brother Hyde Davis as a committee to escort them into the hall.

A. E. B. Stephens, of Ohio: I take great pleasure in introducing Mrs. Shoemaker, Patriotic Instructor of the Woman's Relief Corps, of Ohio; Mrs. Lear, the Department President, and Mrs. Lyon, Past Department President.

The ladies were escorted to the platform.

Commander-in-Chief: Ladies of the Relief Corps. I assure you that we appreciate very highly your kindly visit to us—to whom you consider your boys. We realize full well the responsibility which we are assuming by virtue of the services rendered by your husbands and our fathers during the years from 1861 to '65. Without you we know that those great battles could not have been fought; without you we know that we could not have been here. I understand you bear fraternal greetings.

Mrs. Shoemaker: Commander-in-Chief. We are glad to come to you this morning with greetings from the Woman's Relief Corps of Ohio. I am very much interested in the patriotic work of our organization, and after hearing your Commander-in-Chief's speech last night at the camp fire I know it is unnecessary to ask assistance in this work, for you are doing just what I would want you. A prominent clergyman once said, with reference to the aliens that are coming to our shores, "If we don't christianize these people, they will heathenize us." We feel that once we can instill in the hearts of these foreigners love of our country and our flag they will become good citizens. I recall a contest among some new arrivals. A prize was offered for the best patriotic oration, and the one who took the prize was a Russian boy, who had only been in this country three years. Some of you may have read that oration. I think it was the best I ever heard. In the three years of his residence in this country he had acquired a good knowledge of the English language, and a most excellent knowledge of the history of our country. We felt

much encouraged. We ask you to help us in teaching patriotism in the public schools. I think sometimes we are a little neglectful. We should not pass our flag without saluting it. Let us remember "hats off" when the flag is passing by. I ask you, as sons of your fathers, to remember what this flag means; your flag; my flag.

Commander-in-Chief: I take pleasure in introducing Mrs. Lear, of Ohio.

Mrs. Lear: Commander-in-Chief. I am simply here in this city at the invitation of the local Camps as a visitor, in order that I might gain encouragement to assist me in my work. I am glad of the opportunity to add my personal greetings to that of the Patriotic Instructor, and wish you God speed in your work. It is an inspiring sight to look into the faces of the Sons of Veterans. They remind me of the faces of the sons and fathers in 1861 to 1865. The best picture I have of my father was in his soldier clothes, as he bade my mother and the children good bye. When the war was over; when the boys in blue came marching back, it was our misfortune to have a widow and orphans in our home. But I would not have it otherwise, for he loved his home, he loved his country, and he went in defence of them both. I am glad to say to you that I have a very warm spot for the local Camp of Sons of Veterans. They were the first to issue an invitation to receive their greetings after my election to the office of Department President. In my work it has given me much pleasure to come in contact with Sons of Veterans. Last year the Grand Army invited the Sons to decorate the graves on Memorial Day. As I witnessed with what love they took up the work, I said, surely these are the true representatives of the Grand Army, and upon their shoulders will the mantle fall when the soldiers lay down their work. Let me admonish you to be true to your organization. Stand for it. Build it up, and when the last comrade shall have passed into his great reward, may the Sons of Veterans and the Loyal Women of the land be seen marching to cemeteries, there to strew the flowers. I wish you God-speed, and leave you with my greetings.

Commander-in-Chief: I have the pleasure of introducing Mrs. Lyon, of Dayton, Ohio, Past Department President.

Mrs. Lyon: This morning it is my privilege to be an escort to the Department Officers. Keep up the good work. Remember historic Memorial Day; do not spend it in picnicking, etc. There are many flags of many lands, but there is no flag quite so grand as our own red, white and blue.

Commander-in-Chief: I will ask Brother Hyde Davis to respond to these greetings.

Hyde E. Davis: There was a time in the history of our country when it was necessary that the loyal men of the North should volunteer their services in defense of their country. The call was made, and volunteers were asked for, and from every section of the North the very life of the nation then arose and tendered their services in defense of their country. At that time the young husband left his home; many a man kissed his wife and baby; and left them to go to the Southern battlefield; many a mother gave up her loved one, an only son, perhaps, on whom she relied for support. As they

marched Southward they left mother, and wife at home. My brothers, the victories won on the Southern battlefields were won largely because of the prayers that were offered by the wives and mothers at home. It was women like yourselves that bowed on bended knees and prayed to the God of Hosts to care for the son and the father that stimulated him in the hour of battle. It was the letters that you wrote to them, asking them to trust in the Almighty God, asking Almighty God to spare their lives, that they might return to you, that stimulated them. Those letters and prayers encouraged many a man while lying on the battlefield wounded; gave him new hope, and a desire to recover his life and return to his home. It was the motherhood of that day that made the victories possible. Some never returned. Some of our mothers during those years of battling, washed clothes to keep mother and children while the fathers fought to preserve the Union. The sons of those soldiers and mothers will never permit that patriotism to die. Brothers, if the next generation is to be a strong generation, it depends upon the motherhood of the present generation. As you find the motherhood, so you will find the nation. Let us receive these greetings that come from our mothers, from our sisters, in the spirit in which they are given. Let us at no time forget to remember their labor in making the nation a strong one. Respect and honor our mothers.

The committee was then escorted from the hall.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

Commander-in-Chief: We will now have the report of the chairman of the special committee on ritual.

The report was then read by the National Secretary, as follows.

Special Committee on Ritual.

Dayton, Ohio, August 20, 1907.

To the Officers and Members of the Twenty-sixth National Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Brothers: I herewith submit a report as the chairman of the Committee on Ritual. At the Peoria encampment it was ordered that the Ritual Committee complete its report by the first of this year and submit the matter to the Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary and Council-in-Chief. Just before the time for this to be accomplished I, as chairman of the committee, received a letter from the Commander-in-Chief ordering that nothing further be done by me in the matter of the work of the ritual committee until receiving further instructions from him. In the meantime Past Com. Rudd of Connecticut had resigned as a member of the committee. According to instructions, I forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief at Altoona, the work which had already been accomplished by the committee; viz: the revision of all parts of the ritual except the degrees.

Everything here seemed to depend upon the work of Brother Theodore C. Cazeau, and nothing was heard from him until I was on the way to this encampment at Dayton, when

I received from him a letter in which he tendered his resignation as a member of the ritual committee.

This leaves myself as the only remaining member of the committee, and I can only submit that I am awaiting the further instructions of the Commander-in-Chief of this encampment.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES B. ADAMS,

Chairman Ritual Committee.

Commander-in-Chief: You have heard the reading of the Committee on Ritual. That committee is the one held over from the last encampment. What is the pleasure of the encampment?

W. B. Moynihan, of New York: I move that the report be received and the committee on ritual discharged.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there any other committee ready to report?

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois:

To the Officers and Members of the Twenty sixth National Encampment:

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

Committee on Officers' Reports.

We have examined the reports of the several officers, and in the main approve the suggestion as contained in the several recommendations.

Your committee especially desire to call attention to the excellent report of the condition of the Order submitted by our Commander-in-Chief. It shows a thoroughness of the detail work of the Order, which proves that the Commander has given a most careful consideration to the duties he has had to perform during the past year.

We concur in the sentiment expressed by the Commander-in-Chief that the creation of the office of National Patriotic Instructor has been of material benefit to the organization, and we believe that the work laid out by the organization by the Patriotic Instructor should be heartily and loyally entered into and carried out by the several Camps.

We concur in the endorsement of the Commander-in-Chief of Memorial University, and recommend that the encampment appropriate the sum of \$1000 for the general purposes of the Memorial University at Mason City, Iowa.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I wish to explain the reasons for the committee's action in this regard. Regardless of what may have transpired as between the Sons of Veterans and the Memorial University in the past, it is a fact that we are under moral obligations to do what we can for that institution. It is a fact that we have never made a pronounced demonstration of our endorsement of that enterprise, or made a practical and substantial donation. Individual members and Camps have heretofore done all that has been done by the members of the Order. It has been asked by other patriotic organizations

who have been assisting the University; what have the Sons of Veterans done? I understand that our sisters of the Auxiliary are discussing the question. I believe if we take the lead in this matter, they will at least give half as much as we give. The Woman's Relief Corps will hold its annual meeting at Saratoga in about two weeks; they ask, what will the Sons of Veterans do? What the Sons of Veterans do will materially affect the action of that organization at Saratoga. I feel that we can do this. While the treasury is not plethoric, I am satisfied after a conversation with the National Secretary, that we can make this donation, and squeeze through and pay our debts. I believe that we should do this. The Division of Illinois is particularly interested in the Soldiers' Orphans Home. I feel that the University is a step higher for the graduates of those institutions throughout the land. Through the influence of the Sons of Veterans three boys have been taken out and put in the University. We can afford to make this contribution, and I hope there will be no opposition to the recommendation of the committee.

E. R. Campbell, of Maryland: I move you, sir, that the report of the committee on officers' reports with respect to the Memorial University be accepted, and that it carry with it the recommendation for the contribution to the University.

E. W. Estes, of New York: On behalf of the Division of New York, I second the motion.

E. R. Campbell, of Maryland: In making this motion I wish to be understood as placing the amount of the appropriation at one thousand dollars, which would cover the recommendation and approve the report in toto, as presented by the chairman of the committee.

E. H. Archer, of Ohio: I would like to ask the committee, and the mover of the motion, is this appropriation made in pursuance of any law of the Sons of Veterans, or is it simply a resolution of donation?

Commander-in-Chief: I would say, for your information, that this body is the supreme body of the organization of the Sons of Veterans, and as such it has the power to appropriate and vote any and all moneys in its possession for whatever purpose it may deem proper. We are the governing and the supreme power.

E. H. Archer, of Ohio: I do not desire the members of this Commandery-in-Chief to understand my opposition on this floor to be one that is antagonistic to any effort to do anything that is for the best interests of the University, but, as an organization, and being a member of that organization, I deem it to be my duty to give such expression to the manner in which we do things as I believe to be right and proper. Now the Commandery-in-Chief is the supreme source of power in all things pertaining to the organization of the Sons of Veterans. They have power to determine how the revenues of this organization shall be collected. I am not able, however, to point to any provision in the constitution by which we can appropriate these moneys for certain specific purposes. We have the power to do it, and we ought to do it, but we ought to do it in a regular and legal way. Shall we set a precedent by which the promoters of any organization can in the future, by resolution, appropriate the moneys that have been authorized

to be collected by per capita tax assessment. If that is to be the policy of this Commandery-in-Chief, it is certainly not good business methods, nor is it in harmony with the method of raising revenue for the expense of the government of this organization. I want the University to get assistance from this Commandery-in-Chief, but I want it done in accordance with the provisions of the laws made by this Commandery-in-Chief.

Will'am T. Church, of Illinois: I wish first to inquire as to the form of the question as stated by the chair. As I understood the question to be put, it was that the report of the committee on officers' reports with reference to the Memorial University be adopted, and that an appropriation of \$1000 for the University be made. May I say a word, Commander-in-Chief, in reply to Brother Archer. I know that Brother Archer's sympathies are with the institution, as well as ours, and the question here is simply one of means. As one of the representatives of the Memorial University here, I will say that whatever action is now taken will not be quoted as a precedent in this body. Never before have the representatives of that institution appeared as a suppliant for a financial contribution from this Order. It has been suggested by others who are connected with it, that such a contribution not only could be made at this time, but ought to be made. The question has been asked, what is your own Order doing for this institution. We have evaded and dodged that question for seven years. It will be the greatest boom for the University. I want to tell you, brothers, that if this encampment makes that appropriation today, it will be worth \$10,000 to the University inside of six months.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I think I voice the sentiments of the Ohio Division when I say that Ohio is emphatically in favor of this proposition, and on behalf of the Ohio Division, I wish to second the motion that has been made by Past Commander-in-Chief Campbell.

The motion was put and unanimously agreed to.
(Great applause.)

Commander-in-Chief: I want to say, as stated in my report, I approached this subject with a good deal of trepidation, when I referred to the Memorial University. I am satisfied that this institution is the institution around which the Sons of Veterans must rally. From it inspiration can be gained, and from it, I am compelled to use an expression that I have heretofore refrained from using; from it, I say I am firmly of the belief that it will advertise the Order of the Sons of Veterans. That is a term which I hate to use; the word "advertise" with reference to our organization. From my personal observation, and from an inspection of that institution, I say to you that I believe that institution will prove to be the foundation for the success and upbuilding of our Order.

The reading of the report of the committee on officers' reports was then proceeded with, as follows:

We recommend the organization of companies by Camps for the Sons of Veterans Reserves, believing that it will prove a source of cohesion and benefit the Camps generally.

In the opinion of the committee, the visits of the Commander-in-Chief to the several Divisions and patriotic meetings

of the Order is highly beneficial, and we recommend that the practice be continued.

We approve the suggestion of the Commander-in-Chief concerning the San Francisco relief fund, to the effect that the distribution of the remainder of the fund be left to the Commander of the California Division.

In view of the fact that a special committee will report to this encampment on the whole question involving the official organ, your committee refrains from any comments or recommendations.

From the observation of the members of your committee, we believe that membership of Camps in the Death Benefit Association is of material benefit and stimulates a healthy growth in Camps generally throughout the Order, and Camps should be urgently encouraged to join the Death Benefit Association.

Recommendations.

1. Will be presented by the Council-in-Chief.
2. Concurred in.
3. Has been previously passed upon by your Committee.
4. Concurred in.
5. Concurred in.
6. Concurred in.

The report of the Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief contained nothing that required action of your committee.

We commend the careful and thorough report of the National Secretary, and the condition of the Order should be gratifying to the members.

The thorough, complete and comprehensive report of the National Treasurer gives a concise resume of the financial condition, the condition of which commends itself to the Commandery-in-Chief.

The report of the Chief-of-Staff deals exclusively with matters concerning the C. R. & R. and without doubt will be covered in the report of the committee on the same.

The National National Chaplain's report is commended for its thoroughness and lofty conception.

The report of the National Patriotic Instructor throws open a broad field of work for the Order.

We concur in the two recommendations of the National Patriotic Instructor, and advise that they be adopted by this Encampment.

Respectfully submitted,

H. E. Pennell
G. B. Abbott
C. B. Martin
Wm. Schneider
H. G. Wasson

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move you that the report of the committee be accepted, the recommendations approved, and the committee continued.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

Commander-in-Chief: We will now have the report of the Committee on Constitution and Laws.

Committee on Constitution and Laws.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio:

To the Officers and Members of the Twenty-sixth Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Brothers: Your Committee on Constitution and Laws begs leave to submit its partial report as follows:

The following proposed amendments to the Constitution and Laws, as published in The Banner, are recommended for approval:

Amend ARTICLE XI, OFFICERS, by adding thereto—

Section 4. The Commander-in-Chief may appoint such aides as he may deem necessary, for such service as he may require and designate. (No objection, recommended adopted as read.)

Amend Article VI—Laws; INSIGNIA OF RANK.

In Section 3, fifteenth line, after the words "one silver star" insert "Aides to the Commander-in-Chief, a silver eagle." (No objection, recommendation adopted as read.)

Amend Article XXIV, Section 1, by inserting—

Expenses of courts martial shall be borne by the Camp or Division in which such court martial shall originate, provided however, that when an officer of the Commandery-in-Chief is tried by court martial, the expense thereof shall be borne by the Commandery-in-Chief. (No objection, recommendation adopted as read.)

Commander-in-Chief: What is the will of the encampment relative to the adoption of the various sections as read by the Committee on Constitution and Laws?

E. W. Estes, of New York: I move as each section is read it be considered and adopted by unanimous consent.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

Article VII—Laws; Badges and Decorations, to be amended by adding to Section 5 as follows:

Provided that all members of the Commandery-in-Chief, except elected delegates, may wear upon the membership badge, or the silver cross, the prescribed Commandery-in-Chief ribbon; and all members of the Division encampments, except elected delegates, may wear upon the membership badge, or iron cross, the prescribed Division ribbon.

Amend Article XX so as to provide that the annual inspections shall be held the first quarter of the year, instead of the last quarter.

E. W. Estes, of New York: I object, for the reason that newly elected officers would not have time to work up his knowledge of the ritual so as to pass a good inspection. I oppose the adoption of this recommendation, and move that we do not adopt it.

The motion was seconded.

Harry E. Pennell, of New Jersey: I take exception to Brother Estes; I claim that a man can learn his ritual and do it quickly. I think it would be a good thing if every Camp officer was required to know their parts in the early part of the year.

W. B. Moynihan, of New York: As stated by Brother Estes, the officers do not have an opportunity to become familiar with the ritual if the inspection takes place the first part of the year. The season for work is in the fall of the year, and if the inspection is had during the last quarter it adds to the interest of the Camp. I am opposed to the change.

James B. Adams, of New Jersey: Brother Pennell made

himself perfectly clear. The point that he makes is this: An officer is elected in December, he is installed in January. Under the present ruling he has until next Christmas, or thereabouts, to familiarize himself with the ritual. If the inspection is on the first quarter he must familiarize himself immediately. An officer who cannot learn his ritualistic work in a month should never be elected.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: One word; the committee thought that it would be an incentive for officers to prepare themselves, to commit the ritual to memory, and we think that any man who is worthy to be elected will have sufficient time to prepare for the inspection if the inspection is held during the first quarter.

B. S. Davis, of New Hampshire: I object to the proposed amendment for the reason that in New Hampshire it is very difficult to get around in the winter nights. During the months of January and February the going is not the best.

E. W. Estes, of New York: Permit me to say one more word before the vote is taken. Let us be practical. I am a member of the New York Division, but at present reside in New Jersey. When I go into the Camp at Paterson, I know that good work is going to be done; I know, Brother Pennell, in a few weeks after election in the Division of New Jersey the officers are qualified. I have visited, I am sure, two-thirds of the Camps in the state of New York, and it is disheartening to see the way in which the work is done in some of them. I can remember when I first went into the Order we had a pretty good set of officers in our Camp, the officers remained for a year; we got ready for inspection; we kept working with certain officers to have them learn the ritual; and when the fall came around we got a good rating at our inspection. It cannot be done in a few weeks.

Commander-in-Chief: The question, now, is upon the amendment, which is in the nature of a non-concurrence in the report of the committee. What is the will of the encampment?

Question called.

All in favor of non-concurrence in the report of the committee will say aye.

Motion put; division called.

Commander-in-Chief: For the benefit of all concerned, the chairman of the committee will read the proposed amendment.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: The amendment proposed provides that the annual inspection shall be held the first quarter, instead of the last quarter of the year. The committee recommends that the change be made. Brother Estes moved non-concurrence in this recommendation. A vote for the motion would mean to leave the inspections in the fall.

The motion was put, and a rising vote called, resulting in favor of the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: The motion is agreed to, thereby leaving the inspection the fourth quarter as at present.

Committee then proceeded with its report:

We recommend that there be added to Article VII, Laws, a section, to be known as Section 8, to describe the badges of the Order as follows:

(a) The membership badge shall be as shown in the following photographic reproduction.

(b) The iron cross shall be as shown in the following photographic reproduction.

(c) The silver cross shall be as shown in the following photographic reproduction.

(d) The gold star shall be as shown in the following photographic reproduction.

(e) The Spanish War medal shall be as shown in the following photographic reproduction.

(f) The gold cross, for meritorious service, shall be as shown in the following photographic reproduction.

(No objection, recommendation adopted as read.)

Article XVI. We recommend that in the Order of Business Sections 4 and 5 be transposed.

(No objection, recommendation adopted as read.)

We recommend that the words "22" on page 24 on the last line of paragraph 14 be made to read Article 24.

(No objection, recommendation adopted as read.)

Your committee recommends concurrence in all of the decisions of the Commander-in-Chief.

E. W. Estes, of New York: I object to the decision providing that no member shall be elected to office if he is not present. I would like to have added to that; provided he has not given his written consent; if he consents in writing to stand for election, I see no reason why he should be accorded that privilege.

Alf. G. Loyd, of Pennsylvania: I move that the report be amended by inserting the provision suggested by Brother Estes.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief assumed the chair.

Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania: I most strenuously ask th's encampment to support the recommendation as made by this committee, for this reason. It is absolutely necessary, in my opinion that each and every brother of an organization who aspires to a position should be present at the meeting for the purpose of asserting his aspirations. It would open a way whereby anyone could be a candidate for office whether in good standing or not. If I am a candidate for office in any Order, I certainly should have pride and interest enough in the office to be present and assert my candidacy. Suppose John Smith, of California, was a candidate for Commander-in-Chief; a man you had never seen; but a large delegation comes from California, saying, we have John Smith's written consent; his name is presented, and he is said to be a man of wealth, a man who would give his time and attention to the advancement of the Order. We know not whether he is a member of the Order. Therefore, I say, that he who desires to be a candidate for office, whether it be in the Camp, Division, or Commandery-in-Chief, should have pride enough, have honor enough, to present himself to be a candidate for that office.

E. H. Archer, of Ohio: I simply rise to state that the decision of the Commander-in-Chief is in conformity with our Constitution. The present law is, that no member shall be eligible to election to office at any meeting of the Division or Commandery-in-Chief unless present at such meeting. The Commander-in-Chief has decided that an officer of a Camp to

be elected must be present. It is in accordance with the spirit of the Constitution.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move to lay the proposed amendment on the table.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

Commander-in-Chief Amies resumed the chair.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there any further objection to the amendment as proposed?

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move that the recommendation of the committee in reference to the decision of the Commander-in-Chief be concurred in.

The motion was seconded.

E. W. Estes, of New York: The argument of the Commander-in-Chief on this point relates to the officers to be elected in the Commandery-in-Chief and in the Division, and I stand by him; but I believe the Camps should have the privilege of electing a member to office even if he is not present; where a Camp is small, is struggling for existence, it should have the privilege of electing any brother it desires, even if he is not present. I have in mind an occurrence in a Camp in my Division, where a brother who was a candidate for office, on the date of election buried a member of his family; that Camp should be permitted to elect such a brother. I do not believe the decision of the Commander-in-Chief on that point should stand.

James B. Adams, of New Jersey: I must take exception to my brother. What is good for the Commandery-in-Chief and the Divisions should be good enough for any Camp in our organization. Let us not legislate in such a way as to make it necessary to change the Constitution every year. If we would talk matters over in our Camps at home, we would know what to do when we come to the Commandery-in-Chief. My conviction is that the decision of the Commander-in-Chief should stand. More trickery is resorted to in Camps than in any other place, and that is the reason why we have not a stronger organization. We should be ashamed to call ourselves Sons of Veterans with only 30,000. I think this decision of the Commander-in-Chief should be supported.

W. B. Moynihan, of New York: It often occurs that a Camp desires to have a certain brother represent it in the Division encampment, and he may not be present. It seems to me that this question could be safely left to the Camps; the members of the Camps will see to it that proper men are chosen, and it should be for the Camp to decide.

H. H. Hammer, of Pennsylvania: I see no objection to the decision of the Commander-in-Chief relative to this matter; there is no provision in the Constitution that will prevent a Camp from adjourning until they can elect.

E. H. Archer, of Ohio: We would have to amend the Constitution; I find no such exception in the Constitution to the election of Camp officers.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The committee then proceeded with its report.

Your committee does not recommend the adoption of any of the other proposed amendments. In some cases the amendments proposed above provide for those suggested, and in

other cases your committee does not deem it in the interest of the Order to recommend their adoption.

Your committee will make a further report to this encampment on such amendments as propose to change the laws relating to the military branch (the Reserves,) and an amendment proposing a change in the button-hole decoration.

Respectfully submitted,

H. V. Speelman,
R. M. J. Reed,
William T. Church,
Fred W. Spear,
F. T. F. Johnson,

Committee on Constitution and Laws.

The Committee was continued.

Thos. J. Hannon, of Massachusetts: I move that we adjourn until 8 o'clock to-night. Newton J. McGuire moved an amendment, that we adjourn to meet tomorrow morning at 8:30 o'clock, which amendment was accepted by the mover.

The motion was then seconded as amended, put and carried.

An adjournment was then taken until 8:30 o'clock a. m., Thursday, August 22, 1907.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION.

Pursuant to adjournment, the encampment resumed business at 8:30 a. m., Thursday, August 22, 1907, with Commander-in-Chief Amies in the chair.

After the National Inspector, assisted by Past Commander-in-Chief Abbott, had made the rounds of the encampment and found all entitled to remain, the encampment was called to order.

Commander-in-Chief: We will refer back to reports of officers.

Report of Council-in-Chief.

Thos. J. Hannon, of Massachusetts:

To the Officers and Members of the 26th Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Brothers: A record of the proceedings of your Council-in-Chief for the past year is herewith submitted for your consideration and approval.

Following the adjournment of the 25th Annual Encampment, our first meeting was held at Peoria, Ill., and an organization was effected by the election of Dr. Ralph Sheldon, of New York, as Chairman, and Thomas J. Hannon, of Massachusetts, as Secretary. Bonds were fixed as follows:

Commander-in-Chief.....	\$1,000.00
National Secretary.....	5,000.00
National Treasurer.....	5,000.00

It was voted that the Commander-in-Chief be allowed \$1,000.00 for office expenses, travel, etc.

It was voted that the Commander-in-Chief be authorized to purchase such furniture as he may need for Headquarters.

By the action of the Council, August 19, 20, 21 and 22, 1907, were decided upon as the dates for holding the Twenty-sixth Annual Encampment.

The books and accounts of the National Secretary and the National Treasurer, together with the vouchers and requisitions, pertaining thereto, have been audited and have been found to agree.

I. We recommend that the National Secretary be instructed to ship no supplies to Camps (except Camp seals); all orders to come direct, and be sent to the various Division Headquarters.

Upon the examination of the accounts as kept by the National Secretary and National Treasurer, we reiterate what was said last year as to the simplicity and accuracy of the same, and would again call the attention of Division Commanders to the system which if adopted by the various Divisions would expedite and simplify the work at the various headquarters.

2. We recommend that all legislation relative to the Sons of Veterans Reserves, so far as it relates to the financial matters and supplies be repealed.

3. And we further recommend that all financial matters and the furnishing of supplies be done through the proper officers of the Sons of Veterans Reserves from its own resources, without any expense to the Commander-in-Chief.

4. We further recommend that a sum not exceeding Fifty Dollars be appropriated for the use of the Chief of Staff for postage.

5. We recommend that the per capita tax for the coming year be fixed at thirty-six cents per member, the same as heretofore; and in this connection we wish to go on record as saying that the Council-in-Chief was in hopes that it would be in position to recommend a reduction in the per Capita tax, but owing to the action of the Encampment in appropriating a considerable sum for the Memorial University, we deem it wise at this time not to so recommend, feeling assured that with existing conditions in another year there may be a substantial reduction.

Fraternally submitted,

Dr. Ralph Sheldon, Chairman
Thomas J. Hannon, Secretary
Thomas W. Blair.

Council-in-Chief.

Under the rule, the report will be referred to the committee on officer's reports.

Commander-in-Chief: We will now refer back to reports of committees. Listen to the report of the Committee on Resolutions.

Report of Committee on Resolutions.

E. R. Campbell, of Maryland: The committee on resolutions report will be very brief: I will not read this mass of correspondence that has come into our hands, but will refer to them briefly.

Dayton, Ohio, August 22, 1907.

To the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Your committee on resolutions has the honor to report that the several communications referred to them by the 26th national encampment of our Order, have been fully considered and the committee respectfully recommend as follows:

A communication from the New Hampshire Division has been presented to our committee, recommending that the constitution be changed, but it is not in due form; it has not been passed upon by the Division encampment; is not signed, and therefore of no value; it was referred to the committee on constitution and laws, and the chairman of that committee returned it, saying that committee had nothing to do with it, and we do the same. It is a well known fact that all requests for changes in the constitution and laws should be submitted sixty days before the encampment.

Commander-in-Chief: The brother from New Hampshire

will inform the Division Commander that such communications should be submitted in the manner provided in the constitution.

The following communication has been received from the Pennsylvania Division:

"Philadelphia, August 13th, 1907.

To the Commander-in-Chief, officers and members of the 26th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A., Dayton, Ohio.

Brothers: At the 27th annual encampment of the Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., lately held at Scranton, Pa., the following resolution was unanimously adopted: That we respectfully request the 26th encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief to restore past camp commander's rank to Brothers Frank Richardson, Camp No. 1; F. S. Zinn, Camp 33 Ruhl, and D. W. Kimble and Jos. Gibson, Camp 225, Division of Penna., and instructing the Penna. delegation to use all honorable means to have this request carried out.

Attest:

W. B. McNulty,

Division Secretary."

C. C. Fulton,

Division Commander.

Your committee recommends that the within request be granted.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move concurrence in the report of the committee.

Motion seconded and agreed to.

Commander-in-Chief: Shall the usual order of business be followed, to the effect that unless there is objection the recommendations will be concurred in? That course will be pursued.

The following resolution is from the Division of Vermont:

"Resolutions unanimously adopted by the Vermont Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., at its 25th annual encampment at Hardwick, Vermont, June 5th, 1907.

Resolved; that the Vermont Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., in encampment assembled, earnestly petitions the Commandery-in-Chief of the Order to restore past honors as Division Commander (Colonel) to Brother E. T. Griswold, of Camp No. 9, Bennington.

These honors were lost through no fault of Brother Griswold, whose administration as Colonel of the Division was one of the most successful and brilliant in the history of the Division, and who has always been recognized as one of the ablest and most efficient workers for the good of the Order in the Vermont Division, and who has held nearly every office in the gift of his Camp and Division.

Resolved; That the Division delegates to the next national encampment of the Order are hereby instructed to present this resolution and press the matter to a conclusion.

Dayton, Ohio, August 21, 1907.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was unanimously adopted at the 25th annual encampment of the Vermont Division, held at Hardwick, June 5th, 1907.

Fred E. Terrill,

Division Commander."

We recommend that the within request be granted.

Commander-in-Chief: No objection, the recommendation of the committee is concurred in.

The following is from the Division of Missouri:

"Headquarters Gen'l J. C. Fremont Camp, No 65,
Sons of Veterans, Mo. Div., U. S. A.
St. Louis, Mo., May 17, 1907.

To the Officers and Members of the Twenty-third Annual Encampment of the Missouri Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

The following resolutions were adopted at a regular meeting of the Gen'l J. C. Fremont Camp, No. 65, and we request that the same be adopted by the encampment and carried to the Commandery-in-Chief.

Whereas, Brother John N. Hutchinson has been reinstated into the Order and has asked to have his past honors restored, and

Whereas, Brother John N. Hutchinson was always a loyal and faithful worker for the organization in the past, and that at the time of his discontinuation from the Order his circumstances were such that it was impossible for him to keep up the dues, therefore be it

Resolved, That this Camp do all in its power to have the rank of Past Camp Commander restored to Brother John N. Hutchinson.

A. G. Gerdel,
Chas. Wippo,
A. W. Marx,
E. Mehr,
T. Mohr,
W. Knocke,
Committee.

Adopted as above stated.

Attest:

Wm. Heintz,
Secretary.

Theo. H. Mohr,
Commander.

Missouri Division, Sons of Veterans,
Kirkwood, Mo., May 24, 1907.

The above was favorably acted upon at the 23rd annual encampment and the delegates instructed to lay the matter before the Commandery-in-Chief.

Jno. C. Berthold,
Secretary-Treasurer." Wm. Schneider,
Division Commander.

The committee respectfully submit the communication to the Commandery-in-Chief for its consideration; we do not object to it.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move that the request be granted.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

The following is from the Missouri Division:

"Kirkwood, Mo., August 16, 1907.

Officers and Members of the 26th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Bro. W. J. Hardt desires the restoration of his ranks as Past Commander of R. C. Allen Camp, No. 65, Mo. Div., Sons

of Veterans, which he lost while away and intrusted his affairs to a brother, who failed to carry out the agreement.

Being my home Camp, and knowing well the condition, this little request, if granted, will be well applied.

Jno. C. Berthold,

Secretary-Treasurer.

Your committee recommends that this be referred back to the Missouri Division, for its consideration and action.

No objection, the recommendation was concurred in.

The following are from the New Hampshire Division:

"Headquarters New Hampshire Division,
S. V., U. S. A.

August 15th, 1907.

Resolution No. 1:

Whereas, Geo. L. Wakefield was formerly a member of the Order, of the Division of Wisconsin, and a past commander of J. A. Griffin Camp, No. 5, So. of V., U. S. A., and now a resident of New Hampshire, and a member of W. W. Brown Camp, No. 1, S. of V., U. S. A., of Manchester, N. H., desires that his rank of past camp commander be restored to him; therefore it was

Resolved by the New Hampshire Division, in encampment assembled, to respectfully request the Commandery-in-Chief to restore the rank of Past Camp Commander to Brother George L. Wakefield.

Resolution No. 2:

Whereas, Herbert J. Allard and John J. Smith were formerly members of Lieut. Geo. S. Cobb Camp, No. 28, and Past Commanders of said Camp, and were members in good standing when said Camp disbanded, and are now members of said Camp, which has been reorganized, desire that their rank of Past Camp Commander be restored to them; therefore it was

Resolved by the New Hampshire Division in encampment assembled to respectfully request the Commandery-in-Chief to restore the rank of Past Camp Commander to Brothers Herbert J. Allard and John J. Smith.

Resolution No. 3:

Whereas John W. Derby and Perley E. Sheldon were formerly members of Charles L. Fuller Camp, No. 33, S. of V., U. S. A., and were Past Camp Commanders of said Camp, when said Camp disbanded, and are now members in good standing of said Camp, which has been reorganized, desire that their rank of Past Camp Commanders be restored to them. Therefore it was

Resolved by the New Hampshire Division in encampment assembled to respectfully request the Commandery-in-Chief to restore the rank of Past Camp Commanders to Brothers John W. Derby and Perley E. Sheldon.

C. G. M. Mathon,

Delegate-at-Large to the Commandery-in-Chief
Encampment.

The committee recommends no action, and that the same be returned to the Division Commander of the New Hampshire Division.

Commander-in-Chief: Hearing no objection, the recommendation of the committee is concurred in.

There are some communications which I will not read; they were sent to the Secretary of the Division of Pennsylvania, and forwarded by him to the Commandery-in-Chief, and finally came into the hands of this committee; they relate to the dishonorable discharge of one W. R. Marschall, of the defunct Camp No. 2, of the Division of Pennsylvania. He makes an appeal to the Secretary of that Division, saying that he had no knowledge of the facts that led up to his discharge. The committee submits the matter to the Commandery-in-Chief, as we are informed that the subject of the within communications were fully discussed at the 24th national encampment. We recommend no action.

Commander-in-Chief: It may be well at this point to make an explanation in relation to Camp 2 of Philadelphia, out of which this present communication grows. You will notice that in my report I mention nothing concerning the Camp 2 trouble. I did not mention it for the reason that an appeal is now pending in the courts of Philadelphia in the matter; a proceeding in equity was had in the courts of Philadelphia, and an opinion rendered by the Court of Common Pleas, from which an appeal was taken to the Supreme Court of the State of Pennsylvania. For that reason I take the ground that I have no business under any circumstances to mention or comment upon any case which is in the course of adjudication in any court.

There being no objection, the recommendation of the committee is concurred in.

I have here a number of letters, including a communication from the Division of Maine, in relation to Charles G. McGaffey, who was formerly a member of a Camp in the State of Vermont. The Camp was disbanded; he held the rank of Commander. Subsequently he went to New Hampshire and became a charter member of a Camp in that state. Later on he was transferred to the Division of Maine, and now asks that his past rank be restored. It is not in due form; it has not been recommended by the Division of Maine, and your committee is of the opinion that no action is deemed proper on this communication by this body, but that it should be referred back to the Division of Maine for their consideration and action; that will give them an opportunity to present it in due form, and it can come up next year.

Commander-in-Chief. Hearing no objection, the recommendation of the committee is concurred in.

Your committee has prepared the following resolutions:

Whereas, the Board of Regents of the Memorial University having elected our Brother Walter J. Patton, D. D., as President of the Memorial University for the ensuing year; therefore be

Resolved, That the Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A., concur in said election, and heartily endorse and approve his appointment.

Commander-in-Chief: Hearing no objection, the recommendation of the committee is concurred in.

In concluding this report it seems fitting and proper that the encampment should consider the following resolution prepared by this committee:

WHEREAS, The officers and members of the 26th National Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., are deeply sensible of their obligation to the good people of the "Buckeye State," that they have been privileged to assemble in the Gem City of that grand old state, and,

WHEREAS, We hereby acknowledge the courtesies and hospitality of all who have contributed so bountifully to our comfort and pleasure,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the grateful thanks of each officer and member of this encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., be and are hereby extended to the officers and members of the Ohio Division, the members of Chaplain William Earnshaw Camp, No. 89, S. of V., the members of the local Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic, the members of the Woman's Relief Corps, the Ladies of the G. A. R., the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, the local press, the city officials, and the loyal and patriotic citizens of this beautiful city, and the several bodies and committees who have prepared and contributed to the entertainment of this encampment, for the bountiful and lavish good cheer, and whole-souled brotherhood which has characterized all in making our stay in the state of Ohio one of extreme happiness. And, following the teaching of Him who preached charity to the world, let us extend our love and esteem to those who deserve in so eminent a degree, and wish them long life and happiness, together with pleasant recollections of our visit to Dayton,

E. R. Campbell,
H. A. Wing,
J. N. Ripley,
E. W. Estes,
F. S. Gibson,

Committee

Commander-in-Chief: What will be the action of the encampment in regard to the last resolution read?

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move that the resolution be adopted, and the report of the committee as a whole approved.

The motion was seconded, and was unanimously agreed to by a rising vote.

Commander-in-Chief: I am informed that there is a committee in waiting from the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary. I will appoint the following committee to escort them into the hall:

John J. Keenan, of Massachusetts; Dr. Ralph Sheldon, of New York; A. E. B. Stephens, of Ohio; G. B. Abbott, of Illinois.

Commander-in-Chief: While the committee are retiring, I will read the following communication:

"Reading, Pa., August 21, 1907.

H. H. Hammer, Nat'l Sec'y, Sons of Veterans, Dayton, Ohio.

Convey my deep appreciation to encampment. May its deliberations redound to the increased prosperity of our Order.
J. L. Rake."

"Brooklyn, N. Y., August 20, 1907.

Edwin M. Amies, Commander-in-Chief.

My dear Commander: I regret very much that I cannot

attend the national encampment. Best wishes for a large and successful meeting. Kindest and best wishes to all.

Loyally yours in F. C. & L.,

Frank K. Maples,

Past Com. New York Div."

"The Woman's Relief Corps on the occasion of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary requests the honor of your presence at a reception to be given to Gen. Robert B. Brown, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, and his official staff, at Grand Union hotel, Saratoga, N. Y., on Wednesday evening, September eleventh, nineteen hundred and seven, from eight to ten."

"Augusta, Maine, August 19, 1907.

Edwin M. Amies, Altoona, Pa.

My dear Sir and Brother: I regret exceedingly that I am unable to go to Dayton, as I had in a measure looked forward to meeting all the big family, but a sprained knee prevents my leaving home. Express for me the best wishes for a pleasant and harmonious encampment, with lots of business thrown in for the betterment of the Order.

Yours very truly in F. C. & L.,

George H. Bangs,

Commander, Maine Division.

Commander-in-Chief: I will appoint the following committee on ritual:

Geo. B. Abbott, of Illinois; W. B. McNulty, of Pennsylvania; H. V. Speelman, of Ohio; Felix A. Kremer, of Wisconsin, in conjunction with the Commander-in-Chief elected at this encampment, the National Secretary and the National Treasurer. It is earnestly hoped that with the material now in hand with the Commander-in-Chief, which will be turned over to the committee, that the committee will be able at the next meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief, and possibly sooner, to make a report, to the end that a tangible ritual will be ready for the encampment next year. I believe with the material now in hand that will be accomplished. I regret exceedingly that I did not during my administration have such data as would have enabled me to report a satisfactory ritual to this encampment.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief: A delegation from the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary is in waiting.

Commander-in-Chief: Admit them.

The committee was escorted into the hall.

A. E. B. Stephens, of Ohio: I take pleasure in introducing to you a committee with greetings from the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary: Miss Addie Wallace, Past National President; Miss Fox, Miss Keane, Miss Flora Staples and Miss Pike.

Commander-in-Chief: The ladies will be escorted to the platform. I also have the pleasure of reintroducing the ladies of the Auxiliary to the 26th annual encampment. We realize what a great help and assistance they are to us; we also know that at all times they are welcome to our meetings. I have the pleasure of introducing Miss Wallace.

Miss Addie Wallace: Commander-in-Chief Amies, and brothers. Mrs. Moynihan said to me she had appointed me as

chairman of the greetings committee. She has given me a committee consisting of the youth and beauty of our convention. We are very glad to meet you here this morning. We are doing a thing at this convention that we have not done before; we are going to take in a member at our convention. We realize that you have serious aims and objects; we want to aid you in every way we can. We appreciate the good work you are doing.

Commander-in-Chief: I am sure we all appreciate what you are doing. I have pleasure in calling upon Rev. Dr. Patton to reply to the ladies.

Rev. W. J. Patton, D. D., of Iowa: Sisters of the Auxillary and brothers: I sincerely regret that I was not on that committee. It is with pleasure that I assume the responsibility of replying to your cordial and happy greetings. Those of you who have met me in various parts of the country know that I have endeavored to impress upon you the value of your organization as an auxiliary. We recognize what the Woman's Relief Corps has been to the Grand Army. Without the assistance of that organization the Grand Army could never have done what it has, and it is because of this that I have been anxious that our auxiliary should reach the same standard. We have always recognized the value of an auxiliary, and the growth of this Order at this time indicates that we do value it. I want to say this, that we give you a hearty greeting, with our sincere well wishes for your future. We appreciate your good will, and the work which you have done for us, and with us, in the past, more than I can express. We might say most beautiful things about you. We might eulogize you in many ways, but I will not take up your time.

The committee was then escorted from the hall.

William G. Dustin, of Illinois: You all know we have an official invitation for our Commander-in-Chief to attend the encampment at Saratoga. I wish to make a motion that the invitation be accepted, with the thanks of this encampment, and that Edwin M. Amies, our Commander-in-Chief, be requested to attend the encampment at the expense of the Commandery-in-Chief.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois, seconded the motion.

The motion was put by the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief and agreed to.

Commander-in-Chief: Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, I accept this high honor which has been delegated to me. I believe, as I said in my report, that this is the highest honor, or the highest recognition which we have yet received from the Grand Army of the Republic, and I believe that it is our duty to take advantage of such an invitation, and lay before them more fully than has already been done the objects and principles of our Order.

Newton J. McGuire, of Indiana: On that subject Indiana would like to say a word. The action of the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic at its last meeting has probably not been called to the attention of this encampment; it is one of great importance to this organization. Indiana feels a loyal pride because of the fact that for fifteen years the oldest commander, Colonel W. H. Armstrong, of Indiana, who

is with us here today, was a member of the national council of administration of the Grand Army, and for several years was executive head of that council. At the Boston encampment Colonel Armstrong caused to be brought to the attention of that body the little publication which was gotten out during Commander Martin's administration, entitled, "We judge from our fathers what manner of men we ought to be," and made an abstract of all the endorsements of Past Commanders-in-Chief. He made an abstract and presented that to the Grand Army at Boston: they passed it over, and it was not until last year that definite action was taken in our favor. Last year I learned from Colonel Armstrong that the Grand Army made the Sons of Veterans the successors of their organization; you will find it in the last proceedings of the Grand Army encampment. On the heels of that action now comes the invitation to the Commandery-in-Chief to visit that body. I think this encampment ought to extend a vote of thanks to Colonel Armstrong, and I make a motion that such a vote be extended, for his services and efforts in obtaining recognition of the Sons of Veterans.

Rev. W. J. Patton, of Iowa, seconded the motion.

The motion was put and unanimously agreed to by a rising vote.

Commander-in-Chief: Colonel Armstrong is, I believe, in the room. We will be glad to hear from him.

Colonel W. H. Armstrong, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R., and Past Division Commander, Indiana Division: I think I might be excused from saying anything at this time. I came here without expecting anything of the kind. I came simply to perform my duty as a member of this encampment. I find myself, through a member of the Indiana Division, brought suddenly before you. There are many things that I might say, but will not take up your time. What I have done for the organization of Sons of Veterans I did without thought of receiving the recognition which I have received this morning. I believe in young men; I believe if you start the young men right the old men will be pretty good fellows. In token of this, I will say that when the Grand Army was organized it was made up of young men like you; in fact most of them were younger than you, because you have been growing; some of you are as gray as I am; you are no longer kids. I applied to the Commander-in-Chief of the Third Grand Division for authority to organize the Sons of Veterans in Indiana. I was then the Mayor of my city. The authority was given me. When I had organized a sufficient number of Camps to make it a divisional command, I supposed that my official connection with this Order ceased. But at your national encampment at Topeka, on some good brother's motion, the matter was taken up, and my service was recognized then by making me a member of your body for life. The reason for my not attending more of your encampments is that I have so constantly been in official position in the Grand Army organization, the two encampments coming so closely together I could not attend both; it has only been when your encampment has been held simultaneously with ours that I could attend. I want to say right here, brothers, that of all the splendid men that have headed the Grand Army of the Republic since its inception, one of

whom I recall I knew personally, was from this place, Past Commander-in-Chief Rosseau, the one we have now certainly has a very high place. One of the most devoted, intelligent and able and willing workers that we can have anywhere. I say this, bearing in mind that I have been closely associated and intimately acquainted with some fifteen of the Past Commanders-in-Chief. From what I know of the work of our present Commander-in-Chief, I know him to be a man of sterling worth. Both organizations have been extremely fortunate in this regard.

Brothers of the Sons of Veterans, due publicity is a necessity for this organization. And therefore I counsel you that you make yourself felt. We are proud that we have 30000 odd in the United States. We ought to have 300000; it ought to reach that number in the next decade. Let us be doing something to build up the organization. It is worthy of the heritage that has fallen you. That is one of the things that has possessed me when I have been working for this Order in the national body of the Grand Army. As Brother McGuire has said, I have been the chairman of the committee on fraternal relations for several years. You can see from the proceedings of the national body all that has transpired. At the Boston encampment I made a brief of everything that had transpired and presented it to the encampment, and it is inserted in the minutes of the proceedings. At the encampment last fall at Minneapolis, the committee's report was a sort of compilation of all the others, and it was unanimously adopted by that encampment. It may have seemed to you that the recognition that was due you was not brought about as soon as you would have liked. Right here let me refer to one very significant statement of our President, that splendid comrade of ours, made regarding soldiers of the "little war," how they felt towards the soldiers of the "big war," as he called it. In one of his first greetings to the National Executive Committee of the Grand Army of the Republic, he said, "You men did that which if left undone all would have been undone." Could any expression be more significant, more impressive, more all embracing, than this one. That is getting to be the prevailing sentiment of this great country of ours where patriotism has come to the fore. Brothers, I thank you again very sincerely, and I wish you prosperity.

(Applause.)

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: While we are on the subject, I move you that in addition to Commander-in-Chief Amies, Brother Ralph Sheldon, of New York, be selected as a member of that committee to attend the encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic at Saratoga, and that Past Commander-in-Chief Dustin, of Illinois, who has so often represented us, be also selected as a member of the committee, to accompany Brother Amies, and the expenses of these gentlemen be borne by the Commandery-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded by Harry E. Pennell, of New Jersey.

The motion was agreed to.

Commander-in-Chief: We will now have the report of the Committee on Memorial University.

Report of the Committee on Memorial University.

Rev. W. J. Patton, D. D., chairman, then read the report as follows:

Edwin M. Amles, Commander-in-Chief,

Commander: Your committee on Memorial University begs leave to submit the following report:—

In presenting this, the second annual report of the National Committee on Memorial University, we do so with an overwhelming sense of the responsibility which rests upon us.

The importance of the work, its national scope, the recognition it is receiving and the history it already has made all unite to declare our Order to be unique, practical and sane in nature and spirit of its testimonial to the patriotic generation of '31-'65.

Whether we will it to be so or not, yet it is the judgment of many thoughtful men in our Order, that Memorial University and the Order of Sons of Veterans are so closely identified and that we are so fully committed to the development and permanency of that monument to the G. A. R., that its success means our success, its failure will make it to become our grave stone. Therefore, we wish it were possible to submit a more hopeful report to the Order, though the financial condition shows a marked improvement over the condition which prevailed one year ago.

The following financial report will speak for itself, though it does not speak eloquently in behalf of our generosity.

Financial Report.

Receipts for year 1906-'07.

Woman's Relief Corps.....	\$ 2,433.27
Ladies of G. A. R.	354.00
Daughters of Veterans.....	72.00
S. or V. Auxillary.....	135.75
Sons of Veterans (Individual).....	1,222.35
Sons of Veterans (Camps).....	918.61
Tuition	1,835.00
General Sources.....	2,207.06
Total received.....	\$ 9,168.10

Expenditures.

Salaries	\$ 5,774.52
Cement walks	260.00
Field expenses.....	1,200.26
Printing	534.30
Coal	232.25
Postage	188.68
Light	10.20
Telephone	24.45
Express	20.27
Building and Grounds.....	291.95
Sundries	250.81
Tuition refunded.....	38.40
Tuition for lectures.....	58.60
Total.....	\$ 8,885.55

Items of expense for the year yet unprovided for, as follows:

Salaries	\$ 4,320.55
Coal	159.66
Printing, advertising, sundries.....	516.40

Total	\$ 4,996.51
Cash on hand.....	\$ 282.55
Total deficit.....	4,713.96

Following is a summary of total amount received from each Division of the Order, June 1, 1906, to June 4, 1907:—

Alabama	\$ 1.00	New Jersey.....	\$ 13.00
California	25.00	Nebraska.....	3.00
Connecticut	40.00	New Hampshire.....	126.00

Delaware	14.00	New York.....	208.00
Illinois	184.00	Ohio	260.95
Indiana	17.00	Pennsylvania	230.50
Iowa	102.00	Vermont	12.25
Kansas	4.00	Virginia	1.00
Minnesota	22.00	Washington	2.00
Michigan	6.00	Wisconsin	17.00
Maryland	1.00	Texas	3.00
Maine	6.00	From Commandery-	
Missouri	11.00	In-Chief by J. L.	
Massachusetts	200.11	Rake, Nat'l Treas.,	
North Dakota.....	1.00	on Charter Fees ..	202.50

For the purpose of comparison we attach a condensed summary of total receipts for the year June 1, 1905 to June 1, 1906.

W. R. C., Ladies of G. A. R., Etc.....	\$ 1,004.43
Sons of Veterans (Individuals).....	743.65
Sons of Veterans (Camps and Auxillaries).....	426.50
General Sources.....	2,630.06
Tuition	1,346.98

Total

\$ 6,151.52

The report shows a gain of \$970.81 for the year from our Order, and a total gain from all sources of \$3,016.58.

Estimated Expenses for 1907-'08.

The estimated cost of maintaining the University for the year 1907-'08, based upon expenditure for preceding years, is as follows:—

Salaries, (13 persons)	\$ 9,500.00
Postage	200.00
Light	15.00
Telephone	30.00
Express and freight.....	25.00
Sundries	250.00
Buildings	300.00
Lectures	100.00
Field expenses.....	1,300.00
Printing	500.00
Fuel	500.00
	<u>\$12,720.00</u>

Estimated Income.

Tuition	\$2,000.00
School of Oratory	500.00
Business College	1,200.00
	<u>\$ 3,700.00</u>
	\$ 3,700.00

Balance to be provided for.....

\$ 8,520.00

Assets.

It is anticipated that the school of Oratory and the Commercial school will be self supporting, but as we cannot tell what the enrollment may be in either department before the opening of the University, Sept. 10. We have estimated the income conservatively in the above statement at \$500.00, and \$1,200.00, respectively. It is confidently expected that the income will be larger in both cases.

Our further assets consist of subscriptions on our books amounting to the total of \$4,176.25, due September 1, 1907, divided among the divisions as follows:—

Massachusetts	\$545.75	New York.....	\$454.50
Iowa	744.00	Pennsylvania	272.00
Ohio	210.00	Illinois	835.00
Connecticut	159.00	Minnesota	146.00
Michigan	157.00	Wisconsin	16.00
Nebraska	48.00	Indiana	62.00
Vermont	83.00	Maine	65.00
Delaware	65.00	Virginia	7.00
Missouri	22.00	Tennessee	21.00
New Hampshire.....	6.00	Kansas	12.00

South Dakota.....	95.00	N. Carolina	17.00
New Jersey.....	7.00	Kentucky	6.00
Rhode Island.....	76.00	Washington	25.00
California	20.00		

What these subscriptions, voluntarily made, may be worth, we are now endeavoring to ascertain. Perhaps 50 per cent may be available, costing us, perhaps 10 per cent to collect, not to mention the time and effort required to reach each individual subscriber.

During the past year I have received new subscriptions, some of which are included in the above, to the amount of, approximately, \$3,400.00.

Scholarships.

During the year 1906-7 we have cared for more than thirty worthy and needy descendants of Veterans, by giving them free tuition and assisting them to obtain employment in the city in order to supplement their meager income and carry them through the school year.

The requests for assistance from such descendants of Veterans for the coming year have well nigh overwhelmed us by their number.

"Sixteeners" from the Soldiers Orphans Homes of Illinois and Pennsylvania, as well as graduates from the district and city schools, have sent in earnest requests, desiring a chance to obtain a little better education.

We have not the heart to turn them empty away, nor have we the means to care for them, while our 30,000 numbers give an average of less than \$200 a month from the entire membership during the twelve months.

The Chicago Tribune, of the issue of July 13, 1907, contained a long editorial article, highly commending the action of the Colonial Dames of Illinois and the Sons of the Revolution of Illinois, in planning to give a college education to some worthy student.

The editor says: "The movement is one which deserves encouragement. The investment in the future of some bright, earnest young man is one which will yield rich returns."

This is precisely what our Order is doing at Memorial, only on a national scale, at a minimum of expense and for those whom we fraternally call our sisters and brothers.

The Presidency.

Only one event occurred during the year that was not of a routine character.

Late in April, Prof. S. S. Wyand, who had been Acting President since the resignation of President Tucker, after almost five years of faithful service in the interests of Memorial, resigned his office and severed his connection with the University.

At the meeting of the Regents, held in Mason City, May 25, 1907, after a thoughtful consideration of the question in all its bearings, Past Commander W. J. Patton, of Wisconsin, President of the Board of Regents, was elected President of the University.

He accepted the position solely because it seemed imperative that a Son of a Veteran should be at the head of our institution, and because he believed that it would be a fatal blow to the Order should the enterprise fall at this critical period in our history. For such an enterprise to fall when the actual cost of its maintenance is comparatively so small, and when it is considered that in our history of twenty-five years the most notable legislation ever transacted by Commandery-in-Chief or Division Encampments has been to tinker with the constitution, rules and regulations, revise the ritual and elect our officers, would not tend to impress the country in general with a profound sense of our patriotism, nor the G. A. R. with an exalted view of our loyalty to that body.

Therefore, with some of the spirit of our veteran ancestors, of whom it has been said that they did not know when they were whipped, a loyal few have declared that they will not know defeat until this our monument to the G. A. R. shall stand upon a permanent foundation.

They are persuaded that its success means a monument alike to our loyalty and devotion to the great principles of friendship, charity, and loyalty, as well as to the valor and patriotism of our sires.

An Educational Monument.

As we study the progress of the race and with the historian travel down the highway of the nations, we find ourselves, at almost every stride, confronted by a monument bearing the inscription "In Memory of." As we consider the usefulness of these costly memorials, we find that it begins and ends with the simple lesson taught the few passers by. Its aesthetic and artistic value is revealed by the rising sun. It casts a little shadow on a spot of earth and reflects the beauty of a polished surface, or the delicate touch of the engravers tool. The setting sun leaves it out in the darkness, until another sunrise shall reveal to a few strangers who may pause to admire its beauty or read its inscription, what it is "In Memory" of.

How different is the monument we have planned and determined to erect. It is the difference between an idol and a living faith. The difference between a creed believed and a life lived; between an abstract conception and a concrete creation.

Our granite monuments, dotting the Northland, stand for something. Memorial University lives for something. The usefulness of the shaft of marble ends with its artistic and sentimental value, while the sentimental and the artistic wrapped up in the Memorial Ideal form but a small part of the whole.

As we may never be able to compute the intrinsic value latent in the merest life for which the Son of Man died, until we shall behold the summing up of that life with all the ramifications of its influence in the great Book of God at the end of the world, no more may we compute the influence of yonder Memorial until we shall behold, in the consummation of history, how much that monument has assisted in widening, enlarging and magnifying the individual life of every soul brought under its influence. And then we must find some method for discovering the influence of that life upon the body politic and social.

It is not sufficient, in these days, that a man be educated. Thousands of educated men are walking the streets of our cities and towns, out of a job, or working for a pittance, because they were not educated to do something. No, we are living in an age of specialization, of technical and professional schools, of practical application of our God given talents.

We have also discovered that it is not sufficient that we teach history in our public schools. We must teach history from a national and not from a prejudiced and provincial viewpoint; consequently, the histories used in our public schools have been re-edited, largely through the influence of the Indies of the W. R. C. And at the best, American History is but a little satellite of a low degree of magnitude, in the firmament of history, whereas, for the American citizen, it should be the great central Sun about which all histories of governments should circulate, and towards which all movements in history converge. Does John the Baptist, Charles Martel, Augustus Adolphus, Martin Luther, Garibaldi, Napoleon, move down the highway of the nations towards democracy? If they do not, then why lay so much emphasis upon their lives and deeds? Do not the movements of the race, from the earliest dawn of history, follow steadily onward, until they reach the year of our Lord 1776? Do those struggles, or do they not terminate, constitutionally, in "government of the people, by the people, and for the people," as embodied in concrete form in the Declaration of Independence and the Federal Constitution? If they do, then ought we not to teach it, emphasize it, insist upon it, with many a pungent fact, before the coming voters, and mother and teachers of voters of the Great Western Republic? And do we so? For answer examine the conspectus of history of the average college of the land; or, better, examine the college graduate, and ascertain how intimate

is his knowledge of ancient history and of mythological lore, and how meagre is his knowledge of American History, and how unfamiliar he is with the heroes, statesmen and presidents of the nation whose destiny he is to influence by his vote, or, possibly, is to shape by his occupation of public office.

For the very opposite of this condition and tendency stands Memorial University. Our infancy and consequent weakness, does not seriously trouble us, because we are growing up, and we believe that we are pursuing the only possible course for a great national institution of Historical and Patriotic Instruction. We believe the future is ours.

More than a century ago, in a military school in St. Cloud, on the outskirts of Paris, there was a class that marched under a banner of their own design. Whenever they went abroad in a body they carried the banner, on which was inscribed this sentiment, "Tremble, we are growing up!" It caused no end of merriment to the other classes, as well as to the residents of the village. But oblivious to the jeers and ridicule of others, they studied and drilled and marched, ever loyal to their sentiment.

A few years passed and one day the red capped mob is in control of the streets of beautiful Paris. With torch in one hand and a weapon of destruction in the other they pursued their undisputed way through the streets, leaving ruin and death in their pathway. In front of the gates of the Tuilleries a principal objective point of the frenzied mob, stood a little handful of the soldiers of France. At their head an officer, a little Corsican, who had been a member of the class at St. Cloud which had carried the banner. He stands with drawn sword, awaiting the onslaught and it would appear as though he and his little company would be swept away, as the fishing schooner is engulfed under the weight of a tidal wave. But he waits until he can see the whites of the eyes of the leaders, and until he almost can feel their hot breath upon his face, and then, sharp and clear above the frenzied shouts of the mob, "Fire!" and a sheet of flame springs out towards the massed crush of men, women and children. Oh, how they went down, like the ripened grain before the sickle of the reaper. "Fire!" and again they drop by scores, and the mob pauses one fatal moment; another volley and they turn in complete rout, and the situation is again in the hands of the forces which make for law and order. Her scholars had "Grown Up" and become men. If St. Cloud never did and never again does another work worthy of mention in history similar to her work in sending Napoleon Bonaparte to the army of France, she has done enough for one world.

We will not appeal to the baser motive and plead the material results which might accrue to our Order as a reason why we should at once, spontaneously and generously spring to the support of our young and struggling institution of patriotic instruction, and our monument to the G. A. R.

We do seek to appeal to the higher and nobler instincts, however, when we say that, if our generation, after thus perpetually memorializing our country's heroes, shall, through the agency of Memorial elevate one "sixteener" to a position of influence and importance, or be instrumental in lifting one life from a wretched home and an unpromising environment, we shall have well served our generation, and as truly have done our duty as did our fathers and their comrades in the days when they fought for the uplift and freedom of the black men.

In conclusion we respectfully submit the following recommendations:—

(1.) That the Commander-in-Chief be authorized to instruct Division Commanders to appoint each year a Memorial University Advisory Board of not less than three members, in each Division, including the Division Patriotic Instructor who shall be chairman of the Board.

This Advisory Board to act in conjunction with the Camp Patriotic Instructor, and Camp Committee, if such be appointed, on the one hand, and with the National Committee, and the National Patriotic Instructor on the other hand in the interests of Memorial University.

(2.) That the Commander-in-Chief be instructed to issue a circular letter, addressed to the Division Commanders urging them to secure from their respective Camps some gift to Memorial, to the end that every Camp in the Order may become an annual subscriber to the cause of Patriotic Instruction at Memorial University. Such letter to be promulgated not later than January 1, 1908.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & L.,

W. J. Patton,
W. G. Dustin,
Albert J. Beveridge,
J. H. Closson,
Sherman Arter.

Following the reading of the report, Dr. Patton said as follows:

Rev. W. J. Patton, of Wisconsin: I accepted the position as president of the University because I believed it was for the benefit of the Order of Sons of Veterans, because I believed it was absolutely necessary for the future of our Order.

Commander-in-Chief: You have heard the report of the Committee on Memorial University. What is the pleasure of the encampment?

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move that the report of the committee, together with the recommendations contained therein, be concurred in and that they be incorporated in the proceedings.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

Final Report of Committee on Officers' Reports.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: This is the final report of the committee on Officers' Reports, concerning the report of the Council-in-Chief. The committee begs leave to recommend concurrence in all the recommendations of the Council-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief: Under the rule, there being no objection, the report of the committee is concurred in and the report is adopted.

Final Report of Committee on Constitution and Laws.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: The committee is ready to make its final report. I will, however, give way to Brother Abbott.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: There is some misunderstanding in relation to the legislation of yesterday concerning the ribbon, and I move a reconsideration of the action of the encampment in adopting the report of the committee on Constitution and Laws with regard to the ribbon; the amendment to Article VII.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: The recommendation as adopted provides that all members of the Commandery-in-Chief may wear upon the membership badge, or silver cross, the prescribed Commandery-in-Chief ribbon, and all members of the Division encampments the prescribed Division ribbon on the membership badge and iron cross. The iron cross is won for service in the Camp, and the silver cross for service in the Division. It strikes me that we should use the Division color on the membership badge only. I therefore move that following

the words "membership badge" the words "silver cross" be stricken out, and also that the words "iron cross" be stricken out; so that the clause will read as follows: "Provided that all members of the Commandery-in-Chief, except elected delegates, may wear upon the membership badge, the prescribed Commandery-in-Chief ribbons; and all members of the Division encampments, except elected delegates, may wear upon the membership badge the prescribed Division ribbon."

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I will now read the final report of the Committee on Constitution and Laws. First I will read the special report with reference to the appeal of James H. Tawney, which was referred to this committee:

Dayton, Ohio, August 22, 1907.

To the Officers and Members of the 26th Annual Encampment, S. V., U. S. A.

Brothers: Your committee begs leave to report with reference to the appeal of James H. Tawney against the findings and the decisions of the Commander-in-Chief in the cases of Bower vs. Tawney, and McNulty vs. Tawney, which was referred to this committee by the Commandery-in-Chief, and recommends that the decisions of the Commander-in-Chief in approving the findings and sentences of the courts be concurred in.

Respectfully submitted,

H. V. Speelman,
F. T. F. Johnson,
R. M. J. Reed,
Fred W. Spear,
William T. Church,

Committee on Constitution and Laws.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move the adoption of the report.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I will now read the concluding report of the committee:

Dayton, Ohio, August 22, 1907.

To the Members of the 26th Annual Encampment, S. V., U. S. A.

Brothers: Your committee on Constitution and Laws begs leave to submit this as its concluding report:

We do not recommend the adoption of the knap-sack button hole decoration, as proposed, the present bronze button to be continued as the official button hole decoration of the Order.

Commander-in-Chief: Following the rule, no objection being offered, the report of the committee in this regard is adopted, and the recommendation is concurred in.

In relation to the amendments to Article XXIV, "Military Department," we recommend that Paragraph 4 of said article be repealed, and in lieu thereof the following substituted:

"Par. 4. A standing committee, to be known as the Committee on Military Affairs, consisting of five members, shall be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief within thirty days after the annual encampment in each year, without expense to the Commander-in-Chief; two of the members of the com-

mittee shall be members of the Order versed in military affairs. All matters relating to the military department shall be referred to and be considered by the committee and be reported by it to the encampment with recommendations. The committee shall also recommend to the national encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief such laws, amendments or modifications thereof as to the committee may seem proper.

The committee shall also have the power to make rules and regulations for the government of the military department, which shall not be inconsistent with any provision of the Constitution and Laws of the Order, and which shall become effective upon approval and promulgation by the Commander-in-Chief in general orders; provided that the Commandery-in-Chief may repeal any such rule or regulation of which it may disapprove."

Commander-in-Chief: Are there any objections to adopting this recommendation. Hearing none, the recommendation is concurred in.

We recommend that in Paragraph 20 of Article XXIV the words "Chief of Staff" be stricken out, and the words "Commander-in-Chief" be substituted therefor, and it will read:

"The decision of the Commander-in-Chief in all questions relating to the regulations and government of the Sons of Veterans Reserves of the Military Department of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., shall be final."

Commander-in-Chief: Hearing no objection, the recommendation of the committee is concurred in.

We recommend that Sections 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 under "Courts-Martial" be transferred to their proper place under the caption "Military Department," Article XXIV.

Commander-in-Chief: Hearing no objection, the recommendation of the committee is concurred in.

We recommend that Paragraph 6 of Article XXIV be amended, by striking out on the fifth line on page 21 the words "proper number of," and the word "seven" inserted in lieu thereof; and that in the sixth line on same page insert after the word "and" the words "three commissioned."

Commander-in-Chief: Hearing no objection, the recommendation of the committee is concurred in.

The committee has taken no action on the various communications referred to it proposing amendments to the Constitution and Laws, but not submitted within sixty days prior to this encampment, as required by the Constitution and Laws.

Respectfully submitted,

H. V. Speelman,
F. T. F. Johnson,
R. M. J. Reed,
Fred W. Spear,
William T. Church.

Committee on Constitution and Laws.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move you that the partial report and the final report of the committee be adopted as amended, and the recommendations, as amended, concurred in. The motion was seconded and agreed to.

Commander-in-Chief: We will now have the report of the special committee on official organ.

Report of Committee on Official Organ.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: The following is the report of the committee on official organ:

To the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.:

Your committee on an official organ for our Order, appointed pursuant to the action of the 25th Annual Encampment, beg to report to this encampment that throughout the year it has worked upon the subject matter submitted to it and carefully considered all of its phases, including in such consideration the need of such an organ, its requirements, its form, style and size, the matter to be published therein, its editing, publication, circulation and cost. The committee has invited, received and considered all suggestions, propositions and bids available.

This Encampment has heretofore resolved in favor of an official organ and directed that all orders, et cetera, be published therein pursuant to the recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief.

The committee reports that this action of the Encampment is in harmony with the wishes of the Order and with its own conclusions. The committee begs to express its thanks to those who have favored it with suggestions, propositions and bids. It has based its conclusions and the recommendation submitted herein upon what it considers the best proposition, adequate service and the highest interests of the Order. Including in this report the action of this Encampment hereinbefore referred to, it begs to recommend the following:

Resolved, That the 26th Annual Encampment hereby authorizes and directs the National Secretary to enter into and execute on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., a contract with William G. Dustin, of Dwight, Illinois, for the editing, publication and circulation, monthly, of an official organ of the Order named "The Banner," for the term of five years, commencing January 1, 1908. The size of the paper to be 11x16, of 16 pages, two of which may be used by the said Dustin for advertising, all pay therefor to belong to him; six of such pages to be devoted to general orders or circulars by the Commander-in-Chief or National Secretary, communications of a general nature, historical data of the war of 1861-5 and of our Order, portraits and general miscellany. The remaining pages except the two reserved to said Dustin for advertising, to be devoted to the publication of news from the Division and Camps, such space to be divided as equitably as possible. In case the advertising shall run more than two pages the said Dustin shall provide extra space therefor. The said Dustin shall edit, publish, print and mail said paper monthly to each member of the Order, the names and addresses of such members to be furnished said Dustin by the proper officers.

The said Dustin shall furnish free of charge, a copy of each issue to each Camp for filing purposes upon being provided with the mailing address therefor. The six pages of said paper reserved for general orders, editorial matter, et cetera, to be printed in eight point type leaded, and the remaining pages, except the advertising pages, to be printed in six point type. Said Dustin to furnish a bond for the faithful performance of said contract in the penal sum of \$2500 with surety to be approved by the Commander-in-Chief.

In consideration whereof, the Commander-in-Chief shall pay the said William G. Dustin the sum of eighteen (18) cents per member per year or four and one-half (4½) cents per quarter on each member in good standing, such payments to be made in monthly installments at the end of each month by the National Treasurer upon the certificate of said Dustin.

H. V. SPEELMAN,
F. L. SHEPARD,
L. C. COUCH,
Committee.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: On behalf of the committee, I move the adoption of the report.

Seconded by John Bower, Jr., of Pennsylvania.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I just have this to say, that if this contract is made for the publication of The Banner along the lines indicated and contained in this report, we will receive the paper at two cents per member less than we are paying at the present time, and at the same time we will have about 33 1-3 per cent more space for the publication of matter than is contained in the present publication.

Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved and seconded that the report of the committee be adopted.

H. A. Wing, of Minnesota: In regard to the publication, some of the members of our division are somewhat opposed to the continuance of The Banner. I believe that we should have an official organ. Has it been customary to make five year contracts, or three year contracts?

Commander-in-Chief: Three year contracts.

H. A. Wing, of Minnesota: I believe that the price is reasonable. I am glad that the society is taking the action. Does this include the delivery or selling of the papers to the Auxiliary, at the same rate?

Commander-in-Chief: We cannot contract for the Auxiliary.

W. G. Destila, of Illinois: I have made the ladies the same offer of 20 cents for individual subscriptions.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: The brother has raised the question as to the term of the contract. The committee thought it but fair, on account of the reduction in price, and additional space, that we should extend the time of the contract to five years.

James B. Adams, of New Jersey: I would like to propose that the Ladies Auxiliary be supplied with the paper at the same price.

Commander-in-Chief: I hardly believe that it is within our province to contract for the ladies.

W. G. Destila, of Illinois: I will very willingly agree to that proposition.

The question was put and the motion was agreed to.

(L. W. Friedman, of Alabama and Tennessee voting "No.")

Presentation of Portrait of Past Commander-in-Chief Louis M. Wagner.

Alf. G. Loyd, of Pennsylvania: I rise on behalf of Pennsylvania Division. I want to say that you will all agree with me that outside of the important business that we come here to consider, one of the pleasantest features is the fact that we can meet each other and shake hands. We were all greatly pleased to hear from Colonel Armstrong.

As a member of the Division of Pennsylvania, I want to say that the members of that Division are proud of the fact that among the fathers of our organization there are a number that hail from that state. We are proud of every one of them. We think that this body did well and acted wisely when it established the custom that the features of those who have been at the head of the organization should be preserved for future generations, and I think it was a wise thing for our Memorial

University to establish the Hall of Fame. At the last session of the Pennsylvania Division somebody discovered the fact that the features of one of the fathers of the organization, one that we all love, was missing, and the legislation was enacted at our Division Encampment providing for the presentation to the Commandery-in-Chief of the portrait of Past Commander-in-Chief Louis M. Wagner; and on behalf of the Pennsylvania Division, I desire to present this portrait, (exhibiting portrait, which was placed on the platform). (Applause).

Presentation of Portrait of Commander-in-Chief Edwin M. Amies.

C. C. Fulton, of Pennsylvania: I want to say that Pennsylvania has a habit of not only doing things, but it does first things. You have with you the portrait of the first Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans. When the proclamation went out declaring liberty throughout the land to all people thereof, it was from the Pennsylvania soil. When after Fort Sumter was fired upon, and the call went forth for men, Pennsylvania furnished the first defenders. When the time came for a successor to the Grand Army of the Republic, Pennsylvania gave it to us. Last year when this organization wanted a leader, Pennsylvania furnished it. At the last session of the Division Encampment of Pennsylvania, the Division officers were instructed to present to the Commandery-in-Chief a portrait of our "Ned," Commander-in-Chief Edwin M. Amies. Through some unfortunate circumstance, for reasons which we have been unable to discover, that picture has not yet arrived at Dayton. We have the original here. We do not propose to present the Commandery-in-Chief with the original; we need him in Pennsylvania, and we propose to keep him there. But that picture, when it comes, will be duly forwarded to be placed in Memorial hall at the University. I need not tell the members of the Sons of Veterans how proud we are, or why we love Edwin M. Amies. You know something of his kindness, of his thoughtfulness and consideration for others, of his spirit of self sacrifice, and of his ability, and, as Commander of the Pennsylvania Division, I want to say that all the honors that will come to me during my term of office, there will be none that I will appreciate more than the honor of presenting to the Commandery-in-Chief the portrait of Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief: I will ask Brother Muse, of Iowa, to respond to the reception of these two portraits.

W. F. Muse, of Iowa: Brother Amies has visited Mason City and the Memorial University, and I know from the impression that he made upon the people there, upon the community there, upon the faculty, and upon the members of the Order, that we will be very grateful for the picture, and also for the portrait of Past Commander-in-Chief Wagner. If the picture of Brother Amies does not arrive we feel that we must take him as a substitute. In the absence of Brother Patton, I want to thank you for the presentation of these portraits, which will be hung in the Memorial University, and I hope that you will all come out there and see them, and see us.

Lewis A. Dilley, of Iowa: I believe that this Commandery does not take the words of the brother from Pennsylvania as

exactly true. We don't believe that Brother Amies belongs to Pennsylvania Division, but he belongs to the members of the Commandery-in-Chief of this Order.

Commander-in-Chief: I am advised again of a visiting committee bearing greetings from the Department of Ohio Ladies of the G. A. R. I notice sitting in the rear some of the former committee. I will ask them to get together, headed by Brother Davis, and bring the ladies in. The committee may retire.

I. Levy, of Ohio: We have no picture to present this year; we had one last year, and hope we will have another one before a great many years.

Committee From the Ladies of the G. A. R.

Hyde E. Davis: I have the pleasure of presenting the ladies bearing greetings from the Ladies of the G. A. R., Mrs. Lowry, Department President; Mrs. Lowe, Department Secretary, and Mrs. Morton, Past President.

Commander-in-Chief: I also have the pleasure of introducing to this encampment these ladies, who bring greetings from the Department of Ohio.

Mrs. Lowry: As representatives of the Ladies of the G. A. R., Department of Ohio, and the local organization, we are proud and happy to bring you greetings and welcome you heartily to our city. We know you are very busy, and therefore our remarks will be very short, but our kindly feelings towards you are very great, and on behalf of the department of Ohio, I present you this little token, to show you the affection we feel for you. (Presenting a bouquet of flowers.)

Commander-in-Chief: I assure you ladies, that I appreciate the little memento of your kindness. However, I must say that were Mrs. Amies here I would have to pass it over to her. I want to digress, and desire that the consent of the body be given me for the purpose of asking someone not a delegate to this encampment to respond to the greetings of the Ladies of the G. A. R. of Ohio. I therefore take pleasure in asking Dr. Riley, a member of the local Camp, at Dayton, to respond to the ladies.

Dr. Riley, of Dayton: Commander-in-Chief, and Ladies of the G. A. R. I want to say now, as an infant in the Order, that we thank you. I also want to say that this city is one of the loveliest spots that lies out doors. In it we have great political parties, and we also have the Grand Army of the Republic. I want to say to these ladies that I would indeed be unmindful as a dutiable son if I would forget that when my father shouldered a gun to defend the nation that my mother struggled at home. She fought as great a fight as he did; because she fought singlehanded and alone. I would not be a dutiful son if I were not unmindful of that fact. I said only a short time ago to your Commander, that I believed there was no word in the English language so elastic as fraternal friendship. It is this word "friendship" which makes us feel toward each other, perhaps, just as we feel toward a relative. Their success gives us the same unselfish pride. Their happiness brings us the same joy. Their disappointment bears our heads just as though they were bound by ties of love. Relationships due to similarities of purposes are just as great, and often-

times more pleasant, than relationships of blood. You may call it friendship, if you will, but it is a blessing which God has given them. While I have sat here listening to what your Order is responsible for, I have seen displayed a friendship that I have never seen exceeded in all my experience. When I look into the face of our Commander-in-Chief and see the marks of character there, when I looked into his eyes and saw the index of that character and the quality of the soul within, I said to myself, this certainly is a man I am proud to know, and I am proud to stand here and thank these ladies, on behalf of this Commandery, for this visit and for this beautiful token of friendship.

The ladies retired from the room.

Commander-in-Chief: We will now proceed to new business. Is there any new business; is there anything else to be brought before the encampment?

W. G. Dustin, of Illinois: I would like to take this occasion to once more thank the representatives of this Order for the confidence they have placed in me. I wish also to thank the gentlemen who have put in bids for their kindness. I accept this, as I have said before each time, and will do the best I can for our Order.

Commander-in-Chief: There being no other business to come before the encampment, we will proceed now to the election of a place for holding the next encampment of our Order.

Place For Holding Next Encampment.

W. B. Moynihan, of New York: Among the attractions of the great Empire State, is a beautiful natural spot known as Niagara Falls. Recognizing the overwhelming sentiment among the members of this Commandery, the brothers from New York extend a cordial invitation to the Commandery-in-Chief to hold their next meeting at Niagara Falls, New York.

Commander-in-Chief: Are there any other places to be nominated or mentioned for the place of holding the twenty-seventh annual encampment? If not, we will consider the nominations closed. There being no other place suggested, or nominated, I declare Niagara Falls as the place for holding the 27th annual encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Is the encampment now ready to proceed to the nomination and election of officers?

(Cries of "Yes, proceed.")

Commander-in-Chief: We will receive nominations for the office of Commander-in-Chief.

Nomination and Election of Officers.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move that the speeches be limited to two minutes.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

E. W. Estes, of New York: Several weeks ago I was told that I was expected to present to this encampment for the office of Commander-in-Chief the name of a member from New York. I believe I could add little to his popularity in this

encampment by telling you what I know about this brother, but I believe also that I might make myself very unpopular if I made an extended speech. I hope to add to my popularity therefore by being brief. I could tell you about the brother; what he has been in the Order, going back to the very beginning of it. I could tell you about his standing in the community in which he lives. I could tell you how faithful he has served the Order. I could tell you how he has aided me; of the affection that I had for him during and since the time I was Division Commander. I could tell you of the respect and esteem in which he is held by our Division. No man is more cordially loved than the one whose name I am about to present to you. It is unnecessary for me to dwell on the subject; I am not going to say any more, Commander-in-Chief, than that I present the name of Ralph Sheldon, of New York, for the office of Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief: Dr. Ralph Sheldon has been nominated as Commander-in-Chief to serve for the ensuing year. Are there any other nominations?

Rev. W. J. Patton, of Iowa: I wish, Commander, with all my heart to second the nomination of my friend, Dr. Ralph Sheldon, and I move that the nominations do now close.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move that the rules be suspended, and that the National Secretary be instructed to cast the unanimous vote of this encampment for Dr. Ralph Sheldon as Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year.

The motion was seconded and unanimously agreed to.

The National Secretary cast the unanimous vote of the encampment, as instructed.

Commander-in-Chief: Dr. Ralph Sheldon having received the unanimous vote of this encampment, he is hereby declared elected Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. for the ensuing year.

The chair is now ready to receive nominations for the office of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

E. R. Campbell, of Maryland: Last summer it was my pleasure to visit the Green Mountains, and while passing through the beautiful town of Bennington, I discovered an old gentleman at the side of the road, who seemed to be very intelligent, and I thought I would enter into a conversation with him: I said, "This a good country." "Yes," he said, "a very healthy country." "Well," I said, "people die here frequently." "No, they don't," said he. I said, "Have you lived here all your life?" "Not yet," said he. That man served for four years in the old Vermont Brigade; a brigade that lost more men for its size than any brigade known to history. He served in the sixth Vermont Regiment. His son is here today; and he is a member of the Vermont Division. He is entitled to all the honors that this encampment can confer upon him. The Vermont Division has passed its 25th anniversary, and as yet has not had an elective office, and it seems fitting and proper that Vermont should be recognized, not because it is my native state, but because the candidate whom I shall name is worthy of the honor. I have the extreme pleasure and honor of naming for the position of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Fred W. Spear, of the Division of Vermont. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief: Fred W. Spear, of Vermont, has been nominated for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Are there any other nominations?

B. S. Davis, of New Hampshire: I move that the nominations close.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move that the rules be suspended and that the National Secretary be instructed to cast the unanimous vote of this encampment for Fred W. Spear, of Vermont, for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded and unanimously agreed to.

The National Secretary cast the unanimous vote, as instructed.

Commander-in-Chief: I hereby declare Fred W. Spear, of Vermont, elected Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., for the ensuing year.

We will now receive nominations for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: Since our arrival in the city of Dayton, we have not only enjoyed the hospitality of its citizenship, but we have profited by the splendid work of the executive committee that has had charge of the arrangements for this encampment. At the head of that committee is the man whose name I am going to present to you; he has for the last year been earnestly engaged in working for the success, the pleasure and the entertainment of this Commandery. Expressing the will of the Ohio Division, and voicing the sentiment, I think, of all the brothers here; on behalf of Ohio, I take pleasure in nominating for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief that splendid Son of a Veteran, Past Division Commander William S. Reeder, of Dayton, Ohio.

W. G. Dustin, of Illinois: I wish to second that nomination. He was Division Commander of Ohio at the time I had the honor of being Commander-in-Chief, and I know him to be one of the best workers in the Order.

Commander-in-Chief: William S. Reeder has been nominated for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Are there any other nominations?

Felix A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: I move that the nominations be closed, that the rules be suspended, and the National Secretary be instructed to cast the unanimous vote of this encampment for William S. Reeder for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded and unanimously agreed to.

The National Secretary cast the unanimous vote, as instructed.

Commander-in-Chief: William S. Reeder, of Ohio, having received the unanimous vote of this encampment, he is hereby declared elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year.

Nominations for Council-in-Chief are now in order.

Leonard C. Couch, of Massachusetts: It is well that as we now have as a member of the Council-in-Chief a man who has shown true ability, who is a careful financier, and a competent bookkeeper, that we should continue him in that office. I desire to name for the position of Council-in-Chief one whom you all know much better than you know me. I take pleasure in nominating Thomas J. Hannon, of Massachusetts.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I second the nomination.

Commander-in-Chief: Thomas J. Hannon has been nominated as a member of the Council-in-Chief.

Newton J. McGuire, of Indiana: Indiana has a candidate for member of the Council-in-Chief; one who has served for one year, and a member who, as you know, with a good record. I take pleasure in presenting the name of Thomas W. Blair, of Indiana, as a member of the Council-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief: Thomas W. Blair has been nominated as a member of the Council-in-Chief.

Frank L. Shepard, of Illinois: I have the honor to present the name of a candidate for the office of Council-in-Chief. This brother has by his untiring industry, by his untiring efforts, by his sunny disposition and courteous manner, endeared himself to everyone, and I feel sure that he will be unanimously elected. He has served as commander of his Camp, as commander of his Division, as Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief of our Order, and as a member heretofore of the Council-in-Chief. With that reference to his record as a worker, I place in nomination James B. Adams, of New Jersey, for member of the Council-in-Chief.

John Bower, Jr., of Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania desires to thank Illinois and Brother Shepard for placing in nomination one of our adopted sons, James B. Adams.

E. H. Archer, of Ohio: I move that the nominations close, that the rules be suspended, and that the National Secretary be instructed to cast the unanimous vote of his encampment for the three brothers whose names have been mentioned for the office of Council-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded and unanimously agreed to.

The National Secretary cast the unanimous vote, as instructed.

Commander-in-Chief: Thomas J. Hannon, Thomas W. Blair and James B. Adams having received the unanimous vote of this encampment for members of the Council-in-Chief, they are hereby declared elected as such for the ensuing year.

What is the pleasure of the encampment?

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move that we proceed to the installation of officers.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

Installation of Officers.

Commander-in-Chief: It has been requested, and I heartily acquiesce in that request, that Past Commander-in-Chief George B. Abbott assume the chair of the Commander-in-Chief for the purpose of installing the officers. If there is no objection that will be done. (No objection offered.)

The following officers were then installed in due form by George B. Abbott, of Illinois, as installing officer:

Ralph Sheldon, of New York, Commander-in-Chief.

Fred W. Spear, of Vermont, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

William S. Reeder, of Ohio, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Thomas J. Hannon, of Massachusetts, Council-in-Chief.

Thomas W. Blair, of Indiana, Council-in-Chief.

James B. Adams, of New Jersey, Council-in-Chief.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: Personally, Brother Sheldon, I want to congratulate the Commandery-in-Chief upon your election. I wish to assure this Commandery that your services as Division Commander were well done. The Division prospered, and I believe this office will receive the same careful work. I congratulate you and congratulate the Commander-in-Chief.

Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania: Commander-in-Chief Brother Sheldon, I too, as well as Past Commander-in-Chief Abbott, desire to express to you my gratification upon your elevation to this office. I do this, not because I know you personally only, but because I know you as a Son of a Veteran. During my incumbency as Commander-in-Chief it was my pleasure to be thrown in contact with you in business relations pertaining to that office. Not only in so far as the office was concerned, but in connection with your relationship to the New York Division. In all your work I found you ready and willing at all time to do your duty, not only as a man, but paramountly as a Son of a Veteran. Before you assume the true prerogatives of your office, there is one duty I must perform. I have the honor now to pin upon your breast the emblem of your office; the scepter of your authority. I am sure you will wear it with honor, and that you will be a credit, not only to yourself but the nation at large. (Pinning on the rank strap and badge of Commander-in-Chief.)

Ralph Sheldon, of New York: Commander-in-Chief Amies, and brothers. Only those who have sat in my place can appreciate my position. I do appreciate the honor which this Commandery-in-Chief has conferred upon me. I am not going to promise what I will do. I will give you the best service that is within me. I thank you again. Knowing that the time is limited, I will close by simply saying that I trust when I make return of my stewardship, that you will all say, "Well done thou good and faithful servant."

Presentation of Gold Cross to Past Commander-in-Chief Edwin M. Amies.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: Brother Amies, the time has come where you will take your place beside the Commanders-in-Chief. You will take your place beside the Past Commanders-in-Chief, in which the Division of Pennsylvania has led us in the past; Pennsylvania will never blush for the men who has given us to serve as Commanders-in-Chief; and to none of them, with all due respect to those boys who have served us in the past, to none of them is there more honor due than to yourself in the line of Past Commanders-in-Chief from the state of Pennsylvania. As one of them, I want to welcome you to the ranks of the Past Commanders-in-Chief. The Past Commanders-in-Chief know, and you know, Brother Amies, what this Order has become; the great place it has filled, and now fills. Brother Dustin, Brother Reed, Brother Speelman, Brother Campbell, and Brother Shepard, all know that there is a great big something in the heart; that great thing that has come into our lives that will never go out. While you lay down the gavel with a sense of relief, you lay it down with a deeper sense of sorrow that this work which has brought so much into your life, so much that you love and cherish, is practically ended. Brother

Amies, it is with pleasure that I remember a little incident. When I was Commander-in-Chief I visited the Division of Pennsylvania; that was twenty years ago or more. In the Division encampment, which was a lively one, one of the active members at that time was a young attorney from Altoona, who spoke several times, and I turned to some of the brothers on the platform, and asked, "Who is that young man over there;" they said, "That is Ed Amies, of Altoona." I said, "Keep your eye on him; we will hear from him in the future." I am glad that we have heard from him. He has come to the front. He more than fulfilled our hopes and expectations. I am glad to come here and bear testimony, as one of the brothers who has lived to be under his administration of affairs. Now all this, Brother Amies, leads to the presentation of this token, which is to signify this deep regard, the deep sentiment to which I refer. It means much to you; it means much to all of us. With all the love and regard of these Sons of Veterans, these loyal men, these boys that are on the floor, the blue blood of the land, I pin this upon your breast as an expression of the love and esteem in which we hold you, and extend to you the well wishes of all; (Pinning upon his coat the diamond mounted Past Commander-in-Chief's gold cross.)

(Great Applause.)

Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania: Past Commander-in-Chief Abbott, brothers of the 26th annual encampment, and all of the Sons of Veterans of the United States of America; I don't know how to express my appreciation for this gift at this time. I would indeed be devoid of feeling if I did not say that I thank you. You know what it means to receive even the slightest recognition from a friend; but when it comes, as this does, it is hard to express ones feelings. I cannot say it was not expected, because custom has made this presentation at this time expected. But coming, as I know it does, from you who have been with me for many years, and coming to me now at the end of a term through which I have endeavored to serve you faithfully, I do honestly appreciate the friendship that goes with it. I can only say, in the words of my friend, Dr. Riley, which he so beautifully expressed this morning, that there is something in relationship deeper than blood. During these years I have formed friendships all over the land, at home, in my State, and in this magnificent Order of ours, but the friendships formed in this Order from its inception to the present time are dearer and deeper to me than all other friendships I have the honor to possess. Old friendships have been revived, and new ones have been formed, and I prize them and treasure them far more than I can tell you. (Great applause.)

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois, as Installing Officer: Now, by virtue of the power and authority invested in me, as installing officer, I declare the officers-elect installed for the ensuing year, or until their successors have been duly elected and installed. Commander-in-Chief Sheldon assume command. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: I have the following announcements as appointments on my staff to make:

Rev. W. J. Patton, National Chaplain.

F. T. F. Johnson, National Counselor.

E. E. Schoening, National Inspector.

H. V. Speelman, National Patriotic Instructor.

And the installing officer installed the National Counselor, National Inspector, and National Patriotic Instructor, Rev. W. J. Patton, National Chaplain, not being present.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: As there is no further business that may legally come before this encampment, I move that the committees heretofore serving this encampment be discharged, and that the minutes of the Commandery-in-Chief be approved without reading.

The motion was seconded by Harry E. Pennell, of New Jersey.

The motion was put and carried.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move that this encampment now adjourn sine die, and that we proceed to close in due form.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

The encampment closed in due form, previous to which all joined in singing "America."

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

EDWIN M. AMIES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Altoona, Pa., August 24, 1907.

The foregoing is a true and correct record and report of the proceedings of the Twenty-sixth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., held at Dayton, Ohio, August 19, 20, 21 and 22, 1907, as reported by Edward K. DePuy, official stenographer.

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

EDWIN M. AMIES,
Commander-in-Chief.



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