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FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y., JUNE 26, 1915

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OFFICERS:

JEREMIAH KECK President
CHARLES E. STEVENS Vice President
DANIEL H. COLE Chaplain
CHARLES D. THURBER Treasurer
EDWARD H. FULLER Secretary

ROLL CALL ANSWER.

"KILLED IN BATTLE."

JOHN W. BELDEN
October 19, 1864

MARTIN LENNON
October 19, 1864



LUTHER M. WHEELER
May 3, 1863

ORRIN P. RUGG
May 12, 1864

Thomas M. White John B. Darrow Wm. B. Thorn



Edward H. Fuller Edward H. Thorn John H. Cozzens Obed M. Coleman

REPORT OF THE FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL REUNION
OF THE
SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION
OF THE
SEVENTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT

NEW YORK STATE INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS OF 1861-65

HELD AT

SARATOGA SPRINGS, SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1915

By EDWARD H. FULLER, SECRETARY



CAPTAIN LUTHER M. WHEELER

Gilbert H. Benedict in THE SARATOGA SUN of June 25, 1915, writes:

THE THINNING BLUE LINE.

"Among the visitors to Saratoga Springs tomorrow will be a few old Union Veterans — less than a hundred — survivors of the Seventy-seventh New York Volunteers, who will meet in Grand Army Hall to hold a reunion and celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the mustering out of the regiment at the close of the Civil war.

"This regiment was raised in the then 15th Congressional District counties of Saratoga, Essex and Fulton following President Lincoln's second call

for volunteers in 1861. It was mustered into the United States service November 23, 1861, and was mustered out of the service on June 27, 1865. The anniversary falling on next Sunday, the veterans will meet to hold their reunion tomorrow, Saturday, June 26, 1915.

"The Seventy-seventh was a splendid example of the volunteer Union soldiers. It won fame by its devoted service and unflinching courage in innumerable skirmishes, charges, battles, sieges and marches during the

great conflict. Among the important engagements at which it was present were Lee's Mills, near Yorktown, Va." (Where Privates Charles H. Hodges, Henry J. Hurd and Frank J. Jeffords of the Saratoga Springs Company—under the command of its new Captain Luther M. Wheeler, its original captain's resignation, because, as alleged, of the expected strenuousness of the coming campaign, having been accepted April 1, 1862—the first ones in the regiment wounded. All three because of their wounds were discharged. Jeffords with an amputated leg. Hurd (right name Charles Henry J. Montgomery), in 1902 underwent an operation in right side, which disclosed two deceased ribs and affected liver—the result of that shell wound of April 5, 1862. Unto his death March 29, 1915, his faithful wife of forty-five years, after the operation, dressed the wound twice daily. Secy.) "Williamsburg, Mechanicville, Garnett's and Golding's farms," (where John Ham of D, the Wilton Company, on the pickett line, fell, shot dead because "I will not fall back," Secy.), "White Oak Swamp Bridge, Malvern Hill, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg," (At one of the pontoon bridges, to protect the engineers, the regiment was in line of battle on the north side of the Rappahannock River with orders not to fire unless the enemy fired first. "A good order, have to wait until one is shot before he can fire his gun," remarked Private Gray of B Company. Secy.) "Mayre's

Heights," (where your Secretary was left by a Johnny Reb's rifle ball on the battlefield as dead.) "Gettysburg, Chantilly, Rappahannock Station, the battles of the Wilderness, the investment of Richmond, the campaign and battles of Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley, and finally Appomattox, where under Grant it witnessed the surrender of Lee and participated in the final act of the great drama of American history.

"The survivors of the regiment are few now. They, like other defenders of the Union in the early 'Sixties, are part of that 'thin blue line,' growing yearly thinner, which is all that physically connects the country now with the great deeds and great issues of 1861-'65. They are living today in times that see embattled armies trampling the fairest parts of Europe—greater armies than earth ever saw before. But the war in which they fought was a greater war—greater by reason of its high principles and its enduring influence upon the destinies of humanity and the world. They will soon join the ranks of their comrades who have answered the last roll call, but their fame and the service they performed will remain as an example and an inspiration of true patriotism for untold generations of the people of Saratoga county, of the State and of the Union they helped to save.

"They are welcome in the hearts of all, and it will be pleasant to record their proceedings and to revive the memories of their heroic deeds and invaluable services."

(E. M. BARRETT, in the SARATOGA SUN, Saturday, June 26, 1915.)

50 YEARS AGO VETERANS CAME BACK FROM WAR

Saratoga Springs, Rendezvous Town of 77th New York Infantry Volunteers, Entertains Those Who Fought for the Union—Drummer Calls Meeting to Order in a Most Enthusiastic and Inspiring Way—Excellent Program and Dinner.

In Saratoga Springs, the rendezvous town of the 77th Regiment, New York Infantry, Volunteers of the Civil War, the Survivors' Association of that Regiment met. This, the 43d annual reunion was made very prominent because of the fact that it was the 50th Anniversary of the muster-out of the Regiment at the close of the war.

The 77th Regiment saw some of the fiercest conflicts of the war of the rebellion, and just a half century ago after four years of conflict, these veterans were returning joyous from victory. The record of its losses in the service show that it never valued life above Country. This record shows:

Killed in action: Officers 10, enlisted men 71; died of wounds, officers 2, enlisted men 41; recovered from wounds, officers 25, enlisted men 269; deaths from other causes, officers 1, enlisted men 175, a total of 594.

Promptly at 10 a. m. in LUTHER M. WHEELER Post meeting room, which was draped with the Stars and Stripes in a most beautiful manner, Drummer John E. Evans sounded as in the old days with drum the "Assembly." There was not one "Old Vet." in G. A. R. hall. As if a surgical operation had been performed, a transfusion of fresh young blood coursed through their veins. They were no longer old; no longer weary with years of care and strife. It was wonderful to see how languid legs straightened. Like one recovering

from an antiseptic they saw in the distance only the waving Stars and Stripes and were ready, to a man, as in the days of old, to answer the command "FORWARD, MARCH!"

Fifty years ago tomorrow, June 27, 1865, the Saratoga Regiment was mustered out of the service of the United States and Saratoga Springs had the honor of welcoming home her brave heroes.

The prayer, suitable for these Soldiers-in-blue, was said by Rev. Peter A. Macdonald, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. It was followed by the address of welcome by ex-Senator Edgar Truman Brackett, who paid a high testimonial to the never-to-be-forgotten work of the Soldiers who fought in the Civil War.

In concluding Ex-Senator Brackett said:

"There can be no sweeter recollection that can come to a man, that can come to a human being, than, after he has been to a war, to know that he has served his country. If I ever get to heaven and a convention there I shall move that St. Peter be directed to look to see if any man entering has on a G. A. R. button and if he has, to let him in without further question. I know that men who have been through the hell of war for three years; I know that the men who braved the dangers of battle and the peril of death will meet without flinching when it comes time for

them to brave other dangers; I know they shall do their duty."

President Jeremiah Keck of Johnstown made the response in which he said that the Soldiers were glad to return to Saratoga Springs; and read an interesting paper reminiscent of some of the valorous deeds of the Seventy-seventh.

Private Edward H. Fuller read a paper on "The Sixth Corps at Washington, July 12, 1864," which was interesting, and recalled many old-time events.

Miss Alice Cunningham recited with much feeling and emphasis "The Flag of '64." Mrs. Charles B. Andrus, accompanied by Miss Maud Rolls on the piano, sang "Old Glory" with a patriotic enthusiasm to her voice which made this old-time song beautiful.

The latter part of the session was given over to the roll call by Secretary Fuller, the various reports, and reminiscences by many of the old soldiers present. Some of these had not attended a reunion in a decade or more, some for their first time.

Henry Holcomb Bennet's "The Flag Goes By," read by the secretary at the close of his paper, is a fitting conclusion to this story, for it records what the men had done:

Hats off!

Along the street there comes
A blaze of bugles, a ruffle of drums;
A flash of color beneath the sky;
Hats off!

The Flag is passing by.

Blue and Crimson and white it shines
Over the steel-tipped, ordered lines.

Hats off!

The Colors before us fly;
But, more than the Flag is passing by.

Sea fights and land fights, grim and great,

Fought to make and save the state;
Weary marches and sinking ships;
Cheers of victory on dying lips.

Days of plenty and years of peace,
March of a strong land's swift increase;

Equal justice, right and law,
Stately honor and revered awe.

Sign of a nation, great and strong,
To ward her people from foreign wrong;

Pride and glory and honor—all
Live in the Colors to stand, or fall.



COLONEL WINSOR B. FRENCH,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

(Again by E. M. BARRETT in Monday's SUN)

FIFTY YEARS SINCE 77TH CAME HOME

Interesting Report of Meeting in Saratoga Springs on Saturday —Some Statistics Concerning the Seventy-seventh—Veterans Present From Many Towns and Cities—Those Who Died in Prison.

The "Legion of Honor," the "Iron Cross," the "Order of St. George" and other decorations of honor have their significance, but to Americans the "Little Bronze Button," the insignia of the G. A. R., shines above them all. Yesterday was the fiftieth anniversary of the muster-out of the Seventy-seventh New York Regiment Infantry Volunteers, and many flags flung to the breeze for the week-end in honor of the forty-third reunion which was held in Grand Army Hall.

From the full quota sent away only a mere handful are living. As their blue ranks grow thinner, our admiration for them and their brave deeds in the cause of justice and freedom increases and their memory will ever remain as indelible in our minds as the blue stripe in the Flag under which they fought and won.

The tribute which the veterans paid on Saturday to those who had answered their final taps was voiced in the following resolution:

"The death since the last reunion of those named in the Secretary's report recalls their faithful and loyal service in the war for the preservation of the Union when members of the Regiment.

"As we give thanks to a gracious Father for permitting us to linger a while longer on this beautiful earth, their going reminds us that 'we are coming, Father Abraham.'

"So, while we mourn with their families, we tender them our condolence, and commend them to the God

Who is our Guide, the same as when He watched over us, when we were battling for the Flag for God and Country.

"CHARLES E. STEVENS,

"DANIEL H. COLE,

"CHARLES E. JENNINGS,

"Committee."

MANY PRESENT.

Veterans Come From a Great Many
Cities to Recall Their Home-Coming.

Among those who have survived the battles of the War of the Rebellion and the trials of the succeeding years and who were able to attend the fiftieth anniversary of the return home from the war on Saturday, the roll call by Secretary Fuller revealed.

In his report of those on the pension roll on November 23, 1911, when the fiftieth anniversary of the muster-in was celebrated, compared with those on the pension roll June 26, 1915, Mr. Fuller brings to light the fact that in the three years and seven months' time 129,371 Boys-in-Blue of the Volunteer Army of the Union of '61-65 have died.

SIXTEEN DIED IN PRISON.

Saratoga County's Men Braved the
Horrors of the Rebel Prison.

Although fifty years ago, those who returned from the war were joyous and victorious because the right of

the Union had conquered and the United States had been preserved, still there was sorrow for the soldiers who had died during the war. The age of that conflict is so far off that it is difficult for residents of Saratoga county to think that sixteen of its citizens, its soldier boys of the Seventy-seventh Regiment, died in Southern rebel prisons, but this is a fact. (See names in the Secretary's report.)

We can not think of these men in the prisons of the South without shedding a tear, for in vain did they wait for a sight of Saratoga county and their homes once more.

EXCELLENT ADDRESSES.

Reminiscences of the War Recalled in Papers and Addresses Given By the Members.

At the reunion Saturday three very splendid addresses, reminiscent of the war, were given. The first was read by President Jeremiah Keck of Johnstown, who gave a summary of the battles and action in which the Seventy-seventh New York took part in the year 1864.

Referring to the last grand review of the famous Sixth Corps, in which the Regiment was, President Keck said: "As we marched up Pennsylvania avenue—Washington's great thoroughfare—that 9th day of June, 1865, there could be frequently heard from the cheering people who lined the sidewalks on either side 'That is the corps that saved the city July last.' And the Saratoga Regiment, the Bemis Heights Battalion, the Seventy-seventh New York Infantry Volunteers, or what was left of it, marched home."

The second, "The Sixth Corps at Washington July 12, 1864," by Edward H. Fuller, was a most interesting and valuable account of the saving of Washington. During the reading of the paper, the veterans remained particularly quiet; they were recalling those dim, far-away days.

Dr. George T. Stevens, Surgeon of the Seventy-seventh, who came from New York just to attend the reunion gave the third paper. Dr. Stevens recalled in his most entertaining and delightful manner the first fighting campaign of the Regiment.



PRESIDENT J. KECK.



EDWARD H. FULLER, 1862.

"Have made the proud Flag of the Stars and Stripes, never before lowered to any nation, lowered in humility before the Palmetto and the Confederate flags." So published the Charleston, South Carolina, Courier of April 14, 1861, the second morning after the Confederates had fired on Fort Sumter.

April 15, 1861, President Lincoln issued his proclamation for Congress to convene in extra session. And called for 75,000 militiamen.

Former County Judge James B. McKean of Saratoga Springs, Representative in Congress of the 15th Congressional District (ours) Counties of Essex, Fulton and Saratoga—on his departing for the National Capital to attend the called session, remarked to

an acquaintance: "I expect to return soon to raise a Regiment of volunteers from this District." He returned as soon as his duties permitted and on the 21st day of August, 1861, issued a circular letter to his constituents to

"Organize a Bemis Heights Battalion and vie with each other in serving our Country, thus showing we are inspired by the memories of the Revolutionary battlefields, on and near which we are living."

RENDEZVOUS.

The State Adjutant General's office, at Albany, New York, August 27, 1861, issued Special Order No. 368 to establish a branch Depot at Saratoga Springs where all Companies organizing for the Bemis Heights Battalion to assemble. The Fair Grounds of the Saratoga County Agricultural Society, southeast of the Village, down Nelson street, to be the rendezvous. It was named Camp Schuyler—for General Philip Schuyler of Saratoga Revolutionary fame. Into this camp by November first the nucleus of ten companies had entered which had so increased that Saturday, November 23d, 1861, the nine hundred enrolled

MUSTER-IN.

officers and men were mustered-in to the United States Army as the Seventy-seventh Regiment, New York State (Foot) Volunteers. On which the Captain of each company: Westport Company A, Reed W. Arnold; Ballston Company B, Clement C. Hill; Saratoga Springs Company C, Benjamin F. Judson; Wilton Company D, John Carr; Greenfield Company E, Lewis Wood; Stillwater Company F, Judson B. Andrews; Gansevoort Company G, Calvin A. Rice; Charlton Company H, Albert F. Beach; Keese-

ville Company I, Franklin Norton; Gloversville Company K, Nathan S. Babcock; certified

"on honor that this muster-in roll exhibits the true state of — Company of the Seventy-seventh Regiment, New York Foot Volunteers, for the period herein mentioned; that each man answered to his own proper name in person, and that the remarks set opposite each officer and soldiers name are accurate and just."

FORMATION.

The Regiment was then formed; having for officers: Colonel, James B. McKean; Lieutenant Colonel, Joseph C. Henderson; Major, Selden Hetzel; Adjutant, Winsor B. French; Sergeant Major, Seymour Birch; Quartermaster, Lucius E. Schurtleff; Quartermaster Sergeant, Edward S. Armstrong; Commissary Sergeant, Wendall Lansing; Chief Drummer, Luther Irish; Chief Fifer, Levi Clapper; Surgeon, John L. Perry; Assistant Surgeon, George T. Stevens; Hospital Steward, John W. Fay; Chaplain, David Tully.

The Surgeons, Chaplain, Hospital Steward, Musicians, Quartermaster, Commissary and Quartermaster Sergeant are non-combatants; i. e. The first four named look after the wounded. The last three named go with the wagon trains carrying regimental supplies.

NUMBER.

Though the application to raise a Saratoga Regiment numerically was forty-four, because of being in the County in which a decisive battle of the Revolution was fought (causing the defeated foe to surrender to the victorious American Army Friday, October 17.) 1777, it was decided to leave off the first two figures and use

the last two figures, hence the 77th. For which good and sufficient reasons were presented to the Governor, Edwin D. Morgan, who caused an order to be issued that it be so numbered.

LEAVING CAMP.

Thursday, November 28th, five days after muster-in, Camp was broken early in the morning. Soon after which the Bemis Heights Battalion, the Saratoga Regiment, the Seventy-seventh New York Infantry Volunteers began a march which ended with its muster-out June 27, 1865, in the Defenses of Washington, D. C., because the war had ended; and the slave oligarchy's attempt to disrupt the Union was a failure.

FLAG PRESENTED.

Enroute to the station of the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad the Regiment was halted at the Female Seminary—now the site of the Skidmore School of Arts—to receive the silk United States Flag—baptized near Lees Mills, Yorktown, Va., April 5, 1862—made by the scholars especially for the Regiment, and presented to it for them by the Proprietor and Principal Rev. L. F. Beecher, D. D. At which a poem addressed to the Bemis Heights Regiment was read by its author Mary Carleton Beecher. Of which we quote:

"The Stars and the Stripes,
wrought by fair hands and true,
The FLAG OF OUR UNION we
tender to you;
Let its silken folds wave as you
march to the strife,
And part with it never, except
with your life.
If the battle grow fierce, and your
courage should lag,
Look up to the STARS on your
beautiful FLAG;

That bright constellation set in
HEAVEN'S own blue,
One unbroken cluster is entrusted
to you."

DEPARTURE.

March was then resumed for the

Railroad station, on Division street,
as now, where cars were entered, and
amidst affecting scenes of good byes,
some forever, from relatives, friends
and acquaintances, the train started
for Albany.

DEPARTURE OF THE 77th.

God bye, ye brave soldiers, God speed on your way,
Though sad be the hearts that ye leave here today;
And fervent the prayers that in silence ascend,
While loved ones are parting with husband and friend;
And many a mother, with red weeping eye,
On her son's manly face puts a mother's Good-bye,
And many a sister with tear-dripping cheek,
Whose heart is too full e'en the good-bye to speak,
While brave men departing, our Flag to defend,
Wave a silent adieu to companion and friend,
And yet through these tear-drops, me thinks I can trace
A bright hope of meeting again in each face,
When the trumpet's shrill call to the rescue is o'er,
And peace be restored to our country once more,
And you, noble *Chieftain! with weapon in hand,
Of the Bemis Heights Regiment, the honored command;
Lead them to such deeds as their fore-fathers done,
Where th' battle was fought and the victory won;
Where first waved the †Stars and Stripes in the blue,
Like yesterday's ‡banner presented to you.
Ye go not for conquest, ye go not for gain,
But go for our Union, our Flag to maintain;
Which rudely is torn from its proud waving seat,
And trod in the dust beneath traitor's base feet.
Then raise it again, though all tattered it be,
And plant it once more o'er the conquered—the free.
For us that our fore-fathers fought and they bled,
For us that they lay on the battle-field dead;
For us that the Saviour was once crucified,
For us was the blood which he spilt when he died;
That we may behold the Omnipotent plan,
Of blood-purchased freedom from Saviour to man.
If ye, then, perchance on the battle-field lie,
'Tis sad, but "'tis sweet for one's country to die."
Then on, ye brave Freeman, arm well for the fight—
Your battle-cry, Liberty, Union and Right.
And strike ye the blow, that rebellion may see,
That none shall be bound, in the land of the free.
Then when ye shall meet on the field of the strife,
The base rebel foeman, perhaps with your life,

Aim well the true rifle, and let the ball fly—
 'Tis well for our country that traitors should die,
 'Tis traitors who now cause our country to bleed,
 Who from our loved Union assume to secede.
 'Twas traitors who stole from our coffers the gold,
 (Too dearly, their birth-right, they find they have sold.)
 When ye, the shrill bugle, shall call to the field,
 To point the dread rifle, or draw the bright steel,
 When lightnings shall streak from the thunder-toned gun,
 And smoke shall ascend from the battle begun:
 'Mid bursting of shells, or whiz of the ball,
 Though many brave heroes around you may fall;
 Desert not your banner, though bloody it be,
 But bear it triumphant o'er the conquered and free.
 And when the dread sound of the conflict is o'er,
 May we be permitted to greet you once more;
 In harmony then shall our praises arise,
 Till notes of our gladness ascend to the skies,
 There Angelic hosts will then chant the glad strain,
 And Heaven with rapture will shout the Amen!

Saratoga Springs, Nov. 28, 1861.

W. B. B. W.

*James B. McKean, Colonel of the Regiment.

†First unfurled at Battle of Bemus Heights, Saratoga County.

‡Silk Flag, made by the scholars of Dr. Beacher's Seminary.

Was written 'For The Saratogian' by Warren B. B. Westcott (of the then Dry Goods Merchants Westcott and Smith (Adam B. Smith) at then No. 188 Broadway, now the south half of the Waterbury Company Clothiers store, Nos. 424 426,) on the departure of the Saratoga Regiment—the Bemus Heights Battalion—the 77th New York Infantry Volunteers, for the front, November 28, 1861. After three years, eight months and four days' service, it was mustered out June 27, 1865, in the defenses of Washington, D. C., because the war for the establishment of a Southern Confederacy, by dismembering the Union, had failed.

At Albany the members went aboard the fine newly renovated (?) Steam-

boat Knickerbacker—which from its appearance one could have thought its last use was as a cattle carrier, though not preventing its reaching its dock in New York City next morning. Disembarking, the regiment marched to the City Hall Park, where the men breakfasted. Later each man ARMED AND FLAG PRESENTED. received an Enfield rifle. Resident sons of Saratoga caused a good dinner to be served the men and later presented the Regiment a beautiful silk regimental State Flag (see OUR BATTLE FLAGS Page 50) and guidons. Later marched to Ferry House at foot of Cortland street, onto ferry boat, on which crossed the Hudson River to Jersey City, N. J., where cars were entered for the National 'Capita!'.



COLONEL JAMES B. MCKEAN.

ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON.

Where arrived at the Railroad station, in sight of the Capitol, at four o'clock Sunday morning, December 1st. After a breakfast and dinner at 'Soldiers' Rest'—a temporary staying place—the Regiment marched to Meridian Hill, D. C., where it arrived about supper time.

FIRST NIGHT UNDER TENTS.

After supper tents were put up in which the men entered and that night the Regiment began its 'Tenting on the Old Camp Ground.' The camp was named 'Hillhouse' (after the then State Adjutant General), where until the middle of February, 1862, the officers studied army tactics, i. e., in-

fantry drill regulations; and then drilled the men to learn the manual of arms and evolutions and duties of a soldier.

FORMATION OF THIRD BRIGADE.

Monday, February 17, 1862, the Regiment left this camp, a pleasure resort certainly for the Officers, marching thence through Georgetown, D. C., to and over the Chain-bridge into Virginia, where at Camp Griffin, with the 33d and 49th New York and the 7th Maine Infantry Regiments formed a Brigade, the Third, with Brigadier General John W. Davidson, Commander; of General William F. Smith's Division. After about forty days drilling in field evolutions, and searching for the enemy, some com-



CAPTAIN CHARLES E. STEVENS.



LIEUTENANT C. W. ROWE.

missioned officers, seemingly beset with the idea that an engagement with the enemy was imminent and might be too strenuous, resigned.

SIXTH CORPS FORMED.

May 14-18, the Sixth Army Corps was formed. 'Baldy' Smith's, our Division, became its Second Division. Thereafter the 77th Regiment and 49th Regiment were in the Third Brigade, Second Division, Sixth Corps unto the end.

CORPS BADGE—DIVISION BADGE COLOR.

Shortly after Major General 'Joe' Hooker, assumed command of the Army of the Potomac, to which assigned in January, 1863, he issued an order for each corps to adopt a badge. That the color of the First

Division Badge would be Red; Second Division Badge White; Third Division Badge Blue. The badge of the Sixth Corps was the Greek Cross. The 77th Regiment being in the Third Brigade, Second Division, our badge was WHITE, with 77th in top arm; NEW YORK across the center; 3d in bottom arm. A soldier of another Corps or Division would know that the wearer was a member of the 77th New York Regiment, 3d Brigade, 2d Division, 6th Corps. For which no Seventy-seventher has regretted.

THE REUNION SESSION.

Old Sol's rays refulgently beaming, fervently welcomed the 'Old Boys' of the Saratoga Regiment of 1861-65, Saturday, June 26, 1915, as they gathered at Grand Army Hall for their



WILLIAM W. FINCH.

Forty-third Annual Reunion; at which they would celebrate the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Regiment's muster-out of the United States service in the Defenses of Washington, D. C., June 27, 1865.

Not an original Commissioned Officer of the Field living.

Not an original Commissioned Officer of a Company present. Only two of whom are living.

Some were present who had not been for years. One, for his first time **DE**clared he would **LONG** for another 'at which will be if life and health permit.'

No uncertain tones in the greeting. No one lingered grasp as Bill and

Charley and Jack and Bob and Gus and Ed met. It was a royal 'Glad to see you,' with a firm grasp of the hand, which carried with it a most cordial heart feeling, which was helped by Brooks' happy presence.

In the attractive Luther M. Wheeler G. A. R. Post Room with its decorations of Old Glory, wartime pictures and photos of some of its Past Commanders, promptly at ten o'clock a. m., Drummer John E. Evans drummed the Assembly. The 'Boys' came to attention, as President Keck rapped his gavel for order. And as arranged by your Secretary was rendered the following:

PROGRAM

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1--Assembly | Drummer John E. Evans |
| 2--To Order | President Keck |
| 3--Prayer | Rev. Peter A. Macdonald |
| 4--Welcome | Hon. Edgar T. Brackett |
| 5--Response | President Jeremiah Keck |
| 6--Sixth Corps at Washington July 12, 1864 | Private Edward H. Fuller |
| 7--The Flag of '64 | Miss Alice Cunningham |
| 8--The First Fighting Campaign of the 77th | Surgeon Geo. T. Stevens |
| 9--Old Glory | Mrs. Gertrude L. Andrus |
- Accompanied by Miss Maud Rolls.

The Rev. Peter A. Macdonald, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, made an impressive invocation.

Saratoga Springs' most foremost citizen, Hon. Edgar T. Brackett, then sincerely and earnestly welcomed the members of the Saratoga Regiment to the City of Saratoga Springs; from which a half century since they went in their adolescence when it was a village of less than eight thousand persons. In his welcome Mr. Brackett paid a glowing tribute to the successful and 'never-to-be-forgotten work

of the Union soldier of the Civil War.'

President Keck in responding said that the members are glad to return to the place of their rendezvous and be welcomed by its most distinguished living citizen, who he took pleasure in thanking, on their behalf, for his testimonial to them. Comrade Keck then read the following interesting and historical paper reminiscent of some of the valorous deeds in which the Saratoga Regiment—the 77th New York Infantry Volunteers, participated in the year 1864.

WITH THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC AND THE ARMY OF THE
SHENANDOAH IN 1864.

With the surrender of General Lee the War of the Rebellion may be said to have ended. For four years his army had practically been the mainstay of the Confederacy. The marked ability with which he directed its operations is shown not only by his successes, but the long time he was able to keep up the contest. The changes in the command of the Army of the Potomac caused General Lee to remark, it is said, to one of his subordinates relative to a change in the Commander of the Army of the Potomac: "They may put in command one who I don't understand."

So it proved when General Grant was assigned to the Command of the Union Armies of the United States, March 12, 1864 "by order of Abraham Lincoln, President." And when he assumed command five days later he made his headquarters in the field, as he had in the southwest, but, with the Army of the Potomac. That predicted success from the start. For not only had General Grant's ability been proven, but he was a tower of strength to the Government, because of the peoples' confidence in him. And from the time General Grant started our armies FORWARD, MARCH! in the spring of 1864 it betokened ultimate victory; for no longer was the Army of the Potomac resting, as the armies in the southwest were fighting, or vice versa. Thenceforth there was concert of action.

It was against General Lee and his army, which kept the Confederacy going, that General Grant pitted himself. When the Confederate Commander, General Lee, for the first

time in his progress was overmatched; by the man who "would fight it out on this line, if it took all summer," or, "No terms except unconditional surrender. Else I shall move immediately on your works."

How that was done and to show the ability and tenacity of General Grant the diary of Private Bartlett of G Company of the Saratoga Regiment, by the aid of your Secretary, will give present day Saratogians an idea.



TREASURER C. D. THURBER,
Brevet Captain.



ASST. SURGEON W. A. DeLONG.



JOHN E. EVANS.

U. S. Grant was a private citizen of the State of Illinois, a resident of Galena when the South Carolinians April 12, 1861, fired on the Flag and Fort Sumter causing the Charleston, South Carolina, Courier, of that date to publish "have made the proud Flag of the Stars and Stripes, that never was lowered before to any nation on this earth, towered in humility before the Palmetto and the Confederate flags."

He was plain Mr. U. S. Grant who had resigned from the Army in 1854 Having confidence in himself, and desiring to aid the Government which had educated him, May 24, 1861, he tendered his services, "in such capacity as may be offered." To which no reply was received. In July, 1861, Governor Yates of Illinois appointed



GENERAL U. S. GRANT.



GENERAL SHERIDAN.



GENERAL GEORGE G. MEADE.

him Colonel of the 21st Illinois Infantry Regiment. So his desire to re-enter the service was gratified. Before the regiment left the State "U. S. Grant is hereby appointed a Brigadier-General of Volunteers." As the result of the fall of Fort Donelson, Sunday, February 16, 1862, he was appointed a "Major-General of Volunteers."

March 1, 1864, because of his success in the southwest, Major General Ulyses S. Grant, U. S. A., was nominated to the Chief command of the Federal Army with the rank—specially created—of Lieutenant General.

March 9, at the Executive Mansion he was formally presented with his commission of Lieutenant-General, by President Lincoln—the first time that they had met.

March 12, by order of President Lincoln, Lieutenant-General Grant was assigned to the command of the Federal Army.

March 17, he assumed command thereof, with Headquarters in the field, with the Army of the Potomac,

which would be composed of the Second, Fifth and Sixth Corps of Infantry, commanded by Major-Generals Hancock, G. K. Warren and Sedgwick. The First and Third Corps were distributed into the foregoing named three Corps.

April 4, Major General Sheridan was assigned to the command of the Cavalry Corps of the Army of the Potomac, in which the Ninth Corps was retained.

May 5, the Cavalry had short engagements with the Confederates; a sort of feeling of them, to learn their location, preliminary to the battle of the Wilderness, Va., May 5-7; in which the Army of the Potomac, directed by the Lieutenant General, commanded by Major General Meade, consisting of the Second, Fifth, Sixth and Ninth Infantry Corps, Artillery and Cavalry Corps, fought the Confederates, in the vine tangled woods—called the Wilderness—during which 41,066 soldiers were killed and wounded; many of them burned when the woods caught fire from exploding



GENERAL SEDGWICK.



GENERAL WRIGHT.

ammunition. Then followed, May 8-18, the Spottsylvania Campaign, in which 32,864 soldiers were killed and wounded. Among the killed the Sixth Corps Commander, Major General Sedgwick, causing a feeling of gloom not confined to the Corps he so ably commanded, but extended to the whole Potomac Army, on the word passing along the lines "General Sedgwick—"Uncle John" as he was affectionately called by his Sixth Corpser—is killed." Major General Wright, Commander of the Corps' First Division succeeded to the command of the Corps, retaining it and ably commanding it to the end.

Tuesday, May 10, the day after General Sedgwick's death, a famous charge was made in which the Saratoga Regiment participated. Colonel Upton, the Commander of the Second Brigade of the First Division of the Sixth Corps, was ordered to take twelve regiments of the Corps, and lead them in a charge against the right center of the enemy's line. The regiments selected were the 121st

New York, 5th Maine, 96th and 119th Pennsylvania, first line. The 77th and 43rd New York, 5th Wisconsin, 6th Maine, and 49th Pennsylvania, second line. The 2nd, 5th and 6th Vermont, third line. Taking off everything that might encumber their movements—as did the whole Corps, which was to support the charging regiments, while the other Corps of the Army, in case the twelve regiments broke the enemy's line, were to rapidly advance.

As they took their place the regiments laid flat on the ground. No talking allowed. Orders were whispered; for the enemy was only about three hundred feet away. The artillery began to fire; the shells shrieking over the heads of the regiments—the signal for the attack. On which was heard, in resonant tones, Colonel Upton's "ATTENTION! BATTALIONS FORWARD! DOUBLE-QUICK, CHARGE!!" The twelve regiments rushed from the woods. The enemy was surprised; but, were not stampeded; and were quickly rein-



LIEUTENANT TABOR.



ADJUTANT THOMAS.

forced. The remnants of the twelve regiments returned to their respective camps.

During the month of May the Seventy-seventh's loss was 173, among them three officers killed and wounded. Among the severest wounded was James G. Scott of D, the Wilton Company; both legs cut off below his knees. As the boys marched on, they bid him an affectionate farewell. Said Scott: "I know what you fellows think. But, by God, I will fool you. I will live." Scott was ultimately taken to Central Park Hospital, New York City, where discharged November 3, 1864, because of wounds. For aught we know he may be living at this time, as the last heard of him he was a resident of Detroit, Mich.

June had hardly begun to reign ere the Commander of the Army was at it wherever the foe was in the Confederacy. June 1st the Eighteenth Corps, our old commander "Baldy" Smith in command, was assigned to the Army of the Potomac.

Unto June 12th there were daily skirmishes with the foe; with a big battle on the 3rd. During those twelve days 20,947 soldiers were killed and wounded. So that from the beginning of the campaign May 5 unto the night of June 12, 94,877 soldiers of the Army of the Potomac and their adversaries the Army of the Northern Virginia were put hors de combat.

General Grant then took the Army of the Potomac across the James River; and June 15, 1864, to April 2,

1865, invested Petersburg. The successful move across the river caused the Confederate General Ewell to say, "We might as well give up, now that the Army of the Potomac is south of the James River."

It was on the 21st of June that a Confederate shell visited Company A, taking off the right leg of three of its members, the name of each began with James—they were ever afterwards referred to as the "Three legged Jims." James Allen and James Barnes, now dead lived for several years. James Lawrence at this date is a well-to-do citizen of Nebraska.

July 1, 1864, the Sixth Corps' Third Division, was sent to Baltimore; from thence with green troops—a total of nearly nine thousand—had a fight, near Frederick, Md., near the bank of the Monocacy River, with 20,000 Confederates under General Early which resulted in favor of the Confederates. July 10th the First and Second Divisions of the Sixth Corps were sent to Washington, D. C., where it arrived in time to successfully stay General Early's intention to capture the National Capital, as will be related by our Secretary. Thence the Corps followed Early into Maryland and into the Shenandoah Valley, Va., where with the Eighth and Ninetenth Corps and Cavalry under command of Generals Torbet, Custer, Averill and Merritt formed the Army of the Shenandoah. The Departments of West Virginia, District of Columbia, Susquehanna and the Middle to constitute the Middle Military Division, with Major General Philip H. Sheridan commander. This Army was to show the world such fighting as never theretofore, nor surpassed by the war now in Europe.

On the 10th of August the march

up the Shenandoah Valley began. General Grant's instructions to General Sheridan were, to be one of defense, than one of offense. Therefore an army to watch and check the enemy from entering the District of Columbia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. There were occasional skirmishes, but it was not until Monday, September 19th, that a battle was fought. It was called (Obequon) or Winchester in which 6,620 soldiers were killed and wounded. A battle in which the Third Brigade, in which was the Saratoga Regiment, the 77th New York Infantry Volunteers, of the Second Division, of the Sixth Corps, led the Infantry. A nine hour battle; the first of the series of victories that gave the Army of the Shenandoah such an enviable reputation. Three days later, Thursday, the 22d, Early stood for three hours at Fisher's Hill and then quit, with a loss in killed and wounded of 400, and 1,100 prisoners; and sixteen guns, six of them captured by the Third Brigade. The Federal loss was 600 in killed and wounded. For nearly a month following there was not much fighting, though much activity in the Army of the Shenandoah. General Sheridan had not only shown his ability as a Commander, but pleased his soldiers by his visibleness to them; his watchfulness along the line of march. What surprised his soldiers most was that in camp his headquarters consisted of only one wall tent, one small tent and two flies.

Thursday, October 13th, while the Sixth Corps was resting along the bank of the Shenandoah River, rumor having indicated it enroute to Petersburg, a courier from General Sheridan caused it to rejoin the Eighth and Nineteenth Corps, to which it got the evening of the next day.

General Wright was in command,



in the absence of General Sheridan called to Washington for a conference, as to future movements. The Eighth Corps, encamped along Cedar Creek, was the left flank; the Nineteenth Corps, encamped along the pike and the high ground along the creek. At right angles to the Nineteenth Corps the Sixth Corps was encamped to the north, facing the creek and west; its Third Division on the left, Second Division on the right, First Division in the center. General Custer and his Cavalry was on the right of the Sixth Corps. General Averill on the Nineteenth Corps' left. General Longstreet's Confederate Corps had been sent to General Jubal Early's Army to effectually effect the destruction of the Army of Shenandoah. It is not necessary to go into details further. Now half a century since, as it is positively known to every reader of history that it was the Sixth Corps that saved the day at Cedar Creek, that 19th day of Oc-

tober, 1864. When the Colonel, Winsor B. French, of the Saratoga Regiment won his spurs, and when General Sheridan--

"Up from the south, at break of day,
Bringing to Winchester fresh dismay,
The affrighted air with a shudder bore,
Like a herald haste to the Chieftain's door,
The terrible grumble and rumble and roar,
Telling the battle was on once more,
And—Sheridan twenty miles away.

"Under his horses spurring feet, the road
Like an arrowy Alpine river flowed,
And the landscape sped away behind,
Like an ocean flying before the wind;
And the steed, like a bark fed with furnace ire,
Swept on, with his wild eyes full of fire,
But, lo! he is nearing his heart's desire;
He is snuffing the smoke of the roaring fray,
With Sheridan—only five miles away.

The first that the General saw were
the Groups
Of stragglers, and then retreating
troops;
What was done? What to do? A glance
told him both.
Then striking his spurs, with a ter-
rible oath,
He dashed down the line, 'mid a storm
of huzzahs
And the wave of defeat checked its
course there because
The sight of the master compelled it
to pause.
With foam and with dust the black
charger was gray;
He seemed to the whole great army
to say,
"I have brought you Sheridan all the
way
From Winchester down, to save the
day'."

When General Sheridan rode up,
beholding the Second Division of the
Sixth Corps in position, facing the
foe, he shouted: "What troops are
these?" "The Sixth Corps," was the
response. To which Sheridan replied,
as he sped on his horse along the line,
swinging his hat: "We're all right;
we'll whip them, and sleep in our old
camp this night." At it we went. The
Color Sergeant of the Regiment shot;
another seized the flag—and is shot.
Adjutant Thomas catches the Flag
ere it touches the ground; he, too,
joins his fallen Color Bearers.

As President Keck said, 'he, too,
joins his fallen color bearers,' the
colors, (presented to the Regiment
that twenty-eighth day of November,
1861) were carefully unfurled by
Comrade Delos Hammond and the
old Color Bearer, Corporal Charles
E. Jennings. On which Mrs. Andrus
(the daughter of a soldier) most
feeling sang, THE OLD FLAG NEV-
ER TOUCHED THE GROUND.

On its conclusion the old Color
Bearer, begging pardon for the inter-
ruption, said:

"We all remember that this
Regiment was known as the SAR-
ATOGA BEMUS HEIGHTS REG-

IMENT therefore Sergeant ISAAC
BEMUS, of G company, because
of his name was made the FIRST
COLOR SERGEANT. Through
the kindest of our Orderly Ser-
geant Henry Smith and Colonel
French I was promoted COLOR
CORPORAL.

During the SEVEN DAYS
FIGHT (June 25-July 2, 1862) as
I stood by the side of Bemus, he
passed the COLORS to me as he
stepped back out of the line, which
he never rejoined. I am thank-
ful to say that I carried these
Colors until sickness prevented
my doing duty. When I returned
to the Regiment in 1863 I
again took the Colors which I car-
ried in action November 7, 1863,
at Rappahannock Station, Va. It
was at that camp we re-enlisted;
and those so doing were granted
a thirty day furlough to visit
Home.

In the spring of '64 the BALL
opened—without the presence of
any Belles—with the Wilderness
Campaign, May 5. In the after-
noon of which day as we laid at
the right of D Company, a shell
from the enemy instantly killed
five of our boys. In the after-
noon we entered rifle, or in-
trenched, pits in which were all
night with orders to 'lie down
and keep still.' Out of which we
got towards morning marching
to the right. Thence to Spottsyl-
vania May 8th. The next day
about six o'clock p. m. our Corps
Commander, General Sedgwick,
was killed by a ball from a rebel
sharpshooter's rifle. Then came
our fight of May 10th, in which
we—our Regiment one of the se-
lected twelve Regiments—charg-
ed about seven o'clock p. m.

I had a presentiment about five minutes before I got it, about half way between two rebel rifle pits. Just before we started, as I was standing methought I have been lucky so long in escaping without a scratch, but I will get it now and the place. And I got it right there in that charge of May 10, 1864. And when I was recovered from the wound, notwithstanding eight operations on that leg, I returned to the Regiment in the Spring of 1865--the Regiment then was at Danville. The Colors were again placed in my hands, by Colonel David J. Caw, and I brought them from the Field, through Washington to Albany; where in the Capitol in



ADJUTANT W. W. WORDEN.



CORPORAL C. E. JENNINGS,
Color Bearer.

cases they now are, among other New York State Regiments Colors.

Comrades who would not be proud to be the bearer of the Flag of such a Regiment as ours. As we, that July day in 1865, marched up State street, Albany, to the Capitol, handkerchiefs waved, hats went up in the air; cheers from the people greeted us. And how proud was I as recognizing friends saw THE COLORS in my hands. We are in our quiet homes now. In the Grandest Country on the globe by the blessings of our Loving God and Saviour."

The Brigade is ordered to advance slowly. "I cannot take my Brigade slowly over that field," said Colonel French, who had assumed command of it, when General Bidwell was kil-

led. "Go quickly, then," said our Division Commander General Getty. In response to the "FORWARD DOUBLE-QUICK MARCH!" of Colonel French commanding the Brigade, the men sprang forward, and the Confederates were driven. And when the roll was called: Captain Lennon—shot; Lieutenant Belden—shot; Lieutenant Tabor—shot; Captain Orr—shot; Hiram Burt—shot; Herbert Gallup shot; Bernhard Fetters—shot; Jacob Pung—shot. But why name further, than to say thirty-six of ours fell that day. And a total of 8,574 soldiers were rendered hors de combat in the nine hours fight. Just at day break in the morning the Confederates caught the Eighth Corpers in their tents, doubling them up on the Nineteenth Corps causing both Corps to precipitately fall back on the Sixth Corps, which held their ground. In the morning fight the Confederates captured twenty guns. All of which were retaken in the afternoon, when the Federal Army captured forty-nine of the enemies guns. And the Army slept in the camp of the previous night, from which so rudely and unceremoniously driven in the fog of the early morning. General Early and his army was effectually and permanently driven out—and the beautiful Shenandoah Valley knew him no more.

IN THE SHENANDOAH LOWLANDS

(Shortly after the battle of Cedar Creek, on the 19th of October, 1864, an article in prose appeared in the Atlantic Monthly, highly laudatory of the part taken by the Nineteenth Army Corps in that action. This was followed by a poem of the same tenor, which was afterward printed by itself and hawked among the camps of General Sheridan's Army. It is needless to say that these articles, which ignored all the troops of the army, were quite obnoxious, es-

pecially to the members of the Sixth, that Corps being the only one that made other than a desultory fight in the morning of that day. Accordingly, when the poem written for the Nineteenth Army Corps appeared in the camp of the Second Brigade, First Division, Sixth Corps, an assistant surgeon of the Second Connecticut Heavy Artillery, but temporarily attached to the Sixty-fifth New York Volunteers, inspired by some of his own "Spiritus Frumenti" and a happy indignation, wrote the following song (to the tune of "Virginia Lowlands") with a pencil on the back of the poem he had just been reading. It tells the other side of the story.)

On Cedar Creek's red battle field
The Eighth Corps ran away,
The Nineteenth broke and left the
Sixth,

To hear the brunt—that day,

Chorus—

In the Shenandoah Lowlands, low,
In the Shenandoah lowlands, low.

They held them there, giving shot for
shot;

For yell—they answered yell!

There standing firm they faltered not

Though swiftly flew the shell.

Above the smoke and through the fog,

Their banner gleamed aloft,

They knew not how to run—those
men,

Brave fellows of the Cross.

Chorus—

In the Shenandoah lowlands, low.

At last they yield by slow degrees,

Outflanked, outnumbered far,

Backward they go, borne by the tide

Of stern, relentless war,

The battle now seems to be lost;

Up rides a single man,

One, but a host within himself,

Our gallant Sheridan.

Chorus—

In the Shenandoah lowlands, low.

"Come up with me, you Nineteenth,
Eighth!

Come up with me, I say!

Why do you lag so far behind?

We have not lost the day!

Come up— upon the crest of hill,

You'll see a glorious sight!

You won't get hurt! You need not fire;

But see that Sixth Corps fight!"

Chorus—

In the Shenandoah lowlands, low.

Then Early's crew astonished grew,

They heard a mighty shout,—

What interfered so suddenly,

They could not quite make out.

Led on by Phil, Nineteenth and
Eighth,

Join Sixth Corps' noble band,

The rout becomes a victory,

Our Chieftain has command.

Chorus—

In the Shenandoah lowlands, low.

The Sixth Corps returned, to Petersburg, to the Army of the Potomac. Inactive for it, as its work was confined within the limits of the trenches unto March 25, 1865, when at the capture of Fort Steadman, before Petersburg, by the Second and Sixth Corps, Captain Oakley, Lieutenant Stephen Pierce and Private Alfred Chase were killed. Then followed the fall of Petersburg April 2. It was preceded by the battle of Five Forks, in which 9,324 soldiers were killed and wounded. Then came the assault and fall of Petersburg, Sunday, April 2, 1865.

In front of Forts Fisher and Welch, to the left of the former, the Sixth Corps was formed in columns of Brigades in echelon, in rear of the picket line. The Third Brigade of the Second Division, having the place of honor, being the point of the wedge. (The name following the Regiment is its commander.)

49th N. Y., Holt; 77th N. Y., Caw;

1st Maine Veterans, Fletcher;

43d N. Y., Milliken; 122d N. Y., Clapp;

61st Pennsylvania, Crosby.

The signal to start—a gun from Fort Fisher, one half hour before day-break; when forty men with sharpened axes, in front rank, to cut down the abattis for the infantry to pass through. Guide, to be the enemy's campfire, the other side of the abattis.

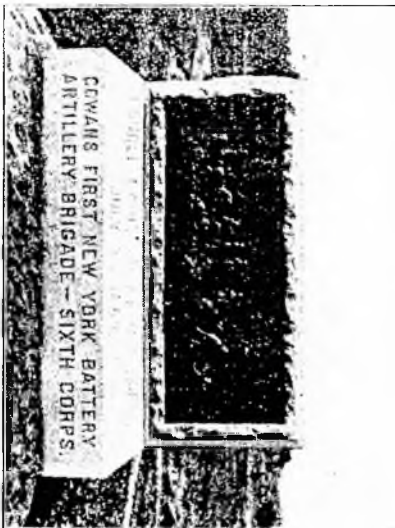
Time to go in has arrived. In low, distinct tones is heard the Brigade Commander's, Colonel Hyde's order

"ATTENTION! FORWARD!

CHARGE!"

Away they go. The abattis pierced and passed; mount the breastworks and—they are ours, at the cost of 2,861 men killed and wounded, 3,000 of the Confederates and 8,000 of them prisoners. Of the six Regiment-

GETTYSBURG MONUMENT OF





LIEUT. COLONEL DAVID J. CAW,
Brevet Colonel.



CAPTAIN ISAAC D. CLAPP.

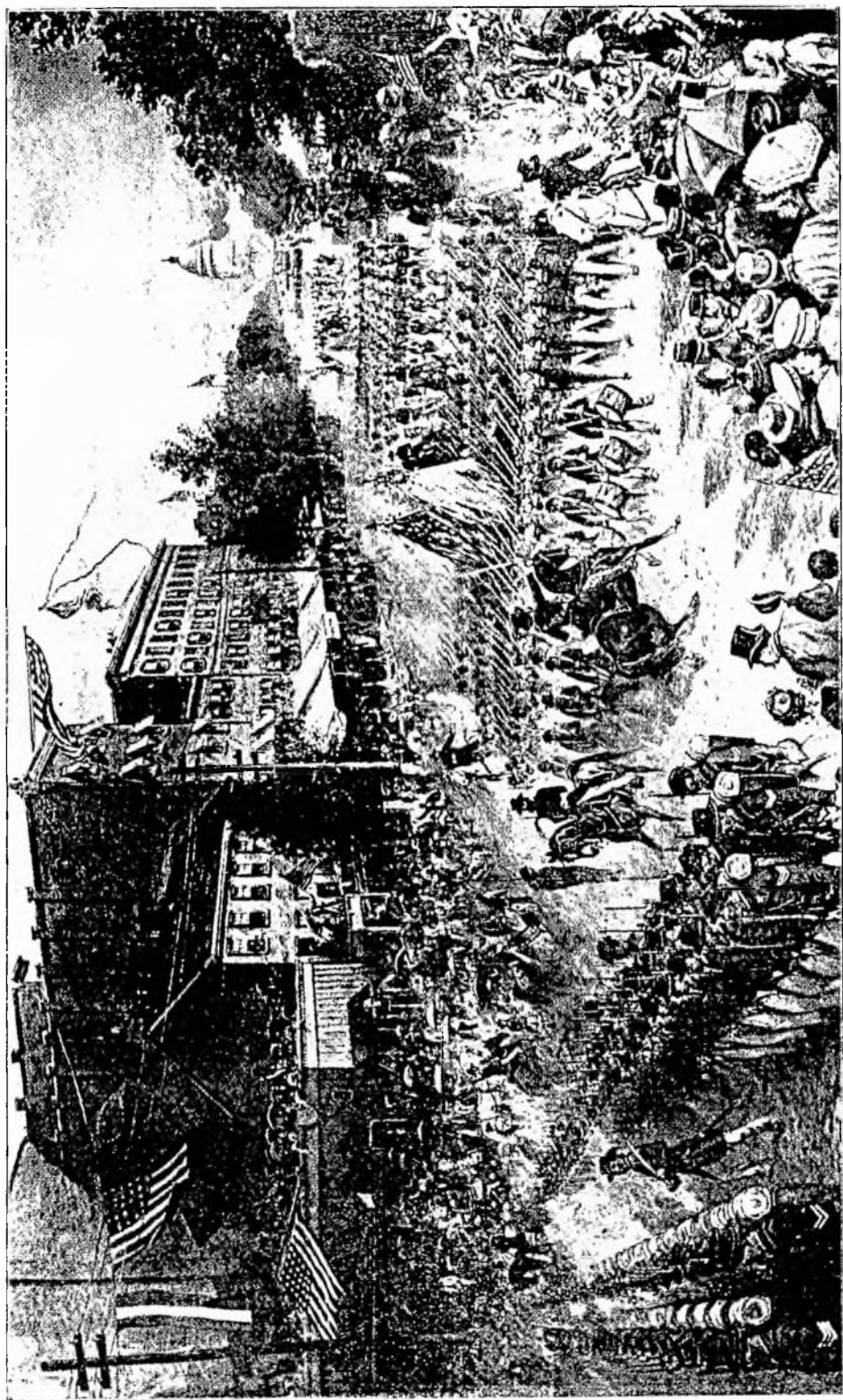
al Commanders Crosby and Holt were killed; Caw and Clapp were wounded — the former by a bayonet. General Lee and his army were on the run. The Second and Sixth Corps were ordered to General Sheridan with his Cavalrymen, all after the fleeing Confederates: with whom caught up at Sailor's Creek on the 6th. Where after a successful fight in which 2,280 soldiers were killed and wounded, and 6,000 Confederates captured, it was on to Appomattox Court House where General Lee and his army of Northern Virginia surrendered to their four years' opponents, the Army of the Potomac, and General U. S. Grant. And the "Sixth Corps had crowned all its former record of glory by breaking the 'backbone' of the Rebellion," (Stevens in his 6th Corps book).

Said General Meade, the Army of the Potomac's commander: "The Sixth Corps attacked the enemy at 4 o'clock a. m., carrying everything before it."

Said the Commanding General, U. S. Grant: "The whole Sixth Corps penetrated the enemy's lines, sweeping everything before it; capturing many guns and several thousand prisoners."

Is it any wonder that we who are privileged to wear the badge of the Sixth Corps are proud of our Greek Cross?

The Sixth Corps was ordered to join Sheridan to help finish Johnson in North Carolina; but it got no further than Danville; where the printers of the Corps entered the newspaper office of the "Danville Register." In a few hours thereafter THE DAILY SIXTH CORPS was for sale on the streets, at 25 cents a copy, with all "the latest news from the front." They sold like hot cakes. The edition was quickly exhausted. A second edition sold as quickly. And it was only for the want of paper that



a third edition was not printed. Never so much profit made by a newspaper, as made by THE DAILY SIXTH CORPS.

Then came the order "On to Washington," to be mustered-out. And as the glad tidings were received the bands played "Home, Home, Sweet, Sweet Home." And the vision of Home floated before our eyes. In Washington we had our own Grand Review. For the rest of the Army had had theirs. As we marched up Pennsylvania Avenue—Washington's great thoroughfare—as an organization for the last time that 9th day of June, 1865, there could be frequently heard from the cheering people who lined the sidewalks on either side: "That is the Corps that saved the City July last."

And the Saratoga Regiment, the Bemus Heights Battalion, the Seventy-seventh New York Infantry Volunteers, or what was left of it, marched home. Where

Gladly was given cheers for the heroes returning,
The brave Seventy-seventh, crowned with laurels of war;
All covered with glory, their loyal hearts burning,
As received with shouts long, and a joyous hurrah.

In conclusion, Comrades, it is with pleasure I say that, our meeting on this occasion has special significance, for as I said at the outset, we meet at this Fiftieth mile stone of the muster-out of our gallant Regiment, at which we make note of important historic events—to recall and briefly recount deeds of valor of both the living and the dead who fought for their country, and gather new inspiration that may enable us to transmit into the fields of humanity in which it

may yet be our privilege to labor, that grand heroic spirit of love and devotion to home and country which they have grandly illustrated on many a battlefield, during the great Civil War. Forgetting therefore for the moment the living who took part in the great struggle and of whom we have spoken in the paper which I have just read, and turning our thoughts to those of our comrades who fell in the south land, and who failed to return with us to enjoy the blessings of a united and prosperous country, as we for fifty years have done, we can justifiably add to what has already been said, in the perpetuating of their names, deeds and sacrifices, that we commemorate the valor and devotion of heroes who in the sublime faith of patriotism seemed to have seen through the clouds which then obscured our beloved country, a more stately house for the children of freedom, whose chief cornerstone was justice—whose walls were cemented with their blood—whose pillar dome rested on a rock which was their love, and upon a foundation which was their graves.

We are also reminded that they went forth to do battle for their country, not from selfish motives—not for gain or glory, but at the call of duty, that word which expresses every obligation that every true American always recognizes as the safe rule and guide of life.

History tells us that Greeks were proud of the inscription upon the tomb of their heroes who fell at Thermopylae, "Go tell Sparta we lie here in obedience to her laws," says the simple inscription. But the inscription on the tomb of our comrades and heroes who fell, tell us of a higher, a grander and more noble sentiment, for they fought and died in obedience to no law—in sub-

jection to no authority save their controlling love for the grandest of all temporal blessings, the blessings of liberty.

Lofly shafts and glowing inscriptions may properly mark their final resting places but a united and inseperable Union, for which they fought and fell, restored to a higher, more powerful and grander place in the onward march of the Nations of the world is and ever will be their loftiest and most enduring epitaph.



SECRETARY, 1915.

Secretary Fuller then read his paper,

**THE SIXTH CORPS,
In Which Was the Saratoga
Regiment, Saved Washington
July 12, 1864.**

The defenses of Washington, the National Capital, at the end of the War of the Rebellion consisted of sixty-eight inclosed forts and batteries; in which were emplacements for eleven hundred and twenty guns -- eight hundred and seven of which, and ninety-eight mortars were mounted; twenty miles of rifle trenches, and three block houses. Other than the existing country roads throughout the District, and the avenues in the City, thirty-two miles of military road was built. The distance around the defenses was thirty seven miles.

Several of the Forts were laid out and built under the supervision of Captain Horatio G. Wright, of the United States Engineer Corps; who as Major-General Wright succeeded to the command of the Sixth Army Corps, (on the death of General Sedgwick May 9, 1864, by a rebel sharpshooter's rifle ball through his head, as the General was directing the placing of a battery) its timely arrival at Fort Stevens, D. C., that now memorable afternoon of July 11, 1864, saved the National Capital from capture.

Fort Stevens, of powerful armament on the northern side, covered one of the principal approaches to Washington City, the most direct way into the City for an assaulting force to seek.

The Third Division of the Sixth Corps, which mainly contributed to the delay of the Confederates, was with General Lew Wallace, who had besides it about five thousand recruits. These troops, some nine

thousand in number, encountered General Early's force, of twenty thousand, at Frederick, Md., near the Monocacy River, July 9th. In the fight that ensued the Union loss was seven hundred and twenty-six men killed and wounded. Notwithstanding the defeat it was a fight of much significant value to the Union cause; in not only delaying Early's soldiers in their march to the District of Columbia, but permitting the needed time for the First and Second Divisions of the Sixth Corps to get into Washington.

The night of July 10, 1864, Early's Confederates bivouached near Rockville, Md.—about twelve miles from Washington. Thence at daylight, July 11, elated with their success, resumed their march "On to Washington;" General Early at the head of his column on the Seventh street pike, getting in sight of Fort Stevens about noon. As the result of his reconnoiter Early believed that the Fort was feebly manned; so he concluded to send some of his troops to take possession of it; but before they so could, a column of Union troops marched into it—to reinforce the small number therein. At daybreak the morning of July 12, General Early rode to his front to learn that in his immediate front were wearers of the Greek Cross, for whom he surely learned to have great respect. It is said that General Early subsequently said, on learning of the presence of the, apparently ubiquitous, Sixth Corps: "I had to reluctantly give up all hope of capturing Washington, after I had arrived in sight of the Dome of the Capitol, and given the Federal authorities a terrible fright."

Frightened they were, as the writer who was in the City that day can testify. For had General Early been able to have flown the rebel colors

from the Capitol's dome that day it would have been the signal for the recognition of the Southern Confederacy, by some of the foreign powers now in their hostile and deadly conflict. But, as the wearers of the Greek Cross were recognized a different proposition was presented. And as the Corps marched so cheerily up Seventh street, that July 11, 1864, afternoon, confidence was restored, for that "is the Corps that took Mayres Heights a year ago."

Up Seventh street, past the Post Office and Patent Office buildings, at every available window of which, and other buildings enroute, were smiling faces to greet the wearers of the Greek Cross; as rapidly over that macadamized road in their easy nonchalant tramp, marched the Sixth Corpser. And into a small wood, to the left of Fort Stevens bivouached for the night. The First Brigade, of the Second Division, going on picket.

ON PICKET.

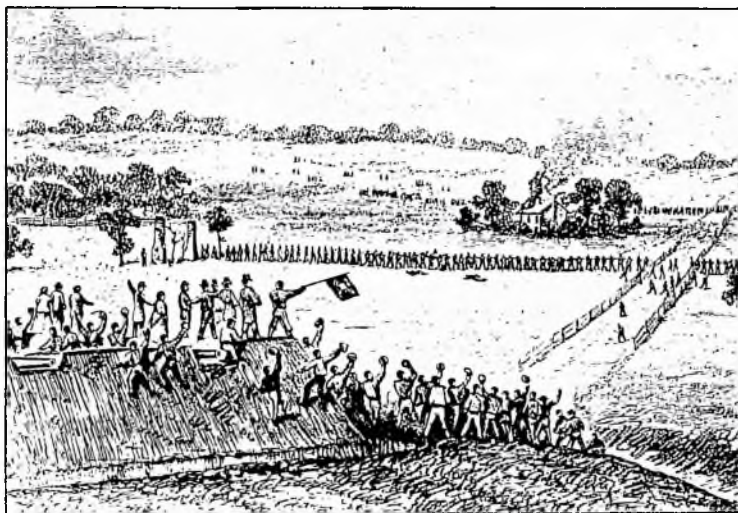
"All quiet along the Potomac tonight,
Where the soldiers lie peacefully
dreaming;
Their tents in the rays of the clear
summer moon,
Or the light of the watch-fire, are
gleaming.
A tremulous sigh of the gentle night-
wind
Through the forest leaves softly is
creeping;
While stars up above, with their glit-
tering eyes,
Keep guard, for the Army is sleep-
ing.

"All quiet along the Potomac," they
say,
"Except now and then a stray picket
is shot, as he walks on his beat to
and fro,
By a rifleman hid in the thicket.
'Tis nothing—a private or two now
and then

Will not count in the news of a battle;
Not an officer lost—only one of the men,
Moaning out, all alone, the death rattle."

'Tis 5 o'clock p. m. July 12, 1864. And as planned the new Flag of the Seventy-seventh New York—the Saratoga Regiment—waved the signal for combat. The skirmish line of the First Brigade was followed by the Third Brigade (of the Second Division) in two lines of battle; first line the 77th New York (on the right) 7th Maine and 49th New York, Second line, 43d New York (on the right), 61st Pennsylvania and 122d New York. The Corps' Commander, General Wright, (beside him the President, Abraham Lincoln, who doffed his hat as the 'boys' marched by, both standing on the parapet of Fort Stevens) signaled Colonel Bid-

well, the Third Brigade's Commander, to advance. In response to which came the order "Forward! Double Quick, MARCH!" And forward the men started. Soon ran passed the skirmish line, our Colonel, French, commanding, in the lead. The fire of the men's rifles cracking oftener and more general as they advanced. There goes a man down; it is Lattimore of G Company, through whose breast a rifle ball had passed. Soon another falls; it is Downen of H Company, not to rise again. And there goes Morey of old K Company, to be followed by Mattot of G Company, neither of the three to rise again until the day when we are taught all will arise. And so on until nineteen of ours have fallen on Virginia's ground. The enemy stood the attack for a while, then wavered. Stubbornly fighting they yielded, and then gave way to the vigorous charge of the Sixth



FORT STEVENS, D. C.—BATTLE JULY, 12, 1864.

Corpsers. Over a mile were they driven, and until darkness stopped the fray, leaving the Third Brigade in possession of the field, as the Earlyites departed.

That was the Corps which saved Washington—the National Capital—that July twelfth day, 1864. On which General Halleck, Chief of Staff at the War Department Building, telegraphed General Grant at Petersburg, Va., July 13th:

"The enemy fell back during the night. They number 25,000. Hills Corps enroute to reinforce them. But without them they would have captured Washington, if the Sixth Corps had not arrived."

After the Corps fight to save the Capital from an Early capture, forty Union soldiers "killed in action" at and near the cemetery site, were buried in the National Cemetery there, now called Brightwood. Over half of whom belonged to the Third Brigade, of whom Andrew J. Downen, Mathew Love, Andrew Manning, Alvarado Morey and Ambrose Mattot, belonged to the Seventy-seventh New York.

Looking over my roster of our Regiment's survivors I find that the following named Seventy-seventhers were shot in the fight: *Albert H. Clements, "nk;" Stillman Daby, "I;" discharged for wounds; xAndrew J. Downen, "H;" *William Eastman, "B;" *Colonel French; *William T. Lattimore, "G;" xAmbrose Mattot, "G;" Hubbard M. Moss, "D," (enrolled and joined July 4, wounded in the fight of July 12, died of his wounds August 5, in Mt. Pleasant Hospital, D. C.—a short and honorable service); xAlvarado Morey, "K;" *Peter Murphy, "G;" xMathew Love, "H;" xAndrew Manning, "H;" *Archey Phil-

lips, "B;" *Tophield Shumway, "I;" *Oliver Sulliff, "K;" *Hamilton White, "K;" *William H. Yale, "D."

Clements only one living; answered here at reunion.

November 8, 1911, a Memorial was unveiled on the historic spot on the parapet of Fort Stevens where President Lincoln stood exposed to the Confederate fire during General Early's attack on Washington, that July twelfth day, 1864; the only time Mr. Lincoln saw the troops in action. The Memorial is a boulder of two and one-half tons weight, just as it was taken from the ground.

Survivors of the Seventy-seventh—the SARATOGA Regiment—Saturday, June 26, 1915, held their forty-third annual reunion in Saratoga Springs, where the Regiment was organized in 1861 and from whence it marched to war November 28, 1861, at which they celebrated the Fiftieth Anniversary of the organization's muster-out and ceasing to be in the service of the United States, in the conflict for the preservation of the Flag.

"Hats off!
Along the street there comes
A blaze of bugles, a ruffle of drums;
A flash of color beneath the sky;
Hats off!
The Flag is passing by.

"Blue and Crimson and White it
shines
Over the steel-tipped, ordered lines.
Hats off!
The colors before us fly;
But, more than the Flag is passing by.

"Sea fights and land fights, grim and
great,
Fought to make and to save the state;
Weary marches and sinking ships;
Cheers of victory on dying lips.

*Recovered. xDied.

"Days of plenty and years of peace;
March of a strong land's swift in-
crease;
Equal justice, right and law,
Stately honor and revered awe;

"Sign of a Nation, great and strong,
To ward her people from foreign
wrong;
Pride and glory and honor—all
Live in the colors to stand, or fall."
- Henry Holcomb Bennett.

Then Miss Alice Cunningham re-
cited most excellently:

THE FLAG OF '64.

(By Florence Phinney, 8 Ashe Street,
Auburn, Me.)

Over the school house and over the
court house, draped o'er the win-
dow, flung out o'er the street,
Free as the air of our great northern
mountains, free as the blessed
earth under our feet,

Ours, the whole land's flag, its galaxy
perfect, carelessly glanced at, un-
noticed by most -

Oh, children, remember, always re-
member, wee to the land if its
glory were lost!

Thrice have I seen it—an angel trans-
figured—red as the sunrise and
pulsing with fire.

Twice have I followed it out into
Hades; once it has shown me my
whole heart's desire.

See! I salute it, as once I saluted him,
our great Captain, so kindly and
fall,

Who laughed with us, wept with us,
prayed with us, lived for us, till
that dark day when he died for
us all.

Oh, but the flag and my comrades
who bore it, five of them shot ere
they reached the redoubt;

And last, my young brother, who
planted it firmly, just as the light

in his blue eyes went out.

Flag of the heroes! Flag of the
blessed! Floating in peace-time,
untattered and clean—

Oh, children, remember, always re-
member what the brave stars on
our banner may mean!

After, at Gettysburg, stoutly we held
it against the wild charge of the
enemy's lance.

Like the sword of the angel that
barred man from Eden, our flag
flamed that day and forbade their
advance.

And once more, my country, you
showed me my guerdon; I had
lain in their prison till reason
half failed,

Famished and tortured, hopeless of
succor, till my faith in the star of
our destiny paled.

We were 20 poor wretches, exchang-
ed, so they told us. As always, we
doubted them, knew that they
lied;

Yet followed them meekly, not know-
ing, scarce caring, if 'twere death
that waited us down the dark
tide.

Up the ship's side they drove us, all
huddled together. Their Captain
with curses cried, "Silence, you
Yanks!

No cheers and no shoutin." Cheers.
Wherefore? we wondered, our
eyes duly fixed on the ship's rot-
ting planks.

And then—straight ahead there—I
glanced up and saw it. Oh, flag
of redemption, we all saw thee!
Then.

We cheered and defied them; nothing
could stop us. At sight of the
old flag we once more were men.
Flag of our heroes! Flag of our mar-
tyrs! Flag of our Union and Flag
of the free!

Oh, children, remember, always re-
member, you hold it in trust for
the years that shall be!



SURGEON GEORGE T. STEVENS.

THE FIRST FIGHTING CAMPAIGN
OF THE SEVENTY-SEVENTH

By

SURGEON GEORGE T. STEVENS

I wonder how many of you boys remember the first real fighting campaign of the old 77th? We had had our initiation to camp life at the head of 14th Street in Washington and some rough camping back of Alexandria. We had taken part in a bloodless Manassas campaign and we had begun to feel that a whole winter under arms meant that we were seasoned soldiers. So, when we, with the whole Army of the Potomac, went in transports down the Potomac River, out into Chesapeake Bay and around into the harbor at Fortress

Monroe, we almost flattered ourselves that we were veterans. How far short of seasoned veterans we were a few days sufficed to reveal. I must refer to the story of our Regiment as found in the book "Three Years in the Sixth Corps" to refresh my memory in regard to dates. It was on March 25, 1862, rather more than 53 years ago that we disembarked, a big army, well equipped, in the near vicinity of Fortress Monroe and took up our line of march toward Newport News but arrived there only on the next day when we bivouached along the border of the wonderful James River.

It was from this bivouac that we made the march to Young's Mills which was the test that was to determine who were real soldiers and who were better fitted to adorn the quiet walks of civil life. For, although we had ourselves fired no shot, we had been in line of battle and had driven the Confederate pickets away with a few shots from the parrot guns and then we returned to our place along the river bank with some of our men in a serious state of mind. This mental attitude was emphasized when, a day or two later, the gunboat Teaser came down the river and gave us a salute. I wonder if I shall be guilty of an injustice to any one if I tell the story of this our first visit from an enemy's gun-boat? I will try not to hurt any one and I shall tell the story from my own point of view.

The masts of the Congress and the Cumberland, our two ships which had been sunk by the ram Merrimack only a few days before, were visible from our camp and the little hospital in which the wounded from our ships were being treated was near the shore. It was my custom every day after finishing my Surgeon's call and my round of visits to go down to the

hospital to see the brave fellows on the cots of its wards. I had made my visit one afternoon and was returning toward our camp, holding in my hand some wild flowers which I had gathered along the way when, looking up, I saw a steam vessel coming rapidly down the river. I saw also some scores of men on the bank of the river and in the edge of the stream further up than our Brigade. They were men from the Vermont Brigade and they were dredging for oysters. As the vessel approached I saw that it was probably an armed vessel and of course assumed that it was one of our own gun boats.

A moment later and that idea vanished. A puff of smoke was seen to burst from the vessel, then a long and weird shriek was heard followed by an explosion directly overhead. Hardly had the racket of the first explosion ceased when another puff, another shriek and another explosion occurred followed by still another and yet another. Then the boat turned about and steamed up the river. It is needless to say that the Vermont boys lost interest in that oyster bed and fled up the river bank. As I reached our camp I learned that there had been some consternation there also. One officer was said to have called out to the men strolling about the camp: "Get into your tents, boys! Get into your tents!" he meantime running as fast as he could toward his own tent and pressing his nose as close as he could into the sand when he was under its shadow. That evening the officer came to me to ask for a certificate of disability. Although he did not get his certificate he resigned and went home. It was too noisy along the banks of the James River for a quiet citizen like himself.

From this day on soldiering had

lost its attraction for a number of good men and the ranks of the regiment began to thin out.

But, in spite of this we marched again up the river, through Young's Mills where we had had our first skirmish and up to the defenses of Yorktown.

Here, along the line of Warwick Creek, we encountered our first serious opposition.

Do you remember the hot march, the skirmish at Young's Mills, the terrific thunder storm, the consequent almost impassable roads and the advance in line of battle in front of the enemy as we arrived at Warwick Creek in the tangle of a pine forest? We were saluted by a lively volley of musketry and by salvos of artillery firing such as were quite new to us. But the boys of our old Division stood up to the work (for our Division was the only one on the line at first) and returned the compliments of the Johnnies with a hearty good will. The battle raged all that afternoon. Shells and shrapnell were coming thick and fast and musketry firing made a lively racket. Fortunately our friends, the enemy, aimed many of their shells too high and the pine trees began to be the recipients of unexploded shells, for it was also lucky that many of the shells did not explode. Some of the big pines began to look like pin-cushions with the long cylindrical missiles sticking into them.

At night the fire slackened somewhat and our men withdrew from the creek into the woods, only a few paces back, however, in order to find a place to rest.

Colonel McKean and I, who had been sharing blankets since our arrival at Fortress Monroe, found a dry spot just at the left of our regiment. There was a big pine stump which

we selected as a good place and, perhaps, incidentally, a good protection against the shells of the rebels. I gathered some pieces of bark and built a sort of bolster for our heads and then spreading one blanket beneath us and drawing one over us we two laid down for a night's rest. We had just settled into a quiet state of repose with our stumps between us and the rebel guns when a full charge of shrapnell crashed into our defense, raising a tremendous racket and scattering fragments of our stump in all directions. The Colonel and I arose without ceremony and turning toward each other in the darkness the Colonel remarked: "Well, Doctor, had we best look for a more quiet place?" "Colonel," I replied, "I have not seen two shells strike in the same spot today. Let us stay where we are." We immediately spread our blankets again and rested undisturbed behind our defensive barrier during the remainder of the night.

With the rising of the sun next morning the fighting became as lively as ever and the following and other following days the men were engaged either on the fighting line or in making corduroy roads from early morning till darkness of evening made work impossible.

It was, as I have said, very fortunate that our friends on the other side of the creek had a way of aiming too high and much of their ammunition was lost in the tree tops or in the swamps at our rear, yet many of their missiles exhibited a disagreeable familiarity and some of our men fell daily as victims of this careless use of firearms.

One day, wishing to go from one end of our Brigade to the other, I passed General Smith, "Baldy" Smith, as I had often done before, with his shoulders braced against a big pine

tree which interposed its broad trunk between him and the enemy, and a few steps further on met four soldiers who were walking and chatting. As I came exactly opposite to them a rebel shell landed at their feet, exploded and sent them all sprawling on the ground. I rushed to them and found that one of them was fatally hurt, one was slightly wounded and the two others were pretty badly shaken up. After caring for the wounded men and getting the one most severely injured on to a stretcher, I went on my way.

At length, after days of this sort of life, our Division was ordered to move somewhat to the right, to the vicinity of "The Chimneys."

General McCellan, General Keyes, the Commander of our Corps, and General Smith, our Division leader, were in consultation near the "Chimneys," each followed by his staff, that of the Commander of the Army constituting a great retinue.

At length a few companies from the Brigade formed by our friends and neighbors, the Vermonters, were ordered to cross the creek.

With the gallantry which characterized those Green Mountain Boys they charged across the stream and took the works in their front; but as reinforcements were not sent to their aid they were unable to hold the position they had won and were forced to retreat wading the creek while the Confederates sped their parting guests by firing volleys of musket shot into them.

Two hundred and eighteen of the Vermonters were either killed or wounded in the crossing and recrossing of the stream.

I had established myself at a point very near the crossing and the wounded men were brought to me for first attention. I dressed their wounds

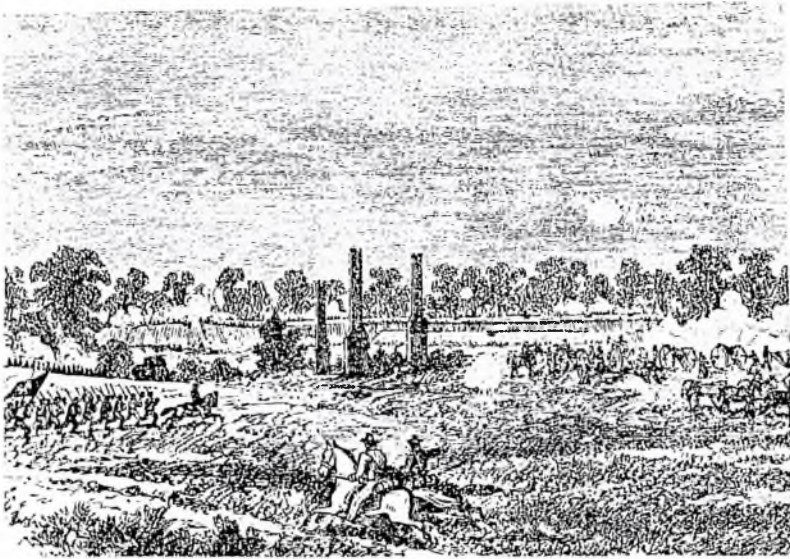
as well as I could and sent them to the rear.

But we all went back to our old places on the line and continued our daily routine of working and fighting.

Each day demanded its toll of some of our brave fellows who were killed or wounded, yet the number of these was not as great as we could have expected.

The doctors could get no medicines for the sick beyond the small supplies which we took to the Peninsula in our little field medicine chests and this small supply was exhausted after the first few days.

Surgeons spent much time going from one regiment to another trying to borrow a little quinine, or a few grains of opium.



IN ACTION APRIL 5, 1862

During these thirty days before Yorktown there was no rest from fighting and there was as little opportunity for diversion as there was variety in our diet.

Of the thirty days, twenty were days of rain.

Our diet consisted of hard-tack, pork and beans, varied only by leaving off the pork and beans for supper.

One day, in despair, I rode back to Young's Mills, where, in the old rebel barracks, a rear hospital had been established, hoping by some means to obtain a small supply of medicines. On my way I gave a man half a dollar for two dried up lemons, which exhausted his supply. But I gave one of these to each of two poor sick fellows who were glad of even such dried fruit.

When I arrived at the hospital and told the surgeon in charge of my sore need, the big and rather hard faced man looked at me with tears in his eyes, he silently took my hand and led me to his dispensary. He showed me a row of big bottles of spirits of turpentine and another row filled with castor oil. For two days he had had no other medicines and new typhoid cases were constantly arriving.

Our men sickened by scores and hundreds. Typhoid fever, typhoid pneumonia and other camp diseases were raging and although, as I have

said, we did not lose great numbers of men from gun-shot wounds, hundreds of men from our Division were placed hors de combat by disease.

Thus, for a month our brave men fought, and worked, and sickened, and died in the swamps before Yorktown and then, without a great encounter, we followed our foe to Williamsburgh, leaving great numbers of our sick comrades behind.

And so ended the campaign of the great Army of the Potomac before Yorktown, the first fighting campaign of the old Seventy-Seventh.



ABRAM CRAMER

WILLIAM G. CAW.

Then Miss Maud Rolls excellently accompanied on the piano Mrs. Andrus as she sang William Anderson's OLD GLORY, (dedicated to the Comrades and all patriotic citizens), with a pathos of enthusiasm to her sweet soprano voice which made this song most beautiful.

Amid applause and cheers this concluded the patriotic program. The regular Business Meeting followed:

- 10--ROLL CALL
- 11--PAYMENT OF DUES
- 12--SECRETARY'S REPORT
- 13--TREASURER'S REPORT
- 14--UNFINISHED OR NEW BUSINESS
- 15--SPEECHES, REMINISCENCES; READING OF LETTERS IF DESIRED
- 16--DATE FOR NEXT REUNION
- 17--GOOD BYES, unto next reunion

The following named answered HERE at roll call: Andrew Brower, Hector E. Bentley, Edgar O. Burt, George H. Brown, Henry Bethman, John E. Brainerd, William Brooks, Augustus Cook, John Conklin, Charles P. Chapman, William G. Caw, William E. Cain, Daniel H. Cole, John M. Connors, Volney Crow, Dr. William A. DeLong, James L. DeGross, Joseph Dorvee, Edwin B. Duell, Burton A. DeWitt, George H. Ellison, John E. Evans, Edward H. Fuller, William W. Finch, George H. Fox, Henry N. Gilbert, Garrett S. Grovenstein, William C. Howe, James W. Harbinson, Edwin Ham, Charles E. Houghtaling, William H. Hare, A Delos Hammond, Charles E. Jennings, Jeremiah Keck, Samuel E. Kidd, George E. Lane, Sanford McKenzie, Alexander Morrison, Warren E. Miller, Nathan Munn, Michael Nolan, Samuel Porter, Horace A. Post, George N. Peacock, Gard-

ner Perry, Albert J. Reid, Albert Reese, William A. Rose, Seth B. Root, Carlos W. Rowe, Frank Reed, Dr. George T. Stevens, Charles E. Stevens, Oscar Shannon, George H. Scidmore, Daniel C. Simonds, Andrew J. Sprung, Frank Short, Samuel S. Squires, William O. Taylor, Charles D. Thurber, George L. Tucker, George R. Wendall, Patrick Winn.

Dues were then paid. Following which the Secretary made his report:

After the 1911 reunion, when we celebrated the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Regiment's muster-in, when the Roster contained two hundred and fifty-three names, your Secretary made out a new Roster for this reunion, on which he placed one hundred and fifty names, to whom was mailed a return Post Card, on which printed notice of this reunion. Replies received, the consensus being regret for inability to be present, with kind remembrance and hope all present will have a joyful time, from or of Major Nathan S. Babcock, Surgeon George T. Stevens, Assistant Surgeon William A. DeLong, Quartermaster Charles D. Thurber, Commissariat William Brooks.

Of Company A, Lieutenant Sariell Fountain, Julius A. Jerome, Joseph Jerome, James A. Lawrence, Sanford McKenzie, Samuel Porter, David M. Stringham, Captain Charles E. Stevens.

Of Company B, Andrew Brower, William H. Freeman, John Leuthwaite, Alexander Morrison, Wallace Morrison, Andrew Miller, Albert J. Reid.

Of Company C, Charles H. Benedict Augustus Cook, Edward H. Fuller, William C. Howe, James W. Harbinson, Jeremiah Keck, Warren E. Miller, Horace A. Post, William H. Quivey, William H. Quackenbush.

Of Company D, Erskine B. Branch, James L. DeGroof, Joseph Dorvee, William W. Finch, Henry N. Gilbert, Edwin Ham, Charles E. Houghtaling, Edwin L. Lockwood, James Nolan Albert Reese, William O. Taylor.

Of E Company, Clarence Bruso, Hector E. Bentley, Edgar O. Burt, John Conklin, Edwin B. Deuel, George W. Dingman, Franklin H. Juckett, William A. Rose, John Thornton, Benjamin B. Van Steenberg.

Of Company F, Benjamin H. Hudson, Edward P. Marshall, Lafayette Myers, Lewis Shonts.

Of Company G, Seymour Birch, George H. Brown, Charles Cutler, Charles P. Chapman, George H. Ellison, William H. Hare, A. Delos Hammond, Samuel E. Kidd, Jeffrey D. Merrell, Captain George M. Ross, Milton F. Sweet, George L. Tucker.

Of Company H, Henry Bethman, Lieutenant William G. Caw, Abram Cramer, William E. Cain, Simeon W. Crosby, Garrett S. Grovenstein, Charles E. Jennings, Seth B. Root.

Of Company I, Marcellus N. Bliss, John E. Evans, Frederick N. Owen, Lieutenant Carlos W. Rowe, Daniel C. Simonds, James E. Weston.

Of original Company K, Edward M. Bailey, Captain Nathan S. Babcock, John M. Clute, Daniel H. Cole, Burton A. DeWitt, John T. Sawyer, Andrew J. Sprung, Oliver Sulliff, William H. Wright.

Of Schuylerville Company K, William Cooney, John M. Connors, Volney Craw, Albert H. Clements, Emory Doolittle, Peter Morris, Prosper Morrison, Samuel S. Squires, Frank Short.

Unassigned Company, George H. Fox.

Frances M. S. (widow of Colonel Winsor B.) French.

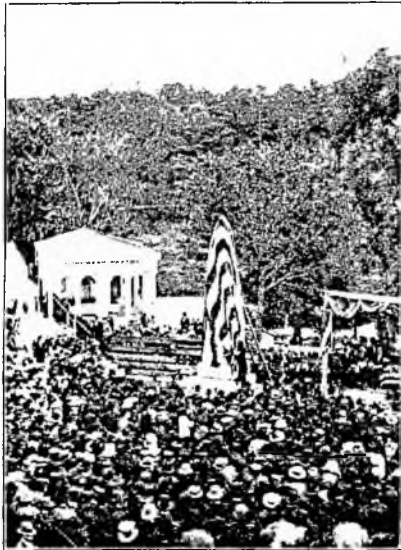
F. C. Barger, of the 49th New York.
E. M. Barrett.

W. E. Webster, of First New York Battery.

Notwithstanding, a return Post Card was mailed to each survivor whose post office address we have, several have failed to take time to reply. How necessary a reply is, and promptly, one example only will be cited. In arranging for a dinner the first question the Caterer asks is "How many for?" If arrangements be made only for those who have replied "I hope to be present," those who have not replied and are present would not only be left—and it would be due only to themselves—but they would find fault for their not being included. So it is hoped each one will reply hereafter; and in writing.

Fred C. Barger, 49th N. Y., writes: "I thank you for again remembering me with an invitation to meet the survivors of the gallant 77th, who fought side by side with us on many battlefields for the Union more than half a century since. It would do my heart good to be with you, but I expect to meet Forty-ninthers at Jamestown, on the 29th of June. I extend to you and all 77th members their hearty greetings and sincere love."

Charles H. Benedict writes: "Would I could be there to renew acquaintance with those so fortunate as to be present. I most certainly recall that morning in June 1865, at the camp we were in in the Defenses of Washington, D. C., when the order was read and received so gleefully FALL IN! FOR MUSTER-OUT. For that was sure evidence that the war was over. A day or two after the muster-out such of us as were to go home marched over to the Railroad Station in Washington. Late in the afternoon entered a "box" car, of which the train was made up, that carried us on our way. The Battalion was made up of Comrades of the 43d, 49th and



Unveiling of the Seventy-seventh Infantry Regiment Monument, Tuesday, September 21, 1875, in north-west corner of Congress Spring Park, which site the Park owners gave for the purpose.

77th New York, all eager to get home. The train started at sundown, moving very slowly, because the line to Philadelphia was greatly congested with other trains containing soldiers on the same errand as we. It was near midnight when we crossed at Havre de Grace on the Ferry Boat that transported the cars without unloading. I was on top of a car on which I fastened myself with straps from my knapsack to prevent my rolling off should I go to sleep; which I did, so was quite refreshed when we got into Philadelphia at daylight. Getting off the cars we marched to the famous 'Cooper Shop,' where we

washed up, and had our breakfast. About the middle of the forenoon we marched to the New York station where got aboard a train for New York City. Where on arrival a short time after noon we marched, and it was novel to us to do so without rifles, to the Armory of the Ninth Regiment—full of returning soldiers homeward bound as we—our headquarters for the day. And where we had dinner and supper. Soon after which we marched to a west side wharf where we boarded the steamboat 'Knickerbocker' for the trip on the Hudson River to Albany, where we were to go into 'camp' at the 'Fair Grounds' to wait until we received our discharges and pay. The boat got to the Albany steamboat landing at 5 o'clock a. m. We went to the Merchants Hotel, nearly opposite, where we breakfasted. Soon after we got to the hotel Seymour Rice—a Saratogian—a night operator at the Albany Telegraph office—State street, corner Broadway—came in, inquiring for Seventy-seventh boys. And soon found us. And such a glad time we had talking with him. A squad of the Seventy-seventh, Sergeant Gus Walker, Privates C. H. Benedict, Obed M. Coleman, Ed and Bill Thorn and one other, whose name has slipped from memory, agreed we would not go to the 'camp,' but go to Saratoga Springs. Rice told us that the train left at 7 o'clock a. m. But, we had no money. Nor did Rice indicate that he was any better conditioned. He suggested that we go to the railroad ticket office, tell the agent our fix, to learn if he could help us. The squad got their traps together and then funerially marched, enforcee, to the ticket office. We convinced the ticket man we were not deserters, that the war was over, that we were stranded, volunteers returning, or try-



ing to return, to our homes in Saratoga Springs, unwilling to be deterred by entering a camp to wait receiving our discharge and pay. Walker had the only valuable worth pawning—a silver watch. It was left in pledge; tickets were given us. So soon as the train backed in we entered a car. As 'Bill' Thorn had a young bulldog pup in his arms, which he had picked up near Fredericksburg, Va., as we marched to Washington from Richmond returning from the front, and our appearance not being in the up-to-date style, we were given a place in the baggage car. The train started promptly on time. We were really on our way to Saratoga Springs, which we had left as recruits in 1862, now returning seasoned soldiers. As

the conductor entered the car to collect the fares, to our surprise it was W. S. Balch—the proprietor for years of the old Columbian hotel, Broadway and Lake avenue—known to us all. Had we have known that he was conductor there would have been no necessity for hocking the watch. Conductor Balch concluded his trip and came and sat by us and we enjoyed his talk of affairs at home.

"As our train entered the Saratoga Springs station our squad was on the car platform and steps, shouting and singing—like school boys when the term is ended—and hailing those we recognized. Getting off the car we were surrounded by a shouting pleased crowd. Getting without the depot each started their several ways for home. The two Thorns, Coleman and Benedict started down Division street. Somehow the news of the 'Returned Volunteers' traveled fast, for when we got to Matilda street our fathers met us and such a jubilee. Reaching Broadway we quickly became the center of a crowd.

(Nothing too good for the returned "volunteer" then. What a change now under the government which became a City June 22, 1915. Not one "Boy-in-Blue" of 1861-65 recognized by the men who became its rulers at the first City election, June 8, 1915. They are profuse in words. But most emphatically lacking in deeds. —Secy.)

"Getting out of the good natured crowd so soon as possible we were escorted to our Homes."

William Cooney writes: "Rheumatism will prevent my attendance. While sending kind remembrance to all, with the hope of a fine reunion for those so fortunate as to be present, he hello's particularly to his old Company comrades Frank Short, Lon Hammond and John Connors."

Sariell Fountain writes: "It was my

intention and hope to be with you this year. But a very severe operation soon after May 1st prevents. So I have to be content with my regards to all present." (Hope you will come next year.—Sec'y.)

F. H. Juckett writes: "Hoping all will have a pleasant time. Send loving greeting, while regretting he cannot join the boys on the 26th, hopes to meet all in the other world."

E. A. Lockwood writes: "My heart wish is to be with you. Hope it will be a most enjoyable reunion to all present, to whom kind wishes are sent."

James A. Lawrence writes: "It certainly would be great pleasure to be with my comrades. But at this date this distance prevents. So have to be content with sending kindest greetings to all."

John Leuthwaite writes: "Wonder if Al Reid ever thinks of that kind and loyal young woman, Maggie Bell, who took us into their house in Winchester, after the Cedar Creek scrap, keeping us until train time! Going home from the U. S. Hospital at Portsmouth Grove, Rhode Island, on a furlough, sometime after the Wilderness fight, in which wounded as was also at Cedar Creek; somewhere between Albany and Ballston Spa, my trying to open a car window did not succeed because of the helplessness of my left arm from the wound. A woman—sitting several seats back—permitted her sympathy to be displayed by coming and raising the window for me. Though very thankful my youthful bashfulness was too impolite to permit me to express my thanks. This incident comes to mind sometimes, when I always thank her in my heart. As I do all the kind women who helped to make life pleasant to we wounded boys, away from home. With a joyous hope of a pleasant reunion, and many of them yet before you, your Comrade of 1861-65."

Prosper Morrison's widow writes: "We were at Saratoga Springs, November 30, 1914. Mr. Morrison called at Grand Army Building. No one there so did not get to see any of the boys. He caught cold that day. We arrived home December 12, and five days later he joined the Great Reunion above."

Sanford P. McKenzie, who has never attended a reunion, writes: "It will be a pleasure to see the faces of some of my old Comrades so hope to be able to be present on the 26th of June."

William H. Quackenbush writes: "My eyesight is very poor, for which reason I do not go far from home. Sends best wishes to all present."

William H. Wright writes: "It would certainly be much pleasure could I be present June 26th—fifty years after leaving the Army, in which we had passed nearly four years of strenuous service. I hope we have made as good in Civil life as we did in Military. The principles we fought for I continue to advocate, to which I give expression on Memorial Days. Regretting my inability to go across the country I wish kindest of regards to all the Comrades present."

Mrs. Frances M. S. (widow of Winsor B.) French, Seattle, Washington, writes: "I am always glad to hear you talk of the past, and of things relating to your Colonel. I hope to be able to carry out his desire to place a bronze soldier on that stone pedestal on the Seventy-seventh monument on Broadway. And it looks as if I might be able to in another year. I surely so hope. For realizing as I do the passing time and that the Survivors of the Seventy-seventh Regiment will not live forever, I most truly wish all now alive may see the monument completed. Please convey to the soldiers of the Seventy-seventh as they

are assembled in their reunion, June 26th, that their Colonel's widow wishes them good cheer, and the happiness that comes from the satisfaction that they were brave defenders of their country in her great peril." The appreciation of members present are gratefully tendered Mrs. French, with the hope that her wishes may be realized.—Sec'y.

This is an exact copy:

May 10-15 Dear Sir your Comrad has bin ling in Jonesville Cemetary three years this next Siptembr or October hav bin thinking strange you had neavr put him up a head stooone but of cors if you did know it but hope it will be look after the stoue and some scoldier widow lain hear for years with out one in our Cmatry pleas look after this and oblig a nice Mrs D. D. T.

W. E. Webster, of the First New York Battery—that unsurpassed Battery. Its members calmly waiting until the foe got within ten paces of them that July third day before the lanyards were pulled, writes: "The receipt of your reunion notice found me in my bed from that wound received at Cedar Creek, which confined me thereafter in Hospital unto my discharge. So was not with the battery when it was mustered out, June 23, 1865.

"Fifty-two years ago at this time our battery was handing out some hot stuff to Pickett's Division, at the angle at Gettysburg.

"My—how time flies.

"Good luck to you and the gallant 'Old 77th.' THEY WERE ALL WOOL AND A YARD WIDE. None better; and COWAN'S BATTERY knows it."

Three letters received in October, 1914, were most interesting to your

Secretary. They were in acknowledgement of receipt of the Reunion Report—with which few Seventy-seventhers can be charged. And even they when they read the extracts will inwardly rejoice that they were members of the Saratoga Regiment.

That staunch Comrade Andrew Cowan—who we knew as the able Commander of that most capable Battery, the First New York Independent Battery— that waited until they could see the whites of the foe's eyes ere the lanyards were pulled at Gettysburg, to thrust Double Canister into the charging ranks, to stay their forward march—in acknowledging the receipt of the Reunion Report said: "I feel honored at being remembered by the Regiment, of which there was none better in the Second Division."

Second letter from Comrade W. E. Webster, of Cowan's Battery, who in acknowledging the receipt of the Reunion Report said: "Its reading seems like old friends meeting again."

The third letter from George H. Fox, (see 1911 Reunion Report) a brother of our Chaplain Norman Fox—who would have us "Remember the Sabbath" when in Camp. It appears that Comrade George took in Gettysburg July 1-4, fifty years after the affair. Of which he so interestingly reminiscences in a four page folder, that your Secretary may receive plenary absolution in extracting a few words, which may not be tumultuous to one who was there when that uproarious dispute was being effected.

A Lieutenant Howard Fox, son of our Comrade George H., at the 1913 Gettysburg Camp, was attached to the Provisional Field Hospital. So his experience of '64-5 led him to the Lieutenant, who introduced him to the Hospitals' Superintendent, a Major Hess, who because of "our sufferin" from mild fatigue ordered us into

Ward No. 1, adjacent to his tent; from whence they could so easily get into line at the mess tent, with their tin cup and plate, for subsistence which a provident Government had so considerately placed at their disposal. But, as convalescents they had to feed at the hospital mess tent, to be subserviently and most kindly waited on by United States Soldiers; who in accosting them in a most familiar manner said: "What'll you have, Daddy?" and taking their plates and cups, brought them back full of wholesome, if not always palatable, stuff; remarking, as they so obsequiously put them before you: "You will get accustomed to the absence of napkins and finger bowls." The idea of those adolescent soldiers being so familiar with veterans.

Wednesday morning, July 2, this George H. Fox and one C. W. Snyder, each claiming membership in George Washington Post No. 103, New York G. A. R., walked into the New York and Pennsylvania section of the big encampment and thence into the village of Gettysburg. In the streets of which were all sorts of vehicles, including the latest—automobiles; inviting the "Old Boys" to ride, if—they had the price. In the front yard of every house there was a booth where was dispensed ice cold lemonade (of the circus variety), souvenirs, picture cards, etc.—without osculatory premiums. Returning to Hospital for their dinner—for they intended to get everything coming to them—they noticed that Lieutenant Fox, as Officer-of-the-Day, had both hands full. After dinner they walked to Cemetery Hill, where Brother Charles Fox ought in the Twelfth Corps; then to Tower's Hill where his brother Norman Fox's regiment, the Seventy-seventh New York Infantry Volunteers, supported Twelfth Corps batteries as

they poured leaden shots into the ranks of the foe.

Thursday morning they continued their sightseeing. First going through the Confederate section on Seminary ridge. Continuing to Little Round Top, nearly two miles away. On its top is the statue of General Warren, the competent Engineer of the Army of the Potomac. Inspected the various monuments enroute—some of which are not only works of art, but they convey to the reader what the regiment here did. Along the stone fence at the "bloody angle" where Longstreet's Corps, Pickett's Division, fiercely leading the charge, was repulsed; where General Armistead was killed, within the Union lines, and Lieutenant Cushing fell by his smoking cannon, as he personally pulled the lanyard "for just one more shot;" where the Commander of the First New York Independent Battery, Captain Cowan ordered "Double Canister, at ten yards." There they saw General Sickles, with the widow of General Longstreet, grasping outstretched hands—glad to be in the Union. And groups of old soldiers listening, open mouthed to an eloquent Comrade as he ardently told how he won the battle—though history shows his regiment not actively engaged, though ready if called on.

Fourth of July forenoon they rested. After dinner they walked through the National and Village Cemeteries to Culp's Hill, to General Slocum's Equestrian statue, thence to where brother Charles and William in the 107th New York Infantry fought on the right of the line of battle, in the Twelfth Corps. Its monument among the huge rocks, near the woods edge. As they stood there George Henry recalled brother Charles telling of a soldier, during the fighting, who suddenly began singing "Rock of Ages,

Cleft for Me," and quickly all around within the sound of his voice joined in. Across a lower field they found the monuments of the 2nd Massachusetts, and 27th Indiana Regiments, on the line of battle, of the 3d Brigade 1st Division, Twelfth Corps. Thence on to Powers Hill where in a detached position the Saratoga Regiment, the 77th New York Infantry Volunteers, of the 3d Brigade, 2nd Division 6th Corps supported the 12th Corps' batteries. A most trying position—receiving fire, but unable to return it. The Seventy-seventh Regiment monument there is an artistic one. It bears the Greek Cross, of which Sixth Corpser's are so proud. The monument stands with a background of trees, on the southern slope of the hill.



(Front)
77th NEW YORK INFANTRY
 Bemus Heights Battalion
 3d Brigade, 2nd Division 6th Corps
 July 3d, 1863

(Reverse)

PARTICIPATED IN THE CAMPAIGNS of the ARMY of the POTOMAC, FORT STEVENS, D. C.
 July 11-13, 1864

And SHERIDAN'S CAMPAIGN of the SHENANDOAH VALLEY.

(Left Side)	(Right Side)
Mustered in at	RECRUITED IN
Saratoga Springs	THE COUNTIES
Nov. 23, 1861	OF SARATOGA,
Mustered Out	ESSEX AND
June 27, 1865	FULTON

Leaving the Hill they went over a cross road, passed an old stone school house, to the Baltimore Pike, on which the Sixth Corps that July day, 1863, went into position at the Battle of Gettysburg, up it past General Mead's, the Army of the Potomac Commander's headquarters to Camp; which they reached tired and hungry, but in time not to miss their meal; and content with their four hours tramp.

Saturday morning they with other old veterans got into a mule-drawn ambulance, by which they reached the railroad station in Gettysburg, in time for them to get aboard the 8 a. m. train—on which Fox met Comrade Caw of our regiment, also—homeward bound.

A GREETING TO THE ONLY FIELD OFFICER LIVING.

GRAND ARMY HALL
 Saratoga Springs, N. Y.
 June 26, 1915.

Major Nathan S. Babcock,
 Exeter, Nebraska,

Dear Comrade:

As we are in session in our Forty-third annual reunion, we recall with gladness the many days we passed together while members of the Saratoga Regiment, in our successful fight for the pres-



CAPT. NATHAN BABCOCK

servation of the Flag and the Union.

We recall the day, as vividly before our eyes now as then, when you so successfully led the regiment so valorously at Antietam, where it go so far in the advance as to cause our Division Commander, General Getty to exclaim "There's a Regiment gone"—and rushed an Aide to order it back.

May you, in your four score and five years, continue in health and be permitted to live so long as the Seventy-seventh Survivors Association may meet in reunion.

Most Fraternally on behalf of your Comrades assembled,

EDWARD H. FULLER,
Secretary.

NECROLOGY.

The death since last reunion of

Abram Lent	A Company
Elisha Lohnes	C Company
C. H. J. Montgomery	
Alias Henry J. Hurd William W. Worden	
Edwin Gates	D Company
James K. Galusha	
John M. Clute	E Company
George W. Dingman	
John Thornton	
Lewis Shouts	F Company
William T. Lattimore	G Company
James E. Weston	I Company
Oliver Sutliff	Original K Co.
Edward Dwyer	New K Co.
Prosper Morrison	
John R. Rockwell	
John B. Welch	

recalls their faithful and loyal service in the war for the preservation of the Union when members of the regiment.

As we give thanks to a gracious Father for permitting us to linger a-while longer on this beautiful earth, their going reminds us that "We are coming, Father Abraham."

So while we mourn with their families, we tender them our condolence and commend them to the God who is our guide, the same as when He watched over us, when we were battling for the Flag—for God and Country.

C. E. STEVENS,
D. H. COLE,
CHAS. E. JENNINGS,
Committee.

From Nov. 23, 1911, to June 26, 1915, inclusive seventy-four members have died.

TREASURER.

Charles D. Thurber's report that there was on hand at last report nine cents--Received \$15.55--Paid for the 1914 report, including cost of mailing to each member, and for notices of the 1915 reunion \$15.25, leaving on hand thirty-nine cents. Received at reunion June 26, \$12.00. Total on hand \$42.39. Was adopted.

The payment of dues are not obligatory, but necessary to defray expenses of printing report and notices of reunion and cost of mailing, the which your Secretary, whose work is voluntary without pay, mails to each one whose post office address he has.



EDWIN HAM.

CEDAR CREEK.

From Writers to the National Tribune

A. C. Fletcher, Co. D, 1st Vt. Hvy. Art'y. says: "Somewhere about 4 a. m. the first firing commenced; in about three minutes the men of the Eighth Corps began passing where I was. At the same time I saw part of the Sixth Corps rush forward to meet the enemy, and join the flank of a brigade of the Nineteenth Corps, holding the rebels in check until the fog lifted. In the first charge the rebels captured eight guns from the Eighth Corps, and, having surprised the Eighth Corps in their beds and caused them and a brigade of the Nineteenth Corps to leave in a panic, they greatly outnumbered the Sixth Corps and the brigade of the Nineteenth that then confronted them. Accordingly they got on our flanks, and caused us to fall back in order to straighten our lines. General Wright was shot in the neck about 9 o'clock, and the command went to General Getty."

C. E. Stevens, Captain, 77th N. Y. Westport, N. Y., says: "Soon after daylight our regiment (of the Sixth Corps) moved to the left near the pike. Our line was first formed at the foot of the hill. I was sent to the skirmish line with my company, and when the fog lifted saw the enemy forming for a charge. They made three charges on us, and every time they came to the top of the hill we gave them a volley and went for them with a yell. They turned and fled each time. A Richmond paper I saw afterward said everything went well until they struck the Sixth Corps behind breastworks. All the works we had were what nature had prepared. After their last charge had been repulsed the rebels opened on us with artillery, and Gen. Bidwell, of our brigade, was killed and Capt. Orr, of our regiment, on the General's staff,

lost an arm. Col. French, of our regiment, assumed command of the brigade. After the shelling had nearly subsided our division fell back. As far as I could see they went back as if on parade. We had to fall back to connect with the rest of the army—not from any pressure from the enemy. Afterwards we moved back to the front a short way, and threw up rails for protection. At that time our left was on the pike, joining the cavalry. Gen. Sheridan, on arriving, rode along our line, and made inquiries of Col. French. The General had not gone long before orders came down the line for the men to make coffee, so you see he arrived before breakfast. Our regiment was the first organized troops in line of battle that Gen. Sheridan struck. At 3 o'clock p. m. we charged down to the bridge, and saw the enemy cross, and then went back to the camp we left so hurriedly in the morning."

W. E. Webster, 1st New York Battery, Andrew Cowan Commander, says: "The entire army of Jubal Early was upon the Sixth Corps, and that Corps repulsed three different assaults, and charged them to boot. It was not driven a foot, and when the rebels could not move the Sixth Corps that way they flanked it out of position, but the Sixth Corps retired at leisure, its skirmish line holding its last line of battle position.

"The Sixth Corps was composed of 38 regiments, 34 of them are included in 'Fox's 300 Fighting Regiments.' The Nineteenth Corps had 38 regiments, one is in Fox's book. The Eighth Corps had 16 regiments of which four are in Fox's book.

"The Sixth Corps stands second to none. It saved the National Capital; it took Manassas Heights; it helped the Second Corps hold the Bloody Angle at the Wilderness; it saved the day at Cedar Creek; it came in handy at

Antietam and Gettysburg; it broke the enemy's line at Petersburg; it turned the trick at Sailor's Creek, Va., and the Army of Northern Virginia surrendered—to the Army of the Potomac.

"Cedar Creek was my last battle, as I was seriously wounded in it. My battery lost 23 killed and wounded and 14 horses killed at Cedar Creek, and we were the one battery that saved all of their guns in this battle (in the Infantry Corps)."



OUR BATTLE FLAGS.

Following is a memoranda of the FLAGS of the BEMUS HEIGHTS BATTALION, or the SARATOGA REGIMENT, or the SEVENTY-SEVENTH NEW YORK INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS of 1861-65, in the air tight cases in the "Bureau of Records of the War of the Rebellion," in the Department of the Adjutant General of the State of New York:

"1. REGIMENTAL COLOR, blue silk; original staff. The design painted on each side, now torn and defaced, was the number of the regiment, and 'coat of arms' of the state, and 'Excelsior,' motto of the state, at the side of which was represented the surrender of Burgoyne in 1777" (hence the number 77. E.H.F.) "on which occasion the American Stars and Stripes are believed to have been first displayed. Presented to the regiment by the sons of Saratoga County, resident in New York City, on its way to the field November 29, 1861. It was carried in the siege of Yorktown, battles of Lee's Mills, Mechanicsville, Golding's Farm, Garnett's Farm, White Oak

Swamp Bridge, Crampton Pass, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Mayre's Heights, Gettysburg" (and twelve other fights before Gettysburg, E. H. P.) "In (be successful) "charge up Mayre's Heights" (that beautiful Sunday morning, May 3, 1863, E. H. P.) "one of the color guard was killed and the colors torn in shreds by a shell.

"2. Guidon; staff gone. Two guidons presented with the above described color were used during the same period. A crimson one for the right of the line; blue one for the left, was worn out in service. The crimson one was returned with the color.

"3. National color, silk; about half gone; end ragged; the field in ribbons; bears the inscription 'WINCHESTER, Sept. 19, 1864; FISHER'S HILL, Sept. 22, 1864; CEDAR CREEK Oct. 19, 1864.' Original staff, the top of which was shot off in the WILDERNESS May 6, 1864.

"This color was presented to the regiment by the ladies of Temple Grove Seminary, Saratoga Springs, November 28, 1861, and was carried during three years' service. The lettering was placed on it after the regiment" (i. e. the one hundred and twelve, whose three years term of service was ended, and as they did not re-enlist, returned to Saratoga Springs, the rendezvous of the regiment and where mustered into the United States service, and were honorably discharged December 13, 1864; leaving in the field 455 men on the roll of the BEMUS HEIGHTS BATTALION, to continue unto the end—the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia to its four years anlag-

onists the Army of the Potomac, Secy.) "left the field, in accordance with an order of General Sheridan to the Army of the Shenandoah. In the battle of Chancellorsville, the field was (nearly) all torn out by a shell from the enemy's cannon. Among its bearers in battle Corporal Joseph Murer was instantly killed at Antietam" (Sept. 17, 1862) "Corporal Michael McWilliams was killed in the Wilderness" (May 6, 1864); "Corporal Harrigan of the color guard was killed at Cedar Creek" (Oct. 19, 1864); "Corporal Henry Myers of the color guard was shot through the hand at Spottsylvania" (May 10, 1865). "This color was in every battle in which the Sixth Corps took part to Nov. 23, 1864; included therein Antietam, (Md.), Fort Stevens, (D. C.), Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek, (Va.)

"4. National color, Silk; '77th REGIMENT, N. Y. S. V.' embroidered.

"5, 6. Guidons, blue silk; faded: White (the color of the Division) Sixth Corps badge in center; (a Greek cross) on which '77th.'

"These colors were in service in the battalion of the Seventy-seventh, left in the field, from November 23, 1864, to its return in July, 1865, when the colors were presented at Albany, to the state. Among those present was General Grant. The colors were in the charge at Petersburg, Va., April 2, 1865," (which the 77th New York, the Saratoga Regiment, led. Secy.)

Edward H. Fuller, private C company, 77th New York, secretary of the Survivors Association, has the lower half of the silk National Color, made by the scholars of the Rev. Doctor L.

P. Beecher's Seminary, who presented the colors on their behalf to the regiment, as they halted in front of the Seminary that twenty-eighth day of November, 1861, enroute to the station to take cars for the front. On that part that Comrade Fuller has is needleworked (the same as on the part in the State Bureau) YORK-TOWN, LEE'S MILLS, WARWICK RIVER, WILLIAMSBURG, MECHANICSVILLE, GOLDING FARM, MALVERN HILL, SOUTH MOUNTAIN, ANTIETAM, WHITE OAK SWAMP BRIDGE, FREDERICKSBURG, CHANCELLORSVILLE, GETTYSBURG, RAPPAHANNOCK STATION—the names of seventeen of the fifty-eight battles in which the Seventy-seventh participated in its three years, eight months and four days service; in the Volunteer Army of the

United States, in the war of the preservation of the (E PLURIBUS) UNION.

The New York State Flag presented by the resident Sons of Saratoga in New York City November 29, 1861, to the Regiment as it was enroute to the front, is further described: "As an exquisite piece of work, of the richest fabric—a blue ground with elegant designs in oil. One side represented an engagement in which the American soldier, led by Washington, were fighting under the old flag—thirteen stripes and union jack. On the reverse was painted the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga, October 17, 1777, under the new Flag—the Stars and Stripes, first baptized in the blood at the decisive battle at Bemus Heights."

THE REGIMENTS ENROLLMENT.

	Original	Recruits	Re-enlisted	
FIELD AND STAFF	14+	6	20	0
COMPANY A	89+	74	163	19
COMPANY B	93+	48	141	13
COMPANY C	82+	83	165	12
COMPANY D	93+	56	149	9
COMPANY E	87+	70	157	13
COMPANY F	87+	10	97	33
COMPANY G	86+	38	124	22
COMPANY H	90+	46	136	23
COMPANY I	85+	50	135	16
COMPANY K	94+	16	110	27
	900+	797	1397+	189
NEW K COMPANY	86+	28		111
Enrolled; did not get to the regiment				49
Equal to a total enrollment of				1747

When the Schuylerville company, Captain John R. Rockwell commanding, reached the Regiment at Hagerstown, Md., it was given the letter K. Original K being without commissioned officers, the Lieutenant resigned and the Captain, Babcock, promoted Major, the seventy-two enlisted men on its roll were transferred to F Company.

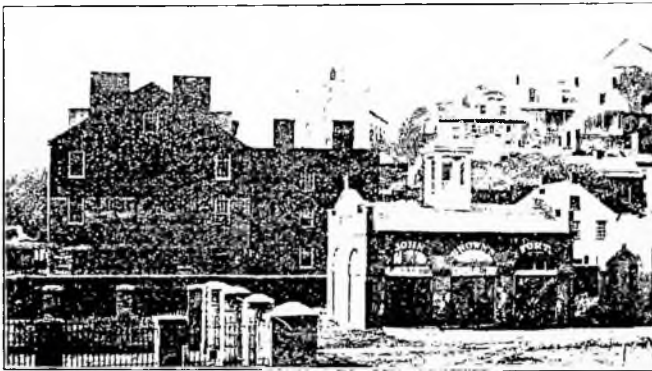
Enrolled to November 28, 1861, when the regiment left Saratoga Springs for Washington	900
Enrolled thereafter to November 19, 1864, when the one hundred and twelve men, whose term of three years about ended, started for Saratoga Springs, their rendezvous in 1861, to be honorably discharged; leaving 455 men on the roll to continue the organization	553
Enrolled thereafter to June 27, 1865, the muster-out of the Seventy-seventh	58
Enrolled, but never got to the regiment	49
Total	1560
Of 1861 men there re-enlisted	187
Equivalent to enrollment, from Sept. 8, 1861, to June 27, 1865, of ...	1747

RECORD LOSSES IN SERVICE

In New York Regiments of the Third Brigade.

	49th		77th		43rd		122nd	
	Officers	Enl'd Men	Officers	Enl'd Men	Officers	Enl'd Men	Officers	Enl'd Men
Killed	12	84	10	71	10	73	5	56
Died of wounds	4	42	2	41	4	30	1	30
Recovered from wounds	14	230	25	269	23	309	18	279
Total	30	356	37	381	37	412	24	365
Deaths, other causes ...	5	175	1	175	1	126	3	85
Aggregate	35	531	38	556	38	538	37	450
Missing in action		44		60		9	4	36

*Sixteen in Confederate Prisons--5 of whom were wounded.



JOHN BROWN'S FORT AT HARPER'S FERRY, VA., 1859.

BREVETS IN THE 77th.

UNITED STATES.

Colonel Winsor B. French, to Brigadier General.
Lieutenant Colonel David J. Caw, to Colonel.
Captain Isaac D. Clapp, to Major.
Second Lieutenant George H. Gillis, to Captain.

NEW YORK STATE.

First Lieutenant Noble G. Hammond, to Captain.
First Lieutenant Charles D. Thurber, to Captain.
Second Lieutenant George H. Gillis, to Captain.
Sergeant Oscar F. Lockwood, to Second Lieutenant.
Hospital Steward Alexander P. Waldron, to Second Lieutenant.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Deaths, Effects of Gun Shots.

William H. Boise, May 24, 1862.
Clifford Weston, May 24, 1862.
John T. Seeley, June 27, 1862.
John W. Ham, June 28, 1862.
James Todd, June 29, 1862.
Lieut. Halsey Bowe, Aug. 16, 1862.
Henry Allen, Sept. 17, 1862.
Lieut. Ansil Dennison, Sept. 17, 1862.
Davis Green, Sept. 17, 1862.
Henry Bass, Sept. 17, 1862.
George Huntington, Sept. 17, 1862.
Benjamin F. Knapp, Sept. 17, 1862.
Joseph Muerer, Sept. 17, 1862.
Charles Munn, Sept. 17, 1862.
John A. Reuchler, Sept. 17, 1862.
Gideon M. Rowley, Sept. 17, 1862.
William H. Woolsey, Sept. 17, 1862.
Paul A. Brown, Dec. 13, 1862.
John W. Arnold, May 3, 1863.
Benjamin H. Day, May 3, 1863.
William H. Deyce, May 3, 1863.
Alonzo C. Hubbell, May 3, 1863.
James Hendrick, May 3, 1863.
Peter Knickerbacker, May 3, 1863.
Dennis Sheran, May 3, 1863.
Henry A. West, May 3, 1863.
Capt. Luther M. Wheeler, May 3, 1863.
Rex A. Havens, June 5, 1863.
Michael Launley, May 5, 1864.
William Van Saulsbury, May 5, 1864.
Charles K. Burnham, May 6, 1864.
Herman Bowers, May 5, 1864.
Samuel C. Craig, May 6, 1864.
Walter Dwyer, May 6, 1864.
George Deal, May 6, 1864.
James Emperor, May 6, 1864.
Michael McWilliams, May 6, 1864.
David McNeal, Jr., May 6, 1864.
Charles H. Ruggles, May 6, 1864.
Alfred M. See, May 6, 1864.
William H. Sexton, May 6, 1864.
Louis Smith, May 6, 1864.
Abraham Lapham, May 9, 1864.
George G. Allen, May 10, 1864.
Thomas Arner, May 10, 1864.
John C. Barker, May 10, 1864.
Capt. Wm. B. Carpenter, May 10, 1864.
Abram Coonradt, May 10, 1864.
John B. Darrow, May 10, 1864.
George R. Deyoe, May 10, 1864.
William Divine, May 10, 1864.
James Dawsonson, May 10, 1864.
Harrison Davenport, May 10, 1864.
Herman H. Fowler, May 10, 1864.
Patrick Gilroy, May 10, 1864.
Earl Green, May 10, 1864.
Leroy Hoyt, May 10, 1864.
Charles M. Hart, May 10, 1864.
Lieut. William F. Lyon, May 10, 1864.
Martin V. Norton, May 10, 1864.
Legare Strong, May 10, 1864.
Oliver Shaw, May 10, 1864.
Washington Sherman, May 10, 1864.
Benjamin F. Stillwell, May 10, 1864.
James C. VanDenberg, May 10, 1864.
Lewis C. Ward, May 10, 1864.
Charles Wheeler, May 10, 1864.
William Walton, May 10, 1864.
James Dorley, May 12, 1864.
Jacob Frey, May 12, 1864.
Henry Franc, May 12, 1864.
Frederick Keenholtz, May 12, 1864.
Edmund A. Phillips, May 12, 1864.

Capt. Orrin P. Rugg, May 12, 1864.
 Gustavus Tuck, May 12, 1864.
 John Allen, May 18, 1864.
 William H. Brown, May 18, 1864.
 Henry C. Darrow, May 18, 1864.
 William Hill, May 18, 1864.
 Lewis Lakely, May 18, 1864.
 Aaron B. Quivey, May 21, 1864.
 William A. Cole, June 3, 1864.
 Charles VanKleek, June 3, 1864.
 Simon D. Russell, June 3, 1864.
 George Bolton, June 4, 1864.
 Francis Love, June 6, 1864.
 Michael S. Briggs, June 8, 1864.
 James Bortell, June 16, 1864.
 Andrew J. Dowen, July 12, 1864.
 Matthew Love, July 12, 1864.
 Andrew Manning, July 12, 1864.
 Alvarado Morey, July 12, 1864.
 Ambrose Mattot, July 12, 1864.
 Hubbard M. Moss, July 12, 1864.
 William Craig, Sept. 19, 1864.
 John H. Briggs, Sept. 19, 1864.
 Harlan A. Thomas, Sept. 19, 1864.
 William Miller, Sept. 19, 1864.
 Isaac Kipp, Jr., Sept. 22, 1864.
 Hiram Burt, Oct. 19, 1864.
 Lieut. John W. Belden, Oct. 19, 1864.
 James Fairchild, Oct. 19, 1864.
 Herbert Gallup, Oct. 19, 1864.
 John Horrigan, Oct. 19, 1864.
 Frank Hall, Oct. 19, 1864.
 John G. Kitchner, Oct. 19, 1864.
 Capt. Martin Lennon, Oct. 19, 1864.
 Jacob Pung, Oct. 19, 1864.
 John L. Root, Oct. 19, 1864.
 Adjt. Gilbert Thomas, Oct. 19, 1864.
 Lieut. William J. Tabor, Oct. 19, 1864.
 Daniel Smith, Dec. 29, 1864.
 Henry B. Shreeves, March 17, 1865.
 Charles N. Palmer, March 19, 1865.
 Alfred Chase, March 25, 1865.
 Capt. Sumner Oakley, March 25, 1865.
 Lieut. Stephen H. Pierce, Mar. 25, 1865.
 John Stewart, March 25, 1865.
 John H. Kipp, April 2, 1865.

In Confederate Prisons Died.

John L. Rector, of Charlton, July 5, 1862.
 James V. Fogg, of Milton, May 6, 1864.
 William Arnold, wounded, of Ballston, May 6, 1864.
 Adna Abbs, Jr., wounded, of Ballston, May 10, 1864.
 William C. Kimpton wounded of Saratoga Springs, May 10, 1864.
 Hiram Broughton, of Galway, May 16, 1864.
 Benjamin H. Carr, wounded, of Rock City Falls, June 12, 1864.
 Ira Tripp, of Ballston, June 12, 1864.
 Francis Love, wounded, of Milton, June 16, 1864.
 Lewis W. VanDenberg, of Northumberland, June 22, 1864.
 John Cady, of Greenfield, June 23, 1864.
 Louis Sicard, of Saratoga Springs, August 12, 1864.
 Joseph Cormack, of Ballston, August 16, 1864.
 Stephen Welch, of Saratoga, September 15, 1864.
 Hiram Tyrrell, of Wilton, December 4, 1864.
 Leonard Ingram, of Milton, January 18, 1865.
 And within the prison cell
 They were waiting for the day
 That should come to open wide the
 iron door;
 And their hollow eye grew bright,
 And their poor heart almost gay,
 As they thought of seeing home and
 friends once more.

SERVICE LOSS.

While in service three hundred died; one hundred and seventy-six of sickness; forty-three of wounds; eighty-one killed in action.

Out of two hundred and thirty-one New York State Volunteer Regiments (twenty-nine Cavalry, fifteen Artil-

lery, three Engineer, one hundred and eighty-four Infantry) the loss by capture, wounded, and death is reported less in one hundred and sixty-four regiments than in the Seventy-seventh where in the casualties were (sixty captured, two hundred and ninety-four wounded, three hundred died) six hundred and fifty-four.

ENGAGEMENTS

In Which the Regiment Took Part. 1862—Va.

Siege of Yorktown, April 5 to May 4
Near Lee's Mills, April 5
Lee's Mills, April 16
Before Yorktown, April 26
Lee's Mills, April 28
Williamsburg, May 5
Mechanicsville, May 24
Golding's Farm, June 5
Mechanicsville, June 24
Seven Days' Battle, June 25 to July 2
Garnett's Farm, June 27
Garnett's and Golding's Farm, June 28
Savage Station, June 29
White Oak Swamp Bridge, June 30
Malvern Hill, July 1
Harrison's Landing, July 3
Crampton Pass, Md., Sept. 14
Antietam (Sharpsburg), Md., Sept. 17
Fredericksburg, Dec. 11 to 15
1863
Mayre's Heights and Salem Church, May 3-4
Deep Run Crossing, June 5
Gettysburg, Pa., July 1-3
Fairfield, Pa., July 5
Antietam and Marsh Run, Md., July 7
Punkstown, Md., July 11-13
Williamsport, Md., July 14
Chantilly, Oct. 16
Rappahannock Station, Nov. 7
Mine Run, Nov. 26 and Dec. 2
Germauna Ford, Dec. 1
1864
Wilderness, May 5-7
Spottsylvania Court House, May 8-21
Piney Branch Church, May 8

Landron Farm, May 10
The Salient, May 12
North Anna, May 22-26
Totopotomy, May 27-30
Cold Harbor, May 31 to June 12
Before Petersburg, June 17 to July 9
Assault of Petersburg, June 17-19
Weldon Railroad, June 21-23
Washington, D. C., Fort Stevens,
July 11-13
Charleston, W. Va., Aug. 21
Opequon Creek, Sept. 13
Winchester (Opequon), Sept. 19
Fisher's Hill, Sept. 22
Cedar Creek, Oct. 19
Before Petersburg, December to
1865.
April 2, 1865
Petersburg Works, March 25
Appomattox Campaign,
March 28 to April 19
Fall of Petersburg, April 2
Sailors Creek, April 6
Appomattox Court House, April 9
The surrender of General Lee, and
his Army of Northern Virginia to
their four year opponents, the Army
of the Potomac and General Grant.
Major General GEORGE G. MEADE
The Army of the Potomac's Com-
mander said:

SIXTH CORPS' BOUQUETS.

"Officers and soldiers of the Sixth Corps, I thank you for the numerous proofs of your valor during the recent campaign. I do not wish to make any invidious distinction between you and the other Corps of this Army, but candor compels me to say that in my opinion the decisive movement in this campaign, which resulted in the capture of the Army of Northern Virginia, was the gallant charge of the Sixth Corps on the morning of April 2, 1865."

In his book *THE CANNONIER*, says:

"I don't know why it is so, but there was a contagion of Battle, an

Epidemic of Victory in the Sixth Corps that I never felt in any other; on the defence a rock; in an attack a hurricane, and the presence of that Corps on any field meant that there was to be fighting. And it was never known to be on hand for any other purpose."

Fox, in his History of Fighting Regiments, says:

"The history of the Sixth Corps more than any other is replete with fascination and interest; its record is invested with more of the romance and brilliancy of war. There was the successful assault of Mayre's Heights; the brilliant dash into the Rebel Pits at Rappahannock Station; the deadly hand to hand fighting in the Wilderness; its lone fight at Fort Stevens, with the victories in the Shenandoah Valley; and the crowning success, storming and carrying of the works of Petersburg. Over all of these scenes the Greek Cross waved proudly on the Banner of the Corps while its Veterans wrought deeds which linked that Badge with unfading Glory and renown."

Charles E. Stevens, (age 23 years, enrolled September 16, 1861, at Westport, N. Y. Mustered in November 23, 1861, as second sergeant A company; as Second Lieutenant March 8, 1862; as First Lieutenant December 26, 1862; as Captain July 26, 1864. Honorably discharged with company when Regiment was mustered out in the Defences of Washington, D. C., July 27, 1865, because the war was ended.) October 8, 1908, wrote the following to the Editor National Tribune:

"Every week you publish a sketch of several regiments, giving the names of their commanders, the divisions and corps to which they belonged; once in a while you designate

one a fighting regiment, as tho the others were not. I think that if a regiment happens to be in a fort or over a mine and gets blown up and loses half of its men, it is no more a fighting regiment than one that may be 20 rods from it and lose only 10 men.

"I will give you a little sketch of one that is not 'a fighting regiment.' I suppose there are hundreds of others in the same class that can equal or surpass it. The 77th New York left Saratoga Springs on Thanksgiving day, 1861; went to Washington and into camp on Meridian Hill. In February, 1862, we crossed the river, and were assigned to the Third Brigade, Gen. Davidson's, and Wm. F. Smith's Division. When Gen. McClellan transported his army to the Peninsula our regiment was with it. Then the Sixth Corps was organized, composed of Franklin's First and Smith's Second Division. We passed thru the siege of Chickahominy fever, and left with the rest of the army for the second Bull Run. We did not get very near the fighting line, as it took our corps three days to march to Centerville and only one night to get back to Alexandria. Then we marched thru Maryland, and our corps drove the rebels from Crampton Gap. From there we went to Antietam, and charged over the ground that had been fought over twice. Our regiment charged down toward the Dunkard Church. When Gen. Smith saw what a place we were in he said that the regiment had gone to -----.

Capt. Horton, Lieuts. Dennison and Skinner were wounded; our color bearer was killed, as were many others. We fell back, over the crest of a hill, and held the ground until about noon the next day, when we were relieved. But we were not a fighting regiment. Next, we were at Fredericksburg, crossed the river at

Franklin's Crossing, moved up to the front and held it until we recrossed the river. We also participated in the mud march. In the Spring, while Gen. Hooker, with the rest of the army, was at Chancellorsville, our corps crossed the river again and captured Mayre's Heights. Our regiment captured two guns and a rebel flag, and the colonel of the 18th Mississippi regiment and other prisoners and was complimented by Gen. Smith. Capt. Wheeler of our regiment was killed on the Heights. Our regiment was detailed to run the pontoons down to the river, while another was to man them. They crossed the river under fire and captured the works; but we were not a fighting regiment.

"We were at Gettysburg, our corps mostly in reserve, having marched 35 miles in a day to get there. After Gen. Lee recrossed the Potomac we were engaged in backing and filling, from the Rappahannock to Centerville, until it was decided to cross the river, when our corps captured the rebel works at Rappahannock Station, went out to Brandy Station and stayed there until we went to Mine Run. Thence we returned and went into Winter quarters; but when Gen. Grant decided to cross the Rapidan with his army he could not get along without our regiment, and we had to leave our comfortable quarters at Brandy Station and march into the Wilderness. When our right was turned, May 6, it all went back until it came to our regiment. Our left clung to the breastworks, the Third and First Divisions having gone back. Our right was at right angles to the works, forming the base for a new line. My orderly was wounded and went back a short distance, where we saw Gen. Sedgwick in an old road, with his hat in his hand and only one Aid with him. The Sergeant

said: 'General, I am wounded. Where is the rear?' Gen. Sedgwick said: 'Stay right where you are. I haven't any rear now, but will soon have one.' Capts. Smith and Winnie, Lieuts. Rowland, Fowler and Worden were wounded. Lieut. Rowe was captured. (He was recaptured after a few days.) You see, we were not a fighting regiment.

"At Spottsylvania the 77th was selected as one of the 12 regiments of our corps to charge the enemy's works, under Gen. Upton. The column carried the works, and captured almost as many men as there were in the charging column. We also captured a battery; but, not being supported, we were compelled to fall back and leave the works. Capt. Carpenter and Lieut. Lyon were killed and Capts. Deyoe and Rowland were wounded; but we were not a fighting regiment.

"The 77th was at Bloody Angle, where oak trees 18 inches thru were cut down by the artillery fire. Capt. Rugz, of our regiment, was killed. Over the works I counted 13 rebels who lay dead under a large limb of a tree that had been cut down by a shell from our guns.

"From there we went to Petersburg, where three men in my company each lost a leg from one shell. Each was named James.

"When Early was scaring Washington our corps was sent there to protect it. At Fort Stevens our brigade made a charge under the eyes of President Lincoln, and drove the enemy back a mile, every regimental commander in the brigade being killed or wounded; five of our regiment lie in the National Cemetery there; though we were not a fighting regiment.

"We then chased Early around for awhile, and Gen. Sheridan being sent



HENRY J. HURD.



COMMISSARIAT BROOKS.

up there to look after things, he found Early at Winchester. He drove Early up the Valley to Fisher's Hill, but did not let him stay long, not liking to have him so near. As Gen. Sheridan had been called to Washington Gen. Early thought he would interview the army while Phil was away. Our corps was lying at the right of the army, when, on the morning of Oct. 19, we were awakened by firing on our pickets and heavy firing to the left. Soon we were marched thru where teamsters were harnessing and hurrying to the rear. Men from the Eighth and Nineteenth Corps passed us, saying that Early had captured all except those who were hurrying to Winchester. We were marched over to the Winchester pike, and formed our line at the foot of a small hill, and were then moved back over the crest of the hill. I was sent out on the skirmish line with my company, and soon saw the enemy forming a line at the foot of the hill where we first formed. I reported to Col. French, and told him if we could give them a volley as they came over the hill and

then charge them we could drive them like sheep. They tried it three times, but could not get over the hill. Capt. Lennon was mortally wounded at that time. After the third time there was no infantry firing on our line, tho we got a terrible shelling from the enemy. It was at that time that Gen. Bidwell, of our brigade, was killed by a shell, and Capt. Orr, of our regiment, lost an arm. After awhile we were ordered to fall back, and our brigade kept their line as if on parade. We fell back, then were halted, faced about, marched a little ways to the front and threw up a few rails for a breastwork. After awhile we heard cheering down the pike, and saw an officer on a black horse, covered with foam, riding up the pike with one Aide. It proved to be Gen. Sheridan. He made some inquiries of Col. French, who was in command of the Brigade, and rode off to the right, between the skirmish line and line of battle. One could tell by the cheering how far he was up the line. After he had gone awhile there came an order for the men to

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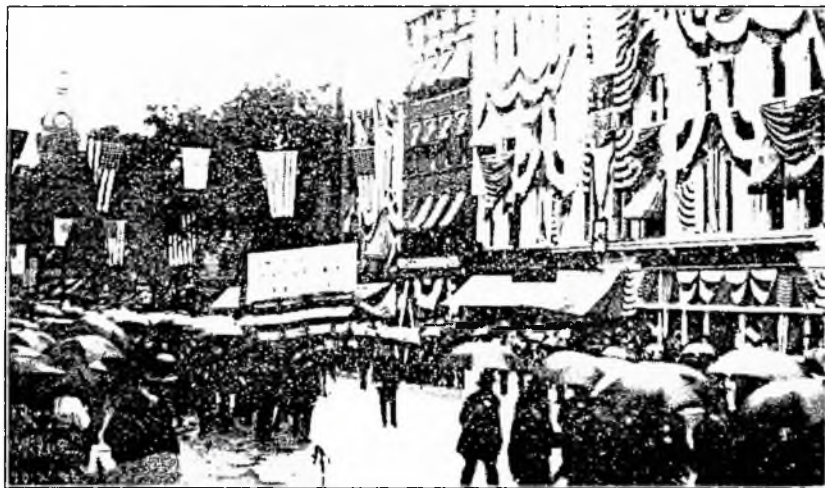
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THE PARADE AT THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT OF THE G. A. R.
AT SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7,
1907. THE LAST MARCH OF THE SEVENTY SEVENTH
REGIMENT UNDER COMMAND OF ITS FOR-
MER COLONEL W. B. FRENCH, BRE-
VET BRIGADIER GENERAL.

make coffee, as they had lost their breakfast. Later there came an order that there would be a general attack at 3 p. m., and that the men should sleep in their old camps. At the designated time we were up and after them. The left of our regiment was on the pike, and where our brigade was to advance the rebels were behind a stone wall and we suffered severely. Capts. Belden and Tabor and Adjt. Thomas were killed. Capts. Thompson and Ross and Lieut. Van Derwerker were wounded. We were not a fighting regiment—you see.

“As the battle of Cedar Creek destroyed Early’s usefulness there, the Sixth Corps was returned to Petersburg, where the Winter was spent in the trenches. When the rebels made

their attack on Fort Steadman in March, our Brigade, to relieve the pressure at that point, attacked the picket line in front and captured it. Capt. Oakley and Lieut. Pierce were killed.

“On April 2, 1865, our corps was formed in the rear of the picket line in echelon, the Second Division in echelon, the brigades in echelon; the First on the right and the Third on the left in echelon. The 77th and 49th New York were the point of the wedge. Axmen were ready to remove the abatis. At 4:30 a. m. the gun from Fort Fisher signaled the advance of the mighty wedge that was to pierce the formidable works that had confronted the Army of the Potomac for nearly a year. The works

were carried, and a message sent to Jeff Davis to "get out." Col. Caw and Capt. Clapp were wounded. But our regiment does not belong to Fox's noble 300, tho it stood in its place from the organization to the disbandment of an army that could stand up

and be knocked down many times and do just as good fighting as any other army ever did, until it finally came off conqueror—the grand old Army of the Potomac.—C. E. Stevens, Captain, 77th N. Y., Westport N. Y.

ACCORDING TO REPORT OF THE PENSION BUREAU

when we had our Reunion Nov. 23, 1911, (at which we celebrated our muster-in November 23, 1861.) the number of Pensioners on the U. S. roll Sept. 30, 1911	883,593	at our Reunion this June 26, 1915, (at which we celebrate our muster-out June 27, 1865) the number of Pensioners on the U. S. roll April 30, 1915	751,329
Gains to the roll in Oct.	1,846	1,582	Gains to the roll in May
	<u>885,439</u>		<u>755,911</u>
Losses to the roll in Oct.	4,537	5,196 ..	Losses to the roll in May
	<u>880,902</u>		<u>750,715</u>
Number on roll Nov. 1, 1911 ..	880,902	Number on roll June 1, 1915	750,715
Number of Civil War invalids		Number of Civil War invalids	
Sept. 30, 1911	521,899	April 30, 1915	401,796
Gains in Oct.	154	Gain in May	48
	<u>522,053</u>		<u>401,844</u>
Losses During Oct. 1911:		Losses During May, 1915:	
By death	2,717	2,819	By death
Other causes	10 2,727	2,889 70	Other causes
	<u>Number of Civil War invalids</u>		<u>Number of Civil War invalids</u>
on the roll Nov. 1, 1911 ...	519,326	on the roll June 1, 1915	398,955

By which we learn that in the three years and seven months 120,371 Boys-in-Blue of the Volunteer Army of the Union of 1861-65 have sung "We Are Coming, Father Abraham."

DINNER

By the Woman's Relief Corps, No. 65
To Surviving Members of the

SARATOGA REGIMENT of 1861-5

Saturday, June 26, 1915

—: MENU :—

Friccasseed Chicken		
With Biscuit		
Baked Pork and Beans		
Army Style		
Olives	Mixed Pickles	
Boiled Potatoes	Fresh Peas	
Lettuce	Tomato	Cucumber Salad
Apple Pie	Lemon Pie	
Chocolate Meringue Pie		
Assorted Cake	Jelly	
Ice Cream		
Bananas	Oranges	
Cottage Cheese		
Tea	Coffee	
Spring Water		

most considerately served by the following named members of the Corps: Mesdames Millie Ainsworth, Minnie Butler, Minnie Bassett, Lucinda Carpenter, Mae Clark, Ella Dietz, Anna Grooms, Mary Fosmire, Anna Isbell, Anna James, Hattie Leake, Ida Lockwood, Lillie Lincoln, Cordelia Mitchell, Libbie Norton, Iris Perry, Lizzie Prescott, Sarah Roberts, Sarah Simpson, Ross, Cora Saxby, Grace Shirek, Anna Walker, Addie Williams, Zoraida Young.

The above named women certainly lid themselves proud; not only in the good and appetizing menu, but in heir most excellent service, in which hey surely enjoyed themselves, acting as if it was not only a pleasure out an honor, in which they rejuvenated the "Old Boys" for the occasion.

Mrs. Young, a Past President of relief Corps No. 65, the efficient hairwoman of the Committee, im-

mediately after the blessing invocation, by Pastor Douglass, recited most effectively

THE BOYS WHO NEVER CAME BACK

Around this banquet board we met
In festive joy and pride,
To meet once more our Comrades dear
Who once marched by our side.
And as we join in feast and song
Let's not forget today,
Our Comrades brave, who by our side
Fell, in the battle's fray.

Comrades who fought in freedom's
strife

When treason pierced her side,
In the grandest cause earth ever knew
For which men fought, or died.
Some sleep, upon the battlefields
Some 'neath the cypress shade,
While others rest in unknown graves
In some far southern glade.

We never can forget them, boys,
While life and memory last,
Those brave true hearted Heroes
Our Comrades, of the past.
And so today we pause, awhile
In thought, and silent hush,
And drink, to the mem'ry of those
brave boys,
Who never came back to us.

So we rise in our places my Comrades
And swear with uplifted hand
That but ONE FLAG shall ever wave
O'er our beloved land.
And THAT FLAG just the SAME OLD
FLAG,

That was borne by white and black,
In the glorious strife for LIBERTY
By the boys who never came back.

So year by year as we shall meet,
And find some hearts are stilled,
Let us see that with sturdy Veterans
Sons,

The vacant chairs are filled,
So should again some traitrons band
This peaceful land distract,
They'll meet as brave and gallant men
As THE BOYS WHO NEVER
CAME BACK.

THE SARATOGIAN of June 30th
says:

DINNER SERVED BY W. R. C.

About seventy-five of the surviving members of the Saratoga Regiment, the 77th New York Regiment, gathered to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of their muster out, were entertained at dinner at 1 o'clock in the G. A. R. hall Saturday by the W. R. C. The tables were very prettily dec-

orated with flowers as also was the hall with flags and red, white and blue bunting. The women who served were dressed in white with the emblem of Victory floating above each head, presented to them by Secretary Fuller.

An excellent menu was served. Previous to the dinner, the Rev. George C. Douglass offered prayer, and Mrs. Zoraida Young, recited in an effective manner, the poem "The Boys Who Never Came Back."

Mrs. Young, past president of the W. R. C., and her committee in behalf of the W. R. C. wish to express their appreciation to all who in any way helped to make the affair a pleasant one.

ODE.

To the Seventy-seventh Regiment on Their Return From the War.

By Mrs. Mary C. Beecher.

"Brave soldiers, welcome, we hasten to greet you,
All fresh from the battlefield, weary and worn;
Come back to your homes where your loved ones await you,
And weep for the absent, as night weeps for morn.

Well we remember the day when you left us,
With numbers so full, and with spirits so bright;
All panting to win back the rights then bereft us,
And felt, for our Country, the burden was light.

We gave you the flag, and you vowed you would keep it,
From the proud Rebel's scorn and dishonor and shame.
That no traitor hand in the dust should e'er trail it,
But maintain, all unsullied, its glorious fame.

Alas! for the brave boys who went forth to battle,
Who lie 'neath the sod in Virginia's soil;
The death booming cannon, and war's thundering rattle,
Shall wake them no more to the warrior's toil.

Ah! say did the souls of our heroes, when winging
Their flight from this earth to their spirit's abode,
Hear the music of heaven, and sweet angels singing
Their glad welcome home, to the bosom of God.

So gladly three cheers for our heroes returning,
The brave Seventy-seventh, crowned, with laurels of war,
All covered with glory, their loyal hearts burning,
Let us shout long and loud a right joyous hurrah.

THE VETERANS' THANKS.

WE surviving members of the SARATOGA REGIMENT, the 77th NEW YORK INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS of 1861-65, in our forty-third ANNUAL REUNION most gratefully voice our appreciation in a unanimous vote for the courtesies to us by the excellent recitationist, the good pianist and sweet songstress—Miss Cunningham, Miss Rolls and Mrs. Andrus;

To the Sun Printing Company for their donation of the neat program, and other favors;

To Luther M. Wheeler Post, No. 92, G. A. R., for the use of their building;

To Captain Ranulf Compton of Company L, N. G. of N. Y., for the snare drum;

To Hon. William M. Martin for chairs;

To the Woman's Relief Corps, No. 65, and their friends for the most appetizing and palatable

dinner so generously given us, on the occasion of our celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of our Regiment's Muster-out, whereby it ceased to be an organization in the service of the United States in the WAR FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE UNION;

And on motion of Assistant Surgeon William A. DeLong, of Brooklyn, his Resolution was unanimously adopted:—

That the thanks of the surviving members of the Seventy-seventh Regiment, be and are hereby, extended to our Secretary, Edward H. Fuller, for his manifest and extraordinary interest in our organization, by which no doubt we have been kept together; the efficient manner in which he has performed his duties as Secretary, and particularly for his most excellent reminiscences of the part our Regiment took in those strenuous days of 1861-5.

BUTTON OF BRONZE.

Martha W. Almy.

BUTTON of BRONZE where'er I see,
Your modest face you speak to me
Of by-gone days, when life was young,
And love was sweet, and the heart was wrung.

BUTTON of BRONZE, thou blood stained star,
Thou callest to me from afar;
A-down dim vistas of the past;
I hear the call of bugle blast,
I see the wounded and the slain
Lie side by side, while freezing rain

Envelopes each like coat of mail;
See minie balls, like pelting hail,
Fall thick and fast; hear cannons roar
And cavalry charge, while battle soars
In clouds of smoke, with shot and shell
In raging an earth born hell.

BUTTON of BRONZE, too soon I ween,
Thy honored face will scarce be seen.
Relentless years are flying fast;
The summers heat, and winter's blast,
And blighting care are bending low
The manly form on which you glow.

Revered ensign, too soon we'll hear
The last roll call, and see the bier
Whereon the last dead hero lies,
Who offered life in sacrifice:
Too soon we'll follow to the grave
The last old soldier true and brave.

Then BUTTON of BRONZE, you'll only be
Of glorious past a memory;
A talisman, an amulet,
Of woman's charm with jewels set;
A treasure trove, escutchen rare,
With which none other can compare.