

We hope coal will soon find its way through the canals to this market, and that increased facilities for transporting it over the Railroads may be furnished, so that we may not freeze, even if we must pay such high rates for fuel.

Arrival of the 161st Regiment.

On Saturday evening a telegram was received from New York by the commandant of the Post, Col. LEWIS, that the 161st regiment had arrived in the city from Fort Jefferson, (Dry Tortugas,) and would leave Jersey City on a special train about six o'clock for Elmira. The train made good time, and reached this city yesterday morning a few minutes before seven o'clock. The regiment at once started for Barracks No. 3, where good quarters were assigned them. The regiment numbers fourteen commissioned officers and 336 men.— They were mustered out at Fort Jefferson on September 20th, and left there on the 25th.— After a tedious voyage of eleven days and a half, being obliged by orders to touch at Hilton Head, and being hindered much by high winds and repairs to the engine of the *Scott*, they finally arrived at New York about eight o'clock Saturday morning. One hundred and forty-five men, (mostly three years' recruits enlisted within the past year,) were left behind at Fort Jefferson, and were formed into a battalion of two companies, with four officers, viz: Captain M. B. Luddington and Lieutenants George Slater, R. R. Soper and James Everett. Captain B. F. Van Tuyl, Co. A, and Captain John F. Little, Co. F, intend to remain South, and went to Tallahassee, Florida, for muster-out of service.

The regiment came home under the command of Major Willis E. Craig, Lieut. Col. W. B. Kinsey being detained at Barrancas, Fla., by reason of being President of a Military Commission. He and Capt. Fitzpatrick, of Co. G, will come home by way of the Mississippi river, and will probably arrive sometime during the present week.

The regiment presented a fine appearance as it marched from the Depot to Barracks No. 3, to the inspiring martial music of its excellent drum corps. During the afternoon nearly all the men were granted passes to visit their homes, to return at noon on Wednesday, on the afternoon of which day, or the day following, they will be formally welcomed to the city by the Mayor and City Council, and partake of a dinner to be furnished by our patriotic ladies. The reception will take place at Barracks No. 3, and as it is the last one to be given to our returning home regiments, we are sure it will be equal to any of the previous receptions of our "gallant soldier boys." The 161st has seen much hard service, and has a proud record, having been regarded as one of the best fighting and disciplined regiments in the Gulf Department. Most of the men and officers have been absent from their homes for about three years.

The following is a roster of the present officers of the regiment:

FIELD AND STAFF.

Lieutenant Colonel—William B. Kinsey.
Major—Willis E. Craig.
Surgeon—William D. Murray.
Chaplain—William E. Jones.
Adjutant—John G. Harrower.
Assistant Surgeon—J. K. Stoddard.
Quartermaster—R. T. Alderman.

LINE OFFICERS.

Company A—Captain, B. F. Van Tuyl; First Lieutenant, John Gibson.
Company B—Captain, William H. Clark; First Lieutenant, Otis H. Smith.
Company C—Captain, R. R. R. Dumars; First Lieutenant, John Laidlaw.
Company D—Captain, James M. Cadmus.
Company E—No officers.
Company F—Captain, John F. Little; First Lieutenant, Baskin Freeman.
Company G—Captain, Edward Fitzpatrick; First Lieutenant, James Kelly.
Company H—Captain, William R. Prentice; First Lieutenant, W. W. Lindsay.
Companies I and K—No officers.

HISTORY OF THE REGIMENT.

The 161st regiment was mustered into the service at this rendezvous on the 27th of October, 1862, and left here on the 18th of November following, reporting to Gen. Banks at New York, and forming part of his expedition to New Orleans. The roster at that time was as follows:

FIELD AND STAFF.

Colonel—G. T. Harrower.
Lieutenant Colonel—Marvin D. Stilwell.
Major—Charles Strawn.
Adjutant—W. B. Kinsey.
Quartermaster—Marcus E. Brown.
Surgeon—Lewis Darling.
Assistant Surgeons—Joseph S. Dolson and Charles M. Pierce.
Chaplain—Thos. J. O. Wooden.

NON-COMMISSIONED STAFF.

Sergeant Major—Philip L. Beach.
Quartermaster Sergeant—Judson C. Bemis.
Commissary Sergeant—Rufus S. Alderman.
Hospital Steward—George M. Beard.

LINE OFFICERS.

Company A—Captain, Benjamin F. Van Tuyl; First Lieutenant, John Gibson; Second Lieutenant, S. S. Fairchild.
Company B—Captain, Horace B. Brown; First Lieutenant, George R. White; Second Lieutenant, William H. Clark.
Company C—Captain, R. R. R. Dumars; First Lieutenant, Orlando N. Smith; Second Lieutenant, Dennis D. Kniffin.
Company D—Captain, George E. Biles; First Lieutenant, James M. Cadmus; Second Lieutenant, T. Scott DeWolf.
Company E—Captain, Peter H. Durland; First Lieutenant, Robert J. Burnham; Second Lieutenant, George O. Howell.
Company F—Captain, John Stocum; First Lieutenant, John F. Little; Second Lieutenant, James Fancett.
Company G—Captain, Edward Fitzpatrick; First Lieutenant, John P. Worthing; Second Lieutenant, James Kelly.
Company H—Captain, Willis E. Craig;

First Lieutenant, Nelson P. Wildrick; Second Lieutenant, Byron Herrick.

Company I—Captain, Samuel A. Walling; First Lieutenant, Myron Powers; Second Lieutenant, Edwin A. Draper.

Company K—Captain, George M. Tillson; First Lieutenant, Matthew B. Luddington; Second Lieutenant, Henry O. Jewell.

The regiment numbered in the aggregate, at the time of muster, eight hundred and eighty-four, but owing to fevers which raged in camp just previous to its departure, the number of officers and men who left with the regiment was only about five hundred and twenty-five.

They left New York City on the steamship *Northern-Light* on the morning of the fourth of December, 1862, and arrived at Baton Rouge, La., on the seventeenth, which place was occupied by the forces under command of Gen. Grover, without resistance by the enemy, they having "skedaddled" on our approach.

The regiment was assigned to the third brigade, first division, Nineteenth Army Corps, and remained in camp there, undergoing instructions in the art of war until the fourteenth day of March, 1864, when they marched with their brigade, to within a few miles of Port Hudson; the object being to attract the attention of the garrison at that point, while Com. Farragut passed the batteries with a portion of his fleet.

The passing of the fort being successfully accomplished by him on the evening of the fourteenth, they retired to their camp at Baton Rouge, where they arrived after camping several days along the road.

They remained there but a few hours, when they embarked on a transport, and were conveyed to within four miles of Port Hudson, on the opposite side of the river. There they remained about a week, unable to accomplish anything on account of the country being overflowed with water, caused by a crevice in the levee, and returned again to their camp at Baton Rouge.

They then remained in camp until the twelfth of May, when they started on the Port Hudson campaign, where in the battle of "Plain-Store," on the twenty-first of May, and the "Siege of Port Hudson," from the twenty-seventh of May, to the eighth of July, at which time it surrendered. They were actively engaged during most of the siege in sharpshooting duty, and rendered efficient service in picking off the enemy's men at their guns. They were constantly under fire, but fortunately, were not engaged as a regiment in either of the two assaults upon the fortifications, which proved so disastrous to the lives of many brave soldiers in other regiments from this State. The regiment was strongly represented, however, in the storming parties of picked men, and lost several in the attempts to scale the walls of Port Hudson. Among those who gallantly sacrificed his life in this way, was Sergeant George G. Bingham, of Company C, of this city.

At this time the forces under Gen. Dick Taylor, were threatening Fort Butler at Donaldsonville, La., and the regiment was part of the force sent there to reinforce it. They left Port Hudson on the ninth of July, and were in the battle of "Cox's Plantation," on the thirteenth. They were under a very hot fire there, and when the forces were obliged to retreat, they hauled off the Sixth Mass. Battery by hand, by which means it was saved. The regiment fought bravely in this battle, and was the last to leave the field. The enemy followed about four miles, when for fear of the guns on the fort, they gave up the chase, and the next morning, could not be found—as usual—having, in turn, retreated. About one-quarter of the regiment, was missing when the rolls were called. After all stragglers were in, it was found that the casualties amounted to fifty-six, killed, wounded, and taken prisoners.

The rebels having left the country, the regiment again returned to the camp of Baton Rouge, which had been left standing, guarded by convalescents, the men having only their rubber blankets to protect them from the weather.

They remained in camp just one month, when it was broken up, the "wedge-tents" turned in, and "shelters" drawn. They left Baton Rouge on the second day of September, forming part of the expedition to Sabine Pass, Texas. That being unsuccessful, they returned to Algiers, opposite New Orleans, and on the sixteenth of September, started with the expedition up the bayou Teche. Returning from that expedition, they spent the winter at New Iberia and Franklin, La.

Breaking camp again on the 15th of March, 1864, they formed part of the Red River expedition. They then belonged to the First Brigade, First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, under command of Maj. Gen. Franklin, and were engaged in the battles of Sabine Cross Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River Crossing and Marksville. In the first they lost about one hundred men, killed, wounded and missing, being about one-fifth of the regiment. In the second they were held as reserves, and although being marched and counter-marched all over the battle-field, with shot and shell flying all around them, no one was injured. The last two were not men beside skirmishes, and only two or three men were wounded.

This campaign exceeded in severity and hardships any ever undergone by the regiment, before or since, and the rest which they obtained after arriving in camp at Morganza, La., was much needed by both officers and men.

This regiment was engaged, under charge of Col. Bailey, of the Sixth Mich. Vols., in constructing the famous dam across Red River, by which the fleet of gunboats was rescued, and in consequence thereof was detailed to form part of an Engineer Brigade, under command of Col. Bailey, who had then been breveted Brigadier General, as a reward for his success in constructing the dam.

The Engineer Brigade was sent to Vicksburg, Miss., where they remained in camp

one month, and were then sent to White River Landing, Ark., where they remained about a week, and were sent back to Morganza, where they were disbanded.

On the twentieth of August the regiment embarked on transports and was conveyed to Mobile Bay, expecting to participate in the siege of Fort Morgan, but it had surrendered just before they arrived. They remained in the vicinity of Mobile Bay until the second of September, when they were sent back to Morganza, where, under command of Brigadier General M. K. Lawler, they were sent out on various chases after rebel cavalry, which never amounted to anything, for infantry (although they were called "General Emory's Foot Cavalry") could not very easily overhaul rebels on horseback.

On the tenth of October they were ordered on a similar expedition about fifty miles up the river. They embarked on transports, and were conveyed to the field of operations, and after a chase of some fifteen miles, returned to the boats, the chase, as usual, amounting to nothing. When they returned to the river they found boats awaiting them with all their camp equipage, and orders for them to go—soldiers don't always know where they are going. They brought up at White River Landing, and remained there a few days, when Memphis, Tenn., being threatened by Forrest, they were sent there. When they arrived there, Forrest being somewhere else, they were kept going until they found themselves at Paducah, Ky., about fifty miles up the Ohio River. Here they remained about three days, when Forrest was supposed to be on the back track, and they were sent back after him. They disembarked at Columbus, Ky., a little mud hole about twenty miles below Cairo, where they remained just a month, watching for Forrest, but no Forrest came. The men began to think that Forrest was a humbug, and ought to be advertised for show by Barnum.

The officers and men had just completed good winter quarters, when some new organization must be gotten up, and they be sent to Memphis, Tenn., to be organized into the new organization. Here they were informed by the General commanding that they could "fix up" as much as they pleased, for they would remain there all winter.

Officers and men were immediately attacked with "lumber-on-the-brain," and some six thousand dollars were expended to build good winter quarters, which good quarters were used just two weeks. The General's winters were rather short of duration, at least, so thought the 161st.

They were lucky in being assigned a large transport, and were able to take most of their lumber with them. They again built up at White River Landing, where they remained another two weeks, when they were ordered to New Orleans. This time the lumber had to be left behind. Six thousand dollars were expended by six hundred men, for what they were able to use only four weeks!

They left White River Landing on the 8th day of January, 1865, on the U. S. Transport *John H. Dickey*. All went nicely until the evening of the 9th, just after dark, when the *Dickey* collided with the U. S. Transport *John Raine*, carrying away the port guards and wheel-house of the *Dickey*. Three men were drowned and twenty-three wounded, several of whom died from the effects of their injuries. The *Raine* was not injured, and the regiment was transferred to it and proceeded to Kennerly, about twelve miles above New Orleans. Here they were assigned to the Third Brigade, Reserve Corps, M. D. W. M., where they survived mud and water for just one month—they remained but one month in one place—when they were ordered to Dauphin Island, Mobile Bay.

Here the army was again re-organized, and they were assigned to the Third Brigade, First Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, under command of Major General Granger. They left Dauphin Island on the 17th day of March, and participating in the campaign which ended in the evacuation, Mobile, Ala. They were the first to enter that city, and were put on picket the first night, which was that of the 12th day of April.

They had a very pleasant camp in Mobile until the 22d day of May, when they, with the 82d U. S. C. I., were ordered to Appalachicola, Fla., to garrison that place. They remained there several weeks, and were then transferred to Fort Jefferson, (Dry Tortugas,) with orders to relieve the 110th regiment, then doing duty there. The regiment remained at Fort Jefferson until the 25th ult., when, as before stated, they left for Elmira for discharge and pay. Since the regiment left Elmira in November, 1862, it has traveled about fourteen thousand miles.

The only commissioned officer ever lost to the regiment, either by death from ordinary disease or in action, was Lieut. L. Edgar Fitch, of Co. C, of this city, who was killed at the battle of Sabine Cross Roads, on the 8th day of April, 1864. He was a young man of christian habits, with prospects for the future bright and promising. Enlisting at his country's call, he went forth as a private soldier to battle for freedom and Union, to uphold the most beautiful flag that was ever given to the breeze; our own bright Banner of the Stars. Earning his promotion by diligence to his duties and meritorious conduct, he lived to enjoy it but little over one brief month, when by the hands of some rebel sharpshooter he was stricken down in the prime of youthful manhood, mourned by all his regiment, and by many friends at home.

The Navy Department has caused to be made and presented to Lieut. CUSHING, the gallant hero who blew up the rebel ram, *Albatross*, a model of the Torpedo with which the daring act was accomplished. This is a deserved compliment to a brave and efficient officer. It is also stated that the Lieutenant will get \$30,000 as his share of the prize money from that transaction.

C. G. FAIRMAN. S. B. FAIRMAN. L. CALDWELL.

THE ELMIRA ADVERTISER.

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Is published every Saturday.

Price \$2.50 per year, or \$2.00 if paid in advance

'Here shall the Press the People's rights maintain
Unawed by influence and unbribed by gain,
Here shall the Press its patriot colors flow,
Devoted to Religion, Liberty and Law.'—*Story.*

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THOMAS HILLHOUSE.

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For Senator:

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County Nominations.

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ISRAEL McDANOLDS.

For District Attorney:

JABEZ R. WARD.

For Superintendent of the Poor:

WILLIAM H. NEISH.

For Justice of Sessions:

NOBLE WELLER.

JUDICIAL CONVENTION.

A Convention will be held at the Lewis House, in Binghamton, on Wednesday, the 18th day of October, at 1 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the office of Justice of the Supreme Court, to be supported by the Union Electors of the Sixth Judicial District, at the approaching election.

F. M. FINCH, } Committee
S. BUNDY, } for calling the
L. SEYMOUR, } Convention.
Dated Oct 2, 1865.

A Gala Day in Elmira!

A Joyful Welcome to Our Returned Braves.

Reception of 161st Reg't, N. Y. V.

Parade, Dinner, Speeches, &c.

Yesterday was a gala day in Elmira. The day dawned cold and cheerless, but warm hearts and the cordial greeting extended to our returned braves, rendered the outside temperature very endurable, and made the twelfth day of October, 1865, one that will long be remembered by citizens and soldiers. It was the last opportunity that would be offered to our citizens to show their appreciation of the bravery and heroism of our gallant soldiers, and right willingly and gladly did they set themselves to work to prepare a fitting reception for this, the last of a long list of regiments that have left our midst, to fight the battles of the Union, and uphold our glorious banner on the bloody fields of the South. The regiment paraded at their quarters at Barracks No. 3, at 10 o'clock. They were there joined by the mounted officers of this Post, and such citizens of Elmira and vicinity as wished to do honor to this brave body of men. The procession formed and passed over the following route:

Down Water Street to Lake, up Lake to Church, down Church to William, up William to Clinton, up Clinton to Baldwin, down Baldwin to Church, up Church to Columbia, down Columbia to Water, up Water to the Barracks.

During the march, the highest praise was bestowed upon the regiment: the martial bearing of the men, their fine appearance, and the admirable discipline visible everywhere, could not fail to win admiration from all. This, joined to a knowledge of their heroic deeds, caused their appearance to be greeted with enthusiasm.

At the Barracks, the ladies, aided by the detailed cooks, had been preparing for the banquet to be given to the brave boys. The

long mess-room had been gaily decorated, and the tables were teeming with choice viands. Here and there, around the room, to the beams and walls, mottoes had been fastened. Close to the door by which the regiment would enter, and the first to meet their eyes, was hung a canvass containing

"Welcome to the 161st."

Then came the names of SHERMAN, EMORY, BANKS and SHERIDAN, each recalling brilliant recollections of times and deeds now passed into history. Then a tribute to the brave dead, lying beneath the sod of Louisiana, who fell at Port Hudson, or who gallantly yielded up their lives in defence of their country's honor at Sabine Cross Roads:

Sweet sleep the brave who sink to rest,
With all their country's honors blest.

Beneath this was a tribute to both dead and living:

"We honor the brave."

Following this came a welcome to the gallant heroes of the Southern Tier:

With lofty cheer
We welcome here
Our gallant boys in blue.

In the centre of the room hung the name of CANBY, and on the right a canvass displayed the magic name of GRANT.

The tables presented the gorgeous appearance of a fairy scene. The tables literally groaned beneath the weight of good things. — Boquets of choice fall flowers were placed at intervals, and tempting fruit, choice cake, pies, jellies, &c., were in such great profusion that it was appetizing to gaze upon them. The ladies had worked hard, and as they rested from their labors for a few minutes preceding the arrival of the regiment, and surveyed the works of their loving hearts and willing hands, they could feel justly proud of the magnificent welcome they had prepared for the gallant men of the 161st N. Y. V. All honor to the noble women of Elmira, who have devoted themselves to the service of the soldier during the war, and who now greet him with smiles and words of gladness, and such joyful welcomes as that of yesterday. Their names will be handed down to posterity, and those who have felt their kindness will never cease to love and respect them.

All being in readiness, the regiment were marched from their quarters, and entered the dining hall to the fine music of the Band of the 1st Veteran Reserves. With military order and decorum they took their places at the table, remaining silent and attentive while Chaplain JONES returned thanks to God for his mercy, for their safe return, and for the bounty spread out before them. The business of the day then commenced in good earnest. The men attacked the delicious repast spread before them with an ardor and relish that only those know who have experienced the hardships, and endured the fatigues and hunger of a soldier's life. Elmira's fairest matrons and daughters were there, attentive to their every want, ready and willing to meet each and every demand upon their services. How they enjoyed the feast, they alone could tell, and we think they could scarcely describe their feelings of pleasure and happiness.

But all things transient must come to an end, and the dinner to the 161st, after the capacity of the men had been stretched to the utmost, was concluded. Each veteran was satisfied. For once in their campaign the 161st were defeated. The array of food provided for their entertainment, outlasted their capacity to contain it, and they gave up the contest. DANIEL F. PICKERING then called the party to order, and requested the Band to play a patriotic air. They responded with "Hail Columbia." Mr. PICKERING then announced that Hon. TRACY BEADLE would deliver an address of welcome, and introduced that gentleman to the regiment. Mr. BEADLE spoke as follows:

SPEECH OF HON. TRACY BEADLE.

Officers and Soldiers of the 161st:—On behalf of our fellow-citizens here present, and of a vast constituency that cannot meet with us to-day, but whose hearts are overflowing with gratitude to you and your brave associates; on behalf of our common country, you have so nobly served, I tender to you a hearty welcome. Welcome! thrice welcome to you, brave members of the 161st. We welcome you to your friends and homes. You come to us with honors earned on many a battle-field. We meet you with demonstrations of joy for your return to us, and a pride in all you have done and suffered for your country, as we come to meet you and look up on your faces and the badges of your regiment, our thoughts go back to the days of 1862, when, at your country's call, you left business and friends, family and home, and went forth to untrodden fields of duty and peril. Well do I mind the day you wheeled out of these grounds, with a bearing and ardor many battle-fields has not damped or subdued. Long shall we remember that day, as with tearful eye, and a "God bless you" on every tongue, we bade you good-bye. But not when you had passed from our sight did we cease to think of you. In the dread hour of battle, when armies met in deadly strife, with bated breath, we strove to catch the distant sound, and shrank as we thought of volley after volley, leveled at our brave ones. Eager we listened to know how it fared with you, to know who fought, who fell, who bravely, nobly, did his duty. No; you have never been forgotten in the long weary years of absence, though far away; too far for any here to visit you and minister to your wants, or help you in your labors and perils. Warm hearts have ever beat in sympathy for you, and many willing hands would gladly have aided you in the dark and trying hours you have passed. Port Hudson, Sabine Cross Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cape Vinct, Marksville, the Red River campaign—histories of heroism and patient endurance, gave us, alternate joy and sorrow; pride in our regiment and sadness in its losses.

Officers and soldiers of the 161st, now about to lay aside the trappings and implements of war, we welcome you to our midst, and as you take again your place among us as citizens, we say "Well done," hard and fearful has been your task, sternly and manfully have you met it. Nobly and bravely have you carried that flag, the emblem of our honor and nationality, on many a bloody field. As you went out from this spot it floated bright over your column; to-day you return it untarnished, no star erased, but torn and pierced, as the regiment whose standard it is. Roll up its torn and tattered folds. The history of your service is written there, a record of honor and victory—and a glorious victory. One of right over wrong, of freedom over oppression, of law and order over conspiracy, treason and rebellion; eye, and of the sturdy freemen of the

North over the boastful chivalry of the South. You went forth with the army of the Republic to maintain the honor and integrity of our country, or perish in its ruin. To vindicate the law, sustain the Constitution of our country in all its requirements and completeness.

The courage and bravery of that army, of which you are a part, has achieved the glorious result, and a grateful country will never forget the service, or cease to honor its brave defenders. Long hung the scale. To human eyes that looked only on the marshalled host, the result seemed in doubt. But the loyal patriot heart of the North, trusting in the justice of our cause, trusting in the brave ones gone to battle, but, above all, trusting in the God of battles, never doubted, never faltered or failed.

Officers and soldiers of the 161st, your term of service has about expired. The tiresome days and weary nights have rolled around the expected day when you should be welcomed home. Well have you served, nobly have you performed the duties imposed. Called from the peaceful pursuits of life, your hands all unaccustomed to the deadly weapons, you speedily became a soldier that challenged the admiration of the world. The gallant exploits, the steady endurance of our army, has rarely been equalled; never excelled. Now about to lay aside your arms and mingle again in society as citizens, let it be seen that as soldiers you have learned to be the better citizen; that prompt obedience to law is alike the duty of soldier and citizen. That "mustering out" is another name for mustering in the citizenship, and that you value its privileges as those only can who know, as you do, the cost.

Carefully preserve and treasure up the records, relics and memorials of your soldier life. In coming years they will be more precious to your descendants than legacies of land or hoards of silver. Any man may acquire money or possess lands, but who can now earn the laurels—the honors—the fame that belongs to you and all who have discharged their duty in this war to save our country.

We may not, officers and soldiers, forget, in this hour of grateful acknowledgement, the brave ones who went out with you not to return. Who gather not with us to-day—who fell in the discharge of their duty, far away from home and loved ones, they closed their eyes with the consolation that they had done all that man could do—had given their lives to their country. In some lone glen or wild hill-top you perchance in sadness and sorrow laid their remains, and the home circle, broken and made dark by the accursed rebellion mourns anew their loss to-day. And as the eyes of the father, wife or child, moves along your line and finds not the familiar face, tears flow afresh for him who bore the same badge and moved in the same column with you. Thank God so many of you are preserved to return to us, and as you bear to the bereaved ones their last words, that spoke of love to them and devotion to their country, add a tribute to their worth as you can only give in words of sympathy and consolation. And a grateful country will ever cherish their memory—printed page and sculptured urn, and lofty arch, shall tell of their acts and commemorate their deeds to ages yet unborn.

Fellow— I was about to say fellow-citizens, and I will say so. I have known some of you as such and trust the relation is long to continue. Fellow-citizens; We have a country we always loved, such another lays not beneath the sun; its broad and fertile acres extend from Ocean to Ocean; from the frigid North to the sultry, sunny South. The home of the free, and the asylum of the oppressed of every race and nation,—yet we always loved it, loved its free institutions and equal laws. Let us, now give it a more deep and ardent affection, not alone for its past history, the sacrifice it cost to found it, but more now for the wealth of blood and treasure poured out to preserve it against the murderous assaults of traitors. Love it for all you have done and suffered in this war for freedom. Love it, because never in a brighter, truer light, we read, and may read all over this land, that self-evident truth, that "All men are created free and equal, and are to their Creator endowed with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." See to it, fellow-citizens; that this costly boon of free government and free institutions, is transmitted a rich legacy to the millions who shall after us enjoy this land.

And by all the blessed memories of the past deeply engraved on the foundation of this government; by all you have suffered in this conflict; by the mighty dead strewn on every battle-field; by all the hopes of a glorious future of this United States, let us to-day remember the vow, each to the other, come weal, come woe, come life, come death; this Union now invincible must and shall be preserved.

The address was eloquently delivered and was warmly applauded throughout. At its conclusion Major CRAIG, commander of the regiment, said:

Ladies and Citizens of Elmira:—On behalf of the 161st regiment I tender my sincere thanks to you for this splendid dinner, and for the reception you have given us; to the officers of the post for their kind and courteous manner, and to Dr. Beadle for his eloquent address of welcome, and he trusted that the few days which the regiment would remain here, their actions would be such as to keep up the good reputation they have earned on many a hard fought battle-field.

Dr. LINCOLN was then called on, and made an able speech, referring to the past history of the regiment, and welcoming them home. His remarks were frequently interrupted by the applause of his hearers.

Chaplain JONES, was the next speaker, and he proved his worth as a chaplain by the most excellent address, which he delivered. He proposed cheers for the welcome and for the ladies, which were given with a will. He then offered as a toast "The Ladies of Elmira." Ever distinguished for their devotion to the soldier, as well as their beauty of person and manners. Long will they be remembered.

This toast was responded to on behalf of the ladies by Mr. CALDWELL, of the DAILY ADVERTISER.

Cheers were then given for Chaplain JONES; Generals WEITZEL, EMORY and AUGUR, and for Dr. LINCOLN, after which the soldiers were marched to their quarters, the citizens returned to their homes, and the festivities of the day came to an end.

The thanks and blessings of the soldiers were showered upon the heads of the loyal and benevolent ladies who were instrumental in providing so bountifully for their wants. The day will never cease to be remembered by any who witnessed or took part in the ceremonies of the Welcoming of the 161st.