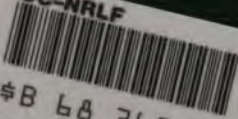
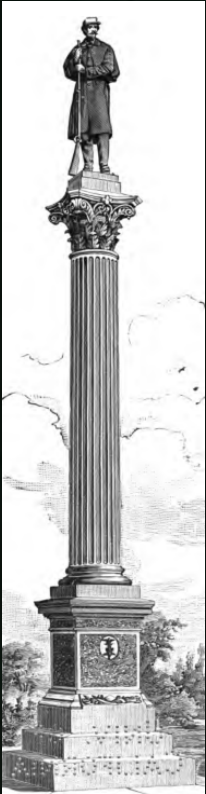


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# SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

FORT STEPHENSON PARK.

FREMONT, O.

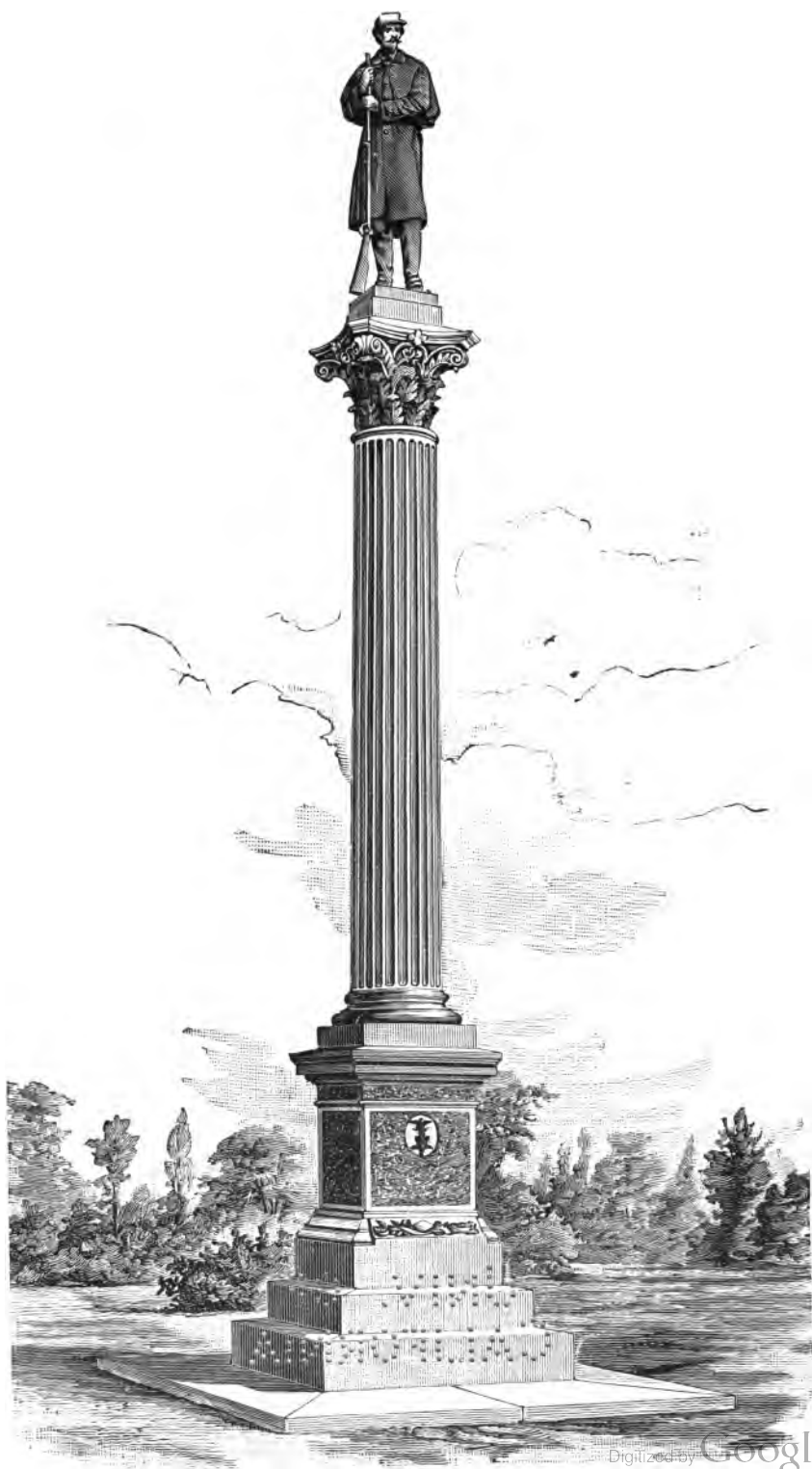
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# PROCEEDINGS

• AT THE

## Unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument

ON THE

SITE OF FORT STEPHENSON,

FREMONT, OHIO.

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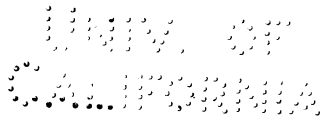
ORATION BY GEN. J. D. COX.

POEM BY CAPT. ANDREW C. KEMPER.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS BY CAPT. J. M. LEMMON.

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WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE HEROIC DEFENCE OF THE FORT BY  
MAJ. GEO. CROGHAN, AUGUST 2, 1813; ALSO BIOGRAPHICAL  
SKETCHES AND MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.



FREMONT, O.:  
THE DEMOCRATIC MESSENGER.  
1885.

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THE following account of the monument and of its dedication is compiled from the *Journal* and the *Messenger* of Fremont, the *Leader* and the *Plain Dealer* of Cleveland, and from the *Commercial-Telegram* and the *Blade* of Toledo.

The history of the battle of Fort Stephenson is from official reports, British and American.

The committee are specially indebted to the Stenographer, Mr. Jacob Burgner, for his full and accurate reports.



*Major George Croghan.*

*Hero of Fort Stephenson, 2<sup>d</sup> Aug. 1813.*

*Et. 21.*

Durran, Engraving & Printing.

## THE MONUMENT.

---

IN 1881 and 1882, the subject of erecting at Fremont, Ohio, a suitable monument to the memory of the heroic soldier dead of Sandusky County began to take shape, and one of the first steps was to secure the passage of a bill through the State Legislature authorizing the submission of the subject to the voters of the county for their approval. This was accordingly done in October, 1882, the vote standing 3,784 for and 1,462 against, the question carrying by the handsome majority of 2,322. The Sandusky County Soldiers' Monumental Association was then incorporated, composed of ex-President R. B. Hayes, General R. P. Buckland, Colonel William E. Haynes, Captain John M. Lemmon, Colonel J. H. Rhodes, Hon. John B. Rice, and Captain M. E. Tyler. In pursuance of law the County Commissioners transferred the duty of erecting the monument to this association, and in 1884, after the levy of the tax had been made, they advertised for plans. They accepted those of the New England Granite Works, of Hartford, Connecticut, and entered into a contract with the works for the monument to be completed before the 15th of July, this year.

The site selected for the monument is the beautiful Fort Stephenson Park in the center of the city, the park comprising the place upon which the battle of Fort Stephenson was fought August 2, 1813, when Major George Croghan defeated a large force of British and Indians under Proctor and Tecumseh. This site was purchased several years ago and beautified by grading, planting of trees, and placing a substantial stone wall around the whole square. On the northeast corner is situated the city building, which was dedicated in 1877, at the time of the reunion of General Hayes' regiment. A little west of the center is situated Birchard Library, a gift of our late honored citizen, Sardis Birchard, uncle of General Hayes. This library is a very fine one, and, aside from the large catalogue of books, contains hundreds of valuable curiosities and relics. The monument is placed on the north



side of the park, facing Croghan street, and nearly in front of the Library. A little west of the center a beautiful flag staff, over 100 feet high, has been erected to take the place of the one recently blown down.

The monument cost \$7,000. Excepting the statue, it is of Quincy granite; the statue being blue Westerly (R. I.) granite. The whole structure is forty-four feet three inches high. The platform is eighteen feet square, and on it rests three bases five and one-half feet high, the largest being eight feet nine inches square. The die is four feet square. On top of that is a cap over which rests the Corinthian column, three feet in diameter at the bottom and two feet six inches at the top, eighteen feet six inches in length, and fluted. The cap surmounting the column is four feet eight inches square, and three feet six inches thick. The statue of the soldier is eight feet high including the base. The statue represents a soldier at parade rest, and is a very life-like representation. It faces north. The polished die on which the column stands, bears the following inscriptions:

On the north side:

TO HIM WHO HATH  
BORNE THE BATTLE  
AND TO HIS WIDOW AND HIS ORPHANS.  
ERECTED BY THE PEOPLE OF  
SANDUSKY COUNTY, 1885.

On the east side:

LIBERTY AND UNION NOW AND FOREVER,  
ONE AND INSEPARABLE.  
1861—1865.

On the south side:

IN MEMORY OF THE  
VICTORIOUS DEFENCE OF FORT STEPHENSON,  
ON THIS SPOT,  
BY MAJOR GEORGE CROGHAN AND THE  
BRAVE MEN OF HIS COMMAND,  
AUGUST 2, 1813.

On the west side is the representation of a G. A. R. badge and the following inscription:

Vacant places at our camp fires,  
Mutely tell of comrades dead,  
Fallen in the line of duty,  
Where the needs of battle led.

## PREPARING FOR THE UNVEILING.

### CITIZENS MEETING.

A meeting of the citizens of Fremont was held in the City Hall, Friday evening, July 17, 1885, to make arrangements for the occasion. Mayor Buckland was chosen Chairman and John R. Conklin Secretary. The following committees were appointed:

*Finance.*—Fred Fabing, Frank Heim, L. W. Ward, J. R. Conklin and J. P. Thompson. The committee is to solicit funds to assist the Monumental Association in defraying the expenses of the day.

*Decorations.*—On Front street: E. H. Underhill, D. W. Krebs, C. W. Tschumy, Henry Grund. On State street: Adam Hodes, G. F. Buchman, Joseph Stuber. On Croghan street: Rev. Father Bauer, H. R. Finefrock, John Hochenadle. On Birchard avenue: I. M. Keeler, J. P. Moore, A. E. Rice. On Main street: C. F. Pohlman, Jr., W. W. Ross, G. G. Edgerton. Third ward: Chas. H. Bell, Chas. Thompson, Henry Coonrod, Capt. A. Young.

*Citizens Reception Committee.*—Hon. John B. Rice, Chairman; I. H. Burgoon, N. C. West, E. F. Dickinson, Dr. O. E. Phillips, O. A. Roberts, H. R. Shomo, I. E. Amsden, B. Meek, Col. J. R. Bartlett, George Kinney.

Dr. J. B. Rice and Colonel Wm. E. Haynes were appointed a committee to request the County Commissioners to put the court house park in good condition and to decorate, and to request the Board of Education to make an appropriation for decoration. Both boards have complied willingly with the request of the committee.

### HEADQUARTERS.

Monumental Association at the High School building.

Military and bands at Opera Hall.

Grand Army Posts and civic societies at the halls used by the Posts and civic societies in this city.

City, village and county officials at City Hall.

### AT THE FRONT.

The key-note struck by General Sherman in his letter to ex-President Hayes, which was read by Comrade Hayes at the last meeting of Eugene Rawson Post, has been heard and applauded by the soldiers and sailors of Sandusky county: "The defence of Fort Stephenson

by Croghan and his gallant little band secured to our immediate ancestors the mastery of the Great West. The occasion is worthy a monument to the skies." Endorsing the above sentiment of General Sherman, Eugene Rawson Post, No. 32, G. A. R., will take part in the unveiling ceremonies of the Soldiers' Monument, August 1st, 1885. The headquarters for visiting Posts and comrades will be at the Post Halls in Birchard Block. The following committees have been appointed, all of whom are members of the Post:

*General Committee*—John P. Thompson, Chairman; Peter Winters, Israel Walborn, Charles Everett, Andrew Hauck.

*Committee of Reception*.—Hon. E. F. Dickinson, Chairman; Col. J. R. Bartlett, Dr. Wm. Caldwell, G. W. Petty, P. Beaugrand, Captains I. H. Burgoon, L. Dick, Chas. Hampshire, Andrew Kline, John Ginther, J. W. Moore, R. B. Dickinson.

*Decorating Committee*.—A. E. Oppenheimer, Eugene B. Dwight, Wm. Jacobs, Joseph Hunsinger, M. L. Binkley, John Ramsey, Israel Walborn.

*Soliciting Committee*.—Major Phineas Gilmore, Chairman; Henry Stacey, David Van Doren, Charles Everett, Andrew Hauck, Wm. Poorman, John E. Rearick, John L. Greene, John Walker, Charles Allman, Reuben Stine, Peter Carnicome, Andrew Kline, Marcus Wolfe, Leander Clark, John Carlay, L. H. Curtis, Jacob Geiger, Martin Bollinger, Burr Huss, S. B. Rathbun, Chap Rathbun, David Andrews, Eli Bruner, Martin Hite, Wm. Herbst.

The members of the various committees will make themselves generally useful in looking after the comfort of visiting Posts and comrades. Dinner will be served in the same building, and the Halls and buildings will be tastefully decorated.

By order of the Post,

JOHN SCHEDLER,  
*Adjutant.*

A. YOUNG,  
*Post Commander.*

MANVILLE MOORE POST 525, July 21, 1885.

The following action was had by the Post: Commander Geo. O. Harlan appointed Comrades Jno. G. Nuhfer, Everett A. Bristol, Daniel S. Moses, Henry G. Stahl and Conrad Creamer, a committee to decorate Post Headquarters, for the approaching unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument.

On motion of Comrade Jno. G. Nuhfer, the following were made a Committee on Lunch for August 1st, to act with the ladies, viz: Comrades Gus. A. Gessner, Thos. F. Heffner, Henry Blossier, Jno. V. Beery and Washington Deffenbaugh.

MANVILLE MOORE POST 525, July 28, 1885.

The following action was taken at this meeting: On motion of Comrade John G. Nuhfer, Adjutant David A. Ranck, Comrades Gus. A. Gessner and Chas. H. Thompson, were made a committee to extend invitations to G. A. R. Posts adjoining Fremont, to participate in the unveiling ceremonies on August 1st.

Comrade Jno. G. Nuhfer moved the appointment of Comrades D. S. Elder, Jno L. Tindall, David A. Ranck, H. B. Smith, A. J. Hale, E. A. Bristol, G. A. Gessner, Wm. Deemer, Chas. E. Barnes, and Chas. H. Thompson, a Committee on Reception for August 1st.

Comrade Jno. G. Nuhfer was instructed to procure one hundred badges for August 1st.

GEO. O. HARLAN,  
*Commander.*

DAVID A. RANCK,  
*Post Adjutant.*

The following circular was issued by the Monumental Association :

**THE SANDUSKY COUNTY SOLDIERS' MONUMENT,  
FREMONT, OHIO.**

The unveiling of the Sandusky County Soldiers' Monument will take place with appropriate ceremonies on the seventy-second anniversary of the victorious defence of Fort Stephenson, against an attack of British and Indians under Proctor and Tecumseh, by Major George Croghan, August 2, 1813.

The 2d of August this year falls on Sunday and the anniversary of the victory will be celebrated on the spot where the battle was fought in Fort Stephenson Park, Fremont, Ohio, on Saturday, the first day of August, 1885.

All soldiers of the war for the Union, of the Mexican war, and of the war of 1812, the county and city officers, all societies, civil, religious and military, and all citizens are cordially invited to attend and take part in the procession and other exercises.

The ceremonies in the forenoon will consist of a procession, the unveiling of the monument, and the firing of salutes. In the afternoon addresses and a poem will be delivered at Court House Square.

Orator of the Day,  
MAJ. GEN. JACOB D. COX.

Poet,  
CAPT. ANDREW C. KEMPER, of Cincinnati.

Historian,  
CAPT. JOHN M. LEMMON, of Clyde.

Brief addresses are expected from invited guests.

The funds for the monument were voted by the people of Sandusky County,

and in pursuance of law the County Commissioners transferred the duty of erecting it to the Sandusky County Soldiers' Monumental Association.

The ceremony of unveiling will be conducted by General Ralph P. Buckland.

President of the Day,  
GEN. RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.

Grand Marshal,  
CAPT. JOHN L. GREENE.

Chaplain,  
REV. LYMAN E. PRENTISS.

County Commissioners,  
BRYAN O'CONNER, SAMUEL BOOR, PETER DARR.

Monumental Association,  
Gen. R. P. Buckland, Gen. R. B. Hayes, Col. Wm. E. Haynes, Capt. John M. Lemmen, Col. J. H. Rhodes, Hon. John B. Rice and Capt. M. E. Tyler.

WM. E. HAYNES,

JULY 4, 1885.

*Chairman of Executive Committee.*

### PROGRAMME.

At an early hour a National salute will be fired from Fort Stephenson Park; other salutes will be fired at proper times during the day by Capt. O. J. Hopkins' battery. The grand procession will form at 10 o'clock a. m., in the following order:

#### FIRST DIVISION.

1. Fire Police.
2. Sixteenth Regiment Band.
3. Companies G. Norwalk, Capt. W. S. Wickham; D. Fostoria, Capt. G. R. Aylesworth; B. Sandusky City, Capt. E. B. King and I. Clyde, Capt. M. B. Lemmon, under command of Lieut. Col. Keyes.
4. Monumental Committee and invited guests in carriages.
5. County and city officials in carriages.

The first division will form on Main street with right resting on State street.  
Marshal of 1st Division, CAPT. C. H. MCCLEARY.

#### SECOND DIVISION.

1. Miller's Clyde Band.
2. Masons.
3. Odd Fellows.
4. Knights of Pythias.
5. Knights of Honor.
6. German Aid.
7. St. Ann's Cadets.
8. St. Ann's T. A. B. Society.
9. Emerald Beneficial Society.
10. All other Beneficial Societies.

The second division will form on Garrison St. with right resting on Main St.  
Marshal of 2d Division, CAPT. H. G. STAHL.

## THIRD DIVISION.

1. National Union Band.
2. Sons of Veterans.
3. Soldiers of the Mexican War.
4. Grand Army Posts in the numerical order of the Posts.
5. All other Soldiers and Sailors of the war of the rebellion.
6. Citizens.

The third division will form on Croghan street with right resting on Main street.

Marshal of 3d Division, CAPT. G. F. WILLIAMS.

## THE LINE OF MARCH

Will be from State to Front street, Front street to Birchard avenue, Birchard avenue to Monroe street, Monroe street to Croghan street, Croghan street to Fort Stephenson Park, where the following exercises will be held:

1. Music by National Union Band.
2. Prayer by Rev. Lyman E. Prentiss.
3. Song.
4. Address and Unveiling of the Monument by Gen. R. P. Buckland.
5. Salute by Hopkins' Battery.

EXERCISES AT COURT HOUSE PARK WILL BEGIN AT 1:30 P. M.

1. Assembly called to order, with remarks, by the President of the Day, Gen. R. B. Haynes.
2. Prayer by Rev. J. I. Swander.
3. Song.
4. Address by Capt. J. M. Lemmon, Historian of the Society.
5. Music and Song.
6. Poem by Capt. Andrew C. Kemper.
7. Music.
8. Address by Maj. Gen. J. D. Cox, Orator of the Day.
9. Music and Song.
10. Addresses by distinguished guests.
11. Music and Song.
12. Benediction.

Headquarters have been established as follows: Monumental Committee at High School building, City officers at City Hall, County officers at Court House, 16th Regiment at Opera Hall, G. A. R. at Post Halls, other civil societies at the various halls of the societies.

Aids to Grand Marshal: W. P. Haynes, Geo. Buckland.

By order of Committee.

J. L. GREENE,

*Grand Marshal.*

## THE UNVEILING.

The unveiling ceremonies took place on Saturday, August 1, 1885. The morning opened clear and hot, and before noon the mercury was soaring in the nineties. At an early hour the people from the country commenced gathering in town, and the streets were soon a scene of activity and excitement. The incoming trains on all the railroads brought hundreds of people. Military companies and bands of music marched and counter-marched, and the beating of drums, the tramp of feet, the rumble of carriages and the cheers of the people resounded on all sides. The guests were met at the depot upon arrival and escorted to their various headquarters. The crowd has been variously estimated, but we think it is not far out of the way to say that the people on the streets of Fremont last Saturday, including our own citizens, numbered 15,000. Among the distinguished guests present were Senators Sherman and Payne, ex-Governor Chas Foster, Judge J. B. Foraker, Gen. Robert P. Kennedy, Major-General J. D. Cox, Dr. Andrew C. Kemper, of Cincinnati; Gen. Beatty, Gen. Grosvenor, Capt. Botsford, of Youngstown; Gen. J. C. Lee, Gen. M. D. Leggett, Hon. W. D. Hill, Gen. J. W. Fuller, Gen. Chas. Young, Judge Haynes, and Clark Waggoner, of Toledo; Rev. Dr. Bushnell, Hon. Dudley Baldwin, Cleveland; Judge C. P. Wickham, of Norwalk; D. R. Locke, (Nasby); W. W. Armstrong; Gen. J. M. Comly, Hon. I. F. Mack, Hon. Orrin Follett, Hon. E. B. Sadler, Col. C. M. Keyes, of Sandusky; Gen. T. W. Sanderson, Youngstown; Capt. D. M. Harkness, Bellevue; Capt. Hopkins, Toledo; Capt. D. L. Cochley, Shelby; Gen. John S. Casement, Painesville; Judge Wm. Lang, Hon. R. G. Pennington, Tiffin; James Winans, Toledo; Rev. Dr. A. G. Byers, Columbus; Judge Wm. Caldwell, Gen. Frank Sawyer.

## THE PROCESSION.

The Lake Shore train from the east, and L. E. & W. from Sandusky, and an excursion train from Lima and intermediate points on the L. E. & W., arrived at about the same time, shortly after 10 o'clock. The procession was immediately formed, and skillfully managed throughout its entire course by Capt. John L. Greene, the Grand Marshal, and his efficient Aids. The line of march was on State street from Main to Front, thence to Birchard avenue, west on that street to Monroe, across to Croghan and then east to Fort Stephenson Park and terminated.

## FIRST DIVISION.

Capt. C. H. McCleary, of Clyde, Marshal.

Fremont Fire Department.

Sixteenth Regiment Band, Fostoria.

Ohio National Guard, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Keyes.—

Company G, Norwalk, Capt. W. S. Wickham;

Company D, Fostoria, Capt. G. R. Aylesworth;

Company B, Sandusky City, Capt. E. B. King;

Company I, Clyde, Capt. M. B. Lemmon.

Monumental Association and invited guests in carriages.

County and city officials in carriages.

Officials of all the towns and villages in the county in carriages.

## SECOND DIVISION.

Capt. H. G. Stahl, Marshal.

Miller's Band, Clyde.

Croghan and McPherson Lodges, I. O. O. F.

Knights of Pythias, Clyde.

Fremont and Humboldt Lodges, K. of H.

Fremont German Aid Society.

St. Ann's Cadets.

St. Ann's Total Abstinence Society.

Emerald Beneficial Society.

## THIRD DIVISION.

Capt. G. F. Williams, Marshal.

National Union Band.

Chester A. Buckland Camp, Sons of Veterans.

Croghan Post, No. 1, Mexican Veterans.

McMeens Post, G. A. R., Sandusky.

Drum Corps.

Eugene Rawson Post, G. A. R., Fremont.

Forsyth Post, G. A. R., Toledo.

Oak Harbor Post, G. A. R.

Eaton Post, G. A. R., Clyde.

Potter Post, G. A. R., Green Spring.

Norris Post, G. A. R., Fostoria.

Lindsey Post, G. A. R.

Joseph Powell Post, G. A. R., Bettsville.

Manville Moore Post, G. A. R., Fremont.

The Aides to the Grand Marshal were W. P. Haynes and George Buckland.



## THE DECORATIONS.

With perhaps one exception Fremont was never so handsomely or so generally decorated. Looking up and down the streets at the corner of Front and Croghan the sight was a beautiful one. Flags and banners swung across the streets and fluttered from the roofs and windows of the buildings. The fronts of blocks were draped with bunting and with flags, and show windows were most elaborately and tastefully trimmed. Along the line of march the decorations were particularly fine, but there was scarcely a home or business house in the city which did not contribute in some way to the city's gala day appearance. Coming down Croghan street the residences were prettily decorated. The new St Joseph's Church, with its spire rising 250 feet above the pavement, was a glorious sight; flags waved from windows near the summit and bunting was draped downward from a great height. The stand pipe, the High School building, which was used as the headquarters of the Monumental Association for the reception of invited guests, Birchard Library and the City Hall, were conspicuous for their decorations. Over Croghan street near the City Hall was a triumphal arch, elaborately gotten up, surmounted by an eagle of gilt, decked with flags and ornamented by pictures of Fort Stephenson as it appeared in 1813, the cannon Betsey Croghan which was used in the defense of the fort, Ft. Sumpter and a battle scene. The halls of Rawson and Moore Posts, Buckland's new block, the Hayes block, the National Bank building, Rice's block, the I. O. O. F. hall, are deserving of special praise for their fine appearance. The banner swung across Front street by Edna Council, N. U., elicited great admiration. The window in Heim & Richard's dry goods store, is noteworthy among the many splendid window decorations. Along the line of march on State street and on Birchard avenue, the citizens showed their patriotism and good taste; the decorations at the residences near Diamond Park were particularly striking.

A tinge of sadness was visible throughout the general rejoicing and gay colors. Two weeks since, the great hero of the war, the commander of the American armies, passed away. The sombre emblems of mourning mingled with the bright decorations, and his portraits were seen on every hand.

The march completed, the procession halted at Fort Stephenson Park and gathered at the monument, while the people filled the streets adjoining. The Society colors and the flags of the Grand Army Posts were massed at the base of the shaft. The National Union Band

played "The Star Spangled Banner," after which Gen. Rutherford B. Hayes called the people to order and Rev. Lyman E. Prentiss, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church of this city, offered a fervent prayer :

O, thou most worthy Lord, our Heavenly Father, we acknowledge that we are unworthy of presenting to thee any offering of our hands or heart, yet we come to thee, now praying that thy blessing be upon us, imploring that thou wilt hear us and bless us. We thank thee that we are permitted to stand upon this ground made sacred to our memory in the history of this county because of the victory thou did'st give for those who fought for liberty here. We thank thee that we still cherish for those brave men that respect which nothing can ever remove. We thank thee that thou hast permitted us to so cherish their memory as to erect here this monument, not only to the memory of those who fought on that occasion, but to the memory of all the brave soldiers of our county, and we pray now that thou wilt let thy choicest blessing rest upon us as we attend to the sacred and solemn duties of the hour. We pray thee to let thy blessing rest upon all who have in any way advanced this enterprise. Let thy blessing rest upon those brave men here to-day, who fought the battles of their country in the wars of the past. Be near all such. And we pray thy special blessing upon the one remaining hero of the battle of 1813, in his old age, in his distant home far from this ground. We pray that thou wilt let thy blessing rest upon him. We thank thee that we live in a country where not only the great and those that have occupied conspicuous places in the gift of the nation are honored, but also those who have done their duty in an humbler sphere.

We pray that while we are mourning the death of the greatest hero of the nation we may also honor the privates who fell in defence of their country. O God, make us a nation that shall honor the people who are faithful to their trusts, as well as those who are great. Bless the exercises of the day. Bless us as a country. Let thy blessing rest upon the multitude gathered here. Bless us as a nation, and especially now, in our hours of mourning for General Grant. Bless his family. Bless us all in this hour of bereavement. Bless the officers who have charge of these exercises to-day; especially bless General Buckland, who for so many years has stood before this people, now in his declining years. Hear us now. Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto thy children. O, let the beauty of the Lord God be upon us; establish thou the work of our hands. Yea, the work of our hands establish thou it. And to the Father, Son and Holy Ghost be endless praises. Amen.

"America" was then sung, James L. Pease, of Toledo, leading.

General Ralph P. Buckland was introduced, and at the close of his address unveiled the monument. He spoke as follows:

#### GEN. R. P. BUCKLAND'S ADDRESS.

We are assembled here to-day on this historic ground to do honor to the brave soldiers of Sandusky County, and at the same time to celebrate the glorious victory of Major George Croghan and his gallant band of heroes in defeating the combined forces of British and Indians under Proctor and Tecumseh, on the 2d of August, 1813.

The heroic and patriotic devotion of Major Croghan and his brave men, in their determination to hold and defend Fort Stephenson to the last man, has never been surpassed in the annals of warfare, not even by the world-renowned Spartan band at Thermopylæ.

The people of Fremont have dedicated this ground, so heroically defended by them, to their memory forever; and the people of Sandusky County have further consecrated it by erecting hereon a beautiful monument to perpetuate the memory of their own brave soldiers, as well as that of the heroes of Fort Stephenson.

This nation, during the first one hundred years of its existence, besides numerous conflicts with the aboriginal savages, was involved in four notable and successful wars; the Revolutionary war, the war of 1812 with Great Britain, the Mexican war, and the war of the great rebellion.

The heroes of the Revolution have all passed away, and very few of the war of 1812 are still living; not one is here with us to-day. Sergeant Wm. Gaines is the only surviving hero of Fort Stephenson, and all regret that he could not be here to receive the plaudits of this great concourse of people; but we have before us the only cannon that Major Croghan had at the battle of Fort Stephenson, which was voted by the Congress of the United States to this city to be preserved as a sacred memento of that battle.

For the Mexican War Sandusky County furnished one company, under the command of Capt. E. D. Bradley, and one under Capt. Samuel Thompson, who was also a soldier in the war of 1812, and wounded at Lundy's Lane under General Scott. This occasion is honored by the presence of twenty-five surviving heroes of that war.

The surviving soldiers of the War of the Rebellion are yet numerous, but are rapidly being mustered out. This great nation is at this moment in mourning for the death of the great General of the war, whose great military genius and achievements have received the applause of all nations.

Sandusky County responded promptly to the first call by the President of the United States for volunteers, in April, 1861, by enlisting and organizing within three days two companies commanded by Captains George M. Tillotson and Wm. E. Haynes, for the 8th Ohio Regiment. That regiment fought with distinguished bravery in seventy-six battles and skirmishes; and at the great battle of Gettysburg, under the command of its gallant Colonel, Frank Sawyer, it achieved immortal renown by charging and driving superior numbers of the enemy from an important position in front of the Union lines, and holding it for nearly two days, and until the victorious close of the battle, against the repeated assaults of the enemy. In this affair the regiment lost in killed and wounded nearly one-half of its number engaged. After the victory was won, as the survivors of this gallant band of heroes passed to the rear, they were enthusiastically cheered by the surrounding Union troops.

At the battle of Shiloh, on the morning of the 6th of April, 1862, the 72nd Ohio, organized at Fremont and largely composed of Sandusky County men, occupied the right of Buckland's Brigade of General Sherman's Division. That brigade, repulsed, with great slaughter of the enemy, repeated charges by greatly superior numbers, and only retired by order of General Sherman after all the rest of the Union line attacked by the enemy had been driven back.

Confederate General Basil Duke, in an article on the battle of Shiloh, says of this brigade: "Every demonstration against it was repulsed; artillery was used in vain against it; some of the best brigades of the army moved on it only to be hurled back, and strew the morass in its front with their dead. The Confederate loss at this point was frightful. At last, after having held the position from 7 or 7:30 A. M. until after 10 A. M., and every thing on its left having been driven back, and the Confederate artillery having reached a point where its guns could play upon its rear, it was abandoned as no longer tenable."

Major Eugene Rawson, born and raised in Fremont, fought as a private soldier in the first battle of Bull Run, and after fighting at Shiloh, Corinth, Vicksburg, and many other places, was mortally wounded in battle in Mississippi whilst commanding the 72d Ohio.

Major-General James B. McPherson, killed in front of Atlanta in command of the army of the Tennessee, and one of General Grant's most reliable Generals, was born in Clyde, Sandusky County, on the ground where his surviving comrades of the Army of the Tennessee have erected to his memory a beautiful and life-like statue.

Sandusky County men enlisted in many other regiments and companies, but I must not stop here to enumerate them or to recite their many heroic deeds. Sandusky County was represented by her soldiers in all the great Union armies and in the Navy, and in nearly every great battle of the war from the first battle of Bull Run to the battle of Nashville; in McClellan's campaigns; in Grant's battles of the Wilderness; and in Sherman's march to the sea. It is sufficient for me to say here that everywhere they performed their duties courageously and well. On more than a hundred battle fields they shed their blood and laid down their lives, to save our glorious Union of States, and our free institutions. Many of their surviving comrades, and this great assembly of people are here to-day to honor their sacred memory. Sandusky County has reason to be proud of her soldiers.

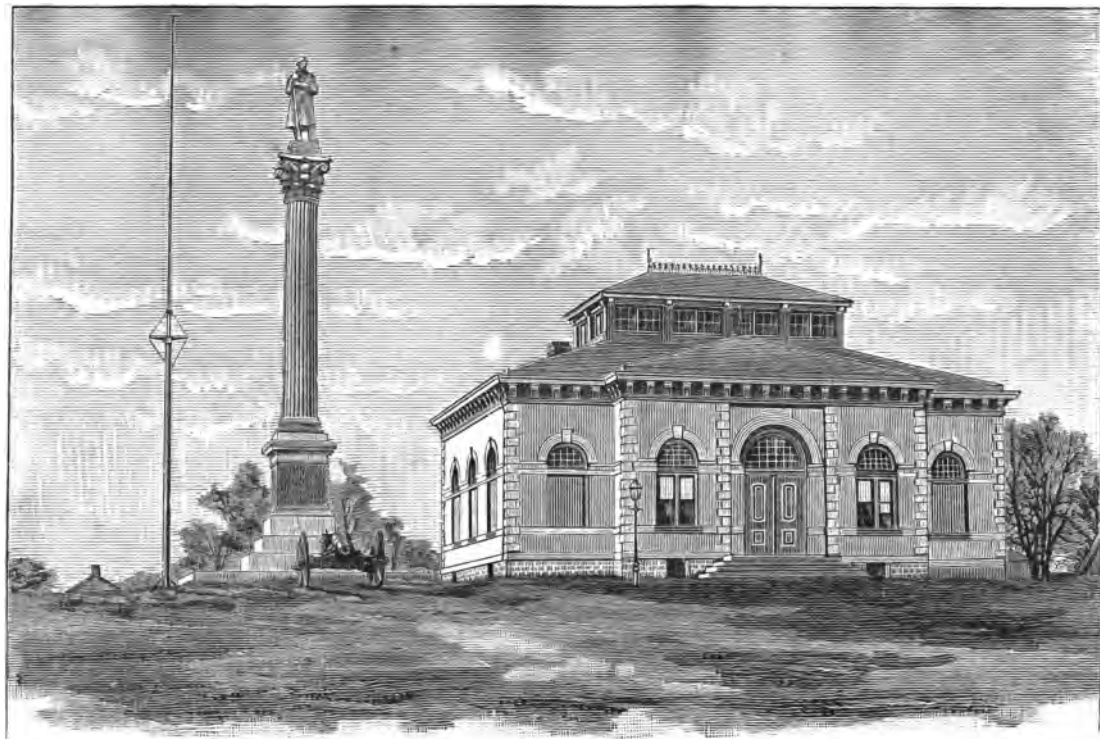
And now, on behalf and in the name of all the people of Sandusky County, to perpetuate the memory of the heroes of Fort Stephenson, and the memory of Sandusky County's brave soldiers in the Mexican war and in the great war of the Rebellion, and their patriotic sacrifices for our country, I unveil and dedicate this beautiful monument.

As the flag, which enveloped the statue, fell, and the monument stood revealed in all its beauty, a mighty cheer went up from the assembled multitude. O. J. Hopkins' battery thundered forth a salute, and the music of bands mingled with the shouts of the people. Meanwhile the sky had become overcast and at this juncture the rain drops commenced to fall. The people hurriedly dispersed to dinner; the invited guests to the houses of certain of our citizens; the veterans and many others to the places where dinner was served by Moore and Rawson Posts; the City Council and their guests, the town and village officers, to the Ball House; the militia to the Ball House, and the balance of the crowd to the hotels, restaurants, lunch stands and their homes.

#### AFTERNOON EXERCISES.

Upon re-assembling at the Court House Park at 1:30 P. M., the weather was still more threatening. A platform to accommodate two hundred persons had been erected near the stand pipe and was occupied by the invited guests, officials, ladies and members of the press. Seats adjoining the platform had been provided for nearly a thousand others, and the seats were filled while hundreds stood near the speaker's stand. General Hayes, President of the Day, called the assembly to order,

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and the song, "Marching Through Georgia," was rendered by the male chorus who had charge of the vocal music. At the conclusion of the song, General Hayes said :

That was a very pleasant song, fellow-citizens, but I do not know how it sounds to all ears, for we are honored here to-day by the presence of a Confederate from Georgia. I will introduce him to you.

As the cheers of the audience resounded, a large, well built, intelligent looking man arose near the center of the platform and bowed to the audience. His name is James Lachlison, of Darien, Georgia. He was Captain of a company of Georgia volunteers, was taken prisoner and for seven months, in 1863, was confined on Johnson's Island.

"John Brown's Body" was next sung and lustily cheered, after which General R. B. Hayes said :

**FELLOW CITIZENS :** The occasion which has brought together this large assemblage has a two-fold interest. On the spot where Major George Croghan and his gallant little band seventy-two years ago successfully defended Fort Stephenson against a largely superior force of British Regulars and Indians under Proctor, the people of Sandusky County have built a monument in honor of their fellow-citizens, living and dead, who faithfully served in the army of the Union. The date and place of our meeting and the unveiling of this soldiers' monument remind us of two inspiring events—one of limited and perhaps local significance merely, and the other of a character which rivets the attention of all mankind.

The simple ceremonies we have witnessed in this place, on this anniversary recall the men, the events and the scenes of the old pioneer days of the Northwest Territory. They also vividly recall those never to be forgotten heroic days of 1861-1865, when the great questions of Liberty and of National life were submitted to the God of Battles.

Intimately associated with Croghan's victory are the favorite names of the pioneer history of the West. General Harrison, Commodore Perry, General Cass, General McArthur, Colonel Richard M. Johnson, Governor Meigs, Governor Tiffin, and a long list of other able men whose names were household words in the homes of the first settlers of this region, were all closely identified with the military events which hinged upon the brilliant victory which was gained here, and which decided the struggle for the vast and noble territory which is tributary to the great lakes of the Northwest. That I do not overstate the importance of the brilliant event which gives a place in history to our little city of Fremont, I read you a few paragraphs from letters to one of our committee by Colonel Charles Whittlesey, of

Cleveland, and by General Sherman. With an honorable record as a Union soldier, Colonel Whittlesey is still more widely known as the indefatigable and learned local historian of this part of our country. He says :

“Your polite invitation brings in review a number of historical events connected with your city, that have occurred during the past century. The rapids at Lower Sandusky, where Fremont now is, put a stop to the expedition of Colonel Bradstreet in October, 1764, on its way to join Colonel Bouquet at the forks of the Muskingum.

“During the war of the revolution many of the expeditions of the British and their Indian allies, passed up the Sandusky River, to attack the frontier settlements. In the fall of 1781, the Moravian Missions on the Tuscarawas under Zeisberger, were forced away from their posts, to the towns on the Sandusky, and thence to Detroit. Indian and English war parties passed up the river to join in the battle against Colonel Crawford, near Upper Sandusky, in June, 1782. The first Protestant Mission among the Wyandots, and the first United States Agency, were located at the lower rapids in 1803 and 1808, their buildings forming part of the Fort constructed in 1812. The first company drafted on the Reserve in April, 1812, under Captain John Campbell was ordered there, and assisted in completing the Fort.

“But all these interesting events, culminated in the unparalleled discomfiture of the British and Indians, in August, 1813, by a young major of Kentucky, acting against orders. Nothing can be more appropriate than the celebration of a defence so brilliant and complete, and the erection of a durable monument to fix the spot forever.”

General Sherman, writing to the Committee, points out in his terse way the strategic value of the triumphant defence of Fort Stephenson. He says :

“The defence of Fort Stephenson by Croghan and his gallant little band was the necessary precursor to Perry’s victory on the Lake and of General Harrison’s triumphant victory at the battle of the Thames. These assured to our immediate ancestors the mastery of the Great West, and from that day to this the West has been the bulwark of the nation.

“The occasion is worthy a monument to the skies and nothing could be more congenial to me personally than to assist.”

Happy as we are in the time and place of our celebration, its chief attraction is, however, the dedication of a monument to the soldiers of the Union.

The first on the list of the soldiers of the Union whom our



countrymen delight to honor, and the first to reply to the invitation of the committee appointed for this occasion, was the truest representative and the best type of the loyal American soldier. His reply to the invitation is as follows:

"MT. MCGREGOR, July 14, 1885.

"GENTLEMEN:—General Grant directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to be present at the unveiling of the soldiers' monument in Fremont on the 1st of August, and to convey to you his heartfelt thanks for the kind expressions contained therein personal to himself.

"Very Respectfully,

"Your obedient servant,

N. E. DAWSON."

Since this letter was written the great soldier has been relieved from the suffering which he bore with such patient and noble fortitude. The nation he did so much to save is tearfully, but gratefully and proudly preparing to perform the last sad offices in honor of her matchless warrior and best loved citizen. The monument we dedicate here, every monument to the citizen soldier of the Union, is a monument that reminds us of the deeds and virtues of General Grant. Although trained as a soldier, the war found him a citizen—it made him again a soldier, and in his last years he was once more a citizen. He was simple, sincere, just, magnanimous and pure, and to these high qualities were added by nature with lavish prodigality an iron determination, an unyielding tenacity of purpose, and a serene and heroic mastery of all his faculties in the midst of responsibility, danger and death which fitted him above any other living man for the command of the Grand Army of the Republic, in whose keeping were the vast and vital interests of our country and of mankind. Our monument in Fort Stephenson Park in Fremont to the Union soldiers of this county—indeed, every monument to the Union soldier, is also a monument to General Grant. In like manner every monument to General Grant will be a monument to the men of the armies he led. His name and fame and their name and fame are forever linked together. Our country, with a government free and popular, but strong enough to maintain its authority and to defend its life; with a people all of whom under the law "have an equal start and a fair chance," bound together—"an indestructible union of indestructible States;" with a present population, wealth, power and prestige, beyond any other civilized Nation; and with a future far transcending in its possibilities all that the world has known in the past—this country is at once the reward, and the monument of the Union soldiers and of their great and beloved commander, General Grant.

After the speech of General Hayes and singing by the choir, the proceedings of the afternoon were opened with prayer by Rev. J. I. Swander, pastor of the Reform Church, Fremont, Ohio, as follows:

We praise thee, O God. All the pure intelligence of the universe acknowledge thee to be the Lord. Thou hast made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth. We rejoice that thou hast permitted us, the American people, to assume among them a separate and an equal station. While we confess our sins as the cause of all our elements of weakness we acknowledge thy sovereign pleasure and goodness as the primary source of all the achievements of our past, the joys of our present, and the hopes of our future. For had it not been for the Lord, who was on our side, our enemies would have swallowed us up quickly when foreign powers and civil discord threatened our existence. Thou didst give us strength to overcome foreign oppression and to resist foreign encroachment. Thou didst smile upon our arms when the star of our Empire turned its course toward the land of the Montezumas. When sectional jealousy and unhallowed ambition for the supremacy of political peace and power arose in civil strife to disrupt our Union and dismember our sisterhood of States, thou didst look from heaven, maintain the struggling cause of Republican government and demonstrate on earth that the principle of eternal right is the power of invincible might.

And when the cruel war was over—when the heroic deeds of the great had passed into history—when the patriotic souls of the good had gone to glory—thou didst quicken the sentiments of gratitude in those who survived to enjoy the blessings of a country saved by blood. We rejoice that the people of Sandusky County had both the opportunity and disposition to bear some humble part with the nation's living in paying tribute to the nation's dead. Protected by Thy Providence, may the monument this day unveiled stand as a reminder of American patriotism and valor until man's last enemy shall fall. Bless all our surviving soldiers and the widows and orphans of those who bore the battle and fell in the heat of the fearful conflict. May prosperity, peace and piety be their guardian angels on the earth, may the sun-set of their lives be full of prophetic glory; and in the coming crowning victory may heaven be their exceeding great reward.

Almighty God, with whom do live the spirits of those who have departed hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful are in joy and felicity, we entreat thee in behalf of the bereaved family of our most illustrious citizen. Look in compassion toward the summit of Mt. McGregor. May the bereaved and afflicted ones rest their sor-

rowful souls in the sweet assurance that death does not end all that there is of us and for us—that heaven is the land of all the really free, and the home of all the truly brave.

Help us to become more worthy of the peculiar blessings we now enjoy. May we as a people go forward and upward in the fulfillment of our honorable and responsible mission until all the monarchies and anarchies of the world shall bow with admiration and respect before the superlative majesty of the American Republic. Hasten the time when the universal reign of peace shall herald the dawn of that illustrious day when all Thine armies shall shine in robes of victory; and then, O God, in Christ, the glory shall be Thine. Amen.

A song followed, after which Captain John M. Lemmon, of Clyde, the historian of the occasion, was introduced and delivered an interesting address, which will form a valuable addition to the history of our county. Soon after commencing his address the threatened storm broke and the assembly adjourned to the Presbyterian Church where the exercises of the day were concluded. The church was filled to its utmost capacity. Mr. Lemmon's address was as follows:

Sandusky County was erected by act of February 12th, 1820, and included as then created all that part of the present Ottawa County lying west of the Firelands and also a part of Lucas; our northern boundary was Lake Erie. Seneca County was created by the same act and was attached to Sandusky.

The county seat was temporarily fixed by the creative act at Croghansville, until commissioners appointed by the General Assembly should fix the permanent seat of justice.

Sandusky County as thus created included all the territory north of the townships numbered three (3) north, in ranges thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, and seventeen—extending to the north boundary of the State.

No part of Seneca County was ever included in Sandusky. The territory erected into Sandusky County was formerly a part of Huron County, and before that Cuyahoga County.

Ottawa County was created about February, 1840, and since that date our boundaries have remained unchanged. The name Sandusky comes from the Indian language, and signifies cold spring. The original spelling is quite undetermined.

The seat of Justice was permanently located at Sandusky village, afterward called Lower Sandusky, on the west side of the river, soon after the county was created, and now Croghansville and Lower Sandusky are names of the past, and in their place we have the city of Fremont.

The monument we unveil to-day stands upon the site of Fort Stephenson, sometimes called Fort Sandusky. The fort or stockade seems never to have been regarded as much of a place until Major Croghan so gallantly defended it on August 2, 1813. General Harrison wanted to abandon it, but the Major declined to obey and declared he could hold the place—and he did. The fort was only a stockade with a moat or ditch around it.

The battle of Fort Stephenson was one of those successful accidents that often result in the course of war, and demonstrated that in war real pluck and heroism count for more than strategy, or that which is commonly called generalship.

In 1820, Sandusky County (as then bounded) had a population of a little more than one person to the square mile, and in all of 850 souls. It was on the border line between the settled and the unsettled west, but its people were of patriotic blood. It can hardly be said that the early settlers were distinctively from any one State. Many were from the State of New York; in the eastern portion were many from Connecticut and other New England States, and a great many in all parts of the county came from Pennsylvania. There were early settlers from Maryland, Virginia and other States.

The prospects of these early settlers were for many years extremely bad—indeed, gloomy. The county was densely timbered; the land was considered low and wet; the roads were bad; markets were few and far away; sickness was abundant. It is safe to say that more than one-half the early settlers became discouraged and abandoned the country. They had little idea of what Sandusky County would be in 1885. It was only the brave, the stout-hearted, who remained, with possibly a few who were too poor to get away.

Among these early settlers were many of the soldiers of the war of 1812. When a mere boy I have sat many a time on my grandfather's knee as he told me what he saw and heard while a volunteer in the war. Every neighborhood had its veteran of that war.

But the courage and the industry of these early settlers overcame all difficulties, and Sandusky County became great and strong and populous. She produced great statesmen, great generals, and a great army of most gallant soldiers.

From a population of 852 in 1820, we reached 21,429 in 1860, with one-third our territory cut off to create Ottawa County. In 1870 we numbered 25,503, and in 1880, 32,057.

When war arose between the United States and Mexico, Sandusky County furnished its share of volunteer soldiers. One full company under Captain Samuel Thompson—who was in the war of 1812

and wounded at Lundy's Lane—was raised. The company was composed of four commissioned officers, and seventy-six privates, and became part of the Fourth Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry—Col. Chas. H. Brough.

This regiment went from Cincinnati to New Orleans, thence to Brazos Santiago and from that point marched to the mouth of the Rio Grande and was transported thence to Vera Cruz—where it became part of the brigade of Major-General Joseph Lane. September 19, 1847, the command marched for the interior and reached Jalapa, September 30, 1847, and, I believe, was engaged in battle under Lane in the streets of Puebla, when Santa Anna made his attempt to recapture that place September 22, 1847. Colonel Childs was commanding the post or fort there—had been attacked and General Lane came to his relief and drove the Mexicans from the place.

June 2, 1848, the regiment left Puebla on its return home.

Besides this, Captain Edwin D. Bradley and J. A. Jones, recruited a number of men for the Mexican war in this county. I have found the names of eighteen volunteers besides those who went out with Thompson. In all, I believe, there were at least 110 men who volunteered from Sandusky County for the Mexican war.

I should have mentioned the bloodless Michigan war—for Sandusky County furnished a brigadier general and one regiment of militia and many heroes for it. This "war" grew out of the question of boundary between Ohio and Michigan. Ohio claimed to the present line, and Michigan (then a territory) claimed the line should be some ten miles further south—thus including the present site of Toledo within Michigan. The dispute waxed warm. In April, 1835, General John Bell—then Brigadier-General of Ohio Militia, afterwards Probate Judge of the county—was ordered by the Governor of Ohio to raise 500 men to rendezvous at Lower Sandusky, and repair himself at once to the Governor's headquarters at Fort Miami. A regiment of militia from Sandusky County, under command of Colonel Louis Jennings, joined General Bell in the latter part of April, 1835.

A fact which lent importance to the question involved was this: Ohio had at great expense constructed the Miami Canal, which terminated in the Miami of the Lakes—Maumee—at Manhattan. If the Michigan claim should prevail, the terminus of this canal would be outside the State that built it.

It may well be said that by the letter of the law bounding Ohio on the north, the line was as claimed by Michigan—and yet Ohio had all the time had and exercised possession and jurisdiction of the disputed territory.

The territorial governor of Michigan—Mason—called out a body of troops to rendezvous on the Michigan side, and matters looked threatening.

April 26, 1835, some fifty men of Governor Mason's mounted forces, armed with muskets, came upon an Ohio surveying party which was engaged in running out the line, captured the most of the party and bore them away to Tecumseh, Michigan, where the prisoners were required to give bail for their appearance before a magistrate except two, who were released and one who refused to give bail and was held in custody. Of this party were Colonels Scott, Hawkins and Gould, and Major R. S. Rice, the latter better known as Dr. Rice, father of Dr. John B. Rice.

Governor Lucas, of Ohio, finding that if he persisted in running out the line claimed by Ohio, an actual conflict would result, disbanded his forces. The controversy was finally adjusted by giving the disputed strip to Ohio; and Congress gave to Michigan when she was erected into a State, June 15, 1836, as a solace, the upper peninsula—containing the mineral lands about Lake Superior—and so ended the Michigan war—without bloodshed and without a shot being fired.

The war of the rebellion found our people utterly ignorant as to military matters. There were only a few soldiers here and those had seen service in Mexico. And the militia laws which had been in force and the training or muster days which had been set apart, had left apparently little or no knowledge among our people of anything except that on the training days they had "a high old time." Fights and races, drinks and dances, and a good time and a gala day—that was what training day meant. When there was no more of these—and they ceased about 1837—our people thought no more of war, but relapsed altogether into the ways of peace.

The year 1861 found the people of Sandusky County fairly prosperous and in a "well-to-do" condition, devoted to the arts of peace and strangers to anything like war. But they were patriotic; warmly attached to their institutions, devoted to their country and its flag.

When the national flag was fired upon by rebels, and an appeal to arms came, the men of Sandusky did not hesitate—their answer was prompt and emphatic. Two full companies were enlisted in a day. More men came forward than could be accepted.

At that time this county had a population of about 22,000 souls. It had of male persons of military age, viz: of the age of 18 to 45 years about 4,300. In 1862 the number was returned at 4,387. Of these a considerable percentage was unfitted for military service by disease or infirmity.

I have found that some strange fatality has attended the records of the war days. Various enactments of the State Legislature during the years 1861 to 1865, inclusive, required the several ward and township assessors of personal property, each year, to make and return to the County Auditors a complete list of all soldiers who had entered the military service, stating who had died, from each ward and township. Also to report a complete list of persons liable to perform military duty.

Some attempt was made to make and report these lists. But the reports were very indifferently preserved. No provision was made for recording the lists and very little effort seems to have been made to properly file and preserve the very interesting papers.

I have been able to find all the returns for 1862, and nearly all for 1864. But few of the returns for 1863 and 1865 can be found. A careful examination shows them to have been very carelessly and badly gotten up. For example: In Townsend township there are two reports for 1864, of names of persons who had entered the service from that township—both by the same assessor. One gives the total number as 88, the other as 103. In York, in 1862, the number is given as 158, and the names are given, while in 1865 the number is placed at 98, this probably includes only one precinct; I am satisfied neither list is correct. In Scott the number in 1865 is put in one report at 125, in another at 109. These reports are now of great historical interest and of great value, and I am certain that if the persons who made them—and their custodians—could have foreseen their great interest and value they would have been better made out and preserved.

I have carefully studied such of these reports as I could find, and have examined into every source of information, and give you the best results I can, showing Sandusky County's part in the great war of the rebellion. These reports are to May of each year.

In 1862, we had sent 827 men; in 1863, about 1,650; in 1864, 2,060; in 1865, 2,300. This is exclusive of those troops designated as 100-day men—or Ohio National Guard—of whom Sandusky County furnished from 700 to 900 in 1864.

In this calculation I count individual enlistments and do not include re-enlistments. It will be observed that 70 per cent. of our male population of military age entered the military service during this war. A considerable number above the age of 45 years went into the service, but, as a rule, they were unequal to the hardships of the service.

In 1860 the population of the several townships of this county was: York, 1,619; Green Creek, 1,826; Ballville, 2,188; Rice, 943; Washington, 1,992; Madison, 981; Fremont, 3,510; Townsend,

1,062; Riley, 1,198; Sandusky, 1,251; Jackson, 1,478; Scott, 1,264; Woodville, 1,561; Clyde, 701; Clyde and Green Creek, 2,527; Fremont and Sandusky, 4,761

If we calculate the percentage of soldiers furnished, based upon population, by townships, we find that in 1865 Sandusky township—including Fremont—had furnished 12.5 per cent; Green Creek, including Clyde,  $17\frac{1}{3}$  per cent; Ballville,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  per cent; Townsend, 10 per cent; Riley, 7 per cent.

The entire county sent about 11 per cent. of its population of 1860 into the army, excluding 100-day men.

I found in the Auditor's office in a book where the Military Relief Fund account was kept, a table purporting to be made up in 1865, giving the number of soldiers enlisted from each township, and also the number who had died, as follows:

| NAME OF TOWNSHIP. | SOLDIERS<br>ENLISTED. | DIED. |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| York,             | 98                    | 15    |
| Townsend,         | 88                    | 27    |
| Green Creek,      | 351                   | 37    |
| Riley,            | 79                    | 7     |
| Ballville,        | 200                   | 47    |
| Sandusky,         | 593                   | 107   |
| Jackson,          | 78                    | 12    |
| Washington,       | 180                   | 32    |
| Scott,            | 109                   | 18    |
| Madison,          | 73                    | 8     |
| Woodville,        | 111                   | 26    |
| Rice,             | 100                   | 16    |

I am satisfied these figures are not all correct, and are in part below the truth. After comparing all sources of information, I conclude the following table very nearly gives the number of men each township furnished, exclusive of one hundred day men: York, 176; Townsend, 103; Green Creek, 351; Riley, 79; Ballville, 231; Sandusky, 593; Jackson, 110; Washington, 189; Scott, 135; Madison, 86; Woodville, 149; Rice, 100. A total of 2,302.

The greatest fatality was among the men from Townsend—being over 25 per cent. The least was among the men from Riley—less than 10 per cent. The average of "died in service," was probably at least 15 in 100 among the soldiers from this county. I have found nothing from which I can determine the number of Sandusky County soldiers



who were killed and wounded, and who died during and since the war and resulted from that service. I am convinced the total loss was considerably above the average of the army during the war.

The records of the civil war show that the general mortality among the volunteer soldiers was about 75.4 in 1,000; of killed in battle there were 18.8 in 1,000; died of wounds, 11.2 in 1,000, making a total loss by death 105.4 in every 1,000, or  $10\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

The soldiers who went from Sandusky, were, so far as I can learn, put into active service. They were in the field and in the front of battle, and the losses they suffered attest their bravery.

The first soldiers who went, and indeed those who enlisted in 1861, were promised no bounties. July 22, 1861, Congress provided that the widow or legal heirs of each volunteer who should die or be killed in the service, and each soldier when honorably discharged should receive \$100 if he should serve two years. April 21, 1862, Congress provided that \$25 of the bounty should be paid as soon as the soldier was mustered. June 25, 1863, in order to increase the army in the field, the War Department by General Order No. 191, directed the payment of a bounty of \$402 to every soldier who had served two years and should re-enlist for three and become "Veteran Volunteers."

The drain of men for the war became very great, and in the latter years the States, counties and townships, and local voluntary organizations offered local bounties. And when it seemed to be necessary to resort to a draft, large sums were raised to relieve the several townships from the draft and to procure substitutes to go in the army. The prices paid for so-called substitutes ranged from one or two hundred as high as \$1,000. Indeed, the prices got so high that there sprang up a class called "bounty jumpers," who engaged in the very dishonorable work of enlisting for large bounties and deserting immediately. I am unwilling to believe many Sandusky County men engaged in this nefarious practice.

War means destruction, not merely of material, but of men—of life and health; and the question, who shall be victor? is not always to be determined merely by valor nor by strategy, but by ability to endure—who is best able to suffer. In battle many are killed, many more are wounded, and hardships make still many others sick. It therefore becomes important the work of healing—of recuperation, shall go rapidly forward.

We can hardly over-estimate the good work, and great aid done and furnished by the sanitary commission, and the aid societies during the war. The patriotic women of Fremont and of Clyde, and of the

whole country, did very greatly contribute to relieve the suffering of the wounded and the sick, and to heal and build them up, and to enable them to go again into the great conflict.

I should be very glad to give you a full statement of the work done by these societies—but their records are gone in great part. Mrs. A. H. Miller, once president of the Fremont society, wrote me: "After receiving your letter I made inquiry regarding the Ladies' Aid Society during the war and cannot learn that the records were saved. \* \* I remember the ladies worked all the summer before the society was organized, and the first work done after its organization was to knit mittens for the 72d Regiment. \* \* It is difficult obtaining facts about the society on account of a number of the leading members having died. \* \*"

The society was composed of a large number of ladies who organized by annually choosing from their number a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, and also a visiting or soliciting committee. The object was to collect, make and send forward such articles of wearing apparel as could not be had in the field—and especially clothing, medicine, food, lint, bandages and other articles for hospital use. They usually met at intervals and made up and prepared articles for use. They solicited donations of money, clothing, canned fruits, delicacies, vegetables and everything which could better the condition of the sick and wounded soldiers. They would take a horse and wagon and go into the country soliciting, and by their untiring labors of love, they collected and forwarded large quantities of fruits, delicacies, vegetables, clothing and hospitable supplies, which were of priceless value in alleviating the suffering and promoting the comfort of the sick and wounded. In a single quarter of 1864, the Fremont society forwarded 39 woolen shirts, 19 cotton shirts, 42 pairs of socks, 20 pairs of drawers, 10 sheets, 13 towels, 9 double gowns, 50 handkerchiefs, 16 pillow slips, and large quantities of lint, compresses, dried and canned fruit, etc.

The Clyde society, if less numerous, was not less zealous in its good work. It consisted of 68 members, 34 of whom were workers and the others contributors. Of this society 23 have since died. This society collected in money \$837.32, and sent forward 285 shirts, 215 pairs of drawers, 273 towels, 15 bed ticks, 129 double gowns, 214 pillow cases, 128 pillows, 51 sheets, 64 comforts, 654 pads, 4,412 yards of bandages, 3,589 compresses, 34 rolls linen and cotton, 2 boxes lint, 12 pairs of slippers, 626 handkerchiefs, 7 coats, 170 pairs of socks, some mittens, napkins, armslings, canned and dried fruits, pickles and many other articles.

The good ladies of Fremont rented a house and established a sort of hospital or sanitarium for sick and disabled soldiers returning on leave or from prison.

Relief measures were found to be necessary very soon after the first soldiers went to the field. Many who went were day laborers and left their families without means; voluntary aid was rendered by neighbors and friends, but was not adequate. May 10th, 1861, the Legislature authorized the several counties to levy a tax of one-half mill and create a relief fund for the benefit of necessitous soldiers' families. June 8th, 1861, a petition signed by several hundred prominent citizens and tax-payers of the county was presented to the County Commissioners asking them to levy a tax for the relief of necessitous families of soldiers. The prayer of the petitioners was heeded. June 22nd, 1861, the commissioners held their first meeting for the purpose of acting as a relief, and disbursed \$79. July 6th, 1861, they disbursed \$124. Thereafter they met at short intervals and heard statements and granted relief; until it was difficult, if not impossible, for the commissioners to attend to all the requests, and March 21st, 1863, a law was enacted authorizing the County Commissioners to distribute the relief fund to the several townships, according to the necessities of families of soldiers as returned by the township assessors, and relief was authorized to be extended to families of deceased soldiers. From July 3d, 1863, to January 7th, 1867, there was collected and paid to the several townships for the relief of soldiers' families more than \$26,400.

Early in the war, the Legislature, by act passed February 4th, 1862, authorized the payment by soldiers to the State Treasurer through a State agent, of any money the soldier desired to send to his family, or friend, or to send home for safe keeping. The usual course was to pay the money to the State agent in the field, taking his receipt for the amount. The agent then paid the money into the State treasury. The soldier sent his receipt to the person whom he desired to get the money. This person presented the receipt to the County Auditor, who gave an order on the County Treasurer for the amount. The County Treasurer was required to pay the order from any funds in his office, and then he was re-imbursed monthly from the State treasury. All this was done without charge or expense to the soldier or his family.

In this way Sandusky County soldiers sent home from June 11th, 1862, to October 24th, 1865, \$143,322.86. The largest sum sent was \$1,384.53, by an officer who had been for many months a prisoner of war.

This sum I am sure does not represent one-half the money sent home by our soldiers. Much was sent by express, and much by private parties. I doubt not that half a million dollars were sent home by

Sandusky County soldiers during the war of the rebellion.

In what regiments, companies, batteries or other organizations did the Sandusky County soldiers serve?

I have labored in vain, I fear, to answer this question fully. A "History of Sandusky County" states the organizations—giving 25. Another history says they served in 21 organizations. Neither is at all correct. The soldiers who went from this county into the war of the rebellion, served in more than 120 different regiments or independent organizations.

They served in the following regiments of infantry volunteers: 2d, 4th, 5th, 8th, 11th, 14th, 18th, 19th, 21st, 23d, 24th, 25th, 28th, 29th, 32d, 33d, 34th, 36th, 37th, 39th, 41st, 43d, 49th, 50th, 52d, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 60th, 64th, 65th, 66th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 72d, 74th, 82d, 86th, 100th, 101st, 103d, 105th, 107th, 110th, 111th, 123d, 126th, 128th, 129th, 176th, 177th, 180th, 181st, 185th, 186th, 188th, 189th, 191st, 195th, 196th, 197th, 198th.

And in the following infantry regiments of the National Guards, viz: 139th, 145th, 164th and 169th.

They also were in the 2d, 3d, 6th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 12th regiments of cavalry volunteers, and in the 1st and 2d regiments of light artillery, and in the 10th, 12th, 17th, 19th, 20th, 21st and 22d batteries. The county was also represented in company 7 of sharp-shooters and in Hoffman's battalion.

Besides these 92 Ohio organizations, Sandusky County had representatives in 28 organizations outside of Ohio, viz: 2d colored troops, 44th ditto, 9th, 16th and 29th Indiana Infantry Volunteers, 1st and 18th Michigan Infantry Volunteers, 54th and 65th New York Infantry Volunteers, 169th and 198th Pennsylvania Infantry Volunteers, 10th and 18th U. S. Infantry, 1st U. S. Chasseurs, 2d Colorado Cavalry, 6th Illinois Cavalry, 1st Michigan Cavalry, 1st and 6th U. S. Cavalry, 1st Illinois Battery, 5th Michigan Battery, 10th U. S. Battery, 1st Michigan Mechanics and Engineers, U. S. Telegraph Corps, President's Body Guard (same as Union Light Guard) and ——— Virginia Cavalry. There were also several representatives in the naval and gun-boat services. It is certain enough that the soldiers of Sandusky County were represented in 120 different organizations.

The largest number in one command was in the 72d Infantry, next in the 169th O. N. G., and then there were two companies in the gallant old 8th (infantry), and about one company each in the 21st, 25th, 49th, 55th, 100th, 111th, and 186th Volunteer Infantry. There was also a company in the 3d cavalry. In the other named organizations the number varied from nearly a company to a small squad.

If it be inquired, where did these men from Sandusky County

fight their battles? I answer, all along the line from the Atlantic Ocean to the Rocky Mountains. They helped to expel the rebels from West Virginia. They aided in reclaiming Kentucky for the Union. They were on the Peninsula, and in the great battles of the Seven Days' fighting; they were in the Atlanta campaign, and, indeed, in each of the great campaigns of the civil war.

In the work of suppressing the rebellion, Sandusky County soldiers penetrated every Southern State, save, perhaps, Florida. In the marching and counter-marching before Washington and in the Shenandoah Valley, and in the reclamation of East Tennessee; in the movement to Northern Alabama and the long race with Bragg's army in 1862, and in the swamp of the Missis-ippi, in the perilous and brilliant operations about Vicksburg, and the long and exhausting movements against Atlanta, in the Wilderness, and in the bloody contests of 1864; in the advance on Richmond and in the grand and glorious march to the sea; in all these and many other marches, sieges, advances and retreats, the brave sons of your county had their full share.

Often footsore and weary; many times destitute of food and clothing; braving the enemy and elements alike, they went bravely and uncomplainingly forward, with unfaltering determination to plant the flag of their country upon every foot of its soil.

It made no difference that they were required to endure the tropical heat of a southern sun, lying in rifle-pits or trenches, nor that they were compelled to endure the cold blasts of winter without tents or covering, nor yet that rations were often poor and sometimes wholly wanting, they went steadily, heroically forward. They met and mingled with their fellow soldiers from every loyal State and region, and can truly boast that in all the qualities of soldiers and citizens they were among the foremost and the best.

I attempted, in preparing this paper, and had intended to mention the battles in which Sandusky County soldiers participated. But you will remember there were 2250 engagements in that war. Our soldiers were in 120 different organizations. I found I could not, within proper limits, give the list. We know they fought in all the great battles of the war. Their mettle was first tried in the early battles of what is now West Virginia, and in numerous affairs in Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee, in the first year of the conflict. Some were at Bull Run, and some at Donelson and New Madrid. Surely of the great battles our county had its full share. At Shiloh, Stone River, Corinth, Seven Pines and Fair Oaks, Cross Keyes and Port Republic. The Seven Days' Retreat, at Groveton, and Gainesville, Second Bull Run, Antietam, Iuka, Fredericksburg, Virginia, Chancellorsville, in the

Vicksburg campaign, at Gettysburg. Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, in the Atlanta Campaign, the Wilderness and at Spottsylvania, in the Siege of Richmond, at Franklin, Nashville and in many other battles, the men who went from this county fought valiantly, and never suffered dishonor. Their marches, sieges, battles, great and small, if written, would make a long list. Well may you erect this magnificent monument in honor of the deeds of your citizen soldiery.

Where all did so nobly it would be improper, perhaps, to mention any individual or command, lest I disparage others. My researches have abundantly satisfied me that men who went into the war were nearly all of the same stuff. No matter what organization you select, no matter where they fought, they were brave and behaved gallantly.

#### BETSEY CROGHAN.

I must mention the old iron gun now in Fort Stephenson Park. This is the same gun used in defence of the fort seventy-two years ago to-morrow. After the war of 1812, it was sent to the Government Arsenal at Pittsburg, Pa. About 1851 or 1852, Brice J. Bartlett, well known to all our older people as a prominent lawyer, then Mayor of Lower Sandusky—now Fremont—conceived the design of procuring the old gun as a relic to be kept at the place it so greatly aided to defend. He procured a soldier who helped use the gun in Fort Stephenson and who could identify it by some peculiar mark on the breech, to go to Pittsburg and identify it. And by persistent effort Mr. Bartlett procured the gun to be sent to Lower Sandusky. But there were several Sanduskys—Sandusky City, Lower Sandusky, Upper Sandusky, etc., and by some mistake the old gun was sent to Sandusky City, where, I believe, there never was a battle. But our neighbors on the bay took it into their heads to keep the gun. A pretty sharp controversy arose in regard to it. The Sandusky City people, it is said, to secure the gun against seizure, buried it out of sight, instead of defending it. But Brice J. Bartlett was not to be easily foiled nor defeated. He employed a detective who went to Sandusky and finally learned that the gun was buried and where. Thereupon Mayor Bartlett, aided by people here, hired a team and men to go to Sandusky, and in the stillness of night they uncovered the old cannon and brought it away.

On August 2d, 1852, there was a splendid celebration of Croghan's victory here, and old Betsy Croghan had a large part in it and was very warmly greeted.

But how did this gun come to be called Betsy?

There lived here for many years a Methodist local preacher named

Thomas L. Hawkins—who was also a poet. A volume of his poems was published in 1853. August 2d, 1852, he wrote and read a poem at the celebration mentioned, being a salutation to this old six-pounder. It was he who named the gun Betsy, or Betsy Croghan, at least such is the tradition. In another poem on "Colonel Croghan's victory of Fort Stephenson," this poet calls this gun "Our Bess."

### THE SANDUSKY COUNTY SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

On April 8th, 1881, the General Assembly of the State of Ohio enacted a law authorizing the County Commissioners of any county in the State to submit to a vote of the people, at any general election, the question whether a tax of not more than one-half mill on the dollar should be levied on all property upon the tax duplicate to raise a fund wherewith to build a monument or memorial structure to perpetuate the memory of soldiers who served in the Union army during the rebellion.

May 19th, 1882, Eugene A. Rawson Post G. A. R., of Fremont, after having had the matter under discussion, appointed a committee consisting of R. P. Buckland, R. B. Hayes, G. A. Gessner, S. A. J. Snyder, and W. E. Haynes, to take such action as should be deemed expedient toward erecting a monument for Sandusky County soldiers.

Petitions were circulated and numerous signed, asking our County Commissioners to submit the question of levying a tax of one-half a mill to the people of Sandusky County at the general October election, 1882; the Commissioners readily granted the prayer of the petition and submitted the question to popular vote. The surviving soldiers of the county took very lively interest in this matter; but to no person is more credit due than to Captain A. F. Price, Commander of Eugene A. Rawson Post, and to no association or body is more credit due than to the members of that post. The post held a camp-fire on the fair grounds during the county fair in 1882, and by active soliciting and public addresses, contributed very largely toward a favorable decision on the question of levying a tax, which was carried at the next election—3,784 votes being cast for the levy and 1,462 against it.

Afterward it was thought best that a Monumental Association be created, and on April 19th, 1883, the Sandusky County Soldiers' Monumental Association was incorporated, the incorporators being R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, W. E. Haynes, J. H. Rhoads, Jno. M. Lemmon, M. E. Tyler and Jno B. Rice. This association organized by electing R. P. Buckland, president; J. H. Rhodes, vice-president; W. E. Haynes, treasurer, and R. B. Hayes, secretary.

February 4th, 1884, at the suggestion of the County Commissioners, the matter of building the monument was given entirely into

the hands of the Monumental Association, and pursuant to an act passed April 27, 1884, the Commissioners turned over to it the funds already raised, amounting to \$7,653.19, the association acting in harmony with the Eugene A. Rawson Post.

The association thereupon invited the submission of plans, specifications and designs for a monument, and appointed September 12th, 1884, to examine the designs and let the contracts for the construction of the monument.

The design of the New England Granite Works was accepted and the contract awarded to that company, the monument to be of Quincy granite and the statue of Westerly granite. As a matter of course, the site for the erection of the monument was fixed in Fort Stephenson Park, which had been purchased by the city of Fremont and dedicated to public and patriotic uses some time before.

February 2d, 1885, the Association met and designated Saturday, August 1st, 1885, as the day of unveiling. The monument was completed Wednesday, July 29, 1885.

At the conclusion of Mr. Lemmon's address, General Hayes read the letter received from the President in response to the invitation extended him to be present, and referring to the celebration of Croghan's victory at this place forty-six years ago, read a letter received at that time from the gallant defender of Fort Stephenson. The "Battle Cry of Freedom" was then sung, and was splendidly rendered as was all the music on the occasion.

### LETTER FROM MAJOR CROGHAN.

ST. LOUIS, July 26, 1839.

GENTLEMEN:—I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 8th inst., inviting me on the part of the citizens of Lower Sandusky, to be present with them on the coming anniversary of the defence of Fort Stephenson. It is with regret that I am, on account of official duties, unable to comply with your kind and flattering invitation. In communicating this, my reply, I cannot forbear to acknowledge with deep gratitude the honor you confer. To have been with those gallant men who served with me on the occasion alluded to, permitted by a kind Providence to perform a public duty which has been deemed worthy of special notice by my fellow-citizens, is a source of high gratification, heightened, too, by the reflection, that the scene of conflict is now, by the enterprise and industry of your people, the home of a thriving and intelligent community. I beg to offer to you, gentlemen, and through you to the citizens of Lower Sandusky, my warmest thanks for the remembrance which you have so flatteringly expressed.

With every feeling of respect and gratitude, yours,

G. CROGHAN.

"F. Williams and others, committee."



Captain Andrew C. Kemper delivered the following poem contributed by him in honor of the great event :

### FORT STEPHENSON.

#### I.

Where dear Sandusky's waters glide  
 From storied falls, through meadows wide,  
 By verdant hills on either side,  
 To seek Lake Erie's famous tide ;  
     On proud Fort Stephenson ;  
 Where Croghan his laurel chaplet earned,  
 And Freedom's foes a lesson learned,  
 A shaft memorial is discerned,  
     The soldier's benison.

God's sunlight kisses all its faces  
 Where glory dresses honor's traces  
 And amaranthine ivy graces  
 The velvet green about its bases ;  
     On proud Fort Stephenson ;  
 The sheen of victory from the lake  
 Upon its head in shivers break,  
 And all a patriot's raptures wake  
     In every denizen.

Here Justice blindfold holds her sway ;  
 The scales of God exactly weigh ;  
 And Birchard's alcoves well display  
 The light of ages far away  
     O'er proud Fort Stephenson ;  
 While reverent people pause to greet  
 The sacred turf beneath their feet,  
 And cheer our Union all complete,  
     Without comparison.

Whose lips shall make the computation  
 Of heartless war's wide desolation,  
 The widow's orphan's lamentation,  
 The patriot's blood the consecration  
     Of Freedom's garrison,  
 And tell the costly sacrifice  
 For liberties we idolize,  
 The deeds the stones immortalize  
     Here on Fort Stephenson !

## II.

A beaten pathway from the place  
 The people's tributes nobly grace  
 My quickened fancies deftly trace  
 Beyond the city's market space  
     Through meads and lovely dells,  
 To where beneath the stately elms,  
 Unconscious of pretentious realms  
 Where vain ambition overwhelms,  
     A soldier's widow dwells.

Beside her cottage on the lawn,  
 As pleased as is her petted fawn,  
 She sees the eastern gates withdrawn  
 To let the happy morning dawn  
     And speed its radiant course,  
 In quivering gold and radiant sheaves,  
 That glisten on the dewy eaves,  
 And beckon from the holly leaves  
     Back to their lofty source.

Thrilling the morning's balminess  
 Their matins' song of happiness,  
 The pure delight of childness,  
 Is guided by the prophetess,  
     While singing birds discourse,  
 And lowing herds their joy proclaim  
 To join the children and the dame  
 Sending the echo of their flame  
     Back to its lofty source.

How nature smiles through all her aisles  
 Where love beguiles, and reconciles  
 Our earthly drill with heaven's will,  
 Softening the ill, and leaving still  
     Bright gleams of purest glory ;  
 The widow's lot was hard indeed,  
 And often made her heart-strings bleed,  
 But yet she ne'er forgot the creed  
     Of Freedom's bloody story.

## III.

The weekly round of toil, so drear,  
 And then the Sabbath, ever dear,  
 With restful voices ringing clear,  
 Inviting all to come, that hear,  
     And justly worship God ;

The widow with her family,  
 Serene in her fidelity,  
 Follows with simple piety  
 The path so often trod.

She husbands all the winding way  
 To turn their thought from work or play  
 To themes adapted to the day,  
 Delighted when their hearts obey  
 The bent her counsels gave them ;  
 Nor less she taught them loyalty  
 With all a mother's purity,  
 Intent that Christ's authority  
 From traitor's schemes should save them.

While through the church the anthem rolled  
 Her heart's desires to God were told  
 That He with graces manifold  
 Their rightful conduct would uphold,  
 His banner floating o'er them,  
 Its cross of sorrow crimson dyed,  
 Its crown of glory sanctified,  
 Its streams of love the certain guide  
 To all whose hearts adore them.

And when the sun was in the west,  
 Benignly sinking to his rest,  
 She brought them by her prayers caressed,  
 To kneel upon the grassy crest  
 Where stands the monument,  
 And, with their faces bathed in light,  
 Observe their Sabbath evening rite  
 And make the vow their hearts indite  
 In faith omnipotent.

We consecrate ourselves to Thee,  
 Our father's God of Liberty,  
 By whose immaculate degree  
 Thy children are forever free  
 Wherever rolls the sun ;  
 We pledge our fealty's surety  
 The life our father gave to Thee,  
 And plead his comrad's chivalry  
 That kept our Nation one.

#### IV.

And oft as Sabbath evening came,  
 The children kneeling with the dame,

True to their patriot father's name,  
 And to their country's rising fame,  
     Renew their consecration ;  
 And still that head of silvered hair,  
 Amid the group divinely fair,  
 Receives the sunset's golden glare,  
     Heaven's loving salutation.

But soon a cloud comes hovering o'er,  
 And darkness shrouds the cottage door,  
 And from the river's other shore  
 The voices bid her spirit soar  
     Beyond the reign of night ;  
 And as she hears the summons ringing  
 The cloud is rifted by the singing,  
 And angel bands in haste are winging  
     From heaven their happy flight.

The village pastor's blissful prayer  
 Seems like a ladder standing there  
 O'er which the angels have their care  
 To guide aloft the spirit heir  
     To her celestial home ;  
 And tender hearts that break in sighs  
 Rejoice the wondering angels' eyes  
 To see how much of paradise  
     On earth finds genial room.

The children's voices chant their song,  
 From sadness rising sweet and strong,  
 To fly with all the prayer along  
 Till seraphs' harps the notes prolong  
     And echo through the spheres ;  
 They echo through the hearts of men  
 To light their filial love again,  
 And bid gruff soldiers say Amen !  
     And brush aside their tears.

How bloom the flowers above her head  
 Whose bleeding heart in patience led  
 The children of her patriot dead,  
 While anxious for their daily bread,  
     To God and Liberty ;  
 The Genius of our Nation weeps  
 Where such a famous mother sleeps,  
 And in her heart forever keeps  
     Her cherished memory.

Here many come, and many go,  
 And many heads as white as snow,  
 With many children bending low,  
 Repeat the widow's holy vow,  
 On proud Fort Stephenson;  
 And everywhere such children stand  
 There is a trusty, patriot band  
 To dedicate our native land  
 To Liberty and Union.

General Jacob D. Cox, the orator of the day, was then introduced, and delivered the following address, which was heartily applauded throughout:

#### ADDRESS OF GENERAL COX.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, CITIZENS OF SANDUSKY COUNTY:—  
 You are to be congratulated upon the beautiful monument unveiled to-day. Its chaste proportions and solidity of material and construction will give you permanent pleasure, and the granite soldier looking down from its summit, is a proper guardian for the site of Fort Stephenson, one of the most memorable of all our old historic places.

Monuments have been favorite things with men of all ages. We love to mark the times and places of great events and to record noble names. We instinctively love to rear something that shall be long enduring and shall tell to other times what is the notable thing that has been done.

You have been peculiarly fortunate in having triple cause for erecting a monument which must always be a most interesting one by reason of these multiplied associations which you have linked together in its construction and its site. Each has an interest in itself worthy of commemoration; but when you dedicated it at once to the gallant men who here defended the flag against a foreign foe and its savage allies, to the patriotic citizen soldiers, who fought or fell on the distant battle-fields of tropical Mexico, and to the noble host, greatest and noblest of all, who, in our own days, offered their lives and their blood to preserve the nation against the assaults of a gigantic rebellion, you have made it thrice sacred in the eyes of every patriot who may look upon it, and have thrice multiplied its interest to every stranger who may stand at its base and read the legends you have there inscribed!

Then, too, the time of our meeting to celebrate its completion gains an added pathos from the fact that the whole country is vocal with the memorial tributes of praise and gratitude to the great soldier

who lies upon his bier at Mount McGregor, and who in his own person typifies the military devotion which, from 1861 to 1865, took the choicest elements of all the young generation of that day into their country's service. They shared his undoubting faith in the righteousness of the cause. His unconquerable and stubborn valor they emulated. His unbending and steadfast will they rejoiced to obey. His great abilities as a commander they admired and gloried in. His simple citizenship and modest obedience to the laws, when the time came to lay down his military power, they imitated. As we dedicate the monument to these, his great deeds and great patriotism are in our minds and hearts, and in one beautiful act we honor at once our comrades and their great commander

But I intended to notice briefly in their order the three classes of historic men and events to which this granite shaft is consecrated.

The war of 1812 has often and rightly been spoken of as a sort of supplement to the war of the revolution. When our fathers had acquired their nominal independence, they were a feeble commonwealth, loosely bound together by articles of confederation, which required much strengthening before they could become a national constitution fit to be the organic and fundamental law of a great nation. America had not yet fully won her place among the peoples of the earth. Feeble in numbers and in wealth, and with a governmental form which the monarchies of the old world believed to be impracticable and transitory, it was still an open question whether they would fall under the domination of France, which had befriended them, or would remain practically a colony of the British Empire from which they had rebelled. True, the three millions of people who had fought for independence, had in thirty years acquired something more nearly like national proportions; but that they could stand alone, could demand and assert their rights among the great powers of the world, had not been proven. Consequently, the war of 1812 is rightly considered the consolidation and finishing of the work of Independence. It decided that we were a nation in the true sense of the word, not dependent upon others, nor merely tolerated by them on the face of the earth because oceans rolled between us; but one which had grown to the full stature of matured nationality. The seizure of our merchant ships and the imprisonment of our seamen by the British, was merely the incident which gave rise to a conflict for which the time was ripe and which could not be long postponed. Should our independence be a reality or a mere name? that was the real struggle which was fought out in those trying years of 1812 and 1813.

You are happy in having here in your midst, preserved nearly in its original form and appearance by the thoughtful taste which set it apart and adorned it as a park, the place of one of those picturesque events of war, which, from the very first moment, fastened the public attention. It was not necessary to dig it out of oblivion, and there was no danger that any one should say that local pride had magnified a thing which the world had forgotten. In every history of our country it had been caught up by the historian as a brilliant picture with which to enliven his pages. Fort Stephenson was from the first a historic place, and Major Croghan's defence of it was recognized as a heroic thing worthy of being described in the noblest words that history can use.

The second event which this monument commemorates, the war with Mexico, was one of the incidents in the long struggle between the conflicting systems of labor in the North and South, which finally culminated in the war of the great rebellion. No intelligent student of history can, by any means, separate the two. When our children learn the meaning of the term Constitutional history, as applied to the first century of our national existence and progress, they will understand that the vital fact which dominated all others and determined the development of our institutions and the struggles of political parties, was the irrepressible conflict between Free Labor and Slavery. The one was represented by our vigorous, Democratic, progressive North: the other had its home in the 'Sunny South,' where it gave to the dominant race many elements of power, of elegance, of pride, of mental and political leadership, but after all, as we believe, fatally crippled the State, did dishonor to manhood itself, was a crime against the noblest aspirations of humanity, and offered the picture of a people fated to ruin by the logical results of its own false doctrines.

The Mexican war was the desperate, culminating effort on the part of the nation to accommodate and harmonize these two systems. We went the whole length of making an unjust war of conquest upon a neighboring people in order to give to slavery the 'room and verge' in which new slave States might be erected from conquered territory side by side with the rapidly increasing northern ones which the hardy free pioneers were year by year establishing in the wilds and prairies of the great northwest. The vain hope of southern men that the slave system could rival free labor in extending empires was thoroughly tested, and the opportunity given it to preserve, if it could, that balance of power in the Senate by which it had so long ruled the politics of the nation.

I cannot go further into the history of the war with Mexico than

thus to indicate its origin and general purpose. It was warmly opposed by many of our best men, but when once war was declared to be flagrant, opposition was silenced by the cry "our country right or wrong," and your monument is reared, in part, to do honor to the men who rushed to uphold the flag under the influence of that cry. So jealous were most of our people of everything that looked like lukewarmness toward the flag, that when one of Ohio's most favored sons, a brilliant orator and statesman, in his deep conviction of the injustice and wantonness of the war on our part, gave utterance to a strong expression of this feeling in a form that was, perhaps, only a rhetorical exaggeration, but which might bear an unpatriotic meaning, he lost from that hour his hold upon the popular affection and was forever after thrust aside from popular favor. It seemed to prove the turning point in his public career and killed him as a political leader. It was, some way, inconsistent with the impulsive patriotism that would sustain the country in every foreign conflict, and jarred upon the general sentiment of the people who refused to inquire into the merits of the strife when once an armed collision with a foreign power had begun. No wonder, then, that your young men were found side by side with those of Mississippi in carrying the flag from Buena Vista and Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico!\*

This war marked the high tide of the disposition to yield to the demands of the slave power, and from its close the right of freedom to be the ruling principle in the establishment of new States was more and more boldly proclaimed and defended. Southern leaders became desperate. They repealed all the time-honored compromises and demanded that slavery should be regarded as a national institution, protected by the Constitution in all the territories. They procured legislation which asserted this, but still they were disappointed. They saw to their amazement the marvelous vigor of free-industry take possession of California and Kansas; they heard the free farmers of the North declare in the election of Lincoln that there should be no more slave States created, and they plunged into rebellion and secession in the vain hope of dividing the nation they could no longer rule.

Such, then, are the three periods we have had to consider. First, that of the establishment and subsequent consolidation of our national independence; second, the sacrifice of life and of honor that was made to save the union upon the basis of yielding to the slave power all it demanded; and third, the maintenance of national unity in spite of

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\*NOTE—The speech of Thomas Corwin, which is alluded to above, is the one in which occurred the famous passage, "If I were a Mexican as I am an American, I would welcome the invaders with bloody hands to hospitable graves."



gigantic rebellion, and with the result of giving freedom to millions of slaves. In each effort Sandusky County offered its sacrifices, and in each there were brave men worthy to be remembered as you are remembering them to-day.

Let us look a little more closely at the condition of the country about us in the first of these periods, when Major Croghan performed the brilliant exploit which has made his name immortal.

In 1813 there was no city of Fremont. Even Lower Sandusky, as the spot was called, had not yet become a civilized town and only marked the place where a village of Wyandot Indians had long been known. Fort Stephenson covered the pretty knoll now occupied by the City Hall, the Birchard Library, and the monument. But what was it? A feeble earth work surrounded by a ditch and stockade, with a little block-house at the southwest corner, which served as a sort of bastion to enfilade or sweep the ditch. Its garrison was a mere handful of men, its only artillery a single six-pound gun. No legalized white settlement had been made on the lake shore in Ohio west of the Cuyahoga River, for the treaty boundary with the Indians followed the old trail from the new village of Cleveland up the river till it reached the dividing ridge, then crossed to the headwaters of the Tuscarawas and followed that stream southward to old Fort Laurens. From this point the boundary went westward and southward toward Piqua and Greenville, in the western part of the State. The tide of civilized migration had only lately crossed the Ohio. Cincinnati had been established as a trading place about Fort Washington. Dayton and Chillicothe were thriving villages, offshoots from the migration following the lower Ohio valley. A beginning had been made at Columbus, but it was not yet the capital of the State. At Zanesville a settlement was begun. At Marietta was a vigorous colony of New England men who had been the first to make a solid foot-hold in the great northwest territory. The Western Reserve was marked out and in the hands of the Connecticut Land Company eastward from Cleveland. But from the Cuyahoga westward, the Indians still held dominant sway. The Wyandots or Hurons were the lords of the land. The Six Nations and the Delawares, retreating from the east, had here found a temporary resting place. The Shawnees and the Miamis, crowded back from the South, were sojourning with their kindred, the Miamis of the Lake, in the fastnesses of the Black Swamp and in the fertile bottoms of the Maumee. Bands of Pottawatomies were also among them. The treaty had provided for a road from Cleveland to Detroit, which had been a fort and settlement from the early days of the French occupancy of Canada and the upper

lakes, and this road, crossing the Sandusky where we now stand, passed on to Fort Meigs and Fort Miami, where Perrysburg and Toledo have since been built. A reservation to the United States of one mile on either side the road, was more or less occupied by adventurous pioneers, but when hostilities with the Indians followed the declaration of war with England in 1812, these were soon driven in or destroyed.

The whole northwestern quarter of the State, therefore, was Indian territory, and its tribes, confederated by the genius of Tecumseh, a man of no ordinary power, were banded with the red nations of Indiana and the greater west to resist the further advance of the whites. The forts were only isolated out-posts in the midst of hostile territory built to protect the communications of the army with the more distant posts at Chicago and Detroit. For this purpose Fort Stephenson was built here at Lower Sandusky, on the hostile side of the river, so that a crossing might always be in the power of our troops. Here was the promise of a frontier place of importance, both for trade with the Indians in time of peace, and a depot of supplies for interior settlements as they might be formed. In these days of railways we forget the navigable connection with the lake which made the foot of the rapids the natural place of transshipment for the lake commerce, coming by the great watery highway of trade from east to west. Viewed from the stand point of that time, Lower Sandusky was one of the most important posts and promised to be one of the most important business centers in northern Ohio. Fort Stephenson, therefore, was well and wisely located to give protection to our growing settlements and to become the nucleus of a vigorous colony. It is only when we remember all this that we fully appreciate its military importance and the necessity of holding it with a firm and determined grasp.

The English, taking advantage of the dissatisfaction of the Indians, as they supposed they had the right to do, made alliances with them, and gave Tecumseh the rank of a general in their army. Out of this alliance grew the great peril of the frontier. Only a little while before, the fort where Chicago now stands had surrendered upon a promise of protection to the lives of the garrison by the English; but the savages had disregarded the agreement which the English troops were not strong enough to enforce, and the prisoners had been massacred and scalped. Still more recently a force under Winchester in the Maumee Valley had surrendered on the same promise, and these, too, had been butchered at the River Raisin. A still more fearful and hopeless peril lurked about the cabin door of every white settler in the west. Even death by the tomahawk and scalping knife seemed mercy

itself, compared to the atrocious tortures which all the tribes but the Wyandots were in the habit of inflicting upon their captives, and of which we have so fearful a picture in the blood-curdling story of the capture and death of Colonel Crawford a little earlier in our history.

It may well have been that the expectation of such a fate if they surrendered, nerved the hearts and arms of Major Croghan and his little garrison here to dare any fate but that, and to resolve to die, if need be, but never to be taken. From where we stand, we can see the sunlight glancing from the waters of the river through the hollow below, which the British gun-boats landed. Just behind the court house there, is the gentle rise of ground where Proctor planted his artillery and opened his fire upon the fort. Across the very ground where you have built the platform, the flag of truce advanced, which summoned Croghan to yield to the overwhelming superiority of force, whilst yet the English commander could restrain his savage allies.

And yet even this does not sum up all the discouragements of Croghan's position. He had just gone through an ordeal almost as trying to a proud spirited officer as to surrender to a foe. The department was under the command of a wise and brave man, who both before and afterward signalized his courage and his skill, General William Henry Harrison. He had been for a short time at Upper Sandusky, hastening the assembling of a little army with which he hoped to take the aggressive, and was sorely disappointed by the slow rate at which his reinforcements could thread the paths of the new country. Three or four hundred dragoons were all he had when the news of Proctor's expedition reached him. A regiment from Kentucky was on its way, but had not yet arrived. A brigade was organizing on the Reserve under General Simon Perkins, but was not yet ready to take the field. It seemed wiser to Harrison to avoid fighting until his force was greater, and as the garrison at Fort Stephenson was a mere handful compared to the advancing enemy, he ordered Croghan to evacuate the place and join him. Such a command often seems to a young officer to imply a suspicion of his valor or his capacity, and stung, perhaps, by this view of it, Major Croghan sent back a reply which well nigh cost him his commission: "We are able to hold the place, and, by heaven, we will!" He was relieved of the command and ordered to Harrison's headquarters in arrest, but when the general saw the man and knew that his confidence was that of true courage and no mere vamping, he easily accepted the explanation that the terms of Croghan's reply had been worded with the expectation that the dispatch might fall into the enemy's hands, and in that case he wished to impress them with the

danger of an assault. We may well doubt whether this was not merely a convenient interpretation to reach an understanding which both officers desired, but it served its purpose and Harrison sent back the young hero to resume his defence, just as the British entered the river. The portrait which President Hayes has placed in the Library, and which now adorns the stand, well bespeaks the character of young Croghan and his singular beauty of person. Only twenty-one years of age, full of the hardy courage of the frontier, an experienced woodsman, closely connected with George Rogers Clarke, the most striking figure in the military annals of the northwest territory, you cannot look upon that face without feeling that it represented one of nature's noblemen, full of intellect and feeling, as well as of soldierly courage and hardihood. It was a happy conjuncture for his country when the time and the man thus came together.

I cannot stop to relate all the details of the fight. What need! They are better known to you than to me. The hot cannonade stubbornly endured without reply,—the midnight transfer of the single gun into the blockhouse when it could rake the ditch at the point the concentrated fire indicated as Proctor's place of assault,—the weary continuance of the skirmishing through another day—the gathering of the foeman's columns in the dusk of evening,—the rush, the fierce clamor of the assault while the savage war whoop echoed through the surrounding forest—the red-coats swarming in the ditch—the unmasking of the blockhouse gun and its quick discharge, loaded to the muzzle with bullets, iron scraps, and nails,—the dismay of the enemy, the carnage, the fall of the leaders, the retreat, the shouts of victory in the little garrison now covered with glory,—all these things you remember, and the monument you have erected is to commemorate them!

Such monuments tell much more than the few words which are engraved upon them. They provoke our children to inquire what they mean, and to draw out from us the full history of the olden time. The children of Israel were commanded to sprinkle the blood of the pass-over upon their door posts and to eat the paschal lamb with their loins girt as if for travel, and when their children asked what all this meant, they were to tell how the Lord brought them out of Egypt. Let our soldiers' monuments do the like for us, and may they incite unborn generations to learn the story of their fathers' conflicts in "times that tried men's souls." The Fort Stephenson fight was typical of its period. It was at once part of the final struggle for independence, and a type of the desperate conflict of the frontiersman with savage hordes, with wild beasts, and with the unsubdued wilderness itself.

In the war with Mexico, our soldiers met with a very different experience. They did not have the stimulus of self preservation, of fighting for home and in defence of the dear ones under the cabin roof. They went beyond the limits of their own country into a tropical region of which they knew next to nothing, to meet an enemy against whom they could not feel any deep antagonism, and whose defence of their own land they could not but respect. There was something of the excitement of romance, and fighting itself gives to the soldier the zeal for conquest; yet the prevailing motive must have been that of duty with but little inclination to the task. Their country called them, and without inquiring if the country was right or wrong, they obeyed the call. Captain Thompson and Captain Bradley bravely led your Sandusky County young men, and the soldiers' monument honors their memory as well as that of their fathers, or their sons, who fell in conflicts, which the judgment of history puts on a higher plane of necessity and of right.

But it was the great struggle of our own time whose memories chiefly moved you to erect this monument; a struggle that was to determine whether we had a land worth living in. In thinking of it, we are lost in its magnitude. Your interest in it is not limited to a single brilliant event like the defence of the fort, or to a few scattered soldiers who went forth from your midst; but every township, almost every family, was so fully represented that the history comes home to every farm house, and the story is that of the joys and griefs of the whole community.

The statistical history which Captain Lemmon has read to you, is simply astonishing in its long array of figures and of tables. Yet never were figures more interesting. Indeed, they are more eloquent than words. They gather up the results of your efforts in the great contest with a cumulative power which makes us hold our breath as we try to realize how the young life, the wealth, the energy and the industry of the whole people were thrown into the struggle without reserve and without even counting the cost. It was not only that the young men who enlisted from the county numbered by thousands; that the regiments and organizations in which they served must be reckoned by scores; that their valor was shown on so many fields that there was neither room nor time to enumerate them; but besides this, what a wonderful array it was of the labors of our noble and patriotic women at home to relieve the sufferings of the soldier in the field and in the hospital! In the face of such a grouping of the items which make up the overwhelming total of your county's share in the great cause, any

sketch of it as a whole which I could give would seem vain and meager. Let me confine myself, therefore, to bearing some personal testimony to the brave conduct of your soldiers, as faintly illustrating points here and there in their military history.

They served in so many campaigns in all parts of the great theatre of war, that no one who had himself been in the army, could fail to recall scenes in which his own experience was not theirs also, and of which he could not give a comrade's account. As I heard the names of persons and of regiments read, I found myself saying, step by step, that regiment I have seen in action; that other regiment was with me at such a place; this one I met on such a famous field! Indeed, it turns out as I listen to the story, that there is scarcely a month, nay, scarcely a day from the beginning to the end of the war, in which I cannot say I was a witness to the soldierly devotion of the good men of Sandusky County.

At President Lincoln's first call to arms, when he asked for seventy-five thousand volunteers to preserve the nation's existence, your towns responded promptly, and two full companies were embodied in the Eighth Ohio regiment. I remember that early gathering of Ohio soldiers as if it were yesterday! They came to Columbus without uniforms, without arms, with haversacks which mothers and sisters had hastily made and filled with provisions for the first march. They slept upon the stone floor of the State House, and made its arches ring with their prayers and hymns, which mingled with the martial din of drum and fife! From the halls of the legislature they wrote home their first letters and renewed their consecration for life or death to their country's cause.

The Eighth Ohio reported to me at Camp Dennison, where they learned the rudiments of soldier life. They were fresh from the villages and the farms. They were of that thrifty and well-to-do class of Americans who had been used to comforts approaching to luxury. They had been well housed, but now they must find shelter in a fence corner till they could carry the plank and build their rude barracks upon the company street of their camp. They had been used to the abundant tables of well-cooked food which their mothers had spread for them, but now they must draw their uncooked rations of a few simple articles of coarse food, and spoil many a meal before they could learn the necessary art of camp cooking. Later, I saw them in West Virginia, learning in that mountain region to make long and hard marches; to be ever on the alert in a guerilla warfare, and to become hardy, brave and self-reliant soldiers. There they laid the foundation for the soldierly

character which they afterward showed at the second battle of Bull Run, at Chancellorsville, at Gettysburg, and in the Wilderness, under that gallant soldier and officer, Spriggs Carroll.

How was it with some of the rest? The Seventy-second regiment contained the greatest number of Sandusky County men, eight of its ten companies being raised here. Hardly organized, they were pushed forward, while yet green, to Southern Tennessee, where, at Shiloh, in Sherman's division, and under your respected fellow-citizen, Colonel Buckland, as their brigade commander, they bravely met the foe, and were riddled by rebel bullets on that famous sixth of April, 1862. Early that morning, at the beat of the 'long roll,' they were in their places, ready to do all that men could do to beat back the rushing onset of the Confederate army. They were not surprised, asleep in their tents, as it was for a time the fashion to tell the story, but by Buckland's watchful courage the attack was anticipated and prepared for as fully as an inferior force could prepare. Overpowered by numbers and far out-flanked, they were slowly driven back, yielding only step by step, and ever turning in good order to face the foe, from early morning till sunset, proving themselves worthy of the good leaders who commanded them. With nightfall came Buell's army, with others of the Sandusky County boys in its ranks, and on the morrow Grant, strong in his reinforcements, led them to decisive victory.

It was not my fortune to see them there, but quite late in the war I saw the little remnant of the regiment in one of the noblest feats of arms of which our history tells. It was in the battle of Nashville, near the right of General Thomas' line, on the second and decisive day of that important battle. The Confederate army had entrenched a long line of hills running east and west, then turning sharply southward in front of our right. In the angle was a high knoll, since famous as Shy's hill, and in the hollow before it, crowding in front of the trenches, which had been pushed close to the enemy upon the opposite slope, was McMillan's brigade, containing what was left of your Seventy-second. It was my fortune to be beside General Thomas, that afternoon, at the time the signal for the final assault was given, and we were awaiting the movement which McMillan was to begin. In a moment the dark line moved forward up the hill, rushing impetuously as they neared the top, where they were lost to view in the great white puffs of cannon smoke as the enemy's batteries opened upon them. But we heard a thundering cheer that was not a "rebel yell" and knew that the gallant charge was a success, and that Hood's line was broken! To right and to left the Union ranks had also charged in generous emula-

tion of the little brigade that had led, and the whole Confederate army broke away in disorganized rout, the lines of blue rushing over them pell-mell! Among those who went forward in that leading line were boys who had gone from the farms and shops of Sandusky County. Some may be here to-day, blushing to hear their praises sounded, or tearfully recalling the noble comrades who fell in the fierce assault. Vividly it all comes back as we look across the twenty years that intervene, and we dream we still hear the "tramp, tramp, tramp," as "the boys are marching!"

Again, I find you were represented in the Hundredth and Hundred-and-Eleventh Ohio. What of them? I think I can tell you incidents of their career which came under my own eye and which will prove them worthy comrades of the rest. My personal acquaintance with them began in the winter of 1863-4, in East Tennessee, when they had served under Burnside in the siege of Knoxville, and had taken part in the repulse of the famous assault by Longstreet, a combat as desperate and decisive as that which raged in the ditch of Fort Stephenson here, but where the combatants counted as many thousands as here they counted scores. When I took command of the Twenty-third army corps in December, they were part of it, and in thinking of that time memory recalls scenes of heroic endurance of privation, and patriotic devotion under trying circumstances, such as have rarely been matched.

We have, all our lives, been used to admire the constancy and shudder at the sufferings of the soldiers of our first great Revolution, under Washington at Valley Forge. Their camp of log huts in the midst of the winter snows; their scant clothing; their marching over frozen ground, leaving the prints of their feet in blood, are incidents which have justly been used to prove their heroism and boundless love of country. But I am within the limits of strictest truth when I say that in that winter in East Tennessee every feature of these sufferings was literally repeated and some of them intensified. Let me try to give you a single picture. On New Year's eve, of 1864, a terrible cyclone of frosty wind swept down from the north-west over the whole valley of the Ohio and Tennessee, reaching and searching with its blasts the whole region to the base of the Great Smoky mountains of North Carolina. From a mild evening on the 31st of December, the thermometer fell in a single hour to zero. It struck the little army in East Tennessee when they were in the worst possible condition to resist its influence. During the siege of Knoxville they had been shut out from all communication with their base of supplies, and when the siege was raised and Longstreet retreated, the winter had set in, and the long



mountain roads across Tennessee and Kentucky to the Ohio river were impassable. Chattanooga also had been beleaguered, and no supplies could come by that route. Clothing was worn out, the commissariat was exhausted, and the troops had to live upon the scanty food that could be bought or got by foraging in the country. Their tents were in rags, and what was left of them had to be taken for clothing. The activity of the enemy forbade the building of cantonments, and the men had to bivouac in the open air, sheltered only by such booths as they could hastily make from the limbs of trees. On that New Year's morning, the morning of happy greetings and general joy the whole civilized world over, I went down through the camp to say such cheerful or hopeful words as I could to our suffering men. I found them huddling about the camp fires in every stage of raggedness and destitution. Few had overcoats, some had no coats at all, many had no shoes, and one poor fellow without pantaloons and with an old blanket pulled around him like a petticoat, was roasting a few grains of corn he had collected and washed from the dung where the mules stood. To my sympathetic greeting he answered, "It's pretty rough, General, but we'll see it through!" And that was the spirit that pervaded that whole camp. They would see it through! Aye, and right nobly they made good their words. Their first term of enlistment was near expiring, but Abraham Lincoln, in the name of the country, had called upon the veterans to re-enlist, and in the very depth of that time of distress we heard the cheers arising from one and another of the regimental camps, as they completed the organization of the regiment for another "three years or the war!" I challenge history to produce anywhere another such example of absolute devotion to a country and a cause! You will not wonder that I am proud to meet here again comrades who were thus tried and *not* found wanting, nor that it is a satisfaction to remember that that was the beginning of two year's close association with such men, reaching through the constant fighting of the Atlanta campaign; through that most bitter of all fights, the battle of Franklin; through the campaign of Nashville, and another upon the coast of North Carolina, till it was our good fortune to receive the surrender of General Joe Johnston at Greensboro, almost upon the battlefield of one of the historic engagements of the Revolutionary war.

But the list is far from being ended. Your men were in the Fifty-fifth also, under Colonel Lee. With these I served in that first mountain campaign of West Virginia, to which I have already referred. I saw them again when they came back to Washington at the close of Pope's campaign of 1862. They had served under Fremont in the,

Shenandoah; they had fought gallantly "with Siegel" at the second Bull Run, and were still to give proof of their soldierly quality at Chancellorsville and at Gettysburg. Again, I met them in Georgia, at Resacca, and can attest their good service till, Atlanta taken, they marched away to the sea with Sherman.

Then there was Gibson's Forty-ninth, which had seen its first service under Robert Anderson in Kentucky; had marched with Buell to Grant's relief at Shiloh; had fought under Rosecrans at Stone River; had gone through the fire at Chickamauga; had shared the glory of Mission Ridge, and had then come to our relief at Knoxville, thenceforth to be part of the same grand army with us, so that to them also I can truthfully say, we are not strangers, but brothers-in-arms, and I have been a personal witness to your patriotism and your glory!

Even with some who were not called upon to perform the more arduous and perilous duties of the field it was my fortune to be associated for a little while, and to learn that there were duties which could be honorably performed that were quite as necessary as any that we did elsewhere. In the fall of 1863 an alarm sounded through the country that John Morgan's men, who had escaped to Canada, were organizing a descent upon the military prison at Johnson's Island, in Sandusky bay, and I was sent there in haste, by the Secretary of War, to provide for its defence. There I found the Hoffman battalion, the nucleus of what became the Hundred and twenty-eighth Ohio, in which you were also represented. I do not know whether your Sandusky County contingent had then joined that regiment, but I do know the character of the delicate and responsible duty they performed there, in guarding the Confederate officers to whom that military prison was assigned. No charges of unnecessary severity can be made against them; no suspicion of remissness of duty or unfaithfulness to their trust ever tarnished their fame. They did their duty well and faithfully when they were assigned to do it, and for such, as well as the others, your monument is reared.

To a considerable number of your young men befell that saddest of all fates, to fall into the hands of the enemy and undergo the horrors of the prison-pen at Andersonville. As so large a proportion of your volunteers were in the Seventy-second regiment, and as the lamentable affair at Guntown, Mississippi, resulted in the capture of many of them, you have as a community been forced to know more of the miseries worse than wounds, worse, a thousand fold worse, than death on the battle-field, which came to those who lost their liberty while fighting for their country. God forbid that I should stir up the embers of strife

over the responsibility for the condition of the prisoners in that place of doom, worse than any scene in the Inferno that Dante has pictured. I deal only with the historical fact that your brothers and sons suffered there such horrors that those who died quickly were to be deemed happy, and that they are those whom we may not forget or pass by when we speak of those whom this monumental shaft shall commemorate. Neither is it my province to criticise the conduct of the affair in which they were captured. We came to bury them, and to record their sufferings for their country, not to accuse any as its cause, whether friend or foe.

As I could speak from my own knowledge of the glorious career of so many of your friends, so, alas, in the strange experiences of the war, I was forced to see the terrible results of imprisonment at Andersonville and Salisbury, upon men who had been models of physical strength and mental endurance, toughened by months and years of life in the field. In North Carolina, in the spring of 1865, it became my duty to receive a train load of our soldiers who came from the Confederate prisons, and were handed over in exchange for some which Sherman's army had captured. Among them may well have been some of your own neighbors, for they came from the prisons where your men of the Seventy-second had been confined. Emaciated beyond recognition by the mothers that bore them; mere skeletons, without the strength to free themselves from the dirt in which they lay; the intelligence gone out of their faces, they hardly seemed to be human beings. Their famished and diseased condition was such that the most trifling injury became gangreened and ulcerous. Starvation and sickness had broken down the minds of many of them, and they gazed vacantly, with almost idiotic stare, out of the car windows, unable to comprehend that liberty had come to them and that tender nursing and care awaited them, but they seemed indifferent to all that happened, and not to know or care whither they were going. Too utterly broken down even to respond by a look to the stirring refrain of your camp song which promised they "should breathe the air of freedom once again," they could not comprehend that they were no longer captives. Our surgeons strove to stimulate them by asking the names of fathers, of mothers, of brothers, of sisters—to remind them of home and give them new life by making them tell of the comforts and affection awaiting them. Many were too far gone even for this, and could give but a blank, demented stare in response. Not a few 'died and made no sign,' not even arousing enough to know that they were free or to give the name that might be

put upon the head-board of their grave. 'Unknown' was all that could be written there! And for those that did recover, the way was as a path out of the valley of the shadow of death. With little doses of good nourishment, and with skillful medical treatment, they came slowly back to life to tell a story of horrors endured for their country's cause such as would have been thought the mad invention of delirium if their pitiful physical condition had not borne witness to the unspeakable things they had endured.

With all these things in our minds, can we doubt that this monument will teach its lesson to your children, and your children's children coming after you? Will they not hang breathless on the tale as you repeat to them the gallant deeds and the heroic sufferings of your valiant soldiers, the dead and the living? Will not the lesson, that men can thus do and die for their country, be one worth teaching, and that will make them nobler and better in their generation than if they had not succeeded to such a priceless heritage?

I have spoken in the main of your soldiery by classes and by organizations, and their great numbers forbade any more particular or detailed mention. Yet I would not close without reference to some of the greatly distinguished names, fit to be associated in military comradeship with the great captain who led to victory at Donelson, at Shiloh, at Vicksburg, at Mission Ridge. A soldiers' monument speaks for both commanders and men, and the true soldier glories quite as much in the fame of his general who led him as in his own courage or in the battle-rent colors of his regiment. It is thus, as I have already said, that the memory of Grant comes promptly to the mind, and his name to our lips on such an occasion. It is thus that every soldier who fought his way to Atlanta, or marched down to the sea, will involuntarily swing his hat for Sherman, as he fights his battles o'er again. Those who wore the badges of the Army of the Cumberland will tell the listener how little the bravery of the line would, at times, have counted, had not the 'Rock of Chickamauga,' Thomas, been there with cool head and immovable will to guide the fight.

But you need not go to a distance for examples of this true leadership which your monument will honor and commemorate with that of Croghan in the old fight of Fort Stephenson. A few miles away, in the southern part of your county, repose the ashes of as good a soldier, as chivalrous a leader, as gallant a gentleman, and as pure a man, as ever fell upon the battle-field. And if a fitting monument specially marks the place where he rests, as it should do, still no soldier of Sandusky.

County will fail to claim that this general memorial of your martial virtue is, in part, also dedicated to McPherson. And as the inscriptions upon its base have, with wisdom and justice, been so worded as to include your living as well as your dead soldiers, may I not mention, as a worthy representative of the survivors, one who not only has your esteem and love as a neighbor and friend, but whom the people of Ohio, and again those of the United States, have called successively to the highest executive duties and position? I trust General Hayes' modesty will not too greatly suffer if I close my personal reminiscences of Sandusky County soldiers with an incident that he has lasting cause to remember; and which, like the rest I have related, occurred under my own eye. To all who served in the old "Kanawha Division," its name and fame are dear, for in it they took the first hard lessons of a soldiers' duty in the rugged hills of West Virginia, and in it they felt the glad thrill of pride when, on first proving their metal beside the veterans of the Army of the Potomac, they found they had no cause to blush for the results of their training in mountain warfare. The Twenty-third Ohio, with Lieutenant-Colonel Hayes in command, was part of that division, and in the battle of South Mountain, which opened the campaign of Antietam, in September, 1862, was in the front line. The enemy held the crest of the ridge at Turner's gap, behind a stone wall, up to which, over meadows and corn fields, the charge was made. We noticed, as we advanced, how the perfect range of the hostile guns made the curve of the canister shot fit the slopes of the hill, and cut the turf with the sound of a knife cutting the rind of a water-melon. We noticed, too, that the crash of the shrapnel in the bit of woods behind us sounded as if the trees were made of some 'brash' and brittle stuff with no fiber in it; but the unflinching line went forward with a cheer, in a real bayonet charge. By one of the coincidences of war, the Twenty-third Ohio was opposed by the Twenty-third North Carolina, which held the wall. On dashed the Ohio boys through the fiery storm and carried the crest, driving its defenders in confusion from it. And though your neighbor languished long, by reason of the wound under which he fell as the wall was gained, and though his good wife had a sad and weary task in finding her way to the camp hospital hid away under the shadow of the Catoctin mountain, where he was carried, I venture to say they both look back to that time with a glow of pride and satisfaction to-day, realizing that it is a blessed thing to have served the country, even at such a cost.

Everywhere, at every church, in every gathering, in town and in

country, you may meet the men with empty sleeve or halting upon a crutch. Often they seem anxious to hide their crippled condition, as if it were no honor to have sacrificed a limb for the nation's cause. It is for you to make them feel that you honor them as heroes, and know that they would show the same noble devotion again if the occasion should arise. The same memory of the spontaneous self-sacrifice of the great war-time should soften and temper all fierce political partizanship, as we think how universal was this willingness of the whole people to give their best treasures, without stint, when a real peril was threatening the land. The spirit may slumber, but it is there still, and should give us an abiding faith that our countrymen, however they may differ from us upon some exciting question of the time, are true and faithful in their loyal patriotism and worthy of fraternal confidence.

This monument may thus teach us a broader lesson than we had thought. It is a witness of the devotion of a whole people to national institutions that are founded upon the right of every man to his own liberty, and to the fruits of his own free labor. A solid respect for the liberty and property that each has acquired under the safe protection of the laws, would seem to remove all danger of future social convulsions and revolutions. Men may talk of antagonisms between classes; between capital and labor; between rich and poor; but since the inalienable right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" has been extended to every citizen, of whatever race, by the sacrifices and the blood of the noble host which this shaft shall keep in remembrance, we cannot doubt the permanence of a government which is based upon this broad foundation of human liberty.

May the monument then, in pointing to the struggles of the past, fit us for better citizenship in the future. May its lesson be not only one of sympathy for great suffering, of admiration for noble conduct, or even of emulation for self-sacrifice, but may it also teach that true republicanism can only be built upon purity of character, honesty of purpose, and real brotherhood of feeling. If we learn this, the bitterness of the past will be forgotten, and only its expanding and ripening influences be remembered. One interest and one sentiment will bind together South and North, and all will unite in the fervent prayer for one great Republic, *esto perpetua*.

When the cheers which followed subsided, General Hayes remarked : There is an old adage, that "time and tide wait for no man." A railroad train waits neither for man nor woman, therefore we must bring these exercises to a speedy conclusion. General Hayes then introduced



MEDAL AWARDED TO  
**MAJOR GEORGE CROGHAN,**  
BY CONGRESS,  
For his gallant defence of Fort Stephenson.

## SENATOR JOHN SHERMAN,

Who was greeted with great applause. He said : I have listened with great satisfaction to the able address read by Captain Lemmon and the eloquent speech of General Cox, and many thoughts were suggested by them and by the interesting ceremonies we had the honor of witnessing to-day, but in view of the lateness of the hour, I hope you will excuse me from saying anything. I thank you heartily for your greeting, and hope that at some time or other I may be able to serve you.

General Hayes then introduced

## SENATOR HENRY B. PAYNE,

Who was greeted with applause and said : I have been delighted with your exercises to-day. The speech of General Cox was admirable in thought and well delivered. I wish to throw out another idea. Great as the sacrifice of precious life was during our late civil war it is a fact that the irrepressible antagonism between slavery and freedom never would have been settled in this world short of a civil war. The North would not give and the South would not accept compensation for the loss of slaves, even during the second and third years of the war. The great struggle for the unity of the States and the perpetuity of the nation ended finally in the liberation of the slaves, and thus the greatest obstacle to the growth and greatness of this nation has been removed by civil war.

You, ladies, have contributed to it. You, citizens of Sandusky County, have contributed men and money for this great war, but you have been repaid a thousand times. Never could this nation have been what it is if slavery had not been extinguished. There is no longer any great danger for the future of our country.

A few thoughts more : Not only has slavery been abolished and this fearful sacrifice of war closed, but, thank God, every sword is sheathed between the citizens of this country. That assurance gave General Grant great consolation and joy in the last hours of his life. He rejoiced to know that North and South were again fraternally citizens. This period is great and glorious. We are a reconstructed republic with a prestige and power and glory. As proof of this fraternal feeling contemplate the people of this country, who, without distinction of section, color, or sex ; ex-soldiers, Union or Confederate,



are at this very hour sitting by the grave of General Grant, weeping as Jesus wept at the grave of Lazarus, or like Martha and Peter at the grave of their best friend.

It is due to the memory of the dead that you should commemorate their noble deeds. Will not this beautiful shaft tell to future time, to successive generations, the story of these brave men of Sandusky County? It will continue as long as the country shall last. Decoration Day will keep alive the story of the past. That will last as long as this union shall last, and let us hope that this union shall last for you and your children, even until the second coming of Christ.

### CAPTAIN JOSEPH B. FORAKER

was then introduced by General Hayes as one who, at the beginning of the war, was too young to be an officer, and therefore carried a knapsack. He was received with an ovation of cheers, and spoke substantially as follows:

MY FELLOW CITIZENS:—I wish I could make fitting response to such a cordial greeting. Under other circumstances it would be a great pleasure to talk to you at some length, but in view of the lateness of the hour, and in view of the fact of which we have been told, and so well understand, that railroad trains do not wait for man or woman, it would not be proper for me to detain you at any length. I simply thank you for the opportunity you have afforded me to mingle and participate with you on so interesting an occasion as this. It is always a pleasure to me to help dedicate monuments that are erected to the memory of our soldiers, not simply because they perpetuate the fact that our soldiers were brave men, who heroically suffered and gave up their lives for their country; not simply because, as the result of that great struggle, the system of slave labor was wiped out; but rather because the American Union of States was preserved, a nationality based upon the idea of human liberty and equal rights for all mankind. This is the idea that we brought out of that war, and it is the grandest idea that we did bring out. Let us cherish it and cultivate it. If there is one thing of which we are more proud than another, it is that of which Senator Payne has spoken. We appreciate that our victory was the victory of the whole country. Let us cherish this idea and go forward with hope, and in the future reap that great and high position that is in store for the American people.

General Hayes then said: "To the men who tell about good

things done, we owe almost as much as to the men who do them. I will introduce to you

MAJOR W. W. ARMSTRONG,

of the Cleveland *Plain-Dealer*.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—I claim to be one of the old pioneers of the Sandusky Valley. Thirty-two years ago, I think—I do not propose to give myself away as to my age—(laughter) in company with General J. C. Lee, I came from Tiffin to the town of Fremont to assist in running a hand-engine at a celebration of Croghan's victory here. We had a good time amongst ourselves in the day time, and in the evening with the girls. [Laughter.]

Now the gentlemen have been speaking of gallant soldiers, referring to General Buckland, ex-President Hayes and others. I want to call attention to the fact that several of the most brave and gallant men of Sandusky County have not yet been mentioned. I refer to General Eaton and to Major-General Jas. B. McPherson, the latter of whom was General Grant's right arm man. Another brave man of the same neighborhood who went into the 101st Ohio, was Leander Stem. He is the man that told his boys to stand up for the honor of the good old State of Ohio.

Then there is another gallant soldier with whom I differ in politics and perhaps in religion, yet I consider him the gallantest soldier of all this region, and his name is General Bill Gibson. [Cheers.]

Ladies and gentlemen, I did not participate personally in this great war. I staid at home in Seneca County with my gallant friend Charles Foster, and sent the boys to the front. (Laughter). I signed the commissions for the men who went and can say with Governor Foster that Seneca and Sandusky Counties and our military district sent as brave soldiers as were sent from any other section of the State of Ohio.

And now, gentlemen, I am exceedingly obliged to General Hayes for giving me the opportunity to speak here, and I may as well embrace the opportunity to do a little free advertising for the Cleveland *Plain-Dealer*. We will have the speech of my friend Captain Foraker printed in that paper [laughter], also the speeches of Mr. Lemmon, Mr. Cox, and others. The paper sells at five cents per copy.

This is the first time that I ever have had the fortune to lay my eyes upon Captain Foraker [Laughter.] I have heard of him before.

I have heard people say that sometimes the Governor got a little ill-natured. (Laughter). He does not look at all ill-natured now.

Some one suggested that the title of Governor was a little too previous, but the speaker said he should not change it. I hope his friends will keep up his good nature during our fall campaign, but if he ever gets ill-natured again, just call on Dr. Leonard.

\* \* \* \* \*

I thank you for your kindness, and will say that there is no place in Ohio outside of the city of my present residence, (Cleveland, Ohio,) that I think more of than of this Sandusky Valley and the City of Fremont; and for your kindness and hospitality, I tender you my heartfelt thanks. [Applause.]

### GOVERNOR FOSTER

was next introduced. He said :

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—I think I can discount my friend W. W. Armstrong upon a long continued residence in Seneca County. I have no desire to prolong this meeting by any remarks of mine, but would only say that my friend has advertised me here in this church as well as he has advertised me in the past. [Laughter.] I must refer as Captain Foraker did to the fact that railroad trains do not wait for man or woman and I beg you to excuse me from further remarks. I have the most pleasant recollections connected with this town of Fremont. It was here I married a wife. [Applause.]

General Hayes introduced

### HON. W. D. HILL,

member of Congress. He said :

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—I did not come here to-day to make an address, but I came particularly to listen to Governor Cox and to look at the magnificent monument which has been erected by the patriotism and enterprise of the people of Sandusky County. Besides that, I have not got into the habit of making speeches in a church [laughter] and I hesitate to undertake it. I am also advised that trains do not wait for us, and I do not want to be responsible for a delay which my speech may cause. I thank you for your having given me an opportunity for witnessing these interesting ceremonies to-day. [Applause.]

General Hayes then said: The people of Fremont have a most

agreeable recollection of a studious and modest but very promising boy who resided here a generation or more ago, and who has since made for himself a name in public life, and especially as one of the gallantest Brigadier Generals of the war—GENERAL JOHN BEATTY. [Applause.]

General Beatty having left the hall, General Hayes said: I would like now to introduce a famous editor, who was once Postmaster at the Confederate Cross Roads—MR. D. R. LOCKE, of Toledo.

The Toledo delegation left the church to reach the 5 o'clock P. M. train. Mr. Locke, Hon. Clark Waggoner, General Fuller, General Charles L. Young and others, were not heard from.

General James M. Comly and General M. D. Leggett excused themselves on account of the lateness of the hour.

### GENERAL J. C. LEE

being introduced, said:

MR. CHAIRMAN:—You ought not to ask me to say anything. Time and tide wait for nothing, neither man nor woman, and railroad trains are worse than time and tide. I am not going until 8 o'clock to-night, so that—let's see—how long (looking at his watch) can I speak? [Laughter]. I thank the committee for inviting me to be here on this occasion. It has been to me a day of the highest pleasure and enjoyment, and to enumerate the sources of that enjoyment would be quite out of place now, for you well understand what they are. To see the monument located on Fort Stephenson, which was defended by that gallant young soldier, Major Croghan, seventy-two years ago, and when the flag or veil fell off, to see in position surmounting it the statue of a private soldier of the war which put down the rebellion, sent a thrill through my whole being, that I believe will continue to vibrate while my memory shall endure.

We stand with uncovered head, and bow ourselves in the presence of the fact that our great military leader (General Grant) for the first time surrendered to a mightier chieftain and now lies cold on Mt. McGregor's top. We admire the glorious character and matchless military genius and splendid statesmanship of that great hero, who held in his hand the direction of millions of intelligent soldiers of America, and hurled them with imposing effect upon the rebellion. Much as my heart fills with sadness at the thought of his taking off, still I say to you that I bow in reverence also at the feet of the private soldier, who helped to put down the rebellion under the guidance of the illustrious General Grant.

The sword is mighty, but the musket is mightier. He who commands at the head of the army challenges our admiration, but he who, through patriotism, takes his musket in hand and marches over rough stones and through deep mud from night till morning and morning till night, is the great character of the American Republic. The man who will voluntarily leave wife and little ones at home, with nothing to depend upon but the charity and kindness of neighbors, and who will stand up to be shot down in defence of his country, for you and for me, and for our children, is my ideal of a great soldier, and when I shall turn worshiper at the feet of humanity, I want to bow myself in the presence of the private soldier of the armies of America. [Cheers.]

You of the committee will ever remember that that beautiful shaft is synonymous with the highest citizenship, the private soldier, braced for the severest duty, ready to defend the Constitution and the Union, is synonymous with the highest patriotism. This thought has run through my heart. The country will thank *you* and the *people* of this county for the exhibition of patriotism you give in the erection of this monument, and I join feebly in this expression of their and my gratitude. [Applause.]

Ex-Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R., JOHN S. KOUNTZ, of Toledo, was next called, but had left for home.

#### GENERAL ROBERT P. KENNEDY

was introduced by General Hayes as one of the boys of his regiment, the 23d Ohio, and being used to obeying orders, spoke as follows:

The 23d boys are generally called upon on such occasions as this. I remember when the 23d boys were not called upon in vain. That was at the front, down at Antietam, over the hills in Virginia. And I want it understood now and here that the boys of America have not all died. These old soldiers are some in the prime of life. It was the boys that shouldered the knapsacks, and carried the muskets, and won the victories, and brought back the old flag and planted it throughout all this great land of ours. And not only that, but if the time shall ever come again when it shall appear necessary for the boys of America to preserve this country, to save its flag, to protect its liberty, they will do it again.

Now I have heard it said by a good many of these people who went into the army and became captains and majors, generals, etc., that it was merely accidental that they rose to higher stations. I say that men of worth rose to their places by force of character. They had

first to be tried by the mighty whirl-wind, the chaff had been winnowed away. Sherman was there because Sherman had been pronounced capable of commanding a mighty army. McPherson was there because he was capable to lead the army of the Tennessee. And Grant the old commander was there because God Almighty put a soul in him and system into his head so that he could lead all the mighty armies to victory.

Sherman, when leading his army, was only forty years of age. Grant led an army at the age of forty-two. McPherson led an army at thirty-four. It is fit that you build monuments to such as these. Put up your statues that the coming ages may remember that the greatest armies that ever battled for freedom come from the hearts and homes of the American people.

Among that mighty army was one man who led grander armies than Cæsar's, and fought greater battles than Napoleon. He was a greater general than Cæsar, because Cæsar fought for conquest, while this man fought for justice; grander than Wellington, because Wellington fought for power, while this man fought for liberty; grander than Napoleon, because Napoleon's battles were for glory, while this man fought for justice and humanity. This chieftain of chieftains, this hero of heroes, was Ulysses S. Grant.

General Hayes then said: We have had comrades from the northwest, and will now have one from the southeastern part of Ohio:

#### GENERAL CHAS. H. GROSVENOR.

It is a glorious time to erect a soldiers' monument in 1885. We are sure now that we have a restored Union, and a constitution resting upon the foundation that the fathers gave us; that fraternal relations exist in all sections. I congratulate you on the erection of the monument, and I hope that this will be to you a year of jubilee.

After the doxology was sung, Rev. H. P. Barnes, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Clyde, pronounced the benediction and the audience dispersed.

There was a rush for supper, and then a marching to and from the depot as the strangers began leaving the city. The rain had ceased and a large crowd remained on the streets until a late hour. A splendid exhibition of fire works from the top of the stand pipe closed one of the most pleasant and successful occasions our city has ever witnessed. The crowd, though immense, was well entertained, and everyone went away feeling repaid for having been in Fremont on that day.

## THE MUSIC,

which interspersed the exercises of the day was exceptionally good, and added greatly to the pleasure and interest of the occasion. It consisted of the rendition of our popular patriotic songs by a glee club composed of the following gentlemen: James L. Pease, Toledo, leader; John G. Fitch, Fremont; J. M. Shafer, William Howell, Chas. Casner, of Toledo. P. T. Germain, of Toledo, organist, and Fred H. Dorr, of this city, cornetist, accompanied two of the songs.

## WHAT THE PRESS SAYS.

Among the many compliments bestowed upon the people of Fremont for the success of the celebration and unveiling, we publish the following :

The public tone in Fremont is broad and liberal and generous. The churches and public buildings are good and substantial; the reservation of Fort Stephenson establishes a beauty centre, and the Library makes it also the intellectual fountain. Now, to crown and perpetuate all, is the beautiful monument, dedicated Saturday.

Certainly no monument in the country could have more of the grandest memorial character than this—erected on the site of one of the most brilliant and memorable events of the War of Twelve, commemorating the desperate valor of Croghan and his men; commemorating the heroism of McPherson and the thousands of other Sandusky County heroes of the Civil War; dedicated with solemn consciousness of that death-cold and now eternally silent illustrious chieftain lying at the Drexel Cottage.

It was well that the unveiling of the Fremont monument should be witnessed by such an array of Senators, Representatives, Judges, statesmen, soldiers and civilians as have seldom been seen together in an interior town.

The speeches were all good. That of General Cox was a surprise even to those familiar with his great powers as an orator of scholarly and polished diction. It was wonderfully sympathetic, and thrilled the audience at times until the applause shook the old Presbyterian meeting-house into something like an indecorum.

We should be glad to write something worthy of the occasion. But the very vastness of the memories and the environments make it impossible. This effort may serve as an apology, only.—*Toledo Commercial Telegram.*

There was an enormous throng of people in the beautiful city of Fremont last Saturday, on the occasion of the unveiling of the soldiers' monument, but large as it was it did not exhaust the hospitality of the citizens. There were probably 20,000 people present, and all were splendidly cared for, the citizens vying with each other in their efforts to make everybody comfortable. Ex-President Hayes entertained a very large number from all parts of the State, and well nigh everybody else kept open house. There was not only the most magnificent hospitality on the part of the citizens but the committees had so well done their work that the celebration passed off without hitch or unpleasant occurrence, that anybody was responsible for. The only thing that marred the pleasure of the crowd was the rain in the afternoon which dispersed the multitude in the park, and drove them into a church. Despite the unfavorable weather, the celebration was a notable success, and a credit to the county and city.—*Toledo Blade*.

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### LETTERS OF REGRET.

Letters regretting inability to be present were received by the committee of the Monumental Association from many distinguished persons to whom they had extended invitations, among which are the following :

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON.

The President has received the invitation of the Committee in charge to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, at Fremont, on August 1st, and regrets that his official and other engagements will prevent its acceptance.

Friday, July 17.

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MT. MCGREGOR, N. Y., July 14.

*Gentlemen*.—Gen. Grant directs me to acknowledge receipt of your invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, in Fremont, on the 1st of August, and to convey to you his heartfelt thanks for the kind expressions contained therein personal to himself.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. E. DAWSON.

*Gen. R. B. Hayes, ex-President U. S., and others, Committee.*

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912 GARRISON AVENUE, ST. LOUIS, MO., July 15, 1885.

*General R. B. Hayes, Fremont, Ohio* :

*Dear General*.—Pardon me if, in addressing you as General instead of President, I make a mistake, but I always do so to General Grant, and feel the former title the more familiar. I have received your most friendly note of July 13, and the other one, equally kind and acceptable, of Mrs. Hayes, dated "Spiegel



Grove," and regret extremely that I must answer both that every day, from this to Sept. 10, is so parcelled out, and dove-tailed, that I cannot possibly change a day without violating promises of long standing. My entire family is now at Lake Minnetonka. I remain behind a few days to supervise the re-construction of a house formerly occupied by my daughter, Mrs. Fitch, and am under promise to leave here Thursday, or Friday at the latest, for Chicago, and thence to St. Paul, Minneapolis and Lake Minnetonka. There I remain for about three weeks, with engagements at Fort Snelling, etc., and must be in New York shortly after the middle of August; then Mansfield, Ohio, Sept. 1, where John Sherman has arranged for a family reunion; then St. Louis, to settle up for the new house, and finally the Army of the Tennessee, Sept. 9-10, at Chicago. For an old soldier turned out to grass, this surely is a fair amount of labor, for no one knows better than you that these "pleasant" reunions of old soldiers are the hardest kind of work for such as me, around whose name every soldier who served at the West wears a chain of memories, personal to himself yet associated with my name.

The defence of Fort Stephenson, by Croghan and his gallant little band, was the necessary precursor to Perry's victory on the Lake, and of General Harrison's triumphant victory at the battle of the Thames. These assured to our immediate ancestors the mastery of the Great West, and from that day to this the west has been the bulwark of this nation.

The occasion is worthy a monument to the skies, and nothing could be more congenial to me personally than to assist, but, as I hope I have demonstrated, it is impossible.

Tell Mrs. Hayes that Rachel is with the family at Minnetonka, and that I will carry her letter to her by Sunday next. Accept the assurance of my profound respect for yourself and every member of your family.

Sincerely yours,

W. T. SHERMAN.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., August 4, 1885. }

*My Dear Sir:*—Returning on Saturday from duty in the Indian Territory, I found here your very polite note requesting my attendance at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, at Sandusky, Ohio, on the 1st of August.

I regret very much that I was so situated as to be unable to be present on that interesting occasion.

Yours very truly,

P. H. SHERIDAN,

*Gen. R. B. Hayes, Fremont, Ohio.*

*Lieut General.*

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GOVERNORS ISLAND, N. Y., July 15.

*My Dear General:*—Your note of the 13th, enclosing invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, in Fremont, Ohio, Saturday, August 1st, has been received.

It would afford me great pleasure to be present and participate in the unveiling ceremonies on that occasion, which, occurring on the anniversary of Major George Croghan's gallant defence of Fort Stephenson, August 2, 1813, is

of additional interest, but my official duties interfere with my absence from home, save for brief periods, and oblige me to decline. I thank you for your kindly expressions in conveying to me the invitation, and I beg you will express to your committee my regrets.

I am, very truly yours,

W. S. HANCOCK.

WILSON, KAN., July 25.

*Hon. R. B. Hayes and Others:*

*Gentlemen:*—It will be impossible for me to accept invitation to be present at Fort Stephenson, on account of poor health. Will explain by letter.

Yours truly,

WM. GAINS.

NEW YORK, July 22.

*Committee Invitations:*—I sincerely regret that I cannot join in your tribute, to-morrow, of grateful recollection to the early heroes of your State. The interest and pleasure which I should have had in being present, would have been increased by realizing on that historic ground the honor conferred on me in giving to it my name. Your monument, rising from the dust of a century, and the funeral gloom which to-day covers the country, shows that this republic is not ungrateful, but generously mindful of good service rendered.

J. C. FREMONT,

130 East 64th.

UNITED STATES SENATE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 16. }

*Hon. R. B. Hayes, Chairman, etc.:*

*My Dear Sir:*—I am in receipt of your invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, at Fremont, Ohio, August 1. It would afford me much pleasure to be present on that occasion, but I have engagements East that will prevent.

Very truly,

JOHN A. LOGAN.

CHICAGO, July 16, 1885.

*Gen. R. B. Hayes, etc., Committee:*

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your courteous invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, at Fremont, Ohio, Saturday, August 1, for which please accept my thanks.

I regret that official duties will require my presence at my Headquarters in Chicago, and I am compelled, therefore, to decline your very cordial invitation.

Very truly yours,

J. M. SCHOFIELD.

MT. VERNON, July 31, 1885.

*My Dear General:*—I greatly regret that I am not able to be present at your celebration on to-morrow. Do me the kindness to present my cordial salutations to Gen. Cox.

With great respect, very truly,

GEORGE W. MORGAN.

*His Excellency, R. B. Hayes, Chairman, etc.*

ORANGE, NEW JERSEY, July 24, 1885.

*Hon. R. B. Hayes, Chairman:*

*Dear Sir:*—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your courteous invitation to attend the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, in Fremont, on the 1st of August.

I regret that other engagements will render it impossible for me to avail myself of the invitation. With my cordial thanks for the compliment and my best wishes for the complete success of the meeting,

I am, respectfully, your devoted serv't,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC, }  
PRESIDO OF SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., July 21, 1885. }

*Gen. R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, Wm. E. Haynes, Committee:*

*Gentlemen:*—Be pleased to accept my thanks for your kind and considerate invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, at Fremont, on the 1st of August next. Nothing would give me more pleasure than to be present at, and participate in, an occasion so full of interest, but you will perceive from the heading of this letter that nearly the whole continent interposes between us, and absolutely precludes the possibility of my being with you. I am sure you cannot regret it so much as I do.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN POPE.

LEBANON, July 18, 1885.

*Hon. R. B. Hayes, and others, Committee:*

*Messrs:*—I regret that other engagements will prevent my being with you August 1st, though it would give me great pleasure to be at the unveiling of your monument. Express my regrets to your people.

Very truly,

DURBIN WARD.

TOLEDO, July 30, 1885.

*Wm. E. Haynes, Esq., Chairman, Fremont, Ohio:*

*Dear Sir:*—Pressing business engagements will prevent my attendance at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument in your city on August 1st, a circumstance which I regret exceedingly. It is forty years since I first became a resident of Sandusky County, and among my earliest and pleasantest recollections are the annual celebrations of Croghan's victory. This important event is the bright particular page in our county's history of the war of 1812-15, one of which our people are justly proud.

This year you connect with this time-honored custom another broad and noble object, the dedication of a monument to the memory of the brave men who fell in the defence of our country in the war of the rebellion. No fitter site than Fort Stephenson could be selected. It was my pleasant duty, as the Repre-

representative of our Senatorial District, to introduce in the Ohio Legislature a bill authorizing the Commissioners of Sandusky County to transfer to your Soldiers' Monumental Association funds raised for the erection of a monument, thus securing prompt and efficient action ; and the reflection that I have been able to aid—even in this slight degree—the accomplishment of this noble object will be a source of pleasure to me for all time.

Very respectfully yours,

GODFREY JAEGER.

RED HOOK, DOUGLAS CO., N. Y.,  
TIVOLI P. O., July 20, 1885. }

*Hon. R. B. Hayes, for Committee :*

*Gentlemen:*—I regret extremely that ill-health prevents my acceptance of your very kind remembrance and invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, at Fremont, Ohio, Saturday, August 1st.

From what I had heard I supposed it was a memorial of the defence of Fort Stephenson, 1st and 2d of August, 1813. From those of our people and friends who overlapped me many years when memory received distinct remembrances, sufficiently so to be ever proudly retained, the defence of Maj. Croghan always impressed itself as one of the most praiseworthy deeds of the war of 1812-13, in which so many of my relations and affiliations nobly participated.

In all crises in human affairs, of whatsoever magnitude, it is not men who are wanting to decide events, but the man. At Lower Sandusky, in 1813, the occasion formed the man, Major, afterward Colonel, Geo. Croghan.

Although so little is presented in general history of the details most interesting to a military student, sufficient is known to constitute it as a "big thing," especially to one intimate with Col. Armstrong, son of Major-General, Secretary of War, Armstrong, who lived in a neighboring village in this township. I was full of the stories of the conflict known as the country's "second war for independence."

Although Croghan was a Kentuckian, he came to this same town to seek a wife, Miss Livingstone, from a family with several branches of which I am closely connected in various ways.

In having this creditable exploit of the Major or Colonel thus brought to view, it simultaneously recalled the verses of Duncan Macgregor :

"Men and deeds!"  
Wanted, men!  
Not systems fit and wise.  
  
For even the potent pen,  
Wanted, men  
Wanted; deeds!  
Not words of cunning note.  
  
Not love of cant and creeds,  
Wanted: deeds!  
Men that can dare and do!  
These the occasion needs,  
Men and deeds.

Respectfully,

J. WATTS DEPEYSTER.

*R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, Wm. E. Haynes :*

*Comrades* :—I feel like addressing you as "venerable brethren." In reply to your kind invitation to be present, at Fremont, 1st August proximo, on the occasion of the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument there, I know of no soldiers' reunion which it would give me more pleasure to attend, but I fear I am destined not to be present. If the spirit would avail I should be there.

I am, very truly, your comrade,

W. S. ROSECRANS.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
SPRINGFIELD, July 22. }

*Hon. R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, Wm. E. Haynes, Committee on Invitations :*

*Gentlemen* :—Your invitation of the 1st inst., inviting Gov. Oglesby to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, in Fremont, O., on the first of August prox., duly received.

Gov. Oglesby directs me to say that it would afford him much pleasure to be present on that interesting occasion, but that the demand of public business upon his time necessitates sending his regrets.

Were it not that public measures are demanding his constant attention it would afford him the greatest pleasure to accept of your invitation.

I am very respectfully yours,

H. J. CALDWELL,

*Private Secretary.*

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE OF POST MASTER GENERAL, July 25, 1885. }

*Gentlemen* :—I beg you will accept my hearty thanks for the compliment of your invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, at Fremont, on the first of August next. It will be an occasion well calculated to stir the most patriotic emotions, and one which every soldier would be glad to participate in. I regret exceedingly that my official duties deny me the privilege.

Very respectfully,

WM. VILAS.

*Hon. R. B. Hayes, etc.*

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, July 26, 1885.

*Gentlemen* :—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the invitation of your committee to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, at Fremont, O., on August 1st next. I regret that other engagements will prevent my accepting the invitation of your committee and of being present on the important occasion referred to.

Yours very truly,

W. C. WHITNEY.

STATE OF OHIO, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }  
COLUMBUS, July 10, 1885. }

Col. Wm. E. Haynes, Fremont, O.:

*Dear Colonel:*—The invitation to attend the dedication of the Sandusky County Soldiers' Monument came to us in due course of mail. I regret that it will be out of my power to be present on that occasion. I am compelled to be here to address the colored people on the afternoon of August 1st, being the emancipation of the West Indies.

I sincerely hope you will have a successful occasion, a pleasant day; I am sure you will have fit and noble words spoken to you, both in prose and poetry; that the ceremonies of the occasion may be such as to rivet more firmly in the minds of the people that respect for the surviving soldiers of the war of the rebellion which was so lively when they first returned in glory in 1865.

With my kind regards, your friend,

GEO. HOADLY.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, }  
WASHINGTON, July 18, 1885. }

Messrs. R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, Wm. E. Haynes, Committee:

*Gentlemen:*—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your kind invitation to attend the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, in Fremont, Ohio, on August 1st proximo, and to thank you for it. If it were possible I would be glad to attend; but the nature of my duties and the condition of the public business compel me to decline it, however unwillingly.

Very respectfully,

A. H. GARLAND.

WAR DEPARTMENT, }  
WASHINGTON, July 25, 1885. }

*Dear Sir:*—The Secretary of War directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to him to attend the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument at Fremont on the 1st prox., and to express his regrets that he cannot accept the same.

Very truly yours,

JAY STONE,

*Act. Priv. Sec'y.*

Mt. VERNON, O., July 20, 1885.

*Gentlemen:*—The courteous invitation of your committee to be present at the celebration of the heroic and successful defence of Fort Stephenson by George Croghan, found me ill in bed, and I am now in my office by way of experiment. If I sufficiently regain my strength, I will have the pleasure of being present on that occasion. Thirty-nine years ago Colonel Croghan inspected my regiment in Mexico, and I will be glad to do honor to his character and memory.

With great respect,

GEORGE W. MORGAN.

LAKE HOME, MT. VERNON, O., }  
July 25, 1885. }

*Gentlemen*:—I regret to say that it is impossible for me to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument in Fremont, Ohio, Saturday, August 1st, 1885.

I thank you for your invitation, and I trust the occasion may be pleasant, as I am sure it will be useful in the future, to our country and institutions.

Such tributes to patriotism always promote the welfare of a nation.

With great respect, C. DELANO.

*Hon. R. B. Hayes, Hon. R. P. Buckland, Wm. E. Haynes, Committee, etc.*

465 CLINTON AVENUE, }  
BROOKLYN, N. Y., July 30, 1885. }

*Dear Sir*:—I regret that my engagements are such as to prevent my acceptance of your kind invitation for August 1st, 1885.

Yours truly,

HENRY W. SLOCUM.

*Hon. R. B. Hayes, of Committee.*

CLEVELAND, O., July 25, 1885.

*My Dear General*:—My wife and myself thank you sincerely for your kind invitation to visit you at the ceremonies to be held at your place, and very much regret that owing to sickness of my daughter and her child, it will not be possible for us to accept. Miss Hill is now west, in Illinois. We have, however, sent her your kind invitation. I have been up to Ballast Island since Monday last, hence the delay in this reply. Our regards to all of your family.

Yours,

JAMES BARNETT.

*General Buckland.*

CINCINNATI, July 28, 1885.

*General R. P. Buckland, Fremont, O.:*

*Dear General*:—The invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument August 1st, by the Sandusky County Soldiers' Monument Association, duly received, and I note your courtesy and compliment of inviting me to your house.

I regret extremely that I cannot avail myself of the pleasure of being present, and your hospitality, but I must go east on Sunday or Monday to be gone several weeks, and the responsibilities of my business will keep me occupied every moment before. Thanking you very kindly,

I am, sincerely, etc.,

L. M. DAYTON.

GEORGETOWN, O., August 9, 1885.

*My Dear General:*—I thank you very much for invitation to attend unveiling of Soldiers' Monument, and for copy of papers containing proceedings and speeches.

I was not able to come or I should have been with you. With my best wishes for you and yours,

I remain, sincerely,

Your comrade and friend,

D. W. C. LOUDON.

*General R. P. Buckland, Fremont, Ohio.*

CLARKSBURG, W. Va., July 24, 1885.

*My Dear General:*—Many thanks for your kind remembrance, as shown in your invitation of 18th inst. to attend the unveiling of the Sandusky County Soldiers' Monument, on 1st prox.

I have an engagement in Washington for Friday and Saturday, the 31st inst. and 1st prox., which will prevent my being with you at the time mentioned. I regret it very much, as I would above all things like to visit your section, meet our comrades who will then honor themselves by honoring the memory of their dead, and again meet with your family, all of whom I so fondly remember, and from whom I received such kindness.

Please remember me to Mrs. Hayes and Miss Fanny,

And believe me, most truly,

N. GOFF, JR.

*General R. B. Hayes, Fremont, O.*

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJ. GEN'S OFFICE, }  
WASHINGTON, July 29, 1885. }

*My Dear Mr. President:*—I am in receipt of your very kind invitation to attend the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument at Fremont, on Saturday next, and beg to thank you for the kind words urging me to be present on that occasion.

It would give me great pleasure to attend, but my duties here are so pressing that I shall not be able to take any vacation whatever this summer.

With great respect,

Sincerely yours,

R. C. DRUM.

DAYTON, O., July 24, 1885.

*Messrs. R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, W. E. Haynes, Committee.*

*Gentlemen:*—Respectfully acknowledging your invitation to be present at the Sandusky County Soldiers' Monumental Association, unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, in Fremont, on August 1st prox., and thanking you for the courtesy, I am constrained to send my regrets and compliments on account of business obligations.

Fraternally,

W. D. BICKHAM.



KENTON, O., August 1, 1885.

*My Dear General:*—I write to present my apology to yourself and associates on the committee for my failure to keep my engagement to-day.

My only apology is the weather. Twice in my life I have been overcome by the heat. During the week I have had the threshing machine on my farm, and as the result, have been a good deal out of doors. For two days I have been suffering inconvenience from the exposure. Hence I am admonished that I must remain in doors and keep quiet. This is my reason for not being with you.

Please present my excuse to your associates on the committee. I can only add that I am extremely sorry that I cannot be with you on this memorable occasion.

Very respectfully,

J. S. ROBINSON.

*Gen. R. B. Hayes.*

CLEVELAND, O., July 22, 1885.

*Hon. R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, Wm. E. Haynes, Committee.*

*Gentlemen:*—I sincerely regret not being able to accept your kind invitation for August 1st, at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument at Fremont, as I expect to be out of the State at that time.

Please accept my best wishes for yourselves, the day, and the occasion.

Yours truly,

WM. BINGHAM.

ST. PAUL, July 29, '85.

*My Dear General:*—I have delayed until to-day writing an acknowledgment of your kindly invitation of the 18th inst., to the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument at Fremont, on the 1st of August, because I had hoped I could command the time to be present with you and for this purpose have the further pleasure of paying my respects to yourself and Mrs. Hayes, but I am called to Salt Lake and must leave here for that place on to-morrow.

Ever sincerely yours,

ALEX. RAMSAY.

*Gen. R. B. Hayes, Fremont, O.*

1305 EUCLID AVENUE, }  
CLEVELAND, O., July 17, 1885. }

*Gen'l R. B. Hayes, Chairman S. M. A., Fremont, O.*

*Dear Sir:*—Being a confirmed invalid, unable to leave my home, it is not possible for me to be present on the anniversary of the defence of Fort Stephenson, August 1, 1885.

Your polite invitation brings in review a number of historical events connected with your city, that have occurred during the past century. The rapids of Lower Sandusky, where Fremont now is, put a stop to the expedition of Colonel Bradstreet in October, 1764, on his way to join Colonel Bouquet at the forks of the Muskingum.

During the war of the revolution many of the expeditions of the British and their Indian allies, passed up the Sandusky River, to attack the frontier settlements. In the fall of 1781, the Moravian Missions on the Tuscarawas under Zeisberger, were forced away from their posts, to the towns on the Sandusky and thence to Detroit. Indian and English war parties passed up the river to join in the battle against Colonel Crawford, near Upper Sandusky, in June, 1782. The first Protestant Mission among the Wyandots, and the first United States Agency, were located at the Lower rapids in 1803 and 1808, their buildings forming part of the fort constructed in 1812. The first company drafted on the Reserve in April, 1812, under Captain John Campbell was ordered there, and assisted in completing the fort.

But all these interesting events culminated in the unparalleled discomfiture of the British and Indians, in August, 1813, by a young major of Kentucky, acting against orders. Nothing can be more appropriate than the celebration of a defence so brilliant and complete, and the erection of a durable monument to fix the spot forever.

Very respectfully yours,

CHAS. WHITTLESEY.

WOOSTER, July 27, 1885.

*Dear General:*—I find that I cannot attend your Soldiers' Monument ceremonies on Saturday, and I am very sorry that wife and I will not therefore be able to enjoy your hospitalities on that occasion. I had hoped we could have that pleasure. My official duties at Cleveland and engagements here will not allow me time to visit your city also.

Best regards to you and yours, in which wife joins.

Yours truly,

M. WELKER.

*Gen. Buckland.*

PITTSBURG, Pa., July 29, 1885.

*General R. B. Hayes, Fremont, O.*

*Dear Sir:*—I am much obliged for your kind invitation to the ceremonies on August 1st, and have delayed the acknowledgment because I thought of being present, but my necessary duties will not permit.

I am, with much respect, yours,

C. C. BALDWIN.

AKRON, O., 25th July, 1885.

*Messrs. R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, Wm. E. Haynes, Committee.*

*Gents:*—Please accept my thanks for your invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument in Fremont. It would give me great pleasure to be present, but I shall be prevented by necessary absence from home.

Very respectfully yours, etc.,

WM. H. UPSON.

STATE OF OHIO, ADJ. GEN. DEPARTMENT, }  
COLUMBUS, Ohio, July 16, 1885. }

*Hon. R. B. Hayes, Hon. R. P. Buckland and Hon. W. E. Haynes, Fremont, O.*

*Gentlemen:*—I am in receipt of your favor, tendering me an invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, at Fremont, Saturday, August 1st, 1885, for which accept thanks.

I fear that owing to prior engagements, it will be out of the question for me to be present. It would afford me very great pleasure indeed to be there on that occasion, and if I can possibly arrange to attend, I will do so. I have the honor to be,

Yours truly,

E. B. FINLEY,

*Adj. Gen'l.*

TIFFIN, Ohio, July 11, 1885.

*Messrs. Gen. R. B. Hayes, Gen. R. P. Buckland, Col. W. E. Haynes, Committee.*

*Gentlemen:*—I am in receipt of yours of the 10th, inviting me to be present at the unveiling of your Soldiers' Monument August 1st, the anniversary of Croghan's victory. I had almost forgotten my infant effort of thirty-seven or thirty-eight years ago! I wonder what I said then? As now advised, I see nothing to prevent my "driving down" to the unveiling, and I shall hope to meet and greet some few, at least, who heard me there two score years since. If I am to be *used*, in any way, let it be to "scatter" the crowd.

I am faithfully,

W. H. GIBSON.

SANDUSKY, July 22, 1885.

*My Dear Sir:*—The receipt of your committee's kind invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Sandusky County Soldiers' Monument on the 72d anniversary of the memorable defence of Fort Stephenson, very much strengthened a previously conceived desire to be present, because of my vivid recollection of the defence.

Health permitting, I shall try to be present on the 1st of August.

With high consideration, I am, etc.,

O. FOLLETT.

*Gen'l R. B. Hayes, Chm'n Com.*

ASHLAND, LAKE SUPERIOR, Wis., July 19, 1885.

*Prest. R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, Wm. E. Haynes, Committee:*

*Gentlemen:*—Your kind invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, in Fremont, Ohio, on the 1st day of August, was forwarded to me here. My engagements are such as will prevent my attendance, but I desire to express to you my grateful appreciation of the compliment, and my very great regret at not being able to accept.

Very respectfully yours,

GEO. L. CONVERSE.

DETROIT, Mich., July 21st, 1885.

*Gen. R. B. Hayes, Gen. R. P. Buckland, Col. Wm. E. Haynes, Committee of Invitations.*

*Gentlemen* :—I am this moment in receipt of your invitation to attend the ceremony of unveiling the Sandusky County Soldiers' Monument, at Fremont, Ohio, on the 1st proximo, and greatly regret that it so happens that I must be at Sault St. Marie, Michigan, on duty, on that day, otherwise I should most assuredly have given myself the pleasure of going to Fremont. Thanking you for the courtesy of the invitation,

I am, your obedient servant,

O. M. POE.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., July 27, 1885. }

*My Dear General* :—I have just returned from a little trip north, and find your invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Sandusky County Soldiers' Monument, on the 1st of next month, awaiting me.

I would be glad to be present on that occasion, but intend to sail this week for a European tour of two months, and so will be unable.

Regretting that I cannot be with you and thanking you sincerely for your remembrance, I am

Yours very sincerely,

W. B. HAZEN.

*Hon. Rutherford B. Hayes, President of the Day, and Chairman Committee on Invitation, Fremont, Ohio.*

DAYTON, Ohio, July 21, 1885.

*Comrades* :—Many, very many thanks for your kind invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument in Fremont, Ohio, August 1st proximo, but I regret to say my health is such I cannot promise myself the gratification of attendance.

With great respect, I am your friend and comrade,

THOS. J. WOOD.

*Comrades R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, W. E. Haynes, Committee on Invitation.*

CINCINNATI, Ohio, July 19, 1885.

*Gen. R. B. Hayes, Chairman Committee on Invitations, Fremont, Ohio.*

*My Dear General* :—I regret exceedingly that other pressing engagements will prevent the acceptance of your kind invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, in your city on the 1st of August.

Very respectfully,

A. HICKENLOOPER.

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio, July 17, 1885.

*Gen. R. B. Hayes and others, Committee on Invitations :*

*Messrs :*—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your kind invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, in Fremont, on August 1st next.

I have arranged to go west in a day or two with a portion of my family and I may not return until too late to attend the unveiling at the time named.

Your committee, and the association it represents, have my thanks for the kind invitation, and I am delighted to know that the brave soldiers of Sandusky County are soon to have a monument in their honor.

Yours, with high esteem,

J. WARREN KEIFER.

TOLEDO, Ohio, July 20, 1885.

*Gen. R. B. Hayes, Fremont, O.*

*My Dear Sir :*—I am very much gratified at the receipt of your kind invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, at Fremont, on the first of August.

I am sure nothing would prevent my being with you if it were possible, on that occasion, but I am about starting to visit my eldest daughter, residing at Minneapolis, and shall be absent from home for three or four weeks. But for this unavoidable necessity, I should have been delighted to have witnessed these ceremonies. I hope I shall nevertheless often see the monument which will be an enduring memorial of the great action, which in such close proximity to that of Perry, rescued the infant settlements around the lake from the British army and its mercile allies.

Very truly yours,

J. R. OSBORN.

MADISON, Wis., July 15, 1885.

*Gen. R. B. Hayes, Chairman Committee, etc., Fremont, Ohio :*

*General :*—Thanking you and the committee for an invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument in Fremont, Saturday, August 1st, I very much regret that another engagement will prevent me from accepting.

I should enjoy joining my Ohio comrades on that occasion, and I am glad to have been remembered by them.

I am, General, with much respect,

Faithfully yours,

LUCIUS FAIRCHILD.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE  
U. S., HEADQ'S COMM'Y OF THE STATE OF PENN-  
SYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA, July 24, 1885. }

Colonel John P. Nicholson presents his compliments to the committee of the Sandusky County Soldiers' Monumental Association and thanks them for the invitation to be present August 1st, 1885.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, July 21, 1885.

To R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, Wm. E. Haynes, Committee :

*Gentlemen:*—Your appreciated invitation is received to be present on the 1st proximo, at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument at Fremont. It is an event of great interest, one that would give me much pleasure to attend, but, unfortunately, an engagement in the east the last of the month will prevent my acceptance of your courtesy.

May the day be a fair and notable one to you and the citizens of Sandusky County, the lives and deeds of whose sons have exalted the State. With great respect, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

J. DEVEREUX.

MANSFIELD, O., July 22, 1885.

Hon. R. B. Hayes and others, Committee on Invitations :

*Gentlemen:*—Your letter inviting me to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument in Fremont, Ohio, August 1st, 1885, received, for which accept my sincere thanks. I find other engagements will compel me to forego the pleasure you tender me, but trust the occasion will meet your highest expectation.

I am, very truly, etc.,

GEO. W. GEDDES.

WASHINGTON, July 24, 1885.

*Gentlemen:*—Your very kind invitation to be present at the unveiling of the monument erected on the site of old Fort Stephenson received, I regret to say, that official duties will prevent my attendance. It would afford me great pleasure to unite with my late comrades in honoring the memory of the gallant Croghan and his command, for their brave and successful defence of Fort Stephenson against the combined attack of a superior force of British and Indians.

Truly yours,

B. F. KELLY.

Gen. R. B. Hayes, and others, Committee, Fremont, Ohio :

CINCINNATI, O., July 24, 1885.

*Gen'l R. B. Hayes, Chairman Committee of Invitations, Fremont, O.:*

*My Dear Sir:*—I have your polite invitation to attend the ceremonies at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument of Sandusky County. I had made my plans to be present, to join in honoring the memory of those who so gallantly defended Fort Stephenson, and all those from your county who fought for the preservation of the Union from '61 to '65. It would give me very great pleasure to join in the exercises which I am sure will be very interesting, but the death of our honored Commander, General Grant, has devolved some special duties upon me here, and I fear I shall be unable to be with you.

I thank you and the other members of the committee for the invitation, and I sincerely hope that your brightest hopes may be realized in the success of your efforts.

Very cordially yours,

H. P. LLOYD.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, }  
TOLEDO, O., July 27, 1885. }

*Hon. R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, Wm. E. Haynes, Committee:*

*Gentlemen:*—Your courteous and cordial invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Sandusky County Soldiers' Monument, on Saturday next, at Fremont, was duly received.

I have delayed answering before, hoping to be able to say that I would be present. Circumstances over which I have no control, however, compel me to decline the invitation. I can assure you of my deep regret in being deprived of the pleasure of being present to testify in an humble way my great respect for the gallant men who have gone before. Accept my thanks and hopes for a successful issue of the exercises.

Very respectfully yours,

S. F. FORBES.

MUTUAL LIFE BUILDING, }  
PHILADELPHIA, July 28, 1885. }

*Gentlemen:*—I regret greatly that I shall be unable to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, in Fremont, on Saturday, August 1st. Thanking you for the compliment of your invitation,

Very truly yours,

WM. N. LAMBERT.

*Messrs. R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, Wm. E. Haynes, Committee on Invitations:*

U. S. MARSHAL'S OFFICE,  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO,  
CLEVELAND, July 29, 1885. }

*Gentlemen* :—Your kind invitation was received. I should be pleased to attend, but owing to business engagements, it will be impossible for me to do so.

Yours most sincerely, W. F. GOODSPEED.

*Gen. R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland, Wm. E. Haynes, Committee :*

FORT SCOTT, Kan., July 22, 1885.

*Messrs. R. B. Hayes, R. P. Buckland and Wm. E. Haynes, Committee on Invitations :*

*Gentlemen* :—Replying to your very kind invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, in Fremont, Ohio, on the 1st proximo, I very deeply regret my inability to arrange my business engagements so as to be present. No monument, however costly or enduring, will be too grateful a recognition of the patriotism and valor of the citizens of Ohio, who laid down their lives on the altar of their country. It is such patriotism that should be instilled into the minds of the youth of our country, who, if thoroughly imbued with it, are a greater element of safety to our institutions than any standing army.

The citizens of your beautiful city are noted for their patriotism and in thus erecting a monument to the memory of our gallant dead, they are not only performing a patriotic duty to them, but are also educating the rising generation in a practical way to esteem love of country and our institutions as above life itself, when threatened by any foe, either foreign or domestic.

Thanking you for the compliment tendered and regretting my inability to be present, I remain, your obedient servant,

U. B. PEARSALL,

*Late Col. 48th Wis. Inf't'y and Brevet. Brig. Gen. Vol's.*

CINCINNATI, July 29, 1885.

*Gen. R. B. Hayes, et al., Committee, Fremont, Ohio:*

*Gentlemen* :—Having been favored with an invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument in your city on August 1st, I had hoped that I might so arrange my engagements as to be able to be present, hence delay in replying. I find, however, with regret at this late day that I shall be unable to attend.

Wishing you a very pleasant and profitable meeting,

I am, very truly yours,

ORLAND SMITH.



SANDUSKY, O., August 8, 1885.

*General R. P. Buckland :*

*My Dear Sir :*—I sincerely thank you for a copy of the *Fremont Journal*, containing the proceedings and account of the ceremonies at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, at Fremont, on Saturday last, which I received this morning. I have read with interest the speeches made on the occasion, and especially yours and General Cox's. Mr. Lemmon's also possesses much interest. They are all valuable historical sketches that should, and I hope, will be preserved.

I have no knowledge or recollection of the incident Brother Lemmon relates concerning the cannon "Betsy Croghan," and the controversy about its possession between Fremont and Sandusky. I suppose, however, that his account of it must be substantially correct.

I should have been glad to have been present on the ceremonial occasion above referred to, but when I first read the invitation of the committee, it was just before the day of the meeting. I had returned from a journey east, with friends to visit my family, and it was not convenient for me to leave again so soon.

Thanking you again for your kindness, I remain as ever,

Your true friend,

E. B. SADLER.

TO VIND  
ANDERSON



*Genl. McPherson.*

Harmon, Engraving & Printing.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

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The following biographical sketches of union soldiers of Sandusky County, who fell in battle or who have died since the war, and after whom Posts of the G. A. R. have been named, are from sources deemed trustworthy.

### GENERAL JAMES B. McPHERSON.

The most distinguished Union officer and the highest in rank and in command, who was killed in battle during the war, belonged to Sandusky County, and his remains are buried near the spot where he was born and reared. James Birdseye McPherson was born in Clyde, Sandusky County, Ohio, November 14th, 1828. He was killed in battle near Atlanta, Georgia, July 22d, 1864. At the time of his death he was a Brigadier-General of the Regular Army, a Major-General of Volunteers, and Commander of the Army of the Tennessee, which consisted of the Fifteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps, and formed the left wing of the army of General Sherman, which was in almost daily battle for the possession of strongholds and communications upon which depended the life of the Confederacy.

At the unveiling of the monument in honor of General McPherson, in Clyde, Sandusky County, Ohio, the orator, General M. F. Force, said :

“ In this place, in this presence, in the sight of the home of his childhood, where he was born on the 14th of November, 1828, speaking to the playmates of his youth and the comrades of his career, there is little need of saying who James B. McPherson was. They are present who remember the sunny-faced boy, cheerful, generous, affectionate, studious, diligent in every duty. His youthful toil helped to support a widowed mother. Entering West Point at the age of nineteen, he feared his limited education would weigh him down, but in a class

which included Schofield, Terrell, Sill, Tyler, Hood, and afterwards Sheridan, he quickly rose to the head, and kept his place there. The professors regarded him as one of the ablest men sent forth from the institution."

General Sherman, on the same occasion, made an address, from which the following extracts are made:

"Those whom the gods love, die young. My memory in a somewhat eventful career of forty years, retains three conspicuous examples.

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My third young hero lies buried here at Clyde, Ohio, in the orchard where he played as a boy. He, too, died young, only 35 years old, and was of the kind whom the gods love "exceedingly well." You, his neighbors, knew him as a boy, and had a glimpse of him in manhood, and somehow I think a man may not be a prophet or a hero in his own home. You knew his genial, hearty nature, his attachment to his family and neighbors, but you could not see the man as I have seen him in danger, in battle, when every muscle and every tissue was in full action, when the heroic qualities shone out as a star in the darkest night.

I believe I knew McPherson better than any of you, and of this I must testify: In September, 1857, I was in New York City, a citizen-agent for certain bankers of St. Louis. I found my friend, Major John G. Barnard, United States Engineer, quartered in a house in Price street, not far from Broadway, and to be near him, I took rooms there. In that same house I found Lieutenant McPherson, of the engineer's corps of the army. We were usually out during the day time, but every night we met in Barnard's room or in mine, and gossiped of the topics of interest of that day. I was naturally attracted to him because of his intelligence and manly bearing; also because he was from Ohio and a graduate at the head of the class at West Point. There it was my first acquaintance began, and it continued without interruption until I saw him last alive at the Howard House, near Atlanta, Georgia, whence I sent his body to his home at Clyde for burial. From New York, late in 1857, he was ordered to California, and when the civil war broke out in 1861, he came back; and again we met in St. Louis, where he was an Aide-de-Camp to General Halleck, before the battle of Shiloh. He was with General Grant at Henry and Donelson, and afterwards was sent with me up the Tennessee River as a staff officer to represent first general C. F. Smith, and later, General Grant, in the attempt to reach the Charleston Railroad at

Burnsville, then to assist at Pittsburg Landing, preliminary to the great campaign there to begin. There must be many people here, I know there is one, General R. P. Buckland, who remembers how intimate and friendly we were before the battle of Shiloh, as well as after it. McPherson always stayed at my camp and never failed to visit the Seventy-second Ohio belonging to my division, in which regiment he had many old neighbors and friends from this same town of Clyde.

McPherson was still at that time technically an Aide-de-Camp of General Halleck, who remained at St. Louis, but he had wisely permitted this young, enterprising and gallant engineer officer to go ahead (as he always wanted to go) with the advance of the leading column. Separately and together we reconnoitered all the ground to the front for twelve miles to the right and left, and when the battle of Shiloh was in progress, Grant relied chiefly on McPherson for the topographical knowledge of the battle field and its surroundings. McPherson, however, was not content to remain in the capacity of a staff officer, but sought for command, to do acts and not merely to advise. His natural place was as a leader of men, the highest sphere in military life. This he attained at Corinth, and thence forward as a Brigadier-General and Major-General at Corinth, Oxford, Vicksburg, Chattanooga and Atlanta, he performed deeds which are fully recorded, and place his name honorably and worthily in the catalogue of the great generals of the world. On this occasion it would not be proper for me to dilate on these themes, although it would be a labor of love. Events followed each other in such quick succession that at this distance of time all seem projected into one grand result; but the years 1863 and 1864 were big with events, which will influence the destiny of America for centuries to come. Days were as months, and months as years of ordinary limit.

McPherson, a youth, grew from a Lieutenant of Engineers to be a Corps Commander, an Army Commander, promotion as rapid as ever marked the progress of the mighty men in the days of Napoleon, but, like a brilliant meteor, "Loved of the Gods," his young life went out before we had achieved the full measure of the work demanded of us by the times. All that was mortal of him lies buried here, within a few feet of where we stand, but the spirit, the genius of the man survives, and millions will award him a full share of the fruits of the victory for which he gave his young life so nobly and so heroically. I, his companion, friend and senior, have been spared a few years, and could I recall him to life now, I would not. He sleeps well. A nation has adopted him as one of her heroes, and long after we are gone, and it may be, forgotten, young men will gather about his equestrian statue

in Washington, and this one at Clyde, Ohio, and say to themselves, "Behold the type of man who rescued us from anarchy; who died, that freedom might become universal; that America might attain her true place in the gallery of nations, and whose virtues, heroism and self-sacrifice we must imitate." The artist may model his form, the painter may reproduce his likeness, and the historian narrate his deeds, but none save his comrades in battle can feel the full force of his living genius and character. We must soon pass away and leave him alone in his glory, but before we go, we should attempt to emphasize his fame, and I have sought elsewhere for words fitted to the subject, but cannot find anything more appropriate than what I myself wrote the day after his death, when the sounds of battle still thundered in my hearing, when my heart was torn by the loss of a comrade and friend, one whom I loved, in whose keeping was the fate of one of our best armies, and whose heart's blood still stained the hand with which I wrote. I therefore do beg to reproduce my own report of his death, made after I had consigned him to the care of loving aides to be brought here to Clyde, Ohio, for interment.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,  
IN THE FIELD NEAR ATLANTA, GA., July 23, 1864. }

*General L. Thomas, Adjutant-General United States Army, Washington, D. C.:*

*General:*—It is my painful duty to report that Brigadier-General James B. McPherson, United States Army, Major-General of Volunteers and Commander of the Army of the Tennessee, was killed about noon of yesterday. At the time of this fatal shot he was on horseback, placing his troops in position, near the city of Atlanta, and was passing a cross-road from a moving column towards the flank of troops that had already been established on the line. He had quitted me but a few moments before, and was on his way to see in person to the execution of my orders. About the time of this sad event the enemy had rallied from his entrenchments of Atlanta, and by a circuit, got to the left and rear of this very line and had begun an attack which resulted in a serious battle, so that General McPherson fell in battle, booted and spurred, as the gallant and heroic gentleman should wish. Not his the loss, but the country's, and the army will mourn his death and cherish his memory as that of one who, though comparatively young, had risen by his merit and ability to the command of one of the best armies which the nation had called into existence to vindicate her honor and integrity. History tells of but few who so blended the grace and gentleness of the friend with the dignity, courage, faith and manliness of the soldier.

His public enemies, even the men who directed the fatal shot, never spoke or wrote of him without expressions of marked respect. Those whom he commanded loved him even to idolatry, and I, his associate and commander, fail in words, adequate to express my opinion of his great worth. I feel assured that

every patriot in America on hearing this sad news, will feel a sense of personal loss, and the country generally will realize that we have lost not only an able military leader, but a man who, had he survived, was qualified to heal the national strife which had been raised by designing and ambitious men. His body has been sent North in charge of Major Willard, Captains Steel and Gile, his personal staff.

I am, with respect,

W. T. SHERMAN,  
*Major-General Commanding.*

Ex-President Hayes, at the unveiling of the McPherson Monument, at Clyde, said :

In grateful recognition of the services and character of General McPherson, his surviving comrades of the Army of the Tennessee, and his friends and neighbors residing at and near his birthplace, Clyde, Sandusky County, Ohio, have erected a portrait statue of heroic size in bronze. It is the work of Louis L. Rebisso, an Italian artist, who now resides in Cincinnati. It will fitly mark the last resting place of the earthly remains of General McPherson. It stands before us, within a few rods of the spot where he was born, and is in the midst of the scenes in which his infancy and boyhood were passed. The facts of his career and character will be fully spread before you by the distinguished speakers to whom that duty has been assigned. His rank, his important command, his brilliant services, the cause for which he died, his talents, his culture, his grace and beauty and soldierly accomplishments, his noble and lovable nature, so affectionate, so gentle, and at the same time so brave and manly, and his heroic death in one of the great battles of a decisive campaign, while he was yet in the bloom and promise of early manhood, taken altogether, have given to McPherson a place in the hearts of mankind, more tender and interesting than that which belongs to any other of the thousands of honored heroes, whose death in battle his countrymen have been called to mourn. His name will be forever found on the shining roll of the world's best loved heroes.

Neither Bayard, nor Sidney, nor Nelson, nor Wolfe, nor any other knight or hero of the old world in any age had better titles to love and grateful remembrance than belong to him whose grave, here at his birthplace, we are now about to mark.

General Grant, in 1863, recommending General McPherson for promotion to Brigadier-General in the Regular Army, wrote :

"He has been with me in every battle since the commencement of the Rebellion, except Belmont, at Forts Henry and Donelson, Shiloh, and the siege of Corinth. As a staff officer and engineer, his services were conspicuous and highly meritorious. At the second battle of

Corinth his skill as a soldier was displayed in successfully carrying reinforcements to the besieged garrison when the enemy was between him and the point to be reached. In the advance, to Central Mississippi, General McPherson commanded one wing of the army with all the ability possible to show, he having the lead in the advance and the rear in retiring.

In the campaign and siege terminating in the fall of Vicksburg, General McPherson has filled a conspicuous part. At the battle of Port Gibson it was under his direction that the enemy was driven late in the afternoon from a position they had succeeded in holding all day against an obstinate attack. His corps, the advance always, under his immediate eye, were the pioneers from Port Gibson to Haukinson's Ferry. From the north fork of Bayou Pierre to the Black River, it was a constant skirmish, the whole skillfully managed. The enemy was so closely pursued as to be unable to destroy their bridges of boats after them.

From Haukinson's Ferry to Jackson, the Seventeenth Army Corps marched on roads not traveled by other troops, fighting the entire battle of Raymond alone, and the bulk of Johnston's army was fought by his corps, entirely under the management of General McPherson. At Champion Hills, the Seventeenth Corps and General McPherson were conspicuous. All that could be termed a battle there, was fought by the divisions of General McPherson's Corps and General Hovey's division of the Seventeenth Corps.

In the assault of the 22d of May, on the fortification of Vicksburg, and during the entire siege, General McPherson and his corps took unfading laurels. He is one of the ablest engineers and most skillful generals. I would respectfully but urgently recommend his promotion to the position of Brigadier-General of the Regular Army.

The request was granted and he was confirmed as such in December, 1863.

### GENERAL CHARLES GRANT EATON.

As a soldier, physician, and citizen, Colonel Eaton is alike favorably and honorably remembered. Charles Grant Eaton was a son of Abel and Julia Eaton, and was born at Lowell, Massachusetts, September 27, 1825. His parents moved to Ohio in 1828, and settled in Licking County.

Charles worked on a farm and attended the common schools of that community until manhood, when he began the study of medicine.



in Granville, under the tutorage of Dr. Austin. He attended lectures at Cincinnati College of Medicine, where he graduated in the class of 1847.

In 1853 Dr. Eaton began the practice of his profession in Clyde. His tact and skill soon found favor, and a full share of the practice of the eastern part of the county came under his care. His professional career was uninterrupted until the opening of the rebellion. He was appointed Captain of Company A, in the 72d Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was with that gallant regiment throughout its honorable career, during which service he was promoted Major and Lieutenant Colonel.

He came out of the service, says the memorial of the Army of the Tennessee, without a blemish on his military record, and at the close of the war, Brevetted Brigadier-General, for gallant and meritorious services. After the war, Dr. Eaton resumed the practice of his profession in Clyde. He died October 13, 1875.

#### MAJOR EUGENE ALLEN RAWSON.

The following sketch is by Dr. Thomas Stilwell, of Fremont, and was published in the *Fremont Journal* soon after the death of Major Rawson:

Among the noble men who have earned the gratitude of a nation, by giving their strength and their lives to its defence, few there are whose memory deserves to be more warmly cherished than he whose name stands at the head of this article.

While at school at Homer, N. Y., and just about finishing his academic course, preparatory to entering Yale College, the President's first call came for volunteers, and young Rawson, not stopping to count the cost of the sacrifice he was about to make, joined the 12th New York regiment as a private. In that capacity he took a noble part in the battle of Bull Run, evincing great coolness and bravery. When the fortunes of the day went against General McDowell's army, and when, in the confusion that followed, regiments were thrown into disorder and scattered, he, and a tried companion, sought the protection of a tree from behind which they loaded and fired until his friend fell dead by his side.

In December, 1861, he was appointed Adjutant of the 72d O. V. I. by the Governor of Ohio, and was accordingly transferred to it by the War Department. He could have received no transfer more agreeable to his feelings, and none more complimentary. The 72d was chiefly

raised in his own county and was composed, in a great measure, of those who had been the companions of his boyhood. Entering upon the duties of his new field, he at once exhibited a peculiar fitness for the position to which he had been called, and from his previous experience in the service, was of great advantage in the early training of the regiment.

He left Fremont with the regiment in January, 1862, when it moved to Camp Chase, preparatory to setting out on its final destination—Paducah and the Southwest. When, joined to the Army of the Tennessee, the 72d disembarked at Pittsburg Landing, the men composing the command were mostly sick, suffering terribly from the effect of their transit and with the disease peculiar to that Southern climate, to which they were unused. Major Rawson's natural buoyancy of spirit and cheertful, sprightly manner could not otherwise than revive the drooping spirits of the boys, amongst whom, in their hour of calamity, he went about "doing good." On Friday preceding the commencement of the battle of Shiloh, Major Crockett, with company H and company B, was sent forward by Colonel Buckland on a reconnaissance to ascertain the reason of the unusual firing heard in the direction of the picket line. Advancing some distance and failing to discover the cause, Major Crockett separated his little command, moving himself with one company to the left, while he sent company B, accompanied by Adjutant Rawson, to the right. Major Crockett's company, after proceeding but a little way, were met by a superior force of rebel cavalry. The Major and some of his men were captured while the balance barely made good their retreat. Company B, continuing its course to the right, unconscious of the fate of their gallant Major and his men, were confronted, at a distance of a mile or two farther, by the same cavalry, which had so summarily disposed of their companions, now largely reinforced. Comprehending at a glance their situation, they discovered at once that retreat was impossible, and that the alternative remained to surrender or attempt to hold the enemy at bay until reinforcements should arrive. The latter course was unhesitatingly adopted. Choosing an elevated piece of ground, covered sparsely by trees, they prepared for the attack.

Their position placed the enemy in front, the ground being unfavorable for a flank movement. Making a fallen tree their breastwork, these forty men—who had never before stood face to face with an enemy, who, for the first time were required to point a gun or pull a trigger—held in check, for hours, six hundred rebel cavalry, by emptying the saddles of the advance until, to their great relief, a volley in the

rear of their enemy announced the arrival of part of the 72d regiment, led by Colonel Buckland, who, becoming alarmed at their long absence, hastened to their rescue at a "double-quick," and just in time to defeat a charge the rebels had drawn sabre to make.

Although Major Rawson was not in command of the detachment, yet, owing to the feeble health of Captain Raymond, the conduct of the defence devolved principally upon him. Under his direction, a volley of only ten guns were fired at one time, so that a sufficient reserve should remain to meet out, with steady aim, another and still another volley, if the dashing cavalry should choose to follow up their advance after receiving the first round.

After the fight was over, the enemy's dead of men and horses counted, and the few wounded prisoners cared for, all, both officers and men, were lavish of the praise they bestowed upon their young Adjutant. Without a musket himself, he picked up that of a wounded comrade and fired his round with a composure that did no discredit to his exploit at Bull Run.

When the battle opened on the 6th of April, two days afterwards, and the rebels came like an avalanche upon our unsuspecting troops at Shiloh, Buckland's brigade responded to the beat of the "long-roll" with such alacrity that they stood in the very front of Sherman's division, ready to meet the coming shock before the enemy had gained rifle distance of their position. Colonel Buckland being in command of the brigade, the command devolved upon Lieutenant-Colonel Canfield. Major Crockett, the only other field officer of the regiment, being a prisoner, by common consent Adjutant Rawson assumed his position for the occasion. At the first or second fire, Lieutenant-Colonel Canfield fell, mortally wounded, and he alone remained to command and cheer the undaunted boys who stood steadfast amid the storm of leaden hail that mowed through their ranks until Colonel Buckland, seeing the disaster that had befallen his own brave regiment, put himself at their head and led them through the fight. The horse of our young Adjutant was shot from under him and another that had been sent forward for him being captured before it reached him, his duties were no less bravely or efficiently performed on foot.

The history of the 72d Regiment; of the part it bore in the three days' fight at Pittsburg Landing; in the siege of Corinth; in the pursuit of Forrest through Tennessee; of its marches, skirmishes and battles from Memphis to Vicksburg; of its pursuit of Johnson, under Sherman, to Jackson; of its return to Memphis, and of the part it enacted in the great expedition of General Sherman into Mississippi—

is the history of Major Rawson. After the 72d had re-enlisted as veterans, and after the main body, composing Sherman's expedition, had moved southward, a small force, consisting of not over sixteen hundred men, was sent out on the venturesome expedition of making a feint into the enemy's country, to aid reinforcements moving to the support of General Sherman. Of this comparatively small force, the 72d formed a part under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Eaton and Major Rawson, Adjutant Rawson having been promoted to the rank of Major by the unanimous recommendation of the officers, and in accordance with the known feeling of the regiment, although he stood not in the regular line of promotion.

Arriving at the Tallahatchie River in the evening, and finding the enemy encamped in large force on the opposite bank, they lit up their camp fires in such profusion as to deceive the rebels into the belief they were a body of some six or eight thousand strong. So well did they play their part that they kept the enemy beguiled and at rest until time enough had elapsed to permit General Smith to cross the river above, at the point chosen, without interference. The object of their expedition attained, they were ordered to return to Memphis. But they were in the enemy's country, out of reach of reinforcements, numbering less than sixteen hundred, with the rebels in strong force on the opposite side of the river. To render less hazardous their retreat, it became necessary to burn two bridges. Colonel Eaton received the order from the General in command to execute the task. Dividing his regiment, he marched before morning, with the main body to the one supposed to be the most strongly guarded, assigning to Major Rawson two small companies with which to proceed to the other, where it was thought but few would be found to offer resistance. The reverse proved to be the case. The Major it was who encountered the larger force. Having arrived at the bridge, Major Rawson sent his pickets across to reconnoiter. No sooner had they gained the opposite side, than from a point out of sight came dashing up a large body of rebel cavalry, who commenced firing on the pickets. Veterans as they were, they knew too much to run across the bridge, where they would be sure to receive the raking fire of the rebel carbines. So they jumped over the sides into the water. This gave them the protection of the bank, as they well knew the trusty rifles of their companions would make a near approach to the bank, a place where a rebel would hardly venture to "make ready, take aim, fire," even at the command of a Major-General himself. A brisk little fight ensued—the bridge was destroyed without

the loss of a man on Major Rawson's side, while more than one rebel grave marks the site where the old bridge stood—the commanding rebel General's own son being one of the slain.

From the badly managed expedition of which the 72d formed a part, sent out from Memphis under General Sturgis, which ended so sadly at Guntown and Ripley, in Mississippi, Major Rawson reached Memphis with such of the officers and men of his regiment as were saved from the general disaster—marching over eighty miles without food or rest, in less than forty-eight hours. The 72d acting as a rear guard of the fleeing troops, valiantly beat back the pursuing foe until, out of ammunition and their supply train destroyed by the rebels, they were forced to make good their escape by flight, which they did only after two hundred and fifty of the regiment had been captured.

Scarcely rested from the terrible scene and suffering through which they had passed, the regiment, now over half reduced in numbers, in command of Major Rawson, started again, under General A. J. Smith, to encounter the same foe. Coming up to the enemy at Tupelo, Mississippi, Major Rawson was mortally wounded at Old Town Creek, six miles beyond, while gallantly leading a charge against the rebel lines. Borne from the field, he was conveyed back to Memphis.

Major Rawson was the son of Dr. La Quinio and Sophia Rawson. He was born at Fremont on the 14th of March, 1840—married to Miss Jennie Snyder, an amiable and accomplished young lady of Courtland County, New York, on the 31st of August, 1863, while absent from his regiment on a short furlough. He died at Memphis, Tennessee, on the 22d of July, seven days after he received the fatal wound, aged 24 years. Embalmed, his remains were sent to his home, Fremont, and with appropriate funeral services, were interred in Oak Wood Cemetery, followed thither by a very large concourse of his friends and fellow citizens, who loved the boy, and mourned the death of the young hero and patriot.

## RESOLUTIONS ON THE DEATH OF MAJOR RAWSON.

At a meeting of the officers and soldiers of the 72d O. V. V. I., held at Memphis, Tennessee, on the 28th day of July, 1864, for the purpose of expressing their feelings in regard to the death of Major Eugene A. Rawson, Lieutenant-Colonel C. G. Eaton was elected Chair-

man, and Lieutenant J. Wells Watterson, R. Q. M., Secretary. The meeting was called to order, and the following members appointed a Committee on Resolutions: Lieutenant Alph B. Putnam, Company I; Lieutenant J. F. Harrington, Company A; Sergeant Corwine Ensinger, Company C; Sergeant Abraham Eldridge, Company I; Corporal Samuel Persing, Company A. The following resolutions were presented and unanimously adopted by the meeting:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God to remove from us our brother officer and soldier, Major Eugene A. Rawson, by death on the 22d July inst., of wounds received on the 15th inst., while bravely leading his regiment in a charge against the enemy's lines, at the battle of Old Town Creek; and whereas, we, the officers and soldiers of the 72d O. V. V. I., desire to express, in a suitable manner, our respect for the noble dead, and our deep regret for his untimely fall, therefore,

*Resolved*, That in the death of Major Eugene A. Rawson, our regiment has lost a brave, heroic and devoted officer and soldier, the nation, one of her most ardent patriots and defenders, his family, a distinguished member, his friends and brothers in arms, a dear and valued companion.

*Resolved*, That we declare our conviction, that the life of the deceased, while connected with the 72d Ohio, has been one of unwearied devotion to duty and to the service of his suffering country, and whether in the quiet camp or the toilsome march, or in the blaze or fury of battle, he alike ably, patiently and heroically performed, with untiring energy, all that fell to his lot; and when struck by the fatal ball, was found at his post fearlessly offering his life that his country might live.

*Resolved*, That we tender the family and friends of the deceased, and especially the young wife who has thus early been called to mourn the death of her husband, our deepest sympathy and condolence in this, their sad bereavement.

*Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be furnished the friends of the deceased; also a copy to the *Fremont Journal and Sentinel*, and the *Courtland County Journal*, of Homer, New York.

C. G. EATON,

*Chairman.*

J. WELLS WATTERSON,

*Secretary.*

## CHESTER AVERILL BUCKLAND,

Son of Stephen and Lucy Buckland, was born January 6th, 1841, at Edinburg, then in Portage, now in Summit County. He came with his parents while yet young to Fremont, and at an early period determined to learn a trade and be independent. He accordingly served an apprenticeship at the printing business in the *Fremont Journal* office, under the instruction of Isaac M. Keeler, (the then editor and publisher of the paper). He evinced so much manliness and intelligence that his parents determined to give him an education, and for that purpose, sent him to Western Reserve College, at Hudson. Here young Buckland made rapid progress in his studies, and developed qualities which promised a high and noble manhood. From the time the war of the Rebellion first broke out, he had a burning desire to enter the Union army, but could not obtain the consent of his mother. When his older brother, Henry W. Buckland enlisted, and became Lieutenant of Company B, of the Seventy-second Regiment, Chester made further appeals to his mother by writing to her from Hudson, asking her to consent to his enlistment. The letters he wrote are so full of expressions of filial obedience, and yet so earnest, that they honor both parents and their child. They are given here, not specially to praise young Buckland, but to show the spirit of a representative young man of our county:

HUDSON, Nov. 10, 1861.

*Dear Parents:*—I write home, at the present time, for your permission to enter the army. Notwithstanding my great and burning desire to go and overturn the rebels, I have held back by your advice, and in accordance with your wishes. You do not know how many times I have regretted I was not in the army, and often I think I seem a coward that I have not gone. But I gave my promise that I should not go without your consent, and I do not wish to break it. A great many of my friends have gone, and to me it seems as if I should be with them. You think me unable to undergo the life of a soldier. I, as well as others, have sound, unblemished limbs, fine textured muscles, capable of great developments, and which can be taught to bear fatigue. To be sure I am small in stature, but it has been proved that small men make the best soldiers, capable of enduring more fatigue, excitement, hunger, thirst and danger, than large men, being sounder and more compactly built. I have calculated the costs, the danger, toil and privations I will have to undergo, and with your consent I will most gladly endure them all. Do not refuse me. I know it will cause you many an anxious hour, but you will love to boast of me, as well as of my brother. I would of course want to go with Henry. Besides, I should no longer be a burden to you, but could let you have the most of my money

which I would draw from the Government, instead of drawing from you, which you can scarcely spare. Do not think this is a sudden streak in me, for it is not. It has long been forming and every day becomes stronger and more powerful, and many times I have almost said I would go. You well know that long since I should have gone, had you not restrained me, and now it requires but one word, and I will go. Do not withhold it. The more I see of the hardships, pain and suffering in this war, the more I want to go and help punish the causes of it. I have delayed long enough, and I feel that I cannot do so very long. I think it my duty to go. There are none dependent on me, and I can afford, as well as others, to leave my home, and all I love for my country's welfare. Now that I have gone thus far, do not refuse me. There are many men who have left their wives and children to go. I have neither, and there are none who would suffer should I fall. Besides, I should be in far better health after I got used to it. I must close now, so good-bye, and soon return a favorable reply to your son,

CHESTER A. BUCKLAND.

CAMP SHILOH, WEST TENNESSEE,  
Saturday, April 5, 1862. }

*Dear Mother:—*You may glory in us now. Yesterday, while drilling, about a mile from here, our pickets were fired upon. In a very few moments the Seventy-second was on its way to battle at a double-quick step, Company B in the rear. When we arrived at a convenient place, we were deployed as skirmishers, and were to try and surround the rebels. We wandered along a couple of miles. Henry and I were near the end of the company. The company was in groups of four, each twenty paces apart. An order was given to rally on first group, when the front commenced to fire, but ceased before we could get up. We wandered in a body for nearly an hour, making frequent halts. Every ear was listening and every eye watching for sound or sight of the enemy. Nearly an hour from the first fire we got sight of them again, and nearly all got a chance to fire. We think one was killed or badly wounded. Here we found there were more than we thought, so we retreated to a pen built of rails and then to a big tree on the brow of a ravine. In a little time the rebel cavalry rode up in sight, and then the fight began. I could hear the balls go "whip" through the air and strike the trees around us. There were a hundred and fifty rebels against forty-four of us. Once in a while one would drop from his horse or a horse would fall dead or wounded. We would load, run up where we could see, drop on our knees, take aim and fire, and then run back to load. In this manner we made them believe there were a great many more of us than there were. In this part of the fight two of our men were wounded, Charles H. Bennett in the right leg and James Titswood through the left breast above the heart. When we had fought about three fourths of an hour, it commenced to rain and hail, which made it difficult to load without wetting the powder. Then the rebels retreated. In a very little time it rained so hard we could not see more than a couple of rods, which was just exactly the time for them to ride on and cut us in pieces. We threw out guards to watch for them. I never knew it to rain so hard. When the rain had ceased, we saw them forming on a sort of



prairie beyond the reach of our Enfields. In a short time they gave a great shout and advanced on us. As soon as they were in good reach, we commenced to drop them again. They had been reinforced to about four or five hundred, beside what may have been in reserve. We fought here about a quarter of an hour more, during which three more were wounded and several had holes shot in their clothes, one having a thumb broke, two shots in his arm, one through his clothes, and one in his boot. Now was the desperate time. The rebels fired a volley, drew sabres, and began to advance. They were on three sides of us. Our hearts began to sink. We rallied around the old white oak, each one firmly grasping his gun with its powder stained bayonet, and determined to give as good as we got. How fierce we felt. Our last chance seemed gone, when a volley sounded in the rear of the rebels. It was the Seventy-second. How loud the hurrahs sounded then. It was the sweetest music I ever heard. The rebels turned and fled. We were saved. We fired as long as we could reach them and then took Titswood in care, and then we went over to where part of the rebels had been. We found two mortally wounded ones. Our Enfields make wicked holes. The first was a young boy of about eighteen. He was afraid of us and wanted to know what we would do with him. We promised to take care of him as we would of our own men. He was assured of this, for one wanted to kill him, but we raked him so the boy was encouraged. Company A passed over the ground where our heaviest fire was aimed and found a great many sabres, pistols, guns, blankets, and everything they couldn't take away. They had a battery not far from where we were, and the cavalry followed them nearly into it. I have heard our men took two pieces of artillery, but am not certain if it be true. None on our side were killed, but Major Crockett, I fear, is a prisoner. The last seen of him, he was riding like a flash through the woods, followed by a dozen rebel horsemen. He had no arms with him and couldn't fight them. A sergeant and a corporal were taken prisoners from Company H. Company H had four wounded, one, the color-sergeant, old Dr. Gessner's son. He was taken prisoner and told to climb behind one of the rebels, which he would not do. The rebel drew a revolver and snapped it at him, but it missed fire. He ran while the rebel was cocking it again, when the fellow shot and hit him in the shoulder. Our men took nine or ten prisoners who said they hadn't thought we could shoot so well. We must have killed about as many as there was of us, for every man took aim and there are some who don't miss often. Orrin England and Eugene Rawson were with our company, and neither one of them had even a pistol, but as soon as Titswood was wounded, Orrin took his gun and cartridge box and fought well, while Eugene stood up with the boys and talked and laughed, and told them to keep cool and take good aim. It was no light matter to stand up unarmed, and a lot of fellows shooting at one. While we were bringing in the wounded, there was a heavy battle not far from where we fought. Our fight will not probably appear in the papers, but we had a hard struggle and against most fearful odds. Ten to one is a great disadvantage. Two minutes more and Company B, Seventy-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, would have been no more. We would have all been killed, for each one would have died fighting. It would have been a barren victory, for there would have been a dead rebel or two for every one of

us. Our bayonets were fixed and they are sorry things to run upon. We were willing to stop fighting. How soon we will have another fight, I don't know, but any minute the long roll may sound for battle. We may fight and die; but, mother, your sons will never quail. It is getting too dark to write, so I must close. Good-bye, dear mother, and remember if I die, it is for my country.

Your son,

CHESTER A. BUCKLAND.

That these appeals were successful, the above letter shows. The patriotic mother could no longer withhold her consent. On the 22d day of November, he enlisted in Company B of the Seventy-second Regiment, at the age of twenty years. He went with the regiment to Shiloh, and there, early in the day of the 6th of April, he was wounded in the knee by a rifle shot from the enemy. The news of his being wounded reached home. Lists of the wounded, who had been sent homeward, were published in the papers. The anxious parents watched eagerly the list of those sent to Ohio, but Chester's name was not found. It appeared subsequently, but by mistake his name was in the list of those sent to Indiana.

Our people, at once, after the battle of Shiloh, sent a committee there and another to Cincinnati to look after the returning wounded. Dr. L. Q. Rawson, while at Cincinnati, found that young Buckland had died of his wound on a steamboat, which was bringing him to that city from Cairo. Dr. Rawson immediately sent the remains homeward, informing the parents by telegraph. The remains arrived in due time, and after solemn services, were deposited by a large collection of mourning, patriotic citizens in Oakwood Cemetery, where they rest.

Who did more for his country than Chester A. Buckland, who gave to it a dearer offering than did his father and mother?

### MANVILLE MOORE.

The subject of this notice, whose name the newly organized Post of the G. A. R. in this city bears, was a Sandusky County boy, born December 10, 1840, in the old Moore homestead, a short distance above Ballville. He was the third son of James and Harriet Moore, one of his brothers being Captain LeRoy Moore, who raised a company (F) for the Seventy-second Ohio Volunteers, another, Charles T. Moore, who, at the outbreak of the war, was too young to enlist.

Manville's early life was spent at home amid the varied duties of the farm, mill and school, until his eighteenth year, when he was sent,

to attend college at Oberlin. He spent a part of the following three years there, and was prepared to enter the third or sophomore year, when the firing on Fort Sumter, in April, 1861, startled him from his books and studies, and, hastening to his home, he at once enlisted as a private, April 24, 1861, for three months, in the Croghan Guards (Captain Wm. E. Haynes), then organizing in Fremont, being then 21 years of age. His company was afterward assigned to the Eighth Ohio Volunteers as Company G, but it was never ordered further than Camp Dennison during its three months' service. There, on the 24th day of June, 1861, he re-enlisted, and was re-mustered into the United States service for three years, as Fourth Corporal in Company G.

There is no call to mention here the history and deeds of the Eighth Ohio; they are well known by the people of Sandusky County and the readers of the *Journal*. Said Governor Brough, in his letter acknowledging the receipt of their regimental flags in August, 1864:

"The record of the Eighth Ohio is among the most brilliant of those made during the war. It reflects honor alike upon the men who have written it with their blood and their lives, and the State they have so well represented and defended. Upon every field they have fought, and every contest in which they have been engaged, the officers and men of the command have displayed earnest zeal, courage and patriotic fidelity to the country."

From the date of his enlistment for three months, until the time of his death, Corporal Moore served constantly with his company and regiment, participating in all its marches, and thirty-four skirmishes and battles. Among the battles were Winchester, March 23d, 1862; South Mountain, September 14th, 1862; Antietam, September 16th and 17th, 1862; Fredericksburg, December 13th, 1862; Chancellorsville, May 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th, 1863; and it was at Gettysburg, the high water mark of the rebellion, on the 3d of July, 1863, that Corporal Moore received a fatal wound. He was sent to the hospital at Baltimore, Maryland, where, on the 15th day of July, 1863, he sealed his devotion to his country and flag by his death. His body was brought home by his father and buried in the family lot in Oak Wood Cemetery, July 22d, 1863.

His surviving comrades of the Eighth Ohio and other commands, appreciating the nobility of character of that large class of young patriots, of which he was such a fitting representative, have, with unanimous consent, adopted his as the name of their new Post of the G. A. R. No. 525.

## COLONEL GEORGE CROGHAN

Was born near Louisville, Kentucky, November 15, 1791. His father, Major William Croghan, was a native of Ireland and a gallant soldier of the Revolution. He was a nephew of the gallant hero, General George Rogers Clark, the father of the western country, and also General William Clark, at one time Governor of Missouri.

Young Croghan received the best education the Grammar schools of Kentucky afforded, and afterwards pursued his studies at William and Mary College, Virginia, where he graduated with high honors in July, 1810. He soon afterwards commenced the study of law, but in the fall of 1811, he volunteered as a private and was soon afterward appointed Aid to General Harrison and distinguished himself in the battle of Tippecanoe. After the declaration of war with Great Britain, he was appointed Captain in the Seventeenth Regiment of Infantry, and was made Major, May 5th, 1813. He distinguished himself in the memorable siege of Fort Meigs; and on August 2d, 1813, successfully defended Fort Stephenson, with a garrison of 160 men, against the attack of General Proctor, with a force of over 1,000 English Regulars and Indians; this, notwithstanding the fort was so weakly constructed and poorly provided, he had actually been ordered to abandon it. For this exploit he was awarded the brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel, and twenty-two years afterward (February 13th, 1835) received a gold medal from Congress, a duplicate of which may be seen in Birchard Library. He was made Inspector General, December 13th, 1825, and in that capacity served with General Taylor in Mexico in 1846-7. He died at New Orleans, January 8th, 1849.

From another sketch of Colonel Croghan, the following extract is made:

The defence of Fort Stephenson was not only the most brilliant achievement in the military life of Colonel Croghan, but formed one of the brightest epochs in the war. It filled the country with rejoicing, and won for its gallant leader the warmest and most enthusiastic gratitude in the breasts of his countrymen. His whole force consisted of one hundred and sixty raw and inexperienced troops, with but a single piece of ordnance, and that only a six pounder. The force of the attack consisted of one thousand men, one-half of them British Regulars, the balance Indians, who had been promised free booty in case of victory, of which no one entertained a doubt. The whole was under the immediate command of the notorious General Proctor. The

TO THE  
ARMY



SERGEANT, WILLIAM GAINES.

savages were led by the daring Tecumseh. To aid them in the assault, the enemy had five six pounders and a large howitzer. On the morning of the 1st of August, General Proctor sent into the fort a summons to surrender, accompanied with the well-understood and fiendish intimation, that if resistance were offered, it would be impossible to restrain the savages, and that no quarter would be afforded in case of victory accompanying the assault. Unterrified by this dastardly summons, Major Croghan returned for answer, "That he should defend the fort to the last extremity." By the most consummate arrangements, he was able, not only to defend his post, but to carry slaughter and dismay into the heart of the enemy, who suddenly retreated, covered with confusion, and leaving behind him one hundred slain, and a large boat laden with military stores. Major Croghan's loss was one killed and seven slightly wounded. For this brave and well-conducted defence, he received the thanks of Congress, and several of the Western States. A gold medal was also ordered to be struck commemorative of this gallant exploit, and he was promoted to a Lieutenant-Colonelcy. During the remainder of the war, Colonel Croghan was actively engaged in the defence of his country, and on its close he retired to the peaceful pursuits of private life, bearing with him the respect and attachment of the army and his countrymen.

### SERGEANT WM. GAINES,

THE LAST SURVIVOR OF THE GALLANT BAND THAT DEFENDED FORT  
STEPHENSON.

The only surviving member of the gallant little band that defended Fort Stephenson, seventy-two years ago, is Sergeant William Gaines, now living at Wilson Station, Ellsworth County, Kansas. The Monumental Association tendered him a pressing invitation to be present at the unveiling of the monument, but owing to his age and infirmities he deemed it unwise to make the journey. About five years ago Sergeant Gaines was an inmate of the Barnes Hospital, at the Soldiers' Home, Washington, and at that time we published an interview with him, made for the *Journal*. Some facts in regard to this old veteran will be of interest now.

William Gaines was born at Frederick City, Maryland, on Christmas day, 1799. His parents were both natives of Virginia. His grandfather was a relative of General Gaines, of the Army. In

1810 Gaines went with an uncle—Colonel Davis—to Lexington, Kentucky. The latter raised a volunteer regiment in the Indian War of 1811 and joined General Harrison. Gaines went with his uncle to take care of his horse, and in that way came to be in the battle of Tippecanoe. His uncle was killed in that battle.

July 18th, 1812, William Gaines, then in his thirteenth year, enlisted as drummer boy in Captain Armstrong's Company of the Twenty-fourth Infantry. The month of June, 1812, he spent at Fort Meigs, and in July his company was ordered to General Harrison's headquarters at Fort Seneca. While there, a rumor came that the British would attack Fort Stephenson, and Gaines, who had exchanged his drum for a musket, was one of the number detailed to render aid if needed to the garrison at Fort Stephenson. The detail reached the fort an hour before the British came in sight and commenced landing from their gun boats. Sergeant Gaines' recollection of the battle was very distinct, and he accurately described it in the interview. Samuel Thurman, a member of Gaines' company, and one of the detail sent to the relief of Fort Stephenson, was the only member of Croghan's garrison that was killed. Gaines says Thurman was in the block house and determined to shoot a red coat. He climbed upon the top of the block house and peered over, when a six pound ball took off his head. After the battle, Gaines returned to his company and remained at Fort Seneca until after the news of Perry's victory. They then marched past Fort Stephenson to the lake, where they were furnished with boats and crossed over into Canada. They landed at Colonel Elliot's quarters, from there went to Fort Malden, then to Sand Beach and on October 5th fought in the battle of the Thames. Gaines remained continually in the army and was assigned to Sacketts Harbor, New York, for nearly seventeen years. He was appointed Corporal, October 26th, 1818, and promoted to Sergeant, March 3d, 1819. He took part in the Black Hawk war, had charge of all the property at Sacketts Harbor during the Florida war, and was there too during the Mexican war. During the war of the rebellion, he had charge of the quartermasters' stores, medical and other property at Madison Barracks, New York. In January, 1867, he went to the Soldiers' Home, at Washington, where he had charge of many improvements and was lodge keeper at one of the gates for many years. He was placed on the retired list of the army May 3d, 1880, with seventy-five per cent. of the full pay and allowance of an Ordnance Sergeant during his natural life. He went to Kansas a short time since, where he resides with relatives.

At the time of this interview Sergeant Gaines was described as an

active old man, about five feet seven inches in height, of dark complexion, standing perfectly erect and of soldierly bearing, with bright grey eyes, white hair and strongly marked features. He enlisted in his thirteenth year and probably no man has served longer in the United States Army than he.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJ. GEN'S OFFICE,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 11, 1879. }

Sir:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the second day of August, 1879, requesting a "statement of service" of William Gaines. The following information has been obtained from the files of this office, and is respectfully furnished in reply to your inquiry :

It appears from the records of this office that William Gaines was enlisted on the 23d day of November, 1816, at New York City, to serve five years, and was assigned to Company D, Second Regiment of United States Infantry; was appointed Corporal, 26th October, 1818; promoted to Sergeant 3rd March, 1819; discharged as Sergeant 4th June, 1821, under act to reduce the army; re-enlisted as Sergeant, 5th June, 1821, for two years, eleven months and twenty-one days in Company C, Second Infantry; discharged as Sergeant by expiration of service, 27th May, 1824; re-enlisted 26th October, 1825, in Company H, Second Infantry; promoted to Regimental Sergeant-Major, 5th September, 1826; discharged as Regimental Sergeant-Major, Second Infantry, 25th July, 1830; appointed Ordnance Sergeant, United States Army, 18th October, 1833; served continuously as Ordnance Sergeant to 31st December, 1866, when he was discharged by S. O. 626, A. G. O., 1866.

The following is his service as Ordnance Sergeant: Appointed 18th October, 1833, discharged 24th July, 1835, expiration of service; re-enlisted 24th July, 1835, discharged 24th July, 1838, expiration of service; re-enlisted 24th July, 1838, discharged 23d July, 1843, expiration of service; re-enlisted 23d July, 1843, discharged 23d July, 1848, expiration of service; re-enlisted 23d July, 1848, discharged 21st July, 1853, expiration of service; re-enlisted 21st July, 1853, discharged 21st July, 1858, expiration of service; re-enlisted 21st July, 1858, discharged 16th July, 1863, expiration of service; re-enlisted 16th July, 1863, discharged 31st December, 1866, S. O. 626, A. G. O.

There is satisfactory evidence that William Gaines enlisted under the name of William Riggs, on the 11th of August, 1812, at Knoxville, Tennessee, to serve for five years in Captain Francis W. Armstrong's Company, of the Twenty-Fourth Infantry, and that he served in said company until January, 1815, or thereabouts.

He served about two years and five months in the Twenty-Fourth United States Infantry; about fifteen years and six months in the Second United States Infantry; and about thirty-three years and two months as an Ordnance Sergeant, making his total service about fifty-one years and one month.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

E. D. TOWNSEND,

*Adjutant General.*

*To Mr. Webb C. Hayes, Executive Mansion.*



## HISTORICAL SKETCHES.

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### FORT STEPHENSON.

Tradition—scarcely history—tells us that perhaps three centuries ago two walled towns were built near each other on the lower rapids of the Sandusky. All the Indians west of this point were at war with all the Indians east. French historians tell us these cities were inhabited and their neutral character respected when they first came here. This goes only to show that the Indians long ago recognized the importance of this place in time of war.

As early as 1785, in a treaty with the Indian tribes, the United States reserved, among others, a tract of land "two miles square on each side of the lower rapids of the Sandusky River." By the treaty made at Fort Harmar, January 9th, 1789, by Governor St Clair and the Indian tribes, this reservation was again made. But it does not appear that any survey of the reservation was made under either treaty. General Wayne, in the treaty made at Greenville, August 30, 1795, also reserved "one piece two miles square at the lower rapids of Sandusky River." This reservation is now known as Fremont township.

About the time of the treaty of 1785, two traders, a Scotchman and an Englishman, came up the river in boats and as they could not pass the rapids, landed and built a log house and established a trading post. This house was built on what is now Fort Stephenson Park. The post prospered and became a great central point for the collection of furs. In the year 1803, Joseph Badger, a Presbyterian missionary, came to the post and built a log house on the same grounds a few feet east of the post house.

It is probable that when the Indians became troublesome, some attempt at preparing the place for defence was made, but for the first authentic account of the building of the fortifications that we have been able to find, we are indebted to General Hayes, which we give to our readers in the following letter :

## COLONEL JOHN CAMPBELL TO ELISHA WHITTLESEY.

LOWER SANDUSKY, July 17, 1812.

*Dear Sir* :—We arrived here on the morning of the 14th. From Cleveland we came by water. We found the fortifications here in considerable forwardness. The stockade is nearly completed; we are progressing in the work. It is difficult to say to whom the command of this post belongs. A man who bears the title of Major Butler, has instructions from the Governor, relating to the fortifying of this place somewhat similar to mine, but cannot ascertain that he has, or ever has had, a commission either under this State or the United States. Captain Norton, from Delaware, is here with about thirty men; he continues to command his company and I mine, and intend so to do until the pleasure of the commander-in-chief is known. Harmony prevails among us, and our men are in good spirits. A gentleman arrived here this morning from Detroit. He confirms the report that General Hull has crossed into Canada, and that he is now fortifying Sandwich. No opposition was made to his landing. Colonel Munson, aid to Governor Meigs, has received a mortal wound by an accidental shot from one of his party. The ball passed through his left arm and lodged in his body. The ball has not been extracted. To the politeness of this gentleman we are indebted for the perusal of General Hull's proclamation to the inhabitants of Canada. He invites them to accept the friendship and protection of the United States, and promises security and protection to their property and possessions, but threatens extermination of those who unite with the merciless savages to murder our unoffending citizens. The Indians here appear perfectly friendly. Some of them brought here an Indian who had stolen horses from General Hull's army. He is still a prisoner here. The Detroit mail has arrived. It informs us that Colonel Munson is dead.

With due respect, Sir,

JOHN CAMPBELL.

General Harrison visited Fort Stephenson in June, and in the orders left with Major Croghan, stated—"Should the British troops approach you in force with cannon, and you can discover them in time to effect a retreat, you will do so immediately, destroying all the public stores.

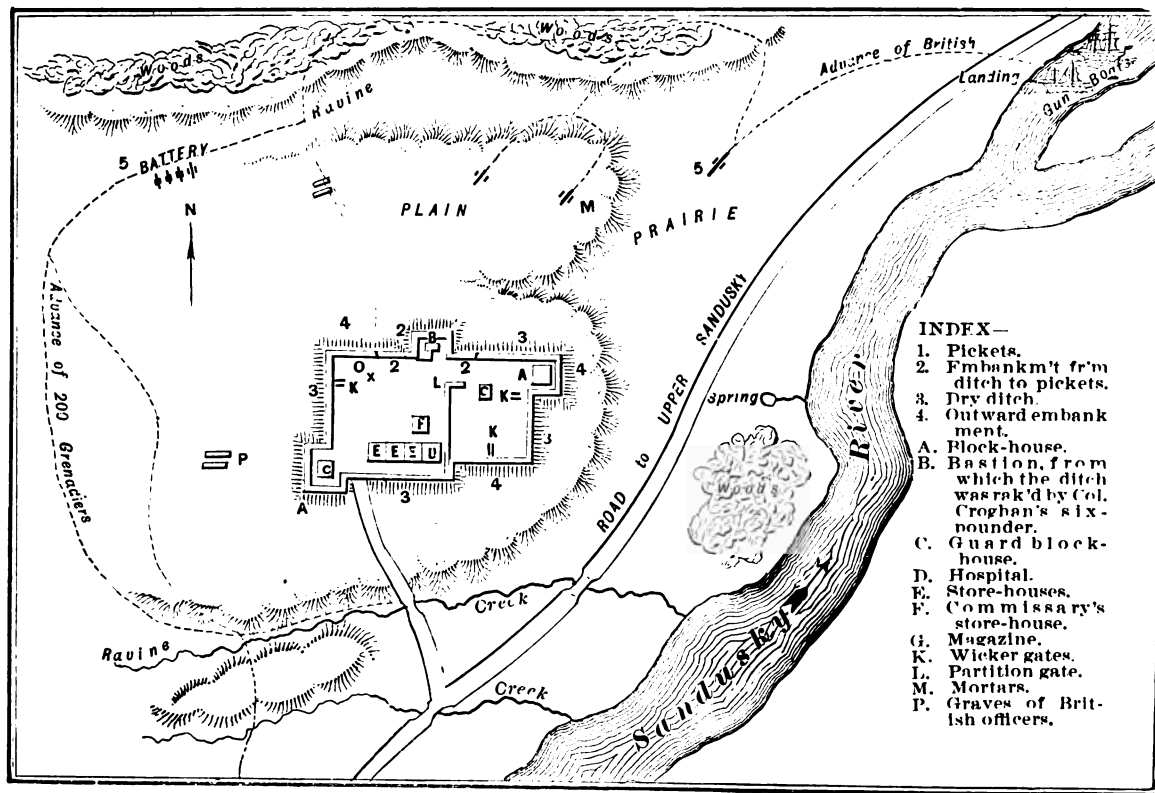
"You must be aware that the attempt to retreat in the face of an Indian force, would be in vain. Against such an enemy your garrison would be safe, however great the number."

Immediately upon the raising of the siege of Fort Meigs, General Clay notified General Harrison at Fort Seneca of the fact and of the probability of an attack on Forts Stephenson or Seneca. General Harrison called a council of war and it was unanimously decided that Fort Stephenson was untenable against artillery and should therefore be abandoned. Orders to this effect were sent to Croghan, by a Mr. Conner and two Indians, who lost their way and were thereby delayed,

so that when Croghan received the message, he thought he could not with safety retreat. A council of his officers was called and they concluded they could successfully defend the place and so notified their general. General Harrison, on receipt of this, sent Colonel Wells to assume command and ordered Croghan to repair to Fort Seneca; but, on his arrival at headquarters of the general, Croghan gave such satisfactory evidences of his ability to maintain the post, that he was immediately sent back, with instructions to resume command of the Post.

The following account of the battle of Croghan's Victory, we take from "An impartial and correct history of the war between the United States of America and Great Britain." Published by John Low, No. 17, Chatham street, New York—1815.

"On the evening of the 1st of August, the British and Indians, who had come up the Sandusky River, from the bay, commenced from the boats a heavy cannonading upon the fort, and threw in a great number of shells from their bomb batteries. The enemy continued his operations without success, until the evening of the 2d, when, after throwing a great number of balls from a six-pounder, at the northwest angle of the fort, for the purpose of making a breach, a column, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Short, advanced to the point on which the artillery had been played, with intention of storming, but the judicious management of Major Croghan foiled the enemy in his attempt. The ditch, which surrounded the works, was about eight feet wide, and of equal depth—this the enemy had to enter before they could approach the pickets; (through the top of each, a bayonet was driven in a horizontal direction). While in this situation, the six-pounder, which was masked in a block-house, and a ravine adjacent, poured upon the storming column a tremendous shower of musket balls, which did terrible execution, and so confounded the assailants, that Lieutenant-Colonel Short, who had previously ordered his men to "scale the pickets, and show the damned Yankee rascals no quarters," exhibited a white handkerchief as a signal of distress, evincing his disposition to have quarters given him, after he had proclaimed that the garrison should be massacred. It was, however, too late—the next discharge proved fatal—he fell—and Lieutenant Gordon, of the Twenty-ninth Regiment, died by his side. This was nearly two hours before sun set. The firing from the block-house was principally directed at the enemy who had taken refuge in the direction of the ravine—the slaughter there was immense, and General Proctor, who commanded in person, ordered the allied enemy to retreat to their boats.



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PLAN OF FORT STEPHENSON.

The greater part of the night was occupied in carrying off the dead and wounded—from the number of trails discovered in the grass, it is evident that no less than fifty of the dead were dragged away. About thirty killed, including the two officers mentioned above, were left in the ditch and ravine—and thirty prisoners, eighteen severely wounded, which General Proctor, in his hurry, left behind, were afterwards brought into the fort. It is a fact, worthy of observation, that not one Indian was found among the dead, although it is known that from 300 to 400 were present, under the celebrated Captain Elliot. The number of British Regulars was 490, from the Forty-ninth Regiment. Major Croghan had but one man killed, and seven slightly wounded.

The British loss, by their own confession, amounted to ninety-four, exclusive of Indians. There was, however, sufficient evidence to justify the belief that it was considerably more.

When Colonel Elliot demanded the surrender of the fort, he stated that, unless his demands were promptly acceded to, a general massacre would ensue.

And when Colonel Short, who commanded the British Regulars, destined to storm the fort, had formed his troops in a line parallel with the ditch, he ordered them, in the hearing of our men, to leap the ditch, cut down the pickets, and give the Americans no quarter. This barbarous order, which none but a savage could give, was not, however, permitted to go unpunished, for the words were hardly out of the mouth of the British commander, when the retributive justice of Providence arrested him, and the wretch was obliged to sue for that mercy which he had determined not to extend to others. It may be observed here, in honor of the character of the American soldiers, that although their little band were well aware of the fate which the enemy had prepared for them, yet, they were no sooner subdued, than the Americans forgot the crimes of the enemy in their sufferings; and the wounded in the ditch, whose groans, and constant calls for water, were heard by men in the fort, were supplied with that necessary article, on the night succeeding the discomfiture of the enemy, by the generosity of the Americans, who, with considerable hazard, ventured to risk their lives in order to alleviate the sufferings of the very men who had plotted their entire destruction.

The brevet rank of Lieutenant-Colonel has been conferred by the President of the United States on Major Croghan.

The ladies of Chillicothe have presented him with a sword, and a flattering address."

## THE DEFENCE OF FORT STEPHENSON.

The occasion of the unveiling of this beautiful monument was intended to be on the seventy-second anniversary of the battle of Fort Stephenson, but as that day falls on Sunday this year, the time was set for Saturday, the 1st. A brief sketch of that memorable battle may not be uninteresting to the *Leader* readers at this time. On the 29th of July, 1813, General Harrison sent instructions to Major Croghan to immediately abandon Fort Stephenson, set fire to it, and repair with the command to headquarters. These instructions were received by Croghan too late to be carried into execution, on account of the rapid advance of the enemy, and in his answer to Harrison he closes his short note, saying, "We have determined to maintain this place, and by heavens we can." The battle has been described by many writers, but the most correct description will be found in Croghan's report to General Harrison, from which are made the following extracts: "The combined force of the enemy, amounting to at least five hundred regulars and seven or eight hundred Indians, under the immediate command of General Proctor, made its appearance before this place early on Sunday evening last, and so soon as the General had made disposition of his troops as would cut off my retreat, should I be disposed to make one, he sent Colonel Elliot, accompanied by Major Chambers, with a flag to demand the surrender of the fort, as he was anxious to spare the effusion of blood, which he should probably not have in his power to do should he be reduced to the necessity of taking the place by storm. My answer to the summons was that I was determined to defend the place to the last extremity, and that no force, however large, should induce me to surrender it. As soon as the flag was returned, a brisk fire was opened upon us from the gunboats in the river and from a howitzer on shore, which was kept up during the night. About 4 o'clock next afternoon (second) discovering that the fire was concentrated against the northwestern angle of the fort, I became confident that his object was to make a breach and attempt to storm the works at that point. Men were ordered out to strengthen that part, which was effectually done by means of bags of flour, sand, etc. About five hundred, having formed in close column, advanced to assault our works at the expected point, at the same time making two feints on the front of Captain Hunter's lines. Another column was so completely enveloped in smoke as not to be discovered until it had approached within fifteen or twenty paces of the lines, but the men, being all at

their posts and ready to receive it, commenced so heavy and galling a fire as to throw the column into confusion. Being quickly rallied, it advanced to the center of the works and began to leap into the ditch. Just at that moment a fire of grape was opened from our six pounder, which had previously been ranged so as to rake in that direction, which, together with the musketry, threw the enemy into such confusion that they were compelled to retire precipitately to the woods. My whole loss during this siege was one killed and seven slightly wounded. The loss of the enemy in killed, wounded and prisoners, must exceed 150."

Croghan was afterwards presented with a gold medal by Congress, and a sword to each of his officers for gallantry at the defence of the fort. The force in the fort numbered 150 men, of which number only one survives, Sergeant William Gaines, of Wilson Station, Ellsworth County, Kansas. During President Hayes' administration, Mr. Gaines was placed on the retired list. The gun, Old Betsy, which played such a principal part in the defence, has been placed on the fort for many years, and to-day stands there as another hero of that terrible struggle.

#### BATTLE OF FORT STEPHENSON.

The scope of country laying along the river, and more particularly that part around the city of Fremont, fills an important place in the history of the Indians. Here was the principal village of the Neutral Nation. The grand councils of this confederacy were held here, and many of the noted chiefs, including Brant, Little Turtle, Red Jacket and King Crane, and others came from far and near and debated and planned the destruction of the white men of northwestern Ohio. Where Fremont now stands, prisoners captured by the Indians were compelled to run the gauntlet and suffer the barbarities that the Indian knows so well how to inflict. Among the most noted prisoners that were brought here were Daniel Boone, Simon Kenton and John Heckwelder, with many others.

Owing to the importance of the place and the necessity of keeping open a line of communication, as well as establishing a base of supply, led to the building of a fort at this place called Fort Stephenson. The fort was oblong in shape, one hundred yards long and fifty yards wide, inclosed by timbers twelve feet long, set in the ground endwise, surrounded by a ditch six feet wide and nine feet deep, with the earth thrown up against the pickets. The fort was further protected by block houses placed at different angles.

The British, having left Fort Meigs, sailed into Sandusky Bay and up the river, while the Indians marched across the country for the purpose of making a combined attack on Fort Stephenson.

### GENERAL HARRISON,

learning of the enemy's movement on the evening of July 29th, and anticipating that an attack would be made either at this place or Fort Ball, called a council of war. The council was of the opinion that Fort Stephenson was not prepared to stand an assault backed by heavy artillery, and it was best to withdraw the troops and destroy the fort. A messenger was sent with orders to Major Croghan informing him of the decision of the council. The messenger, however, did not reach Croghan until 11 o'clock the next day. Major Croghan, deeming this impracticable and hazardous, replied :

"We have determined to maintain the place, and, by heavens, we can." General Harrison treated this reply as disobedience of orders and relieved him of his command. Major Croghan at once explained to the general's satisfaction, who returned him to his post.

### THE ENEMY APPROACH.

The approach of the enemy was discovered on the 31st of July ascending the river. The British, to the number of five hundred, under the command of General Proctor, and seven or eight hundred Indians under Tecumseh, were well deployed in all directions for the purpose of cutting off the garrison should a retreat be attempted. The British landed about a mile below the fort, taking ashore with them one howitzer. General Proctor then sent a messenger to the fort with a flag and a summons for an immediate surrender, as he was anxious to avoid the shedding of human blood. Major Croghan's representative, Lieutenant Ship, answered "that they would defend the fort to the last extremity, and under no conditions would it be surrendered." Mr. Dickson then spoke of the difficulty of restraining the Indians from massacring the garrison in case of British success. "When this fort is taken there will be no one to massacre," was the defiant answer.

Firing was now commenced by the gunboats and the howitzer on shore, but produced little effect. Major Croghan had but one piece of



artillery, but by changing its position from place to place induced the belief that he had several pieces. He soon discontinued firing and removed the cannon to the blockhouse at the northwest angle of the fort, at which point the enemy had been concentrating their fire, thus leading Croghan to believe that they would make an assault at that point. The gun was masked, and loaded with powder and a double charge of slugs and grape shot. Late in the evening of August 2d, the smoke of the firing had completely enveloped the fort, the assault was made and soon the storming column, three hundred and fifty strong, was within twenty yards of the northwest angle when a heavy firing of musketry was opened upon them which threw them into confusion.

Colonel Short, who led the column, soon rallied his troops, leaped into the ditch shouting, "Come on, boys, and give the d— Yankees no quarter." In a few minutes it was full. The masked port hole was opened and Betsy Croghan, the six pound cannon, poured shot and shell into the mass of soldiers, creating such a panic that retreat was the consequence, although desperate efforts were made to rally them. Colonel Short was mortally wounded, and hoisting his handkerchief upon the point of his sword, cried for quarter. The loss of the garrison was one killed and seven wounded, while that of the enemy could not have been less than one hundred and sixty killed and wounded.

The wounded in the ditch were in a deplorable condition, but were relieved as much as possible by the Americans. About 3 o'clock in the morning, the British and Indians commenced a disorderly retreat, and so anxious were they to get away that they abandoned quite an amount of military stores. Croghan's entire number of men was one hundred and sixty, and a large portion of these were raw recruits. His artillery consisted of the six-pound cannon which did such effective work. It is now in possession of the city and will be placed at the base of the monument.

## THE BRITISH ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE.

COLONIAL CORRESPONDENCE, LOWER CANADA, 1813, VOL. 2, No. 122.

HEADQUARTERS, KINGSTON, }  
UPPER CANADA, 1st August, 1813. }

*My Lord :—* \* \* \* \* \* The arrival of Mr. Dickson from the mission with 2,000 Indian warriors, has enabled me to resume offensive operations with the left division of the Upper Canada army under the command of Brigadier-General Proctor. Major-General Harrison having shown some of his cavalry and riflemen in the Michigan territory, a forward movement has been made by the Indian warriors, supported by a few companies of the Forty-first Regiment, upon Sandusky, from whence they will unite with Tecumseh's band of warriors, employed in investing Fort Meigs.

I have the honor to be, My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,  
GEORGE PREVOST.

HEADQUARTERS, ST. DAVIDS, }  
NIAGARA FRONTIER, 25th Aug. 1813. }

*My Lord :—* \* \* \* \* \* Major-General Proctor having given way to the clamor of our Indian allies to act offensively, moved forward on the 20th ultimo towards the enemy with about three hundred and fifty of the Forty-first Regiment, and between three and four thousand Indian warriors, and on the 2d instant, attempted to carry by assault the block houses and works at Sandusky, where the enemy had concentrated a considerable force. He, however, soon experienced the timidity of the Indians when exposed to the fire of musketry and cannon in an open country, and how little dependence could be placed on their numbers. Previous to the assault, they could scarcely muster as many hundreds as they had before thousands, and as soon as it had commenced, they withdrew themselves out of the reach of the enemy's fire. They are never a disposable force. The handful of His Majesty's troops employed on this occasion, displayed the greatest bravery, nearly the whole of them having reached the fort and made every effort to enter it, but a galling and destructive fire being kept up by the enemy within the block houses and from behind the picketing, which completely protected them, and which we had not the means to force, the Major-General thought it most prudent not to continue longer so unavailing a combat, and accordingly drew off the assailants and returned to Sandwich, with the loss of twenty-five killed, as many missing, and about forty wounded. Amongst the former are Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Short, and Lieutenant J. G. Gordon, of the Forty-first Regiment.

I have the honor to be, My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient and most humble servant,  
GEORGE PREVOST.

## OTHER CELEBRATIONS.

## 1839 AND 1852.

Among the notable celebrations of the battle of Fort Stephenson are those of 1839 and 1852. The former was the first formal recognition made of the anniversary of the battle in Lower Sandusky (now Fremont.) It was a grand occasion for the little village. Twenty-one of the most prominent citizens, of whom Dr. L. Q. Rawson, General R. P. Buckland and Homer Everett are the only ones known to be now living, had the celebration in charge. A mammoth ox was admirably roasted whole, after the best Kentucky style, and was supported by several smaller animals, cooked in a similar manner. Dinner was served under an arbor within a few rods of the fort, and in the afternoon Hon. Eleutheros Cooke, of Sandusky, delivered an eloquent and appropriate oration. Among the many letters of regret received on that occasion was one from Colonel George Croghan, and this letter was read by General Hayes during the exercises last Saturday. The letter was as follows:

ST. LOUIS, Mo., 26th July, 1839.

*Gentlemen:*—I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 8th inst., inviting me, on the part of the citizens of Lower Sandusky, to be present with them on the coming anniversary of the battle of Fort Stephenson.

It is with regret that I am, on account of official duties, unable to comply with your flattering invitation. In communicating this, my reply, I cannot forbear to acknowledge with deep gratitude, the honor you confer. To have been with those gallant men who served with me on the occasion alluded to, permitted by a kind Providence to perform a public duty which has been deemed worthy of special notice by my fellow citizens, is a source of high gratification, brightened, too, by the reflection that the scene of conflict is now, by the enterprise and industry of your people, the home of a thriving and intelligent community.

I beg to offer to you, gentlemen, and through you to the citizens of Lower Sandusky, my warmest thanks for the remembrance you have so flatteringly expressed.

With every feeling of respect and gratitude,

I am yours,

G. CROGHAN.

*Dr. Frank Williams, and others, Committee.*

The Committee of Arrangements for the celebration in 1852 was composed of: C. O. Tillotson, Wm. E. Haynes, James Mitchell,

M. N. Zeigler, E. F. Dickinson, L. Caul, B. J. Bartlett, J. L. Greene, O. L. Nims, S. Buckland, H. Everett and Joseph Stuber. Fully 6,000 people were present. A salute of thirty-one guns, fired from old "Betsy Croghan," opened the exercises. In the procession were:

Engine Fire Company, No. 1, with W. H. Gibson, foreman, and W. W. Armstrong, one of the men who pulled the hand engine and hose cart.

Tiffin Hook and Ladder Company, Captain J. H. Ford.

Washington Guards, of Tiffin, Captain Lang, accompanied by a fine brass band.

Fort Ball Artillery and band, Captain Truman H. Bagby.

Fremont Artillery, Captain Isaac Swank, with the cannon "Betsy Croghan."

Following citizens and strangers making a brilliant and imposing array.

Homer Everett and W. H. Gibson made eloquent addresses. Dinner was served to the guests at Vandercook's Hotel. Judge Bell was president of the day.

## HISTORICAL POETRY.

Captain John M. Lemmon, in his address on Saturday last, referred to Thomas L. Hawkins, a pioneer settler of Sandusky County and a local poet of considerable notoriety, who gave to the gun used by Major Croghan in the defence of Fort Stephenson its name of Betsey Croghan. Mr. Hawkins was a voluminous writer and ground out prose or verse on the slightest provocation. We have a volume of his book in which were published many of his poetical effusions, from an advertisement which the author pasted on an improved wash board sold by himself to an Exposition of the Wiles of the Devil. Pertinent to the occasion, we print his salutation to the old six-pounder, which he explains in a foot note, was written on the 2d of August, 1852, while celebrating the anniversary of Croghan's victory.

**THE AUTHOR'S SALUTATION,**  
**ON THE RETURN OF THE OLD SIX-POUNDER, THAT DEFEATED THE**  
**BRITISH FORCES, BY MAJOR CROGHAN, AT FORT STEPHENSON.**

Hail! thou old friend, of Fort McGee!  
Little did I expect again to see,  
And hear thy voice of victory,  
Thou defender of Ohio!

I wonder who it was that sought thee,  
To victory's ground again hath brought thee,  
From stranger's hands at length hath caught thee;  
He is a friend to great Ohio!

He is surely worthy of applause,  
To undertake so good a cause,  
Altho' a pleader of her laws,\*  
And statutes of Ohio.

What shame thy block house is not standing,  
Thy pickets, as at first, commanding,  
Protecting Sandusky's noble landing,  
The frontier of Ohio!

Thy pickets, alas! are all untrained,  
No faithful sentinel on guard,  
Nor band of soldiers well prepared,  
Defending great Ohio.

Where have the upthrown ditches gone,  
By British cannon rudely torn?  
Alas! with grass they are o'ergrown,  
Neglected by Ohio.

O tell me where thy chieftains all—  
Croghan, Dudley, Miller, Ball!—  
Some of whom, I know, did fall  
In defending of Ohio.

Canst thou not tell how Proctor swore,  
When up your matted turf he tore,  
Which shielded us from guns a score,  
He poured upon Ohio?

And how Tecumseh lay behind you ;  
 With vain attempts he tried to blind you,  
 And, unprepared, he'd find you,  
 And lead you from Ohio ?

Perhaps, like Hamlet's ghost, you've come,  
 This day, to celebrate the fame  
 Of Croghan's honored, worthy name,  
 The hero of Ohio ?

I greet thee ! Thou art just in time  
 To tell of victory most sublime,  
 Tho' told in unconnected rhyme ;  
 Thou art welcome in Ohio.

But since thou canst thyself speak well,  
 Now let thy thundering voice tell  
 What bloody carnage then befell  
 The foes of great Ohio.

(And then she thundered loud.)

\*Brice J. Bartlett.

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Among the pioneers of Sandusky County who were present at the unveiling of the Monument were four who took a prominent part in 1839 in the first celebration of the anniversary of Croghan's victory, viz: Gen. R. P. Buckland, Dr. La. Q. Rawson and Hon. Homer Everett, of Fremont, and Hon. Clark Waggoner, of Toledo. The first two are the only surviving members of the Committee of Arrangements for the celebration in 1839. The Committee consisted of Dr. La. Q. Rawson, Hon. Rodolphus Dickinson, Dr. Daniel Brainard, Gen. Samuel Treat, Gen. John Patterson, Samuel Thompson, Gen. John Bell, David Gallagher, R. P. Buckland, James Justice, N. B. Eddy, J. R. Pease, Dr. R. S. Rice, Thos. L. Hawkins, Jeremiah Everett, Dr. Franklin Williams, Jesse S. Olmstead, Isaac Knapp, Andrew Morehouse, James Valette, Wm. Fields, all of whom are dead except Gen. Buckland and Dr. Rawson. Hon. Homer Everett, President of the Sandusky County Pioneer Association, was born in what is now the adjacent County of Erie in 1813, and has resided in Sandusky County

since 1815. He has attended every celebration of the victory of Fort Stephenson, and was present at the unveiling of the Monument.

In 1839, at the time of the first celebration of the victory, Hon. Clark Waggoner, then aged 19, and editor of the *Lower Sandusky Whig*, was Secretary of the Citizens' Meeting, and was largely influential in promoting the Celebration. The following is one of his editorials on the subject:

"We take the responsibility, as a self-nominated committee of one, to extend to our editorial brethren of Northwestern Ohio, a cordial invitation to a participation in the festivities of the 2nd of August. Come on, Gentlemen, you shall be "well stayed with" so far as our exertions can go. You, of the *Huron Reflector*, *Huron Advertiser*, *Sandusky Clarion*, *Tiffin Gazette*, *Ohio Whig*, *Maumee Express* and *Manhattan Advertiser*, be with us, and we will insure you the greatest specimen of "barbecuing" this side of old Kentuck."

July 27, 1839.

#### NOTES.

We noticed the following newspaper men taking in the sights: D. R. Locke, *Toledo Blade*; W. W. Armstrong, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*; Gen. J. M. Comly, *Toledo Commercial Telegram*; I. F. Mack, *Sandusky Register*; De Wolfe, *Findlay Republican*; A. J. Bebout, *Toledo Democrat*; E. B. Schafer, *Norwalk Adler*; Fred Fox and C. A. Palmer, *Toledo Post*; Joe K. Ohl, *Toledo Bee*; E. C. Bailey, *Medina Gazette*; J. K. Kraemer, *Oak Harbor Exponent*, and Geo. Gosline, *Oak Harbor Press*.

Many shot-riddled flags were carried in the procession.

The splendid picture of Grant issued in last week's *Journal* was conspicuous among many of the decorations.

A number of invited guests who were present and whose names are mentioned on the first page were accompanied by their wives or daughters.

The survivors of the Ladies' Aid Society of Clyde, filled a wagon which attracted much attention. What this society accomplished for the soldiers of the Union is mentioned by Mr. Lemmon in his address.

## THE UNVEILING.

### INCIDENTS OF THE DAY.

'Twas hot.

But it got cooler.

Grant was not forgotten.

It was a very peaceable day.

The procession was two miles long.

Every-one pronounces it a success.

It is past, but pleasant memories remain.

Stable room in the city was at a premium.

Fostoria's Cornet Band attracted attention.

The high school building was handsomely decorated.

Lunch stands were plentiful and did a thriving business.

The fire laddies in uniform carrying police clubs looked nobby.

The monument was unveiled at precisely half past twelve o'clock.

Music and song enlivened the occasion and was gratefully appreciated.

Col. Lemmon's address, although lengthy, is worthy of preservation.

Rev'd Thos. L. Hawkins was the reputed God-father of "Betsy Croghan."

The highest flag in the city was fastened on the spire of the St. Joseph's church.

Fountains on the streets allayed the suffering of the thirsty, overheated populace.

The homes of our citizens were open to visiting friends, and kind hospitality reigned.

The arch over Croghan street had a picture of Ft. Stephenson as it was 72 years ago.

"Old Betsy" was here in 1813 and in 1885 also, but this time there were no British or Indians,



Capt. Hopkins' choice was to wake up the boys early in the morning, and he succeeded well.

"The public schools honor Croghan's memory," was a motto on the High School building.

"Large bodies move slow," hence it took a long while for the procession to form and get started. Trains on the L. E. & W. were late.

St. Joseph's church was decorated with streamers and flags, and presented a handsome appearance.

Fremont had the attention of a great many dignitaries of the land. Those who weren't here sent their regrets.

Fremont was never before so handsomely decorated, and many were the pleasant remarks made by strangers on this account.

Toledo, Oak Harbor, Elmore, Clyde, Tiffin, Norwalk, in fact nearly every town within a circuit of thirty miles was well represented.

Clyde sent an excellent band of music, the Knights of Pythias, and a huge delegation of citizens. Clyde knows how to do things handsomely.

Fremont ladies did much to make the occasion a pleasant one and for their many handsome home decorations have the thanks of every one.

J. L. Pease has an excellent voice for baritone, and knows how to use it to the best effect. We hope to hear more of Mr. Pease in the near future.

The liberality of the Committee of Arrangements is highly commendable. No expense or labor was spared by them to make the occasion a grand success.

The fire-works last Saturday night were of a superior kind, and fired, as they were, from the top of the stand-pipe, could be seen from all parts of the city.

Hon. Jas. R. Francisco, a Mexican veteran, carried a time-worn battle flag which did service at Monterey and Palo Alto. It was a curious and honorable relic.

Col. Haynes had, among his guests last Saturday, Senator Payne, Hon. W. D. Hill, Maj. W. W. Armstrong, Judge Haynes, Col. Dudley Baldwin, Gen. T. W. Sandersen, Hon. R. G. Pennington, and Capt. D. L. Cockley.

The rain cut short the proceedings in Court House park, but the doors of the Presbyterian church were opened and the people—as many as could gain entrance—repaired there.

St. Anns' various Catholic societies added much to the appearance of the procession. Father Bauer's personal attention to his people in the procession elicited much favorable comment.

A grand procession it was, composed of police, bands of music, military, city and county officials, secret, temperance and benevolent societies, old Mexican veterans with a Mexican battle flag, veterans of the war of the Rebellion, firemen, citizens on foot and in carriages.

Our soldier is always on guard.

The decorations were never excelled in Northern Ohio. Some of the American flags displayed were 40x20 feet.

Hopkins' Battery from Toledo did its duty well.

The stock of provisions did not fail. There was enough to eat and drink for all, and an abundance left. The restaurants did a thriving business.

Toledo was largely represented.

Forty barrels of ice water stood where the people could drink to their comfort and satisfaction.

Eugene Rawson Post, Manville Moore Post, G. A. R., the M. E. and St. Paul's Episcopal Churches, served dinner from 12 o'clock noon until 8 o'clock in the evening.

Perfect good order prevailed all day.

The Committee of Arrangements were equal to the occasion.

The short speeches from the distinguished visitors were crisp and pat as at an experience meeting.

When General Hayes read the letter from General Grant acknowledging the invitation to be present at the unveiling of the monument, and declining from inability, a man in the crowd cried "three cheers for General Grant." A silence, oppressive, followed. Gen. Hayes said: "If Gen. Grant was living to-day, the proposed three cheers would have found an instantaneous response from all. As it is the present grief and sorrow in the hearts of the American people will naturally silence any cheering echo relating to the dead hero."

The triple arch across Croghan street was grand, and was beautifully decorated.

Everybody kept open house and no stranger was allowed to go uninvited to hospitalities of our citizens.

The crowd was called all the way from 10,000 to 25,000.

The weight of the monument entire is about one hundred tons.

W. W. Armstrong said he and Gen. W. H. Gibson used to run with the fire engine.

It was the truth all the same, but a slip of the tongue, when W. W. Armstrong referred to "Governor Foraker." The cheers which followed showed the sentiment of his audience.

Several pocketbooks were found on the streets. Not one had any cash in it.

The monument is a beauty.

Fire Chief Reiff had a splendid platoon of police to lead the procession.

The Sixteenth regiment and their excellent band added greatly to the success of the procession.

The Knights of Pythias and Miller's band of Clyde had many encomiums.

John L. Greene, Grand Marshal, handled the procession with skill and precision.

E. M. Hunt, of Danbury, Ottawa County, a gunner in the U. S. Navy, and also a member of Co. B, 3d Artillery, in the Mexican war, was among the visitors.

The people of Sandusky County may congratulate themselves upon the happy realization of their efforts to secure a fitting tribute to their brave soldiers, not only of the late war but also of the Mexican war, and of the war of 1812. May it long stand a constant reminder to future generations of the many privations endured, noble sacrifices made and victories won by those who thought only of their country in her hour of peril.

## LOAN DEPT.

**Renewed books are subject to immediate recall.**

[illegible]

General Library  
University of California  
Berkeley

