



Sacramento Daily Union, Volume 81, Number 85, 1 June 1891 — BURIED UNDER FLOWERS. [ARTICLE]





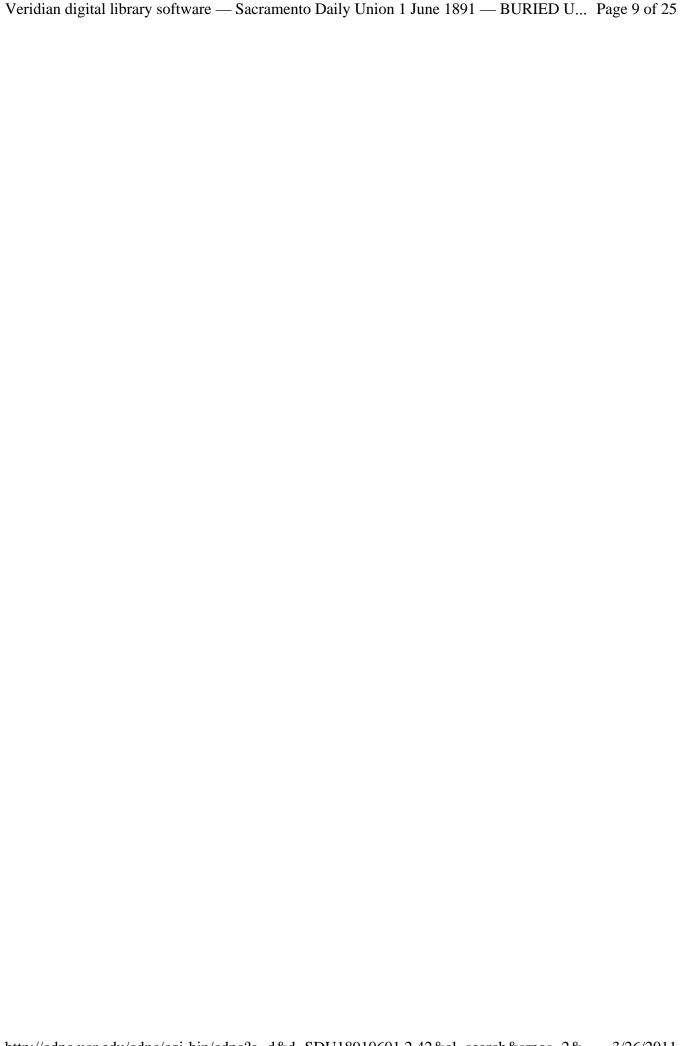














At Grangers' Hall the Ladies of the Grand Army gave a lunch in the afternoon to the Sons of Veterans.

Samuel Anderson, an old veteran, was knocked down by a horse on Fourth street and suffered severe and painful injuries.

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The Graves of Veterans Made Beautiful With Roses.

Memorial Day and Its Observance in Sacramento-Newton Booth's Tribute to the Dead.

Decoration Day dawned with threatening clouds in the sky, and in the early part of the forenoon a light sprinkle of rain began to fall. There were occasional showers until 1 o'clock, when a heavy storm set in, and for a time it was thought that the street parade by the Grand Army posts and militia would have to be abandoned.

The military were assembled at the Armory promptly at half past 1 o'clock, but as the rain was falling heavily it was deemed prudent not to order the men out at that time. In half an hour, however, the shower abated, and the Brigade Staff, Signal Corps and Regiment marched up L street to Tenth, the starting place. The Grand Army posts had also been awaiting a cessation of the rain, and upon the arrival of the military the parade was at once started.

The streets were very muddy, and it was with difficulty that those on foot managed to navigate the thoroughfare. There was no escort of police, Chief Drew having been informed that in all probability there would be no procession.

A squad of Hussars, on foot, were in the lead, followed by Grand Marshal J. R. Laine and his aids. Then came Brigadier-General T. W. Sheehan and staff, Colonel Guthrie and staff, the band and First Artillery Regiment. The three Grand Army posts, drum corps, Sons of Veterans and citizens in carriages made up the remainder of the procession. The Grand Army veterans turned out in

goodly number, and nearly every man in line carried a bouquet of flowers.

The line of march was down K street to Second, to J, to Tenth, and thence over to M street, and down that thoroughfare to the armory. At a consultation of the Grand Marshal and military officers it was decided not to march to the graveyard on account of the inclement weather, but to hold the ceremonies in the armory instead.

The troops were dismissed after the Grand Army posts had passed by, and the services were held in the hall. The posts formed a square in front of the stage, which was occupied by the band, and the usual ceremonies held at the cemetery were gone through with before a large number of people who had gath-

ered in the galleries of the hall.

These consisted of music by the Hussar Band, a prayer by Chaplain Kellogg, of Warren Post, remarks by J. C. Medley, Commander of the Day, and readings from the Scripture. After another prayer by the Chaplain the exercises concluded with the singing of "My Country, 'Tis of Thee."

During the day delegations from the

During the day delegations from the Women's Relief Corps, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, members of the various posts, and many others visited the cemetery and strewed flowers the graves of veterans on those of their relatives friends. The committee for the cemetery from Sumner Corps was Mrs. C. E. Adams and Mrs. J. C. Medley. For the theater, Mrs. Colonel C. V. Kellogg and Mrs. Hattie Ripley. Church committee was Mrs. S. B. Webber and Mrs. Charles Bockstanz. Three altars were erected at the cemetery to the memory of General Sherman, Admiral Porter and "Our Unknown Dead." Three hundred bouquets were placed on the graves.

Upward of two hundred bouquets, contributed by school children of the primary and intermediate grades, were placed upon the graves in the Grand Army plat, and a large basket of flowers was received from the pupils of Lincoln

and Elk Grove school districts.

The Cemetery Committee of Circle No. 2, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Mrs. Emma Renwick, President, consisted of Mrs. E. D. Shirland, Mrs. George Herr and Mrs. Annie Paulk. They took some 500 bouquets to the cemetery.

IN THE EVENING.

Successful Programme at the Metropolitan Theater.

The exercises in the evening at the Metropolitan Theater were unusually fine. The Theater was packed and many who came late could not gain admission.

Aside from the fact that the programme was rather too long, it was a most successful affair. The numbers were all received with liberal applause.

Among the features of the exercises were the recitations of the little Misses Edith Renwick and Mabel Carmichael, the former reciting "Sheridan at Stone River," and the latter "Chickamauga." The latter has taken but a dozen lessons in elocution, but she displayed remarkable talent for a child of nine years, and

gives promise of future success as a dramatic reader.

THE PROGRAMME.

The exercises opened with national airs by the orchestra; then came the address of welcome by L. W. Grothen; invocation, Rev. J. B. Silcox; recitation. "Voyage of the Good Ship Union," Miss Emelie Mae Connolly; solo, "The Old Guard," Charles Phillips; oration, Hon Newton Booth; selection Professor Dunster's quartet; recitation, "Mad Anthony's Charge," Miss E. Greenlaw; solo, "Fleeting Days," Miss Hannah Shields; recitation, "The Drummer Boy's Burial," Miss Annie Laurie; selections by the orchestra; recitation, "Sheridan at Stone River," Miss Edith Renwick; banjo and guitar solo, Messrs Black and Smith: recitation, "Chickamauga," Miss Mabel Carmichael; overture, orchestra. exercises concluded with a one-act drama and tableaux, under the management of Albert Hart, City Superintendent of Schools, entitled, "Gettysburg," and it was given in fine style.

EX-GOVERNOR BOOTH'S ORATION.

The oration delivered by ex-Governor Newton Booth was an exceptionally able effort, and the RECORD-UNION here presents it to its readers in full:

"Ladies and Gentlemen, Soldiers of the Grand Army: Almost twenty-nine years ago, during the hight of the war, and when the current of events seemed to run against us, standing on the very spot where I now stand, I delivered an address on 'The Debit and Credit of the War.' The recollection of this fact has influenced me to overcome a strong aversion to speaking in public, and accept the kind invitation of the resident members of the Grand Army to appear before you to-night. I trust you will excuse this personal allusion. On the 9th of April, 1865, there was a scene on the banks of the Appomattox, in Virginia, which ought to be commemorated by a great historical painting. I refer, of course, to the meeting between Grant and Lee to arrange the terms of the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia.

"Let us briefly review the situation and some of the events which led up to it,

to get as lat as possible at a proper setting for the picture. When General Grant was in California in '79, Captain Korwin Pieotrowski said to me that he was anxious to see the only man who had ever commanded a million men in the field. The remark startled me, but reflection convinced me that he was correct. The accounts we have of the immense armies of the East in ancient times are doubtless colored with oriental exaggeration. It seems incredible that the immense army Xerxes is said to have commanded when he attempted the invasion of Greece. could have been subsisted with the methods of production and transportation then in use. Napoleon said at St. Helena, that the maximum of his armies was six hundred thousand men. The number of men, however, is only one of the elements of military force. The kind of weapons is another. The muskets and other small arms of Napoleon's soldiers were muzzle-loaders with flint locks and

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of short range. What would now be called accurate or rapid firing was impossible. The improvements in artillery have been equally important. Facilities of transportation of men, munitions and provisions constitute another and important element of military force. Napoeon never saw a railroad or steamboat. His marches had to be made on foot and his transportation was by wagons. When these things are taken into consideration, I do not believe that the combined military forces of Hannibal, Cæsar and Napoleon, at their maximum, equalled the awful enginery of war under control of Grant, when he was made Lieutenant-General and took command of the million of men who were enlisted in the Union armies.

UNWORTHY CRITICS.

"I have heard men who never set a squadron in the field, who never smelt gunpowder, except from a fowling-piece, who did not know the difference between in order to present arms and right shoulder shift, criticise Grant and ascribe his success to luck. What would such men have done if the tremendous responsibilities that devolved upon him. and which might have staggered an Atlas, had been placed upon their Lilliputian shoulders. Grant received his commission of Lieutenant-General in March, 64. The war had been waged for three years, with awful loss of life but without decisive results. Gettysburg, Vicksburg and Chattanooga had been fought, the Mississippi opened, but the National Capital was still menaced, and the ultimate result hung in perilous balance. On the 2d of May Grant crossed the Rapidan, and the tremendous duel between the armies of the Potomac and Northern Virginia began. It opened with the awful battle of the Wilderness. It was fought in a heavily-timbered country, with a thick undergrowth. During the engagement the woods took fire from exploding shells, and hundreds of wounded from both armies, no one knows how many, perished in the flames.

"The contest between these two armies is lasted for nearly a year. It was a duel to death, and never was a contest more bravely fought. We devoutly believe to

that the Confederates fought for a cause that was essentially wrong. That its success would have moved back the hand of civilization on the dial of time for centuries. To disparage their courage, their devotion, and the skill of their leaders is to deprecate the heroism and leadership of our own armies. Soldiers of the Grand Army. As foemen they were worthy of your steel. As your brothers in blood who fell on the wrong side of a family quarrel, they are entitled to your sympathy. Their valor and selfsacrifice is a part of the heritage of our common country. Brave men respect brave men the world over. They can rejoice in their own triumph without exulting over the defeat of the fallen. It was a part of the grand strategy of war, that Sherman should move against Johnston, with Atlanta as his objective point, simultaneously with Grant's movement against Lee. Early in September, Sherman occupied Atlanta and cutting off from his base began his memorable march to the sea. The moral effect of this successful march is incalculable. It will long be celebrated in song and story. It is the romantic incident of the war.

A CHRISTMAS PRESENT.

"Sherman himself said that as a military achievement it did not compare with his campaign northward through the Carolinas. On the 25th of December he sent a telegram to the President making him a present of Savannah as a Christmas gift. Soon after he began his northward march. and in January was at Goldsboro, N. C., where he could prevent Johnston reinforcing Lee. In November previous, the great Virginian, the grander American, General George H. Thomas, had defeated and practically annihilated Hood's army at Nashville. Foot by foot, contesting every inch of ground, the army of Northern Virginia, under the matchless leadership of Lee, fell back towards Richmond. In March '65 the toils were closing around it. A part of the Union forces had gotten to the southwest and were cutting off its supplies. As Johnston could not join Lee and fall upon Grant, the one chance of the Confederacy now was that Lee could join Johnston | 1 Sheridan at Five Forks closed one line of retreat. The capture of Petersburg followed immediately, and Lee advised Davis he could no longer protect Richmond. It was evacuated, and on the 3d of April the Union troops took possession. We in Sacramento had celebrated the fall of Richmond previous to that, but we were a trifle premature. The accupation of the Danville road closed another line of retreat and cut off Lee from the principal source of his supplies.

"From the 1st to the 7th of April battles and skirmishes were of daily occurrence. Lee's army was disintegrating by this terrible attrition. At the battle of Sailor's Creek the Union army took 7,000 prisoners. But one hope was left to Lee. If he could get to Lychburg he would be in reach of supplies and might reach Johnston. That gap was closed by Ord and Sheridan on the 7th of April. On that day Grant sent a note to Lee to the effect that as further struggle by the army of Northern Virginia was hopeless, he asked his surrender to stay the effusion of blood. Lee answered that he did not consider its condition desperate, but asked what terms would be granted. Grant replied that the soldiers should surrender their arms and agree not to fight until exchanged.

"On the 8th the Union army was in a position to annihilate Lee's forces or compel their unconditional surrender. Grant, suffering intensely with a sick headache, spent the night of the 8th at a farm-house bathing his feet in hot water and applying mustard plasters to his wrists and the back of his neck. He found no relief. In the morning, halfblinded with pain, he mounted his horse and set out for Sheridan's headquarters. He had to make a detour to avoid the Confederate lines, and did not see the white flag that had been hoisted. On the way he was intercepted by a messenger with a note from Lee asking him to meet him at McLaine's house and arrange the terms of capitulation. Instantly his headache was gone.

THE WELCOME DAWN.

"No wonder! The dark night was passing! Day was dawning! The cruel

war was ending. Peace was spreading her white wings in the sky. Grant had probably not taken off his clothes for many days and nights. He had on a slouched hat, a much worn blue blouse. He had no sword, and there was nothing in his dress to distinguish him from a teamster, except his dingy shoulderstraps with their faded stars. Attired as he was, with a few of his general officers and staff, he hastened to the house designated by Lee, and there the two great leaders met. The contrast was striking, Lee had a commanding presence and was every inch a king. He wore, as befitted the occasion, a new uniform resplendent with gold lace and all the decorations of

"The men were typical, even in the accident of dress. Lee had the bluest of the blue blood of Virginia in his veins. He was descended, I believe, from Light Horse Harry, of the revolution, or from the same family. He had been the favorite of the old army, and prior to 1861, by common consent, was regarded as the coming successor of General Winfield Scott. He was, perhaps, the best living representative of the landed aristocracy that for years had dominated the South. They were leaders of public opinion, political action and social law. High spirited, brave, hospitable and generous: affable with equals, kind, with a trace of condescension, to inferiors in position. They believed that slavery of the African race was the corner stone of social order. They were of opinion that social order was divinely ordained, and were convinced that it was a part of divine ordinance that they should be on top.

"Grant had some military experience, but in a very subordinate capacity. He had resigned from the army, tried business pursuits and not been successful. At the beginning of the war he was a clerk in a leather store, so little known that the Congressman of his district, though living in the same small town, was not acquainted with him. No one ever offered his services to his country from purer motives of patriotism. Almost by accident he was made Colonel of the Illinois Twenty-fourth. The world knows the remainder of his history by heart. These men were types and repre-

sentatives. Lee of that aristocratic lead-

ership which is bold to maintain its rights and defy fate itself to the combat. Grant of that democratic instinct that will sacrific all in the discharge of duty, and whose patriotism at a white heat takes on the fervor of religion and is resistless.

"The meeting of these great leaders, at the close of the conflict of these mighty forces, is a subject for a painting such as

history has seldom offered.

"Grant says that at this meeting, instead of a teeling of joy, he was oppressed by a sadness which almost overcame him. Contrast his feelings and conduct with what Alexander's or Cæsar's or Napoleon's would have been under similar circumstances.

GRANT'S MAGNANIMITY.

"After a few minutes of friendly conversation, Lee suggested that the terms of capitulation ought to be in writing. Grant, as he says, sat down at the table without a thought as to the words he should use. Out of the fullness of heart the month speaketh. Fast as pen could fly the terms were written in Grant's own hand. They were magnanimous even beyond Lee's expectation. Lee said the stipulation that the officers should retain their side-arms and horses would have good effect, and accepted the whole. Lee suggested that most of the horses in use in his army were the private property of the men. Grant replied, 'They may take them. They will need them in putting in their crops.' Lee said his army was famished. Grant made an order for the issue of necessary rations, told Lee to appoint his own officers for their distribution, and the chieftains parted.

"When you reflect that civil wars engender the fiercest passions, that at their close it is the rule that vengeance follows victory, you will admit that the magnanimity of the terms of the surrender were the crowning glory of their author and of the cause he championed. They are a fitting pendant to the most sublime utterance heard on earth since the Sermon on the Mount, 'With charity for all, with malice towards none, pursuing the right as God giveth us to see the right.' The war was substantially closed. Let us

pause briefly and estimate its cost. Absolute accuracy is impossible, but I believe that no one who has studied the subject places the loss of life on both sides at less than five hundred thousand men. That is equal to five times as many voters as were in California at the close of the war, or twice as many as there are now. The national debt was increased to about three thousand million dollars. In addition, probably five hundred million had been paid from current revenues and by States and counties. If you take into consideration the destruction of property in the South, the expenses and losses on the Confederate side were quite as large. If you add the loss of diverting the labor of a million men for four years from productive pursuits, you will have a grand aggregate of more than eight thousand million dollars. That is a sum equal to the taxable property of California to-day multiplied by eight. It would take the personal property and improvements of sixteen States like California to defray the expenses and make good the losses of the war,

THE COUNTRY'S PROGRESS.

"Was it worth it? Five hundred thousand lives, eight thousand million dollars on one side of the balance sheet, the results of the war on the other, how does the account stand? Since the close of the war the country has progressed in population and material wealth by leaps and bounds. In 1860 the population of the country was thirty-two millions, including three million slaves. Now it is sixty-four millions, all free. Thank God there are no slaves to enumerate. At the beginning of the war the estimated value of the property of the whole country was sixteen thousand million dollars; now it is sixty thousand million. But great population does not make a great nation. If it did China would be the greatest nation on earth. Vast accumulations of wealth have often been precursor of national decay. While the increase of general wealth has been marvelous, its concentration is appalling. It is easy in times of national peril to find men who will fight and die for their country. What we want is a people who will live for their country-for its honor and glory in time of peace. We must make it a part of the public mind and conscience that no man, no corporation, is so great as to be above the law; no individual is so humble as to be protection. beneath If shall succeed in this-if we and those who come after us shall be true to the great idea of country—to the principles of civil liberty and equal rights—then the precious blood that was poured out in the war will not have been shed in vain. The gains to humanity will be incalculable. If we fail, the heroes of that great epoch will have builded a monument to their own honor and to our disgrace.

"The past at least is secure. The uprising of a people in a great cause is a chapter in history which time will never obliterate. Emancipation will never be wiped out. The memory of the humblest soldier who fell in the ranks from sense of duty is a heritage as precious to humanity as the fame of the great leaders who have emblazoned their names on the pages of history. America has given to the world two men matchless in purity of character and loftiness of purpose. Two stars have appeared in the highest heaven in the constellation of great men, whose light, with ever-increasing effulgence, will stream to the remotest age-Washington and Lincoln,"

NOTES OF THE DAY.

A requiem mass was celebrated at the Cathedral on Saturday morning for the deceased members of the Young Men's Institute, whose graves were also decorated with flowers.