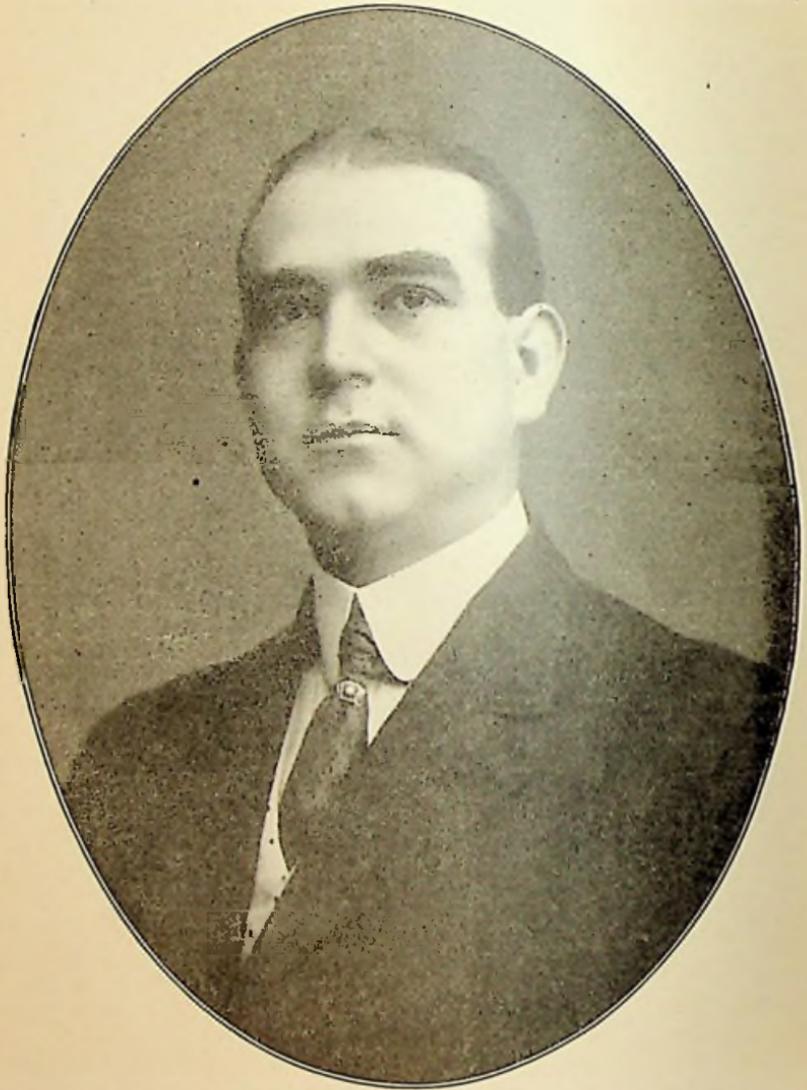
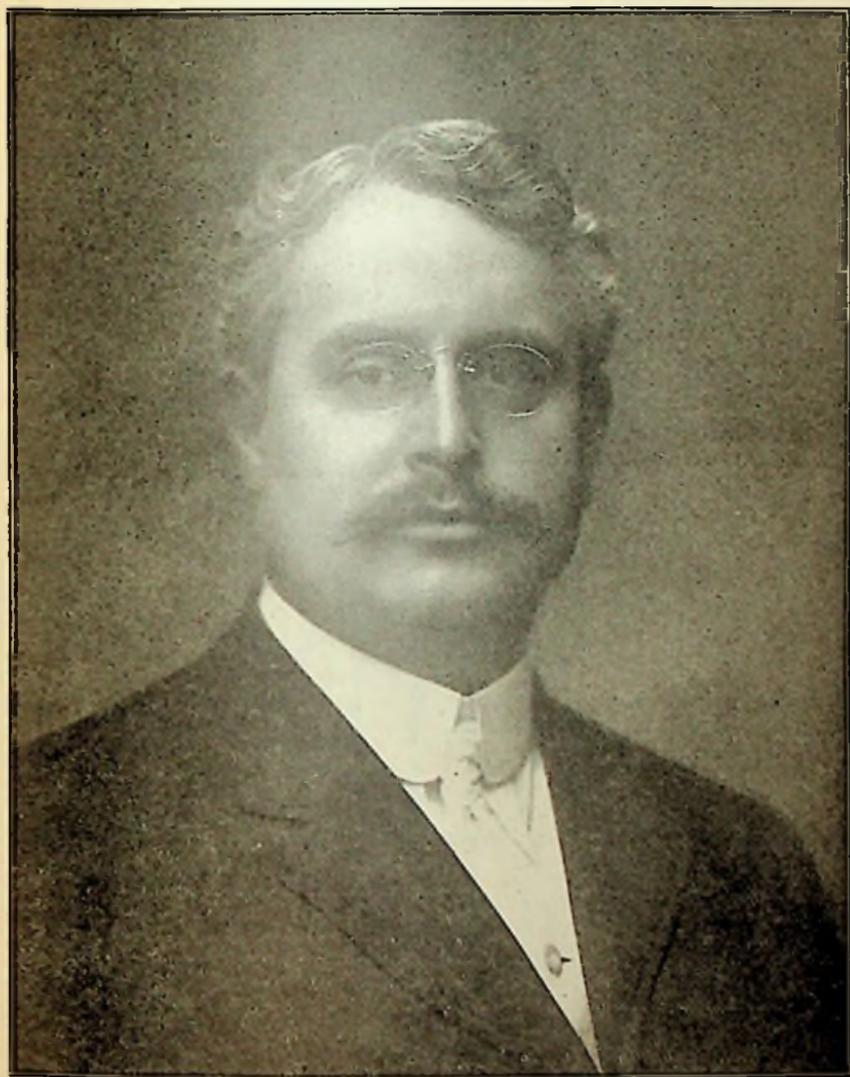


PROCEEDINGS  
C.-IN-CHIEF  
S. V., U. S. A.

1905-09



**EDGAR ALLAN, JR.,**  
**Commander-in-Chief.**



**RALPH SHELDON,**  
Past Commander-in-Chief.

# JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

TWENTY-SEVENTH  
ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

—OF THE—

## *Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.*



NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y.

*Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday,  
August 25, 26 and 27*

1908

# PROCEEDINGS

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

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Held at Niagara Falls, New York, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, August 25, 26 and 27, 1908

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### TUESDAY MORNING SESSION

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An open meeting was held in the Cataract House. The meeting was called to order at 10 o'clock by Past Commander-in-Chief Edwin M. Amies, who, in a few well chosen words, introduced the chairman of the meeting, Brother George Diemer, of Niagara Falls. The program was as follows:

Prayer, Rev. W. J. Patton, D. D., National Chaplain.

Address of Welcome, on Behalf of the People of Niagara Falls,  
Hon. A. C. Douglas, Mayor.

Address of Welcome on Behalf of the State of New York, and  
representing Governor Hughes, Hon. J. W. Wadsworth, Jr.,  
Speaker of the Assembly of the State of New York.

Address of Welcome on Behalf of the Department Commander  
of the Department of New York, G. A. R., Colonel Beach,  
of Buffalo, as the personal representative of the Department  
Commander.

Address of Welcome on Behalf of the Department of New York,  
Woman's Relief Corps, Mrs. S. D. Morehouse, President,  
which was followed by the presentation of a bouquet of  
flowers from Dudley Donnelly W. R. C. of Niagara Falls.

Response to the Address of Welcome, on behalf of the Sons  
of Veterans, Dr. Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief.

Remarks by Mrs. Waterman, Division President, Sons of Veterans  
Auxiliary, Division of New York, and Mrs. Moynihan,  
Past National President.

Response to the Addresses of Welcome, on behalf of the Sons  
of Veterans Auxiliary, Miss Mae Herbst, National President.

Singing, "America," by the Audience.

# OPENING OF ENCAMPMENT

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The Twenty-Seventh Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., convened at the Cataract House, Niagara Falls, N. Y., at 11:45 a. m., with Dr. Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief, in the chair.

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

Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief.  
Fred W. Spear, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.  
Wm. S. Reeder, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.  
Horace H. Hammer, National Secretary.  
James Lewis Rake, National Treasurer.  
Thomas J. Hannon, Council-in-Chief.  
Thomas W. Blair, Council-in-Chief.  
James B. Adams, Council-in-Chief.  
Edwin M. Amies, Chief-of-Staff.  
F. T. F. Johnson, National Counselor.  
Rev. W. J. Patton, National Chaplain.  
E. E. Schoening, National Inspector.  
H. V. Speelman, National Patriotic Instructor.

The roll call also showed the following Past Commanders-in-Chief present:

George B. Abbott, Illinois.  
James Lewis Rake, Pennsylvania.  
Frank L. Shepard, Illinois.  
A. W. Jones, Ohio.  
E. R. Campbell, Maryland.  
Arthur B. Spink, Rhode Island.  
Wm. G. Dustin, Illinois.  
H. V. Speelman, Ohio.  
Edwin M. Amies, Pennsylvania.

After the National Inspector had made the rounds of the Encampment and found all present entitled to remain, the Encampment was opened in due form.

Commander-in-Chief then announced following committees:

## On Credentials.

H. H. Hammer, National Secretary; Frank E. Watson, Indiana; E. C. Irelan, Maryland; Wm. C. Schneider, Missouri; H. A. Wing, Minnesota.

## On Constitution and Laws.

F. T. F. Johnson, National Counselor; R. F. Locke, Illinois; E. R. Campbell, Past Commander-in-Chief; Edwin M. Amies, Past Commander-in-Chief; E. H. Archer, Ohio.

## On Officers' Reports.

Frank L. Shepard, Past Commander-in-Chief; E. W. Estes, New York; John Bomhardt, Ohio; Charles B. Martin, Kansas; Wm. O. Cutler, Massachusetts.

### On Resolutions.

Wm. T. Church, Illinois; Arthur B. Splink, Past Commander-in-Chief; James E. Blythe, Iowa; Chas. G. McGaffey, Vermont; C. F. Sherman, New York.

### On Ritual.

Geo. B. Abbott, Past Commander-in-Chief; W. B. McNulty, Pennsylvania; H. V. Speelman, Past Commander-in-Chief; Felix A. Kremer, Wisconsin; and by virtue of the authority of the last Encampment, the Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer.

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

National Secretary Hammer, chairman of the committee, submitted a partial report, which was revised from time to time, and the complete report as finally submitted by this committee showing the members present during the encampment, appears as a Roll of the Encampment, following the proceedings, 130 of whom responded to the first roll call.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move that the partial report of the committee be accepted, the delegates accredited, and the committee continued.

The motion was seconded and carried.

The Commander-in-Chief then read his report to the Commandery-in-Chief, as follows:

### REPORT OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

To the Officers and Members of the 27th Annual Encampment, S. V., U. S. A.:

Again, under an all wise Providence we meet in Annual Encampment, to renew old acquaintances and to form new ones, to review the work of the past year, and to plan and build for the year to come.

The Constitution provides for a report, thus in pursuance of these requirements, I render an accounting of my stewardship for the past year.

At the 26th Annual Encampment held at Dayton, Ohio, you chose me as your commanding officer for the coming year. I accepted the same, knowing only a little of the magnitude of the work, which would devolve upon me. At that time I did not make you any promises, simply saying that I would give you the best that was in me, and this I have tried to do, and whether I have fulfilled that part is left for the membership to decide.

I have tried to do my duty as I saw it and the perusal of this report will give at least a slight conception of what has been accomplished.

And now we are met together in the 27th Annual Encampment as the authorized representatives of one of the greatest and noblest patriotic organizations in this country, to consider the work of the past and plan for the future.

I want at this time to extend to you my appreciation for the honor and confidence which you reposed in me when you elected me Commander-in-Chief. I want to congratulate each and every one of you upon the splendid position which our

Order has attained. A position which it has never before occupied. We are now recognized, and have been accorded such, and I may say regarded, as the coming leading patriotic organization of this our beloved country.

Our position is indeed a proud one, and our membership has a standing and character equalled by none, and I feel that the perpetuity of the Order is assured.

#### National Officers.

At the 26th Annual Encampment held at Dayton, Ohio, August 20, 1907, the following National Officers were elected and appointed:

Commander-in-Chief, Dr. Ralph Sheldon, Albany, N. Y.  
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Fred W. Spear, Bennington, Vt.

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, William S. Reeder, Dayton, Ohio.

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

National Treasurer, J. Lewis Rake, Reading, Pa.

Council-in-Chief: Thomas J. Hannon, Dedham, Mass.;  
Thomas W. Blair, Ft. Wayne, Ind.; James B. Adams, Atlantic City, N. J.

Gen. R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia, Pa., Chief-of-Staff. Since resigned. Edwin M. Amies has been elected to fill vacancy.

National Counselor, F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.

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

National Inspector, E. E. Schoening, St. Louis, Mo.

National Patriotic Instructor, H. V. Speelman, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Personal Aide to Commander-in-Chief, Dr. D. Sherman Smith, Lancaster, Pa.

#### Headquarters.

Headquarters were immediately established by your Commander-in-Chief at 291 State street, Albany, N. Y., where all of the business relating to the Commandery-in-Chief were transacted. Only two months of active work had been done when your Commander-in-Chief was taken seriously ill. For a number of days things looked very dark for him, but in answer to the multitude of nightly prayers, by the thousands of beloved members of our Order, he passed through the dark shadows safely, and at the end of three months was enabled to again take up the active duties of his office. During these many days your Commander-in-Chief is fearful that the office would have gone much amiss had it not been for the faithful services of a devoted wife. She answered much of the correspondence, and thus when your Commander-in-Chief was able to take up the duties there was not such an abundance of accumulated work. In all probability it is the only time in the history of the Order that the destinies of this Order were watched over and cared for by one who was not a member of it.

During the past few months these Headquarters have been exceedingly busy. Never for one minute even though away on official business and visits has the routine work been neglected or delayed. At all times correspondence has been answered promptly and I believe most thoroughly. To give you some

idea of the work which has been done by these headquarters I will state that between five and six thousand circular letters have been issued to Grand Army Posts, Woman's Relief Corps and many individuals who were personally known to your Commander-in-Chief. This work does not include the regular correspondence, which is voluminous. On the average, twenty to twenty-five letters a day have been written, thus you can see the great amount of correspondence connected with the office of the Commander-in-Chief at this time.

Soon after headquarters had been established we circularized seven of the western states, six of these states have shown remarkable gains during the past year. The Commanders of these Divisions have informed your Commander-in-Chief many times that their work has been made easier and that a large majority of the new Camps mustered were due to these circular letters sent into their Divisions, thus I would recommend to my successor that a few states be chosen and circularized most thoroughly. Good results cannot help but follow.

#### Orders.

Following out the mandates of the Commandery-in-Chief and fulfilling its part of the contract with our official organ, The Banner, all general orders have been published. The membership of the Order has been kept fully advised of all transactions through the medium of the General Orders. These have been issued monthly and therein have contained statements showing the conditions from time to time both from a financial standpoint, and of our membership.

The plan adopted a few years ago by the executive officers has been followed, in that all bills are paid monthly, thereby being enabled with each issue of a general order to know the exact status of the financial condition of the Order. Copies of all orders issued are hereby attached. (Orders begin page 130.)

#### Officers.

I take this opportunity to offer to one and all of the National Officers my deep sense of appreciation and gratitude for the many favors, splendid advice, and excellent assistance and services which they have rendered during my administration. No service has been too great nor too small, which I have asked of this splendid corps of men, but that it was forthcoming.

I can not let this opportunity pass to express my deep gratitude to our National Secretary, H. H. Hammer, and National Treasurer J. L. Rake. Their advice has always been timely and most acceptable. The Order at large is indeed to be congratulated upon having the services of two such splendid men and officers. Their reports to this encampment will follow, and I am sure the membership will then know that the confidence which was reposed in them has not been amiss.

#### Committees.

By authority of the 26th Annual Encampment the following special Committee was appointed:

Ritual—George B. Abbott, Illinois; W. B. McNulty, Pennsylvania; H. V. Speelman, Ohio; Felix A. Kremer, Wisconsin; the Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary and National Treasurer.

Memorial University—Rev. W. J. Patton, Mason City, Iowa, Chairman; Hon. A. J. Beveridge, Indianapolis, Ind.; E. W. Estes, New York City, N. Y.; J. B. McCabe, Boston, Mass.; F. J. Kellogg, Battle Creek, Mich.

All these committees have done splendid work during the past year, and they will submit in detail reports covering their labors. The committee on ritual have held a number of meetings and through general orders have asked for suggestions, and I feel more than confident that when this committee makes its report the members will be much gratified at the work accomplished, and will feel that the committee, which was appointed has done its work carefully and well.

#### Memorial University.

Your Commander approaches this subject with some degree of hesitancy realizing the critical condition which now faces this splendid institution and realizing full well the responsibility of this Order towards that institution.

The members of this Order know full well that under the splendid management of our beloved brother, Rev. W. J. Patton, that nothing but good results could be obtained, but the time has now come when even under his splendid direction and management (owing to a necessity of finances) that the institution must fall, unless our Order assumes the responsibility which devolves upon it and places this institution upon a sound financial basis.

As many of you know, up to a year or so ago there was probably no member of our Order more opposed to this institution than your Commander-in-Chief, for probably no other reason than that he knew little about it, but upon his visit to Mason City he then realized the important place which this Institution has in our Order, what it means to our Order, and what it could accomplish for our Order. And since that visit you have known through General Orders if you have read them that his heart and mind have been preparing the way for some definite action by the Commandery-in-Chief, to sustain this institution.

If the members of this Commandery-in-Chief could have been transplanted to Quincy, Ill., at the meeting of the Division Encampment at Illinois last June and could have seen the gathering of orphans all of whom will be eligible to our Order when they attain the proper age, and if you could have witnessed the immediate response to the inquiry if they desired an education, none of you would question, but that we had a duty to perform. Just think of the vast multitude of foreigners coming into this country. Who can better educate the children of these people who know not the history of our country nor its laws than we the patriotic organization of Sons of Veterans?

Voluntary subscriptions have been tried since Memorial University was founded. For the past year the mere bagatelle of \$4412.95 has been contributed by the 35,000 members of our Order. Think of it, a mere bagatelle. To run this institution it costs at least \$10,000 a year. A large portion of those who are students pay but little towards their education. Someone must make up the difference. We as an Order have not done so, thus the institution has been running behind. It has

come to this, will this Order as an Order assume the responsibilities which we owe to this institution?

I believe that our C. R. & R. should be so amended that a definite amount shall be paid by every member of our Order to go to Memorial University. I do not believe that we as an Order should be bound indefinitely, but I do believe that we should assume the responsibilities until we can ascertain whether the institution is a success.

Many of you may say that by imposing a definite amount upon each member of our Order, that we will lose a large part of our membership. Personally I can not believe that any loyal Son of a Veteran will give up his membership in this splendid organization for a nominal sum of 50 cents per year, especially so when that 50 cents goes toward educating a brother and sister. Brothers or sisters who by force of circumstances are not able to pay that amount for themselves. Your Commander-in-Chief believes and believes thoroughly that if every member of our Order is made acquainted with the exact conditions, the amount necessary to run the University, the cost per member, the amount which our Order has contributed, and in fact everything regarding or relating to the conditions of that institution we will lose but a very few if any of our members, and especially so if we are not bound for any definite period.

#### Sons of Veterans Reserves.

The Military branch of our Order, the Sons of Veterans Reserves, is no longer an experiment. As a necessary adjunct to the parent body it is daily being demonstrated. It has devolved into a trained and fully organized body, subject to military order and control. If the members of this body could have witnessed the wonderful demonstration made at Williamsport, Pa., Department S. V. Reserves, where some 1600 were under canvas, fully officered and equipped, it would have convinced you most thoroughly of the necessity of the Reserves. Too much praise cannot be given this department for its splendid military exhibition.

Your Commander-in-Chief has learned through reports that wherever a company of Reserves is attached to a Camp, Camps are alive and well doing. These reports do not come from one state alone, but wherever the Reserves are organized. I therefore suggest that wherever possible, companies of Reserves shall be organized, as I thoroughly believe that wherever organized a larger membership can be obtained.

Much proposed legislation and change of the same relative to the Reserves has been received by me and published in General Orders in The Banner. It is to be hoped that most careful consideration be given to the same.

#### Memorial and Union Defender's Day.

The National Chaplain will give in detail the part taken by the members of our organization in the observance of Memorial and Union Defender's Day. As the years go by the duty of our Order in observing this day is becoming more apparent. It is most gratifying to note that our organization has taken such an active part in assisting the Grand Army of the Republic in relieving them of much of the physical labor required

particularly in the observance of Memorial Day. Wherever possible the S. of V. should relieve entirely the Grand Army in the labor attached to the proper observance of this day. It should be to us a day of reverence, and it is our sacred duty to see to it that it is properly observed.

#### Divisions.

There have been no new Divisions organized during the past year, although an effort is being made to organize enough Camps in the state of West Virginia to reorganize that Division. Some progress has been made, as two Camps have been organized and application blanks have been asked for in several other towns in the state, thus it is hoped that within the next year the Division of West Virginia may be organized.

I will also state that some progress has been made in the states of North Dakota and Montana, and I believe that by some personal work Divisions can be organized in those states. Oklahoma has some eight Camps and special effort is being made by the Commander of Kansas Division to organize enough more for a Division of Oklahoma. The prospects are exceedingly bright for a Division there before the year is ended.

#### Grand Army of the Republic.

It is with much pleasure, in fact much pride, that I add this section to my report. I am firm in my belief that never in the history of our Order have our relations been so close and so cordial to our parent organization as at the present time. They realize more than ever the necessity of such an organization as ours, and everywhere throughout all of the Divisions I have received reports stating that never in our history has the Grand Army as a body taken such an active interest as at the present time. Our duty to them is one of the principles laid down in our laws and as an Order we should see to it that it is most rigidly adhered to.

Soon it will be our duty to take up their work in its entirety, and I feel assured that each and every one of us realize that the responsibility is enormous. I know that this splendid organization of ours will be as ready to answer the call of these brave men as were they when the nation made its call in 61-65.

It is with great pleasure that I can say to the members present that I have been in close touch with Commander-in-Chief Judge Burton during the past year. He has extended many courtesies to me and I have ever found him ready and willing to assist our Order when and wherever it was possible for him to do so. He has extended a most cordial invitation to your Commander-in-Chief to be present at the National Encampment of the G. A. R. to be held at Toledo, Ohio, a week following this our own Encampment. Let us show this grand body that we are ever willing and ready to assist them. That it is our desire to be directed and not to direct. Let us strive to merit their confidence and esteem and let us live as to reflect credit upon them our fathers.

#### Kindred Organizations.

To the Woman's Relief Corps, Ladies of the G. A. R., S. of V. Auxiliaries and Daughters of Veterans, we extend most

cordial and fraternal greetings. It has been my pleasure to address a number of these organizations during the past year, and I have always found the same patriotism and love of country permeating their organization as does ours. I am positive in my belief that these bodies of loyal women are a necessity and are useful adjuncts to all Camps and Posts to which they are attached. You all know how again and again if it had not been for the true allegiance of these patriotic women a large number of Camps and Posts would have disbanded.

Especially to our own Auxiliary I do most heartily extend our brotherly affection. They have been a wonderful help to us and I have always found them untiring in their devotion in their work for our organization, and I would earnestly urge all Camps who have not an organization of the Ladies Auxiliary connected with their Camps that upon their return to their respective homes they go about organizing one. God bless each and every one of them.

#### Death Benefit Association.

The question that often times is asked is whether there is any benefit and that is financial benefits to be derived from such an organization as ours. To all of which we have to make the reply no, but in localities where something of that kind is necessary your Commander-in-Chief advises such Camps to become identified with the Death Benefit Association of Philadelphia, Pa. It has a growing membership and I fully believe that it is perfectly safe and sound. My experience has taught me that those Camps which have adopted protection and offer benefits are stronger, and it has a tendency to increase membership.

#### Inspections.

Your Commander-in-Chief recommends a rigid inspection. He is a thorough believer that the Division or Camp should be inspected at least annually and by a disinterested member. The appointments of inspectors should not be made indiscriminately, but they should be of the very best material of our Order and should be appointed so as to reduce the cost of inspection to a minimum.

#### Special Aides.

A number of special aides have been appointed by the various Divisions. In writing the various Division Commanders for the names of members to be appointed Aides upon my staff, I have stipulated that only the names of those whom they know to be active, energetic workers should be sent in to me.

Their judgment in suggesting these appointments has been amply verified by the unanimous and hearty co-operation given by each and every one of them. Many of them have been the means of organizing new Camps and have also bolstered up old ones. I tender my thanks for their devotion and support accorded to me during my administration.

#### Encampment Dates.

By a unanimous vote the Council-in-Chief designated the

week of August 23, 1908, as the time of holding the 27th Annual Encampment at Niagara Falls, N. Y. In accordance with such action dates were so issued in General Orders.

#### Proceedings.

No better method of preserving the proceedings of the deliberations of the Commandery-in-Chief can be suggested than by printing the same in pamphlet form.

#### Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

Many of you who have had to come in close contact with our present Constitution feel as I do that it is a very imperfect one, lacking essentials and abounding in non-essentials.

Your Commander-in-Chief can name any number of articles and sections which in another part will be contradicted. The result of this has been that a great number of conflicting decisions are made and it has a tendency to destroy the discipline of our organization.

Your Commander-in-Chief believes that a committee of five should be appointed, and this committee should be composed of all Past Commanders-in-Chief, as I believe that they really know more of the things and needs of the members at large as they have come in contact with requests for decisions, etc., more than any others of our membership.

#### Past Commander-in-Chief Badge.

It has been the custom since the organization of our Order to present the retiring Commander-in-Chief with a Past Commander's jewel, the same having been purchased by voluntary subscription together with an appropriation of \$150 made by the Commandery-in-Chief. Personally your present Commander-in-Chief is totally opposed to this voluntary subscription, as it works a hardship upon a few, the whole Order receiving the benefit. It has come to a time when a certain few are called upon each and every year. Many feel that they must give because they have given to another. Then again one year a larger sum is raised than another thus a better badge is procured. This in some instances may cause feeling.

I feel that if a Commander-in-Chief has been faithful and has performed his work well that a badge should be procured by the Commandery-in-Chief. In this way each Past Commander-in-Chief will receive alike and thus can be avoided the constant begging, which is very objectionable not only to me but to many.

#### Division Orders.

My attention has been called to the various forms, sizes and shapes of Division Orders issued by the various Division Commanders. I believe that if the Order is to take the prominence that it should and that it will in this our country, we should have a uniformity in all our printed matter. Our C. R. & R. does not prescribe any definite size or form.

#### Resignations.

It was with deep regret that your Commander-in-Chief received and had to accept the resignation of Gen. R. M. J. Reed as Chief-of-Staff. General Reed, one of the founders of our

Order, known by nearly every member of our Order, has always been known as one of the most enthusiastic, energetic workers. Last fall Gen. Reed was taken ill and his illness continued for many months. Feeling that the best interests of the Order and for the Reserves would be served by his resignation of his office as he was unable to perform the duties of the same, he forwarded his resignation. I feel assured that every member and especially those of you who have known the General for years will regret the accepting of the same as greatly as I. We feel assured that General Reed will never lose interest in our Order, but will give his time and services as readily as in the years gone by.

By vote of the Council-in-Chief Past Commander-in-Chief Edwin M. Amies of Altoona, Pa., was elected to fill the unexpired term of General Reed.

#### Constitutional Life Members.

It is with regret that I have to announce the death of two of our Constitutional Life Members, Past Grand Division Commander William E. Ross of the Maryland Division, who died November 11, 1907; also Harold C. Megrew of Indiana, who died April 26, 1908.

Naught but words of praise can be offered for these two beloved brothers. They had the interest of the Order at heart and when in health gave much time to the upbuilding of it. We mourn their loss, but feel that though they have left us they are now reaping the reward that awaits all those who have led lives of usefulness and walked in the steps of the Great Master.

#### Camp Officers.

After two years of careful study of both the duties of Camp Officers and those of the Reserves, your Commander-in-Chief has arrived at the conclusion that some legislation must be made whereby the two shall be separated, as very often they conflict. For instance on last Memorial Day a Camp of some 80 members, of which I am a member, turned out for parade on Memorial Day. About 30 of these members belonged to a company of Reserves. All elective officers of the Camp were members of the Reserves and turned out with the Reserves, leaving the civic body unofficered and with no one to lead them. The result was that many of the civic body became disgusted and fell out of line and did not parade at all. This so impressed me that I immediately began to make inquiries in other states in which there were Reserves. I found this condition existed in all these Divisions. I believe that the civic body should be the ruling body, that its officers should always be in authority and should be in their proper positions on such a day as Memorial Day. This cannot be done unless some legislation is made.

#### Securing of Arms.

Through the past year the Commander-in-Chief has received many letters making inquiry as to how Camps could secure the use of guns of the government. It has come to my knowledge that an order was issued some time ago by the War Department giving the use of guns to all military schools. It has oc-

curred to me that if a united effort was made by our Order and through the proper personages we could secure the use of guns for our Camps.

If this could be accomplished it would be the means of building up a great many of our Camps. Many of them desire to take up the military part but do not feel that they can incur the expense.

#### Memorial Tablets.

I believe that much can be done by the membership of our Order in advancing the interests of our Order as well as educating the young people of today by erecting bronze tablets.

There is hardly a community in which a boulder can not be secured at a slight expense. This can be mounted in some suitable place and upon same a bronze tablet containing Lincoln's Gettysburg address, together with what other inscriptions the Camp might desire. In this way this great address can be placed before the public and would ever be a source of education, in fact it would show the public at large that the organization of Sons of Veterans is doing something. This form of memorial is being done everywhere by the Sons of the Revolution, why not by the Sons of Veterans? It can be done very cheaply. I would urge every Camp wherever possible to commemorate some battle or some important event in this manner.

#### Organization.

I have been hampered during the past year as probably have all other Commanders-in-Chief in not having any particular funds to draw upon for organization. Many demands have been made upon me to send an organizer here or there, all of which had to be denied for lack of an appropriation. A new Division could have been organized in West Virginia could your Commander-in-Chief have sent someone down there for a month. The same can be said of Oklahoma. Many of our western Divisions need assistance, especially upon the Pacific Coast and if your Commander-in-Chief had the authority and money with which he could have paid the expenses of an organizer in these Divisions great benefit would have been derived.

There is little use in trying to organize Camps in a new Division, unless some one who knows the workings of our Order be present to start them aright. To allow them to be mustered as most of them are, simply means that they exist for six or eight months and then die, where, if properly started this would not happen.

#### Membership.

It seems useless for me to discuss this topic as it has been discussed threadbare. The question is not how to obtain membership, for the time has arrived when that is practically an easy thing to do. The great question is how to keep our membership after we have obtained same.

I have nothing new to offer nor have I any ways or means to suggest to this body how this can be accomplished.

I believe most thoroughly that the cause of a great deal of our suspension is due to the lack of interest on the part of our

Camp Treasurers. Many of them seem to think that all their office requires them to do is to receive and pay out the funds of the Camp.

If Camps would be more careful in the selection of their Treasurers, and elect men who are not only capable men, but who have the interest of the Camp at heart, men who when a member is in arrears in his dues will seek him out and get what he can toward the dues, thousands of our members who are suspended would be saved. I can not urge enough upon the members of the Camp to secure the best men to act as Treasurer.

During the past year we have shown a phenomenal gain, but just stop and think what our membership would be if we could only have saved that large suspension list. While we have organized through the past year 133 Camps together with the total membership of 4,419, the total membership of our Order today is 35,961, a net gain of 3,862 since last Encampment.

Too much praise can not be given to the splendid corps of Division Commanders who have served under me during the past year. They have responded nobly to my call and the record for the year reflects back to them and from them to the membership of the Camps.

Our membership is assuming that standing in character and mental worth, the equal of any organization and the peer of many. We are approaching that position which will cause us to be the leaders, and to accomplish this end we must all strive, and by strictest adherence to our principles and objects, success will certainly crown our efforts.

#### Discipline.

Only two Courts Martial have been presented to your Commander-in-Chief. That of George G. Mead Camp, No. 16, against John Klink. The findings of the Court was guilty and that he be dishonorably discharged from the Order. In the case of Lieutenant E. S. Griffin Camp, No. 8, Division of Pennsylvania, against Floyd A. Porter. The findings of the Court was "Guilty" and that he be dishonorably discharged from the Order. The findings and sentence of the Court have been approved and orders have been issued to that effect.

During the month of June your Commander-in-Chief together with others of the National Officers was served with papers in mandamus proceedings brought by one James H. Tawney, of the Division of Pennsylvania for restoration of membership and rank. The papers were returnable within the necessary limit required by law, thus your Commander-in-Chief was compelled to secure counsel to act for him. William A. Gray was engaged as counsel to look after the interest of the Commandery-in-Chief.

#### Finances.

General orders during the past year have contained an itemized and detailed statement of the finances. The object of this has been that the membership at large could inform itself as to the exact condition of the Order. A detailed account will be given in the report of the National Secretary and National Treasurer.

These reports will show that the Order is in a splendid financial condition. All bills and expenses are paid up to date, and a goodly balance remains. I do not feel that the balance in our treasury warrants a reduction of our per capita tax, although I had been hoping that a reduction would be made. I deem it best to at least continue the present per capita tax for another year and at the end of that time, I firmly believe that a reduction can be made.

#### Decisions.

I do not believe that any other previous Commander-in-Chief has been called upon to render so few decisions as your present one.

There have been a number of requests for opinions, nearly every one of which could be answered by referring to some previous decision by some previous Commander-in-Chief, any one of which would not have been asked had our Constitution been in the condition which it should be.

The following decisions have been rendered:

1—The inspection of the books and property of a Camp by a duly authorized inspecting officer when made at the regular meeting place and on the date set for the inspection of a Camp although a quorum not being present is an inspection within the meaning of the Inspection Laws of the Order.

2—A member of the Order can be elected an officer or delegate of his Camp, having signified his willingness to accept same without being present at meeting on which election takes place.

That a member must be present at a Division or Commandery-in-Chief meeting to be elected to any office within those bodies.

3—That a Camp may change By-Laws making the office of Secretary and Treasurer elective before the term of the officers appointed has been completed.

#### Recommendations.

1—The continuation of the present rate of per capita tax.

2—That the Commandery-in-Chief so amend its Laws as to provide for definite financial relief for the situation of Memorial University and that the relief be immediate.

That it be known that all those who act in the capacity of solicitors of students for the University shall act as organizers for the Order.

That a committee of five be appointed to draft a circular letter, containing all the facts, conditions, requirements of the University, and all other information, which they may deem necessary. This circular letter to be published in The Banner, and also mailed to each member of our Order.

3—That an amendment be added to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations whereby an officer of the Reserve desiring to be placed upon the retired list can be upon his own application and upon the filing of a surgeon's certificate of disability, thus in this way we retain the influences of such officers.

4—That a committee of five Past Commanders-in-Chief be appointed to re-write and reform our present Constitution, Rules and Regulations and present same at our next annual encamp-

ment, promulgating same in The Banner, and that a special appropriation be allowed to pay the expenses for at least one meeting of said committee.

5—That the Council-in-Chief be authorized to appropriate sufficient funds for carrying on organization work at the hands of the Commander-in-Chief.

6—That an appropriation be made of \$400 to procure a suitable badge or its equivalent to each retiring Commander-in-Chief.

7—That the Commandery-in-Chief endorse the action of the Commander-in-Chief in securing the services of William A. Gray, of Philadelphia, Pa., to look after the interest of the Commander-in-Chief and the Commandery-in-Chief in the mandamus proceedings brought by one James H. Tawney, and that the incoming Commander-in-Chief be authorized to continue the services of William A. Gray to represent the Commandery-in-Chief, and if the case is carried to a higher court and it is deemed necessary for additional counsel that Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania, be retained to assist W. A. Gray.

8—That our Constitution, Rules and Regulations be so amended as to give the size, form and color of ink of all Division Orders. That the electro of the Regulation Badge be used and that, only in the left hand corner of the beginning of the Order. The size of the Order shall be  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches by 8 inches.

9—That Division Commanders can not appoint any other officers than those designated by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

10—That the membership ribbon of our Order be the Red, White and Blue. The tri-color ribbon, the same as the original membership ribbon.

11—That before a new Camp can be mustered, it must either procure by purchase or the use of the following paraphernalia: One drum, two sabers, altar flags, stack of arms, ballot box and Bible. The paraphernalia to be supplied through Division Headquarters, before the muster of a Camp. The cost of paraphernalia not to exceed fifty dollars.

The matter of purchase may be waived providing said Camp can secure the use of the necessary paraphernalia of some Grand Army Post.

12—That the Order adopt some neat buttonhole decoration, a recognition mark, one that is symbolic and has some meaning.

13—That a committee of five be appointed to take up through the War Department, or by legislation the granting of the use of discarded guns by the government to the Camps throughout our different Divisions, by giving proper security for their safe keeping.

14—That the Constitution, Rules and Regulations be so amended as to read, that a dropped member can not join another Camp in the same Division in which he was dropped without first paying a year's dues to the Camp from which he was dropped.

15—That the eligibility clause be so amended to admit a member whose father has been forced to bear arms against the

government, but who afterwards enlisted in the Union Army, after first satisfying the Division Commander by affidavit, or otherwise, that such was the case.

16—That no member of the S. of V. Reserve can hold any elective office in Camp, Division or Commandery-in-Chief. In Camps in which all members are members of the Reserve this may be waived by special dispensation of the Commander-in-Chief.

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

#### Conclusion.

This concludes my report, and a term of service, earnest, honest effort in behalf of the Order, which I love so well. I have tried to give the Order a term of hard and conscientious work. I have visited many Divisions and other gatherings of the Order of Sons of Veterans, in the hope that by my presence and by some little thought that some good would result. I have performed the functions of the office as I saw and found them and have congratulated myself that I was accomplishing something, and at least making our Order better known, which in time I hope will bring its own reward. I have given to you and to the Order ungrudgingly, complying with the promise and pledge, which I gave you when I assumed the duties one year ago. Whatever sacrifices I have made have been well repaid for old acquaintanceship, and friendships have been revived and new ones formed, which are very dear to me, the same which I shall claim and value as one of my greatest assets. Unquestionably, I have made mistakes, probably I have left undone many things, which could have been done. It is quite possible that I have failed to accomplish much that was expected of me, if so, I trust that you will spread the broad mantle of charity over all my short comings, and think only of the good deeds, which have been performed. I assure you, I have done the very best that I could. I can only say again as I said at the beginning of my term, that I fully appreciate the honor which you conferred upon me when you elected me your Commander-in-Chief, and no matter what honor may come to me in the future, I shall always prize that of being your Commander-in-Chief above them all.

I will soon relinquish the command to other hands, and take my place as a humble private in the ranks again, and I can assure you that I shall ever perform those duties as a Son of a Veteran, which has marked the many years of my membership in this Order.

I firmly believe in the principles and objects of our Order, and in the future, as in the past my endeavors at all times will be to advance the interest of the Order of Sons of Veterans, to which I renew my obligation, and pledge myself ever ready to do my duty as a true, loyal, patriotic Son of a Veteran.

Fraternally Submitted,

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

Past Commander-in-Chief Edwin M. Amies, presiding: You have heard the reading of the Commander-in-Chief's report. No objection being offered it will be referred to the Committee on Officers Reports.

Felix A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: According to the report of the Commander-in-Chief, the most important question to be settled by this Encampment will be the matter of the Memorial University. I believe that the members feel that this question should be settled. It should not be referred to a small committee, and it is too large to be handled by the Commandery. I therefore move you that the Commander-in-Chief appoint a special committee, to consist of one member from each Division to take up this question and report to the Encampment.

R. J. Bosworth, of Indiana: I believe that is the proper way to handle the question. Therefore I second the motion.

The motion was put and carried.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move that as soon as the officers' reports have been made that the Committee on Ritual will be given the right of way, to make its report.

Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire, seconded the motion.

The motion was put and carried.

The reports of the Senior and Junior Vice Commanders-in-Chief, the National Secretary, the National Treasurer, the National Counselor, the National Chaplain, the National Inspector and the National Patriotic Instructor were then read, as follows, and referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports:

#### REPORT OF SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Bennington, Vermont, August 24, 1908.

To the Officers and Members of the 27th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A. Brothers:

In accordance with the Constitution and Laws of the Sons of Veterans, I herewith submit my report for the year just closing.

When you elected me to this office, at Dayton one year ago, the action was greatly appreciated by my Division, Camp and myself, and I resolved to perform the duties of the office to the best of my ability.

The only official duty I have been called upon to perform was the inspection of the Division Headquarters of Vermont and Maine.

On October 4, 1907, I received the appointment of Assistant Inspector from Brother Schoening and accepted same.

The Division of Vermont was inspected on November 9, and Maine on December 18. Both Divisions I found to be in good shape and on the gain. I would extend to the Division officers of Vermont and Maine my thanks for the reception which I received at the respective headquarters.

I have attended several meetings and class musters of the Camps of Berkshire county, Mass., and also in Southern Vermont.

On January 2, 1908, I was invited to install the officers of Lincoln Camp at No. Adams, Mass., which I accepted and was royally entertained.

In closing, I wish to extend to the officers of the Commandery-in-Chief, especially Commander-in-Chief Sheldon and

National Secretary Hammer, my thanks for all courtesies extended and to the Commandery-in-Chief as a whole for the great honors conferred on me. I remain

Faternally Yours,

FRED W. SPEAR.

#### REPORT OF JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., August, 1908.

To the Officers and Members of the 27th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Brothers:

I herewith submit my report as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief for the term ending with this Encampment.

One year ago in my home city the members of the 26th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief honored me with the third highest office within its gift. This I do not consider as an honor to me alone, but an honor to my Camp and an honor to my Division, good old Ohio; and today I wish you to know that the boys of Camp No. 89, at Dayton, Ohio, appreciate the honor conferred upon me fully as much as I do.

In writing this report, I find it is a very difficult task as the office I am about to turn over to my successor has no specified duties other than should the offices of my superiors become vacant. This has not been so this year, and it is my earnest wish that it will never be so.

To report to you of my official acts alone, my report would be very short. However, I have done everything I could do this year for the advancement and betterment of our noble Order. On Memorial Day I was with the Sons of Veterans and the G. A. R. from early morning until late at night. I attended my Division meeting at Lima, Ohio. I was in attendance at the muster in of Camp 100 at Cincinnati, where our worthy Past Commander-in-Chief H. V. Speelman was installed as the Camp's first Commander. My relations with the officers of the Commandery-in-Chief have been most pleasant and agreeable, and if on my part I have made any mistakes they were mistakes of the mind and not of the heart. And in closing, permit me to again thank each and every one of you for the honor conferred upon me. And as I turn over the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief to my successor, and take my seat in the ranks I am ever ready and willing to do my duty as a Son of a Veteran anywhere and under all circumstances. Again thanking you, I am yours in F., C. and L.

W. S. REEDER, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

#### REPORT OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY.

Headquarters Commandery-in-Chief,  
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.  
Reading, Pa., August 20th, 1908.

To Dr. Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,  
U. S. A.

Dear Sir and Brother:

I have the honor to submit my report of transactions of this Department during the year, in compliance with the Con-

stitution and Laws, for the term closing with the 27th Annual meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief.

I am under lasting obligations to you for the many courtesies you have extended me and I deeply appreciate the cordial relations that prevailed during the entire year. It is useless for me to dwell on the work and service you have rendered, for the record shows what has been accomplished by you, better than I can describe it.

To my colleagues on the staff and the other national officers I am also deeply grateful for the many favors shown me and it is with no little pride that I refer to the fact, that not only with yourself, the officers and staff, but with all the various Division Commanders and those whom my relations have brought me in contact with, have most cordial relations existed and most pleasant associations in the work we are so greatly interested in.

I congratulate you and all engaged in the active work of the Order, on the most excellent results you have so largely brought about by your untiring and constant application to the duties of your office. I wish you all long life, prosperity and success.

My duties require the recording of the statistics of the Order and I am pleased to report most excellent conditions and results of the term just closing, as follows:

Finances:

RECEIPTS:

August 22, 1907, to balance .....		\$ 1958.90
To Am't received for per capita tax.....	\$12528.16	
Supplies .....	4410.13	
Charter Fees .....	650.00	
	<hr/>	
Total receipts .....		\$17588.29
To Am't due from Divisions, charged in 1905 Encampment, for supplies and excess cost of shipments:		
Indiana .....	\$ 10.49	
Minnesota .....	15.43	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 25.92	
To Bal. tax due from Cal. & Ore., June, qr. '08	.44	
	<hr/>	
		\$19573.55

EXPENDITURES:

By general expenses .....	\$14613.54	
Office expenses .....	642.83	
Commander-in-Chief's expenses .....	1997.61	
	<hr/>	
Total expenses .....		\$17253.98
By balance due from:		
Indiana .....	\$ 10.49	
Minnesota .....	15.43	
Cal. & Ore.....	.44	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 26.36	
By balance cash .....	\$ 2293.21	
	<hr/>	
		\$19573.55

## Itemized Expenditures:

## GENERAL EXPENSES:

For Stock and Supplies.....	\$3605.56
Memorial University .....	1337.50
The Banner, subscription, August, 1908, inc.	6209.99
Encampment (1907, \$301.85) 1908, \$24.00....	325.85
Printing .....	159.78
Reserves, Military Department .....	97.19
Shipping supplies .....	177.91
Salaries .....	2300.00
Bonds .....	35.00
Miscellaneous .....	364.76

\$14613.54

## OFFICE EXPENSES—HEADQUARTERS:

Light .....	\$ 2.16
Wrapping Paper and Twine.....	4.76
Postage .....	137.30
Express .....	12.63
Telegrams .....	2.43
Stationery .....	114.04
Rent .....	299.00
Miscellaneous .....	70.51

\$ 642.83

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES:

Rent.....	\$ 192.00
Postage .....	150.10
Telegrams .....	47.32
Traveling (Com'der's representatives \$198.77).	1157.42
Office (Stenographer, Supplies, etc.).....	441.15
Express .....	6.62
Miscellaneous .....	3.00

\$ 1997.61

Total Expenditures ..... \$17253.98

## Comparison:

RECEIPTS:	1905-'06	1906-'07	1907-'08
For Per Capita Tax.....	\$11149.65	\$11793.84	\$12523.16
Supplies .....	2963.99	3839.68	4410.13
Charter Fees .....	430.00	440.00	650.00
Miscellaneous .....	37.72	138.05	
Chief of Staff .....	7.16		
Balance .....	284.56	556.41	1958.90

Total ..... \$14865.92 \$16775.14 \$19547.19

## EXPENDITURES:

For General Expenses.....	\$12588.80	\$12483.90	\$14613.54
Office Expenses .....	790.93	698.72	642.83
Commander-in-Chief .....	929.78	1633.62	1997.61
Total .....	\$14309.51	\$14816.24	\$17253.98

## Stock and Supply Account:

Aug. 10, 1907—To Am't Stock and Supplies on hand .....	\$1815.54
Am't Purchased during year, 1907-'08.....	3605.56
	<hr/>
	\$5421.10
Aug. 20, 1908—To Value of Stock and Supplies on hand .....	\$3336.87
Cost of Stock and Supplies sold during year..	\$2084.23
Cost of Shipping Supplies .....	177.91
Expended for Wrapping Paper and Twine.....	4.76
Expended for Freight and Express on Stock and Supplies Purchased .....	1.55
	<hr/>
Total Cost and Expense of Stock and Supplies Sold during year .....	\$2268.45
To Amount Received for Stock and Supplies during year .....	\$4410.13
Cost and Expense of Stock and Supplies sold during year .....	2268.45
	<hr/>
Profit on Stock and Supplies sold.....	\$2141.68

## Comparison of Business:

	1905-'06	1906-'07	1907-'08
Am't Received for Supplies Sold....	\$2956.05	\$3839.68	\$4410.13
Am't Profit on Supplies Sold.....	1316.31	1952.35	2134.58

During the past year we were enabled to secure a good supply of Commandery-in-Chief ribbon, direct from the mill, and it is a most excellent quality, far superior to the ribbon formerly supplied, and in use. This has been a source of much inconvenience and annoyance in the past; so much so that it was feared we would be obliged to change the color of the Commandery ribbon. I am pleased to report that this possibility will not confront us.

## Standing of Divisions:

Division:	June 30, '07		June 30, '08		June 30, '08	
	Camp	Memb.	Camp	Memb.	Camp	Memb.
Alabama & Tenn....	9	240	9	154		
Cal. & Ore.....	15	555	10	411	1	16
Col. & Wyo.....	4	110	5	204		
Connecticut .....	19	598	19	619		
Illinois .....	41	1301	43	1413	2	52
Indiana .....	28	881	26	887	7	238
Iowa .....	13	359	20	545	1	44
Kansas .....	20	509	28	743	3	68
Kentucky .....	8	143	8	148		
Maine .....	31	1063	36	1430	4	54
Maryland .....	8	271	8	285		
Massachusetts .....	127	4896	132	5062		
Minnesota .....	10	407	24	706	1	15
Michigan .....	8	153	12	167		
Missouri .....	17	623	20	680	2	16
Nebraska .....	6	66	6	65		

New Hampshire	31	994	35	1130		
New Jersey	24	1155	31	1399		
New York	83	3450	93	3891	3	55
Ohio	62	2071	81	2920		
Pennsylvania	158	10233	172	11001	1	5
Rhode Island	11	322	11	375		
Vermont	21	582	22	621	1	15
Washington	4	146	4	129		
Wisconsin	18	522	14	437	6	141
<b>Total</b>	<b>776</b>	<b>31650</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>35425</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>719</b>
Gain			93	3775		719

The suspensions noted above do not include all suspensions; only those designated by the number of Camps. The total number of suspensions in all Divisions was the 32 Camps as shown, and 1969 members.

#### Membership Recapitulation:

July 1st, 1907—June 30th, 1908, Inc.

#### GAIN:

	Camp	Mem.	Camp	Mem.
By Muster	140	9358		
Transfer		221		
Reinstatement	62	1868		

Total Gain ..... 202 11447

#### LOSS:

By Disbanded	14	217
Death		190
Honorable Discharge		200
Transfer		159
Suspended	95	6928
Dishonorable Discharge		1

Total Loss ..... 109 7672

Gain ..... 93 3775

Number of members reported as dropped during the year, 599. Nearly all Divisions omit this record from their reports, so that this number is not correctly reported as a total from all Camps in the Order.

There was expended for relief during the year, \$27,210.19, among 408 members or their families; and 63 veterans or their families. But this sum and these numbers respectively do not properly represent the amount expended nor those relieved, for quite a number of Divisions do not give these items in their quarterly reports.

There was reported as cash on hand at Division Headquarters June 30th, 1908, the sum of \$3,389.15; Minnesota showing a deficit, and Washington omitting same from its report.

The cash on hand reported in Camps was \$53,915.14. Alabama & Tennessee, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Washington and Wisconsin omitting to report same.

#### Charter Members:

	Camps.	Members.
Membership June 30, 1908	869	35,425



## REPORT OF NATIONAL TREASURER.

Reading, Pa., August 20, 1908.

Ralph Sheldon, Esq., Commander-in-Chief.

Sir: I have the honor to submit the following report of the financial transactions of the Commandery-in-Chief for the current year.

This department stands charged with sundry amounts covering the cash balance carried over from the previous year and the current receipts from the National Secretary as of dates as follows:

1907.	
Aug. 22	Cash Balance.....\$ 1,958.90
Aug. 31	Received ..... 143.88
Sep. 5	Received ..... 92.50
Sep. 14	Received ..... 76.00
Sep. 26	Received ..... 114.86
Sep. 30	Received ..... 13.79
Oct. 5	Received ..... 137.77
Oct. 19	Received ..... 84.76
Oct. 31	Received ..... 207.09
Nov. 2	Received ..... 100.17
Nov. 6	Received ..... 329.92
Nov. 9	Received ..... 123.97
Nov. 13	Received ..... 324.89
Nov. 27	Received ..... 119.61
Nov. 30	Received ..... 1,649.08
Dec. 3	Received ..... 337.37
Dec. 9	Received ..... 234.64
Dec. 14	Received ..... 102.05
Dec. 27	Received ..... 116.05
Dec. 31	Received ..... 91.63
1908.	
Jan. 6	Received ..... 104.18
Jan. 11	Received ..... 104.46
Jan. 20	Received ..... 113.12
Jan. 31	Received ..... 263.16
Feb. 4	Received ..... 185.37
Feb. 5	Received ..... 288.64
Feb. 10	Received ..... 233.81
Feb. 13	Received ..... 243.39
Feb. 21	Received ..... 150.64
Feb. 25	Received ..... 344.95
Feb. 29	Received ..... 524.33
Mch. 3	Received ..... 1,010.88
Mch. 10	Received ..... 121.92
Mch. 11	Received ..... 185.44
Mch. 13	Received ..... 235.01
Mch. 18	Received ..... 149.22
Mch. 26	Received ..... 120.85
Mch. 31	Received ..... 131.41
Apr. 8	Received ..... 136.20
Apr. 16	Received ..... 119.74
Apr. 21	Received ..... 170.79
Apr. 30	Received ..... 362.43
May 4	Received ..... 199.61
May 7	Received ..... 166.38

May 9	Received	109.27
May 16	Received	197.78
May 21	Received	637.54
May 25	Received	1,036.50
May 29	Received	1,190.23
June 9	Received	136.70
June 20	Received	121.05
June 30	Received	116.73
July 6	Received	103.49
July 15	Received	113.42
July 21	Received	100.89
July 25	Received	157.67
July 31	Received	457.92
Aug. 3	Received	1,111.18
Aug. 5	Received	412.45
Aug. 12	Received	1,409.51

Total Receipts ..... \$19,547.19

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

Voucher 195	\$ 60.00
Voucher 196	354.46
Voucher 197	500.00
Voucher 198	521.73
Voucher 199	1.75
Voucher 200	33.34
Voucher 201	5.00
Voucher 202	109.75
Voucher 203	55.00
Voucher 204	10.88
Voucher 205	27.37
Voucher 206	99.43
Voucher 207	102.25
Voucher 208	78.00
Voucher 209	213.05
Voucher 210	500.00
Voucher 211	22.64
Voucher 212	118.40
Voucher 213	176.41
Voucher 214	280.50
Voucher 215	6.20
Voucher 216	1,270.70
Voucher 217	28.25
Voucher 218	107.25
Voucher 219	17.13
Voucher 220	4.10
Voucher 221	23.40
Voucher 222	92.00
Voucher 223	3.10
Voucher 224	70.02
Voucher 225	518.66
Voucher 226	48.01
Voucher 227	4.65
Voucher 228	144.02
Voucher 229	212.00
Voucher 230	125.00

Voucher 231	772.87
Voucher 232	31.70
Voucher 233	3.05
Voucher 234	70.00
Voucher 235	144.50
Voucher 236	18.60
Voucher 237	471.42
Voucher 238	51.89
Voucher 239	25.00
Voucher 240	160.14
Voucher 241	61.34
Voucher 242	482.34
Voucher 243	34.61
Voucher 244	20.27
Voucher 245	69.00
Voucher 246	141.10
Voucher 247	74.90
Voucher 248	27.84
Voucher 249	62.50
Voucher 250	481.51
Voucher 251	16.75
Voucher 252	14.70
Voucher 253	60.90
Voucher 254	148.81
Voucher 255	125.00
Voucher 256	6.20
Voucher 257	135.50
Voucher 258	490.84
Voucher 259	40.75
Voucher 260	5.25
Voucher 261	3.50
Voucher 262	49.38
Voucher 263	247.32
Voucher 264	29.58
Voucher 265	96.73
Voucher 266	8.55
Voucher 267	15.95
Voucher 268	69.00
Voucher 269	48.30
Voucher 270	9.30
Voucher 271	123.70
Voucher 272	16.88
Voucher 273	517.89
Voucher 274	240.71
Voucher 275	36.91
Voucher 276	35.55
Voucher 277	690.90
Voucher 278	544.94
Voucher 279	9.30
Voucher 280	517.77
Voucher 281	28.49
Voucher 282	150.00
Voucher 283	25.00
Voucher 284	162.15
Voucher 285	19.25
Voucher 286	337.50
Voucher 287	544.71

Voucher 288 .....	16.66
Voucher 289 .....	2,004.48
Voucher 290 .....	300.00
Voucher 291 .....	9.00
Voucher 292 .....	90.35

Total Disbursements .....	\$17,253.98
Balance Account,	
Total Receipts .....	\$19,547.19
Total Disbursements .....	17,253.98

Cash Balance .....\$ 2,293.21

It is pertinent to renew the caution contained in my last report and to impress upon the body the necessity for providing a sinking fund to meet any emergencies which may arise. The Commandery-in-Chief should not be a profit-making institution, but prudence suggests that annually a given sum should be set apart until a fund of not exceeding five thousand dollars has been accumulated to meet unlooked for calls upon our treasury. This fund should be invested, at a safe rate of interest and in a manner so that any portion might speedily become available if the necessity for drawing upon it arose.

During the year we have not departed from the excellent office methods of the immediate years preceding. The obligations of the body have been met with promptness and discounts have been availed of whenever possible.

The duties of office have been rendered agreeable by the uniform harmony and courtesy which has prevailed throughout your official family.

#### Supplemental report of the National Treasurer.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., August 27th, 1908.

The following is a supplemental report of the financial transactions of the Commandery-in-Chief to close of the Encampment this date:

August 20th, 1908—Cash Balance.....\$2293.21  
 Receipts from all sources through National Sec'y.. 58.45

Total Receipts .....\$2351.66  
 Against which should be charged the following Disbursements, as per:

#### Voucher

No. 293 .....	\$ 29.50
No. 294 .....	72.85
No. 295 .....	67.50
No. 296 .....	35.50
No. 297 .....	41.75
No. 298 .....	104.50
No. 299 .....	65.00
No. 300 .....	83.55
No. 301 .....	25.48
No. 302 .....	44.40
No. 303 .....	27.55
No. 304 .....	73.01
No. 305 .....	28.75
No. 306 .....	89.10

No. 307 .....	53.10
No. 308 .....	37.31
No. 309 .....	2.00
No. 310 .....	56.36
Supplemental Disbursements .....	\$ 937.21
Final Cash Balance .....	\$1414.45

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

#### REPORT OF NATIONAL COUNSELOR.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., August 25, 1908.

Commander-in-Chief Ralph Sheldon, and Members of the 27th Annual Encampment, Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Dear Sir and Brothers: The matters referred to the office of National Counselor have received careful consideration and prompt attention, and due reports have been made thereof.

I wish to thank you for the honor conferred upon me in selecting your National Counselor, and I assure you that I fully appreciate the consideration that I have received from you, from the members of your staff and from the membership at large during my administration of this office.

I am, Fraternaly yours,

F. T. F. JOHNSON,

National Counselor.

#### REPORT OF NATIONAL CHAPLAIN.

Mason City, Ia., August 25, 1908.

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

Commander-in-Chief and Brothers: I have the honor herewith to submit my report as National Chaplain of our Order for the term ending with the close of this twenty-seventh National Encampment.

In presenting this report, I am reminded of certain statements made in a former report, as Chaplain-in-Chief, to the Knoxville Encampment, thirteen years ago, viz: "After a prodigious expenditure of time and an almost profligate use of postage stamps, I am glad to say that reports have been received from every Division of the Order. Nevertheless the results achieved are utterly out of proportion to the efforts put forth and to the expenditure of postage necessitated."

Although thirteen years have passed, I find the above quotation from my former report as applicable now as then.

When we consider the fact that the Chaplain's reports cover the fundamental principles of our Order, the reasons for which we are organized as Sons of Veterans, the disgraceful neglect of sworn duty on the part of Camp Commanders and Chaplains is humiliating, to say the least.

That complete reports are possible of attainment is indicated by the fact that the following Division Chaplains obtained reports from every Camp Chaplain in their respective Divisions:

Alabama & Tennessee, Division Chaplain, E. E. Carter.  
Connecticut, Division Chaplain, Sherrod Soule.  
Iowa, Division Chaplain, J. F. Porterfield.  
Massachusetts, Division Chaplain, Rev. W. F. Wilson.

Looking carefully into the subject, we find a one hundred per cent report from a Division of the first class, numerically speaking, from a Division of the second class, and from a Division of the third class. The reports from those four Divisions indicate what may be accomplished.

However, it would not be just to some of the Division Chaplains who were not able to make a one hundred per cent report, not to state that local conditions increased their difficulties and seriously interfered with their efforts.

Therefore, I desire to take this opportunity of expressing my personal appreciation of the efforts of a few Division Chaplains, and to congratulate them upon the degree of success attained, in spite of the obstacles in their way.

There are some features of your Chaplain's report which I believe to be of sufficient importance to demand a few moments of your valuable time.

I refer to tables 4, 7, 9 and 10. Table 4 shows which Camp in each Division had the greatest number of brothers in line Memorial Day. The totals range from fifteen in line for Camp 1 of Alabama and Tennessee and for Camp 134 of Nebraska, to 318 in line for No. 16 of Pennsylvania. But the total number reported in line by the Camp Chaplains, 16372, is what should call forth terms of strong condemnation from every loyal member of our Order and lead to an internal revolution before another Memorial Day shall roll round.

16372 out of 32348 members reported March 31, 1908, is a sad commentary upon our loyalty to our ideals, after making due allowance for those who, for good reasons, were unable to march or attend to the solemn duties of that solemnly great day of all the year.

Table 7 shows the number of Camps in each Division furnishing firing squads. This report shows a total of 261 squads. While this probably does not indicate the full number of Camps prepared to furnish firing squads, yet I am of the opinion that this equipment should be considered part of the indispensable outfit of each Camp.

Table 9 shows the Camp in each Division having the greatest attendance at Memorial Sunday services. This item of our report does not lay us open to charge of being over-much religious, even to this great religio-patriotic Sunday of the year. The Camp Chaplains report 13302 brothers attending such services.

Again I suggest that the so-called leaders of our Order take cognizance of this source of weakness.

Table 10 reveals the deplorable neglect of a great opportunity, according to my judgment, that ought to be remedied. This table shows the number of Camps observing Union Defender's Day. 303 Camps, out of 851 reported by the National Secretary March 31, 1908, or 36 per cent, observed Union Defender's Day.

Again do I presume to refer to my report of thirteen years ago. "What we need to emphasize as an Order is the fact that February 12th is Union Defenders' Day."

"This is within our province. We should not fail to take advantage of the opportunity thus afforded us of getting the patriotic principles of our Order before the intelligent and patriotic educators of every section of our country."

"You must at once see the historical importance of permanently attaching to February 12th the name of Union Defender's Day." The day is not ours, but the name is.

Old as is our organization, and as matured as most of us are in years, yet it is evident that there is great need of a campaign of education along these lines. Thirteen years ago 33 per cent of the Camps observed the day. This year the report shows 36 per cent.

Did I not know the futility of imposing penalties for neglect of duty, I should offer a few recommendations. Instead, I urge upon the representatives and to the members of this twenty-seventh Annual Encampment of our Commandery-In-Chief that we immediately start a campaign of agitation and of education. We have the principles; we have the traditions; we have the organization; we have the machinery, but what we require is a little more of what is typified in yonder falls and rapids, viz: power, irresistible power generated in a human dynamo and applied patriotically.

Table No. 2—Showing percentage of Camps reporting from each Division:

Division.	Percentage.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	100
California and Oregon.....	70
Colorado and Wyoming.....	71
Connecticut .....	100
Illinois .....	42
Indiana .....	80
Iowa .....	100
Kansas .....	50
Kentucky .....	57
Maine .....	90
Maryland .....	88
Massachusetts .....	100
Michigan .....	25
Minnesota .....	54
Missouri .....	73
Nebraska .....	33
New Hampshire .....	75
New Jersey .....	90
New York .....	85
Ohio .....	69
Pennsylvania .....	73
Rhode Island .....	90
Vermont .....	90
Washington .....	
Wisconsin .....	

Table No. 3—Showing which Camp in each Division has largest membership:

Division	Camp No.	Members.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	1	60
California and Oregon.....	2	57
Colorado and Wyoming.....	2	71
Connecticut .....	6	32
Illinois .....	26	139
Iowa .....	Lake City	50
Indiana .....	44	109
Kansas .....	7	60
Kentucky .....	7	96
Maine .....	4	129
Maryland .....	2	34
Massachusetts .....	11	166
Michigan .....	55	50
Minnesota .....	8	174
Missouri .....	14	102
Nebraska .....	134	20
New Hampshire .....	10	94
New Jersey .....	8	204
New York .....	73	312
Ohio .....	466	205
Pennsylvania .....	16	550
Rhode Island .....	5	64
Vermont .....	75	56
Washington .....		
Wisconsin .....		

Table No. 4—Showing which Camp in each Division had the greatest number of brothers in line Memorial Day:

Division	Camp No.	Members.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	1	15
California and Oregon.....	23	44
Colorado and Wyoming.....	7	32
Connecticut .....	6	49
Illinois .....	26	45
Indiana .....	44	60
Iowa .....	Lake City	43
Kansas .....	69	25
Kentucky .....	7	31
Maine .....	4	66
Maryland .....	2	27
Massachusetts .....	11	108
Michigan .....	212	10
Minnesota .....	1	33
Missouri .....	14	41
Nebraska .....	134	15
New Hampshire .....	13	70
New Jersey .....	8	72
New York .....	78	150
Ohio .....	5 & 39	each 100
Pennsylvania .....	16	318
Rhode Island .....	2	30
Vermont .....	19	35
Washington .....		
Wisconsin .....		

Table No. 5—Showing which Camp in each Division furnished the greatest number of brothers armed and in line:

Division	Camp No.	Members.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	2 & 23	each 5
California and Oregon.....	10	20
Colorado and Wyoming.....	1	4
Connecticut.....	7	20
Illinois.....	216	24
Indiana.....	85	18
Iowa.....	68 & 118	8
Kansas.....	51	10
Kentucky.....	7	8
Maine.....	26	22
Maryland.....	2	27
Massachusetts.....	129	35
Michigan.....	212	10
Minnesota.....	1	26
Missouri.....	14	9
Nebraska.....	134	10
New Hampshire.....	18	12
New Jersey.....	1	47
New York.....	78	100
Ohio.....	442	35
Pennsylvania.....	33	77
Rhode Island.....	10 & 2	24
Vermont.....	74	23
Washington.....		
Wisconsin.....		

Table No. 6—Showing which Camp in each Division had the greatest number of brothers in uniform on Memorial Day:

Division.	Camp No.	Members.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	0	0
California and Oregon.....	10	20
Colorado and Wyoming.....	1	8
Connecticut.....	7	20
Illinois.....	14	26
Indiana.....	125	25
Iowa.....	53	18
Kansas.....	202	15
Kentucky.....	7	11
Maine.....	4	66
Maryland.....	2	27
Massachusetts.....	11	108
Michigan.....	212	10
Minnesota.....	8	40
Missouri.....	42	30
Nebraska.....	134	5
New Hampshire.....	18	47
New Jersey.....	8	40
New York.....	6, 20, 26, 78	each 50
Ohio.....	89	85
Pennsylvania.....	16	88
Rhode Island.....	2, 10	each 24
Vermont.....	74	23
Washington.....		
Wisconsin.....		

Table No. 7—Showing number of Camps in each Division furnishing Firing Squads on Memorial Day:

Division	Members.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	2
California and Oregon.....	3
Colorado and Wyoming.....	1
Connecticut.....	3
Illinois.....	5
Indiana.....	12
Iowa.....	6
Kansas.....	5
Kentucky.....	3
Maine.....	12
Maryland.....	4
Massachusetts.....	26
Michigan.....	2
Minnesota.....	9
Missouri.....	2
Nebraska.....	1
New Hampshire.....	4
New Jersey.....	16
New York.....	26
Ohio.....	16
Pennsylvania.....	93
Rhode Island.....	5
Vermont.....	2
Washington.....	
Wisconsin.....	

Table No. 8—Showing number of addresses delivered in each Division by members of the Order on Memorial Day:

Division.	Number.
Alabama and Tennessee.....	10
California and Oregon.....	6
Colorado and Wyoming.....	5
Connecticut.....	6
Illinois.....	15
Indiana.....	17
Iowa.....	11
Kansas.....	5
Kentucky.....	1
Maine.....	17
Maryland.....	5
Massachusetts.....	65
Michigan.....	2
Minnesota.....	18
Missouri.....	16
Nebraska.....	1
New Hampshire.....	16
New Jersey.....	17
New York.....	167
Ohio.....	48
Pennsylvania.....	127
Rhode Island.....	2
Vermont.....	6
Washington.....	
Wisconsin.....	

Table No. 9—Showing Camp in each Division having the greatest attendance at Memorial Sunday Services:

Division.	Camp. No.	Members.
Alabama and Tennessee .....	1	25
California and Oregon .....	10	35
Colorado and Wyoming .....	2	25
Connecticut .....	6	56
Illinois .....	26	50
Indiana .....	116	50
Iowa .....	9	70
Kansas .....	69	25
Kentucky .....	7	34
Maine .....	4	47
Maryland .....	2	30
Massachusetts .....	94	60
Michigan .....	212	10
Minnesota .....	8	140
Missouri .....	42	40
Nebraska .....	134	11
New Hampshire .....	10	63
New Jersey .....	8	67
New York .....	78	100
Ohio .....	5	80
Pennsylvania .....	8	153
Rhode Island .....	10	31
Vermont .....	19	36
Washington .....		
Wisconsin .....		

Table No. 10—Showing number of Camps in each Division observing Union Defenders' Day:

Division.	Number.
Alabama and Tennessee .....	5
California and Oregon .....	2
Colorado and Wyoming .....	2
Connecticut .....	7
Illinois .....	7
Indiana .....	10
Iowa .....	3
Kansas .....	1
Kentucky .....	2
Maine .....	13
Maryland .....	4
Massachusetts .....	59
Michigan .....	1
Minnesota .....	3
Missouri .....	6
Nebraska .....	1
New Hampshire .....	12
New Jersey .....	18
New York .....	44
Ohio .....	21
Pennsylvania .....	77
Rhode Island .....	3
Vermont .....	3
Washington .....	
Wisconsin .....	

Table No. 11—Showing number of deaths in each Division during the last twelve months.

Division.	No. Deaths.
Alabama and Tennessee	1
California and Oregon	0
Colorado and Wyoming	5
Connecticut	1
Illinois	8
Indiana	7
Iowa	1
Kansas	0
Kentucky	3
Maine	11
Maryland	6
Massachusetts	24
Michigan	1
Minnesota	2
Missouri	12
Nebraska	0
New Hampshire	5
New Jersey	8
New York	22
Ohio	13
Pennsylvania	65
Rhode Island	1
Vermont	3
Washington	
Wisconsin	

Table No. 12—Showing number of funerals attended by Camps in a body:

Division.	Number.	
	G. A. R.	S. V.
Alabama and Tennessee	15	1
California and Oregon	3	0
Colorado and Wyoming	1	3
Connecticut	2	0
Illinois	12	9
Indiana	19	5
Iowa	4	1
Kansas	3	0
Kentucky	1	1
Maine	10	8
Maryland	3	5
Massachusetts	70	16
Michigan	2	
Minnesota	36	2
Missouri	5	12
Nebraska	0	0
New Hampshire	28	5
New Jersey	46	7
New York	66	19
Ohio	19	5
Pennsylvania	253	88
Rhode Island	2	0
Vermont	7	2
Washington		
Wisconsin		

Table No. 13—Showing number of burial services conducted by Camps:

Division.	Number.	
	G. A. R.	S. V.
Alabama and Tennessee .....	2	1
California and Oregon .....	0	0
Colorado and Wyoming .....	4	4
Connecticut .....	0	1
Illinois .....	1	2
Indiana .....	2	5
Iowa .....	0	0
Kansas .....	0	3
Kentucky .....	0	1
Maine .....	5	1
Maryland .....	0	4
Massachusetts .....	5	6
Michigan .....		
Minnesota .....	7	3
Missouri .....	0	10
Nebraska .....	0	0
New Hampshire .....	1	3
New Jersey .....	9	3
New York .....	16	14
Ohio .....	11	5
Pennsylvania .....	78	53
Rhode Island .....	0	0
Vermont .....	0	2
Washington .....		
Wisconsin .....		

Table No. 14—Showing number of Camps using Memorial Services:

Division.	Number.	
	A.	B.
Alabama and Tennessee .....	1	0
California and Oregon .....	0	3
Colorado and Wyoming .....	3	1
Connecticut .....	0	1
Illinois .....	0	1
Indiana .....	5	4
Iowa .....	0	0
Kansas .....	3	1
Kentucky .....	0	0
Maine .....	5	7
Maryland .....	0	0
Massachusetts .....	18	12
Michigan .....	1	1
Minnesota .....	7	3
Missouri .....	2	4
Nebraska .....	0	0
New Hampshire .....	3	1
New Jersey .....	2	6
New York .....	13	17
Ohio .....	7	11
Pennsylvania .....	47	23
Rhode Island .....	1	2
Vermont .....	3	5

Washington .....

Wisconsin .....

In closing this report, I desire to express to you, Brother Sheldon, as nearly as words may, my hearty appreciation of the kindly courtesy which you have accorded me, as a member of your staff, and to thank you for the invaluable assistance which headquarters rendered to my department, and also, for honor conferred upon me by the unexpected appointment to this important office.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & L.,

W. J. PATTON,

National Chaplain.



## INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

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

Greetings: I have the honor of submitting for your consideration a report of the work of this department for the term ending with this encampment.

By action of the twenty-sixth Annual Encampment, the Inspection of Camps and Divisions was ordered to be held in the fourth quarter of the year and it became necessary for this department to make preparations immediately after the Encampment.

I therefore appointed the following brothers to act as Assistant National Inspectors:

Alabama & Tennessee, Past Div. Com. L. W. Friedman, Birmingham, Ala.

California & Oregon, E. J. Hromada, San Francisco, Cal.

Colorado & Wyoming, Past Div. Com. John H. Head, Denver, Colo.

Connecticut, Past Div. Com. W. A. Stevens, Boston, Mass.

Iowa, Past Com.-in-Chief G. B. Abbott, Pontiac, Ill.

Illinois, Div. Com. L. A. Dilley, Davenport, Iowa.

Indiana, Past Com.-in-Chief W. G. Dustin, Dwight, Ill.

Kansas, Past Div. Com. R. L. Rickard, Valley Center, Kan.

Kentucky, Past Com.-in-Chief H. V. Speelman, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Maine, Senior Vice Com.-in-Chief F. W. Spear, Bennington, Vermont.

Missouri, National Inspector E. E. Schoening, St. Louis, Mo.

Nebraska, Past Div. Com. A. H. Rawitzer, Omaha, Neb.

Maryland, Past Div. Com. C. Day Rudy, Harrisburg, Pa.

Massachusetts, Past Com.-in-Chief Arthur B. Spink, Providence, R. I.

Michigan, Claude E. Hyatt, Linden, Mich.

Minnesota, Past Div. Com. A. L. Sorter, Jr., 324 Kasota Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.

New Hampshire, Past Div. Com. Arthur M. Soule, Portland, Maine.

New York, Past Div. Com. G. W. Pollitt, 486 Union St., Paterson, N. J.

New Jersey, Past Div. Com. John Bowers, Jr., 1232 Cambria St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Ohio, Past Com.-in-Chief H. V. Speelman, U. S. Sub-treasury, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Pennsylvania, Council-in-Chief J. B. Adams, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Rhode Island, Past Div. Com. Geo. E. Cox, Hartford, Conn.

Vermont, Senior Vice Com.-in-Chief F. W. Spear, Bennington, Vt.

Washington, John W. Walling, Seattle, Wash.

Wisconsin, Past Com.-in-Chief Geo. B. Abbott, Pontiac, Ill.

Several of these brothers for various reasons could not accept the appointment and the following changes were necessary:

Nebraska, George T. Wolz, Fremont, Neb.

New York, Edwin M. Amies, Altoona, Pa.

California, A. M. Irwin, Redding, Calif.

It is a pleasure to me to announce to you that there have been received twenty-five reports of the Assistant National Inspectors and twenty-five reports of the Division Inspectors, a complete inspection of the entire Order.

#### Divisions.

The first Assistant National Inspectors report received was that of Brother R. L. Rickard who inspected the Kansas Division and reached me on October 25th, 1907; the last, that of Brother A. M. Irwin, Assistant National Inspector, who inspected the California Division and reached me March 20th, 1908.

The following is a tabulated report of the inspections of Division headquarters:

- 25 Division Headquarters in Commandery-in-Chief.
- 25 Division Headquarters inspected.
- 23 Divisions have adopted By-Laws. 1 Division no By-Laws.
- 1 Division By-Laws being prepared.
- 25 Division records correct and in good order.
- 23 Division membership records correct.
- 1 Division membership record fair.
- 1 Division membership record poor.
- 23 Division records of Charter Commission and Dispensation correct.
- 1 Division record of Charter Commission and Dispensation fair.
- 1 Division record of Charter Commission and Dispensation poor.
- 25 Division Treasurer's books are correctly kept.
- 21 Divisions keep cash account with each Camp.
- 4 Divisions do not keep cash accounts with each Camp.
- 25 Divisions fill requisitions promptly.
- 25 Divisions answer correspondence promptly.
- All Divisions are free of debt.
- Value of supplies on hand \$1185.87.
- Amount in treasury \$2498.12.
- 13 Commanders receive salaries.
- 19 Secretaries receive salaries.
- 19 Treasurers receive salaries.
- 8 Secretaries are elected.
- 10 Treasurers are elected.
- 21 Treasurers are bonded.
- 24 Divisions issue commissions to all officers.
- The relations of the Sons of Veterans with the G. A. R., W. R. C., Ladies of the G. A. R. and S. of V. Auxiliary are reported to be as of the best from all Divisions.
- 24 Divisions send reports to National Headquarters promptly.
- 1 Division sends reports to National Headquarters fair.
- 11 Divisions paid \$124.15, average \$11.29.
- 14 Divisions had no expense to pay.

Taken as a whole I cannot say that the Divisions have made any material progress during the past year. The two Divisions reported by my predecessor as having an indebtedness of \$280.00 are now free of debt. The amount in the treasury of the Division, however, has decreased \$269.12.

## Camps.

The first Division Inspector's report received by this department was that of Division Inspector Frank W. Rawalt of the Colorado Division, which came to hand December 9th, 1907, and the last that of Division Inspector H. Westbrook of the Nebraska Division, and was received May 11th, 1908.

The following is the consolidated report of the inspection of Camps:

Number of Camps in Divisions.....	806
Number in good standing .....	787
Number inspected .....	689
Number properly equipped .....	670
Number having necessary paraphernalia .....	639
Number in which secret work is committed.....	373
Number keeping records correctly .....	647
Number keeping accounts correctly .....	676
Number forwarded all reports .....	648
Number having roster complete .....	673
Number paid all dues to Headquarters.....	679
Number having password and countersign.....	689
Number members in good standing last quarter....	30821
Number members gained .....	2504
Number members suspended .....	1480
Number members dropped .....	676
Number of Camps not having By-Laws approved....	138
Number presenting badge to recruits.....	660
Number audit accounts .....	582
Total value of property of Camps.....	\$177,447.26
Total indebtedness of Camps .....	\$17,307.00
Number of Camps not free from debt.....	19
Total amount invested .....	\$95,035.47
Number of Camps having military companies.....	119
(14 Divisions.)	
Number of Chaplains forward reports promptly....	634
Number in charge Memorial Day exercises.....	276
Number of Camps attending Divine service.....	607
Number having Ladies Auxilliary .....	168
Number in harmony with G. A. R.....	685
Number observe Union Defender's Day.....	438
Number Camps beneficial .....	171
Amount paid since Dec. 31 for death benefits }	\$344.65
Amount paid since Dec. 31 for sick benefits }	
Number of Camps attending funeral of members....	472
Expended for relief of G. A. R.....	\$2,334.88
Expended for relief of veterans.....	\$31.00
Expended for relief of Sons of Veterans.....	\$150.00

## Time of Holding Inspection.

The action of the last encampment in having the inspection take place in the fourth quarter of the year was a wise one and should be continued; you can readily see that having received the last Division Inspectors report on May 11th, five months after the closing of the fourth quarter, would not have given me sufficient time to complete this report had the inspection taken place during the first quarter of 1908, and in addition

there are one or two Divisions who hold their Division Encampments during this quarter which would have meant a change of Division Inspectors during the time of the Inspection of Camps.

#### **New Report Blanks.**

On assuming the duties of the office I wrote the National Secretary for report blanks for use of the Assistant National Inspectors, also a copy of the Camp and Consolidated Camp Report blanks.

Brother Hammer immediately forwarded these and informed me that these were the last he had on hand and thought advisable to get up a new set of Blanks.

Acting on this suggestion I have completed and attached hereto a new set of Blanks for use of the Division Inspectors for inspection of Camps and to consolidate their Camp Reports, also one for use of the National Inspector for the Inspection of the various Division Headquarters.

#### **Discontinue Inspection of Division Headquarters.**

I am of the opinion that the time has now arrived when we should discontinue the inspection of the various Division Headquarters. Not only do I take it from an economical standpoint, the saving to each Division and loss of time of the Assistant National Inspectors and Officers of the Divisions, but can see no practical results therefrom as the inspection of the books, papers, records, etc., made by the Assistant National Inspector must again be gone over by the Division Council prior to the Annual Division Encampment and therefore think that a copy of their report should be filed either with the Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary or National Inspector and eliminate the inspection of Division Headquarters.

#### **Camp Inspection Blanks.**

I have found in my correspondence with the Division Inspectors that Assistant Division Inspectors are not always prompt in sending in their reports and in a great many instances make no report, nor will they answer letters regarding the inspection of Camps to which they are assigned, thereby delaying the Division Inspector and causing him to appoint some other brother to inspect the Camp.

In view of this I have taken a somewhat radical step regarding the inspection of Camps and leave it to your judgment as to whether or not a change of this nature should be made at this time.

The members of the Camp Council are usually among the best members and I have come to the conclusion that one of their number should inspect the Camp and have it acknowledged before a notary public or signed in the presence of a Division or Commandery-in-Chief officer, not connected with the same Camp inspected.

In this manner we should get better and more prompt results, at the same time a punishment can be inflicted on delinquent Camps by depriving them of their right to representation in the Division Encampment for failure in forwarding their report.

Consolidated Inspection Report

CONSOLIDATED REPORT.

of inspection of Camps of .....  
Division, U. S. A.

.....190..

Division Inspector.

TO

National Inspector.

RECEIVED

.....190..

National Inspector.

ROSTER OF DIVISION OFFICERS.

Counselor .....  
Inspector .....  
Patriotic Instructor .....  
Past Commanders-in-Chief:

Past Grand Division Commanders:

Past Division Commanders:

REPORT OF INSPECTION

OF

..... DIVISION

.....190..

National Inspector.

By .....

Assistant Natl. Inspector.

ROSTER OF DIVISION OFFICERS.

Division Commander .....

Address .....

S. V. Div. Commander.....

J. V. Div. Commander.....

Chaplain .....

Secretary .....

Address .....

Treasurer .....

Address .....

I, ....., do solemnly swear on my honor as a brother and a member of

.....Council that the foregoing is a true copy of the Report of the Inspection of

.....Division, S. V., U. S. A., made by me on the .....day of

..... 190....

.....Council.

Signed and sworn before me this.....day of .....

To be signed in the presence of a Notary Public, or Commandery-in-Chief Officer.

# Division Inspection Report

(To be made out in duplicate, one copy to be furnished to Division.)

Office of .....

National Inspector, Sons of Veterans.

REPORT OF INSPECTION OF.....DIVISION.

The Charter of this Division was issued by..... Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., dated.....

..... Division Commander.

1. No. of Members in good standing last report quarter ending .....
2. No. of Camps gained since last inspection.....
3. No. of Camps suspended and dropped since last inspection .....
4. Are the records correct and in good order.....
5. Is bookkeeping or card system in use for keeping records. ....
6. Are the Treasurers books correctly kept and a cash account kept with each Camp.....
7. Are all requisitions promptly filled?.....
8. Has the Division permanent headquarters?.....
9. Are the Secretary and Treasurer elective officers and what is the term of office?.....
10. Has the Division any indebtedness? If so, has same been reduced during the year?.....
11. Is correspondence promptly answered?.....
12. To whom and what amount of salaries are paid?.....
13. In what amount is bond required of Treasurer?.....
14. What amount of cash in treasury?.....
15. Value of supplies on hand?.....
16. Is there a copy on file of the following reports:—Chaplain, Inspector, Patriotic Instructor .....
17. Has the Division a sufficient supply of Badges, Buttonhole Decorations, Constitutions and other supplies on hand .....
18. What are the relations of the Division with the Kindred Organizations?.....
19. Are reports promptly sent to National Headquarters?.....
20. What is the expense of this inspection?.....

# Consolidated Inspection Report

Headquarters..... Division, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., .... 199..

To..... National Inspector.

Sir:—I have the honor to submit the following Report of the inspection of Camps in the.....

Division, S. V. U. S. A., ..... Division Inspector.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| No. of Camps in Division.....                                | Value of property of Camps.....   |
| No. of Camps in good standing.....                           | What amount in Camp Treasury.....   |
| No. of Camps inspected.....                                  | No. Camps having Ladies Auxiliary.....  |
| No. of members in good standing last quarter.....            | No. Camp Commanders having Ritualistic work to memory.....  |
| No. members gained since Dec. 31st last.....                 | No. S. V. Commanders having Ritualistic work to memory.....   |
| No. of members dropped since Dec. 31st last.....             | No. J. V. Commanders having Ritualistic work to memory.....   |
| No. Camp Treasurers under bond.....                          | No. of Chaplains having Ritualistic work to memory.....   |
| No. Camps not free from debt.....                            | No. of Sergt. of Guard having Ritualistic work to memory.....   |
| No. Camps having Co. of S. V. Reserves.....                  | No. of Camp Secretary's Records correct.....  |
| No. observing Union Defender's Day.....                      | No. of Camp Treasurer's Records correct.....  |
| No. Camps observing Flag Day (June 14th).....                | No. of Camps having room properly equipped.....   |
| No. Camps having supply of Constitution, Badges, Etc.....    | No. of Camps paid all dues to Headquarters.....   |
| No. Camps having By-Laws.....                                | No. of Camps having copy of Quarterly Report, Chaplain and Patriotic Instruction Reports on file..... |
| No. Camps contrib. to Memorial University.....               | No. of Camps whose officers are regular in attendance.....  |
| Amount contributed to Memorial University.....               | No. of Camps having Roster of Camp complete.....  |
| Average attendance of members.....                           | No. of Camps having sufficient amount of supplies on hand.....  |
| Expended for relief of members and families.....             | No. of Camps presenting Badge and Constitution to Recruit.....  |
| Expended for relief of members of G. A. R. and families..... |   |

# Camp Inspection Report

(To be made in duplicate, one copy to be forwarded the Camp.)

To ..... Inspector ..... Division.

Sir and Brother:—I have the honor to herewith submit report of the inspection made this..... day of..... 190.. of.....Camp.

Assistant Inspector. Address.

Question.	Answer.	Question.	Answer.
1. Have the Officers committed the Ritualistic work to memory?...	Yes or No. Percentage.	6. Have the following reports been forwarded to the proper officers and a copy kept on file?	Yes or No. Percentage.
Commander? .....		Quarterly reports? .....	
S. V. Commander?.....		Chaplain reports? .....	
J. V. Commander?.....		Patriotic Inst. reports?.....	
Chaplain? .....			
Sergt. of Guard?.....		7. Are the officers regular in attendance? .....	
2. Are the Treasurer's books correctly kept? .....		8. Is the Roster of the Camp complete, all officers elected, and all staff officers appointed and installed? .....	
3. Are the Treasurer's books correctly kept? .....		9. Has the Camp a sufficient supply of Badges, Buttonhole Decorations, Constitutions and other supplies on hand?.....	
4. Is the Camp room properly equipped? .....		10. Is the regulation Badge and Constitution and Laws presented to each recruit when mustered?..	
5. Have all remittances due Headquarters, per capita tax, supplies and other indebtedness been paid? .....			

# GENERAL INFORMATION

Question.	Answer.	Question.	Answer.
1. How many members in good standing last quarter ending .....		13. What amount has been expended in relief since Dec. 31st? .....	
2. How many gained since Dec. 31st?.....		(a) For members and families?.....	
3. How many dropped since Dec. 31?.....		(b) For members of G. A. R. and families?.....	
4. What amount charged for dues monthly?.....		14. Value of Camp property?.....	
5. Has the Camp Treasurer given bond?.....		15. Does each member receive The Banner regularly?	
6. Is the Camp free from debt?.....		16. What amount in Camp Treasury?.....	
7. Has the Camp a company of S. V. Reserves connected with it? .....		17. Has the Camp a Ladies' Auxiliary?.....	
8. Does the Camp observe Union Defenders' Day, Flag Day, (June 14th) and hold patriotic exercises in the public schools and elsewhere? .....		18. What is the expense of this inspection?.....	
9. Has the Camp a sufficient supply of Constitutions and Laws, Badges and other supplies on hand?			
10. Has the Camp adopted By-Laws and are they approved by the Division Commander?.....			
11. What amount, if any, has been contributed to Memorial University the past year?.....			
12. What is the average attendance of members at meetings? .....			

# INSTRUCTIONS

## To Assistant National Inspectors.

The inspection is to be made by a member of the Camp Council and when all members of the Camp Council are present the Chairman of the Camp Council should inspect the Camp.

The first ten questions are based on a percentage basis of 10% to each question, in the first question give 2% to each officer who has committed his work to memory and 0% to those who have not. The sixth question for forwarding quarterly reports promptly, give 4% and 3% for each of the other two questions.

The last twenty questions are for General Information and are NOT to be given on a percentage basis; they are for the guidance of the Division and National Inspectors. Be prompt in forwarding this report.

These inspections are ordered, not as a mere matter of form, but to encourage the Camps that are doing well and to strengthen those that are in a weak condition. To this end you are to report fully to the Division Inspector that assistance may be given when needed.

Take nothing for granted, but satisfy yourself by actual inspection and examination of all books and records to answer all questions correctly.

Inspection must be made prior to December 31st.

REPORT OF  
 .....  
 Assistant Inspector.  
 FOR  
 ..... Camp.  
 No. .... Division  
 of .....  
 Located at .....

INSPECTION MADE  
 ..... 190..

RECEIVED  
 ..... 190..

Division Inspector.

ROSTER  
 OF  
 CAMP OFFICERS.

Commander .....

Address.....

S. V. Commander.....

J. V. Commander.....

Chaplain .....

Secretary .....

Address.....

Treasurer .....

Address.....

Meeting Place .....

Meets .....

Evenings.

PAST OFFICERS.

Past Commanders-in-Chief:  
 .....

Past Division Commanders:  
 .....

Past Camp Commanders:  
 .....

I, ....., do solemnly swear on my honor as a brother and member of  
 ..... Council that the foregoing is a true copy of the report of the inspection of  
 ..... Camp, No.....made by me on the.....day of  
 .....19....

Signed and sworn to before me this.....day of .....19....  
 ..... Council.  
 (To be signed in the presence of a Notary Public, Division or Commandery-in-Chief Officer NOT a member of the Camp inspected.)

The first ten questions are on a percentage basis, the others are for General Information.

I deem it of vital importance to the Camp that the officers should be proficient in their work to make the proper impression on new members, as the first is the most lasting. It is with the object of compelling Camp officers to commit their ritualistic work to memory that I have placed these questions on a percentage basis.

In view of all the foregoing I would make the following

#### Recommendations:

No. 1—That the Annual Inspection be held the Fourth Quarter of the year.

No. 2—That the Inspection of Division Headquarters be abandoned.

No. 3—That a copy of the report of the Division Council be forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief and National Inspector.

No. 4—The adoption of the Camp Inspection blank and Consolidated Camp Report Blank with such changes as may seem advisable.

No. 5—That all Divisions adopt the card system at their Headquarters.

In closing this report, I desire to extend to the Assistant National Inspectors and Division Inspectors my thanks for the assistance rendered me during the year; to you, Commander Sheldon and your able staff am I indebted for your most courteous consideration and assistance.

In years to come, will I look back to this, one of the most pleasant years of my connection with this Order and always prize most highly the honor conferred on me in my appointment as your National Inspector.

Fraternally yours,  
E. E. SCHOENING, National Inspector.

#### REPORT OF NATIONAL PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR.

Department of Patriotic Instructor.

Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 22nd, 1908.

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

The year just closing has been an active one in this department. Since my installation into office one year ago, I have endeavored to the full extent of my energy and ability to set forth the needs for patriotic instruction to the rising generations and to the immigrant citizenship of our land. To this end, my aim has been to keep in close touch—in direct contact—with the rank and file of the membership of our order. Sufficient reason for this is the fact that every Son of a Veteran possesses qualifications fitting him as a patriotic instructor because of the heritage that came to him through the heroic services and sacrifices of a noble father.

Twelve messages have been sent out during the year in the form of articles along patriotic lines. These have appeared

In the monthly issues of our official organ, *The Banner*. It is to be hoped that good fruit will come from the seed thus sown, and judging from the many commendatory letters that have been received, there is justification for the belief that the efforts set forth have not been altogether in vain.

In addition to these articles, general in character, your National Patriotic Instructor has delivered twenty-seven addresses and has written nearly five hundred letters to members of the Order, including Division and Camp Patriotic Instructors. The reports of these officers show that good work is being done in this department, and that the Camps and Divisions all over the country are coming more and more to realize the importance of the discharge of their duties in this direction. Detailed reports that have been received from Division Patriotic Instructors indicate that about two-thirds of the Camps of the Order conducted public exercises of a patriotic character during the year. This is doing remarkably well, when it is remembered that the department of patriotic instruction was established only two years ago.

Because of astounding information which they contain, the reports of the Patriotic Instructors of the Divisions of New York, and of Alabama and Tennessee, call for special mention.

In answer to question No. 30, "Is there any Anarchistic element in your Division?", Patriotic Instructor Thomas D. Rivers, of New York, answers: "Yes.—thick." In his report under the head of remarks, the following appears: "Reports from Camp Patriotic Instructors are very incomplete, due to inability, in this big state, with large cities, and lack of co-operation and much prejudice of school officials toward the Order to obtain information."

This remarkable statement with reference to the attitude of school officials is a matter that should not be allowed to be passed by unheeded, and clearly proves the necessity for patriotic work throughout our land, particularly in the larger cities and more thickly populated districts.

In his answer to question No. 27, "Are there any objectionable school histories used in the schools of your state?", Division Patriotic Instructor Frank E. Feltus, of Alabama and Tennessee, states: "Yes, those especially written for all schools in the south."

Above all else, it is highly essential that only true history should be taught to the youth of our country. It is an indisputable fact that much prejudice and misinformation may be found in our school histories, especially those written by southern authors and which are in general use in the schools of the southern states. This is an evil that must be corrected if we are to have in fact as well as in name no North, no South, no East, no West, but one Country.

Four days stand out conspicuously in the calendar of patriotism. They are as follows:

"Union Defenders' Day," February 12th.

"Memorial Day," May 30th.

"Flag Day," June 14th.

"Independence Day," July 4th.

These are the days that deserve marked attention from all

loyal citizens, and particularly from members of our Order of Sons of Veterans. On February 12th, the anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, each Camp should have an open public meeting, and Camp patriotic instructors should arrange with the schools of their respective localities for exercises of an appropriate character. May 30th, "Memorial Day", belongs to our soldiers living and our soldiers dead. It is the most sacred of all days, and deserves to be so held, rather than desecrated, as is too often the case. June 14th and July 4th are respectively the days of the birth of our flag and our nation. This is good enough reason for their proper observance.

Teach patriotism in our public schools. This done, the future of our government is secure. Love of home, of liberty, of freedom, is a heaven-born gift. It comes forth with the birth of the child and stands out as a beacon-light to guide the moving millions against the blackened hand of anarchy and hate. Liberty has been the watchword in the homes of the people throughout the life of the Nation. It was for their love of liberty that the Pilgrims left their fatherland and came to a country where they could live and worship according to the dictates of their own conscience. It was for their love of liberty and freedom that Washington and his Continental army fought the battles of the Revolution. And it was for their love of liberty and freedom that the thousands of loyal patriots promptly responded to the call of "Uncle Abraham" and enlisted under their country's flag to defend their country's honor and to maintain their country's unity.

Patriotism, independence, liberty—these three words possess a deeper meaning to Americans than any other three words of our language. They constitute the very foundation stone of our governmental structure and stand as a bulwark of protection to our free institutions.

William McKinley said: "With patriotism in our hearts and with the flag of our country in the hands of our children, there is no danger of anarchy and there will be no danger to the Union."

The sight of "Old Glory" is an inspiration to every truly patriotic heart. It is the flag that brave men have fought and died for—the banner of beauty and glory, the ensign of peace, the emblem of protection. No traitor's hand has e'er hauled it down—its stars and stripes are all there—it has never been furled in defeat, never unfurled in disgrace or dishonor.

Our heritage calls for the protection, the defense of this flag and all that it represents. Will we as faithful sons of patriotic sires be always true to this sacred trust? Will we always be on the firing line, ready for the bugler's call? If so, the fires of patriotism will ever be found burning from every hill-top in the land. No better textbook of patriotism could be found than "Old Glory," when its true meaning is explained by teachers and patriotic instructors. No more striking illustration of the superiority and majesty of our National emblem can be found than the following authentic historical event which affected one of the greatest men the world has ever produced. General U. S. Grant, walking down the streets of Galena, Illinois, with General J. C. Smith, having his attention called to a large garrison flag bearing the names of Grant and Colfax,

candidates for President and Vice President, stopped and said: "General, I wish you would have that flag taken down or those names taken off it—there is no name so great that it should be placed upon the flag of our country."

Let this sentiment of the immortal Grant serve as a text for our patriotic teaching.

My recommendations are four in number.

1. That all Camp Patriotic Instructors be instructed to arrange for the proper observance of "Union Defenders' Day," co-operating with the schools of their respective communities.

2. That a special effort be made to have eliminated from the public schools of the country any and all objectionable and inaccurate histories.

3. That Congress be memorialized to make appropriations to furnish flags for all public school buildings throughout the country.

4. That wherever there exists a spirit of anarchy, Camps be urged to hold public meetings for the purpose of promoting true American patriotism.

To the National Officers, the several Division and Camp Patriotic Instructors, and to our membership in general I desire to express my appreciation of their hearty co-operation in this patriotic work, while to you, Commander-in-Chief, I wish to return my sincere thanks for the honor you conferred upon me in making me a member of your official family.

Fraternally submitted.

HARLEY V. SPEELMAN,

National Patriotic Instructor,  
S. of V., U. S. A.

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Alf. G. Loyd, of Pennsylvania, moved that a recess until 2 o'clock this afternoon be taken.

The motion was seconded and carried, and recess taken.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

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The Encampment resumed at 3 p. m., Tuesday, August 25.

Commander-in-Chief: The first order of business for this session will be to receive the report of the Committee on Ritual.

Before the report was received, the Credentials Committee made a supplemental report, which was accepted, no objections being offered.

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### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RITUAL.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: Brothers, I assure you that a great deal of time has been put on this ritual. To facilitate the matter, I would suggest to the brothers who may desire to ask for information on any point pertaining to the ritual, that they make a minute of it, and at the proper time the committee will be able to answer any question. We want it discussed as freely as possible.

(At this point the Commander-in-Chief asked the permission of the ritual committee to make an announcement, which permission being granted, he announced the following as the special committee on press: C. A. Sidman, of Maryland, and L. W. Friedman, of Alabama and Tennessee.)

The report of the Committee on Ritual was then made as follows:

Niagara Falls, N. Y., August 25, 1908.

To the Officers and Brothers of the 27th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Brothers: Your Committee on Ritual begs leave to report as follows:

We first beg to acknowledge the good work of the previous committee on rituals in securing extensive correspondence throughout our membership, which brought many valuable suggestions and conveyed to this committee a general idea of the desires of the members of the order in the matter of a new ritual.

The ritual which we herewith submit is not the work of any individual of the committee nor exclusively of the committee, but is framed up, rewritten, added to and eliminated from many suggestions which have come from various sources. To thank every individual person would occupy considerable time and space; however, we desire to express our appreciation for what we have received from Brothers Malcolm D. Rudd, of Connecticut; Frederic Gilbert Bauer, of Massachusetts; C. L. Sutter, of Michigan; William T. Church, of Illinois, and A. L. Sorter, of Iowa, for valuable and useful suggestions.

It is beyond the hope of this committee that the ritual which it will submit will please everybody. From the correspondence, which was voluminous, it would appear that the Order is of many opinions on the question of ritual: some desiring no ritual at all; some asking for a three-degree ritual, each degree conferred from time to time as the ability and service of the candidate seem to justify. Others seem to be entirely satisfied with the present ritual, but the majority of the correspondents express a desire for a ritual containing two forms, a long and a short, optional with the Camp. The committee is of the opinion that it would be unappropriate for a patriotic, historic and sentimental Order of the character of ours to employ a ritual that is mystic, cryptic and goulish in its character. Neither would a ritual requiring extensive and expensive paraphernalia be appropriate for our Order. Simplicity in language and form has been the idea of this committee. The committee is aware that the present ritual when committed to memory by the officers and rendered with feeling and intelligence has been greatly admired, and no ritual unless properly handled and committed to memory could possibly prove interesting and attractive to the members, or impressive to the candidate.

The Order must bear in mind that the success and prosperity of the Sons of Veterans cannot and does not depend in a large degree upon the character of its ritual, be it ever so attractive. There are other things equally, if not more important to the success of the Order. It is alleged by those who are supposed to know that the Masonic ritual is probably as interesting and attractive as any extant, and there are those who believe a ritual of some such character would be the making of our organization, overlooking the fact that antiquity and international universality, together with the high personal character of those elected for membership, make attractions which we do not possess. Indeed, our Order has never made worth and character necessary qualifications for admission. There seems to be a spirit which is not the committee's place to criticize, to admit those having the hereditary qualifications regardless of any general worthlessness, felony and treason excepted. It has not untrrequently happened that very worthy sires have been the fathers of very unworthy sons, and the desire to get members seems to have overshadowed every other consideration.

It has been suggested by several brothers whose opinions deserve careful consideration, that this ritual should deal largely with historical and statistical events of the War of the Rebellion, and after careful deliberation the committee is of the belief that in a very short period these dates and figures would become even more tiresome and unattractive to the members of the Camp than even the lectures and abtruse principles contained in the present ritual.

Your committee believes that, in view of the many and various ideas of a ritual which have reached us, that the only practical way of securing a fair amount of satisfaction with the work which we propose presenting, is to give the Order a ritual, which will contain several optional sections or degrees, and in conformance with that belief, your committee submits a ritual which contains the opening in short form and the

closing in short form. The various ceremonies are provided for. First: By a very short form of initiation. Second: By a lofty, patriotic, highly sentimental, dignified long form of initiation, using a very little of the present ritual. Third: Of an optional section, dignified in character, yet which can be made highly amusing, entertaining and instructive, but in no way containing any "horse-play." All of these previous ceremonies and forms are civic in character and can be given by any Camp of reasonable intelligence, regardless of the size or financial condition. We have provided a second optional section, military in character, and amusing, but at the same time instructive, but nothing bordering on vulgarity. It is quite elastic, and an enterprising Camp could do much with it that is only suggested in the form we give. This section can only be given by a Camp which is at least partially uniformed and equipped with arms and which can afford a small expenditure for paraphernalia. While no one Camp will probably use all the forms provided in the ritual, yet the expense of printing them is comparatively small and will probably result in giving more general satisfaction than would follow the adoption of just one form and requiring all Camps to follow that form. The committee has not entered into any rearrangement of the incidental ceremonies, such as the forms for Division and Commandery-in-Chief, installations, the burial services, and the Memorial Day services, believing it best to have these edited to conform to such a ritual as would be adopted by this Encampment. We have reduced the secret work to a minimum, believing that nothing is essential in this line beyond the password and the countersign.

Your committee has disregarded, in so far as titles, etc., the Constitution and Laws of the Order, having made some rearrangements and changed some titles, believing that it was better to have the ritual in consistent form, and then the Constitution could be changed in conformity therewith. The position of the Camp Chaplain has been changed to the right hand of the Camp Commander, and the Patriotic Instructor has been given the Chaplain's station, the Patriotic Instructor having been given considerable work in the ritualistic services. The Sergeant of the Guard has been changed to "Guide." The Corporal of the Guard has been dispensed with, and the Camp and Picket Guards are changed to Inner and Outer Guards," respectively.

The committee, after careful consideration, believes that the word "Fraternity" should replace that of "Friendship" in all of our ritualistic service. "Fraternity" is a stronger and more forceful word. We call ourselves "Brothers" and do not call each other "Friends," and this in no way affects the form of our "F. C. & L." We think this a change for the better.

Your committee makes the following recommendations:

1. That in the further work of editing the new ritual the obligations in all of the installation services be so arranged as to cover elective and appointive officers at the same time.
2. That all Camps be supplied with five (5) copies of the new ritual, upon the return to Division headquarters of the five copies of the ritual now in their possession, the only expense to them to be the payment of transportation charges.

3. That this ritual shall become effective and be put in use by Camps on and about January 1, 1909.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & L.,

G. B. ABBOTT,  
H. V. SPEELMAN,  
F. A. KREMER,

Committee.

The committee then proceeded to the exemplification of the ritual.

First the "long form" was presented; then the "first optional" and the "Military section."

After the exemplification, G. B. Abbott, of Illinois, moved that the report of the committee be accepted and the ritual be adopted. The motion was seconded.

F. K. Maples, of New York: Commander, and Brothers, we are to be congratulated here today that we have a committee that has brought in such a beautiful ritual. It seems to me that for years we have not known where we were. I have visited Camps where I have been ashamed of the work. It is about time we took hold of this matter and settled it.

W. T. Church, of Illinois: I am heartily in sympathy in the sentiment just expressed. I have listened with the greatest pleasure to the presentation of the ritual. This committee has given to this Order today a poem of American patriotism.

E. H. Archer, of Ohio: Brothers, in the light of the experiences of fraternity in America, you have today taken steps which will provide the means for creating an interest in the Order of Sons of Veterans by providing a standard ritual, and now if you will just make it obligatory you will have something which your inspectors will have to do, and you will have something which will put every son of a veteran of this Order on his mettle to acquire and retain this work. I desire to add my word of commendation. I would only add, by emphasizing their act, that by your action you make it obligatory that this ritual be used.

Commander-in-Chief: The question before the house is on the adoption of the report of this committee. All in favor of the motion will signify by rising.

The motion was unanimously carried by a rising vote.

E. R. Campbell, of Maryland: I move you, sir, that the committee on ritual be continued, and that they have the editing and printing of the same in charge.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire: I think this body should give its greatest thanks to this committee for giving such a grand and noble ritual. I move you, sir, that a rising vote of thanks be extended to the committee for their excellent report.

The motion was seconded and carried by a rising vote.

Commander-in-Chief: I will read the following communications:

"Elks Club, Niagara Falls, N. Y.,

August 25, 1908.

National Association, Sons of Veterans, in convention, Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Gentlemen: The privileges of the Elks Club are extended to all members of our Order and their friends during your stay in our city.

W. E. PEGGS,  
Tiler and Steward.'

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"The Niagara Falls Power Company,

Niagara Falls, N. Y., August 22, 1908.

Mr. George F. Diemer, Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Diemer: At the special request of our Consulting Engineer, Mr. Van Cleve, we take pleasure in extending to the Sons of Veterans and the Woman's Auxiliary an invitation to visit our power house, on the afternoon of Wednesday, the 26th instant.

We are making this case an exception on our uniform practice in the matter of conventions desiring to visit our plants which of course is not to be regarded as a precedent.

I suggest that you communicate with our superintendent, Mr. L. E. Imlay, advising him prior to the visit approximately what number will be in the party and the exact time at which the visit will be made.

Yours very truly,  
PHILIP P. BARTON,  
General Manager.

---

Commander-in-Chief: I have arranged with the traction company to have a special car. We are to leave here tomorrow afternoon at 1:30. On our return we will stop at the Natural Food Company Plant."

Commander-in-Chief: The hour has arrived for the Memorial Service. To my mind this is one of the most important sessions, and if you care to pay a tribute to your Commander-in-Chief you will please remain. The ladies are invited to participate, and the exercises of this particular service have been arranged by our National Chaplain, Dr. Patton.

Before proceeding with this service, I want to state that we have received invitations from the following organizations for places to hold our next encampment.

From the Atlantic City Bureau of Information and Publicity, endorsed by the Atlantic City Board of Trade, the Atlantic City Hotel Men's Association, and the Atlantic City Business League.

From the Cedar Point, Ohio, Resort Company.

From the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y., inviting the encampment to establish its headquarters there next year.

E. M. Lowe, of Ohio: I move you that after the close of the Memorial Services this meeting adjourn until tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Commander-in-Chief: The meeting will now be turned over to Dr. Patton.

## MEMORIAL SERVICES

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Rev. W. J. Patton: We have a little more than half an hour for the service. We will stand and sing one stanza of "Nearer My God to Thee."

Prayer by Rev. B. F. Jones, Chaplain of Missouri Division.

Mrs. F. Gillman, National Chaplain of the Sons of Veterans Auxillary: Brothers and Sisters. Again we are assembled in annual convention to meet and greet one another and advance the welfare of our beloved Order. Before we enter upon it, it is fitting that we give thought to those who have been taken from us during the past year. Our Auxillary has lost by death 48 members. The ties are severed, but the memory of the lost ones should be the strongest and best of the links which bind us together. The recollections of their sacrifices and their desire to carry forward the work so dear to them should unite us more closely than before. While we mourn the loss of those gone before we should strive to emulate their virtues. Some of our members were the wives of those who sacrificed so much that our country might live. Some of them bade goodbye to loved ones who never returned; others returned cripples. Others of our members were those who in later years have comforted the veterans in their declining years. Let us join with our husbands and brothers in expressing our love for those who have gone before. Think of the countless millions of the generations yet to be. Let our sisters assist the veterans that are needy, and care for the widows and the fatherless. It is not for us to judge of their work, but we must say simply, "She has done what she could." My words would be of little avail if it were not for the thought that it is your desire, brothers and sisters, to participate in this memorial service. The most beautiful sentiments are those in your mind, as you think of those "Though lost to sight, to memory dear." I trust that this memorial service may be a part of every national convention to be held in the future.

Song, "Jesus Lover of My Soul."

Rev. W. J. Patton: Some weeks ago as National Chaplain, under instructions from the Commander-in-Chief, I addressed a letter to each sitting Division Commander of the Order, requesting that if there had been any deaths in their respective Divisions of any active members that brief notice might be prepared, to be brought or sent to the Encampment. I have received a few, which I have been requested to read. I will call upon Brother McGuire, of Indiana.

N. J. McGuire, of Indiana: I will speak first of Harold C. Megrew, late Constitutional Life Member. Harold C. Megrew was born in Indianapolis, Ind., March 12, 1858. At the breaking

out of the war his father went to the front with the famous 11th Indiana, but was later given a commission and transferred to a colored regiment; he was killed in the Wilderness Campaign. The widow, with two young sons, returned to her old home in Ohio, and later secured a departmental appointment at Washington, taking her youngest son, Harold, with her, where he received the greater part of his education. At the age of sixteen he returned to friends in Ohio, settling at Athens, where he engaged in the hotel business with an uncle; later removing to Zanesville. In the early '80s he received an appointment in the treasury department at Washington, which he resigned at the end of President Arthur's term. During this period he was secretary of the Ohio Republican Association, at that time a powerful political organization. After leaving Washington, Major Megrew entered the hotel business in Columbus, Ohio, later removing to Richmond, Indiana. In 1889 he returned to Washington and entered the insurance business, and in 1892 he returned to Indianapolis, his birth place, continuing in the insurance business from that time until his death.

At the outbreak of the Spanish war, Major Megrew was acting as Chief of Staff to Governor Mount, of Indiana, and was active in the preparatory work of furnishing Indiana's quota under the first call. The 161st Indiana was organized under the first call for volunteers after the militia had been mustered, and Major Megrew was commissioned senior major of this regiment, and served at Jacksonville, Savannah and in Cuba. While in Cuba he contracted the Cuban fever, the effects of which were ever after marked in his physical condition, and which were a direct factor in his death at the age of 50.

After the close of the Spanish war, Major Megrew took an active interest in the Spanish War Veterans organization, being successively elected Junior and Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, and at New Haven in 1903 was unanimously elected Commander-in-Chief. It was during his incumbency of this office that most largely through his efforts was accomplished the amalgamation of all the existing organizations of veterans of the Spanish war, and the founding of the United Spanish War Veterans, of which he was the first Commander-in-Chief.

Major Megrew early took an active interest in the Sons of Veterans. He was a prominent figure in the first encampment of the Indiana Division, at Richmond, Indiana; a member of the Richmond Camp, and later a charter member of Ben Harrison Camp, No. 356, of Indianapolis, Indiana, where his membership remained until his death. He was elected a constitutional life member of the Commandery-in-Chief at Detroit in 1899.

Of Rollo B. Oglesbee, of Indiana, I will now speak. Death has for the second time this year invaded the ranks of the members of the Commandery-in-Chief of Indiana, and summoned Past Commander Rollo B. Oglesbee. Brother Oglesbee was head of the banking department of the State Auditor's office. He died at Indianapolis, Indiana, August 16, 1908, at the age of 49 years. He had served in a number of public positions of importance. During the Spanish-American war he was in the signal service, ranking as first lieutenant. In 1895 he was secretary of the Indiana State Senate, and soon after the close

of the session he was appointed to a position in the office of the secretary of state. He served in this place one and one-half years.

Later, in 1902, he was parole agent for the Indiana State Prison, holding this position one year. One year ago this month he was appointed head of the bank department, as stated before. His efficiency in this position was a matter of comment around the state house. He was thorough and systematic and was commended highly by the state auditor.

At other times after his graduation from the law and literary departments of Ann Arbor, in 1895, Mr. Oglesbee engaged in the practice of law and journalistic work. He was born at Plymouth, Indiana, in 1859. He graduated from the South Division high school at Chicago, going to Ann Arbor soon afterwards. After graduation from Ann Arbor, he practiced law for one year at Olathe, Kas. Meanwhile, in 1881, he married Harriet L. Houghton, of Plymouth, who survives him, together with five children.

Returning from Kansas, Mr. Oglesbee entered the practice of law at Plymouth. A few years later he was secretary of the senate and subsequently in the office of the secretary of state. In 1897 he took charge of the Marshall County Republican and remained as owner and manager until 1899. He then went to Muncie where he was managing editor of the Muncie News. In 1902 he returned to Laporte and practiced law until he came to the state auditor's office, with the exception of one year, when he was parole agent for the state prison.

From his early manhood Brother Oglesbee has done a great deal of literary and historical research work.

He was elected Commander of the Indiana Division, Sons of Veterans, at Frankfort, Indiana, in 1896, and at the time of his death he was a member of Blaine Camp, No. 82, Terre Haute, Indiana.

Albert W. Scott, of Pennsylvania: I wish to speak on the member of the Division of Pennsylvania who has passed away during the year:

Brother Charles C. Morton died January 2, 1908; he was mustered into the Order on March 10, 1882; was a member of the camp council of his Camp for the years 1883, 1887, 1888, 1894, 1902, 1906, 1907, and was re-elected for 1908, but not installed, by reason of his death; he was a delegate in 1883, 1884 and 1885; elected Captain in 1885; Junior Vice Division Commander in 1891-2; Division Councilman 1889-90, and Division Chaplain in 1907-08; he was the first Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Rev. W. J. Patton; I will read the following communications and memorials relating to the death of other members:

From New Hampshire. The Division of New Hampshire recalls with affectionate remembrance the Rev. Victor M. Morse, Division Patriotic Instructor, who passed to higher duties February, 1908, at the age of 37 year, 5 months and 13 days. He was a member of Willie Groat Camp, Worcester, Mass., to which he had shortly before transferred. Brother Morse for a long time held membership in Gilbert Dustin Camp, of Hopkinton, N. H. While there associated he was a valuable member, wise in his counsel, admirable in his example, lovable in his personal-

ity, religious without bigotry, earnest without bitterness, patriotic by instinct and inclination, and he was devoted to the principles of friendship, charity and loyalty.

As such the Division of New Hampshire cherishes his memory. He rests from his labors and his works do follow him.

ARTHUR J. BOUTWELL,  
Past Division Commander, N. H.

From Maryland. In memoriam of Col. W. E. W. Ross, who answered the roll-call of the Supreme Captain on November 12, 1907. Interment was made in Loudon Park Cemetery with the solemn rights of the Grand Army of the Republic and Sons of Veterans. The active pallbearers were members of the G. A. R. and Garfield Camp No. 1, Sons of Veterans. The Maryland Division was represented by Division Commander Harry L. Streib, Division Secretary Edwin C. Irelan, Division Treasurer Edward K. DePuy, and Past Division Commander F. T. F. Johnson.

Colonel Ross was a Past Grand Division Commander of our Order, and to him is due the credit for the up-building and wide-spreading of the cause which was dear to his heart. His death is an irreparable loss, and whilst we bow to the inevitable, nevertheless, we shall miss his ardent interest and his ever readiness to speak an encouraging word for our welfare. He has erected a monument which the ravages of time can not destroy, but will be as a beacon light to bestir others to perpetuate in the minds of their sons the principles for which the Sons of Veterans stand. Colonel Ross was a leading participant in all matters affecting the welfare of the Grand Army and the Sons of Veterans, being identified with the Grand Army and Garfield Camp No. 1, Sons of Veterans, in which organizations his death caused great sadness. Colonel Ross is survived by his widow and one son, Past Division Commander Miles W. Ross.

Maryland Division has also lost Samuel Bennett, whose residence in Baltimore, Md., and who was mustered into Garfield Camp No. 1, of Baltimore, on March 12, 1890; Geo. H. Wackerhauser, late of Baltimore, who was mustered into Garfield Camp March 28, 1900, and who died September 30, 1907. Brother Wackerhauser was second lieutenant of his camp in 1901, first lieutenant in 1902, captain in 1903, and was senior vice division commander 1906-07. Also William C. Watts, late of Baltimore, mustered into Garfield Camp No. 1, May 7, 1890, and died March 12, 1908; and C. F. Lynn, whose late residence was Wilmington, Del., and who was mustered into Appomattox Camp No. 2, of Wilmington, September 24, 1906; he died in March, 1908.

From Maine: The day is done; the noisy rattle and hum of machinery ceases, and the big manufacturing city seems still, the hurry, worry work-a-day world of mercantile life pauses and rests.

So we pause, amid the pleasures of sight-seeing, and hustle and business of this Encampment, to do homage and pay fitting respect to the memories of those of our comrades who have been mustered out of this service, this life we so cherish and enjoy, and who now stand before the Great Commander on High.

Maine Division mourns for each and every one of the dear brothers who have passed into the Great Beyond. Special recognition, however, is due to one who was a member of this national organization, and we doubt not many of you will recall our dear departed comrade, Fred E. Fairfield. Colonel Fairfield was a charter member of Henry C. Staples' Camp, of Augusta, and its first Captain. He was a hard and conscientious worker for the Order and the tenth Commander of the Maine Division.

Not long after serving the Division in this capacity, he changed his residence and although always ready and willing to lend assistance to a brother of the Order, his condition and situation would not permit of much active service, but by his many acts of kindness and generosity was he known.

Only forty-five years old, we hardly expected he would leave us so soon, and the news of his death last July caused sadness to predominate among the Pine Tree sons. Brother Fairfield leaves a wife and four children, and to them our sympathy, love and friendship is extended.

C. H. CRAM, Chairman of Committee.

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From the Colorado and Wyoming Division: Brother William S. Paul, Commander of Colorado and Wyoming Division, S. V., U. S. A., died January 5, 1908, of congestion of the lungs. He was born in Philadelphia, Pa., April 28, 1875, and went to Denver, Colorado, in 1901. Brother Paul was mustered into the Sons of Veterans September 5, 1905, and was a member of Farragut Camp of Denver. He was always a faithful and untrifling worker in the Order. He was elected to the office of Division Commander at Colorado Springs, May 16, 1907, and in that capacity worked unceasingly for the betterment and upbuilding of the Division, and his endeavors met with merited success until they were brought to a close by death.

He was loved and respected by all his friends and associates, and he will ever remain in the memory of the members of the Colorado and Wyoming Division.

From Vermont: In the midst of business and pleasure we are constantly reminded of the Great Beyond. On June 22nd last, William H. Sears, of Bennington, Vt., passed from this life to join the large Camp and Post on the other side. Brother Sears, while a member of Frank Ray Camp No. 9, of Bennington, was also a charter member of the Vermont Division. He was also a member of G. A. Custer Post 42, Department of Vermont.

While we pause to show our last respects to the one that is gone, let us rejoice in that hope that some time we will meet him and others who have passed over and joined the Supreme Camp above.

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Rev. W. J. Patton: This completes the list.

It is related that an old gentleman living in one of the lower tiers of counties bordering on the Hudson, some years ago, was seen on several occasions descending slowly the steep hill down to the river's edge. Having traveled that far, he would stand on the bank and look across the river, and then after a little while would turn around and slowly ascend the

hill to the village. One day a gentleman who had watched him several times accosted him and asked for an explanation. The old gentleman said, "I have a son who lives on the other side. In other days when I was strong I was able to row a boat across the river and visit my son's home; but now I can not cross the river, but I can go down to the banks and look across and see where my son lives."

So, sisters and brothers, we come today to stand for a moment on the brink of the river and look over yonder towards those who have gone before. Let us follow our sisters and brothers in our thoughts, and today, for a little while, look away to where they live. I say to where they live, because I am persuaded that theirs is the life, ours only the shadow of that which is to follow. And to just such a degree as they were true to the heavenly vision which dawns upon every intelligent soul, the "light which lightens every man that cometh in to the world," to just such a degree have they entered upon the enjoyment of the "life more abundant," and upon the fruition of all their hopes.

It was a profound philosophical statement, as well as a deeply spiritual one, made by St. Paul, when, in his letter to the Church at Philippi, he declares that for him "to die is gain."

To many this statement will appear utterly contradictory, because to them to die is the loss of pleasure, position, wealth; all that such hold most dear. To them to live is gain, to die is irreparable loss and eternal despair. To Dives, who is simply the type of a class, to live was "to dress in purple and fine linen and to fare sumptuously every day," but to die was—torment. To him death was loss. For Lazarus to live was poverty, want, suffering and degradation, but to die was—Paradise.

To Queen Elizabeth, to live was power and almost unlimited wealth; to die was loss, despair, else she would not have offered part of her great wealth for a few hours of life. It was with sorrow that we read, a few years ago, of the death of General Clinton B. Fisk, as man and officer, loved and respected wherever known; honored and trusted by the Church and the world, wealthy, cultured, eloquent, with an enviable war record. Surely for him to die was not gain, but loss, so some might think, but almost his last statement before his spirit departed from the earth, was, "To die is gain."

What is gain? Go into the political turmoil of the day, or into the marts of trade, or talk with the mechanic, or with the professional man, and ask the question, and too many will answer: "A swelling bank account, increased business, corner city lots, or improved farm property."

Will these things, desirable and useful in their place, cure an aching heart, quiet a troubled conscience, bring sleep to a restless spirit? Will these things, good in themselves, bring comfort and consolation to the mourners in the families of those whom we today memorialize?

It is at such times as the present memorial occasion that we realize the impotence of all that the world holds most dear and for which men sell all they have.

A few years ago, Marshall Field, Jr., son of Chicago's most distinguished merchant, while handling firearms at his home

accidentally shot himself. On the day of the son's funeral, every store owned by Marshall Field in America, Europe and Asia, was closed. Marshall Field, Sr., was perhaps the richest merchant in the world, yet his stores of millions were not sufficient to save the son. In such an hour the poverty of money and the riches of life and health are revealed.

Readers of *Dombey and Son* will recall the conversation between the elder Dombey and his son Paul, when the former is endeavoring to teach the son the use and power of money, what it is and what it can do. "Money, Paul," said the father, "can do anything." "Anything, Papa, that means everything, don't it, Papa?" "It includes everything, yes," said the father. "Then," said Paul, "Why didn't money save me my Mama? It is cruel, is it?" Who will presume to answer the question placed in the mouth of the boy by Charles Dickens, the great author.

If material things will not do for us that which we most need, then they are not gain, even though men may sell their lives for the possession of these things. St. Paul declares that some are "destitute of the truth," supposing that gains Godliness, and then he adds, "Godliness with contentment is great gain." Again he declares that "Godliness is profitable, unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, as well as of that which is to come." Therefore, if Paul's philosophy is sound, and his theology true, we are to conclude that that which gives promise of this life and also of that which is to come is true gain, and that which gives promise of but one life is not gain, and if that one life be only this brief material existence, then it is not only not gain but irreparable loss.

Then we may conclude that death is financial gain, if we may apply such material terms to spiritual quantities. It is next to impossible to live in this world and take absolutely no thought of the morrow. It seems to be part of our restless nature to anticipate the future, or in the words of the homely saying, "cross our bridge before we come to it." I look today upon weary bodies and throbbing brains and I ask the trouble. The answer is, the financial strain, the necessity of meeting obligations, the demands of the home, of society, of business, of the state. Now, if I were to tell you that there is a place where your every need will be supplied, where every want will be anticipated, and where there can be no thought of tomorrow, because there is no tomorrow, only eternal today, where there can be no harassing want of means, no disastrous failure, no troublous anticipations how to meet indebtedness, you would at once crowd about me to know that Elysium.

It is my privilege and duty to assure you, in the name of Jesus Christ, that such a place exists—on the immortal side of death. There is a city where every inhabitant is a joint heir with its Maker and Builder, where there is no want of any kind, but where every one is a Priest unto the Most High God. This is the gain of death. Therefore, he is not an ascetic, nor is he a blind fanatic, who can sing—

"A tent or a cottage, why should I care,  
They're building a mansion for me over there;  
Though exiled from home, yet still I may sing,  
All Glory to God, I'm a child of the King.'

Again, to die is physical gain. Many who are in the enjoyment of their strength and vigor of early manhood and womanhood, may think this a strange statement. What can be better, brighter, happier, than the buoyancy of youth or health. Far be it from me to cast a shadow across any path; on the contrary I would make life's pathway as full of sunshine and roses as possible. But sentiment will not change the laws of nature, nor our wishes make our sufferings one bit less. Accidents come to all alike; disease will take in its grasp the little curly headed darlings, and the rider on the pale horse will carry away in his relentless grasp the promising sons and daughters, as well as the aged grandparents. Physical weakness and lingering illness invade all homes, and only a few years, more or less, of suffering or torment, and this entire company of women and men before me today, will have passed away and perished from the earth. The question is, will the change of worlds bring any change to these tormented bodies? And the only answer to this agonizing question, this world-wide query, is, that given by the exile at Patmos, St. John, the Divine, as he declares what shall be the inheritance of the inhabitants of New Jerusalem. You who have sat at the bedside of such while the loved ones panted out the little remnant of life that remained, and you, like another David, wished that you might suffer and die for them, listen to the words of comfort; "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying; neither shall there be any more pain." Yes, death will be a physical gain.

My last proposition is that death will be a spiritual gain. In spite of the intense materiality by which man surrounds himself, yet we can not escape the fact that man is a spiritual being, created for spiritual existence and spiritual enjoyments. The longings of our spirit, the aspirations which spring from our heart like heaven born angels, but which are forever wandering about unsatisfied, are proof positive of a lost Eden.

The spirit is ever beating against the limitations of the body, as a wild bird flutters to burst asunder the bars of his prison, which prevents its flight heavenward. The spirit longs for nobility, beauty, purity, while the flesh drags it down to its own gross level. Every one of mature years before us at this time has been more or less engaged in this struggle between the flesh and the spirit. How you have struggled to be noble in life, only to have some dark suggestion, born of hell, intrude itself upon your privacy, only God and you are aware. How many times you have resolved to be true to yourself, only to find that law which Paul found, namely, "When I seek to do good, I find evil ever present with me." Why this struggle? I answer, because man is a spiritual being and the spirit was originally created in the image of its Maker; hence noble, and it is ever seeking its original or normal state.

Every organism, except man, evidently is satisfied with its state. I might quote many examples from nature, but it would be superfluous.

Man becomes more restless the more his wants are supplied. With a nature that no accumulations of wealth, the highest attainments of knowledge, nor the most unlimited earthly power can satisfy, then bound and caged.

Is this all? Is there no relief? No brighter future? Then welcome annihilation, and the quicker the better. But, with the faith of a Paul, man is enabled to rise above the Sunless sky of unbelief and rationalism, and with a confident assurance born of the spirit of the Almighty, declare, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building, a house not made with hands, eternally in the heavens." That will be spiritual gain, my friends, when we put on bodies like unto our Master's glorious body, and our spirits shall be free to rove in realms of which we now dream in our sublime moments, but which dreams seem to matured men and women like a babe crying after the moon. But, I am persuaded that these aspirations which spring like heaven born angels upon the soul's vision and incite to nobler efforts are but the promise of the spiritualities which we shall enjoy when this vile body shall be dissolved and the resurrected body shall be inhabited by the redeemed spirit of man.

Therefore, we conclude, that while we who are living, perhaps, we might more truly say, we who are dying, mourn the absence of those who have passed from the circle of our fraternal fellowship during the year now closed, and whose lives we memorialize on this occasion, are really the gainers, and we who have been left behind are the losers. But, as the great apostle said, "For me to live is Christ, to die is gain," so may we, as a fraternity of patriotic men and women declare, "for me to live is my country, to die is gain."

With such a resolve we attain unto the highest ideal of patriotic citizenship. We are patriotic, we teach patriotism, we are banded together in a patriotic organization, not so much because we need these things, but because others need them; not so much because we require lessons in patriotism, or need to be stirred to patriotic action and to loyal citizenship, but because others do require the example which our lives set before them.

Therefore, in closing, I wish to give a thought which came out of the great heart and mind of one of God's noble men—Philip Brooks. He said that there is one word of Jesus that always came back to him as about the noblest thing that human lips ever said upon our world, and the most comprehensive thing that seems to sweep into itself all the common place experiences of mankind. I give it because it illumines our thoughts of the hour like a beam of God's glorious sunlight in a dark room. Do you remember when Jesus was sitting with His disciples at the last supper, how He lifted up His voice and prayed, and in the midst of the prayer there came those wondrous words: "For their sakes I have sanctified myself, that they also might be sanctified?" The whole of human life is there. Shall man cultivate himself? Not primarily. Shall we serve the world, strive to increase the kingdom of Friendship, Charity and Loyalty, in the world? Yes, indeed, we shall. But how shall we do it? By cultivating these things in ourselves "For their sakes I sanctified myself, that they might also be sanctified." Thus I strive to be my best, not simply for myself, but for the world. My brethren, is there anything in all the teaching that man has had from his fellow man, all that has come down to him from God that is nobler, that is as far-reach-

ing as that statement from the lips of the man of Galilee. To be at our best, not simply for our own sake, but for the sake of the nation, that thus we may make the world more complete. That will blast selfishness wherever it may be found, and hasten the coming of the Kingdom of Goodwill to a man of peace.

We now come to the close of this service. We close by singing the "Doxology".

Benediction by Rev. B. F. Jones, Chaplain of Missouri Division.

## WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION

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10 o'clock A. M.

After a further report from the Committee on Credentials announcing the arrival and accrediting of additional delegates, it was stated that a Committee from the Sons of Veterans Auxilliary was in waiting.

Commander-in-Chief: I will appoint as a committee to escort the ladies into the hall:

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio.

Frank Daugherty, of Ohio.

W. S. Reeder, of Ohio.

Paul Smyser, of Pennsylvania.

Visit of Committee from Sons of Veterans' Auxilliary.

A recess was declared, and the committee escorted into the hall the committee, consisting of:

Mrs. Johnson, Chairman.

Miss Mae Herbst, National President.

Miss Potts.

Miss Staples.

Commander-in-Chief: I assure you, sisters, that we appreciate your visit, and trust that we may have the pleasure of meeting you many times in the future. Brothers, I know that it is a pleasure for us to hear from our sisters, and I take pleasure in introducing Mrs. Johnson, chairman of the committee.

Mrs. Johnson: Brothers of the Sons of Veterans, to me one of the pleasant things in life is to be able to say nice things. We bring you the love, good wishes and greetings of the 7,000 members of the Auxilliary. We are proud to be members of this organization, and we consider it an honor to be auxilliary to the Sons of Veterans, second only to one-other order, the Grand Army of the Republic. It has been said that there was a movement on foot for the Spanish War Veterans to perpetuate the Grand Army of the Republic. There never was and never can be but one Grand Army of the Republic; if that organization is to be perpetuated, it should be by the Sons of Veterans; it is your birthright, your due, and we hope that you will make yourself so useful, so upright, so true as to make yourself necessary to the Grand Army, and they will come to the conclusion that no one but their own sons should perpetuate them and their memory. Accomplish this, and you will find your Auxilliary stands ever ready to help you in this work. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief: We will now have the pleasure of listening to Mrs. Cripe.

Mrs. Cripe: Our president sent me here to chaperon these girls. Consequently I have to stay in the background.

Commander-in-Chief: I never was brought up to have a chaperon around. We will now hear from Miss Potts.

Miss Potts: To me it is one of the greatest pleasures attending the encampments, whether division or national, to listen to the names of the greetings committee. I always listen anxiously to ascertain if I am going to be one of the few chosen to act on this committee. I can not express to you this morning the pleasure of being a member of this committee. Particularly because it gave me an opportunity to say to every one of you how happy we are to have you in our state to meet in convention among our girls and our boys. The first time I was appointed on a committee I was scared to death; I wondered what I was to do. I was, however, pleased, because at that division encampment a brother of my own camp was presiding officer, and when it came my turn to respond, he said several pretty things, and paved the way for me. I am glad to be able to speak to you, particularly so as one of our boys is your presiding officer. I trust that your stay among us will be made pleasant, and that you will go home with nothing but the best words of praise for New York Division, and that you will come again.

Commander-in-Chief: We will now have the pleasure of listening to Miss Staples, of Massachusetts Division.

Miss Staples: I can only express the sentiments of our chairman and other members of the committee, and extend to you the best wishes of your sisters of the Auxilliary, with the hope that this convention may be the most prosperous of all that you have held.

Commander-in-Chief: I feel sure, my brothers, as you look on the smiling faces of the sisters on the rostrum, you will take home with you pleasant recollections of this encampment. These ladies here are, I assure you, fair samples of the members of the Auxilliary; you can imagine what the rest are. I will ask Milton Gibbs, of New York, to respond on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief.

Milton R. Gibbs, of New York: This is indeed the "most unkindest cut of all," and if it were not that those to whom I have to respond were ladies, I think there would be a "free for all." I have not been in town ten minutes, and eight of those I have been in the hall, and this is the first time in my life I was even in a national encampment of the Sons of Veterans. I am, like one of our sisters said, simply "scared to death." I have not had so pleasant an idea presented to me in some days as the one that is presented by our Commander-in-Chief, in responding for him. I am fresh from a political contest in this state. You know something about politics, and the ladies know how wrapped up we get in politics. The only thing that comes to my mind in the few minutes that I have been in the town, is the pleasure of meeting ladies from Massachusetts, from Illinois and other states. and I am overwhelmed with the august presence of these men and women. Ladies of the Auxilliary we are very glad to have you here. You are the most welcome visitors that we have outside of the members of the Grand Army of the Republic. The affection which you have for us we return four-fold. We

thank you for your kindly greetings. You will please convey to the members of the Auxiliary who sent you here the kindest regards of this encampment, and, being from the state of New York, permit me to say that we extend the very kindest and most heart-felt thanks and gratitude for this visit and welcome you to the state of New York.

Commander-in-Chief: I should explain why I asked my Brother Gibbs to respond. I thought he was the best fitted, because yesterday he went through a democratic primary. You must know he is in condition for a fight.

The committee were escorted from the hall, amid applause.

Commander-in-Chief: The report of the Committee on Officers' Reports will be received.

The report was made by F. L. Shepard, of Illinois, as follows:

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORTS.

To the Members of the 27th National Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

B others: Your Committee on Officers' Reports have carefully considered all of the reports of the officers who have served you during the past year. It is a source of gratification to examine them, and your committee believes that never before in the history of the Order have we been served better or more faithfully than during the present year.

#### Commander-in-Chief's Report.

It is certainly evident to every member of this convention who listened to the complete report of Commander-in-Chief Sheldon, that he has made large sacrifices during his term of service and he is to be congratulated upon the successful results that he has secured. The gain in membership during the year has been unusual, and can only be attributed to his organized efforts. His recommendations are exceedingly practical, and show that he has spent much time and thought in their consideration. Your committee would report the following action relative to them:

Recommendation No. 1, that the per capita tax for the ensuing year be thirty-six cents (36c) payable in quarterly installments of nine cents (9c) per member, as heretofore, be continued, is concurred in.

Recommendation No. 2, relative to the Memorial University, has been referred by us to the special committee appointed at this encampment.

Recommendation No. 3, relative to the retiring of officers of the Reserves, was referred to the committee on constitution.

Recommendation No. 4, relative to the appointment of a committee of five (5) to rewrite the Constitution, is concurred in by this committee, but we move to strike out the words "Past Commanders-in-Chief."

Recommendation No. 5, relative to the appropriations by the Council-in-Chief for organizing purposes, is concurred in by your committee.

Recommendation No. 6, relative to the procuring of badge for the retiring Commander-in-Chief, is concurred in by your committee, but we move to strike out four hundred dollars (\$400.00) and insert three hundred (\$300.00.)

Recommendation No. 7, relative to legal proceedings brought against the Commandery-in-Chief in Pennsylvania, your Committee would approve the action of your Commander-in-Chief and would endorse the recommendation made by him.

Recommendation No. 8, relative to the uniformity of Division orders, and,

Recommendation No. 9, relative to the appointment of officers not recognized by the Constitution, and,

Recommendation No. 10, relative to the membership ribbon, were referred to the Committee on Constitution.

Recommendation No. 11, relative to compelling new Camps to procure certain paraphernalia such as drums, stack of arms, etc., your committee does not concur in.

Recommendation No. 12, relative to the button hole decoration, was referred to the Committee on Constitution.

Recommendation No. 13, relative to obtaining rifles from the general government, your committee concurs in, with the understanding that the committee to be appointed shall serve without expense to the Order.

Recommendation No. 14, relative to dropped members, and

Recommendation No. 15, relative to change in eligibility clause, and,

Recommendation No. 16, relative to the election of officers of the Reserves, were referred by your committee to the Committee on Constitution.

Recommendation No. 17, relative to the appropriation for the printing of proceedings, meets with the approval of your committee.

The Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Brother Fred W. Spear; the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Brother Wm. S. Reeder; the National Counselor, Brother F. T. F. Johnson, and the National Chaplain, Brother W. J. Patton, have all submitted reports which prove their faithfulness to the duties of the offices which they have so ably filled during the past year. These brothers are entitled to, and should receive the appreciation of every member of this Encampment.

The report of the National Secretary, Brother H. H. Hammer is complete in every respect, showing in detail the affairs of his office to the utmost degree. When this report is printed in the proceedings and read by the Order at large every member will know the exact affairs of the National Secretary's office and will realize how well and faithfully Brother Hammer's duties have been performed.

#### Report of National Treasurer J. L. Rake.

It was a wise provision of the Commandery-in-Chief several years since in providing for the office of National Treasurer who acts in conjunction with the National Secretary. The one office is a check upon the other, preventing errors and enabling the proving with the utmost accuracy of all accounts. No report of any executive officer was ever made which is clearer and more systematic than the one submitted to this Encampment by Brother James Lewis Rake. The Order will read this report, when published, with the utmost satisfaction, and your committee congratulates this encampment that it has upon its roll a gentleman whose knowledge of affairs is so marked, and we are fortunate in being able to have Brother Rake's services for this office.

Brother Rake recommends that the Order should have an endowment fund and your committee believes that the suggestion is a wise one. At the present time, however, in view of the expenditures which seem to be necessary and on account of our not knowing just what appropriations will be ordered at this Encampment, your committee believes that they can not suggest any plan by which an endowment fund can be organized at this encampment, and we recommend that Brother Rake give this matter attention and consideration and present to the next Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief a provision or plan in precise terms for the establishment, maintenance and disposition of an endowment fund for the Order of Sons of Veterans.

#### Report of the National Inspector.

Brother E. E. Schening has given to the office of National Inspector unusual attention and consideration and presents a complete and exhaustive report. His recommendations are as follows:

Recommendation No. 1, relative to the time for the inspection of Camps during the last quarter of the year, is now the law; therefore, no action is necessary.

Recommendation No. 2, that the various Division headquarters be not inspected; and

Recommendation No. 3, that a copy of the report of each Division Council be forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief and National Inspector; and

Recommendation No. 4, relative to the adoption of certain blanks submitted by him, were referred by your Committee to the Committee on Constitution.

Recommendation No. 5, relative to the adoption of the card system by Divisions, your committee does not concur in, believing that this is a matter which should be left to the judgment of each Division.

#### Report of National Patriotic Instructor.

The report of Brother H. V. Speelman is extremely satisfactory to this committee, and Brother Speelman has been most able in the conduct of his office. Every brother who has read The Banner during the past year has certainly been instructed and entertained by the many articles contributed to it by the National Patriotic Instructor. We believe that his influence in that office has given many of us new ideas relative to the possibilities of our Order and with the result that Brother Speelman's efforts have done a vast measure of good in the local workings of many Camps. The Patriotic Instructor makes the following recommendations:

Recommendation No. 1, that the Camp Patriotic Instructors be instructed to arrange for the proper observance of Union Defenders' Day, co-operating with the schools of their respective communities, your committee concurs in.

Recommendation No. 2, that a special effort be made to have eliminated from the public schools of the country, any of the objectionable or inaccurate histories, your committee concurs in.

Recommendation No. 3, that Congress be memorialized to make appropriations to furnish flags for all the public school

buildings throughout the country, is not concurred in by your committee, we believing that this should be provided for by the several states, and that there is legislation now to this effect in almost all of them.

Recommendation No. 4, that wherever there exists a spirit of anarchy, Camps should be urged to hold public meetings for the purpose of promoting true American patriotism, your committee concurs in.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK L. SHEPARD,

E. W. ESTES,

CHAS. B. MARTIN,

JOHN A. BOMMHARDT,

WILLIAM O. CUTLER,

Committee on Officers' Reports.

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Your committee is not ready to report upon the per capita tax for the next year. On that account, we ask for further time, with the submission of this partial report, with permission to submit a supplemental report, and at a later hour we will move the adoption of this report. While I am on my feet I want to call your attention to the excellent reports presented by your officers. We call your especial attention to the report of the Patriotic Instructor, the National Chaplain and the Secretary and Treasurer. These will all be published in the proceedings. I move you, sir, that the report of the Committee on Officers Reports, so far as presented, together with the recommendations therein contained, be approved and concurred in by this Encampment, and that the committee be continued with authority to present hereafter a supplemental report.

The motion was seconded.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I have one objection to the report of that committee, and perhaps I am the one man of this Encampment that is at liberty to speak as I shall speak, as I believe I am the ranking past Commander-in-Chief of this Order. I want to speak in regard to the appropriation for the Past Commander-in-Chief's badge. The badge that I was presented with was paid for by members of the Order, not one penny by the Commandery-in-Chief. It has become irksome and embarrassing to the National Treasurer to have to collect this money for the badge. He has to get busy every time a Commander-in-Chief is going to retire. His letters are becoming awfully stereotyped. I know, because I have received quite a number of them. It strikes me the Commande-in-Chief, in his recommendation, was entirely right, but the committee saw fit to reduce that amount. The price of jewels has more than doubled since the time I received my badge, and a badge like mine would cost twice as much as it would when it was presented to me in 1889. The additional amount over \$150, which is appropriated, has to be raised by the National Treasurer in order to get a badge that comes up to the most of those that have been presented. We all feel that one Commander should receive just as good a badge as another. For \$300 you cannot get a badge to come up to the standard badge that has been presented, and if we appropriate only \$300 we will have to keep on in the same old way; the National Treasurer will have to

continue making his appeal. I believe that the committee ought to make it at least \$100 more. I think it ought to be at least \$400. I move that the report be amended to the extent of striking out the figures "\$300" and putting back "\$400".

The motion was seconded.

Frank H. Challis, of New Hampshire: This matter has been up for twenty years or more. It is not a matter of the number of diamonds on the badge of the Commander-in-Chief. The Commander-in-Chief is not going to pawn that badge. He is not going to use it to get bread and butter. It is simply a badge showing that he has served as Commander-in-Chief. The badge of the Medal of Honor did not cost \$2.00, but who is there here who would not like to have it. If I ever should be elected Commander-in-Chief of this Order, whatever badge was given me in recognition of my services would be acceptable to me. I believe that a badge that cost this Order \$250 would be ample as an insignia for any member of this Order who has been privileged to be its Commande-in-Chief. The badge of Past Commander-in-Chief to me is just as valuable if it cost \$20 as if it cost \$250. I shall keep my badge as Past Division Commander. The price of the badge should have nothing to do with it. It is high time that we should adopt a standard badge and give every man who goes through the chair the same badge.

J. L. Rake, of Pennsylvania: I will not attempt to answer Brother Challis. It may be a great many of us have the same idea he has, and care not whether it is made of pewter, tin or gold; whether it is set with diamonds or pyrites; but arguing entirely from the commercial side of the proposition, the last three badges, I know, have been contributed for largely by the same coterie of members of this Commandery-in-Chief. This is not only an imposition, but it is an outrage, setting aside whatever question of value the organization decide to put on it. Speaking entirely from the commercial side, the Constitution and Laws provide a standard for the badge. If you desire to continue a badge such as has been presented the last three years, \$300 is not sufficient; the amount should be increased to \$350 or \$400. It is up to the Commandery-in-Chief.

(Question called.)

Commander-in-Chief: The question is on the amendment to the recommendation of the Committee on Officers' Reports; the amendment being to substitute \$400 for \$300. Remember, brothers, we are voting on the amendment. All in favor of substituting \$400 for \$300, please rise.

The amendment was lost by a rising vote.

Commander-in-Chief: The motion of Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard, that the report of the committee as read be adopted and that the committee be continued and a supplemental report be presented later was then put and carried.

At this point the Committee on Credentials made a supplemental report, presenting additional members entitled to votes, which report was adopted and the committee continued, there being no objection.

E. H. Archer, of Ohio: I move that we devote the time until further committees are ready to report to a general expression from the different divisions.

The motion was seconded, put and carried.

## Roll-call of Divisions.

Commander-in-Chief: Colorado and Wyoming Division has nearly doubled its membership during the past year. We would all be pleased to hear from Commander Coon.

K. A. Coon, of Colo. and Wyo: I wish to say that our division is doing its utmost and working for the best interests of the organization. We have now a larger membership than we have had in the division for ten years. The last quarter we gained two camps, one of 72 members at Fort Collins, and another of 30 members, and we have good indications at the present time of another camp at Loveland, Colo. They say they want to beat Fort Collins.

W. L. Parmelee, of Connecticut: We have during the past year added to our membership. At our last division encampment we voted to tax our members 30 cents each for the Memorial University, and I hope some of the divisions in this national encampment will take some action on that line, that we may perpetuate this university. We should stand by the institution, and not let it go down. Until this organization takes some action for a permanent fund we can not get any support from outsiders, but when we do there is no doubt we will have quite a number of endowments, and I hope this encampment will take some action along these lines.

At this point a committee from the Department of New York Woman's Relief Corps was announced, and H. V. Speelman, of Ohio, and E. W. Estes, of New York, were appointed a committee to escort the ladies into the hall.

## VISIT OF COMMITTEE FROM W. R. C.

A recess was taken and the ladies escorted into the hall.

Mrs. Lyda Tomer Miller and Mrs. Julia B. Moynihan were then presented to the Encampment.

Commander-in-Chief: I feel that we are more than doubly honored in having in our midst two such representative ladies. They are not only prominent in our Auxilliary, but in the Woman's Relief Corps, as well.

Mrs. Lyda Tomer Miller: I have many times visited the Sons of Veterans with greetings from the Auxilliary, but never from our parent Order, for I represent the Woman's Relief Corps; that noble, patriotic band of women that we regard as our mothers. I come feeling that there is nothing that I can say will make the welcome to the Sons of Veterans more generous. We are all one patriotic family; the Grand Army of the Republic, the Woman's Relief Corps, the Sons of Veterans, and our Auxilliary, representing the fathers, mothers, sons and daughters; sometimes our mothers forget the daughters, no doubt feeling that she can do the work herself. But she never forgets the Sons of Veterans. They are always ready to acknowledge their work, to accept their love. Therefore I feel that I can say, no organization that has ever visited New York State has been more welcome by the Woman's Relief Corps than this national body of the Sons of Veterans. The work of the Grand Army and the Woman's Relief Corps must sometimes be taken up by the sons and daughters; especially the work of charity. It is therefore left for the Sons of Veterans and their Auxilliary to do the patriotic work, reaching the foreigner, etc. No one realizes how great a work this is until they think of

the vast number of immigrants that land on our shores. This work of patriotism, teaching them what they should know, is largely in the hands of the Sons of Veterans. Let us hope in the years to come that they will be so wise in their methods that it will be a lasting monument to the Order. The Woman's Relief Corps sends greetings to you in your good work. We wish you a most successful and prosperous year. I thank you for the courtesy, and will now give way so you can listen to Mrs. Moynihan.

Mrs. Julia B. Moynihan: Commander-in-Chief Sheldon, and members of the Sons of Veterans all over this country. We the Woman's Relief Corps of the Department of New York are glad to extend to you our greetings. I, like Mrs. Miller, have appeared before you a great many times in the interests of the Auxiliary to your Order, but never before to represent the Department President of New York. She wished to have said for her she sent her very best good wishes. She is enthusiastic over the Sons of Veterans. Perhaps a little more so than she has been over the Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary. In Rochester the Woman's Relief Corps, the Grand Army, the Sons of Veterans and the Auxiliary work is in perfect harmony. There is never anything going on in one of the organizations but what all are invited. We have a woman's organization, composed of the Auxiliary and the Relief Corps, and in all there has been the best of feeling, and this has been general throughout the state, although here and there where there is no Auxiliary, the Daughters of Veterans do good work. We wish them Godspeed, but we feel that we are just one step nearer to the Sons of Veterans. The Department President has assured me that anything that can be done for the Sons of Veterans or the Auxiliary this year will be done. I thank you.

Commander-in-Chief: I will call upon Brother Muse, of Iowa, to respond on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief.

William F. Muse, of Iowa: If it were not for the fact that the orders of the Commander-in-Chief must be implicitly obeyed, I think I would take refuge and insist upon your calling upon Brother Abbott. I hope that my countenance does not betray my emotion, confronted as I am by such wit, eloquence and loveliness. In my youth I learned to quote from history. I think our Commander-in-Chief has furnished me with a justifiable case. I don't know of a better way to express my feeling than by way of illustration. An old Baptist colored clergyman was trying to illustrate to his congregation their obligation to respond, as I am, to the call of duty, and so he said, "Now, brethren, if any of you have a call to duty, you just answer that call, and the Lord will take care of you. Take Daniel in the lions' den; Daniel had to worship the Lord; he had to go down in the den and take his chances. So he went down into that den of lions; the lions did not hurt him, and he went to sleep. When he awoke he picked out the best looking lion there was and said to him, 'Mr. Lion this beats h—l.' " And so, when I know of the possibilities of the budding eloquence of this Commandery-in-Chief, when I know that our Commander-in-Chief has dozens of "spell-binders" that he might call upon, great fields of Abbott lilies, Rake roses, and Gibson daisies; but instead of calling upon them he calls upon an Iowa sunflower. And all I can say, Mr. Commander, is "this beats

h—l." I know the members of the Commandery were greatly charmed with the generous greetings and lofty sentiment and choice diction of the ladies who are visiting us, but do you know that while these ladies were talking I could not help but think how blame easy it is for a woman to talk. I have seen the attorneys of this organization, a number of them, come on to the floor and set their mouths a-going. And so I know I have no business to get into any of these "gabfests" of the Order with the great handicap of not having been born a woman or an attorney. I know this simple plea, fee simple, or simple fee, are nothing when compared to other "fees", the best of fees, the "female".

All this world's a stage, but we have not a complete list of the actors, for we only read about the potentates and kings in general. Once in a while a woman has come on to the stage, reading her lines; Ruth pleading with the King, Cynthia with her memorial, Isabella pawning her jewels so that Christopher Columbus might discover America, Elizabeth giving her greatness to England, Neilson flooding the world with her song, and our own Clara Barton giving the cup of cold water to the dying veteran. We talk about patriotism and devotion. We would not know anything about it if it were not for woman. Willing to let the dead past bury the dead and go back to the good old days. Patriotism, we admire and honor the men who went out to face the carnage and battle. I want to tell you that there was a higher patriotism in the women who stayed at home, who said, "I will take care of the home," so the head of the family might go and fight for his country; busy in the fields with a heart that was breaking and could not break; and ever since she waited patiently for the boy who wore the blue, and up to the present time her devotion and sacrifices have been continuous.

Ladies, while I have been trying to assassinate a few moments I have had a telepathic message from the Commander-in-Chief, who says that he welcomes you with open arms, where he hopes you will stay. I have had another telepathic communication from the brothers, and they say they welcome you with open hearts, where you will have to stay forever and forever. After we have enjoyed all the good things of this encampment, after we have enjoyed the thunderous music of this great cataclysm of power, the thing that will linger longest in our memory will be your visit today.

Commander-in-Chief, your order has been obeyed and the attack has been made. whether it shall be considered only a skirmish, or result in a general engagement, remains to be seen. I hope it will be said that at least I conducted my retreat in good order.

The committee was then escorted from the hall, amid applause, and the business of the Encampment was resumed.

Commander-in-Chief: Are there any other committees ready to report?

F. A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: The special committee on Memorial University is ready to report.

REPORT SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY.

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

Your committee appointed to consider the Memorial University question, unanimously reports as follows:

We recommend that the Commandery-in-Chief appropriate for the support of the University the sum of \$3,000, same to be paid in quarterly installments from the treasury of the Order.

That the Commander-in-Chief appoint a committee of five to assist President Patton in securing additional voluntary contributions from the various divisions and camps of the Order; and that the Encampment earnestly urges all such divisions and the camps to assist by voluntary contributions to the end that the university shall receive such support from the Order as shall evidence our devotion to the cause.

FELIX A. KREMER, Chairman.

F. A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: I move the adoption of the report.

The motion was seconded.

J. L. Rake, of Pennsylvania: Sentimentally I am for the University. Individually I am, also. I merely rise to ask in how many quarters the committee proposes to pay the \$3,000? Do I understand that the sense of the resolution is that the \$3,000 shall be paid in quarterly installments? Will the individual officers pay this out of their private funds? There is about \$2,300 in the treasury; the expenses of the Encampment will be over \$800. There are other things to be provided for. I merely want to call the attention of the Encampment to the economic question.

R. J. Bosworth, of Indiana: This question of which Brother Rake speaks was brought before the committee, and the committee was assured that the members of that committee had figured out that we would be able to meet this.

J. L. Rake, of Pennsylvania: I will answer the brother, for the information of the Encampment, that I am not conscious that I was consulted. If you show me how it can be done, I am ready to acquiesce in any plans that may be formulated.

W. P. Baker, of Pennsylvania: The question of our per capita tax should also be considered. If we have not the money in our national treasury, where are we going to get this \$3,000? Are we to have a higher tax? If we are, I will vouch for Pennsylvania that she will not stand for any more per capita tax. We are not opposed to the college, gentlemen, we believe in education, in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania is foremost in education, but we are not in favor of a higher tax. We are in favor of this college, as individuals, but we want you to present to us a proposition whereby we can see our way clear to vote this \$3,000. We do not want a proposition whereby the tax will be increased. It is a question of business—of dollars and cents—Pennsylvania, the keystone of this organization. We come to you representing 11,000 members, and we want to know just exactly where the tax is coming in, and where the \$3,000 is coming from.

Paul Smyser, of Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania is simply opposed to the \$3,000, unless we know where it is coming from.

Frank H. Challis, of New Hampshire: We would like to

know some things about the Memorial University. We would like to know what there is out there. Does that picture we have all received represent all there is; I wonder if those 21 men shown in that picture are going to become competent to handle an army corps. When our representatives came back to New Hampshire, they gave us to understand that all the college wanted was an endorsement; that Mason City would do the rest. What is Mason City and Iowa doing? If that college had been located in New Hampshire, I believe our Division would have contributed more than the entire Order has done. We must settle this matter now. If we are going to have a Memorial to the Grand Army, let us have it somewhere that represents something. Let us have it at Gettysburg, or where Lincoln was born, or some place of some national significance. We want information on this subject, for the members of the Order. The members of the committee may know all about it. New Hampshire will not stand for increased per capita tax to support that institution. Two-thirds of our Camps are small; they have trouble in paying the per capita tax. I think we would lose a majority of our members if the per capita tax is increased. We know how hard it is to get those who are not members of the Order to come in.

James E. Blythe, of Iowa: I hail from that obscure town, Mason City. The brother has asked what Mason City has done, and what Iowa has done. At the time Mason City was chosen for the seat of the University, a proposition was made; that proposition was that Mason City would give a 40-acre campus upon which the college now stands; that we would raise the money to build the building, and that the whole property should cost not less than \$100,000, and that we would do what we could to sustain that institution, and to make it a success that would reflect credit upon the Order to which we belong. Responding to his question as to what we have done; in that community we have raised over \$100,000, which we have invested in that property pursuant to the resolution of the Commandery-in-Chief, which established the institution; we have conveyed through the proper channels that property to the Sons of Veterans, represented by a Board of Regents, all of whom are Sons of Veterans; we have conveyed this property, which is worth today, with its equipment, at a fair estimate, \$150,000. In addition to that, the community in which I live has contributed to the support of this University the sum of \$25,000. In addition to that, the educational work has proceeded and the college has grown, and it is a credit to this organization, or would be a credit to any other organization. Today we are taking care of \$20,000 of obligations of the University. It is a question how you will deal with this proposition, and I ask every one of you to eliminate Mason City from your consideration of this question. If the University is to go down, let me say to you that Mason City will raise no outcry. This is a sentimental Order; we are all of us proud to say that we are the descendants of men who wore the blue, and who achieved heroic deeds which are worthy to be commemorated by some kind of a monument. Whether we exercised the best judgment at Syracuse in choosing the character of the monument is not what we are considering. We, as an Order, have founded this University. We have contributed by voluntary subscription from this Order from

year to year. We have passed resolutions. It has been the subject of congratulatory resolutions in the Grand Army of the Republic, and the noble women of the Relief Corps, and all the other allied ladies orders for contributing over \$12,000 on the representation that we in our enthusiasm and patriotism would found a monument and create an institution of learning to commemorate the deeds and patriotism of our sires. Now, gentlemen, our Brother Patton, whom I respect as one of the noblest exemplifications of all that is good, left his profession and is devoting his life to the upbuilding of the institution. 180 students last year, more than 200 this year already enrolled; contracts made with an adequate faculty to pursue the work another year, and the question now is, shall the Sons of Veterans repudiate that institution? Gentlemen, eliminate Mason City from your consideration. Had it been located in any other town the question would have been just the same. It is not a question of locality; it is a question of the condition that now confronts us. In order to solve this, we had a committee of one from each Division of this encampment. We were in continuous session until past one o'clock this morning. Every brother of that committee was called upon to express himself, and counter propositions were made, and this morning a special committee of five remained in session until three o'clock; we had everybody before us to give us all the information that was possible, and it was decided by an unanimous rising vote to recommend this action of the committee. Doctor Patton was there, we heard what he had to say, and we were encouraged, and felt proud of the progress he was able to report. He said with this encouragement he would go on with the work, and without this encouragement his resignation would be before the encampment. Now, gentlemen, I have perhaps spoken more warmly than I should, because I feel after the sacrifices we have made, after all the credit that has been taken by this Order, this subject has not been treated as it should be treated in the speeches that were made previous to my taking the floor. I leave the matter now with you, for your consideration and for your action, and as a Son of a Veteran, I shall abide by the result, as a citizen of Mason City. The citizens of Mason City are abundantly able to take care of themselves.

G. H. Younger, of Pennsylvania: When I knew I was to be a part of this delegation I visited the rank and file, and if any additional tax or assessment of any kind is put upon Pennsylvania, many members will be lost. Is the Memorial University a part of the Sons of Veterans? I have been told that it is not.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: Brothers, I trust we will get down to this proposition in a calm and deliberate frame of mind. A serious moment has arrived in this encampment. Let us try to settle the question in a philosophical manner. I think every member of this encampment wants to do what is right about this matter. I have not discovered in that report that the committee recommended a special tax. Therefore in discussing the question of a special tax, it strikes me we are not discussing the report of this committee. We are not discussing the contract or agreement that was entered into at Syracuse. It is a practical question, as stated by our much respected Treasurer. Now, we must come to some understanding in regard to our finances; when we know where we stand, we can act

intelligently. (Doctor Patton was called amid great applause.)

Rev. W. J. Patton, President: You all know that this Order is as dear to my heart as anything in life. I think I can truly say that no man in the Order has for the past five years put more into the Order than I have. I say this, to show my feeling for the Order. I am fully paid for all that I may have done for you and our great Order, for this brotherly feeling, your appreciation, not of me, but of the work which I have had the honor to represent. Brothers, I am here to defend that little squad of boys, sons and grandsons of veterans, as shown in the current issue of the Bulletin. Every one of them a son or a grandson of a veteran won his scholarship; every one of them not having \$50 the whole year to spend, unless they earn it. They are there because they are the sons and grandsons of veterans. They are there because Memorial University was founded by the Sons of Veterans. Every member of the faculty is a son or a daughter of a veteran, who has been offered a larger salary and have stood by the institution because they believed in the Order of Sons of Veterans. Brothers, I am here to defend those men and women who have stood by Memorial University, and stood there despite the fact that they have but a meager living; everyone has been offered a better salary. We have reached a crisis in our Order, however the matter goes, brothers. What is the best for the interests of the Order? Eliminate Memorial University entirely. I asked the committee for an unanimous recommendation that we surrender Memorial University and turn the property back; they were unwilling to make that recommendation. We have six years of history; we have turned out more than 1000 students. We have been commended by the G. A. R., the Woman's Relief Corps has taken action and appointed a committee to examine into Memorial University. The Relief Corps of New Hampshire alone gave \$100 to the University last year. We are face to face with an issue. If we surrender Memorial University; if we bring that banner down: if we close that institution, what will history say about us, about our Order that would not continue to support and maintain such a monument. On the other hand we are told that an increased expenditure on the Order would entail a loss of membership. Which will be the most serious? Moneyed men are beginning to turn their attention toward us. If we continue this institution, within ten years I believe you will have property that will run into the millions. That property belongs to you. It is your property; it is held in trust by the trustees of the Memorial, every one of whom must be a son of a veteran. This is the great object. We must unite in this work. We are erecting an institution which is the only one of the kind in the land; we teach American history as the great central theme of thought; we have the chair of applied patriotism, that conception of patriotic loyalty to the flag, to the laws of the land that our fathers manifested when they sacrificed all, and went forward to the front at \$13 a month.

On one occasion a soldier was introduced by the chairman of a meeting, who said, "He lost an arm in the service." The soldier said, "Gentlemen, I did not lose my arm in the service. When I went into the service I gave, for the support of the nation, all I had with me, my hands, body and myself; all I

brought out was so much gain, and I have one hand, two feet and one head." That is the idea of patriotism we cultivate in the students of Memorial University. The spirit of patriotic fervor permeates all the departments of the University from the bottom to the top. As I have said, that University belongs to you; the property is yours.

I have put two and a half years of time in this work, and, God knows, many nights of my life. I will say to you, and I say it out of the conviction of my heart, and I believe I know what I say, I would rather die than see Memorial University fail for the want of a decent support on the part of our grand Order. I am not asking for the presidency, nor for the small salary that goes with it. My salary has not been paid by the Order for the past two years and six months. It has been made up by the trustees and a few residents of Mason City.

I thank you for the hearty response. I plead with you for the sake of the future of our Order. I don't believe there is a man in the Order today that is in touch with the Order nationally, better than I am, because of travels I have had over the land.

Because of these things, I say to you again, in God's name, for the future of our Order, for the perpetuation of our Order, for the moral influence of our Order, for the power of our Order in the land to teach American history and patriotism, don't let any narrow prejudice interfere with the future of this work. If you stand by it, as I believe you ought to and will, it will be the greatest Order in the country, second only to that of our fathers the Grand Army of the Republic. (Great applause.)

William T. Church, of Illinois: I would like to talk just a few minutes along the lines suggested by Past Commander-in-Chief Abbott. The spirit that he proposes, brothers, is the only one that can relieve the situation and restore the organs of this Order to their normal working condition. I have been a member of this Order since 1886; I have been a member of the Board of Regents of Memorial University since it was founded by this Order, and at the time of the establishment of the institution by the Order of Sons of Veterans it was stipulated that no financial obligation should be imposed upon the Order. I believed in that stipulation, absolutely, and I adhered to it up to within a few months of the present time. I have been to Mason City from one to three times every year since this institution was founded. I have attended nearly every meeting of the Board of Regents. I have persistently and consistently told the members of that body that that stipulation must be lived up to; that this Order has not and would not assume financial obligation, and that the Order of Sons of Veterans would not support that school. You knew, and we knew that there were many people in this country of great wealth, and many more of little wealth, who are anxious to give something to educational institutions. I believe with the splendid prospects of this institution that these people would contribute to an endowment fund. In that we have failed, thus far.

Actual contact with the institution convinces me now that I was wrong in that conception of the situation, and that a mistake was made at Syracuse in 1900. I was one of those who brought Doctor Patton out of the proud position in the largest Methodist congregation in Wisconsin, where he had by years

of work and labor attained a position of leadership in the management and building up of such institutions, and induced him to accept the position as the financial agent, and later on as president of the institution. I feel that I am in a measure responsible to him for having insisted in placing him in the position which he now occupies. We have found in these eight years that we can not go to the people of wealth and secure contributions toward an endowment fund. From my own personal knowledge, that splendid university is worth all that it promised to be, and very much more today. The people who made that proposition, which was one of several propositions submitted at the Syracuse encampment, have fulfilled and much more than fulfilled the spirit and the letter of the proposition. We have found that these people, the people of wealth, will not give to an educational institution that has not a fixed and permanent income. We have been turned down repeatedly by men who have given to educational institutions, from Carnegie down, and we have been turned down for that reason; not on account of the character of the school; not on account of its location. It stands today higher in grade, higher in character than many other institutions, I might say than any other institution in the whole Mississippi Valley of like character and like curriculum. Those people will not give to us until we can show that we have something definite in the way of income. It is written "for he that hath, to him shall be given; and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath." The scripture is applied to the last degree by these people. As soon as we can go to them and show them that we have an income, they will give us their money, because they have refused to do so for no other reason.

This thing has been carried by the Board of Regents as long as it can in the present state of affairs. If we made a mistake in 1900 in this Commandery, we have got to do something to correct that mistake. My first interest is the interest of the Order. This matter should be settled calmly and dispassionately. If we cannot save it, brothers, we are in a position to close it up with as little discredit to the Order as possible. Here is the situation, we get along from year to year, we have an excellent school in the various departments, and we have turned out some splendid students. There are about 200 now. If we quit now, with an incumbrance of about \$20,000, which has accumulated from year to year, as we have only had hand-outs. There has been an annual deficit, which has been carried by the banks at Mason City until it amounts to about \$20,000. The first year of Doctor Patton's management the deficit was \$5,000, and the second only \$2,700. Now you know that an educational institution or a church is the hardest borrowing proposition in the world. If you have a residence or factory, you can borrow almost anything. You can not do it with an educational institution. We have gone just about to the limit. That property is worth \$150,000. We can not get any more money on it, however, and it would not be advisable for us to do so if we could. These current debts amount to some \$2,700. With the condition of affairs the thing to do is to pay the debts of the school, and as far as the corporation of Memorial University is concerned an honorable end will be made of its affairs. As far as its connection with the Order

is concerned it will be for you to say. These are the facts, and that is the situation. We want to meet it. I don't know what the people are going to say; the Grand Army, the Woman's Relief Corps, who contributed so much. I would rather that we close the institution, with as little disgrace to the Order as may be possible, than to attempt to open the school next year with the little support that we have had, and then in the middle of the year, send the 200 students home and discharge the faculty with their salaries unpaid. The trustees are members of the Order; they are brothers. I am here to say now, brothers, that we made a mistake in 1900. I have been forced to the position that I have taken against my will, but I am willing to acknowledge that I made the mistake; it has taken seven and a half years for me to find it out. We have exhausted every possible effort to secure an endowment without an income to start on. Now, the question is, what are we going to do about it? We have got to do something. I believe that the solution will be a credit to the Order.

This report that has been presented was the only one upon which the committee could decide. The report if concurred in by the encampment would help. Whether the encampment will take such action is for the members to decide. Every man who served on that committee is active in the affairs of this Order. Let us find out from our financial officer the condition in which our finances are. Let us see whether it is wise for us to take this action.

A. J. Boutwell, of New Hampshire: I wish to state that the rank and file of New Hampshire are in favor of the University. If the money can be raised without increasing the per capita tax, New Hampshire is heartily in favor of the institution. We don't wish to have the flag lowered after it has been raised; we will fight it out on this line if it takes all summer.

J. L. Rake, of Pennsylvania: Commander, and brothers, the question I raised was not a sentimental one, it was a business one. The committee asking for an expenditure of any particular amount of money should in a businesslike way, take into consideration our resources and our liabilities, together with that very essential thing, our cash balance. I say to you that there is no question of sentiment or personality involved. I begin this statement by saying to you that I have been a voluntary contributor to the college and propose to continue to be if the college continues to exist. You have a cash balance of \$2,297.21; you have obligations with the closing of this encampment amounting to about \$1,800. If my mathematics are correct, it leaves us less than \$500 available to pay to anybody for any purpose whatsoever. In the last three years it has been demonstrated that it has been an utter impossibility to pay the salaries of your officers at any other time than at the end of the year. The officers have been philanthropic. They have been willing to wait. The profits of this organization come from its per capita tax. During the first half of the year you have no profits. I cannot see, after discussing the whole question with the Secretary, how it is possible to pay more than \$1,000, of which \$500 can be paid promptly, and the rest after the first of the year. You have a plain statement of facts.

E. W. Estes, of New York: I believe that the records show

that we have taken in about 4000 members during the last six months. We pay 36 cents a year per capita tax; 18 cents goes to The Banner. These 4000 members will give us \$720 more profit than we have had up to a year ago. We have gained during the past year, and we are gaining now. The Commander of the New York Division states that he has mustered in during the last sixty days almost as many Camps as during the entire year. The whole Order is reporting progress. I suggest to Brother Rake that it would seem that we are going to make an additional profit of from \$2,100 to \$1,500 during the next year.

J. L. Rake, of Pennsylvania: I will answer by saying that any banking institution or any enterprise will tell you that it is like buying mining stock to count your profits that are not in hand. Can the brother assure me positively that we will not lose 5000 within the coming year.

E. W. Estes, of New York: The Order of Sons of Veterans has had to take that very position nearly every year. And I don't see but we have got to do it this year.

J. L. Rake, of Pennsylvania: I was endeavoring to give you a statement without inviting bankruptcy proceedings.

E. H. Archer, of Ohio: I move to amend this recommendation by adding the words, that there be a per capita tax of ten cents per member authorized for the payment of the same. We have morally recognized the Memorial University; it has been tacitly recognized as being an adjunct to that institution. Let us do something, or else do nothing. It would certainly be folly from a business standpoint for you to vote sentimentally \$3,000 when that \$3,000 is not in the treasury and there is no provision made for raising it. The Commander-in-Chief has recommended, but the Council-in-Chief has not yet reported what its recommendations are as to the per capita tax. If you do not want to provide for a raise in the revenue, you can so act. The Ohio Division at its annual meeting made a recommendation to the Commandery-in-Chief on this question, and I want to carry out the wishes and the expression of the Ohio Division, to the effect that this Commandery-in-Chief recognize this institution, and that they provide the means by which it shall be accomplished. That is the position of Ohio, and that is why Ohio wants to vote on this proposition, and that is why I favor this amendment. The question is for you to say; do not let sentiment prevail as you did at Syracuse.

Fred E. Bolton, Massachusetts: I want to discuss this from a financial standpoint. The sentiment is all right; we have in Massachusetts great respect and regard for the work that Doctor Patton has put in that institution. Massachusetts, with other Divisions, was responsible at Syracuse for the stipulation that the Commandery-in-Chief would be in no way responsible for the finances of the institution. Massachusetts has no apology to make for what it has done in behalf of the college. It hopes that the per capita tax will not be raised, for we do not believe that we are qualified to represent its 5000 members without an expression. Massachusetts, on the other hand, will pledge \$500, because this delegation can go home and get that amount. It seems to me that we can arrive at some conclusion. Can we not guarantee to make up whatever amount is lacking? It also strikes me that the members of the organization should know

more than they do. I want to say here that it is unfortunate that Brother Patton was not at the head of the University from the start: Perhaps, as an Order, we made a mistake at Syracuse. I think we would make a mistake, a great one, if we throw down this proposition. I think it would be injurious if we attempt to place upon our brothers, the rank and file, a per capita tax in the form of a special estimate. I am satisfied that Massachusetts will at least guarantee \$500 of that \$3,000, and as much more as possible.

A. C. Baldwin, of Connecticut: I believe that this encampment should proceed to make this appropriation. Connecticut has proposed to lay a per capita tax of 40 cents upon its membership. A committee was appointed; at the meeting of the committee the members who were present expressed themselves upon this proposition and what their Division would do. I do not believe we would have any difficulty in meeting the appropriation that is suggested. It would seem to me that we can appropriate \$3000 upon a membership of 35000 for the support of an institution of this kind. Let us give this proposition fair consideration. I don't believe there is going to be any trouble to meet this \$3,000.

F. A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: As chairman of that committee I want to say just one word, in closing, because I think the time has come to close the debate. There were two propositions made to that committee; one was, shall we continue the Memorial University again next year, and the other was, how are you going to do it. Every Division was represented on that committee. It was a representative committee. Every single member was in favor of continuing the University, and by unanimous vote we decided to recommend \$3,000, because that was the smallest amount of money that was necessary to continue the institution. When we get to be old men like our fathers, we will look back to the day, with pride, for what they did, and also to the time we established the University. We should not stop for \$3,000. Where there's a will, there's a way, and we have it: I move the previous question.

Commander-in-Chief: All in favor of the previous question, that \$3,000 be appropriated for Memorial University, in four quarterly installments, please signify by the usual voting sign. The vote was put, and Division called.

Thomas J. Hannon, of Massachusetts: It strikes me that there is a way out of this difficulty; that it can be very easily overcome. It has been suggested, and Massachusetts started the suggestion, and for that reason, as a member of the Massachusetts Division, I would like to make an amendment to the motion, and that is this, that the Commanders of each Division be called upon to find out what their Division will guarantee, in order to see what amount can be collected towards the University. As a member of the Council-in-Chief, I shall not recommend an increase in the per capita tax. The Council has voted to recommend that the per capita tax be the same as heretofore, 36 cents. Figuring on the present membership, this organization, as it now stands, with its income and expenses, based upon last year, can not stand over half the amount asked for by this committee. What will each Division represented here, by its commander, or some other brother qualified to speak, guarantee to send, through the National Treasurer, for the University.

L. W. Friedman, of Alabama and Tennessee: Brother Han-  
non should know that there is danger of promises of that kind  
not being realized. I understand there is something like \$7,000  
on the pledge books now—\$7,000 worth of pledges—is that so,  
Doctor Patton?

Rev. W. J. Patton: There are pledges on the pledge book of  
Memorial University of something like \$7,000; they date back  
as far as 1900, increased from year to year; some of the  
brothers are dead, and some are "dead beats," out of the Order.

L. W. Friedman, of Alabama and Tennessee: I did not in-  
tend to cast any aspersions on brothers of the Order, but I am  
opposed to future pledges for an institution. This Order should  
maintain it, if it did make a mistake several years ago. We  
have not hesitated at former encampments to increase the per  
capita tax for one thing or another. I think that \$3,000 can  
be provided for in some way, whether we call it per capita tax  
or not. Massachusetts has promised \$500, and Pennsylvania  
will come up with \$1,000, I am sure.

E. W. Estes, of New York: The special Memorial Univer-  
sity committee has provided for an appropriation of \$3,000. I  
don't know whether this suits Doctor Patton and the Regents  
of the University or not. The committees report provides that  
in addition to the \$3,000 there be raised money by voluntary sub-  
scription. We were all in favor of it, apparently, until Brother  
Rake threw cold water on the proposition. In talking to mem-  
bers here, I find that they are willing that we should do what  
we can. I believe if we double our subscription of last year, that  
the Treasury can stand it. In order to settle this, I move that  
the \$3,000 be stricken out, and the \$2,000 be substituted in place  
thereof.

The motion was seconded by Rev. W. J. Patton.

Commander-in-Chief: The question before the house is on  
the amendment offered by Brother Estes, of New York.

Arthur L. Jones, of Minnesota: The question of this amend-  
ment from \$3,000 to \$2,000 brings to my mind this comparison,  
of the patriotism of this great national order of the North with  
the patriotism of the Sons of the Confederacy of one state, who  
voted to give, in one state, \$10,000 for a monument to some  
southern soldier. If we are quibbling over a \$1,000, what does  
the name of this great Order mean? I would like to see, in the  
name of patriotism, in the name of loyalty, and in the name of  
every principle upon which this Order is founded, that this  
amendment be voted down. Let us go back and say we will  
give at least \$3,000; that we are at least \$3,000 patriotic at this  
encampment.

The motion on the amendment was put, and the question  
decided by a roll call of the Divisions, the National Secretary  
reporting the result to be as follows: 104 yeas, 38 nays.

E. W. Estes, of New York: I move that the report of the  
committee as amended be adopted.

The motion was seconded, put and carried.

Rev. W. J. Patton: I might truthfully say that the only  
benefit which the University will receive from this action will  
be what little moral influence may be derived through the elo-  
quence of those who may be called upon to present the matter  
to people from whom we may desire to receive support, due to  
the fact that our Commandery-in-Chief has doubled its sub-

scription; looking at the general effect and at the ultimate effect. If you brothers here think that \$2,000 is all we need, you are sadly mistaken. I am going to make a proposition. It has been suggested that this has been tried before and has proven a failure. Still I am willing to risk it again. What I desire is some expression from each Division. I want to know what I shall carry back to my students and faculty, so that we may know what we are to expect over and above this \$2,000. I ask this expression now before you go.

E. R. Campbell, of Maryland: I move that the roll of the Divisions be called.

The motion was seconded and carried.

#### Roll-call of Divisions.

The following Divisions answered the call and pledged the amounts set opposite as their contribution to the University during the coming year:

Alabama and Tennessee, 10 cents per member.

California and Oregon, \$100.00.

Connecticut, 40 cents per member.

Illinois, \$300.00.

Indiana, \$1,000.00.

Iowa, \$500.00.

Kansas, \$150.00.

Kentucky, unable to make a pledge at this time.

Maine, \$150.00.

Maryland, \$100.00.

Massachusetts, \$500.00.

Minnesota, \$200.00.

Missouri, \$140.00.

New Jersey, \$185.00.

New Hampshire, at least \$100, probably \$200.00.

New York, \$500.00 at least, probably more.

Ohio, \$200.00.

Pennsylvania, will contribute at least as much as heretofore, but will not pledge a specific amount.

Rhode Island, 25 cents per member.

Vermont, \$100.00.

Wisconsin, \$250.00.

F. A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: I move that we adjourn until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

The motion was seconded and carried.

## THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

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The encampment resumed at 10 o'clock a. m., Thursday, August 27,

Supplemental report of the committee on credentials was read.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move that the report be accepted and the committee continued.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Commander-in-Chief: We will now listen to the report of the Council-in-Chief.

Thomas W. Blair, of Indiana, chairman, then read the report of the Council-in-Chief, as follows:

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### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

To the Officers and Members of the 27th Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Brothers:

A record of the proceedings of your Council-in-Chief for the past year is submitted herewith for your consideration and approval.

Following the adjournment of the 26th Annual Encampment our first meeting was held at Dayton, Ohio, and the Council organized, with Thomas W. Blair, of Indiana, chairman, and Thomas J. Hannon, of Massachusetts, secretary.

Bonds were fixed as follows:

Commander-in-Chief, \$1,000.00.

National Secretary, \$5,000.00.

National Treasurer, \$5,000.00.

General R. M. J. Reed having tendered his resignation as Chief of Staff, which was accepted, the Council, by unanimous vote, elected Edwin M. Amies, of Altoona, Pa., to fill the unexpired term caused by such resignation.

By action of the Council, August 24, 25, 26 and 27, 1908, were decided upon as the dates for holding the 27th Annual Encampment.

The books and accounts of the National Secretary and National Treasurer, together with the vouchers and requisitions pertaining thereto, have been audited and found correct. The same careful study of economy is once more demonstrated by these two efficient and worthy national officers, and they should be highly commended for the proficiency and accuracy of their work during the past year.

The Council recommends that the per capita tax for the coming year be fixed at 36 cents per member, the same as heretofore. In connection with this recommendation, we simply

wish to say that the continuance of the per capita tax at the present is now absolutely necessary, owing to the action of the Commandery-in-Chief during this encampment in authorizing the expenditure of money for various purposes.

Fraternally yours,

THOS. W. BLAIR, Chairman,  
THOS. J. HANNON, Secretary,  
JAMES B. ADAMS,

Council-in-Chief.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move the adoption of the report of the Council-in-Chief, and the concurrence of the recommendations therein contained.

The motion was seconded and carried.

James B. Adams, of New Jersey: Last year we entered into a contract with the official organ. It has come to the notice of the Council-in-Chief that at least a part of that contract has not been lived up to. Brother Dustin, publisher of The Banner, should have notice that from this time forth every Camp of the Sons of Veterans should have a copy of that paper for filing purposes.

Commander-in-Chief: The incoming Commander-in-Chief will inform Brother Dustin of the remarks of the brother.

Is the Committee on Constitution and Laws ready to report?

F. T. F. Johnson, of Maryland, chairman: Your committee has had a great number of proposed amendments, and they have given them all thorough consideration as to the effect such amendments would have. I suggest that in handling these subjects the amendments be taken up as they are read and voted upon.

F. A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: I intend at the close of the reading of this report to make a motion that the entire report be referred to the Committee on Constitution and Laws that is to be appointed. We may do something here now that will afterwards have to be changed.

George E. Hunt, of Massachusetts: I move that we take up these recommendations as they are read and vote upon them.

The motion was seconded.

E. W. Estes, of New York: I was going to make a motion that as soon as this report is read that the matters referred to therein be submitted to the committee to be appointed. Why should we attempt amendments to the present constitution, to be put into effect in the next ninety days, when in nine months from that time we will adopt another constitution. I hope this motion of the brother from Massachusetts will not prevail, and that a motion will be made leaving the whole matter to the incoming committee on constitution.

James B. Adams, of New Jersey: These amendments should be acted on here at this time, and not a year from now. The motion was put and carried.

#### VISIT OF REPRESENTATIVE OF LADIES OF THE G. A. R.

At this point it was announced that Mrs. Hancock, representing the Ladies of the G. A. R. of the state of New York, was in waiting, and the Commander-in-Chief appointed H. V. Speelman as a committee to escort Mrs. Hancock into the hall.

Mrs. Hancock was presented to the Commandery-in-Chief by H. V. Speelman.

Commander-in-Chief: Mrs. Hancock, I know it is a great sacrifice on your part to come from Syracuse to be present with us today. Personally I am very fond of the Ladies of the G. A. R. Our mothers are closely identified with us. We love the Woman's Relief Corps as well as the Ladies of the G. A. R.; in fact we are proud of all the ladies organizations.

Mrs. Hancock: Commander-in-Chief and brothers of this encampment, I am proud to be here today, bringing the greetings and best wishes from the national body of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic to this national encampment of the Sons of Veterans. I deeply regret the inability of our National President to be present with you today. You have lost quite a bit, for she is a born speaker. She has the interests of the Sons of Veterans at heart. I am glad, however, that she has given me the pleasure of representing her. You are the sons of those brave men who offered their lives, if need be for our country and the flag under which we are so proud to live. I am proud of being a member of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, an order so closely allied to the veterans and the sons of veterans. We as a body feel that we are very closely related to you, as none but the mothers, wives, sisters and daughters of a veteran of the civil war, and all true lineal descendants can become members of that order, and we regard the son of a veteran as almost a member of our order. The veterans' ranks are thinning fast. They soon will have all crossed the great divide, and may their mantle fall upon your shoulders, and then to your sons and grandsons, and so on, from generation to generation, thus keeping the memory of the brave deeds of your fathers in the hearts of the people. I have no son, but I have a daughter. If I had a son I would want him to be with you. We are not auxiliary to the Posts, but we are the families of the Posts, and the mothers and sisters of the Sons of Veterans. We, of course, are more deeply interested in you than we would be if you were not our blood kin, and we look to you to perpetuate the loyalty and patriotism of your fathers, not forgetting the anxiety and sacrifices and heartaches of the mothers who saw their husbands go from them at their country's call, many of them never to come back. My husband was a prisoner of war. Perhaps some of you have heard your fathers tell of what they had to endure. When he was exchanged it took him two weeks to reach his northern home. I went to him and cared for him the little time he was spared to me, about six weeks, and then brought his body home. I am only one of a thousand who suffered sacrifices in like manner. I think it will be only a short time before the Sons of Veterans will be admitted to our order, as our brothers. We should admit them as we do the veterans. Boys, the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic have a warm place in their hearts for you, and we hope and expect that you also have such a place in your hearts for us. And brothers, and Commander, I hope that your encampment will be held at the same time and place with the national G. A. R., and all auxiliaries and all kindred orders, and I think perhaps it will be so. I know that if the need should come every one of you would rally round the old flag, as your fathers did in the sixties, and would

defend our state from dissolution and destruction even to death. With that faith in the Sons of Veterans and in their sons, we feel that our nation will be in good hands and be protected as long as one of them is living, and that will be as long as the nation stands. Commander-in-Chief, I know your time is occupied fully, and I will not take any more of it. I am very glad I was permitted to come here today, and I hope that next year I can meet you, every one, in Washington. (Applause.)

Commander-in-Chief: I know I voice the sentiments of everyone present when I say it is a pleasure to receive Mrs. Hancock here this morning, and I will call upon George E. Hunt, of Massachusetts, to respond on behalf of the encampment.

George E. Hunt, of Massachusetts: Commander-in-Chief, Mrs. Hancock, and brothers. What more appropriate thing could have happened this morning than to have our encampment opened with the voice of a mother. What better greetings could we have had than from the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic? I assure you that I appreciate the honor you have invested in me in permitting me to respond to the greetings from such a noble organization. I feel inadequate to the occasion. I know you all feel an interest in any organization that is built on the principles of patriotism. The organization that Mrs. Hancock represents stands for all that is good in this country. I can only say a very few words. After receiving such greetings, I know I voice the sentiments of this entire encampment when I say to Mrs. Hancock that she can go back to the Ladies of the G. A. R. and say to them that the Sons of Veterans will now and forevermore try to so live that when the last trumpet is sounded they can look back and say, "Well done thou good and faithful servant."

Mrs. Hancock was then escorted from the hall.

Commander-in-Chief: We will now have the report of the Committee on Constitution and Laws.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move that where there is no objection, that the action of the committee with reference to all sections and proposed amendments be considered approved without motion.

The motion was seconded and carried.

The discussions and action of the encampment regarding the committees recommendations will be found immediately following the report, which is as follows:

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND LAWS.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., August 26, 1908.

Commander-in-Chief Ralph Sheldon and Members of the Commandery-in-Chief.

Your Committee on Constitution and Laws begs leave to report as follows:

Missouri Division submitted the following proposed amendment to the Constitution and Laws:

"Brothers losing rank by court martial proceedings can only have same restored by the Commandery-in-Chief; but those losing the same by being dropped for non-payment of dues, can have the same restored by the Commander-in-Chief upon request of his Camp and the approval of the Division Commander."

Your committee recommends that this amendment be not concurred in.

Pennsylvania Division submitted the following:

"Whereas, recognizing the office of Secretary and Treasurer of Camps to be a responsible and important office, and

Whereas, in many instances the success of a Camp depends very largely upon the Secretary and Treasurer in the faithful discharge of their duties pertaining thereto, and

Whereas, we sincerely believe that any brother filling either of the positions in his Camp faithfully for five consecutive years should be rewarded. Therefore be it

Resolved, that this convention here assembled be and are hereby requested to instruct their delegates to the coming Commandery-in-Chief convention to vote for a change in the C. R. & R. to read as follows:

Any brother filling the position of Camp Secretary or Treasurer for five consecutive years shall be entitled to voice and vote at the annual state encampments in lieu of said five years services rendered to his Camp."

Your committee recommends that this amendment be not concurred in.

Kansas Division submitted the following proposed amendment:

Amend Section 3 of Article XII, page 7, so as to read:

"When mustered he shall be presented with a regulation bronze button."

Your committee recommends that this amendment be not concurred in.

The Kansas Division submitted the following proposed amendment:

Amend Section 3 of Article XII, page 7, so as to read:

"There shall be an annual encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief at such time and place as the national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and other kindred orders."

Your committee recommends that this amendment be not concurred in.

Kentucky Division submitted the following proposed amendments:

1st. "That past honors can not be restored to any dropped member of the Order unless the Camp that dropped him passes a resolution favoring same, and is then acted favorably upon by the Division to which the Camp belongs. If the Camp has disbanded, then the Division to which the brother belonged (when he was dropped) must act favorably upon same or no past honors can be restored."

2nd. "That a dropped member must get a transfer card from the Camp from which he was dropped before he can join any other Camp, and if the Camp to which he belonged is not in existence, then he must get a transfer card from the Division Commander of the Division from which he was dropped."

Your committee recommends that the above recommendation be not concurred in.

Pennsylvania Division submitted the following proposed amendments:

(a) Add to Section 2, Article XI, the words, "Assistant Secretary" and "Division Organizer."

(b) In Section 1, Article XII, strike out the words, "each quarter."

(c) In Section 3, Article XII, strike out the words, "Annual encampment" and insert "will meet bi-annually."

(d) In Section 8, Article XIII, strike out the words, "encampments and Commandery-in-Chief" and insert in lieu thereof the words "Commander and Commander-in-Chief;" and after "Commander-in-Chief" insert "Division Encampments or Commandery-in-Chief."

(e) In Section 11, Article XIII, strike out the words, "present at such meeting, or who states in writing that he will accept such office, if elected."

(f) In Section 2, Article XVIII, strike out all after the word "application."

(g) In Section 4, Article XVIII, strike out the word "quarter" and insert the words "at the end of six months." Strike out number 4 and insert number 2. Strike out "April and October." Strike out all after the word "October."

(h) In Section 1, Article XIX, strike out "six months," strike out "shall" and insert "may," strike out Section 2, Article XIX, and insert the following in lieu thereof: "Any member indebted to the Camp, to the amount of six months' dues, from any cause whatsoever, may be suspended, and when suspended will not be entitled to any of the privileges of the order, or be admitted to any meeting of the Order until all such indebtedness is paid in full, provided that while suspended his dues shall cease and the Camp will not be required to pay tax on such member."

(i) In Section 3, Article XIX, strike out the word "shall" and insert "May."

(j) Amend Section 3, Article XX, so as to read: "All appeals by a member must be made to the Division Commander, through the Camp, to the Division Commander, and appeals from the decisions of the Division Commander, or Commander-in-Chief, must pass through the hands of those officers, provided that it is mandatory for all officers handling appeals to attest and forward same to higher authority."

(k) In Article XXII, strike out the words "last quarter" and insert "first quarter."

(l) Strike out Article XXIII.

(m) In Par. 2, Article XXIV, add after the word "order" the words "unless such guard or company secures a dispensation from the Commander-in-Chief to parade, on such occasions as not provided for in the article."

(n) Add new section to Courts-martial, to read, that where a member has been convicted of an infamous crime, or where proof can be produced to prove a member is a disreputable character, or an injury to the Order, the Commander-in-Chief may dishonorably discharge such person, without trial.

(o) In Section 14, Courts-martial, page 29, add the words after the word "Camp" in the ninth line of the section, so as to read: "And if he finds among those present at the meeting, 10 members of the Camp, who will obey the laws and all orders from the higher authorities in the Order, the Camp and its money and property shall be turned over to those members who are obedient, etc." Following the balance of the article as at

present, in the last line, strike out the word "Division" and insert "Division Commander, or such brother as he may designate to receive the money and property."

(p) Add a new section as follows: "Where a camp charter is revoked, or declared null and void, and such Camp has provided in its laws for the payment of sick and death benefits, the money and property of the Camp in its possession, or in the possession of any of its officers at the time of disbandment or revocation of charter, shall be held by the Treasurer of the Division for the payment of such sick and death benefits to the members of that Camp who remain members of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., and who will and who do obey its laws. When a charter is revoked for insubordination, or refusal to obey orders, or the Constitution or Ritual of the Order, a transfer will be granted by the Division to any loyal brother, and in case of illness or death, the Camp that he is transferred to will, under the direction of the Division Commander, take charge of him, and shall draw upon the Division Commander for such benefits as is due him, or his heirs, according to the law of the Camp of which he was a member, so long as he pays his dues to the Camp he was transferred to, or to the Division Treasurer or Secretary, in case no Camp will accept him in membership; in that case the Division Commander will detail a brother to look after him, and pay him or his heirs such money as benefits that he is entitled to, provided that when the money received from the disbanded Camp has been paid out in benefits, the Division no longer accepts any responsibility."

(q) The several ribbons of the Order shall be as follows: On all badges of the Order, the red, white and blue ribbon, in three stripes, shall be worn. Commissioned officers shall wear the red ribbon; Past Camp Commanders the red ribbon on the iron cross; Past Division Commanders shall wear on the silver cross the yellow ribbon of the Commandery-in-Chief; Past Commanders-in-Chief shall wear on the gold cross the yellow ribbon. Every member of the Order, however, must wear the one ribbon on the membership badge."

Your Committee recommends concurrence in the paragraph marked "a".

We recommend that all the other amendments be not concurred in.

The amendment marked "q" is taken up in connection with Recommendation No. 10 of the Commander-in-Chief.

Pennsylvania Division also submitted the following amendments:

(a 1) That a more appropriate ritual than the one now in use be adopted.

(b 2) That commissions to the officers of the civic body be abolished, or in lieu thereof, that such commissions be withheld until the close of the term.

(c 3) That reports be made semi-annually, instead of quarterly.

(d 4) That all supplies be furnished divisions at cost.

(e 5) That the Constitution and Laws be amended to read as follows: "That the Constitution can not be amended, except by a majority vote of all the Camps of the Order."

Your Committee recommends that the foregoing proposed amendments be not concurred in. The proposed amendment marked "a 1" pertains to the Ritual, which has been adopted at this Encampment.

The Maine Division has submitted the following proposed amendments:

Amend Article III by adding: "Fifth, or members-at-large;" sixth "of Junior Corps, styled 'S. of V. Corps.'"

Change Article XXV to Article XXVII, adding new Article XXV and XXVI.

#### ARTICLE XXV.

##### Members at Large.

Section 1. There shall be a class of members at large, eligibility to be the same as provided in Art. IV of the Constitution, except that an applicant for this class shall not be eligible if there is a Camp located within a radius of fifteen miles of his residence. A member at large upon the presentation of a receipt for dues paid up to at least within 30 days of presentation, or being known to an officer or member of the Order, as being in good standing as a member at large shall be admitted to the meeting of any Camp, Division or session of the Commandery-in-Chief, but in no case shall such a member have a vote, but upon invitation he may have a voice in the deliberations of any of these bodies.

Section II. A member at large shall forward with his application an admission fee of one dollar to the Division, but in the event the annual dues are not paid within 60 days after the annual encampment of the Division to which said member is connected he shall be dropped from the roll and reinstated only upon payment of said arrears.

Section III. The Commandery-in-Chief shall furnish at moderate cost a suitable badge and certificate of membership for this class of members, the Division to furnish the same to the member at large at cost.

Section IV. The membership fees and dues from members at large shall be retained for the use of the Division to which such members belong, and furthermore said Division shall not be called upon to pay tax on these members, or to report the number of said members on the rolls unless required to do so by the Commander-in-Chief; except, of course, a statement shall be made by Division Secretaries annually to their Divisions of the number on the rolls.

Section V. A member at large shall not be eligible to any elective or appointive position, except aid on the staff on the Commander-in-Chief or a Division Commander.

Section VI. Applications for membership shall not be made on the forms furnished divisions by the Commandery-in-Chief at nominal cost, and in compliance with the instructions printed thereon.

Section VII. Members at large shall be admitted to this class only after their application has been approved by the Division Commander and a majority of the members of the Division Council.

## ARTICLE XXVI. Junior Corps.

Section I. Camps desiring to do so may form Junior Corps, eligibility to which shall be the same as provided in Article IV of the Constitution, except that an applicant for this class is only eligible between the ages of 10 and 17 years.

Section II. Junior Corps shall be officered by a captain, first and second lieutenant and three trustees, these officers to be elected annually by a majority of the corps members at the first meeting of the corps in December, and shall be installed at the first meeting night in January.

The appointive officers shall be Secretary, Treasurer, a Chaplain, Sergeant of the Guard, Color Sergeant, Musician, Corporal of the Guard, Camp Guard, and Picket Guard. These officers to be appointed by the Captain on the evening of installation.

Section III. Junior Corps are to be attached to a Camp, and to be under the sole control and subject to the discipline of said Camp, each Camp having a corps to appoint a committee of three to have the supervision and direction of the affairs of the corps.

Section IV. The members of the Junior Corps shall pay such admission fees and dues as the corps may establish, the admission fee to include a badge and certificate of membership to be furnished divisions by the Commandery-in-Chief at a nominal cost, and the same to be furnished to the Division with which said Camp and Corps are connected.

Section V. The Corps shall establish such regulations as it may deem necessary for the observance of its members, for the payment of dues and fines, and shall regulate the time and place of corps meetings.

Section VI. Applications for membership shall be made on the forms furnished by the Commandery-in-Chief at a nominal cost, and in compliance with the instructions printed thereon, the Divisions to furnish the same to Camps for the use of their Corps at slight advance over the price charged by the Commandery.

Section VII. Members of the Junior Corps on reaching the age of eighteen years shall thereafter be ineligible to membership in a Junior Corps.

Amend Article XVII by adding "Fourth.—Division and Camp Secretaries and Treasurers who have served for three consecutive years in either of these offices, on recommendation of the Division Commander to the Commander-in-Chief to receive by order of the Commander-in-Chief the rank of Past Commander, with all the rights and privileges attached to this rank usually gained by service as Commander."

Your committee recommends that the above be not concurred in.

The Committee on Officers' Reports has submitted to this Committee the following recommendations of the Commander-in-Chief:

"No. 3. That an amendment be added to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations whereby an officer of the Reserve desiring to be placed upon the retired list can be upon his own application and upon the filing of a surgeon's certificate of disability, thus in this way we retain the influences of such officers."

This recommendation is referred to the Committee on Military Affairs for their consideration, as the same comes within the provisions of paragraph 4 of Article XXIV.

"No. 8. That our Constitution, Rules and Regulations be so amended as to give the size, form and color of ink of all Division Orders. That the electro of the regulation badge be used and that only in the left hand corner of the beginning of the order. The size of the order shall be  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches by 8 inches."

On this recommendation your committee recommends that Article IV of the Laws, Section 1, page 35, be amended as follows:

"That after the word orders on line 5, insert ('said orders, if not published in the official organ, shall be  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches by 8 inches, printed in black ink, on white paper; the Commandery-in-Chief orders, etc., to contain the electro of the coat-of-arms, and the Division orders to contain the electro of the badge, in the upper left hand corner.')

"No. 9. That Division Commanders can not appoint any other officers than those designated by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations."

On this recommendation your committee recommends as follows:

Add to Article XI, the following section, to be known as Section 5: "Division Commanders may appoint such special aides as they may deem necessary for such service as they may require and designate, but they shall give no title to such appointees except that of "special aide."

"No. 10. That the membership ribbons of our Order be the red, white and blue. The tri-color ribbon, the same as the original membership ribbon."

In this connection your committee recommends that Section 5, Article VII, of the Laws, page 42, be repealed, and the following section substituted in lieu thereof:

"Section 5. There shall be three prescribed ribbons of the Order, as follows: (a) The membership badge ribbon, which shall consist of three equal stripes of red, white and blue, which shall be worn on the membership badge and on no other. (b) The Division ribbon, consisting of a red center and a red, white and blue border on each side, which shall be worn on no badge other than the iron cross and the bronze war service cross. (c) The Commandery-in-Chief ribbon, which shall consist of a center broad stripe of old gold, with narrow border of red, white and blue on each side, to be worn on no badges other than the silver cross, the gold cross and the gold star."

"No. 12. That the order adopt some new button-hole decoration, a recognition mark, one that is symbolic and has some meaning."

Your committee recommends that this recommendation be not concurred in.

"No. 14. That the Constitution, Rules and Regulations be so amended as to read, that a dropped member can not join another Camp in the same Division in which he was dropped without first paying a year's dues to the Camp from which he was dropped."

Your committee recommends that this recommendation be not concurred in.

"No. 15. That the eligibility clause be so amended as to

admit a member whose father has been forced to bear arms against the government, but who afterwards enlisted in the Union Army, after first satisfying the Division Commander by affidavits, or otherwise, that such is the case."

We submit, for the consideration of the Encampment, with-out recommendation, that the last line of the form of applica-tion be changed so that it will read as follows: "My father (grandfather) never voluntarily bore arms against the govern-ment of the United States."

"No. 16. That no member of the S. of V. Reserve can hold any elective office in Camp, Division, or Commandery-in-Chief. In Camps in which all members are members of the Reserve this may be waived by special dispensation of the Commander-in-Chief."

Your committee recommends that the above recommenda-tion be not concurred in.

Your committee recommends that Sec. 1, Art. XI, Constitu-tion and Laws be amended by striking out the words "Sergeant and Corporal of the Guard" and inserting in lieu thereof—guide. This amendment is made necessary to conform to the new Ritual.

Respectfully,

F. T. F. JOHNSON,

R. F. LOCKE,

E. R. CAMPBELL,

E. H. ARCHER,

EDWIN M. AMIES.

No objection was raised to the committee's recommendation on the amendment proposed by Missouri Division relative to members losing rank by court-martial proceedings.

After the reading of the recommendation of the committee on the amendment proposed by Pennsylvania Division to the effect that Camp Secretaries and Treasurers after serving five years as such shall be entitled to a voice and vote at the annual state Encampments, the following discussion took place:

W. B. Moynihan, of New York: I think that this legislation is desirable, is really necessary, because the secretary and treasurer of our camps are the business officers of our Order. If we have thoroughly competent men to fill these positions we have progressive and successful camps, especially so with the treasurer. These positions are very important. Under our present laws any member may be elected to office in November, or even in December, serve but a few weeks, and receive the honor of Past Commander and thereafter be entitled to a vote in the Division Encampment. That has been the practice of all Divisions, and it seems to me it is wrong. Whereas, if we offer some inducement, hope for reward, to the men that we ought to select to fill the offices of Camp Secretary and Camp Treasurer, we will attract to those positions some of our best men when they know that for faithful service for a term of years they will be rewarded by having conferred upon them the rank of Past Camp Com-mander, in order that they may go to the Division Encampments and participate in the deliberations. It seems to me that this will be a move in the right direction; that it will strengthen our Order; that it will encourage camps to secure their strong-est men when they know by serving this length of time their services will be appreciated, especially when we have been so

ready to promote those who have only served for a short time to receive this honor. I believe that this legislation ought to be enacted now and not defer it for another year, because it will produce good results. I therefore move to amend the report of the committee by the adoption of the amendment to the Constitution and Laws proposed by the Division of Pennsylvania.

The motion was seconded.

E. H. Archer, of Ohio: By action of this Commandery three years ago the constitutional provision creating life memberships was abolished. The position of the committee in recommending that this amendment be not approved was based upon the fact that we did not deem it wise to open the door by creating life members of the Division, or the Commandery-in-Chief, simply because they had served as secretary for a number of years, and also because, as has been stated, there is to be a committee on revision of the Constitution, and that matter will probably be thrashed out at that time; for that reason the committee recommended that no action be taken this year to provide that the Secretary who has served five years shall be a life member of the Division.

F. K. Maples, of New York: I am in hearty accord with Past Division Commander Moynihan, of New York. I have been a member of this organization for twenty odd years, and in my experience I find that the best camps we have in the organization today are the camps whose business is conducted by business men. I belong to a camp that is about to celebrate its 25th anniversary, and we have had but three Treasurers during all that period. We find in order to keep our membership intact it is necessary that our Treasurer must be an exceptionally good man; one who will make personal visits and keep our membership advised as to their standing. We have a member, a business man, who has given his time faithfully; he has served for about eight years. This Camp and this member realize the importance of keeping the financial affairs in proper shape. I do not think it right for you or I, or any other member, to be elected as Camp Commander, and then resign in October, November or December in order that some one may have past rank, and be privileged to go to the Division Encampments and have a vote. It is no more than right and just that some recognition should be given to a brother who has faithfully served for a number of years as Secretary or Treasurer. It is in line with the remarks made by our Commander-in-Chief in his report, where he speaks of how the life of the Camp depends upon the Treasurer. We should not ask him to sacrifice his time and neglect the opportunity time and again to be elected to the office of Camp Commander unless we can offer him some recompense for such sacrifice. Life membership is of no value unless the dues are paid, and a man who serves as Commander for one week is as much a life member of the Division as one who has served a full term. I hope that the motion of Brother Moynihan will prevail.

R. J. Bosworth, of Indiana: I am opposed to constitutional life members, but as long, brothers, as we are making constitutional life members by the hundreds every year, why not get some practical benefit from them. Why not put the constitu-

tional life membership proposition where it will do us good, where we will get good men. I am in favor of the motion of Brother Moynihan.

F. A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: The Secretaries of every fraternal organization are the life blood of the institution. I am perfectly willing that the Camp Commander should serve one year as such. Those men, however, who in season and out of season attend the meetings of the camps are entitled to recognition and favor.

E. H. Archer, of Ohio: I move that the recommendation of the Committee on Constitution and Laws and the proposed amendment of the brother from New York be left to the Committee on Revision to be appointed.

H. H. Hammer, of Pennsylvania: I am opposed to any proposition giving past rank to Secretaries who have served five years. Your Commanders make sacrifices as well as the Secretary and Treasurer. In most instances the Secretary and Treasurer are very well provided for. You will get everybody Past Commanders. You will have a House of Lords.

Fred E. Bolton, of Massachusetts: The resolution does not affect the division to which I belong. Most of our Secretaries and Treasurers have already been Camp Commanders, and the majority are very glad to serve in those positions. I think it is rather a senseless piece of business to make Past Commanders of Secretaries and Treasurers who have served five years.

J. F. Longnecker, of Illinois: I have been Secretary for several years at different times; for three years I was Secretary and Treasurer of a camp in Chicago. I wanted my past rank; I wanted to be elected Commander. I was elected and am doing the work of Commander as well as Secretary. If you want these fellows to be Commanders, elect them.

John Bower, Jr., of Pennsylvania: Upon a question of this kind, I agree with Brother Hammer. I am opposed to conferring past honors. In the Pennsylvania Division we are making an increase of 150 members to our Division encampments every year. If we make past commanders of secretaries and treasurers who have served five years we will not be able to get a hall outside of Philadelphia large enough to hold the encampments. Let us have the elected delegates do the work. We should not have 500 or 600 men legislating in Pennsylvania. We now have almost 1200 members in the Pennsylvania Division who are entitled to vote at the encampments; only 150 delegates, the balance are past commanders. I object to conferring past honors for services rendered.

W. P. Baker, of Pennsylvania: I beg to differ from Brother Bower, of Pennsylvania, my own Division. All Divisions without exception have plenty of past camp commanders who hold office for a month or two, and they have never been inside of their camp rooms, possibly, since, but these secretaries and treasurers are the watch dogs of every subordinate camp; they are there in season and out of season. They faithfully serve their camps and they are the ones generally that take care of our treasuries. Give credit to whom credit is due. If you have a lot of dead wood in the different Divisions, why not get them out, but give these brothers an opportunity to go to the encampments and have a voice, for they do noble and faithful work. I am opposed to the recommendation of the committee.

If there are 1000 instead of 500, then we are having 500 good brothers who are willing to serve their Camps. We have a brother, treasurer of his Camp for 15 years. I don't want him to get out of that office. He keeps our books. Generally I do not believe in making changes, but I do believe now is the time for the organization to make the changes proposed. I believe in the men who have the intelligence and ability to act as secretary and treasurer. Give him some honor. I worked for my honors and I am willing to step down and out. I have a vote here and I propose to exercise my rights, as an American citizen, and as a Son of a Veteran.

A. E. B. Stevens, of Ohio: I simply want to draw the attention of the brothers to the fact that if these brothers, the secretary and treasurer, are such competent men, why don't the Camps provide for them by electing them delegates. I am utterly opposed to this Commandery-in-Chief enacting any kind of legislation for the benefit of one or two Camps in the United States. There are perhaps three or four instances where the conditions are as represented. If any brother is good enough to act as secretary, we should be willing to have him commander. If you have members of the Camps who are so good, you can provide for their attendance at the encampments. I think when a man has served his Camp as commander he is entitled to the honor.

W. B. Moynihan, of New York: I want to say that this large representation is desirable. We all want to see a large number at our encampments. If you have 1200, or 2000, at the Pennsylvania encampments, it is a great advertisement. As far as rewarding the secretary and treasurer, I don't consider that. What we want is to give them the honor, so that the Order can receive the benefit of their services. The past commanders who seldom attend their Camp meetings ought not to be the ones who vote at the encampments. Let those who are active throughout the year do that.

The motion of W. B. Moynihan, of New York, was put and lost.

No further objections being offered, this part of the report of the committee was adopted.

No objection was offered to the recommendation of the committee on the amendment proposed by the Kansas Division that when mustered a recruit shall be presented with a bronze button, and it was adopted.

Following the reading of the recommendation of the committee in relation to the amendment proposed by the Kansas Division providing that the annual encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief shall be at the same time and place with the G. A. R., the chairman, F. T. F. Johnson, said: The committee thought it would be better to select the place at each encampment.

No objection was offered; it was adopted.

No objection was offered to the recommendation as to the amendment proposed by Kentucky Division in relation to past honors restored to dropped members and to dropped members getting a transfer card; it was adopted.

No objections being offered to the recommendations of the committee in relation to the amendments proposed by Pennsylvania Division, marked from (a) to (q), the recommendations were adopted.

No objection being offered to the recommendation of the committee in relation to the amendments proposed by Pennsylvania Division, marked from (a1) to (e5), the recommendation was adopted.

After the reading of the recommendation of the committee on the amendments proposed by the Maine Division providing for "Members-at-Large" and the "S. of V. Corps," the following discussion took place:

Frank H. Challis, of New Hampshire: We should do something of this kind in connection with decorating the graves of the soldiers of the civil war in towns which are not large enough to support a Camp of the Sons of Veterans. The proposition has come to me a great many times; how can we arrange to attend to this sacred duty. Our Camp in Manchester is small; we have worked hard for 26 years. We have kept our Camp alive. We have two Posts in our city. We try to do our duty to these Posts. There are sons in the surrounding towns, but not enough to organize and keep up a Camp; in one town there was a Post of 17 members, four died during the year. We ought to do something about this. I would suggest that it be left to the committee to revise the constitution.

W. O. Cutler, of Massachusetts: I think the proposed amendment has some merit in it. I move that the matter be left to the committee to be appointed by the In-coming Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded and carried.

K. S. Carlton, of California and Oregon: I hope the committee to be appointed will take some action along the line suggested; I think the proposition for members-at-large a good one.

No objections to the recommendation of the committee in relation to amend Article XXVII, proposed by the Maine Division, the recommendation was adopted.

No objections being offered to the recommendations of the committee with reference to Recommendations 3, 8 and 9 of the Commander-in-Chief, the recommendations were adopted.

Following the reading of the recommendation of the committee in relation to Recommendation No. 10, of the Commander-in-Chief, the chairman, F. T. F. Johnson, said: The idea is that the membership badge shall contain only the old red, white and blue ribbon; the officers to be designated by the rank strap.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move that this question be referred to the committee on Constitution and Laws to be appointed by the incoming Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded and carried.

No objections being offered to the recommendations of the committee with reference to Recommendations 12 and 14 of the Commander-in-Chief, the recommendations were adopted.

Alf. G. Loyd, of Pennsylvania: I move that the recommendation of this committee with reference to Recommendation No. 15 of the Commander-in-Chief be referred to the committee on Constitution and Laws to be appointed by the incoming Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded and carried.

No objection being offered to the recommendations of the committee with reference to Recommendation No. 16 of the Commander-in-Chief, and to amending Section 1, Article XI, of the Constitution and Laws, the recommendations were adopted.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: Let it be understood that the committee to be appointed by the incoming Commander-in-Chief will have authority to change the Constitution and Laws so it will conform to the new ritual.

E. R. Campbell, of Maryland: I move that the report of the committee on Constitution and Laws be accepted as amended.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. W. J. Patton: While I realize that the burden is heavier this year than it was last year, yet, after meeting with your Board of Regents, I believe that the banner having once been hoisted should never be lowered, and I have therefore decided to continue in the work for the next year at least.

You will remember that our sisters of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary contributed \$300 last year. They have just voted \$650 to pay the balance due the teachers.

I now submit the financial report of the committee on Memorial University.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY.

Mason City, Iowa, August 24, 1908.

Dr. Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.  
Commander and Brothers:

Your committee on Memorial University begs leave to present the following financial report:

##### Receipts for Year 1907-'08.

Grand Army of the Republic (Including Lawler Scholarship) .....	\$ 440.61
Woman's Relief Corps.....	1,334.19
Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic.....	171.50
Daughters of Veterans.....	251.54
S. of V. Auxiliary.....	806.20
Sons of Veterans (Individuals).....	935.93
Sons of Veterans (Camps).....	2,267.02
Charter Fees and Commandery-in-Chief.....	1,210.00
Tuition .....	2,816.05
Text Books .....	170.70
Dormitories .....	977.27
General Sources .....	229.77
From Bills Payable.....	400.00
Appropriated from July, 1908, receipts.....	353.21

\$12,368.99

## Expenditures.

Salaries .....	\$ 7,568.07
Field Expenses, Student Canvass, Etc.....	1,499.32
Printing .....	290.20
Coal .....	434.33
Postage .....	192.69
Light .....	37.89
Telephone .....	33.56
Express .....	28.96
Building and Grounds.....	164.56
Sundries .....	100.71
Refund on Tuition Books.....	21.90
Freight and Drayage.....	33.48
College Supplies .....	80.76
Office Expenses .....	14.50
Lectures on Applied Patriotism.....	34.00
Advertising .....	54.95
Dormitories .....	1,098.83
Wm. Lee (Lawler Scholarship).....	219.05
Water Tax .....	117.31
Text Books, Commercial Department .....	114.48
Typewriters, Commercial Department .....	115.00
Athletics .....	25.25
	<hr/>
	\$12,279.80

## Bills Payable, 1907-'08.

Water Rent .....	\$ 43.74
W. J. Daly, Plumbing.....	82.51
Garvey and Mulgrew, Plumbing.....	14.45
Boyd and Boyd, Plumbing.....	24.70
Currie Hardware Co.....	17.15
Vulcan Iron Works.....	15.00
Brice Gas Co.....	32.61
D. J. Stewart, Coal Oil, Gasoline, Etc.....	13.02
L. A. Page Lumber Co.....	7.20
Nye Schneider Fowler Co., Coal.....	375.91
C. E. Mann Co., Stationery and Office Supplies.....	21.56
R. B. Wylie, Laboratory Supplies .....	9.20
C. H. Stoelting, Laboratory Supplies.....	72.39
Goodyear Marshall Co., Text Books.....	75.61
W. M. Welch Mfg. Co., Certificate Blanks.....	8.00
Franklin Co., Cuts.....	3.20
Globe Gazette, Printing.....	122.94
Times Herald, Printing.....	1.50
J. A. Hamilton, Typewriters .....	50.00
Telephone .....	6.00
Salaries .....	609.50
Barton Hall, Rent.....	224.25
Lincoln Hall .....	137.77
Notes at Bank.....	790.68
	<hr/>
	\$2,758.89

W. J. PATTON.  
 ALBERT J. BEVERIDGE.  
 E. W. ESTES.  
 J. B. McCABE.  
 F. J. KELLOGG.

### FINAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORTS.

E. W. Estes, of New York:

Niagara Falls, N. Y., August 27, 1908.

To the Officers and Members of the 27th Annual Encampment, S. V., U. S. A.

Your committee on Officers' Reports begs leave to make the following final report:

The Commander-in-Chief submitted three decisions as made by him during the year, and your committee, after carefully considering them recommend that they be concurred in by this encampment.

Both the Commander-in-Chief and Council-in-Chief have recommended the continuance of the present per capita tax of 36 cents, and we suggest that these recommendations be concurred in.

The report of the Council-in-Chief shows that they have paid close attention to the duties of their office, and they deserve and should receive the commendation and thanks of this encampment.

Respectfully submitted,

E. W. ESTES,

Acting Chairman.

JOHN A. BOMMARDT.

CHARLES B. MARTIN.

WILLIAM O. CUTLER.

Commander-in-Chief: If there is no objection, the recommendations of the committee will be approved.

No objections offered.

E. W. Estes, of New York: I move that the report of the committee be received and the committee discharged.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Commander-in-Chief: We will now have the report of the committee on Resolutions.

### PARTIAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

William T. Church, of Illinois: The committee on Resolutions is prepared to submit a partial report at this time.

The following resolution has been presented by the Division of Massachusetts:

"Resolved, That for all of the interests of the Order it is very desirable that the national encampments of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., should be held at the same times and places as those of the Grand Army of the Republic and other kindred organizations;

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the next national encampment of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.;

Resolved, That the delegates of the Massachusetts Division to said national encampment be instructed to endeavor to secure such legislation by said encampment as will result in the holding of the national encampments of the Order as herein indicated."

The committee, after considering this resolution, reports to the encampment that it is the opinion of the committee that action along these lines should be taken. That it is advisable

for this body to meet in annual encampment at the same place of the Grand Army of the Republic during the declining years of that organization, and the committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the incoming Council-in-Chief, with the recommendation that it act in accordance with the spirit of the resolution.

I move the adoption of the report.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Wm. T. Church, of Illinois: The following Preamble and Resolutions have been received from the New Jersey Division:

"Whereas, In our nation's capital city of Washington, D. C., there is erected a handsome monument to the memory of the immortal president, George Washington, and

Whereas, On the interior walls of the said monument there are placed scores of tablets of the various states of this Union, many of the cities of our country, and organizations of patriotic, fraternal, temperance, benevolent and religious character, and

Whereas, Among the few organizations conspicuously without such a tribute on those walls is our Order of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Hugh C. Irish Camp, No. 8, S. of V., of Paterson, N. J., do hereby express our regret that our Order has not yet recognized the Father of our Country in any such substantial and worthy manner; and be it further

Resolved, That we request our Past Commander A. I. Vescelius and his associate representatives from our Division of N. J. to the Commandery-in-Chief to meet at Niagara Falls in August, 1908, to present this matter to our national body, and there urge the erection of a tablet in the said Washington Monument as a tribute of the organized Sons of Veterans of the great Civil War of 1861-'65; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of these preambles and resolutions be sent to all our Division representatives and the Secretary and Commander-in-Chief of the national body, and be spread in full on our minutes."

Your committee recommends that, in view of the unusual appropriations made by this encampment, action be not taken upon this resolution at this encampment, but that the Division of New Jersey be invited to renew this resolution at the encampment in 1909.

No objection being offered, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Wm. T. Church, of Illinois: A resolution has been submitted to the committee from the Division of New Hampshire relating to an advertisement of the Keeley Cure which is published in the official organ. The committee recommends that the resolution be not concurred in.

No objection being offered, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Wm. T. Church, of Illinois: There have been received by this committee several applications, all with one exception coming from the recommendations of the Division encampments, for the restoration of rank of past captain to members of the Divisions, to the number of 40, as follows:

Kansas .....	3
Colorado and Wyoming.....	5
New Hampshire .....	6
Massachusetts .....	1
Rhode Island .....	1
New York .....	11
Missouri .....	3
Pennsylvania .....	3
Maine .....	7

The entire committee on resolutions has considered these resolutions and the report of the committee is not the expression of any individual members. In view of the large number of these applications, and the most meager statements of facts accompanying some of them, the total absence of any facts relating to the loss of rank in the majority of cases, the committee recommends that no action be taken on any of them.

No objections being offered, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Wm. T. Church, of Illinois: The committee has also received resolutions from Divisions requesting that the restoration of the rank of past division commander be conferred upon five brothers of the Order, as follows:

From Division of Colorado & Wyoming, upon L. M. Taylor.  
From Division of Missouri, upon W. J. Zimmerschied.

In the former case there is a statement accompanying the application that Brother Taylor lost his rank by the disbandment of his Camp. In the latter case there is no statement. The committee is unable to form any opinion of these applications, and recommends no action in either case.

No objections being offered, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Wm. T. Church, of Illinois: The Division of Vermont presents resolutions, accompanied by a statement of facts, requesting the restoration of rank of past division commander upon Brother John E. Fox, of that Division. Briefly, the statement of facts shows that this brother lost his rank through the disbandment of his Camp while he was in a distant part of the country; that he had no knowledge of the disbandment of the Camp until he returned after some years to his Division and found he was no longer a member of the Order, through no fault of his. The committee recommends that the rank of past division commander be restored to Brother John E. Fox.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move that we concur in the recommendation of the committee. I happen to know the circumstances of Brother Fox's absence. He was a part of the time in Central America.

A. E. B. Stevens, of Ohio: I would like to move an amendment to the motion. I don't see that there is any more reason for favorable action on this case than in the other cases. I move that it be so amended that we do not concur in the recommendation.

The motion was seconded.

A. E. B. Stephens, of Ohio: It occurs to me that any brother of this Order who has been Division Commander of his state, and who loses his interest in the Sons of Veterans

so that he does not know that his Camp is in good standing for one, two or three years, should not be honored by having his past rank restored.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I don't wish to criticise the remarks of Brother Stephens, although, to my mind they convey a wrong impression. As a matter of fact, Brother Fox was a member of the Camp at Burlington, Vermont, his nome, and when that Camp went to pieces, he had gone to New York, and changed his residence two or three times; he was in Central America part of the time. He afterward went into business in Oakland, California, where he now is. In the meantime his Camp died, without his knowledge. I want to state that my circumstances were quite the same as his, and if it had not been for Frank Shepard, I would have lost every rank that I held. When I got back from Central America the Camp had been dead a year. Brother Shepard, watchful of my interests, saved my membership by getting a transfer to another Camp in Illinois. I had paid my dues 20 years in advance. I know John Fox well enough to know that he never would run behind on anything. He served under me when I was Commander-in-Chief. I feel that it is due him, and I trust the recommendation of the committee will stand.

E. H. Archer, of Ohio: Would it not be fair to apply the rule so that until this brother from Vermont can show that he is not only willing but has paid all the dues that accrued, that this application take the same course as the others?

The motion to amend was put and lost.

No further objections being offered, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Wm. T. Church, of Illinois: A resolution has been received from the Division of California, in due form, requesting that the rank of past division commander be restored to Brother Ernest W. Conant, a member in good standing of Gen. Phil. Sheridan Camp, No. 4, of San Jose, Cal. It is recited that he is an earnest worker in the Order and has been for many years; that he lost his membership while he was away from the state. The committee recommends restoration of his past rank.

A. E. B. Stephens, of Ohio: I would like to know if he was placed in the same position as Brother Abbott. If through his own negligence and his own fault, I am opposed to restoring his past rank. I move that the report of the committee be not concurred in. The motion was seconded.

K. S. Carlton, of California & Oregon: I would say for the benefit of the gentleman from Ohio that I know practically nothing about it; the resolution was given me to present. I would like to know if we must come here and explain every act. I am an entire stranger to the brother; he may have been in San Jose at the time, or he may have been in some foreign country. I supposed, when I came here that the papers were all right.

Commander-in-Chief: I wrote to the Commander of the California and Oregon Division that all that was necessary for him to do was to give the reasons for desiring the restoration of the past rank.

The motion to not concur in the recommendation of the committee was put and carried.

Wm. T. Church, of Illinois: We have a resolution request-

ing that the rank of past division commander be conferred upon Peter C. Carroll, of D. K. Warren Camp, No. 92, of New York Division. The application is unaccompanied by a statement of facts. A member of the New York Division appeared before the committee and made a verbal statement of the facts in this case to the effect that the brother came into the Order on the understanding that, being a division commander in the post system, when his Camp came into this Order as the result of his solicitations he would receive the rank of past division commander; that he supposed it had been conferred upon him, and latterly found out it had not. A majority of the committee have recommended that his past rank be restored.

H. H. Hammer, of Pennsylvania: I move that the recommendation of the committee be not concurred in.

The motion was seconded.

E. W. Estes, of New York: This brother was Commander-in-Chief of the Post System, Sons of Veterans. The organization was not large when he was Commander-in-Chief; its membership was confined principally to New Jersey and New York. The brother was instrumental in bringing not only his own post but several posts into the Order. It was a distinct pleasure of New York Division when we said we would do our utmost to give him the rank of past division commander; we went to the encampment at Gettysburg, and the committee recommended that he be given the rank of past camp commander only, and it was done. The Division Commander wrote to Brother Carroll and said that he had received the rank of past division commander. It was only when he showed up at the next encampment that he was informed he had no right to wear the insignia of rank of past division commander.

E. H. Archer, of Ohio: I desire to say that the conferring of past division commander on a brother who has not heretofore been elected Division Commander is in contravention of our constitution.

W. B. Moynihan, of New York: I would say that it was through an inadvertence that the Commandery-in-Chief at Gettysburg conferred the rank of past camp commander on Brother Carroll rather than past division commander.

H. H. Hammer, of Pennsylvania: It seems to me that there was a stated time, or limit, up to which these people who came into the organization from the post system could take advantage of the opportunity.

E. W. Estes, of New York: Brother Hammer is going back to 1890; this matter of Brother Martin is within five years; you gave him the rank of past division commander.

W. B. Moynihan, of New York: I was about to say it was through inadvertence that the name of Peter Carroll was not presented at Gettysburg; the Division of New York recommended it and it was through an error that favorable action was not taken at Gettysburg. As has been stated, this brother was instrumental not only in bringing one, but in bringing in several posts into the Order of Sons of Veterans. This would be an act of tardy justice to confer this rank upon Brother Carroll.

Wm. T. Church, of Illinois: Commander-in-Chief, this concludes the report of the committee up to the present time.

The committee will have a supplemental report to make. May I state that, in view of the discussion that has just taken place, the misstatement made by the chairman of the committee in regard to this case illustrates the necessity for having every application for past rank contain a complete statement of facts.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move the adoption of the partial report of the committee.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire: I move we adjourn until 2:30 p. m.

The motion was seconded and lost.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move we proceed to the election of officers.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Commander-in-Chief: I will appoint E. E. Schoening, of Missouri, and F. T. F. Johnson, of Maryland, tellers.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I rise to a point of order. My point is, that as the election of officers is the last order of business, and we have reports to hear, we should not proceed to the election of officers.

Commander-in-Chief: The point is well taken.

W. B. Moynihan, of New York: I move that the various committees who have not yet reported to the encampment be called upon to do so forthwith.

The motion was seconded.

Past Commander-in-Chief Edwin M. Amies assumed the chair.

The motion was put and carried.

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#### PRESENTATION OF PORTRAIT OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF SHELDON.

Milton E. Gibbs, of New York: It seems quite fitting that a convention of this kind should pause for a moment and engage in one of the pleasant matters, the pleasantest that could come before it. The Division of New York at this time has a Commander-in-Chief. I will ask Commander-in-Chief Sheldon to appear before the bar. Our Order is slow in bestowing just commendations on those who deserve such recognition. We are slow in bestowing just compliments for kind acts done and kind words said, even to those we love. It is one of the best lessons that you have when you turn aside for just one moment and say to a fellow you love that you really do love him. Probably one of the reasons that we hesitate to do this on more occasions than we do is because it may swell the fellow's head. A year ago you elected to the chief office in this Order, Doctor Ralph Sheldon, of Albany. You honored New York state by that election, and New York state today wants to return to you thanks for the compliment that you paid him and for the compliment that you allowed us to pay by putting such a genial gentleman at the head of this Order. I understand that it has been a custom in the past to present to the retiring Commander-in-Chief a picture, in order that it may hang upon the walls of Memorial University, and so beautify them. Should the time ever come when a man who is elected to be the chief executive officer of this Order does not fulfill the duties of his office

properly and does not bear the standard of the Sons of Veterans as high as it should be borne, then, and not until then should we fail to present his portrait to grace the walls of the University. The picture of no unworthy man should ever be presented to Memorial University for those who are seeking education and character to look upon. Custom is a thing to be guarded jealously. I think every man here will agree with me when I say there is no picture that will adorn the walls of the University with more grace than the picture of Doctor Ralph Sheldon.

In behalf of the state of New York, I have pleasure in presenting to Doctor Sheldon, to Commander-in-Chief Sheldon, this portrait. Commander, when you were elected the brothers of this Division knew that you were capable to fill this high office, but today, brothers of this encampment are proud, every man of us, for the record you have made. Your progress has been remarkable. You have grown yourself, and as you have grown you have shed lustre upon all the rest of us, and it is my very pleasant duty at this time to present you, Commander-in-Chief of this great Order, with this picture, and as the students of Memorial University shall look upon that picture they will know it is the picture of an honest man. It will help to develop their characters. (Applause).

Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: Brother Gibbs, words at this time fail to adequately express the appreciation for the kind things you have said. I am thankful for them, and I trust that as the picture hangs upon the walls of Memorial University in the days to come that those who look upon it may all feel that the time I spent as your Commander-in-Chief was not lost. I trust that no act of mine will ever take from my friends their kind thoughts. I thank you, Brother Gibbs, for your very kind words, and I thank you, gentlemen, who have kindly presented this picture to me, and I present it to the Commandery-in-Chief.

Past Commander-in-Chief Amies: The New York Division has seen fit to present to Commander-in-Chief Sheldon this beautiful picture of himself, and we have received it on behalf of himself. It is customary that this be received on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief, and in view of the fact that it is to be placed with the rest at Memorial University, it is more than fitting that Doctor Patton be appointed to respond.

Rev. W. J. Patton: I believe the Sons of Veterans could have done nothing better than to place upon the walls of the Memorial University the portraits of the Past Commanders-in-Chief, in the halls and in the class-rooms, where the students can look upon them. Most of the boys and girls ask these questions, "When was he Commander-in-Chief," or "What did he do?" The lessons learned, the characters formed, the ideals developed by gazing upon these representative men of our Order will ever be an education in itself. It will ever have an effect upon the student body, as they develop from year to year in their progress through the various departments of the University.

On behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief, and as the custodian of the memorial building, I accept this portrait, and assure you that it will stand in the front rank. It is the peer of any of those that are there—that monument erected to the memory of our sires.

Lewis A. Dilley, of Iowa: The committee that was sent out to convey greetings to the Auxiliary is ready to report.

Milton E. Gibbs, of New York: As a member of that committee on fraternal greetings I desire to say that we performed our duty.

F. A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: I move that we take a recess until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

The motion was seconded and carried.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

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Encampment resumed at 2:30 p. m., August 27, 1908.

Commander-in-Chief: Are there any further committees to report?

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### ADDITIONAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Wm. T. Church, of Illinois: The Committee on Resolutions reports that additional requests for past honors have been withdrawn. The committee has to report the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., express its gratitude to the Division of New York, S. V., U. S. A., Commander C. F. Sherman, of that Division, the City of Niagara Falls, the Mayor of the City, and all others who have contributed the etc, for the splendid entertainment provided by them for the Encampment and its members in their beautiful city, situated at the site of one of the world's greatest natural wonders; that the hearty thanks be extended to each of them; and be it further

Resolved, That the thanks of this encampment be extended to the press of the City of Niagara Falls for the courtesy and consideration with which it has uniformly reported and treated this encampment."

Wm. T. Church, of Illinois: I move the adoption of this resolution.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Commander-in-Chief: I will read a number of letters and telegrams which have been received:

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"Naugatuck, Conn., August 24, 1908.

Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief.

I deeply regret my inability to attend encampment. I send delegates and best wishes.

DR. H. H. GORTON,  
Commander Conn. Division."

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Clinton, Mass., August 26, 1908

Dr. Ralph Sheldon, Cataract Hotel.

Please accept the fraternal greetings and best wishes of the Daughters of Veterans for a successful convention, and future success.

C. MILLIE LEIGHTON,  
National President, Daughters of Veterans"

"Dayton, Ohio, August 23, 1908.

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

My Dear Sir and Brother:

It is with regret that I am unable to meet with the best bunch of boys that lives and to meet with you in annual session in historic Niagara Falls.

Convey to all the brothers my greetings and best wishes for a pleasant and successful encampment. Also accept my personal congratulations for your splendid and successful administration.

Believe me, Yours in F. C. & L.,  
T. E. LONG."

"West Lynn, Mass., August 23, 1908.

Dr. Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

Dear C.-in-C.. Congratulations on your very successful year. Sorry I cannot be with you. Best wishes for a successful encampment and the future of the Order.

Yours in F. C. & L.,  
NATIONAL AIDE."

"Battle Creek, Mich., August 26, 1908.

Commander Ralph Sheldon, Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Dear Sir and Brother: It is with sincere regrets that I am writing, instead of coming in person. After studying the proposition over we decided that the Division was too poor to send a representative to the national encampment, and my business will not permit me to go.

We decided that the money the Division would pay out might better be applied on work of organizing, etc.

With best wishes for yourself and brothers, I remain,

Yours in F. C. & L.,  
CHAS. C. COOK,  
Commander Michigan Division.

J. N. RIPLEY,  
Secretary and Treasurer."

"Peoria, Ill., August 25, 1908.

Dr. Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief.

My Dear Sheldon: Give my very best to one and all. I wish to congratulate you on one of the most successful years. Sorry cannot meet with you.

Yours in F. C. & L.,  
HARRY WASSON."

"New York Department, Daughters of Veterans,  
United States of America.

Buffalo, N. Y., August 24, 1908.

To the Officers and Members of National Department, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

The Department of New York, Daughters of Veterans, extend greetings and best wishes for a large and pleasant encampment at Niagara Falls, August 24-28, 1908.

May success attend every deliberation of your Twenty-Seventh Annual Convention.

I am, Most sincerely,

Yours in F. C. & L.,

PHILIPPINE M. SCHOEMAN,

N. Y. Dept. Pres.'

"Headquarters Ida Saxton McKinley Tent, No. 6,  
Daughters of Veterans, New York Department.

Buffalo, N. Y., August 25, 1908.

Dr. Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief.

My Dear Brother: Ida Saxton McKinley Tent, No. 6,  
Daughters of Veterans, of Buffalo, extend greetings to you at  
your national convention.

We hope you and all will have a very pleasant gathering,  
as well as a large one, and that all the Camps may get new  
inspiration for another year's work.

Please extend our greetings to the convention assembled.

Very sincerely in F. C. & L.,

MARY McEVOY,

Sec'y Tent No. 6."

"Duluth, Minn., August 24, 1908.

Dr. Ralph Sheldon, Niagara Falls.

My Dear Commander: I waited until the last moment,  
hoping that I might meet you at Niagara this year, but reverses  
have placed me in a position that makes it impossible for me  
to attend.

My kind regards to all. May the 27th annual meeting of  
the Sons of Veterans be of a greater importance to the Order  
than ever before. May the delegates legislate such laws that  
the Order will be benefitted by their wise actions. May harmony  
prevail with all of your deliberations.

Best wishes of yours in F. C. & L.,

E. F. HELLER,

Past Division Commander, Minn. Div., Sons of Veterans."

"Lewiston Board of Trade.

Lewiston, Maine, August 24, 1908.

To the Officers and Members of the National Encampment, and  
Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Dear Sirs: At a meeting of the Lewiston Board of Trade  
held on May 4th, 1908, it was unanimously voted that this  
board in behalf of the citizens of Lewiston, Me., extend to you  
a cordial invitation to hold your National Encampment in this  
city in 1909.

Assuring you of a hearty, generous and patriotic welcome,  
I remain,

Yours very truly,

E. L. WELLMAN,

Secretary'

Commander-in-Chief: We will now have the report of the  
Chief of Staff.

### REPORT OF CHIEF OF STAFF.

Edwin M. Amies, Chief of Staff: Your Chief of Staff was elected to this office in June last, and the office has not yet assumed the shape whereby the incumbent can submit a report which would be of such intelligence that this encampment could understand it, nor could it be put upon paper whereby brothers of the encampment would know what the Sons of Veterans Reserves are. From an unofficial source I can only report from three departments of the Reserves. First, that of Pennsylvania, which I visited officially, and where one of the most magnificent demonstrations was held at Williamsport in June last, when over 850 Sons appeared in full military uniform under canvas. A year ago I also had the pleasure of visiting that encampment, and strange to say, the encampment this year surpassed in numbers and equipment that of one year ago. The Department of Ohio is yet in a chaotic state. I am unofficially informed that there are eight companies there. They have no official head at this moment. The same status prevails in New York state. It will be necessary to perfect an arrangement whereby these companies will be brought under the command of one officer, such as is the case in Pennsylvania. I am satisfied that with proper management and with proper equipment the Reserve in itself will be of such a force as to increase the membership of the Order of Sons of Veterans as no other incentive can. Pennsylvania believes this to be so, because in all the Camps where a uniformed company of Reserves exists those Camps are the largest in number, and they conduct the business better and have more influence in the community in which they reside.

This is an unofficial report. By the time next year rolls around, if this office is in existence, I hope to make such a report as will enlighten you as to the condition of the Reserves.

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### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AFFAIRS.

Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania: Last year a committee on Military Affairs was authorized, and the Commander-in-Chief appointed a committee of five. I was selected as chairman. This committee was appointed to take into consideration all matters pertaining to the Reserves. Nothing has reached the committee upon which to make a report until this encampment, when several matters were referred to it. One of the matters which has been referred to it is the following, being a recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief:

"That an amendment be added to the Constitution and Laws whereby an officer of the Reserves desiring to be placed upon the retired list can be, upon his own application, and upon the filing of a surgeon's certificate of disability; thus in this way we retain the influences of such officers."

This was concurred in by such of the members of the committee as are here.

Commander-in-Chief: If there is no objection I will observe the same rule as was observed in connection with recommendations of the other committees.

No objection being offered, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania, continuing: Another matter presented to the committee is the following:

"That the Commandery-in-Chief, to foster, encourage and assist and approve of the formation of the Reserves in and throughout the Order, appropriates annually out of the general revenues, the sum of \$100, to the respective Reserve department headquarters; this appropriation to be made only to such Reserves departments having brigades organized and established, the same to be appropriated to such respective brigade headquarters, for the organization, expenses and service incident to the work of said Reserves in such brigades or departments."

This is not concurred in.

No objection being offered, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania, continuing: The committee has had submitted to it a memorandum suggesting eleven amendments to the Constitution and Laws, ten of which were referred to the Committee on Constitution and Laws and were not concurred in, leaving the 11th, which is as follows:

"All brigade commanders to be appointed by the Chief of Staff, by and with the consent of the Commander-in-Chief, brigade commanders to be commissioned for a term of two years."

This is not concurred in by the committee on military affairs.

No objection being offered, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania, continuing: Another one from the same source is as follows:

"That the Chief of Staff shall have the power to appoint a board of officers from the staff to act as an examination board for elected officers to serve in brigaded regiments of fifty troops of cavalry and batteries of heavy artillery. The Chief of Staff shall be chairman of board, and shall appoint a sub-chairman wherever his staff resides."

This is not concurred in by the committee on military affairs.

No objection being offered, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Edwin M. Amies, of Pennsylvania, continuing: That is all the business that has come before the committee. I move that the report be accepted.

The motion was seconded and carried.

#### FINAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Wm. T. Church, of Illinois: The Committee on Resolutions desires to report the following resolution:

"Whereas, The members of this Encampment S. V., U. S. A., have enjoyed the courtesy of the Niagara Falls Power Company, and by a suspension of its rules permitted to visit and inspect its great power plant on the Niagara River.

Therefore be it Resolved, that a vote of thanks be tendered

by this Encampment to the Niagara Falls Power Company for the privilege extended to its members; and that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to that company by the National Secretary."

I move the adoption of this resolution, and that the committee be discharged.

No objection being offered, the resolution was adopted and the committee discharged.

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#### SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND LAWS.

F. T. F. Johnson, of Maryland: The Committee on Constitution and Laws has received the following suggested amendments to the Constitution and Laws:

"That the committee on the new Constitution and Laws be instructed to so frame the same as to omit any provision or legislation providing for or in any way regulating the Sons of Veterans' Reserves or Military Departments, and that the office of Chief of Staff be abolished and the military committee discontinued."

"That any veteran of the Civil War who is eligible to membership in our Order desiring to join shall be required to pay a muster fee of one dollar, which shall make him a life member with all privileges except sick benefits in camps paying such. No per capita tax to be paid on such members."

"Amend Sections 6 and 11, Article XIII, to read as follows:

'Sec. 6. The Commander-in-Chief, Senior and Junior Vice Commanders-in-Chief must be Past Division Commanders to be eligible to hold these respective positions in the Commandery-in-Chief.'

'Sec. 11. And the Commander-in-Chief, Secretary and Treasurer of the National Body shall not be members of the same Division, but any two of the above officers may belong to the same Division. "

F. T. F. Johnson, of Maryland: Your committee recommends that the proposed amendments be not concurred in.

No objection being offered, the recommendation of the committee was accepted.

F. T. F. Johnson, of Maryland: I move that the report of the committee be accepted and the committee discharged.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Michael J. Crowley, of New Hampshire: I move that we proceed to the nomination and election of officers.

The motion was seconded and carried.

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#### NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

##### Roll-call of Divisions.

When Maryland Division was reached, Edwin C. Ireland, Commander, said:

The deliberations of this august assembly have been most interesting and profitable to me, and the more I reflect upon them, the more convinced I am of the necessity of placing in command of this Order, a man well fitted for the position. It is nothing unusual to find in a congregation of this kind, a man whose training is such as will make his administration a credit

to himself and those who elect him to the highest office within the power of this body to confer. I have in mind a gentleman who was born in the state of Massachusetts, amid the loyal people of the national government, and who necessarily drank of the same kind of atmosphere which made our New England Revolutionary ancestors' blood boil when the tyranny of English control became a menace, and they then and there determined to become freed from the mother country, and who taught their children and grandchildren and all through the family tree the principles of friendship, demonstrated to them acts of charity and inculcated loyalty, and who, when the perplexing questions which later brought on the Civil War, were being discussed always bore allegiance to the national government, and denounced the grave question of "State Rights;" their lessons of love for our Flag, which your father and my father helped to save from traitorous hands, has been the theme for many beautiful poems. A man born amid such environments should be nothing else than an enthusiastic Son of a Veteran. This gentleman became identified with our Order at the age of 18. He moved to the city of Washington, where he pursued a legal education in the George Washington University, then the Columbian University. His love for our Order was increased in the city of Washington, which witnessed the grandest sight mortal eye has ever seen, in the nature of our fathers and their comrades returning from the seat of war victorious in the right. The gentleman is a practicing attorney, and a member of Lincoln Camp No. 2, Maryland Division, which Division has not been honored for many years with the exalted office, which, by endorsement at the last encampment, she desires conferred upon one of her members.

This gentleman has served his Camp and Division well, and possesses all the necessary qualifications with which to serve the Commandery-in-Chief well, and I need but mention his name and I know you will agree with me in my recommendation of him, for to know him is to love him, and I can safely predict that his administration of the affairs of the Commandery-in-Chief will warrant your commendation. I, therefore, take great pleasure in nominating Edgar Allan, Jr., of the Maryland Division, for the office of Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year.

Rev. B. F. Jones, of Missouri: I second the nomination of Brother Allan.

Wm. B. Moynihan, of New York: I would also like the privilege of seconding the nomination of Brother Allan.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: On behalf of Ohio, it gives me great pleasure to second the nomination of our good brother, Edgar Allan, Jr., of Maryland.

Paul Smyser, of Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania also wishes to second the nomination of Brother Allan.

F. A. Kremer, of Wisconsin: Wisconsin falls in line, and seconds his nomination.

Newton J. McGuire, of Indiana: It affords me great pleasure at this time to say a word in behalf of Brother Allan. I desire to heartily second his nomination. I have known him for a great many years, and at all times I have found him to be a perfect gentleman and a prince of good fellows. I assure you that I take the utmost pleasure at this time in seconding his

nomination, on behalf of the Indiana Division, and I wish to move that the nomination be made unanimous, and that the Secretary cast the entire ballot of this Encampment for Edgar Allan, Jr., of Maryland, for Commander-in-Chief.

Arthur B. Spink, of Rhode Island: Rhode Island also desires to second the nomination of Brother Allan.

The motion of Newton J. McGuire, of Indiana, was seconded, put and carried unanimously.

The National Secretary: I have the pleasure in depositing 154 votes as the unanimous action of this Encampment for Edgar Allan, Jr., for Commander-in-Chief.

The tellers announced the vote, and Edgar Allan, Jr., of Maryland Division, was declared elected Commander-in-Chief.

Edgar Allan, Jr., of Maryland: Brothers, you have conferred upon me the highest honor of my life. I imagine that perhaps that famous Commodore of the American navy, Oliver Hazard Perry, must have thought to some extent as I do at this time, when he sent the note to General Harrison, "We have met the enemy, and they are ours." I have come to Niagara Falls, have met my friends and I am theirs. My election as Commander-in-Chief of your Order should be an incentive in some respects to the ambitious members of this body, who work and strive for this honor. I believe in heated, spirited, friendly contests. I went into this contest with that feeling, and it is with the greatest pleasure that I can say that my election has not left a single scar by reason of that conflict. I have no favorites to reward. There are no strings tied to my campaign.

I can not see how any man that comes to Niagara Falls and views this beautiful sight which we see can doubt for one minute that there is a God. If he does, he must be a peculiar man indeed. I say to you today, that I am a Godfearing man, and that I will serve you to the best of my ability as your Commander-in-Chief.

When George Washington passed that famous winter of 1777-78 at Valley Forge, in the renowned state of Pennsylvania, he was beligned and charged with every character of unfaithfulness and infidelity by certain people all over this country, and I imagine that he was terribly disheartened, but he went back the next year and turned what seemed to be defeat into glory and victory, when this great army passed down to Yorktown and met Cornwallis, and he snatched from the British crown the precious jewel of American liberty.

When I went into this fight I got very little encouragement. Even my best friends said, "Edgar, I can not go there; I don't want to see you defeated." If there are any persons to whom I owe success more than others it is to my brothers of Maryland, my Maryland.

I want to thank you all for the honor you have conferred upon me. I propose, as I said before, to do the very best there is in me. (Applause.)

#### Roll-call of Divisions.

When New Jersey was reached, James B. Adams said:

I have arisen time and time again in national encampments. New Jersey came to Niagara with a candidate for Commander-in-Chief, but after arriving here certain circumstances arose which caused us to decide that we would not ask for that honor

at this time. You have just elected a man as Commander-in-Chief of this organization. He needs a man to back him in a minor position. It needs to be a man capable of filling the important chair as Commander-in-Chief of this organization. For twenty-three years we have been grooming a man in New Jersey who is capable of filling that position, if necessary. We come to you now asking your consideration of our candidate for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. The man has been with you time and again as delegate from our Division; we simply ask you to refer to his record and ask your consideration and vote for Arthur I. Vesceilius as Senior Vice Commande.-in-Chief.

Michael Crowley, of New Hampshire: I second the nomination.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I rise on behalf of myself to second the nomination of Brother Vesceilius. I believe he is able and competent and that he will perform every duty that is required of him, not only to the credit of himself but to the credit of that grand and glorious camp from which he comes, Hugh C. Irish Camp No. 8.

Rev. W. J. Patton, of Wisconsin: I move that the rules be suspended, and that the Secretary cast the unanimous vote of the Encampment for Brother Vesceilius for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded and carried.

The National Secretary cast the unanimous ballot as instructed, the tellers announced the vote as being unanimous, and Arthur I. Vesceilius was declared elected as Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Arthur I. Vesceilius, of New Jersey: I accept this election, and thank the brothers of this Encampment for it. It is a great honor. I will try to do all the Commander-in-Chief wishes of me during the coming year.

#### Roll-call of Divisions.

When New York was reached, W. B. Moynihan said:

The office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief is looked upon by most of us as an honorary position. The Constitution does not require a very large amount of that official's time, and little is expected of him. The Division of New York desires to present for your consideration a brother who has been active in the Order for more than fifteen years, who has been faithful to every obligation taken by him, who has occupied various positions in his Camp and in the Division, and who has always responded to every call of duty from the Division Commander and the Commander-in-Chief; he is thoroughly devoted to the interests of the Order and believes in its principles. He is one who will serve the Commander-in-Chief throughout his entire term, and I know that the brothers of New York will feel highly honored if the Commandery-in-Chief sees fit to confer this office upon him. Therefore, on behalf of the delegation from New York, I present for your consideration Brother L. M. Alexander, of Buffalo, N. Y., for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

G. B. Abbott, of Illinois: I move that the nominations be closed, that the Secretary be instructed to cast the unanimous ballot of this Encampment for Brother L. M. Alexander for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded and carried.

The National Secretary cast the unanimous ballot as instructed, the tellers announced the vote as being unanimous, and L. M. Alexander was declared elected as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: Recognition has been given to the Eastern and Central Divisions. Now, it occurs to me that it is the proper thing to recognize one of the rising Divisions of the West, and in giving this recognition it is fitting and proper to say that we are not only doing it on behalf of the Division, but on behalf of the man who I am about to name. Without wasting any words, it affords me great pleasure to present for your favorable consideration for the important position as a member of the Council-in-Chief that loyal, patriotic ha. d-working Son of a Veteran, Brother Felix A. Kremer, of Wisconsin.

William O. Cutler, of Massachusetts: The other evening a certain member of the Order asked me if Massachusetts was willing to furnish a candidate for Council-in-Chief. I said, yes. I am now about to present for your consideration the name of a brother who needs no encomiums from me; one known to you all. I take pleasure in presenting the name of Thomas J. Hannon, of Boston, as a member of the Council-in-Chief.

E. H. Archer, of Ohio: Frequently in the past this Commandery-in-Chief has expressed its confidence by electing to positions members of this Order living in the great state of Ohio, and it is fitting that this Encampment shall so confide in the ability of the one who I shall name to you. On behalf of the Division of Ohio, I take pleasure in presenting the name of John A. Bommlhardt, of Ohio, as being a brother entirely capable to join with Brother Hannon and Brother Kremer in the discharge of the duties of Council-in-Chief.

F. K. Maples, of New York: If there are no other nominations, I move that the same be closed, and that the Secretary be instructed to cast the unanimous vote of the Encampment for the brothers named for Council-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded and carried.

The National Secretary cast the unanimous ballot as instructed, the tellers announced the vote as being unanimous, and Felix A. Kremer, Thomas J. Hannon and John A. Bommlhardt were declared elected as Council-in-Chief.

#### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

Past Commander-in-Chief Edward R. Campbell was selected as Installing Officer, and installed the following officers in due form, Charles S. Davis, of Maryland, acting as National Inspector:

Edgar Allan, Jr., of Maryland, Commander-in-Chief.

Arthur I. Vesceilius, of New Jersey, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

L. M. Alexander, of New York, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Felix A. Kremer, of Wisconsin; Thomas J. Hannon, of Massachusetts; John A. Bommlhardt, of Ohio, Council-in-Chief.

Past Commander-in-Chief Sheldon: Brother Allan, I want to extend to you my congratulations upon your elevation to this very high position. I offer them to you not only on account of

the friendship that has existed between us, but because you are a Sons of a Veteran. I have known that you have performed the duties in years gone by, not only the duties of your Camp, but of the Division and Commandery-in-Chief, and that you have performed the same well, but before you assume the duties of the office to which you have just been installed, I have just one little duty to perform. I take great pleasure in pinning this emblem of authority of your position upon your breast (pinning the badge of Commander-in-Chief). I trust that you will perform your duties carefully and well, and that you will not only be a credit to yourself, but to the Commandery-in-Chief as well. I again congratulate you.

Commander-in-Chief Allan assumed the chair.

Past Commander-in-Chief G. B. Abbott: I would like to address a few remarks to Brother Sheldon before he leaves the platform. Brother Sheldon, it usually happens with us poor mortals that the ear hushed in death does not hear the beautiful words that are said at the head of the casket, nor see the beautiful flowers. Once in a while we get out of that habit, we get a chance to express some feeling for a brother while he is yet alive and can comprehend it in the mortal body. You know, Brother Sheldon, at this stage it is customary in relieving the Commander-in-Chief to present him with a token of the affection of the Order in the form of a badge, the decoration of the Past Commander-in-Chief—the gold star. I was present when you received the reward for faithful service at the close of your administration as Commander of the Division of New York. I felt then that the day would come when you would be further rewarded, because your services in the Division of New York were faithful and you earned the promotion which came to you last year. I had no doubt in my mind as to what the story would be when you were installed. I knew you were going to have a fine administration. The members of the New York Division honored you, since which time you have been honored by the Commandery-in-Chief, and the whole Order knows you, knows your good work, and joins with the Division of New York in its love and affection for you. So it is my peculiar pleasure to present to you this token of the love and affection of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., from California to Maine. The value of the jewel, Brother Sheldon, its intrinsic value, is as nothing compared with the memories it will always bring to you; it is as nothing compared with the richness of the affection by which you are held throughout the length and breadth of this Order. Seldom does a Commander-in-Chief retire after having served the Commandery-in-Chief for one year with such universal good will; not a criticism to be advanced, with that grand loyal affection that I believe is not known outside of the Order of Sons of Veterans. We come here to thrash out Memorial University, to make changes in the constitution, etc., but with it all these Sons of Veterans are loyal; they are true-blue. We should not perhaps be criticised for our belligerence, for we are the descendants of soldiers, and we fight well in the national encampments; still, above it all, there is that true devotion one to the other and to the cause which we represent. It is with special satisfaction to me, knowing you so well in your service as a Son of a Veteran, and as Commander-in-Chief, to place upon

you this recognition which makes you one of the "has-beens," and I welcome you to that honorable body. (Applause.)

Past Commander-in-Chief Ralph Sheldon: Past Commander-in-Chief Abbott, Commander-in-Chief, and brothers; those of you who have been placed in a similar position know how inadequate words are to express pleasure and gratification in having been so honored. I am not going to tell you that I am surprised. To have received this very beautiful gift and knowing it would come from friends, many of whom I have been associated with for years, is to me a double satisfaction. I thank you all for the friendship and love which you have expressed for me. I have tried to do the very best I could. I am glad that I am leaving the office with the entire good will of the Commandery-in-Chief, that I have no enemies I do not know of anything more desirable than that. I think it is a great honor to be called a "has-been", and that I can retire to the "House of Lords" and be associated with the fine, splendid men who are now in those ranks. Although a "has-bee", I will pledge myself to work and work as hard in the future for our beloved Order as I have in the many years I have been working. I thank you all. (Applause.)

Lewis A. Dille, of Iowa: Commander-in-Chief, I ask you as a special favor, as your first official act, to sign this application for a new camp at Winterset, Iowa.

H. V. Speelman, of Ohio: I move you that the records of the proceedings of this Encampment as taken by the official stenographer, be approved as the minutes of the Encampment without reading.

The motion was seconded and carried.

The Encampment closed in due form, the "closing ode" adopted at the Encampment being used for the occasion.

RALPH SHELDON,  
Past Commander-in-Chief.

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

Albany, N. Y., 1908.

The foregoing is a true and correct record and report of the proceedings of the Twenty-seventh Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., held at Niagara Falls, New York, August 25, 26 and 27, 1908, as reported by Edward K. DePuy, official stenographer.

RALPH SHELDON,  
Past Commander-in-Chief.

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

#### ROLL CALL OF THE ENCAMPMENT.

Showing Members of the Commandery-in-Chief, Delegates and Alternates present at the 27th Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., Niagara Falls, N. Y., August 25-27, 1908, and entitled to vote, as reported by the Committee on Credentials from time to time during the Encampment:

**Commandery-in-Chief Officers.**

Commander-in-Chief, Dr. Ralph Sheldon, Albany, N. Y.  
 Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Fred W. Spear, Bennington, Vermont.  
 Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Wm. S. Reeder, Dayton, O.  
 National Secretary, Horace H. Hammer, Reading, Pa.  
 National Treasurer, James Lewis Rake, Reading, Pa.  
 Council-in-Chief: Thomas J. Hannon, Boston, Mass.; Thomas W. Blair, Fort Wayne, Ind., and James B. Adams, Atlantic City, New Jersey.  
 Chief of Staff, Edwin M. Amies, Altoona, P. A.  
 National Counselor, F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.  
 National Chaplain, Rev. W. J. Patton, D. D., Mason City, Ia.  
 National Inspector, E. E. Schoening, St. Louis, Mo.  
 National Patriotic Instructor, H. V. Speelman, Cincinnati, O.

**Past Commanders-in-Chief.**

George B. Abbott, Chicago, Ill.  
 James Lewis Rake, Reading, Pa.  
 Frank L. Shepard, Chicago, Ill.  
 A. W. Jones, Youngstown, Ohio.  
 Edward R. Campbell, Washington, D. C.  
 Arthur B. Spink, Providence, R. I.  
 Wm. G. Dustin, Dwight, Ill.  
 H. V. Speelman, Cincinnati, Ohio.  
 Edwin M. Amies, Altoona, Pa.

**Past Grand Division Commanders.**

Frank H. Challis, Mauchester, N. H.

**Divisions.****Alabama and Tennessee:**

Past Commander L. W. Friedman, Birmingham, Ala.  
 Past Commander H. M. Austin, Birmingham, Ala.  
 Delegate Horace E. Shaw.

**California and Oregon:**

Delegate K. S. Carlton, Riverside, Cal.  
 Delegate C. A. McCurdy, Alameda, Cal.

**Colorado and Wyoming:**

Commander Kenneth A. Coon, Denver, Col.

**Connecticut:**

Past Commander Alfred C. Baldwin, Derby, Conn.  
 Past Commander C. E. Batchelor, Ansonia, Conn.  
 Delegate Allen G. Pratt, Hartford, Conn.  
 Alternate W. L. Parmalee, Ansonia, Conn.

**Illinois:**

Commander R. F. Locke, Rockford, Ill.  
 Past Commander Frank McCrillis, Richmond Hill, N. Y.  
 Past Commander William T. Church, Chicago, Ill.  
 Delegate W. E. Jaycox, Rockford, Ill.  
 Delegate A. M. Reininger, Galesburg, Ill.  
 Alternate Frank Robertson.  
 Alternate, J. F. Longenecker, Chicago, Ill.

**Indiana:**

Commander Frank E. Watson, Goldsmith, Ind.  
Past Commander Newton J. McGuire, Indianapolis, Ind.  
Past Commander Thomas W. Blair, Fort Wayne, Ind.  
Delegate R. J. Bosworth, Winchester, Ind.  
Delegate T. Warren Allen, Indianapolis, Ind.  
Delegate Joseph Sigo, Valparaiso, Ind.

**Iowa:**

Past Commander Lewis A. Dilley, Davenport, Iowa.  
Past Commander A. L. Sorter, Jr., Minneapolis, Minn.  
Past Commander W. F. Muse, Mason City, Iowa.  
Past Commander Fremont S. Gibson, Mason City, Iowa.  
Delegate James E. Blythe, Mason City, Iowa.  
Alternate F. G. Murphy, Mason City, Iowa.

**Kansas:**

Commander Charles B. Martin, Parsons, Kansas.

**Kentucky:**

Commander George H. Stebbins, Cincinnati, Ohio.  
Past Commander Alexander Hamilton, Newport, Kentucky.

**Maine:**

Past Commander Arthur M. Soule, Portland, Maine.  
Past Commander Clarence H. Cram, Augusta, Maine.  
Delegate George W. Cragg, Quincy, Mass.  
Delegate Orrin Ricker, Gardiner, Maine.  
Alternate W. B. Meneally, Lewiston, Maine.  
Alternate E. W. Morse, Portland, Maine.

**Maryland:**

Commander Edwin C. Irelan, Baltimore, Md.  
Past Commander D. M. Rittenhouse, Baltimore, Md.  
Past Commander Edward K. DePuy, Washington, D. C.  
Past Commander Edward R. Campbell, Washington, D. C.  
Past Commander F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D. C.  
Past Commander George S. Whitmore, Washington, D. C.  
Past Commander Edgar Allan, Jr., Richmond, Va.  
Past Commander Charles S. Davis, Washington, D. C.  
Delegate B. J. Northcott, Washington, D. C.  
Delegate W. C. Robbins, Washington, D. C.

**Massachusetts:**

Commander William O. Cutler, Boston, Mass.  
Past Commander Fred E. Bolton, Boston, Mass.  
Past Commander Harry D. Sisson, Pittsfield, Mass.  
Past Commander Everett H. Lynds, Holyoke, Mass.  
Delegate George E. Hunt, Boston, Mass.  
Delegate Harry F. Weller, Melrose, Mass.  
Delegate Wm. T. Tisdale, Brighton, Mass.  
Delegate Edw. S. Emerson, Springfield, Mass.  
Delegate E. H. Dalton, South Boston, Mass.  
Delegate Wm. F. Moore, Boston, Mass.  
Delegate Wm. E. Buxton, Andover, Mass.  
Delegate Wm. M. Brigham, Shelburn Falls, Mass.  
Alternate F. H. Chubbuck, Milton, Mass.  
Alternate Geo. T. Duckworth, New Bedford, Mass.

**Minnesota:**

Delegate Arthur L. Jones, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Delegate H. A. Wing, Duluth, Minn.

**Missouri:**

Commander Wm. Schneider, St. Louis, Mo.  
 Past Commander E. E. Schoening, St. Louis, Mo.  
 Past Commander Herman Rabich, Cape Girardeau, Mo.  
 Delegate Rev. B. F. Jones, Trenton, Mo.  
 Alternate John W. Hutchinson, St. Louis, Mo.

**New Jersey:**

Commander Theodore E. Jones, Montclair, N. J.  
 Past Commander James B. Adams, Atlantic City, N. J.  
 Past Commander F. M. Cunningham, Atlantic City, N. J.  
 Past Commander Harry E. Pennell, Atlantic City, N. J.  
 Delegate Arthur I. Vescelius, Paterson, N. J.  
 Delegate Andrew Young, Atlantic City, N. J.  
 Delegate William H. Good, Trenton, N. J.  
 Alternate A. H. Delhaven, Paterson, N. J.

**New Hampshire:**

Past Commander Frank H. Challis, Manchester, N. H.  
 Past Commander Michael Crowley, Charlestown, Mass.  
 Past Commander A. J. Boutwell, Concord, N. H.  
 Delegate Martin P. Bennett, Dover, N. H.  
 Delegate Asa J. Winters, Nashua, N. H.  
 Alternate E. E. Ladd, Plymouth, N. H.

**New York:**

Commander Charles F. Sherman, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.  
 Past Commander Clarence E. Holmes, New York, N. Y.  
 Past Commander E. W. Estes, Jersey City, N. J.  
 Past Commander Ralph Sheldon, Albany, N. Y.  
 Past Commander R. M. Genthner, Rochester, N. Y.  
 Past Commander W. B. Moynihan, Rochester, N. Y.  
 Past Commander Frank K. Maples, Richmond Hill, L. I.  
 Past Commander W. A. Personius, Waverly, N. Y.  
 Delegate J. T. Cook, Buffalo, N. Y.  
 Delegate H. C. McWhorter, Dansville, N. Y.  
 Delegate Milton E. Gibbs, Rochester, N. Y.  
 Delegate E. W. Sanford, Albany, N. Y.  
 Delegate Chas. H. Floyd, New York, N. Y.  
 Alternate Geo. Elville, Hamilton, Ont., Canada.  
 L. M. Alexander, Buffalo, N. Y.

**Ohio:**

Commander R. J. Williams, Columbus, Ohio.  
 Past Commander A. W. Jones, Youngstown, Ohio.  
 Past Commander E. H. Archer, Columbus, Ohio.  
 Past Commander A. E. B. Stephens, North Bend, Ohio.  
 Past Commander H. V. Speelman, Cincinnati, Ohio.  
 Past Commander W. S. Reeder, Dayton, Ohio.  
 Past Commander P. F. Yengling, Salem, Ohio.  
 Past Commander John A. Bommhardt, Cleveland, Ohio.  
 Delegate J. D. Barnett, Findlay, Ohio.  
 Delegate Wm. T. Critchfield, Troy, Ohio.  
 Delegate E. M. Lowe, Dennison, Ohio.  
 Alternate Frank Daugherty, Dayton, Ohio.  
 Alternate A. G. Daugherty.  
 Alternate C. H. Webber, Columbus, Ohio.  
 Alternate Sherman Arter, Cleveland, Ohio.

## Pennsylvania:

Commander Paul Smyser, York, Pa.  
Past Commander John Bower, Jr., Philadelphia, Pa.  
Past Commander Chas. J. Miller, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Past Commander H. H. Hammer, Reading, Pa.  
Past Commander J. L. Rake, Reading, Pa.  
Past Commander Alf. G. Loyd, Pittsburg, Pa.  
Past Commander A. S. Moulthrop, Du Bois, Pa.  
Past Commander Wm. P. Baker, So. Bethlehem, Pa.  
Past Commander C. C. Fulton, Mauch Chunk, Pa.  
Delegate J. H. Folk, Easton, Pa.  
Delegate A. S. Rhoades, Milton, Pa.  
Delegate L. D. Haupt, Sunbury, Pa.  
Delegate John L. Salem, Pittsburg, Pa.  
Delegate C. F. Kruger, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Delegate J. Harry Kresge, So. Bethlehem, Pa.  
Delegate M. L. Wilson, Mauch Chunk, Pa.  
Delegate J. R. Druckenmiller, Emaus, Pa.  
Delegate G. W. Rohe, Lock Haven, Pa.  
Delegate W. Smedley, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Delegate F. Hoffman, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Delegate C. Dietrich, Phoenixville, Pa.  
Delegate Wm. Henneka, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Delegate T. N. Ruch, Hellertown, Pa.  
Alternate Charles T. Charters, Harrisburg, Pa.  
Alternate Albert W. Scott, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Alternate John E. Wightman, Mt. Carmel, Pa.  
Alternate W. B. Cully, Burgettstown, Pa.  
Alternate G. H. Younger, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Alternate F. Tschudy, Johnstown, Pa.  
Alternate D. Sherman Smith, Lancaster, Pa.

## Rhode Island:

Past Commander Reuben H. Dexter, Pawtucket, R. I.  
Past Commander Arthur B. Spink, Providence, R. I.  
Delegate Thomas S. Schofield, Jr., Phoenix, R. I.

## Vermont:

Commander Chas. G. McGaffey, Burlington, Vt.  
Past Commander Fred W. Spear, Bennington, Vt.  
Delegate E. L. Lambert, Bennington, Vt.

## Wisconsin:

Past Commander Rev. W. J. Patton, D. D., Mason City, Iowa.  
Past Commander Felix A. Kremer, Madison, Wis.

# GENERAL ORDERS

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## GENERAL ORDER NO. IX.

Headquarters, Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.  
Albany, N. Y., September 6, 1907.

General Order No. 9, Series 1907.

The twenty-sixth annual encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., was held at Dayton, Ohio, August 20th-23rd. The following officers were elected and installed: Commander-in-Chief, Dr. Ralph Sheldon, Albany, N. Y.; Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Fred W. Spear, Bennington, Vt.; Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, William Reeder, Dayton, O.; Council-in-Chief, Thos. J. Hannon, Dedham, Mass.; Thos. J. Blair, Fort Wayne, Ind.; James B. Adams, Atlantic City, N. J.

### Headquarters.

National Headquarters have been established as follows: Commander-in-Chief, Dr. Ralph Sheldon, 291 State St., Albany, N. Y.; National Secretary, Horace H. Hammer, Reading, Pa.; Chief-of-Staff, Gen. R. M. J. Reed, Commanding Sons of Veterans Reserves (Military Dept.), 2510 West Lehigh Ave, Philadelphia, Pa.

### Staff Officers.

The following Staff Officers have been appointed:

Chaplain-in-Chief, Rev. W. J. Patton, D. D., Mason City, Iowa; National Counselor, F. T. F. Johnson, McGill Bldg., Washington, D. C.; National Inspector, E. E. Schoening, St. Louis, Mo.; National Patriotic Instructor, H. V. Speelman, U. S. Sub-Treasury Office, Cincinnati, Ohio; Personal Aide, Sons of Veterans, D. Sherman Smith, Lancaster, Pa.; Personal Aide, Ladies Auxiliary, Anna E. Williamson, Albany, N. Y.

### Inspection.

Division Commanders will arrange at once with their Division Inspectors for an inspection of all Camps in their respective Divisions. In accordance with Art. XXII, C. R. & R., the inspections should begin promptly and must be concluded by December 31st. Inspection blanks will be furnished by the National Secretary on requisition. One inspection report will be forwarded to the Division Inspector of Camp inspected. Divisions must arrange for an extra blank if Division Commander desires an inspection report. In order that there may be a general and thorough inspection Division Commanders and Division Inspectors are urged to communicate at once with the National Inspector, E. E. Schoening, for necessary instructions.

### Charter Applications.

Applications have been approved and charters issued to Camps mustered since last announcement as follows:

Date.	Ap. No.	Location.	Div.	No. App.	Date Must.	No. Must
Aug.	9	Jersey City,	N. J.		Aug. 5	18
Aug. 2	25	Upper Sandusky,	Ohio	47	July 5	47
Aug. 3	9	Shook,	Mo.	22	Aug. 10	24
Aug. 9	18	Bryan,	Ohio	57	June 24	57
Aug. 15	19	Shelby,	Ohio	29	July 2	29
Aug. 16	17	Wabash,	Ind.	57		
Aug. 17	10	Eldon,	Mo.	18	Aug. 30	21
Aug. 19	44	Canastota,	N. Y.	38	Aug. 12	38
Aug. 21		Bruning,	Neb.	15		
Aug. 21	17	Wauconda,	Ill.	24	Aug. 12	24
Aug. 22	84	Marion,	Ohio	28		
Aug. 22	130	Bucyrus,	Ohio			
Aug. 28	137	Greensburg,	Pa.	30		

### Meeting Place.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., was decided upon as the place for holding the 27th Annual Encampment, in 1908.

### Requisitions.

All requisitions for supplies must be sent to H. H. Hammer, National Secretary, Reading, Pa., and must be accompanied by money order or draft made payable to him. All remittances must be made to the National Secretary, and must be sent to Reading, Pa. Supplies will be shipped with express prepaid, as per requisition note, provided they do not exceed 5 per cent value of amount of requisition, except Divisions of California, Colorado and Washington. In which ten per cent is allowed. No supply will be forwarded unless ordered on requisition, officially, and the remittance accompanies same.

### Per Capita Tax.

The Per Capita Tax to the Commandery-in-Chief remains unchanged and must always accompany report of Division Secretary, and Division Treasurer. It had been hoped that the Council-in-Chief would be able to recommend the reduction of Per Capita Tax this year, but, owing to the appropriation made to Memorial University, it was thought wise to make no change this year. The attention of Division Commanders and Division Secretaries is called to Art. 16, Constitution and Laws, whereby it is required that Per Capita Tax and reports must be in the hands of the National Secretary on or before the last day of October. This rule as to Division reports will be held throughout the year for each quarter.

### Seals.

All Camps and Divisions should have a seal. Attention is directed to this matter so that all may secure the same at once. By action of the Commandery-in-Chief, it is obligatory upon Divisions and Camps to have the same. This is important and it should not be overlooked. Divisions and Camps should use seals, and it is expected this will be carefully observed.

A full report concerning the proceedings of the twenty-fifth encampment can not be promulgated through this Order, as these headquarters are without the stenographic notes of encampment. The following is a:

#### Resume of Legislation.

Enacted at the 26th Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., held at Dayton, Ohio, August 19 to 22, 1907.

The following recommendations of the Committee on Officers' reports were concurred in:

\$1,000.00 appropriated for the Memorial University.

The organization of companies by Camps for the Sons of Veterans Reserves.,

Visits by the Commander-in-Chief to the several Divisions and patriotic meetings to be continued.

Distribution of the remainder of the California relief fund to be left to the Commander of the California Division.

Recommendations 2, 4, 5 and 6 of the Commander-in-Chief concurred in.

The two recommendations of the National Patriotic Instructor, to-wit: that a series of blanks for reports attached to his report be adopted; that all the rules and regulations, with penalties attached, for neglect to appoint Division Patriotic Instructors or failure to report, which attach to other departments of the various staff officers of the Commandery-in-Chief, be made to apply to the department of the National Patriotic Instructor.

The following amendments to the Constitution and Laws were adopted:

Art. XI, OFFICERS, by adding thereto:

Section 4. The Commander-in-Chief may appoint such aides as he may deem necessary, for such service as he may require and designate.

Art. VI, LAWS, INSIGNIA OF RANK:

In Sec. 3, 15th line, after the words "one silver star" insert "Aides to the Commander-in-Chief, a silver eagle."

Art. XXIV, Section 1, by inserting:

Expenses of Courts-Martial shall be borne by the Camp or Division in which such Court-Martial shall originate, provided, however, that when an officer of the Commandery-in-Chief is tried by Court-Martial, the expense thereof shall be borne by the Commandery-in-Chief.

Art. VII, LAWS, BADGES AND DECORATIONS:

Provided that all members of the Commandery-in-Chief, except elected delegates, may wear upon the membership badge the prescribed Commandery-in-Chief ribbon; and all members of the Division encampments, except elected delegates, may wear upon the membership badge, the prescribed Division ribbon.

That there be added to Art. VII, LAWS, a Section, to be known as Section 8, to describe the badges of the Order.

Art. XVI; that the Order of Business, Sections 4 and 5, be transposed.

That the words "22" on page 24 of the last line of Par. 14, be made to read "Article 24."

Concurrence in all the decisions of the Commander-in-Chief.

The following recommendations of the Council-in-Chief were concurred in:

That the National Secretary be instructed to ship no supplies to Camps (except camp seals); all orders to come direct, and be sent to the various Division headquarters. Division Commanders, Division Secretaries and Division Treasurers will be governed accordingly hereafter.

That all legislation relative to Sons of Veterans Reserves, so far as it relates to financial matters and supplies, be repealed, and that such business be transacted through officers of the Reserves, from its own resources, without any expense to the Commandery-in-Chief.

That \$50.00 be appropriated for the use of the Chief of Staff for postage.

That Past Division Commander's rank be restored to E. T. Griswold, of Camp No. 9, Vermont.

That Past Camp Commander's rank be restored to:

Frank Richardson, Camp No. 1, Pennsylvania.

F. S. Zinn, Camp No. 33, Pennsylvania.

D. W. Kemble, Camp No. 225, Pennsylvania.

W. J. Hardt, Camp No. 65, Missouri.

John N. Hutchinson, Camp No. 65, Missouri.

Resolutions concurring in the election of Rev. W. J. Patton, as President of Memorial University, and endorsing and approving his appointment adopted.

Resolution of thanks to Eanshaw Camp, No. 89, Dayton, to the Ohio Division, to the local Posts Grand Army of the Republic, to members of the Woman's Relief Corps, to members of the Ladies of the G. A. R., to members of the Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, the local press, the city officials, and the loyal and patriotic citizens of Dayton, adopted.

The following recommendations of the Committee on Memorial University were adopted and concurred in:

That the Commander-in-Chief be authorized to instruct Division Commanders to appoint each year a Memorial University Advisory Board, of not less than three members, in each Division, including the Division Patriotic Instructor, who shall be chairman of the board. This advisory board to act in conjunction with the Camp Patriotic Instructors and Camp committee, if such be appointed, on the one hand, and with the National committee and the National Patriotic Instructor, on the other hand, in the interests of the University.

That the Commander-in-Chief be instructed to issue circular letters addressed to the Division Commanders urging them to secure from their respective Camps some gift to Memorial University, to the end that every Camp in the Order may become a subscriber to the cause of patriotic instruction at Memorial University. Such a letter to be promulgated not later than January 1, 1908.

Commandery-in-Chief approved the action of the Commander-in-Chief Amies in approving the findings and sentences of the courts-martial in the cases of Bower vs. Tawney, and McNulty vs. Tawney.

The bronze button was continued as the only official button-hole decoration of the Order.

Art. XXIV, Sec 4, of the Constitution and Laws, amended so that a standing committee, to be known as the Committee on Military Affairs, consisting of five members, shall be appointed within thirty days after the annual encampment each year, two of whom shall be members of the Order versed in military affairs.

Art. XXIV, Par. 20, amended by striking out the words "Chief of Staff," and inserting the words "Commander-in-Chief."

Sections 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21, under "Courts-Martial" were transferred to their proper place under the "Military Department." Art. XXIV.

Art. XXIV, Par. 6, amended by inserting "seven noncommissioned officers" and "three commissioned officers."

The Commandery-in-Chief adopted the report of the Committee on official organ, approving the recommendation that a new contract be entered into with William G. Dustin, for five years, said Dustin to edit, publish and circulate the "Banner" as the official organ for 18 cents per year for each member" under certain conditions as to size, amount of reading matter, space for advertising, etc.

The Commandery-in-Chief accepted the invitation to attend the Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic at Saratoga, and authorized Past Commanders-in-Chief Edwin M. Amics, William G. Dustin, and Commander-in-Chief Ralph Sheldon to attend such encampment at the expense of the Commandery-in-Chief.

#### Dayton Encampment.

A complete record of the Dayton Encampment will be found in the next general order, and will be published in "The Banner."

#### Fraternal Greetings.

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

#### Principles and Objects.

Founded upon a trust in Almighty God, with a realization that under His beneficent care, the free institutions of our land, consecrated by the service and blood of our fathers has been preserved and upon a true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, pledging fidelity to law and order. This society declares its objects to be:

First—To perpetuate the sacrifices of our Fathers, and their services for the maintenance of the Union.

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

Third—To help the members of the Grand Army of the Republic, and all honorably discharged Union soldiers, sailors and marines. To extend aid to their widows and orphans, and to honor the memories of their heroic dead, through historical exercises and proper observance of Memorial Day, and Union Defenders' Day.

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

#### Acknowledgement.

My unanimous election as the Executive Head of this great patriotic Order is a distinction which I highly esteem. It carries with it to my mind a great responsibility. I am deeply grateful for the honor conferred and I realize full well the responsibility and duties which the position imposes. It will be my earnest endeavor and desire to perform my duties impartially, and I will try to earn for myself the approval of the members of this Order. I will give you the best that is in me, and if each member will do as much in their endeavor to help to upbuild the Order, it will at the close of my service show such a gain as has never been attained before. No other Order has such grand principles or a better object.

The field is wide, and work is plenty. Let us all join hands in this glorious work.

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

RALPH SHELDON, M. D.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

Commander-in-Chief,

S. V., U. S. A.

#### GENERAL ORDER NO. X.

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

Albany, N. Y., October 3, 1907.

General Order No. 10, Series of 1907:

The remainder of the stenographic report for encampment held at Dayton, Ohio, will appear in this issue of The Banner. It is to be hoped that the membership will peruse same carefully as much legislation of importance was passed.

#### Military.

The following committee has been appointed as Committee on Military Affairs: Edwin M. Amies, Altoona, Pa., chairman; W. T. Church, Chicago, Ill.; Col. F. A. Soper, Watertown, N. Y.; W. H. Bostwick, Minerva, Ohio; John L. Reeger, Trenton, N. J. The above committee has been appointed pursuant to the following resolution passed at its 27th annual encampment at Dayton, Ohio.

A standing committee, to be known as the Committee on Military Affairs, consisting of five members, shall be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief within thirty days after the annual encampment in each year without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief; two of the members of the committee shall be members of the Order versed in military affairs. All matters relating to the military department shall be referred to and be considered by the committee and reported by it to the encampment with recommendations. Committees shall also recommend to the national encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief such laws, amendments or modifications thereof, as to the committee may seem proper.

The committee shall also have the power to make rules and regulations for the government of the Military Department, which shall not be inconsistent with any provisions of the Constitution and Laws of the Order and which shall be-

come effective upon approval and promulgation by the Commander-in-Chief in general orders; provided that the Commander-in-Chief may repeal any such rule or regulation of which it may disapprove.

Too much cannot be said of our military department, the S. of V. Reserves. Experience has proven to your Commander-in-Chief that wherever a company of Reserves has been formed in a Camp, much good has resulted for the betterment of the Camp. It is urged by your Commander-in-Chief that wherever possible, a company of Reserves be organized, as it will interest the younger element, and will also if carried on in a military way give much credit to the Camp. Full particulars may be had by addressing Chief of Staff Gen. R. M. J. Reed, in command of the Reserves, at 2510 W. Lehigh Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

#### Requisitions.

In ordering supplies it will be remembered that the 26th National Encampment ordered that the National Secretary shall not ship supplies direct to Camps in future, except seals for Camps. Division officers in forwarding requisitions will bear this in mind and be governed accordingly.

#### New Camps.

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

Date.	No.	Location.	Div.	No. Ap.	Date Must.	No. Must.
Sept. 14		New Milford,	Conn.	21		
Sept. 23		Claremont,	N. H.	17		
Sept. 30	15	Sullivan,	Ill.	23	July 27	23
Sept. 30	18	Mt. Carmel,	Ill.	160	Aug. 5	160

#### Inspection.

All Camps should be inspected before December 31, and it is urgently requested that the Division Commanders and Division Inspectors will observe this and have their inspections completed within the constitutional period. Blanks can be obtained from the National Secretary on Form 1½. It is hoped that the Assistant Inspectors will do their duty carefully and well. Inspections are not for the purpose of criticizing the Camp officers or making it unpleasant for them, but Inspectors should be alive to their duty in pointing out, how the defects, which he may see, can be remedied, thus encouraging the officers and helping the Camp.

#### Memorial University.

The following standing committee has been appointed for Memorial University—Rev. W. J. Patton, Mason City, chairman; Hon. A. J. Beveridge, Indianapolis, Ind.; E. W. Estes, New York City, N. Y.; J. B. McCabe, East Boston, Mass.; F. J. Kellogg, Battle Creek, Mich.

#### Niagara Falls.

It is not too early to begin talking of the place of holding our next national encampment. Niagara Falls is one of the beauty spots of the world. People from every part of the globe have journeyed there to enjoy its beauty and wonderment. Every member of our Order should not fail to see these

falls at least once in their lives. 1908 will be just the time to be there. Begin to organize clubs and to raise funds so that you may meet with the next encampment. New York Division wants this to be the largest encampment in the history of our Order. "Go!" "Go!"

#### Time For Recruiting.

This is the season of the year for recruiting, the time when Camps should make a special effort to increase their membership. From reports being received, it is expected that considerable gain in our membership will be shown. Several Division Commanders have reported that they will show from 25 to 50 per cent gain this quarter. Is your Division Commander one of those? He can be if each member of his own Division will take it upon himself to act as a committee of one in bringing in members in his Camp. The field is large, the opportunity is unlimited, the harvest should be great.

#### Miscellaneous.

Revised form 37 has been sent to each Division Secretary to be used in the future. Division Secretaries will destroy old form 37 on hand, and use the new form hereafter.

September quarterly reports and tax must be forwarded to the National Secretary without delay. Make all remittances payable to H. H. Hammer, and send to Reading, Pa.

The bonds of the Commander-in-Chief, (filed with the Council-in-Chief) National Secretary and National Treasurer (filed with the Commander-in-Chief) have been executed and approved.

A memorandum showing revision and additions to Form 1½. Requisitions for supplies—used by Division headquarters only—has been issued to all Division Secretaries Division Treasurers and Division Commanders, in ordering supplies will be governed thereby.

Form 50—Camp Patriotic Instructor's reports, per 100....	\$ .75
Form 51—Division Patriotic Instructor's consolidated reports, per 100 .....	\$1.00
Form 52—Assistant Inspector's report of Camps Inspected per 100 .....	\$1.00
Form 53—Division Inspector's Consolidated reports, per 100	\$2.00
Form 54—Division Headquarters Inspection reports.....	Free
Card Indexes of Camps in Division (for Division Headquarters), per 100 .....	\$1.00
Commandery-in-Chief Ribbon .....	\$.03 1-3
Division Seal .....	\$12.00

When any or all of the above forms are desired, order same on Form 1½, as other supplies are now ordered and remit amount as now required.

Note. Form 39 and all buttonhole decorations, except the Bronze Button, are obsolete and can not be furnished.

Drill Regulations and Tactics of all kinds will not be supplied from these headquarters in future. Strike same from list of supplies specified on Form 1½.

Reports for Camp Patriotic Instructors and Division Patriotic Instructors have been prepared. They can be secured from the National Secretary on Form 1½. These reports together with Division Chaplains, Division Inspectors, etc., should all be completed prior to the encampment of the respective Divisions.

The amendments to the constitution adopted at the 26th Annual Encampment at Dayton, Ohio., have been promulgated as inserts to the Constitution now in use and on hand at Division headquarters, and in possession of Camps.

Per capita tax for quarter ending September and December, 1907, remains as previously—nine cents—on each member in good standing, and on each member reinstated for the number of quarters reinstated. Membership fees 25 cents on members mustered in old (but not new) Camps.

#### Financial Statement.

The following is the report of the National Secretary for the period from August 22, to September 30, 1907.

Reading, Pa., October 1, 1907.

To Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief, S. of V.,

My esteemed Commander, I beg to submit the following report:

To balance Aug. 22, 1907, (Encampment)....		\$1,958.90
Rec'd for Charter Fees.....	\$ 45.00	
Supplies .....	396.03	
		<u>441.03</u>
Total Receipts .....		\$2,399.93
By General Expenses (Headquarters).....	\$1,637.06	
Office Expenses .....	42.72	
Commander-in-Chief .....	99.43	
Total Expenditures .....		<u>1,779.21</u>
Balance Sept. 30, 1907.....		\$ 620.72

#### ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES:

##### Headquarters—General Expenses:

Stock .....	\$ 384.15
Memorial University—Encampment Appropriation (on account) .....	500.00
The Banner, Sept. Subscription.....	503.26
Encampment .....	1.75
Printing .....	48.78
Shipping Supplies .....	18.49
Bonds—Commander-in-Chief, Nat'l Secretary and Nat'l Treasurer, 1907-08.....	35.00
Miscellaneous—G. A. R. Encampment Committee Expenses .....	145.63
	<u>\$1,637.06</u>

##### HEADQUARTERS—OFFICE EXPENSES:

Light, Postage, Express, Telegrams, Stationery .....	\$ 14.85
Stationery—National Officers .....	27.87
	<u>\$ 42.72</u>

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:

Rent, Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Office  
and Stenographer, Express..... 99.43

Total Expenditures ..... \$1,779.21

Yours fraternally, H. H. Hammer, National Secretary.

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

RALPH SHELDON, M. D.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

Commander-in-Chief,

S. V., U. S. A.

## GENERAL ORDER NO XI.

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

Albany, N. Y., November 4, 1907.

General Order No. 11. Series 1907:

## Time For Recruiting.

This is the season of the year for recruiting. Vacations are over, the long winter nights are upon us. Just the time when Camps should make a special effort to increase their membership, and when Division Commanders should work, and work hard, for the muster of new Camps. Most encouraging reports are coming in from Camps, and from Divisions. Is your Camp or Division among the number? Every member should appoint himself an organizer. Do not wait for your neighbor to make a start, but work now, the field is large, the opportunity unlimited, the harvest should be great. Come, help to make this the banner year of our Order.

## Inspections.

Again, attention is called to the matter of inspection. Division Commanders will see to it that their Division Inspectors arrange at once for the inspection of the Camps in their respective Divisions. The inspections should be an inspection in fact, as well as name.

The Division Inspectors and their assistants are urged to see that Camps comply with all requirements as set forth in the blanks.

Do your work thoroughly, take nothing for granted. A good inspection is of value to the Camp and Camp officers. A partial inspection is worse than none at all. All inspections must be concluded by December 31st.

## Camp Elections.

Before the next General Orders are issued Camp elections in most Camps will have taken place. It is hoped and desired that the very best material in your Camps will be selected for the various offices. Exercise your very best judgment, as the success of your Camps rest mainly upon the officers who are chosen for the honorable positions. Again, elect your best men. Public installations are recommended and in conformity with precedence heretofore established, a general dispensation is granted for conducting them. Let us keep in touch with all other organizations that teach patriotism, it will help us and they may derive some benefit also.

When public installations are held it is urged that eligibles should be invited to attend. Installations of the new officers will not take place until per capita tax and reports for December quarter have been made by the Division Commander. Division Commanders will see that this is strictly enforced.

#### Memorial University.

An institution conceived and nurtured by the Order of the Sons of Veterans. As the parent we are in duty bound to keep alive the institution. Are we doing our part as the parent? Now is the time when Memorial University needs our assistance most. If we fail to do our duty, and Memorial should fail, it simply reflects upon the Order of S. of V. This CAN not and MUST not be. As loyal Sons of Veterans we must be loyal to our institution. Now is the time for every individual and each Camp to do something and to subscribe to the maintenance of the University. I most earnestly urge all Division Commanders who have not previously arranged for special efforts to raise funds, that the month of February be set aside and that the Division Commander urge the Camps in their respective Divisions to hold some entertainment during the month of February, and that all funds collected from said entertainment be given to Memorial. Dr. Patton is working hard for Memorial. Let us do our very best to encourage him in his magnificent work.

#### Special Aides.

It is the purpose of your Commander-in-Chief to appoint active, energetic men in the several Divisions to act as Special Aides upon his staff. He realizes that it is impossible for him to carry on the work of the Order alone. The men are not appointed for complimentary reasons, or for ornamental purposes; they are chosen because he expects that they will co-operate with their Division Commanders and Commander-in-Chief in up-building our Order. Therefore, it is expected that they will give to the Order their best and most earnest efforts so that the Commander-in-Chief will have the satisfaction of knowing that their appointment was well merited. The following is a partial list of the Special Aides thus far appointed. Other appointees will appear in the next number of The Banner, although notice will be made to them prior to that time.

Maryland: Charles Sidman, Washington.

Maine: Fred Leach, Oakland.

New Hampshire: C. G. M. Mathon, Manchester; M. P. Bennett, Dover.

Massachusetts: Harry L. Gleason, Natick; Herbert R. Thorpe, Holyoke; Ellsworth Curtis, Hanover; Guy A. Ham, Boston; Walter Penny, West Lynn; Edward W. Eaton, Newburyport; Geo. W. Penniman, Brockton; Harry A. Weller, Melrose. Dr. Edward Bates, East Weymouth; G. T. Duckworth, New Bedford; Wilfred E. Garlick, Williamstown; Frederick Gilbert Bauer, Boston; Dr. Geo. S. Cahill, Cambridge; Wm. T. Trisdale, Brighton; Geo. L. Holt, Gardner; Jacob W. Powell, Boston; Edgar C. Barker, Boston; Geo. E. Hunt, Boston; Ernest E. Hobson, Palmer.

New York: Geo. A. Burnham, Newark; Fred A. Smith, Peekskill; E. L. Hammond, Rochester; A. J. Clark, Utica;

Thomas D. Rivers, New York City; Edwin A. Bolton, Lansingburg; Charles Hagen, Troy; E. A. Ware, New York City; W. H. Osborne, Sackets Harbor; Charles S. Floyd, New York City; Morris Rothschild, New York City; Clarence W. Davidson, Cooperstown; M. K. Doty, Lockport; Dr. Ward E. Hunt, Little Falls; Frank J. Maples, Brooklyn; Dr. Joseph T. Cook, Buffalo; Geo. C. Smith, Watertown.

Ohio: Col. W. S. Rogers, Cleveland; Sol. A. Wolff, Bryan; L. S. Gilmore, Lima; A. A. Schultz, Cincinnati; John Steingrube, St. Bernard; E. J. Pugh, Arlington.

Vermont: J. B. Ripley, Lyndonville; H. S. Howard, Burlington; G. E. Carley, East Calais.

#### Badge and Ribbons.

Attention is called to the erroneous practice and impression relative to the ribbon or color thereof, for the respective badges. It is noticed that Past Camp Commanders are wearing on the Iron Cross the Division Ribbon. Past Division Commanders are also wearing on the Silver Cross, Commandery-in-Chief ribbon. This is all wrong.

Past Camp Commanders may wear the Division ribbon on their regulation badges, and Past Division Commanders may wear the Commandery-in-Chief ribbon on their regulation badges.

The legislation relative to this subject, enacted at the 26th annual national encampment at Dayton, Ohio, is as follows: Article 7. Laws: Badges and Decorations to be amended by adding to Section 5, as follows: All members of the Commandery-in-Chief, except elected delegates, may wear upon the membership badge the prescribed Commandery-in-Chief ribbon, and all members of the Division Encampment, except elected delegates, may wear upon the membership badge the prescribed Division ribbon.

All affected thereby will be governed accordingly and past officers not wearing proper ribbon will change their ribbon to comply with the laws.

#### Reports.

Division Commanders are urged to forward reports and per capita tax for the September quarter at once to the National Secretary. Make all remittances payable to H. H. Hammer, National Secretary.

The new password and countersign will be issued December 1st to all Divisions which have forwarded reports and tax (and are not indebted to National Headquarters) for September quarter.

Division Commanders will only forward the password and countersign to the Camps in good standing December 31st, 1907. No Camp will receive this password and countersign unless this report and per capita tax have been received for the quarter ending December 31st, 1907. And no Camp Commander will give this password and countersign to any member of a Camp unless all dues are paid and the member in good standing and included in Camp Secretary's and Camp Treasurer's reports for the quarter ending December 31st, 1907.

### Supplies.

Owing to the great number of packages always shipped during the holiday season, it is suggested that requisitions for supplies be forwarded before this customary rush so that Divisions may receive their supplies or have their orders filled before the holiday period. By observing this delays may be avoided in shipments and supplies will not be lost in transit as is frequently the case at that season of the year.

### Niagara Falls.

Attention again is called to the next Commandery-in-Chief to be held at Niagara Falls in 1908. Headquarters have already been established at the Cataract-International hotel. Rates will be \$3.50 to \$5.50. There are many hotels at cheaper rates. Now is the time to arrange for clubs to attend the next encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief.

### Committees on Transportation.

In order that the best rates may be obtained from the railroad associations and that an interest may be awakened in the several Divisions, your Commander-in-Chief has appointed his committee on transportation thus early. The following committee has been appointed: John A. Mossman, Buffalo, N. Y.; John Stockton, Chicago, Ill.; T. O. Bailey, Cleveland, Ohio; R. J. Bosworth, Winchester, Ind.; Fred E. Bradford, Stoneham, Mass.

### The Banner.

Your Commander-in-Chief has received several complaints from different Camps that they do not receive The Banner. The reason for this is the failure of the Camp either to send in a list of their members to the Division Secretary, or the failure of the Division Secretary to report a Camp which has been suspended and then reinstated. Again your Commander-in-Chief calls attention to Camps and Division Secretaries to see that the proper lists are made out and forwarded to the National Secretary, that every member in our Order shall receive The Banner.

### New Camps.

Since last announcement new Camps have been mustered as follows:

Date.	No.	Camp.	Location.	Div.	No.	Date	No.
					Ap.	Mus.	Mus.
Oct. 1	182		New York,	N. Y.	40	Sept. 19	40
Oct. 18	52		Lima,	Ohio	46	Aug. 5	46
Oct. 18	76		Arcade,	N. Y.	28	Aug. 16	28
Oct. 23	71		Grove City,	Pa.	43	.....	..
Oct. 30	188		Paynesville,	Minn.	19	Oct. 23	19
Oct. 31	53		Cincinnati,	Ohio	31	Oct. 11	31
	23		New Milford,	Conn.		Oct. 14	24

### Statement No. 2.

Financial report of the National Secretary for the month of October, 1907.

Reading, Pa., November 1, 1907.

To Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief, S. of V.

Esteemed Sir and Commander: I have the honor to submit report of the financial transactions of the department of National Secretary for the month of October, 1907, as follows:

To Balance September 30, 1907.....	\$ 620.72
Rec'd for Per Capita Tax.....	\$ 45.59
Charter Fees .....	35.00
Supplies .....	349.03
<b>Total Receipts .....</b>	<b>429.62</b>
	<hr/>
	\$1,050.34
By General Expenses—Headquarters.....	\$903.65
Office Expenses—Headquarters .....	12.29
Commander-in-Chief .....	118.40
<b>Total Expenditures .....</b>	<b>1,034.34</b>
	<hr/>
Balance October 31, 1907.....	\$ 16.00

**Itemized Expenditures.**

**General Expenses—Headquarters:**

Stock .....	\$393.30	
Memorial University, Balance Encampment		
Appropriation .....	500.00	
Shipping Supplies .....	10.35	
	<hr/>	903.65
<b>Office Expenses—Headquarters:</b>		
Light, Wrapping Paper, Postage, Express and		
Freight .....		12.29
Commander-in-Chief: Rent, Postage, Traveling,		
Stenographer, Office .....		118.40
<b>Total Expenditures .....</b>		<b>\$1,034.34</b>

Fraternally yours, H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

**Assistant Inspectors.**

The following assistant inspectors have been appointed by National Inspector E. E. Schoening:

	St. Louis, Mo., October 23, 1907.
Alabama & Tennessee.....	Past Div. Com. L. W. Friedman Birmingham, Ala.
California & Oregon.....	E. J. Hromada San Francisco, Calif.
Colorado & Wyoming.....	Past Div. Com. John H. Head Denver, Colo.
Connecticut.....	Past Div. Com. W. A. Stevens Boston, Mass.
Iowa.....	Past Com.-in-Chief G. B. Abbott Pontiac, Ill.
Illinois.....	Div. Com. L. A. Dilley Davenport, Iowa.
Indiana.....	Past Com.-in-Chief W. G. Dustin Dwight, Ill.
Kansas.....	Past Div. Com. R. L. Rickard Valley Center, Kans.

Kentucky.....	Past Com-in-Chief H. V. Speelman Cincinnati, Ohio.
Maine.....	Sen. Vice Com-in-Chief F. W. Spear Bennington, Vt.
Missouri.....	Nat. Inspector E. E. Schoening St. Louis, Mo.
Nebraska.....	Past Div. Com. A. H. Rawitzer Omaha, Neb.
Maryland.....	Past Div. Com. C. Day Rudy Harrisburg, Pa.
Massachusetts.....	Past Com-in-Chief Arthur B. Spink Providence, R. I.
Michigan.....	Claude E. Hyatt Linden, Mich.
Minnesota.....	Past Div. Com. A. L. Sorter, Jr. 324 Kasota Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.
New Hampshire.....	Past Div. Com. Arthur M. Soule Portland, Me.
New York.....	Past Div. Com. G. W. Pollitt 486 Union St., Paterson, N. J.
New Jersey.....	Past Div. Com. John Bowers, Jr. 1232 Cambria St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Ohio.....	Past Com-in-Chief H. V. Speelman U. S. Sub-Treasury, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Pennsylvania.....	Council-in-Chief J. B. Adams Atlantic City, N. J.
Rhode Island.....	Past Div. Com. Geo. E. Cox Hartford, Conn.
Vermont.....	Sen. Vice Com-in-Chief F. W. Spear Bennington, Vt.
Washington.....	John C. Walling Seattle, Wash.
Wisconsin.....	Past Com-in-Chief Geo. B. Abbott Pontiac, Ill.

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

RALPH SHELDON, M. D.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

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

#### GENERAL ORDER NO. XII.

Headquarters Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.  
Albany, N. Y. December 7, 1907.

General Order No. 12, Series 1907:

#### Password and Countersign.

The password and countersign for the term beginning Jan. 1, 1908, have been issued to all Divisions forwarding reports and percapita tax to the National Secretary for the quarter ending September 30.

Camps paying tax and forwarding report for quarter ending December 31, 1907, and being in good standing at that date will receive this new password and countersign. Only Camps in good standing December 31, 1907, will receive the new password and countersign.

#### Inspections.

Division Commanders who have not yet ordered inspections of their Camps will do so at once. Inspection of Camps must be completed by the end of the quarter ending December 31, 1907.

The inspection of Camps is important not only for the welfare of the Camp but for the good of the officers also.

Many Division Commanders will enforce the C. R. & R. relation to Camps who have not been inspected, which will prevent their being allowed representation at the next Division encampment.

#### Commissions.

All new elected Camp officers are entitled to commissions; they will be forwarded to the Commander of the Camp by their Division Commander upon receipt of installing officer's report.

#### Report and Tax.

Notice is hereby given that reports and taxes for the present quarter ending December 31, 1907, must be in the hands of the National Secretary at the very earliest possible moment. The attention of Division Commanders is called to this particular paragraph.

#### New Camp Officers.

Camps are now in the midst of their annual elections and their officers will soon be called upon to assume command.

Greetings and good wishes are extended to the incoming officials. Those who have served faithfully deserve thanks of all as they retire and those who are entering upon the discharge of their respective duties are entitled to the undivided support of their respective Camps.

Brothers, your officers need your help. Do your duty and lend them your assistance.

#### News.

Division and Camp correspondents are urged to be diligent in the matter of sending to The Banner all the news that is of interest. The right kind of publicity gives prestige to any organization. Keep the public advised as to what you are doing, and keep doing something that is worthy of publication.

We have among our membership many who are capable of writing splendid articles on the "Good of the Order" which would be welcomed by our membership at large. Camp news is also interesting. All these things help.

#### Union Defenders' Day.

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

Division Commanders are hereby ordered to use the electro of the badge and not of the coat of arms on all Division orders; that the Division orders must be printed in black ink. They should be  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches in width by 10 inches in length. The diversity of the Division orders received at these headquarters is the reason for the issuance of this order. They should be in conformity.

#### Ribbons.

The cost of all ribbons for our badges has been advanced by the manufacturers and of necessity we are obliged to advance the price of same to Divisions, and Divisions are hereby authorized to correspondingly increase the price of same to Camps. Division Commanders, Division Secretaries and Division Treasurers in ordering ribbons will note that the price of the membership (blue) ribbon; Division (red) ribbon, and Commander-in-Chief (yellow) ribbon, are five (5) cents per piece. In forwarding requisitions provide for the payment of five (5) cents for each piece of either of these ribbons.

#### In Memoriam.

It is with deep regret that the death of Gen. William E. W. Ross is announced. He was Past Grand Division Commander of the Second Grand Division, and Constitutional Life Member. General Ross was one of the founders of our Order and ever took an interest in its welfare and advancement. From its inception he was one to whom all looked for advice, and he was always to be relied upon for his splendid advice to us in every possible way. His services in our behalf when he served as Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, was incalculable. His influence was a power for our Order. Our loss in his death will be irreparable. He was a gallant soldier, splendid officer, magnificent gentleman, honored comrade and veteran, true to his friendships and to the last had pride in the Sons of Veterans.

In honoring his memory we pay tribute to one who loved us, favored our Order, and rendered great service in our behalf, and it is hereby ordered that all Camps drape their charters for a period of thirty (30) days to his memory.

#### Memorial University.

During the past month I have visited a number of the Western Divisions. I have been delighted with the number of good Camps and of the splendid personnel. I found plenty of enthusiasm, and the prospects look bright for an organization in these several Divisions. My trip extended as far as Mason City. I never realized my intense desire for power in expressing until now when I want to speak to you of the Memorial University as I found it.

Despite all I had heard about it, and supposed I comprehended fully, I was surprised to find not youth alone, but young ladies and gentlemen rounding out and completing a magnificent education and with all the book learning they are certainly imbued with patriotism.

The faculty consists of splendid men and women, giving their best for the education of these students, and reflecting great credit on the institution. I have sometimes almost won-

dered at Dr. Patton's enthusiasm, but now, since I have been there, I do not know how he could keep silent, when he sees the possibility and feels the need of hearty co-operation.

Wonders have been accomplished with the materials at hand. What can we not hope for when every Son of Veteran may be brought to feel that he has a personal duty and responsibility, say nothing of his pride.

I am constrained to feel that the outcome of this University is to be the salvation of our Order.

We should be proud of such an institution and for all that it offers; each should have a personal pride in what he can do to further its interests. Your Commander-in-Chief cannot urge you enough to make this a personal matter and do what you can for Memorial University.

#### The Banner.

As soon as mustering officers report of the muster of a Camp is received, Division Secretaries will report the names and addresses of the members of such new Camp, direct to The Banner, Dwight, Illinois, so that the new members of such Camps will receive The Banner promptly.

Immediately upon the suspension or disbanding of a Camp, Division Secretaries will at once notify The Banner of that fact. Upon the reinstatement of a Camp The Banner should at once be notified, so that the members of said Camp will receive the official organ or paper.

#### Change on Original List of National Inspectors.

Nebraska.....Geo. T. Wolz, Tremont, Neb.  
 New York.....Edwin M. Amies, Altoona, Pa.  
 California.....A. M. Irwin, Redding, Calif.  
 E. E. SCHOENING,  
 National Inspector.

#### Charter Applications and New Camps.

Since last announcement applications for charters for Camps were approved, and Camps were mustered, and charters issued therefor, as follows:

Ap.	Camp.	Ap.	Location.	Div.	Date Must.	No. Must.
July 1	5	26	Cripple Creek, Colo.		July 26	22
Aug. 16	17	57	Wabash, Ind.		Sept. 4	47
Sep. 23	26	17	Claremont, N. H.		Oct. 10	29
Oct. 2	19	23	Johnson City, Ill.		Oct. 14	23
Oct. 14	31	26	Glen, N. H.			
		71	Grove City, Pa.		Nov. 4	40
Nov. 6	11	17	St. Genevieve, Mo.		Nov. 1	17
Nov. 12	78	15	E. Pittsburg, Pa.			
Nov. 14	3	26	Kansas City, Kans.			
Nov. 20	68	16	Hampden Corner, Me.		Nov. 16	16

#### Special Aides.

The following Special Aides on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief have been appointed and accepted since the last General Order:

California—W. H. Collins, Oakland.

Connecticut—E. Aldrich, No. Grosvenor Dale; H. H. Gordon, Naugatuck; Dr. A. E. Oliver, New Britain; Wm. C. Dickenson, New Haven; F. S. Nichols, New London.

Illinois—Floyd F. Putman, Canton; Chas. F. Garrett, Rockford; M. N. Baldwin, Princeton; C. L. Tracy, Kankakee; T. P. Castle, Quincy; A. H. Brown, Naperville; Web C. Foster, Decatur; Chas. A. Wolff, Champaign; L. E. James, Oblong; L. F. Meek, Peoria; Edgar C. Scott, Springfield; R. D. Robinson, Galesburg; C. A. Gillespie, Pullman; A. A. Boyer, Dwight; George S. Pense, Chicago.

Indiana—B. F. Leighton, W. Gouldsboro; W. G. Maurer, So. Bend; J. M. Browes, Winchester; R. B. Ewing, Valparaiso; Fred C. Cline, Jonesboro; Frank W. Fagel, Shelbyville.

Maine—Chas. S. Rachliff, Allens Mills; Ralph Averill, Springfield; R. J. Riley, Livermore Falls; J. Frank Sheehan, Portland; S. R. Mullen, Rockland.

Michigan—H. E. Cowdin, Rockford; J. Harback, Detroit; L. B. Shipley, Fenton; R. B. Cook, Battle Creek; F. E. Munger, Detroit; Claude Buckingham, Davison.

Minnesota—Frank Tolman, Paynesville; Arthur L. Jones, Minneapolis.

New Hampshire—Arthur J. Boutwell, Concord; E. E. Ladd, M. D., Plymouth; Walter H. Connor, Exeter; J. Edward Hatch, Portsmouth.

Nebraska—J. M. Fay, Loup City; A. C. Boone, Columbus.

New York—John S. Eisman, Ozone Park; C. H. Helmsoth, New York City; W. H. Whitfield, Penn Yan; John C. Shear, Waverly.

Ohio—F. W. Myers, Massillon.

Pennsylvania—T. M. Ruch, Hellertown; M. Bussett, Grove City; D. J. Snavelly, Johnstown; John B. Blume, Scranton; Wm. J. Macklem, Chester; James F. Rogers, Philadelphia.

Vermont—Ira E. Morse, Cambridge; M. W. Jones, Hardwick; Clinton J. Smith, Huntington.

#### Encampment Notes.

Division Commanders are requested to advise these headquarters at the earliest convenience, as to the time and place of holding the encampment of their respective Divisions in 1908.

#### Financial Statement.

Financial report of the National Secretary for the month of November, 1907:

##### RECEIPTS:

To balance October 31, 1907.....		\$ 16.00
Rec'd for per capita tax.....	\$2,306.02	
Charter Fees .....	25.00	
Supplies .....	316.62	
Total Receipts .....		<u>2,647.64</u>
		<u>\$2,663.64</u>

##### EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses .....	\$1,698.78	
Office Expenses .....	130.75	
Commander-in-Chief .....	176.41	
Total Expenditures .....		<u>\$2,005.94</u>
Balance November 30, 1907 .....		<u>\$ 637.70</u>

## Itemized Expenditures:

## GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock .....	\$ 425.08
The Banner, Subscription, October, \$514.51	
The Banner, Subscription, November, \$518.31	
To G. A. R., Woman's Relief Corps,	
Ladies of the G. A. R., Circles 10M	
copies .....	\$200.00
Printing, Circulars, Etc., and Password and	1,232.82
Countersign .....	31.25
Shipping Supplies .....	9.63
	<hr/>
	\$1,698.78

## OFFICE EXPENSES:

Light, Postage, Express, Stationery, Rent....	130.75	\$ 130.75
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## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:

Rent, Postage, Telegrams, Travelling, Stenog-	176.41	
rapher, Office, Etc.....		176.41

Total Expenditures .....	\$2,005.94
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H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

## Divisions-Membership.

Division	Quarter ending		Quarter ending	
	June 30, 1907		Sept. 30, 1907	
	Camps	Members	Camps	Memb.
Alabama and Tennessee .....	9	240		
California and Oregon .....	15	555	10	385
Colorado and Wyoming .....	4	110	3	396
Connecticut .....	19	598	19	610
Illinois .....	41	1301	45	1521
Indiana .....	28	881	29	932
Iowa .....	13	359	13	366
Kansas .....	20	509	16	427
Kentucky .....	8	143	5	114
Maine .....	31	1063	33	1193
Maryland .....	8	271	8	268
Massachusetts .....	127	4896	128	4919
Michigan .....	8	153	6	114
Minnesota .....	10	407	5	361
Missouri .....	17	623	19	666
Nebraska .....	6	66	5	55
New Hampshire .....	31	994	33	1029
New Jersey .....	24	1155	24	1200
New York .....	83	3450	84	3500
Ohio .....	62	2071	68	2253
Pennsylvania .....	158	10233	160	10300
Rhode Island .....	11	322	10	294
Vermont .....	21	582	21	591
Washington .....	4	146		
Wisconsin .....	18	522	17	472
	<hr/>	<hr/>		
	776	31650		

### Greetings.

To the brothers of the Order and members of kindred organizations the Commander-in-Chief extends the greetings of the season. He wishes you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Prosperous New Year. While the good things of this beautiful season come to you do not forget the good tenet of our Order—let us help, aid and assist some less fortunate one.

May peace, prosperity and good-will come to you all. By order of

Fraternally yours, in F. C. & L.,  
RALPH SHELDON, M. D.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

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

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### GENERAL ORDER NO. 1.

Headquarters, Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.  
Department of Commander-in-Chief.  
Albany, N. Y., January 3, 1908.

General Orders No. 1, Series 1908.

Division Inspectors will make their consolidated reports or returns to National Inspector E. E. Schoening, 200 South 5th street, St. Louis, Mo., without delay. It is expected that all Divisions have completed their inspections and returns must be made promptly.

It is urged that all Camps prepare for the observance of Union Defenders' Day by a public celebration, or ceremonies of some kind appropriate to the occasion and day. Let this be an effort to impress upon all some of the work our Order is engaged in.

It is urged upon all Camps to take some action for the benefit financially of the Memorial University; and make returns to Rev. W. J. Patton, President, Mason City, Iowa. Let every Camp in some manner interest all its members in this institution and obtain the financial support of each member of a camp. Let all camps devote some attention to this matter on Union Defenders' Day and obtain subscriptions and contributions for the said institution, from every member if possible.

Per Capita Tax for the quarter ending December 31, 1907, is due at the Department of the National Secretary January 31, 1908. Reports must accompany this tax; promptness in forwarding tax and reports is absolutely necessary and must be observed. Tax for December quarter remains unchanged.

Division Headquarters of the various Divisions will promptly issue the new password and countersign to Camps paying tax and forwarding reports for December quarter, and all elective officers of Camps should be immediately supplied with Commissions, upon receipt of Installing Officer's report. Camp Commanders will issue Commissions to their appointed staff officers.

The Division of Alabama and Tennessee having failed to remit tax and forward reports for September quarter, the password and countersign has not been issued to said Division. The membership will be governed accordingly.

The Division of Washington reported and paid tax since last General O. der, having 4 Camps and 151 members, September quarter, a gain of 5 over June quarter.

With this Division's reports the membership of Divisions for September quarter was 31,817, a gain over June quarter of 167.

It is the painful duty to announce the sudden death of Division Commander William S. Paul, of Colorado and Wyoming Division, at Denver, Colo. Commander Paul was in the midst of most laborious work in upbuilding the Division and was a most active Division Commander. He inspired confidence and respect with all whom he came in contact, and the Division he commanded, in his death sustains an irreparable loss, and the Order a faithful and hard working member. Senior Vice Division Commander Alvin W. Steinmetz, 107 South Corona St., Denver, Colorado, is in command of the Division temporarily.

The National Secretary's report for December, 1907, is as follows:

#### Statement No. 4.

Financial Report of the National Secretary for month of December, 1907.

#### RECEIPTS—

To Bal., Nov. 30, '07 .....	\$ 657.70
Received for Per Capita Tax .....	594.76
Charter Fees .....	40.00
Supplies .....	296.98
Total Receipts .....	931.74
	<hr/>
	\$1,589.44

#### EXPENDITURES—

By General Expenses .....	\$ 622.39
Office Expenses .....	22.05
Commander-in-Chief .....	144.02
Total Expenditures .....	788.46
	<hr/>
Balance, December 31, 1907 .....	\$ 800.98

#### Itemized Expenditures.

#### GENERAL EXPENSES—

Stock .....	\$ 39.12
The Banner, Subscription, December, 1907 .....	518.66
Printing .....	14.00
Shipping Supplies .....	13.12
Miscellaneous .....	17.49
	<hr/>
	\$622.39

#### OFFICE EXPENSES—

Light, Postage, Express, Telegrams .....	\$ 17.40
Stationery .....	4.65
	<hr/>
	\$ 22.05

#### COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S EXPENSES—

Rent, Postage, Traveling, Office, Stenographer .....	\$144.02
Total Expenditures .....	788.46

H. H. HAMMER, Nat'l Secy.

Since last announcement applications for charters of Camps were approved and Camps mustered as follows:

Aug. 22, No. 84, Marion, Ohio, 28 approved, mustered Aug. 26, with 24 members; Oct. 14, No. 31, Glen, N. H., 26 approved, mustered Oct. 24, with 21 members; Nov. 12, No. 78, E. Pittsburg, Pa., 15 approved, mustered Nov. 30 with 19 members; Dec. 1, Trenton, Mo., 29 approved; Dec. 7, No. 73, Grey Eagle, Minn., 15 approved, mustered Dec. 2 with 15 members; Dec. 9, No. 7, Canon City, Colo., 50 approved, mustered Nov. 21, with 50 members; Dec. 12, No. 53, Tunkhannock, Pa., 25 approved; Dec. 17, No. 132, Carver, Mass., 21 approved; Dec. 21, No. 54, Wellston, Ohio, 27 approved, mustered Oct. 23 with 27 members; Dec. 28, No. 12, Kirksville, Mo., 22 approved, mustered Dec. 19, with 22 members; Dec. 30, No. 69, South Paris, Maine, 48 approved, mustered Dec. 14, with 48 members.

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

RALPH SHELDON, M. D.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

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

#### GENERAL ORDER NO. II.

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

Albany, N. Y., January 31, 1908.

General Orders No. 2, Series 1908.

I. It is with a thankful heart and deep gratification your Commander-in-Chief is able to report, that after a severe illness of over two months duration (during which time he had to undergo a very serious and delicate operation) he is able to resume the duties of his position.

He had planned many things for the two months past—illness has prevented his carrying them out, and his taking up other branches of work. The loss of two months means considerable to him and in order to accomplish much which he hoped could be accomplished during that time, each and every member of our noble Order is asked to exert himself that much more and thus build up the Order to the extent which he had hoped it might be.

#### New Officers.

II. New Camp officers are now at their posts, each striving to do his best, all anxious for successful administration and all will be successful if the proper help is given by the rank and file. Brothers, your Camp Commanders are entitled to your loyal, undivided support. See that they have it.

#### Division Encampments.

III. Division Commanders are directed to notify these headquarters as soon as the dates and location have been decided upon for holding their respective encampments. It is necessary that this information be furnished without delay so that the proper promulgation may be made through general orders.

Division encampments so far announced were held as follows: Rhode Island, February 4; Massachusetts, February 11th and 12th.

## Special Aides.

IV. Connecticut: H. H. Gorton, Naugatuck; E. Aldrich, No. Grosvenor Dale; William Dickenson, New Haven; Dr. A. E. Oliver, New Britain; F. S. Nicholas, New London.

Indiana: Fred C. Kline, Jonesboro; J. M. Browne, Winchester; R. B. Wing, Valparaiso; Walter G. Mauser, South Bend; Frank W. Fagel, Shelbyville.

Illinois: R. D. Robinson, Galesburg; Geo. S. Pense, Chicago; A. A. Boyer, Dwight; C. A. Gillespie, Chicago.

Kentucky: B. F. Martin, Paris; J. M. Mayfield, Elizabethtown; H. K. Richardson, Berea; G. F. Anderson, Henderson.

Maine: Dr. E. C. Hooper, Fairfield; Robert M. Webster, Damariscotta Mills; Henry W. Caldwell, Sherman Mills, S. R. Mullen, Rockland; Geo. T. Temple, Augusta; Benj. F. Dyer, Sanford; B. F. Leighton, West Gouldsboro; Albert G. Meserve, Westbrook.

Maryland: Roscoe C. White, Frederick; Parker Trent, Washington; Joseph Osborne, Wilmington, Del.

Michigan: H. E. Cowdin, Rockford; L. B. Shipley, Fenton; Claude Buckingham, Davison; John D. Crawford, Lowell; A. R. Ingram, Fenton; R. B. Cook, Battle Creek; F. E. Munger, Detroit.

Missouri: G. W. Huck, St. Genevieve; Ford Bacon, Jefferson City; H. Krelenkamp, Melrose; Harry W. Bridges, Cape Girardeau; L. L. Moore, Joplin.

Minnesota: Frank Tolman, Paynesville.

New York: Joy S. Rosa, Kingston, Harry Little.

Ohio: T. T. Brand, Urbana.

## Court Martial Finding and Decision.

V. The report of the Judge Advocate, together with the proceedings, has been received in the case of Gen. George G. Meade Camp, 16, Penn., Division Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., of Reading, against John Klink.

The charge in the case was conduct unbecoming a Son of a Veteran.

## Verdict.

The verdict of the court was guilty, and that he be dishonorably discharged from the Order.

## Decision.

The evidence justifies the verdict of the court, the same is hereby approved.

## Quarterly Reports.

VI. Some Camps are entirely too negligent in the forwarding of reports to Division headquarters, which necessarily delays Divisions in making their reports to the national officers. It takes no longer one time than another to do this work. Why not do it promptly? Promptness always pays.

If you wish to make a success in life you must be prompt in all your dealings, if you wish to make a success of your Camp or your Division and of our Order, you must be prompt in making out your reports. It is not only better but an easier way to do work.

Delays are dangerous.

### Reinstatement.

VII. Since last encampment the Alabama and Tennessee Division has reported and paid tax for September quarter, 1907, showing in good standing 9 Camps and 170 members.

The current password and countersign has been issued to the members of the Camps of said Division, and same have been reinstated with all Divisions reporting and in good standing for September quarter. The membership was 776 Camps and 31,987 members, a gain of 337 members over June quarter, 1907.

### Reports

VIII. Reports of Division Inspectors and Division Patriotic Instructors should be completed and presented to the Division at their Division encampments. The work of these officers should be accounted for and reported during their terms of office to the encampment at which they retire or under the terms of appointment.

### Proceedings.

IX. The proceedings of the 26th national encampment, Dayton, Ohio, have been promulgated. Any one who desires a copy will be furnished one by forwarding four cents in postage to their Division headquarters or to the national secretary.

### Ritual.

X. Attention is called to the request of the chairman of the committee on ritual, Past Commander-in-Chief George B. Abbott, in January issue of The Banner.

### Bonds.

XI. Division Commanders, being elected, will be prompt in filing bonds, made to Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A., as per article I of C. R. & R. Bonds must be filed and approved by the Commander-in-Chief within thirty days after election of Division Commanders.

Certificates of election of Division officers, form 49, must be forwarded to the national secretary immediately after election of Division Officers.

### Memorial University.

XII. It is with much chagrin that your Commander-in-Chief read the report for the month of December of the University. To think that such a noble cause and that such an organization which gave the University its birth should allow it to run behind and cause so much anxiety to those who are devoting their lives in trying to perpetuate our organization and keep alive this institution. It is a disgrace to the 31,000 members of our Order.

If the members of our Order could visit this institution as your Commander-in-Chief has, and see what has been accomplished and is being accomplished, I know full well that this deficiency would not exist.

Your Commander-in-Chief is of the belief that Memorial University is the salvation of our Order. No order can live on sentiment alone, it must have something to work for. As Memorial University is educating our young people to be pat-

riotic, educating orphans of veterans of the Civil war, we should certainly as an Order, support that institution, for we have obligated ourselves to teach patriotism and to assist the Grand Army.

In what better way can we assist them than by helping educate their offspring.

Why not at the next Commandery-in-Chief pass an amendment to our constitution, whereby every member of our Order, shall pay a certain per capita tax, twice a year, for the maintenance of the University.

We could do it. It is right that we should. Think it over and talk it over with one another.

#### Camp Charters.

XIII. Since last announcement applications for charters have been approved and Camps mustered as follows:

November 14, No. 3, Kansas City, Kansas, 26 approved, mustered November 16, 1907, with 36 members; January 4, No. 264, Tower City, Pa., 27 approved; November 11, No. 1, Weston, W. Virginia, Division of Pennsylvania, 25 approved; January 20, Gilman, Iowa, 26 approved; January 25, No. 293, Gallitzin, Pa., 28 approved, mustered January 30, with 31 members; January 29, No. 90, Catskill, New York, 48 approved, mustered January 4, with 31 members; January 30, No. 51, Antioch, Ohio, 17 approved, mustered October 22, 1907, with 17 members; January 31, Stanwood, Iowa, 23 approved; January 31, No. 16, Red Bank, N. J., 26 approved, mustered January 29, with 26 members.

#### Niagara Falls.

XIV. What are you doing toward organizing parties to attend the next meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief, to be held at Niagara Falls, probably the third week of August.

Headquarters have been established at the Cataract-International hotel, and we hope in the next general orders to state rates which the transportation committee have secured. Niagara Falls is one of the wonders of this continent, which should be seen by every member of our Order, and this is the year for you to make a visit. It is hoped and expected that this will be the largest meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief in the history of the Order; much legislation of importance to our Order will come up.

Make your plans to meet with us. New York Division will give you a hearty welcome.

#### Union Defenders' Day.

XV. Ere these orders are received by the members of our Order, the first great day set aside by us will have passed, that of Union Defenders' Day, February 12th. One of the principles and objects of our Order as specifically set forth in the third section of Article II, declares for the proper observance of that day.

It is the hope of your Commander-in-Chief that the Camps have universally observed it.

The loving respect to the memory of him who gave the name to the day, Abraham Lincoln, is sufficient cause for us to render respect to it.

## Report of the National Secretary.

XVI. Report of the National Secretary for the month of January, 1908.

## RECEIPTS:

To Balance, December 31, 1907.....	\$800.98
Received for Per Capita Tax.....	146.04
Charter Fees .....	45.00
Supplies .....	393.88
Total Receipts .....	<u>584.92</u>

\$1,385.90

## EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses .....	\$1,125.69
Office Expenses .....	18.93
Commander-in-Chief .....	70.00
Total Expenditures .....	<u>1,214.62</u>

Balance, January 31, 1908.....	\$ 171.28
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## Itemized Expenditures.

## GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock .....	\$ 337.00
The Banner, January, 1908, Sub.....	472.77
Encampment (1907) Proceedings 26th Annual Nat'l Encampment, Dayton, Ohio, Printing and Promulgating	300.10
Shipping Supplies .....	<u>15.52</u>

\$1,125.69

## OFFICE EXPENSES:

Light, Postage, Expressage .....	18.93
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## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:

Rent, Postage, Office and Stenographer.....	<u>70.00</u>
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Total Expenditures .....	<u>\$1,214.62</u>
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H. H. HAMMER.

Fraternally yours, in F. C. &amp; L.,

RALPH SHELDON, M. D.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

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

## GENERAL ORDER NO. III.

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

Albany, N. Y., March 2, 1908.

Order No. 3, Series of 1908:

## Division Encampments.

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

Connecticut at New London, June 11th.  
 New Hampshire at Concord, April 15-16.  
 New York at Buffalo, June 16-17-18.  
 New Jersey at Mount Clair, May 13-14.  
 Vermont at Bennington, June 10-11.  
 California at Riverside, April 7-8-9.

### National Encampment.

II. The National Encampment will be held August 17, 18, 19 and 20. Headquarters have been established at the Cataract-International hotel. Now is the time to begin to organize clubs to attend this encampment. Do not delay in this matter. It is the proper time to set aside for your vacation. Come and meet old acquaintances and form new ones. If you have never beheld the beauty of Niagara Falls, now is the time to do so. Come, help make this the largest and best meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief. Notice will be given as to rates obtained by the Transportation Committee in the next general order.

#### Special Aides.

III. Special Aides have been appointed as follows:  
 Missouri, A. V. Cashion, Perryville.  
 Maine, Albert J. Meserve, Westbrook.  
 New York, William A. Pierce, New York City; William P. Lorch, New York City; H. A. P. Liddle, Brooklyn.

#### Commissions.

IV. Commissions of District officers will be issued upon receipt of Form 49 in duplicate. These can be secured on requisition Form 1½ from the National Secretary. All elections in Division Encampments must be certified on said form in duplicate.

#### Dropped Members.

V. A number of inquiries have been submitted to these headquarters relative to the necessary steps for dropped members to regain membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans.

Dropped members may gain admission under exactly the same conditions as new recruits, and the same process must be followed, for the reason that a member who has been dropped from a roll of a Camp for non-payment of dues, is in no sense a member of the Order.

A dishonorably discharged member is not included as a dropped member. He can only become eligible to membership again by action of the Commandery-in-Chief.

#### Memorial University.

VI. This splendid and unique enterprise which we are fostering at Mason City is destined to become the rallying point of the Sons of Veterans. Having inaugurated the movement it illy becomes us to permit it to fail by withholding the small financial support until a sufficient endowment is secured.

This is a critical time in the history of the institution, and your Commander-in-Chief again calls attention to our Order of the needs of this our monument to the nation's heroes and heroines.

At the Massachusetts Division Encampment held at Boston, February 12, five hundred dollars were raised within a very short space of time by the members present to help on the work. There is not a member, nor a Camp, nor a Division in the Commandery-in-Chief, but what can do something if they will. It is not right that a few should carry the burden of this institution.

Memorial University reflects credit or discredit upon every member of our Order, therefore as we are all interested we should do our part towards making it a success. If every mem-

ber of the Order would contribute one cent a week Memorial would be on a sound financial basis, and we could seek endowment from philanthropically disposed people. At present we cannot approach the wealthy, who would be only too glad to endow Memorial, as it is not self-sustaining. The members of the Order are not contributing enough to sustain the institution,, therefore we cannot obtain this endowment. There is only one way to make Memorial University a success. Amend our constitution so as to make it compulsory for every member to contribute a definite sum each year, payable semi-annually. Make it one cent a week, fifty cents a year. There is not a member in the Order but who can pay this small amount. Think this over. Talk it over in the Camp room.

#### Charter Applications.

VII. Applications for charters for new Camps have been approved and charters issued to new Camps mustered, since last announcement, as follows:

##### Applications Approved.

February 4, No. 149, Media, Pa., 50 applicants; February 6, No. 38, Elwood, Minn., 16 applicants; February 6, No. 27, East Hartford, Conn., 28 applicants; February 6, No. 2, Staples, Minn., 19 applicants; February 6, No. 89, Niagara Falls, N. Y., 41 applicants; February 10, Merrimac, Mass., 18 applicants; February 11, Orange, N. J., 28 applicants; February 20, Bowbells, Minn., 34 applicants; February 20, No. 326, Fairmount Springs, Pa., 35 applicants; February 26, No. 100, Cincinnati, Ohio, 100 applicants; February 27, No. 34, Springfield Vt., 16 applicants.

##### Camps Mustered.

1907—November 16, No. 3, Kansas City, Kansas, 36 applicants; November 14, No. 100, Cincinnati, Ohio, 120 applicants; December 17, No. 132, Carver, Mass., 20 applicants.

1908—January 24, No. 264, Tower City, Pa., 26 applicants; January 29, No. 1, Weston, W. Va., 41 applicants; January 31, No. 38, Glenwood, Minn., 16 applicants; January 10, No. 89, Niagara Falls, N. Y., 41 applicants; February 1, No. 2, Staples, Minn., 19 applicants; February 11, No. 27, East Hartford, Conn., 22 applicants.

#### Camps and Membership.

VIII. Standing of Divisions, quarter ending December 31, 1907:

	Sept. 30, 1907.		Dec. 31, 1907.	
	Camp	Mbrs.	Camp	Mbrs.
Ala. & Tenn.....	9	170	9	170
Cal. & Oregon.....	10	385	11	422
Col. & Wyo.....	3	96	5	166
Connecticut .....	19	610	19	593
Illinois .....	45	1521	41	1420
Indiana .....	29	932	29	949
Iowa .....	13	366	14	347
Kansas .....	16	427	23	530
Kentucky .....	6	114	6	105
Maine .....	33	1193	34	1187
Maryland .....	8	268	7	256
Massachusetts .....	128	4919	130	4958
Michigan .....	6	114	6	104

Minnesota .....	6	361	13	456
Missouri .....	19	666	20	653
Nebraska .....	5	55	5	55
New Hampshire .....	33	1029	35	1073
New Jersey .....	24	1200	24	1198
New York .....	84	3500	85	3506
Ohio .....	68	2253	71	2360
Pennsylvania .....	160	10300	163	10314
Rhode Island .....	10	294	10	300
Vermont .....	21	591	23	608
Washington .....	4	151	4	130
Wisconsin .....	17	472	18	488
		<u>776</u>	<u>31987</u>	<u>805 32348</u>

## Statement No. 6.

IX. Financial report of the National Secretary for the month of February, 1908.

## RECEIPTS:

To Balance January 31, 1908.....		\$ 171.28
Received Per Capita Tax.....	\$1,628.78	
Charter Fees .....	60.00	
Supplies .....	275.35	
	<u>1,964.13</u>	
Total Receipts .....		<u>\$2,135.41</u>

## EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses.....	\$ 676.65
Office Expenses .....	34.76
Commander-in-Chief .....	160.14
	<u>871.55</u>
Total Expenditures .....	<u>\$1,263.86</u>

## Itemized Expenditures.

## GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock and Supplies.....	\$ 163.10
The Banner, February, 1908, subscription....	471.42
Shipping Supplies and Miscellaneous.....	42.13
	<u>676.65</u>

## OFFICE EXPENSES:

Light, Postage, Express and Miscellaneous....	34.76
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## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:

Rent, Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Office, Stenographer and Express .....	160.14
	<u>194.90</u>
Total Expenditures .....	<u>\$ 871.55</u>

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

**Resignation Accepted.**

X. The resignation of Horace E. Shaw, as Junior Vice Division Commander of the Division of Alabama and Tennessee, has been received and accepted. Brother Shaw has been elected Commander of George H. Thomas Camp, No. 1, of said Division.

**Inspector's Reports.**

XI. All consolidated reports of Division Inspectors must be in by April 1st. Division Inspectors will please bear this in mind. Neglect on your part may lose representation of your Division at the next meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief.

Fraternally yours, in F. C. & L.

RALPH SHELDON, M. D.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

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

**GENERAL ORDERS NO. IV.**

Headquarters Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.  
Albany, N. Y., April 2, 1908.

Series of 1908, Orders No. 4.

**National Encampment.**

I. The 27th annual encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A., will be held in the city of Niagara Falls, N. Y., August 17-18-19 and 20. The council-in-chief has unanimously approved these dates. Headquarters have been established at the Cataract-International hotel. From reports being received, the indications are that this will be the largest encampment in the history of the Order. Niagara Falls, one of the wonders of the world, should be seen by every member of the Order. Summer vacations will soon begin. Plan yours so that you may meet with us, renewing old acquaintances and making new ones. Further information will be promulgated in General Orders from time to time.

**Division Encampments.**

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

California, at Riverside, April 7-8-9, held.  
New Hampshire, at Concord, April 15-16, held.  
Kentucky, at Louisville, May 13-14.  
New Jersey, at Mount Clair, May 13-14.  
Missouri, at Trenton, May 12-13.  
Colorado, at Fort Collins, May 19-20-21.  
Kansas, at Kansas City, May 19-20-21.  
Illinois, at Quincy, May 19-20-21.  
Indiana, at La Fayette, June 2-3.  
Connecticut, at New London, June 8-9.  
Vermont, at Bennington, June 9-10.  
Minnesota, at Minneapolis, June 9-10.  
Pennsylvania, at Williamsport, June 10-11.  
Maine, at Portland, June 10-11.  
Iowa, at Cedar Rapids, June 9-10-11.

New York, at Buffalo, June 16-17-18.  
Ohio, at Lima, June 17-18-19.  
Wisconsin, at Racine, June 16-17-18.  
Michigan, at Fenton, July 3-4.

#### Commissions.

III. Again your Commander-in-Chief calls attention to the Commander of Divisions in the matter of issuing commissions to Camp officers in their respective Divisions. Commissions for Division officers elected and installed will be forwarded upon receipt of form 49 in duplicate sent to the National Secretary and bond of the Division Commander in accordance with article one of the laws of the Constitution.

#### Charter Fees.

IV. The attention of the Division Commander is called to the necessity of having the fee of five dollars accompany each charter application when forwarded to national headquarters. This requirement is mandatory and must be complied with.

#### The Reserves.

V. The resignation of Major General R. M. J. Reed, chief-of-staff, has been tendered and accepted. General Reed has for a long period known physical disability, and feels unable to longer continue in the service, in the capacity so dear to his heart. General Reed was one of the founders of the Order, and has ever been interested in its success. We know full well that he will always be interested in the work and in our Order and we assure him at this time our best wishes for his health and prosperity, and the warm hand will be held out to grasp his as we gather from year to year at the encampments, where we hope to see him. Brig. Gen. E. R. Campbell, of Washington, D. C., ranking officer of the Reserve, is in temporary command.

#### Special Aides.

VI. Special Aides have been appointed as follows: Rhode Island, Albert E. Young, Pascoag; Willis Beatty, Pawtucket; J. F. Hoxie, Hope Valley.

#### Memorial Day.

VII. Memorial Day with its sacred duties is not far off. Attention is respectfully called to our important solemn and sacred duties, which we will be called upon to render to the memory of our departed fathers on that day. It is hoped and urged that at every meeting of Camps from now until Memorial Day constant and incessant preparation be made for the observance of that day. Where possible all Camps will serve or offer their services to the Grand Army of the Republic, and where there are no Posts in existence let the different Camps take charge of the services on that day. On Memorial Day as well as on other occasions when Camps turn out in a body the Camp Commander is in charge of the line.

#### Applications and Musters.

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

Date.	No.	Location.	Division.	No. Applts.
March.				
	3	13	Portsmouth, New Hampshire	26
	9	..	Lake City, Iowa	24
	9	97	Detroit, Minnesota	15
	11	350	Bloomfield, Indiana	57
	18	21	Paducah, Kentucky	15
	19	3	Excelsior, Minnesota	33
	21	14	Birds Eye, Indiana	35
	23	105	Pendleton, Indiana	22
	11	70	Boothbay Harbor, Maine	55
	26	22	Bradford, Illinois	31
	26	24	Broughton, Illinois	22
	26	78	Farmer City, Illinois	33
	27	101	Smithfield, Pennsylvania	28
	27	16	Waukesha, Wisconsin	27
	28	4	Waudena, Minnesota	15
	28	6	Long Prairie, Minnesota	19
	30	67	Rockbridge, Wisconsin	27

Camps have been mustered and charters issued as follows, since last order:

Date.	No.	Location.	Division.	No. Mus.
Jan.				
	15	22	Bradford, Illinois	31
Feb.				
	7	67	Rockbridge, Wisconsin	27
	14	34	Springfield, Vermont	29
	11	70	Boothbay Harbor, Maine	55
	12	149	Media, Pennsylvania	37
	26	3	Excelsior, Minnesota	27
	28	14	Orange, New Jersey	29
March.				
	3	12	Bowbells, Minnesota	22
	4	97	Detroit, Minnesota	15
	5	13	Portsmouth, New Hampshire	29
	7	326	Fairmount Springs, Pa.	45
	9	78	Farmer City, Illinois	33
	12	16	Waukesha, Wisconsin	27
	14	21	Paducah, Kentucky	15
	19	24	Broughton, Illinois	22
	20	4	Waudena, Minnesota	15
	23	6	Long Prairie, Minnesota	19

#### Memorial University.

IX. From a report received from President Patton, the Commander-in-Chief learns that the financial condition of Memorial University is in a very critical condition. Brothers, what are you doing toward assisting financially Memorial University? Now is the time to send in your gifts. They need money and need it badly. Let us hope that every member who has not already contributed something will send a contribution, however small, and send it at once.

Brothers the conditions which now face Memorial University can all be obviated, if at the next meeting of the Commander-in-Chief the constitution is so amended that every six

months 25 cents is paid by every member of the Order. The same amount to go to the University. There is not a member of the Order who would feel that amount. If every member could realize how much good the University is doing, and how much Memorial University will add to the glory of our Order there will be no hesitation to pay such a small amount. One cent a week will do away with the persistent begging, which has to be done at the present time. It also would allow the University to send out men who would solicit students for the University, at the same time acting as organizers for the Order. It would save the treasury of the Commandery-in-Chief many hundreds of dollars. It is the hope of the Commander-in-Chief at the meeting of the Division encampment of the various Divisions that this matter will be taken up and that their delegates will be instructed. It is certain my brothers that unless something is done and done quickly to assist Memorial University and (we were the founders) it will have to go out of existence for the simple fact that voluntary contributions are not sufficient to pay the running expenses.

#### The Order.

X. I think that the members of the Order should congratulate themselves upon the good showing of the Commandery-in-Chief at this time, although the country has gone through a severe financial panic, many thousands of workmen unemployed, nevertheless through it all, our Order has gained in membership between four and five hundred during the December quarter. Nearly all other fraternal bodies have gone backward. Thus, my brothers, we are to congratulate ourselves, but do not let this spirit of congratulation make us feel that nothing more is to be done. If every member of the Order will show the same spirit and work as hard as they did through the last quarter, the report for March quarter will show a gain unparalleled in the history of the Order. Come, let every member do his part, let every member present at least one application, then we can all feel that we have done something for the glory and honor of our noble Order.

#### Statement No. 7.

XI. Financial report of the National Secretary for the month of March, 1908:

RECEIPTS:	
To balance February 29, 1908.....	\$1,263.86
Received for Per Capita Tax.....	\$1,299.56
Charter Fees .....	80.00
Supplies .....	575.07
Total Receipts .....	<u>\$1,954.63</u>
	<u>\$3,218.49</u>
EXPENDITURES:	
By General Expenses .....	\$ 566.08
Office Expenses .....	101.48
Commander-in-Chief .....	141.10
Total Expenditures .....	<u>808.66</u>
Balance, March 31, 1908 .....	<u>\$2,409.83</u>

## ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES:

## General Expenses:

Stock .....	\$ 3.10	
The Banner, March, 1908, subscription.....	482.34	
Reserves .....	33.34	
Shipping Supplies .....	22.40	
Miscellaneous (Insignia for officers and staff)	24.90	
		\$ 566.08
Office Expenses:		
Light, wrapping paper, postage, express....	12.21	
Stationery (national officers and staff).....	20.27	
Rent headquarters Jan.-March, inclusive ....	69.00	
		101.48
Commander-in-Chief:		
Rent, postage, telegrams, traveling, office, stenographer, express .....	\$ 141.10	
		141.10
Total expenditures .....		\$ 808.66

H. H. HAMMER, National Secretary.

## Consolidated Report.

XII. Ohio Division reported 71 Camps and 2,360 members in good standing, December quarter, 1907.

For September quarter the report of the Division was 68 Camps and 2,253 members.

All Divisions reporting December, 1907, quarter makes recapitulation of consolidated returns for said quarter.

	Camps.	Mem.
No. in good standing Sept., 1907, quarter.....	776	31987
Gained by organization and muster in .....	23	1624
Gained by transfer .....		53
Gained by reinstatement .....	24	591
Aggregate .....	823	34255
LOSS:		
	Camps.	Mem.
By camps disbanded .....	3	55
By death .....		47
Honorable discharge .....		65
By transfer .....		50
By suspension .....	15	1690
Total loss .....		18
		1907
Number in good standing Dec. 31, 1907....	805	32348

Fraternally yours, in F. C. &amp; L.,

RALPH SHELDON, M. D.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

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

## GENERAL ORDER NO. V.

Headquarters Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.  
Albany, N. Y., May 4, 1908.

Series of 1908. Orders No. 5.

## National Encampment.

I. Owing to our inability to obtain accommodations, the dates of the 27th annual encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, to be held at Niagara Falls, have been changed from the 17-18-19 and 20th of August, to one week later, the 24-25-26 and 27th, 1908. The headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief will be established at the Cataract-International hotel. The future General Orders will give the rates granted by the railroads and will also contain the lists of other hotels. We wish this to be the largest meeting ever held by the Commandery-in-Chief. Arrange your plans and "all come." Legislation of greatest importance to our Order will be presented, and every representative should be there to take part in its deliberations.

Many plans are being made for the pleasure of the delegates, all of which will be mentioned in the future General Orders.

## Division Encampments.

II. Division encampments will be held as follows:

Kentucky, at Louisville, May 13-14. Held.  
New Jersey, at Mount Clair, May 13-14. Held.  
Missouri, at Trenton, May 12-13. Held.  
Colorado, at Fort Collins, May 19-20-21.  
Kansas, at Kansas City, May 19-20-21.  
Illinois, at Quincy, May 19-20-21.  
Indiana, at La Fayette, June 2-3.  
Connecticut, at New London, June 8-9.  
Vermont, at Bennington, June 9-10.  
Minnesota, at Minneapolis, June 9-10.  
Pennsylvania, at Williamsport, June 10-11.  
Maine, at Portland, June 10-11.  
Iowa, at Cedar Rapids, June 9-10-11.  
New York, at Buffalo, June 16-17-18.  
Ohio, at Lima, June 17-18-19.  
Wisconsin, at Racine, June 16-17-18.  
Michigan, at Fenton, July 3-4.  
Maryland, at Washington, D. C., June 24-25.  
Alabama, at Birmingham, July 2.

## Consolidated Reports.

III. Per Capita Tax and reports of Division Secretaries and Division Treasurers for quarter ending March 31, 1908, must be in the hands of the National Secretary not later than May 25th.

The National Secretary has been directed to close his books and accounts on that date. Division Commanders will take notice that reports and taxes not received by that date will be suspended in accordance with the Constitutional requirements. The new password and countersign will be issued upon receipt of reports, and per capita tax.

#### Memorial Day.

IV. Attention is called to Section VII. of General Orders No. 4, published in last month's Banner relative to the observance of Memorial Day. It is hoped that all members of the Order will render all possible assistance to the Grand Army and so conduct themselves as to make the day one of special reverence and give due observance to the sacred rites incidental to its celebration.

#### In Memoriam.

V. It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Harold C. Megrew, a constitutional life member of our Order, who died Sunday, April 26, 1908, at his home in Indianapolis, Ind. His influence was a power for good in the Order. He was one of its earnest supporters and his advice was sought whenever matters of importance were to be settled. He was a splendid officer and a magnificent gentleman, true to his friendship, and to the last had pride in the Sons of Veterans.

In honoring his memory we pay tribute to one who loved us, favored our Order and rendered great service in our behalf. It is hereby ordered that all Camps drape their charter for a period of thirty days to commemorate his memory.

#### Memorial University.

VI. In a statement just received from President Patton, of Memorial University, it is shown that the treasury of the institution is in a most deplorable condition. Many bills are not paid, and salaries still unpaid.

Brothers, what is to be done? What are we going to do with this institution founded by us to perpetuate the Grand Army and the women of '61 and '65? Can we afford as an organization to allow an institution founded for such a noble cause to give up its work simply because the members of our Order do not give it the support, as we, the founders, should? It has got to the point where either we must as an Order do something to put it on a sound financial basis, or it will be unable to open its doors September next. Can we afford as an Order to have it published abroad that we have allowed this institution which is doing such grand work, in educating young people, (many of whom are orphans) to suspend? No, my brothers, we can not. Think of the stain upon our good name as an Order. Your Commander-in-Chief is receiving most encouraging reports from most every Division as to the plan which he has promulgated in his General Orders for the past few months. The small sum of one cent a week, or twenty-five cents every six months by each member of our Order, will place Memorial on a sound financial basis. We will be able to educate many, many more students, a large percentage of whom are orphans of Veterans, than we are able to take care of at the present time. We will be able to save the treasury of the Commandery-in-Chief at least \$1,500 or more every year. We will be able to reduce our per capita tax, and inside of a year or two it will not be costing the individual any more than it is now. We will be able to reduce our per capita tax each year, as our membership is growing rapidly. We must do something, and must do it at the meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief in August, or we will lose Memorial University.

### Chaplain's Reports.

VII. The attention of the Division Chaplains is called to the fact that they must render report relative to Memorial Day to the Chaplain-in-Chief. Said reports must be in the hands of the Chaplain-in-Chief not later than June 30. Division Chaplains appointed just prior to Memorial Day, should see that these reports are made out and forwarded. Heretofore they have left that to their predecessors. This should not be, it is their duty.

### Charter Applications and Camps Mustered.

VIII. Since last announcement applications for new Camps have been approved and Camps mustered as follows:

April 4, No. 7, St. Cloud, Minn., No. applicants 48, mustered March 30, No. mustered 23; April 6, No. 10, Lambertville, New Jersey, No. applicants 30, mustered March 25, No. mustered 30; April 6, No. 19, Jersey City, New Jersey, No. applicants 28, mustered March 24, No. mustered 28; April 6, No. 21, Hammonton, New Jersey, No. applicants 17, mustered March 31, No. mustered 17; April 6, No. 5, Ponca, Okla., Kansas, No. applicants 22; April 7, —, Indianola, Iowa, No. applicants, 28; April 8, No. 11, Laurelton, Pa., No. applicants 23, mustered April 16, No. mustered 20; April 8, No. 93, Binghamton, New York, No. applicants 52, mustered February 28, No. mustered 52; April 13, —, Muscatine, Iowa, No. applicants 25; April 20, No. 71, Luzerne, New York, No. applicants 20, mustered April 3, No. mustered 20; April 21, No. 55, Hilliard, Ohio, No. applicants 26, mustered March 9, No. mustered 26; April 21, —, Fort Collins, Wyo., Col. & Wyo., No. Applicants 60; April 21, —, Cheyenne, Wyo., Col. & Wyo., No. applicants 30; April 22, No. 39, Rockport, Maine, No. applicants 28, mustered April 17, No. mustered 28; April 27, No. 13, Bayonne, New Jersey, No. 16; April 28, No. 102, Shade Gap, Penn., No. applicants 22; No. 118, Gilman, Iowa, mustered February 7, No. mustered 27; No. 20, Stanwood, Iowa, mustered February 25, No. mustered 25.

### Chief of Staff.

IX. Edwin M. Amies of Altoona, Pa., has been unanimously elected Chief of Staff, S. V. Reserves by the Council-in-Chief. The Chief of Staff will assume the duties of his position on the 10th day of May, 1908, and will be obeyed accordingly.

### Suspensions.

X. Think of it, my brothers, nearly 1700 of our members suspended for the quarter ending December 31, 1907. What is the cause of this wholesale suspension? Think what it means to our Order of only 33,000 members, then again think what the number would mean added to our present membership. Who is at fault? Members themselves or the officers of the Camps? From past experiences your Commander-in-Chief is of the opinion that most of the suspensions are caused by the failure of the Treasurers of Camps to perform their duties. Many of the Camp Treasurers believe that if they send out a notice to a delinquent member that is all that is necessary. It is not all that is necessary. He should see that member personally and if not able to collect all of the arrearages, get what he can, and after a time look the member up again and get more.

Camp Commanders should see to it that they appoint good energetic men to fill the position of treasurer. Do not let us have such a suspension list again.. It is not only heartbreaking for your officers, who are doing all in their power to upbuild the Order, but it is not justice to them that this should be so. If the Camp officers would do as much in their duties in looking up delinquent members our Order would have an unparalleled growth. Come, let every officer do his duty.

Statement No. 8.

XI. Financial report of the National Secretary for the month of April, 1908:

RECEIPTS:

To Balance March 31, 1908.....		\$2,409.83
Received for Per Capita Tax.....	\$ 158.28	
Charter Fees .....	80.00	
Supplies .....	550.88	
	<hr/>	
Total Receipts .....		789.16
		<hr/>
		\$3,198.99

EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses .....	\$ 730.59	
Office Expenses .....	8.51	
Commander-in-Chief .....	148.81	
	<hr/>	
Total Expenditures .....		\$87.91
		<hr/>
Balance April 30, 1908.....		\$2,311.08

Itemized Txpnditures.

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock .....	\$ 165.24	
The Banner, April, 1908, Subscription.....	481.51	
Printing .....	16.75	
Reserves .....	43.69	
Shipping Supplies .....	23.40	
	<hr/>	
		\$ 730.59

OFFICE EXPENSES:

Light and Postage.....		8.51
Commander-in-Chief—Rent, Telegrams, Postage, Traveling, Office, Stenographer, Express .....		148.81
		<hr/>
Total Expenditures .....		\$ 887.91

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

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

RALPH SHELDON, M. D.,

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

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

**GENERAL ORDER NO. VI.**

Headquarters Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.  
Albany, N. Y., June 5, 1908.

Series of 1908, Order No. 6:

**National Encampment.**

I. Attention is again called to the change of date of the 27th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A. It will be held at Niagara Falls, N. Y., on the 24-25-26 and 27th of August, 1908. The headquarters will be established at the Cataract-International hotel. Niagara Falls is one of the wonder spots of the world, beautiful beyond description; words fail to describe the natural beauty of them. One must see them in order to appreciate them. Arrange your vacation so that you can be in attendance. Come and help make this the largest encampment in the history of the Order. You need not fear the hot weather as it is always cool at Niagara Falls.

**Division Encampments.**

II. Division encampments, the dates of which have been fixed and of which these headquarters have been advised, will be held as follows:

Michigan, at Fenton, July 3-4.  
Maryland, at Washington, D. C., June 24-25.  
Alabama, at Birmingham, July 2.

**Reports and Per Capita Tax.**

III. Division Commanders will give this their prompt and personal attention, viz: Reports of Division Secretaries and Division Treasurers TOGETHER WITH PER CAPITA TAX FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JUNE 30 MUST BE IN THE HANDS of the National Secretary NOT later than July 31. The National Secretary must have these reports on July 31. Failure to comply with the above will prevent Divisions from having representation at the National Encampment at Niagara Falls. Commanders will give this their personal attention. If the work of the National Encampment and the labors of your officers are to be appreciated they must have your help and assistance in the matter. It is hoped that no further urging may be required. Remittances must be made to the National Secretary, NOT to the National Treasurer.

**Password and Countersign.**

IV. The new password and countersign has been promulgated to all Divisions. It will only be given to such Camps paying tax and forwarding reports for quarter ending June 30th, 1908. Camp Commanders will promulgate the password and countersign only to such members in good standing (paying their dues) June 30th.

**Commissions.**

V. Commissions will be issued to newly elected Division officers upon receipt of form 49, and receipt and approval of Division Commander's bond, in which instance the bond shall be filed with the Commander-in-Chief, within thirty days after election. This is imperative.

### Camp Mustering Officers' Report.

VI. Immediately upon the muster of a new Camp mustering officers' report (form 23) should be forwarded to the National Secretary. All Camps mustered must be reported to the National Secretary by July 31st, so that the report of same can be made to the National Encampment. Division Commanders will give this their attention, and be governed accordingly.

### Division Orders.

VII. Division Commanders attention is hereby again called to that part of General Orders No. 13, series of 1907, issued in December, relating to the size and form of Division Orders. The electro of the badge and not the coat of arms should be used on all Division Orders. Division Orders must be printed in black ink, they should be  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches in width, by 10 inches in length. We should have uniformity of Division Orders. Within the past three months there have been received at these headquarters at least one-half dozen different shapes and colored ink of Division Orders, thus the attention of the Division Commanders is again called to this paragraph.

### Memorial University.

VIII. Attention is again called to the needs of Memorial University. In order to close the University the last of this month, clear of debt, a large amount of money must be contributed by members of the Order and by the Divisions. Your Commander-in-Chief feels that it is an everlasting disgrace upon our beloved Order that the splendid men and women who have been devoting their year and years to the education of our brothers and sisters should be asked to wait one or two months for their salaries. Come, my brothers, wake up to your responsibilities, and let us contribute sufficient amount to close our University with a clean bill of health. Something must be done to stop this everlasting begging for our University. We cannot get away from it that it is our University. We founded it. We give it our name. We are its parents, and one of the laws of nature is that the parent take care of its children. Can we allow this institution to close? Our name be sufficient to lose us all and not afford to let the Grand Army, that yes, they started a good part in supporting it. Unless something is done at Niagara Falls for the maintenance of this grand institution it will have to close its doors and a hundred or more of our brothers and sisters who are seeking an education, together with thousands and thousands of others who will come into it later will be denied the education which they are seeking. For the small sum of 50 cents a year this could be obviated. Come, my brothers, think it over and your Commander-in-Chief feels assured that the members of this Order will do their duty.

### Boulders.

IX. Your Commander-in-Chief would call the attention of the different Camps to a splendid idea of Sanborn Camp of Nyack, N. Y. The members of that Camp together with the Woman's Relief Corps and Grand Army have placed a massive

boulder on which was mounted a bronze tablet containing in large letters Abraham Lincoln's Immortal Gettysburg Address, together with other inscriptions as Soldiers, and Sailors Memorial, etc. Your Commander-in-Chief believes that this is a splendid idea for all Camps to follow. These boulders are plentiful and can be secured and placed with a very small outlay of money. It would be a work of education and also a fitting tribute to those whom we are trying as an Order to emulate.

#### Proposed Amendments.

X. Attention is called to the provision of the Constitution and Laws with regard to proposed amendments, alterations or changes thereof, as per Article XXV. At least sixty days before the first session of the Commandery-in-Chief encampment at Niagara Falls, N. Y., such changes or proposed changes must be promulgated. All such changes must be forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief, Albany, N. Y. The following proposed amendment to the Constitution and Laws has been submitted. Any member filling the position of Camp Secretary or Treasurer for five consecutive years will be entitled to voice and vote at the annual state encampment in lieu of said five years of service rendered in his Camp.

#### New Camps.

XI. Camps have been mustered since last announcement, applications for charters having been approved as follows:

No. 22, Lake City, Iowa, mustered March 25, No. mustered 45; No. 350, Bloomfield, Ind., mustered March 25, No. mustered 62; No. 14, Birds Eye, Ind., mustered April 18, No. mustered 25; No. 105, Pendleton, Ind., mustered March 26, No. mustered 30; No. 5, Ponca, Okla., Kansas, mustered April 29, No. mustered 22; No. 24, Indianola, Iowa, mustered April 14, No. mustered 37; No. 2, Fort Collins, Colo. & Wyo., mustered May 18, No. mustered 60; No. 3, Cheyenne, Colo., & Wyo., mustered May 11, No. mustered 30; No. 13, Bayonne, N. J., mustered May 9, No. mustered 16; No. 19, Richmond, Ky., mustered April 29, No. mustered 18; No. 53, Adams, N. Y., mustered April 21, No. mustered 23; No. 69, Black River, N. Y., mustered April 1, No. mustered 38; No. 99, Candor, N. Y., mustered March 2, No. mustered 50; No. 34, Lakeport, N. H., mustered May 15, No. mustered 19; No. 70, Verona, N. Y., mustered April 1, No. mustered 34; No. 9, Clogart, Minn., mustered May 4, No. mustered 15; No. 73, Schuylerville, N. Y., mustered April 30, No. mustered 40; No. 23, Hopewell, N. J., mustered May 11, No. mustered 15; No. 7, Blue Rapids, Kans., April 17, No. mustered 57; No. 6, Leoti, Kans., mustered April 25, No. mustered 18; No. 11, Lawton, Okla., Kansas, mustered April 27, No. mustered 15; No. 14, Oklahoma City, Okla., Kansas, mustered April 28, No. mustered 21; No. 10, Guthrie, Okla., Kansas, mustered April 29, No. mustered 25; No. 54, Franklinville, N. Y., mustered May 16, No. mustered 35; No. 276, Columbia, Ill., mustered May 18, No. mustered 17.

Applications have been approved in addition to the foregoing (mustering officers reports not having been received) as follows:

May 4		Pella, Iowa, .....	24
May 12		Cohasset, Mass., .....	39
May 16	103	West Chester, Pa., .....	25
May 18		Wapello, Iowa, .....	26
May 23	70	Remington, Ind., .....	45

## Financial Report No. 9.

## RECEIPTS:

To Balance, April 30, 1908.....		\$2,311.08
Received for Per Capita Tax.....	\$3,023.21	
Charter Fees .....	105.00	
Supplies .....	460.09	
Total Receipts .....		<u>\$3,588.30</u>
		\$5,899.38

## EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses .....	\$ 823.05	
Office Expenses .....	33.37	
Commander-in-Chief .....	373.63	
Total Expenditures .....		<u>\$1,230.05</u>
Balance May 30, 1908.....		\$4,669.33

## Itemized Expenditures.

## GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock .....	\$ 261.20	
The Banner, May, 1908, Subscription.....	490.84	
Printing .....	49.00	
Reserves .....	3.50	
Shipping Supplies .....	18.51	
		<u>\$ 823.05</u>

## OFFICE EXPENSES:

Light, Postage, Express, Telegrams, Miscellaneous and Stationery.....	\$ 33.87	
		<u>\$ 33.87</u>

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:

Rent, Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Office, Stenographer, Express .....	\$ 373.63	
		<u>\$ 373.63</u>
Total Expenditures .....		\$1,230.05

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

Membership and Consolidated Report of National Secretary,  
Ending March 31, 1908.

Division.	Camp. Mem.		Camp. Mem.	
	Dec., 1907.	March, 1908.	Dec., 1907.	March, 1908.
Ala. & Tenn.....	9	170	9	154
Cal. & Ore.....	11	422	11	433
Col. & Wyo.....	5	166	3	101
Connecticut .....	19	593	19	603

Illinois .....	41	1420	44	1496
Indiana .....	29	949	31	1069
Iowa .....	14	347	17	452
Kansas .....	23	530	30	783
Kentucky .....	6	105	7	128
Maine .....	34	1187	39	1391
Maryland .....	7	256	8	277
Massachusetts .....	130	4958	131	4960
Michigan .....	6	104	5	99
Minnesota .....	13	456	23	673
Missouri.....	20	653	21	686
Nebraska .....	5	55	6	64
New Hampshire .....	35	1073	34	1111
New Jersey .....	24	1198	29	1358
New York .....	85	3506	87	3661
Ohio .....	71	2360	73	2526
Pennsylvania .....	163	10314	168	10593
Rhode Island .....	10	300	10	308
Vermont .....	23	608	22	570
Washington .....	4	130	4	127
Wisconsin .....	18	488	20	557
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		805	32348	351 34180

## Recapitulation of Consolidated Returns, March Quarter, 1908:

GAIN:		Camps.	Mem.
Number in Good Standing at Date of Last Report.			
December, 1907 .....		805	32348
Gained by Organization and Muster in.....	49		2879
Gained by Transfer .....			63
Gained by Reinstatement .....	19		551

Aggregate .....	873	35841
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LOSS:		Camps.	Mem.
By Camps Disbanded .....	4	56	
By Death .....		56	
By Honorable Discharge .....		46	
By Transfer .....		46	
By Suspension .....	18	1456	
By Dishonorable Discharge .....		1	
Total Loss .....		22	1661

Number in Good Standing March 31, 1908	851	34180
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Fraternally yours, in F. C. &amp; L.,

RALPH SHELDON, M. D.,

Official:	Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.
H. H. HAMMER,	
National Secretary.	

## GENERAL ORDER NO. VII.

Headquarters Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.  
Albany, N. Y., July 2, 1908.

General Orders No. 7, Series of 1908:

I. As previously announced the 27th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A., will be held at

Niagara Falls, N. Y., August 24-27th, and continue until the business of the Commandery-in-Chief is concluded. Your Commander-in-Chief wishes to dispel a rumor that has gotten about that exhorbitant rates will be charged members of our Order while at Niagara Falls. We have been accorded more reasonable rates than have been accorded to many other orders holding conventions at Niagara Falls the present year. All hotels are within three to five minutes walk of the depot. The local Camp will have a committee at the depot to direct members to hotels and give any information which is desired.

#### R. R. Rates.

II. The trunk lines have granted a fare of one and three-fifths certificate plan, which is a reduction from the regular rate, for the coming National Encampment at Niagara Falls. Certificates must be obtained from ticket agent from point of starting, or nearest station issuing through tickets to place of meeting (Niagara Falls.) Tickets may be secured within three days (exclusive of Sunday) prior to and during the first three days of the meeting. Consequently tickets and certificates can be obtained not earlier than August 20th, nor later than August 26th. Be sure that when purchasing tickets request is made for a certificate. Do not make the mistake of asking for a receipt. A certificate must be obtained. Full fare is paid upon purchase of tickets and certificates. Upon return the fare of three-fifths is paid. Immediately upon arrival at Niagara Falls the certificate must be presented to the National Secretary with 25 cents for validating said certificate. The special agent of the Trunk Line Association will be in attendance August 26 and 27, to validate the certificates. After the special agent has departed no certificates can be validated and the benefit of the reduction on the home journey can not be secured.

#### Hotel Rates.

III. National headquarters have been established at the Cataract-International hotel. Rates \$3 to \$5, American plan.

Tower hotel, \$2 and up American plan; \$1 and up European plan.

Imperial, \$2.50 to \$3, American plan.

The Edwards, \$1.50 per day, American plan.

Columbia, \$1.50 per day, American plan.

Niagara Falls House, \$2 to \$2.50 per day, American plan.

Temperance House, \$2 per day, American plan.

Kaltenbach, \$3 per day, American plan.

A very nice boarding house is run by the Misses Johnson, rates can be had for \$1.50 per day. A list of boarding houses will be in the hands of the local committee, and all those who prefer them to the hotels will be accommodated upon their arrival. All those who desire to make reservations in boarding houses can do so by communicating with A. H. VanCleve, Niagara Falls, N. Y., Commander of the local Camp. Communicate direct with hotels if you wish to make reservation at any of them.

#### Per Capita Tax.

IV. Division Commanders, Secretaries and Treasurers are again notified that their per capita tax and reports for the quarter ending June 30th, must be in the hands of the National

Secretary not later than August 1st. This is imperative. No extension of time can be granted and all reports and tax must be promptly forwarded.

All indebtedness due from Divisions for supplies and tax must be paid by July 31st. Make remittances payable to the National Secretary.

Requisitions for supplies should be forwarded by July 31st, owing to stock account and closing of books on that date.

Mustering officers' reports of the muster of all Camps must be forwarded by July 31st, so that Camps mustered can be chartered before the National Encampment and report made thereto.

#### Reports of Chaplains and Patriotic Instructors.

V. Division Chaplains are directed to forward their consolidated reports to the National Chaplain, Rev. W. J. Patton, Mason City, without delay. Division Patriotic Instructors are likewise directed to forward their consolidated reports to the National Patriotic Instructor, H. V. Speelman, U. S. Sub-Treasury, Cincinnati, Ohio. Prompt action in this matter is highly essential, in order that the national officers may be given an opportunity to compile their reports, which are to be submitted to the coming National Encampment.

#### Charter Applications and Camps Mustered.

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

Date.	No.	Location.	No. Must.
Jan. 16	91	Marblehead, Mass.,	63
Jan. 22	107	Merrimac, Mass.,	19
Mar. 18	10	Attica, Ohio	36
Apr. 24	25	Muscatine, Iowa	38
Apr. 23	56	Wapakoneta, Ohio	89
Apr. 23	72	Dansville, N. Y.	49
Apr. 28	292	Shade Gap, Penna.	52
May 12	26	Pella, Iowa	26
May 14	140	Cohasset, Mass.	33
May 19	103	West Chester, Penna.	80
May 23	28	Wapello, Iowa	21
May 16	54	Franklinville, N. Y.	35
May 18	276	Columbia, N. Y.	17
May 27	15	Willow Springs, Mo.	15
May 28	35	Mineral City, Ohio	20
May 12	176	Delta, Ohio	33
Jne. 4	10	Grafton, N. D., Minn.	20
Jne. 4	60	Chardon, Ohio	67
Jne. 5	56	Glen Falls, N. Y.	54
Jne. 6	105	Weatherly, Penna.	26
Jne. 12	29	Fremont, Ohio	23

In addition to the foregoing, following applications for the muster of Camps have been approved:

No.	Location.	No. Ap.
103	LaGrange, Indiana	22
68	Hazel Green, Wisconsin	30
6	Newport, Rhode Island	44

Oil City, Pennsylvania .....	79
Chicora, Pennsylvania .....	22
Millheim, Pennsylvania .....	32
111 Montgomery, Pennsylvania .....	46

## Special Aides.

## VII. Maryland, Theodore A. Steeger, Baltimore.

## Memorial University.

VIII. It is extremely gratifying to your Commander-in-Chief to receive the numerous letters commending his course and proposals for Memorial University. Many of the Division Encampments held within the past two months have passed resolutions or one similar to it as proposed by me. The time has arrived, my brothers, when action must be taken. If the members of our Order could have witnessed the enthusiastic reception of your Commander-in-Chief at his proposal to a band of twenty-five orphans, all Sons of Veterans, at the recent encampment of the Division of Illinois as to whether they would like to receive an education at Memorial University, I am sure that not one of you could have kept back the tears, and would have given more than 50 cents a year to give these little fellows what they so much desire. Memorial University is ours. It bears our name. We owe it to ourselves, to our Order, and to our parent organization, the Grand Army of the Republic, to place the institution upon a sound financial basis.

## Financial Statement No. 10.

## IX. Report of the National Secretary for the month of June, 1908:

## RECEIPTS:

To Balance, May 31, 1908.....		\$4,669.33
Received for Per Capita Tax.....	\$ 15.30	
Charter Fees .....	80.00	
Supplies .....	278.19	
	<hr/>	
Total Receipts .....		378.49
		<hr/>
		\$5,042.82

## EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses .....	\$ 679.94	
Office Expenses .....	129.63	
Commander-in-Chief .....	313.17	
	<hr/>	
Total Expenditures .....		\$1,122.74
		<hr/>
Balance, June 30, 1908.....		\$3,920.08

## Itemized Expenditures.

## GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock .....	\$ 149.88
The Banner, June, 1908, subscription.....	517.89
Shipping Supplies .....	12.17
	<hr/>
	\$ 679.94

## OFFICE EXPENSES:

Light, Postage, Express, Telegrams, Stationery, Rent .....	129.63
	<hr/>
	129.63
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:	
Rent, Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Office, Stenographer, Expressage .....	313.17
	<hr/>
	313.17
Total Expenditures .....	\$1,122.74

H. H. HAMMER,  
National Secretary.

Proposed Constitutional Amendments—From W. B. McNulty,  
Pennsylvania Division:

To Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A., Albany, New York.

Dear Commander-in-Chief:

I herewith submit the following amendments to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations:

Add to Sec. 2, Art. XI, "Assistant Secretary" and "Division Organizer."

In Sec. 1, Art. II, strike out the words "Each quarter."

In Sec. 3, Art. XII, strike out the words "annual encampment," and insert "will meet bi-annually."

In Sec. 8, Art. XIII, strike out the words "encampment and Commandery-in-Chief," and insert in lieu thereof the words, "Commander and Commander-in-Chief," after Commander-in-Chief insert, "Division Encampments or Commandery-in-Chief."

In Sec. 11, Art. XIII, strike out the words, "present at such meeting or who states in writing that he will accept such office, if elected."

In Sec. 2, Art. XVIII, strike out all after the word "Application."

In Sec. 4, Art. XVIII, strike out word "Quarter," and insert "at the end of six months." Strike out "number 4," and insert "number 2." Strike out "April and October." Strike out all after the word "October."

In Sec. 1, Art. XIX, strike out "six months." Strike out "shall" and insert "may". Strike out Sec. 2, Art. XIX, and insert the following in lieu thereof: "Any member indebted to the camp, to the amount of six months dues, from any cause whatsoever may be suspended, and when suspended will not be entitled to any of the privileges of the Order, or be admitted to any of the meetings of the Order until all such indebtedness is paid in full, provided that while suspended his dues shall cease and the camp will not be required to pay tax on such member."

In Sec. 3, Art. XIX, strike out word "shall" and insert "may."

Add Sec. 3, to Art. XX, to read: "All appeals by a member must be made to the Division commander through the Camp, to the Division Commander, and appeals from the decisions of the Division Commander, or Commander-in-Chief, must pass

through the hands of those officers, provided that it is mandatory for all officers handling appeals to attest and forward same to higher authority.'

In Art. XII, strike out the words "last quarter," and insert "first quarter."

Strike out Art. XXIII.

In Sec. 2, Art. XXIV, add after the words order, "unless such Guard or Company secures a dispensation from the Commander-in-Chief to parade on such occasions as not provided for in this article."

Add new section to Courts Martial, to read, "That where a member has been convicted of an infamous crime, or where proof can be produced to prove a member is a disreputable character, or an injury to the Order, the Commander-in-Chief may dishonorably discharge such person without trial."

In Sec. 14, Courts Martial, page 29, add the word "camp" in the ninth line of the section, to-wit: "And if he finds among those present at the meeting, ten members of the Camp who will obey the laws and all orders from the higher authorities in the Order, the Camp and the money and the property shall be turned over to those members, who are obedient," etc. Following the balance of the article as at present, in the last line strike out the word "Division" and insert "Division Commander, or such brother as he may designate to receive the money and property."

Add a new section as follows: "Where a Camp charter is revoked or declared null and void, and such Camp has provided in its own laws for the payment of sick and death benefits, the money and property of the Camp, in its possession, or in the possession of any of its officers, at the time of disbandment or revocation of charter, shall be held by the treasurer of the Division, for the payment of such sick or death benefits, to the members of that Camp, who remain members of the Order of S. V., U. S. A., and who will and do obey its laws. When a charter is revoked for insubordination, or refusal to obey orders, or the constitution, or ritual of the Order, a transfer will be granted by the Division to any loyal brother and in case of illness or death, the Camp that he is transferred to will, under the direction of the Division Commander, take charge of him, and shall draw upon the Division Commander for such benefits as is due him, or his heirs, according to the law of the Camp of which he was a member, so long as he pays his dues to the Camp he was transferred to, or to the Division Treasurer or Secretary in case no Camp will accept him in membership; in that case the Division Commander will detail a brother to look after him, and pay him or his heirs such money as benefits that he is entitled to, provided that when the money received from the disbanded Camp, has been paid out in benefits, the Division no longer accepts any responsibility.

The several ribbons of the Order shall be as follows: "On all badges of the Order the red, white and blue ribbon, in three stripes, shall be worn.

Commissioned officers or Past Commanders shall wear on the iron cross the red Division ribbon. Past Division Commanders shall wear on the silver cross the yellow ribbon of the Com-

mandery-in-Chief. Past Commanders-in-Chief to wear on the gold cross the yellow ribbon of the Commandery-in-Chief.

Every member of the Order, however, must wear the one ribbon on the membership badge.—Respectfully submitted, W. B. McNulty, Secretary Penna. Div., S. V., U. S. A.

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From Pennsylvania Division.

To Ralph Sheldon, Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A., Albany, New York:

Dear Sir and Brother:

The following amendment to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations are offered by the Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U. S. A., adopted by the 28th annual encampment of the Division, held at Williamsport, Pennsylvania, June 10th, 11th and 12th, 1908

That a more appropriate ritual than the one now in use be adopted.

That commissions to officers of the civic body be abolished, or in lieu thereof, that such commissions be withheld until the close of the term for which said officer was elected.

That reports be made semi-annually instead of quarterly.

That all supplies be furnished Divisions at cost.

That the Constitution, Rules and Regulations be amended to read, to-wit: "That the Constitution cannot be amended, except by a majority vote of all the Camps of the Order."—Respectfully submitted, Paul Smyser, Division Commander.

Attest: W. B. McNulty, Division Secretary.

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From Kansas Division.

Resolved that the Division Encampment be requested to restore past honors as Commanders of Robert Hale Camp, No. 111, Division of Kansas, Blue Rapids, Kansas, to Brothers H. A. Russell and Carson Axtell, Past Commanders of No. 111, and in good standing when said Camp became defunct.

Certified as a true copy of resolution passed at a regular meeting of Robert Hale Camp, No. 7, on May 13, 1908.—M. A. Thompson, Commander; J. O. Norton, Secretary.

To the Officers and Members of the National Encampment to be held at Niagara, N. Y., August 27th.

Greetings:

The inclosed resolutions requesting that past honors be restored to Past Camp Commanders of Robt. Hale Camp, No. 111, Division of Kansas, located at Blue Rapids, Kansas, Brothers H. A. Russell and Carson Axtell, was unanimously approved by the 25th Annual Division Encampment of this Division at Kansas City, Kansas, May 20th, and it appearing that neither of the brothers were in any way responsible for the disbanding of the Camp and they were both in good standing when the Camp disbanded, we most respectfully ask for the restoration of past honors to both brothers, H. A. Russell and Carson Axtell, now members in good standing in Robt. Hale Camp, No. 7, at Blue Rapids, Kansas.—Chas. B. Martin, Division Commander; E. W. Struve, Division Secretary.

Kansas City, Kans., May 20, 1908.

To the Officers and Members of the 25th Annual Encampment of the Division Encampment being held in the city of Kansas City, Kansas:

We, your committee on Constitution and Law, herewith make the following report, and ask that the Constitution and Law be so changed to allow the presentation of the bronze button to recruits instead of the membership badge, as follows:

"Page 4, Article 6, Sec. 2, that the last word in the section (Badge) be cut out and add in its place Bronze Button."

Which will make that clause of the paragraph read as follows: "When mustered he shall be presented with a regulation Bronze Button."

Very respectfully submitted in F. C. & L., J. H. Howlett, No. 23; A. Kinley, No. 159; C. H. Adams, No. 8, Committee.

Parsons, Kans., June 1, 1908.

To the Officers and Members of the 27th National Encampment to be held in the city of Niagara, N. Y., August 24th.

The resolution herewith attached was presented by the committee on Constitution and Law at the 25th Annual Division Encampment of this Division in the City of Kansas City, Kansas, on the 20th day of May, 1908, and the same was unanimously approved by this Division and we therefore recommend that the badge to be presented to recruits be the regulation Bronze Button instead of the Membership Badge as at present.

I certify that the attached resolution is an exact copy of the resolution as presented and adopted by the Kansas Division Encampment on the 20th day of May, 1908.—Charles B. Martin, Kansas Division Commander.

Attest: E. W. Struve, Division Secretary. (Seal.)

Parsons, Kans., May 1, 1908.

To the Officers and Members of Parsons Camp, No. 23, located at Parsons, Kansas:

We, your committee on Constitution and Law, beg leave to submit the following report: :

That this Camp requests the recommendation of this Division in annual encampment assembled in Kansas City, Kansas, on the 19th to 21st of May, 1908, on the following change of the Constitution and Law and that the Division delegates and representatives use their influence for its passage by the Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief to be held at Niagara, N. Y., August 27th, 1908.

That the Constitution and Law be changed in page 7, Art. XII, Sec. 3, cutting out the words in the section after the word "THE" in the third line of the section, and that the following be inserted instead: "National encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and other Kindred Orders."

Thus making the entire section read: "There shall be an annual encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief at such time and place as the national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and other Kindred Orders."

Very respectfully submitted in F. C. & L., A. N. Kennedy, J. H. Howlett, J. A. Yawn, Committee.

Headquarters Parsons Camp, No. 23, Division of Kansas, in regular meeting assembled, May 1st, 1908.

We hereby certify that the foregoing is an exact copy of the resolution as adopted and that the same was unanimously carried.—Paul Callen, Camp Commander; J. H. Howlett, Camp Secretary. (Seal.)

Parsons, Kans., June 1, 1908.

To the Officers and Members of the National Encampment to be held in Niagara, N. Y., August 27th, 1908.

Greetings:

The resolution of Parsons Camp, No. 23, of this Division, as herewith attached, received the hearty and unanimous support of the Division Encampment held at Kansas City, Kansas, on the 19th to the 21st of May, relating to the time and place of holding the annual meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief and I hereby certify it to be a true and complete copy of the resolution as presented and adopted, and I most heartily recommend its adoption.—Charles B. Martin, Kansas Division Commander.

Attest: E. W. Struve, Division Secretary.

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From the Reserves.

Military Law Committee, Sons of Veterans Reserves, U. S. A.  
Dear Sirs and Brothers:

I respectfully suggest the following for your consideration, and if meeting with your approval, then you make them in shape of amendments to the Constitution at the next meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief.

1st. Chief of Staff with rank of Major General, to be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, for a term of five years.

2nd. All Brigade Commanders to be appointed by the Chief of Staff, by and with the consent of the Commander-in-Chief, Brigade Commanders to be commissioned for a term of two years.

3rd. Chief of Staff to be commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief, all officers by the Chief of Staff.

4th. The Chief of Staff shall be Commander of all the Reserves through the U. S., and the military advisor of the Commander-in-Chief.

5th. The government of and regulations for the Sons of Veterans Reserves, shall be that of the U. S. A., in so far as reason and the nature of the service shall justify.

6th. When any Division or State, in which the Reserves are organized contains more than four regiments, the Chief of Staff shall organize said Division or State into two Brigades.

7th. Every Regiment, Battery or Troop of Cavalry, hereafter organized, shall first have the consent and approval of the Chief of Staff.

8th. No order shall be issued by any Brigade or other Commander which in any way effects the standing of the organization, to which said orders may apply, or the Camp or Camps to which they are a part, or effects the relative rank or standing of either officers or enlisted men, without the approval of the Chief of Staff and the Commander-in-Chief.

9th. No appeal or official communication from a subordinate to a superior officer shall be received by him unless same shall be forwarded through all intermediate official channels.

10th. The Dress Uniform shall remain as at present. A khaki uniform may be worn when the Dress Uniform is not required by orders.

11th. At all camps, whether of Company, Battalion, Regiment or Brigade, an inspection shall be held by orders of the Chief of Staff and the inspection made by such officer or officers as he, the Chief of Staff, may detail for that purpose.

Very respectfully submitted, Major Chas. L. Buckrum, 4254 Westminster avenue.

Philadelphia, Penna., February 10, 1908.

Philadelphia, June 24, 1908.

Art. 1, Sec. 1. That the Chief of Staff shall have the power to appoint a board of officers from his staff to act as an examination board for elected officers to serve in Brigaded Regiments of fifty troops of cavalry and batteries of heavy artillery. The Chief of Staff shall be chairman of the Board, and shall appoint a sub-chairman wherever his staff resides.

(Signed) Major C. L. Buckrum.

From the Maine Division.

Headquarters Maine Division S. of V., U. S. A.

Lewiston, Me., June 25, 1908.

The following amendments and additions to the Constitution and Laws governing the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., were passed upon by the 26th Annual Encampment held at Portland, Maine, June 11, 1908, and recommended to the Commandery-in-Chief for favorable action, viz:

Amend Article III, by adding: Fifth of members at large; Sixth of Junlor Corps, styled S. of V. Corps.

Change Article XXV to Article XXVII, adding new Articles XXV and XXVI.

Article XXV.

Members at Large.

Section 1. There shall be a class of members at large, eligibility to be the same as provided in Art. IV of the Constitution, except that an applicant for this class shall not be eligible if there is a Camp located within a radius of fifteen miles of his residence. A member at large upon presentation of a receipt for dues paid up to at least within 30 days of the date of presentation, or being known to an officer or member of the Order, as being in good standing as a member at large shall be admitted to the meeting of any Camp, Division or session of the Commandery-in-Chief, but in no case shall a member have a vote but upon invitation he may have a voice in the deliberations of any of these bodies.

Section II. A member at large shall forward with his application an admission fee of \$1 to the Division, but in the event the annual dues are not paid within 60 days after the annual encampment of the Division to which said member is connected he shall be dropped from the roll and re-instated only upon payment of said arrearage.

Section III. The Commandery-in-Chief shall furnish at moderate cost a suitable badge and certificate of membership for this class of members, the Division to furnish the same to the members-at-large at cost.

Section IV. The membership fees and dues from members at large shall be retained for the use of the Division to which such members belong, and furthermore said Division shall not be called on to pay tax on these members or to report the number of said members on the rolls unless requested to do so by the Commander-in-Chief; except, of course, a statement shall be made by Division Secretaries, annually to their Division of the number on the rolls.

Section V. A member at large shall not be eligible to any elective or appointive position except aide on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief or a Division Commander.

Section VI. Application for membership shall be made on the forms furnished Division by the Commandery-in-Chief at nominal cost, and in compliance with the instructions printed thereon.

Section VII. Members at large shall be admitted to this class only after their application has been approved by the Division Commander and a majority of the members of the Division Council.

#### Article XXVI.

##### Junior Corps.

Section I. Camps desiring to do so may form Junior Corps, eligibility to which shall be the same as provided in Art. IV of the Constitution except that an applicant for this class is eligible only between the ages of 10 to 17 years.

Section II. Junior Corps shall be officered by a captain, first and second lieutenant and three trustees, these officers to be elected annually by a majority vote of the Corps members at the first meeting of the Corps in December, and shall be installed at the first meeting night in January.

The appointive officers shall be a secretary, treasurer, chaplain, sergeant of the guard, color sergeant, musician, corporal of the guard, camp guard and picket guard. These officers to be appointed by the captain on the evening of installation.

Section III. Junior Corps are to be attached to a Camp and be under the sole control and subject to the discipline of said Camp, each Camp having a Corps to appoint a committee of three to have the supervision and direction of the affairs of the Corps.

Section IV. The members of the Junior Corps shall pay such admission fees and dues as the Corps may establish, the admission fee to include a badge and certificate of membership to be furnished Division by the Commander-in-Chief at nominal cost, and the same to be furnished the Division with which the Camp and Corps is connected.

Section V. The Corps shall establish such regulations as it may deem necessary for the observance of its members for the non-payment of dues and fines and shall regulate the time and place of Corps meetings.

Section VI. Application for membership shall be made on the form furnished by the Commandery-in-Chief at nominal cost, and in compliance with the instructions printed thereon, the Division to furnish the same to Camps for the use of their Corps at a slight advance over the price charged the Commandery.

Section VII. Members of the Junior Corps on reaching the age of 18 years shall thereafter be ineligible to membership in a Junior Corps.

Amend Article XVII by adding: Fourth-Division and Camp Secretaries and Treasurers who have served for three consecutive years in either of the these offices, on recommendation of the Division Commander to the Commander-in-Chief to receive by order of the Commander-in-Chief the rank of past commander with all the rights and privileges attached to this rank usually gained by service as Commander.—W. Herbert McCann, Division Commander.

A true copy. Attest: Edward K. Gould, Division Secretary-Treasurer.

From Kentucky Division.

1. That past honors can not be restored to any dropped member of the Order, unless the Camp that dropped him passes a resolution favoring same, and is then acted favorably upon by the Division to which the Camp belongs. If the Camp has disbanded, then the Division to which the brother belonged (when he was dropped) must act favorably upon same or no past honors can be restored.

2. That a dropped member must get a transfer card from the Camp from which he was dropped before he can join any other Camp, and if the Camp to which he belonged is not in existence, then he must get a transfer card from the Division Commander of the Division from which he was dropped.—George H. Stebbins, Commander.

Attest: Chas. E. Stebbins, Secretary-Treasurer.

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

RALPH SHELDON, M. D.,

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

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

GENERAL ORDER NO. VIII.

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

Albany, N. Y., August 1, 1908.

General Orders No. 8, Series of 1908:

Annual Encampment.

The 27th Annual Encampment of the S. V. U. S. A., will be held at Niagara Falls, N. Y., on the 24th-27th day of August, 1908. The headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief will be established at the Cataract-International hotel, and will be open for business at ten o'clock on the morning of August 24. The Council-in-Chief and Committee on Constitution and Laws will hold their preliminary meeting at headquarters the 24th day of August, 1908, at 3 p. m.

Encampment Program.

II. Monday, August 24th, 4 p. m. Meeting of the Council-in-Chief, and Committee on Constitution and Laws.

8 p. m. Reception for Commander-in-Chief and Staff, and the National President and Staff of the Ladies Auxiliary in the parlor of the Cataract-International hotel.

Tuesday, August 25, at 10 a. m. Open meeting with addresses of welcome in behalf of the State of New York by James W. Wentworth, Jr., Speaker of the Assembly. Address of welcome on behalf of the city by the Mayor of the City. Address of welcome on behalf of the G. A. R., by the Department Commander, W. G. Daniels. Response in behalf of the S. V., U. S. A., by Ralph Sheldon. Response in behalf of the S. V. Auxilliary by Miss M. Herbst.

2 p. m. Opening business session of the 27th Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. Officers reports will be read and appointments of encampment committees.

4 p. m. Joint memorial services in charge of National Chaplain Rev. W. J. Patton, will conclude the session.

Wednesday, August 26th, 9 a. m. Business session of encampment. The afternoon will be devoted exclusively to sight-seeing and pleasure. A ride around the gorge, a trip through the famous power houses, a visit to the Natural Food Co., after which a light luncheon will be served by the Natural Food Company. Military ball in the evening.

Thursday, 9 a. m. Business session of encampment.

#### Hotel Rates.

III. National headquarters have been established at the Cataract-International hotel. Rates \$3 to \$5, American plan.

Tower hotel, \$2 and up, American plan; \$1 and up European plan.

Imperial, \$2.50 to \$3, American plan.

The Edwards, \$1.50 per day, American plan.

Columbia, \$1.50 per day, American plan.

Niagara Falls House, \$2 to \$2.50 per day, American plan.

Temperance House, \$2 per day, American plan.

Kaltenbach, \$3 per day, American plan.

A very nice boarding house is run by the Misses Johnson, rates can be had for \$1.50 per day. A list of boarding houses will be in the hands of the local committee, and all of those who prefer them to the hotels will be accommodated upon their arrival. All those who desire to make reservations in boarding houses can do so by communicating with A. H. Van Cleve, Niagara Falls, N. Y., Commander of the local Camp. Communicate direct with hotels if you wish to make reservation at any of them.

#### Railroad Rates.

IV. The trunk line has granted a fare of one and three-fifths certificate plan, which is a reduction from the regular rate, for the coming National Encampment at Niagara Falls. Certificates must be obtained from ticket agent from point of starting, or nearest station issuing through tickets to place of meeting (Niagara Falls.) Tickets may be secured within three days (exclusive of Sunday) prior to and during the first three days of the meeting. Consequently tickets and certificates can be obtained not earlier than August 20th, nor later than August 26th. Be sure that when purchasing tickets request is made for a certificate. Do not make the mistake of asking for a receipt. A certificate must be obtained. Full fare is paid upon purchase of tickets and certificates. Upon return the fare of three-fifths is paid. Immediately upon arrival at Niagara Falls

the certificate must be presented to the National Secretary with 25 cents for validating said certificate. The special agent of the Trunk Line Association will be in attendance August 26th and 27th, to validate the certificates. After the special agent has departed no certificates can be validated and the benefit of the reduction on the home journey can not be secured. Your Commander-in-Chief has been informed that many of the railroads at this season of the year offer special rates to Niagara Falls. He advises all who are contemplating attending the encampment to make inquiry of their ticket agent regarding these special rates, for it is possible that in some instances these rates will be lower than the fare of one and three-fifths granted to us by the traffic associations.

#### Committees.

V. The following committees for the Niagara Falls Encampment are herewith announced.

##### Credential Committee.

H. H. Hammer, National Secretary; Frank E. Watson, Indiana; E. C. Irelan, Maryland; Wm. Schneider, Missouri; B. F. Armstrong, Wisconsin.

##### Constitution.

F. T. F. Johnson, National Counselor; Past Commanders-in-Chief, Wm. G. Dustin, E. R. Campbell, E. M. Amies and E. H. Archer, Ohio.

##### Officers' Reports.

Frank L. Shepard, Illinois; E. W. Estes, New York; John Bommhardt, Ohio; Chas. Martin, Kansas; Wm. O. Cutler, Mass.

##### Resolutions.

William T. Church, Illinois; A. B. Spink, Rhode Island; James E. Blythe, Iowa; Fred E. Terrill, Vermont; C. F. Sherman, New York.

##### Division Commanders.

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

Dr. A. Alvin Ballard, Birmingham, Ala., Alabama and Tennessee.

Kenneth A. Coon, 143 Alaska St., Denver, Col. Colorado.

H. W. Culver, Long Beach, Cal. California & Oregon.

H. H. Gorton, Naugatuck, Conn. Connecticut.

R. F. Locke, Rockford, Ill. Illinois.

Frank E. Watson, Goldsmith, Ind. Indiana.

Lew J. Yaggy, Davenport, Ia. Iowa.

Chas. B. Martin, Parsons, Kans. Kansas.

Geo. H. Stebbins, Cincinnati, Ohio. Kentucky.

Edwin C. Irelan, Baltimore, Md., Maryland.

W. Herbert McCann, 52 Howe St., Lewiston, Me. Maine.

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

Chas. C. Cook, Battle Creek, Mich. Michigan.

John Harrison, Aitkin, Minn. Minnesota.

Wm. Schneider, 3902 S. Broadway, St. Louis, Mo. Missouri.

Bert Galley, Columbus, Neb. Nebraska.

Harry L. Lewis, Keene, N. H. New Hampshire.

Theodore E. Jones, Montclair, N. J. New Jersey.  
 C. F. Sherman, Mt. Vernon, N. J. New York.  
 R. J. Williams, Columbus, O. Ohio.  
 Paul Smyser, York, Pa. Pennsylvania.  
 Frank Sibley, 224 Main St., Pawtucket, R. I. Rhode Island.  
 Chas. McGaffey, Burlington, Vt. Vermont.  
 Geo. Vradenburg, Seattle, Wash. Washington.  
 B. F. Armstrong, Racine, Wis. Wisconsin.

#### G. A. R. Encampment.

VII. The National Encampment of the G. A. R. is to be held at Toledo the week following our own National Encampment at Niagara Falls. The Camps at Toledo have gone to considerable expense in establishing headquarters for the members of our Order who desire to attend the encampment at Toledo. S. V. headquarters have been established at Trinity Parish Bldg., corner Adams and St. Clair St., where all Sons of Veterans will be most cordially welcomed. Cars from Union station pass the building.

#### Charter Applications.

VIII. Since last announcement Camps have been mustered as follows:

Date.	No.	Location.	No. Must.
April 14	101	Smithfield, Pennsylvania .....	56
June 6	70	Remington, Indiana .....	36
July 6	110	Millheim, Pennsylvania .....	25
July 3	156	Montgomery, Pennsylvania .....	41
July 8	24	New Brunswick, New Jersey.....	40
July 2	254	Burt, Michigan .....	17
May 22	255	Yale, Michigan .....	24
July 15	71	Washburn, Maine .....	36
July 27	20	Chicago, Illinois .....	30
July 30	55	Hudson, New York .....	41

Applications for charters have been received in addition to the foregoing from:

No.	Location.	No. App.
111	Johnstown, Pennsylvania .....	28

#### Financial Statement.

Report of the National Secretary for month of July, 1908:

##### RECEIPTS:

To Balance, June 30, 1908.....		\$3,920.08
Received for Per Capita Tax.....	\$ 433.35	
Charter Fees .....	30.00	
Supplies .....	475.04	

Total Receipts .....		\$ 943.39
		<u>\$4,863.47</u>

## EXPENDITURES:

By General Expenses.....	\$1,931.10
Office Expenses .....	35.21
Commander-in-Chief .....	162.15
<b>Total Expenditures .....</b>	<b>\$2,128.55</b>
Balance July 31, 1908.....	\$2,734.92

## Itemized Expenditures.

## GENERAL EXPENSES:

Stock and Supplies.....	\$1,245.14
The Banner, July, 1098, subscription.....	517.77
Shipping Supplies .....	18.28
Marks and Decorations.....	150.00
	<b>\$1,931.19</b>
<b>OFFICE EXPENSES:</b>	
Light, Postage and Freight.....	10.21
Porter, Janitor, etc.—March-August, Inc.....	25.00
	<b>\$ 35.21</b>

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:

Rent, Postage, Telegrams, Traveling, Office, Stenographer .....	<b>\$ 162.15</b>
<b>Total Expenditures .....</b>	<b>\$2,128.55</b>

## Standing of Divisions.

Division.	Mar. 31, '08.		Jne. 30, '08.	
	Camp.	Mem.	Camp.	Mem.
Ala. & Tenn.....	9	154	9	154
Cal. & Ore.....	11	433	10	411
Col. & Wyo.....	3	101	5	204
Connecticut .....	19	603	19	619
Illinois .....	44	1496	43	1413
Indiana .....	31	1069	26	887
Iowa .....	17	452	20	545
Kansas .....	30	783	27	723
Kentucky .....	7	128	8	148
Maine .....	39	1391	36	1430
Maryland .....	8	277	8	285
Massachusetts .....	131	4960	132	5062
Michigan .....	5	99	12	167
Minnesota .....	23	673	24	706
Missouri .....	21	686	22	680
Nebraska .....	6	64	6	65
New Hampshire .....	34	1111	35	1130
New Jersey .....	29	1358	31	1399
New York .....	87	3661	93	3891
Ohio.....	73	2526	81	2920
Pennsylvania .....	168	10593	172	11001
Rhode Island .....	10	308	11	375
Vermont .....	22	570	22	621
Washington .....	4	127	4	129
Wisconsin .....	20	557	14	437
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>32348</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>35402</b>

From Ohio Division.

The annual report of the Division Commander was submitted to the 26th Annual Encampment of the Ohio Division held at Lima, on June 17-18, 1908, by John A. Bomhardt. In his report Brother Bomhardt had this to say regarding:

Memorial University.

"Much has been said and written on this subject. If you have read carefully your Banner you are familiar with the report made by the president, Dr. W. J. Patton. I share the opinion of many of our brothers that conditions as they now exist demand heroic treatment. The question is, what can we do to save the institution? Strong appeals have been made from time to time, but the members of the Order have treated them very indifferently and the results from these appeals have proven very unsatisfactory. The Order is committed to Memorial University, whether rightly or not, it is committed, and the opinion is vouchsafed in order to protect our self-respect and dignity, we should either see to it that it be supported in a manner commensurate with the lofty and noble purpose upon which it was founded, or we should declare ourselves incompetent and abandon the project entirely, and let the nucleus of an organization, which seems to be earnestly laboring in behalf of the cause, be turned over to some organization that has enough patriotism and interest in an institution of this kind to make it a success. It has been the dream of the founders to build up the institution by voluntary thank-offerings, as memorials to love of country and sacrifices to duty. But along these lines, success does not seem possible. We have reached a crucial point. It has been proposed to levy a tax upon the entire membership of the Order! This, it seems to me, is the only way we can hope to maintain the institution, and I do earnestly recommend that this encampment go on record, not only in endorsing this proposition, but will also, in strong resolutions, instruct its delegates to the national encampment, to do all in their power to assist the passage of such legislation as will provide for the levying of a per capita tax.

The report took the usual course and the part referring to the University as above was referred by the committee on officers reports to the committee on resolutions. The report of this committee follows:

"To the recommendation of the commander on the subject of the Memorial University the following is submitted. The supreme and organic laws for the government of the organization of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., is vested in the Commandery-in-Chief as expressed by its preamble, objects, constitution and laws.

While neither authorizes the establishing of and maintaining of such an object, yet the Commandery-in-Chief has by resolution and donation of its funds tacitly approved in the name of and for the glory of perpetuity such an object. Therefore to the end that definite action by the lawful source of power be taken, the following is herewith recommended for adoption:

First. That the Commandery-in-Chief amend the objects of this Order by adding: Fifth. To establish and maintain a Memorial University.

Second. That the Constitution, Article XVIII be amended so as to provide for raising of such needed funds as may be necessary by assessment per capita tax on membership to be a Memorial University fund.

The report of this committee with its recommendation was adopted.

I certify that the above is a correct copy of the record of the proceedings which has reference to the subject of the Memorial University.

R. J. WILLIAMS,  
Division Commander.

Columbus, O., July 11, 1908.

#### Conclusion.

X. This will be the last order issued by this administration. With the coming encampment to be held at Niagara Falls the present administration will close. What our efforts have brought forth and what our work has accomplished rests with the membership to judge. I have tried to perform my duties as I saw them and to the best of my ability.

It is true that some things were left undone which might have been done but on the whole the results justify the belief on the part of the Commander-in-Chief that some good has come out of the work and the labor expended on behalf of our beloved organization. I desire to express my appreciation to the members at large for the assistance rendered me, and especially so to the splendid, energetic and loyal Division Commanders who have served their Divisions during my administration. There has existed on the part of both Division Commanders and members as well a desire to make the present administration a success and I make public acknowledge of my gratitude. The growth of the Order has been phenomenal, in as much as the past year has been one of depression. Many of our members have been out of work and unable to obtain same, nevertheless the Order has grown and is in a most flourishing and healthy condition. The financial standing and condition of the Order was never better.

Let us go forward hand in hand in the performance of our duties and obligations which we assumed at the time of our muster. Let us ever remember that we are heirs of the grandest body of men that the world has ever known—that the heritage bequeathed by them is sacred and holy; that the deeds done by them, and the valor shown at the time of battle, and the sacrifices and heroism and devotion to mankind are ours to perpetuate and maintain. Let us ever revere their memories, and keep green their resting places. Let us faithfully adhere to the principles and objects, upon which our Order rests, in the full performance of the work that is given into our hands as patriotic and loyal citizens—through the sacrifices and services of the men who saved the Union. Let us prove to the world that the organization of S. V., U. S. A., has not been established in vain.

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

RALPH SHELDON, M. D.,

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

Official:

H. H. HAMMER,

National Secretary.

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