

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Eleventh Annual Encampment
OF THE
Department of Texas
Grand Army of the Republic,

CONVENED IN

The City of Dallas, Texas,

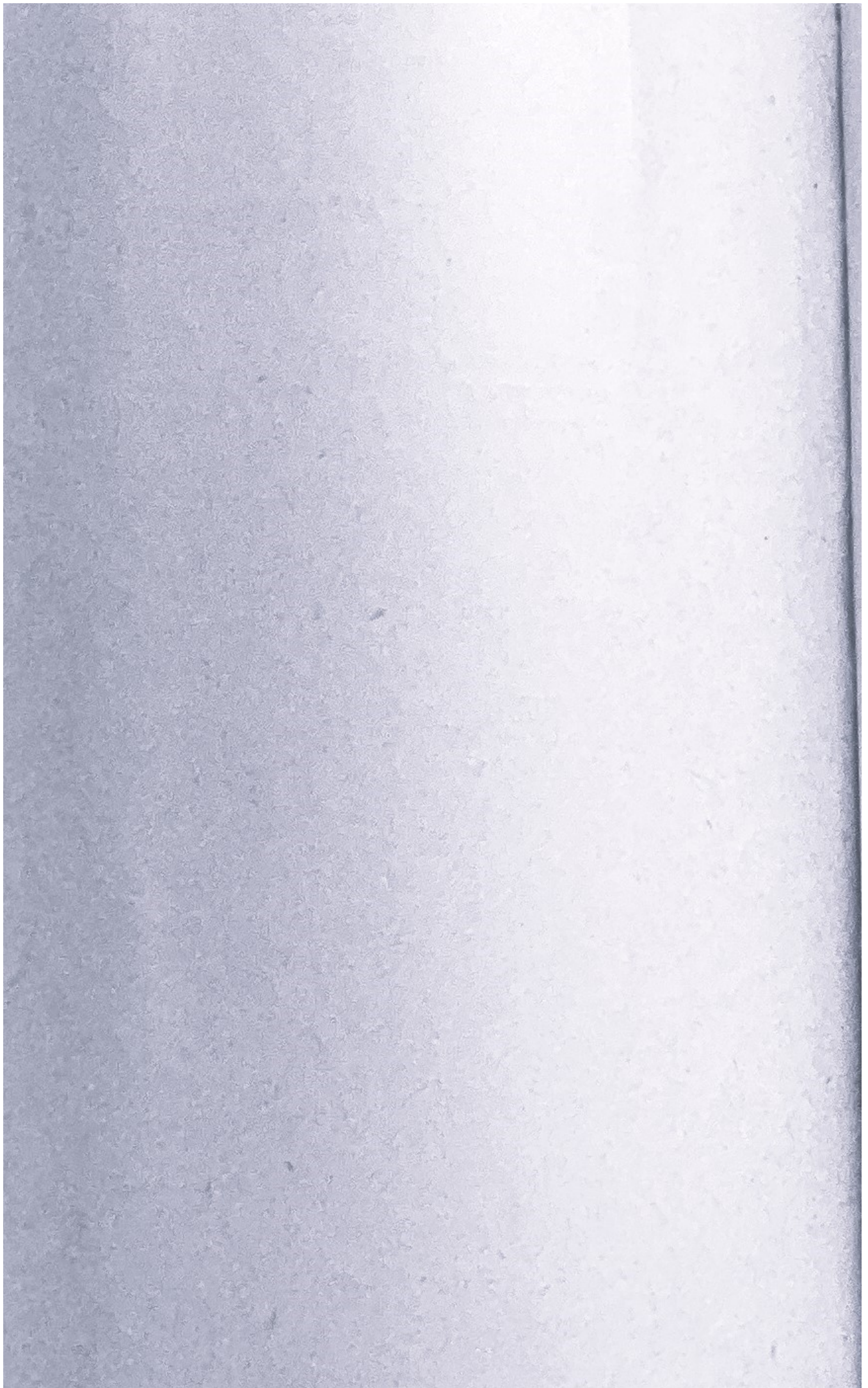
April 21, 22 and 23, 1896.

DALLAS, TEXAS:
1896.





Yours in F. C. & L.
W. Bastwick
Dept Comdr



PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Eleventh Annual Encampment.

FIRST DAY.

THE PARADE.

The inaugural parade incident to the Eleventh Annual Encampment of the Department of Texas, Grand Army of the Republic, the greatest semi-military organization in the world, enlivened the streets of Dallas this morning.

They were astir early in the morning, and all incoming trains brought new arrivals to swell their ranks. The city had prepared for their coming and many houses along the principal streets were decked in holiday attire and wearing the stars and stripes as the finishing touch to their costume. "Old Glory" waved in every direction and on every breeze floated the strains of war hymns, the inspiring notes of which had cheered the old veterans along many weary marches. The whole city seemed to feel the impulse that made the Ohioan and Texan march in column together.

From 10:30 a. m., when the braying of martial music, the congregating of many people along the lines of march, and the massing of carriages told that something of unusual interest was about to occur, until 11, when the line formed on Main street, just east of Akard, all coigns of

vantage were quickly pre-empted by enthusiastic spectators.

THE COLUMN.

The formation of the marching column was as follows:

Mounted Police.

James M. Steere, Marshal.

J. C. Leeds, Assistant Marshal.

Dallas Union Band.

The Department Officers:—W. W. Bostwick, Commander; H. E. Conger, Senior Vice-Commander; R. P. Sargent, Jun. Vice-Com.; T. K. Crowley, Chaplain, and John L. Boyd, Ass't Quartermaster General, in carriages.

Grand Army of the Republic, Assistant Adjutant General in Command.

United Confederate Veterans, Commanded by Lieut. Harry Campbell.
Band.

Dallas Zouaves.

Trezevant Guards.

Dallas Light Artillery.

Civic Societies.

Sons of Veterans.

Woman's Relief Corps, and City Council in carriages.

Under the efficient management of Marshal James M. Steere and Assistant Marshal Leeds, there were no hitches along the route until the ranks were broken at Turner Hall.

PROCEEDINGS.

The Eleventh Annual Encampment, Department of Texas, Grand Army of the Republic, convened in regular session at Turner Hall, Dallas, on Tuesday, April 21st, 1896, at 3 p. m., pursuant to General Order No. 8, Department Headquarters, and was opened in due form by Department Commander W. W. Bostwick.

The Department Officers were all present except the Medical Director, Judge Advocate and Chief Mustering Officer.

Rev. Father T. K. Crowley, Department Chaplain, opened the Encampment by invoking the Divine blessing.

Comrade W. F. Cottman was appointed Officer of the Day, and Comrade J. J. Weiler Officer of the Guard, to serve during the Encampment, who, after due examination, reported all present members of the Grand Army.

Past Department Commanders W. D. Wylie, M. W. Mann and J. W. Parks occupied seats on the platform.

The report of the Committee on Credentials was then read and approved:—

Roll of the Eleventh Annual Encampment.

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS.

*W. W. BOSTWICK.....	Dep't Commander
*H. E. CONGER.....	S. V. Dep't Commander
*R. P. SARGENT.....	J. V. Dep't Commander
W. P. FLEMING.....	Medical Director
*T. K. CROWLEY.....	Department Chaplain
*E. L. WITMAN.....	Ass't Adjutant General
*JOHN L. BOYD.....	Ass't Q. M. General
*E. G. RUST.....	Department Inspector
E. A. WILKINSON.....	Judge Advocate
W. H. HARVEY.....	Chief Mustering Officer
*W. F. COTTMAN.....	Chief Aid de Camp

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

*JOHN SULLIVAN,	*C. McWHIRK,
*H. C. ADLER,	M. F. HYATT,
*T. W. MANCHESTER.	

PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS.

*W. D. WYLIE,	A. K. TAYLOR,
O. T. LYON,	*M. W. MANN,
W. H. SINCLAIR,	†O. G. PETERSON,
†J. C. DEGRESS,	*J. W. PARKS,
A. G. MALLOY,	R. M. MOORE.

ROLL OF THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT.

POSTS	OFFICERS	DELEGATES	ALTERNATES	PAST POST COM'S
No. 1—McPherson, Sherman	Wm Abrams, C..... W Allen, S V C..... G Cotts, J V C.....	*J Brown.....		H C Dillingham, John Donaldson, *L O Edminson, P Kirk, W H Henderson, *H A Johnson, W Allen.
No. 2—Hancock, Galveston	J E Keenan, C..... D Cahoon, S V C..... N L Rich J V C.....	*D Cahoon..... D Harris.....	A B Horner..... C H Smith.....	E Ketchum, F L Kirk, *R P Sargent, N L Rich, W H Boyd, H G Niblo.
No. 3—Ord, San Antonio	*H H Alvoort, C..... J H Bolton, S V C..... T J Barnes, J V C.....	N Underwood..... T J Barnes..... A K Melton.....	M J Keating.. .. F Krebel.. .. E H Bacon.. ..	R M Moore, W H Robinson, A Kuhn, E Mayers.

ROLL OF THE ENCAMPMENT—CONTINUED.

POSTS	OFFICERS	DELEGATES	ALTERNATES	PAST POST COM'S
No. 4—Parmly, Fort Worth	J T Lynch, C..... H M Dunham, S V C.. C B Grabe, J V C.....	C M Dunham ... *J D Bound.... C F Smith	W J Cook L Riden W C Hunt.....	*Jas Morrison, *J N Diehl, H W Nye, *C B Morgan, *W W Gavin, *T W Manchester W J Harden, A H Benner, *H Webb, *C B Grabe, *W C Hunt, *A N Jack.
No. 5—Lyon, Denison	*L W Clark, C..... O A Phillips, S V C..	*T M Wright... *J L Tygart..... *J Carter..... C C Haskell..... J H Dunn L H Ruthraft... C E Farnsworth. *P Curry..... O A Phillips ...	J D Orand L Rigan C C Hoskiss..... H Hackney H Clement J Powers..... W Flesher..... B N Greenup... E Farley.....	E C Clifford, S S Clark, L B Moore, *W W Bostwick, *H Hume, W O Kretsinger.

No. 6—Thomas,
Dallas

*R M McCormick, C .
J S Dunlap, S V C...
T B Sprague, J V C..

*W I Purnell....
*S Taber.....
*H Krugle.....
A Brownlee.....

M L Mullins....
*D Bowers.....
Y Gengling...
T B Sprague....

*W D Wylie,
G A Knight,
*W F Cottman,
*W E Danforth,
*J M Steere,
*A McWhirk,
*W S Thatcher,
*J R Harned.

No. 9—McClellan,
Houston

*J J Scholl, C.....
A M Engle, S V C...
B A Guire, J V C ...

D W Bartlett ...
*B A Guire.....
*C B Peck

W Fuller.....
A M Engle.....
E Wood.....

A K Taylor,
*R B Baer,
D Perkins,
P W Hudson,
*H T Rue,
J J Billow,
J H Berry,
*E G Rust.

No. 10—Mower,
Austin

C W Ricker, C.
P LaFrance, S V C...
J Reye, J V C.....

P Scott

— — Walsh. ...
P LaFrance
J K Childers

D G Friedman,
J P Richardson,
J M Odell,
C B Stoddard,
A Gerard,
W W Archer.

ROLL OF THE ENCAMPMENT—CONTINUED.

POSTS	OFFICERS	DELEGATES	ALTERNATES	PAST POST COM'S
No. 11—Dix, Dallas	*M W Mann, C A Metzler, S V C. E J Lemon, J V C.	*A Metzler. *P O Dwyer *W Malcomson E J Lemon.	H Kirscher *G R Graves. S F Noyes J W Ridge.	*J L Boyd, *I B Gibson, *D Mackay, D M Baker, T Hitchcock, J C Bigger, C Dickson, *G W McCormick *J W Ayres, *G L Nash, *L C Leeds.
No. 13—Hurst, Terrell	*E B Dwyer, C W H Dennis, S V C. R F Jeffries, J V C.	*H C Adler.	J P Jones.	*R F Jeffries, *E W Johnson, D Grossman, E B Dwyer.
No. 17—Lewis, Fort Clark	J H Pratt, C. W Ktsch, S V C. J Morin, J V C.	J M Elledge	J Thompson.	J H Pratt.

No. 19—Crawford, El Paso	S W Milleschamp, C... P M Kehoe, S V C.... J B Wilcox, J V C....	W T Kitchen... P M Kehoe.....	G W McCan- aughy, John Sullivan...	H S Buchanan, A G Malloy, W T V Kitchen, F E Tustan, W W Mills.
No. 20—Kearney, Lampasas	W H Webber, C..... C C Mullady, S V C.. T J Upton, J V C....	A P Hungate....	A Wurtz.. .. .	C C Mullady, W H Webber,
No. 21—Starling, Temple	*W C Paist, C..... J Rainwater, S V C.. R L Ferguson, J O C.	*J Rainwater..	J A Note:.....	*R L Ferguson, J W Field, *J Q A Simmons, R H Ford, J Paul.
No. 23—Logan, Denton	J O Berry, C J B Yeagley, S V C... J R Lewis, J V C....	*J R Lewis.....	W A Madden...	*H R Lyon, J E Stringer, S G Raley, *R Vermillion.
No. 25—Sheridan, Georgetown	C S Jones, C..... P Reder, S V C..... W J Riggins, J V C..	J W Kincaid	C S Jones	P Reder, J W Kincaid, G A Jones, W P Fleming, C S Jones.

ROLL OF THE ENCAMPMENT—CONTINUED.

POSTS	OFFICERS	DELEGATES	ALTERNATES	PAST POST COM'S
No. 26—Wright, Paris	*J O Eastabrook, C... W Turner, S V C.... T U Johuson, J V C..	J A Farmer....	E A Russel.. . . .	E A Russel, T U Johnson, *M Yarborough, R Hertz, J O Eastabrook,
No. 28—Farragut, Cameron	B I Arnold, C W Mulleneax, S V C.. A S Russell, J V C...	H L Witcher....	A S Russell,....	T A Pope, C M Carr, B I Arnold.
No. 31—Grant, Wichita Falls	*A Tracy, C..... A J Taylor, S V C.... A L Thornberry, J V C	A J Taylor.....	*J Alvord.....	L T Miller, A L Thornberry, J M Mason, A Tracy.
No. 32—Custer, Lamasco	M Skeen, C J A Head, S V C..... W W Hughes, J V C			J H Parisho, M Skeen.
No. 36—J C Davis, Fort Davis	O M Keesey, C P McGloume, S V C.. C Mulhern, J V C	P McGloume.... W Keesey	C Mulhern..... O M Keesey	O M Keesey. C Mulhern, G Perrine.

JOURNAL OF THE ELEVENTH

No. 37—Belknap, San Antonio	A G Mehlin, C..... H Bode, S V C..... W L Henskell, J V C.	F C Frederickson	P Bishop	A Miller, A G Mehlin.
No. 40—Kilpatrick, Belton	B Bunker, C..... J L Taylor, S V C.... Martin Whalin, J V C	T Blanchard	D H Wheat.....	M F Hiatt, W H Harvey, B Parker, D H Wheat, B Bunker,
No. 45—Randall, Weatherford	*G S Foster, C..... W L Little, S V C ... C Burt, J V C.....	W Little.....	*J C Winscott...	G S Foster, *H Baker, J Davis.
No. 46—McKenzie, Del Rio	J Glynn, C	J Glynn.
No. 48—Canby, Jacksboro	I Stoddord, C..... D Rickart, S V C ... W Umbarger, J V C.	*H W Clingman.	A Myers.....	A Myers, I Stoddard.
No. 49—Crook, San Antonio	F Fuller, C..... C Wentworth, S V C.. F Buckleoldt, J V C..	No report.	No report.
No. 51—Sherman, Granbury	*F Ahrens, C	*C Brady.....	C L Edwards ...	*W H Catts, T Adams, *F Thomas.
	J C Warner, S V C.... C Brady, J V C.....	W L McPherson.	P Lake.....	

ROLL OF THE ENCAMPMENT—CONTINUED.

POSTS	OFFICERS	DELEGATES	ALTERNATES	PAST POST COM'S
No. 53—Opdyke, Jefferson	J Grant, C..... G B Merrow, S V C.. M Manning, J V C...	J Grant..... *H Welch.....	T K Smith..... H Max.....	*H Welch, J Grant.
No. 54—E J Davis, Corpus Christi	E J Kilmer, C..... W G Holden, S V C.. W T Carter, J V C...	*J H Boeck.....		J H C White, F E Wells, A G Thorne.
No. 55—Houston, Dublin	*S J Weaver, C..... J McInroe, S. V. C... M Barr, J V C.....	T Marks..... *E Roch..... H M Dingus...	*H M Milliman.. W Bronson,..... *M Barr.....	*W H Christian, *H H Andrews, *J Roch, *G W Andruss, *J Sullivan.
No. 56—Burnside, Springtown	J C Hutcheson, C.... A Hutcheson, S V C.. S U P Gibson, J V C..	W L Hucheson. B L Shurley....	J W Warlick.... J R Inkelbarger	T F Whealock, W L Hucheson, Wm Wilson, W S Willard.
No. 57—Holcomb, Mason	M VanBridges, C. ... D Doole, S V C..... A Ritter, J V C.....	J Hull.....	A Ritter.....	M VanBridges, A Glos-breuner, D Doole, L Graeber.

No. 59—Yates, Baird	*C Wilson, C J Umphry, S V C J Rice, J V C	J Umphry	J Crumbie	W McManis, J Cook.
No. 60—Rousseau, Graham	P B Hunt, C F Orrell, S V C M Dobbs, J V C	F Orrell		P B Hunt, J T Cunningham J F Orrell.
No. 54—Terry, Fredericksburg	J Larsen, C C Enderline, S V C H Ruff, J V C	J Hirsh	T G Temple	J Hirsch, J Larsen.
No. 66—Travis, Abeline	*J Kershaw, C S Hammer, S V C M Perkins, J V C	*J Lee	*J A Lowry	*J A Lowry, T Buck, G A Serviss.
No. 67—Barney, Brownsville	W Kelly, C H M Field, S V C J N Ransom, J V C	E H Goodrich	J J Smith	W Kelly.
No. 69—Merritt, San Angelo	W H Coombs, C J L Millspaugh, S V C G K Bent, J V C	W J Work	J Floinu	J S Millspaugh, W H Coombs.
No. 70—Crockett, Waco	*W C Osborn, C *G Work, S V C E Raymond, J V C	*G Work *J McCune G J Elam *A Hoeffner	J S Gillette J D Dayton J D Abel J D Beechley	F M Shirk, *W A Carnahan, *H E Conger.

ROLL OF THE ENCAMPMENT—CONTINUED.

POSTS	OFFICERS	DELEGATES	ALTERNATES	PAST POST COM'S
No. 71—Raum, Poolville	*J S Upton, C..... W J Johnson, S V C.. *E Grindstaff, J V C..	*E Grindstaff .	J Rist.....	J E Roberts, J S Upton.
No. 73—Hooker, Ennis	*S H Brown, C..... J F Alexander, S V C W S Gardner, J V C..	A Whiting.....	W S Gardner....	S H Brown.

* Present.

Respectfully submitted,

E. L. WITMAN, }
L. C. LEEDS, } Committee.
H. T. RUE, }

The Department Commander, in order to expedite business, appointed Comrade E. G. Rust as assistant to the Assistant Adjutant General.

Sen. Vice-Com., H. E. Conger, having been called to the chair, the Department Commander delivered the following address :

ADDRESS OF DEPARTMENT COMMANDER.

COMRADES :

Another year has passed, bringing with it some peculiar experience to each of us individually.

We have stood our turn on guard and grand rounds for one more twelve months' relief.

We realize the fact that sooner or later "taps" will be sounded and our lights will go out as good soldiers, and the best and brightest wish I can offer you, my comrades, is that we may be able to answer the roll-call on the eternal shore where we may rest under the shade of the trees.

It is with a feeling of pride that I stand before you as the representative of a nation of people in whose veins flows the blood of patriots and soldiers.

I am proud of my country and I am proud of you. Although we are growing old together, we are none the less ardent now than when we were boys in upholding the principles of our order and the flag of our country.

The year that has past has been one of trying experiences and perplexing situations.

The dullness of the times and the general depression of commercial life has had its influence on our beloved organization and the indifference and lack of interest on the part of our comrades has been, in a certain sense, excusable, and yet great good has been done the cause of the Grand Army. The Department of Texas has never been in a more prosperous condition, taking into consideration the conditions which confront us as members of the Grand Army.

LINE OF MARCH.

We are on the march yet, my comrades—some of us with faltering steps, but all marching in line as in the days which tried men's souls—we are still fighting the battles

of life together, and by our associations as comrades we comfort and greet each other for the trials before us, and also encourage one another in the grand principles of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty. But we feel that we are not alone in our journey. A grateful nation looks upon us as its saviors and friends. Let us continue to march along the line as becomes soldiers.

ORDERS.

We have issued during the last year eight general orders and four circular letters to the posts of this department, and private letters and correspondence almost without number to various comrades in the department and out of it.

MEMORIAL DAY.

I am glad to say that there was at the last Memorial Day almost an universal observance of that sacred day throughout the Department, and although the influence and spirit of objection and indifference is rife in the land, yet I am proud to say that the observance of this day so dear to the boys in blue is meeting with less objection yearly.

NEW POSTS.

One new Post has been organized, Joe Hooker Post, No. 73, at Ennis.

There are several points in the Department where Posts can be organized, and will be soon.

SONS OF VETERANS.

There have been four new Camps formed during the year, and I am gratified to be able to say to you that the energy and zeal with which our sons are going into this organization is highly commendable. For truly we look to the young men for the preservation of the Union and to keep sacred the work accomplished by their sires.

SUSPENSIONS.

It is not probable that a more trying year has come to the Department than the last twelve months. The suspensions have been numerous, for various reasons, and I

can truly say that I did all in my power to impress upon the actions of our Posts the fact that we had no old soldiers to spare from our ranks, and I firmly believe that in the majority of cases of suspension it has been more the fault in the management of the Post than the individual, and I am firm in the conviction that when Posts are fully alive and in good working order very few will feel that they are too poor to pay their dues.

WOMANS' RELIEF CORPS.

Throughout the entire year we have been encouraged in our work by the grandest organization on the globe today, that of the Woman's Relief Corps, ever ready to help, whether it be to strew flowers upon the graves of our noble dead or to provide means for the needy, or work in the interest of honoring the flag of our country. They have been self-sacrificing and untiring, and their works will follow them, and in return it should be our bounden duty to stand by them in their noble work.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

During the year I have had occasion to visit a majority of the posts in the Department, and I may be pardoned when I say that these visits were among the happiest moments of my life, and I sincerely thank the comrades everywhere for the royal welcome given me, and I can truthfully say that I believe I was the recipient of the greatest good.

DEATHS.

We have been reminded of the final muster-out by the deaths of some of our comrades, among which is the loss of our Ex-Department Commander, O. G. Peterson, Burnside Post, No. 56, Springtown; also P. C. Thos. Oleson, Belknap Post, No. 37, San Antonio, and P. C. A. R. Corbett, Yates Post, No 59, Baird, Tex.

TWENTY-NINTH NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

This was a gathering of the Grand Army of the Republic which was distinctive in the fact that it was the first National Encampment south of the Ohio river, and the pledges of the people of Louisville, Ky., were kept,



Yours Truly
E. L. Wittman
Asst. Adj't. Gen'l.

The Assistant Adjutant General then read his report, which was referred to comrades A. Metzler, H. T. Rue and H. Hume.

REPORT OF ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS DEP'T OF TEXAS, G. A. R., }
DENISON, April 20, 1896. }

Gen'l W. W. Bostwick, Department Commander:

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE:—In compliance with the rules and regulations and requirements of my office, I have the honor to submit for your information my report of the business of this office, and the condition of the Department during your administration.

The following statement gives the numerical strength from January 1, 1895, to January 1, 1896:

FIRST TERM.

	MEMBERS
In good standing Dec. 31, 1894.....	1,158
Gains to June 30, 1895—	
By muster.....	34
" transfer.....	8
" reinstatement.....	7
From delinquent reports.....	<u>12</u>
Total Gain.....	<u>61</u>
Aggregate.....	1,219
Loss—	
By death.....	13
" honorable discharge.....	2
" transfer.....	16
" suspension.....	81
" dishonorable discharge.....	1
" delinquent reports.....	<u>97</u>
Total Loss.....	<u>210</u>
Remaining in good standing June 30, 1895. . .	1,009

SECOND TERM.

In good standing June 30, 1895.....	1,009
Gains—	
By muster and organization.....	46
“ transfer.....	12
“ reinstatement.....	21
From delinquent reports.....	60
Total Gain.....	<u>139</u>
Aggregate.....	1,148
Loss—	
By death.....	13
“ honorable discharge.....	8
“ transfer.....	20
“ suspension.....	149
“ surrender of charter.....	6
Total Loss.....	<u>196</u>
Remaining in good standing Dec. 31, 1895....	952

SUSPENSIONS.

During the year 230 members have been suspended; many of them have been temporarily lost through the failure of Posts to appoint a delinquent dues committee according to our Rules and Regulations. Had this been properly attended to, and the committees performed their duties by visiting each delinquent, I have no doubt our footing would show to better advantage.

Several of our Posts have lost heavily and upon investigation I find most of those suspended have been carried along for years — so long, in fact, that they looked upon the non payment of their dues as a vested right. Many of these comrades were well able to pay their dues, but failed to do so through lack of interest, and where this is the case, and they can not be induced to care enough for the G. A. R. to pay their dues, it is better that they be dropped than carried on by others. This wholesale cutting off of dead timber, I have every reason to believe, will result in great advantage to the Department.

Yet the question of suspension is becoming one of such vital importance that every effort should be made by the

officers and comrades to assist those who are known to be unable to pay their dues. The sum required is an insignificant amount to many of our comrades, yet by neglecting to pay promptly, and permitting dues to roll up against them, when importuned to pay up, the sum accumulated seems large, and the plea of hard times is made and they apparently lose all interest in the order and are necessarily dropped.

WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

It is a pleasure to call attention to the effective work of our noble auxiliary, the Woman's Relief Corps, which represents the best type of American womanhood.

During the year some very urgent calls for assistance have been made to them through their worthy Department President, Mrs. Laventia Conger, and prompt response was made by the different Corps, with money, clothing, etc.

The Grand Army should unite in giving them a helping hand, as by so doing you increase their usefulness and help our order.

RELIEF.

The amount expended for relief, as shown by the Post Adjutant reports, foots up to \$133.65. This small showing is owing to the fact that but four Posts make any report of expenditures for charities, and is doubtless but a small portion of the amount actually expended.

The above does not include the amount of \$50.15 forwarded for the relief of comrade Odell's children, \$27.50 of which was contributed by the Woman's Relief Corps, this contribution having been made since the closing up of reports for December, 1895.

MISCELLANEOUS.

I would call the attention of Post Commanders and Adjutants to the omission, in many cases, to leave a space between the different causes of losses, particularly those of suspension and death. The number of deaths reported in figures this year being twenty-six, while in the column of remarks are found thirty-one names. This should not be, as this roll of honor should be correctly kept.

Amongst those who have been called away we find our Past Department Commander, O. G. Peterson, of Post No. 56, Springtown, and Post Commanders T. Olsen, Post No. 37, San Antonio, and A. R. Corbitt, Post No. 59, Baird.

The prominence of these comrades gives them prestige in our memories, and the deep interest they took in our order, examples for our emulation.

During this administration two Posts, Putnam, No. 38 and Sill, No. 61, have surrendered their charters, and one Post, No. 47, Sulphur Springs, has been dropped. Yates Post, No. 59, was reinstated, and Hooker Post, No. 73, at Ennis, has been chartered, leaving forty-two Posts in good standing.

I was requested by a number of Posts to give them all the extra time I could in order that their per capita tax could be collected, and by so doing I am able to report that for the term ending December 31st there is not one Post reported delinquent.

Eight General and four Special Orders have been issued during the term, and these, with all General Orders and Circulars, have been promptly furnished to the various Posts.

The correspondence has been unusually large, greatly owing to the fact that many Post Commanders had to be written to repeatedly before a response could be obtained. If they would but think for a minute the amount of trouble this indifference causes, I feel confident they would be more prompt and thus very materially lighten the duties of this office. I would also suggest, for the benefit of my successor, that on the night of the last meeting of each term, the Post Commander, Adjutant and Quartermaster get together and make out their reports and forward them to Headquarters. This will save valuable time and unnecessary correspondence, particularly where these officers reside at some distance from one another.

And now, Commander, at the close of our official relations, permit me to thank you for the confidence you placed in me by appointing me as your Assistant Adjutant General, and for the many acts of kindness received at your hands during your administration.

I also beg leave to tender my thanks to the other Department officers and the officers of the various Posts for their uniform kindness and courtesy during the past year.

Yours in F. C. and L.,

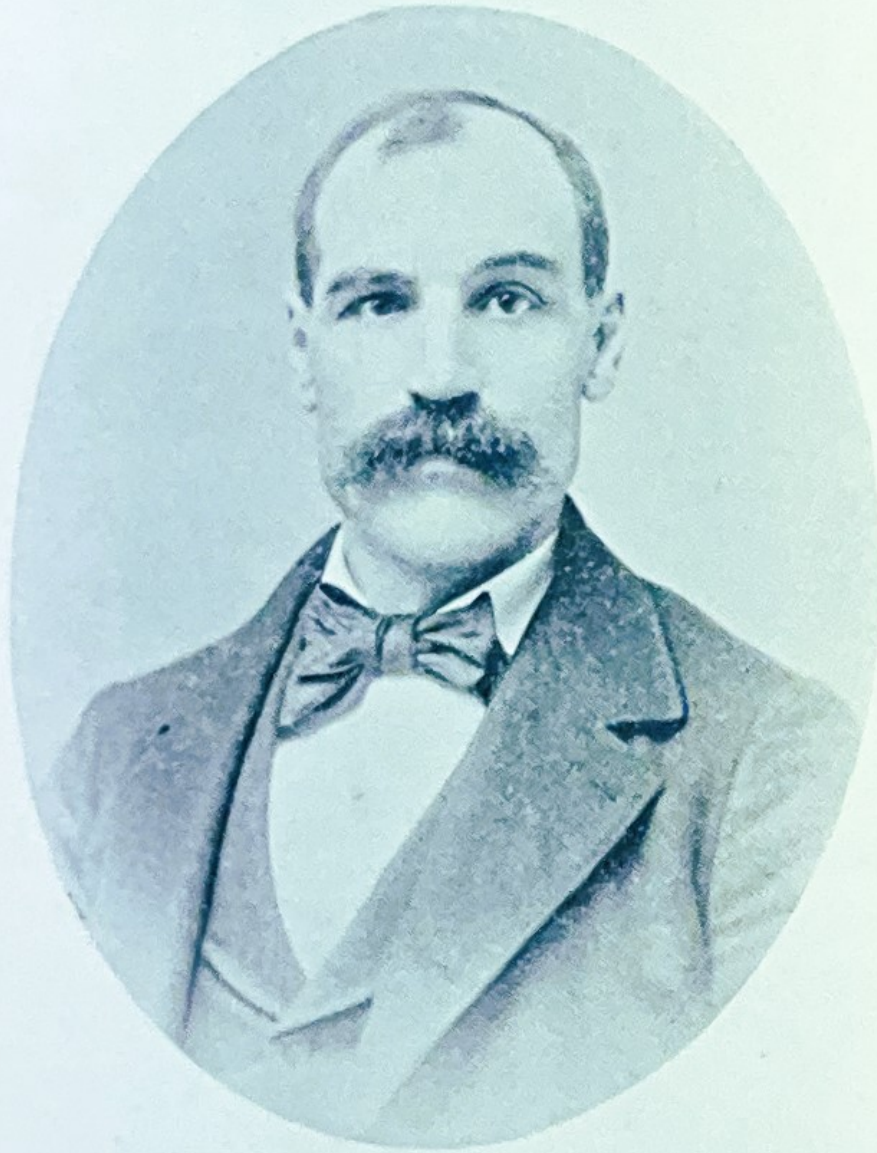
E. L. WITMAN,

Ass't Adj't Gen'l.



DEATH ROLL.

NAME	POST AND LOCATION
W. W. HULL	No. 3, San Antonio
JOS. MAYER.....	" 4, Ft. Worth
G. S. BURCHILL.....	" 4, "
C. STROCHMER.....	" 5, Denison
J. F. JORDAN.....	" 5, "
J. W. RANEY.....	" 5, "
L. REICHENSTEIN.....	" 6, Dallas
E. GRIFFITH.....	" 6, "
J. PRYOR.....	" 10, Austin
B. F. HENDRICKS	" 11, Dallas
A. SMITH.....	" 11, "
F. STRABER.....	" 17, Ft. Clark
F. BOAS.....	" 19, El Paso
D. SPENCER.....	" 19, "
C. WHEELER.....	" 19, "
W. A. LANGFORD.....	" 25, Georgetown
A. P. WINDERS.....	" 28, Cameron
B. POWERS.....	" 32, Lamasco
T. OLSEN.....	" 37, San Antonio
C. NICHOLS.....	" 37, "
S. SHULER.....	" 37, "
H. H. McCONNELL.....	" 48, Jacksboro
L. B. MILLER.....	" 55, Dublin
W. CARR.....	" 55, "
O. G. PETERSON.....	" 56, Springtown
H. M. HOLMES.....	" 57, Mason
A. R. CORBITT.....	" 59, Baird
G. W. PARKER.....	" 60, Graham
C. E. BOSWORTH.....	" 67, Brownsville



Fraternally Yours
Geo. L. Boyd
A. Q. M. Genl

The Assistant Quartermaster General next submitted his report, which was referred to comrades Mann, Nash and Work, and the Council of Administration:

ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS DEP'T OF TEXAS, G. A. R., }
DALLAS, April 21, 1896. }

W. W. Bostwick, Department Commander, Denison, Tex.

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE:—I have the honor to hand you herewith my annual report, vouchers, etc., of cash receipts and disbursements for the year ending April 20, 1896.

Yours in F., L. and C.,

JOHN L. BOYD,
Ass't Q. M. Gen'l.

CASH ACCOUNT.

Received—

Balance on hand April 20, 1895	\$150.36
Per capita tax.....	606.80
Supplies.....	115.91
Charter fee.....	10.00

Disbursements—

Expenses.....	\$759.19
Supplies.....	30.10
Cash on hand.....	93.78
	<hr/>
	\$883.07 \$883.07

SUPPLY ACCOUNT.

On hand April 20, 1895.....	\$155.80
A. J. Burbank.....	30.10
Supplies sold.....	115.91
Supplies on hand.....	110.56
Gain.....	40.57
	<hr/>
	\$226.47 \$226.47

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ASSETS.

Cash on hand.....	\$93.78
Supplies	110.56
Wainwright Post, No. 72.....	15.50
Department Banner.....	54.50
Headquarters office fixtures.....	30.00
One pair horns.....	35.00
	<hr/>
	\$339.34

RECAPITULATION.

Salary Ass't Adj't Gen'l.....	\$300.00
Salary Quartermaster Gen'l.....	150.00
National per capita tax.....	24.51
Rent and exp. at Waco, paid to W.H.R.,	36.00
Printing proceedings Dep't Encampment,	67.75
Printing Gen. Orders and Circulars.....	16.40
Supplies.....	30.10
Postage, express and freight.....	46.13
Stationery, Headquarters letter heads...	35.25
Expenses Dep. Hdqrs. Nat'l Enc.....	60.00
J. C. Bigger, trip to Austin.....	21.15
Crating horns and repairing seal... ..	2.00
	<hr/>
	\$789.29

The Department Chaplain read the following report:

REPORT OF DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF TEXAS, G. A. R.,
 OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN,
 DENISON, TEX., April 15, 1896. }

Gen. W. W. Bostwick, Commander Dept. of Tex., Denison.

COMMANDER:—I beg leave to submit reports from the following Posts, of the observance of Memorial and Decoration days, 1895.

W. S. Hancock Post, No. 2, Galveston, had no services on Memorial Day. On Decoration Day the Post assembled at headquarters, marched to the cemetery where services were held and graves decorated; thence to Ursu-

line Convent and held services at the grave of Mother St. Pierre Harrington. Two comrades buried during the year.

The Galveston *News* and *Tribune* give full and complimentary reports of the day's celebration:

"A touching incident of the Decoration Day exercises was the tribute paid to the memory of Mother St. Pierre by the boys in blue. Among the dismal horrors of war sweet memories of tenderness and mercy fill the old soldier's heart with gratitude, his eyes with tears, and no memory is sweeter, no deeds more full of Christian love than those which were recalled at the tomb of the gentle nun whose hands threw open the Ursuline convent to the wounded and soothed the dying during the dark days of the sixties.

"The W. S. Hancock Post, G. A. R., visited the convent in a body and the chaplain read a memorial address full of eloquence and feeling which expressed as well as mere words can, the reverence with which Mother St. Pierre's memory is cherished in the hearts of the veterans. It was also a graceful expression of esteem towards the blessed sisterhood whose ministry extends wherever humanity suffers, and whose consecrated footsteps guide all mankind toward the sunlit valleys of immortality.

"When the decoration of the grave was finished the sisters served refreshments to the old soldiers."

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., May 31, 1895.

Rev. T. K. Crowley, Chaplain Dep't of Texas, G. A. R.

COMRADE.—By a committee of the three Posts here on memorial services I was selected as chaplain, and as such it becomes my duty to report to you the services held.

By rotation between our Posts it became the duty of the Geo. Crook Post to take the lead this year, and it did so, by its Commander, Frank Fuller, in all business meetings as well as in all ceremonies.

We requested the Rev. Wm. Craig, D.D., of this city, to preach our memorial sermon on the 26th inst., as per Department orders.

Before the delivery of said sermon we held our services with Commander Fuller in the chair, when obituaries of our dead were delivered, as follows:

One of comrade W. W. Hull, of E. O. C. Ord Post, No. 3.

One of comrade Thorwald Olsen, of Belknap Post, No. 37.

One of comrade Simon Suhler, of Belknap Post, No. 37.

The ceremonies were all impressive, and the sermon fine, to a large and appreciative audience at 4 p.m., in Dr. Craig's church.

Our decoration programme was carried out. We had a larger parade than usual and of unusual interest. The school children marched through the three principal streets and then took cars and rode to the cemetery along with the W. R. C. and other ladies, while the rest of the column marched the entire distance. The day was cool, cloudy and breezy—all we could have wished—and the result a grand success. We decorated Federal and Confederate graves.

Yours in F. C. and L.

R. M. MOORE.

W. S. Parmly Post, No. 4, Ft. Worth, W. F. Smith, Chaplain, reports as follows:

Memorial day services conducted by Dr. O. L. Fisher, Pres't Ft. Worth University. The Post was joined by Dupont Naval Veteran Association, commanded by A. L. Lowe. The *Gazette* says:

"Decoration day was appropriately observed in this city by the Grand Army of the Republic. Parmly Post, No. 4, the Dupont Naval Association, the Woman's Relief Corps and many citizens joining in the service. At the hall there was an address by comrade W. W. Gavin; a song, quartette, "Cheers and Tears," rendered by Mrs. Smith and Mr. Jay Fisher; then followed the G. A. R. service customary on this occasion. The company then proceeded by cars and carriages to the North Side cemetery, where, after the regular service at the grave of Past Post Commander W. S. Parmley and a salute to the dead, a poem, "Cover Them Over With Beautiful Flowers," was recited by Miss Viola Jack. An address by comrade A. L. Lowe of the Dupont Naval Association, a salute to the heroes of the navy who lie in unknown and unmarked graves, an address by comrade Harvey Webb, Past Department Chaplain, a salute by a detachment of cadets from Fort Worth

University, after which the assembly proceeded to strew with flowers the graves of all old soldiers, wherever known to be buried. More than fifty graves were decorated in the four cemeteries of the city."

Nat. Lyon Post, No. 5, Denison, attended divine service Memorial Sunday in Methodist Church North. The pastor, Rev. Mr. Cooper, preached an eloquent and appropriate sermon to a large and appreciative audience, on Decoration Day, assembled in Forest Park where Rev. A. M. Reynolds made a patriotic address. The line of march was then taken up to Oakwood cemetery, the procession being formed of mounted police, militia, Excelsior band, citizens in carriages, and a float containing young ladies representative of all the states and territories of the Union. A violent thunder storm marred the conclusion of the ceremonies. The graves of the blue and gray alike were decorated. Respect for the memory of the heroic dead, combined with genuine patriotism, characterized all the proceedings of the day.

Geo. H. Thomas Post, No. 6, and John A. Dix Post, No. 11, of Dallas held joint celebration, about 250 persons participating. The posts met in the hall and marched to the church where Rev. A. P. Morrison conducted divine service. The W. R. C. of both Posts attended also, and to them is chiefly due the successful carrying out of the day's program, as regards music and flowers. Address by orator of the day at the cemetery; prayer by the chaplain, music and singing by the choir, graves decorated, salute by detailed squad, address by Col. Mann of John A. Dix Post. Both Posts and W. R. C. and friends had a social reunion in the evening, consisting of short talks, singing, and flag drill by little girls and boys. Rev. A. P. Morrison should have an extra star on his shoulder-straps for his patriotic sermon on Memorial Day.

Phil Sheridan Post, No. 25, Georgetown. Chaplain reports that the comrades are so scattered that it is impossible to get them together, but hopes that they will be able to do better next year.

U. S. Grant Post, No. 31, Wichita Falls. The Chaplain states that most of the members of this Post are absent from home a good part of the time, and several live in the

country, so that, aside from the regular meetings, it is difficult to get an attendance for special occasions. One grave decorated on Decoration Day.

J. C. Davis Post, No. 36, Fort Davis. No observance of the day.

E. J. Davis Post, No. 54, Corpus Christi, held Memorial and Decoration Day services, conducted by J. B. Hardwick. Mrs. C. D. Holdridge, poetess of the day. Twenty-three comrades (no others) participated. Fifty graves of soldiers and sailors decorated in the cemetery.

Sam Houston Post, No. 55. Dublin, held Memorial Day exercises, ten comrades taking part therein; John Roch, S. V. Dep't Com., leading in the exercises. Speeches appropriate to the day were made by Mayor McClain, comrades Roche and Sullivan, and other citizens. The Post met with a great loss by the burning of their hall the day previous, which rendered the proper observance of the day extremely difficult. Nevertheless, the Post seems to have retained that spirit which in war time enabled the boys to make light of hardships, and in spite of dire disaster they did their duty—repaired to the cemetery and showered flowers and blessings impartially, recognizing in the heroic dead true Americans, no matter what banner they followed in war.

Burnside Post, No. 56, Springtown, was joined by John Raum Post, No. 71, Poolville, in celebrating the National anniversary. Past Department Commander O. G. Peterson took the lead in conducting the exercises. Several short addresses followed Commander Peterson's address. About 300 people participated in the celebration. J. C. Feeley, Post Chaplain, remarks as follows: "We had an enjoyable time, and we believe we have strengthened the comrades and that we have endeared the old Union soldiers to the good people of our community and taught them to honor, love and respect the flag."

P. E. Holcomb Post, No. 57, Mason, proceeded in a body, accompanied by ladies in carriages, to the cemetery where the regular services of the ritual was recited, after which the graves were decorated—eight Union and two Confederate soldiers' graves were strewn with flowers.



Mrs. in F. C. & L.
J. K. Crowley
Deft. - Chaplain G. A. R.

Three Union soldiers were buried here before the Post was organized, whose military record we have not succeeded in obtaining. All the rest have U. S. gravestones and application has been made for another.

Dick Yates Post, No. 59, Baird.—Chaplain states that their number is too small to hold regular services. Two graves are unmarked by headstones and only one decorated.

A. M. Barney Post, No. 67, Brownsville.—Comrade F. A. H. Sanborn reports and says: "Our post is a small one, and so few of our members were in town on Memorial Day that it was impractical for us, in any public way, to observe the day. The occasion is not generally observed here and our few members could hardly make a suitable demonstration unaided."

Joe Hooker Post, No. 73, Ennis.—Joseph Arnold, Post Chaplain, says: "This is a newly organized Post and nothing to report."

J. A. Mower Post, No. 10, Austin.—Comrade W. J. Bassett, per C. W. Ricker, states that the Post attended the Catholic church, where Rev. Father Lauth preached a patriotic sermon. Addresses were made by Rev. Dr. E. B. Wright, John Burke, J. P. Richardson and Maj. J. J. Lane. The W. R. C. decorated the hall beautifully and fifty children were in line on the march to the cemetery through a drenching rain. The Hurth Rifles, from St. Edwards' College, in their neat uniforms and soldierly bearing, added greatly to give *eclat* to the procession. Four comrades were buried during the year. Fifty graves were decorated.

Wesley Merritt Post, No. 69, San Angelo.—Post Commander W. H. Coombs read the service of the ritual at the cemetery. Four graves were decorated with flags and flowers. Owing to a heavy rain the attendance was small.

Twenty-one Posts report Memorial Day exercises. Two years ago my predecessor in office reported only eight. This increase is very gratifying to me. It manifests increased interest in the observance of this great anniversary; a day that should be held especially sacred, not by the sur-

viving veterans only, but by every citizen of this grand and glorious Union; by every one capable of appreciating heroic deeds and noble self-sacrifice and devotion, sealed by death, to a holy cause—the preservation and perpetuation of the Union.

In closing I beg to return thanks to all comrades who have twice honored me by their suffrages, and, as I am opposed to third terms, and a believer in rotation in office, I hereby sever my official connection with this noble order. I shall, however, cheerfully continue to do my duty as a private in the ranks "till the muffled drum shall beat the soldier's last tattoo."

Wishing you, my dear Commander and all comrades, health, long life and happiness, I am

Yours in F. C. and L.

T. K. CROWLEY,
Dep't Chaplain.

Above report was referred to a committee consisting of comrades Welch, Webb and Alvort.

The following report of Department Inspector was referred to comrades Johnson, Purnell and Scholl:

REPORT OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS DEP'T OF TEXAS, G. A. R. }
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL, }
HOUSTON, TEX., April, 1, 1896. }

Col. E. L. Witman, Assistant Adjutant General.

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE:—I have the honor to submit the following report:

My relations with the Department officers with whom I have been in correspondence have been very pleasant and I have especially found the work from the offices of Adjutant and Quartermaster General promptly attended to. I have made extraordinary efforts to secure an inspection report from as many posts as possible; having written many letters to posts tardy with their reports and am enabled to present thirty-five posts as having made reports. One of these, John C. Fremont Post, No. 47, at

Sulphur Springs, reports as follows: "Burned all post property in June, 1895, saved nothing but flag; will not reorganize—busted." Another, Phil Kearney, No. 20, at Lampasas, reporting only six members and saying "it is impossible for us to have a regular meeting on account of having no quorum in town—the post is kept in existence by two or three members assuming the necessary dues." Thirteen posts report future prospects "good," one "excellent," ten "fair," two "slim," one "not flattering," one "not good," four "poor," one "sorry," one "very poor," one "busted."

Davy Crockett, No. 70, Waco, was the first to report, immediately followed by Geo. H. Thomas, No. 6, Dallas, Geo. B. McClellan, No. 9, Houston; U. S. Grant; No. 31, Wichita; E. J. Davis, No. 54, Corpus Christi; W. H. Lewis, No. 17, Ft. Clark; P. E. Holcomb, No. 57, Mason; Wesley Merritt, No. 69, San Angelo; W. S. Hancock, No. 2, Galveston; A. H. Terry, No. 64, Fredericksburg; Sam Houston, No. 55, Dublin; Nathaniel Lyon, No. 5, Denison; Jeff C. Davis, No. 36, Fort Davis; Sam J. Randall, No. 45, Weatherford; John A. Logan, No. 23, Denton; A. M. Barney, No. 67, Brownsville, and John A. Dix, No. 11, Dallas. The above posts sent in their reports before January 1st, and the balance came in slower (as they were urged), up to as late as March 10th, when I received the report of Joe Hooker, No. 73, at Ennis, preceded only a short time by Dick Yates, No. 59, at Baird; David Farragut, No. 28, at Cameron; John C. Fremont, No. 47, at Sulphur Springs; Opdike, No. 53, at Jefferson, and Emmett Crawford, No. 19, at El Paso—will say, however, that Opdike's report was forwarded before January 1st, but they sent it to the wrong place and it went to the dead letter office before reaching me.

The following synopsis of the different posts reporting is hereby submitted:

J. B. McPherson, No. 1, Sherman; John Brown, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 10 members; has a W. R. C.; sent \$20.00 relief to Nebraska sufferers; no flag on school houses.

W. S. Hancock, No. 2, Galveston; Ed Ketchum, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 44 members; fairly prosperous; good attendance at meetings with 22 members present at inspection; \$28.90 in relief fund; \$59.31 in hands of Quartermaster, and \$95.00 worth of property owned by the post. Inspector says there are prospects of organizing a camp of Sons of Veterans, and through them a W. R. C; flags on school houses.

E. O. C. Ord, No. 3, San Antonio; Morris J. Keating, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 32 members; \$4.90 in hands of Quartermaster, and property owned by post \$300.00. Have a good W. R. C. and organizing a camp of Sons of Veterans. No flag on school houses. "Ord Post will make a move next year to have flags placed on public schools. The W. R. C. have this matter in hand and have hopes. Leading Confederates are ready and willing to lend a helping hand in the good work. If the G. A. R. posts here were more united, or had one good post instead of three weak ones, there would be some good done; as matters stand now any one is too weak to accomplish very much "

W. S. Parmley, No. 4, Fort Worth; Chas. B. Grabe, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 58 members; \$9.75 expended for charity; \$35.29 in hands of Quartermaster; \$30.00 post property. Have a W. R. C., and a prospect of organizing a camp of Sons of Veterans; nine school districts represented and two supplied with U. S. flag.

Nathaniel Lyon, No. 5, Denison; L. W. Clark, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 79 members, \$97.10 expended for charity; \$200.00 worth of post property; have a W. R. C. and a camp of Sons of Veterans; four school districts but no flags.

Geo. H. Thomas, No. 6, Dallas; W. F. Cottman, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 75 members; \$325.25 worth of post property; less demands for charity than usual; prospects good; 12 school districts, no flags.

Geo. B. McClellan, No. 9, Houston; H. T. Rue, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 48 members; \$50.35 in hands of Quartermaster; \$73.15 worth of post property, including a beautiful new silk flag, presented by the W. R. C., costing \$40.00; prospects good with steady growth of the post. Open social meetings once a month with good results. There are many ex-Union soldiers in and around Houston and they generally manifest a deplorable indifference to G. A. R. matters and it is somewhat difficult to get them into the post. A conservative estimate places the number at 200, a few of whom maintain their membership in the G. A. R. where they came from; then, too, there are quite a number here who have never belonged to the G. A. R. and have lived here many years. Among these are a number of very influential and wealthy men. I think when the post gets in better shape, and times get easier, many of these can be gotten into the post. A number of school districts but no U. S. flags. The Daughters of the Republic recently presented the new High School with a Lone Star flag and hoisted it over the building.

Joseph A. Mower, No 10, Austin; Alonzo Girard, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 31 members; very little interest; \$4.00 for charity; \$1.50 in hands of Quartermaster; \$50.00 worth of post property; prospects very poor; four school districts, no flags.

John A. Dix, No. 11, Dallas; J. W. Ridge, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 61 members; attendance about twenty per cent; \$30.50 in hands of the Quartermaster; \$20.00 worth of post property; prospects encouraging; twelve districts, no flags. "All comrades who attend meetings seem to, and do enjoy the meetings and comradeship. The officers elected for the coming year are of the best material and qualifications, and a better record for next year is anticipated."

W. H. Lewis, No. 17, Fort Clark; J. M. Elledge, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 12 members and no chance for recruits; \$5.00 expended for charity; \$42.00 in hands of Quartermaster; eight districts, three flags.

Emmett Crawford, No. 19, El Paso; S. W. Millichamp, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 25 members, with a number of comrades who work on the railroads and seldom meet with the post; meetings fairly well attended under the circumstances; \$16.15 in hands of Quartermaster; \$75.00 worth of post property; three districts and flags on schools.

Phil Kearney, No. 20, Lampasas; W. H. Webber, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports only six members, and says the prospects of the post are all in the future. Says it is impossible for them to have any regular meetings on account of having no quorum in town; the other members, the nearest living twelve and the farthest living over forty miles away. "On account of bad weather we had no meeting in December. Post is kept in existence by two or three assuming the necessary dues. No flags on school houses here."

John A Logan, No. 23, Denton; H. R. Lyon, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 28 members; prospects good; flags on nearly all the school houses; \$2.55 in hands of Quartermaster; value of post property about \$25.00.

Phil Sheridan, No. 25, Georgetown; Wm. Fleming, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 16 members and prospects moderately good. There are seven school districts and no flags.

David Farragut, No. 28, Cameron; B. I. Arnold, Commander:—

Reports 15 members and prospects not flattering; meet once a month.

U. S. Grant, No. 31, Wichita Falls; L. T. Miller, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports eight members and prospects fairly good; two school districts and two flags.

Geo. A. Custer, No. 32, Lamasco; J. H. Parisho, Assistant Inspector:—
Reports 10 members and prospects sorry.

Jeff C. Davis, No. 36, Fort Davis; O. M. Keeseey, Assistant Inspector:—
Reports 12 members and prospects slim; funds on hand, \$55.32; post property, \$45.00, two flags on school houses.

Aug. Belknap, No. 37, San Antonio; F. C. Fredrickson, Assistant Inspector:—
Reports 16 members and prospects fair; \$36.65 in the relief fund; \$15.00 expended for charity; \$105.60 funds on hand; five schools, no flags.

Sam J. Randall, No. 45, Weatherford; J. C. Winscot, Assistant Inspector:—
Reports 12 members and prospects good; \$11.55 expended for charity; no flags. "There is considerable energy shown by this post, which duly observed last Decoration Day, and are making preparations to organize a W. R. C. and camp of Sons of Veterans, and I trust that with our next report we shall have the privilege of reporting both in connection with our post. There are some stirring and good working members in this post."

John C. Fremont, No. 47, Sulphur Springs:—
"Busted! Our post is not able to do anything. Two or three of us have tried hard to keep up the organization, advancing the means, etc., until the return of prosperity. This post will not be reorganized, I hardly think. Our charter and all post property were consumed by fire (except flag) June, 1895."

Edward R. S. Canby, No. 48, Jacksboro; Israel Stoddard, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 12 members and prospects blue; seven school districts but no flags. "We are scattered over large territory, and are as poor as the low wines of pond water—all farmers but one, and many of the boys getting old; you will hear from us on the 21st of April; will not send in our supplies until the last line of intrenchment is taken."

W. T. Sherman, No. 51, Graubury; Wm. H. Catts, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports ten members and prospects fair; some schools have no flags.

Opdyke, No. 53, Jefferson; R. B. Morrow, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports eight members. "It is a hard matter to get a quorum each month; we have very few old soldiers here and no good material to work on, so cannot say what our prospects are. No flags."

E. J. Davis, No. 54, Corpus Christi; E. J. Kilmer, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 14 members, and hopes to hold their own. "Of the 14 members, only ten live in the city and three of these on the road most of the time, however we rarely fail for want of a quorum. At present we are admitting members without initiation fees, on account of hard times, and still we do not grow. There is little in fact to recruit from. Memorial day is always promptly observed. No flags."

Sam Houston, No. 55, Dublin; G. W. Andruss, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 40 members and prospects good, Adjutant and Quartermaster's books well kept. Post not equipped, as they lost all by fire last April—record books, rituals and other post property—but they will get these again, as they are alive and ready to work. No flags."

P. E. Folcomb, No. 57, Mason; M. U. Bridges, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 11 members and prospects poor; \$25.85 on hand; \$25.45 post property. They complain of not receiving Department blanks. No flags.

Dick Yates, No. 59, Baird; W. McManis, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 10 members; prospects fair. "We hope you will overlook the shortcomings of this little post; we have a hard time of it in this western country, but we wish to hold our organization and in the near future regain our losses." Post property \$25.00. No flags.

L. H. Rousseau, No. 60, Graham; Madison Dobbs,
Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 10 members and prospects poor; muster fee \$1.00 and dues ten cents per month; no flags.

A. H. Terry, No. 64, Fredericksburg; Jacob Hirsch,
Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 21 members and prospects good; post property \$44.00; \$12.00 on hand; no flags.

Wm. B. Travis, No. 66, Abilene; Thos. Buck, Assist-
ant Inspector:—

Reports 13 members, and says post is convalescent;
meets monthly on or before full moon.

A. M. Barney, No. 67, Brownsville; Wm. Kelly. As-
sistant inspector:—

Reports 11 members; muster fee \$3.00; annual dues \$6.00; expended for charity \$45.78; post property \$71.80. "This post embraces all the material available for membership in the order in the city of Brownsville and has three non resident members who live respectively 90, 75 and 65 miles from post headquarters. So far as known there are but three honorably discharged or mustered out officers or soldiers living within one hundred miles of the post who are not members of it, and they will join on their first visit here. The post is small but healthy. The relief disbursed in the last term was extended to the family of Comrade Wm. J. O'Dell, whose deplorable condition is set forth in an appeal which I, as Post Commander of the order, sent through our Department Commander."

Wesley Merritt, No. 69, San Angelo; Wm. H. Coombs,
Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 10 members and prospects slim, \$12.60 in relief fund; \$15.55 in hands of quartermaster; \$25.00 worth of post property; flag on schoolhouse.

Davy Crockett, No. 70, Waco; F. M. Shick, Assistant
Inspector:—

Reports 50 members and prospects good; \$31.00 on hand; \$100.00 post property; no flags.

Joe Hooker, No. 73, Ennis; A. Whiting, Assistant Inspector:—

Reports 12 members and prospects good; no post property and nothing on hand; No flags.

Respectfully Submitted,

E. G. RUST,
Dep't Inspector.

The Medical Director submitted the following report which was referred to a committee consisting of comrades Nash, Paist and Foster:

REPORT OF MEDICAL DIRECTOR.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT' OF TEXAS, G. A. R., }
OFFICE OF MEDICAL DIRECTOR, }
GEORGETOWN, Dec. 31, 1893. }

Assistant Adjutant General, Dept. of Texas, G. A. R.

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE:—I have the honor to submit the following report as Medical Director of this Department for the year ending December 31, 1895.

I find great difficulty in making my report, owing to the lack of interest on the part of Post Surgeons to forward their statistical and mortuary reports to this office. Some posts deserve credit for their promptness. At the close of June term there were only four reports received.

Post Commanders should see that their Post Surgeons make their reports promptly, otherwise it is impossible for the Medical Director to make creditable or satisfactory reports to the Surgeon General's Office. Loyalty to our order, and country, should stimulate every comrade and officer of the posts to a strict loyalty in the discharge of their duties. The immense size, importance, and speedy annihilation of the G. A. R. makes everything connected with it important in history, and whatever pertains to it should therefore be gathered up with the utmost accuracy—that the records of this office may be preserved for future history, and our statistical reports may compare favorably with other Departments.

Let it be remembered that the Grand Army is in character and work like a great union city, with its pillars standing on either ocean, even to the far distant Alaska, and from the Lakes to the Gulf, teaching Friendship, Charity and Loyalty, especially Loyalty. It has accomplished sublime results in harmonizing the whole country in the spirit of unity. Let the Grand Army remain as the great teacher and exemplifier of love of country, until the last comrade is mustered out by the will of God.

WM. P. FLEMING,
Medical Director.

At this stage of the proceedings Past National Commander-in-Chief Weissert, of Milwaukee, entered the hall and was escorted to the platform and received with great enthusiasm.

Gen. Weissert, after a general hand-shaking with his many acquaintances, for which purpose a recess of ten minutes was taken, addressed the encampment in his usual happy style.

Comrade Wylie, on behalf of the Oak Cliff Railway Company, extended an invitation to the Encampment to take a trip on their cars to Oak Cliff, which invitation was accepted and five o'clock to-morrow the time selected.

The following committees were then announced:

Committee on Resolutions—Comrades Steere, Crowley and Rust.

Death of Past Dep't Com. Peterson—Comrades Parks, Mann and Wylie.

Comrade W. Parks made the following motion:

“Hereafter all standing committees shall be appointed by the incoming administration.”

Carried.

The committee to whom was referred the Department Commander's address, made the following report:

*To the Comrades of the 11th Annual Encampment,
Department of Texas, G. A. R.*

COMRADES:—We, your Committee on Address of Department Commander, beg leave to state that we commend the address as a plain, terse and business-like report of his connection with the Department, and well worthy of emulation.

Respectfully,

JNO. W. PARKS,
E. G. RUST,
GARDNER WORK,
Committee.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Assistant Adjutant General reported as follows:

To the 11th Annual Encampment Dep't of Texas, G. A. R.

COMRADES.—We, the committee appointed by the Department Commander, beg leave to report on our Assistant Adjutant General's report ending January 1, 1896, as follows: That same is a manly and correct report, and we recommend that this Department of the G. A. R. tender thanks for the manner in which he has performed the duties of said office.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. and L.

A. METZLER,
H. T. RUE,
H. HUME,
Committee.

The Committee on Chaplain's Report, reported as follows:

DALLAS, April 21, 1896.

Gen. W. W. Bostwick, Department Commander.

Your committee report as follows: The manner in which Department Chaplain Crowley has performed the arduous duties of his office challenges our admiration and we cordially recommend the adoption of this report.

HORACE WELCH,
H. WEBB,
H. H. ALVOORT,
Committee.

The committee on Report of Medical Director reported as follows:

Gen. W. W. Bostwick, Department Commander.

We, the committee to whom was referred the Report of the Medical Director, recommend that said report be received, and that we fully recognize the difficulties under which the Medical Director has labored, through lack of cooperation by Post Surgeons, as stated in his admirable report. That we commend his zeal, and earnestly recommend to Post Surgeons that they extend, in future, full and ample support to the Medical Director.

GEO. S. NASH,
W. C. PAIST.
GEO. S. FOSTER,
Committee.

On motion of comrade Parks it was ordered that all resolutions be referred to a the Committee on Resolutions, without reading.

The last and most interesting feature of the first day's proceedings was the presentation of an elaborate horn chair to Gen. Bostwick, by his staff.

Comrade Cottman, Chief of Staff, made the presentation speech, which was as follows:

COMMANDER BOSTWICK—There has been a very pleasant duty assigned me to perform, to which I desire your attention for a few moments.

During the past year our official and fraternal relations with you as our Department Commander has been very harmonious and a source of great pleasure to all, and recognizing your very efficient and zealous administration during your term of office, your official staff desires to present to you this testimonial, which but feebly expresses their love, esteem and fraternal fellowship which they feel for you.

This testimonial is in part emblematic of one of the great products of our state, and is of home manufacture.

Comrade Bostwick, you will please accept this chair with our kindest regards and best wishes, and when you

rest upon it in your declining years, may it be a pleasant reminder of a loving comradeship which is cemented by the blood of patriots.

Gen. Bostwick was taken completely by surprise, but quickly rallying made the following response:

COMRADES—When we separate at each Encampment we are not sure we will ever meet again. This fact is enforced upon our minds when we see many of our comrades passing over to the last grand camping ground.

Brothers, we have stood in line together, and our friendship has been welded by the hottest fire. Our fraternal feeling towards one another is in perfect keeping with the feeling we have for the Flag.

Our association is blended with our lives, and any act of kindness rendered one another is cherished gratefully, we never forget it, and this, my comrades, leads me to say that this magnificent bestowal of your brotherly remembrance, renders me speechless and dumb before you. My dear comrades, thanks, as expressed by me, I feel, are feeble—my heart thanks you, I am grateful, and I feel my unworthiness in accepting this marked tribute of your esteem.

Will I cherish it? My comrades, as long as life shall last will I hold this dear to my heart, and I can only add, may life's richest blessings ever attend you.

On motion the Encampment adjourned until 9 o'clock a. m. to-morrow.

CAMP FIRE ENTERTAINMENT TURNER HALL, EVENING
OF APRIL 21, 1896.

At 8 o'clock p. m. nearly two thousand friends, comrades and visitors listened to the rendition of a choice literary and musical programme, given in compliment to the Encampment.

Turner Hall could not accommodate the crowds and hundreds were turned away. After prayer by Rev. S. W. Patterson, of Dallas, Mayor F. P. Holland opened the exercises with the following address of welcome:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—It is always a pleasure to me to welcome visitors to the city, whatever the season of the year and from whatever clime the visitors may hail, and I herewith extend the hand of greeting to the Texas branch of the Grand Army of the Republic and your guests, the United Confederate Veterans, and your industrious auxiliary, the Womans' Relief Corps. The unselfish and conscientious work of these ladies is especially worthy of commendation and I take pleasure in attesting the important aid they render from time to time in the interests of the organizations which I am now addressing.

You are well and happily met at this season of the year, when the sky is a canopy of opals in the day and a blossom garden at night. It is wise to hold your annual encampment at such a time, for in the spring our spirits are more at harmony with the surrounding elements. You will find Dallas arrayed in most becoming garb and her citizens eager and willing to put to the test their well-merited reputation for hospitality.

You are entitled to distinguished consideration at the hands of Dallas, and shall have it. Whatever you see that you desire ask for it and it shall be yours. Whatever you desire that is not visible to the naked eye will be rendered visible, if possible, by the Roentgen ray process, and means will be employed to extract the same for your edification. In short, we will stop at nothing and will insist on everything to make your visit a brilliant epoch in the history of the Grand Army of the Republic.

I see many grizzled veterans here and I have no doubt that they are capable of holding their own with vigorous young bloods in the duties of the occasion. Physically they may be shattered pillars, but their spirits are as bright as ever. It is meet that they be accorded all honor, respect and homage, and it shall be our earnest pleasure to promote their interests while dallying in the Texas metropolis. Many of you are strangers, and as strangers we give you welcome.

Commander Bostwick made the following response:

YOUR HONOR, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:—In behalf of the Department of Texas and those delegates here assembled, I have the honor to accept the generous welcome to which we have just listened, and I wish to assure these comrades and those whom they represent that the Grand Army is here with its patriotic spirit, best looks and kindest feelings. We are here dressed in our best clothes, the uniform of the Grand Army. Those of us who have not the full and entire uniform have the Grand Army button, which represents fraternity, charity and loyalty, and I wish to say to you that we with you, too, feel a pardonable pride in the city of Dallas as the metropolis of Texas, made notable by her liberality and public spirit. To those who are our entertainers and he who has so eloquently welcomed us we wish to give every assurance that we are accepting every moment we are here, this generous welcome. Our every presence, Mr. Mayor, indicates that we feel that we are welcome. Since we were invited, one year ago, we have been thinking day by day of the time when we would go to Dallas. The Department of Texas, Grand Army of the Republic, is here for two days and will enjoy the hospitality of your beautiful city. In their behalf we accept, and thank you for your generous welcome.

Response for Woman's Relief Corps by Mrs. Lavantia Conger, of Waco, Department President, W. R. C.

Song, "The Drummer Boy of Shiloh," by Mrs. M. Holloway, of Dallas; Prof. Kreissig, accompanist.

Flag Drill by eighteen girls led by Master Rossen, under the direction of Mrs. Claire Rossen; Mrs. A. C. Bissell, accompanist.

Song, "Forget Me Not," by Miss Myrtie May, of Dallas; Mrs. A. E. Smythe, accompanist.

Judge Chas. I. Evans, an ex-Confederate soldier, representing Camp Sterling Price, United Confederate Veterans, was introduced and delivered the following eloquent oration:

LADIES, COMRADES AND FELLOW CITIZENS:—Thirty-one years ago the curtain fell upon the bloodiest drama in the annals of modern warfare, and the active participants in that deadly struggle are now seen fraternizing in social and business intercourse, and even assembling upon the fields of carnage once red with the blood of their comrades, to place enduring monuments upon the battlefields to indicate to future generations of American citizens that at this point a certain body of men who wore the blue performed prodigies of valor, and at that point a certain body of men who wore the gray electrified the world by their deeds of dauntless courage. A conflict which can present such a picture as this must needs attract the attention of the thoughtful student of history, for it is something unusual in the annals of the human race.

The great civil war between the states was not a race war; it was not a war of conquest between nations; and, notwithstanding much has been said and written upon the subject by ill-informed persons, it was not a war for the emancipation of the slaves. That result was one of the incidents of the war, and while in itself of great importance, it pales into insignificance in comparison with the great primary object, the preservation and perpetuation of the Federal Union. It was a war between brethren of the same blood, contending for those principles of constitutional liberty which each believed to be right, and after the lapse of a third of a century, when the passions and prejudices engendered by the fratricidal conflict have passed away, the impartial historian can truthfully say, both were right.

The causes which led to the war had their origin in the very foundation of the government. Prior to the formation of the Federal constitution the thirteen colonies had at first been bound together in their struggle against British tyranny solely by the bonds of a common danger, which was followed in 1781 by the equally loose, uncertain and indefinite Articles of Confederation. Although the Continental Congress, composed of delegates chosen principally by conventions of the people in the several colonies, had in 1776 declared that the colonies are, and of right ought to be free and independent states, yet no general government of the united colonies was attempted until the adoption by Maryland, the last one to do so, of the Articles of

Confederation. The Congress continued to act until the 4th day of March, 1789, the date of the organization of the government under the federal constitution. While the revolutionary war lasted but seven years, the political revolution incident to, and which was identified with and directed it, lasted thirteen years. At the close of hostilities there was but one political party known in the country. The revolutionary war had been a war of the Whig against the Tory government of England, and at its termination all American patriots were Whigs. As questions of government were gradually evolved out of the chaotic condition of political affairs during the struggle for independence, the patriots naturally divided in sentiment, though their divisions were not sufficiently serious to excite the establishment of rival parties. The common danger and love of liberty inspired all to avoid dangerous dissensions. When hostilities ceased, however, and the necessity of establishing the Union was clearly presented to the view of all, the Whigs, a word which at that time was synonymous with patriots, gradually divided into two parties. One wing, called the Particularists, believed that state government should be supreme; that no central power should have sufficient authority to coerce a state, or keep it to the compact against its will. All accepted the idea of a central government; all realized the necessity of union, but the fear that the states would lose their sovereignty was very great. These views were opposed by the Strong Government Whigs, who argued that local self-government was inadequate to the establishment and perpetuation of political freedom, and that it afforded little or no power to successfully resist foreign invasion. Some went so far as to favor a government patterned after that of England, save that it should be republican in name and spirit. The essential differences, if they can be reduced to two sentences, were these: The "Particularist Whigs" desired a government republican in form and democratic in spirit, with rights of local self-government, and state rights ever supreme. The "Strong Government Whigs" desired a government republican in form; with checks upon the impulses and passions of the people; liberty, sternly regulated by law, and that law strengthened and confirmed by a central authority—the authority of a na-

tional government to be final in all appeals. The last six years of the revolutionary period were spent in agitation and discussion. The weakness of the confederacy was apparent to all, and a majority, it seems, thought it too imperfect to amend. Its power was not acknowledged by the states, its congress not respected by the people. Its requisitions on the states were disregarded and foreign trade could not be successfully regulated. Foreign nations refused to bind themselves by commercial treaties with such an impotent government, and there was a rapid growth of dangerous business rivalries and jealousies between the several states. Those which were fortunate enough, independent of the congress, to possess or secure ports for domestic or foreign commerce, taxed the imports of their sister states. There was confusion which must soon have approached violence, for no authority beyond the limit of the state was respected, and congress was notably powerless in its attempts to command aid from the states to meet the payment of the war debt or the interest thereon. Instead of general respect for, there was almost a general disregard of law on the part of state legislative bodies, and the people then, as now, were not slow in imitating their representatives. Civil strife became imminent, and Shay's rebellion in Massachusetts was the first warlike demonstration of the spirit which was abroad in the land. The first attempt to remedy these evils was made by the General Assembly of Virginia in 1786, when it appointed commissioners to invite all the states to take part in a convention for the consideration of questions of commerce and the propriety of altering the Articles of Confederation. This convention met at Annapolis in September, 1786, but it was a failure, because but five states sent representatives, the others regarding it with jealousy. This body, however, inaugurated the movement which finally resulted in the establishment of the more perfect Union. It adopted a report which urged the appointment of commissioners by all the states "to devise such other provisions as shall, to them, seem necessary to render the condition of the Federal government adequate to the exigencies of the Union." Congress approved this action, and passed resolutions favoring a meeting in convention for the "sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation, and re-

port to Congress and the State Legislatures." This convention met in Philadelphia in May, 1787, and the diversified views of the "Particularist Whigs" and the "Strong Government Whigs" were represented in it. The latter had previously made every possible effort for a full and able representation, and the result did not disappoint them, for instead of simply revising the Articles of Confederation, the convention framed a Constitution, and sent it to Congress to be submitted to that body, and through it to the several legislatures. How well they performed their work is known to the world; the instrument framed by them has, with slight modifications to adapt its principles to particular localities, served as a foundation plan of all the modern republics which have since arisen upon the ruins of crumbling empires; and the great commoner of England—the Grand Old Man—pronounces it the most perfect plan of government ever devised for the protection and perpetuation of human liberty. But with all its perfection, it is natural to expect some defects. The contending political views of the two wings of the Whig party were ably represented in the convention, and with the light of recent events before them the patriots were inspired with a well-grounded fear of failure. The smaller states manifested the greater jealousy of their rights being absorbed in the Federal Government, and many concessions were made for the sake of conciliation. The provision that the United States Senators should be elected by the legislatures of the several states, as representatives of the states instead of representatives of the people, was made in response to this jealous sentiment, in order that the Federal government should be a government by the states as well as a government by the people. As is usual when the spirit of compromise is too all-pervading, many weak points were left in the noble fabric which they builded. The most prominent of these was that it was left uncertain whether the states had the power to withdraw from the Union when their own interest seemed to them to require it. In other words, it was not definitely expressed whether the general government had the power to preserve and perpetuate its own existence. After the ratification of the Constitution these opposing views continued to obtain, one party contending that the right of the state to

withdraw from the Union still existed, the other denying it with equal vehemence; and the still, small voice of secession which was whispered in the Hartford convention in 1814, found an echo in the famous nullification resolutions of South Carolina in 1830, and reached its culmination in the withdrawal of the southern states in 1861. The same arguments, pro and con, which were used in the debates in the convention of 1787, were repeated with ever increasing acrimony in the halls of Congress, without any settlement of the vexed question. By the close student of American history the same arguments might be distinguished amid the clash of arms at Manassas, above the din of rattling musketry and booming of cannon around Richmond, and their potent influences were present to inspire the charging hosts at Gettysburg. But the arbitrament of arms was to decide the all important question, and that which was left undone by the convention of 1787 was finally and forever settled at Appomattox in 1865; and, phoenix-like, there rose from the ashes of the conflict "An indestructible Union of indestructible States," based upon the eternal principle that the Federal Union did have the power to perpetuate its own existence. And this, my comrades, is to-day the universally accepted result of the war. Although I wore the gray and did my duty to the best of my humble ability to establish the principles which I believed to be right, there is no man who wore the blue who rejoices more than I do at this result. And every man who loves human liberty and republican government must do the same, for if the southern states had succeeded in establishing the principles for which they contended, each one would have had the same right to secede from the Southern Confederacy that they had to secede from the Union. Jealousies would have soon prompted some of them to exercise that right; secessions and revolutions would have become as frequent among us as among the Latin-American republics, and little, independent states and principalities would have dotted here and there over this fair land, in imitation of the little German states in Europe prior to the master stroke of the "Iron Chancellor," which united them all in the great German empire; and convincing proof been thereby furnished to the monarchies of the old world that man is incapable of self-government.

When we reflect, then, that the southern arms repre-

sented the principles of the "Particularist Whigs" of 1787, and that the northern arms represented the principles of the "Strong Government Whigs" of the same period, which each had inherited, we are justified in the assertion that both were right. Each were but humble instruments in the hand of the God of Nations for the perpetuation of republican principles, "in order that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, might not perish from the face of the earth."

If this most devoutly wished for consummation has been accomplished, all the sacrifices which have been made, all the blood which has been shed, and all the treasure which has been expended, will not have been in vain, for our children and our children's children for untold generations will rise up and call us blessed for this priceless heritage.

Comrades, I have often thought what a grand theme it would be for the sculptor or painter to portray that Great American statesman, Daniel Webster, as, standing in the United States Senate, he uttered those portentous words: "The Federal Union, it must, it shall be preserved!" and as a companion piece to portray that great American soldier as he stands at Appomattox, thirty five years afterwards, in the act of returning to General Lee his sword, with the responsive words upon his lips: "The Federal Union, it has been preserved!"

The close of the struggle left us all fellow citizens of a reunited country, whose bounden duty was to accept the results as an accomplished fact, and all work together for the development, welfare and prosperity of our common country. While there are dark spots upon the picture, many heartbreaking and desolate homes, there are also many bright spots upon which we may look with admiration, and our duty to posterity is too sacred for us to darken the lives of our children with increasing brooding over the former, when we can stimulate them to a higher plane of manhood and citizenship by directing their eyes to the latter.

The Union soldier whose heart can prompt him to speak an unkind word of a Confederate soldier simply because he was such, is an unworthy representative of the sentiment manifested by General Grant at Appomattox, when he directed all the captured horses and mules to be

turned over to General Lee's army, with the remark: "They will need them to plow their crops this spring;" and the Confederate soldier who could likewise speak of a Federal soldier is an unworthy follower of the immortal Lee, whose lips were never heard to utter an unkind word of the foe. We all have a common pride in the heroism developed by the war, and we can point the world to as grand a galaxy of heroes as ever illumined pages of history; and posterity will claim a common heritage in the names of Lee, Grant, Jackson and Sherman, not as partisans, but as grand types of the American soldier.

The world presents no grander example of heroism and chivalry than the charge of the Confederate army at Gettysburg, or of the charge of the Union army at Vicksburg, and both are recorded in history as achievements of the American soldier. It was characteristic of the American soldier, even amid the heat of the conflict, to admire courage and heroism in his adversary. At the battle of Shiloh was an eighteen year old boy, a private in the 3rd Iowa infantry, who kept a diary and wrote a history of his regiment. He is now a distinguished lawyer and writer, Judge Seymour D. Thompson, of St. Louis. Here is what he wrote, a few days after the battle, of the Confederate soldier at Shiloh. Describing a charge upon the Union army by a Confederate brigade, he says: "A brigade leaped the fence, line after line, and formed on the opposite side of the field. It was a splendid sight, those men in the face of death closing and dressing their ranks, hedges of bayonets gleaming above them and their proud banners waving in the breeze. Our guns, shotted with canister, made great gaps in their ranks, which rapidly closed, not a man faltering in his place. And now their field officers waved their hats. A shout arose, and that column, splendidly aligned, took the double-quick and moved on magnificently. We could not repress our exclamations of admiration. There is a grandeur in heroism, even when connected with a bad cause. We could not hate those men. Were they committing a crime? They had been educated to love what we hated. They could not advance so splendidly upon death itself, and imagine it was for aught but a noble cause."

The day after the assault on Battery Robinett at Corinth, Miss., where was displayed one of the most transcendent-

ent examples of the chivalry of the American soldier, General Van Dorn sent a detail with a flag of truce to bury the Confederate dead, with a letter to General Rosecrans, and here is the answer to it: "Major General Rosecrans' compliments to Major General Van Dorn, commanding Confederate forces, and states that provision has already been made for the burial of the dead, and a soldier's tribute will be paid those who fell fighting bravely, as did many in Maury's Division."

Pardon me for speaking of an incident which fell under my own observation as illustrating this respect and admiration for manly courage which was characteristic of the Confederate soldier. In the general assault of the Union army on the Confederate works at Vicksburg, May 22, 1863, the assaulting column on that part of the works occupied by the 2nd Texas infantry regiment, was composed of the 8th and 18th Indiana, the 1st U. S. regulars, and the 33rd and 99th Illinois regiments, in the order named. After a most terrific cannonading of two hours, during which the very earth rocked and pulsed as a thing of life, the head of the column appeared above the brow of the hill about one hundred yards in front of the breastworks, and as line after line of blue came in sight over the hill, it presented the grandest spectacle the eye of a soldier ever beheld. The Texans were prepared to meet it with five smooth-bore muskets each, charged with buck and ball, which had been distributed along the trenches the night before, in addition to their trusty Springfield rifles. When the first line was within forty steps of the works, the order to fire ran along the trenches and was responded to as of one gun, and as fast as practised hands could gather them up, one after another, the muskets were brought to bear. The blue lines vanished amid fearful slaughter; there was cessation in the firing, and through the pall of smoke which enshrouded the field could be discerned a Union flag approaching. As the smoke was slightly lifted by the gentle breeze of May, a solitary man was seen advancing, bearing that flag bravely towards the breastworks. At least a hundred men took deliberate aim at him and fired at point blank range, but he never faltered; stumbling over the bodies of his fallen comrades he continued to advance. Suddenly, as if with one impulse, every Confederate soldier within sight of the Union color bearer seemed to be seized with the idea that

the man ought not to be shot down like a dog. A hundred men dropped their guns at the same time, each of them seized his nearest neighbor by the arm and yelled to him: "Don't shoot at that man again; he is too brave a man to be killed that way," when he instantly discovered that his neighbor was yelling the same thing at him; and as soon as they all understood each other, a hundred old hats and caps went up into the air, their wearers yelling at the top of their voices: "Come on, you brave Yank, come on!" He did come, and was taken by the hand and pulled over the breastworks, and when it was discovered that he was not even scratched, a hundred Texans wrung his hand and congratulated him upon his miraculous escape from death. That man's name was Thomas J. Higgins, color bearer of the 99th Illinois infantry.

It was not an infrequent occurrence for long parted friends to meet upon the battlefield; even for brother to meet brother and father to meet son in the army of the foe. You all have read of the laconic order of General Taylor, when, at the battle of Buena Vista, his little army of four thousand American soldiers was almost swallowed up by an army of fifteen thousand Mexicans, he called to a young artillery officer: "A little more grape, Captain Bragg." That young man, seventeen years later, was General Braxton Bragg, the commander of the Confederate army at the bloody battle of Chickamauga. His first lieutenant at Buena Vista, who served his guns with so much efficiency, seventeen years later was Major General George H. Thomas, the commander of the Union army at Chickamauga. The second lieutenant of the same battery at Buena Vista was Lieutenant General D. H. Hill, the second in command of the Confederate army at the same battle. These men were not animated by any feelings of personal animosity, but prompted alone by the highest convictions of patriotism, each was discharging his duty as he saw it.

Of the many sad incidents of that great struggle of which I have read, the saddest and most pathetic occurred at the recapture of Galveston by the Confederates, Jan. 1, 1863. In the United States army prior to the war was Major A. M. Lea, the same for whom the town of Albert Lea, in Minnesota was named. At the outbreak of the war he had a noble son who had graduated at the Naval Academy, and was a midshipman in the United States

navy. After much correspondence, each followed the convictions of his own conscience, the father resigned and tendered his services to the Southern cause, was made a colonel in its army, while the son remained in the Union navy. After the beginning of hostilities they heard nothing from each other, and neither knew where the other was. At the attack on Galveston by the Confederates Col. A. M. Lea was among the boarding party aboard the steamboat Bayou City, and as she ran alongside the United States steamer Harriet Lane her riflemen poured several volleys of musketry into her, and when the Bayou City ran her prow into the paddlebox of the Lane and grappled to her, the Confederates soon boarded the Lane and overpowered her crew. When Col. Lee stepped upon the deck of the Harriet Lane the first object which met his eye was the prostrate form of an officer mortally wounded. He lifted his head to render him such assistance as was in his power, when he recognized the features of his noble boy. The son lived but a few minutes after the recognition and expired in his father's arms. Commodore Wainwright, the commander of the Harriet Lane, was also killed in the same action, and he and Lieutenant Lee were interred in one grave with military and masonic honors, in the cemetery at Galveston, the sad hearted father of the latter performing the burial service. When we look back upon such scenes we can appreciate the price at which we purchased a reunited country, for both sides are replete with such touching incidents and heart-breaking episodes. But comrades of the blue, your sacrifices are ours, as ours are yours, in the same spirit in which we can both claim a common heritage in the great names of Lee and Grant, Jackson and Sherman, the Johnstons, McPherson and Thomas, whose deeds have shed a halo of glory upon American arms which commands the admiration of the world and the emulation of posterity.

As Grant and Lee set the example at Appomattox of the fraternal feeling, which was followed by Joseph E. Johnston, Buckner and Gordon, as pall bearers at the bier of General Grant, and which was so nobly exemplified last year at the unveiling of the monument to the Confederate dead in Chicago, may we continue to follow these illustrious precepts, so that the world may know that the only boast we have is in the glory of our Ameri-

can heroes, whether they wore the blue or whether they wore the gray. You who have met us upon the battlefield and have lived among us as our neighbors and friends for many years, know that if the emergency should ever arise we will defend our reunited country with all the devotion, zeal and courage that we did the southern cause; and both armies united would be invincible against any power which would dare to attempt the subversion of our liberties.

The Confederate soldiers are not likely to forget that your Department of Texas subscribed and raised something over a thousand dollars for the Home for Confederate Veterans at Austin, and joined in a petition to Congress for an appropriation to establish a national asylum for maimed and disabled Confederate soldiers. They will not soon forget that the Grand Army of the Republic Post at San Francisco contributed a handsome sum to the fund in aid of the orphan children of that grand chevalier of the Confederate army, the highest type of the American soldier, General John B. Hood.

You have cast your lot among us to assist us in repairing the ravages of war, to make the waste places blossom as the rose, and to join hands with us in advancing the progress and welfare of our reunited country. Our joint efforts have exceeded the most sanguine expectations; the modern appliances of steam and electricity have brought into closer communication the remotest parts of our country, so that the inhabitants of the different sections have come to know each other better, and instead of regarding each other as aliens have come to recognize them as fellow-citizens of a common country. In some instances your children have intermarried with our children, and our grandchildren are being taught to reverence the blue and the gray alike, thus adding the bonds of family to those of patriotism, and the man is a human ghoulish who would raise his sacrilegious arm to sever those sacred ties.

Comrades, it is almost a third of a century since the close of those stirring scenes, those times which tried men's souls, and the Great Reaper, Death, is thinning our ranks rapidly. While many have passed over the river and are at rest beneath the shade of the trees, our ranks are receiving no recruits. The attendance at our

reunions is becoming smaller and smaller year by year, and in a few more years, perhaps there may be a reunion at which there will be but two grizzled old veterans, one who wore the blue and one who wore the gray. As they stand hand in hand at the tombs of comrades gone before, the last living representatives of the grandest epoch of American history, the spirits of their great earthly commanders will smile an approving benediction, and light the way to the realms of eternal bliss; and when the end of all things shall come, when the angel of the Lord shall descend and with one foot upon the land and one upon the sea, proclaim that time was, time is, but time shall be no more, then shall be heard the celestial voices of seraphim and cherubim singing in unison the joyful refrain:

"Columbia! Columbia! To glory arise!
The queen of the world and the child of the skies."

Song, "Larbord Watch, Ahoy," Ariel Quartette: Prof. H. N. Lincoln, Mr. W. F. McDaniels, Mr. W. T. Guthrie and Mr. O. F. Travis, of Dallas.

Address by Past Commander-in-Chief, Gen. A. G. Weissert, of Milwaukee, Wis.

Song, "The Bugle," by Mrs. Minnie Smith, of Wichita Falls; Prof. Kreissig, accompanist.

Instrumental Duet, by Messrs. Jordan and Peacock, of Dallas.

Song, "Just Before The Battle, Mother," by Miss Jessie Jerome Bartlett, of Dallas; Prof. Kreissig, accompanist.

Recitation, "Sheridan's Ride," by Mrs. Blanche Meeks Fallon, of Dallas.

Song, "Foes and Friends," by Mr. S. R. Green, of Wichita Falls.

Solo, by Mrs. H. F. Deitz, of Dallas; Prof. Kreissig, accompanist.

Recitation, "Music on the Rapahannock," by Miss E.

M. Stoner, of San Antonio; Miss Lizzie Baker, accompanist.

Song, "Star Spangled Banner," by Miss M. Brooks, of Dallas; Prof. Kreissig, accompanist.

Music by Mr. L. Yost and Company, of Dallas.

Song, "The Picket Line," by Mr. S. B. Green, of Wichita Falls.



SECOND DAY,

The Encampment was called to order by Department Commander Bostwick at 10 o'clock.

On motion of Comrade Wylie, a committee of three was appointed to wait upon the Woman's Relief Corps, apprise them of the excursion to Oak Cliff, and request them to join us on the trip.

Comrades Wylie, Peck and Steere was appointed as said committee.

The committee to whom the report of the Assistant Quartermaster General was referred, reported as follows:

DALLAS, TEX., April 22, 1896.

Gen. W. W. Bostwick, Department Commander.

We, the committee on the Quartermaster's report desire to say that they have carefully examined the accounts of the Quartermaster, and further desire to say that we have found a perfect agreement of the books and vouchers, and we take pleasure in commending, in the highest terms, the manner in which the accounts have been kept.

Respectfully submitted,

W. M. MANN,
GEO. S. NASH,
GARDNER WORK,
Committee.

The report of the Assistant Quartermaster General, with the report thereon by the committee, having been referred to the Council of Administration, who returned the following report:

DALLAS, TEX., April 22, 1896.

Gen'l W. W. Bostwick, Department Commander:

We, the Council of Administration, report that we have examined the books and accounts submitted by the Assistant Quartermaster General of this Department, G. A. R., and find them correct in every particular, and in appearance reflecting great credit on his ability as an officer; but, we would respectfully recommend that in future the Council of Administration be consulted as to the workings of this Department of the G. A. R.

Respectfully submitted,

H. C. ADLER,
A. MCWHIRK,
JOHN SULLIVAN,
Council of Administration.

The committee on report of Department Inspector submitted the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

DALLAS, TEX., April, 22, 1896.

Gen. W. W. Bostwick, Department Commander.

Your committee beg leave to report as follows on the report of Comrade Rust, Department Inspector: We find that the work by the comrade has been thorough, and shows that he has a personal interest in the Grand Army of the Republic. This work is more thorough than has ever before been reported to any previous Encampment, and we take pleasure in commending the comrade for his faithful services.

Respectfully Submitted,

H. A. JOHNSON,
W. I. PURNELL,
J. J. SCHOLL,
Committee.

The following resolution was introduced by Comrade Del Cahoon, of W. S. Hancock Post, No. 2, of Galveston, and referred to the Committee on Resolutions:

WHEREAS, In the transaction of certain business matters connected with our organization, especially in connection with properties, purchased or acquired, and

to secure and maintain the same without future litigation or otherwise, we find it necessary that this body should be chartered or incorporated under the laws of this state. Therefore, be it

Resolved, that a committee be elected or appointed by the presiding officer, for the purpose of preparing the necessary petition to the state authorities for the purpose of incorporating this Department under the general laws of the State of Texas, concerning the creation of private corporations now in force. Be it further

Resolved, that we, the members of this body, shall certify to the same for ourselves, our associates, successors and assigns, or as the laws may direct, forming ourselves into a corporation for the purpose and objects as outlined in our by-laws and constitution.

The Committee on Resolutions reported on the above resolution as follows:

DALLAS, TEX, April 22, 1896.

Gen. W. W. Bostwick, Department Commander.

We, your Committe on Resolutions, beg leave to submit our report on the resolution offered by Comrade Del Cahoon, of Hancock Post, No. 2. That as this is a legal question we recommend the appointment of a committee of three from the legal profession to report to this Encampment what steps it is necessary to take in order to protect our organization in the purchase and holding of property in the state. Respectfully submitted,

JAS. M. STEERE,
T. K. CROWLEY,
E. G. RUST,
Committee.

The foregoing resolution, with committee report thereon, was referred to a special committee, consisting of Comrades Wylie, Gibson and Purnell, who submitted the following report:

DALLAS, Tex., April 22, 1896.

Gen. W. W. Bostwick, Department Commander.

Your committee appointed to investigate the law regarding the legal right to hold and acquire property, beg

leave to report that any charitable or benevolent organization in the state, either grand or subordinate, may incorporate at any time they may elect by a majority of votes, or they can select a trustee, or more, to hold the property in trust for the organization. It is optional with the Post either to secure a charter or appoint trustees. The fee for filing a charter for a benevolent organization is \$10.00.

W. D. WYLIE,
J. B. GIBSON,
W. I. PURNELL,
Committee.

On motion of Comrade J. W. Parks it was resolved to go into the election of officers for the ensuing year, at 2:30 p. m.

Business was temporarily suspended by the introduction of Gen. G. R. Stormont of Indiana, by Gen. Weissert, the former having been specially designated as the representative of the Commander-in-Chief, I. N. Walker.

After short addresses by both comrades, the Encampment adjourned until two o'clock.

SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session opened at two o'clock, when Comrade Peck asked for a suspension of the rules in order that a son of that patriot and soldier, General Sam Houston, might be introduced.

Col. Houston, on being escorted to the platform, in behalf of Dr. James Coble of Dallas, presented the Department with a gavel made from a limb of a tree which overhung the Confederate line of battle at Gettysburg. The gift was accepted in a few appropriate remarks by Commander Bostwick.

Comrade Hill, a helpless invalid, was assisted into the hall, his condition stated, and quite a sum was raised and presented to him.

The Officer of the Day announced a delegation from the Woman's Relief Corps, and Comrades Peck and Clark were appointed a committee to introduce them.

The Department Commander received them with a few appropriate remarks, which were responded to by Mrs. Kline, of San Antonio, as follows:

COMRADES OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC:—

I salute you! I bring you fraternal greetings and hearty good wishes from the delegates of the Woman's Relief Corps, assembled in Dallas for their Eighth Annual Convention.

It is our earnest wish that your sojourn in this fair and progressive city may be agreeable in every respect, and that your coming together on this occasion may infuse new life into your work and result in the enlargement, upbuilding and strengthening of the Grand Army of the Republic in the State of Texas.

I wish to urge upon the delegates of the posts here represented, the necessity that exists for extending the work and increasing the number of corps and the membership of the Woman's Relief Corps.

Our percentage of membership in this state as compared with the G. A. R. membership, is far below that of many other states. The posts having no auxiliary corps should bestir themselves in the coming year to remedy that defect in their organization, and I ask the delegates from such posts to leave this Encampment with the determination to use their best efforts in that direction.

The utility of our organization is everywhere recognized, and its beneficent work is always gratefully acknowledged by the Grand Officers at each National Encampment of the G. A. R.

Although our membership is small in Texas, we represent a body of 140,000 loyal and active members of one of the best known and useful of the great charitable organizations of our country and age.

Our work is in line with that of the G. A. R. as exemplified by their watchwords—Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.

We strive to uphold patriotism, to teach loyalty to the young, to aid and comfort the needy veterans—now all of them on the downward slope of life.

We are organized to keep alive and perpetuate the patriotic spirit that animated the loyal women of the north through those terrible years of war, when no sacrifice was too great, or sorrow too deep, if through her patient endurance would come the realization of their hopes in a country redeemed and reunited; who, always carrying the burden of heavy hearts, filled with anxiety for absent ones, were ever confident in the ultimate result of our cause.

These encampments are not held to renew the resentful passions of war, to revive sectional hate or vainglorious boastings. They are for a higher, nobler purpose—to strengthen the ties knit in hours of danger, and to rekindle and keep alive the fires of patriotism.

If there is any class of men who have a right to meet in this country, it is the men who answered the call that summoned them from the comforts and quiet pursuits of peace, from the endearments of home, to bear arms and to face death, that the nation might live.

Brave soldiers of the Republic, who bore from the battlefields of the south the priceless gem of national unity.

At such times as these there is ever uppermost in our thoughts the memories of that mighty conflict.

It is many years since you laid aside the garb and duties of the soldier, and though there is snow in the hair the pulses quicken as you clasp the hands of comrades, and the heart still thrills at the sight of "Old Glory."

"Priceless for their dear sakes who died first."—Love of the flag is only a sentiment, in itself it is only a rag, a combination of bright colors, but what have not men dared and suffered for it? It represents an idea, a principle, and there have been no extremities of danger, nor depths of suffering, that men have not faced and endured in its defence.

As long as that flag waves and the nation of which it is the symbol endures, the names and services of those who

followed it through the perils of war, and those who died defending it, will never be forgotten.

Gen Bostwick made the following reply to the above enthusiastic and patriotic address :

LADIES OF THE WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS:—

Your presence with us to-day gives us the assurance that you are the same loyal and patriotic women that you ever were, and by this manifestation of your regard you have placed us under deeper and greater obligations.

We assure you that the influence of your energy and zeal in our common cause has a deep and lasting effect upon our hearts and we thank you sincerely for the encouragement and comports you have afforded us during the past year.

Allow me to say in behalf of the Department of Texas that we owe you a debt of gratitude deep and lasting, and which we would gladly express but for the fact that we are unable to properly express our thanks in words.

We are not alone in the high estimation we place upon your self-sacrificing yet cheerful efforts in the work of the G. A. R. Other Departments throughout the Union are gladly offering meeds of praise, and to-day the Woman's Relief Corps stands as the highest type of American womanhood in deeds of Patriotism, Charity and Loyalty.

We, as Grand Army men, will go into this coming year's work relying upon you as in the past, trusting to your kind-heartedness for assistance in our work, for without you we feel we will be sure to fail, but with you at our elbow, we are strengthened for the labors and duties of the year to come.

Nominations for officers for the ensuing year being now in order, the Department Commander appointed Comrades T. M. Wright, G. W. Andruss and J. L. Boyd, tellers, and announced that nominations for Department Commander were in order.

Comrade Peck nominated G. W. McCormick; seconded by comrades Wylie, Metzler, Sargent and Welch.

Comrade Morgan nominated John Roch; seconded by comrade Welch.

Comrade Johnson nominated H. E. Conger; seconded by comrades Nash and Danforth.

On motion of comrade Clingman the nominations were closed and a ballot ordered, with the following result:

FIRST BALLOT.

Whole number of votes 98, necessary to a choice 50.

G. W. McCormick	44
John Roch	36
H. E. Conger	18

There being no choice a second ballot was ordered.

SECOND BALLOT.

Whole number of votes 97, necessary to a choice 49.

G. W. McCormick	53
John Roch	36
H. E. Conger	8

Comrade McCormick, having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared duly elected.

The election was made unanimous, and comrade McCormick being placed upon the platform, thanked the Encampment for the honor bestowed upon him, pledging anew to exert himself in the interests of the G. A. R.

Comrade Peck nominated Houston as the place for holding the Twelfth Annual Encampment, and supported the same by the following letters and telegram:

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF HOUSTON, }
 HOUSTON, TEX., April 17, 1896. }

Geo. B. McClellan Post, G. A. R., Houston, Tex.

GENTLEMEN:— As Mayor of the City of Houston, Texas, I desire, on behalf of this city, to extend through you to the State Department of the Grand Army of the Re-

public, which I am informed meets this year in the City of Dallas, a most cordial and an earnest invitation to make the City of Houston the place for the next meeting of that body.

We have here one of the most hospitable people upon the face of the earth, an auditorium unsurpassed by any in the south, pure water, fresh air, and shall feel grievously disappointed if we have not the pleasure of entertaining your people on the occasion of your next meeting.

Please convey this invitation to the State Department, and rest assured if the old men come we will do all that may be necessary for their comfort and pleasure.

Very respectfully,

H. B. RICE, Mayor.

OFFICE AND ROOMS HOUSTON BUSINESS LEAGUE, }
HOUSTON, TEX., April 6, 1896. }

Geo. B. McClellan Post, G. A. R.

GENTLEMEN:—Having learned that your Annual Encampment of the Department of Texas, G. A. R., will be held at Dallas, and will then select a place for your next meeting, we write to extend our most cordial and earnest invitation to have the auspicious occasion held in the City of Houston, where we have the largest auditorium in the state, the greatest number of railroads, a fine street car system, fine matatoriums, parks, theatres, music halls, churches, and a warm-hearted, responsive people. Artesian water flows through our beautiful streets in copious plenty, while a long list of nature's gifts abound everywhere. We can assure you of not only a warm reception, but the royal hospitality of a citizenship who have entertained as high as forty thousand people, without a jar or break.

Our hotels and other public hostelrys are not surpassed in the state, and we again bid you come among us and receive from lavish hands and ready hearts such offerings as we sincerely believe can alone be given by the City of Houston. Very truly,

THE HOUSTON BUSINESS LEAGUE.

W. W. DEXTER,

Secretary.

(TELEGRAM.)

HOUSTON, TEXAS, April 21, 1896.
Gen. W. W. Bostwick, Dep't Commander, G.A.R., Dallas, Tex.
Houston would be pleased for you to hold your next
Encampment here, and cordially extends this invitation.

H. W. GARROW,
President Houston Cotton Exchange.

There being no other nomination, Houston was unan-
imously selected.

On motion the Encampment adjourned until 10:30
a. m. April 23rd.

CAMP FIRE ENTERTAINMENT AT TURNER HALL,
EVENING OF APRIL 22, 1896.

Overture, by the Reik Family, of Dallas.

Enlogy on General U. S. Grant, by Miss Sallie Dixon,
of Dallas.

Spring Song, by Miss Hallie Watkins, violin obligato
by Prof. G. H. Rowe, Miss Annie Berryman, accompanist,
of Dallas.

Address by Gen'l Gil R. Stormont, Past Dep't Com'dr
Department of Indiana, G. A. R.

Camp Fire Verse, "Sherman's March to the Sea," by
Lillie May Parks, of Dallas.

Song, "We Drank From the Same Canteen," by S. R.
Green, of Wichita Falls.

Fancy Dance, Meta Rossen, of Dallas; Mrs. A. C.
Bissell, accompanist.

Duet, by Misses Martha and Alice Reik, of Dallas.

Recitation, "Her Letter," by Miss E. M. Stoner, of San Antonio.

Symphonie Petite, Two Violins and Piano, Mr. Fred Cahoon, Miss Adelaide Boyles and Prof. G. H. Rowe, of Dallas.

"The Wonderful Tar Baby Story," by Varma Deane, of Dallas.

Baritone Solo, "Banner of Victory," by W. C. Deusing, of Dallas; Prof. Haas, accompanist.

Xylophone Solo, by Miss Martha Reik, of Dallas,

Address by Past Commander-in-Chief General A. G. Weissert, of Milwaukee, Wis.

Cornet Solo, by Miss Alice Reik, of Dallas.

Violin Solo, "Blue Bells of Scotland," with variations, by Prof. G. H. Rowe; Miss Adelaide Boyles, accompanist, of Dallas.

Song, "The Army Bean," by Mr. S. R. Green, of Wichita Falls.

Music, by the Reik Family, of Dallas.

These Camp Fire entertainments were under the management of Past Department Commander Jno. W. Parks, and the entire programmes were admirably handled, the talent of the highest order, and was enjoyed and applauded by over two thousand people each evening.

After the finish of the programme on the second evening, about five hundred representatives of the G. A. R. and W. R. C. and invited guests repaired to the dining hall of the Turner Hall and enjoyed a lunch set for them, on tables beautifully decorated with choice flowers, and the occasion was enlivened by songs and speeches, and the Oriental

Glee Club rendered a number of their choice songs. The young folks then enjoyed the fascination of the dance until a late, or rather an "early" hour, which closed a most enjoyable season of as grand an encampment entertainment as has ever been the pleasure of the members of our organization of this Department to attend.



THIRD DAY.

Session opened at 10:30 a. m.

Nominations for officers laid over from yesterday's session being declared in order, comrade J. S. Gibson placed comrade L. C. Leeds in nomination for Senior Vice Commander, but the nomination, at the earnest solicitation of the nominee, was withdrawn.

Comrade Steer nominated R. P. Sargent, Post No. 2, Galveston; seconded by comrades Wylie and Mackay.

On motion the nominations were closed, the rules suspended and the Adjutant General directed to cast the vote of the Encampment, when R. P. Sargent was declared duly elected.

Comrade M. W. Mann presented the name of H. T. Rue, Post No. 9, Houston, for Junior Vice Commander, and, on suspension of the rules, he was elected by acclamation.

Comrade D. W. Bartlett, Post No. 9, Houston, was nominated by comrade Rust for Medical Director, and under suspension of the rules unanimously elected, the A. A. G. casting the vote.

For Department Chaplain, comrade Mackay presented the name of T. K. Crowley, but as this comrade had served two successive terms, and announced himself as being opposed to third-termism, at his urgent request his name was withdrawn.

Comrade Webb, having been placed in nomination, also declined, having previously filled the position during two terms.

Comrade Mann placed comrade W. Bassett, Post No. 10, Austin, in nomination. The rules were suspended and he was duly elected.

Upon motion, J. W. Ayers, Post No. 11, Dallas, was elected Delegate at Large, with A. Metzler, alternate; Harry Webb, Post No. 4, Ft. Worth, Delegate, and L. C. Leeds, alternate. The A. A. G. casting the vote.

The following report was received from the Department President of the Woman's Relief Corps:

DALLAS, TEX., April 22, 1896.

Gen'l W. W. Bostwick, Department Commander:

According to rules and regulations I herewith enclose a report of relief and expenditures of the Woman's Relief Corps for the preceding year:

EXPENDITURES.

Expenditures, cash	\$189.24
" other than money	111.45
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$300.69

RELIEF.

Number of soldiers assisted	16
" in soldiers' families assisted	68
" of members assisted.....	7
" in families of members assisted.	25
	<hr/>
Total.....	116

Comrade Parks offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, that the Department of Texas, G. A. R., hereby extends to Past Department Commander, Gen.

G. R. Stormont, of Indiana, and Past Commander-in-Chief, Gen. A. G. Weissert, its sincerest thanks for their visit to this Department. That it appreciates their words of cheer and good will, and requests them to bear to the Commander-in-Chief our best wishes, and assure him that our loyalty to our country increases with age; that we say to them, "God speed, and come again."

Comrades Weissert and Stormont then addressed the Encampment. Their addresses, owing to having no shorthand reporter, are necessarily omitted.

On motion of comrade McCormick, Generals A. G. Weissert and G. R. Stormont were elected honorary members of the Encampment.

Comrade Mackay moved that the Assistant Quartermaster General be directed to purchase an album in which to place and preserve the photographs of all Past Department Commanders and Staff. Lost.

The special committee appointed to draft resolutions relative to the death of Past Department Commander O. G. Peterson, submitted the following report which was adopted by a rising vote, and the Assistant Adjutant General directed to furnish a copy to the family of the deceased:

Resolved, That in the death of our friend and comrade, O. G. Peterson, who, as Commander of our Department endeared himself to the comrades under his command and in his record as a gallant soldier and private citizen, we have lost a comrade and friend we could illy spare.

That it has pleased Divine Providence to call our beloved comrade away to answer the roll-call on the other side of the great river of Time, to join our beloved comrades who have preceded us. We can only bow to His divine will and hope that when we cross the line our beloved Past Commander will be there to escort us to our quarters on the other side of the river.

To the immediate family of our deceased comrade

and friend we extend our fraternal and soldierly sympathy.

W. D. WYLIE,
JNO. W. PARKS,
M. W. MANN,
Committee.

Comrade Boeck, Post No. 54, offered the following amendments to the By-Laws of the Department:

1. *Be it Enacted*, That hereafter this Department shall pay the actual expenses of one (1) delegate from each Post in the Department; provided, that said delegate, or alternate, shall actually be present at the Encampment of the Department.

2. *Be it Enacted*, That the per capita tax for each Post in the Department shall be increased to one dollar (\$1.00) per member per annum.

The committee reporting adversely upon the same as follows:

DALLAS, TEX., April 23, 1896.

Gen. W. W. Bostwick, Department Commander.

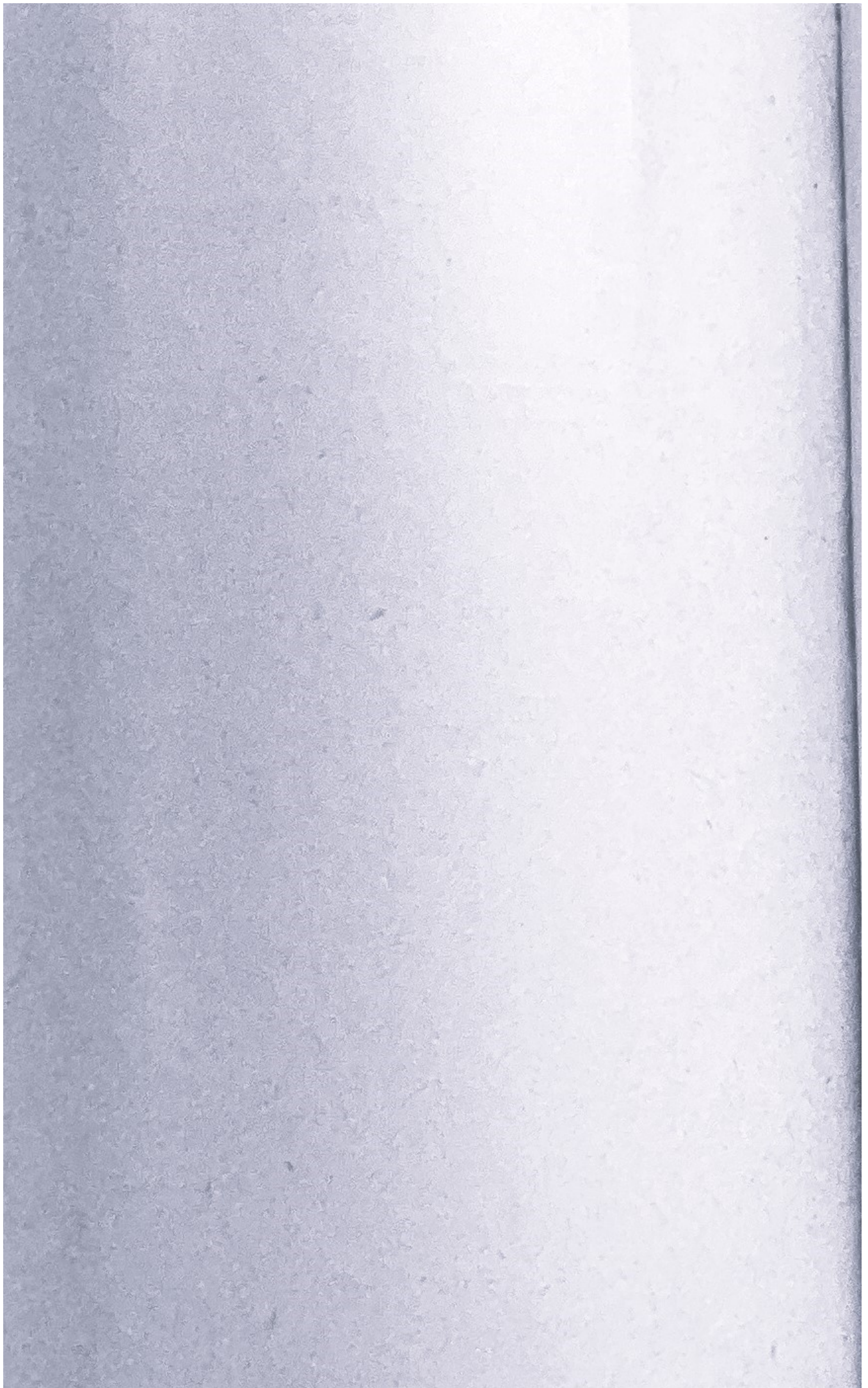
We, your committee, do not recommend the adoption of the amendment providing for the payment of the expenses of delegates to the State Encampment; neither do we approve of raising the per capita tax as now imposed.

JAS. M. STEERE,
T. K. CROWLEY,
E. G. RUST,
Committee.

The following resolutions, having received the approval of the Committee on Resolutions, were unanimously adopted:

By comrade Osborne:

Resolved, That this Encampment tender to W. G. Cottman, Chairman of the Decoration Committee, a vote of thanks for the very artistic and elaborate manner in which the Encampment hall is decorated.





has several times been before the National Encampment and has been passed upon, and in their wisdom have decided against it.

JAS. M. STEERR,
E. G. EUST,
T. K. CROWLEY,
Committee.

Comrade Boyd moved the appointment of a committee of three to select the Council of Administration, which motion prevailed, after being amended to read: "and that three be selected from Dallas and two from outside Posts."

The Department Commander appointed comrades Mann, Harned and Leeds as said committee, who reported the following names:

J. H. Weiler, Post No. 11, Dallas; Herman Krugle, Post No. 6, Dallas; T. B. Sprague, Post No. 6, Dallas; J. O. Estabrook, Post No. 26, Paris, and C. B. Grebe, Post No. 4, Ft. Worth.

On motion the rules were suspended and the Assistant Adjutant General was directed to cast the ballot, when the comrades reported by the committee were declared duly elected.

Adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

THIRD DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

At the request of the Department Commander Gen. A. G. Weissert proceeded to install the officers elect.

The newly elected Department Commander announced the appointment of J. M. Steere as Assistant Adjutant General and Jno. L. Boyd as Assistant Quartermaster General.

The Encampment then gave way to the Woman's Relief Corps whose officers were duly installed.

On motion the retiring Assistant Adjutant General was directed to compile and publish the proceedings of the Encampment.

'There being no further business, the Encampment was declared closed.

E. L. WITMAN,
Ass't Adj't Gen'l.

