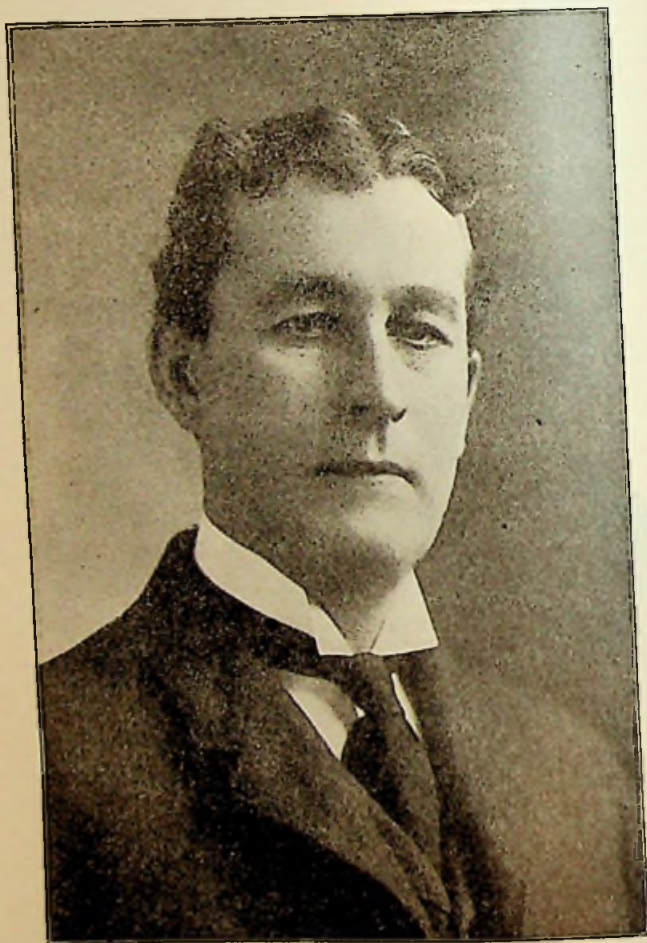


PROCEEDINGS
C.-IN-CHIEF
S. V., U. S. A.

1905-09



COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF H. V. SPEELMAN

Journal of Proceedings

OF THE

TWENTY-FIFTH
ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

OF THE

Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.



PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

August 21, 22, 23

1906

PROCEEDINGS

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

Held at Peoria, Illinois, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday,
August 21, 22 and 23, 1906

TUESDAY MORNING SESSION.

Peoria, Ill., Aug. 21, 1906.

The Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., convened in the Knights of Pythias Hall, Observatory Building, at 10:00 a. m., Commander-in-Chief H. V. Speelman in the chair. The opening session was of an informal nature and devoted principally to patriotic addresses.

John A. Reed, Commander of Wm. A. Thrush Camp, No. 25, of Peoria, Ill., acted as Chairman of the meeting, during the addresses of welcome, introducing Comrade E. H. Buck, Commander of the Illinois Department of the Grand Army of the Republic, as the first speaker.

Department Commander E. H. Buck: Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans and Ladies of the Auxillary of Sons of Veterans: I deeply appreciate the honor conferred upon me by the invitation of Division Commander Wasson. It is a great pleasure for me to be present with you upon this occasion, the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, and I am pleased to extend to you a cordial greeting and welcome from the Grand Army of this State. The ranks of the Grand Army are rapidly thinning; no new blood can come in, and there are no growing ranks from which we can recruit. Pathetic as it is, it is nevertheless true, that we are marching on to extinction. And now, in the very nature of things, we turn to our sons and daughters with the desire and wish that they take up the work, our work, where we lay it down, to keep up the spirit of patriotism, and to take the load to the largest degree of any one. We realize, of course, that no one can succeed us, and when the last one of our comrades passes away, it will be the last of the greatest and grandest organization that ever existed on the face of the earth. Since my election as Department Commander,

I have taken occasion to confer with our comrades, individually so far as I could, concerning the interests of the Sons and Daughters of Veterans, and I found a unanimous desire and wish on their part that you should keep up your organizations, and continue the work which it will be your duty to do. At our last Encampment at Galesburg, a resolution was passed at that convention, and I immediately sent out circulars to the various Posts of our Department requesting them to aid you in your work. The National Encampment at Minneapolis also passed, and has upon its records, a similar resolution of esteem and regard for you, and desiring that you shall continue to do as I have stated. Of course, comrades, you can not expect that our old fellows, so long as they live, will give away entirely to you to do the work on Memorial Day, the patriotic work which we are doing. It is not natural that we should, but I find that they are disposed and desirous to have you come in and aid us, and to take the burden of the work from our shoulders to a larger or smaller degree according to the size of the Post in the locality in which the work is to be done. The Sons of Veterans of Minneapolis, to the number of several hundred, organized a Red Cross Association for work at the time of the parade during the National Encampment, and they did heroic work. There were about two of the Sons of Veterans stationed at each block along the line of the parade, and also one doctor at least every other block. One of the sons with whom I had a conversation told me that in order to take the comrades to the hospital they had automobiles to place them in, and they took altogether about two hundred to the hospital. Of course that was not all they did, for they did noble work, and our Encampment recognized them by a special resolution praising them for the work which they performed. Now then, Sons, this is a practical work that you have to do. We need you; we are growing feeble and of course we need your help, we need your support. Parents of course naturally turn to their sons and daughters for comfort, consolation and aid in their declining years, and this is the way that our comrades feel about this matter, so far as I can learn and so far as I can see. All there is for you to do is to get busy and recruit your organization; keep alive your interests, and when the time comes for you to succeed us, in so far as any body of men can succeed us, go ahead and do your duty. (Applause.)

Chairman Reed: Brothers and Sisters, we have today one of our fellow-citizens with us who was at the National Encampment a year ago for the purpose of getting your organization to come here to our beautiful city for this year, and I will introduce to you Brother L. F. Meek, who will be our next speaker.

L. F. Meek: Members of the Grand Army of the Republic, Ladies of the Auxillary, and Sons of Veterans. At the last Encampment held at Gettysburg a year ago I had the pleasure of inviting you to be present on this occasion. We met on the old historic ground at Gettysburg, Pa., a place made memorable by the fact that there occurred one of the greatest battles of the Civil War. At that time I invited you to leave your crowded cities of the east and come west, here in our city, to hold this, your twenty-fifth annual convention, in the great state of Illinois, the state from whose plains were mustered many of the Grand Army of the Republic; the state that gave to the Nation a number of those noted chieftains who crushed that mighty rebellion. You saw fit to accept this invitation, and in as much as I was

chosen to invite you to visit us, I have also been chosen to welcome you. In behalf of our local Camp, I welcome you to our midst. Sons of Veterans, you are indeed fortunate that you can be called Sons of Veterans; sons of the men who endured all kinds of fatigue and hardship; sons of the men who engaged in the long marches, and who endured thirst and hunger, cold and heat in the long and weary days of the War. For what and why did your fathers endure all of this? that Liberty might not perish from the earth and that the flag of the Republic should float over a free and liberty-loving people. Many of you belong to a generation born since the War, and cannot conceive the awfulness of that terrible conflict nor can have but a faint conception of what it meant. History gives us facts and records of those most memorable days, but to have lived and been an actor in that great war drama of the last century was to leave to the world an inscription on the monuments of time that all the storms and tempests down to the last days of eternity will never efface. The Sons of Veterans, like the Grand Army, is not a political organization. It stands for Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty. No other organizations but these two teach us such love of country, but at the same time there are men in our land today who do not appreciate the value of American citizenship, having had no part in the struggle that made and saved it. Sons of Veterans, you join this order to learn lessons of patriotism and loyalty; loyalty to country, that this great nation and this government cemented by the blood of heroes is entrusted to our care, and it depends upon us whether it shall continue to be a beacon light to all the people of the earth. Sons of Veterans, let us resolve today that while we live we will do all we can that the flag of our country shall remain unsullied; that we will help the old soldier enjoy many more days the blessings of a free government; that the old soldier will not be forgotten by this or future generations, and that their acts of valor and brave deeds will be handed down to the last days of recorded time, and that in poetry and prose and song will be told how these faithful men engaged in that awful crash of the battle, and comrades fell by their sides and died on the field of battle or perished in prison pens; it matters not where they died. It is the wish of every son of a veteran, ay, of every patriotic citizen, that the old soldiers' last days will be the happiest in the land they helped to save. May they be proud of the fact that they are not forgotten, and when the last fires of life begin to burn low, the memory of their splendid deeds that kept our flag among the nations of the earth will fill their souls with joy and happiness. (Applause.)

Chairman Reed: I am glad we are all here today, because we have with us a gentleman whom we are always glad to hear; I introduce Hon. Allen B. Tolson, our Mayor, who will now speak to us.

Mayor Allen B. Tolson: Commander, Sons of Veterans and Members of the Ladies' Auxiliary, Ladies and Gentlemen: Your Commander has truly and rightfully said that it is at all times a great pleasure for us to receive visitors in this city of Peoria. In my official position it is necessary many times for me to welcome different conventions to our city, but I can frankly say that at no convention have I responded to an invitation to welcome the visitors with that degree of pleasure that I have to appear before you today. Why? Because by your presence here, and

by the business sessions that you may hold and the laws or resolutions that you young men and women may pass upon in these meetings, all of us are taught a lesson of patriotism; and above everything else, ladies and gentlemen, we as American citizens should be proud at all times that this lesson of patriotism should be brought nearer and closer to us at home. The city of Peoria, with its 84,000 people, with its beautiful business community, with its many advantages in the commercial field, with its splendid facilities by rail and river, with its grand opportunities for future development, above all I say these 84,000 people are under all circumstances patriotic; they love their city; they love their state; they love those men who, in the earlier days, proved themselves to be true American citizens, famous not only in this country, but all over the world. These people and I as their exponent today welcome you to Peoria. We tell you that we have miles and miles of street car lines, fourteen steam roads, and sixty miles of paved streets; we tell you that we have the greatest public school system of any city in the United States; and above all, we tell you that in the days of '60 and '61, in the days at the beginning of the war, when the good name of the great state of Illinois, and of the United States, called for strong arms and willing hearts to stand up for the flag, the City of Peoria and the State of Illinois came to the front and furnished its full quota to protect and maintain "Old Glory." I sincerely trust, like the speaker who preceded me, that the organization of Sons of Veterans will continue to grow, and that all of the young men and young women will see the necessity of keeping alive the fires of this country, and of honoring the memory of these great men and these great women who sacrificed their lives, and their health and future. I wish you, ladies and gentlemen, every pleasure and success in this convention. In conclusion, allow me to say for the 84,000 people in the city of Peoria, "The city is yours to do as you please," and if you get into trouble, the Mayor's office is on the second floor of the City Hall, and you can come and see me. (Applause.)

Chairman Reed: I am very glad to introduce to you at this time our Commander-in-Chief, Brother H. V. Speelman.

Commander-in-Chief Speelman: Commander, Comrade Buck, Honorable Mayor, Members of the Auxillary, and Brothers of the Order: Ordinarily, under circumstances of this kind, the keys of the city are extended to a convention of this character; that ceremony, it seems, is absent on this occasion, and I guess we can account for it for the reason that a key in this good town of Peoria is not necessary. From the observations of the past twenty-four hours we are all impressed with the belief that the doors of the city and the hearts of the good people of this city are open to us and that we will have no use for a key. In the first place, I want to say that the way in which our joint organizations are represented here is evidence conclusive of our deep sense of appreciation of the most cordial and fraternal greeting that has been extended to us by Comrade Buck of the Grand Army organization. To us the Grand Army is first at all times and under all circumstances. (Applause.) Under all conditions we are proud to follow in the foot-steps of men who went to the front in 1861-65 for the preservation of the Union and the maintainance of its institutions. We are proud to call ourselves the descendants of Union soldiers, and if we but follow the advice of these grand old heroes, we will never go very much

wrong. (Applause.) We, as the descendants of these men, have a duty to perform that is not an empty-handed one. Great questions confront our Nation today, and it is incumbent upon us, not only as members of this fraternal and patriotic organization, but as true loyal American citizens, to see that our part is taken, and well taken, in the discharge of every duty that falls to our hands. We are glad to come to this beautiful city of Peoria, and to this great state of Illinois, the state that has given to the Nation some of her most illustrious heroes; the state that sent forth in the service of his country that great silent soldier, Ulysses S. Grant; (Applause.) the state that gave to mankind the world's greatest Commoner and most renowned Statesman, Abraham Lincoln. (Applause.) We are proud of our heritage, and rightfully so. We are proud of the distinction of being able to belong to this organization. In monarchial governments, heritages are passed down to members of families. In this country it is different; this heritage of ours was purchased by the blood of the men who gave their services and their lives, if need be, for the preservation of the Union. We are proud to be the sons of the men who fought for that flag that was never furled in defeat and never unfurled in disgrace or dishonor; the flag that has been borne triumphantly through every struggle, and has been carried to the end of all contest without a stripe riven from its folds or a star plucked from its constellation. Yes, we are proud to be descendants of these men, and we should see to it that at all times our duties as their sons and their daughters are done and faithfully done. We owe it to them; we owe it to ourselves; we owe it to our country. (Applause.)

Chairman Reed: We have with us Past National President Sister Miller, of the Auxillary who is a good talker and I know that she can entertain you.

Mrs. Tomer Miller: Brothers of the Sons of Veterans, Sisters of the Auxillary, and visiting friends. I am glad at this time to speak for our Auxillary to the Sons of Veterans. We are as noble an organization as there is in existence. The Sons of Veterans are organized to further the interests of the Grand Army, and as their descendants, they are proud of their task. We assist the Sons of Veterans in all of their duties. We help them in all of their good work, and we take care of them to a greater extent than any one else. We are a retiring organization; we never push ourselves ahead, and some one of the brothers has called us the "tail of the kite," which I think is a very good name. It is very gratifying to me today to have this recognition for our Auxillary, and I assure you that we thank you for the recognition you have given us. We are very glad to be with you in Peoria, and earnestly hope that this will be one of the most enjoyable and most successful encampments that we have ever had. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Speelman: I wish to request all committees that have been appointed to report immediately upon the adjournment of this meeting at Headquarters in the Palm parlor at the National Hotel, and all members will please turn their credentials over to the committee on credentials at the earliest possible moment so as to enable this committee to make a report at the afternoon session, which will convene in this hall at two o'clock today. This informal session is now closed.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Peoria, Ill., August 21, 1906.

The first business session of the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., convened in Knights of Pythias Hall, Peoria, Illinois, at two o'clock p. m., Tuesday, August 21st, 1906, with Commander-in-Chief Harley V. Speelman in the chair.

The Commander-in-Chief: The officers and members of the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will come to order. R. A. Eno, of California, and Horace E. Shaw, of the Division of Alabama and Tennessee, are appointed as Guards. J. B. Ripley, of Vermont, is appointed to assist the National Inspector to ascertain as to whether all present are entitled to remain. The National Inspector and Assistant National Inspector will take up the password and countersign.

The National Inspector: Commander-in-Chief, upon due inspection we find the Guards at their proper stations and that all present are in possession of the proper password and countersign.

Whereupon, the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., was opened in due form.

The Commander-in-Chief: The National Secretary will call the roll of the officers of the Commandery.

Roll call by National Secretary H. H. Hammer, the following officers reporting present:

Commander-in-Chief, H. V. Speelman, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Arthur M. Soule, Portland, Me.

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Geo. H. Stebbins, Cincinnati, Ohio.

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

Council-in-Chief, James E. Seabert, Dwight, Ill.; Thos. J. Hannon, Boston, Mass.; Ralph Sheldon, Albany, N. Y.

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

National Treasurer, James Lewis Rake, Reading, Pa.

National Counselor, A. E. B. Stephens, Cincinnati, Ohio.

National Chaplain, Rev. U. G. Loazenby, Terre Haute, Ind.

National Inspector, Edward K. De Puy, Washington, D. C.

Presentation of Gavel.

Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania: It seems to be the policy of all deliberating conventions that there should be some emblem of authority, through which is conveyed that authority to the members present, and in the absence of any authority of that kind upon the table of the Commander, I have the pleasure of presenting to you, Commander, that emblem of authority from a representative of the Pennsylvania Division. And in doing so I desire the attention of you, Commander, and of the members present. The different parts of this emblem came from the field upon which the battle was fought which determined the policy of these United States, and which designated in a measure this body. I have the honor, then, of presenting from Brother Robert

C. Miller this emblem, or rather this block, which is taken from Culp's Hill on the battlefield of Gettysburg; this gavel is taken also from the field over which Pickett made his famous charge. Commander, in presenting this gavel, it is the wish of all present that you in your position as Commander may rule over this body with that same satisfaction as was given to the people of this country at the conclusion of the battle from whose field these emblems were taken. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Speelman: Brother Amies, I wish to express to Captain Miller, through you, my deep sense of appreciation for this most courteous remembrance. I appreciate it, first because it comes from the historic battlefield of Gettysburg; I appreciate it also because it comes from one of the active, energetic, loyal brothers of the great Division of Pennsylvania; and I appreciate it because it comes from the place where I was chosen as the chief executive officer of this organization. I thank you. (Applause.)

W. H. Perry, of Ohio: Commander and Brothers: I am of the same opinion as Brother Amies; an umbrella is not quite the proper weapon for our Commander-in-Chief to use upon us at this time, and it is not the intention of his Ohio friends to allow him to do so. Shortly after Brother Speelman's election at Gettysburg last year, he issued commissions to a great many of our brothers, making them Special Aides. He was especially generous in this respect in his native State, the great State of Ohio. It may be that we have not accomplished what our appointments were intended for, but we have tried. And now, Commander, on behalf of your Special Aides of Ohio, I wish to present you with this gavel. The mallet part of this gavel is made from a piece of log taken from the foundation of the famous old "Two-horned Church" in Marietta, Ohio, your native town. The handle is a stick cut from the side of "Little Round Top," opposite the "Devil's Den" on the battlefield of Gettysburg, on the 21st day of September, 1905, the day you were elected Commander-in-Chief. It was turned and finished by the hands of one whom I know to be one of your dearest friends, Brother F. W. Combs, of Camp No. 509, of Marietta, Ohio. I ask you to accept this little token, Commander, and may it always keep you mindful of your administration as our Commander-in-Chief, which I will say without fear of contradiction was the most successful our organization has ever experienced. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief Speelman: Brother Perry, it is very evident that the chair is not going to be lacking in emblems of authority. I hope, however, that it will not be necessary to bring these gavels into extraordinary vigorous use, for there need be no fear of any noisy or recalcitrant members in this encampment, even from Pennsylvania or Ohio. This token of esteem from my own home boys is appreciated beyond expression, and I accept it in the same fraternal spirit which I feel sure prompted its presentation. Brother Perry, say to your Ohio associates that the recipient of this gift courts in the future a continuation of the ties of affection which have characterized our associations in all the years of the past. (Applause.)

National Inspector Edward K. De Puy: Brother Edward R. Campbell has asked me to extend his greetings to this convention. It was his intention to be present on this occasion, but at the last moment he found that it would be impossible, and he

has asked me to say that with these greetings you have his best wishes.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brother De Puy, All of us surely regret the absence of our beloved Past Commander-in-Chief Campbell, but we are glad indeed, even though he is absent, to receive this message of greeting.

The Commander-in-Chief: I hereby announce the Committee on Credentials, as follows: H. H. Hammer, National Secretary, Pennsylvania, Chairman; Thos. W. Blair, Indiana; Robt. L. Whitcomb, Maine; Chas. C. Lawrence, New Jersey; Frederick W. Miller, Missouri.

The Commander-in-Chief: I will ask Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Soule to assume command of the encampment while I read my report.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Arthur M. Soule: Brothers of the Encampment, you will give attention while the Commander-in-Chief reads his annual report.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S REPORT.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief, S. of V., U. S. A.
528 Walnut Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio, August 18th, 1906.

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

Greeting.

In keeping with a well established custom, and complying with the spirit of the Constitution and Laws of our Order, this report, reviewing the transactions of the administration that is now drawing to a close, is herewith submitted.

At historic Gettysburg, on the 21st day of September, 1905, by the suffrage and the unanimous vote of the members of the Commandery-in-Chief, there assembled, the present occupant was called to the important post of Chief Executive Officer of our Organization.

In attempting to give an account of the stewardship which this trust imposed, it is fitting and appropriate, first, that I should express my deep sense of appreciation for the honor conferred and the confidence reposed.

For the twenty-fifth time, this being our Silver Anniversary, we assemble in National Encampment as representative members of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., to report upon the work of the past, and to plan for the duties of the future. In this connection it is certainly pertinent to suggest that our Order is subject to congratulation for the proud position which it at present occupies. It is an undisputed fact that as an organization we are growing in prominence, prestige and power with each recurring year.

National Officers.

At the Twenty-fourth Annual Encampment held at Gettysburg, Pa., in September, 1905, the following National Officers were by election and appointment called to discharge the duties of the positions indicated:

Commander-in-Chief, Harley V. Speelman, Cincinnati, O.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Arthur M. Soule, Portland, Me.

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Geo. H. Stebbins, Newport, Ky.

Council-in-Chief, Ralph Sheldon, Albany, N. Y.; Thos. J. Hannon, Boston, Mass.; Jas. E. Seabert, Dwight, Ill.

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

National Treasurer, James Lewis Rake, Reading, Pa.

National Counselor, A. E. B. Stephens, Cincinnati, O.

National Chaplain, Rev. U. G. Leazenby, Terre Haute, Ind.

National Inspector, Edward K. De Puy Washington, D. C.

Chief of Staff, (previously elected) General R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia, Pa.

Headquarters.

Following the adjournment of the Gettysburg Encampment, the headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief were established in room 301, 528 Walnut Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, which place has been a bee-hive of activity from that time down to the present hour. The office has been open daily and "work" has been the watch-word. The correspondence of this department, voluminous in character, has been given prompt attention and has been executed with quick dispatch.

Orders.

The membership of the Order has been kept fully advised of all transactions through the medium of General Orders. During the present incumbency of the office eleven General Orders and twenty-two Special Orders have been issued.

These General Orders have been issued monthly, and there-in have been contained statements showing conditions from time to time, both from a financial standpoint and in relation to our membership numerically. As above indicated, our organization today rests upon a more substantial footing than ever before, as will be shown by the reports of the National Secretary and National Treasurer.

The various matters concerning the welfare of our organization have been promulgated through these General Orders. Among other things, opinions and decisions on different questions of Constitution and Law have been rendered, and a digest of the same will be included in this report.

Copies of all orders issued are hereto attached.

Officers.

Opportunity is hereby taken to give expression to a proper appreciation of the valuable assistance that has been given these headquarters by the several National Officers, all of whom have rendered excellent service and have discharged their several duties in a manner that reflects great credit upon their respective departments. In the rendition of their reports to this Encampment, these officers will show to the full satisfaction of all who may be interested, that they have proven themselves in every way worthy of the confidence that was reposed in them when they were selected.

Committees.

By authority of the Twenty-fourth Annual Encampment the following special committees have been appointed:

On Ritual.

James B. Adams, of New Jersey, Chairman.

Malcolm D. Rudd, of Connecticut.

Theodore C. Cazcau, of New York.

On Badge and Buttonhole Decoration.

C. Day Rudy, of Pennsylvania, Chairman.
Wm. L. Looney, of Maine.
E. E. Schoening, of Missouri.

On Memorial University.

Rev. W. J. Patton, of Wisconsin, Chairman.
Past Commander-in-Chief Wm. G. Dustin, of Illinois.
Senator Albert J. Beveridge, of Indiana.
Dr. H. J. Closson, of Pennsylvania.
Sherman Arter, of Ohio.

All of these committees have been at work during the year and they will submit in detail reports covering their labors.

For some time the ritual and badge questions have been subjects of much discussion among our membership throughout the various Divisions. It is believed that the reports of the Ritual and Badge Committees will show that their actions have been governed by rare good judgment, and that the result of their deliberations, if accepted by this Commandery, will be productive of good and lasting benefit to our Order.

Memorial University.

The report of the Committee on Memorial University will show conclusively that this splendid institution is in every way deserving of our continued energetic and substantial support. The school is rapidly forging to the front, and basing the belief on the rapid strides that it is making, the time is not far distant when Memorial University, dedicated to the patriotic services of the loyal men and women of war times, and for which our Order of Sons of Veterans stands sponsor, will rank with the leading institutions of learning of the country.

It is gratifying to announce that our highly esteemed brother, Rev. W. J. Patton is now the President of the Board of Regents and is in full charge of the university's executive and educational work. This of itself adds interest and gives impetus to the efforts that are being set forth by Divisions, Camps and individual members in behalf of the school. The Order has full faith in the ability and integrity of Brother Patton and every one who knows him realizes that whatever he may do will be done faithfully, honestly and well.

Sons of Veterans Reserves.

The military branch of our Order, the Sons of Veterans Reserves, is growing both in numbers and influence, as will be shown by the report of the Chief of Staff, General R. M. J. Reed. In a number of states the Reserves go into Camp annually, and by their soldierly bearing and gentlemanly observance of military discipline, reflect great credit not only upon themselves, but also upon the Order. As an illustration of this, reference is made to the Encampment of the Pennsylvania Division at York in 1906, where the Reserves assembled in camp more than a thousand strong. Their appearance in the parade was a revelation to all who witnessed that inspiring and imposing spectacle.

The formation of Reserve Companies as an adjunct to Camps should be strongly encouraged wherever practicable.

Memorial and Union Defenders' Days.

The report of the National Chaplain will give in detail the part taken by the members of our organization in the observance of Memorial and Union Defenders' Days. It is pleasing indeed to note that as the years go by Sons of Veterans are coming more and more to appreciate the duties that rest upon

them in the matter of the observance of the 30th of May and the 12th of February, particularly the former. To us this should be in fact, as well as in name, a memorial day, and we should look upon it as a holy day rather than a holiday. Reverence for the memories of the men who offered their lives as a sacrifice to save the Union, constitutes a most sacred duty.

Divisions.

Twenty-five Divisions, being the same number as a year ago, maintain existence. With few exceptions all of them seem to be in a flourishing condition. Their officers are men of ability and integrity, and are executing their important duties in a business-like and successful manner. During the year the relations existing between these headquarters and all Divisions have been of the most cordial character, and this opportunity is taken to return sincere thanks to Division Commanders, and those associated with them, for the many courtesies shown and evidences of good will expressed.

It is to be regretted that the membership of our Order, numerically speaking, is not stronger, particularly in the Western portion of the country. However, it is believed that through the instrumentality of the plans that are being worked out in several of the weaker Divisions, healthy and substantial increases will be shown.

Visitations.

During the year your Commander-in-Chief has visited the Divisions of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois and Ohio, and in each instance has been accorded a most loyal welcome and courteous greeting.

In addition to this he has attended a large number of Camp meetings and has been present at the muster of several new Camps, as well as at the installation of officers of many more.

He has participated in several public patriotic meetings and has delivered addresses on numerous occasions. Valuable experience has been gained through these visits and associations, and the pleasant memories that attach thereto go to make up impressions that will continue through life.

Discipline.

But one court-martial trial has been ordered during the present administration, being that of Vanderbilt Camp No. 5, Division of New York, against Henry J. Beck. Approval has been given to the finding and sentence of the court in this case—"Dishonorably discharged from the Order."

Other cases of courts-martial pending at the beginning of the present term have been disposed of as follows:

General George G. Meade Camp No. 16, Division of Pennsylvania, against David Reifsnnyder. The finding of the court in this case of "Guilty," with a recommendation for "dishonorable discharge" has been approved.

In the case of Jacob Ten Eyck Camp No. 154, Division of New York, against Ellsworth Foster. The finding of the court was "Guilty," with recommendation that the defendant be suspended from membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., and from all its rights and privileges for a period of five years, with loss of past honors. Finding and sentence approved.

General Garfield Camp No. 3 of the Ohio Division against D. M. McLane. Charge, "Conduct unbecoming a Son of Veteran." The evidence did not substantiate the charges and the case was dismissed.

No case of court-martial is now pending, which is evidence of the good discipline that prevails throughout our Order and is a subject for congratulation.

Aid for the Suffering.

The principle of charity was truly exemplified in the ready and liberal response that was made to the call for assistance for those who suffered through the terrible San Francisco disaster. Immediately following this catastrophe contributions were asked for through an appeal issued from Commandery-in-Chief headquarters. Division Commander Conart of California was appointed to receive all money subscribed and instructed to administer to those members of the Order who were so unfortunate as to become in need of help as a result of the earthquake. The report of the Committee having charge of receipts and disbursements for this fund, under date of July 25, 1906, shows that the total receipts amounted to \$620.72, and the payments to \$245.80, leaving a balance on hand of \$374.92. This latter amount has been turned over to J. Frank Leffler, the present Commander of the California Division, and who now is directing the administration of such aid as is still needed.

It is suggested that some action be taken by this Encampment toward the final disposition of any balance that may remain in this Relief Fund, at such time as may be mutually agreed upon by the incoming administration and Commander Leffler.

All members of the California Division who engaged in the relief work, performed every service given into their hands conscientiously and with strict fidelity.

I wish to thank them in the name of the Order for the efficient and unselfish manner in which their duties in this connection were discharged. It is also proper that thanks should be expressed to all members of our organization who contributed in this good cause.

Recognition of assistance rendered is fully set forth in the following communication received from Commander Conart:

Headquarters Division of California,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,
Los Angeles, Cal., June 25, 1906.

To Harley V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief, and to the Members of the 25th National Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.:

Brothers: On the morning of April 18th, the City of San Francisco was visited by one of the greatest calamities that ever befell a city in America, the extent of which no man can conceive unless he stood within the city itself.

Among that large population there lived a number of our brothers who also suffered by that calamity. An appeal was issued by our Commander-in-Chief, saying that the situation was serious and help was needed. The response to that appeal by our brothers, I am proud to say, was prompt and liberal, and for two weeks I did nothing but open letters containing postoffice orders and drafts, which, I assure you, came to hand at the proper time.

Matters have now settled to some extent and the calls for relief have not increased, but we were enabled to meet every call that has been made upon us and are in a condition to assist those who will still need assistance.

Never before in the history of our noble Order has fraternalism been exemplified in a more noble manner than you have done upon this occasion, and it shows that there is something more in the personal make-up of our Order than mere membership and the wearing of a badge.

This having been the first time, so let us pray God it will be the last time that we will be called upon to witness an experience and calamity of this kind.

And now, my brothers, in behalf of the Division of California, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., and those who have received assistance, I extend to you our heartfelt thanks, and may you all receive that reward that awaits us all for our good deeds upon earth.

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,
 (Signed) Geo. W. Conart,
 Division Commander."

Grand Army of the Republic.

Paramount in importance is the character of the duty that rests upon us as it relates to our parent organization, the Grand Army of the Republic. As set forth in the preamble of our Constitution, one of the cardinal principles of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., is "to help the members of the Grand Army of the Republic and all honorably discharged Union Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, to extend aid and protection to their widows and orphans and to honor the memories of their heroic dead."

We renew our allegiance to the G. A. R., and we felicitate ourselves because of our continued cordial relations with its officers and members. We also fully appreciate the good assistance that has been rendered us from year to year by our fathers. On many occasions during the present administration, expressions of good will and fraternal greetings have been extended to us by that grand old hero, Commander-in-Chief James Tanner. These have been proclaimed in his public addresses and have also been contained in his General Orders and his annual report submitted at Minneapolis a week ago.

Our standing with, and our duty toward the Grand Army is shown in the expressions of Commander-in-Chief Tanner as follows:

"Sympathizing fully as I do, with what I believe to be the dominant sentiment of the Grand Army of the Republic, to the effect that our Organization can have no official continuance after the demise of its membership, still I view with great satisfaction the fact that incontestably our successors in reality will be the Sons of Veterans. They will carry the lessons of our lives along to another generation. They will remember our graves on Memorial Day through the years, and along the generations of children yet to come, they will pass the patriotic instruction, which is and must be such a mighty factor for the welfare of the Republic.

All too soon will come the time when the paralyzing hand of age will enforce quiet and inaction on our part, while it will be "The Boys" who will go out to those silent cities where

'Mountain grasses, low and sweet,
 Grow in the middle of every street,'

and theirs will be the loving task of laureling the graves of our dead.

The organization of the "Sons of Veterans," as I know it, is an honor to all the land. Its membership is earnest, intelligent, and enthusiastic, its chosen representatives men of high character and patriotic purpose. They ask very little of us; simply our endorsement and encouragement. With all my heart, I give it to them, for you and for myself, and to you, I say, stand by the boys! Some of us lean on them now, and many of us must do so soon, heavily.

In any or all of your communications, which you may have occasion to address to the Order over which you preside, in your speeches to them; in short, in your communications to any men or body of men by word of mouth, by letter or by circular, I want you to feel perfectly free to use the strongest terms concerning the favor which these Headquarters officially and personally feel for the Sons of Veterans.

With all my heart, officially and personally, I say God speed them in their work."

The foregoing tribute should serve as an inspiration to us in carrying on the important work in which we are engaged. It should likewise prove an incentive for a redoubling of our efforts in the full discharge of our duties as American citizens and as members of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. As loyal sons of patriotic sires, let us touch elbows in the ranks, and as they rallied to the support of the Union when assailed by traitors' hands, let us respond to that inspiring sentiment, "We are coming, Father Abraham, three hundred thousand more."

Congratulations and good wishes are extended to the new Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army, General R. B. Brown of Ohio. We bespeak for him a most successful administration.

For the purpose of extending greetings to the Grand Army and affiliating patriotic organizations at their encampments held in the city of Minneapolis a few days ago, the following Committee was appointed:

Rev. W. J. Patton of Wisconsin, Chairman.
 Hon. Cyrus H. Little of New Hampshire.
 Past Commander-in-Chief, Wm. G. Dustin, of Illinois.
 Hon. Arthur L. Jones of Minnesota.
 A. L. Sorter, Jr., of Iowa.
 C. E. Cassler of Minnesota.
 W. J. Hilland of Minnesota.

The report of this Committee will be received at our sessions of this Encampment.

Long live the Grand Army of the Republic! And when its last member has answered the call of the Great Commander above, let us as Sons of Veterans take up the discharge of the sacred duties that have been entrusted to our care.

Questions of grave importance confront our nation, and it is incumbent on us as loyal American citizens to assist in their proper solution. As our fathers supported "Old Glory," when assailed by traitors' hands, let us hold and keep aloft the banner of loyalty to country and to home. Keep the campfires of true patriotism burning from every hill-top—this done, our institutions will remain secure, our Union will continue indivisible and incorruptible.

Monuments of marble and statues of bronze, erected in honor of the heroes of the great Civil War, will corrode and

crumble when worn by the elements, but the history of their services will grow brighter and brighter as the ages come and go, and the memory of their deeds will be forever enshrined in the hearts of a grateful people.

Woman's Relief Corps.

Of this organization, whose membership includes many thousands of the loyal patriotic women of the country, nothing but good can be said. The work accomplished by the Woman's Relief Corps speaks for itself. According to the official reports of last year, there were thirty-five organized departments and fifty-three detached corps, with a total membership of about one hundred and fifty thousand. During the year there was expended, under the direction of the Woman's Relief Corps, nearly \$200,000.

We are indebted to the National President of the W. R. C., Mrs. Abbie A. Adams, for the following encouraging message:

"I am deeply interested in the Sons of Veterans, and rejoice to see the Order growing. I sincerely hope it may become a vast army, ably continuing the grand work of the sires who preserved America to humanity and the world. May every blessing attend you as a leader of the sons of brave fathers. The Woman's Relief Corps wishes you every success and stands ready to help if needed."

May God bless our mothers in their noble work, is our most earnest prayer.

Sons of Veterans Auxillary.

Our officially recognized Auxillary continues in the performance of the good work that has characterized its actions from the time of its inception. Experience has proven, and facts show, that an auxillary is a valuable adjunct to any Camp. Through harmonious co-operation, the work, in which our organizations are both engaged, with the same objects and principles, is carried on most successfully. Our official relations with the National Headquarters of the Auxillary during the year have been both pleasant and cordial.

Greetings are hereby extended to our sisters, accompanied by the wish that their most sanguine expectations in the matter of increasing the membership of their organization, as well as enlarging its influence, may be more than realized.

Daughters of Veterans.

With objects and aims very similar to our own, the Daughters of Veterans are rendering valuable service in the inculcation of true patriotism. It is pleasing to note that they are growing in numbers and that their efforts are becoming better appreciated.

We wish them God Speed, and extend to them fraternal greetings.

Official Organ.

Under the existing contract, The Banner continues to be the official organ of our Order.

The terms of the agreement, executed and entered into at the Boston Encampment in 1904, stipulated a service of three years. One year of this service remains, and while it is not in order to attempt to modify the provisions of the contract at the present time, yet it is deemed advisable to take such action as will afford a full and satisfactory presentation of the subject a year hence.

By the present arrangement, the paper is paid for on the per capita tax plan, an assessment of twenty cents per year being placed against each member of the Order for this purpose. It is but natural that such a condition should lead to criticism, some of it of an adverse character, the complaint being that the principle involved in what is commonly termed "compulsory subscription," is wrong.

For its proper solution, it is suggested that the appointment of a committee be authorized now to make a thorough investigation of all phases of the official organ question, the report to be submitted at the Encampment of 1907.

It occurs to your Commander-in-Chief that this proposition is eminently fair to all parties concerned. This question is one of vital importance to our entire membership, and it therefore becomes our duty to legislate in such a way as will bring the greatest benefit to the largest number.

In this connection it is proper to say that every courtesy has been extended to the present administration by the publisher of The Banner. All orders and communications emanating from headquarters have been given space therein, this being the method that has been in vogue for a number of years, the old system of issuing orders in circular form having been abolished. The action herein suggested contemplates, on the part of the proposed committee, consultation with Brother Dustin, as well as with any others who may be interested, to the end that some plan, satisfactory to our entire membership, may be worked out in the matter of publishing and providing for an official organ.

Death Benefit Association.

Official recognition was given some years ago to the Death Benefit Association, and the confidence thereby placed has been justified through the success that has been achieved by this branch of the Order. The insurance provided by the D. B. A. affords protection to the family of the policy holder, and Camps that have adopted the same find that it is instrumental in a large degree in maintaining and increasing their membership.

Inspections.

Through the adoption of the new Constitution effective January 1, 1905, the inspection feature was revived. A full account of the results accomplished in this department will be contained in the report of the National Inspector. When properly carried out, inspections are very beneficial. They have a tendency to spur Camp Officers on to a better performance of their duties, and thereby zest and interest are added both to the exemplification of the ritualistic ceremonies, and the execution of the routine order of business.

Special Aides.

A large number of Special Aides have been designated in the various Divisions by the present Commander-in-Chief, and the good results that have come through their efforts fully justify their appointment. Several new Camps have been organized, and the membership of many others has been largely increased through the instrumentality of these Aides.

I wish to thank these brothers individually and collectively for their active, energetic and successful work.

Encampment Date.

Pursuant to the unanimous vote of the Council-in-Chief, to which the question was submitted, the Twenty-fifth National

Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief was called to meet in the city of Peoria, Ill., the week of August 20th, 1906. The selection of the place was decided upon by the Commandery-in-Chief itself at the Gettysburg meeting.

Permanent Headquarters.

At the Twenty-fourth Annual Encampment the National Secretary and National Treasurer were selected for a term of five years each, and provision was made for the establishment of permanent headquarters for these two officers. The wisdom of this action has been fully proven by the results thus far achieved. Locating the supply department in a fixed place and for a specified time, was a wise, business like move, and placing the detail work in the hands of the officers in charge of the same was likewise action that is certain to be rewarded by the desired results.

The manner in which Secretary Hammer and Treasurer Rake have discharged the duties of their respective positions has been eminently satisfactory and has met with universal approval. The relations between the headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief and those of the National Secretary and National Treasurer have been of the most cordial nature. These two departments have been in daily communication with each other and harmonious action has marked the execution of the business that has been transacted between them.

I wish to thank Secretary Hammer and Treasurer Rake for the invaluable assistance they have rendered me in my efforts.

Supplies.

Inasmuch as the purchase of supplies is a question that affects both the civic and military branches of the Order, it is deemed advisable that in the future all supply requisitions be made on the office of the National Secretary. In this way confusion would be avoided and uniformity would be the rule.

Proceedings.

By the printing of the proceedings of National Encampments in pamphlet form, a permanent record of all of our transactions is made. This method of promulgating the actions of the National Body and its Officers to the general membership, gives universal satisfaction, and the good that is accomplished fully justifies the expense thus incurred.

National Counselor.

Throughout the year I have been favored with the daily association and the invaluable advice of National Counselor Stephens. He has proven himself to be a strong right arm of support, and I wish to thank him both officially and personally for the excellent service he has rendered in behalf of my administration.

Membership.

An attempted discussion of this much mooted subject would be like unto "threshing over old straw." The question of membership, how to get it, and better still, how to keep it, is one that puzzles all administrations alike, and its full and satisfactory solution is very doubtful, even with the coming of the Millennium.

Preachments and long drawn out dissertations setting forth in glowing terms the virtues of this theory or that, may be possessed of sweet sound to the listening ear, but figures tell their own story.

There is no disagreement on the general proposition that the aggregate membership of our Order should be many times its present size, and all of us are more or less at a loss to understand why our growth is not more rapid. However, it is a gratifying fact that we are gradually growing. True, we are not making rapid strides, but nevertheless progress, rather than retrogression, is the condition as we now find it.

During the last year, as will be shown by the figures set forth in the report of the National Secretary, a nice increase has been made, the actual gain being 1,856.

The present membership of 30,601 is absolutely bona fide and most satisfactorily substantial in character. The reports are free from padding and no paper Camps are included.

During the year eighty-five new Camps, with a charter membership of 2383 were mustered. The Division of Indiana heads the list, with 16; Ohio is second, with 12; New York third, with 9; Pennsylvania fourth, with 7; Massachusetts fifth, with 6, while Kansas and Vermont tie for sixth place, each with five camps.

The total membership of the Order at the beginning of the present administration, as shown by the reports for the quarter ending September 30, 1905, was 28,745. As above indicated, the present membership as shown by the reports for the last quarter is 30,601, showing a net gain during this administration of 1,856 members.

As in the muster of New Camps, the Division of Indiana also leads in the matter of increase in membership, the net gain being 506. Ohio comes second, with 401; Massachusetts third, with 184; Illinois fourth, with 181; Vermont fifth, with 111; New Hampshire sixth, with 110; Iowa seventh, with 57; California eighth, with 52; Missouri ninth, with 50; Maine tenth, with 47.

Pennsylvania continues to be the banner Division of the Order, with a total membership of 9616. Massachusetts comes second, with 4487; New York third, with 3328; Ohio fourth, with 2324; Indiana fifth, with 1181; Illinois sixth, with 1180; New Jersey seventh, with 1074; Maine eighth, with 1055; New Hampshire ninth, with 953; Vermont tenth, with 737.

By a strict adherence to the fundamental principles upon which our organization rests, there can be no fear of its future success. Through a true exemplification of the tenets of Friendship, Charity and Loyalty, the destiny of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will be successfully worked out, and our right to existence as a great fraternal and patriotic society will be proven to the world.

Incorporation Suggested.

As far as can be learned, the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., is without corporate existence. For obvious reasons it is deemed wise that articles of incorporation be entered into and a charter secured for our National Body.

Finances.

A detailed account of the financial condition of our Order will be given in the reports of the National Secretary and National Treasurer showing receipts, disbursements and the balance on hand.

The practice of economy has been the policy of this administration. At the beginning of the present term there rested against the Commandery-in-Chief, obligations amounting to

about \$1200, with a comparatively empty treasury. All debts have been paid and the audit of our accounts now shows that we are free from financial obligation, with a sufficient amount in the treasury to pay all bills, including the expenses of this Encampment, and leaving a nice balance on hand.

Under existing conditions the continuation of the per capita tax at nine cents per quarter is thought to be necessary for another year. However, through the practice of economy and the execution of plans now contemplated, it is believed that a year hence a reduction in the tax can be made, a condition to be devoutly hoped for.

Recommendations.

Consonant with the suggestions embodied in this report, the following recommendations are respectfully submitted.

1. The adoption of a new or revised ritual.
2. The adoption of a badge of uniform design for all members of the Order, with privilege of the use of different materials in its manufacture for Past Commanders-in-Chief, Past Division Commanders, and the general membership. A full description of this regulation badge to be contained in the Constitution.
3. The adoption of three ribbons, the bodies to be white, red and blue, respectively, with the other colors in appropriate stripes at the edges, for the use of the Commandery and Division Officers and for the membership in general.
4. The appointment of a Committee of three to make investigation of the Official Organ question, and to report at the Encampment of 1907.
5. The continuation of the per capita tax for the coming year at nine cents per quarter, or thirty-six cents per year, per member.
6. The purchase of all supplies for the use of both the civic and military branches of the Order by requisition made upon the office of the National Secretary, the revenues from Reserve supplies to go direct to Reserve Department headquarters, as the revenues from Camp supplies go to Division headquarters.
7. The promulgation of all General Orders, both of the civic and military branches, by publication only in the Banner during the coming year.
8. So amend the Constitution as to add "Patriotic Instructor" to the list of appointive officers of Camps, Divisions, and the Commandery-in-Chief.
9. A more general observance of Memorial and Union Defenders' Days.
10. That there be printed in pamphlet form, under the direction of the retiring administration, fifteen hundred copies of the proceedings of this Twenty-fifth Encampment for distribution among the several Camps and Divisions of the Order.
11. Upon the adoption of a buttonhole decoration, abolish all other decorations in way of pins, bars, etc., that are worn for recognition purposes.
12. Instruct the National Secretary to secure a charter for the Commandery-in-Chief through incorporation in some state which he may determine upon.
13. Designate the formation for Camps in parades.
14. Make twenty instead of thirty the minimum number for recruits mustered in new Camps in cities of one hundred thousand population.

Digest of Decisions.

The following is a digest of decisions which have been rendered during the year. (All of these decisions were approved by action of the Encampment.)

1. A member holding a transfer card is not entitled to the pass-word, neither has he the right to visit a Camp while in session. He does not contribute to the support of the Order, not being required to pay dues. He is a member of the Order for the purposes of discipline only.

2. The descendant of a Union Soldier who enlisted and served under an assumed name is eligible to membership. The mere fact that the ancestor gave a name other than his own at the time of his enlistment does not militate against an applicant for membership in a Camp of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

3. Interpretation of the constitutional provision, Article IV, page 2, Eligibility to membership, "paternal or maternal line."

Paternal line—Sons, grandsons, great grandsons, etc., of Union Soldiers, Sailors or Marines.

Maternal line—Sons, grandsons, great grandsons, etc., of women whose paternal ancestors were Union Soldiers, Sailors or Marines.

4. The adopted son of a veteran is not eligible to membership. Eligibility rests entirely upon the service in the Union Army or Navy of the ancestor of the applicant.

5. The son of an honorably discharged Union Soldier is eligible to membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., the application resting upon the father's record, regardless of any service rendered by the applicant's grandfather.

6. Eighteen years is the minimum age for the muster of recruits. The Commander-in-Chief has no power to grant a dispensation modifying this constitutional requirement.

7. Any member of the Order in good standing, who meets the physical requirements, is eligible to membership in the military department, the Sons of Veterans Reserves.

8. The descendants of the organization commonly known as the "Squirrel Hunters" are eligible to membership, provided, that their ancestors were regularly mustered and served in the Union Army.

9. A dropped member has no connection whatever with the Order, and upon being remustered he is treated exactly the same as any other recruit. Upon being dropped, a member loses all past honors, and this same rule applies to a member retiring on honorable discharge. Past honors can be restored only by action of the Commandery-in-Chief.

10. A dropped member is not required, upon his re-muster into the Order, to pay any back fee to the Camp that dropped him.

11. A member in good standing of a disbanded Camp is entitled to receive a transfer card from the Division Commander. Failure on the part of the Division Commander to issue the card does not bar the member of any of his rights in the premises, and the card is due him regardless of any particular lapse of time. A transfer card continues in force as such for one year from the date of its issue. If not deposited with some Camp within a year, it becomes an honorable discharge.

12. The presence of the applicant is not required at the time he is accepted into membership by a Camp on transfer card. It is not incumbent upon him to take an obligation, and he is not subject to any muster ceremony.

13. A Camp is not confined to any particular jurisdiction or territory in the mustering of recruits. There is no restriction in the matter of an eligible offering his application for membership so far as location is concerned.

14. Six months delinquency is required for the suspension of a member for non-payment of dues. Until then he is entitled to all the rights and privileges of membership, including the holding of office, barring such exceptions as may be covered by the Camp by-laws on the question of sick or death benefits.

15. A transfer card, when deposited with a Camp within a year, carries with it all past honors that the holder may possess.

16. A dishonorably discharged member is not included as a "dropped member," in the general acceptance of the term. He can only become eligible to membership again by having the disability removed through action of the Commandery-in-Chief, upon personal petition.

17. The application of a member on transfer card is referred to an investigating committee and is balloted upon the same as the application of a new recruit.

18. Per capita tax is not assessable against a new member for the quarter in which he was mustered. This Constitutional provision applies to members of new Camps, also to new members of old Camps.

19. A fee of twenty-five cents shall be paid to the Commandery-in-Chief for each new member mustered in old Camps. This does not apply to charter members of new Camps, neither is such fee chargeable against a member received on transfer card.

20. The Division officers who are entitled to seats in the Division Encampment, within the meaning of Paragraph 1, Section 1, Article XVII, page 8, of the Constitution and Laws, are the Commander, Senior and Junior Vice Commanders, members of the Division Council, Secretary, Treasurer, Counselor, Chaplain and Inspector.

21. A Division or Camp Commander serving the concluding part of a term, no difference how small the fraction, is entitled to past honors upon his retirement from office.

22. The constitutional provision requiring an annual inspection of Camps and of Division headquarters is imperative.

23. Divisions are required to meet in encampment at least once during each calendar year.

24. The duty of going through the complete order of business, as contained in the ritual, is obligatory on the part of a Camp at all regular meetings. At a special meeting it is allowable to transact only such business as the call therefor specifies.

25. All elective officers are entitled to receive commissions and it is mandatory on the part of the proper authorities to attend to their issue.

Included in the list of commissioned officers are members of the Division and Camp Councils, also Division and Camp Secretaries and Treasurers where elected.

26. It is not in order to consider a proposition to disband a Camp so long as ten members thereof demand the continuation of its charter. The continued payment of dues and the fulfillment of the constitutional provisions in way of holding meetings, forwarding reports, etc., is sufficient evidence of the

desire of any ten members to continue the charter of a Camp in full force.

27. When the membership of a Camp is shown to be less than ten, the charter may be declared forfeited at the end of the quarter disclosing such fact.

Conclusion.

This report constitutes my final official message and concludes a term of active, earnest, honest effort in behalf of the Order whose objects and principles are deep-seated in my heart, and of the loyal brothers whom I have learned to love. Though strenuous and exacting, the work of the past eleven months has been laden with many pleasures. Friendships have been formed that are valued beyond expression, and the memory of the most cordial relations that have characterized my administration will be cherished throughout my life.

At all times I have endeavored to be mindful of the responsibilities of the position occupied and have tried to do my duty. Doubtless mistakes, both of commission and omission have been made. If so, they were errors of judgment rather than of purpose, and for all of which I invoke the application of the broad principle of charity.

The trust given into my hands at Gettysburg in September, 1905, is now returned. An open book is the record of the services rendered under this stewardship. The approbation of my brothers, of the work done, will be sufficient compensation for the efforts that have been set forth. Soon the scepter of power will pass from my hands, the mantle of authority will fall upon the shoulders of another. Fully appreciating the great honor that has been bestowed upon me, I now return to the ranks. In the future, as in the past, my endeavor at all times will be to advance the interests of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., and it will always be a matter of pride to me to point to the fact that my father was a Union Soldier.

Fraternally submitted in F. C. & L.,

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,

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

GENERAL ORDERS FROM COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

General Orders }
No. 10 }
Series 1905 }

Hdqs. Commandery-in-Chief, S. of V. U. S. A.
528 Walnut Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio, October 10, 1905.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., was held at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, September 18-21, 1905.

Officers.

The following officers were elected and installed: Commander-in-Chief, Harley V. Speelman, Cincinnati, Ohio; Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Arthur M. Soule, Portland, Maine; Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, George H. Stebbins, (Kentucky Division), address, Cincinnati, Ohio; Council-in-Chief; Ralph Sheldon, Albany, New York; Thomas J. Hannon, Boston, Massachusetts; James E. Seabert, Dwight, Illinois; National Secretary, Horace H. Hammer, Reading, Pennsylvania.

Headquarters.

National Headquarters have been established as follows: Commander-in-Chief, Harley V. Speelman, Room 301 Commercial Tribune Building, 528 Walnut Street, Cincinnati, Ohio; National Secretary, Horace H. Hammer, Reading, Pennsylvania; Chief-of-Staff, Gen. R. M. J. Reed, Commanding Sons of Veterans Reserves (Military Department), 2510 West Lehigh Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Staff Officers.

The following Staff Officers have been appointed: National Counselor, A. E. B. Stephens, Cincinnati, Ohio; Chaplain-in-Chief, Russell K. Bebgood, Lafayette, Indiana; National Treasurer, James Lewis Rake, Reading, Pennsylvania; National Inspector, Edward K. DePuy, Washington, D. C.; Personal Aid Sons of Veterans, Frank Martin, Indianapolis, Ind.; Personal Aid S. of V. Auxiliary, Miss Mame E. Herbst, Canton, O.

Meeting Place.

Peoria, Illinois, was decided upon as the place for holding the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment, in 1906.

Committees.

Committees on Memorial University, Ritual, and Buttonhole Badge were authorized, and the following have been appointed:

Memorial University Committee.

William G. Dustin, Dwight, Illinois, Chairman; Senator Albert J. Beveridge, Indianapolis, Indiana; Rev. W. J. Patton, La Crosse, Wisconsin; Dr. H. J. Closson, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Sherman Arter, Cleveland, Ohio.

Ritual Committee.

James B. Adams, Atlantic City, New Jersey, Chairman; Theodore C. Cazeau, Rochester, New York; Malcolm D. Rudd, Lakeville, Connecticut.

Badge Committee.

C. Day Rudy, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Chairman; E. E. Schoening, St. Louis, Missouri; William H. Looney, Portland, Maine.

Constitutional Amendments.

The following are the recommendations of the Committee on Constitution and Laws, and were adopted by the Encampment.

1. Amend Sec. 6, Art. 13, page 6, by striking out the word "treasurer" in the third line and inserting in place thereof the word "secretary."

2. Amend Sec. 7, Art. 13, page 6, by striking out all after the word "officers" in the third line thereof, so that said section shall read:

"Sec. 7. On assuming office the Commander-in-Chief shall appoint all other Commandery-in-Chief officers."

3. Amend Sec. 7, Art. 18, page 9, by changing the number to Sec. 6, and so that said section shall read as follows:

"Sec. 6. The National Secretary shall receive an annual salary of \$2000. The National Treasurer shall receive an annual salary of \$300."

4. Amend the first Sec. of Art. 14, page 6, by prefixing thereto the words: "Sec. 1."

5. Amend Art. 14, page 7, by adding thereto the following section as section 2:

"Sec. 2. The National Secretary shall hereafter perform all of the duties heretofore performed by the National Secretary and National Treasurer, except the duties hereinafter specified for the National Treasurer, and he shall promptly pay over to the National Treasurer all moneys received by him. The National Treasurer shall receive, hold and account for all such moneys paid to him, and pay out the same upon the order of the National Secretary, countersigned by the Commander-in-Chief."

6. Amend Sec. 10, Art. 13, page 6, so as to read as follows:

Sec. 10. The term of office of the National Secretary, the National Treasurer and the Chief of Staff each shall be five years. The term of office of all other elective or appointive officers shall be one year, except where otherwise provided."

7. Amend Sec. 2, Art. 21, page 11, so as to read:

"Sec. 2. Division Commanders may suspend Camps or any officer or member thereof, for failure to perform any duties required by the Constitution and Laws."

8. Amend Sec. 3, Art. 21, page 11, so as to read:

"Sec. 3. The Commander-in-Chief may suspend Divisions, or any officer or member thereof, for failure to perform any duties required by the Constitution and Laws."

9. Amend Art. 18, page 9, by striking out the present section six thereof, pertaining to the one per cent for per capita tax for the Sons of Veterans Reserves.

10. Amend the obligation of a member of the Sons of Veterans Reserves, on page 19, striking out the word "three" in the first line of the last paragraph thereof, and inserting in its place the word "two," so that said obligation shall read "two years" instead of "three years."

Amend Art. 25, page 12, by striking out Par. 2 thereof, and substituting the following:

"Par. 2. That any Camp having an independent Company or Guard not attached to the Reserves, or that may hereafter be organized, shall be permitted to maintain such independent Company or Guard, provided said Company or Guard shall not parade as a Military Company or Guard, except on Memorial Day, or at the funeral of a comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic, a soldier or sailor of the Civil War, or a member of the Order.

Resignation of National Treasurer.

National Treasurer Fred E. Bolton tendered his resignation, which was accepted, and the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, the National Treasurer has tendered to this Encampment his resignation, which has been accepted, and

Whereas, The duties of the office of National Treasurer have been largely transferred, by the action of this Encampment, to the office of National Secretary,

Therefore, he it resolved, That the retiring Treasurer be requested to discharge the duties of his former office until November 1, 1905, for the purpose of closing up the business of his former office and transferring to his successor the property in his charge, and that he be remunerated therefore at the rate of his former salary for such period.

Inspection.

Article 22, page 11, of the Constitution and Laws directs that

"there shall be an annual inspection of Camps and Division headquarters during the last quarter of each year." In order that there may be a general and thorough inspection, Division Commanders and Division Inspectors are urged to communicate, at once, with Inspector General Edward K. DePuy, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., for necessary instructions.

Duties of National Secretary.

The duties of the National Secretary and National Treasurer having in large measure been consolidated, the same will be performed by H. H. Hammer, Reading, Pennsylvania, who was elected to the position of National Secretary.

ALL remittances for per capita tax and supplies must be made by DRAFT or MONEY ORDER payable to H. H. Hammer, Reading, Pennsylvania.

The per capita tax remains unchanged and remittances will be made accordingly to the National Secretary, with reports, as promptly as possible.

Charter Applications.

Since last announcement (in the Banner of September issue) the following applications for charters for Camps have been approved:

Date.	No.	Location.	Div.	No. Appl'ts.
Sept. 12		St. Johnsbury,	Vermont	19
Sept. 13	6	Kingston,	Ala. and Tenn.	45
Sept. 13	5	St. Louis,	Mo.	26
Sept. 21		Portsmouth,	Ohio	16

Camps Mustered.

Date.	No.	Location	Div.	No. Must'd.
Sept. 13	6	Kingston,	Ala. and Tenn.	17
Sept. 13	5	St. Louis,	Mo.	26

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 by the proper remittance.

Pass Word and Countersign.

The Pass Word and Countersign for the first period of 1906 will be issued to the Division forwarding reports and per capita tax for the Quarter ending September 30, 1905. The per capita tax without reports, or reports without tax, will not suffice. Reports and tax must be forwarded. Only Camps in good standing and rendering proper reports and tax will be supplied with the new Pass Word and Countersign.

Memorial University.

Definite action was taken relative to the support of Memorial University, located at Mason City, Iowa. All members of the Order are invited and urged to join in the good work. At the Gettysburg Encampment the following resolutions were unanimously and enthusiastically adopted:

Whereas, Memorial University, founded by the action of the Sons of Veterans U. S. A., at their Nineteenth Encampment at Syracuse, in 1900, and dedicated to the patriotic men and women of the Civil War, has made such progress that there is no longer any question as to its ultimate success, and

Whereas, The idea of this form of Memorial is rapidly increasing in popularity, as shown by its recognition by citizens in general, and by the patriotic organizations of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Woman's Relief Corps, the Ladies of the G. A. R. and the Sons of Veterans Auxillary, and

Whereas, This Memorial, like the services of our fathers to the Government, should be supported by a hearty freewill offering and not a tax levied upon the membership.

Therefore, Be it resolved, That we, the Sons of Veterans, assembled here at Gettysburg in our 24th National Encampment, at a spot hallowed by the heroism and sacrifice of our fathers, take definite action towards the support of this great memorial in their honor, and in keeping with the suggestions of the Commander-in-Chief, we recommend that each Camp appoint a financial committee the ensuing year, to secure from the patriotic friends of their community a sum equivalent to one dollar for each member in the Camp, thus giving by our personal efforts our financial, as well as our moral support, to Memorial University, and that the matter be made the subject of a general order from the Commander-in-Chief; and be it further

Resolved, That we express our appreciation for the moral and financial support extended by the patriotic orders, to this noble enterprise.

Whereas, Many patriotic citizens not members of the Orders, and many individual members of the G. A. R., are becoming interested in Memorial University, to the extent of contributing generously to its support.

Now, then, be it resolved, That we recommend to the Board of Regents of the University that they recognize these individuals and show appreciation of their interest by appointing a citizens' advisory committee of not to exceed five members from each state.

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 Auxillary, the Daughters of Veterans, and to all other kindred patriotic societies, we extend fraternal greetings. We desire the good will, the 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 beneficent 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, 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 the proper observance of Memorial Day and Union Defenders' Day.

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

Acknowledgement.

To be unanimously chosen as the executive head of the great patriotic Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., is a distinction which I highly esteem. I am deeply grateful for the honor conferred, and appreciate in full measure the responsibilities which the position imposes. My earnest endeavor will be to discharge the duties of the office in such a way as to meet the approval of my Brothers, and to this end I need the help of every member of the Order. Let us all join hands in this glorious work, and gratifying results are sure to follow.

Faternally yours in F. C. & L.,

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,

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

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

H'dq'rs Commandery-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.
528 Walnut Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio, Nov. 10, 1905.

General Orders }
No. 11, }
Series of 1905. }

(To be read in Camp and filed.)

Especial attention is directed to the splendid letter of the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army, appearing in this issue of The Banner. Corporal Tanner sends a message of good cheer to our Order. Let us profit by it.

Time for Recruiting.

This is the season of the year for recruiting, the time when Camps should make a special effort to increase their membership, and when Division Commanders should work hard for the muster of new Camps. In a number of Divisions, organizers are in the field. This is a good plan, as efforts properly exerted are always rewarded with satisfactory results. The field is large, the opportunities unlimited, and the harvest should be great.

Public Installations.

Public installations are recommended, and a general dispensation is hereby granted for conducting them. Joint installation, whenever agreeable and practicable, with the G. A. R., W. R. C., the S. V. Auxiliary, and other kindred societies, is likewise encouraged. Let us keep in friendly touch with all other organizations that preach patriotism—it will do us good. When open installation services are conducted, and whenever public meetings of any character are held, those who are eligible to membership should be invited to attend—this is a very effective way for a Camp to increase its rolls.

Camp Elections.

Great care should be taken and good judgment exercised by Camps in the selection of their officers. The degree of your success largely depends upon those whom you choose for positions of honor and responsibility. Elect your best man.

Camp Inspection.

Every Camp in the Order is to be inspected during November and December. This is to be an inspection in fact as well as in name. Division Inspectors and their assistants are urged to see that Camps comply fully with all the requirements set forth in the blanks that have been prepared for their use. Do the work thoroughly—take nothing for granted. A rigid inspection is a good thing for any organization or business—it creates a keener interest, and promotes better order and discipline.

Special Aids.

It is the purpose of your Commander-in-Chief to appoint an active Corps of Special Aids in each Division. These men are not being named from complimentary reasons or for ornamental purposes—they are chosen for work, and are expected to cooperate with their respective Division Commanders. A new Camp from each one of these Special Aids would be considered by your Commander as a most appropriate Christmas present.

The following Special Aids, on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, have been appointed:

Vermont Division: J. E. Hodges, Ripton, Vermont; Leo. C. Moody, Stowe, Vermont; T. D. Poland, Williamstown, Vermont; Carroll Tayler, Hardwick, Vermont; E. M. Berry, Danby, Vermont; E. H. Edgerton, Rochester, Ver.; A. L. Conley, St. Johnsbury, Vermont; H. L. Colegrove, Underhill, Vermont; F. G. Ferguson, Bennington, Vermont; A. S. Lane, Wells River, Vermont; Alonzo Bellows, Cambridge, Vermont; Geo. W. Smith, Huntington, Vermont; J. S. Kimball, Bethel, Vermont; J. E. Jackman, Montpelier, Vermont.

California Division: Oscar Judell, Oakland, California; A. S. Ormsby, Oakland, California; J. A. Medlar, Los Angeles, California; F. W. Hidell, Los Angeles, Cal.; Robt. J. Butler, San Jose, Cal.; A. G. Bennett, San Jose, Cal.; B. W. Hahn, Pasadena, Cal.; J. A. Goodrich, Pasadena, Cal.; E. B. Cushman, Long Beach, Cal.; R. A. Eno, Long Beach, Cal.; Otto L. Suess, San Francisco, Cal.; W. E. Lawrence, San Francisco, Cal.; D. S. Cahn, San Francisco, Cal.; Fred W. Wolfrom, San Francisco, Cal.; William Fitch, Los Gatos, Cal.; G. S. Walker, Los Gatos, Cal.; C. A. Wolcott, Riverside, Cal.; Frank Miller, Riverside, Cal.; A. H. Carman, Redlands, Cal.; E. C. Bartlett, Redlands, Cal.; B. T. Van De Car, Myrtle Point, Oregon; W. W. Williams, Myrtle Point, Oregon; C. Arthur Hill, Sawtelle, Cal.; Fred. T. R. Axtell, Sawtelle, Cal.; Frank M. Brunner, Santa Anna, Cal.; Geo. P. Wilson, Santa Anna, Cal.

Alabama and Tennessee Division: Hon. N. W. Hale, Knoxville, Tenn.; Luther Parker, Knoxville, Tenn.; L. A. Judkins, Knoxville, Tenn.; M. C. Monday, Knoxville, Tenn.; John J. Graham, Knoxville, Tenn.; Harry Reep, Johnson City, Tenn.

Colorado Division: Alvin W. Steinmetz, Denver, Colo.; A. W. Stillians, M. D., Durango, Colo.; J. E. Beckley, Delta, Colo.; M. R. Ebersol, Paonia, Colo.; E. Marker, Rifle, Colo.; G. W. Curfman, Denver, Colo.; J. C. Copeland, Durango, Colo.

Indiana Division: R. J. Bosworth, Winchester, Ind.; W. C. Glendenning, Geneva, Ind.; Geo. R. Harper, Gosheu, Ind.; F. E. Watson, Goldsmith, Ind.; L. A. Handley, Richmond, Ind.; Hayes Miles, Bowling Green, Ind.; John Ranger, Mathews, Ind.; J. W. D. Aspey, Hope, Ind.; John Ranger, Mathews, Ind.; U. G. Leazenby, Terre Haute, Ind.; Oral Jones, Shelbyville, Ind.; A. J.

Luedke, Connersville, Ind.; McClure Tate, Noblesville, Ind.; Geo. F. Ogden, Laketon, Ind.; E. E. Freidllue, Jonesboro, Ind.; W. L. Flock, Annapolis, Ind.; R. H. Campbell, Bloomington, Ind.; E. H. Bookwalter, Fort Wayne, Ind.; W. K. Bradley, Ellwood, Ind.; N. J. McGuire, Indianapolis, Ind.; Frank Boyd, Rockville, Ind.; Christ Meyer, Alexandria, Ind.; J. C. Garrigus, Tanjier, Ind.; E. C. Pfaff, Rome City, Ind.; J. M. Kohlmeier, Elberfeld, Ind.; F. T. Fetterer, Valparaiso, Ind.

Kentucky Division: Jesse M. Vollmer, Louisville, Ky.; B. F. McClelland, Louisville, Ky.; O. F. Watts, Louisville, Ky.; Dr. J. C. Stone, Providence, Ky.; F. B. Craig, Providence, Ky.; B. S. Chamberlain, No. Creek, Ky.; W. R. Carson, Beda, Ky.; Thos. Johnson, Paris, Ky.; B. F. Martin, Paris, Ky.; Chas. Mason, Paris, Ky.; John Foster, Paris, Ky.; James Corbin, Paris, Ky.; I. C. W. Holloway, Henderson, Ky.; G. W. Hatchett, Henderson, Ky.; J. A. Carr, Henderson, Ky.; C. F. Hanson, Berea, Ky.; B. H. Gabbard, Berea, Ky.; Louis Lester, Berea, Ky.; Tifin Kennedy, Newport, Ky.; John Stebbins, Newport, Ky.; W. Mart Miller, Newport, Ky.; Alex. Hamilton, Newport, Ky.; Wm. Kennedy, Newport, Ky.

Maine Division: Orrin Ricker, Augusta, Maine; Clarence B. Ellis, Weeks Mills, Maine; C. P. Hatch, Kittery, (Address Portsmouth, N. H., 60 Webber St.); Frank A. Webb, Bridgton, Maine; J. C. Jordan, Oakland, Maine; Chas. Chikey, Winn, Maine; James G. Welch, Strong, Maine.

Nebraska Division: A. H. Rawitzer, Omaha, Neb.; F. J. Coates, Grand Island, Neb.; Geo. F. Waltz, Fremont, Neb.; R. G. Douglas, Osceola, Neb.; W. H. Davis, Wilber, Neb.; Leonard A. Smith, Indianola, Neb.; Geo. W. Henie, Hooper, Neb.; E. H. Jenkins, Columbus, Neb.; Geo. C. Townsley, Howard, Neb.

New York Division: E. L. Hammond, Rochester, N. Y.; S. A. Burnham, Newark, N. Y.; F. P. Connell, Fulton, N. Y.; Arthur G. Mariou, Ithica, N. Y.; Chas. Hagan, Lansingberg, N. Y.; Volney A. Pettinger, Rochester, N. Y.; M. K. Doty, Lockport, N. Y.; F. B. Coleson, Horseheads, N. Y.; Chas. W. Wilcox, Peekskill, N. Y.; Curtice Morgan, Waverly, N. Y.; C. H. Floyd, New York, N. Y.; Adam Listman, Syracuse, N. Y.; Wm. L. Gaynor, Troy, N. Y.

Ohio: F. W. Combs, Marietta, Ohio; W. E. White, Signal, Ohio; R. L. Atchison, Mogadore, Ohio; A. M. Struble, Cincinnati, Ohio; T. L. Aughinbaugh, New Philadelphia, Ohio; George B. Clarkson, Zanesville, Ohio; J. E. Schanck, Tadmor, Ohio; H. R. Thompson, East Liverpool, Ohio; H. W. McGlathery, Cincinnati, Ohio; J. C. Blackburn, Cleveland, Ohio; C. D. Maxim, St. Bernard, Ohio; William Thompson, Scioto, Ohio.

Court Martial Finding.

In the court martial case of David Reifsnnyder, late a member of General George G. Meade Camp No. 16, Division of Pennsylvania, the finding of the court was "guilty, with a recommendation for dishonorable discharge." The finding has been approved, and the Commander of the Pennsylvania Division has been directed to have the sentence of dishonorable discharge carried into full force and effect.

Charter Fees.

When sent to Commandery-in-Chief headquarters for approval, all charter applications should be accompanied by the fee of five dollars (\$5.00).

Death Benefit Association.

Membership in the Death Benefit Association is strongly recommended to all Camps. The association now has a membership of more than eight thousand. It is twelve years old, and in that time has paid in benefits more than eighty thousand dollars. The maximum cost of any one year was \$2.10, per member, and this amount was reached but once. The average cost has been \$1.60. This for a \$250.00 policy makes it the cheapest good insurance known. The expense of conducting the business of the association is small—ten cents per member per annum. There are no outstanding claims, and the reserve fund is sufficiently large to meet all obligations. For further particulars, write to the Secretary of the Association, William R. McGirr, 1427 North 24th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

The Reserves.

Too much cannot be said in favor of our military department, the Sons of Veterans Reserves. Practical experience has proven that wherever a Reserve Company has been organized the Camp has thereby been greatly strengthened. Several new Regiments and Companies are now in way of formation, with many more to follow. It is hoped that wherever practicable Camps will carefully consider this feature of our organization and profit by the example of those who have already taken advantage of it. Full particulars may be had by addressing Chief of-Staff, Gen. R. M. J. Reed, in command of the Reserves, 2510 West Lehigh Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

New Camps.

Since last announcement applications have been approved and camps mustered as follows:

Date.	Ap.	Camp No.	Location.	No.	App.	Date	Muster.
Sept. 9	66		Cuyahoga Falls, O.	18		Sept. 9	
Oct. 28	..		Brookston, Ind.	22			
Oct. 31	25		Rome, Wis.	15		Oct. 28	
Nov. 2	7		Jefferson City, Mo.	28		Oct. 12	
Nov. 2	..		Randolph, Mass.	22			
Nov. 4	..		Uhrichsville, O.	31			

Court Martial Finding and Sentence.

In the courtmartial case of Ellsworth Foster, a member of Jacob H. Ten Eyck Camp No. 154, Division of New York, the finding of the court was guilty as charged in both the first and second specifications, with a recommendation that the defendant be suspended from membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans U. S. A., and from all rights and privileges of the Order for a period of five years, and the loss of past honors. This recommendation of the court is hereby approved and the Commander of the Division of New York has been directed to carry said sentence into full force and effect.

Memorial University Contributions.

Pursuant to the action of the Gettysburg Encampment, contributions are being made for the support of the Memorial University located at Mason City, Iowa. Camps are urged to see that the spirit of the resolutions is carried out, to the end that a sum equivalent to one dollar (\$1.00), for each member of the Order, is contributed during the year for the support of this in-

stitution. Early action in this matter is requested, as the University is in need of immediate funds,

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,

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

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

Headq'rs Commandery-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.

528 Walnut Street,

Cincinnati, Ohio, Dec. 12, 1905.

General Orders }

No. 12. }

Series of 1905. }

1. Several letters of inquiry have been received from Grand Army Posts in response to the appeal of Commander-in-Chief Tanner, published in the November Banner, and we feel greatly encouraged because of this active interest which is being manifested by our fathers in behalf of our Order. It is very apparent that good seed has been sown in fertile soil, and an abundant harvest is predicted.

Further evidence of the fact that Commander-in-Chief Tanner has the welfare of the Sons of Veterans at heart is shown in the following letter, subsequently received from him:

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic, Fendall Building,
Washington, D. C., November 9th, 1905.

Commander-in-Chief H. V. Speelman, Cincinnati, Ohio. My Dear Commander: In any or all of your communications, which you may have occasion to address to the Order over which you preside, in your speeches to them, in short in your communications to any men or body of men by word of mouth, by letter or by circular, I want you to feel perfectly free to use the strongest terms concerning the favor which these Headquarters officially and personally feel for the Sons of Veterans.

Sympathizing fully, as I do, with what I believe to be the dominant sentiment of the Grand Army of the Republic, to the effect that our organization can have no official continuance after the demise of its membership, still I view with great satisfaction the fact that incontestably our successors in reality will be the Sons of Veterans. They will carry the lessons of our lives along to another generation. They will remember our graves on Memorial Day through the years, and along the generations of children yet to come, they will pass the patriotic instruction, which is and must be such a mighty factor for the welfare of the Republic.

With all my heart, officially and personally, I say God speed them in their work.

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

JAMES TANNER,

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

National Chaplains.

Because his business required all of his time and attention, Brother Russell K. Bedgood has tendered his resignation as National Chaplain, and the same has been accepted. Rev. U. G. Leazenby, of Terre Haute, Indiana, has been appointed as National Chaplain, and has entered upon the discharge of the duties of the office.

Activity in Divisions.

II. Generally speaking, activity prevails throughout the Order. A number of Division Commanders are sending out circulars calling for the muster of new Camps and the strengthening of old ones, and others are preparing to do so. This work of publicity should be pushed with vigor, and every point of vantage should be followed up until the effort is crowned with success. In every city, town and community there reside a sufficient number of eligibles for the formation of a Sons of Veterans Camp. All that is necessary is for the right person to take hold of the work and the Camp will be formed. Those eligible to membership in our Order owe it to their fathers and to their country to affiliate themselves therewith. Our heritage is priceless and unpurchasable. Let us guard it sacredly and appreciate it at its full worth.

New Camp Officers.

III. Camps are now in the midst of annual elections, and their officers will soon be called upon to assume command. Greetings and good wishes are extended to outgoing and incoming officials. Those who have served faithfully deserve the thanks of all as they retire, and those who are entering upon the discharge of responsible duties are entitled to the undivided support of their respective Camps. Brothers, your officers need your help. See that they get it.

Furnish the News.

IV. Division and Camp correspondents are urged to be diligent in the matter of sending to The Banner all news that is of interest, and get it into your local newspapers as well. The right kind of publicity gives prestige to any organization. Keep the public advised of what you are doing, and keep doing something that is worthy of publication. Many members of our organization are able writers, and articles on "Good of the Order" are always welcomed by our membership-at-large. Camp news, too, is interesting. It all helps.

Union Defenders' Day.

V. Union Defenders' Day should be universally observed. February 12th, the anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, is, and of right ought to be, a day held in sacred reverence by every true patriot. Public exercises, given under Sons of Veterans auspices, are suggested. Nothing is more interesting or impressive than a Union Defenders' Day program appropriately arranged and properly executed.

Requisitions.

VI. The practice of ordering supplies by letter instead of the regulation form, viz: Requisition Form 1½, should cease and if it is persisted in the National Secretary will be instructed not to honor such orders. The regulation form is only prescribed for a purpose and that purpose can only be accomplished by complying with the Constitution and Laws and the provisions relating to same. It is hoped that this reminder is all that may be required on this subject and that hereafter supplies will be ordered on proper requisition form, accompanied by the remittance in proper amount, made payable to H. H. Hammer, National Secretary, Reading, Pa.

Stationery.

VII. Uniformity in the matter of the color of stationery is urged and requested on the part of Divisions and Camps. The Division should observe the Red and Camps the Blue. All are requested to comply with this feature in the future.

Pass Word and Countersign.

VIII. Divisions forwarding per capita tax and reports for quarter ending September 30th, have been supplied with the new pass word and countersign. Only those Camps in good standing (as well as Divisions) will be furnished with the same. Division Commanders are urged to immediately forward tax and reports due.

Remittances.

It is requested that requisitions for supplies be accompanied by the remittance, money order or draft, payable to H. H. Hammer, Reading, Pa., and that the practice of sending postage for supplies in payment thereof be discontinued.

Charter Applications.

Applications for the charters of Camps have been received since last announcement and approved, as follows:

Date.	Location.	Applicants.
November 9.	Seattle, Washington	43
November 25	Vancouver, Washington	15
November 30.	Bluffton, Indiana	33
December 4.	Blue Hill, Kansas	20
December 4.	Petersburg, Indiana	22

Charter Issued.

A charter has been issued to Lieutenant William Palmer Camp, No. 84, Randolph, Massachusetts, mustered with 22 recruits.

Camps Mustered.

Date.	No.	Location.	Recruits.
Nov 1	101	Blue Hill, Kan.	21

Special Aids.

The following Special Aids on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, have been appointed:

Alabama and Tennessee Division: P. C. Schaufler, Cullman, Ala.; George Bauer, Cullman, Ala.; H. F. Williamsou, Anniston, Ala.; John A. Patten, Chattanooga, Tenn.; S. J. Routledge, Blossburg, Ala.; J. W. R. Plummer, Key West, Florida; Orville H. Hall, Atlanta, Georgia; W. P. Harding, Atlanta, Georgia; B. C. Mosher, Fitzgerald, Georgia; S. Clay Brown, Fitzgerald, Georgia; John C. Hester, Kingston, Tenn.; J. G. Grumbliss, Kingston, Tenn.; J. H. Pritchard, St. Augustine, Fla.; Ollie W. Stapleton, St. Augustine, Fla.

Illinois Division: Charles Ost, Fosterburg; Bert L. Cooper, Kankakee; J. Kuppler, Belvidere; D. G. Robertson, Chicago; Schuyler Lunt, Polo; H. B. Williams, Greenview; F. N. Perry, Naperville; Dr. H. R. Lemen, Alton; Edgar R. Henderson, Cairo; W. T. Raleigh, Freeport; G. M. Saylor, Glasford.

Iowa Division: L. A. Walcott, Belmont; Willis Hays, Grinnell; Gordon L. Stephens, Charles City.

Kansas Division: C. B. Martin, Parsons; R. L. Rickard, Val-

ley Center; J. L. Papes, Wichita; E. H. Madison, Dodge City; Guy Selleck, Emporia; W. H. Russell, LaCrosse.

Maryland Division: John M. Patterson, 324 E. Second St., Wilmington, Del.; James D. Rowen, 141 12th St., N. E. Washington, D. C.; Edwin C. Irelan, 518 N. Arlington Av., Baltimore, Maryland; George W. Carrick, 856 W. Baltimore St., Baltimore, Maryland; George S. Whitmore, 614 13th St., N. W. Washington, D. C.; Daniel E. Burras, E. Fifth St., Frederick, Maryland; Frank A. White, Easton, Maryland.

Massachusetts Division: Frank H. White, 340 Warren St., Roxbury; Raymond H. Smith, Holyoke; James T. Cummings, Northfield; Hiram McLaughlin, Watertown; A. A. Upton, Orange; Edgar C. Baker, Somerville; John E. Wilcox, Chelsea; Ezra C. Smith, Worcester; Jacob W. Powell, Cinton.

Michigan Division: Hon. P. Gilbert, Traverse City; C. L. Suiter, Hadley; J. O. Durgee, Hopkins Station; J. D. Crawford, Lowell.

Minnesota Division: W. J. Courteney, Page, N. D.; E. H. Milham, St. Paul, Minn.; C. E. Casler, St. Paul; Jas. P. Porter, St. Paul; J. C. Wesenberg, Duluth; W. J. Kunze, Waconia; Geo. C. Cliver, Minneapolis; C. E. Browne, Minneapolis; Chas. E. Scofield, Ortonville; J. D. Sally, Bricelyn; A. E. Veon, Brainerd; C. S. Sultzer, Red Wing; Wm. Catlin, Minnesota Lake; A. O. Allen, Wells; C. B. Ruffcorn, Linwood; I. C. Patterson, Princeton.

New Hampshire Division: Samuel B. Smith, Exeter; Chas. E. Rice, Pittsfield; A. H. Winn, Somersworth; J. H. Fifield, Nashua; F. T. Vaughan, Keene; W. C. Brown, Troy; Ernest B. Folsom, Dover; J. R. Gilchrist, Littleton; Chas. H. Kimball, Wolfboro; Jesse R. Payne, Suncook; F. L. Trask, Portsmouth; F. A. Holt, Lyndeboro.

New Jersey Division: Robt. C. Woerner, 162 First St., Hoboken; R. W. Pascard, 1004½ E. Grand St., Elizabeth; Geo. C. Howard, Belvidere; Chas. C. Lawrence, 171 Locust St., Trenton; Wm. T. Severus, 225 Bayard St., Trenton; Andrew Foulks, Jr., 25 Broad St., New York; Clarence Stockbridge, 178 Seventeenth Av., Paterson; Harry Jones, Pleasantville; G. E. Garrabraut, 33 Pacific St., Newark; Harry E. Pennell, 1206 Atlantic Av., Atlantic City; Thos. E. Jones, Postoffice, Montclair; Wm. F. Widmaire, Toms River; Geo. W. Clark, P. O. box 191, Medford; John Graham, Jr., Gloucester; Harry Wintermute, 153 N. Ninth St., Newark; James Cahill, 133 Paterson St., New Brunswick; George Harris, 17 Tytus Av., Trenton; L. K. Hill, Egg Harbor City; Robert Morton, 409 Division St., West Hoboken; Fred A. Gentieu, P. O. box 33, Penn's Grove; Geo. B. Cladeh, 93 W. Grand St., Rahway; J. J. Corcoran, 429 Hunter St., Gloucester; J. B. Dobbins, 179 W. Washington St., Mount Holly.

Pennsylvania Division: F. A. Godcharles, Milton; W. A. Bischoff, Bethlehem; W. A. G. Lape, Johnstown.

Washington Division: Stephen W. Thompson, Vancouver; John W. Wentworth, Vancouver; Edward J. Ground, Asotin; Chas. Pitchford, Asotin; John F. Hoyt, Spokane; T. P. Cowan, Clarkston; Elbert Smith, Walla Walla; W. T. Cavanaugh, Olympia; S. V. Savage, Olympia; R. M. Ward, Chelan; Frank C. Shipley, Seattle; C. A. Lewis, Grangeville.

California Division: Z. C. Green, Pasadena.

New York Division: H. D. Schuyler, Albany.

Ohio Division: T. E. Long, Dayton; O. H. Minnie, Lancaster.

Indiana Division: John D. Miller, Winchester.

Headquarters' Inspectors.

The following Assistant National Inspectors have been appointed, and are detailed to inspect Division headquarters as indicated:

Alabama and Tennessee, L. W. Friedman, Birmingham, Alabama.
 California, C. Haag, Los Angeles, Cal.
 Colorado, F. A. Whitney, Denver, Colo.
 Connecticut, Wm. R. Congdon, Wickford, R. I.
 Illinois, Felix A. Kremer, Madison, Wis.
 Indiana, F. C. Stillson, Battle Creek, Mich.
 Iowa, W. J. Blythe, Mason City, Iowa.
 Kansas, W. Y. Morgan, Hutchinson, Kansas.
 Kentucky, A. M. Struble, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Maine, Robert L. Whitcomb, Portland, Maine.
 Maryland, F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.
 Massachusetts, Michael Crowley, (N. H. Div.) Address
 Charleston, Mass.
 Michigan, Rolland F. Ducomb, South Bend, Ind.
 Minnesota, A. L. Sorter, Jr., (Iowa Div.) Address, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Missouri, E. A. Seamen, Maple Hill, Kansas.
 Nebraska, Geo. F. Wolz, Fremont, Neb.
 New Hampshire, Fred W. Spear, Bennington, Vt.
 New Jersey, National Inspector Edward K. DePuy, Washington, D. C.
 New York, National Inspector Edward K. Depuy, Washington, D. C.
 Ohio, Geo. H. Stebbins, Newport, Ky.
 Pennsylvania, National Inspector Edward K. DePuy, Washington, D. C.
 Rhode Island, George E. Cox, Hartford, Connecticut.
 Vermont, W. A. Stevens, West Roxbury, Mass.
 Washington, Charles Pitchford, Asotin, Washington.
 Wisconsin, Joel F. Longnecker, Chicago, Ill.

These Assistant Inspectors are requested to communicate with National Inspector Edward K. DePuy, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., from whom the necessary blanks may be secured. The expenses of the Assistant National Inspector are to be borne by the Division inspected.

Encampment Notes.

Division Commanders are requested to advise these headquarters at their earliest convenience as to the time and place for holding the encampments of their respective Divisions in 1906.

Greetings.

Greetings and good wishes are extended to the entire membership of our Order. Your Commander-in-Chief wishes one and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Let us all join hands and do our very best for the Order in 1906.

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,
 HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,

Official: Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.
 H. H. HAMMER,
 National Secretary.

H'd'q'rs Commandery-in-Chief S. of V. U. S. A.
528 Walnut Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio, Jan'y 10, 1906.

General Orders }
No. 1, }
Series of 1906. }

(To be read in Camp and filed.)

Everybody Work.

I. The year 1906 opens auspiciously for our Order, with bright prospects for a large and substantial growth. Splendid efforts are being put forth throughout the several Divisions and it is hoped and believed that the work that is being done will have its good reward. To the end that the desired results may be achieved, the united activity of our entire membership is necessary. If all work together for the good of the Order, we can easily reach the fifty-thousand mark by the end of the year. An average of one recruit secured by each member of the Order would put us far beyond that coveted number. It can be done, easily done. Brothers, it is your duty to help in this work. Hand application cards to your friends who are eligible, explain to them the principles and objects of the Order of Sons of Veterans, say to them that as an organization we are pledged to the support of the Union which our fathers fought and died to save. Do this, and your part will have been performed faithfully and well.

Grand Army Endorsement.

II. In his General Order No. 3, Series of 1905, recently issued, Commander-in-Chief James Tanner of the Grand Army of the Republic favors our Order with the following strong endorsement:

"While the Grand Army, in the very nature of things, can have no succession as such, and must march on to an inevitable but glorious extinction through death, just as inevitable to a very large degree, the Sons of Veterans will be our successors. They will bear our achievements in loving memory, and carry them along the generation.

"All too soon will come the time when the paralyzing hand of age will enforce quiet and inaction on our part, while it will be "The Boys" who will go out to those silent cities where

"Mountain grasses, low and sweet,
Grow in the middle of every street,"

and theirs will be the loving task of laurelling the graves of our dead.

"The organization of the Sons of Veterans, as I know it, is an honor to all the land. Its membership is earnest, intelligent and enthusiastic, its chosen representatives men of high character and patriotic purpose. They ask very little of us; simply our endorsement and encouragement. With all my heart, I give it to them, for you and for myself, and to you I say stand by the boys. Some of us lean on them now and many of us must do so soon, heavily."

New Officers.

III. New camp officers are now at their respective posts, each striving to do his best. All are anxious for successful administrations and all will be successful if the proper help is given by the rank and file. Each Commander is entitled to the

loyal, undivided support of his camp. May harmony prevail and may work be the watchword.

Division Encampments.

IV. Division Encampments will be held as follows:

Massachusetts, at Boston, February 13-14, 1906.

Indiana, at Valparaiso, June 6-7, 1906.

Ohio, at Dayton, June 12-14, 1906.

Pennsylvania, at York, June 13-15, 1906.

Division Commanders are requested to advise these headquarters at their earliest convenience as to the time and place for holding their respective encampments.

Union Defenders' Day.

V. Attention is again directed to the importance of properly and appropriately observing February 12th, Union Defenders' Day. It is hoped that all camps will conduct suitable exercises as a token of loving respect to the memory of the great emancipator, Abraham Lincoln.

Quarterly Reports.

VI. Some camps are entirely too negligent in the matter of forwarding reports to Division headquarters, which of necessity delays Divisions in making their reports to the National officers. It takes no longer one time than another to do this work, then why not do it promptly? Reports should be made out and forwarded immediately following the last meeting of the quarter. If you have been putting it off heretofore, try it once the right way, and you will never delay again. Promptness always pays—it is not only the better but the easier way to do work when it ought to be done. Delay is dangerous.

Charter Applications.

VII. Since last announcement applications for charters for camps have been approved as follows:

	No.	Location.	Applications.
1905.			
Dec. 12		Tipton, Ind	23
Dec. 13		Chesterton, Ind.	18
Dec. 14	102	McCune, Kas.	18
Dec. 16		Gardiner, Maine	22
1906.			
Jan. 4	37	Randolph, Vt.	51

Camps Mustered.

1905.			
Dec. 9	27	Vancouver, Wash.	15
Dec. 27	37	Randolph, Vt.	28

Court Martial Finding and Decision.

IX. The report of the Judge Advocate, together with the transcript of proceedings, has been received in the case of General Garfield Camp, No. 3, Ohio Division, Sons of Veterans U. S. A., of East Liverpool, Ohio, against D. M. McLaue.

The charge in this case was "Conduct unbecoming a Son of Veteran" with the following specifications:

1. Violating instructions of camp with reference to securing headquarters.

2. Endeavoring to pay obligations of Camp with worthless checks.
3. Delaying reports of committee of which defendant was a member.
4. Failure to appear before committee.

Verdict.

The verdict of the court was "not guilty" as to specifications numbers 1 and 2, and "guilty" as to specifications numbers 3 and 4, with recommendation of "reprimand."

Decision.

The evidence justifies the verdict of the court, and the same is hereby approved. The testimony does not substantiate the charges set forth in specifications Numbers 1 and 2, and it indicates that there were mitigating circumstances in the matter of the failure of the defendant to attend committee meetings and delaying reports. In this connection, however, he is reminded that duty was his first obligation and is admonished to be prompt, attentive and careful in the future. The case is hereby dismissed.

Special Aids.

X. Special Aids on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief have been appointed as follows:

Ohio—John G. Baker, Cleves; Otto F. McCoy, Springfield; W. H. Perry, Cincinnati; Frank M. Sala, Toledo; Arthur E. Rissler, Findlay; John F. Dell, Cleveland; A. V. Kirkbride, Salem; Sherman Howard, Harrison, Ohio.

Massachusetts—B. A. Bishop, Worcester.

Washington—J. L. MacDonald, Seattle.

Rhode Island—George E. Lawrence, Phenix; David F. Matteson, Shamrock; Fred W. Salby, Woonsocket; William P. Smith, Providence.

Missouri—Fred Hohlmon, Lexington; G. A. Auerswald, De Soto; John Meyers, Oliver Bohe, St. Louis; Wm. Meyersich, Jefferson City; Rudolph Walther, Cape Girardeau; E. J. Eakin, St. Joseph; Louis C. Spies, St. Louis; Wm. J. Knoke, St. Louis; Walter L. Peters, St. Louis; Walter S. Bobe, St. Louis; Christian Meyer, Melrose; C. S. Henderson, St. Louis.

Membership.

XI. The membership of the order by divisions is shown in the consolidated report of the National Secretary for the quarter ending September 30th, 1905. This report shows the total membership at the beginning of the present administration as being 23,204, and the total number of camps 726. The report for the preceding quarter, June 30, 1905, showed 778 camps and 29,558 members. It is sincerely hoped that the loss will be recovered and good gains shown in future reports.

The divisions of Minnesota and Washington were suspended for failure to report. For the June quarter these divisions showed memberships as follows:

Minnesota, 13 camps, 411 members.

Washington, 5 camps, 86 members.

The Commanders of these divisions are urgently requested to send in their reports without further delay. It is important that Division Officers forward their reports at the earliest possible day. By so doing the work at national headquarters will

be greatly facilitated, and it will be made possible for the National Secretary to publish his consolidated report in good time.

Financial Statement.

XII. A report of the financial transactions, business, etc., of the present administration, beginning since October, 1905, is herewith included. For the reason that no settlement has been made, no accounts transferred, no balance turned over and the transfer of headquarters' effects from Boston not completed, no statement other than that of the present administration can be shown or given.

The National Secretary and National Treasurer render statement accordingly, by direction of the Commander-in-Chief. It was desired to have monthly statements, but owing to the delay of completing the transfer of headquarters' effects from Boston, this was not done, as it was expected the affairs of that department could be included in the business and transactions from the beginning of the present officials. Not deeming it proper to long delay statement relating to finances, etc., the National Secretary has prepared same covering the period from his induction into office to December 31st, 1905.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,
Department of National Secretary,
Reading, Pa., December 31st, 1905.

To H. V. Speelman, Esq.,
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
Cincinnati, O.

Esteemed Sir and Commander:—I have the honor to report the business, financial and other transactions of this department for the period beginning your term to December 31, 1905, inclusive, as follows:

Receipts:

October 7th to December 31st, 1905, inclusive:

	Charter	P. C. Tax	Fees	Sup- plies	Miscel.	Total
October		\$ 88.48	\$20.00	\$133.21	\$6.00	\$ 247.69
November		915.89	25.00	159.31		1,100.20
December		1,629.87	30.00	254.81	4.80	1,919.48

Total Receipts:

To Per Capita Tax	\$2,634.24
Charter Fees	75.00
Supplies	547.33
Miscellaneous	10.80
	<u>\$3,267.37</u>

Total Expenditures:

By Headquarters:	Office Expenses:	
(Reading, Penn.)	Com.-in-Chief:	
\$297.17	(Cincinnati, Ohio)	
	\$256.86	
	General Expenses:	
285.67		
<u>\$582.84</u>	<u>\$256.86</u>	<u>\$ 839.70</u>
Balance		\$2,427.67
Liabilities		\$3,324.16

Expenditures.

Headquarters (Reading, Penna.)	
Office Expenses:	
Rent, Oct. 1905-March 1906 inc.....	\$ 130.00
Desks, Furniture, Shades, etc.....	167.17
General Expenses:	
Stocks—Blanks, Supplies and Forms.....	217.20
Moving Headquarters, Dwight.....	5.72
Reserves—Stationery	62.75
	<u>\$ 582.84</u>

Commander-in-Chief Headquarters:
(Cincinnati, Ohio.)

Office Expenses:	
October—Furniture, Supplies, Postage, Ex- pressage	15.00
Stenographer	15.00
November—Postage, Expressage, Supplies, Telegrams, etc.	23.91
Stenographer	15.00
December—Postage, etc	12.80
Stenographer	15.00
Rent, Oct., 1905-Jan., 1906, inc.....	50.00
Traveling Expenses Oct.-Dec., 1905.....	51.70
	<u>\$ 256.86</u>
	<u>\$ 839.70</u>

General Expense Account.

Bills Payable:	
Acc't of Reserves	\$ 36.20
The Banner—Bal. Sept. Qr.....	1,158.55
Oct.	486.82
Nov.	487.73
G. A. R.....	50.00
	<u>\$2,183.10</u>
Encampment 1905 Proceedings.....	\$ 203.86
Acc't of Reserves	36.20
Freight—Boston, Dwight, Transfer Nat'l Hdqs., Bonds, Supplies, Stock.....	116.36
Office Expenses:	
Postage, Telegrams, Stationery Supplies, Ex- press, etc.	59.64
	<u>\$2,599.16</u>
Salaries: Due	
Past Nat'l Treas. Bolton, to Nov. 1st.....	\$ 125.00
National Secretary	500.00
National Treasurer	100.00
	<u>\$3,324.16</u>

Consolidated Report.

For quarter ending September 30, 1905:

	Previous Qr.		September Qr.	
	Camps.	No.	Camps.	No.
Alabama and Tennessee	7	208	9	257
California	15	456	13	446
Colorado	4	78	4	109
Connecticut	20	640	20	627
Illinois	45	1,090	38	999
Indiana	26	718	26	675

Iowa	17	296	14	272
Kansas	19	517	12	314
Kentucky	7	188	7	210
Maine	32	1,009	32	1,008
Maryland	9	322	9	315
Massachusetts	127	4,455	122	4,303
Michigan	14	238	6	83
*Minnesota	13	411		
Missouri	11	510	13	539
Nebraska	9	99	7	70
New Hampshire	31	895	30	843
New Jersey	23	1,090	23	1,089
New York	81	3,208	79	3,161
Ohio	64	2,043	59	1,923
Pennsylvania	146	9,596	152	9,600
Rhode Island	10	348	10	341
Vermont	24	570	26	626
*Washington	5	86		
Wisconsin	19	487	15	394
		<u>778</u>	<u>29,558</u>	<u>226</u>
				<u>28,204</u>

Respectfully Submitted in F. C. & L.,

H. H. HAMMER, National Secretary.

Division Orders.

XIII. Division officers are requested to send two copies of all orders to these headquarters, also two copies to the National Secretary.

Open Meetings.

XIV. Experience argues strongly in favor of open camp meetings, with members of the G. A. R., S. of V. Auxillary, Ladies of the G. A. R, and eligible Sons of Veterans as guests. Any camp can do this with pleasure and with profitable results—an increase of membership. Try a meeting of this kind. It pays.

Pass Word and Countersign.

XV. The pass word and countersign for the current term, January-June, 1906, has been issued to all Divisions that have paid per capita tax and forwarded reports for the quarter ending September 30, 1905.

Inspection Dates.

XVI. The time in which inspection of Camps, and of Division headquarters, may be made, is hereby extended until January 31st, 1906. The inspection is not to cover anything done and will not extend beyond December 31st, 1905, but Inspectors and their assistants are given until the end of the present month in which to complete their work.

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,

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

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

H'dq'rs Commandery-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.
528 Walnut Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio, Feby. 10, 1906.

General Orders }
No. 2, }
Series of 1906. }

(To be read in Camp and filed.)

Encampment Dates.

I. Division Commanders are directed to notify these headquarters just as soon as the dates and location have been decided upon of the time and place for holding their respective encampments.

It is necessary that this information be furnished without delay so that the proper promulgation may be made through General Orders.

Division Encampments, the dates for which have been fixed, will be held as follows:

Massachusetts, at Boston, February 13th and 14th, 1906.

Indiana, at Valparaiso, June 6th-7th, 1906.

Ohio, at Dayton, June 12th-14th, 1906.

Pennsylvania, at York, June 13th-15th, 1906.

Connecticut, at Hartford, April 25, 1906.

Vermont, at Lyndonville, June 26-27, 1906.

New Hampshire, at Concord, April 18-19, 1906.

Illinois, at Galesburg, May 22nd-24th, 1906.

Nebraska, at Columbus, February 14th and 15th, 1906.

New Jersey, at Trenton, May 21st-22nd, 1906.

Kentucky, at Berea, June 11th, 1906.

The encampment of the Division of Rhode Island, being the first of the year 1906, was held at Providence, that state, Feby, 6th.

Fight the De Morrell Bill.

II. Divisions, camps and individual members of the Order are urged to protest promptly and strongly against the passage of the bill recently introduced in the National House of Representatives by Congressman De Morrell, of Pennsylvania, which measure is designed to deprive Sons of Veterans of the right to wear the blue uniform worn by our fathers during the Civil War. Prepare protests, get them signed, have resolutions adopted by your divisions and camps, write letters and forward them to your Senators and Representatives urging them to use their best efforts against the passage of the De Morrell bill. Do not put this matter off, but act without delay.

The following is suggested for the use of Camps in protesting against the passage of the Morrell Bill in its present form:

Headquarters.....Camp No.....

.....Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

To the Hon.....

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted by this Camp at a meeting held....., 1906:

Whereas, There has been introduced in the National Congress, Bill No. 8131, entitled "A bill to prohibit the wearing of the uniform of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Revenue Service, and so forth," and which provides that no one not connected with the U. S. Army, Navy Militia, etc., shall wear the uniform of

the same, or any uniform resembling it or nearly assimilating thereto; and

Whereas, The Grand Army of the Republic and other societies, including theatrical companies, are exempt from its provisions; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we earnestly protest against the passage of this bill in its present form. We feel that it is part of our proud heritage to wear the uniform of our fathers, and we hold that any attempt to deprive us of that right is unpatriotic and un-American.

Resolved, That we, your constituents, hereby petition you to exercise your best efforts against the passage of this bill, and we ask you to vote against it, unless it is so amended as to exempt the Order of Sons of Veterans, along with our parent organization, the Grand Army of the Republic, and other societies.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to our Senators and Representatives in the National Congress.

Yours respectfully,

.....
Camp Commander.

Attest:

Camp Secretary.

Dated at....., 1906.

Jurisdiction Established.

III. By the authority of Special Order No. 5, Series of 1905, the territory in the states of North Carolina and South Carolina was placed in the jurisdiction of the Division of Alabama and Tennessee.

Total Membership.

IV. Since the publication of the statement of the National Secretary, in General Orders No. 1, January Banner, reports have been received from the Divisions of Minnesota and Washington, showing their membership for the quarter ending Sept. 30th, 1905 as follows:

Minnesota, 12 Camps, 438 members; Washington, 6 Camps, 103 members.

These included with the reports of Divisions already published show a total membership for the September quarter in the twenty-five Divisions of 744 Camps and 23,745 members.

From Log Cabin to White House.

V. The above is the title of a combination portrait and biography of the martyred President Abraham Lincoln and which is a grand object lesson in patriotism. In Washington City, Burnside Post, No. 8, G. A. R., provided one of these pictures for each school in the National Capital, an act deserving of the most hearty commendation. Camps of Sons of Veterans would do well to emulate this splendid example set by Burnside Post. Particulars for procuring the picture may be had by addressing Comrade George S. Benson, 602 22nd St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Memorial and Decoration Days.

VI. It is not too early to begin preparations for the proper observance of Memorial Sunday and Decoration day. It is earnestly hoped that all Camps of Sons of Veterans in the United States will be found in attendance at church services, also that they will be active in assisting our parent organization, the

Grand Army of the Republic, in the sacred duty to be performed on the thirtieth of May.

In this connection, it is appropriate to mention the practice that prevails in the city of Rochester, New York, and in which the Sons of Veterans perform an important part. Since the year 1882 it has been the custom in Rochester, to place live plants on the graves of Comrades, in addition to strewing them with cut flowers. Brother T. C. Cazeau, of our order, is vice chairman of the committee having this work in charge, and he recently mailed to each Camp in the United States a letter setting forth in detail the plan followed by his committee. Camps may well profit by the splendid suggestions therein contained.

Commissions for Aides.

VII. Commissions will be issued to those Special Aides who notify these headquarters of their acceptance of the appointment.

Additional Special Aides are appointed, and the announcement thereof is made, as follows:

Connecticut Division: C. E. Batchelor, Ansonia; Wm. C. Dickinson, New Haven; Wm. G. Tarbox, Norwich; Robert T. Alcorn, Hartford; E. C. Booth, Bridgeport; Joseph DeCantillon, Meriden; Fred G. Perry, Winsted; C. A. Seaves, No. Grosvenor Dale; Daniel A. Eddy, Canaan; Allen T. Pratt, Hartford.

Indiana Division: Col. Guy Jennings, Brookston; John H. Chappell, Petersburg; Ed. T. Staley, Tipton; C. E. Sturgis, Bluffton; Joseph Ritter, Chesterton.

Wisconsin Division: John Schmidt, Jefferson; E. G. Parmenter, La Crosse; Fred W. Graff, Sheboygan; Rev. H. Erfmeyer, Racine; E. C. Coon, Endeavor; Judson Bogart, Milwaukee; F. A. Kramer, Madison; Chas. Krueger, Watertown.

Special Aides are expected to acknowledge receipt of their commissions.

Camp Numbers.

VIII. The practice of sending to Headquarters applications for approval of Camps without assigning numbers to said Camps on application for charter, by Division Commanders, should be discontinued. When an application is forwarded for approval, the Camp to be organized must be assigned a number. This is necessary to avoid confusion in designating the Camp.

Furnish Mailing Lists.

IX. Upon the muster of a Camp and receipt of Mustering Officer's report and roster of said new Camp, Division Commanders will see that full report of same, with names and addresses, are forwarded to The Banner, so that the new Camp members may receive the official organ of the Order and be advised of the transactions occurring.

Buttonhole Decoration.

X. The membership is reminded of the fact that a committee on design of a recognition or buttonhole decoration is working on the same and will submit a report and recommendation at the next National Encampment. Therefore, it is suggested that orders for the membership for the present buttonhole or recognition mark be in limited quantities, as headquarters is not providing large stock for this mark, or the decoration at present in use.

Financial Statement.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,
Department of National Secretary,
Reading, Pa., January 31st, 1906.

To H. V. Speelman, Esq.,
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
Cincinnati, O.

Esteemed Sir and Commander:—I have the honor to submit the following report of the financial transactions of this department for the month ending January 31, 1906.

Report of the National Secretary for month of January, 1906:

To balance Dec. 31, 1905.....	\$2427.67	
Rec'd for per capita tax.....	136.42	
Charter fees	30.00	
Supplies	376.68	
		<hr/>
Total receipts	\$ 543.10	\$2970.77

By Expenditures:

	Office Expense Acc't.	
Hdqr's, Reading, Pa.....	\$ 59.64	
Comd'r-in-Chief, Cincinnati, O.....	77.65	
General Expense Acc't	2094.49	
		<hr/>
Total expenditures	\$2231.78	\$2231.78
		<hr/>
Balance Jan'y 31st.....	\$ 738.99	

Liabilities:

Due The Banner balance for Sept., 1905 Quarter. \$1158.55

Expenditures:

Office Expense Acc't.

Headquarters, Reading, Penna.

1905:

Sept.-Oct. Postage, express & telegrams.....\$ 13.20

Nov.-Dec. Postage, gas, express, supplies, stationery, paper, twinc, etc..... 46.44

1906:

Jan. Postage, Express, Gas..... 8.38

Commander-in-Chief:

Cincinnati, Ohio.

Jan. Rent (Feb.) \$12.50; stenographer, \$15; traveling, \$32.80; postage, \$12; office supplies, \$5.35 77.65

General Expense Acc't.

Headquarters: (Reading, Penna.)

1905:

Sept.-Nov. Stock, premium on bonds, freight.... 74.95

Dec. Stock, freight, express..... 14.22

Oct. Shipping supplies 4.46

Nov. Shipping supplies 11.98

Dec. Shipping supplies 10.75

1906:

Jan'y Shipping supplies 16.26

Jan'y The Banner for Oct., Nov., Dec. and G. A.

R. Posts 1512.37

Proceedings Gettysburg Enc. 213.63

Supplies	109.86	
Reserves, blank forms	117.63	
		\$2231.78
Total expended January	\$2231.78	

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

Charter Applications.

XII. Applications have been approved for the organization of Camps since last announcement as follows:

Date.	No.	Location.	Division.	No. Appcls.
Jan. 14		Sheridan	Indiana	29
Jan. 17		Pennville	Indiana	23
Jan. 23		Ridgeville	Indiana	21
Jan. 24		Middlesex	N. Y.	16
Jan. 17	71	Craftsbury	Ver.	26
Feb. 1		Hartford City	Ind.	26
Feb. 1		Durand	Ill.	21
1906:				
Feb. 2		LeRoy	Wisconsin	32

Camps Mustered.

XIII. Camps have been mustered as follows:

Date.	No.	Location.	Division.	No. Recruits.
Nov. 18	48	Newfield	N. Y.	15
Nov. 15	122	Brookston	Ind.	27
Dec. 29	102	McCune	Kansas	17
Dec. 12	123	Petersburg	Ind.	27
Dec. 27		Gardiner	Me.	21
Dec. 15	125	Bluffton	Ind.	104
Dec. 29	126	Chesterton	Ind.	22
Jan. 2	124	Tipton	Ind.	40
Jan. 13	22	Middlesex	N. Y.	16
Jan. 22	22	Norcatour	Kan.	23
Jan. 17	71	Craftsbury	Ver.	26
1905:				
Dec. 12	1	Seattle	Washington	64
1906:				
Feb. 2	32	LeRoy	Wisconsin	32

Camp Charter Forfeited.

XIV. Upon the recommendation of Commander W. B. Moynihan, of the New York Division, and acting under the provisions of Section 1, Article XIX, page 10, of the Constitution and Laws, the Charter of Col. J. M. Reed Camp No. 25, New York Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., located at Albany, New York, is hereby declared annulled and forfeited, more than six months arrearage for reports and per capita tax being the basis for this action.

The Commander of this camp is hereby ordered to turn over to Division Commander Moynihan all property and money belonging to the camp, in accordance with Section III, Article V, page 2, of the Constitution and Laws of the Order.

Revised Camp Rolls.

XV. Camp Secretaries are directed to keep their membership rolls revised; and the Division Secretary should be notified of any additions, losses, or changes in postoffice address. This

is essential in order that the publisher of The Banner may be advised, to the end that the paper may reach all members promptly each month.

Certify Names of Officers.

XVI Promptness in the certification of the names and addresses of newly elected Division Officers to these headquarters is urgently requested. Let this be done immediately upon the adjournment of the Encampment, thus delay will be avoided.

Division Commanders' Bonds.

XVII. The attention to newly elected Division Commanders is respectfully directed to Section 3, Article 1, page 20, of the Constitution and Laws, relative to the filing of their bonds.

Fraternally submitted in F. C. & L.

Official: HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
H. H. HAMMER, Commander-in-Chief.
National Secretary.

H'dq'rs Commandery-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.
528 Walnut Street.
Cincinnati, Ohio, March 10, 1906.

General Orders }
No. 3, }
Series of 1906. }

(To be read in Camp and filed.)

I. Division encampments for the year 1906 have thus far been held and officers elected as follows:

Massachusetts Division.

The encampment of the Division of Massachusetts was held in Boston February 13-14, 1906. Following are the officers elect:

Commander, Walter Penney, 319 Union St., Lynn; Senior Vice, Ernest E. Hobson, Palmer; Junior Vice, Frank E. Howard, South Boston. Division Council: Everett H. Lynds, Holyoke; William O. Cutler, Natick; Hosner F. Keeney, Plainville. National Delegates: H. A. Mayo, S. L. Cook, S. L. Pickering, G. L. Ludwig, L. W. Floyd, F. E. White, G. W. Wallace, J. P. Devine, M. L. Kidder, A. J. Whitney. Alternates: G. H. Bellows, G. H. Green, W. T. Tisdale, A. M. Proctor.

Commander Penney has announced the following staff appointments:

Chaplain, Rev. D. F. Lyman, Agawam; Secretary, George L. Bray, Lynn; Treasurer, Henrie J. Perry, Lynn; Counselor, Wm. M. Brigham, Marlboro; Inspector, F. H. Brock, Athol; Chief Aide, J. H. Wentworth, Newton; Mustering Officer, Frank E. Warren, Abington; Sergeant Major, F. C. Deming, Lynn; Press Correspondent, Wm. A. Stevens, West Roxbury.

Nebraska Division.

The encampment of the Nebraska Division was held at Columbus February 14-15, 1906, and the following officers were elected:

Commander, Bert J. Galley, Columbus; Senior Vice, F. H. Richards, Fremont; Junior Vice, J. W. Foy, Loup City. Division Council: George F. Woltz, Fremont; James McBeth, Loup City; George W. Heine, Hooper.

The following staff officers have been appointed by Commander Galley:

Secretary, E. H. Jenkins, Columbus; Treasurer, E. P. Dussell, Columbus; Counselor, Chas. C. Stull, Osceola; Inspector, R. G. Douglas, Osceola; Chaplain, H. W. Rogers, Jr., Fremont.

Rhode Island Division.

The encampment of the Rhode Island Division was held at Providence February 6th, 1906, and the following officers were elected:

Commander, Edward S. Moulton, Aldrich Bldg., Providence; Senior Vice, Elhanan Mowry, Pawtucket; Junior Vice, J. Arthur G. Luther, East Providence. Division council: Herbert J. Briggs, Providence; Frank T. Libby, Pawtucket; Daniel A. Booker, Pontiac. Secretary, Frederic E. Carpenter, Providence; Treasurer, Charles H. Young, Providence; Chaplain, Rev. Herbert C. Dana, East Providence; Counselor, Orray T. Mason, Providence; Inspector, John H. Leonard, Rumford. National Delegates: James T. Hoxsie, Hope Valley; Wm. R. Congdon, Wickford.

Encampment Dates.

II. Division Commanders who have not already done so are hereby directed to notify these headquarters of the dates and location selected for the encampments of their respective Divisions.

Encampments have been decided upon as follows:

New Hampshire, at Concord, April 18-19, 1906.

Connecticut, at Hartford, April 25, 1906.

New Jersey, at Trenton, May 9-10, 1906.

Illinois, at Galesburg, May 22-24, 1906.

Indiana, at Valparaiso, June 6-7, 1906.

Kentucky, at Berea, June 11, 1906.

Wisconsin, at Marinette, June 12-13, 1906.

Ohio, at Dayton, June 12-14, 1906.

Pennsylvania, at York, June 13-15, 1906.

Vermont, at Lyndonville, June 26-27, 1906.

New York, at Rochester, June 26-28, 1906.

House Bill No. 13551.

III. In General Orders No. 2, published in the February issue of The Banner, attention was called to Bill 8131, introduced in the National House of Representatives by Congressman Edward de V. Morrell, and which measure, if enacted into law, would have deprived the Sons of Veterans and similar organizations of the right to wear their adopted uniforms. Strong protests from camps all over the country began to pour into the House against the passage of the Bill, and Mr. Morrell promptly withdrew it, stating that the omission of the Sons of Veterans from its exemption provisions was an oversight on his part. He has introduced another Bill (H. R. No. 13551), "To prohibit the wearing of the uniform of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Revenue Cutter Service of the United States, and so forth: provided that the provisions of the act shall not apply nor extend to the officers and members of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Sons of Veterans and other societies of like character organized and sustained to keep up the memories of their own or their ancestors' services in the wars of the United States," etc.

Mr. Morrell has kindly volunteered to furnish a copy of Bill No. 13551 to each camp in our order. Division Commanders are

requested to distribute among the camps of their respective Divisions copies of the bill that may be sent to them.

Dropped Members.

IV. A number of inquiries have been submitted to these headquarters relative to the steps necessary for a dropped member to regain membership in the order of Sons of Veterans. Dropped members may gain admission under exactly the same conditions as new recruits, and the same process must be followed, for the reason that a member who has been dropped from the rolls of a camp for nonpayment of dues, or for any other cause, is in no sense a member of the order. After having dropped a member, a camp has no further jurisdiction over him in matters of discipline, neither can it hold any financial claim against a camp that may accept him into membership.

A dishonorably discharged member is not included as a "dropped member," in the general acceptance of the term. He can only become eligible to membership again by having the disability removed through action of the Commandery-in-Chief.

Official War Records.

V. Public acknowledgment is hereby made of the receipt of a full set of 128 volumes of the "Official War Records of the Union and Confederate Armies," published by act of Congress. We are indebted to Senator Albert J. Beveridge, of Indiana, for these valuable records, and in the name of the order we assure him of our full appreciation of the great favor which he has conferred upon our organization.

Transportation Committee.

VI. The following Committee on Transportation for the twenty-fifth annual encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, to be held at Peoria, Illinois, has been appointed and is hereby announced:

Past Commander-in-Chief Frank Martin, Indianapolis, Indiana, Chairman.

Alabama and Tennessee, L. W. Friedman, 2406 Fifth Av., Birmingham, Alabama.

California, George W. Conart, Bullard Bldg., Los Angeles.

Colorado, J. H. Head, 1854 W. 33rd St., Denver.

Connecticut, W. N. Barber, Meriden.

Illinois, John D. Hall, Peoria.

Indiana, Thomas W. Blair, Fort Wayne.

Iowa, W. F. Muse, Mason City.

Kansas, R. L. Rickard, Valley Center.

Kentucky, Charles E. Stebbins, 159 W. Fourth St., Covington.

Maine, Clarence H. Cram, North Bldg., Augusta.

Maryland, F. T. F. Johnson, McGill Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Massachusetts, Wm. A. Stevens, West Roxbury.

Michigan, Walter L. Raynes, Battle Creek.

Minnesota, George T. Drake, 345 St. Peter St., St. Paul.

Missouri, E. E. Schoening, 200 Eighth St., St. Louis.

Nebraska, Bert J. Galley, Columbus.

New Hampshire, Michael Crowley, 28 Harvard St., Boston.

New Jersey, James B. Adams, Atlantic City.

New York, Wm. B. Moynihan, 16 State St., Rochester.

Ohio, Wm. S. Reeder, 60 Reuben Av., Dayton.

Pennsylvania, W. B. McNulty, Broad and Arch Sts., Philadelphia.

Rhode Island, Wm. R. Congdon, Wickford.

Vermont, J. B. Ripley, Lyndonville.

Washington, Millard T. Johnson, Asotin.

Wisconsin, John A. Haselwood, Jefferson.

All members of the Committee are requested to communicate with Chairman Martin.

The matter of time for holding the Peoria encampment is now under consideration, and it is expected that the date will be decided upon soon, and will be announced in General Orders.

Special Aides.

VII. Again the attention of Special Aides is called to the fact that they are expected to notify these headquarters of their acceptance of the appointment. Upon the receipt of this acceptance, commissions will be issued, and acknowledgment of the receipt of commissions is positively required. A number of Special Aides are doing excellent work, several new camps having been organized through their efforts.

Additional Special Aides are hereby appointed as follows:

Massachusetts Division, Fred G. Bradford, Somerville.

Maine Division, John A. Ambrose, Sherman Mills.

Ohio Division, S. J. Witherow, East Liverpool.

No Tax On New Members.

VIII. A number of Division and Camp Officers seem to be confused on the question of per capita tax on new members. The attention of these officers is respectfully directed to Section 4, Article 18, page 9 of the Constitution and Laws, which reads: "Neither Camps nor Divisions shall be required to pay per capita tax on any member for the quarter in which he was mustered."

This provision of the Constitution applies to the organization of new camps, also to the muster of new members in camps already in existence.

Appropriate Memorial.

IX. Major John A. Cummings Camp No. 3, Somerville, Massachusetts, has established the practice of placing a small silk flag on the casket of a deceased comrade. This is certainly a most appropriate memorial and others will do well to follow the example set by Cummings camp.

Supplemental Financial Statement.

X. Past National Treasurer F. E. Bolton has submitted the following statement, supplemental to the report made by him at the Gettysburg encampment, also statement from September 19, 1905 to November 1, 1905.

Itemized statement of report supplemental to 24th Annual Encampment, dated Nov. 1st, 1905, as submitted by Fred E. Bolton, Nat'l Treasurer, February 12th, 1906.

Cash on hand as shown by report at Gettysburg. \$1813.85

Cash rec'd from per capita tax from:

Of date Sep't 19.

California, 3rd Qr.	\$ 37.94
Colorado, 2nd Qr.	8.95
Illinois, 2nd Qr.	105.16
Indiana, 2nd Qr.	68.50

Iowa, 2nd Qr.	14.96	
Michigan, 2nd Qr.	14.67	
New Hampshire, 2nd Qr.	86.13	
Ohio, 2nd Qr.	181.92	
Washington, 2nd Qr.	7.74	
Wisconsin, 2nd Qr.	47.14	
	<u> </u>	573.11

Cash rec'd for supplies from:
Of date Sept. 20 and 30.

Massachusetts	59.80	
New York	44.26	
Vermont	16.51	
Pennsylvania	1.00	
Pennsylvania	32.22	
Pennsylvania	1.00	
Pennsylvania	33.00	
Wisconsin	23.88	
	<u> </u>	211.67

Cash rec'd for Charter Fees from:
Of date Sept. 19.

Alabama and Tennessee	5.00	
Illinois	5.00	
Missouri	10.00	
Pennsylvania	5.00	
Vermont	5.00	
Washington	5.00	
	<u> </u>	35.00

Cash rec'd miscellaneous from:

Bal. of account Washington	1.10	
Maine .....	.14	
Sale old furniture, rug and cabinet.....	15.00	
Bal. account L. A. S. ....	.27	
	<u> </u>	16.51

\$2650.14

Expenditures:

Office expenses:
September 19-30.

Wm. G. Dustin, telegrams, postage, etc.....	\$ 26.22	
H. E. Cowdin, Nat. Ins.....	27.62	
W. R. Congdon, Council-in-Chief	6.00	
H. V. Speelman	4.75	
Rev. J. J. Skinner, Nat. Chaplain.....	6.00	
Rent to Nov. 1st (Boston).....	31.67	
Toilet supplies, July 1-Nov. 1st	2.00	
Light to November	2.00	
	<u> </u>	107.26

General Expenses:

R. M. J. Reed, Flag	50.00	
E. R. Campbell, court martial exp. Penna.....	18.00	
Crating, packing and shipping supplies to Reading, Pa.	19.95	
	<u> </u>	87.55

Miscellaneous:

Wm. G. Dustin, traveling to Denver, Col., G. A. R. Encampment	79.00	
Salary J. A. Seabert to Sept. 20.....	83.33	
The Banner on account 3rd Qr.....	300.00	

Memorial University, Bal. Charter Fees.....	205.00
E. E. Schoening, Nat. Chaplain, Expenses to 23rd Nat'l Encampment	26.30
Military Dep't. Bal. due	37.70
Wm. G. Dustin, Exp. 24th Nat'l Enc.....	57.21
Geo. Geis, Exp. 24th Nat'l Enc.....	177.30
M. D. Friedman, Exp. 24th Nat'l Enc.....	49.52
N. J. McGuire, Exp. 24th Nat'l Enc.....	56.25
H. V. Speelman, Exp. 24th Nat'l Enc.....	45.35
W. R. Congdon, Exp 24th Nat'l Enc.....	52.80
J. J. Seabert, Exp. 24th Nat'l Enc.....	57.21
I. Cutter, Exp. 24th Nat'l Enc.....	57.21
F. E. Bolton, Exp. 24th Nat'l Enc.....	34.35
T. J. Hannon, Exp. 24th Nat'l Enc.....	32.05
J. J. Skinner, Exp. 24th Nat'l Enc.....	75.00
H. E. Cowdin, Exp. 24th Nat'l Enc.....	38.00
R. M. J. Reed, Exp. 24th Nat'l Enc.....	18.75
Edgar Allen, Exp. 24th Nat'l Enc.....	10.65
Rent of room Eagle Hotel, Nat'l Enc.....	24.00
Express charges	12.00
W. C. Schneider, part payment stenographer.....	100.00
Ala. and Tenn., Bal. account	1.77
California, Bal. account	3.18
Colorado, Bal. account .....	.09
Connecticut, Bal. account .....	.71
Illinois, Bal. account	1.89
Kansas, Bal. account .....	.86
Kentucky, Bal. account .....	.50
Maryland, Bal. account .....	.29
Michigan, Bal. account .....	.55
Nebraska, Bal. account	5.27
New Hampshire, Bal. account .....	.55
New Jersey, Bal. account	3.04
Ohio, Bal. account	2.51
Vermont, Bal. account	1.19
Wisconsin, Bal. account	3.40
Salary—F. E. Bolton to Nov. 1st.....	187.50
	<u>1849.08</u>

Supplies:

Sept. 30.

Badges	268.62	
Supplies	19.90	
Shipping supplies	9.29	297.81
Cash balance		<u>308.44</u>

\$2650.14

Cash balance actually received \$284.56, amount of requisition for supplies Wisconsin Division, having been paid by said Division to Nat'l Sec'y H. H. Hammer.

Itemized Statement Receipts and Expenditures from Sept. 19 to
to November 1st, 1905.

Cash balance beginning Comd'r-in-Chief Speel- man's term		\$ 647.59
Cash rec'd for supplies	\$211.67	
Cash rec'd for miscellaneous	16.51	228.18
		<u>\$ 875.77</u>

Office Expenses:

Rent to Nov. 1st	31.67	
Toilet supplies July 1 to Nov. 1st.....	3.00	
Light to Nov. 1st	2.00	
		36.67

General Expenses:

Packing and shipping supplies to Reading, Pa....	19.55	19.55
Salary to F. E. Bolton to Nov. 1st as Nat'l Treas.		187.50
Supplies including cost of shipment.....		297.81
Miscellaneous to various Divisions bal. accounts.		25.80
Cash balance		308.44

\$ 875.77

Mustering Officers' Reports.

XI. The practice of holding reports of Mustering Officers so that charters are not issued to camps newly mustered for months after the muster of such camps should be discontinued, and immediately after the muster of a new camp the Mustering Officer's report should be forwarded so that charter can be issued at once.

Charter Fees.

XII. Applications when forwarded to headquarters for approval, must in future, be accompanied by the charter fee of \$5.00. And the number of the camp must be assigned at the same time. Failure to observe the foregoing causes confusion and frequently disputes.

It is not necessary to send the application for charter to headquarters after a camp is mustered. The mustering officer's report is sufficient.

Quarterly Reports.

XIII. Division Commanders are urged to be prompt with their per capita tax and reports for December quarter. Send all with remittances by draft or money order to the National Secretary H. H. Hammer, Reading, Pa. All reports and tax must be in before the end of March as the consolidated report of the National Secretary for the quarter ending December 31st will be closed and published at that time. Divisions failing to comply herewith will be shown as delinquent and suspended.

Charter Applications.

XIV. Since last announcement applications for charters for camps have been approved as follows:

Date.	No.	Location.	Division.	No. Ap.
Feb.	10	Washington, D. C.	Md.	36
Feb. 5	15	Dunkirk,	Ohio	26
Feb. 9	34	Cutler,	Ohio	29
Feb. 23	131	Lafayette,	Ind.	56
Feb. 23	259	Pekin,	Ill.	51
	88	Tunbridge,	Vt.	15
Feb. 26		Beverly,	N. J.	25
Mar. 1	63	Waldoboro,	Me.	25

Camps Mustered.

XV. Camps have been mustered and chartered as follows:				
Sep. 4	8	Rifle,	Col.	20
Nov. 14	110	Uhrichsville,	Ohio	53
Dec. 21	10	Washington, D. C.	Md.	36

Jan. 31	88	Tunbridge,	Vt.	15
Feb. 3	329	Durand,	Ill.	21
Feb. 5	15	Dunkirk,	Ohio	25
Feb. 9	34	Cutler,	Ohio	27

Court Martial Finding and Sentence.

XVI. In the court martial case of Vanderbilt Camp No. 5, Division of New York, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. against Henry J. Beck, charged with conduct unbecoming a member of the order, the finding of the court was guilty as to all specifications of the charge. The sentence is the dishonorable discharge of said Henry J. Beck from the Order of Sons of Veterans U. S. A., and the Commander of the Division of New York has been directed to carry said sentence into full force and effect.

Financial Statement.

XVII. Report of the National Secretary for month of February, 1906:

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,
Department of National Secretary,
Reading, Pa., Feby. 28, 1906.

To H. V. Speelman, Esq.,
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
Cincinnati, O.

Esteemed Sir and Commander:—I have the honor to submit the following report of the financial transactions of this department for the month ending Feby. 28, 1906:

To balance January 31st		\$738.99
Rec'd from F. E. Bolton, former Nat'l Treas....	\$ 284.56	
Rec'd from per capita tax	1072.18	
Rec'd for charter fees	50.00	
Rec'd for supplies	290.70	
Total Receipts		<u>1697.44</u>
		\$2436.43
By Expenditures:		
Office Expenses, Headquarters	\$175.04	
Office Expenses, Com'r-in-Chief	146.45	
		<u>321.49</u>
General Expenses, Headquarters	\$716.14	
		<u>716.14</u>
Total Expenditures		\$1037.63
Balance February 28th		\$1398.80

Itemized Expenditures.

General Expenses:		
By stock and supplies	\$188.35	
Reserves	5.20	
Shipping supplies	12.62	
Express and freight (moving Hdqrs.)	17.07	
The Banner, month of January	487.90	
Miscellaneous	5.00	
		<u>\$ 716.14</u>
Office Expenses—Headquarters:		
By stationery Nat'l Officers	\$124.86	
Postage, light, express	14.18	
Typewriter	36.00	
		<u>\$ 175.04</u>

Commander-in-Chief:

Stationery	\$ 12.00
Stenographer for Feby.	15.00
Rent for March	12.50
Postage	8.40
Supplies	3.80
Traveling	94.75
	<hr/>
	\$ 146.45

Total Expenditures Feb. \$1037.63

Respectfully Submitted in F. C. & L.,

H. H. HAMMER, National Secretary.

Commissions for Division Officers.

XVIII. Upon the bonds of newly elected Division Commanders being received at Headquarters, and approved by the Commander-in-Chief, commissions will be issued to such Division Commanders and Division Officers.

XIX. A most encouraging letter has been received at these headquarters from National Secretary Mary R. Morgau, of the Woman's Relief Corps. Among other things, she says:

"I am deeply interested in the Sons of Veterans, and rejoice to see the order growing. I sincerely hope it may become a vast army, ably continuing the grand work of the sires who preserved America to humanity and the world. May every blessing attend you as a leader of the sons of brave fathers. The Woman's Relief Corps wishes you every success and stands ready to help if needed."

Division Commanders, Attention.

XX. When a camp is disbanded, charter of a camp revoked, or a camp is suspended, Division Commanders will at once notify The Banner of such fact, so that the paper will not be sent to such camps or members thereof, or payment for the same made.

The Banner will only be sent to the members of camps in good standing, and when for any cause a camp is not in good standing, Division Commanders will immediately notify The Banner of that fact.

Upon the muster of a new camp Division Commanders will also supply the members' names and addresses to The Banner promptly.

By Order of

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

H'dq'rs Commandery-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.
528 Walnut Street.
Cincinnati, Ohio, April 10, 1906.

General Orders }
No. 4, }
Series of 1906. }

(To be read in Camp and filed.)

National Encampment.

I The Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will be held in the city

of Peoria, Illinois, the week of August 20th, 1906. This date was submitted to the Council-in-Chief and unanimously approved. Future General Orders will contain detailed information concerning the Encampment.

Division Encampments.

II. Division Encampments have been decided upon and will be held as follows:

New Hampshire, at Concord, April 18-19, 1906.
 Connecticut, at Hartford, April 25, 1906.
 New Jersey, at Trenton, May 9-10, 1906.
 Alabama and Tennessee, at Chattanooga, May 21, 1906.
 Illinois, at Galesburg, May 22-24, 1906.
 Missouri, at Jefferson City, May 23-24, 1906.
 Indiana, at Valparaiso, June 6-7, 1906.
 Kentucky, at Berea, June 11, 1906.
 Wisconsin, at Marinette, June 12-13, 1906.
 Ohio, at Dayton, June 12-14, 1906.
 Maine, at Lewiston, June 20-21, 1906.
 Vermont, at Lyndonville, June 26-27, 1906.
 Pennsylvania, at York, June 13-15, 1906.
 New York, at Rochester, June 26-28, 1906.
 California, at Long Beach, July 5-6-7, 1906.
 Minnesota, at St. Paul, August 13, 1906.
 Kansas, at Salina, June 5-6-7, 1906.

Division Indebtedness.

III. In his report at Gettysburg, Past National Treasurer Bolton reported several Divisions indebted to the Commandery-in-Chief for amounts specified on page 45 of the printed proceedings of the Twenty-fourth (Gettysburg) Annual Encampment. This report was verified by the Council-in-Chief, approved and adopted by the Commandery-in-Chief, and is therefore a matter of record. Divisions specified therein will give this matter their prompt attention. Division Commanders will have the amounts promptly remitted to the National Secretary, whereupon the said accounts will be closed and proper credit given, and receipt therefor will be issued.

Division and Camp Commissions.

IV. Division Commanders negligent in the matter of issuing commissions to the officers of the camps in their respective Divisions must correct same. Commissions must be issued by Division Commanders to the Commander, Senior Vice Commander and Junior Vice Commander of every camp in good standing. Camp Commanders must also issue warrants to the members of their staffs. Such as have not been provided will do so at once. This must not be overlooked.

Transfer Cards.

V. Considerable discussion has arisen in different Divisions and camps, and a number of inquiries have been submitted to National headquarters on the question of the rights and privileges of a member of the order holding a Transfer Card. To all who are interested, attention is respectfully directed to Paragraph 2, Section 1, Article 7, page 3, of the Constitution and Laws, which reads as follows: "A holder of a transfer card is a member of the order for purposes of discipline only, and shall be considered honorably discharged if the card is not deposited with some camp within a year."

Under the provisions of the above section of the Constitution, and in accordance with numerous decisions on this question, which have been approved by the national body, a member holding a transfer card is not entitled to the pass word, neither has he the right to visit a camp while in session. He does not contribute to the support of the order, not being required to pay dues, and therefore certainly should not have the same rights as an active member.

Charter Fees.

VI. Again the attention of Division Commanders is called to the necessity of having the fee of five dollars accompany each charter application when forwarding to national headquarters. This requirement is mandatory and must be complied with.

Within the Calendar Year.

VII. A number of inquiries have come to these headquarters as to the proper interpretation of that part of Section I, Article XII, page 4 of the Constitution and Laws, which reads: "Divisions shall meet in encampment at least once a year."

By this is meant—within the calendar year—between the first day of January and the thirty-first day of December. It is not meant that a Division Encampment must be held within three hundred and sixty-five days of the time of the preceding meeting.

Memorial Day.

VIII. Memorial Day, with its sacred attendant duties, is not far off. The attention of all members of the Order is directed to its near approach, and every Camp is urged to prepare for its proper observance. Arrangements should be made by Camps to attend Divine service on the preceding Sunday.

On Memorial Day, as well as on all other occasions, when Camps turn out in a body, the Camp Commander is in charge of the line. This will be strictly observed.

It is the duty of every Son of Veteran to offer his services to the Grand Army of the Republic on the thirtieth day of May, and to co-operate fully with the soldiers living in paying proper tribute to the memories of the soldiers dead.

H'dq'rs Commandery-in-Chief, S. of V. U. S. A.
Cincinnati, Ohio, April 10, 1906.

The following excellent address of our National Chaplain is hereby promulgated. All brothers of the order are reminded of their duty to the soldier dead on Memorial Day—don't forget it.

Fraternally submitted in F. C. & L.,

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

Terre Haute, Indiana, April 7, 1906.

To Brother Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.:—

As spring with its abundant wealth of beauty and fullness of new life once more gladdens our heart, let us not forget to express the debt of gratitude we owe to the memory of the deceased Union soldiers, for since last May, the "Grim Reaper" has not been idle. Thousands of newly formed mounds have been made, beneath each of which lies the silent form of an old soldier. On May 30, 1905, he, with feeble hand and faltering step, marched to the "Silent city of the dead" and cast a few flowers upon the grave of his comrade. His hand trembled, his eye was moist, yet his heart was strong and brave. Today, his form is missed in

the column which marches by. Shall we, their sons and daughters, forget to honor their name and beautify their graves? "No," we quickly answer in concert. We shall pluck the first and finest flowers and in loving memory deposit them upon their mounds. We shall do more. In prayer, thank God for their work; in song and oration pay to their memory a tribute of praise.

Why should we, as a nation, thus remember the departed soldier? First, because of what they were in war. Forty years ago they were young and strong. All life was before them. Our flag was insulted, our fair country was severely threatened by an enemy at home, four millions of black people were in bondage. The black man groaned; God pitied; they heard, aye, they responded and gave five years of the best of their young life in marching, fighting, and wasting in prison pens. A change has been wrought, the flag saved, our country preserved as a whole, the blacks were changed from chattels to citizens. All this, directed by the God of all nations, inspired by brave leaders, those of you living, and they who are dead accomplished.

Second, we honor them because of what they were in peace. At the surrender of the great Lee to the greater Grant, they quickly returned to what was left of their demoralized homes with the same devotion to courage which characterized them on the battle field, they went to work to fill places of peaceful citizens. Handicapped by shattered health and maimed bodies, they uncomplaining and patient, labored on until God's chariot was lowered and they stepped in and we see them no more. Yet, they toiled not in vain in peaceful pursuits as they fought not in vain in times of war. To no small degree they builded our highways and railroads, reared our churches and schools, laid the foundation of our cities, planned for and framed our laws of commerce, both National and International. They did more than this. They taught us to believe in God as our common father; in our nation as the best of the governments of the world. By example and word, bade us be honest and industrious and to love all men.

Hence, we count it not a duty alone but a high honor to drop a wreath of flowers on their grave. Yes, we will cast flowers in the river and on the lakes which course and beautify our blood-bought soil and bid them carry our message of love to the South land and send their fragrant breath of peace to the unknown dead who slumber amid the swamps and tangled forests where so many soldiers sleep and to those of you who are living, who have splendidly helped to accomplish all this, please accept our thanks and hear us as we declare to you that after you are gone, we shall each spring pluck flowers and drop them on your graves; we shall tell your children's children of their debt of gratitude for what you were and what you did.

REV. U. G. LEAZENBY,
National Chaplain, S. V., U. S. A.

Successful Recruiting.

IX. Personal appeal, in the work of recruiting for new members, is found to be productive of the desired results. Eligibles at once become interested when the objects and principles of our Order are set forth in a practical, comprehensive manner, and the Camp that pursues this practice is certain to increase its membership. A well-worded letter, addressed to

the son of a Union soldier, telling him that our Order is the proper medium through which the services of his father will be kept alive, is almost certain to have him enlist in our ranks. Try this plan. Get a list of the eligibles in your community, present to them the merits and the aims of the Order of Sons of Veterans in the right way, and you are sure to be greatly pleased with the results. The members of the Grand Army will be of good assistance to you in this work. Seek and take their advice and assistance at all times. You will profit by it.

Financial Statement.

X. Report of the National Secretary for the month of March, 1906:

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

To H. V. Speelman, Esq.,
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
Cincinnati, O.,
Reading, Pa., March 31, 1906.

Esteemed Sir and Commander:—I have the honor to submit the following report of the financial transactions of this department for the month ending March 31, 1906.

To Balance February 28th	\$1398.70
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax	\$1396.91
Charter Fees	75.00
Supplies	459.34
Total Receipts	<u>1931.25</u>
	\$3329.95

By Expenditures:

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Hdqrs: Comd'r-in-Chief:	
\$23.61 \$46.10	\$ 69.71
General Expenses:	
Hdqrs:	
\$1688.01	1688.01

Balance March 31st	\$1572.23
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ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES:

General Expenses:	
By Stock and Supplies	\$ 375.86
The Banner, Feb. and March, and on account Third Quarter, 1905	1268.92
Moving Headquarters	2.50
Shipping Supplies	21.48
Miscellaneous	19.25
	<u>\$1688.01</u>

OFFICE EXPENSES.

Headquarters:	
Stationery, Light, Express, Wrapping Paper, Postage	\$ 23.61
Comd'r-in-Chief:	
Rent, Postage, Stenographer, Express.....	46.10
	<u>69.71</u>

Total Expenditures, March	\$1757.72
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H. H. Hammer, National Secretary..

Charter Applications Approved.

XI. Applications for Charters for camps have been approved as follows since last announcement:

Date.	No.	Location.	Division.	No. Appli- cants.
1906.				
March 2	132	Hobart	Ind.	27
5	111	Shawnee, Ok. Ty.	Kan.	24
6	17	Ford	Ky.	15
9		Spring City	Pa.	28
16	133	Lynn	Ind.	21
19		Beavertown	Pa.	25
23	174	East St. Louis	Ill.	75
24		Plymouth	Mass.	28
21	32	Hamilton On., Can.	N. Y.	15
24	23	Sodus	N. Y.	16
28	134	Muncie	Ind.	29
29		Joplin	Mo.	25
29		Barker	N. Y.	28
30	29	Redding	California	31
31		Factoryville	Pa.	29

Camps Mustered.

XII. The following Camps have been mustered since last announcement:

Date.	No.	Location.	Division.	No. Mus- tered.
1906.				
Jan. 29	127	Sheridan	Ind.	72
Feb. 8	7	Ute	Iowa	16
Feb. 22	16	South Dayton	New York	16
March 7	17	Ford	Kentucky	15
18	29	Redding	California	31
21	32	Hamilton, On., Can.	N. Y.	15
24	23	Sodus	N. Y.	16
April. 3		South Dayton	New York	16
April 4		Ute	Iowa	16
April 4		Mt. Vernon	Iowa	38
April 4		Anderson	Indiana	31
April 4		Boston	Mass.	23

Constitutional Amendments.

XIII. Attention is respectfully directed to that part of Article XXV, page 19 of the Constitution and Laws, on the question of proposed amendments, which reads as follows:

"All proposed amendments to the Constitution and Laws shall be submitted in writing by Divisions, Camps or committees on Constitution and Laws to the Commander-in-Chief at least sixty days before the first session of each Commandery-in-Chief."

Membership for December Quarter.

XIV. The consolidated report for the quarter ending December 31, 1905, made up from Division reports, shows the membership in the several Divisions, also the total membership in good standing, to be as follows:

ENCAMPMENT.

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	Sept. 30, 1905		Dec. 31, 1905.	
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.
Ala. & Tenn.	9	257	9	253
California	13	446	13	398
Colorado	4	109	2	66
Connecticut	20	627	20	619
Illinois	38	999	39	1,031
Indiana	26	675	28	845
Iowa	14	272	11	224
Kansas	12	314	15	351
Kentucky	7	210	7	182
Maine	32	1,008	34	1,029
Maryland	9	315	10	345
Massachusetts	122	4,303	120	4,215
Michigan	6	83	7	129
Minnesota	12	438	12	427
Missouri	13	539	13	523
Nebraska	7	70	8	79
New Hampshire	30	843	31	856
New Jersey	23	1,089	22	1,044
New York	79	3,161	78	3,141
Ohio	59	1,923	62	2,000
Pennsylvania	152	9,600	150	9,504
Rhode Island	10	341	10	335
Vermont	26	626	26	632
Washington	6	103	4	86
Wisconsin	15	394	14	423
Total	744	28,745	745	28,737

Special Aides.

XV. The following brothers have been appointed as Special Aides on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief:

Leon E. Wilson, Lynn, Massachusetts.

J. C. Beach, Fargo, North Dakota.

Roster of Division Commanders.

XVI. Frequent requests are made for a roster of the several Division Commanders. Responding to this call, the complete roster existing at present, is herewith given:

Division.	Commander.	Address.
Ala. & Tenn.,	W. B. Samuel,	Knoxville, Tenn.
California,	Geo. W. Conart,	Los Angeles, Cal.
Colorado,	J. H. Head,	1854 W. 33rd, Denver, Colo.
Connecticut,	Malcolm D. Rudd,	Lakeville, Conn.
Illinois,	Bruce H. Garrett,	505 Ashton Bldg., Rockford, Ill.
Indiana,	Thomas W. Blair,	Fort Wayne, Ind.
Iowa,	F. A. Gibson,	Mason City, Iowa.
Kansas,	D. C. Tillotson,	State House, Topeka, Kas.
Kentucky,	Chas. E. Stebbins,	159 W. 4th St., Covington, Ky.
Maine,	Clarence H. Cram,	Augusta, Maine.
Maryland,	Francis E. Cross,	319 9th St., S. E., Washington, D. C.
Massachusetts,	Walter Penney,	Lynn, Mass.

Michigan,	W. L. Raynes,	Battle Creek, Mich.
Minnesota,	Geo. T. Drake,	345 St. Peter St., St. Paul, Minn.
Missouri,	Henry P. Kesselring,	2251 Eugenia St., St. Louis, Mo.
Nebraska,	Bert J. Galley,	Columbus, Neb.
New Hampshire,	W. F. Woodman,	Concord, N. H.
New Jersey,	John W. Robbins,	145 Broadway, Paterson, N. J.
New York,	W. B. Moynihan,	16 State St., Rochester, N. Y.
Ohio,	W. T. Shrive,	Lancaster, Ohio.
Pennsylvania,	John Bower, Jr.,	Room 28, N. E. C. Broad & Arch Sts. Philadelphia, Pa.
Rhode Island,	Edward S. Moulton,	P. O. Box 326, Providence, R. I.
Vermont,	J. B. Ripley,	Lyndonville, Vt.
Washington,	Millard T. Johnson,	Asotin, Wash.
Wisconsin,	J. A. Haselwood,	Jefferson, Wis.

Installing Officers' Reports.

XVII. A number of Division Commanders are complaining that they are experiencing difficulty in securing, in many instances, the reports of Installing Officers. Such Installing Officers as have not thus far made reports to Division headquarters are hereby directed to do so at once. This is a matter that must receive immediate attention.

Fraternally submitted in F. C. and L.

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

H'dq's Commandery-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.
528 Walnut Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio, May 10, 1906.

General Orders }
No. 5, }
Series of 1906. }

(To be read in Camp and filed.)

National Encampment.

I. The Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will be held in the city of Peoria, Illinois, the week of August 20th, 1906. Future General Orders will contain information concerning the Encampment.

Division Encampments.

II. Division Encampments will be held as follows:
Alabama and Tennessee, at Chattanooga, May 21, 1906.
Illinois, at Galesburg, May 22-24, 1906.
Missouri, at Jefferson City, May 23-24, 1906.
Iowa, at Boone, June 5, 6, 7, 1906.
Kansas, at Salina, June 5, 6, 7, 1906.
Indiana, at Valparaiso, June 6-7, 1906.
Kentucky, at Berea, June 11, 1906.
Wisconsin, at Marinette, June 12, 13, 1906.

Ohio, at Dayton, June 12-14, 1906.
 Pennsylvania, at York, June 13-15, 1906.
 Colorado, at Greeley, June 12-13-14, 1906.
 Maryland, at Wilmington, Delaware, June 19-20, 1906.
 Maine, at Lewistown, June 20-21, 1906.
 Michigan, at Saginaw, June 13, 15, 1906.
 Vermont, at Lyndonville, June 26-27, 1906.
 New York, at Rochester, June 26-28, 1906.
 California, at Long Beach, July 5-6-7, 1906.
 Minnesota, at St. Paul, August 13, 1906.

New Division Officers.

III. Since the last announcement, new Division officers have been elected and installed as follows:

New Hampshire.

Commander, Arthur J. Boutwell, Hopkinton; Senior Vice, Samuel S. Smith, Exeter; Junior Vice, Harry L. Lewis, Keene; Division Council: Frederic T. Woodman, Concord; F. L. Trask, Portsmouth; L. B. Whittemore, Nashua; Chaplain, D. W. Cole, Hillsboro; Secretary, A. W. Elliott, Pennacook; Treas., A. F. Runnells, Hopkinton; Inspector, J. H. Fifield, Nashua; Counselor, George L. Wakefield, Manchester; Del., J. H. Fifield, Nashua; Alt., J. E. Paine, Suncook.

Connecticut Division.

The Encampment of the Connecticut Division was held at Hartford April 25th, and the following officers were elected:

Commander, Alfred C. Baldwin, Derby; Senior Vice, E. D. Brooks, Rockville; Junior Vice, F. H. May, New Britain; Division Council: M. D. Rudd, Lakeville; G. M. Crossman, Winstel; C. W. Davies, New London; Delegates to Commandery: R. T. Alcorn, Hartford; H. H. Gorton, Naugatuck; Alternates: C. E. Batchelor, Ansonia; C. W. Roberts, Hartford. The following officers were appointed: Division Chaplain, Rev. Sherrod Soule, Naugatuck; Counselor, H. M. Alcorn, Hartford; Secretary, F. S. Valentine, Derby; Inspector, C. E. Batchelor, Ansonia; Treasurer and Assistant Secretary (elected one year ago for three years), Dr. C. W. Roberts, Hartford.

New Jersey Division.

The encampment of the Division of New Jersey was held at Trenton, May 9th and 10th. At the time of the preparation of this General Order (May 10th) it is impossible to give a list of the newly-elected officers. The same will be published in General Order No. 6.

Aid for San Francisco Sufferers.

IV. On April 21st an appeal for aid for the San Francisco sufferers was issued from these headquarters. This appeal was promulgated through the medium of the public press, and the following is a copy of the letter that was addressed to each Division Commander:

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,
 Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,
 528 Walnut Street,
 Cincinnati, Ohio, April 21, 1906.

My Dear Commander:—The following appeal has been issued from these headquarters to the membership of our Order, and

you are requested to promptly promulgate the same to the Camps of your Division:

"As our fathers rallied to the support of the Union in 1861, let us now respond to duty's call by giving succor to the thousands of unfortunates who are victims of the terrible San Francisco catastrophe.

"Contributions should be sent to Division Commander George W. Conart, Bullard Building, Los Angeles, California."

It is suggested that a contribution be made from your Division Treasury at once. A message from Commander Conart states that California Brothers, residents of San Francisco, are in need of immediate help. Much time will be saved by sending your contributions by wire.—Fraternally yours,

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN, Com.-in-C.

On Monday, April 23rd, further information was received from Commander Conart to the effect that five California Camps are within the area affected by the earthquake, and that a number of our members were in need of aid. Acting upon this information, the following Special Order was immediately issued:

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,
528 Walnut Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio, April 23, 1906.

George W. Conart, Commander California Division S. V., U. S. A., Los Angeles, Calif.

My Dear Commander:—You are hereby authorized and directed to receive, in the name of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., contributions from Divisions, Camps, and individual members, for the aid of the San Francisco earthquake sufferers, in each instance giving receipt therefor.

You will please disburse or turn over to the proper authorities such amounts as may be sent to you, and will make a detailed report of receipts and disbursements to these headquarters. Fraternal submitted in F. C. & L.,

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN, Com.-in-C.

In response to the above appeal, Divisions, Camps and individual members of the Order throughout the country have been contributing to the fund for the aid of the sufferers. Some have sent their contributions to Commander Conart, while others have subscribed to funds being raised in their respective cities, towns and communities. In the name of the Order at large, a subscription was sent from the National Treasury.

The sympathies of our Order are extended to all who have suffered from the terrible San Francisco disaster, particularly to those who are our Brothers.

The Parrott building, San Francisco, in which was located the office of Division Treasurer Frank B. Wilson, was entirely destroyed, and all Division supplies, together with the Treasurer's records, were lost.

Charter Applications.

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

Date.	No.	Location.	Div.	No.	Ap.
Apr. 4	40	Lucasville,	Ohio		16
Apr. 7		Hanover.	Mass.		27
Apr. 7	82	Lunenburg,	Ver.		15
Apr. 16	65	Aitkin,	Minn.		20

ENCAMPMENT.

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Apr. 16	134	Culver,	Ind.	16
Apr. 18	9	Great Bend,	Kas.	71
Apr. 20	137	Converse,	Ind.	28
Apr. 20	11	Boone,	Iowa	23
Apr. 20	8	Red Bluff,	Calif.	29
Apr. 21		Brooklyn,	N. Y.	36
Apr. 24		Waynesburg,	Penna.	21

Camps Mustered.

VI. Camps have been mustered since last announcement as follows:

Date.	No.	Location.	Div.	No. Mus.
Jan. 30	82	Lunenburg.	Vermont	15
Feb. 20	16	South Dayton,	New York	16
Mar. 1	50	Delaware,	Ohio	24
Mar. 2	131	Lafayette.	Ind.	56
Mar. 6	132	Hobart.	Ind.	22
Mar. 16	259	Pekin.	Ill.	52
Mar. 24	86	Spring City.	Penna.	27
Mar. 29	90	Beavertown	Penna.	27
Apr. 4	174	East St. Louis	Ill.	37
Apr. 5	40	Lucasville,	Ohio	16
Apr. 7	33	Barker,	New York	28
Apr. 14	93	Factoryville,	Penna.	19
Apr. 19	65	Aitkin.	Minn.	19
Apr. 23	9	Great Bend,	Kansas	70

Financial Statement.

VII. Report of the National Secretary for the month of April, 1906:

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,
Department of National Secretary.
Reading, Pa., April 30, 1906.

To H. V. Speelman, Esq.,
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Esteemed Sir and Commander:—I have the honor to submit the following report of the financial transactions of this department for the month ending April 30, 1906.

To Balance March 31st, 1906.....	\$1572.23
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax.....	\$ 411.60
Charter Fees	80.00
Supplies	284.40

Total Receipts	776.00
	\$2348.23

By Expenditures:

Hdqrs:	Comd'r-In-Chief:	
\$ 27.36	\$77.97.....	\$ 105.33

GENERAL EXPENSES:

1004.18	1004.18
Total Expenditures	\$1109.51
Balance, April 30th	\$1238.72

Itemized Expenditures:

Office Expenses:	
Headquarters: Wrapping paper, light, express, postage	\$ 15.36
Insurance on stock	12.00
Comd'r-in-Chief: Stenographer, rent, postage, stationery, supplies, telegrams, express, traveling	77.97
General Expenses:	
Headquarters: Shipping supplies	12.04
The Banner, April, (\$492.14) and \$300.00 on Ac. Third Quarter, 1905	792.14
Stock and supplies	100.00
California Division earthquake and conflagration sufferers	100.00
Total Expenditures	<u>\$1109.51</u>
Balance April 30th	\$1238.72

Fraternally submitted in F. C. & L.,
H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Davis Succeeds Cross.

VIII. The resignation of Francis E. Cross as Commander of the Division of Maryland has been received and accepted, effective May 15, 1906. Acting under the provisions of Special Order No. 10, the Division Council of Maryland has unanimously elected Charles S. Davis, of Washington, D. C., as his successor, for the unexpired term. Past Commander-in-Chief E. R. Campbell has been commissioned to install Commander-elect Davis into office.

Resignation of Commander Drake.

IX. The resignation of Commander George T. Drake of the Minnesota Division has been received and accepted. Senior Vice Commander J. H. Boustead, of Red Wing, has been placed temporarily in command, pending the election of a successor to Commander Drake by the Division Council.

Constitutional Amendments.

X. Again attention is called to Article XXV, page 19 of the Constitution and Laws of the Order. Under the provisions of this Article, proposed amendments must reach these headquarters not later than June 20th in order to be given consideration at the Peoria Encampment.

Special Aide.

XI. Brother Harry Platner, of Rockford, Illinois, has been appointed as a Special Aide on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief. Brother Platner is a Comrade of the Grand Army, also a member of the Order of Sons of Veterans.

Memorial Day Reports.

XII. Camp Chaplains are urged to be prompt in the matter of making their Memorial Day reports. These reports should be sent in immediately following the Thirtieth of May exercises.

By order of
Official: HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
H. H. HAMMER, Commander-in-Chief.
National Secretary.

Hdq'rs Commandery-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.
528 Walnut Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio, June 9, 1906.

General Orders }
No. 6, }
Series of 1906. }

(To be read in Camp and filed.)

I. As heretofore announced, the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will be held in the City of Peoria, Illinois, the week of August 20th, 1906.

The first business session of the Encampment will be called to order Tuesday afternoon, August 21st, and all officers and members are urgently requested to be present at that time.

Headquarters will be established in the National Hotel at Peoria.

Committees.

The following are the Committees in charge of the arrangements for the coming Encampment.

Executive Committee: Harry G Wasson, Chairman; E. F. Buck, L. F. Meek, J. D. Hall, Geo. N. McClure, Wm. S. Wonder, H. C. Springston, W. E. Hull, Frank H. Gift, W. P. Gauss, Ben J. Greenhut, Elliott Callender, Jr., John A. Read, Charles Burdick, J. V. Graff.

Railroad Rates—W. E. Hull, Chairman; W. P. Gauss, H. C. Springston, L. F. Meek, Jos. Dailey, Wm. Circle.

Programme and Press—S. A. Oakley, Chairman; Mrs. L. Pottorf, Mrs. E. J. Moon, Haller Charles.

Delegate Badges—E. F. Buck, Chairman; Mrs. Florence Tippetts, Mrs. Adams, W. F. Gauss, Frank Gift.

Entertainment—J. A. Read, Chairman; A. L. Schimpff, Mrs. Margaret L. Scott, Mrs. E. A. Walker, E. F. Buck, W. E. Hull, H. G. Wasson.

Reception—J. D. Hall, Chairman; L. F. Meek, W. L. Ellwood, Wm. McClure, Geo. McClure, C. Gift, Louis F. Kingman, Walter Kingman, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Moon, A. L. Schimpff, Haller Charles, Mrs. E. Walker, George Powers, Mrs. L. Pottorf, Mrs. Florence Tippetts, W. P. Gauss.

Finance Committee—H. G. Wasson, Chairman; Geo. McClure, E. F. Buck and John A. Read.

Parade Committee—Thos. Simpson, Chairman; Dr. Hasson, Dr. R. Bradley, Dr. E. Barbour, F. A. Walker, Royal Dodge.

Hotel Rates.

II. National Hotel—Headquarters. American plan, \$2.50 per day and up.

Fey Hotel—American plan, \$2.00 per day double, \$2.50 and \$3.00 single.

Grant Hotel—50 cents per day and up special to Sons of Veterans; long distance telephone in every room. European plan.

Niagara Hotel—\$1.00 per day and up single. 75 cents each (double) and up; with bath (single) \$1.50; with bath (double), \$2.50 and up. European plan.

Railroad Rates.

III. For the Peoria Encampment, the Central Passenger Association has granted a railroad rate of one and one-third fare

for the round trip, on the certificate plan. This rate has already been concurred in by a number of other associations and it is likely that it will be made applicable to all sections of the country. Detailed information covering this matter will be set forth in General Order No. 7, to be published in July.

New Division Officers.

IV. Since the last announcement the following Division Encampments have been held:

New Jersey.

The Encampment of the Division of New Jersey was held at Trenton, May 9th and 10th and the following officers were elected and installed:

Commander, Chas. Corlies Lawrence, Trenton; Senior Vice, Harry E. Pennell, Atlantic City; Junior Vice, Theo. E. Jones, Montclair; Division Council: J. W. Hopper, Paterson; Chas. P. Ahrens, Hoboken; Robt. Morton, Jr., West Hoboken; Chaplain, Edgar B. Jordan, Beverly; Secretary, William H. Good, 321 Monmouth St., Trenton; Treasurer, A. K. Hendley, 132 S. Stockton St., Trenton; Counselor, M. M. Mann, Belvidere, N. J.; Inspector, Jos. N. Layman, Penn's Grove; Sergeant Major, R. J. Kinney, Trenton, N. J.; Delegates to the National Encampment: A. I. Vercecius of Paterson; Andrew J. Fould of Passaic; Wm. H. Good of Trenton.

Alabama and Tennessee.

The Encampment of the Division of Alabama and Tennessee was held at Chattanooga, May 21st, and the following officers were elected and installed:

Division Commander, Charles A. Brake, Birmingham, Ala.; Senior Vice, John C. Hester, Kingston, Tenn.; Junior Vice, Elwyn Ballard, M. D., Birmingham, Ala.; Division Council: Orville H. Hall, Atlanta, Ga.; W. B. Samuel, Knoxville, Tenn.; W. F. Bolin, Birmingham, Ala.

Division Commander Chas. A. Brake appointed the following staff:

Counselor, S. A. Arrico, Birmingham, Ala.; Chaplain, H. E. Shaw, Birmingham, Ala.; Inspector, J. H. Pritchard, St. Augustine, Fla.

Hold over for four more years: Secretary, M. D. Friedman, Birmingham, Ala.; Treasurer, V. Gilb, Jr., Birmingham, Ala.; Delegate to National Encampment, Horace E. Shaw, Birmingham, Ala.; Alternate, Maurice W. Ganster, Birmingham, Ala.

Atlanta, Ga., was the place selected to hold the 1907 Encampment.

Illinois.

The Encampment of the Illinois Division was held at Galesburg May 22, 23 and 24, and the following officers were elected and installed:

Division Commander, Harry G. Wasson, Peoria; Senior Vice, R. C. Clark, Aurora; Junior Vice, Geo. W. Spring, Jr., Galesburg; Secretary-Treasurer for five years, Wm. G. Dustin, Dwight; Division Council: E. C. Stokburger, Rockford; Will C. Creighton, Champaign; Joel F. Longnecker, Chicago. Delegates to the National Encampment: Richard F. Locke, Rockford; Judge Phil S. Post, Galesburg; John T. Stockton, Chicago.

Missouri.

The Encampment of the Division of Missouri was held at Jefferson City, May 23-24, 1906, and the following officers were elected and installed:

Division Commander, Albert G. Gerdel, St. Louis; Senior Vice, Fred Kraft, Cape Girardeau; Junior Vice, Ford Bacon, Jefferson City; Division Council: John C. Berthold, Kirkwood; Theodore Dilg, St. Louis; Chris. Walk, Lexington. Delegates to National Encampment: Louis C. Splies, St. Louis; L. B. Philo, St. Joseph. Alternates. A. J. Albrecht, St. Louis; E. L. Burch, Jefferson City.

Other Divisions.

The encampments of the Divisions of Indiana, Iowa and Kansas have been held, and the list of their newly-elected officers, together with those of Kentucky, Wisconsin, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Colorado, Maine, Michigan, Vermont and New York, will be published in General Order No. 7.

Encampment Dates.

V. Division Encampments will be held as follows:

Kentucky, at Berea, June 11, 1906.
 Wisconsin, at Marinette, June 12, 13, 1906.
 Ohio, at Dayton, June 12-14, 1906.
 Pennsylvania, at York, June 13-15, 1906.
 Colorado, at Greeley, June 12-13-14, 1906.
 Maryland, at Wilmington, Delaware, June 19-20, 1906.
 Maine, at Lewiston, June 20-21, 1906.
 Michigan, at Saginaw, June 13, 15.
 Vermont, at Lyndonville, June 26-27, 1906.
 New York, at Rochester, June 26-28, 1906.
 California, at Long Beach, July 5-6-7, 1906.
 Minnesota, at St. Paul, August 13, 1906.

Committee on Constitution and Laws.

VI. The announcement of the appointment of the following Committee on Constitution and Laws for the Peoria Encampment is hereby made:

National Counselor, A. E. B. Stephens, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Edwin M. Amies, Altoona, Pennsylvania.
 Edward K. Gould, Rockland, Maine.
 F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.
 Bert J. Galley, Columbus, Nebraska.

As heretofore stated, proposed amendments must reach these headquarters not later than June 20th, in order to be given consideration at the Peoria Encampment. This is a Constitutional requirement.

Fraternal Greetings Committee.

VII. The following Committee on fraternal greetings, to represent the Commandery-in-Chief at the coming National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, and affiliating organizations, to be held at Minneapolis, Minnesota, the week of August 13th, 1906, is hereby appointed:

Hon. Cyrus H. Little, Manchester, New Hampshire.
 Past Commander-in-Chief, William G. Dustin, Dwight, Illinois.
 Past Chaplain-in-Chief, W. J. Patton, Kaukauna, Wisconsin.
 Hon. Arthur L. Jones, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Past Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, A. L. Sorter, Jr., Mason City, Iowa.

Heller Succeeds Drake.

VIII. By the unanimous vote of the Council, E. F. Heller, has been selected to succeed George T. Drake, resigned, as Commander of the Division of Minnesota. Brother Heller has been installed into office and his address is No. 1424 West Superior Street, Duluth, Minn.

Patton Becomes Chairman.

IX. Because of the additional duties placed upon him, having been elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Illinois Division, Past Commander-in-Chief Dustin has tendered his resignation as chairman of the Memorial University Committee, and the same has been accepted. Brother W. J. Patton, of Kaukauna, Wisconsin, Financial Agent for the University, has been appointed to the chairmanship of this committee.

Charter Applications.

X. Since the last announcement the following applications for Camp Charters have been received and approved:

Date.	No.	Location.	Division.	No. Applets.
1906—				
May 7	21	Pensacola, Fla.	Ala. & Tenn.	20
9		Perryville,	Mo.	20
12	22	Bethany,	Mo.	15
15	93	Milbury,	Mass.	15
16	138	Portland,	Ind.	39
25	36	Strasburg,	Ohio	19
25	42	Newtonsville,	Ohio	28
25	100	New Richmond,	Ohio	16
28		Hallowell,	Maine	27

Camps Mustered.

XI. The following Camps have been mustered since the last published announcement:

Date App.	No. Camp.	Location	Division.	No. Must.
1906—				
Feb. 13	128	Pennville,	Ind.	21
20	129	Ridgeville,	Ind.	27
Mar. 2	130	Hartford City,	Ind.	24
13	39	Beverly,	N. J.	25
28	133	Lynn,	Ind.	22
29	4	Plymouth,	Mass.	27
Apr. 4	100	New Richmond,	Ohio	16
10	9	Mt. Vernon,	Iowa	43
14	100	Hanover,	Mass.	40
25	134	Culver,	Ind.	23
26	20	Muncie,	Ind.	25
26	42	Newtonsville,	Ohio	28
May 3	137	Converse,	Ind.	22
4	8	Joplin,	Mo.	27
9	36	Strasburg,	Ohio	19
10	36	Brooklyn,	N. Y.	30
11	11	Boone,	Iowa,	34

ENCAMPMENT.

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12	21	Pensacola, Fla.	Ala. & Tenn.	18
12	91	Waynesburg,	Penn.	21
17	93	Milbury,	Mass.	15
17		Perryville,	Mo.	23
28	138	Portland,	Ind.	46

Financial Statement.

XII. Report of the National Secretary for the month of May, 1906:

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,
Department of National Secretary.
Reading, Pa., May 31, 1906.

To H. V. Speelman, Esq.,
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Esteemed Sir and Commander:—I have the honor to submit the following report of the financial transactions of this department for the month ending May 31, 1906:

To Balance April 30th, 1906.....	\$1238.72
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax.....	\$599.43
Charter Fees	55.00
Supplies	429.93

Total Receipts

1084.36

\$2323.08

By Expenditures:

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Hdqrs.	Comd'r-in-Chief:	
\$ 7.66	\$78.40	\$ 86.06

GENERAL EXPENSES:

1327.54	11.00	1338.54
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Total Expenditures

\$1424.60

Balance, May 31st, 1906.....

\$ 898.48

Itemized Expenditures:

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Headquarters: Postage, Expressage, Light.....	\$ 7.66
Comd'r-in-Chief: Rent, Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Stenographer	78.40

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Headquarters: Stock, Supplies, etc.	476.60
Reserves	25.00
The Banner, May (\$500.32) and \$300 on account Third Quarter, 1905.....	800.52
Shipping Supplies	25.42
Comd'r-in-Chief: Passg'r Ass'n Ag't on account Encampment, 1906, Comd'y-in-Chief.....	11.00

Total Expenditures

\$1424.60

Balance, May 31st

\$898.48

Fraternally submitted in F. C. & L.,

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

Memorial Day Reports.

XIII. Camps that have not already done so are urged to forward to Division Headquarters their Memorial Day reports **WITHOUT DELAY**. This is a matter that **MUST BE GIVEN IMMEDIATE ATTENTION**.

Restriction of Immigration.

XIV. Restriction of foreign immigration into this country is one of the grave problems confronting the American people today, and the proper solution of this question requires serious thought and patriotic action.

Statistics show the immigration for the year ending June 30, 1905, to have been as follows:

Male aliens admitted	724,914
Female aliens admitted	301,585
Total	1,026,499

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.

Austria-Hungary	275,693
Italy	221,479
Russia	184,897
United Kingdom	137,134
All others	207,296
Total	1,026,499

Illiterates over the age of 14

(Note—The figures of illiteracy are obviously incomplete. No test is applied, but the statement of the immigrant is accepted.)

Percentage of Illiteracy among Adult Immigrants of the Ten Races Principally represented.

	Per Cent.		Per Cent.
South Italian	56	Magyar	12
Polish	40	German	4
Slovak	25	Irish	3
Hebrew	23	English	1
North Italian	14	Scandinavian	1

A study of the foregoing figures impresses us with the belief that the teaching of true patriotism is an essential duty on the part of every loyal American.

To the end that the desired results may be attained, organization of a substantial character is necessary. Steps have already been taken for the formation of the Federation of Patriotic Societies of the United States.

This Federation is contemplated principally for legislative purposes. The objects are as follows:

Cementing the bonds of fraternal union among patriotic, fraternal and benevolent societies; fostering and protecting the interests and works of patriotism, fraternity, benevolences, education and charity; the study of social conditions; the dissemination of truthful history; the encouragement of the distribution of wholesome literature; the enactment of laws for the suppression of vice and crime, and for the protection of the American home.

The constituency of this proposed federation is to consist of all patriotic, fraternal, benevolent and other societies or organizations, pledging co-operation in the work that is to be performed.

The officers are to be a President, five Vice Presidents and a Secretary-Treasurer, who shall constitute the headquarters committee, and who shall be chosen at the time of each annual convention by the National Board of Trustees.

This National Board of Trustees is to be constituted as follows:

1st. The ranking executive officer of each National organization co-operating with the Federation, and two representatives to be by him or her appointed.

2nd. The ranking executive officer of each state organization co-operating with the Federation and not affiliated with or working under the jurisdiction of the National Organization.

This proposed Federation is deserving of the support of every true patriot.

All Sons of Veterans are urged to assist in every way possible in the support of its principles and objects.

Under the arrangement above referred to, your Commander-in-Chief becomes one member of the Board of Trustees, and as the other two members of this Board, to which our Order is entitled, the following brothers have been appointed: Past Commander-in-Chief, E. R. Campbell and Past Division Commander Francis E. Cross, of the Division of Maryland.

In as much as the principal work will be performed at Washington, D. C., during the sessions of Congress, we are particularly fortunate in having both of these able advocates at the National Capital.

Certificates of Election.

XIV. Immediately following the elections in Divisions, certificates must be made out in duplicate, showing the full list of names and addresses of the new officers chosen. One of these is to be sent to these headquarters, and the other mailed to the National Secretary.

Bonds.

XV. A Division Commander is required to furnish a bond, written in some acceptable surety company, within thirty days after his election. In connection with this matter, attention is respectfully directed to Sections 2 and 3, pages 20 and 21 of the Constitution and Laws.

By order of

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

H'dq'rs Commandery-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.
528 Walnut Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio, July 10, 1906.

General Orders }
No. 7, }
Series of 1906. }

(To be read in Camp and filed.)

1. The first session of the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will be called to order at 2 o'clock p. m., Tuesday August 21st, 1906, in the city of Peoria, Ill. All officers and members of the Encampment are urgently requested to report for duty at the opening

session. Headquarters will be established in the National Hotel at Peoria.

The Council-in-Chief will convene Monday afternoon, August 20th for the purpose of auditing books and accounts.

Local Committees.

II. The following are the local Peoria committees in charge of the arrangements for the coming Encampment:

Executive Committee—Harry G. Wasson, Chairman; E. F. Buck, L. F. Meek, J. D. Hall, Geo. N. McClure, Wm. S. Wonder, H. C. Springston, W. E. Hull, Frank H. Gift, W. P. Gauss, Ben J. Greenbut, Elliott Callender, Jr., John A. Read, Charles Burdick, J. V. Graff.

Railroad Rates—W. E. Hull, Chairman; W. P. Gauss, H. C. Springston, L. F. Meek, Jos. Dailey, Wm. Circle.

Programme and Press—S. A. Oakley, Chairman; Mrs. L. Potthorf, Mrs. E. J. Moon, Haller Charles.

Delegate Badges—E. F. Buck, Chairman; Mrs. Florence Tippetts, Mrs. Adams, W. F. Gauss, Frank Gift.

Entertainment—J. A. Read, Chairman; A. L. Schimpff, Mrs. Margaret L. Scott, Mrs. E. A. Walker, E. F. Buck, W. E. Hull, H. G. Wasson.

Reception—J. D. Hall, Chairman; L. F. Meek, W. L. Ellwood, Wm. McClure, Geo. McClure, C. Gift, Louis F. Kingman, Walter Kingman, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Moon, A. L. Schimpff, Haller Charles, Mrs. E. Walker, George Powers, Mrs. L. Potthorf, Mrs. Florence Tippetts, W. P. Gauss.

Finance Committee—H. G. Wasson, Chairman; Geo. McClure, E. F. Buck and John A. Read.

Parade Committee—Thos. Simpson, Chairman; Dr. Hasson, Dr. R. Bradley, Dr. E. Borbour, F. A. Walker, Royal Dodge.

Hotel Rates.

III. National Hotel—Headquarters. American plan, \$2.50 per day and up. Fey Hotel—American plan, \$2 per day double, \$2.50 and \$3 single. Grant Hotel—50 cents per day and up, special to Sons of Veterans; long distance telephone in every room. European plan. Niagara Hotel—\$1 per day and up single; 75 cents each (double) and up; with bath (single) \$1.50; with bath (double) \$2.50 and up. European plan.

Railroad Rates.

IV. For the Peoria Encampment a railroad rate of one and one-third fare for the round trip, certificate plan, has been granted by the several Passenger Associations of the country. All those attending the Encampment are required to pay one full fare going, and it is absolutely necessary that a certificate be procured at the starting point on purchasing ticket. This certificate will entitle the holder to a one-third fare on the purchase of the return trip ticket at Peoria.

All certificates must be deposited with the National Secretary immediately upon the arrival at Peoria.

Those who are to attend the Encampment should speak to the Ticket Agents at their respective homes some time in advance of the day for starting on the trip, to make certain that there may be a full understanding as to the matter of securing the required certificates.

New Division Officers.

V. Since the last announcement Division Encampments have been held and officers elected as follows:

Colorado Division: Commander, A. W. Stillians, Durango; Senior Vice, A. W. Steinmetz, Denver; Junior Vice, Kenneth A. Coon, Denver; Division Council: Wm. S. Paul, J. H. Head, F. A. Whitney, Denver; Secretary, Geo. L. Hooker, 2632 Arapahoe St., Denver; Delegate George L. Hooker, Denver.

Kansas Division: Commander, Clarence Peck, Bunkerhill; Senior Vice, V. H. Hilton, Salina; Junior Vice, J. A. Schmidt, Ellworth; Division Council, C. H. Newton, Parsons; Wm. D. Shepard, Salina; E. H. Damoude, Gypsum. Delegate to National Encampment, Jacob Sackman, Wilson.

Staff Officers: Counselor, R. L. Rickard, Valley Center; Chaplain, Rev. Frank C. McKean, Salina; Inspector, E. Chellis, Gypsum; Treasurer, Walter McKittrick, Wilson; Secretary, Jas. T. Sellens, Bunkerhill.

Kentucky Division: Commander, C. Fay, Hanson, Berea; Senior Vice, A. H. Cabell, 140 Holloway St., Henderson; Junior Vice, Thos. C. Johnson, William St., Paris. Division Council: Louis O. Lester, Berea; Claude Wood, 115 W. 4th St., Newport; Chas. E. Stebbins, 159 W. 4th St., Covington. Delegate to National Encampment, A. H. Cabell, 140 Holloway St., Henderson.

Staff Officers: Secretary and Treasurer, B. H. Galbard, Berea; Chaplain, W. H. Talbert, Ford; Counselor, Geo. H. Stebbins, 812 Vine St., Cincinnati, Ohio; Inspector, A. F. Ross, 10 and Columbia Sts., Newport, Ky.

Maine Division: Commander, Darling S. Hayes, Sanford; Senior Vice, L. W. Vinal, Vinalhaven; Junior Vice, W. M. McCann, Jr., Lewiston. Division Council, Clarence H. Cram, Augusta; Charles W. Burpee, Rockland; Walter Hatch, Kittery. Delegates: George W. Gragg, Bath; E. M. Small, Lewiston; Chas. L. Chase, Newport. The election of alternates was left with the Division Council.

Ohio Division: Commander, P. F. Yengling, Salem; Senior Vice, H. M. Bennett, Dayton; Junior Vice, A. D. Schlegle, New Philadelphia. Division Council: H. R. Roley, Lancaster; O. F. McCoy, Springfield; W. H. Perry, Cincinnati. Secretary, J. D. Barnett, Findlay; Treasurer, A. V. Kirkbride, Salem; Chaplain, H. S. Huey, Tadmour; Counselor, C. F. Smith, Salem; Serg. Major, S. J. Witherow, East Liverpool; Inspector, W. W. Barton, Bellefontaine; Special Organizer, W. T. Shrieve, Lancaster; Correspondent, R. L. Atchison, Mogadore; Military Aide, I. Levy, Springfield.

Delegates: T. E. Long, Dayton; W. T. Critchfield, Troy; Hy. D. Davis, Cleveland; W. H. Perry, Cincinnati; Adelbert McKay, Waynesville; A. M. Lowe, Uhrichsville.

Maryland Division: Commander, Jos. F. Peeney, 225 N. Broome St., Wilmington, Delaware; Senior Vice, Geo. H. Wackerhauser, 9 Frederick Ave., Baltimore, Md.; Junior Vice, Chas. D. Scott, 1115 Penn Ave., S. E., Washington, D. C. Division Council: Harry Dalby, 918 Lovering Ave., Wilmington, Delaware; Jos. H. Gentieu, Henry Clay, Del.; Chas. H. Bowser, 408 E. 12 St., Wilmington, Del. Secretary, John M. Patterson, 508 E. 5th St., Wilmington, Delaware.

Pennsylvania Division: Commander, Lincoln S. Ramsey, Reading; Senior Vice, J. St. Clair McCall, York; Junior Vice, A.

E. Kester; Slatington; Secretary (term 3 yrs.) W. B. McNulty, Philadelphia; Treasurer (term 3 yrs.) John Wightman, Mt. Carmel. Division Council: Wm. B. Fickes, Altoona; Geo. L. Martin, Philadelphia; Jos. B. Prosser, Milton.

Staff Officers: Division Counselor, Wm. A. Gray, Philadelphia; Division Chaplain, Ralph M. Campbell, New Castle; Division Inspector, Chas. O. Hohe, Emaus.

Delegates: J. B. Knauff, Edw. S. Amies, J. A. Welsh, C. C. Morton, John R. Farr, J. E. Sautter, D. Sherman Smith, W. A. G. Lape, E. B. Hartman, W. E. Smedley, A. S. Rhoades, F. Tschudy, F. A. McKelvey, Henry Stewart, Wm. H. Bischoff, B. C. Reitzel, K. F. Stewart, E. Rebele, C. A. Stineman.

Alternates: A. D. Roth, A. W. Scott, Jos. M. Davis, John A. Williams, Geo. Wilson, H. E. Detweiler, Wm. Henneke, C. S. Alexander, W. A. Wilson, Chas. D. Charters, B. F. Hollenbach, E. E. West, R. M. Wright, H. F. Sherts, A. B. Strause, J. J. Shaner, S. E. Lee, David Mock.

Iowa Division: Commander, Fremont S. Gibson, Mason City, Iowa; Senior Vice, A. C. Weeks, Denison; Junior Vice, H. L. Garrison, Boone. Division Council: John R. Rollins, Grinnell; Fred Hill, Clear Lake; C. R. Rogers, Dubuque. Secretary, W. F. Muse, Mason City; Treasurer, H. A. Merrill, Mason City; Inspector, W. S. Rankin, Mason City; Counselor, T. J. Bray, Grinnell; Chaplain, J. G. VanNess, Mt. Vernon.

Delegates—J. G. VanNess, Mt. Vernon, Iowa; John R. Rollins, Grinnell, Iowa. Alternates—George T. Brecktel, Boone; H. L. Henry, Charles City.

Wisconsin Division: Commander, Fred W. Graff, Sheboygan; Senior Vice, Felix A. Kremer, Madison; Junior Vice, H. B. Simcox, Jr., Marinette. Division Council: J. F. Smith, Bloomer; Wilber Perkins, Jefferson; Edward B. Mattoon, Sheboygan.

Delegates—Felix A. Kremer, Madison; J. B. Bogart, Milwaukee. Alternates—Bert Thompson, Whitehall; Herbert S. Siggelko, Madison.

Staff Officers—Secretary, Eugene Hickey, Sheboygan; Treasurer, Otto C. Knabe, Sheboygan; Counselor, James F. Oliver, Madison; Chaplain, Rev. H. Erfmeyer, Racine; Inspector, Bill Warner, Thorp. Mustering Officers: John A. Haselwood, Jefferson; B. S. Fox, Meehan; M. A. Grasse, Milwaukee; J. W. T. Ames, River Falls; C. H. Hudson, Madison; R. M. Smith, Marinette; G. A. Geisler, Sheboygan; Sergeant Major, Frank E. Merryfeld, Stevens Point.

Vermont Division: Commander, C. E. Bliss, East Calais; Senior Vice Commander, Elmer G. Reed, Chelsea; Junior Vice Commander, D. H. Hollister, North Montpelier. Division Council: John B. Ripley, Lyndonville; F. H. Ferguson, Bennington; G. A. Waldron, Wells River. Secretary-Treasurer, G. E. Carley, East Calais.

Delegates—Allan S. Holbrook, Dwight, Ill.; George D. Thompson, Lyndonville, Vt.

Staff Officers—Chaplain, Henry D. Pollard, Richford; Counselor, C. J. Smith, Huntington; Inspector, M. W. Jones, Hardwick.

Michigan Division: Commander, Walter L. Raynes, Battle Creek; Senior Vice, J. U. Ripley, Fenton; Junior Vice, U. U. Green, Hadley. Division Council: Frank C. Stillson, Battle Creek; J. D. Eddy, Grand Rapids; H. E. Cowdin, Rockford. Secretary, J. Frank Raynes, Battle Creek; Treasurer, E. D.

Strain, Battle Creek; Chaplain, Rollo B. Cook, Battle Creek; Counselor, A. B. Coffinbury, Grand Rapids. Delegates to be appointed by Division Commander.

Indiana Division: Commander, Wm. F. Gottschalk, Terre Haute; Senior Vice, J. Herschel Arnold, Valparaiso; Junior Vice, R. F. DuComb, South Bend. Division Council: J. D. Miller, Winchester; R. E. Warren, Lafayette; I. E. Wiebel, Geneva; Secretary, J. W. Perry, Terre Haute. Delegates: Dan Chapin, Rockville; S. C. Tipton, South Bend; H. D. Miller, Fort Wayne; F. E. Watson, Goldsmith. Alternates: John McNay, Valparaiso; Ira Christian, Noblesville; O. M. Hempleman, Connesville; L. M. Ryan, Lafayette.

New York Division: Commander, Frank K. Maples, 169 Schaffer St., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Senior Vice, Frank D. Wood, 806 Bear St., Syracuse; Junior Vice, Thomas Aitken, Whitesboro; Division Council, Frank K. Watson, Fulton; J. G. Humphrey, Seneca Falls; Ralph P. Hollister, Mt. Vernon; Secretary, Harry A. P. Liddle, 91 Broadway, Brooklyn; Treasurer, Adolph Hoefling, 100 South 6th St., Brooklyn; Chaplain, William Grosbach, Brooklyn; Inspector, George C. Lowe, Rochester; Counselor, George Addington, Albany.

Delegates: Charles Schulensen, C. H. Merrell, Robert Attridge, H. V. Burlock, George Lowe, S. D. McLuckey, L. J. Van Alstyne, Adam Listman. Alternates: George H. Wright, J. H. Crego, William H. Klein, George Roberts, Charles Hagen, E. C. Hyle, J. A. Height, William Brown.

Washington Division: Commander, Millard T. Johnson, Asotin; Senior Vice, Elbert Smith, Walla Walla; Junior Vice, Albert T. Beach, Walla Walla; Division Council: W. W. Sparks, Vancouver; W. H. Hamilton, Vancouver; Albert S. Bedell, Walla Walla; Secretary, J. H. Tate, Asotin; Treasurer, E. J. Ground, Asotin.

Encampment Dates.

VI. The Encampment of the Division of Minnesota will be held at St. Paul, August 13th.

The California Encampment was held at Long Beach, that state, July 5, 6 and 7. The list of the newly-elected officers of this Division will be contained in General Orders No. 8.

Proposed Constitutional Amendments.

VII. The following proposed amendments to the Constitution and Laws of the Order have been submitted for consideration at the coming Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief:

From the Massachusetts Division.

So amend the Constitution that the words "First Sergeant" and "Quarter Master Sergeant" shall be used in lieu of the words "Secretary" and "Treasurer," wherever they appear, and as they apply to Camp Officers.

From the Pennsylvania Division.

In Section 4, Article 18, page 9 of the Constitution, strike out the word "at the end of the quarter" and insert in lieu thereof the words "semi-annually."

Also strike out the words "payable in four equal installments" and insert the words "payable in two installments."

Also strike out the words "April and October" and make that part of the Section read: "Said tax shall be payable in two equal instalments and shall be forwarded by the Division

Treasurer to the National Secretary on or before the last days of January and July."

From General F. Reynolds Camp No. 4, Division of Pennsylvania.

In the second line of Section 3, Article 19, page 10, strike out the word "shall" and insert the word "May."

Add the following constitutional provision: "That any future legislation that may be adopted by Camps, Divisions or the Commandery-in-Chief, affecting the salary or term of office of any officer, shall not affect the incumbent in office without his written consent.

From the Rhode Island Division.

Amend paragraph 1, Section 1, Article 7, page 3 to read as follows: "Any member against whom no charge exists and who has paid all debts, shall, on written application to the Commander of his Camp, receive a transfer card or honorable discharge, properly attested and under seal."

Amend paragraph 2 of Section 1, Article 7, page 3 by adding the following: "He may be admitted to the meetings of any Camp during the life of his card." (This applies to a member holding transfer card.)

Amend Section 3, Article 19, page 10, by adding the following: "And cannot be re-admitted by any Camp except upon the payment of one year's dues to the Camp that dropped him, and a muster fee to the Camp receiving him." (This refers to re-muster of dropped members.)

Amend Article 13, page 31 by adding "Cushing's Manual shall be the authority."

From Past Division Commander Chas. C. Stull, of Nebraska.

Amend Article 4, page 2 by striking out the second word in the first line and by making such further changes in the constitution as will conform thereto.

From the Kentucky Division.

Amend Section 1, Article 13, page 5 so that the election of Camp Officers will take place semi-annually instead of annually, the election to take place the first stated meetings in June and December, and the installation to be had the first meetings in July and January. Delegates to Division Encampment to be elected annually in December.

Amend Section 10, Article 13, page 6 to read: "The term of office of all Camp Officers shall be for six months and the term of office of all Division and Commandery-in-Chief Officers shall be for one year, except where otherwise provided."

From Ohio Division.

So amend the Constitution as to contain a complete description of the regulation badge.

So amend the Constitution as to abolish the coat of arms.

So amend the Constitution as to designate the formation of the line for Camps in parades.

Amend paragraph 2, Sec. 1, Art. 5, page 2 of the Constitution by striking out the word "thirty" in the third line and inserting in lieu thereof the word "twenty."

So amend Sec. 5, Art. 7, page 24 as to conform to any legislation that may be enacted on the ribbon question at the coming National Encampment.

From the Missouri Division.

Amend Section 2, Article 11, page 4 by adding the following:

"Provided that Divisions may combine the offices of Secretary and Treasurer."

Amend Section 13, Article 24, page 17, so as to read as follows: "A brother losing rank by court-martial proceedings can only have same restored by the action of the Commandery-in-Chief. If, however, his rank was lost by being dropped for non-payment of dues, or by the disbanding of the Camp of which he was a member, the same shall be restored upon his re-admission to the Order.

From the Ohio Division.

So amend the Constitution that the term of office of members of the Council-in-Chief will be three years, one to be elected each year.

So amend the Constitution as to add "Patriotic Instructor" to the list of officers of Camps, Divisions and the Commandery-in-Chief.

Amend Section 3, Article 21, page 3 so as to read: "The Commander-in-Chief may suspend any officer of the Commandery-in-Chief, any Division, or any Officer or member thereof, for failure to perform any duties required by the Constitution and Laws, or for any violation of the same."

So amend the Constitution as to conform to any changes that may become necessary through the adoption of reports from the committees on ritual, buttonhole decoration and badges.

Encampment Committees.

VIII. The following Committees for the Peoria Encampment are hereby announced:

Committee on Constitution and Laws.

National Counselor, A. E. B. Stephens, Cincinnati, O.
 Edwin M. Amies, Altoona, Pa.
 Edward K. Gould, Rockland, Maine.
 F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.
 Bert J. Galley, Columbus, Nebraska.

Committee on Credentials.

H. H. Hammer, National Secretary, Chairman, Reading, Penna.

Thomas W. Blair, Ft. Wayne, Ind.
 Robert L. Whitcomb, Portland, Maine.
 Charles C. Lawrence, Trenton, New Jersey.
 Frederick W. Miller, St. Louis, Mo.

Fraternal Greetings Committee.

The following Committee on fraternal greetings, to represent the Commandery-in-Chief at the coming National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, and affiliating organizations, to be held at Minneapolis, Minnesota, the week of August 13th, 1906, is hereby appointed:

Hon. Cyrus H. Little, Manchester, New Hampshire.
 Past Commander-in-Chief, William G. Dustin, Dwight, Illinois.
 Past Chaplain-in-Chief, W. J. Patton, Kaukauna, Wisconsin.
 Hon. Arthur L. Jones, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
 Past Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, A. L. Sorter, Jr., Mason City, Iowa.
 Hon. C. E. Casler, St. Paul, Minnesota.
 Hon. W. J. Hiland, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Reports of Chaplains and Inspectors.

IX. Division Chaplains are hereby directed to forward their consolidated reports to the National Chaplain, Rev. U. G. Leazenby, Terre Haute, Indiana, WITHOUT DELAY.

Division Inspectors are likewise DIRECTED to forward their consolidated reports to the National Inspector, Edward K. De Puy, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C.

PROMPT ACTION in this matter is highly essential in order that these National Officers may be given opportunity to compile their reports, which are to be submitted at the coming National Encampment.

Camp and Division Reports.

X. Because of the fact that the National Encampment is to be held the week of August 20th, Camp and Division Commanders MUST SEE to it that their reports for the June quarter are prepared and forwarded WITHOUT ANY DELAY WHATSOEVER. THIS ORDER IS IMPERATIVE AND MUST BE COMPLIED WITH. No Commander can afford to permit the suspension of his camp or Division, and prompt action will prevent it.

The March reports show that the coveted 30,000 mark has been reached, and if all officers do their full duty, another good increase will be shown by the reports for the quarter ending June 30th.

All Camp reports for the June quarter MUST REACH the headquarters of their respective Division NOT LATER THAN JULY 31st. All Division Reports MUST REACH the office of the National Secretary NOT LATER THAN AUGUST 10th.

Financial Statement.

XI Report of the National Secretary for the month of June, 1906.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,

Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,

Department of National Secretary.

To H. V. Speelman, Esq., Reading, Pa., June 30, 1906.
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Esteemed Sir and Commander:—I have the honor to submit the following report of the financial transactions of this department for the month ending June 30, 1906:

To Balance May 31st, 1906.....		\$ 898.48
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax.....	\$1188.97	
Charter Fees	35.00	
Supplies	303.87	
Total Receipts		<u>1527.84</u>

\$2426.32

By Expenditures:

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Hdqrs. Comd'r-in-Chief:		
\$ 99.30	\$148.70	\$248.00

GENERAL EXPENSES:

994.34	994.34	
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Total Expenditures		<u>\$1242.34</u>
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Balance, June 30th, 1906		<u>\$1183.98-</u>
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Itemized Expenditures:

OFFICE EXPENSES:	
Comd'r-in-Chief, Rent, (12.50) Stenographer, (20.00) Postage, (9.50) Office Supplies, (1.85) Telegrams and Express, (1.40) Traveling, (103.45)	\$ 148.70
Headquarters, Rent, Apr.-June inc. (69.00) Stationery, (7.50) Postage, (14.60) Express, (2.76) Light, (0.44) Typewriter Table (5.00)	99.30
GENERAL EXPENSES:	
Headquarters: Stock and Supplies	185.96
The Banner, by balance in full on amount due on Third Quarter, 1905, (\$258.55) and June subscription \$(500.97)	759.52
Printing, Forms, Password and Countersign....	36.50
Shipping Supplies	12.36
	\$1243.34
Balance June 30th	\$1183.98

Fraternally submitted in F. C. & L.,
H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Charter Applications.

XII. Since last announcement the following applications for Camp charters have been received and approved:

Date.	No.	Location.	Div.	No. Appl'ts.
June 8	99	McComb,	Ohio	36
June 8	407	Bremen,	Ohio	39
June 8	37	Geneva,	N. Y.	15
June 11		Farmington,	N. H.	45
June 15	38	Little Falls,	N. Y.	20
June 23	122	Holden,	Mass.	25
June 25		Erie,	Penn.	36

Camps Mustered.

XIII. The following Camps have been mustered since the last published announcement:

Date.	No.	Location.	Div.	No. Must'ed.
May 21	22	Bethany,	Mo.	15
May 28	138	Portland,	Ind.	46
May 14	99	McComb,	Ohio	24
June 4	407	Bremen,	Ohio	31
June 12	38	Little Falls,	N. Y.	25
June 15	37	Geneva,	N. Y.	29
June 28	94	Erie,	Pa.	24

Pass Word.

XIV. The new Pass Word and Countersign for the term beginning July 1st and ending December, 31, 1906, have been promulgated to all Divisions.

Camps paying per capita tax for the quarter ending June 30, 1906, will be provided with this new pass word and countersign.

XV. Commissions have been issued to all newly elected Division Officers for whom Commanders and Secretaries have forwarded certificates of election and where the bonds of Division Commanders have been received and approved.

Commissions are promptly issued upon receipt of the certificate of election and approval of the bond of the Division Commander.

Membership for March Quarter.

XVI. The following table shows the membership of the various Divisions, also the total membership of the Order for the quarter ending March 31, 1906.

By comparison it will be seen that a nice gain has been made over the preceding quarter.

It is also proper to announce that the membership of 30,085, as shown herewith, is the highest point reached for a great many years. This shows that our Order is growing substantially.

	December, 1905.		March, 1906.	
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.
Alabama and Tennessee..	9	253	9	233
California	13	398	15	477
Colorado	2	66	2	66
Connecticut	20	619	20	601
Illinois	39	1,031	41	1,106
Indiana	28	845	39	1,206
Iowa	11	224	13	312
Kansas	15	351	19	406
Kentucky	7	182	9	200
Maine	34	1,029	33	1,016
Maryland	10	345	9	330
Massachusetts	120	4,215	119	4,232
Michigan	7	129	8	118
Minnesota	12	427	14	471
Missouri	13	253	14	558
Nebraska	8	79	7	69
New Hampshire	31	856	31	888
New Jersey	22	1,044	23	1,073
New York	78	3,141	81	3,276
Ohio	61	1,975	66	2,155
Pennsylvania	150	9,504	150	9,614
Rhode Island	10	335	10	315
Vermont	26	632	29	702
Washington	4	86	5	145
Wisconsin	14	423	19	516
Total	744	28,712	785	30,085

Sympathy for Commander-in-Chief Tanner.

XVII. The sympathy of our entire membership is extended to Commander-in-Chief Tanner of the Grand Army in his great bereavement. During an official visit through the G. A. R. Departments of the northwest, last month, the wife of Corporal Tanner met a tragic death in an automobile accident at Helena, Mont.

Special Aides.

XVIII. Announcement of the appointment of the following Special Aides on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief is hereby made: Adelbert M. McKay, Waynesville, Ohio; L. O. Lester, Berea, Ky.; C. B. Glase, Los Angeles, California; George W. Gentieu (Maryland Division), address, Peoria, Ill.; Albert J. Wiley, Cincinnati, Ohio.

G. A. R. Encampment.

XIX. The National G. A. R. Encampment will be held at Minneapolis, Minnesota, the week of August 13th, just one week prior to our meeting at Peoria. Those of our members who go to Minneapolis will be given a cordial greeting by the Minnesota Division, the encampment of which is to be held at St. Paul at that time.

By order of
 Official: HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
 H. H. HAMMER, Commander-in-Chief.
 National Secretary.

H'dq'rs Commandery-in-Chief S. of V., U. S. A.
 528 Walnut Street,
 Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 10, 1906.

General Orders }
 No. 8, }
 Series of 1906. }

(To be read in Camp and filed.)

I. The Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of veterans, U. S. A., will be held in the city of Peoria, Ill., August 21-23, 1906.

The first business session will be called to order at one o'clock p. m. Tuesday, August 21st, in K. of P. Hall, in Observation Building Block, 200 Adams St.

The Council-in-Chief will convene at the National Hotel Monday, August 20th at 3 p. m. for the purpose of auditing books and accounts.

The Committee on Constitution and Law will meet at the National Hotel at 3 p. m. Monday, August 20th.

Encampment Programme.

II. The following Encampment Programme has been prepared:

Monday, August 20th: 3 p. m. Meeting of Council-in-Chief and Committee on Constitution and Law.

Tuesday, August 21st: The forenoon will be devoted to reception of officers, delegates and visitors. 1 p. m. Opening business session of the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. All officers' reports will be received and read and the various Encampment Committees will be appointed at this session. The session will be concluded by holding joint Memorial Services. 6 to 7 p. m. General reception at National Hotel. 7:30 p. m. Grand Fraternal Parade. 9 p. m. Speaking at Court House Square.

Wednesday, August 22nd: 9 a. m. Business session of the Encampment. 1 p. m. Business session of the Encampment. 2 p. m. Excursion up Lake and stop at Al Fresco.

Thursday, August 23rd. 9 a. m. Business session of Encampment. 10:30 a. m. Trip through Clark Bros. Distillery, through courtesy of Bro. Hull. 1 p. m. Business session of the Encampment. 4 p. m. Automobile ride. 8 p. m. Dance and reception at Glen Oak Park.

Encampment Committees.

III. The following Committees for the Peoria Encampment are hereby announced:

Committee on Constitution and Laws.

National Counselor, A. E. B. Stephens, Cincinnati, O.
 Edwin M. Amles, Altoona, Pa.
 Edward K. Gould, Rockland, Maine.
 F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.
 Bert J. Galley, Columbus, Nebraska.

Committee on Credentials.

H. H. Hammer, National Secretary, Chairman, Reading, Pa.
 Thomas W. Blair, Ft. Wayne, Ind.
 Robert L. Whitcomb, Portland, Maine.
 Charles C. Lawrence, Trenton, New Jersey.
 Frederick W. Miller, St. Louis, Mo.

Local Committees.

IV. The following are the local Peoria committees in charge of the arrangements for the coming Encampment:

Executive Committee—Harry G. Wasson, Chairman; E. F. Buck, L. F. Meek, J. D. Hall, Geo. N. McClure, Wm. S. Wonder, H. C. Springston, W. E. Hull, Frank H. Gift, W. P. Gauss, Ben. J. Greenhut, Elliott Callender, Jr., John A. Read, Charles Burdick, J. V. Graff.

Railroad Rates—W. E. Hull, Chairman; W. P. Gauss, H. C. Springston, L. F. Meek, Jos. Dailey, Wm. Circle.

Programme and Press—S. A. Oakley, Chairman; Mrs. L. Pottorf, Mrs. E. J. Moon, Haller Charles.

Delegate Badges—E. F. Buck, Chairman; Mrs. Florence Tippetts, Mrs. Adams, W. F. Gauss, Frank Gift.

Entertainment—J. A. Read, Chairman; A. L. Schimpff, Mrs. Margaret L. Scott, Mrs. E. A. Walker, E. F. Buck, W. E. Hull, H. G. Wasson.

Reception—J. D. Hall, Chairman; L. F. Meek, W. L. Ellwood, Wm. McClure, Geo. McClure, C. Gift, Louis F. Kingman, Walter Kingman, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Moon, A. L. Schimpff, Haller Charles, Mrs. E. Walker, George Powers, Mrs. L. Pottorf, Mrs. Florence Tippetts, W. P. Gauss.

Finance Committee—H. G. Wasson, Chairman; Geo. McClure, E. F. Buck and John A. Read.

Parade Committee—Thos. Simpson, Chairman; Dr. Hasson, Dr. R. Bradley, Dr. E. Barbour, F. A. Walker, Royal Dodge.

Hotel Rates.

V. National Hotel—Headquarters. American plan, \$2.50 per day and up. Fey Hotel—American plan, \$2 per day double, \$2.50 and \$3 single. Grant Hotel—50 cents per day and up, special to Sons of Veterans; long distance telephone in every room. European plan. Niagara Hotel—\$1 per day and up single; 75 cents each (double) and up; with bath (single) \$1.50; with bath (double) \$2.50 and up. European plan.

Railroad Rates.

VI. For the Peoria Encampment a railroad rate of one and one-third fare for the round trip, certificate plan, has been granted by the several Passenger Associations of the country. All those attending Encampment are required to pay one full fare going, and it is absolutely necessary that a certificate be procured at the starting point on purchasing ticket. This certificate will entitle the holder to a one-third fare on the purchase of the return trip ticket at Peoria.

All certificates must be deposited with the National Secretary immediately upon arrival at Peoria.

Those who are to attend the Encampment should speak to the Ticket Agents at their respective home some time in advance of the day for starting on the trip, to make certain that there may be a full understanding as to the matter of securing the required certificates.

Proposed Constitutional Amendments.

VII. The following proposed amendments to the Constitution and Laws of the Order have been submitted for consideration at the coming Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief.

From the Massachusetts Division.

So amend the Constitution that the words "First Sergeant" and "Quarter Master Sergeant" shall be used in lieu of the words "Secretary" and "Treasurer," wherever they appear, and as they apply to Camp Officers.

From the Pennsylvania Division.

In Section 4, Article 18, page 9 of the Constitution, strike out the words "at the end of the quarter" and insert in lieu thereof the words "semi-annually."

Also strike out the words "payable in four equal installments" and insert the words "payable in two installments."

Also strike out the words "April and October" and make that part of the Section read: "Said tax shall be payable in two equal installments and shall be forwarded by the Division Treasurer to the National Secretary on or before the last days of January and July."

From General F. Reynolds Camp No. 4, Division of Pennsylvania.

In the second line of Section 3, Article 19, page 10, strike out the word "shall" and insert the word "May."

Add the following constitutional provision: "That any future legislation that may be adopted by Camps, Divisions or the Commandery-in-Chief, affecting the salary or term of office of any officer, shall not affect the incumbent in office without his written consent."

From the Rhode Island Division.

Amend paragraph 1, Section 1, Article 7, page 3 to read as follows: "Any member against whom no charge exists and who has paid all debts, shall, on written application to the Commander of his Camp, receive a transfer card or honorable discharge, properly tested and under seal."

Amend paragraph 2 of Section 1, Article 7, page 3 by adding the following: "He may be admitted to the meetings of any Camp during the life of his card." (This applies to a member holding transfer card.)

Amend Section 3, Article 19, page 10 by adding the following: "And cannot be re-admitted by any Camp except upon the payment of one year's dues to the Camp that dropped him, and a muster fee to the Camp receiving him." (This refers to muster of dropped members.)

Amend Article 13, page 31 by adding "Cushing's Manual shall be the authority."

From Past Division Commander Chas. C. Stull, of Nebraska.

Amend Article 4, page 2 by striking out the second word in the first line and by making such further changes in the constitution as will conform thereto.

From the Kentucky Division.

Amend Section 1, Article 13, page 5 so that the election of Camp Officers will take place semi-annually instead of annually, the election to take place the first stated meetings in June and December, and the installation to be had the first meetings in July and January. Delegates to Division Encampment to be elected annually in December.

Amend Section 10, Article 13, page 6 to read: "The term of office of all Camp Officers shall be for six months, and the term of office of all Division and Commandery-in-Chief Officers shall be for one year, except where otherwise provided."

From Ohio Division.

So amend the Constitution as to contain a complete description of the regulation badge.

So amend the Constitution as to abolish the coat of arms.

So amend the Constitution as to designate the formation of the line for Camps in parades.

Amend paragraph 2, Sec. 1, Art. 5, page 2 of the Constitution by striking out the word "thirty" in the third line and inserting in lieu thereof the word "twenty."

So amend Sec. 5, Art. 7, page 24 as to conform to any legislation that may be enacted on the ribbon question at the coming National Encampment.

From the Missouri Division.

Amend Section 2, Article 11, page 4 by adding the following: "Provided that Divisions may combine the offices of Secretary and Treasurer."

Amend Section 13, Article 24, page 17, so as to read as follows: "A brother losing rank by court-martial proceedings can only have same restored by the action of the Commandery-in-Chief. If, however, his rank was lost by being dropped for non-payment of dues, or by the disbanding of the Camp of which he was a member, the same shall be restored upon his re-admission to the Order."

From the Ohio Division.

So amend the constitution that the term of office of members of the Council-in-Chief will be three years, one to be elected each year.

So amend the Constitution as to add "Patriotic Instructor" to the list of officers of Camps, Divisions and the Commandery-in-Chief.

Amend Section 3, Article 21, page 3 so as to read: "The Commander-in-Chief may suspend any officer of the Commandery-in-Chief, any Division, or any Officer or member thereof, for failure to perform any duties required by the Constitution and Laws, or for any violation of the same."

So amend the Constitution as to conform to any changes that may become necessary through the adoption of reports from the committees on ritual, buttonhole decoration and badges.

Amend Article 5, page 22 of the Constitution by adding the following section:

"Sec. 5. A member of the Order shall be ineligible to hold two elective offices at the same time, whether in the Commandery, the Division or the Camp."

Amend Sec. 3, Article 1, page 20 of the Constitution by adding the following:

"The bond of the Division Commander shall run to the Commander-in-Chief."

Division Commanders.

VIII. Following is the list of Division Commanders with their addresses for 1906-07:

- Alabama and Tennessee—Charles A. Brake, P. O. Box 494, Birmingham, Ala.
 California—J. Frank Lefler, 24 S. Second St., San Jose, Cal.
 Colorado—A. W. Stillians, Durango, Col.
 Connecticut—Alfred C. Baldwin, Derby Conn.
 Illinois—Harry G. Wasson, Peoria, Ill.
 Indiana—William F. Gottschalk, Terre Haute, Ind.
 Iowa—Fremont S. Gibson, Mason City, Iowa.
 Kansas—Clarence Peck, Bunker Hill, Kans.
 Kentucky—C. F. Hanson, Berea, Ky.
 Maine—Darling S. Hayes, Sanford, Maine.
 Maryland—Joseph F. Peeney, Wilmington, Delaware.
 Massachusetts—Walter Penney, Lynn, Mass.
 Michigan—Walter L. Raynes, Battle Creek, Mich.
 Minnesota—E. F. Heller, 1424 W. Superior Street, Duluth, Minn.
 Missouri—Albert G. Gerdel, 2309 Hebert St., St. Louis, Mo.
 Nebraska—Bert J. Galley, Columbus, Nebraska.
 New Hampshire—Arthur J. Boutwell, Concord, N. H.
 New Jersey—Charles C. Lawrence, 171 Locust St., Trenton, N. J.
 New York—Frank K. Maples, 169 Schaffer St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Ohio—Park F. Yengling, Salem, Ohio.
 Pennsylvania—L. S. Ramsey, Reading, Pa.
 Rhode Island—Edward S. Moulton, P. O. Box 326, Providence, R. I.
 Vermont—C. E. Bliss, East Calais, Vt.
 Washington—Millard T. Johnson, Asotin, Washington.
 Wisconsin—Fred W. Graff, Sheboygan, Wis.

California Officers.

IX. The Encampment of the Division of California was held at Long Beach, July 5, 6 and 7, and the following officers were elected and installed: Commander, J. Frank Lefler, San Jose; Senior Vice, T. M. Gilbert; Junior Vice, S. A. Drummond. Division Council—J. A. Medlar, Los Angeles; J. E. Shrewsbury, Long Beach; H. A. Longfellow, Oakland. Division Secretary, F. A. Hawley, San Jose; Division Treasurer, Robert J. Butler, San Jose; Chaplain, E. C. Bartlett; Counselor, J. A. Goodrich; Inspector, Royal Stott. Delegates—R. A. Eno, Long Beach; Joseph Seagraves, San Francisco. Alternates—C. E. Kimball, Reading; George S. Gels, West Long Beach.

Minnesota Encampment.

X. The Encampment of the Division of Minnesota was held in the City of St. Paul, August 13th. The list of officers elected will be contained in General Order No. 9.

Financial Statement.

XI. Report of the National Secretary for the month of July, 1906.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,
Department of National Secretary,
Reading, Pa., July 31, 1906.

To H. V. Speelman, Esq.,
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Esteemed Sir and Commander: I have the honor to submit the following report of the financial transactions of this department for the month ending July 31, 1906:

To Balance June 30th, 1906.....	\$1183.98
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax.....	\$ 947.23
Charter Fees	15.00
Supplies	219.70
Total Receipts	<u>1181.93</u>
	\$2365.91
By Expenditures:	
OFFICE EXPENSES:	
Hdqrs: Comd'r-in-Chief:	
\$ 83.18 \$59.85	\$ 143.03
GENERAL EXPENSES:	
966.94	966.94
Total Expenditures	<u>1109.97</u>
Balance July 31st, 1906.....	\$1255.94

Itemized Expenditures.

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Comd'r-in-Chief: Rent (\$12.50); Stenographer (\$20.00); Office (\$1.50); Postage (\$18.50); Tel. and Express (\$1.45); Traveling (\$5.80).\$ 59.85
Headquarters: Rent (July-Aug. inc. (\$46.00); Postage, Light, Express (\$12.18); Porter, Janitor, etc., March-Aug. inc. (\$25.00)..... 83.18

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Headquarters: Stock (\$22.60); Decorations (\$172.00); Printing (\$27.28); Reserves (\$6.41); The Banner for July Subscription (\$499.91); Encampment 1906 (\$28.00); Memorial University fee on 81 Camps Sept. 1905, July 1906, inc. (\$202.50); Shipping Supplies (\$8.24); 966.94

Total Expenditures, July, 1906.. \$1109.97
Balance, July 31,\$1255.94

Fraternally submitted in F. C. & L.,
H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Charter Applications.

XII. Since last announcement the following applications for Camp Charters have been received and approved:

Date.	No.	Location.	Div.	No. Appl'ts.
July 7	96	Burgettstown	Penna.	28
12		East Douglass	Mass.	20
23	78	Lawrence	Kansas	65
31	101	Urbana	Ohio	28
31	97	Coatesville	Penna.	28

Camps Mustered.

XIII. The following Camps have been mustered since the last published announcement:

Date.	No.	Location.	Div.	No. Must'd.
July 5	122	Holden	Mass	20
9	78	Lawrence	Kansas	65
21	96	Burgettstown	Penna.	28
25	101	Urbana	Ohio	22
Aug. 1	97	Coatesville	Penna.	22
Jun. 12	63	Hallowell	Maine	33
Apr. 20	8	Red Bluff	Calif.	21

Division Reports.

XIV. Division Commanders are hereby directed to give immediate attention to any delinquencies that may exist in their respective jurisdictions in the matter of the submission of reports. This includes returns for the quarter ending June 30th, also reports of Division Chaplains and Inspectors.

To receive recognition at the coming National Encampment, a Division must be free from all delinquencies in this particular.

Temporary Headquarters.

XV. National Headquarters in Cincinnati will be closed on Saturday, August 18th, and temporary headquarters will be established in the National Hotel at Peoria, Ill., on Monday morning, August 20th, 1906.

Conclusion.

XVI. This being the concluding Order of the present administration, opportunity is hereby taken to extend fraternal greetings and good wishes to our entire membership.

In this connection, your Commander-in-Chief desires to express his full sense of appreciation for the honor conferred upon him at Gettysburg in 1905, and for the loyal support that has been accorded him, both on the part of the officers and members, throughout the entire Order, during the year's work that is now drawing to a close.

It is gratifying to note that through these combined efforts a good increase has been made in our numbers, and that our financial condition has become substantial and secure.

Our Organization is growing in prestige and the work devolving upon it becomes more important with each recurring year. As loyal sons of patriotic sires, let us continue in the full discharge of every duty that falls to our care. Let us faithfully adhere to the principles and objects upon which our Order rests its foundation. In the full performance of the work that is given into our hands, as patriotic American citizens, and through

the sacrifices and services of the men who saved the Nation, we will prove to the world that the Organization of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., has not been established in vain.

By order of

Official: HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
 H. H. HAMMER, Commander-in-Chief.
 National Secretary.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. I.

John Bower, Jr., Cincinnati, O., October 20th, 1905.
 Commander Pennsylvania Division S. V. U. S. A.,
 Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir and Brother:

I am in receipt of the papers giving the proceedings, finding and sentence in the court martial case of David Reifsnyder, late a member of General George G. Meade Camp, No. 16, Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans U. S. A.

The finding of the court in this case of "guilty," with a recommendation for "dishonorable discharge," is approved, and you are hereby directed to see that this sentence of dishonorable discharge from the order, of said David Reifsnyder, is carried into full force and effect.

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,

Official: HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
 H. H. HAMMER, Commander-in-Chief.
 National Secretary.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. II.

Wm. B. Moynihan, Cincinnati, O., Nov. 6, 1905.
 Commander New York Division S. V. U. S. A.,
 Rochester, New York.

Dear Sir and Brother:

I have received and reviewed the proceedings in the court martial case of Jacob Ten Eyck Camp No. 154, Division of New York, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., against Ellsworth Foster.

The finding of the court in this case is guilty as charged in both specifications with a recommendation that the defendant be suspended from membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans U. S. A., and from all rights and privileges of the Order, for a period of five years, and the loss of past honors.

The finding of the court is hereby approved and you are directed to carry said sentence into full force and effect.

Fraternally yours,

Official: H. V. SPEELMAN,
 H. H. HAMMER, Commander-in-Chief.
 National Secretary.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. III.

Cincinnati, O., November 10th, 1905.
 To any Camp of Sons of Veterans U. S. A.

Greeting:—This is to certify that Z. C. Green, now a resident of Pasadena, California, was formerly a member of the Division of South Dakota, being one of its past Commanders, and at the time of the disbandment of said Division, Brother Green was a member of the Order in good standing.

This being true, Brother Green was entitled to a transfer

card. None was issued to him by the South Dakota Division, and this communication is intended to fully answer the purpose.
Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,

Official: H. H. HAMMER, National Secretary.
H. V. SPEELMAN, Commander-in-Chief.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. IV.

Chas. E. Stebbins, Cincinnati, O., November 18th, 1905.
Commander Kentucky Division S. V. U. S. A.,
Covington, Ky.

Dear Sir and Brother:

You are hereby granted a special dispensation to authorize the muster of Blaine Woodward, to become a member of McKinley Camp No. 4, Division of Kentucky, located at Paris, Kentucky, the work of muster to be performed by Lieutenant F. C. Miller, Camp No. 20, of the Division of Kentucky. It is understood, of course, that the muster of said Blaine Woodward is entirely satisfactory to said McKinley Camp No. 4, and that he will be accepted as a member thereof.

Please report to these headquarters your action authorized by this special order.

Fraternally yours.

Official: H. H. HAMMER, National Secretary.
HARLEY V. SPEELMAN, Commander-in-Chief.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. V.

Cincinnati, O., December 13th, 1905.

The territory included in the states of North Carolina and South Carolina is hereby given into the jurisdiction of the Division of Alabama and Tennessee Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., and all Camps of Sons of Veterans hereafter organized within the territory of the above named two states will become parts of said Division of Alabama and Tennessee.

Fraternally submitted in F. C. & L.,

Official: H. H. HAMMER, National Secretary.
HARLEY V. SPEELMAN, Commander-in-Chief.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. VI.

Park F. Yengling, Cincinnati, O., January 2nd, 1906.
Salem, Ohio.

Dear Sir and Brother:

You are hereby detailed to make investigation of the matters of difference that seem to exist relative to certain transactions of General Garfield Camp No. 3 Division of Ohio, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., East Liverpool, Ohio. You will proceed in person to East Liverpool and look into these matters thoroughly, reporting your action and findings to these headquarters.

This Order empowers you to take charge of the records and other property of the Camp for the time being, and you will have control of the same until a decision is reached.

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,

Official: H. H. HAMMER, National Secretary.
HARLEY V. SPEELMAN, Commander-in-Chief.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. VII.

Cincinnati, O., January 10th, 1906.

A general court-martial is hereby appointed, and ordered to meet at Melrose Turn-Hall, Courtlandt Av., Bet. 150th and 151st Sts., Borough-of-Bronx, New York City, New York, on Wednesday, February 7th, 1906, at 8 o'clock p. m., or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of Henry Beck, of Vanderbilt Camp No. 5, Division of New York, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Detail for the Court.

Judge Advocate, Wm. J. Campion, 210 E. 124th St., New York City.

Members of the court: John J. Diehl, 1392 Prospect Av., New York City; Thomas D. Rivers, 55 W. 105th St., New York City; Louis Walters, 540 E. 153rd St., New York City; James Black, Jr., P. O. Box. 98, Harrison, N. Y.; Albert P. Luhrs, 1399 Fulton Av., Bronx, New York City.

By order of

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

Upon request of Judge Advocate Campion, the name of William Langschultz is substituted for that of John J. Diehl, who withdraws from court to serve as prosecuting attorney for Camp.

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

Cincinnati, O., Jan. 20, 1906.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. VIII.

Camp Charter Forfeited.

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 5, 1906.

Upon the recommendation of Commander W. B. Moynihan, of New York Division, and acting under the provisions of Section 1, Article XIX, page 10, of the Constitution and Laws, the Charter of Col. J. M. Reed Camp, No. 25, New York Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., located at Albany, New York, is hereby declared annulled and forfeited, more than six months arrearage for reports and per capita tax being the basis for this action.

The Commander of this Camp is hereby ordered to turn over to Division Commander Moynihan all property and money belonging to the Camp, in accordance with Section III, Article V, page 2, of the Constitution and Laws of the Order.

By order of

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

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

SPECIAL ORDER NO. IX.

Cincinnati, Ohio, March 3rd, 1906.

William B. Moynihan,
Commander New York Division S. V. U. S. A.,
Rochester, N. Y.

Dear Sir and Brother:

I have received and reviewed the transcript of proceedings in the Court-martial case of Vanderbilt Camp, No. 5, Division of New York, Sons of Veterans U. S. A., against Henry J. Beck,

charged with "Conduct unbecoming a member of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A."

The finding of the court in this case is "Guilty," as charged in all of the specifications, and the defendant is hereby declared dishonorably discharged from the Order.

Approval of the finding of the court is hereby given and you are directed to carry said sentence of dishonorable discharge into full force and effect.

Fraternally submitted in F. C. & L.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

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

SPECIAL ORDER NO. X.

Cincinnati, O., April 12, 1906.

F. T. F. Johnson,

Chairman Council of Md. Div. S. V., U. S. A.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir and Brother:

To day I am in receipt of the written resignation of Commander Francis E. Cross of the Division of Maryland, accompanied by the request that it be made effective May 15th, 1906. I have accepted the resignation of Commander Cross, and am writing him that the date upon which he wishes to retire from office is agreeable to me, provided, of course, that his successor shall have been elected and is ready for installation into office at that time. You will please convene the Division Council in session, at an early date, for the purpose of selecting a Commander for the Maryland Division, as successor to Francis E. Cross, resigned. Please advise me of your action in this matter, and certify to me, at your early convenience, the name and address of your Commander elect.

Fraternally submitted in F. C. & L.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

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

SPECIAL ORDER NO. XI.

Cincinnati, O., April 23, 1906.

George W. Conart,

Commander California Division S. V., U. S. A.,
Los Angeles, Calif.

My Dear Commander:

You are hereby authorized and directed to receive, in the name of the Order of Sons of Veterans U. S. A., contributions from Divisions, Camps, and individual members, for the aid of the San Francisco earthquake sufferers, in each instance giving receipt therefor.

You will please disburse or turn over to the proper authorities such amounts as may be sent you, and will make a detailed report of receipts and disbursements to these headquarters.

Fraternally submitted in F. C. & L.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

H. V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. XII.

Cincinnati, O., April 24, 1906.

J. H. Boustead,
Senior Vice-Commander Minn. Div. S. V., U. S. A.,
Red Wing, Minn.

Dear Sir and Brother:

I have received and accepted the resignation of Division Commander Geo. T. Drake, the same to become effective May 1, 1906.

You are hereby directed to assume command of the Minnesota Division on May 1st, and you will also convene the Division Council for the purpose of electing a successor to Commander Drake, as provided by Section 9, page 6, Article 13 of the Constitution and Laws.

You will report to these headquarters the result of the election by the Division Council immediately after the same has taken place. Please acknowledge receipt of this Order.

Fraternally submitted in F. C. & L.

Official: H. V. SPEELMAN,
H. H. HAMMER, Commander-in-Chief,
National Secretary. Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. XIII.

General E. R. Campbell, Cincinnati, O., May 4, 1906.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir and Brother:

You are hereby commissioned to install into office Brother Charles S. Davis as Commander of the Division of Maryland and are instructed to report your action to these headquarters.

Brother Davis has been chosen by the Division Council of Maryland to succeed Francis E. Cross, resigned, whose resignation goes into effect May 15, 1906.

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.

Official: H. V. SPEELMAN,
H. H. HAMMER, Commander-in-Chief.
National Secretary.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. XIV.

James Lewis Rake, Esq., Cincinnati, O., May 16, 1906.
National Treas., S. V., U. S. A.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir and Brother:

You are hereby appointed as authorized by Section 2, Article 24, page 15 of the Constitution and Laws of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., to investigate certain charges that have been made by James H. Tawney, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., against H. H. Hammer, National Secretary, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., and to report to these headquarters as to whether in your judgment, as a result of this investigation, you deem it advisable to order a court-martial in this case.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the charges which is being sent you for your information.

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.

Official: H. V. SPEELMAN,
H. H. HAMMER, Commander-in-Chief.
National Secretary.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. XV.

James Lewis Rake, Esq., Cincinnati, O., May 16, 1906.
National Treas., S. V., U. S. A.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir and Brother:

You are hereby appointed as authorized by Section 2, Article 24, page 15 of the Constitution and Laws of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., to investigate certain charges that have been made by James H. Tawney, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., against John Bower, Commander Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., and to report to these headquarters as to whether in your judgment, as a result of this investigation, you deem it advisable to order a court-martial in this case.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the charges, which is being sent you for your information.

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

H. V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. XVI.

James Lewis Rake, Esq., Cincinnati, O., May 16, 1906.
National Treas., S. V., U. S. A.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir and Brother:

You are hereby appointed as authorized by Section 2, Article 24, page 15 of the Constitution and Laws of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., to investigate certain charges that have been made by James H. Tawney, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., against William B. McNulty, Treasurer Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., and to report to these headquarters as to whether in your judgment, as a result of this investigation, you deem it advisable to order a court-martial in this case.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the charges, which is being sent you for your information.

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

H. V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. XVII.

John C. Wessenberg, Esq., Cincinnati, O., May 18, 1906.
Special Aide, S. V., U. S. A.,
Duluth, Minn.

Dear Sir and Brother:

You are hereby commissioned and instructed to install into office Brother E. F. Heller as Commander of the Division of Minnesota to succeed Brother George T. Drake, resigned.

Brother Heller has been elected to this position by the Division Council as the Constitution of the Order provides.

You will report to these headquarters the action which this Special Order authorizes.

Fraternally yours,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

H. V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. XVIII.

George E. Carley, Esq., Cincinnati, O., May 21, 1906.
 Sec'y Wyman R. Burnap Camp No. 39, Vt. Div., S. V., U. S. A.,
 East Calais, Vt.

Dear Sir and Brother:

Complying with your request contained in your letter of May 15th, 1906, your Camp is hereby authorized to muster Harry Gilman at your meeting to be held June 9, 1906.

In taking this action your records will be made to show that this young man is eighteen years of age, as your letter states that the eighteenth anniversary of his birthday will be June 16th, 1906.

Very truly yours,

Official:
 H. H. HAMMER,
 National Secretary.

H. V. SPEELMAN,
 Commander-in-Chief.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. XIX.

James H. Tawney, Esq., Cincinnati, O., June 16th, 1906.
 No. 5604 Spruce St.,
 Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir and Brother:

I have received and approved the By-laws of the Division of Pennsylvania, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., adopted at the Annual Encampment of said Division, held at York, Penna., June 13th, 14th and 15th, 1906.

Because of the action of the Pennsylvania Division in the adoption of these By-laws, your Commission as Secretary of said Division, issued to you by Commander-in-Chief Arthur B. Spink, the 29th day of June, A. D. 1904, and dated with rank from the 9th day of June, A. D. 1904, is hereby revoked and the same is declared to be null and void.

You will immediately turn over to your successor all books, records and other property of said Pennsylvania Division in your possession, taking his receipt therefor.

Attest:
 H. H. HAMMER,
 National Secretary.

By order of
 HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
 Commander-in-Chief,
 Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. XX.

Cincinnati, O., July 27, 1906.
 Acting upon the report of James Lewis Rake, who was appointed by Special Order No. 14 to investigate certain charges made by James H. Tawney, then Secretary of the Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., against H. H. Hammer, National Secretary, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., said charges are disapproved and this case is hereby dismissed.

Official:
 H. H. HAMMER,
 National Secretary.

By order of
 H. V. SPEELMAN,
 Commander-in-Chief.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. XXI.

Cincinnati, July 27, 1906.
 Acting upon the report of James Lewis Rake, who was appointed by Special Order No. 15 to investigate certain charges-

made by James H. Tawney, then Secretary of the Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., against John Bower, Jr., Commander, Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., said charges are disapproved and this case is hereby dismissed.

By order of

Official: H. V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.
H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. XXII.

Cincinnati, O., July 27, 1906.

Acting upon the report of James Lewis Rake, who was appointed by Special Order No. 16 to investigate certain charges made by James H. Tawney, then Secretary of the Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., against William B. McNulty, Treasurer, Pennsylvania Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., said charges are disapproved and this case is hereby dismissed.

By order of

Official: H. V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.
H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

The reading of the Commander-in-Chief's report was received with prolonged applause.

Past Commander-in-Chief Geo. B. Abbott, of Illinois: Commander, it is not with a spirit of criticism, but solely for the purpose of being informed on the matter, and I would suggest that before we proceed any further that we complete our organization as the Twenty-fifth National Encampment by receiving a partial report from the Committee on Credentials. If I am out of order on the question, I will withdraw the request.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Arthur M. Soule: Brother Abbott, the Order of Business calls for the Reports of Officers, and then after this comes a report from the Committee on Credentials. Following our custom, this most excellent report of our Commander-in-Chief should be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports. I take pleasure in extending to Commander-in-Chief Speelman the thanks of the Brothers present for this interesting and most extraordinary report. Commander, I now return to you the scepter of your authority.

Commander-in-Chief Speelman: The next thing in order is the Report of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Soule.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Arthur M. Soule submitted his report as follows:

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S REPORT.

Portland, Me., August 18th, 1906.

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

Brothers: I have the honor to submit my report as Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief for the year just closing. One year ago, when by the votes of this Commandery you did me the very great honor of elevating me to this position, I accepted the trust with a full appreciation of the honor conferred not only on me personally, but on my own Division, and resolved that my time and strength, aside from business cares, should be given for the "good of the order," to the end that the honors should not be laid down as empty, but that in proof of the ap-

preciation of the honors bestowed, a record of deeds performed might be submitted for your consideration.

It has been my earnest endeavor to realize in word and deed that this position is something more than an honorary one, that it is not enough to accept such a position and rest content on one's laurels, but that with the advice and consent of the Commander-in-Chief, much can be done to further the interests of the organization. It has been my privilege to have been associated with one of the most strenuous and painstaking Commanders-in-Chief we have had in a good many years, and always, with his knowledge and approval, my efforts for the "good of the order" have been exerted.

During the year I have received 278 letters, and have written over 600 communications, having been in correspondence with brothers in many of our Divisions with a view to studying and better understanding some of the needs of our organization.

The brothers have always been courteous, and in most instances prompt in their correspondence, and I have been gratified by the enthusiasm that they have shown in dealing with the problems that we face from time to time as an order, particularly as Camps and Divisions. My efforts have not, however, been confined to correspondence, for by visitations to the several division encampments in the east, and on numerous public occasions, I have endeavored to offer the brothers words of encouragement or give the public a different understanding of what our order really is doing in the world.

In the performance of official duties, I have traveled 1538 miles, and have at all times been given a cordial greeting and treated with ample respect, befitting the occasions and dignity of the office. It was my pleasure and privilege on February 13th and 14th, in company with Commander-in-Chief Speelman, to attend the annual encampment of the Massachusetts Division, in Boston. Our reception by the Bay State brethren was a most hospitable one, and it is a pleasure to report that the brothers of this Division transacted business in a prompt and thorough manner. Their campfire on the evening of the 13th was a grand success, Commander-in-Chief Tanner of the G. A. R., and our own Commander-in-Chief extending the greetings of the respective organizations. April 18th and 19th, it was my pleasure to attend the encampment of the New Hampshire Division at Concord, and to extend the greetings of the Commandery to our brothers and the kindred organizations in convention assembled, and to speak for our order at the public campfire held in the opera house on the evening of the 18th.

The Connecticut Division held its encampment at Hartford, April 25th, and on that occasion it was a pleasure to officially represent this Commandery.

The Encampment of the Maine Division was held June 18th and 19th at Lewiston, and with Past Commander-in-Chief Dustin, and Past Division Commander, Rev. W. J. Patton, of Mason City, Iowa, and Past Division Treasurer A. S. Holbrook, of the Vermont Division it was my privilege, with these brothers, to extend the fraternal greetings of the Commandery.

On June 26th and 27th, it was my pleasure to attend the Encampment of the Vermont Division, and with Past Commander-in-Chief Dustin and Past Division Commander Patton to speak in the interests of the order at a public campfire held in the town hall.

It has been my good fortune to install the officers of the New England Divisions with one exception, and my official acts in this connection have been reported to commandery headquarters without delay.

I have, during the year, been called upon to speak at numerous campfires held by our own organization and in conjunction with the G. A. R. and allied bodies. It was my privilege to deliver an address May 26th at Freeport, Me., in connection with two other speakers, upon the occasion of the dedication of a beautiful soldiers' monument, erected by the G. A. R. of that town. On Memorial Day, upon invitation of the Department Chaplain of the Maine G. A. R., I delivered the address in the town of Bowdoinham. These in brief are some of the more important duties it has been my privilege to perform.

I make no special claim as to the manner in which the work has been done, as it has been enough for me to know that on all occasions I have done the best that I could, and have been satisfied in the realization of one truth above all others, and that is, that all has been done with an eye single to the best interests of our beloved order.

My correspondence has given me many new ideas relative to the needs and possibilities of our Order, but it is not my purpose to weary you with ideas or suggestions, as I believe that there are other brothers of this commandery who have the interests of this order at heart, and it is from them that we also expect to receive valuable advice as to the best methods of advancing our interests, so I will not appear to usurp their privileges or lead you to infer that I have a copyright on all the ideas in the world relative to running an organization. I will, however, offer for your consideration one or two ideas, although not all original with me, yet those who have considered them have given them their approval.

My first proposition is to provide for a class of members-at-large to be under the jurisdiction of each Division. We all realize that in many of our rural districts and thinly populated places away from the centers of population there are hundreds of young men who would gladly be identified with our order in an associate way. They are so situated that they could not attend a Camp meeting, but would gladly contribute something toward the support of the Order. My plan contemplates an amendment to the Constitution and Laws at the next encampment, providing that male descendants, not less than 18 years, of soldiers, sailors or marines, who were regularly mustered and served honorably in, or were honorably discharged from the Army or Navy of the United States during the war of 1861-1865, and whose ancestors through whom membership is claimed have never voluntarily borne arms against the government of the United States of America, shall be eligible as members-at-large. That no such person shall be eligible as a member-at-large if there is a Camp located within a radius of fifteen miles of his abode, or for some special reason such a person may wish to become a member of some Camp. That a member-at-large shall pay an admission fee of \$1.00, and a fee of \$1.00 a year as dues to the Division with which he is connected. That the Commandery shall provide a special badge and certificate of membership to be sold to Divisions, the Divisions to furnish the same to members at large free of cost.

That such members should not have the right to a voice in

any Camp meeting except upon invitations of the Camp being visited, and in no case to be entitled to a vote in a Camp, or Division or Commandery-in-Chief. My object in proposing this class of members is prompted by investigation that leads me to believe it is at least worthy of our consideration and adoption; if not now, then in the near future. This plan would not interfere with the work of the smallest Camps, for there are very few Camps that enroll members from a greater distance than ten miles.

The expense of joining and maintaining membership is normal, and Divisions should be given the use of this money for building up and strengthening the Order in the several states, which, if done, would eventually mean that the Commandery would profit by the enlarged order that we would get by judicious work in the localities where Camps are located, and for which today we do not have the funds to do for them as we ought as Divisions.

My second proposition is one for which the entire credit should be given to Past Division Commander Robert L. Whitcomb, of Portland, Me., and which I offer after experimental knowledge of its successful working. The plan contemplates such amendment of the provisions of the Constitution and Laws at the proper time, to permit of the formation and encouragement of Corps of Junior Sons of Veterans of the Civil War. For three years Shepley Camp, of Portland, has maintained such an organization and with increasing success. Subsequently several other Camps of the Maine Division have adopted the idea, and with very satisfactory results. The idea with our Camp contemplated the organization of eligible boys between the ages of 10 and 18 (but particularly up to 17 years) for the purpose of parading and assisting the Camp in its work on Memorial Day. Drills are held for a few weeks before the day, and the boys have been much interested in the work, turning out 75 to 80 as in the case of our Camp. The work has been so successful with us that this year the parents of these boys provided each with an inexpensive khaki uniform with cadet cap and leggings so that the boys maintained a very dignified and soldierly bearing on parade. We have now made the Corps a permanent organization, the boys electing their own officers, but the Camp through a Committee will continue its supervision of the work.

The plan contemplates educating these boys in the manner of conducting meetings, and by occasional socials during the year, and by more frequent drills bring them up to a higher degree of interest and efficiency than it is possible to bring them to with the few weeks drill preceding Memorial Day that they have received in the past three years.

The plan as suggested contemplates getting a hold on the boys of the ages mentioned, at a time when their young minds are open to impressions and we are lead to believe that a proper inculcation of our principles and objects to the members of such an organization will profit much for our order when these young men reach the age of 18, as we fully expect that their interest and desire will have been so quickened that they will be eager to join our Order and become useful members thereof.

The plan further contemplates that these organizations shall be provided for by the law of our Order, to be under the control

of each Division, and to be formed and controlled as desired by the Camps.

To assess a small admission fee upon the Individuals, the fee to include a simple but appropriate badge with certificate of membership, the same to be issued to the Divisions by the Commandery-in-Chief at a nominal profit.

In conclusion, I wish to thank Commander-in-Chief Speelman for the uniform kindness and courteous treatment ever accorded me. It has been a pleasure to work and plan with him for the good of the Order, and it is with sincerity that I now publicly attest the valuable services rendered by this brother for the good of our Order.

To National Secretary Hammer I am also deeply indebted for the prompt, able and courteous manner with which he has received my correspondence and for the intelligent and business-like replies to the same. He has proven himself to be just what we knew he would be, a model officer for this most exalting position.

To all my brothers of the Commandery, and of the several Divisions, with whom I have had correspondence, I desire to return thanks for the many favors bestowed and to tell them of the pleasure and profit their letters have been to me.

May harmony and unity characterize the deliberations of the 25th annual encampment of this Commandery and may much be accomplished here for the future welfare of our organization.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & L.,

ARTHUR M. SOULE,

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports. The next order of business is the report of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Stebbins.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S REPORT.

Cincinnati, Ohio, August 18th, 1906.

To the Officers and Members of the 25th National Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.:

My Dear Brothers: Since my election to the third highest position in the Order, I have kept in close touch with my superior officers so as to be ready to perform any duty assigned to me, if any emergency should arise. However, no such call was issued, I am glad to say. I have, however, had the pleasure of making several visits, my first being in company with Commander-in-Chief Speelman when we attended the annual banquet of Camp No. 100 at Chicago, Ill. I also had the honor of being appointed to inspect the Division of Ohio, which I did and found the Division in first class condition. On the evening of this inspection at Lancaster, Ohio, Division Commander Shrieve had a public meeting arranged, which I attended in company with Commander-in-Chief Speelman. I also had the pleasure of mustering a Camp at Ford, Kentucky, and to assist in the muster of a Camp at New Richmond, Ohio. I attended the Encampments of the Divisions of Ohio and Kentucky, and during this month visited the headquarters of the Divisions of New York and Pennsylvania, where I received a most hearty welcome.

My Division feels proud of the honor conferred upon it by the Encampment at Gettysburg upon my election. However, we

have conditions in Kentucky that do not exist north of the "Mason and Dixon Line.". It is almost impossible to maintain a Camp in Kentucky after its organization, as the sentiments of the majority are against us, and in some communities in Kentucky you would be ostracised from society if you belonged to the Order of Sons of Veterans. However, we have some loyal Brothers in Kentucky who will continue to labor for our cause.

Again thanking you for the honor conferred upon me a year ago, I herewith return the trust, in F. C. & L.,

GEORGE H. STEBBINS,
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report of the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports, and we will next listen to the report of National Secretary H. H. Hammer.

REPORT OF NATIONAL SECRETARY.

To H. V. Speelman, August 11th, 1906.
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Dear Sir & Brother:—I have the honor to submit report of the transactions and business of the Department of the National Secretary, for the term ending with the 25th Annual National Encampment, beginning October 1st, 1905, the first under the new system of consolidating the affairs of the National Secretary and the National Treasurer.

Detailed statements as to finances and other transactions comprise the report. Monthly statements relating to financial and other transactions in this Department, were rendered and included in General Orders, as published.

Your term began with an encumbrance of \$1158.55 due The Banner for subscription to the Camps covering the period of the third quarter, 1905.

From the balance reported at the last National Encampment (\$1813.85) the said Encampment expenses, and other obligations were paid. The sum of \$284.56 was received as actual balance.

Economy in the most severe term was the watchword of the administration about closing. This was so successfully practiced and applied that all indebtedness and accounts were met and paid—except the salaries of the National Secretary and the National Treasurer. To date the salaries referred to is the only obligation.

In making comparison as to amount of business and results between previous administrations the fact of this embodying but eleven (11) months must not be overlooked.

We will be pardoned for submitting that the term has been successful. The results demonstrate that conditions are healthy, prosperous, membership increased, Camps strengthened and the Order on a sound basis.

REPORT SUPPLEMENTAL TO 24TH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT.

Boston, Nov. 1st, 1905.

Cash on hand as shown by report.....	\$1813.85
Cash received for per capita tax.....	673.11

ENCAMPMENT.

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Cash received for Charter Fees.....	35.00	
		<u>\$2421.96</u>
Paid for Office Expenses	\$ 26.22	
Paid for Traveling	79.00	
Paid for Salaries	83.33	
Paid for "The Banner"	300.00	
Paid for 24th National Encampment.....	904.45	
Paid for 23rd National Encampment.....	26.30	
Paid for Memorial University	205.00	
Paid for Military Department	37.70	
Paid for R. M. J. Reed Flag.....	50.00	
Paid for H. E. Cowdin, National Inspector.....	27.62	
Paid for W. R. Congdon, Council-in-Chief.....	6.00	
Paid for H. V. Speelman, Council-in-Chief.....	4.75	
Paid for J. J. Skinner, Chaplain-in-Chief.....	6.00	
Paid to E. R. Campbell, account Court Martial, (Pennsylvania Division)	18.00	
		<u>\$1774.37</u>
Cash on hand at beginning of Administration	\$ 647.59	
Receipts and Expenditures from Sept. 19, 1905 to Nov. 1, 1905.		
Cash on hand at Beginning of administration....	\$ 647.59	
Cash received for Supplies	\$211.67	
Cash received for Miscellaneous	16.51	
		<u>\$ 228.18</u>
Total Cash Receipts	\$ 875.77	
Expenditures.		
Office Expenses	\$ 36.67	
General Expenses	19.55	
Salaries	187.50	
Supplies, including cost of Shipping.....	297.81	
Miscellaneous, Various Divisions	25.80	
Cash Balance	308.44	
		<u>\$ 875.77</u>
Inventory of Stock, as per cost.....	\$1261.78	
	(Signed) F. E. BOLTON,	
	National Treasurer.	

Financial Statement.

Oct. 1st, 1905 to August 11th, 1906, Inclusive.	
1905—	
Oct. 1—To Balance due The Banner for subscrip- tions for 3rd Quarter, 1905.....	\$ 1,158.55
Due from Divisions for Supplies, as charged:	
Indiana	\$10.49
Iowa	8.51
Maine .....	.14
Minn.	16.43
N. Y.	3.97
Penna.	81.31
R. I. ....	.50
	<u>120.35</u>
1905—	
October 1st, 1905, August 11th, 1906, Inclusive:	
Feb. 13—To Balance received from former Nat'l Treas.	

F. E. Bolton.....		284.56
Oct. 1—		
Aug. 11—To Am't Rec'd for Per Capita Tax, Charter Fees, Supplies and Miscellaneous.....		11,778.19
Aug. 11—To Am't Due from Divisions:		
Calif.	\$142.82	
Colo. ....	.79	
Ill. ....	.90	
Ind.	10.23	
Ken. ....	.63	
Mich. ....	.28	
Minn.	1.14	
Wash.	1.01	157.80
		<hr/>
		\$13,499.45
1905-1906—		
Oct. 1.		
Aug. 11—By Expenditures, General and Office.....	\$ 9,605.12	
By Balance due The Banner, 3rd Quarter, 1905.....	1,155.58	
By Cash from Divisions on 1905 acc't:		
Maine	\$.14	
N. Y.	3.97	
R. I. ....	.50	4.61
		<hr/>
By Bal. due on 1905 acc't.....		115.74
By Bal. due from Divisions on Accts. Oct. 1905,		
Aug. 11, '06 inc.....		157.80
By Balance Cash.....		2,460.60
		<hr/>
		\$13,499.45

Receipts and Expenditures.

From October, 1905, to August 11th, 1906, inclusive:

Receipts:

For Supplies	\$2956.05	
Per Capita Tax	9544.89	
Charter Fees	425.00	
Miscellaneous	10.80	
From Former Nat'l Treas. F. E. Bolton, as		
Balance	284.56	
		<hr/>
Total Receipts		\$13,221.30

Expenditures:

For General Expenses	\$9087.33	
Office Expenses—Headquarters	781.34	
Office Expenses—Comd'r-In-Chief	891.93	
		<hr/>
		\$10,760.70
Balance Cash on hand Aug. 11th.....		\$ 2,460.60

Itemized Expenditures.

General Expenses:

For Stock and Supplies.....	\$ 880.70	
Badges and Decorations	760.86	\$1641.56
Memorial University		202.50
The Banner,		
Third Quarter, 1905	\$1158.55	
Oct. '05—July '06, inc.....	4912.73	
To G. A. R. Posts.....	50.00	6121.28

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Encampment, 1905	213.63	
1906	39.00	252.63
Printing		115.15
Moving Headquarters		62.12
Reserves (Military Dep't).....		216.99
Shipping Supplies		139.86
Bonds Nat'l Officers		38.50
Miscellaneous—Appropriation San Francisco catastrophe; Gold Star Com m a n d e r-in-Chief; Gold Cross Past Nat'l Treas- urer Bolton; Insurance, Jan- itor, etc.		296.79

\$ 9,087.38

Office Expenses.

Headquarters:

For Light	\$ 7.68
Wrapping paper, twine, etc.....	4.68
Postage	96.09
Express	15.25
Telegrams .....	.25
Stationery for Nat'l Officers & Staff.....	152.36
Rent	245.00
Desks, Table, Furniture, etc.....	172.17
Miscellaneous	87.86

781.34.

Commander-in-Chief:

For Rent	\$ 137.50
Postage	125.10
Telegrams	3.95
Travelling	322.55
Supplies, Stenographer, etc.....	290.07
Express	12.81

891.93.

Total Expenditures

\$10,760.70.

Receipts from Divisions.

Cash was received from the various Divisions as follows:

Ala. & Tenn.	\$ 123.29
California	156.83
Colorado & Wyoming	62.21
Connecticut	259.52
Illinois	507.58
Indiana	561.52
Iowa	139.94
Kansas	246.04
Kentucky	98.97
Maine	521.36
Maryland	164.74
Massachusetts	2191.12
Michigan	64.90
Minnesota	166.21
Missouri	279.65
Nebraska	32.82
New Hampshire.....	455.13
New Jersey	515.05

New York	1287.50	
Ohio	915.57	
Pennsylvania	3321.95	
Rhode Island	162.10	
Vermont	374.97	
Washington	88.27	
Wisconsin	223.30	
Total Rec'd from Divisions.....		\$12,925.94
Balance from former Nat'l Treasurer F. E. Bolton		284.56
Rebate on Bonds of Nat'l Officers (ac- counted for in Miscellaneous receipts)		4.80
Returned by former Nat'l Chaplain-in- Chief Rev. J. J. Skinner, expenses acc't (in Miscellaneous receipts) Gettysburg Nat'l Encampment.....		6.00
		<u>\$13,221.30</u>

Stock and Supply Account.

October 1st, 1905, August 11th, 1906, inclusive:		
Amount of Stock and Supplies from former Nat'l Treasurer F. E. Bolton.....	\$1263.50	
Amount of Stock and Supplies purchased.....	1641.56	
Amount of Miscellaneous (Forms, etc.).....	40.25	
Total		\$2945.31
Amount of Stock and Supplies on hand.....		1458.55
		<u>\$1486.76</u>
Cost of Stock and supplies sold.....		\$1486.76
Cost of transportation on Stock and Sup- plies purchased		8.44
		<u>\$1495.20</u>
Net Cost of Stock & Supplies sold.....		\$1495.20
Amount received from sale of Stock and Sup- plies		\$2956.05
Net cost of Stock and Supplies sold.....		1495.20
		<u>\$1460.85</u>
Less cost of Shipping Supplies.....	\$ 139.86	
Less cost of Wrapping Paper, Twine, etc.	4.68	
		<u>144.54</u>
Net Profit		\$1316.31
Amount due from Divisions for Supplies.....	\$ 48.83	
Cost of sold Supplies.....	28.18	

Requisitions and Supplies.

There were 295 requisitions filled. It is to be regretted that in a number of Divisions conditions are such that they cannot carry a stock of supplies on hand. If properly managed a compensating profit could be realized by such Divisions, by adding a per centage to cover cost of transportation or shipment, to be paid by the Camps.

Badges and Decorations.

Recommendations:

There is a demand it seems, for a badge more representative and symbolic of our Order; this also applies, and to a more extensive degree, to a Buttonhole Decoration.

In this connection I beg to recommend that in future only

one kind of badge, as to color and material, also the Buttonhole Decoration, be made; and not have them issued in different colors and at different prices. The Badge and Buttonhole Decoration should be issued in one color, only, for the same price, and there should be no difference in either of them.

I concur in the recommendation of the Ohio Division, to abolish the Coat of Arms. Many of the Divisions use it in preference to the regulation Badge for no cause other than apparent dislike of the latter. The Coat of Arms is not representative nor symbolic to the degree to have such prominence and gives rise to criticism for the use of numerous designs and marks, which require description and purposes and uses in the name of the Order.

New Camps.

In this Administration to date there were organized and mustered 85 Camps with a membership (Charter Members) of 2,383. Applications were approved for three (3) Camps in addition to this number, but they were not mustered.

Divisions in which these Camps were mustered, were:

	No. of Camps:	No. of Members:
Ala. & Tenn.	2	65
California	2	52
Colorado	1	20
Illinois	3	110
Indiana	16	582
Iowa	3	93
Kansas	5	196
Kentucky	1	15
Maine	2	54
Maryland	1	36
Massachusetts	6	153
Minnesota	1	19
Missouri	4	98
New Jersey	1	25
New York	9	190
Ohio	12	293
Pennsylvania	7	166
Vermont	5	98
Washington	2	79
Wisconsin	2	39
Total	85	2383

There should be some incentive and some inducement in the way of interest, patriotism or motive, to have the eligible person join our Order in the various Divisions, and those in authority should be more active in the work of recruiting. The loss of members is deplorable. We have always experienced that. Our suspensions are too great. It seems to me that if we could create an interest for our members to retain their membership in the Order, we would overcome the suspensions. I believe that with a new Ritual, something that will meet the requirements of the present day in the Order—a man's ritual—that our loss from suspensions will largely diminish.

Membership—Divisions, Camps.

At the last National Encampment 789 Camps and 29,879 members were reported in good standing June 30th, 1905. Subsequently consolidated reports from Divisions showing errors in the June reports, reduced the number to 778 Camps and 29,558 members for the said Quarter.

September, 1905, Consolidated Returns showed: 738 Camps and 28,745 members in good standing.

December, 1905, report showed 744 Camps and 28,712 members in good standing.

March 31st, 1906, report showed 785 Camps and 30,085 members in good standing, the largest membership since March, 1899, Quarter, when there were 1092 Camps and 30,242 members reported in good standing.

Anticipating that a recommendation could be offered and supported at this Encampment for reduction in per capita tax and causing less expense to Divisions and Camps for that necessity, it is a disappointment not to be able to do so. But it is earnestly hoped that such efforts will be made and work done the coming year, that will enable us at the next Encampment to reduce the tax.

Divisions.	March 31st, 1906.		June 30th, 1906.	
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.
Alabama & Tenn.	9	233	10	260
California	15	477	15	438
Colorado	2	66	2	66
Connecticut	20	601	19	572
Illinois	41	1,106	42	1,190
Indiana	39	1,206	37	1,181
Iowa	13	312	13	329
Kansas	19	406	14	393
Kentucky	9	200	8	189
Maine	33	1,016	32	1,055
Maryland	9	330	10	330
Massachusetts	119	4,232	122	4,487
Michigan	8	118	8	118
Minnesota	14	471	14	478
Missouri	14	558	16	589
Nebraska	7	69	7	72
New Hampshire	31	888	32	953
New Jersey	23	1,073	23	1,074
New York	81	3,276	75	3,197
Ohio	66	2,155	69	2,309
Pennsylvania	150	9,614	153	9,616
Rhode Island	10	315	10	320
Vermont	29	702	29	737
Washington	5	145	5	150
Wisconsin	19	516	15	448
	785	30,085	782	30,601
			Camps.	Members.
Membership, June 30th, 1906.....			782	30,601
Membership, March 31st, 1906.....			785	30,085
Gain				516
			Camps.	Members.
Number in Good Standing June 30, 1905.....			778	29,558
Number in Good Standing June 30, 1906.....			782	30,601
Gain			4	1,043
Recapitulation.				
June 30th, 1905 to June 30th, 1906, Inclusive.				
Gain:			Members.	Members.
By Muster In			6663	

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By Transfer	324	
By Reinstatement	1698	
Total Gain		8695
Loss:		
By Disbanded	310	
By Death	164	
By Honorable Dis.	180	
By Transfer	242	
By Suspension	6746	
Total Loss		7642
Net Gain		1043

*Cash on Hand at Division Headquarters.....	\$ 2,033.54
Cash on Hand in Camps.....	41,488.04
Number Members or their Families Relieved.....	396
Number Veterans or their Families Relieved.....	102
Amount Expended for Relief	\$25,088.61

*Not reported by Divisions of California, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, New York.

Conclusion.

Every consideration was shown me by the officers and members of the Staff to whom I am very grateful. I am deeply sensible of the obligations I am under to you and the National Treasurer for incalculable advice, suggestions and assistance. I have been extended the most courteous treatment throughout the entire country—in every Division—and the most cordial relations existed in official conduct of affairs.

No Commander-in-Chief could have given more time and attention to the duties of the office than you, for your labors were incessant and your activity constant. None could have been more interested. Our views and conduct of affairs for the administration never differed. We were in entire accord and harmony. To sever our official association will be a lasting regret.

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. 1906.....	\$ 26.92
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax	
Indiana	\$ 9.00
Illinois .....	.90
Pennsylvania	930.35
Minnesota	46.38
Ohio	215.53
Wisconsin	44.73
Kansas	38.08
Michigan	18.10
New York	301.69
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,604.76
Rec'd for Charter Fees:	
Indiana	\$ 5.00
Rec'd for Supplies:	
Colorado	\$.79
Indiana	5.00
Minnesota	1.14

Washington	1.01		
		\$	7.94
			<u>\$ 1,644.62</u>
Total Receipts			\$ 4,105.22
By Expenditures:			
General Expenses:			
25th National Encampment	\$	660.95	
Miscellaneous—Ritual 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 Secy & Nat'l Treas. Sept. 21 1905-Aug. 21, 1906		2103.33	
			<u>\$ 3,501.42</u>
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	
			<u>\$37.80</u>
			<u>\$47.39</u>
Total Expenditures			<u>\$ 3,548.81</u>
Balance August 22nd, 1906	\$	556.41	
Total Receipts and Expenditures October 1st, 1905, August 22nd, 1906, Inc.:			
Receipts:			
For Per Capita Tax	\$	11,149.65	
Supplies		2,963.99	
Charter Fees		430.00	
Miscellaneous (Interest on deposit of funds, etc.)		37.72	
Balance received from preceding Admini- stration		284.56	
Total Receipts			<u>\$14,865.92</u>
Expenditures:			
General Expenses:	\$	12,588.80	
Office Expenses:			
Headquarters:	\$	790.93	
Commander-in-Chief:		929.78	
			<u>\$ 1,720.71</u>
Total Expenditures			<u>\$14,309.51</u>
Balance August 22nd, 1906.....	\$	556.41	

Very respectfully submitted in P. C. & L.,

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report of the National Secretary is referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

REPORT OF NATIONAL TREASURER.

Peoria, Ill., August 21, 1906.

H. V. Speelman,
Commander-in-Chief.

Sir:—

I have the honor to submit the following report of the financial operations of the Commandery-in-Chief for the current year:

In re-organizing the departments pursuant to legislation enacted by the previous encampment, we followed the lines of adopting the most simple and direct form for dispatching the business of this department, consistent with prudence and safety. We accordingly adopted a system whereby bank checks become a part of vouchers and are the direct receipts for the disbursement of the Commandery-in-Chief. A depository was selected after consultation with yourself and the members of the Council-in-Chief, and the balances have been carried at a three percent rate of interest.

The following statement shows the receipts and disbursements of this department:

Dr.		Cr.	
To receipts from the National Secretary, deposited in The Reading Trust Company, Reading, Pa., as follows:		By disbursements against vouchers certified by the National Secretary, and approved by the Commander-in-Chief, as follows:	
1905.			
Oct. 26	\$ 167.22	Voucher 1	\$ 130.00
Nov. 9	660.57	Voucher 2	52.70
Nov. 17	117.67	Voucher 3	75.00
Nov. 20	160.06	Voucher 4	167.17
Nov. 25	119.66	Voucher 5	152.25
Dec. 2	116.99	Voucher 6	40.30
Dec. 9	34.09	Voucher 7	1,726.00
Dec. 16	114.29	Voucher 8	109.86
Dec. 19	335.74	Voucher 9	77.65
Dec. 30	218.67	Voucher 10	31.43
1906.			
Jan. 2	91.92	Voucher 11	25.00
Jan. 5	1,174.99	Voucher 12	11.20
Jan. 10	88.38	Voucher 13	200.64
Jan. 12	104.95	Voucher 14	216.56
Jan. 17	72.41	Voucher 15	123.61
Jan. 21	70.39	Voucher 16	487.90
Jan. 27	41.34	Voucher 17	54.20
Jan. 31	93.00	Voucher 18	134.45
Feb. 5	134.43	Voucher 19	146.50
Feb. 8	637.38	Voucher 20	36.00
Feb. 13	419.85	Voucher 21	48.87
Feb. 21	157.51	Voucher 22	6.20
Feb. 27	143.06	Voucher 23	29.59
Mar. 2	365.84	Voucher 24	19.25
Mar. 6	186.13	Voucher 25	2.50
Mar. 10	70.85	Voucher 26	9.30
Mar. 15	338.46	Voucher 27	75.00
Mar. 22	98.75	Voucher 28	307.06
Mar. 31	124.52	Voucher 29	46.10
Apr. 5	1,213.38	Voucher 30	1,268.92
Apr. 16	114.30	Voucher 31	54.45
Apr. 17	101.24	Voucher 32	27.40
Apr. 19	130.59	Voucher 33	792.14
Apr. 27	127.54	Voucher 34	23.52
May 7	163.03	Voucher 35	12.00
May 15	105.35	Voucher 36	100.00
May 19	104.62	Voucher 37	100.00
May 21	272.08	Voucher 38	403.50
May 26	193.71	Voucher 39	11.00
May 31	258.83	Voucher 40	78.40
June 12	68.61	Voucher 41	33.08

June 18	525.89	Voucher 42	3.10
June 26	809.73	Voucher 43	70.00
June 30	123.61	Voucher 44	800.52
July 10	996.26	Voucher 45	25.00
July 14	53.59	Voucher 46	143.70
July 26	70.76	Voucher 47	35.16
July 31	61.32	Voucher 48	759.52
Aug. 6	115.18	Voucher 49	69.36
Aug. 8	264.26	Voucher 50	102.00
Aug. 9	194.92	Voucher 51	3.10
Aug. 10	590.87	Voucher 52	47.50
Aug. 11	46.78	Voucher 53	7.50
Interest on deposits	26.92	Voucher 54	69.00
		Voucher 55	59.85
		Voucher 56	20.42
		Voucher 57	46.00
		Voucher 58	25.00
		Voucher 59	25.10
		Voucher 60	150.00
		Voucher 61	20.63
		Voucher 62	6.65
		Voucher 63	25.91
		Voucher 64	527.91
		Voucher 65	202.50
			<hr/>
		August 11, Balance	\$10,747.63
			2,494.37
			<hr/>
	\$13,242.50		\$13,242.50

The apparent discrepancies between the total receipts, expenditures, and consequently the cash balance as of date August 11th, as shown by the National Secretary and this report, are readily explained, as follows:

The sum of \$5.72 retained by the former National Secretary in settlement of an expense account, for which the undersigned holds a voucher, was not passed through the accounts of this department. The item of interest has not been passed through the accounts of the National Secretary. The latter's accounts also show expenditures of \$7.35 not yet passed through his department. When these cross entries shall have been made, the cash balances shown by the National Secretary and this department agree.

I am indebted to yourself and your official associates, as well as to the members of the Order generally, for many courtesies extended in the performance of my official duties.

I may be pardoned if I specially refer to the services of the National Secretary, who has brought to the new official position such a fund of experience, and whose constant and careful attention to detail has made possible a system which should endure for many years to come.

Supplementary Report.

Peoria, Ill., August 22, 1906.

The following is a supplementary report of the financial transactions of this department since the close of business August 11th, to date:

Aug. 11, Receipts as per report.....	\$13,242.50
Aug. 22, Amounts received from National Secretary.....	\$ 1,641.80
	<hr/>
Aug. 22, Total receipts to date.....	\$14,884.50
Aug. 11, Disbursements as per audit.....	\$10,753.35
Aug. 20, By Voucher No. 66.....	4.25
Aug. 20, By Voucher No. 67.....	3.10
	<hr/>
	\$10,760.70
	<hr/>
Aug. 22, Cash Balance.....	\$ 4,123.60

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. Rake, National Treasurer.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report of the National Treasurer is referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports. We will now have the report of the Chief of Staff, Gen. R. M. J. Reed.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF.

Headquarters Sons of Veterans Reserves, U. S. A.,
Peoria, Ill., Aug. 21, 1906.

H. V. Spechman.

Commander-in-Chief.

Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Sir: In compliance with the requirements of the military rules and regulations, I have the honor to submit herewith my report as Chief of Staff, from September 25th, 1905, to August 21st, 1906.

During the year just passed, the Military Officers of the several departments and the Headquarters Staff, have been confronted with some obstacles that have retarded our progress and prevented our realizing the fond hope of all of our progressive members, the elimination of all independent "go-as-you-please" military organizations.

Our liberal recommendations contained in the report of 1905, that "any Camp having an independent Company or Guard, not attached to the Reserves, or that may hereafter be organized, shall be permitted to maintain such independent Company or Guard, provided said Company or Guard shall not be permitted to parade as a Military Company or Guard, except on Memorial Day, the funeral of a Comrade of the G. A. R., or a brother of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. It shall be unlawful and a violation of obligation and of Article XXIV, Section 2, of the Constitution, for such a Company or Guard to parade as Sons of Veterans at any other time, or on any other occasion."

Reports from officers all over the United States, and our own observation, proves this to have been a very grave mistake, and a hindrance to progress in organizing Reserves, engendering and fostering insubordination. We have reports of Companies parading on occasions other than allowed by the present law, and when their attention has been called to this violation of the spirit and intention of the liberal provisions of the Military law, we have been met with the answer "Oh we are all right, and propose to do and act as we please; the law allows it and we will maintain our organization and do as we see fit."

If a Company now in the Reserves receives an order, either in Camp or at home, that they construe as conflicting with their views, or are dissatisfied from any cause, we are threatened with the declaration "We do not intend to obey and will withdraw from the Reserves."

It does not require much military experience to convince anyone that discipline under these conditions, must be at a discount, and that the Sons of Veterans Reserves, who have in less than three years, brought our military out of a state of chaos bid defiance to the slurs and criticisms of the National Guards, Comrades of the Grand Army, and Citizens generally, loses its influence for good, and go back to the indiscriminate wearing of "Butterfly" uniforms of every pattern, shape and style. Again, we may have seventh-tenths of the Delegates of the Division and Commandery-in-Chief Encampments, wearing shoulder straps, even though they never did and never could successfully command a Corporal's Guard.

Let us be either soldiers in fact, or content with wearing a citizen's suit. If we must have armed, uniformed and equipped men, let them learn a soldier's duty; respect orders; be a part of the regularly organized and disciplined Army of the Sons of Veterans. No objections are raised to Camps having details or firing squads, as provided in Article XXIV, Paragraph 2, Constitution of 1905. These very conditions have contributed more largely than any other, in preventing a full and satisfying hope of the Military Department, that by the end of 1906 the Military and Civic bodies, while being entirely separate and distinct, would be standing shoulder to shoulder, and under the orders of the Commander-in-Chief, issued through military channels, each vying with the other for the up-building of the Camps of the Sons of Veterans.

I am more and more strengthened in my original belief, that the Reserves have done and are destined to do more, if properly supported by authority of the Constitution in building up and maintaining our Order, than any other measure or factor.

Compare the situation today with what it was three years ago; then, every other man wore an insignia of military rank; each one was wearing a uniform of his own design; we had about one thousand designs represented. The Guards in many cases were a reflection on the Order, ridiculed by all military men and citizens as well; in fact a military burlesque. Today there remains but a few who are unable to realize the benefits of organization along military lines.

Those who had the good fortune to visit the Camp at York, Pa., in June, 1906, and there witnessed the conduct, military order and discipline of the Department of Pennsylvania under the immediate command of Brigadier General Fred Tschudy, will testify that what has been accomplished, was a very great and very agreeable surprise. That the showing made there was an honor and credit to the State, as well as to the whole Order.

There has never come to our knowledge, directly or indirectly, one single instance where the Reserves have not contributed to the growth and standing of the Camp to which they have been attached. Many Camps have been organized through the influence of the military, and many Camps have been saved from disbanding, by, and through the influence of the military.

We therefore earnestly ask this Commandery-in-Chief to give the Reserves that support which is their due, and which they have so nobly earned. Give us just laws, but laws that will support the military, is their desire and prayer; that we have a well defined line of demarcation between the Military and the Civic body. If we are to have a Reserve, give us Military Law, obliterating independent Companies.

It is impossible to speak too enthusiastically or give more praise than is due and well and nobly earned, by Brigadier-General Tschudy, and his officers and men, in the Department of Pennsylvania; Colonel W. S. Ruhl, in Ohio; Colonel Ralph Sheldon, in New York; Major George B. Stratton, in Massachusetts; and Major George S. Gels, in California, and a score of other earnest, self-sacrificing men in other states.

I cannot resist the temptation to here speak of a visit to the City of Peekskill, N. Y., in April. Here, on the evening of the 11th, I mustered two Companies, of forty-five and forty-eight men, composed of the very best citizens. The Mayor of the city, Fred A. Smith, was elected Captain of one Company:

he has recently been promoted Major of the Second Battalion, Second Regiment, of Reserves of New York. I there learned that every official of the city, from Police Officer to Mayor, was the son of a Veteran and member of Camp No. 73, of New York.

During the year I have been in receipt of urgent appeals from Division and Camp Commanders, and members of Camps, to pay them a visit and explain the workings, objects and conditions of the Sons of Veterans Reserves. I am fully convinced that much good to the Order in general, would have resulted from these visits, but I was unable to afford the necessary expenses, consequently could not accept the invitations.

From my experience of a quarter of a century in this Order, I can assert without fear of contradiction, that such visits would result in much good, and I firmly believe that the Chief of Staff, under direction of the Commander-in-Chief, should be authorized to attend such calls. The Chief of Staff is willing to lose the time from his business, but is unable to pay the necessary traveling and hotel expenses. I have, however, attended numerous meetings of the G. A. R., Camps and Companies of the Sons of Veterans; Division Encampments of Pennsylvania and Maryland, the Camp of the Department of Pennsylvania at York; and Field Day of the Second Regiment of Pennsylvania; G. A. R. Day at Simpson's Grove; Union Defenders' Day at New York, and Colwyn, Pa.; memorial addresses in churches and cemeteries, as well as other meetings, which have been attended at my expense.

While we have been handicapped and retarded in our organization work, by the too liberal, or what we believe, mistaken liberality, in allowing Camps to organize and to maintain Military Companies, independent of the Reserves, the well-directed efforts of the Department Commanders and other officers and men, have brought gratifying results. Today our well disciplined, uniformed and equipped Military is the wonder of the National Guard, and the glory of the whole Order.

Frequently we are asked "How is it possible that your Order can organize and maintain such a military; go into camp for a week; buy everything and pay all expenses, when it is hard work to keep up a military standard in the National Guard, where the State furnishes uniforms, equipments, tentage, rations, transportation, Armory rent, and pay for every day they are on duty; in some cases pay them twenty-five cents for each drill they attend?"

Our Reserves can only answer—"Patriotism and inherited American spunk."

A few Division Commanders have given the Reserves their valued help and advice, but many have overlooked our appeal for their aid, and the advance made along military lines has resulted from personal letters to Camps and members.

I am glad to report that officers and men of the Reserves, while having accomplished more than could reasonably be expected, are not content, but are working enthusiastically to make the Camps of 1907, even a greater success than were those held in 1906.

I have been singularly fortunate in the selection of Department Commanders and members of my personal staff; I am unable to satisfactorily express my thanks to each one of them, but hope each shall receive the reward that he has so well earned.

I desire to acknowledge my sense of gratitude to the Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer, and other officers of the Commandery-in-Chief, and many warm friends of the Reserves, among Division officers.

I respectfully submit the following recommendations for your consideration:

1st. The re-enactment of Par. 2, Article XXIV, Constitution of 1905, and the enforcement of Par. 5, Article XXIV, Constitution of 1905.

2nd. That sub-divisions now designated "DEPARTMENTS" shall hereafter be designated "BRIGADE," and that a Brigade may, at the discretion of the Commander-in-Chief, be composed of the Reserves of one or more States.

3rd. That when the numerical strength of the Reserves shall, in the opinion of the Chief-of-Staff, make it advisable, the Commander-in-Chief, on the recommendation of the Chief-of-Staff, shall organize one or more Brigades into a Department, to be commanded by a Major-General, who shall be appointed and commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief, on advice and recommendation of the Chief-of-Staff. (This is very strongly urged by Past Commander-in-Chief E. R. Campbell, who is now ranking as Brigadier-General and Military Secretary.)

4th. That the profits arising from the sale of commission be apportioned between the Chief-of-Staff, Department and Brigade Commanders, according as they may mutually agree upon, sanctioned by the Commander-in-Chief; this sum to be applied as part of the expenses of their headquarters. The expenses of these officers, for the good of the whole order, are very high, and they should receive some just and reasonable recompense.

5th. That it shall be the duty of Division Officers on order of Commander-in-Chief, to promulgate General or Special Orders of the Reserves, to all Camps in their Divisions while mailing the Orders of the Division Commander. This would be of great assistance to the Reserves, and that, without entailing additional expense to the Civil body.

6th. That in all Inspections of Camps, the Inspector shall report whether the Camps have a military Company or Guard; whether they are attached to, and are a part of the Reserves. That this information shall be contained in the consolidated reports of the Division and Commandery-in-Chief.

In conclusion, I beg the indulgence and forgiveness of all the officers and members of this Commandery-in-Chief, for all that I may have left undone, that should or might have been accomplished, and ask that you will believe that I have endeavored to do my duty, as I understood it; that if there should be any who feel that I have done them an injustice, I humbly ask them to believe me when I say I did not intend it; that it was a mistake of the head and not of the heart.

May we each strive to redeem our promise and fulfill our duty to the dead and living heroes, whose self-sacrificing devotion to humanity made this nation the grandest on the globe, and our flag respected by the civilized world.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & I.,

R. M. J. REED,

Major-General, Chief-of-Staff,
Commanding Sons of Veterans Reserves, U. S. A.

Statement Attached to Chief-of-Staff's Report.

To H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief:

Receipts and Disbursements from Oct. 1, 1905, to August 21, 1906.

Receipts:

To Amount returned from payment on lithograph stone for Reserves commissions	\$ 68.00
To Commissions issued	69.50
	<hr/>
	\$137.50

Disbursements:

By Postage and Stationery	\$86.00
By Incidentals	4.75
By Mailing tubes for commissions.....	7.00
By Postage on commissions	11.00
By Seals on commissions	1.05
	<hr/>
	\$109.80
Balance Profit	\$ 27.70

In all instances I have charged myself for a commission at the rate of \$1.00 each, but this does not appear herein, for the reason that in many cases I received less, as per record on file in this department, showing who received rebates covering total amount of commissions issued.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report of the Chief of Staff goes to the Committee on Officers' Reports. We will now listen to the Report of National Counselor A. E. B. Stephens.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL COUNSELOR.

Peoria, Ill., Aug. 21, 1906.

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

Dear Sir and Brother: I herewith submit the report of National Counselor for the year just ending.

After being inducted into office of National Counselor as one of the members of your most worthy staff, I established legal headquarters in the Commercial Tribune building, at Cincinnati, Ohio.

Various and sundry questions of constitutional and legal import were submitted to me from time to time, but as these points had been covered in former opinions and decisions I will not take up the time nor space to recite them in detail.

One court-martial trial was ordered during the year. Charges were preferred against Henry J. Beck, of Vanderbilt Camp No. 5, Division of New York. It was found that the proceedings were all regular. The finding of the court was duly approved by the Commander-in-Chief, and the defendant was dishonorably discharged from the Order.

The proceedings in three other courts-martial, pending at the beginning of this administration, were reviewed. One of these cases was from the State of Pennsylvania, wherein charges were preferred against David Reifsnnyder, of Geo. C. Meade Camp No. 16. The proceedings were found to be regular, and the Commander-in-Chief approved the finding of the court. The defendant was dishonorably discharged from the Order.

Another case was that against Ellsworth Foster, of Jacob Ten Eyck Camp No. 154, Division of New York. The proceed-

ings in this case were found to be regular, and the finding of the court and sentence were carried out. The defendant was suspended from the Order for a term of five years, losing all past honors.

The other case came from General Garfield Camp No. 3, of the Ohio Division. Charges were preferred against D. McLane of conduct unbecoming a Son of a Veteran. It was found that although the proceedings in this case were not altogether regular, but as the court found the defendant guilty of only a minor offense, it was approved and the defendant duly reprimanded.

It is with pleasure, Mr. Commander, that I now end the work of the year, knowing that our associations have been of a most pleasant nature. I take this opportunity to congratulate you upon your faithful and conscientious labor, the result of which is plainly seen in the various reports. While this has been a year of arduous labor on your part, I am sure it has been a labor of love, and must needs be a great pleasure to you to know that your work has not been in vain. I thank you for the many kind words of esteem, and for the honor you conferred upon me by naming me as one of your official family.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & L.,

A. E. B. STEPHENS,
National Counselor.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report of the National Counselor goes to the Committee on Officers' Reports. Next in order is the Report of the National Chaplain, Rev. U. G. Leazenby.

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

National Chaplain Leazenby: My report is just the regular blank form filled out. The work was entirely new to me. I only tried to do as I was commanded, and I tried to obey. I will give you the figures as they appear on my report. I will just add, Mr. Commander, that I have a report from every State in which we have our organization excepting Kansas. I wrote the brothers, and did my best to carry out your orders. I thank you for the courtesy and esteem shown me and for the honor conferred upon me. (Figures from report as follows:)

Recapitulation:

Number of Camps reporting	552
Number of Camps not reporting	141
Percentage of Camps reporting	70
Number of Brothers belonging to Camps.....	23,423
Number of Brothers in line Memorial Day.....	13,017
Number of Brothers armed and in line Memorial Day.....	4,334
Number of Brothers unformed in line Memorial Day.....	7,889
Number of firing squads furnished	229
Number of Addresses by Members of Sons of Veterans....	336
Number of Brothers attending Memorial Sunday Services.	9,414
Number of Camps observing Union Defenders' Day.....	244
Number of Deaths in last 12 months.....	137
Number of funerals attended by Camps in a Body, G. A. R.	411
Number of funerals attended by Camps in a Body, S. of V.	121
Number of Burial Services conducted by Camp, G. A. R....	97
Number of Burial Services conducted by Camp, S. of V....	70
Number of Camps using Memorial Services, "A".....	106
Number of Camps using Memorial Services, "B".....	127

(Following is copy of detail report:)

Alabama and Tennessee	10	267	154	30	82	9	157	2	7	8	1	1	1	10	100
California	13	469	250	30	82	8	14	150	5	1	1	1	1	13	100
Colorado	2	66	...	...	...	...	28	...	1	1	1	1	1	2	100
Connecticut	14	583	326	61	84	7	7	254	10	2	1	1	1	10	95
Hillbols	26	1,180	622	165	145	7	17	273	12	2	1	1	1	26	42
Indiana	24	801	517	80	120	8	17	223	14	3	1	1	1	24	20%
Iowa	6	129	110	8	21	3	4	121	1	1	1	1	1	6	50
Kentucky	37	...	11	19	...	7	14	221	13	6	2	2	2	37	No Reports
Maine	33	363	586	164	401	7	14	221	13	6	2	2	2	33	8
Maryland	272	89	89	47	44	7	9	53	2	2	2	2	2	272	164
Massachusetts	49	4,197	2,945	531	245	17	64	2042	50	23	34	12	6	49	90
Michigan	180	75	45	45	51	1	62	5	5	1	1	1	1	180	164
Minnesota	2	35	37	6	11	1	2	37	5	2	1	1	1	2	2
Missouri	439	171	12	132	2	2	83	5	2	5	9	6	6	439	2
Nebraska	5	79	44	24	8	4	4	2	40	1	1	1	1	5	3
New Hampshire	31	917	578	225	474	4	10	368	9	8	15	4	2	31	100
New Jersey	17	791	389	197	252	12	17	222	11	10	21	10	4	17	76
New York	24	734	425	114	142	8	10	326	18	2	1	2	4	24	57
Ohio	26	1,289	801	227	476	10	27	581	8	6	21	5	4	26	33%
Pennsylvania	161	8,219	4,142	2,071	2,727	81	30	2,158	72	57	212	53	55	161	101
Rhode Island	10	229	191	104	164	4	5	189	7	1	7	1	1	10	100
Vermont	22	600	249	66	101	4	5	189	8	5	4	5	1	22	79
Washington	5	111	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	100
Wisconsin	5	533	175	60	63	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6

Number of Camps.	512	23	458	13	13	017	433	13	788	9	11	137	411	121	97	70	106	127	552	141	70	693		
Number of Brothers Belonging to Camps.	267	469	250	326	61	84	7	7	254	10	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
Number of Brothers in Line Memorial Day.	154	250	30	82	8	21	3	4	121	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	23	100	13	
Number of Brothers Armed and in Line.	30	82	8	14	150	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
Number of Brothers Unformed in Line.	82	8	14	150	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
Did Camp Furnish Firing Squad?	8	14	150	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
How Many Addresses Delivered by Sons of Veterans?	9	14	150	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
Number of Brothers Attending Memorial Services Sunday	157	28	7	7	254	10	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
Did Camp Observe Union Defenders' Day?	2	7	7	7	254	10	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
Number of Deaths in Camps in Last 12 Months.	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
G. A. R. Number of Funerals Attended by Camp in a Body.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
S. V. Number of Burials Conducted by Camp.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
G. A. R. Number of Burials Conducted by Camp.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
S. V. Number of Burials Conducted by Camp.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
"A" Did Camp Use Memorial Service?	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
"B" Did Camp Use Memorial Service?	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	100	13	
Number of Camps Reporting.	10	13	2	2	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	2	2	10	1	1	10	13	100	13
Number Camps Not Reporting.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Per Cent of Camps Reporting.	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
TOTALS.	512	23	458	13	13	017	433	13	788	9	11	137	411	121	97	70	106	127	552	141	70	693		

The Commander-in-Chief: The report of the National Chaplain goes to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

The Commander-in-Chief appointed the following committee to call upon the Ladies of the Auxiliary and advise them regarding Memorial Services:

Past Commander-in-Chief George B. Abbott, of Illinois.

W. A. Stevens, of Massachusetts.

E. E. Schoening, of Missouri.

F. E. Watson, of Indiana.

F. J. Kellogg, of Michigan.

The Commander-in-Chief: Next in order is the report of the National Inspector.

NATIONAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Peoria, Ill., Aug. 21, 1906.

To the Commander-in-Chief and Members of the 25th National Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Brothers: Shortly after returning from the last annual encampment at Gettysburg, Pa., I received a communication from the Commander-in-Chief with the information that I had been selected for the important office of National Inspector, and, on behalf of Maryland Division, I want to thank you, sir, for the honor, and beg to submit herewith my report:

With practically nothing in the way of precedents, I assumed the responsibility, having in view as complete an inspection of the affairs of the Camps and Divisions as possible, in order that, if possible, conditions might be improved.

The first proposition which was presented to me was the preparation of the necessary blanks for the inspections. The time was short, inasmuch as, under the Constitution and Laws, inspections must be made during the last quarter of each year. As a result of the experience gained, if I had it to go over again, I would strongly urge a number of material changes in the blanks for the Camp and Division inspections. However, after several vexatious delays, the machinery was put in motion, with the result as shown further on.

With the belief that the knowledge which might be obtained from a personal inspection of two or three of the larger Divisions would be of value in carrying on the work, I suggested to the Commander-in-Chief that the inspections of the Divisions of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York be conducted by the National Inspector, in which the Commander-in-Chief acquiesced. A report of the result of those inspections will be found in the January, 1906, issue of the "Banner." Supplemental thereto, I might add that each and every Division officer with whom I came in contact while conducting the inspections was greatly interested in the work and enthusiastic for the success of our Order. The Commanders had surrounded themselves with men of more than ordinary intelligence to assist them in their work, with the result that the respective Divisions were prosperous. I believe that if I could have followed up the inspection of those Divisions by visiting some of the smaller Divisions, much good would have resulted, as I had acquired information which, if imparted to the officers of the Divisions which come under the latter class, would have been beneficial to them; but that was impossible.

There has been considerable work in connection with the office, which might have been prevented if assistant inspectors had been more prompt to report. Notwithstanding repeated requests from both the Commander-in-Chief and the National Inspector, the last report was received seven days ago.

The following is a list of Assistant National Inspectors, as announced by the Commander-in-Chief, and as published in the December 1905 issue of the Banner.

Ala. and Tenn., L. W. Friedman, Birmingham, Ala.
 California, C. Haug, Los Angeles, Cal.
 Colorado, F. A. Whitney, Denver, Col.
 Connecticut, Wm. R. Congdon, Wickford, R. I.
 Illinois, Felix A. Kremer, Madison, Wis.
 Indiana, F. C. Stillson, Battle Creek, Mich.
 Iowa, J. E. Blythe, Mason City, Iowa.
 Kansas, J. L. Rickard, Valley Center, Kan.
 Kentucky, A. M. Struble, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Maine, Robt. L. Whitecomb, Portland, Me.
 Maryland, F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.
 Massachusetts, Michael Crowley, Charlestown, Mass.
 Michigan, Rolland F. Ducomb, South Bend, Ind.
 Minnesota, A. L. Sorter, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Missouri, E. E. Schoening, St. Louis, Mo.
 Nebraska, Geo. F. Wolz, Fremont, Neb.
 New Hampshire, Fred W. Spear, Bennington, Vermont.
 New Jersey, Edw. K. DePuy, Washington, D. C.
 New York, Edw. K. DePuy, Washington, D. C.
 Ohio, Geo. H. Stebbins, Newport, Ky.
 Pennsylvania, Edw. K. DePuy, Washington, D. C.
 Rhode Island, Geo. E. Cox, Hartford, Conn.
 Vermont, W. A. Stevens, West Roxbury, Mass.
 Washington, Chas. Pitchford, Asotin, Wash.
 Wisconsin, Joel F. Longnecker, Chicago, Ill.

Taking the subjects as they appear in the Assistant Inspectors' reports, the following is the result of the inspections:

By-Laws.

The inspections show that four of the divisions have failed to adopt By-laws. This should be remedied at once. No Division should be without By-laws, duly approved by the Commander-in-Chief. Two of the Divisions having By-laws have failed to have them approved by the Commander-in-Chief. Thirteen have their By-laws printed. Where possible, the other Divisions should follow the same example.

Records.

Generally speaking, the records were found to be correctly kept, but in a few instances the inspectors disclosed that such was not the fact.

Cash Accounts With Camps.

Four Divisions are reported as not keeping Cash Accounts with each Camp. It is important that such accounts be kept.

Requisitions for Supplies.

Requisitions for supplies are promptly filled in all Divisions, with the exception of one.

Correspondence.

The inspections show that only one Division failed to answer correspondence promptly, and five of the Divisions do not keep copies of correspondence.

Indebtedness.

Only one Division is reported as being in debt, and the amount at the time of the inspection was found to be \$27.25. It is to be hoped that this amount has been liquidated before this, and that the remaining Divisions are still free from debt.

Value of Supplies on Hand and Amounts in Division Treasuries.

The value of the supplies on hand in the various Divisions is shown to be \$1021.79, and the total amount in the treasuries of the various Divisions is \$4891.81.

Salaries.

Salaries of Division Officers range from \$1.00 per year to \$500.00. Ten of the Commanders receive a Salary of \$1.00 per annum, one \$3.65 and one \$10.00. These nominal salaries are paid, it is understood, in order that bonds may be more effectual from a legal standpoint. Of the Secretaries, two receive \$1.00, one \$12.50, two \$15.00, two \$25.00, two \$30.00, two \$50.00, one \$60.00, one \$75.00, one \$125.00, and one \$500.00 per annum, and one 15 per cent of the gross receipts. The Treasurers receive salaries as follows: One \$1.00, two \$10.00, one \$12.50, two \$15.00, two \$20.00, three \$25.00, two \$50.00, one \$74.00, one \$125.00, and one \$500.00, and one 5 per cent of the gross receipts. One Division has a Secretary-Treasurer, who is allowed five cents per quarter on each member paying per capita tax.

Election or Appointment of Division Officers.

Three of the Divisions elect their Secretaries, and seven their Treasurers. In the case of one Division, the offices of Secretary and Treasurer are combined into one, the office being appointive. I understand that other Divisions have adopted this course since the completion of the inspections.

Bonds.

The question of bonds of officers is one that calls for special attention. Art. I, of the Laws of the Order, page 20, of the Constitution and Laws, requires that the Division Commander, Division Treasurer and Division Secretary shall give bonds in amounts to be fixed by the various Councils in some acceptable surety company. In no less than ten of the Divisions bonds are not required of the Secretaries, and in three Divisions no bonds are required of the Treasurers, which fact is hereby called to the attention of the Division Commanders. Bonds of Commanders range from \$10.00 to \$3,000.00, thirteen of the Divisions requiring a bond of \$1000.00. The bonds of Division Commanders, under the Constitution and Laws, are approved by the Commander-in-Chief.

Commissions.

Section 3, Article V, page 32 of the Constitution and Laws, require Division Commanders to issue commissions to appointive officers and the officers-elect of the several Camps in the Division. In the case of two of the Divisions, it is found that no commissions are issued. This should be rectified at once. Brothers of our Order take a pardonable pride in the possession of these commissions, and if they should be deprived of

that possession by reason of the failure of Division Officers to carry out the requirements of the Constitution and Laws, some steps should be taken to the end that commissions are issued.

Steps Taken to Organize New Camps.

The Posts of the Grand Army have been used for this purpose to good advantage. Some of the Divisions have organizers in the field working up new Camps. Others have divided the Divisions into districts, placing a brother in charge of each district, whose duty it is to organize new Camps wherever possible.

Relations With the Grand Army of the Republic.

The relations with the G. A. R. and kindred organizations are very friendly. One assistant inspector reports that "We are all as one family, happy and smiling."

Reports to National Headquarters.

Three of the Divisions are reported as not sending in their reports promptly. The National Secretary can tell you more about this than the National Inspector.

Courts-Martial.

Three of the Divisions report having found it necessary to conduct courts-martial.

Card System.

Eight of the Divisions use a card system for keeping records of members. This is a matter in which your National Inspector has taken much interest, as modern methods seem to point to the card system, as the most satisfactory way of keeping such records. From investigations and after considerable thought to the subject, it is my conclusion that card records should be adopted, and I recommend the preparation of a card to be used by all Divisions, forms to be included in the Commandery-in-Chief supplies, and sold to Divisions on proper requisitions on the National Secretary. The form that appears to be most satisfactory is one where the member's record is entered on one side, and the ancestor's record on the reverse, with proper space for indicating offices held by the brothers, and other useful information, sample of which is hereto attached. In this connection, I want to refer to another point, and that is as to the eligibility of all applicants for admission to our Order. In no less than four Divisions, the Assistant Inspectors report that the Division Officers do not carefully scrutinize records of applicants to ascertain their eligibility and verify all about which there is doubt. This is to be regretted, and your National Inspector cannot urge in too strong language the necessity for jealously guarding our membership to this extent. Most, if not all the States publish books giving records of every soldier of the War of the Rebellion, and these books would undoubtedly be furnished headquarters of Divisions upon application to the Adjutant General of the State or other proper officer. In the case of one Division, which the Assistant Inspector reports as not verifying the eligibility of applicants, the National Inspector knows that the State has published such a record, and no doubt copies would be furnished Division headquarters upon application. And then, again, we have blanks for use in getting records verified at the War Department.

Per Capita Tax.

The per capita tax charged by Divisions ranges from 60 cents to \$1.00 per annum, the greatest number charging eighty cents.

Muster Fee.

Here is a lack of uniformity that should be noted. Some of the Divisions have placed the muster fee at \$5.00, while at least one other is charging but 50 cents. It may be noted, in passing, that the Division that charges but 50 cents is about the least prosperous, while the Divisions which permit a charge of \$5.00 is among those showing the greatest prosperity. Your National Inspector's comment on this condition is that it does not pay to be too cheap. Better results obtain where the muster fee is placed at the higher figures, and this is but natural. Let us not lower the standard by charging an insignificant amount for the privilege of becoming identified with our grand Order, but, on the contrary, let us place the muster fee where the dignity of the great privilege which we enjoy may be appreciated.

Proceedings and Rosters.

Only ten of the Divisions have the proceedings printed. Probably the item of expense enters into their failure to have this done. In this connection, attention is invited to the fact that the columns of The Banner are open to the Divisions for this purpose, and all who cannot have their proceedings printed in pamphlet form in full should cause to be published in the official organ at least a resume of the proceedings.

Fifteen of the Divisions publish printed rosters. It would be well if all would do this.

Charters.

The date of the oldest charter is given as June 24th, 1833. In the case of two Divisions the original charters can not be found. This is an important matter, and those Divisions should immediately take steps to have duplicate charters issued.

Camp Inspections.

There is a woeful lack of completeness in the Camp Inspections as shown by some of the consolidated Inspection Reports rendered by Division Inspectors. In some Divisions only a portion of the Camps are inspected. This is not as it should be. The great necessity for the inspections is to inspire Camp Officers to systematic work, whereby records are readily accessible. Our Camp records are really valuable, and should be kept up to date. Generally speaking, our system of books, blanks, etc. is as complete as can be found. Possibly there are more than the actual needs demand. Yet, it requires very little time on the part of the Camp Secretary and Treasurer to keep them up.

Of the twenty-five Divisions, seven Division Inspectors have failed to send in their consolidated reports, as follows: Colorado, Indiana, Minnesota, Nebraska, Rhode Island, Vermont and Wisconsin. This makes it impossible for the National Inspector to present as valuable a report on the subject of Camp Inspections as was hoped for. Eleven of the Division Inspectors report incomplete inspections. The Camps represented by these eleven Divisions number 453, of which number 343 Camps only were inspected. Of those reporting, the Division Inspectors of the following Divisions state that all Camps were inspected:

Alabama, Connecticut, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts and Washington. It will be noted that these are all small Divisions in point of membership. In the case of two of the fairly prosperous Divisions, only about 50 per cent of the Camps were reported as inspected.

I would recommend that consolidated reports of Division Inspectors be required as a condition to the representation of the Division at the National Encampments, the same as the other reports, and that at least 90 per cent of the Camps must be inspected. In fact, I am inclined to believe that it is within the power of the Commander-in-Chief, as the law now stands, to require such.

It was the desire of the National Inspector to show by these reports, the total number of recruits mustered into the Divisions since their organization, and compare it with the present membership, allowing of course, a certain percentage for loss by death. This, however, cannot be done as the matter now stands.

Equipment of Camps.

About 6 per cent of the Camps inspected are reported as not being properly equipped, one Division Inspector reporting that none of the Camps of his Division were properly equipped at the time of making the inspection, and about 5 per cent not having proper paraphernalia.

Secret Work.

The officers of about one-half of the Camps are reported as not having committed the ritualistic work. The attention of the Division Commanders is respectfully called to Article 11, page 29, of the Constitution and Laws, which prohibit the use of rituals in Camp services.

By-Laws.

Thirty per cent of the Camps have failed to have By-Laws approved by the Division Commanders. While the Constitution and Laws do not require this to be done (see page 3) it certainly would inure to the benefit of Camps not only to have By-Laws, but to have them printed so that each member may have a copy.

Badges for Recruits.

About 5 per cent of the Camps do not present badges to recruits. While this is a matter to be regulated by the Division, it is earnestly urged that all Camps present a badge to each recruit.

Officers.

About one-fourth of the Camps have taken advantage of the provision in the Constitution and Laws adopted at Boston, permitting the election of Camp Secretary and Treasurer.

The total value of Camp property is reported to be \$152,211.22.

The total indebtedness of Camps reported by 72 Camps, is \$1421.44.

The total amount invested by Camps is \$54,186.30.

The total amount of cash on hand, as well as amounts expended for relief, will appear in the National Secretary's report.

Military Companies.

Eighty-seven of the Camps reported have military companies attached.

Memorial Services.

One hundred and fifty-two Camps are reported as having charge of Memorial Services, and practically all of the Camps are working in harmony with the G. A. R.

Memorial University.

One hundred and eight of the Camps are reported as supporting Memorial University.

D. B. A. and Beneficial.

Of the 631 Camps reported, 103 are identified with the D. B. A. and 104 are beneficial. The National Inspector is thoroughly convinced that much good will result in having the National body take up the question of both death and sick benefits, with a view to placing the organization as a whole on a beneficial basis.

Attendance.

The reports show the average attendance at meetings to be about 40 per cent.

Badges and Button-Hole Decoration.

About one-half of one per cent of the members are reported as not having badges. It is necessary to say that every brother should have a badge, and they should invariably be worn at meetings of the Camp.

A very small per cent of the members seem to be in favor of a change in the present badge; but as to the button-hole decoration, more express a desire for a change.

Ritual.

On the subject of Ritual, about one-half of the Camps seem to wish a change, some suggesting a shorter form; one, the old ritual of 1889. On this subject I understand the committee on revision of ritual will make a report at this time.

Conclusion.

There has been considerable work connected with the office of National Inspector, but it has been a labor of love, and my only regret is that this report could not have been more complete. I hope that those who will be entrusted with making inspections during the coming year, both as to Divisions and as to Camps, will assist my successor by sending in reports promptly. Most of them have done so this year, and to those I want to express my thanks. I realize that after a hiatus of three or four years, during which no inspections were held, it may have had the effect of causing some of the Divisions to pay very little attention to the resumption of inspection. For my part, I am firmly convinced that it is a good thing, and I am in favor of re-establishing the old system of marking by percentages the results of inspection, believing it creates a friendly rivalry that will be a benefit to our Order in general.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD K. DE PUY,
National Inspector.

Following is a reproduction of the card referred to in the National Inspector's report, under the heading of "Card System," showing printing and blank spaces on each side.

FRONT OF CARD

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CAMP _____ NO. _____ DIV. _____

LIST NO. _____ BIRTHPLACE _____

DATE OF MUSTER _____ RESIDENCE _____

AGE _____ OCCUPATION _____

SUSPENDED	DROPPED	RE-INSTATED	HON. DISCHARGED
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	TRANSFERRED _____
_____	_____	_____	DECEASED _____
_____	_____	_____	DISHON. DISCHARGED _____

HONORS: _____

BACK OF CARD

FATHER'S
GRANDFATHER'S } NAME _____

DATE OF ENLISTMENT _____

RANK _____

CO. _____

REG'T
SHIP } _____

DATE OF DISCHARGE _____

RANK _____

CAUSE OF DISCHARGE _____

REMARKS: _____

The Commander-in-Chief: The report of the National Inspector is referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

The Commander-in-Chief: We will now have a report from the Committee on Credentials, at which time I believe it is the desire of the Local Committee to present the Delegate Badges; so, as the names are called, the delegates will please step forward and get their badges.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

National Secretary H. H. Hammer, Chairman of the Credential 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, Harley V. Speelman, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Senior Vice Comd'r-in-Chief, Arthur M. Soule, Portland, Me.
Junior Vice Comd'r-in-Chief, Geo. H. Stebbins, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Chief-of-Staff, R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia, Pa.
Council-in-Chief—James E. Seabert, Dwight, Ill.; Thos. J. Hannon, Boston, Mass.; Ralph Sheldon, Albany, N. Y.
National Secretary, H. H. Hammer, Reading, Pa.
National Treasurer, James Lewis Rake, Reading, Pa.
National Counselor, A. E. B. Stephens, Cincinnati, Ohio.
National Chaplain, Rev. U. G. Leazenby, Terre Haute, Ind.
National Inspector, Edward K. De Puy, Washington, D. C.

Past Commanders-in-Chief.

George B. Abbott, Chicago, Ill.
W. H. Russell, LaCrosse, Kansas.
Jas. Lewis Rake, Reading, Pa.
R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia, Pa.
Frank L. Shepard, Chicago, Ill.
Arthur B. Spink, Providence, R. I.
Wm. G. Dustin, Dwight, Ill.

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 and Tennessee:—
Past Commander L. W. Friedman, Birmingham.
Delegate Horace E. Shaw, Birmingham.

Connecticut:—

Commander Alfred C. Baldwin, Derby.
Past Commander Geo. E. Cox, Hartford.
Delegate Robert T. Alcorn, Hartford.
Delegate H. H. Gorton, Naugatuck.

California:—

Delegate R. A. Eno, Long Beach.
 Delegate F. D. Wolfrom, San Francisco.

Colorado and Wyoming:—

Commander A. W. Stillians, Durango, Col.

Iowa:—

Commander Fremont S. Gibson, Mason City, Iowa.
 Past Commander A. L. Sorter, Jr., Minneapolis, Minn.
 Past Commander W. F. Muse, Mason City, Iowa.
 W. J. Reinke.

Illinois:—

Commander Harry G. Wasson, Peoria.
 Past Commander Geo. B. Abbott, Chicago.
 Past Commander Geo. B. Stadden, Springfield.
 Past Commander C. G. Marsh, Chicago.
 Past Commander John D. Hall, Peoria.
 Past Commander Wm. G. Dustin, Dwight.
 Past Commander F. L. Shepard, Chicago.
 Past Commander Wm. T. Church, Chicago.
 Past Commander Will C. Schneider, Kankakee.
 Past Commander Chas. T. Orner, Bloomington.
 Past Commander Frank T. Reid, Springfield.
 Past Commander James E. Seabert, Dwight.
 Past Commander C. D. Thomas, Champaign.
 Delegate R. F. Locke, Rockford.
 Delegate John T. Stockton.
 Delegate James Lidders, Rock Island.
 Delegate T. W. Allen, Greenup.

Indiana:—

Past Commander Geo. F. Ogden, Laketon.
 Past Commander T. W. Blair, Fort Wayne.
 Delegate F. E. Watson, Goldsmith.
 Delegate S. C. Tipton, South Bend.
 Delegate R. J. Bosworth.
 Delegate A. A. Jones.
 Delegate W. F. Geller, Fort Wayne.

Kansas:—

Past Com.-in-Chief W. H. Russell, LaCrosse, Kansas.
 Delegate Jacob Sackman, Wilson, Kansas.

Kentucky:—

Past Commander Geo. H. Stebbins, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Delegate A. H. Cabell, Henderson, Ky.

Maine:—

Commander Darling S. Hayes, Sanford.
 Past Commander Robt. L. Whitcomb, Portland.
 Past Commander Arthur M. Soule, Portland.
 Past Commander Clarence H. Cram, Augusta.
 Delegate Geo. W. Cragg, Dorchester, Mass.
 Delegate Chas. L. Chase, Newport, Me.
 Delegate Orrin Ricker.

Missouri:—

Past Commander Ed. L. Gottchalk, St. Louis.
 Past Commander E. E. Schoening, St. Louis.

Past Commander J. W. S. Dillon, Grant City.
 Past Commander Fred W. Miller, St. Louis.
 Past Commander Henry P. Kesselring, St. Louis.
 Delegate Louis C. Spies, St. Louis.
 Delegate L. B. Philo, St. Joseph.

Nebraska:—

Commander Bert J. Galley, Columbus.

Maryland:—

Commander Jos. F. Peeney, Wilmington, Del.
 Past Commander Edw. K. De Puy, Kensington, Md.
 Past Commander F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.
 Past Commander Frank P. Gentieu, Wilmington, Del.
 Delegate Geo. W. Gentieu, Peoria, Ill.
 Delegate W. A. O'Meara, Washington, D. C.

Massachusetts:—

Commander Walter Penney, Lynn.
 Past Commander William A. Stevens, Arlington.
 Past Commander Fred E. Bolton, Boston.
 Past Commander Leonard C. Couch, Taunton.
 Delegate Herbert K. Mayo, Roslindale.
 Delegate Lyman W. Floyd, Manchester.
 Delegate G. W. Wallace, Marlboro.
 Delegate Jos. P. Devine, Saugus.
 Delegate M. L. Kidder, Everett.
 Delegate A. J. Whitney, Worcester.
 Delegate Geo. H. Green, Peabody.
 Delegate Percy Parker.
 Delegate A. W. Eldridge.
 Delegate F. W. Chubbuck.

Michigan:—

Past Commander Fred C. Stillson, Battle Creek.
 Past Commander H. Earl Cowdin, Rockford.
 Past Commander Frank J. Kellogg, Battle Creek.

Minnesota:—

Past Commander C. M. Rawitzer, Minneapolis.
 Past Commander Chas. E. Casler, St. Paul.
 Delegate E. L. Do Lestry, St. Paul.
 Delegate W. J. Hiland, St. Paul.

New York:—

Commander Frank K. Maples, Brooklyn.
 Past Commander Ralph Sheldon, Albany.
 Past Commander Wm. B. Moynihan, Rochester.
 Delegate H. V. Burlock, Dobbs Ferry.
 Delegate Geo. C. Lowe, Rochester.
 Delegate W. H. Klein, Syracuse.
 Delegate H. A. P. Liddle, Brooklyn.
 Delegate Fred Lowe.
 Delegate Benedict Greenhut.
 Delegate Andrew G. Usted.

New Hampshire:—

Commander Arthur J. Boutwell, Concord, N. H.
 Past Commander Michael Crowley, Charlestown, Mass.
 Delegate R. S. Davis, Keene, N. H.
 Delegate Henry Bartlett.

New Jersey:—

Commander Charles C. Lawrence, Trenton.

Past Commander Fred A. Gentieu, Penns Grove.
 Past Commander Jas. B. Adams, Atlantic City.
 Delegate W. H. Good, Trenton.
 Delegate W. H. Brown.

Ohio:—

Commander Park F. Yengling, Salem.
 Past Commander A. E. B. Stephens, North Bend.
 Past Commander H. V. Speelman, Cincinnati.
 Delegate W. T. Critchfield, Troy.
 Delegate Thos. E. Long, Dayton.
 Delegate W. H. Perry, Cincinnati.
 Delegate Adelbert McKay, Waynesville.
 Delegate A. M. Lowe, Dennison.
 Delegate J. D. Barnett, Findlay.

Pennsylvania:—

Commander Lincoln S. Ramsey, Reading.
 Past Commander R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia.
 Past Commander John Bower, Jr., Philadelphia.
 Past Commander J. L. Rake, Reading.
 Past Commander H. H. Hammer, Reading.
 Past Commander Alf. G. Loyd, Sharpsburg.
 Past Commander H. M. Rebele, Allegheny City.
 Past Commander C. Day Rudy, Harrisburg.
 Past Commander A. S. Moulthrop, Du Bois.
 Delegate Edw. M. Amies, Altoona.
 Delegate J. A. Welsh, Shamokin.
 Delegate W. E. Smedley, Philadelphia.
 Delegate D. Sherman Smith, Lancaster.
 Delegate A. S. Rhoades, Milton.
 Delegate F. Tschudy, Johnstown.
 Delegate F. A. McKelvey, Pittsburg.
 Delegate Karl Stewart, Harrisburg.
 Delegate Chas. D. Charters, Harrisburg.
 Delegate Geo. W. Dubbs, Pine Grove.
 Delegate Wm. F. Carl, Allentown.
 Delegate Wm. H. Tomer, Philadelphia.
 Delegate Wm. R. McGirr, Philadelphia.
 Delegate J. Kensler.

Rhode Island:—

Past Commander Arthur B. Spink, Providence, R. I.

Vermont:—

Past Commander J. B. Ripley, Lyndonville, Vt.
 Delegate Allan S. Holbrook, Dwight, Ill.

Washington:—

Commander Millard T. Johnson, Asotin, Wash.

Wisconsin:—

Past Commander W. J. Patton, Kaukauna.
 Past Commander Felix A. Kremer, Madison.
 Delegate J. G. Bogart, Milwaukee.

ENCAMPMENT COMMITTEES.

The Commander-in-Chief announced the appointment of the following committees:

Credential Committee.

H. H. Hammer, National Secretary, Chairman, Pennsylvania;

Thomas W. Blair, Indiana; Robert L. Whitcomb, Maine; Chas. C. Lawrence, New Jersey; Frederick W. Miller, Missouri.

Committee on Constitution and Law.

A. E. B. Stephens, National Counselor, Chairman, Ohio; Edwin M. Amies, Pennsylvania; F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.; Bert J. Galley, Nebraska; Arthur B. Spink, Rhode Island.

Committee on Memorial University.

Rev. W. J. Patton, Wisconsin, Chairman; Past Commander-in-Chief Wm. G. Dustin, Illinois; Senator Albert J. Beveridge, Indiana; Dr. H. J. Clossen, Pennsylvania; Sherman Arter, Ohio.

Committee on Badge and Button-Hole Decoration.

C. Day Rudy, Pennsylvania, Chairman; Wm. H. Looney, Maine; E. E. Schoening, Missouri.

Committee on Ritual and Ceremonies.

James B. Adams, New Jersey, Chairman; Malcolm D. Rudd, Connecticut; Theodore C. Cazeau, New York.

Committee on Fraternal Greetings to G. A. R. and Affiliating Organizations at Minneapolis Encampment.

Rev. W. J. Patton, Wisconsin, Chairman; Hon. Cyrus H. Little, New Hampshire; Past Commander-in-Chief Wm. G. Dustin, Illinois; Arthur L. Jones, Minnesota; A. L. Sorter, Jr., Iowa; C. E. Cassler, Minnesota; W. J. Hiland, Minnesota.

Committee on Officers' Reports.

W. H. Russell, Kansas, Chairman; Walter Penney, Massachusetts; Michael Crowley, New Hampshire; Frank K. Maples, New York; Park F. Yengling, Ohio.

Committee on Resolutions.

John T. Stockton, Illinois, Chairman; J. B. Ripley, Vermont; Fred C. Stillson, Michigan; Fremont S. Gibson, Iowa; Millard T. Johnson, Washington.

Committee on Fraternal Greetings at Peoria Encampment.

Geo. B. Abbott, Illinois, Chairman; Wm. B. Moynihan, New York; F. D. Wolfrom, California; Geo. E. Cox, Connecticut; Jos. F. Peeney, Maryland; Park F. Yengling, Ohio; Geo. H. Stebbins, Kentucky; E. L. De Lestry, Minnesota.

Committee on Press.

L. W. Friedman, Alabama and Tennessee, Chairman; A. M. McKay, Ohio; Brother Oakley, Illinois.

E. F. Buck, of Peoria, Illinois: I want to say, Commander, in the matter of Entertainments, that on the ticket of coupons, there is one coupon for an automobile ride. We have not enough automobiles at our disposal to take care of both the boys and girls, and we feel that the girls should be given the preference.

It was moved by Geo. B. Abbott, of Illinois, seconded by A. M. McKay, of Ohio, that the Memorial Service be deferred until the first thing Wednesday morning.

The Commander-in-Chief put the motion and the same was carried.

It was moved by Geo. B. Abbott, of Illinois, seconded by Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire, that the roll call made by the National Secretary be the correct roll of this Encampment to date.

Upon presentation by the Commander-in-Chief, the motion was carried.

The Commander-in-Chief: The next thing in the order of business is the reception and reference of communications. What is the pleasure of the Encampment on this point?

It was moved by G. B. Abbott, of Illinois, seconded by W. H. Perry, of Ohio, that the Encampment take a recess until nine o'clock Wednesday morning, August 22nd.

The Commander-in-Chief put the motion and the same was duly carried. A recess was then declared until Wednesday, August 22nd, at 9 o'clock a. m.

WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION.

August 22nd, 1906. 9:00 A. M.

The session was called to order by Commander-in-Chief Speelman, who announced that the order of business at this time called for the Memorial Service, and appointed the following Committee to escort the ladies of the Auxiliary into the hall:

Committee: Brothers Greenhut, of Illinois; George F. Ogden, of Indiana, and Clarence H. Cram, of Maine.

The Ladies of the Auxiliary were escorted to the hall by the above committee.

The Commander-in-Chief: Sisters of the Auxiliary and Brothers of the Order: This session has been set aside by our organization for Memorial Services, to be conducted in commemoration of those of our members who have departed from this life during the past year. We will open by singing "Jesus, Lover of My Soul." I will ask Miss Vollmer, of Ohio, to accompany at the piano.

Prayer, by Rev. W. J. Patton, of Wisconsin.

The Commander-in-Chief: I will now call upon Sister Moynihan, National Chaplain, to represent the Auxiliary on this occasion.

Mrs. Julia A. Moynihan, of Rochester, N. Y. Commander: I was not expecting that I should be the first speaker on this sad occasion, but I assure you that we greatly appreciate and enjoy to be with you in this memorial service. It is one of the greatest things that we perform at our National Encampments, that of remembering many who have been with us on these occasions, as well as the faithful ones who have never had the pleasure of being with us. How little we know from one year to another how many will pass to that great beyond; therefore, it behooves us, as brothers and sisters, to remember our obligations and to teach others while we live. We can not be too thoughtful for each other; we can not do too many acts of kindness toward each other, and our obligation is one of the most beautiful, that we take at the altar when we become members of this grand and noble Order, the Order which we have so much right to be proud of. We are taught to be humble and not proud, but it seems to me that this is one way in which we can not help being proud. We are proud to have inherited that great honor of being members of the Sons of Veterans or the Auxiliary to the Sons of Veterans. I speak in behalf of our Auxiliary, when I say that each and every one of us appreciates the Order of Sons of Veterans and are glad to know if we can be of any assistance to you.

Song: "Nearer My God to Thee," by Encampment, accompanied by Miss Vollmer, at the piano.

The Commander-in-Chief: I now have the pleasure of presenting our National Chaplain, Brother U. G. Leazenby, who will speak to us on behalf of our Order of Sons of Veterans.

National Chaplain U. G. Leazenby: Commander, Members of the Grand Army of the Republic, Sons of Veterans, and Auxiliary, Ladies and Gentlemen: I am deeply impressed with two thoughts: first, this body is composed of busy men. No one has studied the personnel of this company for the last three days as have I, without being keenly conscious that we are not men of leisure; second, that we yet have a vast amount of unfinished business and a limited time to attend to the same. This means that I must necessarily be brief. Yet, I remember, in giving the Chaplain's report, that 137 of our members have passed from our midst during the past twelve months; that means, that 137 homes have been saddened and many families are mourning deeply at this hour.

In view of the fact that ours is an Organization whose first purpose is to keep green the memory of lives that have been lived and gone out from us, it is certainly fitting that we should pause from the rush of business a sufficient length of time to pay a tribute of respect to these, our 137 departed brothers.

While I have in view that this is a Memorial Service, I wish to beg your permission to depart from the well beaten paths that are so frequently traveled by speakers on occasions of this character, and call your attention to some of the more practical problems that confront us. Hence, I speak to you from the theme, "The Nobility of Service."

Washington Irving has said, "Man is a creature of interest and ambition: that his nature leads him forth into the struggle and bustle of the world." This is but another way of saying that the race that God created in His own image is ambitious to excel. This effort for personal pre-eminence was first manifest in man's desire to triumph over his fellow men in physical contest. That individual was nearest satisfied and thought to be greatest who could send the spear of death through the thickest coat of mail and strew the battle field more quickly with human gore. To such belong Samson of the Hebrews and Achilles of the Greeks.

In the evolution of our race, man's next effort to triumph over his fellow beings was in the contest for financial supremacy. That man was nearest satisfied whose authority extended over the large number of acres and controlled the larger number of human beings. This regime gave rise to the feudal system of England, and the peasant system of Ireland, both galling in the extreme.

But we are now approaching a time when less attention is given to man's physical strength or his financial success, but more attention being given to what he is—what he does.

Shall we notice negatively some elements of character which do not constitute true greatness, but rightfully used, are conducive toward it? First, position does not constitute a truly great character. Perhaps no name has been more conspicuous in the last third of a century than that of Albert Edward, former Prince of Wales, now King of England, yet you are not here who would dare say that great qualities of heart or head have given him his publicity. It was, rather, the accident of being a son of a great woman.

Scholarship, within itself, does not constitute a truly great

character. Some one has said that Erasmus was a greater scholar than Luther; that he had the more liberal education and was the finer student of the Greek language is certainly true, but his name is forgotten outside of college circles, while the name of Luther is a household word; that Aaron Burr was a greater scholar than Mr. Washington is granted, but the life of Burr was a stupendous failure, while that of Mr. Washington is a most pronounced success. That Mr. Ingersoll, America's greatest orator of the last century, was more scholarly than Mr. Moody, none will question; yet the work of one unsettled the faith of thousands, while the work of the other led many thousands to that calmness and poise that faith in Christ alone can give.

Mere wealth within itself does not constitute a truly great character. Frequently men who are the most wealthy give the smallest and poorest service to the world. We know that Jay Gould left many millions, yet the greatness of Mr. Brook's character is to be measured by his service that he rendered, while Mr. Gould's can be measured only by the gold that he gathered.

Thus, seeing that physical strength, that scholarship, that wealth within themselves, do not constitute the true nobility of character, shall we notice affirmatively some elements that are absolutely necessary to the greatness of character that we now have in mind?

First, service. There is, there can be, no nobility of character without giving service. The reason that Mr. Lincoln occupies the high position in the minds of all civilized races, is that he was the world's greatest servant of his day. Why is it, regardless of our political affiliations, that we all recognize the greatness of the late John Hay, Secretary of State? He occupied a unique position in the annals of American history. While not a member of any church, he regularly attended church services. He contributed liberally toward the support of missions. He was the writer of Christian hymns, and yet at his death, you will remember that some of the leading magazine writers declared that he was not a Christian. Because of this declaration, I carefully studied the history of his splendid life, which lead me to believe that the secret of his greatness is to be found in this, that he projected his spirit into the present future of this life and really served men.

Read his two little poems that have made him famous in the literary world. I think you will agree with me it is not so much the quality of his literary style, as it is the spirit of service that makes them great.

"He warn't any angel, but in the Judgment Day,
I take my place alongside Jim;
Not with a lot of fine-haired saints
That wouldn't shake hands with him;
He saw his duty clear and straight,
Went for it there and then;
And, say, Christ aint goin' to be hard
On a man who died for men."

"How did he get there?
Angels! He never walked through that storm alone;
They just swooped down and toted him
To where it was nice and warm.
And I think savin' a little fellow,
And takin' him back to his own,

Is 'nough sight better business
Than loafin' about the Throne."

You remember his vivid description of "Jim Bledsoe," the pilot on the Mississippi River steamer. Jim had sworn, even with cruel oaths, that if his boat ever took fire, he would "hold her nose to the bank until the last passenger escaped." One day his boat did take fire; Jim, true to his word, stood at his post of duty till the hungry, snapping flames undermined the smoke-stacks and they fell, a molten mass in the heated furnace, and Jim himself fell a martyr to duty in the flames. Hear him as he says:

"He warn't any angel, but in the Judgment Day,
I take my place alongside Jim;
Not with a lot of fine-haired saints
That wouldn't shake hands with him;
He saw his duty clear and straight,
Went for it there and then;
And, say, Christ aint going to be hard
On a man who died for men."

Or, take his other little poem, "Little Gabe." You remember the Westerner went to market with a load of turnips. Returning, passing Tyggart's saloon, he stopped to fill his jug. A blizzard sweeps across the plain; the bronchos become frightened, they run with Little Gabe in the wagon. On and on he searches till at last he finds them in a canon, the wagon turned over, the horses tangled and all under snow. His heart sinks as he discovers that his child is not there, but as he goes to the sheep corral to get wood to make a new torch to prosecute his search, he finds Little Gabe in the shed with the lambs, safe and comfortable. Once more we recognize his great spirit as he says:

"How did he get there?
Angels! He never walked through that storm alone;
They just swooped down and toted him
To where it was nice and warm;
And I think savin' a little fellow,
And takin' him back to his own,
Is 'nough sight better business
Than loafin' about the Throne."

Aye! Here we have the secret of Mr. Hay's greatness. He was a veritable servant and, therefore, was noble in character.

Seeing then that service is absolutely necessary to nobility of character, shall we notice a few elements that are necessary to the larger service? First we would name intelligence. Ours is a great and stirring age and one that is fraught with great possibilities. In the last few years our country has again and again been in the throes of industrial revolution. Great problems have presented themselves and unless these are met and satisfactorily adjusted, in no distant day the demons of revolution will again revel on the hearthstone of peace and plenty. This is no false prediction, but a fair diagnosis of the fitful pulse beat and fiery protruding tongue of the dissatisfied masses. It requires intelligence to meet these problems and thus far we have never placed the proper estimate upon the higher intellectual training. The statistician tells us that one-fifth of one per cent of the American people only have graduated from our higher institutions of learning, and yet from this limited number have

come fifty per cent of our Congressmen, sixty per cent of our Senators, and more than seventy-five per cent of our Supreme Judges, yet I am not forgetful that it is not within the power of all to attend the college or university. Thanks be to our forefathers for our splendid public school system, it is in the realm of the possible for all to acquire a good practical education.

We are told that we have more than 300,000 teachers in our public schools, aside from those who teach in our Philippine possessions. 300,000 who have passed satisfactory examinations in heart and head, for the training of twenty millions of pupils in our public schools. I do not wonder that the reticent Grant broke into eloquence for the only time as he paid a tribute to the public school system of America.

Not only must we have intelligence in order to be truly great, but we must have courage. These are great problems which present themselves in times of peace as well as war, and when we think for a moment of the brave and courageous men our fathers were, it certainly will inspire us to courageous action. No better example of courage has ever been given to the world than that shown by the men who wore the blue in 1861 to 1865. There is no courageous course that can be pursued or helpful work accomplished that does not come at great cost, and no company of men ever paid more dearly to be true to their convictions than did the soldiers who responded to the call of the country during the late war.

Shall we notice some of the cost price paid by them which enabled them to give the service rendered? First, the cost of the late war in dollars and cents has never been fully given. That child is yet to be born and trained in the higher mathematics to give the figures in dollars and cents that will represent the loss of money and financial interests.

Having been born and reared in a slave state, my earliest recollections are the stories of the destruction of once happy homes and large property interests, and then practically to paralyze the great industrial interests of this country for five long years, who can estimate the loss from a monetary standpoint?

Again, the greatest loss sustained was not that of money, but of opportunity. When we remember that our fathers gave four to five years of the best of their lives, just at the time they should have been in the colleges and universities, we are not to wonder that some show a lack of culture and intellectual attainments. The years that we spent in the colleges and universities were just the years they spent in marching and fighting and self-denial.

Another great loss that many times we fail to note, was that of the home. If every church and school in our broad land were destroyed and the home was left intact, churches and schools would soon be bullded, but if the home were destroyed, in comparatively few years the churches and schools would be destroyed, never to be rebuilt. I speak of this to impress upon your minds that for five long years there was a loss of home life to the larger portion of healthful young men of both North and South. Then, who can estimate what it means for four millions of the brightest and best of a nation's men to go down in battle.

These are some of the losses that we as a nation sustained as a result of the war. Doubtless many times we ask ourselves, "Did it pay?" Does it pay to give such tremendous values in

order that we may render service? As I ask the question now, "Does it pay?" we seem to hear a united country, no longer divided by boundaries, but one people, answering in the affirmative. From the South there comes the answer from factory and shop and homes and cities, that it paid that our fathers should give themselves in order that they might once more be prosperous and happy. As I ask the question once more, from the South I hear ten millions of voices, as they are represented by such noted leaders of the black race as Booker T. Washington, W. I. Camphor, I. B. Scott, and Doctor Mason, all answer, "Yes, it paid, that we might no longer be chattels bought and sold, but that we might be men with equal opportunities along with other races." Were it possible for the four millions of brave men, who died in the mighty struggle of battle or in the prison pens of the South, to speak, I am sure that they would say, "Yes, it paid, and were we again young and had life to live over, we would give no smaller sacrifice than that we already offered"; and were all members of the Grand Army of the Republic who yet survive, within the reach of my voice as I ask the question, I am sure, though bent in form and trembly in gait, they would say it paid to render such service. If the great leaders who met each other in deadly combat, from Fort Sumter to Appomattox, were enabled to speak to us, it must be that Lee and Grant, Sherman and Jackson, no longer clothed in blue and gray, but with the robes of immortality, would unitedly say, "It paid to give the price in order that the world might be benefited thereby." From Cuba to the Philippine Isles, from China, who has recently begun to feel the awakening power of freedom, and from Japan, who has arisen like a giant from his slumbers and crumbled to the dust the last absolute monarchical form of government, all these nations would answer in the affirmative and declare it paid for our fathers to render this service.

While we are justly proud that we are the sons and daughters of men who rendered such splendid service, let us not forget that it means more to be permitted to live today than in any other period of the world's history: in fact, it has been a great thing to live any day in this world since it was young and God and man were companions. It was a great thing to have lived when Rome was mistress of the world, and on her walls waved the flags of the subjugated nations. It was a great thing to have lived when Greece was the center of the world's learning and Athens the most scholarly city of that learned nation. It would have been a great thing to have lived when our forefathers landed at Plymouth Rock and planted the little tree of liberty in the soil that has been so indigenous to its growth that eighty-two or more millions sit beneath its branches and worship God according to the dictates of conscience. But it is a greater privilege to live to day with all the opportunity for service.

Were we to become inspired as the sons and daughters of the members of the Grand Army of the Republic to be great in any other line except service, we certainly would be at least liable to defeat. Were we to become inspired to great orators, while it is in the realm for all to speak fairly well, God has but a few times in the centuries kindled the fires of true oratory. We have had but one Demosthenes, but one Cicero, but one Webster.

Were we to become inspired to be great painters, while many trace well with both brush and chisel, but few paint pic-

tures or chisel forms that all but breathe. We have had but one Thidias, but one Reubens, but one Michael Angelo.

Were we to become inspired to be great military leaders, and the opportunity were to be offered, please God may it not come in our splendid country again, doubtless all would be doomed to defeat. We have had but one Alexander, but one Napoleon, but one Grant, but it is possible for all to be great in rendering service in helping to lessen the heartaches and burdens of the sorrowing; and while we remember that the defenders of our country's flag were great in service, shall we not pledge to them our sacred word and honor that they shall not be forgotten? In all human probability, we, their sons and daughters, shall live to see the time that the last soldier is gone, and still I wish to promise those of you who are here that you shall not be forgotten; so long as God shall keep His pledge and seed time and harvest and summer and winter shall return, we promise you we shall continue to pluck the first flowers of spring and drop them on the ground that marks your last resting place. We shall tell your children's children of your deeds, heroism and sacrifice for country, for flag and humanity. (Applause.)

The Commander-in-Chief: I will ask Brother Ellwood of the local Camp to present the Committee of Ladies who were just admitted.

Brother Ellwood: Mr. Commander, I have the honor and the pleasure of introducing to you, and to this assembly a Committee from Wilson Circle, the local society of the Ladies of the G. A. R.

After Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Dunlap had addressed the Encampment, expressing the pleasure with which they appeared before the convention and extending the greetings of their organization, Commander-in-Chief Speelman expressed the appreciation of the Encampment of their presence, and called upon Charles T. Orner, of Illinois, to greet the Ladies, in behalf of the Encampment.

Charles T. Orner, of Illinois. Mr. Commander, Ladies of the G. A. R., and our own Auxiliary: The relations existing between our Order and our parent society and the sister society, our Auxiliary, have always been of the most pleasant nature. It has been my exceeding pleasure, during my connection with the military societies of this country, to come in contact with several of the Auxiliaries of our Order, and none with greater pleasure than the Ladies of the G. A. R. They have, from the nature of their membership, from their kindly acts and the care which they take of the old soldiers, given us all a lesson in the remembrance of the men of '61-'65. I thank you, Ladies, in behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief, for this kind tribute, and the interest you take for the welfare of the Order of Sons of Veterans throughout the United States, and we are proud because we will have the same care shown us from the Ladies of the G. A. R., and from the W. R. C. and the ladies of our Auxiliary, as has been shown to our fathers. In conclusion, allow me to again thank you in the name of the Commandery-in-Chief for the expression of kindness and love.

The Ladies of the G. A. R. withdrew from the convention hall, after which "Rock of Ages" was sung by the Encampment, accompanied by Miss Vollmer.

The services were concluded with "Taps" on the bugle, sounded by Chas. E. Casler, of Minnesota.

Commander Scott, of Camp 100, Illinois Division: Commander, and Brothers of the Encampment: I beg to say that the Illinois State Camp No. 100 has headquarters at the National Hotel, Parlor 8. The Secretary of the Camp is there and will be pleased to welcome all visiting brothers. While you are at headquarters, we would be pleased to have you register and accept the compliments of the Camp in the shape of a little badge which has been stricken off, one of which will be given to each delegate. The badge is a representation of the Lincoln monument at Springfield, Ill.

The Ladies of the Auxiliary retired, and the Encampment was called to order by Commander-in-Chief Speelman.

At the request of the Commander-in-Chief, Inspector DePuy assisted by D. Sherman Smith, of Pennsylvania, made the rounds of the Encampment and reported all present entitled to remain.

F. E. Watson, of Indiana, was appointed Camp Guard.

Messages of Greeting.

The Commander-in-Chief: I have some messages and communications, which I desire to read to the Encampment at this time.

The following were then read by Commander-in-Chief:

Oyster Bay, N. Y., Aug. 21, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Peoria, Ill.

The president sends you and members of your organization his greetings and best wishes for a successful meeting.

WM. LOEB, JR., Secy.

Zanesville, Ohio, Aug. 21, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Peoria, Ill.

The Grand Army of the Republic with just pride rejoices in the stalwart Americanism of our sons; be true to your highest ideals.

R. R. BROWN, Commander-in-Chief,
Grand Army of the Republic.

Chicago, Ill., Aug. 22, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Peoria, Ill.

Greetings and best wishes from the Daughters of Veterans.
MYRTLE KRAMER, National President.

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 20, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,

My Dear Speelman: I find it impossible to come to the Encampment. I regret this more than I can tell you, but there is no way out. I trust the Encampment is a success and I know it will be. I congratulate you on the splendid record you have made. You have worked hard and are to be commended. With affectionate regards, etc.

FRANK MARTIN.

Dayton, Ohio, Aug. 21, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Peoria, Ill.

Earnshaw Camp in session extends greetings to the 25th An-

nual Encampment of Commandery-in-Chief, and a pressing invitation to come to Dayton in 1907.

WILBUR F. SINE, Camp Commander.

Albany, N. Y., Aug. 16, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,
S. of V., U. S. A., Cincinnati, Ohio.

My Dear Commander: An accumulation of business makes it impossible for me to attend the National Encampment at Peoria. I regret this very much as I fully intended to be present. I hope the Encampment will be a great success and that the work done may redound to the good of the Order. Congratulating you on your splendid administration as Commander-in-Chief, I am, with sincere good wishes.

Fraternally yours,
GEORGE ADDINGTON.

Narragansett Pier, R. I., Aug. 21, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,
S. of V., U. S. A., Peoria Ill.

Congratulations on your brilliant record; regret that I cannot attend the Encampment; best wishes.

WM. R. CONGDON.

Los Angeles, Cal., Aug. 21, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Peoria, Ill.

Sorry I cannot be with you; wish you a pleasant and successful Encampment; best wishes.

GEO. W. CONART, Past Division Commander.

Cairo, Ill., Aug. 21, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Peoria, Ill.

Sickness of clerks prevents me being relieved to attend Encampment. Congratulations to those present, and yourself for a successful administration.

E. R. HENDERSON,
Past Commander Michigan Div.

Atlantic City, Aug. 19, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,

Friend Speelman: Sickness prevents my presence at the Encampment; I regret this exceedingly. I wish you a successful Encampment.

W. B. McNULTY, Sec. Penna. Div.

Bunker Hill, Kas., Aug. 20, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Commander: I regret exceedingly that I cannot be with you at Peoria. With best wishes for the future success of the Order.

I am, fraternally yours,
CLARENCE PECK,
Commander Kansas Division.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 20th, 1906.

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

Dear Commander: At a regular meeting of this Camp, held on Tuesday evening, August 7th, it was unanimously agreed that this Camp endorse your administration and that we tender to you a vote of thanks for your kindness and interest shown to the Camp and its individual members. With best wishes for your future success, we beg to remain,

Sincerely yours in F. C. & L.,

Attest:

W. H. PERRY, Secy.

HARRY W. McCLATHERY,
Camp Commander.

Exeter, N. H., Aug. 19, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Peoria, Ill.

I regret that I cannot be with you at the National Encampment at Peoria. Wishing you a pleasant and a successful Encampment, I am

Fraternally yours in F. C. & L.,

SAM'L S. SMITH,
Sr. Vice Com. N. H. Div.

Oakland, Cal., Aug. 18, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,
S. of V., U. S. A., Peoria, Ill.

Dear Brother: It is with sincere regret that I am obliged to write this letter. I feel the pain more from my unavoidable absence than I do from the actual malady that is keeping me in bed at the Roosevelt Hospital at the present time. Fate has overtaken me and has prevented me from an anticipated pleasure in being absent from my home town when our noble organization would meet there.

Both myself and Mrs. Hull had made plans to be with you and to furnish our services in every way possible to make yourselves and ladies feel welcome in Peoria. However, the members of Thrush Camp, I am sure, will be equal to the occasion without me, and I am sure when you leave Peoria you will have nothing but the kindest words for it and the Sons of Veterans of that locality.

I wish at this time to extend my greetings to all of you, and to say that I will try and be present at the next Encampment. I also wish to express to the ladies present, Mrs. Hull's regrets in not being able to meet them in her home city.

With kindest regards, and wishing you a pleasant and successful meeting in the city of Peoria, I beg to remain,

Yours fraternally,

WM. E. HULL.

Terminal Island, Cal., Aug. 13, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Peoria, Ill.

Convey to the Brothers assembled my fraternal greetings and good wishes for every success.

Yours in F. C. & L.,

GEO. S. GEIS.

Scioto, Ohio, Aug. 20, 1906.

Park F. Yengling, Division Commander,
Peoria, Ill.

Dear Park: I find it impossible for me to be present at the Encampment. I am extremely sorry that I cannot be with you, and trust that you will have a good and profitable time in the interests of the Order.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN J. VANGORDER.

East Calais, Vt., Aug. 18, 1906.

H. V. Speelman, Commander-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Peoria, Ill.

My Dear Commander: I deeply regret my inability to be with you at Peoria. With best wishes for the success of the Encampment, and hoping that peace and harmony may prevail in all its sessions, I am

Fraternally yours,

C. E. BLISS, Commander Vermont Div.

Saginaw, Mich., August 18, 1906.

H. H. Hammer, Secretary,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Reading, Pa.

My Dear Sir: The Saginaw Board of Trade for the city of Saginaw earnestly invites your organization to hold its next annual meeting in this city, and if this invitation is accepted, there will be extended to you and yours every courtesy and privilege usually provided for State or National conventions by any municipality.

A glance at the map of Michigan will convince that we have railroad connections and transportation facilities second to none, and that no city in this state is better or more centrally located for such meetings than ours. We have excellent and numerous halls and fine hotels, that are well equipped to care for extra numbers attending conventions. We have many miles of asphalt and other smoothly paved streets, and are perfecting an extended park system, intending that Saginaw shall always be, as now, one of the most beautiful and otherwise attractive cities in the northwest. During the coming year of 1907, our semi-centennial celebration will be held, marking fifty years of civic progress. Therefore, during this particular year (1907) we desire to meet the members of many conventions and ask sister cities for this special time, to waive their claims in Saginaw's behalf.

Assuring you of our appreciation and thanking you in advance for your interest, I remain,

Very respectfully yours,

S. S. LINTON,
President Board of Trade.

City of Niagara Falls, N. Y., July 24, 1906.

H. H. Hammer, Secretary,
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Reading, Pa.

Dear Sir: I wish to extend a cordial invitation to your association to hold its next annual meeting at Niagara Falls.

Niagara Falls is peculiarly adapted to convention work. We have a number of large hotels, thus assuring ample accommodations, and we can guarantee you reasonable rates.

As to meeting places, there are audience rooms in the larger

hotels, and when it is not desirable to meet directly in the hotel we have at our disposal probably one of the finest auditoriums in the country, with a seating capacity of something over one thousand. This is within a few minutes walk of the hotels, and makes an ideal place for meeting.

The many advantages of the city have doubtless been brought to your attention by our Local Bureau of Publicity, and it is with the thought of co-operating with them in every way possible, that I personally extend to you an invitation to meet with us, and to offer you the freedom of the city.

Hoping that I may have the pleasure of welcoming you at Niagara Falls, I beg to remain,

Yours respectfully,

O. W. CUTLER, Mayor.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., July 24, 1906.

To the Officers and Members of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., in Convention Assembled in Peoria, Ill.

Friends: On behalf of the Bureau of Publicity of Niagara Falls, I beg to at this time extend to you our most hearty invitation to convene your annual meeting of 1907 in this city.

If you will but take into consideration the essential points in making any meeting a success, I feel confident that your good judgment will dictate the selection of Niagara Falls.

Over a score of railway lines center here, including the great Trunk lines of the country. These railways operate something like 250 daily trains for the accommodation of your members, both coming and returning.

Our hotels are large, convenient and moderate-priced. There-in are located for your business sessions, an assembly hall seating 800, a meeting room seating 500, and two smaller meeting rooms seating 200 each. These, together with the large and spacious parlors, will be placed at the disposal of your organization free of charge, should you honor us with your presence a year hence. Should you prefer to conduct your business sessions outside of the hotel wherein you may make headquarters, our beautiful auditorium overlooking the Niagara River will be at your free disposal. This auditorium is within easy walking distance of the hotel center, is light, well ventilated, provided with every modern convenience and in fact is the model convention auditorium of its kind in this country.

Inasmuch as the unusual beauties and wonders with which nature has endowed this locality attracts the attention and presence of people from every quarter of the Globe, it is reasonable to maintain that it will have an equally attractive influence in securing for your association an exceptionally large attendance.

This invitation is supported by His Honor, the Mayor, and by special resolution of our Common Council, and should you honor us as above suggested, we shall be pleased to do everything in our power towards making your gathering here one of the most pleasant, profitable and in every way successful ones that your association has ever experienced.

Trusting and hoping that we may be thus honored, and that we may receive the glad word of this acceptance of this, our most cordial invitation, we are

Sincerely yours,

BUREAU OF PUBLICITY,

Per H. H. Isaacs.

Seattle, Wash., August 10, 1906.

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

Dear Sir and Brother: When the time comes to decide upon the next place at which the Encampment will be held, will you kindly extend an invitation on behalf of the Sons of Seattle? We are very anxious to have the "boys" here during the Alaska, Yukon Fair, in 1909.

Thanking you for your kindness in behalf of Gen. George A. Custer Camp, No. 1, I am

Your Brother,

JOHN C. WALLING, Commander.

H. H. Hammer, Secretary, Chicago, Ill., Aug. 21, 1906.

Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.,
In Session in Peoria, Ill.

Dear Sir: Will you kindly bring the enclosed invitation, on behalf of the Chicago Commercial Association, before the officers and members of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., at its forthcoming meeting in Peoria, Ill.

We are extremely anxious that Chicago should be honored with a meeting of your organization, and any assistance which you may render us in this connection will be greatly 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. Mgr. Convention Bureau.

Minneapolis, Minn., August, 1906.

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

Dear Comrade: Your greetings to the Woman's Relief Corps, assembled in Minneapolis, were cordially received, and the 463 members present joined in sending their greetings and all good will to the sons of the loyal and true men who wore the blue.

The Woman's Relief Corps expect great and good things from the Sons of such Veterans, and feel assured that we shall not look in vain.

Yours in F. C. & L.,

EMMA STARK HAMPTON, Michigan,
KATE BROWNLEE SHERWOOD, Ohio,
NETTIE M. NORTON, Minnesota,
MINNIE M. KYLE, Illinois,

Committee.

The Commander-in-Chief: Under the regular order of business, we will continue with the "Reports of Officers." We will now hear the Report of the Council-in-Chief.

The report was read by Ralph Sheldon, Chairman, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

Peoria, Ill., Aug. 23, 1906.

To the Officers and Members of the 25th 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 24th Annual Encampment, our first meeting was held at Gettysburg, Pa., and an organization was effected by the election of Dr. Ralph Sheldon, of New York, as Chairman, and Thomas J. Hannon, of Boston, as Secretary. Bonds were fixed as follows:

Commander-in-Chief, \$1,000.

National Secretary, \$5,000.

National Treasurer, \$5,000.

It was voted that the furniture at Dwight, Ill., and Boston, Mass., which was claimed not worth transportation, be disposed of at those points to the best advantage.

It was voted that the National Secretary be authorized to purchase such furniture as required for his and the Treasurer's use.

It was voted that the National Secretary be authorized to purchase all printed matter required, after same had been let out to competitive bids.

By action of the Council, August 21, 22, 23, and 24, 1906, were decided upon as the dates for holding the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment.

The books and accounts of the National Secretary and National Treasurer, together with the vouchers and requisitions, pertaining thereto, have been audited and have been found to agree.

A new system has been introduced by the National Secretary and Treasurer for the keeping of the various accounts, etc. which is worthy of the highest commendation. The said officers are to be congratulated upon the simplicity and accuracy of their methods. We would recommend that the Division Commanders present examine the system of bookkeeping at the Commandery-in-Chief headquarters, as we feel that said system would simplify matters at all of the Division headquarters that may adopt same.

On examination of the books up to and including August 22nd, 1906, we find the total receipts to be \$14,849.95, and the total disbursements \$10,760.70, leaving a cash balance of \$4,089.25, said amount being in the hands of the National Treasurer.

Your Council recommends that the supplies furnished to the Reserves be furnished by the National Secretary to said Reserves on requisitions endorsed by the Chief-of-Staff; the charges of such supplies to be determined by the Chief-of-Staff, National Secretary and National Treasurer. We would further recommend that the Chief-of-Staff furnish an itemized monthly expense account accompanied by proper vouchers, the same to be published with the accounts of the National Secretary in The Banner.

Your Council-in-Chief recommends that the per capita tax for the coming year be fixed at 36 cents per member, the same as heretofore.

Fraternally Submitted,

RALPH SHELDON, Chairman.

THOS. J. HANNON, Secretary.

JAMES E. SEABERT,

Council-in-Chief.

The report was adopted.

E. F. Buck, of Illinois: Mr. Commander, before we proceed any further I wish to say that one of the members of our local Camp, Brother Greenhut, who is unable to be present on this occasion, has sent some cigars to the members of the Encampment, and I would suggest that they be passed around the hall at this time.

Cigars were passed to the members present, there being a general expression of appreciation and approval of Brother Greenhut's kindness.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Order of Business now calls for reception and reference of communications. The National Secretary will call the roll of Divisions for the reception of communications.

Roll Call of Divisions of the Order by National Secy. Hamer.

The Commander-in-Chief: Under the head of "Unfinished Business" we will call for the Reports of Committees. We should like to hear from the Committee on Fraternal Greetings to the Grand Army of the Republic, and other organizations at the Minneapolis National Encampment, last week.

Rev. W. J. Patton, of Wisconsin, and A. L. Sorter, of Iowa, members of the Fraternal Greetings Committee, made verbal reports, to the effect that their Committee had called upon the Grand Army and other affiliating organizations at the recent National Encampment at Minneapolis, and extended the greetings and best wishes of our Order, and that each and every Order received them with the greatest courtesy. In the course of his remarks, Brother Sorter called particular attention to the work of the Sons of Veterans at Minneapolis, as follows: "I want this Commandery-in-Chief to know of the conduct of the Brothers of the Minnesota Division on this occasion. As you know, their Division Encampment was in session on Monday of the week of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, and practically their entire Division Encampment present at Minneapolis were organized, drilled and equipped as a "Red Cross Corps." Not only did this Corps serve on the day of the parade, but they were on duty during the entire Grand Army Encampment. Nor did they keep within the membership of the Order in the organization of this Corps, but they went to citizens in general, and asked them to volunteer their service; and the result was that probably 600 representative citizens of Minneapolis recorded their names on this roll of honor, and did service, for the most part, on this "Red Cross Corps." Such actions as this, I say to you, are extremely creditable, and these boys are worthy of the highest commendation."

Chief-of-Staff R. M. J. Reed moved that the report of the Greetings Committee be approved, and that the Committee on Resolutions be instructed to draft proper resolutions expressing to the Brothers of the Minnesota Division our appreciation of their honorable and meritorious conduct on this occasion.

The motion was seconded by T. E. Long, of Ohio, and was duly carried.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Arthur M. Soule: Commander, the fraternal greetings committee from the Sons of Veterans Auxilliary are at the door.

The Commander-in-Chief appointed a committee consisting of Geo. B. Abbott, of Illinois, F. T. F. Johnson, of Maryland, and H. M. Rebele of Pennsylvania, to receive the Ladies from the Auxilliary and escort them to the room.

The Commander-in-Chief: Sisters of the Auxilliary, we are glad and indeed proud to have you with us on this occasion. We will be glad to hear from Miss Kate Raynor, of Ohio.

Miss Raynor: Commander, and Brothers of the Order: This Committee has been delegated to bring you the love and good wishes of your sisters in convention. We have met with you here in Peoria for the transaction of business of both orders; not only our Order, but your Order, and the Grand Army of the Republic and all patriotic Orders. Some one has said that the Grand Army of the Republic has gotten to be the one great union body that is organized solely for the teaching of patriotism and loyalty. We are following in their foot-steps as Sons and Daughters of these men. We have your interests at heart, and we are bound together by the love for that flag, your flag, my flag, the peoples' flag, the flag that makes men free. (Applause.)

The Commander-in-Chief: I now have the pleasure of presenting Mrs. Elizabeth McKelvey, of Pennsylvania.

Mrs. McKelvey: Commander, after hearing our chairlady speak, there is not much more for me to say, but in visiting this city, this beautiful city of Peoria, as I walked up to the National Hotel I was more than impressed at the site of the beautiful soldiers' monument. I saw there the Goddess of Liberty, as she stood with pen in hand writing the inscription upon that monument, and it seemed to me that she was dipping the point in human blood. As we see that beautiful flag as it lays there on the altar, it reminds us that we have come together, and have bonded ourselves together for a noble and grand work. Soon the Grand Army of the Republic shall be no more, and muffled drums shall cease, and they shall have passed on into eternity. Then the noble work of the Grand Army will fall upon your shoulders and ours. They have handed down to us a memory to be perpetuated. See that you properly guard your charge. Let us as true brothers and sisters be loyal to that beautiful flag of ours which floats so high and so free in this grand free country. (Applause.)

The Commander-in-Chief: We will be glad to hear from Miss Molly Donaldson, of New Jersey.

Miss Molly Donaldson, of New Jersey: We have come before you this morning to extend to you our greetings as members of the Sons of Veterans Auxilliary. We are, it is true, two separate organizations, but our purposes and our interests are the same. As yet, we have not fulfilled, in every sense of the word, all our obligations. The Grand Army of the Republic still carries on its great labor of love. Deaths in our organization are somewhat limited, and it is seldom that we are called upon to mourn the loss of our members; but in the case of the Grand Army, it will be but a little while until they will pass into that great beyond, and their work will fall to us, and it is for us to gather together and prepare ourselves to take up the work where they lay it down. Let us bind ourselves together and march on as our fathers marched in the days of 1861 to 1865, shoulder to shoulder, with but one object in view. May all your clouds be silver lined, and that you will accomplish much in the future is our most earnest wish. These are the greetings that we extend to you, with the hope that there may be many returns of the day. (Applause.)

The Commander-in-Chief: I will ask Commander Fremont S. Gibson, of Iowa, to respond to your greetings, on behalf of our Order.

Division Commander F. S. Gibson, of Iowa: It is a great pleasure, I assure you, to have the opportunity of extending to your Committee the thanks of this Convention for the greetings that you bring to us this morning.

I want to say to you, in responding, that this organization of Sons of Veterans and Ladies Auxiliary are a lengthening shadow that will pass into history. But, who are these men of whom we are the lengthening shadow? In 1861 they were the brightest and fairest sons and the bravest young men that America could produce. They marched out from our midst, from our cities, erect and strong. They were beloved by their mothers, wives and sweethearts. These mothers, wives and sweethearts were women as brave as ever lived, and they experienced many hardships, sorrow and pain. Is it any wonder that we should be proud to be the lengthening shadow of such men and women as these? I want to say here that our mothers were as great heroes as our fathers and sometimes I think they were greater. I remember my mother stayed at home on that little farm in New York while my father was in the war. He went out on the first call from Lincoln, and was at Appomattox when Lee surrendered. I was but a boy in arms, but I remember that heroism displayed on the part of my mother; how she took care of that little farm through summer and winter. And I remember another thing; I remember at evening when she would gather that little family around her, and pray that God might spare that father who was then on the battle field. These are things that I cannot forget. And as I think of the personality of that army and of the personality of those women who stayed at home, it seems to me that we bear that same relationship in our Orders, that same love of patriotism, and that same love of flag. All I can say to you Ladies is that I hope that you will prosper and grow, and may God bless you. (Applause.)

Under the head of "Reports of Committees," the Commander-in-Chief called for the report of the Committee on Constitution and Law.

National Counselor A. E. B. Stephens, of Ohio, Chairman of this Committee, read the report.

Moved by National Inspector Edward K. DePuy, seconded by H. M. Rebele, of Pennsylvania, that the report of the Committee be acted upon "serialim." Motion carried.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND LAWS-

Peoria, Ill., Aug. 22, 1906.

To the Officers and Members of the 25th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.:

Your Committee on Constitution and Law begs leave to submit the following report, and recommend its adoption:

The proposed Constitutional Amendments submitted to us, and which are approved, and are submitted for your consideration, are as follows:

1st. Amendment submitted by Rhode Island Division, to-wit: Amend Paragraph 1, Section 1, Article 7, page 3, to read as follows: "Any member against whom no charge exists, and who has paid all debts, shall on written application to the Commander of his Camp, receive a transfer card or honorable discharge, properly attested and under seal."

After due consideration the Encampment adopted this recommendation.

2nd. Amend Section 3, Article 19, page 10, by adding the following: "And cannot be readmitted by any Camp except upon the payment of one year's dues to the Camp that dropped him, and a muster fee to the Camp receiving him."

This amendment was concurred in. (Under Thursday's business, this was reconsidered and lost, such action appearing in the proceedings following.)

3rd. Amend Article 13, page 31, by adding: "Cushing's Manual shall be authority."

This amendment was not concurred in, and stricken from the report.

Amendments submitted by the Ohio Division:

4th. "So amend the Constitution as to contain a complete description of the Regulation Badge."

This recommendation received the approval of the Encampment.

5th. Amend Paragraph 2, Section 1, Article 5, page 2, of the Constitution by striking out the word "thirty" in the third line, and inserting in lieu thereof, the word "twenty."

A motion by George B. Abbott, of Illinois, seconded by L. A. Dilley, of Iowa, that this recommendation be placed on the table, was duly carried.

6th. So amend the Constitution as to add "Patriotic Instructor" to the list of appointive officers of Camps, Divisions and the Commandery-in-Chief.

The amendment was concurred in.

7th. Amend Section 3, Article 21, page 3, so as to read: "The Commander-in-Chief may suspended any officer of the Commandery-in-Chief, any Division, or other officer or member thereof, for failure to perform any duties required by the Constitution and Laws, or for any violation of the same."

After considerable argument on this amendment, Jas. B. Adams, of New Jersey, moved that the words "pending investigation," be inserted in this amendment. The motion was seconded by A. M. Lowe, of Ohio, and duly carried.

The recommendation of the Committee as thus amended was concurred in.

Amendments submitted by the Pennsylvania Division.

8th. Add to Paragraph 7, Article 24, page 13: "When in any Division of the Order there shall be organized two or more regiments of infantry, and a separate company or companies of artillery or cavalry, a Brigade may be organized by authority of the Chief-of-Staff, approved by the Commander-in-Chief, and a Brigadier General shall be elected by the written or printed ballots of a majority of the field and line officers of the said Brigade, which shall be known as the Brigade of the Division in which it is located, and the Brigadier General shall be granted full authority in all matters pertaining to the Brigade of his Division."

This recommendation was concurred in by the Encampment.

9th. That Paragraph 8, Article 24, page 13, military department, be amended by adding after the words "Commander-in-Chief" the words "for a term of five years."

This recommendation was concurred in by the Encampment.

10th. All other amendments having been submitted to this Committee, having been filed with the Commander-in-Chief, were not concurred in for want of form and other reasons.

The Committee on Officers' Reports submitted to this Com-

mittee the report of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief and the report of the Chief-of-Staff, to take up any recommendations which may have been made in these reports tending to the amending of the Constitution. It is the opinion of this Committee that these recommendations do not properly come before the Committee, and respectfully refers the same to the Encampment for such action as it may deem proper.

Very respectfully submitted,

A. E. B. STEPHENS, Chairman,

EDWIN M. AMIES,

F. T. F. JOHNSON,

BERT J. GALLEY,

ARTHUR B. SPINK,

Committee on Constitution and Law.

By the action of the Encampment, in its adoption of various recommendations of the Constitution and Laws Committee, the final report of the amendments concurred in and approved would include the following:

Amend Paragraph 1, Section 1, Article 7, page 3, to read as follows: "Any member against whom no charge exists, and who has paid all debts, shall, on written application to the Commander of his Camp, receive a transfer card or honorable discharge, properly attested and under seal."

So amend the Constitution as to contain a complete description of the regulation badge.

So amend the Constitution as to add "Patriotic Instructor" to the list of appointive officers of Camps, Divisions and the Commandery-in-Chief.

So amend Section 3, Article 21, page 3, as to read: "The Commander-in-Chief may suspend, pending investigation, any officer of the Commandery-in-Chief, any Division, or other officer or member thereof, for failure to perform any duties required by the Constitution and Laws, or for any violation of the same."

Add to Paragraph 7, Article 24, page 13: "When in any Division of the Order there shall be organized two or more regiments of infantry, and a separate company or companies of artillery or cavalry, a Brigade may be organized by authority of the Chief-of-Staff, approved by the Commander-in-Chief, and a Brigadier General shall be elected by the written or printed ballots of a majority of the field and line officers of the said Brigade, which shall be known as the Brigade of the Division in which it is located, and the Brigadier General shall be granted full authority in all matters pertaining to the Brigade of his Division.

That Paragraph 8, Article 24, page 13. Military Department, be amended by adding after the words "Commander-in-Chief" the words "for a term of five years."

Moved by Geo. B. Abbott, of Illinois, seconded by Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire, and Park F. Yengling, of Ohio, that the report of the Committee as amended be adopted as a whole, and the Committee continued until the close of this Encampment.

The Commander-in-Chief placed the motion before the house, and the same was duly carried.

Moved by National Inspector DePuy, seconded by S. C. Tip-ton, of Indiana, that the Encampment take a recess until eight o'clock, the evening session to be held in the Assembly room of the National hotel. The motion was duly carried, and the Commander-in-Chief declared a recess until eight o'clock p. m.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SESSION.

8 O'clock P., M.

Pursuant to recess taken at the afternoon session, the Encampment resumed business at 8 o'clock p. m. in the Assembly Hall, National Hotel, with Commander-in-Chief Speelman in the chair.

The Commander-in-Chief: I will appoint W. A. Stevens, of Massachusetts, as Assistant National Inspector, who will ascertain if all present are entitled to remain.

Assistant National Inspector: All present are entitled to remain.

The Commander-in-Chief: I will appoint F. E. Watson, of Indiana, Camp Guard.

The Commander-in-Chief: I have three messages which I desire to read, as follows:

"Springfield, Ill., Aug. 22, 1906.

H. V. Speelman,

Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, Peoria, Ill.

National Women's Relief Corps by convention vote sends greetings.

FLO JAMISON MILLER, Committee."

"Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 22, 1906.

H. V. Speelman,

Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, Peoria, Ill.

I regret exceedingly my inability to attend Encampment. Please remember me kindly to the boys.

NEWTON J. McGUIRE."

"Reading, Pa., August 21, 1906.

H. H. Hammer,

Nat'l Secy., Peoria, Ill.

Meade Camp No. 16 extends greetings to Commandery-in-Chief Encampment.

H. G. RAPP."

The Commander-in-Chief: The next business in order is the report of the Committee on Officers' Reports. The chair recognizes Past Commander-in-Chief W. H. Russell, of Kansas, Chairman of the Committee.

Past Commander-in-Chief Russell, as chairman, then read the report as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORTS.

To the Officers and Members of the 25th Annual Encampment: We, your Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work, beg leave to submit the following report:

The very full, comprehensive and painstaking reports of the executive officers, as well as the heads of the several departments, have received careful consideration at the hands of the committee. Such portions of the same as contained recommendations were duly referred to the respective committees indicated—the recommendations of the Commander-in-Chief as follows: No. 1 to the Committee on Ritual; Nos. 2, 3 and 11 to the Committee on Badges and Decorations. Those of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief to the Committee on Constitution and Laws. Those of the National Secretary to the Committee on Badges and Decorations. And those of the Chief of Staff to the Committee on Constitution and Laws.

Recommendation No. 4 of the Commander-in-Chief has received the very careful consideration of your committee. We have given hearing to all interested desiring to be heard upon the subject of the official organ. As a conclusion we concur in the recommendation and recommend that a committee of three be appointed by the incoming Commander-in-Chief to give the matter of official organ a careful and considerate investigation and report to the Encampment of 1907.

We concur in Recommendation No. 5, providing for the continuation of the per capita tax at 9 cents per quarter, or 36 cents per annum.

We concur in Recommendation No. 6, for the purchase of all supplies for the use of both the civic and military branches of the Order by requisition made upon the office of the National Secretary, through the proper civic and military channels, respectively, the revenues from Reserve supplies to go direct to the Reserves Department headquarters, as the revenue from Camp supplies goes to Division headquarters, the prices of all military supplies to be fixed by the Chief of Staff, National Secretary and National Treasurer.

We concur in Recommendation No. 7, that all general orders, both of the civic and military branches, be promulgated only by publication in the "Banner" during the coming year, and request the publisher thereof to send a copy of each issue to each Camp Secretary for filing purposes, in addition to the copies now furnished to the membership.

We concur in Recommendation No. 9, concerning the observance of Memorial and Union Defenders' Days. Too much stress cannot be laid upon the fitting observance of these occasions. Especially is this true of Memorial Day, the hallowed day when the hearts of all those, saddened by grief for the loss of those gone on before, touch anew the chords of memory and sound a requiem of unforgetfulness and love; the sacred day when a nation mourns at the graves of its heroes who gave up their lives for our common country; and thereby taught anew the meaning of His great love in giving up His life for his friends; a day of patriotism, when the lever of his country and his home should, out of the proper and more general observance of the occasion, find his heart beat faster and his very being thrill with all the glory of our splendid country, the never to be forgotten achievements of its past, and the even greater hopes of its future. Oh! that we might implant our spirit in the hearts of all our citizenship, to the end that Memorial Day will be no longer anywhere considered a holiday and an occasion for sports and games, but a holy day, and set aside for its higher ministrations and golden opportunities. (Applause.)

We concur in Recommendation No. 10, providing for 1500 copies of the proceedings of this Encampment to be printed, for distribution throughout the Order.

We concur in Recommendation No. 12, and instruct the National Secretary to obtain articles of incorporation of the Commandery-in-Chief in such State as may be deemed advisable.

We concur in Recommendation No. 13, concerning the formation of Camps in parade, such formation to be in accordance with seniority of the Camps participating in the parade.

We approve the decisions of the Commander-in-Chief.

We recommend the adoption by the National Inspector's Department of the blank card attached to and made a part of the most excellent report of National Inspector DePuy.

We approve the reports and commend the efficiency of all your officials as shown in their splendid work and as illustrated in their admirable reports made to this Encampment, commending especially Commander-in-Chief Speelman and National Secretary Hammer for their sincere devotion to their duties and loyalty to the principles of our beloved Order. Such high resolve and self-sacrifice for the good of our Order merits the gratitude and appreciation of every member, and sets a high mark for their successors in the future to emulate.

We congratulate the Encampment and the Order at large upon the present splendid condition of our society. The retrogression that was sure to follow the first high tide of growth has been fully reached, and now we are growing, not fast, but upon a sure foundation of permanence. Let us climb to greater heights in spite of hindrances, as our fathers climbed the rocky steepes of Lookout Mountain, and may success as surely crown our labors as victory perched upon their banners. Our hearts all beat as one in this common purpose: our minds, our strength, our aims, are one, in sincerity of high hope for the future, and so we say, and say it reverently—God bless our Order. (Applause.)

W. H. RUSSELL, Chairman,
MICHAEL CROWLEY,
WALTER PENNEY,
PARK F. YENGLING,
FRANK K. MAPLES.

Frank L. Shepard, of Illinois: I rise to move to adopt the report of the committee as a whole, but desire to call attention of the Commandery-in-Chief to the fact that we are incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois, and I suggest that the Secretary first ascertain whether the incorporation is still alive. Under the laws of this State it is necessary to report to the Secretary of State each year certain data, such as the name of the corporation, the object of the corporation, the principal officers, etc. Upon the failure to so report for a certain length of time the charter becomes forfeited. It may be that the charter of this organization stands forfeited for failure to make such reports. A certain length of time is given to reinstate the corporation after the reports are due, and it would be advisable for the National Secretary to ascertain if that time is up before taking steps to incorporate. With these remarks, I take great pleasure in moving the adoption of the report of the committee as a whole.

W. B. Moynihan, of New York: I second the motion.

The Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved and seconded that the report of the committee be adopted, taking into consideration the remarks of Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I want to state that in the latter part of 1887, immediately after my election as Commander-in-Chief, the Commandery-in-Chief was incorporated according to the laws of the State of Illinois. That incorporation was alive during the administration of Commander-in-Chief Shepard, and also Commander-in-Chief Jones. I remember distinctly of transmitting to my successor as Adjutant General at that time the papers relating to the incorporation. I simply state this as a matter of record, and endorse the remarks of Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard. It is not material. If the incorporation has lapsed, let us incorporate again.

National Treasurer J. L. Rake: After the remarks of Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard, I want to say that it seems to be unnecessary to incur the expense of this incorporation. In Pennsylvania it takes ten lawyers to incorporate. Brother Shepard is a lawyer in whom we have confidence, and I will venture the suggestion that if he will look it up it might not cost anything. I believe that we should shift the duty from the National Secretary to Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard.

The Commander-in-Chief: All in favor of the motion that the report of the committee be adopted, taking into consideration the remarks of Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard, will vote aye.

The motion was agreed to unanimously.

The Commander-in-Chief: We will now have the report of the Committee on Badges and Decorations appointed under authority of the last encampment. I have the pleasure of presenting E. E. Schoening, of Missouri, representing the committee.

E. E. Schoening, of Missouri: The following is the

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BADGES AND DECORATIONS:

Peoria, Ill., Aug. 21, 1906.

To the Officers and Members of the 25th Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

The Committee on Buttonhole Decoration, appointed by Commander-in-Chief Speelman, herewith begs leave to submit our report.

Immediately upon our appointment, we inserted an item in The Banner and in other ways solicited designs and suggestions for a new buttonhole decoration or recognition mark.

Your committee has been in receipt of a number of designs and suggestions, from which choice has been made, and which is herewith submitted.

With a view of avoiding a multiplicity of designs of Buttonhole Decorations and Badges, your Committee recommend the following:

EXHIBIT A represents a button in the form of a cross, suggestive of the present Iron Cross, to be made in miniature and described as follows: On the obverse at the junction of the arms of the Cross the reproduction of the U. S. Coat of Arms, which embraces all branches of the Military Service; on the reverse or back, the words in the circle to read, "Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.," in the center "1861;" the same to be made of bronze metal.

We would recommend the adoption of this design as the recognition button of the Order and to be manufactured only in bronze metal; no deviation either in form or metal to be allowed.

We would further recommend that for the official badge of the Order the same general design be adopted to serve alike for all members and officers, without deviation further than as below provided.

Membership Badge (Exhibit B 1 and Exhibit B 2) to be made of bronze metal.

Past Camp Commander's Badge to be distinguished by filling in the arms of the Cross with Blue Enamel.

Past Division Commander's Badge to be made of Silver, having Red Enamel in the arms of the Cross.

Past Commander-in-Chief's Badge to be made of Gold, the arms having the ground work of a different color of gold, and may be embellished by jewels within the arms of the Cross.

We would further recommend that no addition or embellishment in the form of the badge be permitted.

The Ribbon from which the Cross of the Membership Badge is suspended is described as Exhibit B 1 and to be of what is commonly known as "watered silk" ribbon, in which the national colors are to be incorporated, as follows:

For Camp, a blue central wide stripe flanked by narrow stripes of white and red.

For Divisions, a red central wide stripe flanked by narrow stripes of white and blue.

For Commandery-in-Chief, a white central wide stripe flanked by narrow stripes of blue, white and red.

All of the above are to follow the general scheme as shown in Exhibits B 1, C and D.

These badges are to be without bars at the top except in the case of the Reserves, who may add thereto service bars.

We would respectfully recommend that the foregoing be adopted as the official and only Buttonhole Decoration and Badges of the Order to be recognized.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & L.,
C. DAY RUDY,
E. E. SCHOENING,
Committee,

The Commander-in-Chief: You have heard the report of the Committee on Badge and Buttonhole Decorations; what is the pleasure of the Encampment?

Alf. G. Loyd, of Pennsylvania: I move that action on this report be laid over until tomorrow morning and the designs placed on exhibition.

Seconded by National Treasurer J. L. Rake.

F. L. Shepard, of Illinois: I heartily agree with that motion, and would suggest that at least one member of the Committee explain the badges as they are illustrated.

The motion was agreed to unanimously.

The Commander-in-Chief: The members of this committee may be seen in the parlor of the National Hotel any time after this session and tomorrow morning up to the opening of the morning session.

The Commander-in-Chief: The next thing in order is the report of the Committee on Ritual.

James B. Adams, of New Jersey, Chairman, made the

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RITUAL.

Peoria, Ill., Aug. 22, 1906.

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

Brothers: At the annual encampment at Gettysburg provision was made for the appointment of a Committee on Ritual; Commander-in-Chief Speelman named as that Committee, Past Division Commander James B. Adams, of New Jersey, Past Division Commander Malcolm D. Rudd, of Connecticut, and Theo. C. Cazeau, of New York. Two meetings have been held in the city of New York. A circular letter was sent out to every Camp in the Order, as well as to every Division Commander, Past

Division Commander and Past Commander-in-Chief. Suggestions and replies were solicited. Secretary Cazeau has received over fifteen hundred communications from Camps and members. In these communications amendments to and revisions of the present ritual are suggested to such an extent that it is absolutely certain a new ritual must be provided to meet the demands of the Order. Working along the lines suggested your Committee have prepared and herewith submit to this Encampment for its consideration a new business ritual. Half of the communications received suggested amendments of so varied a character, that it would be absolutely impossible to formulate a ritual that would be pleasing to all.

The Committee have made changes in the present ritual where necessary, in order that the ceremonies, opening and closing, order of business, installation, etc., shall conform to the Constitution and Laws. This much has been completed so that the working of the Order can be up-to-date and lawful. It has been, through unavoidable circumstances and a condition which cannot be controlled, found necessary that this Committee should have further time in order to submit a muster ceremony that will be acceptable to the members of the Order, and one which will be of sufficient stability and impressiveness to show to the recruit what the Order really stands for.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & L.,
 JAMES B. ADAMS,
 THEODORE C. CAZEAU,
 Committee on Ritual.

James B. Adams, of New Jersey, continuing, said: I desire to make a statement in connection with this report. I have here the general instructions, necessary, as we think, for the opening and closing, installation, burial services, etc.; everything in fact except the muster ceremony. At our first meeting in New York City, it being a central point, it was decided that Brother Rudd should write one degree, Brother Cazeau should write a three degree ritual, and the other member of the committee should take up the revision of the opening and closing ceremonies. That part of the work we have here. You may hear something from another member of the Committee. Brother Cazeau came on from Rochester, and expected to have the three degree ritual forwarded to him. He has not received it, although he has tried by telegraph and telephone to communicate with the party having the work in charge; therefore, the Committee must ask for further time for the muster ceremony.

The Commander-in-Chief: You have heard the report of the Committee on Ritual; what is the pleasure of the Encampment?

Alf. G. Loyd, of Pennsylvania: I move that the report of the Committee be received, and the present Committee continued.

Seconded by H. H. Gorton, of Connecticut.

James B. Adams, of New Jersey: I desire to say, brothers of this Encampment, that under our present Constitution and Laws it is absolutely necessary that you take some action. The ritual now calls the officers, "Captain, First Lieutenant, Second Lieutenant," etc. All those things must be changed. There are parts which refer to military matters, which are no longer necessary. You must take some action at this session; either adopt what the Committee has put before you or reject it and get something else.

National Counselor A. E. B. Stephens: As we have not a full report of the Committee as to what changes have been made, I would suggest that it be read to the Encampment, so that if it is in proper shape we can adopt the ritual as prepared.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brother Adams has explained that the opening and closing ceremonies as they appear now remain practically the same, with the necessary changes as to titles.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: This is the 25th anniversary of the Commandery-in-Chief, and it strikes me that it is about time that we adopt something. We have got the best Ritual Committee that we have ever had. I have been on two or three ritual committees myself. I want to commend the Committee. I differ with Brother Adams on this point, the question of adopting what they present to us to put in the new ritual. Let us, when we get out a new ritual, have it right. Let it come along. We have got along for two or three years with the old ritual and titles. Let us go on until this Committee gives us the ritual we want. Then get out the new ritual. But do not get out a new ritual now, and then a new ritual next year. It strikes me that we should not go to the expense of making a few minor changes and then go over it again next year. We have a Committee that I believe every brother here has absolute confidence in. Let us not incur the expense until we get what we want.

James B. Adams, of New Jersey: I desire to say, for your further information, brothers, the old ritual was torn to pieces by myself; I have it arranged in shape so that the printer, if this is found to be satisfactory, can set it up.

Frank L. Shepard, of Illinois: I feel that this Committee has done arduous and profitable work for our Order in connection with the new ritual. This matter must be left to a committee. Some delegation of authority must be made by us. It seems to me that this matter is in such a stage that the Committee can continue and finish up its work. After waiting another year we can have this ritual adopted and promulgated, instead of bringing it before the next annual encampment. Because we can not at that time, any more than we can now, study this ritual and decide whether or not we actually approve it in every detail. We must leave it to somebody to finish it for us. In order to save time, I move you, as an amendment, that the ritual of the Committee when finally made, be adopted and the ritual as recommended be printed, promulgated and distributed, upon the approval of the Commander-in-Chief and the National Secretary of our Order. That puts a check upon the judgment and ideas of the Committee. Let this be done by the Commander-in-Chief and the National Secretary, in connection with any one they desire to call in to look it over and study it carefully. If they approve it, it seems that is all the check that is necessary upon the work of the Committee.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there a second to the amendment?

Seconded by Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire.

Brother Shepard was asked if he would incorporate the Council-in-Chief in the motion.

Frank L. Shepard, of Illinois: The only objection to that is, it is so large and scattered it would consume a lot of time, and I doubt whether it would add anything.

H. M. Rebele, of Pennsylvania: All these changes in the

ritual are supposed to be made by the Commandery-in-Chief in session.

The Commander-in-Chief: It is within the province of the Commandery-in-Chief to delegate power. The power of the Commandery-in-Chief is supreme. It has the right to delegate authority to any other body.

W. H. Russell, of Kansas: I want to take the position of opposition to the amendment. I think that this body is better fitted to decide whether the ritual will suit than are any two or three persons. I have to refresh your memories. It is only a few years since this plan was followed, which resulted in a three-degree ritual that was not satisfactory. I therefore think that this body, representing the working membership of the Order, is better able to say what ritual will be satisfactory to the membership at large than any two or three men, I don't care how competent they may be.

E. L. DeLestry, of Minnesota: The proposition now before us is one of vital importance. It is dangerous to delegate to two or three men this important question. We should take into consideration the small Camps as well as the large Camps. The trouble with our three-degree ritual is that a small Camp can not use it. I doubt if our membership in Minnesota would approve our vote for the adoption of this amendment. I would offer you, Commander, as a substitute for all pending questions, this motion, that the Committee be continued and instructed to prepare a ritual. That this ritual be submitted to the Divisions for their approval in encampment assembled, and that the delegates to the next encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief bring an expression of the approval or disapproval of such ritual. Then let this Committee exemplify it and we can decide this question. No second.

National Secretary H. H. Hammer: The proposition of Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard to refer this matter to the persons designated strikes me as being fair. If this ritual is promulgated, the various Division encampments will have the benefit of that work and then they can make their recommendations for revision to the next Commandery-in-Chief Encampment. We can then easily put it in type and eventually we will be able to get what we have been trying to get for twenty-five years. The very fact that we are having a revision would not throw too much responsibility on anybody. It strikes me that is about the only way you will ever get a ritual.

Frank K. Maples, of New York: This matter of the revision of the ritual has been before each successive encampment for years. How much further are we now? We have had a committee considering this matter since our last National Encampment, just one year. Now the Committee is not prepared to render us a complete report. As I understand the amendment before this body, it is to continue the Committee in order that they may complete their work. What guarantee have we that this work will be completed by our next annual encampment? Why not specify some time? I want to say, so far as New York is concerned, I know many of the Camps are taking advantage of the privilege of only presenting the badge. Why not at this time limit the time in which this Committee shall make its report? I will offer as a further amendment that the time be limited to six months. No second.

Chas. T. Orner, of Illinois: There are certain questions.

coming before the Commandery-in-Chief which cannot be submitted to any other than the national body. They cannot be determined upon by any body but the parent body itself. This was settled at Indianapolis on the question of submitting a new Constitution and Laws and allowing the committee to adopt them and promulgate them. No committee can promulgate the ritual, or the Constitution and Laws, of this Order; no one but ourselves, the Commandery-in-Chief, and I raise the point of order, whether a motion of that kind is in order.

The Commander-in-Chief: The chair will hold that the point of order is not well taken. This body is supreme.

Wm. B. Moynihan, of New York: That part of the report of the Committee which relates to the opening and closing ceremonies, etc. we can adopt whether we decide to have a new ritual or not. That part ought to be adopted, because confusion now prevails in the Camps, as the ritual does not conform to the new Constitution, and that part of it, it seems to me, ought to be adopted now. It would be wisdom for this Commandery-in-Chief to have the ritual exemplified before it, and then we could pass upon it to determine whether it would be satisfactory. It seems to me it would be a dangerous experiment to delegate this power to any committee. It has been the custom of all other fraternal societies to have the supreme body adopt the ritual in session, and then promulgate it, and it seems to me that this is the only way we can procure a satisfactory ritual. Inasmuch as the Committee has not been able to secure this muster ceremony that they have arranged for, we might wait until the closing session, and if the gentleman who I understand has been called upon to write it is here, we can witness it and tell then whether or not it is suitable. Otherwise, if we cannot have an opportunity this session to witness the exemplification of this ritual, it certainly ought to be put over until the next meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief, and then if this Committee is to attend to the matter they can have a ritual.

Chief of Staff R. M. J. Reed: Under ordinary circumstances, I am inclined to agree with Brothers Rebele, Russell, and Moynihan, that it is bad policy to delegate this authority to any committee, but this is an extraordinary occasion, and I believe all will be thoroughly convinced that they are not only honest, but that they are more than capable of fulfilling their duty, and will give us a ritual superior to any. If, however, the proposition of Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard is to have this ritual promulgated with only a portion prepared—

Frank L. Shepard, of Illinois: That is not the idea. Let them complete their report, and let it be approved.

Chief of Staff R. M. J. Reed: I am opposed to delegating power to any committee, but I do believe that from experience it is a physical impossibility for us to meet here and agree upon common grounds with regard to any ritual that may be proposed. This Committee can, however, present a ritual and report to the Commander-in-Chief, and to the Council-in-Chief, which in their judgment would be worthy of being promulgated, and I believe that this Commandery-in-Chief could accept such a ritual prepared by this Committee. I would suggest that we qualify their authority by saying that they must give us a one-degree ritual. I believe most everybody will agree to that. The delegation of this authority is a little out of the general course, but I believe, under the circumstances, it is the proper course. I have faith

in this Committee; I believe it is one of the best committees we have ever had. I am satisfied that they are capable of giving us a good, successful and patriotic ritual.

Theo. C. Cazeau, of New York: It is with exceeding regret and chagrin on my part that the gentleman who was to write the new ritual for the Committee has either died in the last week, or has been taken seriously ill, as I have been unable to reach him by phone or wire. I want to eliminate a part of the remarks of the Committee, that statement that we are trying to get a three-degree ritual. In all our correspondence there have been only two or three of the Camps that have asked for a three-degree ritual. We expected fully to exemplify the whole ritual. The Commander-in-Chief has been in touch with our work. I fully believed that we would have the manuscript a week ago. But something has happened to the gentleman who was to write it. He is a prominent society member, a writer of rituals, and probably would give us a good ritual, and I am greatly annoyed because it has not been received. I want to eliminate from your minds the idea that we have a three-degree ritual in mind.

(After this session, Brother Cazeau handed in the following telegram received from the gentleman referred to, and requested that same be published in the proceedings as a part of his report:

"Hamilton, N. Y., August 23, 1906.

Theo. C. Cazeau,
National Hotel, Peoria, Ill.

Impossible to complete manuscript. Thought I wrote you explanation.

R. R. RIDDELL.")

Karl Stewart, of Pennsylvania: Our ritual in its present condition is incomplete. It does not cost us any more to print the ritual complete, as submitted by our Committee, with the approval of the National Secretary and the incoming Commander-in-Chief. That can be promulgated and distributed throughout the country, no matter whether it is one degree or three degrees. Let the Committee do their best. We ask them for nothing else, and if they have done their best, the printing would not be money wasted. If it is satisfactory, then at the next National Encampment this body can take action that will bring results. I do not see that anything can be done but follow the course as indicated by the amendment.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: It strikes me that Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard's motion should be changed so that the old ritual we now have shall be the official ritual, and when we get the new ritual we can use it and adopt it at the next encampment.

E. L. DeLestry, of Minnesota: I offered a substitute motion, embodying just that point, and the question was not placed before the house.

The Commander-in-Chief: What is the question?

E. L. DeLestry, of Minnesota: I offered a substitute motion to bring out that very point.

Commander-in-Chief: The motion was not seconded.

Wm. B. Moynihan, of New York: Are there two amendments pending, or only one? I move as an amendment to the amendment that that part of the Committee's report relating to that part of the ritual embodying the opening and closing ceremonies, changed to conform to the Constitution and Laws, be adopted and that the Committee be continued. No second.

The Commander-in-Chief: Are you ready for the question presented by Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard?

National Counselor A. E. B. Stephens: I think, to clear up the situation, the suggestion of Brother Shepard that this ritual be approved by the Commander-in-Chief and the National Secretary and be printed and sent to the Camps and subsequently to be presented and adopted by the Commandery-in-Chief at its next meeting, would be perfectly regular and perfectly constitutional. However, if the power is delegated to the Commander-in-Chief and the National Secretary to approve whatever this Committee has done, the ritual can be printed and sent out to the Camps and then presented to the Encampment at its next meeting for adoption, simply delegating to them the power to publish and distribute, leaving the complete adoption for the next annual meeting.

Frank K. Maples, of New York: Would it not be well, if we are going to pursue this course, to state some time in which this Committee shall make its report to the Commander-in-Chief and the National Secretary, so as to give the Camps a chance to use this ritual, so that when we meet in annual convention again we can approve the work of the Committee, and in that way give us an opportunity to see what this new ritual will be like before we meet again. Otherwise, next year we will come here with no decided opinion of it. So, I say, give the Committee a time limit in which to report, and let the Camps have an opportunity to use the ritual. I move you, as an amendment, that this Committee render a report to the Commander-in-Chief and National Secretary within the next six months.

Seconded by Ben. Greenhut, of New York.

The Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved by Commander Maples, of New York, seconded by Brother Greenhut, of New York, that the report of this Committee be submitted within six months from the close of this Encampment. Are you ready for the question?

Leonard C. Couch, of Massachusetts: It seems to me that we are getting all snarled up, and refusing to consider the practical part of the question. To print this ritual would cost something like \$700. I don't think a proposition to issue an unauthorized ritual to the Camps is worth the money. I believe, with Brother Shepard, that it is perfectly proper for this Encampment to delegate to the Committee the authority to prepare a ritual, with the approval of the Commander-in-Chief and the National Secretary; it will cost no more than it will to have an unpromulgated ritual issued. I trust that the amendment of Brother Shepard will prevail, and that the report of this Committee, in whom we have confidence, should be adopted, and the Commander-in-Chief authorized to promulgate the ritual.

Thomas W. Blair, of Indiana: This is an important question. What benefit will it be, providing this ritual has been presented and referred to the Commander-in-Chief and National Secretary in six months? Is it the proper thing for us to go to the expense of issuing several hundred dollars worth of those rituals before they have been adopted by the Commandery-in-Chief? My idea is that this Committee should be given time; that this ritual should be exemplified to this body one year hence; and that it should be adopted if the body sees fit. My experience is that it is not altogether the ritual, but it is the work of the officers, and we as members of this organization, put forth,

that will make us prosper. The past year of this present administration shows that. Now, if we have lived thus far under a ritual which has been unsatisfactory, let us live another year, until we can have a ritual that is satisfactory.

W. G. Dustin, of Illinois: It seems to me that this matter could be simplified considerably. I believe the best way to settle it is to have this ritual printed in simple form, with paper covers, and distributed throughout the order, and let them use it, and let divisions report at the next encampment and promulgate it at that time. It will not cost more than \$100 to do that. It would not cost more than \$100 to print it and submit it to every camp in the country. It could be gotten up in pamphlet form and submitted. This is merely offered as a suggestion, but I think, under the circumstances, that this is the best thing to do, because there certainly will be a prejudice against anything that is not submitted to the camps. It would not cost \$700, as stated, to distribute them.

W. H. Russell, of Kansas: I want to offer as a substitute for all pending motions this, that the committee be continued to prepare a one-degree ritual, and that it be printed in cheap pamphlet form, 1000 copies, for distribution to the order at large, and the committee continued until the next encampment.

Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire: I second that motion.

Commander-in-Chief: Brothers, you have heard the substitute motion offered by Bro. Russell. What is your pleasure?

Walter Penney, of Massachusetts: Would a man mustered under this temporary ritual be legally mustered into the Order?

The Commander-in-Chief: It is the opinion of the chair that if this Commandery-in-Chief authorizes the printing and the promulgation of a ritual, under the conditions as named, it would be legal.

Fred E. Bolton, of Massachusetts: I merely desire to make a suggestion and ask that Past Commander-in-Chief Russell incorporate in his motion, on or before December 1, 1906, as some of the Divisions have their encampments as early as February.

Mover and seconder of the substitute motion accepted the suggestion.

Frank L. Shepard, of Illinois: I desire to adopt the substitute motion, with a little addition to it—that the partial report of the Committee be received, that the Committee be continued, and that upon its final report the ritual be printed and issued, upon the inspection, revision and approval of the Commander-in-Chief and the National Secretary, prior to December 1, 1906. If I may say a word, the only thing I want to add is that the Commander-in-Chief and National Secretary may approve it. If it is too ideal, or too practical, they can pare it down or add to it. I think this question as it now stands incorporates the ideas of Past Commander-in-Chief Russell and the others.

Chief of Staff R. M. J. Reed: I suggest this question: you have confined the Committee to only a few months. I don't believe that this Committee will be able to finish that ritual in that time.

Frank K. Maples, of New York: They were going to be able to submit a ritual tomorrow. If that is the case, why can they not submit a report before December 1st?

Fred E. Bolton, of Massachusetts: When I made this suggestion, I had in mind those Divisions which meet in February.

Among them are two or three in New England; we believe that the Camps of New England follow the ritual pretty well, and I think they should be given a chance. This Committee should be able to report by the 1st of December.

Wm. B. Moynihan, of New York: I ask for this information. If the pending motion is adopted, does it provide for the adoption of the ritual as presented by the Committee? Or will the next Commandery-in-Chief Encampment finally pass upon it?

The Commander-in-Chief: Final approval by the Commandery-in-Chief will be necessary.

W. T. Critchfield, of Ohio: Did not the chairman of this Committee state it had a one-degree ritual?

James B. Adams, of New Jersey: I stated to this Encampment that Brother Rudd, of Connecticut, would prepare a one-degree ritual, and that he wrote me that he had, but he is not here and I don't know what he has done.

The substitute motion was agreed to unanimously.

The Commander-in-Chief: The next thing in order is the report of the Committee on Resolutions.

Fremont S. Gibson, of Iowa: I am asked to make the report by Brother Stockton, Chairman of the Committee.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

"WHEREAS, It is our custom, pleasure and duty, to offer as a body such resolutions as may be appropriate, be it therefore

RESOLVED, first: We, the members of the twenty-fifth National Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., in convention assembled at Peoria, Illinois, August 21, 22, 23 and 24, 1906, do hereby renew our full faith and allegiance to our order and commend to the sons of all loyal soldiers and sailors of the great fraternal war of 1861-65 the work in which we are engaged.

RESOLVED, second: We tender the Division of Illinois, the members of the Peoria Camp and Sons of Veterans Auxillary Society, the Citizens of Peoria, and the press our heartfelt thanks for the cordial and hospitable reception extended to us. We deeply appreciate their many acts of kindness to us. We particularly desire to thank the local organizations for their beautiful badges they have prepared for the twenty-fifth annual encampment.

RESOLVED, third: To the Grand Army of the Republic, the Woman's Relief Corps, the Ladies of the G. A. R., the Daughters of Veterans, and all other patriotic organizations, we tender our best wishes and hearty greetings. May their work of inculcating the principles of charity, justice and loyalty continue on until time shall be no more.

RESOLVED, fourth: We are pleased to note the growth of the Sons of Veterans Auxillary. May they continue to prosper and increase in membership for the purpose for which they are organized, that of keeping green the memory of our fathers' sacrifice to the nation. We wish them God speed in their future endeavors. We recommend that all Sons of Veterans do everything in their power to help this grand organization.

RESOLVED, fifth: Our thanks are hereby given to the officers of the Commander-in-Chief for the able and efficient manner in which they have conducted the business of their respective positions.

RESOLVED, sixth: That at the request of the Maine Division the rank of Past Division Commander be restored to Augustus S. Libby of Shepley Camp No. 4, of Portland, and to Past Camp Commander Harry L. Harrington, of T. W. Hyde Camp, of Bath.

RESOLVED, seventh: By the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., that George Shiere, now in good standing in St. Paul Camp No. 1, be and is hereby restored to his former past rank as Past Division Commander of the Minnesota Division.

RESOLVED, eighth: That the representatives of N. Y. Division to the Twenty-fifth National Encampment be instructed to petition that body to restore the honor of Past Camp Commander to the following Brothers: Dr. Ward E. Hunt, William E. Baker, John H. Norton, George Denniston, Lyman Odell, Frank Curtiss and W. K. Towner.

RESOLVED, ninth: That we congratulate the noble Sons of the Minnesota Division upon the receipt of so many expressions of approval of their conduct during the recent encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic and allied patriotic orders held in the city of Minneapolis.

RESOLVED, tenth: We congratulate the Regents, Trustees and Faculty on the growth of Memorial University and the prospects for the coming year, which promise a larger student body than ever before in its history, and a better financial condition because of the more general response to the calls for support from the various Camps and individual members of this Society. To the noble women of the various allied patriotic Societies who have contributed the largest amount in the aggregate for the maintenance of the institution, we tender our sincerest appreciation and we offer our heartiest thanks to the Woman's Relief Corps, the Ladies of the G. A. R., the Daughters of Veterans, the Sons of Veterans Auxillary, and the Grand Army for their financial aid and moral support of the great memorial to the heroic soldiers and patriotic women of war time, and we urge every individual Son of a Veteran the coming year to make a free-will offering of some sum, however small, to give the new management greater enthusiasm and greater courage in the work of the coming year.

John Stockton, Chairman.

J. B. Ripley.

Fred C. Stillson.

Fremont S. Gibson.

Millard T. Johnson.

Committee

Fremont S. Gibson, of Iowa: There is a communication handed in by the Maryland Division, with reference to restoring some captain's rank in that Division, which we will refer to this Encampment for settlement, as we did not see fit to request its adoption, and also a resolution from Pennsylvania Division.

Alf. G. Loyd, of Pennsylvania: I move that the report of the Committee be accepted and the recommendations considered serialim.

The Commander-in-Chief: If there is no objection to any of these sections they will be considered as adopted.

The report was then read by sections. Resolutions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 were adopted without objection.

When the sixth resolution was reached—

National Treasurer J. L. Rake: The Committee does not give us a single reason for this resolution, or an lota of evidence as to why the past rank should be restored. There is no incentive for any of us to stay in this organization, to work for the Division from year to year for a quarter of a century if you propose to give back past rank. I value my past rank by the fact that I have never lapsed in the 24 years I have belonged to this Order, and the man who lapses should pay the fruits of his indiscretion and come back and work again. If he has lapsed he is no better than you, or I, who come here year after year. He can again come before his Camp, his Division, or even this Commandery-in-Chief, and work up. I would not give the snap of my finger for an honor that I thought so little of as to forfeit it, and then come begging at the door for restoration. I move you, sir, that the resolution be not concurred in.

Seconded by Park F. Yengling, of Ohio.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Arthur M. Soule: This matter was presented to this Committee in regular form, with a

statement of the conditions affecting these brothers. If you will consult the Constitution of this Order you will find that there is a provision which says that ranks may be restored by the Commandery-in-Chief. We are perfectly willing that the Committee shall read the reasons, or we will state them. We can assure you that it was, in one case, no fault of the brother at all, and in the other case perhaps a little difference of opinion, but we feel that the brother is justified because of his condition. He was a loyal member of the Order, he has come back, has paid his dues and is working as hard as ever he did for the benefit of the Order.

Geo. B. Stadden, of Illinois: No man values his past rank more than myself. For many years, almost since its organization, I have been a continuous member and at no time have lost any rank. I will say to you, however, that there have been times when it was questionable whether I could continue, whether I was doing right by those who depended on me, to pay the dues that were necessary to continue as a member of this Order. I believe I earned by hard and earnest work, faithfully in every respect, my past rank. I believe that if circumstances had forced me to come knocking at your door, I should not come asking for charity, but I would come as one having a right to do so, for something that I earned, and that you who had been more fortunate than I, who had continued your membership and had enjoyed the privileges, because one who comes here does enjoy these privileges, that you should not say to me, no, you shall lose what you did: that the work, the nights, the days, the money, that you spent count for absolutely nothing; unless you come here and say that you could not afford it, or something of that kind. I know some who have dropped their membership because they could not afford the few dollars to stay in. Some of you don't know what that means. Let us not forget those who have done the work in the past. Let us not say that you cannot come back.

R. J. Whitcomb, of Maine: The Maine Division, in presenting this resolution, acted in accordance with the Constitution and precedent. I want to speak on the resolution in which Shepley Camp is interested. The reasons given to the Committee were sufficient to cause them to believe that this resolution should be adopted. Undoubtedly Brother Rake's remarks have the ring of enthusiasm, the right ring, but this is not the time to decide against Shepley Camp. The Constitution should be amended, if necessary, but acting on precedent, we know this thing has been done and can be done again. The Maine Division would not present these candidates if the members were not sincere, and if they did not consider that the best interests of the Maine Division and the Order at large would not be subserved. We ask you to consider this resolution, and then the general question can be taken up when we come to it.

Wm. B. Moynihan, of New York: I desire to call attention of the Encampment to the policy adopted at Boston. The policy there approved was to give Divisions "home rule," to give Camps "home rule," and give them all the authority possible consistent with the organization's principles, and in view of the general situation that seems to prevail throughout the Order over that policy, it seems to me that when a Division presents a request for the approval of this body, that request ought to be granted by the Commandery-in-Chief; if the brothers at home don't know what the conditions are, they would not come here asking that.

you take action unless it was for a worthy cause, and I assume that the requests presented by the Maine Division are worthy cases and ought to be granted, and I trust that the report of the Committee will be adopted.

E. L. DeLestry, of Minnesota: In order to save time, and having been instructed by my Division to present a similar resolution, I simply wish to say: This Order needs additional members, and when we find a member willing to come back and willing to work, we ought to take charity into consideration and give the fellow an opportunity. Our Division is small, but we made a gain of 153 last year, and are working. I have worked in the harness and know what it means.

Frank K. Maples, of New York: The Division of New York is interested in this matter, by reason of the fact that they have presented the names of brothers for restoration of past rank. I have been a member of this Order for 21 years, as a Camp Commander more than 12 years ago, but I am not jealous of any who will come back. I am not jealous of shaking hands with that man. We want in our ranks all the loyal and faithful men we can get. I hope you will view this matter in the proper and right spirit and grant the requests of the Divisions. They come here with honest purposes. I hope that the report of the Committee will be concurred in.

Wm. H. Russell, of Kansas: I believe this Encampment enters into the spirit of the remarks of Past Commander-in-Chief Rake, yet as long as the constitutional provision remains, I believe, if in the judgment of this Encampment it is deemed right and proper to adopt the resolution, we should restore the past honors.

Park F. Yengling, of Ohio: In view of the explanation by the Maine Division, I wish to withdraw my second to the motion, with the consent of the mover.

National Treasurer J. L. Rake: The mover does not consent. I will remind my brothers who have spoken that charity begins in the Camp where the brother is known, and where his circumstances should be best known; in Camp 16, of Reading, the membership runs into 600, many times more than some Divisions. We know of no cases where a member has lost his past honors, or even his humble membership in the Camp. I esteem my past honor very high. If you desire to open the door to everyone who has lost his past honors, it makes no difference to me, but I do not think it is right.

The Commander-in-Chief: Are you ready for the question? (Cries of "Question.")

The Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved by Past Commander-in-Chief Rake, seconded by Park F. Yengling, of Ohio, that Resolution No. 6 of the Committee be not concurred in. All in favor of the motion will vote aye; those opposed, nay. The motion is lost.

The Commander-in-Chief: There being no objection to Resolution No. 6, it is adopted.

No objection was offered to Resolution No. 7.

When Resolution No. 8 was read—

F. A. McKelvey, of Pennsylvania: I want to ask why these brothers have been dropped from the Order. I think it is no more than right that this body should know why these brothers have been dropped.

Wm. B. Moynihan, of New York: I will briefly explain. I will take the case of Towner. He removed from the town where he lived, being a minister; he got another parish in another part of the State, and was not in regular correspondence, and those who had charge of the Camp allowed it to lapse, and the final result was that the charter was surrendered and Brother Towner was not notified. He was allowed to remain out of the Order. When he learned that the Camp had surrendered its charter he immediately took steps to become a member of another Camp, a new Camp. He is Past Division Chaplain of the Division of New York. The other cases are equally meritorious.

The Commander-in-Chief: No objection to Resolution No. 8 being offered it is adopted.

When Resolution No. 9 was read—

W. A. Stevens, of Massachusetts: Is that not a constitutional question? Should it not go to the Committee on Constitution and Laws.

The 9th Resolution was eliminated from the report by the Committee.

No objections were offered to Resolutions Nos. 10 and 11, and they were adopted.

Fremont S. Gibson, of Iowa: With reference to the resolution offered by the Pennsylvania Division, I want to say that the facts of the matter are that the Camp referred to was disbanded; now they want to come back.

The Commander-in-Chief: What was the action of your Committee?

Fremont S. Gibson, of Iowa: We simply report it back to this body without recommendation.

National Secretary H. H. Hammer: I rise to a point of order, which is, that this communication is not regularly before this Encampment.

H. M. Rebele, of Pennsylvania: When the call was made, I stated that the Pennsylvania Division had a resolution.

The Commander-in-Chief: The recollection of the chair is that the statement of Brother Rebele is correct in that particular; he did state that the matter had been turned over to the Committee. There is nothing before the house; the Committee makes no recommendation.

Fremont S. Gibson, of Iowa: The Committee makes no recommendation.

National Treasurer J. L. Rake: I understand that this is the case of Camp No. 2, Philadelphia, legally court-martialed by the last Commander-in-Chief. It was passed upon by the last Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, and the decision of Past Commander-in-Chief Dustin was concurred in. This is not a communication from Camp 2, of Philadelphia, asking that their case be opened, but from the personal statement of Brother Rebele himself. I understand that it comes here not at the request of Camp 2, but at the behest of some appointed committee. I make the point that it is not regularly presented.

Frank K. Maples, of New York: Does this come from the Division of Pennsylvania or not?

Fremont S. Gibson, of Iowa: This resolution was referred to the Committee on Resolutions, and in turn reported back to the Encampment.

Chief of Staff R. M. J. Reed: I rise to a point of order. Sec. 2, Article XX, page 10 of the Constitution reads as follows:

"The Commandery-in-Chief shall act as a final court of appeals from all orders, decisions and rulings of the Commander-in-Chief, and the determination of such appeal at any meeting shall not be subject to review at any subsequent meeting."

This appeal was made to the Commandery-in-Chief at Gettysburg, from the decision of the Commander-in-Chief. His decision was sustained there unanimously. Some of the brothers may raise the question, "why did Pennsylvania Division permit this to come up?" I will answer it, by telling you just why. Because those who voted for it said, "what is the use? let them send their appeal up, let them put in their petition, let them go up with it; there is no use of opposing it." So we did, believing that the Commandery-in-Chief could not help but decide against it. The majority of that old Camp are at present members of Camp 2. But those men who were discharged ever since that time have published broadcast a statement to the effect that those fellows who have gone into the new Camp No. 2 do not belong to the Order; they have gone to men and said: "do not join new Camp No. 2, they are not regularly organized, we are Philip R. Schuyler Camp." For four consecutive years these fellows have been patted on the back, and called good fellows, and a few years ago, notwithstanding the fact that some excellent men were candidates for office in the Division of Pennsylvania, for the purpose of satisfying these men, for the purpose of convincing them that the members of the Division were their friends, they voted almost to a man and made one of their members Division Commander, and during his entire term he was at headquarters just once, when the books were audited. That was the only visit he ever paid to headquarters during the entire term. Brothers, do you intend to violate the Constitution; do you intend to say to those loyal brothers of Philadelphia that they are not regular, that you intend to take their charter from them, notwithstanding the fact that they have obeyed the law? That is the true situation, and my point of order is raised on Sec. 2, of Article XX of the Constitution.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brother Reed raises the point of order that consideration of the question is not in order. The chair recognizes Brother Rebele, of Pennsylvania, to speak to the point of order.

H. M. Rebele, of Pennsylvania: That resolution emanated from the Pennsylvania Division Encampment. They do not ask for a reopening of the case. It is a matter of principle and sentiment; that is why it was passed at the Division Encampment. They come here and ask reinstatement. I say the members want the Camp reinstated. The resolution fully explains itself. It is plain on the face of it. They come here and ask you to take them back, the same as you restore past rank. Take them back without reopening the case.

Frank K. Maples, of New York: Is the Commander of Pennsylvania Division at this Encampment at the present time? Is the senior officer of that Division present? Is this at the request of the Division Encampment of Pennsylvania?

Frank L. Shepard, of Illinois: It is immaterial who presents this question; whether it is an individual member of the Pennsylvania Division, or the Division of Pennsylvania. This Encampment must pass upon this point of order. The question is, is this matter properly before this Encampment. It seems to me that this is not properly before this Encampment.

Wm. H. Russell, of Kansas: I rise to a question of privilege. Can any one from the Pennsylvania Division state whether this Camp is asking for readmission?

National Treasurer J. L. Rake: I can, by saying that those who present this resolution do not.

H. M. Rebele, of Pennsylvania: I have correspondence to show that they have not repudiated the efforts to bring the question up.

W. H. Russell, of Kansas: Are they willing?

H. M. Rebele, of Pennsylvania: They were willing when we took that action at the Encampment.

W. H. Russell, of Kansas: Do they ask to come back?

H. M. Rebele, of Pennsylvania: The Division Encampment has asked to have them come back.

The Commander-in-Chief: The chair is ready to rule.

The Commander-in-Chief re-read Sec. 2, Art. XX of the Constitution, and then said: By reference to page 94 of the Journal of Proceedings of the 24th Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., held at Gettysburg, Pa., Sept. 18, 19 and 20, 1905, we find the following record:

"Your committee on officers' reports, to whom was referred the three appeals from the action of the Commander-in-Chief with reference to former Captain Philip R. Schuyler Camp No. 2, Division of Pennsylvania, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., respectfully reports:

Appeal No. 1 is made by John H. Schmidt and Joseph Lilly, members of former Captain Philip R. Schuyler Camp No. 2, Division of Pennsylvania, from the sentence of the Commander-in-Chief, founded upon court-martial proceedings, and suspended them from all rights and privileges in the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. for a period of two years (Circular No. 2 of 1905).

Appeal No. 2 is made by former Captain Philip R. Schuyler Camp No. 2, Division of Pennsylvania, from the order of the Commander-in-Chief of June 12, 1905, revoking the charter of said former Camp No. 2.

Appeal No. 3 is an appeal by certain members of former Captain Philip R. Schuyler Camp No. 2, Division of Pennsylvania, from an order of the Commander-in-Chief, promulgated in August, 1905, dishonorably discharging them.

All of these appeals have been carefully considered by your committee, who have listened to evidence and arguments presented on behalf of the same by the parties in interest, and after due consideration and reflection the committee respectfully recommends that the action of the Commander-in-Chief in suspending John H. Schmidt and Joseph Lilly from all rights and privileges in the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. (Circular No. 2 of 1905), in revoking the charter of former Camp No. 2 (order of Commander-in-Chief of June 12, 1905) and in setting forth the list of names of disobedient and disloyal members of former Camp No. 2 as having been dropped from membership, be sustained and the appeals be dismissed."

E. F. Buck, of Illinois: Commander, I move you the adoption of the report as read.

William A. Stevens, of Massachusetts: Commander, I second the motion.

The motion was agreed to and the report of the Committee adopted.

The Commander-in-Chief: In the judgment of the chair, the communication that is submitted here now is asking for a re-opening of the case. Referring again to Sec. 2, Art. XX, page 10, the decision of the chair is that the point of order raised by General Reed is well taken, and that the consideration of this question is not in order by this Encampment.

H. M. Rebele, of Pennsylvania: I rise for information. Will you kindly inform me what steps can be taken, if any, for these former members to be received into this organization?

The Commander-in-Chief: The opinion of the chair on the question as submitted by Brother Rebele is that the disability that has been placed upon these former members must be removed by action of the Commandery-in-Chief before they can be again eligible to membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

H. M. Rebele, of Pennsylvania: How can we get it removed?

The Commander-in-Chief: The opinion of the chair is that it is incumbent upon these former members to individually petition this body to have such disability removed.

W. H. Russell, of Kansas: Is not this also true, that the name and number of that Camp having been appropriated by another Camp that they never can be restored as Phillip R. Schuyler Camp No. 2?

The Commander-in-Chief: The Constitution does not permit the use of the same name and number by two Camps in a Division.

W. G. Dustin, of Illinois: There is nothing to prevent the members of that Camp, with the exception of the 35 who were dishonorably discharged, from restoring their membership. There is no disability on those. It is only the 35 who were dishonorably discharged.

W. A. Stevens, of Massachusetts: Are we not now under the head of reports of committees—listening to a report of the Committee on Resolutions?

The Commander-in-Chief: We are; the resolution in question has been voted down.

W. A. Stevens, of Massachusetts: I move that the Committee finish its report.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Committee will proceed with its report.

Fremont S. Gibson, of Iowa: This resolution was handed to us; we took no action on it.

"Headquarters, Lincoln Camp No. 2,
Md. Division, S. V., U. S. A.

At the regular meeting of Lincoln Camp No. 2, held Tuesday evening, May 15, 1906, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, Irvine S. Taylor has rendered faithful and continuous service for something over 15 years, during practically all of which time he has held office, calling for much labor.

Therefore, Be it resolved, That the delegation to the National Encampment from this Division be instructed to use all honorable means to have conferred upon Brother Taylor the rank of Past Camp Commander.

Attest:

(Signed) E. K. DE PUY,
Secretary.

(Signed) H. M. STATZ,
Commander.

Adopted at the Division Encampment, Maryland Division, held June 20 and 21, 1906.

(Signed) JOS. F. PEENEY,
Division Commander."

The Commander-in-Chief: What is the pleasure of the Encampment?

Karl Stewart, of Pennsylvania: I move it be laid on the table.

Seconded by W. A. Stevens, of Massachusetts.

The motion was agreed to.

Fremont S. Gibson, of Iowa: I move that the report of the Committee, as amended, be adopted as a whole.

The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

The Commander-in-Chief: The next thing in order is the report of the Committee on Memorial University. Rev. W. J. Patton is chairman.

The Commander-in-Chief: The chair recognizes Past Commander-in-Chief Dustin, who will read the report.

W. G. Dustin, of Illinois, then read the report as follows:

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE REPORT.

Peoria, Ill., Aug. 21, 1906.

To the Commander-in-Chief and Members of the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment, S. of V., U. S. A.

Your Committee on Memorial University begs leave to submit the following report:

The Committee was organized by the appointment of W. G. Dustin, Chairman, at the request of the last National Encampment. On account of the expense connected with a meeting, the Committee never met. After some correspondence in which the chairman was authorized to proceed with the work, stationery was printed, also a circular letter and 30,000 pledges and other matter.

The letter was sent to every Camp in the Order, and a pledge enclosed for each member of the Camp. Letters were also sent to each past Commander-in-Chief, and to sitting and Past Division Commanders, who had not already pledged something. The result was that in the neighborhood of \$4,000 in pledges was received for one, five and ten years. It is impossible to give the exact amount as the money and pledges from the Committee were forwarded direct to the Memorial University with few exceptions, and it is impossible from the information received from there, to give the Committee work exact credit.

The Committee, however, cares nothing for the credit, but simply did the best they could for the Institution. The expenses of the Committee were \$160.75, all but \$35.75 having been paid by the University.

As near as the Committee can find out, from information received from the acting president of the University, is that \$1238.65 has been received by the University from Sept. 1, 1905, to July 30, 1906, from personal and Camp pledges. This is a small amount for the University, but should not be belittled as coming from an Order which has struggled for years to hold its own in membership.

In connection with this report are the names of those who have given the amounts during the period from September 1, 1905, to July 30, 1906, which has been furnished by the acting

president of the University, Mr. Wyand, and which I will not read, but anyone wishing can inspect the same.

Attached to this report are copies of the circulars and pledges sent out, and the bill of expense of the Committee.

The chairman appointed by Commander-in-Chief Speelman, having been elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Illinois Division, found it necessary to resign the chairmanship, June 1, 1906, which was accepted, and W. J. Patton was appointed, who will make a further report.

I wish to thank the members of the Committee and the Order for the assistance given me in this work, and to extend to them and the Memorial University my best wishes for unbounded success.

I would respectfully recommend that a similar committee be continued.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. G. DUSTIN.

Expense Account of Memorial University Committee.

To expenses for stenographer, printing and postage.....\$160.75
By credit on pledge of W. G. Dustin..... 125.00

Balance due W. G. Dustin.....\$ 35.75

(Here follows list of subscriptions paid by members and Camps; list of pledges; report of Memorial University Committee of the 24th Encampment; extracts from Proceedings of 24th Encampment in relation to the Memorial University; prepared newspaper clippings; form of pledge; and copies of letters sent to brothers).

W. J. Patton, of Wisconsin: I should like to make a motion that I might have the privilege of the floor for twenty minutes the first thing in the morning.

The Commander-in-Chief: That will be granted.

Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire: I move we take a recess until 8:30 tomorrow morning.

Seconded by W. H. Perry, of Ohio.

The motion was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: I declare a recess until tomorrow morning at 8:30 o'clock.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION.

8:30 o'clock a. m.

Pursuant to recess taken at the evening session, the Encampment resumed business at 8:30 a. m. Thursday, August 23, 1906, at the K. of P. Hall, with Commander-in-Chief Speelman in the chair.

W. A. Stevens, of Massachusetts, and George E. Cox, of Connecticut, were appointed Assistant National Inspectors, and they reported all present entitled to remain.

F. E. Watson, of Indiana, was appointed Camp Guard.

The Commander-in-Chief: The following telegram has been received:

"Battle Creek, Mich., Aug. 22, 1906.

H. V. Speelman,

Headquarters, Sons of Veterans, Peoria, Illinois.

Michigan Division extends best wishes for a successful Encampment.

W. L. RAYNES,

Division Commander."

The Commander-in-Chief: During the year, your Commander-in-Chief was called upon to act on a set of By-Laws that were adopted by the Division of Pennsylvania, one provision of which was a section providing for the election of a Secretary for a term of years. Briefly stating the case, at a regular Encampment of that Division, held prior to this year, by a resolution, James H. Tawney had been chosen to serve as Division Secretary. Following the adoption of the By-Laws, which were approved by your Commander-in-Chief, the Pennsylvania Division elected William B. McNulty as Division Secretary for a term of three years. Brother James H. Tawney has appealed from the action of your Commander-in-Chief in the approval of these By-Laws. This morning I received a copy of this appeal of Brother Tawney, and the same is hereby referred to the Committee on Constitution and Laws of this Encampment for consideration.

The Commander-in-Chief: The first order of business is the consideration of the report of the Committee on Memorial University. The chair recognizes Rev. W. J. Patton, of Wisconsin, Chairman of the Board of Regents, and who is also Chairman of the Committee on Memorial University.

Rev. W. J. Patton, of Wisconsin: You have heard the report of Brother Dustin. I have nothing further to report. I have secured from the books at the Institution a comprehensive and complete report. I hope that this report will be preserved, so that you may have a clear view of the conditions as they actually exist—

The Commander-in-Chief: Karl Stewart, of Pennsylvania, will occupy the chair of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief until that officer reports for duty.

Rev. W. J. Patton, of Wisconsin: Now, financially. I have a long list of figures and facts here: I know statistics are very dry. Let me say that our total liabilities for current expenses are, in round figures, \$10,000. In order to meet this condition and to raise funds, money was loaned from the banks to the extent of about \$20,000, making, in round numbers, needed for the institution, \$30,000. To meet this we have \$20,000 in good subscriptions from citizens of Mason City, Iowa, and others, of from \$5 to \$100 a year. These subscriptions are held as collateral by the banks, in order to secure the money we have borrowed from them. In addition to this we have 80 lots belonging to the organization—the old college association which secured this addition to Mason City. These lots would net at least \$10,000 to the institution; some put it at \$15,000; a conservative estimate would make it \$10,000. During the past year a large cement plant has been established; that will crowd residences to the south side and increase the value of the property held by the Memorial University. We have on our campus 40 acres. Our buildings are capable of accommodating 500 students, fully equipped and splendidly arranged. The building cost \$80,000. It could not be built now for less than \$100,000, and it is worth at least \$75,000. This is the financial condition and standing of the University at the present time. I don't know that I can add anything to this. Statements have been made that it has been the apparent purpose to conceal the facts. Such is not the case. It is not desirable that we should publish our affairs from the house-tops. When I took hold of the work a few months ago we found that the treasury was depleted. The condition reminds me of the story of the little boy who had charge of the censer. There came

a part of the service when the clergyman said, "Bring on the censer," and the choir responded (here was given the response of the choir in a chant); again the clergyman said, "Bring on the censer," again the response of the choir; and again the clergyman said, "Bring on the censer," with the same response; the clergyman asked again for the censer, and the response this time came from the little boy, who said, "There aint no oil in the gol darn thing" (in the same tones as the chant of the choir). (Laughter). That is the condition that I found to exist in the treasury of the Memorial University a few weeks ago.

With reference to the educational features. The charge has been made throughout the land, and the question has come to me since this convention opened that we are not what we represent ourselves to be—a university. That is to say, we are not furnishing a university course, but are merely a preparatory school. Bear in mind the school is but four years old. There is nothing like it on the face of the earth; we are pioneers; we are hewing out our own course; we have no precedent to follow; we have no advice that can be given us. During these four years we have had to meet the difficulties which every university has to meet. In the four years we have not been able to prepare for university work. We expect the coming year we shall have our first class in the university work. Even if we should not be able to do so this year, it will not be long before we do. Two young ladies who have taken three years in the Memorial University, in this so-called preparatory school, enter this year in the senior class of the University of Iowa. If our students can leave our University at the end of three years and take the fourth year work in the University of Iowa we are fulfilling the requirements which university work demands. Let me read in this connection what President Northup, of Minnesota, says:

"TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Memorial University, established at Mason City, Ia., founded by the Sons of Veterans, as a memorial to the Grand Army of the Republic, for the purpose of emphasizing, among other things, especially the study of American history and the promotion of patriotism, will, in my judgment fill a very useful and valuable place in the educational work of the country.

So much success has attended its organization and its first year of work that I consider the question as to its ultimate complete success and prosperity settled. Memorial University is destined to have a prosperous career, and to do a large work in the education of the youth of our country. On account of the excellent purpose of the institution, I feel that it is worthy of hearty and liberal support.

CYRUS NORTHUP,

President of the University of Minn."

This was written while Dr. Tucker was in charge. That indicates the feeling in the minds of the great educators concerning the work of the Memorial University.

The Memorial University is looked upon as a Sons of Veterans institution. The Women's Relief Corps in national convention assembled recognized it as the work of the Sons of Veterans. The Grand Army of the Republic has recognized it as a creature of the Sons of Veterans; they have an advisory board for assisting us in the work. These bodies recognize this institution as the creature of the Sons of Veterans. No greater honor can be conferred upon us as an Order than the fact that we have

this great monument erected to the Grand Army of the Republic. This honor has come to us unsought. It is recognized as our monument to the loyal men and women of war times. The object of Memorial University is to build a monument to the Grand Army of the Republic and the loyal men and women of the Civil War. As to its foundations, some one has truly said that no school can be great except it is builded upon great traditions. In a school built upon such traditions, with the principles expounded and history taught, we have a foundation that is grander and greater than any school in the land today. I ask you to point out to me a school great in history, great in its alumni, that has a tradition so grand as the traditions of the Grand Army of the Republic. Our aims and purposes are to give free education to the boys and girls descendants of the veterans of the Civil War; this appeals to the Women's Relief Corps and the Ladies of the G. A. R. as no other can appeal. A gentleman came to me yesterday, and spoke to me of the Soldiers' Home in Ohio. My brothers, what grander aim can we have than to build a Memorial University where we can fit the boys for the higher walks of life, fit our boys and girls who come from the homes of the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic.

As to the reasons why we ought to have a university supported and recognized by patriotic orders. We should have such a university for the same reasons that schools of philosophy have their educational centers; for the same reason that denominations and creeds and religious bodies have their schools and institutions; for the same reason should the patriotic orders of this great America have a school which shall represent patriotism. That is the reason why we should have the Memorial University, as the university is dedicated to the Grand Army of the Republic and supported by the patriotic orders of this land.

I have covered the ground carefully, though briefly and hurriedly. At the request of Past Commander-in-Chief Dustin and a few other brothers from the Memorial University I met with them in Chicago. The matter was discussed of securing someone to take hold of the work, and then, straight as an arrow, they said, "Patton, you must take it up." I declined absolutely; it was out of the question; I had my life work, to which I had given 20 years. They urged me, and finally I took the matter under consideration. When I had thoroughly considered the matter I visited Mason City and looked over the field, and then the thing took hold of me so that I simply could not throw it off. Finally I said: "If you are satisfied that I am the man, I will take the matter under favorable consideration," with the result that I have taken up the work. I am in this position, and as it comes to me with all its force and grandeur it takes hold of me with a grasp that I cannot resist, and moves me along with the tide, because it appeals to me. I want to feel that my brothers in the Order of the Sons of Veterans are absolutely, morally, financially and every other way back of me to push me on and assist in this great work, to accomplish this grand purpose and make this memorial the greatest monument to the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic. The plea has been advanced that our Order is poor. If you have not read my letter, let me commend it to you. It is worth reading, because I wrote it. (Laughter). Some brother said to me: "It is all right, but there are men in our Order who never see a dollar above their actual necessities." I doubt if there is a man in this Order, who when

he thoroughly understands the principles, the purposes, the traditions, and the aims of Memorial University, will not give a dollar to the institution. If you will do as I suggest in the "Banner" this month, we will show you a report that will astound you and settle our standing in the country. Take home the circulars and distribute them in your Camps. I am sure that if the information is brought before the members much can be accomplished. We will be glad to supply you with the Bulletin quarterly, send it through the mail every quarter, if you will send your name to the University.

Let me say just one word in closing. Our National Chaplain will appreciate the importance of an exhortation at the close of an address. A number of the brothers have approached me and have indicated their desire to assist in this work. The school opens the first of September. Brothers, I want from you as an expression of your support and co-operation, your sympathy—I want enough money in the treasury of the University by the second week in September to assure our faculty that they will receive their salaries at the end of the first month. I know it can be obtained from this Order. Poor as we are, we are not so poor that we cannot maintain such an institution. Other patriotic bodies have been reaching out. The way to get in it right away is to send me a pledge or donation right here. I am not begging for myself; I am not here because I want the job. It came to me unsolicited. I am not pleading for my salary. I am pleading for the cause that has come into my heart. If you will encourage me you will see a work accomplished that will be a surprise to the nation and will bring further support and sympathy from the women of the Relief Corps. (Applause).

The Commander-in-Chief: You have heard the report of the Committee on Memorial University; what is the pleasure of the Encampment?

National Chaplain U. G. Leazenby: I have been greatly interested and deeply impressed with this magnificent address. We hear very little of this university except occasionally in our local Camps. I have been sitting here listening to this address, and I have sympathized with this brother, deeply so, when he says, I accepted your call to turn aside my life work and have come to lay my life as a sacrifice for the encouragement and benefit of this great institution. I think I can sympathize with those remarks. I think one session should have been given over to this great educational institution. We ought to equip our institution first with a sufficient amount of means to pay the professors. What would you think of "Antietam Science Hall?" How many men who were in that great struggle would be interested in having a memorial. Or, for instance, "Little Round Top Observatory." We should all feel proud to contribute to this great institution. Sometime ago, in raising \$50,000 for DePauw University, five men went out in three weeks and secured the money. Suppose you should get out something like this: "I will pay to the Trustees of Memorial University \$5 a year for 5 years to provide a certain amount of money." I am very much interested in this enterprise. I believe we should erect this monument to our fathers. (Applause).

The Commander-in-Chief: What is the pleasure of the Encampment with reference to the report of the Committee on Memorial University?

Rev. W. J. Patton, of Wisconsin: I am sure the Encampment will be glad to hear from Commander Gibson, of Iowa.

W. H. Russell, of Kansas: I move that the report be received and made a part of the records.

Seconded by E. L. DeLestry, of Minnesota.

The Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved and seconded that the report of the Committee on Memorial University be received and made a part of the records. The chair recognizes Commander Fremont S. Gibson, of Iowa.

Fremont S. Gibson, of Iowa: I don't think it is necessary to say more than we have heard this morning. My heart warmed at the expressions of our Chaplain. I take it that this organization has two great purposes; one is the perpetuation of Memorial Day, and the other the building up of the Memorial University. I want to say something on Memorial Day. Last Memorial Day I got up a paper, started out and got every business man but five to sign it, saying that they would close their places of business on that day. That is something quite near my heart. I have endeavored to have placed on the statute books of Iowa a law prohibiting the opening of business houses on Memorial Day until six o'clock in the evening, and thus make that day what it was intended for; that is, sacred to the memories of our fathers and mothers. I would like to see this organization do something. It is all right to build up an organization, but an organization to live and breathe and grow must be an organization of service. That service must be Memorial Day and Memorial University. If we can get laws on the statute books so that this day will be properly observed, we will have done something worthy of this Order. As Memorial Day was set apart for our fathers, let us have it for nothing else. (Applause).

As to Memorial University. Through the generosity of the national body it was located in my town, Mason City. Magnificent in its conception, it stands unique and alone, the greatest monument ever erected. Other nations have their triumphal arches, but no where in all this world except here have the sons erected a monument to their fathers such as this. It should be a guiding star to us all. Gathered in its halls from day to day and year to year will be the boys and girls of this country. They will be taught the true history of this contest. Here will be told the story of our fathers' splendid heroism and our mothers' deeds. It is just in its infancy; it needs patriotic and loving support. I did not hear Brother Patton's remarks; I don't know what he told you. I don't know whether he told you that Mason City put \$140,000 in it; whether he told you of the two students of the sophomore class who went down to our State University to finish their senior year out of our university. Now, boys, let us do something. We are not paupers, we are representatives of the best citizenship of this great country. I believe you will be glad to help this cause along financially. One cigar a day will pay your dollar a year. Give us a lift, and ten years from now we will have the greatest university in the country, and you want to be in it. Help us out this year, and then we will quit begging for awhile. (Applause).

E. L. DeLestry, of Minnesota: I wish to state my experience in the City of St. Paul. I was placed on a committee in connection with the work of the Memorial University, to endeavor to raise an endowment fund. At that time, a gentleman who is noted for his generosity in giving to educational institutions,

was asked to place his name upon a subscription for the endowment fund. He said: "What is your membership?" I told him, and he said: "How much will your members give?" He told me that whenever we go into our pockets and support the expense fund, that he was ready to give \$25,000 to the endowment fund. I am ready, in behalf of Camp 1, to pay in \$10.

Rev. W. J. Patton, of Wisconsin: I believe there are a hundred or more here who will give a dollar each. May I not have a few minutes?

At this point a collection was taken up for the Memorial University.

The motion to accept the report of the Memorial University Committee was agreed to.

The following communications were then read to the Encampment:

"Hope Valley, R. I., Aug. 20, 1906.

Commandery-in-Chief,
Peoria, Ill.

Members of Lincoln Camp send greetings. Am very sorry that work I am doing will prevent my representing the R. I. Division this year.

I congratulate the Order upon its 25th Anniversary, and feel sure that the Illinois Division will do its uttermost to entertain their guests. Hope you will have a very enjoyable week.

Yours in F. C. & L.,

J. T. HOXSIE."

"Terre Haute, Ind., Aug. 23, 1906.

H. V. Speelman,

Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, Peoria.

Extend Indiana Division congratulations to Encampment. Substitute W. S. Geller's name for delegate in place of H. D. Miller.

WM. F. GOTTSCHALK,
Commander."

Marietta, Ohio, August 21, 1906.

"Headquarters Dawes Camp No. 509, Sons of Veterans,
Col. H. V. Speelman,
Commander-in-Chief, S. of V., U. S. A.,
Peoria, Ill.

Dear Sir and Brother:

Regretting that we cannot all join in our Encampment at Peoria, now in session, we take this means of bearing greetings to you from your home Camp, the local G. A. R., other affiliating organizations and the citizens of Marietta.

We note with pride the splendid work that you have done the past eleven months for our beloved Order. We are sanguine over the fact that under your able direction the order has been placed upon a firmer business basis than ever before.

We rejoice that you have succeeded in every department of the work, thus justifying the confidence that we have always had in you and that others have learned with pleasure.

With all our hearts, E. C. Dawes Camp No. 509, Division of Ohio, S. of V. extend greetings and good cheer to our most

worthy brother and chief, Col. H. V. Speelman, and shall be more than ever proud to welcome you back to our midst.

By order of the Camp.

JNO. E. MILLER, Commander.

F. W. COMBS, Secretary."

The Commander-in-Chief: The next thing in order is the report of the Committee on Badge and Buttonhole Decoration. The chair recognizes Brother E. E. Schoening, of Missouri.

E. E. Schoening, of Missouri: You will remember that this report was submitted last evening, and is to be considered now. (The report was again read.)

A. M. Lowe, of Ohio: I move that the report of the Committee be adopted.

Seconded by L. B. Philo, of Missouri.

J. G. Bogart, of Wisconsin: As a matter of information, I want to ask what goes with this report.

The Commander-in-Chief: The adoption of the regulation badge and the buttonhole decoration designs for which have been submitted by the Committee.

J. G. Bogart, of Wisconsin: I have been a member of this organization for eighteen years, and the badge I wear is the one I received when I was mustered. I object at this time to any change of our badge or decoration. It has been good enough for 25 years, and it ought to be good enough for us as long as we live. The Grand Army would not change its badge. Let us stick to the idea of our founder, Major Davis. Shall we desecrate his memory by changing our badge. Before we adopt this report, which we are not going to do, let us stop to consider for a moment where we are at. I move that the report of this Committee be laid on the table.

L. W. Friedman, of Alabama: I second the motion.

The motion to lay on the table was put and lost.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: Is it in order now to discuss the report of the Committee?

The Commander-in-Chief: It is.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: There are merits on both sides of this question. Let us get at it in a businesslike and logical way. The question arises, is it good policy to take away these badges? I have a badge that was pinned on me in 1884. I think a great deal of that badge; I like to wear it. Another question arises, will not the new badge in the form submitted interfere with some other organization? I have heard nothing said as to the cost of these badges. Can we not have some light on the subject, so that we may vote intelligently on this question?

E. E. Schoening, of Missouri: This Committee has labored hard and earnestly to get ideas from various brothers. Every brother had a different idea. This design was submitted to us. We asked as to the cost; the highest cost at the present time would be about 25 cents for a membership badge; that may be materially reduced, perhaps to 18 cents. This is not the work of the Committee. I believe the work will devolve upon the Treasurer and Secretary. I believe the work should be open to competition. The question has been asked: "What will become of the Past Division Commander's badge?" That is a question with which the Committee has nothing to do.

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: Was it not the understanding at Gettysburg that the Committee was to consider a buttonhole decoration?

The Commander-in-Chief: Badge and Buttonhole Decoration was the title of the Committee.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: My impression is that the members thought they were voting for a buttonhole decoration.

E. E. Schoening, of Missouri: The Committee thought it was the idea of that Encampment to submit a buttonhole decoration and a badge, and worked along those lines.

W. H. Russell, of Kansas: I move you that all be stricken out of that report except that providing for a buttonhole decoration.

L. W. Friedman, of Alabama: I rise to object. The buttonhole decoration will lead to the badge. The organization of Sons of Veterans is not a money-making Order. Its main principles are loyalty and patriotism and love of the memories of our fathers for what they did. Let nobody make any money out of it. Let us not have any changes where there is any money to be made. Let us keep the dies we got from the Father of our Order. Let us not have any changes. I move that the matter be laid on the table. (no second).

The motion of W. H. Russell was seconded, put and carried.

W. H. Russell, of Kansas: As I understand it, all that portion of the report, except that which refers to the buttonhole decoration, is stricken out.

The Commander-in-Chief: It is.

Karl Stewart, of Pennsylvania: In behalf of the buttonhole decoration, I would like to make a statement. I would like the brothers to consider how many different buttonhole decorations the Sons of Veterans have. None of them is official in a sense. You look to organizations that were originated years ago; you can tell the members by their decoration. If you see a Sons of Veterans decoration you don't know what it is. If we want to build up our organization we must consider this question carefully. The question before this organization is, will we have a decoration that every one can tell without reading. The Spanish War Veterans have a circle, so have the G. A. R. I want what this Committee has suggested; it is a plain cross, and meets our requirements. I move you, sir, that the report of the Committee with reference to the buttonhole decoration be adopted.

Seconded by A. S. Moulthrop, of Pennsylvania.

National Secretary H. H. Hammer: The Commandery-in-Chief pays 15 cents each for the badges. The ribbon question is the most serious proposition that has confronted us for many years. The manufacturer of our badge has run out of ribbon. We cannot get any blue ribbon. If we buy or supply that ribbon for the manufacturer it will require an investment on the part of our organization of between \$800 and \$1000. Mrs. A. P. Davis has more of the yellow ribbon and white ribbon than we can use; she has one or two bolts of the blue ribbon; she will not sell any unless we take all of her ribbon. I have always given the preference to members of the organization in buying. I propose to do so in the future. Robbins & Co. wrote me that they had 802 pieces of ribbon for that many badges. They insisted upon our making a contract, because the ribbon proposition involved so large an expenditure. I had 500 badges made at the price of 14 cents a badge, bronze, the prettiest badge anybody ever saw. I immediately ordered 500 more, but that manufacturer cannot get the ribbon. I can get a bronze badge made-

up with the watered silk ribbon mentioned by the Committee for 25 cents, and in addition with a guarantee that the bronze is from a captured Confederate cannon.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I want to ask Brother Hammer, or some member of the Committee, whether we can get the watered ribbon any cheaper than we can get the ribbon that we have been getting for the badge. I don't see that the adoption of either of these propositions helps us out on the ribbon end of it. I am asking for information.

National Secretary H. H. Hammer: The proposition is the same in either case.

D. Sherman Smith, of Pennsylvania: Why can we not get the ribbon that you speak of from any one except Mrs. Davis?

National Secretary H. H. Hammer: Because it would take from \$800 to \$1000 to buy the ribbon. Mrs. Davis wants us to take numerous bolts of ribbon we don't need, all she has of the different kinds, which is not what we require or have use for.

A. M. Lowe, of Ohio: Our badge was patented, Major Davis, who founded the Order, patented the design, also the design of the ribbon. I don't know whether the patent has run out.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is on the adoption of the report of the Committee with reference to the buttonhole decoration.

J. B. Bogart, of Wisconsin: We have disposed of the badge question satisfactory to this Commandery-in-Chief. I believe the majority are also in favor of retaining our old buttonhole decoration. There is only one official decoration, the old shield, and I rise to move to substitute the old bronze shield which was formerly used as our buttonhole decoration.

Seconded by L. W. Friedman, of Alabama.

The Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved by Brother Bogart, and seconded by Brother Friedman, that the old bronze shield be substituted instead of the design that is suggested by the Committee; this shield, as I understand it, to be recognized as the official buttonhole decoration.

The motion was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is on the adoption of that part of the report of the Committee, as amended.

The motion was agreed to.

Chas. D. Charters, of Pennsylvania: I move that we take a recess until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Seconded by F. A. Kremer, of Wisconsin.

E. F. Buck, of the local committee, invited the members of the Encampment to an entertainment to be held this evening.

National Chaplain U. G. Leazenby: It is necessary that I go; it will be impossible for me to meet with you this afternoon; I thank you, for the courtesies you have extended me, and for the friendships I have formed.

The motion to take a recess was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: It is very important that all committees be ready to submit their final reports, if they have any, at the convention this afternoon. I declare a recess until three o'clock p. m.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

3 o'clock p. m.

The Encampment was called to order at 3 o'clock, with Commander-in-Chief Speelman in the chair.

George E. Cox, of Connecticut, and F. A. Kremer, of Wisconsin, were appointed Assistant National Inspectors, and they reported all present entitled to remain.

The Credentials Committee made a further report, stating that additional names had been added to the roll of the Encampment. (See full report).

The Commander-in-Chief: What shall we do with the report?

Arthur B. Spink, of Rhode Island: I move that the report of the Committee on Credentials be received and adopted and the Committee discharged.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: Has the Committee on Constitution and Laws an additional report to make? The chair recognizes National Counselor A. E. B. Stephens, Chairman of the Committee.

National Counselor A. E. B. Stephens: The Committee on Constitution and Laws begs leave to submit the following:

A communication has been received by the Commander-in-Chief and referred to the Committee on Constitution and Laws, wherein an appeal was taken from the action of the Commander-in-Chief in approving the By-Laws of the Division of Pennsylvania. The Committee recommends that the Commander-in-Chief here sustain the decision and approval of the Commander-in-Chief of the By-Laws of the Pennsylvania Division as submitted to him.

Isaac Cutter, of Illinois: I move that the report be received and adopted and the Committee discharged.

Seconded by F. A. Kremer, of Wisconsin.

R. J. Bosworth, of Indiana: I move that we reconsider the action taken by this Encampment wherein the following words were added to Sec. 3, Article XIX, page 10 of the Constitution and Laws: "And can not be readmitted to any Camp except upon payment of one year's dues to the Camp dropping him, and the muster fee."

Seconded by Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire.

The motion was agreed to.

Commander-in-Chief: The question now is on the adoption of that portion of the Committee's report amending Sec. 3, Art. XIX of the Constitution as stated.

R. J. Bosworth, of Indiana: I move you that that portion of the report of the Committee be not concurred in.

Seconded by Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire.

The motion was agreed to.

F. Tschudy, of Pennsylvania: I rise to a question of personal privilege. At the session yesterday an amendment to the constitution presented by the Pennsylvania Division, referring to the election of a Brigadier General was adopted on the report of the Committee on Constitution and Laws. The recommendation of the Committee on Officers' Reports referring the report of the Chief of Staff to the Committee on Constitution and Laws consequently contradicted the recommendation as adopted. In

this case I would like to know whether the action of the Encampment is to stand.

The Commander-in-Chief: The chair will rule that the action of the Encampment, as it refers to an amendment to the Constitution, takes precedence over any action that may be taken upon the adoption of a report of any committee.

F. Tschudy, of Pennsylvania: I move that Section 3 of the report of the Chief of Staff be not concurred in.

Seconded by A. S. Rhoades, of Pennsylvania.

Chief of Staff R. M. J. Reed: Like many other things that have been done here, this action was taken without consideration. The Committee on Constitution acknowledged to me that they were not aware of the situation as to what ought to have been done. The election of a Brigadier General is inconsistent with all military rules. It is going beyond what we intended when the military was organized, taking the power from the Commander-in-Chief. The election of a Brigadier General takes the power of appointment from the Commander-in-Chief. I therefore move that the motion of General Tschudy be laid on the table.

The motion was duly seconded, put and lost.

W. H. Russell, of Kansas: I rise to a question of personal privilege. Brother Tschudy is misinformed. It contained absolutely nothing pertinent to the subject under discussion. The fact of the matter is that there was no action taken on the recommendation of General Reed. The Committee on Officers' Reports referred that to the Committee on Constitution and Laws.

F. Tschudy, of Pennsylvania: The information was brought to me by a member of the Committee; if the recommendation has not been passed upon, I withdraw my motion.

National Counselor A. E. B. Stephens: As soon as we find out what we are talking about, I think you will understand the situation. The question came to the Committee on Constitution and Laws as passed, and that places the election of the Brigadier General in the hands of the officers of the military organization, and the Committee on Officers' Reports submitted to the Committee on Constitution and Laws the report of the Chief of Staff and also the report of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Recommendations to change the Constitution were in both these reports. They were presented to the Committee on Constitution and Laws, and the Committee on Constitution and Laws reported without recommendation, because they were of the opinion that these recommendations for any change in the Constitution and Laws as presented in the report of the Chief of Staff and of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief were not properly before the Committee on Constitution and Laws. Therefore, nothing has been done whatever with the recommendations as to any change in the Constitution and Laws, as suggested by the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief or by the Chief of Staff. Therefore, I say, that so far as the brother here is concerned his motion is out of order. The only thing before this body regarding the military department is the matter of electing a Brigadier General, and that is passed. So far as the report is concerned in which changes in the Constitution were recommended, they were not acted upon, and they simply stand without any recommendation.

F. Tschudy, of Pennsylvania: I withdraw my motion.

The Commander-in-Chief: With the consent of the Encampment, the motion is withdrawn. I hear no objection.

The Commander-in-Chief: I will ask Brother Patton to take the chair of the National Chaplain.

The Commander-in-Chief: That closes the report of the Committee on Constitution and Laws.

The motion that the report of the Committee as amended be adopted as a whole and the Committee discharged put and carried.

National Counselor A. E. B. Stephens: I move that the Constitutional Amendments adopted by this Encampment become effective and in full force upon the adjournment.

The motion was seconded, put and carried.

The Commander-in-Chief: Has the Committee on Resolutions any further report to make?

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move that the Committee on Resolutions be discharged.

Seconded by W. H. Russell, of Kansas.

The motion was agreed to.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: As chairman of the Committee on Fraternal Greetings, I beg leave to report that the Committee has performed its duties; we were delightfully received by the Auxiliary; very pleasant and loving responses were made.

The Commander-in-Chief: What is your pleasure?

W. H. Perry, of Ohio: I move that the report of the Committee be accepted and the Committee discharged, with thanks.

The motion was seconded, put and carried.

The Commander-in-Chief: Has the Committee on Officers' Reports any supplemental report to make? What is the pleasure of the Encampment?

Alf. G. Loyd, of Pennsylvania: I move that the report of the Committee on Officers' Reports be accepted, and the Committee discharged, with thanks.

The motion was seconded, put and carried.

The Commander-in-Chief: I am advised that there is a committee representing the Woman's Relief Corps in the ante-room. What is the pleasure of the Encampment?

Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire: I move they be received.

(Cries of "Consent").

The Commander-in-Chief: The chair will appoint Dr. Ralph Sheldon, of New York, C. G. Marsh, of Illinois, and C. C. Lawrence, of New Jersey, as a committee to escort the ladies into the hall.

PLACE OF HOLDING NEXT ENCAMPMENT.

The Commander-in-Chief: Under the head of new business, it is now in order to select a place for holding the Encampment of 1907. The chair recognizes Brother T. E. Long, of Ohio.

T. E. Long, of Ohio: Commander-in-Chief, and members of the Twenty-fifth Annual National Encampment:

There are times in our lives when we aspire to some more prominent position, or office, and rightfully so, for we are living in a progressive age. We have met in this beautiful city of Peoria, and have been royally entertained. We have attended to the business of our national organization, and it is coming to the time when we must separate, but before doing so, we are call-

ed upon to select a suitable place for our meeting one year hence. Last year we met in the historic city of Gettysburg, and traveled over that famous field, where the most decisive battle of the war was fought; and this year we meet in beautiful Peoria.

We come to invite you to a city of beauty, a city that is known the world over for its commercial and manufacturing industries. About 325 miles east of here, in the great Miami Valley, is a city over one hundred years of age, with a population of 125,000. It is a historic as well as beautiful and attractive city. The Central Branch of the National Military Home for disabled Union soldiers is located there. At this Home there are cared for 5,000 men, who, when our Country was assailed by traitors' hands, and our flag was torn down and trampled in the dust, with thousands of others went forth and offered their lives that this country might live. They conquered, and the fruits of their victory we now enjoy.

As a manufacturing center it is equal to any. It has within its limits the model factory of the world, the National Cash Register Works, which is known the world over, and gives employment to 5,000 people. The city which I am going to name has ample hotel accommodations to take care of all, at rates from \$2.00 per day up.

We are proud of Ohio, because our great State has given to this Nation some of the most prominent men known to the world and to our Order. Ohio gave to us those two greatest of American soldier-statesmen, Ulysses S. Grant and William Tecumseh Sherman; it gave to us R. B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, and our martyred President, William McKinley; it gave to our Order that man you all know so well, Past Commander-in-Chief, William E. Bundy; it gave us Asa W. Jones; and last, but not least, it gives to us that big-hearted, country-loving, and God-fearing man, Harley V. Speelman, who has presided over this Encampment with so much dignity and impartiality, and through whose good management and great ability this organization has been piloted to such grand success during this last year. He, too, comes from Ohio. (Applause).

The city which I am about to name is a great railway center. It is located in the very network of the Interurban Railway System, as well as of steam railways, and is easy of access. I have here two letters, one from the Mayor of our city, and the other from our representative business men, inviting you to visit us next year. We ask you to accept this invitation and come to our "Gem City of the West."

Therefore, Commander-in-Chief, I place in nomination Dayton, Ohio, for the meeting place in 1907.

Brothers, I thank you for your attention, and ask you to consider our city. If it is your will and pleasure to come to Dayton, we will try and give you the best we have. I thank you. (Applause.)

I offer the following communications and desire to have them made a part of the record:

"Executive Office,
Dayton, Ohio, August 7, 1906.

National Encampment Sons of Veterans,
Peoria, Ill.

Gentlemen: It affords me great pleasure to invite your honorable body to hold its next National Encampment in our beautiful city of Dayton, Ohio. We will make every effort to entertain

you in a manner which will remain with you as one of the most enjoyable Encampments of your organization. We have many attractions here, principally among them being the National Military Home, which should be of great interest to all of your members. The hotel accommodations are the best in the country, and besides the city is centrally located as far as railroads are concerned. Hoping to have the pleasure of greeting you at your next Encampment, I am

Yours very truly,
CHAS. A. SNYDER,
Mayor of the City of Dayton, Ohio."

—
"The Commercial Club,
Dayton, O., Aug. 18, 1906.

Mr. T. E. Long, Secretary,
Earnshaw Camp S. of V.,
Dayton, O.

Dear Sir: Replying to your favor of the 5th inst., in which you request a letter of invitation from the Commercial Club to hold the National Encampment of the Sons of Veterans for 1907 in the city of Dayton, Ohio, I wish, as Secretary of the Commercial Club, of the Gem City, to gladly extend such an invitation, and earnestly urge that your Encampment accept the same. The citizens will be very glad to welcome you, and you will find Dayton one of the most beautiful cities in the United States.

Hoping to have the pleasure of meeting you in our city at your next Encampment, we remain,

Yours very respectfully,
THE COMMERCIAL CLUB,
Per G. A. McHenry, Secy."

The Commander-in-Chief: The chair recognizes Brother J. G. Bogart, of Wisconsin.

J. G. Bogart, of Wisconsin: Commander-in-Chief and brothers, I nominate Milwaukee. I have some papers from the "Boy" Mayor of Milwaukee; also from the Citizens Business League. I desire to present these to the Encampment, and while doing so withdraw Milwaukee from the contest and second the nomination of Dayton, Ohio. The communications are as follows:

"Mayor's Office,
Milwaukee, August 21, 1906.

Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
In Annual Encampment, Peoria, Ill.

Gentlemen: As Mayor of Milwaukee it gives me pleasure to extend to you a cordial invitation to hold your next annual Encampment in our city. I desire to assure you that if you will come to Milwaukee your welcome will be whole-hearted on the part of all of our people.

I cannot promise to give you the key to Milwaukee—for we have none. Milwaukee is always open to such good people as are embraced in your Order. We are proud of our city and I should esteem it a great honor to have the pleasure of meeting you personally and extending to you the hospitalities of Milwaukee for your next Encampment.

Very respectfully,
SHERBURN M. BEEDER, Mayor."

"Citizens Business League,
Milwaukee, August 21, 1906.

To the Commandery-in-Chief,
Sons of Veterans, Peoria, Ill.

Gentlemen: The Citizens Business League esteems it a pleasure to join with Milwaukee and Wisconsin members of your great patriotic Order in extending to you an invitation to hold your next Encampment in Milwaukee, the Beautiful.

Ours is a famous convention center, particularly during the hot summer months when the delightful lake breezes from Lake Michigan bring cool comfort to our own people and to our visitors. We are in an enviable position as regards our ability to properly receive great conventions because of the beauty of the city, the countless opportunities for enjoyment in and about Milwaukee, the large number and uniform excellence of our hotels and our spacious and conveniently located meeting places. Coupled with these important advantages is a warm hospitality on the part of Milwaukee people for all visitors. We assure you that we shall take pleasure in welcoming you to Milwaukee and assisting in making your stay here a pleasant and profitable one.

Yours truly,

CITIZENS BUSINESS LEAGUE,
R. B. Watrous, Secy."

The Commander-in-Chief: Are there any further nominations?

National Counselor A. E. B. Stephens: I move that Dayton, Ohio, be selected as the place for holding our next Encampment.

Seconded by C. E. Casler, of Minnesota.

The motion was put and carried.

Frank L. Shepard, of Illinois: I move that the time for holding the next Encampment be left for the incoming administration to decide.

Seconded by Park F. Yengling, of Ohio.

The motion was agreed to.

Visit of Committee from Women's Relief Corps.

The Committee appointed to escort the committee of the Women's Relief Corps was announced, and they entered the hall with the following members of the committee: Mrs. Walker, President of the Bryner Women's Relief Corps, of Peoria; Mrs. Pottorf, Past President, and Mrs. Tippet.

Commander-in-Chief: Brothers, I have the pleasure of presenting to you Mrs. Walker, Chairman of the Committee on Greetings from the Women's Relief Corps.

Mrs. Walker: I bring you our greetings. It is with pleasure that we welcome you to our beautiful city. Allow me to present this token of our welcome to the grand old State of Illinois. (Presenting a large bouquet of beautiful flowers).

The Commander-in-Chief: Mrs. Walker, and members of this committee: I assure you that this Encampment appreciates your presence on this occasion, and we all thank you for the message of good will that you bear from our mothers. I will call upon Rev. Dr. Patton to respond to the greetings, on behalf of the Encampment.

Rev. W. J. Patton, of Wisconsin: Ladies, it is with peculiar pleasure that I accept this duty; because one week ago it was my privilege to stand in the Auditorium in Minneapolis and there

see the ladies of the Women's Relief Corps in National Encampment assembled. I did not realize how great your organization was until I met your national officers and looked into the faces of that congregation. I then appreciated the vastness of your work. When I heard your National Secretary report 155,000 members; when I heard reported the millions of dollars expended in the work along the lines of your noble organization, world wide in its extent, I began to realize as I had never before the grandeur of your noble organization. I am proud today to be called upon to return our greetings on this occasion. We are glad to meet you; we are glad to hear from you—our mothers, as they are represented in this organization. We appreciate the work you are doing; perhaps I should say sisters, wives and sweethearts; but when we look over the W. R. C. we think of them as mothers; now they are mothering the grand old boys of the Grand Army of the Republic. Your National President said, "These are our boys," old gray haired tottering men; but they are the boys of the Women's Relief Corps today, just as they were the boys in 1861 to 1865. From this we realize the grandeur, the greatness, the beauty, the noble charity of your organization. We thank you for your presence and for your greetings, and wish you God speed in the years before you, and all the years of your organization. (Applause).

The committee were then escorted from the hall amid applause.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there any further new business to come before the Encampment? The next business in order is the election of officers.

Nomination and Election of Officers.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move that we now proceed to the nomination and election of officers, and that nominating speeches be limited to one minute.

Seconded by Isaac Cutter, of Illinois.

The motion was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Secretary will call the roll of Divisions for the nomination of candidates for Commander-in-Chief.

When the Division of Alabama and Tennessee was called, L. W. Friedman stated that Alabama and Tennessee would give way to Missouri.

Oscar R. Fries, of Missouri: By the courtesy of our friend representing the Alabama delegation, Missouri rises to nominate for the office of Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year one of her favorite Sons. At our last annual Division Encampment, the Missouri delegation was, by a unanimous vote, instructed to place before this Encampment his name for that high office. Missouri has never been honored with the Commander-in-Chiefship, and now asks from the hands of this Encampment that honor. The man whom I am about to name is one who has faithfully been an honored, true and loyal Son of a Veteran for the past eighteen years, during which period he has held every office from that of Picket Guard to that of Commander of his Division. He has held the office of Chaplain-in-Chief, and served during the past term as a member of the Committee on Badges and Buttonhole Decoration. He is competent to fill this office, and we come here and pray of you to elect this Son of a Veteran, and we assure you that

you will never in the future have any cause to regret his selection. Further, by his election you will assist in building up our grand Order in the Middle Western States. Elect him, and I assure you that in a year Missouri will double its membership. Gentlemen, I place before this Encampment the name of E. E. Schoening, of Missouri, for Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year. (Applause).

When Illinois was reached, Wm. T. Church, of Illinois, said: Illinois at this time has the pleasure of presenting to this Encampment a man who needs no encomiums; a man whose qualifications are unexceptionable. We have examined the title to his membership in this Order, and we find it written in that immortal address of the martyred President, delivered at Gettysburg, where, on the second day of that great battle, which appalled the world with its casualties and astonished the world in its results, this brother's father gave up his life to his country, and there our great war president, over the unidentified remains of his father's comrades, uttered those words, that those who died there shall not have died in vain. Such is the brother who we present to you, and such is the record of his title to membership in this Order. Illinois takes great pleasure in presenting to you for Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania. (Applause).

When Maine was reached, R. L. Whitcomb, of Maine, said: I want to present to this Encampment a candidate from Maine, and I want to ask this Encampment to consider seriously this candidate from Maine for various reasons. I will make it very short. The best reason of all is that he has spent his entire life since his eligibility in doing all he could for it in the Division of Maine, and that his peculiar ability has been such that he has been eminently successful in his efforts along that line. We will not go into details of the various offices held by him. We offer you a candidate who has the ability, the experience, the enthusiasm, and the hearty friendship of a great number of the members of this Encampment, and we are proud to present to you the name of Arthur M. Soule for Commander-in-Chief. (Applause).

J. B. Ripley, of Vermont: Vermont takes great pleasure in heartily seconding the nomination of Brother Soule of Maine.

Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire: On behalf of the Division of New Hampshire, I desire to second the nomination of whole-souled Arthur M. Soule, of Maine.

Chief of Staff R. M. J. Reed: Pennsylvania is here today, represented in her capacity, striving to do the best that she knows how to further the objects of this Order. We have no reflections to cast upon any man, or any brother of this Order who aspires to the office of Commander-in-Chief. On behalf of Pennsylvania Division, actuated by a desire to serve this Order, I have the pleasure and honor in seconding the nomination of Brother Amies for Commander-in-Chief, and I know he will make a most excellent Commander-in-Chief, and will perform his duties well.

The Commander-in-Chief: The roll call of Divisions has been completed.

The Commander-in-Chief: I will appoint L. B. Philo, of Missouri, John Bower, Jr., of Pennsylvania, and Clarence H. Cram, of Maine, as tellers.

The Commander-in-Chief: The National Secretary will call

the roll, and as each Division is called the chairman of the delegation will announce the vote.

The roll was called, and the tellers announced the vote as follows:

Total number of votes cast.....	129
Necessary to a choice.....	65
Edwin M. Amies received.....	92 votes
E. E. Schoening received.....	18 votes
Arthur M. Soule received.....	19 votes

The Commander-in-Chief: Brother Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania, having received a majority of all the votes cast, I hereby declare him elected Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. for the ensuing year. (Applause).

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Arthur M. Soule: As the candidate having the next highest number of votes, I move that this Encampment give its unanimous consent to the election of Edwin M. Amies as Commander-in-Chief. (Applause).

E. E. Schoening, of Missouri: I second the motion. (Applause).

The motion was agreed to unanimously.

Election of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

When Rhode Island was reached, Arthur B. Spink, of R. I., said: For the office of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, I have the pleasure of nominating a young man who has been associated with the Order of Sons of Veterans for several years. For that position I have the honor to name Brother F. T. F. Johnson, of Washington, D. C., belonging to the Maryland Division.

The Commander-in-Chief: By unanimous consent the roll call of the several Divisions has been dispensed with.

Wm. B. Moynihan, of New York: I move that the nominations be closed and that the National Secretary be instructed to cast the unanimous vote of this Encampment for F. T. F. Johnson for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

The National Secretary announced 129 votes for F. T. F. Johnson, of the Maryland Division, for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brother F. T. F. Johnson, of the Division of Maryland, having received the unanimous vote of this Encampment, I hereby declare him elected as Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Election of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

R. A. Eno, of California: I offer the name of Fred D. Wolfrom, of California, for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Isaac Cutter, of Illinois: I move that the nominations close and that the National Secretary be instructed to cast the unanimous vote of this Encampment for Brother F. D. Wolfrom, of California, for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

The National Secretary announced 129 votes for Fred D. Wolfrom, of California, for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: Fred D. Wolfrom, of California, having received the unanimous vote of this Encampment, I hereby declare him elected as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Election of Three Members of Council-in-Chief.

Walter Penney, of Massachusetts: I rise to place in nomination as a member of the Council-in-Chief, Thomas J. Hannon, of Massachusetts. I believe this Encampment will cast its vote for the Massachusetts candidate—Tom Hannon.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois. I second the nomination of Brother Hannon.

Wm. B. Moynihan, of New York: The Empire State presents the name of one of its Sons for a member of the Council-in-Chief. One year ago the Commandery-in-Chief in its wisdom selected him as a member of that honorable body. During the past year he has served with distinction. I therefore take great pleasure at this time in nominating for member of the Council-in-Chief Dr. Ralph Sheldon, of Albany, N. Y.

Geo. F. Ogden, of Indiana: It is with great pleasure that I name as a member of the Council-in-Chief, one of Indiana's best Past Division Commanders, a man who has made a splendid record, Brother Thomas W. Blair, of Indiana.

Isaac Cutter, of Illinois: I move that the National Secretary be instructed to cast the unanimous vote of this Encampment for the three brothers nominated to constitute the Council-in-Chief. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

The National Secretary cast 129 votes for the nominees as members of the Council-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: Thomas J. Hannon, of Massachusetts; Dr. Ralph Sheldon, of New York; and Thomas W. Blair, of Indiana, having received the unanimous vote of this Encampment for members of the Council-in-Chief, I hereby declare them elected as such.

Reception of Committee from Ladies of the G. A. R.

A. L. Sorter, Jr., of Iowa: Commander-in-Chief, I am requested to announce the presence, in the reception room, of a committee from the Ladies of the G. A. R.

Commander-in-Chief: The chair will appoint Brothers L. C. Couch, of Massachusetts, and Alf. G. Loyd, of Pennsylvania, to escort the committee from the Ladies of the G. A. R. into the hall.

The committee escorted the ladies into the hall.

Alf. G. Loyd, of Pennsylvania: I take pleasure in presenting Mrs. McClure and Mrs. Wilson, of Peoria, who represent the national body of the Ladies of the G. A. R.

The Commander-in-Chief: It is with pleasure that I introduce Mrs. McClure, Past President of the Illinois Department of the Ladies of the G. A. R.

Mrs. McClure: Commander-in-Chief, national officers and members of the convention. We have only a few words to bring to you. We were very late in getting in from Minneapolis, but I come to you to say today that we are most happy in bringing to you the fraternal greetings of the national convention of the Ladies of the G. A. R., which has recently been held in the city of Minneapolis. You in whose veins course the spirit of 1861 to 1865 are very near and dear to the hearts of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. You are our very own, as we are the mothers, wives, sisters and daughters of your veteran fathers whose loyal devotion to their country and their flag bequeathed a priceless inheritance which cannot be bought by gold or by wealth, but only by the bloodstained scars of the field of battle.

We were much honored in our convention by the presence of three or four of your honored representatives, and thrilled by their eloquent tributes and stirred by their earnest appeals to the mothers of the nation, and I wish that every young man in this nation who is eligible to your noble Order might have heard those thrilling words and been fired by their enthusiasm to new devotion and homage. It was through their kindly suggestion that we are with you this afternoon. In our convention the work of your university at Mason City was presented, and I want Sister Wilson to tell you in a few words what we did in our convention. Our organization is composed of the mothers, wives, sisters and daughters of the soldiers of sixty-one to sixty-five, and, like your organization, will go on forever. I will close by again extending the greetings of the national convention of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, with their very kindest and heartiest wishes. (Applause).

The Commander-in-Chief: I now have the pleasure of presenting Mrs. Wilson.

Mrs. Wilson: I did not come to say anything this afternoon; I came to support Mrs. McClure, because she has two sons that belong to this Order, and I have not any. I was glad to hear the Sons of Veterans in our convention at Minneapolis. I don't know what Sister McClure wants me to say. We had the pleasure of subscribing to that school; that is all I know about that. I hope that all the circles in the State will take it up and subscribe to help them in this work. I will not take up your time, because I know the value of time. At that convention a majority of its members was made up of the wives of veterans. You have heard many times, no doubt, that you are the sons of worthy sires; each one of you is the idol of some mother's heart and some proud father. We have come to you with love and with greetings of good will and God speed from those mothers who have just held their convention in Minneapolis. (Applause).

The Commander-in-Chief: We are certainly glad to have you visit us at this time and convey greetings from our mothers. A boy is always glad to get a loving message from his mother. I will call upon General Reed to respond on behalf of the Encampment.

Chief of Staff R. M. J. Reed: I can well appreciate the work that has been done and is being done by the Ladies of the G. A. R. I am Commander of a Post of the G. A. R., and that Post has attached to it Circle No. 87. They have presented us with \$250 and a stand of colors. I know of your aims and objects, and the difference between your organization and the Women's Relief Corps. You inherit the right to membership. Every one of you is either the wife, sister, mother or daughter of a Grand Army man. I believe that your visit is most fitting, and will give us much encouragement. Commander-in-Chief, I know the ladies are not expecting a speech; they want to get home; so do we. We ought to get back to our wives, our sisters and daughters, and those of us who are fortunate enough to have sweethearts. We bid you God speed in all your undertakings for the G. A. R., the grandest organization that ever blessed humanity; that has accomplished more good. They saved the flag that floats in every sea in all the universe; the flag that is respected by all nations, due to the heroic devotion and loving sacrifices of our ancestors. (Applause).

The visiting delegations retired.

The Commander-in-Chief: Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Soule will please take the chair.

Presentation of Portrait of Commander-in-Chief Speelman.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief: The chair recognizes National Counselor A. E. B. Stephens, of Ohio.

National Counselor A. E. B. Stephens: I had the proud distinction of presenting to this Commandery-in-Chief at Gettysburg a candidate for Commander-in-Chief. Those of you who were there will remember that I recommended a brother who plowed corn when a boy, and he did it well; I added that he taught a country school, and he did it well; that he developed into a county newspaper man, and he did it well; that he became editor of a city newspaper; and he did it well; that he held official position in the great State of Ohio, and in the service of the United States, and he performed his duties well. I now feel very much complimented for having presented his name to this body, because I feel that the brother whose name I presented at Gettysburg, as he has in all things done well, he has as Commander-in-Chief of this great Order performed his duties well. On behalf of the State of Ohio, I desire to present to the Commandery-in-Chief a portrait of our worthy Commander-in-Chief, the same to be placed in Memorial University with other Past Commanders-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans. I take great pleasure in presenting to this Commandery-in-Chief the portrait of Commander-in-Chief H. V. Speelman, presented by the State of Ohio. (Applause).

The Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief: I will ask Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard to accept the same on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief.

Frank L. Shepard, of Illinois: Brother Stephens, on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., I have the honor to accept from the Ohio Division this likeness of Harley V. Speelman, our beloved retiring Commander-in-Chief. We agree with you that he has filled the position to which we elected him a year ago with ability, with loyalty and with fidelity. When he retires from this position at this Encampment he will have the love and affection of the brotherhood of our Order. We thank you for this presentation. The portrait will hang on the walls of the offices of our Order, and his likeness shall be imprinted forever upon our hearts and in our minds. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Speelman resumed the chair.

The Commander-in-Chief: I would like the National Inspector to present Fred E. Bolton.

Presentation of Gold Cross to Fred E. Bolton.

The Commander-in-Chief: Members of the Encampment, and Brother Bolton. This Order of the Sons of Veterans believes in the exemplification of the principle of "reward of merit." No one in our organization has given to it better service in the years of the past than has been given by Fred Bolton, of the grand old Division of Massachusetts. One year ago, by unanimous vote of this Commandery-in-Chief, action was taken that the golden cross

of the Order be conferred upon Brother Bolton in recognition of the good service he has rendered in behalf of our Order, and it is with great pleasure, now, Brother Bolton, that, on behalf of this Commandery, and of the organization at large, that I present to you this token of the high esteem in which you are held by your brothers. As the same is pinned upon your breast, I am sure that you need not be admonished or reminded of the obligation taken by you when you were mustered into the Order. I know that you will wear this badge long and proudly. (Applause).

Fred E. Bolton, of Massachusetts: Commander-in-Chief, and Brothers: It is always difficult for one on such an occasion as this to readily find words with which to express his appreciation and gratification of the courtesy of the members of an Encampment. If the services you permitted me to render in the responsible position of National Treasurer have been performed to your satisfaction, that in itself was almost gratification enough. To receive now at your hands and in your name this mark of appreciation is indeed a great pleasure and something which I appreciate very much. I have been in the Order for some years, and have got back in the ranks of the "has beens." You can be assured that there has been no loss of interest, nor will there be any lack of interest. We have a little fellow at home about 10 years old, and perhaps some day he will receive this from his father, when his father is gone. Again I thank you. (Applause).

Installation of Officers.

The Commander-in-Chief: Past Commander-in-Chief George B. Abbott, of Illinois, will serve as installing officer.

The following officers were then duly installed by Past Commander-in-Chief G. B. Abbott, as Installing Officer:

Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania, Commander-in-Chief.

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

Fred D. Wolfrom, of California, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Thomas J. Hannon of Massachusetts, Dr. Ralph Sheldon, of New York, Thomas W. Blair, of Indiana, Council-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief Amies: General Abbott, and Brothers: It would be useless to say that I do not appreciate the honor that you have conferred upon me by electing me to this office. I believe that such a statement from me is superfluous and needless. Suffice it to say that I appreciate it, and by my work I hope that you who have chosen me will not regret the step you have here taken today. If I in the least degree come near to accomplishing the work of my predecessor in office, I will believe that I have done my work well when the time shall have come for me to lay down the gavel and relinquish my authority. (Applause).

Presentation of Jewel to Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: Brother Speelman, I have something to say to you at this time. You will probably understand what it means. A moment has come into your life that those of us comprehend and understand who have stood before in a like position. You are relinquishing the command of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., the noblest band

of young men in the country, except our fathers, who are not young. This grand organization has honored you, and you have honored it. That peculiar feeling you now have, that Brother Shepard, Brother Spink, Brother Russell and Brother Dustin have all felt, all of us who have gone through this work before, is brought on by the separation of those chords that have become interwoven into your very life, a work that has become part of your very person, and the experiences and memories of this last year will never depart from you so long as life lasts. I feel at this moment that I am standing in the shoes of another, because were William E. Bundy living this task that comes to me would be his. Brother Bundy, at the close of my administration, was the spokesman for the Commandery-in-Chief in presenting me with this badge, and I feel especially moved now in presenting to one who loved Billy Bundy as much as you did, the mark of the Past Commander-in-Chief, the gold star. Brother Speelman, I need not say to you that with this beautiful jewel there goes the affection and regard of all the Sons of Veterans, a magnificent body, and I pin this upon you as a token of that love and regard. It will be one of the precious possessions of your life, and I need not say to you in all the years to come nothing will give you more pleasure than the memories of the service you have rendered. (Applause).

Past Commander-in-Chief Speelman: Brother Abbott, Commander-in-Chief, and Brothers: Words fail in the appropriate expression of the feelings that possess the innermost recesses of my heart and soul at this time. If I deserve this token, if I have earned it, and have gained the approbation of my brothers, I feel that I have sufficient reward for any service that I have rendered in behalf of this organization which we all love. I want to thank you, Past Commander-in-Chief Abbott, and through you the membership of the Order, and the brothers here present, for this token of esteem which you have so graciously presented to me at the close of my administration, and at the conclusion of the year's work that has been given to the best of my ability in behalf of the organization of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. (Applause).

In this connection, I wish again to thank the officers and also the general membership of our Order, throughout the several Divisions, for the valuable assistance rendered me during my term as Commander-in-Chief. And I desire, too, to thank the members of this Encampment for the many courtesies shown me, likewise for your unselfish devotion to duty, sufficient evidence of which is the strict attention you have given to the business that has been before this body for consideration. Harmony and good-fellowship have marked our proceedings, and I believe that our meeting here in beautiful Peoria, where we have been so royally entertained by our hospitable Illinois brothers, will be productive of great good to our beloved Order. I now return to the ranks, relinquishing the scepter of authority to my most worthy successor, to whom I pledge my unqualified support. My efforts for our organization will continue, and I shall ever be mindful of the great honor that has been mine. (Applause).

I have one more duty to perform, my closing official act, and that is to pin upon your breast, Commander-in-Chief Amies, the bar containing the stars indicative of the rank of the office to which you have been elected and installed. May your administration be successful, even beyond your fondest hopes, is my earnest prayer. (Applause).

The Commander-in-Chief: Brother Speelman, and Brothers: I fully appreciate now, after the reception of this emblem of authority, the power that is in me vested. I want to wear it with all the dignity, with all the power, with all the feeling that he who holds this position should. In doing so, I want the help, the assistance of each and every one of you. I want to say that during my administration I will be open at all times for the reception of communications from any one, from the lowest to the highest officer of this body, and you may rest assured that whatever may come into my hands will be answered promptly. I thank you. (Applause).

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move that the minutes of this Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. be approved without reading.

Seconded by A. M. Lowe, of Ohio.

The motion was agreed to.

At this point, all joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne," after which the Encampment was closed in due form.

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

Cincinnati, Ohio, August 23, 1906.

The foregoing is a true and correct record and report of the proceedings of the Twenty-fifth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., held at Peoria, Illinois, August 21, 22 and 23, 1906, as reported by A. G. Daugherty and Edward K. DePuy, official stenographers.

Attest:

H. H. HAMMER,
National Secretary.

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

