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NEW ~~YORK~~ STATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center
San Juan Avenue
Bath
Steuben County
New York

HABS No. NY-6339-A

HABS
NY
SI-BATH
IA-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Northeast Region
U. S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HABS
NY
51-BATH
1A-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

HABS No. NY-6339-A

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29

LOCATION: Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center
San Juan Avenue
Bath, Steuben County, New York

USGS Bath Quadrangle
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
18.306454.4691019

PRESENT OWNER: Department of Veterans Affairs

PRESENT OCCUPANT: Building 29 - vacant, to be demolished, 1993
Building 29A current designation of Southern
elevation Building 29, Domiciliary.

SIGNIFICANCE: Originally Building 29 was a component of the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home. The entire facility, Building 29 inclusive, has been under federal control since 1929 and is currently a Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Building 29 served as the hospital for this facility from 1880 to 1938. During the period from 1938 to 1961, the building was utilized as a nurses quarters, Domiciliary, Print Shop and Art Therapy. In 1961 the entire building with the exception of the southern section was vacated as structurally unsafe for occupancy. The southern section was re-designated as Building 29A, and remained as quarters until 1988. In 1988, Building 29A became a Chemical Dependency Unit, a component of Domiciliary Operations, which is the current status as of this writing.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION:

A. Physical History:

1. Dates of Erection

Initial construction 60 ft. x 80 ft.
Construction initiated June 1879

First addition 33 ft. x 126 ft.
Construction initiated May 1881

Final additions -
Construction dates not available
Article dated May, 1883 provides a description of
the hospital completely constructed.

2. Architect: Warner and Brockett, Rochester

3. Original Owner - State of New York

Building 29 was erected on land purchased in 1877 from private
individuals by the Grand Army of the Republic to establish a
New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home.

Subsequent Owner: United States of America

May 1, 1929 - Transferred to the Federal Government and became unit
of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers
May 1, 1930 - U.S. Veterans Administration.

The following details name changes under the United States
ownership

1946 - Veterans Administration Center

1978 - Veterans Administration Medical Center

1990 - Department of Veteran Affairs

New York State Soldiers'
and Sailors' Home,
Building 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 3)

References to the change of title to the land upon which the structure stands are in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, Steuben County Clerks Office, County of Steuben, Bath, New York.

- 1876 Deed, December 14, 1876, recorded in Volume 157, p. 333, William B. Ruggles and Caroline B. Ruggles to the Grand Army of the Republic Soldiers Home of New York
- 1877 Deed, January 31, 1877, recorded in Volume 156, p. 448, Henry H. Brother, Mary Ann Brother, Mary Brother, and Valentine Brother to the Grand Army of the Republic Soldiers Home of New York
- 1933 Deed January 23, 1933, recorded in Volume 445, p. 188, The People of the State of New York to United States of America.

4. Builder, Contractor, Supplies:

The contractor for the initial construction beginning June 1879 was awarded to Mr. Cooley S. Chapin, Buffalo, New York. Thomas Fogarty, Bath, New York was the contractor for the addition which began May 1881. Previous buildings erected using stone from quarries on the property for foundations, basements and rock face arches. Walls of previous buildings were constructed of Horseheads brick, a village approximately 30 miles east of Bath, New York. Even though there is no evidence that these sources of materials were utilized for the construction of Building 29, there is no reason to believe contrary. No other information on builder, contractor or supplies was available. Although it is interesting to note that the veteran residents of the facility, referred to as inmates, were made available to the contractors as laborers.

5. Original Plans and Construction:

The original two story structure was a sixty by eighty feet brick building and is the northern section of the current structure. The ground floor consisted of dining rooms, sergeant and surgeons rooms, bathroom and kitchen. The upper floor contained ward space with accommodations for seventy patients. There were no other original plans or construction data available.

Original building was constructed with a wood frame porch all around Wing A at first and second floors. Porch was wood joists, tongue and groove flooring, wood posts, and all wood roof structure deck. Roofing material was slate. Small wood structure entrances were constructed at east side of Wings C, D, E, and G.

New York State Soldiers'
and Sailors' Home,
Building 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 4)

A wood structure cover was constructed over dock type entrance at north side of Wing G. Small wood, covered porches (entrances) were constructed at north side of Wing B and south side of Wing D.

6. Alterations and additions:

The first addition was accomplished in May 1881, being a two story structure 33 ft. by 126 ft. The new building was attached to the south of the original structure. The building contained three (3) more wards 30 x 40 ft., and six smaller wards 15 x 16 ft. Rooms were provided for the attendants, sergeant and a dispensary. A covered veranda was constructed on the front ends. This addition increased the total capacity of hospital to 120 patients. No record was found to determine when the subsequent additions were initiated, although the entire structure was apparently totally complete by 1883.

The veranda surrounding the southern elevation of Building 29, currently designated Building 29A, was removed with the exception of that portion existing at the time of this writing. The date of this demolition is unknown, estimated between 1909 and 1938.

A veranda attached to the northern most elevation of Building 29 was also removed at an undetermined date. Corridors to Building 30 were also removed between 1909 and 1938.

Wood entrances at east side of Wings C, D, E, and G have been removed. The small wood covered entrance at north side of Wing B and south side of Wing D have been removed.

Two minor additions were accomplished after the completion of the building in 1883. The first was a construction of fire escapes completed in 1909. In 1928 a fire protection sprinkler system was installed throughout the building. In 1938 a bathroom was constructed between Wing C and D. Alterations to the interior included in the construction of eight (8) recovery rooms in 1909. Ward A and B of the southern elevation of Building 29, currently Building 29A was converted to Nurse quarters in 1938.

B. Historical Context

1. Historical Context - Facility

The first attempt to found a Soldiers' Home in New York State was begun by ex-Governor Edwin Morgan in 1863, resulting in the State Legislature passing an act to incorporate it on April 24, 1863.

New York State Soldiers'
and Sailors' Home,
Building 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 5)

However, when the trustees canvassed the state they discovered there were few soldiers or sailors whose friends would allow them to be admitted to an institution. The project, therefore was abandoned.

A prolonged second effort was made to the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) beginning in 1872. That year, another act was passed incorporating the New York State Soldiers Home which was to be created and maintained by the State. Ironically, no funds were appropriated for this project. When considerable time passed and still no funds were forthcoming, the GAR decided to appeal directly to the public and received donations amounting to \$100,000.

A committee was formed to evaluate potential home sites among which were Watkins, Penn Yan, Lake Keuka and Bath. The deciding factor for Bath was the fact that the Bath area had donated \$23,000 for the project, far more than other locations. On Wednesday, June 13, 1877, the streets of Bath were congested with thousands of visitors from the surrounding countryside. On that day, the cornerstone of the N.Y.S. Soldiers' and Sailors' Home was laid. The first member, Civil War veterans sat down to Christmas dinner in 1878. The GAR presented the facility to the State of New York in 1878 when the state agreed to operate the home among its charitable institutions. From 1878 until 1929 the institution was operated by the State of New York as the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home. During that time only residents of New York State were admitted. In 1929, the property was deeded from the State of New York to the United States of America, becoming part of the Veterans Administration. From 1929 to present, the institution has been owned and operated by the United States of America.

2. Historical Context Building 29

The N.Y.S. Soldiers' and Sailors' Home was established in 1877 on a scenic location of 374 acres of farmland commonly referred to as the Ryder Farm. Several buildings were constructed, which along with the original farm buildings, comprised the N.Y.S. Soldiers' and Sailors' Home. The construction of Building 29 began in 1879 and was completed after several construction phases in 1883. The building functioned as the facility hospital until 1938. The southern section of the building was converted from wards to nurse quarters in 1938. Hospital patients were all transferred to the current hospital Building 76 in 1938. The northern section of the structure was used for arts and crafts and a print shop from 1938 to 1961. The central portion of structure was utilized as barracks housing one hundred (100) residents from 1938 to 1961.

New York State Soldiers'
and Sailors' Home,
Building 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 6)

In 1961 the entire building with the exception of the southern section was vacated as structurally unsafe for occupancy. The southern section was designated as Building 29A and remained as quarters for nurses or other staff with twenty (20) available rooms. The last staff member vacated the building in September 1988. Building 29A was re-designated as a Chemical Dependency Unit in November 1988 with a capacity of 25 residents. Building 29A remains a Chemical Dependency Unit, a component of Domiciliary Operations this writing.

Building 29 has remained vacant since 1961. In 1963, the Veterans Administration Central Office Construction Service, Washington D.C. recommended condemnation. In 1980, the Inspector General recommended that the building be demolished. Inspection in 1982 and 1991 revealed that the building was not in compliance with the Life Safe Code NFPA 101 and is a Fire/Safety hazard. This structure, Building 29, will be demolished in 1993. The southern elevation, Building 29A will remain preserving the architecture and frontal appearance of all buildings on San Juan Avenue.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character

The structure is a multi-wing building with brick walls, stone basement, and wood frame gable roof in a simple, unornamented style. The windows have brick arches and stone sills. The walls are sixteen inch thick brick with interior walls being lath and plaster. Interior floors were tongue and groove boards with ceiling being composed of stamped tin.

2. Condition of Fabric

Building 29A is the southern section of Building 29 and was re-designated "29A" in 1961. The exterior shell of this structure is in good condition. The interior is in need of renovation to replace floor joists and reconstruct with fire-resistive construction.

The remainder of the structure remains designated as Building 29. The exterior and interior are both in poor condition. The walls and floors are structurally unstable, being deteriorated to the point of collapse. Building 29 is currently abandoned as a fire/safety hazard and structurally unsafe for occupancy.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions:

Overall dimensions for building are 160'w x 330'l to all outermost extremities. Building is configured of seven (7) Wings A - G. Wings A, E, F, & G are 2 story. Wings B, C, and D are one (1) story. The building has a full basement throughout. The basement height is 7'-0". The main corridor runs from front to back. The wings extend outward on both sides of corridor. Wings are approximately 30' wide and extend 40' on the east and 80' on the west side of corridor. Distance between wings is approximately 20'.

2. Foundations:

Foundation walls are laid up stone 20" thick. Foundation walls are mortared. Building is constructed on elevation sloped from west down to east. Foundation wall is above water table. Foundation windows are 3' x 2' and are wood frame, single pane. Lintels and sills are cast concrete.

3. Walls:

Exterior walls are red clay brick, 16" thick with plaster over inner walls. Exterior is flat and straight. Brick are laid in courses with cast concrete sills and two (2) course brick crown over windows in Wings B, C, D, and E. Wings A, F, and G have cast concrete sills and three (3) course brick crown. (Top and bottom courses are black face brick.) Wings F and G have decorative courses comprised of three (3) courses of alternate red and black face brick at top and bottom of the windows between masonry openings. (Reference Exterior Photographs)

4. Structural Systems, Framing:

First floor joists are supported at sill plates by stone foundations. Interior intermediate supports in basement are 21" x 21" brick columns. First floor joists are 3" x 12" - 16" O.C. (Rough Cut). Interior partition walls are wood stud 16" O.C. with lath and plaster both sides. Second floor joists are 2" x 10" - 16" O.C. Attic floor joists are 2" x 10" - 16" O.C. First floor ceiling height is 12'8" and second floor ceiling height is 10'0".

5. Porches, Stoops, Balconies, Bulkheads:

The only remaining porch is located at south side of Wing A. Porch is constructed of wood joists, tongue and groove flooring, wood posts and all wood structure roof deck. Roofing material is composition shingles. Entire porch is screened in.

6. Chimneys:

A rectangular brick chimney was constructed from basement through roof in Wing G. Chimney was supported by concrete foundation. Walls are 14" thick. The chimney is non-architectural and has been terminated below attic roof.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways are rather plain. Jambs and casings are constructed of painted pine with no design or decoration. Exterior doors are mostly six panel painted pine. Some are with window top and two panel bottom. All have deadbolt locks. Hardware is stamped metal knobs and plates and painted steel butts.

b. Windows are all double hung, single pane wood frame with rope sash cord balances. Windows are generally 4\4. Wings A, B, C, D, E are 6\6. The only hardware is a single sash lock at meeting rails of top and bottom sash. Window trim is very plain and is painted pine.

8. Roof:

a. Roofs over Wings A, B, C, D, and E are gable and are tied together over connecting corridors with gable roofs. Roof over Wing F is gable also. Roof over Wing G is hip configuration. Roof construction is rafters with random width board decking. Roofing material was originally slate. However, replacement asphalt shingles have been applied to Wings A, F, and G. (slate removed).

b. Rakes and eaves are open in all areas. Rake supports are plain 2" x 4", underside of roof boards are exposed and trim board at rake is plain pine. All are painted white. Overhang at eaves is open. Rafter tails or extensions are curved. There are no fascia boards. All is painted white. Some areas have metal gutters and downspouts painted white. Wing A has copper gutters and downspouts. Wings B, D, F, and G do not have gutters and downspouts.

c. There are four (4) dormers in the attic of Wing A, and two (2) on the south side and two (2) on the north side located opposite each other mid-way on each wing and centered over windows below. Windows are double 4\4 and roofs are gable to match main roof. There are five (5) dormers in the attic of Wing G. Dormers are located two (2) on east side, one (1) on north side, one (1) on west side and one (1) on south side. Windows are double 6\6 and roofs are hip to match main roof.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plans:

Floor plans have been photographed and are included with this writing. Building is constructed with wings extending east and west from main corridor. There are seven (7) wings, three (3) of which are two (2) story.

Wing A was originally designed with two (2) wards on first floor, each having a main ward, two (2) offices, a recovery room and three (3) bathrooms. An open stairway with handrails and railing provides access between floors. The railing extends from first floor to second including railing around opening on second floor. Railing is constructed of balusters and top rail.

An operating room was constructed at first floor level between Wings A and B.

Wing B consisted of a ward with a recovery room on one side of corridor and a reading room, laboratory, drug room and a dispensary on the other side.

Two (2) toilet rooms were constructed between Wings B and C on east side of corridor and one (1) toilet room was constructed between Wings B and C on west side of corridor.

Wing C was built with a ward with store room on one side of corridor and ward with recovery room on other side.

A linen room accessible from the corridor and a toilet room were constructed on west side of corridor between Wings C and D.

Wing D was constructed with a ward with recovery room on each side of corridor.

Two (2) toilet rooms were constructed between Wings D and E on east side of corridor and one (1) toilet room was constructed between Wings D and E on west side of corridor.

Wing E was constructed with a ward with a recovery room on each side of corridor on first floor. Second floor was comprised of two (2) large wards with two (2) toilet rooms between.

A closed stairway to basement and a closed stairway to second floor were accessible from west side of corridor at Wing E.

Corridor between Wings E and Wings F and G turned perpendicular to the east.

Wing F consisted of bathroom comprising 1/3 of space and laundry comprised 2/3 of space.

An open court area existed between wings F and G.

Wing G originally housed a maining dining room, trustees'

dining room, officers' dining room, kitchen with two (2) pantrys and two (2) cold storage rooms. This wing also included a closed stairway to basement and a closed stairway to second floor. Also an enclosed corridor provided access to and from adjacent barracks about 30' away from north east corner of this wing. Second floor consisted of nine (9) rooms plus a toilet room. Also a closed stairway provided access to attic.

2. Stairways:

Stairways to basement and second floors exist in Wings A, E, and G. Stairways to attics exist in Wings A and G. The only open stairway is in Wing A and is previously described. Stairways are not ornamental.

3. Floorings:

Flooring throughout is basically wood tongue and groove (matched). Some of the bathrooms have ceramic tile flooring, a few have vinyl tile flooring. Wing A has sheet vinyl flooring over tongue and groove wood flooring in non-toilet areas.

4. Wall and Ceiling Finish:

Wall finish in all areas is paint on plaster. The only variation is the second floor corridor in Wing G. In this area there is vertical tongue and groove wood wainscot from floor to 40" above finished floor with top cap. Wainscot is painted. Ceilings throughout all wings are decorative stamped metal of various designs and patterns. These type ceilings were prevalent in the era. All metal ceilings were painted over.

5. Openings:

a. As with the exterior doorways, the interior doorways are plain. Jambs and casings are constructed of painted pine with no design or decoration. Most interior doorways have a transom window above, hinged at the bottom. Doors are constructed with six horizontal recessed panels. Doors are painted.

b. Interior window trim is plain, flat and painted. Window trim and casings are non-ornamental. There is one (1) skylight in corridor ceiling at Wing B. Light is peaked to match corridor roof and is approximately 9' x 16' between Wings B and C. There is a 4' x 4' skylight in the bathroom located in Wing D on west side of corridor.

6. Decorative Features and Trim:

There are no significant decorative or ornamental features in this building. Built-in cabinets or utilities are non-existent. There were not and are not any fireplaces.

7. Hardware:

There are no notable hardware or accessories which were original or existing.

8. Mechanical Equipment:

a. Latest heating system was cast iron radiators throughout. These are typical units and have no historic value. This was probably the original heating system also. Steam originally and in later years was supplied by main boiler plant. Ventilation was accomplished by natural means (windows, doors, vents over doors).

b. Lighting was accomplished by hanging light fixtures in each area (corridors, rooms, and bathrooms). Fixtures consist of translucent white glass globes hung approximately 24" from ceiling by 1/2" diameter tubing.

c. Plumbing systems consist of hot and cold water supply and drain lines. Hot water heaters were located in building basement. Cold water and steam were supplied from boiler plant. A complete sprinkler system was installed throughout building in 1928. Hot and cold water lines are galvanized. Drain lines are cast iron and vent lines are galvanized. Steam supply and return lines are black iron. Sprinkler lines are black iron.

d. This building was not designed with, nor were any special systems added.

9. Original Furnishings:

No original furnishings or accessories of historical interest remain in or are part of this building.

New York State Soldiers'
and Sailors' Home,

Building 29

HABS No. NY-6339-A

(Page 13)

D. Site:

1. The main entrance to building was and is on the south. Grade is higher on the west side and slopes down to east side. Building is approachable from south by steps and from west, north and east by roadways. West side is protected by sharp, rising hilly terrain.

2. There exists no historical landscape design or complements including trees or shrubbery. Further, there is no evidence that there ever was.

3. No outbuildings are or were ever associated with this building.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Architectural Drawings:

Original drawings were not available. Alteration drawings are available at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Bath, New York, Engineering Service. Historically significant alteration drawings have been photographed and included with this writing.

B. Historical Views

Photographs and reprints of photographs were the only medium available of historic views. There were no records available referencing the artist, date, publisher, etc. The photographs located were all photographed and included with this writing. All photographic material is located at the Department of Veterans Affairs Bath, New York, Museum Building 42 with the exception of a document located at the New York State Library in Albany, New York. The document is referenced: New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Bath, N.Y. Indelible Photographs, Library Call No. 362.8 W828. Duplicate photographs depicting views of the subject structure are included with this writing.

C. Interviews: No interviews conducted.

New York State Soldiers'
and Sailors' Home,
Building 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 14)

D. Bibliography:

1. "Soldiers' Home Notes," The Steuben Courier, 26 June 1879.
2. "Soldiers' Home," The Steuben Farmers Advocate, 18 May 1881.
3. "In The Hospital, A Morning at The Soldiers' Home," The Steuben Courier, 4 May 1883.
4. "Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, New Buildings to be Erected-A description of this Proposed Changes," The Steuben Farmers Advocate, 9 May 1879.
5. Col. John A. Hadley, "Veterans of all Wars Cared For Here, Facility Now National Home," The Steuben Courier, 16 July 1943.
6. "Local News," The Steuben Farmers Advocate, 11 May 1881.
7. "Local News," The Steuben Farmers Advocate, 25 May 1881.
8. "Soldiers' Home, Laying of the Corner Stone", The Steuben Courier, 14 June 1877.
9. "Soldiers' Home," The Steuben Farmers Advocate, 31 January 1879.
10. "The Soldiers' Home, The Contract Awarded for the Erection of Additional Buildings," The Steuben Farmers Advocate, 6 June 1879.
11. "Local News," The Steuben Farmers Advocate, 20 June 1879.

E. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated:

Mr. Greg Plunges, (Phone 212-337-1300) New York Regional Branch of the National Archives, reviewed Board of Trustees meeting minutes from 1881 to 1883. He reported that the print was faded, thus not legible. Information referring to the Department of Veterans Affairs, Bath, New York is referenced as follows:

National Archives, New York Regional Branch
National Home for Disable Volunteer Soldiers
Record Group 15, Entry 13

New York State Soldiers'
and Sailors' Home,
Building 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 15)

The following locations were researched by the writer and were found to have historical information regarding the subject structure. These sources are referenced for the readers convenience if further research is pursued.

Department of Veterans Affairs Historical Museum
Building 42
Argonne Avenue
Bath, New York 14810 Phone-607-776-2111

Davenport Public Library
Cameron Park
Bath, New York 14810 Phone-607-776-4613

Bath Historical Society
James Hope, Village Historian
88 Geneva St.
Bath, New York 14810 Phone-607-776-3582

F. Supplemental Material:

For the readers convenience copies of historically significant newspaper articles referenced in the bibliography have been attached to the end of this written documentation.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Department of Veterans Affairs Bath, New York has been approved for a project entitled, Demolition of B-29. The project is to be completed in 1993. The project has been approved by Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office in Washington D.C. Historic approval has been obtained through a Memorandum of Agreement with: The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Places; The Presidents Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Washington D.C.; and the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Bath, New York. This writing is being submitted in accordance with the aforementioned Memorandum of Agreement and the National Park Service - Mid-Atlantic Region, Philadelphia, Pa.

New York State Soldiers'
and Sailors' Home,
Building 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 16)

The project will totally demolish and raze the structure with the exception of the southern elevation currently designated as Building No. 29A. Demolition will include razing the foundation, walls, floors, ceilings, and roof. Restoration of the site will include fill, top dress, and seeding.

Prepared by: Richard R. Barrett
Title: Chief Engineer
Affiliation: Department of
Veterans Affairs
Bath, New York
Date: June, 1993

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29

HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 17)

The Courier.

BATH, N. Y.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1877.

Page 1 of 8

SOLDIERS' HOME.

**LAYING OF THE CORNER
STONE!**

Addresses by Henry Ward
Beecher, James Tanner
and Sherman S. Rogers.

**15,000 PEOPLE
PRESENT.**

**Tremendous En-
thusiasm.**

**SEMI-ANNUAL ENCAMP-
MENT OF THE G. A. R.**

**A DISPATCH FROM THE
PRESIDENT.**

THE BANQUET

**THE AFTER-DINNER
SPEECHES.**

**A HISTORY OF THE SOLDIERS'
HOME MOVEMENT.**

Description of the Buildings.

The laying of the Corner Stone of the Soldiers' Home, which was begun last fall on the location near Bath, selected by a Committee of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of New York, has been an event eagerly looked forward to by the members of the Semi-Annual Encampment of this order, the citizens of Bath and surrounding places, and thousands of those throughout the state who have at heart this great project of establishing a home for the noble boys who so gallantly responded to their country's call in her hour of peril, and who are now, through injuries received in the service, or on account of adverse circumstances, objects of public charity on the streets or in county almshouses.

At the Annual Encampment of the G. A. R. in New York, last winter, it was decided that the next Semi-Annual Encampment should be held at Bath, at which time the corner stone should be laid. Subsequently, last Wednesday, the 13th day of June, was fixed upon as the date. The Encampment, however, began on Tuesday, the 12th.

Before proceeding further, we will give **BRIEF HISTORY OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC SOLDIERS' HOME OF NEW YORK.**

The public generally may not be aware that any effort has ever been made to establish a Soldiers' Home in the State of New York, previous to the chartering of the present G. A. R. Soldier's Home of N. Y., and before attempting to give any account of the work which has resulted after years of patient and hard labor in the chartering of the present Home, and the pushing forward of the work to its present satisfactory condition, and the laying of its corner stone, it seems eminently proper and desirable to make mention of the previous efforts which have been made to establish in this State an institution in which our needy and injured soldiers and sailors could be properly cared for and maintained.

The first attempt was made by ex-Gov. Edwin D. Morgan, in the year 1861, immediately after his term of office had expired.

Gov. Morgan and others procured the passage of an act by the Legislature, on the 21st of April, 1863, to incorporate "The Soldiers' Home," the following persons being designated therein as the incorporators:

Gen. Winfield Scott,	Isaac Sherman,
Gen. Geo. B. McClellan,	William Kelly,
Gen. John E. Wool,	John A. King,
Washington Hunt,	John T. Hoffman,
Frederic Korman,	John Anderson,
Millard Fillmore,	David Deane, Jr.,
August Belmont,	James B. Nicholas,
Wm. D. Astor,	Wm. Cassidy,
Benj. N. Huntington,	Dean Robinson,
J. Sullivan Tappan,	James J. Parker,
Gen. Francis Vinton, D. D.,	Wm. Curtis Nyce,
John M. Brewer,	George Dawson,
George Doach,	John A. Avery,
John Dowditch,	Samuel Allen,
David Hummel,	Gen. James S. Wadsworth,
Charles F. Wood,	Thomas H. Felt,
Thomas V. Olcott,	Brant Johnson,
William E. Dodge,	John Stryker,
A. B. Coeager,	John B. Hart,
Erastus Corning,	Henry Ottensell,
Charles F. Daly,	John Kelly,
Nathan C. Ely,	John F. Sherman,
John H. Guaid,	Daniel F. DeLoreau,
Robert F. Getty,	Charles Wood,
George Denton,	Elas E. Holmes,
Governor Kemble,	Peter Rowe,
Oswald Ottendorfer,	George O. Scott,
Harrison Plou,	Wm. C. Heston,
Edwin E. Morgan,	H. E. M. John,
Gen. Updike,	J. Dean Hewitt,
Lockwood L. Doty,	J. Oslay Vanuierpool,
David DeWitt,	Alexander Stewart,
Edward Dowd,	Gen. C. W. Sanford,
Wm. A. Wheeler,	St. Rev. Bishop Hughes,
Joseph Mullin,	Gen. D. Vanoson,
Amos B. James,	Robert H. Minton,
Robert Lansing,	Her. Morgan Dix,
Wm. H. Ferry,	Marin Dever,
Peter A. Porter,	Wm. Ely, Jr.,
Eliza W. Leevesworth,	Frederic Holland,
Samuel O. Andrews,	Thomas Stephens,
Peter Casper,	

Great interest was manifested in carrying out this project, and handsome and most liberal contributions were offered by Governor Morgan, Mr. Lenox, the late Mr. Wolfe, of New York city, and others. The work would undoubtedly have been carried forward, and the Home then erected, had not the trustees upon examining the State in order to learn how many inmates it would then be necessary to provide accommodations for, discovered that there were but few soldiers or sailors whose friends would allow them to become inmates of an asylum. Obtaining this information, the trustees folded their arms, believing that the time had not then arrived when a Soldiers' Home was needed.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A

(Page 18)

Page 2 of 8

SECOND EFFORT.

The second effort was made by the Grand Army of the Republic, which organization annually sent a committee from its Encampment to the Legislature, asking that some action be taken in regard to this matter. In the year 1873, through the personal efforts of Gen. Henry A. Barnum, then commanding the Department of New York, G. A. R., the Legislature passed an act incorporating "The New York Soldiers' Home," which provided that said institution should be created and maintained by the State. The following are the persons named therein as trustees of said home:

Henry A. Barnum,	John Hammond,
Geo. C. Boisson,	James McQuade,
Henry W. Elocum,	Wm. F. Rogers,
Wm. Johnson,	John B. Murray,
James Jordan,	Wm. M. Gregg,
John H. Marsden,	David C. Stoddard,
Clifton D. McDougall,	J. B. Kiddoo,
Timothy Sullivan,	Adolphus Nolte,
Geo. G. Carmichael,	N. M. Curtis,
Joseph Forbes,	James E. Jones,
Edmund L. Cole,	

The act however failed to provide any appropriation, and none was made. On account of the diversity of opinion as to where the institution should be located, and from other causes, although each annual encampment of the G. A. R. in the year 1873 and 1874 sent a committee to the Legislature for that purpose, no appropriation was ever made, and the trustees became discouraged.

It was at this time that a feeling became manifest among a few of the members of the G. A. R. of appealing directly to the people for aid to build and establish a home for the disabled soldiers and sailors who were or might be debarred the privilege of entering the homes provided by the National Government. With this object in view, E. C. Parkinsoo, of Brooklyn, procured subscriptions of \$100 each from the following persons:

John B. Norris,	C. F. Dixon,
John F. Henry,	Wm. D. Kingsley,
A. S. Barnes,	J. S. T. Stranahan,
B. B. Magerty,	Philip S. Crooke,

all citizens of Brooklyn. The first having been obtained January 4th, 1875, and the others within a few days thereafter. Said subscriptions having been made upon the condition that at least \$10,000 should be pledged before payment thereof would be required.

At the Annual Encampment of the G. A. R., Department of New York, held at Rochester, January 20th and 21st, 1875, in accordance with a recommendation made by E. C. Parkinsoo, Department Inspector, in his annual report, a committee of fifteen comrades was appointed to consider the feasibility of establishing a Soldiers' Home and to report at the next semi-annual encampment, the following persons having been appointed such committee:

John D. Murray,	M. S. Moss,
Stewart J. Woodford,	L. W. Faxe,
Henry W. Elocum,	E. J. Loomis,
George H. Sharpe,	B. A. Willis,
Wm. F. Rogers,	E. L. Cole,
E. Jardine,	James E. Curtis,
E. C. Parkinsoo,	John Palmer,
T. J. Quinn,	

The report of said committee was, that 100 acres of land lying on Lake Keuka would be given by the citizens of Penn Yan and vicinity. No positive action was taken upon the report of the committee and it was discharged. At the annual encampment of G. A. R., Dept. of N. Y., held at Albany, January 25th and 26th, 1876, the following persons were appointed a committee with power to add six additional names, having full power to take such action as in their judgment might seem proper in regard to the establishment of a Soldiers' Home, and to fill vacancies, &c.:

Seymour Dexter,
William F. Rogers,
Frank H. Sheppard,
J. A. Lewis,
K. L. Cole,
J. H. Curtis,
E. B. Green,
A. K. Nash

E. C. Parkinsoo,
B. F. Pliny,
Willard Bullard,
L. W. Faxe,
C. B. Becker,
M. F. Sheppard,
K. L. Fox.

On the day of their appointment the members of the committee met in Albany, and proceeded to effect an organization. Mr. J. H. Curtis and C. B. Becker declining to serve, Jno. Palmer and S. P. Corliss, of Albany, were appointed to fill the vacancies.

The following committee was appointed on organization and plan; Seymour Dexter, Willard Bullard and R. L. Fox.

A committee on location was also appointed. The bill of incorporation was drafted by Hon. Seymour Dexter, of Elmira, presented in the Assembly by Hon. Eugene B. Gere, of Owego, and taken charge of in the Senate by Hon. L. Bradford Prince, of Queens County. The bill was duly passed and signed by the Governor, Samuel J. Tilden, on the 15th of May, 1876.

By the terms of the bill of incorporation the above committee of fifteen, with six other gentlemen to be by them selected, together with the Governor and Comptroller of the State and the Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic of the State of New York, formed the first Board of Trustees.

A meeting for the selection of the six additional trustees and the organization of the Board was held at the headquarters of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of New York, 111 Broadway, New York, on the 1st of June, 1876.

At said meeting John F. Henry and Henry W. Sage, of Brooklyn, Henry W. Bellows, of New York city, Chas. G. Craft, of Albany, Farley Holmes, of Penn Yan, and Frederick Davis, Jr., of Watkins, were duly chosen as the additional trustees; and thereupon the Board was duly organized by the election of E. C. Parkinsoo, President, J. A. Lewis, Secretary, and John F. Henry, Treasurer.

Committees were appointed on plan of organization and location. The committee on location were directed to give notice to all places in the State desiring to offer inducements for the site of the Home, to send to the committee their proposals by the 15th day of July following; and that the committee would meet in the city of Elmira on said day for the purpose of visiting the various localities from which proposals were received. Proposals were received from the citizens of Watkins, Penn Yan, Lake Keuka and Bath. Several days were spent by the committee in carefully examining all these locations, and the various advantages and inducements offered by each. After mature deliberation the committee reported to the board at a meeting held in the city of Elmira June 14th, in favor of Bath. On the report being made and much discussion arising, it was decided that the entire Board of Trustees should visit the sites offered by Bath, Lake Keuka and Watkins, which was done forthwith; and at an adjourned meeting held at Watkins, on June 25th, the report of the committee was adopted.

The location offered by the citizens of Bath was a farm situated about one mile west of the village of Bath, on the Connecticut river, known as the Rider farm, consisting of two hundred and twenty acres. In addition to said farm the citizens of Bath donated the sum of six thousand dollars in cash toward the erection of the buildings.

A meeting of the committee on plan and organization was held at Bath during the last week in September, 1876, at which time it was decided to invite Architects to submit plans for the proposed Soldiers' Home Buildings to an adjourned meeting of the committee to be held at Bath on the 10th of October following. It was determined that three buildings should be erected, two buildings each about 125 feet long by 30 wide, and a third building 125 feet long and 60 wide—all to be three stories in height, built of brick with suitable trimmings. In accordance with such decision of the committee, a circular was issued and sent to all Architects who desired to compete in the presentation of plans, at said adjourned meeting. Plans were submitted by the following named Architects: I. G. Perry, of Binghamton, M. E. Beebe, of Buffalo, John Y. Cuyler, of Brooklyn, L. J. O'Connor, of New York city, — Craft, of Saratoga Springs, W. H. Hamilton, of Utica, Warner & Cutler, of Rochester; none of the plans proving entirely satisfactory, further consideration of the same was postponed until October 26th, at which time modified plans were submitted by Messrs. Warner, Cuyler Beebe and Perry. After full consideration of said plans, those submitted by Messrs. Warner & Cutler, of Rochester, were accepted, and Mr. Warner was duly employed as the Architect for the erection of the buildings.

In November a stone quarry was opened upon the farm from which sufficient stone for all the foundations, and all the cut stone, excepting window sills, were obtained and placed upon the ground,—the cutting of the stone continued during the winter. All the sand used in the construction of the buildings is obtained on the farm. About the middle of April, 1877, ground was broken for the buildings, much of the materials for the same having already been delivered.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDINGS—FROM THE PLANS OF A. J. WARNER, ARCHITECT, OF ROCHESTER.

The group of buildings, when completed, will consist of a dining hall 60x125 feet, two buildings for barracks 30x125 feet each, located one on each side of the dining hall, and a building in the rear, one story high, containing laundry, bath-rooms, boiler and engine-rooms, and rooms for coal.

The dining hall will be the principal central building of the group, fronting south with a pavilion on each of the main front corners, rising to a height of one hundred feet from the ground. The principal entrance will be in the centre between the pavilions, covered with a *porte cochere* projecting 16 feet.

The first floor will be 22 feet high from floor to ceiling without columns, and will be used as a dining room, with a kitchen and bakery directly in the rear of the same.

The second floor will be 14 feet high and

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 19)

used as barracks. The main entrance to upper floor will be in one of the pavilions. The room in the other pavilion will be used as headquarters until such time as other buildings are erected for that purpose. A lobby will fill the space between the pavilions.

The buildings for the barracks will be on each side of and parallel with the dining hall and 60 feet distant therefrom. The front of these two buildings will project beyond the front of the dining hall about 60 feet.

There will be an entrance in the center on each side of the dining hall and walks extending across the courts between the buildings and connecting with the entrances at the rear of the barracks. These two buildings will be three stories in height, of 14 feet each in one room on each floor, without columns (except at the ends a strip will be taken off for stairways, wash rooms, for clothes). The height externally, to the line of cornice will be the same as the center building. A veranda 3 feet in width will be constructed on all sides of both buildings.

The interior finish throughout will be wainscoted up three feet from the floor and plastered above. There will be cellars under the three buildings eight feet high.

The walls of the buildings above the cellars will be 16 inches thick, built of horse heads brick. The treatment of the exterior is quite simple, the ornamentation being chiefly of brick, laid in ornamental patterns, made prominent by staining and pointing. The windows are grouped and covered over in some cases with heavy rock face arches, making them a leading feature. Brick arches are also used quite freely.

The wall of the dining hall building from ground line to top of water table, a height of 4 feet, will be of rock face stone, laid on courses. This stone is taken from the quarries on the farm. This quarry will also produce a sufficient amount of stone to make the rock face arches firm. The window sills and caps will be obtained elsewhere.

The roofs will be quite steep. Those on the barracks will have a gable treatment. The roof on central building will be similar, but owing to the increased width over the other two buildings, must, of necessity, have a double pitch or deck roof, and will be relieved with gables over the projections.

The eaves will project over the walls without gutters. The cornices will generally be quite plain. All the roofs will be covered with slates.

The buildings will be warmed by steam heat, partly by direct and partly by indirect radiation. The indirect will be used for the purpose of obtaining good ventilation. Ventilating shafts will be constructed at either end of all the buildings.

The water supply will be from springs on the high grounds, taken into a reservoir to be built, and conveyed thence to the different buildings through pipes, to be laid in the ground. Mr. J. Y. Culyer, C. E. of Brooklyn, has made a thorough investigation and reports an inexhaustible supply in all seasons.

SEWERAGE.

Ample sewerage has been made from all the buildings and connect with a main trunk sewer, constructed with 12 or 15 inch vitrified tile pipe extending down the road and into the creek some 2000 feet distant from the buildings. A fall in this distance of nine feet has been obtained.

THE LOCATION OF THE BUILDINGS.

The officers of the Board of Trustees decided to locate the buildings on the west side of the road facing nearly south or towards the main farm house, which is to be the headquarters when the buildings are completed. The easterly building of the group will be nearly parallel with, and about 20 feet distant from the west line of road.

Up to this time subscriptions, including land, aggregate nearly \$300,000.

The estimated cost of property and improvements completed, and ready for occupation, is about \$400,000.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

The following gentlemen constitute the Board of Trustees for 1877:

The Governor of New York; the Comptroller of New York; James Tanner, Commander G. A. R., Department of New York; E. C. Partridge, Brooklyn, N. Y.; J. A. Lewis, Brooklyn, N. Y.; John F. Barry, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Henry W. Sage, Brooklyn, N. Y.; E. W. Bruentghausen, New York; Louis Schiam, New York; Sinclair Tausser, New York; John Palmer, Albany; E. L. Johnson, Albany; E. P. Corin, Albany; E. L. Cole, Troy; R. L. Van Scoyck, P. M. Shop, N. Y. City; L. W. Faxon, Boscawen; Seymour Dexter, Elmira; W. F. Rogers, Buffalo; M. P. Sheppard, Penn Yan; Farley Holmes, Penn Yan; A. M. Shea, Geneva; William Hunter, Bath; Ira Thompson, Bath.

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD.

E. C. Partridge, President; J. A. Lewis, Secretary; William Housley, Counsel; John F. Barry, Treasurer.

MEETING OF THE ENCAMPMENT AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

At 11:30 Tuesday morning the members of the Encampment of the G. A. R. formed a procession at the Nichols House, and proceeded by Gruninger's Band marched to Purdy's Opera House. Capt. John F. Little, of Bath, called the meeting to order and introduced John Davenport, Esq., President of the Village, who welcomed the members of the Encampment to Bath, and extended to them the hospitalities of the place. Commander James Tanner, responded by thanking the President, and paying a high compliment to the hospitality of Bath. He said that the G. A. R. assembled at this time with deeper feelings than ever before, as the height of their ambition, so far as their organization was concerned, was about to be attained—a temple was to be raised which should perpetuate the memory of those who saved the State and Nation from destruction after further appropriate remarks, which were enthusiastically received. He proposed that the Encampment should sing "Marching Through Georgia," which was done with an enthusiasm only known among old comrades who had sung it during the dark days of the Rebellion around the campfires or on the dreary marches.

Gruninger's Band next played their melody, which was loudly applauded. General Tanner taking for three cheers for the Band which was lustily given.

Loud calls were now made for Gen. Rogers, of Buffalo, General John C. Robinson, of Binghamton, and Col. Baxter of Bath, who were escorted to the stage. Col. Baxter was called out for a speech, and made one of the most appropriate and thrilling addresses we have ever listened to, referring to the old army life, the present condition of the disabled and needy soldiers, and speaking of the Home which was now building for them. He was interrupted by frequent applause. In conclusion, referring to the fact that General Tausser had so nearly lost his Deputy-Collectorship through an inadvertence and had been so triumphantly vindicated, said that like Sheridan in the valley of the Shenandoah, he had turned defeat into glorious victory. Following this was the wildest scene of enthusiasm we have ever seen on any similar occasion. The Grand Army boys rose to their feet as one man, and cheer followed cheer, as they waved their hats and threw them into the air, some working off their enthusiasm by pounding the floor with their canes. Gen. Tausser came forward, visibly affected by this demonstration in his favor, and said that when he came here and found how his comrades did feel on the subject, he concluded to say a few words to them in regard to it. He would repeat what an old comrade in arms had said to him on Sunday—"Let it be distinctly understood that while I am President of the United States, no worthy, competent, disabled soldier shall be removed from office."—Great applause greeted this patriotic utterance, and some one proposed three cheers for President Hayes, which were given with a will. We suppose that all of our readers are acquainted with the fact that General Tanner lost both legs in battle.

Those not connected with the G. A. R. then withdrew and the Encampment went into executive session at 12:15.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE ENCAMPMENT.

The Encampment was then opened in due form, when the following officers answered to their names:

- James Tanner, Dept. Commander
- Constantine Nittriche, Senior Vice Com.
- Oscar Smith, Junior Vice Com.
- Gen. B. Squires, Assist. Adj. General
- E. W. Bruentghausen, Quar. Mast. Gen.
- E. W. Partridge, Inspector Gen.

The roll was then called, and about one hundred and fifty delegates answered to their names. Seventy-five Posts were represented out of one hundred and six in good standing in the state.

Commander Tanner then submitted a brief oral report of what had been done by the Department during the past six months, and particularly congratulated the members present upon the success which had crowned their labors in behalf of establishing a Home for the thousands of sick and disabled New York soldiers scattered throughout the State and Union.

The report of Assistant Adjutant General Squires was next read. It was a brief recapitulation of the condition of the several Posts of the State, and as a whole, represented them as in a flourishing condition, but complained of the negligence of Commanders in not forwarding their reports to

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 20)

Page 4 of 8

headquarters. Three posts have surrendered their charters during the year, including Bingham Post, No. 77, of Wellsburg. The report was referred to a special committee, consisting of Commanders John K. Perley, C. Nitzsche, William Runsey, Oscar Smith and Samuel Minnes.

The report Quartermaster General Bruceinghausen was then read, and its recommendations concurred in.

Inspector General Rogers submitted the following, which was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, that the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of New York, in semi-annual encampment assembled at Bath, on the occasion of laying the corner stone of our New York State Soldiers' Home, send fraternal greetings to their comrades of olden times, who now so completely fill the office of President of the United States, and wish him all possible success in all his public and private relations.

The resolution was adopted with cheers, and Adjutant General Squires requested to telegraph a copy of the same to President Hayes.

Comrade Perley, after stating that he had been opposed to erecting the Soldiers' Home at Bath, offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, that the thanks of this Encampment and the comrades of the G. A. R. generally of this State, be extended to the Board of Trustees of the Soldiers' Home for the indefatigable manner in which they have labored in securing for the disabled and aged veterans of this State, a permanent home other than that of the county house. And be it further

Resolved, that the said Board of Trustees of the Soldiers' Home have our entire confidence in selecting as desirable a location, and that their work in that interest is fully applauded by us all.

After the transaction of some other business of minor importance, a resolution of some other business of minor importance, a resolution of thanks to Custer Post and to the citizens of Bath generally, for the hospitable manner in which the members of the Encampment had been entertained by them, was adopted by a rising vote and three rousing cheers.

At two P. M., the Encampment adjourned *sine die*.

A DISPATCH FROM THE PRESIDENT.

On Wednesday, the following dispatch was received from President Hayes, in reply to the one given above, which was telegraphed to him by the Encampment:

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 12, 1877.

To James T. ...

Department: Commander, G. A. R.

Accept my hearty thanks for your encouraging dispatch just received, and assure the comrades assembled in my grateful recognition of their confidence.

R. B. HA. Es.

THE BANQUET GIVEN AT THE FAIR HOUSE
BY POST CUSTER.

Large numbers of people came in on the evening train, and a few minutes after the arrival of No. 1 from New York, the procession formed at the Nichols House, with Greisinger's Band at the head, and marched to the banquet hall.

The preparations for the grand banquet were made in the County Fair House, the Opera House proving too small for the emergency. An experienced decorator from New York had charge of the trimmings of the hall, and under his skillful hands, the building grew more beautiful than one acquainted with its usual appearance would think possible. Lines of burning reached from the centre of the building at the top to the galleries. Flags were disposed tastefully over the front of the galleries, and with the array of beauty above them, and of flowers and good things below, the hall presented a most animated and attractive appearance. Six long tables occupied the floor. Flowers, contributed by the fair hands of the ladies of Bath, graced the board, while the more substantial and less aesthetic portions of the entertainment delighted the eyes of those who were to regale themselves. Jas. Messerschnitt furnished the supper, and that is equivalent to saying that everything was of the best. Certainly the hearty attention given to this part of the entertainment spoke more than many words for the excellence of the viands. The coffee seemed to answer the place of the sparkling champagne, excellently. We can say from experience that the strawberries and ice cream went to just the right spot. The scene was lighted up by three chandeliers depending from the roof, having twenty-four lights in each. These illuminated the hall completely.

Besides the delegates, a large number of ladies and gentlemen partook of the refreshments. Between four and five hundred must have sat down to the tables. Everything passed off in the pleasantest and most orderly style, for which great credit is due to Dr. Dolson, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, and to the guests themselves, who keenly appreciated the good things both material and mental. The gustatory part of the program having been gone through with to the satisfaction of every one, Comrade Cole, of Troy, who acted as toast-master, called the meeting to order and began the feast of reason and flow of soul.

THE TOASTS

[The following summary of the toasts was written up by Judge G. H. Hollister, from shorthand notes taken by him on the festive occasion.]

To the first toast "The President of the United States." Hon. Sherman S. Rogers, of Buffalo responded in an enlightening speech, which at once put the banqueters in rapport with that great and beneficent spirit of *After Dinner*, the friend of the human race and the perfecter of civilization, who delights to hover with heart-warming influences in the banquet hall where Dulces and Spite dare not enter. The latter ugly passions could only roost, last night, on the top of Rattlesnake Mountain, and covously hiss, when the lights of the many windowed hall in the valley below throbbled in sympathy with the electric currents of eloquence and wit that played above the flower laden tables within.

Mr. Rogers referred humorously to his arbitrary arrest by "the first civic officer" of the village as soon as he alighted from the train, and complained that he was thrust in to the first omnibus upon which his Honor could fasten his clutches, and was sent forth with up to Agricultural Hall with the despotic orders to attend the "banquet" and respond to the toast to the President of the United States. To his inquiry when the "banquet" was going to begin to "banquet" he was given to understand that the feast was already smoking. When called upon to respond for the President of the United States in five minutes, no more and no less, he feared least he should repeat the experience of Artemus Ward who advertised as the title of a lecture: "Sixty Minutes in Africa." The lecturer talked his sixty minutes but failed to say a single word about Africa. The speaker however, avoided such an accident by attacking his subject in a very spirited and happy style. An allusion to a President of the United States now receiving in a foreign country the respect due to the man who had maintained the honor of the United States, was received with tremendous applause, and three rousing cheers for General Grant. The official position of the President of the Republic as the first civil and the first military officer of the nation was referred to, and his just claim to be honored as the official head of the nation—the chief of the best government under the sun, was presented in a few nervous words and received with hearty applause.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS NO. NY-6339-A
(Page 21)

PAGE 5 OF 8

To the second toast, "The State of New York," Gen. John C. Robinson, of Binghamton, ex-Lieut. Governor of the state, was appropriately called to respond. The subject, he acknowledged, was a great one to be disposed of in five minutes. He however faced the responsibility with marked impartiality; and surely, the two bodies whose duty it is (in the standard of the State) to sit in classic costume, holding the shield that bears the legend "Excelsior," had reason to be content with the effort of their gallant representative. Gen. Robinson referred in terms of heartfelt pride to the greatness, the resources, the physical beauty and the industrial and social forces of the state. A magnificent state, he said, which for his part, he was unwilling to exchange for any other state—even for a future state! He spoke of the power of the mighty commonwealth put forth for the preservation of the government by sending 400,000 volunteers to the battle fields of the rebellion, and declared that the men of New York, if need should again arise to preserve the honor of the flag, would take their knapsacks and march whenever the drum might beat.

To the third toast "The Grand Army of the Republic of the United States" Gen. Wm. F. Rogers, of Buffalo, was called to respond. The gallant frontiersman is a man of bravery, and generously gave away four of his allotted minutes to the speakers to come after. He acknowledged in behalf of the great and patriotic association named in the toast, the recognition on the present occasion, and in their behalf expressed their sympathy with the undertaking that called the present assembly together.

Fourth toast, "The Grand Army of the Republic of the State of New York." Corporal James Tanner, Commander of the N. Y. State Department, lifted up his voice at this sentiment and spoke with that juicy eloquence which is a never-failing de-

light to a Bath audience. It is no exaggeration to say that children cry for it; for this unaged veteran cannot even secretly steal into town in disguise and darkness without the fact being found out, and thereupon torches and brass bands seem to spring out of the very earth, and will not be quenched or quieted till the Corporal delivers "a speech." On this occasion he spoke with his usual grace, and with more than his usual fervor of the organization under his command, and of the themes suggested by the political situation of to-day as contrasted with the past. In referring to the restoration of brotherly feeling with the late enemies of the Government, he cordially welcomed all, who, in earnestness and good faith, joined as once more as brethren; but, in a strain of towering eloquence, he demanded freedom of opinion everywhere in the United States, and justice for every citizen of the Republic, and avowed that for cross men of hate, who murder for opinion's sake, there are no terms to be made except such as made by the law and consummated by the hangman. The speaker closed with a peroration of peace to the village of Bath, which made her modest citizens blush like the red, tresses in the garden of what-do-you-call-it. (No time so late at night to vent our indignation of poetical quotations for the name).

"The Army and Navy of the United States. They of glorious memory and glorious renown" was the next toast, to which our townsmen, Col. Arthur Baxter, spoke with his usual enthusiasm and ornate eloquence. The heroes of the two great branches of the service was lauded in the speaker's most forceful periods, and the women, who in their glory added in the time of the great struggle—the mothers who gave with Roman devotion their sons to their country's cause, were remembered in Col. Baxter's resonating prose poem.

"The Old Flag—the Flag of 1776 remains the Flag of 1877," was the next toast. Commodore Seymour Dexter, of Elmira, an attorney for the Flag, spoke most effectively for his striped client. Mr. Dexter is a vigorous speaker, and is sure to give good thought. His address on Decoration Day was the best we ever heard on such an occasion—searching into the moral basis of things, and driving home the lesson of self-deal with a force which we hope and believe left a wholesome stamp on all generous young minds who heard him. On the present occasion his remarks were happily conceived and timely delivered.

The next toast, "The Army of the Potomac from Big Bethel to Five Forks, through the hands of defeat to the stunning of victory," brought out Col. Wm. Ramsey of Bath, a graduate of that heroic school of soldiers. He spoke with manly feeling of the struggles of that army, pitted as it was against the mightiest host of the Confederacy led by the really great rebel generals; of the unconquerable spirit under disaster and difficulty and of its final triumph beginning at Antietam and ending with Richmond. He described the majestic vision of war which burst on his view when he first saw the army of the Potomac encamped at the mouth of the James and the vast fleet anchored in Hampton Roads. Even as he gazed from the steamer deck the tents of the advance were struck, and the onward movement of the host began which carried them into battles of the Peninsula. He mentioned the interesting fact that the very first gun fired against the enemy on that advance was discharged by the artillery company, raised in this village, to which the speaker was then attached, and its guns were heard in every battle from that time to the day of Antietam. He spoke emphatically of the reason why the Union soldiers deserved honor—not merely that they were brave, not merely that their motives were pure, but because they fought to keep this country one country. For that reason he, speaking for himself, would never concede that their fallen antagonists, brave though they were, pure though their motives may have been, should receive equal honors with the slain defenders of the Republic.

"The Army of the James,"—to this toast Col. Hale Kingsley, of Albany, eloquently spoke, and gave a glowing tribute to the valor and devotion of that gallant army.

Comrade Gen. B. Squires was then called upon for a recitation, and gave a superb rendering of "The Return of the Standards" by Horace Honey Sargent, a wildly magnificent war poem. This was a picturesque incident of the occasion. Thus in hymn ages our ancestors in their tribal halls called for the hard to recall in strains of savage poetry, deeds of valor done on field and flood.

"The Army of the Gulf" was the next toast, responded to by Capt. John F. Little, of Bath, one of the young officers who led a company from the pine clad hills of Samburg to the bayous and plantations of Louisiana. Capt. Little rehearsed in terse and soldierly style the movements which resulted in the overthrow of the rebel power in the southwest, the bursting of the bonds which chained the mighty river of the West, and set the Mississippi free forever. In contrast with the glowing oratory of the preceding speakers Capt. Little will pardon us for a classical allusion if we say that we were reminded of Caesar reciting his own Commentaries—the model of military literature, calm, sufficient and unexaggerated.

The speeches were ended a few minutes after midnight, and so ended one of the pleasantest banquets ever held by the O. A. R. Those who have attended the banquet of the organization for years, say that they have never enjoyed an occasion of this sort more than upon Tuesday evening. A few matters of discontent at the absence of wine from the table were heard, but we think there can be no question but that a far pleasanter and more profitable occasion was enjoyed than as if wine had been used. The success of this one shows that liquors are not necessary to a joyment, and flow of wit at such a time. We hope that the good example set on this occasion will be followed at future banquets. It seems to be the unanimous opinion of those who attended, that they enjoyed it heartily, and that it was a grand success.

"The Army that marched to the Sea," was responded to by Gen. M. M. Crane, of Harnettville, who as Colonel of the 107th N. Y., served through that campaign. Gen. Crane told in capital style some of the leading points of the march from the time when Hooker's men had to redeem themselves from the appellation of "paper collar fellows," by climbing into the clouds at Mission Ridge, and pulling the high-trooping confederates out of their celestial abodes, on through the murderous Atlanta campaign and around the circle to Richmond.

"The Freedom of our Country" was responded to by Rev. Henry Highland Garret, of New York City, a colored gentleman of pure African descent. This speech was a model in thought, expression and delivery for such an occasion—with just that combination of playfulness and gravity which by turns set the table in a roar, and then gives a thought or an anecdote that makes the nerves tingle—and all without stilted talk, or stump elevation.

Capt. Frank Shepard was here abruptly compelled to recite the "Sinking of the Cumberland," which he did with stirring effect.

A sudden call here carried off our reporter, and we can only add the text of the remaining toasts without a sketch of the accompanying remarks:

The New York State Soldiers' Home. By E. C. Parkinson, of New York.

The Private Soldier. By Major H. H. Rockwell, of Elmira.

The Commissary Department. By Comrade Nash, of Geneva.

The Ladies. By Col. Cole, of Troy.

The Memory of Our Dead.

The toasts finished, the company dispersed about half past twelve, in a quiet and orderly manner, delighted with the banquet and all the arrangements and concomitants thereof. Those who have attended the O. A. R. feasts for years past, say that this was, on the whole, the most enjoyable one of all.

WEDNESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The refreshing shower of Tuesday afternoon had cooled the air and had the dust so that Wednesday morning opened bright and almost cloudless, with a refreshing breeze from the west. Early in the morning streams of vehicles began to pour in from all directions, every road furnishing its quota of well filled "democrat" wagons, amount carriages, buggies, and every other sort of conveyance known to the road.

THE DECORATIONS IN TOWN.

The streets of the village were decorated in a tasteful and patriotic manner. Liberty St. was of course especially gay, ropes being stretched across in all directions, from which depended banners of all colors, flags, American, English, French and Irish, and streamers of all sorts. The following are some of the decorated buildings: Nichols House, H. W. Parson & Co., A. S. Howell, Hook & Ladder House, W. W. Willson, Hardy's Opera House, County Fair House, Capt. John Stovum. Besides these quite a number of other private residences were tastefully decorated, notably on Washington St., through which the procession marched on its way to the grounds.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29

HABS No. NY-6339-A

Page 6 of 8

(Page 22)

THE TRAINS

Every train on the Erie & B. & N. Railways were crowded to its utmost capacity, though a number of extra coaches had been attached. The noon train from Hammond-sport is said to have been the most crowded one ever on the road. Beside the regular trains, a special came from Buffalo on Thursday evening, bringing a detachment of artillery and a crowd of people. Another special came from Corning on Wednesday, upon the arrival of train 3 from New York. The B. & H. R. ran on a special time table, bringing what seemed to be nearly the entire population of the lake region. We have scarcely ever seen so large a number of people at the Railway station as upon the arrival of Train 1, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

THE PROCESSION.

All the morning the clans were gathering, until at noon it seemed as though the town would hold but few more. Soon after 2 o'clock, the procession formed at Pultney Square, in the following order:

- Marshal, Gen. Wm. P. Rogers.
- Aide de Camp, Col. John K. Perley.
- Giesinger's Band.
- Post Custer, No. 31, G. A. R. under command of Comrade Wm. Rumsey.
- Detachment of Battery A, 31st Brigade, N. G. S. N. Y., Capt. H. W. Linderman.
- Department Encampment.
- Visiting Comrades, under command of Comrade F. H. Shepard.
- Carriages containing Presiding officer, President of the Board of Trustees, Village authorities and Trustees of the Home, and invited guests.

Mr. Beecher and Commander Tausner had proceeded to the grounds in advance of the procession.

The procession moved from Pultney Square through Liberty St. to Washington, and thence up Washington to the Home grounds. Arrived there, the procession formed in the front, while the Department Encampment and invited guests moved along its front, and took seats upon the grand stand.

Hacks and wagons had been busy carrying people to the grounds all the afternoon, and the Erie Railway ran an accommodation train of five coaches to the brick yard crossing every 30 minutes. Every means of conveyance was taken, and vast numbers moved on nature's means of locomotion.

At the grounds, an immense throng had already gathered when the procession arrived. The grand stand and east barracks were crowded with people wedged in like sardines in a box, and all around for three hundred feet on every side of the speakers' stand, the ground was covered with a living mass of humanity. There must have been at least

FIFTEEN THOUSAND PEOPLE PRESENT.

Stationed upon a rising ground west of the Home, was a detachment of Artillery, which peered forth a while upon the arrival of the procession, greatly enhancing the proceedings.

THE BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS.

The grounds were looking their loveliest. To the east of the Grand Stand stretched, north and south, the beautiful avenue of oaks so well known to those who have visited them. In front, about a quarter of a mile distant, was seen the old Rider farmhouse, nestling among its lolly trees, while the meadow, with its beautiful carpet of verdure, lay smiling between. To the west rose the gently sloping hills, with their robes of undulating green, and their summits crowned with umbrageous foliage. Half way up the slope, the never failing spring from which the Veterans are to stake their trust, glistened in the slanting sunlight. Towards the north, at the rear of the Grand Stand, the gently rolling billows of prairie-like meadow, flanked by the hill upon one side and Lovers Lane upon the other, were spread in an enchanting vista, till the view was intercepted by the wooded summit on the other side of the Coliseum.

NOTABILITIES PRESENT.

Upon the Grand and Speaker's Stands were seated many of the prominent citizens of the state, of whom the following is a partial list:

- Gen. Wm. F. Rogers, Gen. Stocum, Gen. and Ex. Lieutenant Gov. Robinson, Hon. H. W. Sage, Rev. Thos. Farrell, Rev. H. H. Garnett, Senator Emerson, Gen. N. M. Crane, Gen. Wm. M. Gregg, Hon. Reed Myer, Speaker Penn, House of Representatives, Hon. T. F. Grady, Hon. H. E. Rockwell, Hon. E. G. Lapham, Hon. George B. Bradley, Gen. McDougall, Col. Nash.

LETTERS OF REGRET.

Letters of regret, expressing sympathy with the project, were received from Gov. Robinson, Senator Cockle, Senator Kernan, ex-Gov. Featon, Wm. H. Seward, Judge Fulger, Judge Mason, Judge Daniels, Judge Boardman, Comptroller Alecott, Congressman Leavenworth, Hon. B. F. Angel, ex-Gov. Dix, ex-Gov. Morgan, J. Grant Wilson, D. A. Ozden, Ellis H. Roberts, Augustus Schell, and many others.

PRESS REPRESENTATIVES.

The out-of-town Press, so far as we have been able to learn, was represented as follows: New York Times and Sun, Mr. Ferguson; Brooklyn Eagle, T. D. Reed; Brooklyn Argus, Wm. C. Hudson; Buffalo Courier, F. H. Morgan; Rochester Democrat, E. K. Willard; Elmira Advertiser, R. R. Dumas and Wm. Maxwell; Elmira Gazette, H. H. Rockwell; Owego Times, Wm. Smyth; Wellston Agitator, A. F. Barnes; Corning Journal, Geo. W. Pratt; Corning Independent, Uri Mulford; Horseheads Free Press, H. E. Purdy; Dansville Advertiser, Edward De Forest; Prattburgh News, P. C. Howe. W. A. Platt, of the COURIER, furnished reports of the proceedings to the New York Tribune and the New York Post.

OPENING CEREMONIES.

At 3:40 P. M., Col. E. C. Parkinson, President of the Board of Trustees, called the immense assemblage to order, and God's blessing was invoked upon the proceedings of the day by Rev. Thomas Farrell, Pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, of New York, whose congregation contributed \$257 towards the Soldiers' Home building fund, which amount was further swelled by a personal contribution of \$100 by the reverend gentleman.

HON. SHERMAN S. ROGERS'S ADDRESS.

Col. E. C. Parkinson, of the G. A. R., introduced the presiding officer of the day, Hon. Sherman S. Rogers, of Buffalo, who in a few remarks spoke of the occasion which had called together the vast assembly, of the obligation resting on the State to provide for its disabled soldiers, and of the irreparable neglect to perform its duty in that respect. It is the old story of Benjamin at the wayside, begging of the passers by: No state worthy of reverence or of rule, can afford not to honor its defenders. The Hotel des Invalides at Paris—the Soldiers' Home for the veterans of France established two hundred years ago by Lewis XIV was held up not merely as an example of the way a great nation deals with her disabled soldiers, but as a source of patriotic inspiration to the citizens, especially to the young.

He reminded the audience that when the war for the Union was to be prosecuted, orators and removers were needed as well as fighting men, for unless the North had been convinced in her heart of hearts that the war was just and necessary, she never would have fought. And with an allusion to Mr. Beecher's powerful efforts in that capacity at home, and of his speeches to hostile audiences in England, whom he coerced by the tremendous power and truth of his argument, he introduced the orator of the day.

HENRY WARD BEECHER'S ADDRESS.

[Written up by Judge McMaster from short-hand notes.]

Mr. Beecher came forward and delivered an address worthy of his renown as a born orator, and it was pronounced with a vehement power which we hardly looked for when we remembered that he was no longer young. We have a full stenographic report of the address, taken by Mr. DuSeld of Rochester, the accomplished reporter for the Supreme Court, but the pressure upon our columns, and the fact that the hour for going to press had expired before the address was closed, compel us to content ourselves with a brief sketch of the characteristic line of thought which the speaker followed.

He said that twelve years ago a million of armed men were on foot in this country—thirteen years ago two million of armed men stood face to face. The whole continent was at stupendous camp, and cannon roared in almost every State. An unexampled blockade maintained. The most sanguinary battles which the world had known raged throughout the land. But all this host has passed away. We have no army now in comparison with that. A pitiful but brave handful of men suffice to fight the Indians.—What has taken place? A mere record of battles fought, of so many killed, of so many wounded does not tell the story.

In other great wars of our time there is no story to tell but of the collisions of the combatants. They have been mere exhibitions of force, like a bull fight or a buffalo ramp on the plains. Right has not been devel-

oped, nor wrong subdued on such fields. A contest of sword by horse may interest at the time, but the result makes out one hair white or black. The result of the Crimean war when Great Britain, France, Sardinia and Turkey fought with Russia was naught—all things remained as before. The war which afterwards raged between Prussia and Austria was a mere contest for supremacy between the houses of Hohenzollern and Hapsburg. The result placed the former in the place of supremacy, but all laws, institutions and policies remained unchanged. And later, when imperial Germany and France contended, the mere question of comparative strength was alone settled. The end left France substantially the same as before the war, and Germany also substantially the same, "only wiser so."

What happened when we came into the field? A union of brothers divided—the North and the South and great continental family. It was a bitter war, a war waged with incessant conviction on both sides; oceans of blood were shed, families desolated, the world standing unawakened with interest as a spectator, to see, as they thought, the dying throes of this great Republic. At last the South conquered, and was that like these other great modern campaigns, simply a victory of force over force? Nay. The outside and military view of our campaign was but the husk and the rind—the kernel of the thing lay further in, and you will not know how to honor the soldiers of the late war unless you understand what the moral victory was that they achieved in that momentous campaign. It showed not merely the superiority of our artillery, or rifle corps, or the persistence of our men, nor the pique of our men.—These things were developed, but the tide of victory, the roar of artillery, the stroke of the sword was felt clear to the heart of the constitution of the United States. The first and most important victory that was won was that victory that cast the devil out of the constitution of the Republic.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME, BUILDING 29

HABS No. NY-6339-A (Page 23)

Page 7 of 8

In the beginning the colonies were weak and divided. Slavery existed, and when the constitution was formed it was left there—a bad mistake, the tapeworm of slavery left in the newly formed body. But by the war that instrument the most important and memorable document that mankind ever put on paper, was cleansed from that mistake of our forefathers, the devil cast out, and that which was made for liberty was redeemed to liberty, and by the sponge dipped in the blood that was shed on a hundred fields the hateful and black lines of slavery were rubbed out of the constitution. If you ask me who changed it, I say not the courts, not the Judges, not the Senators in conclave, not the votes, not the common people, not the moral sentiment of mankind, but it was changed by the thunder of your artillery—it was changed by the sword in the hands of your men. It was war and battle that redeemed the constitution when moral suasion failed."

Next was wrought out the destruction of the spirit of caste! All men into caste—in foreign countries. All men by nature like to have somebody under them, and hate to have them rise to their own level. Caste compels a large class of men to be under.

The ideas embodied in caste and aristocracy were elaborated by the orator with a sharpness of analysis and a brilliancy of illustration, which we should only convert into a muddle by trying to abbreviate.

He proceeded to speak of the claim of the Southern publicists that their system of labor was a local affair merely. But in truth, labor organized on the basis of ownership was not a mere local concern. It degraded labor the world around. It destroyed national prosperity in the very egg.

They said in the South, This is none of your business. We will organize labor in the South as we please, and may organize it in the North as you please. You may stay at home, and we will stay at home. You may mind your business, and we will mind ours. But suppose there was in this neighborhood a thousand miles of swamp, sending malaria for forty miles up the valley! The citizens protest, and the owners of the swamp say, Gentlemen, this swamp is local, and we own it, and you have no business with it; you stay at home and mind your farms there, and we will stay at home and mind our swamp here. But I say that nothing is local as long as it is unalike in its reach."

In destroying slavery, a blessing was conferred on the South. Their defeat was their salvation. We saw them that they might live. They were plowed under to grow up as fruit, not as poisonous weeds. Though reconstruction was slow, yet all real growth is slow. You may plant your mushroom at night, and reap your crop in the morning, but timber is to build navies, did not thus grow. The men of the South will learn to work. Love of work is not born in a man; that comes from grace—of one kind or another. Though we now love one another with a good many scruples, yet the foundation is laid for mutual love and respect that could not have taken place in five hundred years without the war. Antagonists in war who have been mutually defeated two or three times, learn what victory costs—it is not complimentary. The victor earns what he gets. None respect valor, and citizenship earned by valor like the men of the North and of the South. Soldiers are more soundly by reconstructed than any others. Our civil institutions here for the last eight years been substantially in the hands of military men, and there has never been a time in our history when peace was so anxiously guarded as then.

The North can never sufficiently value the emancipation of conscience gained by the war. When the speaker entered public life the national conscience was half strangled by the pervading influences of slavery. The question to the candidate for the presidency was "will you be prudent?" The same influence controlled other professions.

The speaker here with stinging oratory described the degradation of the religious societies of the country before the war, in their vain attempt to keep peace with slavery, reaching his climax with an allusion to Bishop Doane's edition of the Prayer Book in which an engraving of Ary Scheffers painting of "Christus Consolator," a representation of all typical forms of human suffering appealing to Christ the Consoler, appeared without the figure of the manacled African. Powder was never so well spent as in shooting down the upholders of a hypocritical religion.

Republican institutions everywhere were sustained by our success. The French Republic to-day would not be standing if ours had gone down. West Point was eulogized as the school of soldiers which carried our arms to victory after political generals had stepped aside.

Gen. Butler had remarked to him that it would be necessary to have a foreign war after our own should be closed to employ our armies. The philanthropic old patriarchy was actually afraid of our own soldiers—but no babe died in its cradle more quietly than our army disbanded.

Gen. Grant's reception in Europe was referred to as proving the respect the nation had won by its struggle and its success.

He concluded with a strong presentation of the claims of disabled soldiers to provision by the State, in a Home of their own for the remaining years of their lives.

LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE BY COMMANDER JAMES TANNER.

Commander James Tanner then proceeded to lay the Corner Stone. He mentioned the hard lot of a speaker who had to follow Henry Ward Beecher, but, he said, as that grand old man has gone to dinner, he would tell what he had done for the Soldiers' Home. At the beginning of the undertaking he was appealed to for help, and promised to give them an address at the Academy of Music. He did so, and the result was, donations to the amount of \$14,000.

The undertaking was a great one, and it was hard to believe it could be done, but we did not fear that public generosity had ceased, and we believed by the grace of God and the help of the people it could be done—so that they could say to every son of New York now harbored in poor houses or in destitution, "Your mother has not forgotten you—come home!" Neither creed nor political faith should be of account there. Only three questions would be asked—Were you in the Army or Navy? Were you honorably discharged? Are you needy?

We also want an honorable housing to the flags of the New York troops, now stored in an engine house in Albany. Men died to maintain those flags! The eagle of a standard was lately turned up from the soil of Chickamauga, and around it were thirteen human skulls. Every defender was a corpse when that flag went down.

The speaker continued in a high strain of eloquence to speak on the topics suggested by the occasion, and then formally laid the corner stone.

The benediction was then pronounced by Rev. Henry Highland Garnet, a colored divine of New York City.

The crowd then dispersed, using all sorts of locomotion—by the cars, in wagons, carriages, buggies, on foot, by far the greater part coming down to the village again, and

compels a large class of men to be under. The ideas embodied in caste and aristocracy were elaborated by the orator with a sharpness of analysis and a brilliancy of illustration, which we should only convert into a muddle by trying to abbreviate.

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NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29

HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 24)

Page 8 of 8

THE GOOD ORDER.

One of the most remarkable features of the whole proceedings has been the excellent order observed throughout, and the almost universal sobriety. We heard a gentleman from a distance say that he had no idea of what this Murphy movement was till he came to Bath. The prevalence of blue ribbons struck him with amazement. A Rochester man, on Wednesday morning, searched high and low for somebody to take a glass of beer with him, but without success, until by chance he met another Rochester man in the same predicament. The blue ribbon boys stuck to the colors well, and what drunkenness there was, occurred mostly on Wednesday evening, and was principally due to persons from out of town. On the whole, the entire two days must be pronounced a grand success. Every one had a good time, all were pleased, the weather was perfect, the roads were good, the scenery at its best, the addresses very fine,—in short, nothing was wanting to complete enjoyment. The very greatest credit is due to the Local Building Committee, consisting of Jonathan Robie, Ira Davenport and Wm. Rumsey, for the great progress and thorough work which has been exhibited. The services on Wednesday were under the control of this Committee, and the smoothness with which everything passed off, is due to their untiring efforts and unceasing watchfulness. The grounds were in excellent order, the roads had been kept in good condition, notwithstanding the rain the day before, and the promptness with which the exercises began, was almost unprecedented in the history of such occasions.

THE COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

The Committee of Arrangements, consisting of J. S. Nelson, Wm. Rumsey, Jas. Faucett and John F. Little, who were ably assisted by S. A. Breck and H. J. Wynkoop, displayed the utmost activity and solicitude in providing for the comfort of the guests. All the delegates express themselves as gratified beyond measure by their reception and entertainment. We predicted two weeks ago that the guests would fall in love with Bath, and the result has more than justified our expectations. Even the stoutest adherents of the Keuka location were convinced that this was the spot, and that no better could possibly have been found. Indeed, the Trustees of the Home and the citizens of Bath have reason for mutual congratulation in the selection of such a site, combining such unequalled advantages for the purpose for which it was wanted.

So passed two of the greatest days that Bath has ever seen, days without a jar to mar the pleasure of the occasion, days whose memory will live in many a breast as a green spot in life's arid waste, an oasis in the desert of existence.

LIST OF ARTICLES DEPOSITED IN THE BOX
PLACED UNDER THE CORNER STONE
of the Grand Army of the Republic Soldiers'
Home of New York, at Bath, Steuben Co.,
June 13th, 1877:

A copy of the Holy Scriptures, presented by the Steuben County Bible Society.

Brief history of the Soldiers' Home.

Set of U. S. Coins of 15¢—dollar, half dollar, quarter dollar, twenty cent piece, dime, five, three and one cent piece.

Medals—Washington, Centennial, 1776—1876, Franklin and Washington, Jefferson and Adams, McClellan, Lincoln, Grant, Greeley, Hayes and Wheeler, Tilden and Hendricks, 8 pieces of Centennial currency. Above given by Thomas Warner of Cohocton.

U. S. Paper Money—United States Greenback, one-half dollar, one-quarter dollar, and ten cents fractional currency.

Concurrent resolutions in relation to a Soldiers' Home for the State of New York, adopted by the Legislature May 8th.

The act of Incorporation.

Names of Board of Trustees for 1876 and 1877, together with standing committees.

By-Laws as prepared by the Board of Trustees.

Proceedings of the National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic, since the foundation of the Order in 1866, to 1876 inclusive, with opinions of Judge Advocate General, and Rules of Order.

Proceedings of the Semi-annual and Annual Encampments of the G. A. R. Dep't. of New York, for 1875-76.

General Orders and Circulars issued from National Headquarters of the G. A. R., and from Headquarters Department of New York, for 1876-7 to date.

Officers of the State of New York, 1877.

Judges of the Court of Appeals.

Officers of Steuben County, 1877.

Officers of the village of Bath, 1877.

Churches of the village of Bath, 1877, together with names of officiating Pastors.

Officers of the Davenport Institute for Female Orphan Children, 1877.

Officers of Haverling Union School, 1877.

Copies of the following Daily and Weekly Papers: New York Tribune, Herald, Times, Sun, World, Post, State Zeitung and Graphic; Brooklyn Daily and Sunday Eagle, Union-Army, Brooklyn E. D. Times, Review; Bath Courier, Advocate and Echo; Elmira Advertiser, Gazette and Husbandman; Rochester Democrat, Union and Express; Buffalo Courier, Advertiser and Express.

Pamphlet prepared by General Daniel E. Sickles, on the New York Soldiers' Home, setting forth its necessity, its proposed inmates, and the progress of the work.

Subscription Book as used by the New York Finance Committee, in aid of Soldiers' Home.

Programme of Exercises at the Corner Stone of the Corner Stone.

Photograph of Soldiers' Home.

List of Contributions by Post Seward, No. 37, of Auburn.

Copy of Circular sent to Churches for collections, May 27th.

Grand Army Gazette.

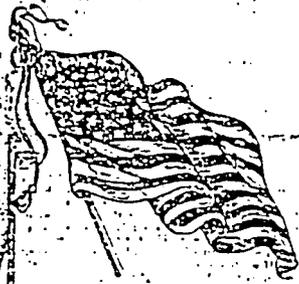
Red and White Silk Badges worn by delegates to the Semi-Annual Encampment at Bath.

Grand Army Badge No. 1234.

Silk Flag from Thetford Post, No. 3, Brooklyn.

JANUARY 31, 1879

SOLDIER'S HOME.



History of 'Its Inception,' Dark Hours, Progress and Final Location at Bath in July, 1876, and Laying the Corner Stone in June, 1877.

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS TO THE

NOBLE CHARITY.

Subscription of the Buildings and Grounds.

TERMS FOR ADMISSION

NOTICE



CAMPMENT JANUARY 1879

LIST OF DELEGATES PRESENT. ADDRESSES, AND PROCEEDINGS.

The Dedicatory Services of the Home, Thursday, Jan 31, 1879.

Letters Received from Invited Guests

Speeches by Major General Slocum, Gen. W. F. Rogers, Hon. W. P. Letchworth, State Senator J. H. Loomis, Assemblyman Breiman, Jas. Tanager, John F. Henry, Cor. Young, Jas. McQuade and Gen. H. A. Barnum.

Over 3,000 People Present.

The great event of the year 1879, in the Concho Valley, is the completion, and dedication of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home on Thursday Inst. As early as Tuesday, the village was enlivened by the appearance of visiting gentlemen on our streets, who came to attend the Annual Session of the Grand Army of the Republic on the following Wednesday. In the evening the Letchworth Ride, of Warsaw, seventy-nine men, arrived at the Home, and were quartered there; doing guard duty during the Dedication services. Bath was never before so highly honored in the number of distinguished gentlemen present; and every one, so far as we are able to learn, are more than pleased with the work of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Trustees of the Home, now in charge of the great charity.

We deem this a fitting occasion to lay before you a brief history of the work from its inception to its dedication, and present same in our columns as follows. In this connection we would return thanks to Sup't E. C. Parkinson, and the Trustees, for favors that have greatly aided us to giving a complete history of the Home up to this date.

ORIGIN OF THE HOME.

Nearly nineteen years ago, namely on April 21, 1863, Governor Morgan and others procured the passage by the Legislature of an act to incorporate "The Soldiers' Home," and among the incorporators were the Governor, Generals Scott, McClellan, and Wool, Hon. John T. Hoffmann, afterwards Governor, Millard Fillmore, Hon. William E. Dodge, Erastus Corning, Judge Charles P. Daly, Gouverneur Kemble, Hamilton Fish, Oswald Ottendorfer, Dean Richmond, Amasa Parker, Samuel Sloan, General James S. Wardworth, Hon. John Kelly, now Comptroller of New York City; Thurlow Weed, the late A. T. Stewart, the late Right Rev. John Hughes, Catholic Archbishop of New York; Rev. Morgan Dix, D. D., of Trinity Church, New York, and Smith Ely, Jr., the late Mayor of New York City. Liberal contributions were promised, but at that time the war was at its height, the people were fired by patriotism, and the idea that any man who wore his blue in defence of the country should ever be allowed to suffer the pangs of poverty or be compelled to find food and shelter in a county poor house was scouted as utterly ridiculous. Finding this feeling existing strongly all over the State, the Trustees came to the conclusion that the time had not yet arrived for the building of a home for disabled soldiers, and they quietly let the matter drop.

The war closed with victory for the Union and Liberty. The hundreds of thousands who had for four long and weary years faced death from bullet and disease on southern fields to keep "Old Glory's" constellation of stars intact, broke ranks and marched home to find—what? Alas, for the boasted patriotism of the North! In too many places strange faces beheld the familiar counter, and at the familiar desk; strange hands plying the tools in the familiar workshops; marched home to find their places filled and themselves forgotten. The hands accustomed to loading and firing a musket, the arms injured to toil digging trenches, had to a great extent lost the oil-running of the workmen, and employers forgot their pledges and refused work to the veterans. Many thousands of the latter were disabled, by wounds or disease, from hard work, and those who had no friends were reduced to the necessity of going to the National Soldiers' Homes in distant States or becoming inmates of the poor-houses in their own.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 26)

Page 2 of 2

AN INTERESTING OPERATION.

It was in this ward that we found a man sitting bolt upright in a chair, just as he had sat for the past two weeks, terribly bloated with abdominal dropsy, and suffering from difficulty of breath and impeded action of the heart. The Doctor tapped him with what the patient facetiously called a gimlet, and obtained three or four quarts of water, which so greatly relieved him that he was put to bed in a comparative state of comfort. That was the third time that he had submitted to the operation. Just before the Doctor made the incision, he gave him a wine glass of whiskey to brace him up, and, although the poor fellow was in severe pain and scarcely able to speak, he waved the glass towards the Doctor and attendants, smiled a ghastly smile, and said "Here's luck to ye." The ruling passion etc. In the course of his rounds the Doctor performed a number of minor operations, but the one above mentioned was the most interesting.

It was sad to see together so many of the Nation's heroes suffering in such a multitude of ways, and to think that most of them will not leave the hospital till they are discharged by the edict of death, and are carried to their last home on the hillside, where their hospital cards will be exchanged for the headstones which are now fast whitening the green slope.

At the end of three hours the morning's work was done and we started homeward. We (the editorial "we") had had a very interesting experience, and were highly gratified to know personally how admirably the hospital is managed, and in what an excellent and thorough manner the unfortunate veterans within its walls are cared for. Everything connected with the hospital and its management reflects the greatest credit upon Gen. Pitcher and Surgeon Dolson.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 27)

JANUARY 31, 1879

ed and placed upon the ground—the cutting of the stone continued during the winter. All the sand used in the construction of the buildings was obtained on the farm. About the middle of April, 1877, ground was broken for the buildings, much of the materials for the same having already been delivered.

In 1877 the Legislature passed a concurrent resolution, which was approved by the Governor, heartily approving the work, and stating as the sense of the Legislature that if the Home be completed at a total cost for land and buildings not exceeding \$100,000, and if it be transferred to the State free of incumbrances, the State should make adequate provision for its maintenance as one of the State charities.

The work proceeded rapidly, and early in June, 1877, the main building was ready for the reception of the corner stone.

LAYING THE CORNER STONE.

The semi-annual encampment of the Department was held in this village on Tuesday, June 12th, 1877. The delegates were received by our people with whole-souled hospitality, and the occasion of their visit was made a general holiday. On the following day the whole surrounding country seemed to have been depopulated and all the inhabitants to have crowded into Bath. The roads leading to the Home were almost impassible on account of the vast crowd. Shortly after two o'clock the procession formed in front of the Park, and, at the signal, marched by Liberty and Washington streets in the following order:

- Greisinger's Band.
- Custer Post No. 81.
- Veterans, white and colored.
- Capt. Lindormer's Battery, Buffalo.
- Pier's Band, Corning.
- Delegates to Semi-Annual Encampment G. A. R.
- Carriages, containing Department Commander, Presiding Officer, Orator of the Day, the Department Staff, Representatives of the Press, Soldiers of the War of 1812, President of the Board of Trustees, Village authorities and Trustees of the Home, Clergymen and other invited guests.

Citizens generally.

The road was thronged with people on foot and in carriages. When near the Home grounds, the battery left the column and took position on the hill above the Home, whence it fired salutes at intervals during the ceremony. The main building was beautifully decorated with flags and was roofed over. On the north east corner a platform was erected for the speakers and officials. Among the distinguished personages on it, besides the speakers, were General Henry W. Slocum, of Brooklyn, who commanded the left wing of Sherman's army on the march to the sea; Rev. Father Farrell, of St. Joseph's Church, and Mr. Grady, of New York City; Rev. Henry Hyland Garnett, and Ex-Lieutenant Governor John C. Robinson. Fully 15,000 people were on the grounds.

E. C. Parkinson, President of the Board of Trustees, introduced Hon. Sherman S. Rogers, of Buffalo, who acted as presiding officer. Eloquent addresses were made by the chairman, by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher and Department Commander Tanner. Mr. Albert Clark, Superintendent of Construction at the time, spread the mortar, and the corner stone was lowered into its place and formally laid by Commander Tanner amid the cheers of the crowd. In a receptacle underneath the stone the following articles were placed:

- A copy of the Holy Scriptures, presented by the Steuben County Bible Society.
- Brief history of the "Soldiers' Home".
- Set of U. S. Coin of 1878—dollar, half-dollar, quarter-dollar, twenty cent piece, dime, five, three and one cent pieces.
- Medals—Washington, Centennial, 1776—1876, Franklin and Washington, Jefferson and Adams, McClellan, Lincoln, Grant, Greeley, Hayes and Wheeler, Tilden and Hendricks, eight pieces of Continental Currency. Above donated by Thomas Warner, of Cohocton.

U. S. paper money—dollar Greenback, one-half dollar, one-quarter dollar, and ten cents fractional currency.

Concurrent Resolutions in relation to a Soldiers' Home for the State of New York, adopted by the Legislature, May 8th.

The Act of Incorporation.

Names of Board of Trustees for 1876 and 1877, together with Standing Committees.

By-Laws as prepared by the Board of Trustees.

Proceedings of the National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic, since the foundation of the Order in 1866 to 1875, inclusive, with opinions of Judge Advocate General, and Rules of Order.

Proceedings of the Semi-Annual and Annual Encampments of the G. A. R. Dep't of New York, for 1875-6.

General Orders and Circulars issued from National Headquarters of the G. A. R., and from Headquarters Department of New York, from 1876 to date.

Officers of the State of New York, 1877.

Judges of the Court of Appeals.

Officers of Steuben County, 1877.

Officers of the village of Bath, 1877.

Churches in the village of Bath, 1877, together with names of officiating Pastors.

Officers of the Davenport Institute for Female Orphan Children, 1877.

Officers of the Haverling Union School, 1877.

Copies of the following daily and weekly papers: New York Tribune, Herald, Times, Sun, World, Post, Staats Zeitung, and Graphic; Brooklyn Daily and Sunday Eagle, Union-Argus, Brooklyn E.I.D. Times, Review; Bath Advocate, Courier, and Echo; Elmira Advertiser, Gazette and Husbandman; Rochester Democrat, Union and Express.

Pamphlet prepared by General Daniel E. Sickles, on the New York Soldiers' Home, setting forth its necessity, its proposed inmates and the progress of the work.

Subscription Book as used by the New York Finance Committee in aid of Soldiers' Home.

Programme of Exercises at the Ceremonies of laying "Corner Stone."

Photograph of Soldiers' Home.

List of contributions by Post Seward, No. 37, of Auburn.

Copy of circular sent to churches for collections May 27th.

Grand Army Gazette.

Red and white silk badges worn by delegates to the Semi-Annual Encampment at Bath.

Grand Army Badge, No. 1534.

Silk flag from Thatford Post, No. 3, Brooklyn.

The work progressed rapidly thenceforward under the able management of the local committee and the Board of Trustees. The Board for 1877 was constituted as follows:

- The Governor of New York; the Comptroller of New York; James Tanner, Commander G. A. R., Department of New York; E. C. Parkinson, Brooklyn, N. Y.; J. A. Lewis, Brooklyn, N. Y.; John F. Henry, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Henry W. Sage, Brooklyn, N. Y.; E. W. Brunninghausen, New York; Louis Schlam, New York; Sinclair Touss, New York; John Palmer, Albany; E. L. Judson, Albany; S. P. Corlies, Albany; E. L. Cole,

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 29)

Page 5 of 22

building that may be required in future. This quarry is a valuable acquisition, as it has already saved, and will in future save a large sum in construction expenses.

The water supply is practically unlimited. At several points on the land are springs of beautiful water which even in the hottest summer weather is delightfully cool, pure and palatable. The main spring from which the buildings are supplied, is located on the land of C. Lang, adjoining the Home farm. The spring, and the right of way to it, were purchased from Mr. Lang. A stream sufficient to fill a three inch pipe issues from the spring, and is conducted to a reservoir located on the Home farm about 1000 feet from the spring and fifty feet below its level. This reservoir will hold 300,000 gallons of water, and is 130 feet higher than the water table of the buildings, thus furnishing a water supply sufficient for all purposes, with sufficient "head" for use in case of fire, and to carry the water over the top of the buildings. The reservoir is about 1300 feet from the Home, and the water is conducted thither by a six inch iron main.

The buildings of the Home consist of one large main building, 125 feet long by 60 feet wide, and two lateral buildings, each 125 feet long by 30 feet wide. All the buildings are three stories high and are built of the best quality Horseshoe brick. The walls are double, consisting of two eight inch walls with a span of two inches between. Under each building is a thoroughly dry cellar, eight feet high. The barracks, or smaller buildings, are located one on each side of the main building and distant 65 feet therefrom. Their rear ends are situated opposite the centre of the main building so that they project just half their length in front of it. A wide covered verandah runs completely around each. The first floor of the main building is used as the dining hall and kitchen. The ceiling is 16 feet from the floor, and is supported by iron columns which stand on brick piers built in the cellar. In the dining room will be placed 22 tables, at which 600 or 600 soldiers will take rations. At the rear of the dining room is the kitchen. Here are three enormous coffee-pots, of bright copper, which will hold about 175 gallons. Here also is a splendid cooking range of the most approved style, twelve feet long, with three fires and three ovens, and all other improvements that could be imagined. There are also four enormous jacket kettles for cooking meats and vegetables, soup kettles holding 265 gallons, and a water tank. On the east side of the kitchen, as in all the other rooms, there is a hose attachment, through which a stream of water can be thrown into an inch hose in case the kitchen should take fire. On the other side of the kitchen is a sink ten feet in length where the dishes will be washed. The water from this sink will be drawn off into a tank outside, where the grease will be skimmed off for soap. The two upper floors of this building and all floors of the barracks are used for dormitories, each having rooms at the front for the officers in charge, and rooms in the rear for wash rooms and water closets.

There is no useless ornamentation on the buildings. They are plain and neat, there being no sacrifice of the space or material for mere purposes of adornment. The windows have stone lintels and cap pieces. In the centre of the lateral buildings three windows on each floor are grouped, the lintels and cap pieces being of white stone. An arched piece of ornamented work, consisting of gray and blue stone set into the brick work in concentric semicircles, springs from the side of the top group, and the whole is surmounted by a peaked wing of the roof, producing a pleasing effect without elaborate ornamentation. The present barracks accommodations are estimated to be sufficient for 600 men, and with this number in the dormitories, the air space for each man will be 600 cubic feet. In the rear of the main building is an addition, one story high, in which is the bakery and ovens.

Fifty feet in rear of the main building is a one story brick building, which contains the laundry, the bath room, engine room and boiler room. From this latter point the main sewer starts. It is a

twelve inch vitrified pipe into which all the pipes from the dormitories, bath rooms, water closets, &c., lead. The flow of water is so strong that the sewage is instantly swept away, and is carried by this main pipe to the Conhocton river, into which it empties at a distance of 1200 feet below the buildings. There is thus no danger of malarial diseases from sewer gas, and the perfect sewage and drainage make the location of the Home all that can be desired for salubrity. Adjoining the boiler room is a brick shaft 9 feet square at the base and 86 feet high. Into this runs the main foul air duct from under the center of the main building. All the foul air ducts run into this main one and the noxious vapors are drawn into the high shaft by a powerful upward current of air. This current is caused by the heated iron smoke stack from the boilers running up through the center of the shaft, and also by a coil of 200 feet of steam pipe at the top of the shaft. The powerful draft thus created sends the foul air far above the buildings, where it is speedily dissipated and rendered innocuous.

The buildings are heated by steam radiators direct and indirect, the pure air coming in from the outside of the building through ducts and carried to the building over stacks radiators, thus heating the pure air on its passage to the rooms which it enters by the usual style of "register." Two low pressure boilers supply the steam for heating purposes. The cooking is also done by steam which is supplied from a 15 horse power boiler. Attached to this is a 10 horse power engine which is used to do the laundry work. The steam heating apparatus was put in by E. H. Cook & Co., of Elmira.

The buildings are lighted with gas which is manufactured from crude petroleum in a building 75 feet in rear of the boiler room. The light is clear, white and brilliant, fully equal to the best of coal gas and decidedly superior to the average.

On the farm there is one good dwelling house, the old homestead, several tenement houses and several barns, which can be used for the storage of grain, etc., raised on the ground.

THE OFFICERS AT THE HOME

are E. C. Parkinson, Superintendent; Daniel O'Driscoll, Post Adjutant; and A. H. Nash, Secretary.

These gentlemen are veterans of the war, well qualified by experience in camp and field to take charge of such an institution, and the excellent order that prevails shows that they do their duty faithfully and intelligently. The work of organizing an institution like this, is peculiarly arduous and requires an amount of forethought and executive ability that few can appreciate. The management could not be placed in better hands. Dr. F. Wylie, of Bath, is the Surgeon in charge, and takes the best care of his patients. He is ably assisted by the Hospital Steward, Robert Gansvoort, who is a most efficient aid and is equal to any emergency that may arise. The Steward, Mr. Charles Leavens, takes excellent care of the commissariat and expends the supplies judiciously but in such a manner that there is no grumbling or discontent. Mr. Edwin Gmesel, is the chief baker and cook, and does his work to please the most delicate palate, as those who have dined at the Home cheerfully testify.

RULES FOR ADMISSION.

The following are the rules for admission to the Home:

No person shall be admitted to the benefits of the Home until he shall have submitted a formal application in writing or print, signed by himself, and the same shall have been favorably acted upon by the Board of Trustees. Such application shall be accompanied by an honorable discharge, or proof thereof, and evidence satisfactory to the Board of Trustees, as follows:

1st.—That the applicant is at date of his application, and has been for one year previous thereto, an actual inhabitant and resident of the State of New York.

2d.—That he served the United States in a New York Regiment, Battalion, Company, or Battery, or in the Navy of the

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 30)

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE
JANUARY 31, 1879

Page 6 of 22

United States, or shall have been a resident of this State for one year preceding his application for admission.

3d.—That he is disabled from a wound or wounds received while in the service of the United States, or from sickness, or disability contracted therein, or needs the aid or benefit of the Home, in consequence of physical disability.

4th.—That he has at date of application no property or means of support, and that he is unable to support himself by his own efforts and labor.

5th.—That he has no relatives of sufficient ability to maintain him, who are legally liable for his support under the laws of the State of New York.

6th.—Applicant's name in full, his age and occupation, place of nativity, and place of residence at time of application and of entering service.

7th.—The Company and Regiment or Vessel in which, and the Captain, Colonel, or officer under whom he served.

8th.—The date of his enlistment and discharge.

9th.—If the applicant is a United States pensioner, he must file his pension certificate with his application, to be returned to him as soon as a record is made of the same.

10th.—If not a pensioner, the affidavit of the applicant that he is not.

11th.—If the applicant is a United States pensioner, he must file with his application a consent or agreement to transfer to the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees, for the use of the Home, his pension, or such part thereof as the Rules of the Home require, during the time that he shall be an inmate thereof; and that he will execute any necessary power or voucher for receiving the same, or pay over to the Home at such times as the rules thereof may fix, such pension, or part thereof, as the rules may require.

12th.—The applicant's agreement to conduct himself properly, and to submit to the rules, regulations and discipline of the Home.

13th.—The applicant shall also furnish satisfactory proof of his identity.

14th.—The certificate of a Justice of the Supreme Court or County Judge of the county where the applicant resides, or member of the Board of Trustees, that he has carefully examined the proofs—that to the best of his knowledge and belief they are true and are satisfactory to him, and that the applicant is a proper person for admission.

Inmates of the Home receiving pensions from the United States shall pay over to the Superintendent within three days after receiving his quarterly pension as follows, viz:

- Pensioners receiving from \$8 to \$10 per month inclusive, shall pay \$2 per month.
- Over \$10 to \$15 per month inclusive, shall pay \$4 per month.
- Over \$15 to \$17 per month, inclusive, shall pay \$6 per month.
- Over \$17 to \$19 per month, inclusive, shall pay \$8 per month.
- Over \$19 to \$21 per month, inclusive, shall pay \$10 per month.
- Over \$21 per month, shall pay \$12 per month. The said payments to be used for the benefit of the Home or of the pensioner paying it, as the Board of Trustees may determine.

G. A. R. Annual Encampment.

The Thirteenth Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of New York, was held in the main hall of the Home, on Wednesday, the 22d inst. The Encampment was called to order by Department Commander, William F. Rogers, of Buffalo. The Assistant Adjutant General, comrade E. S. Staubach was present, and comrade E. S. Fergus, of Rankin Post, No. 10, of Brooklyn, made the official stenographic report, and comrade Samuel Irvin, 29th, acted as Junior Vice-Commander, and comrade Geo. B. Squires, Post 10, was Officer of the Day.

The following delegates answered to their names:

- Wm. F. Rogers, Department Commander
- John C. Robinson, Post " "
- Henry A. Barnum, " " "
- John Palmer, " " "
- James Tanner, " " "
- Constantine Nitzsche, Senior Vice "
- Geo. W. Flynn, Assistant Q. M. General,
- John Pentlie, Inspector.
- Abrams W. Shelden, Judge-Advocate,
- J. Edwin Seelye, Medical Director,
- John H. Barnard, Chaplain,

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION:

- Chas. W. Mehrer, Thos. J. Bell, Benj. F. Finley, A. M. Mills, A. B. Lawrence.
- a. a. r. room.
- O'Rourke Post, No. 1, Rochester—L. M. Wooden, Commander; R. C. Schooley.
- Chapin Post, No. 2, Buffalo—Charles A. Orr.
- Thatford Post, No. 3, Brooklyn—

- George H. Thomas Post, No. 4, Rochester—Jno. A. Reynolds, Commander; M. H. Smith.
- Lew Benedict Post, No. 5, Albany—Robert McCormick, Commander; Oscar Smith, John W. Mullens, William Blais.
- Baldwin Post, No. 6, Elmira—Seymour Dexter, Commander; E. E. Rockwell.
- Gordon Granger Post, No. 7, Clifton Springs—L. P. Thompson, C. L. Bigelow.
- Phil Kearney Post, No. 8, New York City—Michael W. Burns, Commander; Matthew Stewart, James S. Mead.
- Bidwell Post, No. 9, Buffalo—George E. Slowitts, Commander; G. W. Jacob.
- Rankin Post, No. 10, Brooklyn—George B. Squires, Commander; E. R. Johnson, Geo. F. Tait, H. J. Eute.
- Barbara Freitchie Post, No. 11, Green Point—James Campbell.
- Vanderberg Post, No. 12, Alton—John Robb, Commander; William H. Ireland, Geo. B. Hickox.
- A. Lincoln Post, No. 13, New York City—Joseph Forbes, Commander; Oscar Tompkins.

- Brown Post, No. 15, Schenectady—F. H. Cleveland, Commander; Milo Kelly.
- Frank Head Post, No. 16, Brooklyn—William H. Riley, Chas. T. Trowbridge.
- Canby Post, No. 17, Gloversville—G. C. Potter, Commander.
- George W. Snyder Post, No. 18, Cobleskill—Aaron E. Emery, Commander; Jno. R. Meek.
- Galpin Post, No. 19, Little Falls—H. Clay Hall.
- Hamilton Post, No. 20, Poughkeepsie—Uriah L. Fergusson, J. S. Schepeweese.
- Harry Lee Post, No. 21, Brooklyn—Lewis R. Stegman, Charles R. Post.
- Montour Post, No. 22, Saratoga—Edwin Weiler.
- Rowell Post, No. 23, Waterville.
- Sumner Post, No. 24, New York City—Geo. F. Hopper, Herman Cantor, Jas. Belger, Jas. A. Joel.
- Johnson Post, No. 25, Worcester—George E. Seilow, Commander.
- L. C. Turner Post, No. 26, Cooperstown.
- Stanton Post, No. 28, Haverstraw—Eiram A. Blotgett, Commander; Edward E. Beecher.
- James C. Rice Post, No. 29, New York City—Samuel Minness.
- Watrous Post, No. 30, Binghamton—L. Coe Young, Commander; T. E. Royall, L. Chester Bartlett, W. Gus Chittenden, Samuel W. Sprague, Joseph Schnell, Jr.
- Reas Post, No. 31, New York Mills—Frank Miller, Commander; Joseph Eepworth, Bernal B. Gorton.
- Koltes Post, No. 32, New York City—George Vellfort, Commander; Theodore Feldstein, Louis Schmidt, Max Amelunxeo, William Hoffman, Anthony Koehler, Chas. Rieger, George F. Dege, Peter Leicht, Daniel Essinger, Adolph Reimann, Henry A. Krauss.
- E. S. Young Post, No. 34, Amsterdam—Martin L. Stever.
- G. L. Willard Post, No. 34, Troy—E. G. Demers, Jno. McIntyre, William Fitzpatrick.
- Mansfield Post, No. 35, Brooklyn—Eugene C. Morgan.
- W. H. Reynolds Post, No. 36, Utica—J. J. Harlow, Commander; J. D. McGarvey.
- Seward Post, No. 37, Auburn—Ed. Andleinger.
- Geo. G. Meade Post, No. 38, New York City—John Buckbee.
- John F. Thomas Post, No. 39, Prospect Ozcerda Co.—J. G. Burney.
- Wendell Post, No. 40—
- Sydney Post, No. 41, Ithaca—John E. McIntosh.
- Wm. D. Kennedy Post, No. 42, New York City—Thomas Abbott, Commander; Daniel O'Connell.
- N. G. Lyon Post, No. 43, Cohoes—Hans Post, No. 44, New York City—Henry C. Parley, Commander; George B. Van Brunt.
- Charles W. Crocker Post, No. 45, Auburn—Charles E. Shapley, Commander; Thomas J. Bell, John E. Searcy.
- W. E. McKittick Post, No. 46, Ballston Springs—Geo. D. Story.
- Skiffin Post, No. 47, Rome—Joseph I. Sayles.
- Howard Post, No. 48, Mattawan—
- Rosse Post, No. 49—
- Geo. Edmunds Post, No. 50, Flushing and College Point.—

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 31)
THE STEVEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

Page 7 of 22

JANUARY 31, 1879

Farrell Post, No. 61, Canajoharie—Wm. N. Johnston, Commander; John Steble.
Ellis Post, No. 62, Newburgh—
Bacon Post, No. 63, Utica—R. F. Ligh, Commander; Joseph Carr.
Allen Post, No. 64, Fabius—
Keeler Post, No. 65, Wolcott—David E. Mann.
Starr Post, No. 66, Lee Centre—A. J. Ames.
Van Derveer Post, No. 67, Fultonville—C. N. Ballou, Commander; Stephen Fonda.
Robert Anderson Post, No. 68, New York City—Edward Gillon.
Babcock Post, No. 69, Owego—John B. Stanbrough, Commander; Eugene Buell Gers, Benjamin Morrison.
Kitching Post, No. 69, Yonkers—Henry Osterheld, Commander; James Sheridan.
Geo. E. Kidder Post, No. 61, Morris—
J. L. Riker Post, No. 62, New York City—Frederick Seibert, Commander; Jacob Welsing, William E. Sippbell, Ohas Schaefer.
Geo. S. Dayton Post, No. 63, Albany—
Joseph Boney Post, No. 64—
J. D. O'Brian Post, No. 65—
Lilly Post, No. 66, Syracuse—
Ellsworth Post, No. 67, New York City—Jacob Knobloch, Commander; Geo. A. Reilly.
Henry Wilson Post, No. 68, Slaterville—John E. Bull, Commander; Henry Krum.
Willoug Babcock Post, No. 69, Homer—
Klock Post, No. 70, Fort Plain—
Cook Post, No. 71—John E. Knapp, Commander; S. G. Terry.
Tyler J. Snyder Post, No. 72, Waterloo—J. A. Casterline, Commander.
F. and S. Ashby Post, No. 73, Lyndonville.
Farragut Post, No. 75, New York City—Jas. H. Meredith.
Charles P. Sprout Post, No. 76, Lockport—William E. Palmer, Commander; E. W. Rogers.
Wadsworth Post, No. 77, New York City—Charles K. Smith, Commander; Ernest McDonald, Joseph Wright.
Cross Post, No. 78, Seneca Falls—J. M. Guion.
Cameron Post, No. 79, New York City—L. R. Nugent, Commander; Peter F. Hartley, Jno. S. Phillips.
John A. Rawlins Post, No. 80, New York City—M. A. Read, Commander; Charles M. Boves.
Custer Post, No. 81, Bath—William Ramsey, Commander; A. C. Brundage, James Faucett.
E. B. Smith Post, No. 82, Norwich—
Mallery Post, No. 84, Brooklyn—A. D. Limberger.
J. W. Wilkeson Post, No. 87, Buffalo—Charles E. Dobbins, Commander; H. J. Fox, M. Wasser.
J. H. Ketcham Post, No. 88, Wappinger Falls—
L. W. Wheeler Post, No. 92, Saratoga—David F. Ritchie, Commander; W. H. Hall.
J. Barnett Sloan Post, No. 93, Penn Yan—Jno. F. Randolph.
Swift Post, No. 94, Geneva—Herman F. Fox, Commander; A. Stotenbur.
Oliver Tilden Post, No. 96, Morrisania—
Whelock Post, No. 97, Booneville—John Avery, Commander; Cassius D. Dewey.
Gruver Post, No. 98, Cortland—Aaron Sager, Clifton W. Wilcox.
E. A. Kimball Post, No. 100, New York City—Jno. K. Parlay, Commander; Frank Burks, M. J. Graham.
Wynkoop Post, No. 101—
Stevenson Post, No. 102, Moriah Centre.
Poisner Post, No. 106, Rochester—J. Busch, Commander; W. G. Martins.
Chismore Post, No. 110, Illion—David Beverly.
Dahlgren Post, No. 113, New York City—Daniel G. Freel, Commander; Wm. McEntee, James Murray, Dennis Sullivan,

Daniel Patterson, James F. Hall, James W. Parker.
E. D. Farmer Post, No. 119 Oneonta—
E. H. Reynolds, Commander; E. G. Bixby.
Lewis O. Morris Post, No. 121, Albany—
Morton H. Havens.
G. Metornick Post, No. 122, Brooklyn—
Peter A. Porter Post, No. 125, Wilson L. D. Levan, Commander; L. H. Pratt.
Gibbs Post, No. 130, Warsaw—J. M. Smith.
Hoosic Mix Post, No. 131, Schoharie—
H. H. Curran Post, No. 146, Utica—J. Stuart Lowery.

The Department Commander made his annual address and report as follows:

ADDRESS OF DEPARTMENT COMMANDER.

COMRADES: I welcome you to our thirteenth Annual Encampment with emotions of no ordinary nature. A kind Providence has permitted us to greet old friends whose presence here attests the unflagging interest they still feel in the success and perpetuity of our noble order; and it gives us pleasure to welcome new ones who meet with us perhaps for the first time to participate in our councils.

I congratulate you, comrades, that we are permitted to meet in a place where we can naturally feel at home—a place which but for your efforts would not at this time have found a place in the history of this State. Here to-day you see the practical results of your labor of love to provide a shelter for the worn out and decrepit comrades who participated with you in the patriotic work of preserving and re-establishing on firmer and more enduring foundations this grand fabric of independent States handed down to us by our fore-fathers.

When the corner stone of this institution was laid in June, 1877, while it was not expressed officially, it was generally understood that the Encampment would meet here and conduct the ceremonies incident to this dedication when completed. For want of funds to carry on the work, little was done during the winter of 1877-8, which delayed the opening several months. The promptness with which the State Legislature responded to the request of the then Board of Trustees to assume the task of completing and maintaining the Home enabled the present Board to continue the work in the month of June last, with a determination to push the work as rapidly as possible. Contracts were entered into without delay and every effort made to get them ready for the reception of inmates before winter should spread his snowy mantle over these hills. While the work was pushed vigorously, it was found impossible to get them ready before the month of December, and as the formal opening was to take place about the time the Annual Encampment is usually held, I thought it would meet the approbation of Comrades throughout the Department to assemble here, transact the business of the Encampment and at the same time participate in the formal dedication of these buildings to the purposes for which they were erected. I therefore directed the Assistant Adjutant-General in his correspondence with officers of Posts to bring the matter to the attention of Comrades for the purpose of ascertaining whether, under the circumstances, a change of the place of holding the Encampment would be favorably received and it did not take long to discover that the general voice was in favor of the change, and the hope expressed that it might be made. I then convened the Council of Administration in this village at the same time that the Board of Trustees would be in session. The Trustees also recognizing the propriety of having the Grand Army meet in the buildings erected through its efforts, unanimously invited the Encampment to meet here at this time, and courteously extended the hospitalities of the Home to all who could make it convenient to attend.

This invitation was presented to the Council and was at once accepted and the Department Commander was requested to assume the responsibility of making the change. This responsibility I did not hesitate to take, and I trust that my action and that of the Council will meet with your approval.

It affords me much pleasure to state that notwithstanding the general depression of the business interests of the country, the Department more than holds its own. The reports of the Department staff will acquaint you with its present condition, and I think you will see nothing in them to discourage you from continuing in the good work.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME, BUILDING 29 HABS No. NY-6339-A

(Page 32)

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

JANUARY 31, 1879

The subject of changing the time for holding the Annual Encampment has frequently been discussed among comrades and I bring the matter to your attention in order that you may take such action in the matter as may seem proper, and our representatives to the National Encampment instructed accordingly.

The fidelity with which the Department staff have performed their duty meets my warmest commendation. The labors of the Assistant Adjutant-General and the Assistant Quarter-Master-General especially deserve suitable recognition at the hands of the Encampment, for the promptness and intelligence with which they have discharged the duties devolving upon them.

A few facts connected with the erection and equipment of the Home may not be uninteresting to you at this time.

The whole amount of subscriptions collected under the auspices of the old Board of Trustees, including that paid for the land, was \$74,325 46. The amount appropriated by the Legislature to finish and furnish the buildings, and work upon the grounds, was \$17,361.00; making a total of \$137,986 46 as the cost of buildings, land and improvement of grounds. It may be asserted without fear of contradiction, that no public building has been erected for the accommodation of the same number of persons, at so small an expenditure, and Comrade Parkinson, the Superintendent, is entitled to the highest credit for the able and efficient manner in which he has discharged his important and onerous duty. [This allusion to comrade Parkinson's good work was heartily applauded.] The Legislature also appropriated \$13,000.00 for the support of the inmates until the present Legislature makes further provision for this purpose.

But comrades, our labors in this connection are not yet finished. Before the lapse of another year it will be found that the accommodations here provided will not be sufficient for all who are entitled to the benefits of this Home, and the Legislature will be called upon for a liberal appropriation during its present session for the erection of additional buildings. Each of you must use your influence with the representatives from your several localities to secure this end.

Here, then, is an additional incentive for us to hold fast to our organization; to continue to invite all those who shared the perils of the battle field in behalf of the Union to enlist in our ranks. Each revolving year lessens the number of those who form our membership. The unseen foe to whom all must succumb, moves silently and mysteriously through our ranks, and summons them to bivouac with the dead. So much the more important is it for us who survive to be not weary in our work. Let not the Grand Army cease to exist, while there are soldiers of the war left to perpetuate it. It forms a link between the present and the past. It keeps alive our respect and veneration for the flag. It will keep alive the spirit of patriotism and instill that sentiment into the hearts of the rising generation. Its mission is peace and good will—to heal the wounds of war—to practice and inculcate the golden principles of our order—fraternity, charity and loyalty—uniting in the common bond of sympathy all sections of our common country, having in view one common object: one day, one country, one destiny. I surrender into your hands the responsibility with which you invested me one

year ago, with profound and heartfelt thanks for the high and distinguished honor conferred, and for the soldierly courtesy with which you have treated me.

WILLIAM E. ROYER, Department Commander.

The report of the Assistant Adjutant-General shows that 14 posts have been organized, charters have been issued to one at Naples (since organized), and to one at Brooklyn. The charter of one Post, which had been surrendered, was released. Watrous Post, of Binghamton, which began the year with 32 members, reports at the close of the year 252 members in good standing. Kellen Post, No. 32, musters 430 and Law Honellist, No. 6, 230 members. Post 12, 56, 65, 77 and 7 have largely increased their membership. The increase in Watrous Post was due to the hard work of Comrade L. Coe Young, who, besides the above work in his own Post was mainly instrumental in the organization of four new Posts. The department subscribed \$1017.14 for the relief of the Southern sufferers by the fellow fever.

The report of the Assistant Quarter-Master-General shows a cash balance on hand of \$354.52.

The report of the Department Inspector shows the department to be in excellent condition.

During the reading of the reports Comrade Henry W. Slocum, chairman of the Board of Trustees, entered the room and was greeted with the G. A. R. cheer. He congratulated the boys on the completion of the work and invited them to inspect it thoroughly.

A telegram was sent to the President, requesting him to sign the bill for the payment of arrears of pensions, which has been passed by Congress.

General James McQuade, of Utica, and L. Coe Young, of Binghamton, were the candidates for Department Commander. The contest was close and Comrade McQuade was elected. On motion of Comrade Young, the election was made unanimous.

Comrades Barnum and Perley were detailed as a committee to notify Comrade McQuade of his election, and escort him to the platform.

The Commander elect was introduced and responded briefly, promising to do his utmost to advance the interests of the order, and of the Home, of which he is one of the Trustees.

Three cheers were given for McQuade, Coe, Tanner, Barnum, Parkinson and others, and then the Encampment took one hour's recess for supper.

THE EVENING SESSION.

The Encampment was called to order at 8 o'clock and the following comrades were elected to fill the various offices for the year:

Senior Vice Commander, Jacob Weising, New York; Junior Vice Commander, J. Marshall Guion, Seneca Falls; Medical Director, J. E. Seelye, (re-elected); Chaplain, J. H. Barnard, (re-elected).

DELEGATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

L. Coe Young, (at large), Binghamton; J. C. J. Langbein, New York; George F. Tait, Brooklyn; A. B. Lawrence, Warsaw; Constantine Nitzsche, New York; J. E. Nugent, New York.

ALTERNATES.

Aaron Sage, (at large), Cortland; McIntire, Troy; J. A. Judd, New York; S. Sammons, Florida; J. J. Sayler, Rome; J. E. Savery, Auburn.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

C. W. Mehner, New York; T. J. Bell, Auburn; H. F. Finley, New York; J. W. Porter, J. B. Stanbrough, Oswego.

The thanks of the Department for his good work in connection with the Soldiers' Home was ordered to be mailed to Comrade Judson A. Lewis, formerly Secretary of the Board of Trustees, who is now in business at Sierra Leone, West Coast of Africa.

It was resolved that the semi annual encampment be held at Ithaca in July, and that the next annual encampment be held at Auburn.

The hearty thanks of the Department were tendered to the people of Bath, and of the whole state for their noble efforts in behalf of the Home, and to the railroad companies for the courtesies extended to delegates and visiting comrades.

The thanks of the Department were tendered to the board of Trustees for their generous hospitality and to Comrade E. C. Parkinson, Superintendent of the Home for the cordial reception given the delegates and the attention he paid to their comfort and convenience.

Bingham Post, No. 71, of Naples, was then mustered in by Commander Geo. B. Squires, of Rankin Post, No. 10, of Brooklyn, assisted by the officers of that Post. The secret work was illustrated by the use of a scripticon and the ceremonies were very impressive. The encampment was then closed.

During their stay the boys made themselves comfortable at the Home and enjoyed the return to life in barracks hugely. There was very little sleep obtained in the quarters, as the "sweet and pillow" brigade was out in full force and a man would have to be chloroformed and left to go to sleep under the circumstances. Thursday night witnessed a general dispersal, though some remained over. It is certain that the first visit of the Encampment to the comfortable Home will be a memorable event in its history, and a real better day in the life of every comrade who attended.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME, BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 33)

Page 9 of 22

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE
JANUARY 31, 1879

THE DEDICATION SERVICES.

At 11 o'clock, A. M. on Thursday the Home and attached buildings were thoroughly inspected by the Board of Trustees and the comrades of the Grand Army, and all expressed themselves highly pleased with the neatness, order, cleanliness and comfort everywhere apparent. It was felt that the Home in all its appointments is fully equal to the anticipations of the founders, and the thanks of the Board of Trustees and of the Grand Army of the Republic are due to Comrades Parkinson, Superintendent; O'Driscoll, Adjutant, and Nash, Secretary, for the efficient manner in which their duties are discharged.

The formal services of dedication were held in the hall of the main building. Crowds of ladies and gentlemen from Bath and the surrounding country flocked to the Home, and the Hall was crowded to its utmost capacity. The Governor, unable to be present, was represented by Brigadier-General Clarence Campbell, of Bath, Quarter Master General, of the Staff, in full uniform. The following members forming the joint committee of the Legislature were present: Senator Lounis, and Charles Orr, Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate; and Messrs. Langbein, Trowbridge, Stegman, Brundage, McKeel, Curtis, Wadsworth, Broadhead, Strahan, Sharpe, Ackerson, Jones, Patterson, Douglas and Brennan, of the Assembly.

Of military dignitaries that were present Major-General Henry W. Stocum, President of the Board of Trustees, Gens. McQuade, of Utica, Quinby, of Rochester, Robinson, of Binghamton, Lansing, of Corning, Gregg, of Elmira, Rogers and Stanbrock, of Buffalo, Barnum, Crane, and Taggart.

Amel J. McCail, Jonathan Robie, John F. Little, Hon. W. P. Letchworth, Dr. C. S. Hoyt, John F. Henry, L. Cox Young, and Hon. Seymour Dexter, were also present.

Of representatives of the press there were present from Buffalo, Duffy of the Express, Raymond of the Courier, Parker of the Commercial, and Butler of the Sunday News; from Rochester, Willard of the Democrat and Clifton of the Union; from New York, Fergus of the Star and Parker of the Herald; H. H. Rockwell represented the Elmira Gazette.

Thus, with other distinguished gentlemen, occupied seats on the platform. On the left of the platform sat Grelsinger's celebrated orchestra of Bath and Hurlburt's Letchworth Rifle Band, of Warsaw, and on the right, the Apollo Glee Club, of Elmira. The hall was handsomely decorated with flags.

General Stocum called the assemblage to order and said that Comrade Barnard, Department Chaplain, would invoke the Divine blessing.

Comrade Barnard prayed that the Heavenly Father would bestow a rich blessing on the originators of and contributors to this noble charity, on the comrades of the Grand Army, and on the people of the State and nation. He prayed that in future the Republic may be greater and more glorious than it has ever been in the past.

The Secretary, Captain Little, then read the following letters:

LETTERS IN RESPONSE TO INVITATIONS.

State of New York,
Executive Chamber,
Albany, Jan. 24, 1879.
Gen. H. W. Stocum, President &c.
Dear Sir:—The Governor very much regrets that the overwhelming pressure of public duties upon his time forbids him the pleasure of attending the inaugural ceremonies of the Soldiers' Home. He desires me to express his cordial acknowledgments for the courtesy of your invitation, and his best wishes for its future success. At the same time he takes great pleasure in extending his thanks to the Board for the fidelity and energy with which they have discharged the important duties committed to them.

Yours very truly,
D. C. ROBINSON.
31 & 26 FREDRICKS PLACE,
New York, January 24th, 1879.

Dear Sir:—I have had the pleasure to receive your invitation to be present on the 24th instant, the occasion of the opening of the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home.

It would give me great pleasure in witness for myself the realization of the hope formed many years ago, when I had an active part in the public duties of this State, but other engagements compel me to decline. I trust however, it may not be out of place for me to express the hope that this institution may measure fully up to the anticipations of those who have worked so earnestly in its behalf, and that it may prove a comfortable home for the noble patriots who, by services rendered their country, were disqualified from pursuing a calling by which they could maintain themselves. Surely our gratitude is due to these brave men as well as to those who have been striving in their efforts to procure this for them.

Yours, very truly,
L. D. MORGAN.
Bath, Henry W. Stocum, and others, Trustees,
Bath, Steuben county, N. Y.

Washington, January 20, 1879.
Gentlemen:—I have the honor to acknowledge your invitation to be present at the opening of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, at Bath, on Thursday, the 24th inst., is received. I very much regret that it will not be in my power to attend the opening. It would be a great pleasure to me to meet the friends and acquaintances who will be at Bath on this interesting occasion. Thanking you for your courteous invitation, I am,
Yours, truly,
FRANCIS KENNY.
Lieut. Colonel, and others, Trustees of the "Home."

New York, January 20, 1879.
Gentlemen:—I have the honor to acknowledge your invitation to be present at the opening of the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home on the 24th inst. This interesting occasion, and a grateful sense of what is due to those for whom the "Home" is intended would make the possibility of my being present more agreeable—but I am unable to attend, and am compelled to decline your kind invitation. With much respect,
Your obedient servant,
HAMILTON FISKE.
Gen. H. W. Stocum, and others, Trustees of Bath.

Washington Square,
New York, January 20, 1879.
Dear Sir:—I have to thank your Board for the cordial invitation to be present at the opening on Thursday next, of the "N. Y. State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home," and to express my regret that I shall be unavoidably deprived of that pleasure. I have the honor to be, Dear Sir,
Faithfully yours,
JOHN JAY.
St. John's Parsonage,
No. 10 W. Washington Place,
New York, Jan. 21st, 1879.

Major Genl Henry W. Stocum, and Board of Trustees.
Dear Sir:—I regret very much that I cannot be present at the formal opening of the Home, which the gratitude of the people of this State has erected for its distressed soldiers and sailors. I feel towards them as if they offered their lives for me as well as to save the life of the nation and I know that I can never repay adequately their devotion and sacrifice. Say to them for me that I pray that they may be happy in their new Home, and that I will ever be their grateful and devoted friend.
Truly yours,
THOMAS FARRELL.
Executive Office of Jas. H. McCarroll,
New York, Va., January 19th, 1879.
Board of Trustees, N. Y. State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Bath, N. Y.

Gentlemen:—I am greatly obliged for your invitation to attend the opening of your "Home," and, but for previous engagements, would gladly avail myself of this opportunity for social and bearing home the "Empire State" honors and provides for those that went forth to battle as its soil. As a citizen of Virginia, I believe its call in the great struggle that furnished the reason for your official existence, and bore my part, in accordance with my convictions, in the making of that history, of which, viewed as history, all of us, as citizens of a now well united, common country, are proud; at the same time, as a native of your great State, it was with peculiar satisfaction that I had occasion on a more of well fought fields, to witness the same valiant bearing of the men of New York. Again regretting that I cannot attend your inauguration, I hope that your "Home" may have an auspicious opening, and that one may survive to enjoy its comforts and "feel how feels when you or I lost," the veterans for whom it is intended.
Yours, very respectfully,
ED. RITCHIE,
Formerly Top'l Eng. on the Staff of "Stone-wall" Jackson.

67 Madison Ave.
New York, Jan. 24, 1879.
My Dear Gen. Stocum:—I regret that I cannot avail myself of the invitation received last evening to attend the opening of the Soldiers' Home at Bath, tomorrow. Engagements make it impossible for me to be there. With my best wishes for the success of the institution, and of which all feel assured while it is under your direction, allow me to subscribe myself with high respect,
Sincerely yours,
E. S. SULLIVAN.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME, BUILDING 29 HABS No. NY-6339-A (Page 34)

Page 10 of 22

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

JANUARY 31, 1879

Na. 122 East 12th St. N. Y. 21.
Gentlemen: I have received the invitation with which you have honored me, to attend the opening exercises of the N. Y. Soldiers' and Sailors' Home. This invitation comes to me at so late an hour that I shall be unable to be with you on the day when you need to rear another monument to testify that we have a Republic, and State, that is neither forgetful of its dead, or ungrateful to its living defenders. The crew of the Hatteras, who so nobly supported me in that desperate conduct with the Alabama, were mostly young men from the River Counties of this State. No doubt, some one of these men may be with you on the day when your liberality will open to them a "Sunny Harbor" for life, and it would be a great gratification to me, as their commanding officer, to stand and testify to their bravery and patriotism, and join in thanks for the noble bounty bestowed by our State. I am your obedient servant. HOMER CHASE HAYCK, Capt. in U. S. Navy.

State of New York - Senate Chamber, Albany, January 23, 1879.
Col. E. C. PARSONS, Supt. Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Bath, N. Y.
My Dear Sir: I regret that I am unable to participate in the formal opening upon the 23d inst. of the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home. The successful establishment of this Home is a credit to the State and a cause of congratulation to all who have contributed to that result, and particularly is credit and congratulation due to that organization - The Grand Army of the Republic of the State of New York - which first conceived and carried forward the project. Yours, respectfully, IRA DAVENPORT.

New York, January 10th, 1879.
To the Board of Trustees of the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, at Bath, N. Y.
Gentlemen: I have the honor to acknowledge your invitation to the formal opening of your Institution on the 23d inst. My most heartfelt desire is a prosperous career for it. I very much regret that the duties which devolve upon me will prevent my acceptance. Very truly yours, W. WAGNER, Senator, 15th District.

Albany, January 23d, 1879.
Col. E. C. PARSONS, Supt. of Soldiers' & Sailors' Home, Bath, N. Y.
My Dear Sir: I regret exceedingly that I cannot attend the formal opening of the "Soldiers' and Sailors' Home" on the 23d inst. Permits me to congratulate you and your associates upon the success of this most patriotic and admirable enterprise. I am with great respect, Yours, sincerely, SHERMAN S. ROGERS.

Albany, N. Y., January 17, 1879.
Hon. H. W. STODOL, President:
My Dear Sir: I sincerely regret that a previous engagement will prevent my acceptance of the invitation to be present at the opening of the N. Y. State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Thursday, 23d inst. Very Respectfully, D. S. W. CLARK.

Albany, N. Y., January 16th, 1879.
Gentlemen: I regret that official business will prevent my acceptance of your kind invitation to be present at the opening of the "Home." Very respectfully, Yours, JOHN D. McHENRY, Hon. H. W. Stodol, Jas. McQuinn, and others, Trustees of N. Y. State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Bath.

Adjutant General's Office, Albany, January 13, 1879.
My Dear Sir: I am greatly indebted for your kindness in extending an invitation to be present at the formal opening of the N. Y. State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home on the 23d inst. and regret that the opening upon the same day of a session of the N. Y. Officers at Albany, will as necessarily prevent my presence with you. Wishing the Home every possible success, in its great future work, I am, Yours, most truly, EDWARD B. WOODWARD, Adj. Gen.

To Capt. E. C. PARSONS, Supt.

No. 215 LESLIE ST. N. Y.
New York, January 18th, 1879.
My Dear Sir: I am in receipt of your circular inviting me to attend the opening of the Soldiers' Home at Bath, on the 23d inst., and for which I thank you. I regret to say however that it will be hardly possible for me to attend, but if circumstances will at all permit, I shall try and be present. Yours, very respectfully, JOHN KELLY.

New York, January 18th, 1879.
Gen. HENRY W. STODOL, and others, Com.
Gent: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to be present at the opening of the "Home" at Bath, on Thursday next, and regret that my engagements in this city will prevent my attendance. I congratulate you and the friends of the N. Y. State Soldiers and Sailors in having procured a "Home" for those reasons, to whom the country is so much indebted, and who are entitled to the gratitude of the people and the care of the State. Yours, very truly, AUGUSTUS SCHELL.

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., Jan. 21, 1879.
Dear Sir: I very much regret that my official duties prevent my attendance on the occasion of the formal opening of the Soldiers' Home at Bath tomorrow. Certainly no more worthy cause can be devised than that which seeks to provide a comfortable home for the brave defenders of the Nation's life and honor on the field of battle; many of whom are destitute and humbler. I am very respectfully yours, J. N. HUNGERFORD, Henry W. Stodol, and others, Trustees, &c.

Department of Public Instruction, Albany, January 7, 1879.
E. C. PARSONS, Esq.
My Dear Sir: Thanks for your invitation to attend the formal opening of the N. Y. State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home. I regret exceedingly that I cannot attend on that interesting occasion. Truly Yours, JOHN GILMOUR.

State of New York, William Augustus Fox, Esq., Sec. 15th, 1879.
Hon. E. C. PARSONS, Esq.
Dear Sir: I beg leave to thank you for the invitation to attend the opening exercises of the Soldiers' Home. It will not be possible for me to attend. I trust every soldier, particularly every brave soldier, will be removed from the county poor houses whither his condition may be. It is a shame that any soldier is in an almshouse day, and I hope the several Acts which protect all their poor were well done. With cordial wishes for your success, I am very respectfully yours, JOHN McARDIN, Gen'l Supt.

City, Jan 27th, 1879.
To the Trustees of the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home,
Gentlemen: I regret that it will not be in my power to accept your polite invitation to be present on the occasion of the opening of the Home Thursday next. This institution is one in which I have much interest as the champion of oppressed men and women by the efforts of soldiers who sacrifice the merits of the defenders of our country. Very respectfully yours, JOHN F. McHUGH.

New York, January 20, 1879.
Gen. E. C. PARSONS, Supt. N. Y. State Soldiers' Home, Bath, N. Y.
Dear Sir: Permits me to thank you in behalf of the Trustees for their kind invitation to be present at the formal opening of the "Home" on the 23d inst. and to express my regrets that business in my family will prevent my attending. Every day you who live in the arms of the country must rejoice that the "Home" has an established and worthy of our State. Yours, EDWARD B. WOODWARD, Late District Major-General U. S. Army.

State of New York, Albany, Jan. 21st, 1879.
Dear Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to join in the opening ceremonies of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home on the 23d inst. I sincerely regret that I cannot be present on that interesting occasion, for I feel a deep interest in the efforts you are making to provide a comfortable home for these worthy men, to whom the country is so largely indebted. However generous the bounty of the State may be in adding to the comforts of their declining years, it can be but a slight return for the sacrifices they have made. I greatly rejoice in the promised success of your praiseworthy endeavor in their behalf. I am very respectfully yours, W. A. RICE.

Talbot, H. W. Stodol, Pres't Board of Trustees, &c.
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., Jan. 20, 1879.
Gen. Jas. McQuinn:
My Dear Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a kind invitation by the Board of Trustees of the Soldiers' Home, at Bath, to be present on the 23d inst. to witness the ceremonies attending the opening of that institution. I have always taken a lively interest in the project of providing a home for the invalid soldiers of our late patriotic army, and am rejoiced that it proves now to have reached its consummation. My doubts have precluded the possibility of my presence at this interesting occasion, but I still feel the same warm spirit with demonstration and utterance appropriate to such a happy reunion. May my warm sentiments to the Board and private me. Very truly yours, WILLIAM BACON.

Buffalo, Jan. 21, 1879.
Dear Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of an invitation to be present at the opening of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, on the 23d inst. I regret exceedingly that my duties in different parts of the State prevent me from being present on that occasion. Respectfully and sincerely, H. J. FARNWORTH, Capt. 3rd Cav. U. S. A.

Rochester, N. Y., Jan. 21st, 1879.
Gen. Stodol, McQuinn, and others, Trustees.
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to attend the formal opening of the N. Y. State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home on the 23d inst. and regret that previous business engagements will prevent me from being present on that occasion. As one of those who did not see the field during the war, I fully and keenly appreciate the obligations the "Home" should feel towards those who were with the soldiers on the field, and who now, by reason of the services they rendered, and themselves obliged to seek a shelter in an asylum. The ordinary gratitude of the world is, I think, a very poor one to bestow, but the man who is unwilling to give liberality of public aid from his substance to maintain comfort during the remainder of their lives the veterans are entitled that he might possess that substance and have a Government to maintain it, ought to be cast into outer darkness. The happiness of the soldiers and sailors of the war who stand in need of a "Home" will be thought of. Yours, &c., W. PURCELL.

Genesee, N. Y., Jan. 16th, 1879.
Dear Sir: I have been honored with the kind invitation from the Trustees of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, at Bath, to be present at the opening ceremonies of the Home on the 23d inst. and greatly regret that my engagement at Albany on that day will prevent my attendance. I should like to thank you for the invitation to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home. Very respectfully yours, G. F. BARNHILL.

Buffalo, Jan. 20th, 1879.
Dear Sir: I am in receipt of the Trustees' invitation to be present at the opening ceremonies of the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, at Bath, on the 23d inst. and I am very glad to hear that you are so interested in the project. I am glad to hear that the Trustees on the completion of their building and the opening of our State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, will be a great blessing to the soldiers and sailors of the war who stand in need of their possible care. Respectfully yours, &c., R. H. HANNING.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME, BUILDING 29 HABS No. NY-6339-A

(Page 35)

Page 11 of 22

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

JANUARY 31, 1879

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS, Albany, Jan. 11th, 1879. Hon. A. J. McCull, Trustee of N. Y. State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Bath, N. Y. Dear Sir:—I am in receipt of an invitation to be present at the formal opening of the "Home" on Thursday, January 23d, 1879. I sincerely regret my inability to be present on that occasion, and desire to return thanks for the honor of an invitation. I am gratified to learn that New York is generous and charitable to her infirm soldiers and sailors who so gallantly went to the "front" to maintain the unity of the Federal Government in the time of its severest necessity. All honor to the citizens of Bath, who have so generously provided a "Home" for the valiant soldiers and sailors who, through the misfortunes of war, or otherwise, need a helping hand. May the blessing of God attend those who have in any manner contributed to the success of the enterprise, and may the influence which the benevolence, charity and generosity of the good people of Bath exert upon the community and State, inspire in the hearts of our young men, patriotism, loyalty, industry and her institutions.

Respectfully yours, JNO. L. SEXTON, JR. Utica, Jan. 11th, 1879.

General:—I congratulate you on the opening of the Home for the soldiers and sailors of the State, and believe it will provide for many worthy men who otherwise might suffer for comforts and for shelter. Your programme in this regard would give me pleasure to be present as a witness and witness, but my engagements prevent. Your obedient servant, ELLIOT H. ROBERTS, Hon. H. W. Slocom, Hon. W. F. Rogers, Hon. James McQuade, and others, Board of Trustees.

Newark, N. J., January 20th, 1879. A. J. McCull, Esq., Bath, N. Y. Dear Sir:—I have leave to acknowledge receipt of invitation to the opening of the N. Y. State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, at Bath, N. Y., on the 23d inst., and should be much pleased to attend on that occasion if circumstances would permit. I shall be obliged, however, to forego the pleasure it would afford me. Please convey to the Board of Trustees my thanks for the honor they do me, and hoping your undertaking will prove a grand success, and an honor to your State and town, I am, with respect, Yours Truly, J. H. MARTINDALE, Mexican War Veteran.

Rochester, N. Y., January 21, 1879. Dear Sir:—I am in receipt of an invitation to be present at the opening of the N. Y. State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, at Bath, on the 23d inst. I am constrained by numerous and conflicting professional engagements to decline your invitation. I regret this necessity. At some early day I hope to be able to visit the Soldiers' Home, and to me an object of peculiar interest. I earnestly desire that it may be fostered by the State, so as to become a just monument to its liberality and gratitude towards her meritorious soldiers. Respectfully and truly yours, J. H. MARTINDALE.

To C. C. PARSONS, Sup't. Ad. ELIZABETH, Jan. 21st, 1879. Jas. Hall, Albany; J. L. Hance, Albany; Saml. Cannell, N. Y. Mills; Andrew H. Green, New York; James Rankin, Geneva; C. F. Reynolds, New York; David E. Fay, Buffalo; C. H. Williams, Buffalo; Dr. Jas. P. White, Buffalo; Dr. J. W. Simpson, Henry; J. Gunn, Ft. L. Walla; Chas. E. Kauter, Can. Biller and wife, Geneva; Jas. O. Pottam, Buffalo; Perry Hopple, Bath; Jas. E. Hester, Hamilton. I desire to express my appreciation to the following: J. H. Hitchcock, Albany; James Alfred Ayres, Brooklyn; C. A. Richardson, Canastota; H. A. Richardson, New York; J. R. Douglas, Canastota; J. J. Johnson, Haverhill; and J. H. Robinson, Elmira.

The Apollo Club sang "Comrades in Arms" and were loudly applauded. General Henry W. Slocom, President of the Board of Trustees, then addressed the audience, as follows:

GEN. SLOCOM'S ADDRESS.

Ladies and Gentlemen:—The Board of Trustees have assigned to me the pleasant duty of welcoming you to the Home on the occasion of this formal opening. We rejoice to meet so many officials of the State—gentlemen upon whose judgment the future of this Institution will depend. We are glad, also, to meet so many representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic—the organization that originated and established this Home; and that, but not least, we are pleased to meet so many who, in the early days of the struggle to establish a Home, contributed liberally to its aid. You all know what was done by the people of this village in behalf of the enterprise, and will welcome them to front seats in your gathering. Although institutions of this character are well known and have always been cherished by every civilized government of the Old World, this is the first one established by our State. England, France, Germany and most of the minor States of Europe not only support homes like this, where those who have been disabled at war are in military service can rest and pass in quietness and peace their remaining days, but carry all of their benevolent and scientific work to the children of those disabled in battle or at sea, and where they become wards of the State.

The Soldiers' Home at Washington was the first institution of this character ever established in our country. This Home appears to have been established almost by accident. After the surrender of the City of Mexico in 1847, the United States troops were taking possession of the city, and the terms of surrender, they were fired upon by the organized bands of Mexican soldiers, and a few days were lost. For this violation of the rules of war General Scott imposed upon the city as a penalty the payment of a sum of money, the precise amount of which I cannot now call to mind. The fine was paid, and the money was subsequently deposited in some of the banks of New York city. After the close of the Mexican war it was proposed to be made of this money was referred to Congress. After considerable discussion it was decided upon the recommendation of General Scott, to purchase a farm near the City of Washington, and to establish there a Home for the disabled soldiers of the regular army. In this excellent way was established that beautiful park and extensive home for old soldiers which is one of the chief points of interest in the river at our national capital, and which has been the summer residence of nearly all our late Presidents. It is supported by fortifications, innanced by courts martial, and a part of the regular army, and by voluntary contributions of soldiers—on certain months settling the soldier in a position when disabled by wounds, disease or old age. It has at this time some four hundred inmates, most of whom are feeble old men who have been worn out in the service of the country. Some of them are the heroes of many a hard-fought battle with the Indians in Florida and our Western Territories.

Others are familiar with nearly all the battles with Mexico, and can relate from personal knowledge the incidents in the City of Mexico which resulted in the establishment of their Home. Most of them can tell us of many a scene during our late civil war of a thrilling nature, and for their importance to our country. They are all men who merit a quiet home during their few remaining years, and it is to the credit of our Government that one has been provided for them. Soon after the close of our civil war the Government purchased four homes for disabled volunteer soldiers. The locations were chosen with the view of accommodating all sections of the United States, one being at Augusta, Me., one at Burlington, Wis., one at Dayton, Ohio, and the other at Hamilton, N. Y. These institutions have been very successful, and have more than met the expectations of those responsible for their establishment. They provide pleasant and cheerful homes for nearly 7,000 disabled men, and as an expense that compares favorably with the cost of supporting a single man in one of our charitable institutions. The Home at Canton is a model, and is preferred by thousands of patriotic people, and I believe, as I have just said, that something more than a sufficient basis is due to the State and the people who have been so successful in their efforts to provide a home for the disabled men of our country. It is a privilege to be permitted to be the first to speak something better than a home in our time.

The question may be asked, Why not send our disabled soldiers to these National asylums? Why not send them to these institutions for their accommodation? Many good and valid reasons can be given in answer to this question. First, these National homes are filled to their utmost capacity and although fourteen years have elapsed since the close of the war, it is stated in the official report of the managers of these institutions that the number of applications at the present time is greater than ever. Again, there are many soldiers who have never been out of the limits of the State of New York except to fight its battles, who desire to leave the vicinity of their life-long associations. There are to-day more soldiers in the charitable institutions of our State than can be accommodated in this Home, who can be supported here as economically as in these institutions, and with more credit to the State. Why should New York hesitate to provide a home for her defenders? She is a great State and has a great history. Look at her war record! The General Government under her various calls obtained 250,000 soldiers. Of this vast army the State of New York alone contributed 65,232 volunteers, being one sixth of the entire number called into the field by the Government. The greatest number enrolled and at any time was at the close of the war. On the first of May, 1862, we had on the rolls of the army one million of men.

The total number of deaths of Union soldiers during the war from all causes, was 210,000. The number killed outright in battle was 61,221; the number who died of wounds was 49,235. Of all the sacrifices the State of New York bore more than her share. I have no means of ascertaining the amount of money loaned to the Government by citizens and corporations of our State during the war, but I am certain the amount was, in proportion, far in excess of her contributions to the ranks of the army.

As a soldier, I take pride in the fact that my native State was able to furnish for the suppression of the rebellion, a vast army of nearly half a million of men; but as a citizen I take a still deeper pride in the fact that during the dark hours of the rebellion, and the still darker hours that have succeeded it, the great State of New York has been the firm and exacting advocate of national honor, and of discipline with fidelity every obligation due the Government creditor.

A great State like ours, cannot afford to allow her defenders to remain in mass of pauper-homes or even compel them to seek asylums beyond her own borders. This Home, as you all know, was established by voluntary contributions; the sum thus contributed being about \$40,000. About a year ago the institution was transferred to the State and appropriations were made for the completion of the building. The amount expended by the State for all purposes, up to the present time, has been \$12,000. We have invited you here to-day, to enable you to examine our work and pass judgment upon it. I think every citizen should be charged upon those who have had the management of it. This beautiful farm of 210 acres, with all these buildings, out-houses, reservoir, and the furnishing of all the furniture, has cost less than was last year appropriated by the Legislature in which I live for the erection of a new jail—no, not a new jail, but only a wing to our old jail. This property is worth to the State to-day far more than its cost. In the course of a few years when its present occupants shall have passed away, it will, undoubtedly, be needed by the State for other purposes. Our requirements for the indigent and helpless keep pace with the increase of population. But if this property should ever be used for any other purpose, our investment will still be a profitable one, for it will afford evidence to the rising generation that the great State of New York is not unmindful of them who defend her. As it was not anticipated that the Home would be opened until the meeting of the present Legislature, only a small sum was appropriated for the subsistence of the inmates. The Board of Trustees, therefore, have felt that they could not be justified in admitting such a small number of those who have applied for admission. These already admitted are primarily those of those who will assist the institution. We see you to-day in them. Most of them are uneducated and unpolished, but all of them are men of their word, and their respect to you is a tribute to your sympathy and respect—the evidence of their wounds received in battles fought in your behalf.

Although this is now a State Institution, and must be hereafter supported by the State, it bears the name of "The Soldiers' and Sailors' Home of the Grand Army of the Republic." This name is appropriate, because the Home has its origin in the grand army of the Republic. It is the just and proper name for this institution. It is the just and proper name for this institution, which settles them to your sympathy and respect—the evidence of their wounds received in battles fought in your behalf. Although this is now a State Institution, and must be hereafter supported by the State, it bears the name of "The Soldiers' and Sailors' Home of the Grand Army of the Republic." This name is appropriate, because the Home has its origin in the grand army of the Republic. It is the just and proper name for this institution. It is the just and proper name for this institution, which settles them to your sympathy and respect—the evidence of their wounds received in battles fought in your behalf.

The band played "The Star Spangled Banner."

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 36)

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE
JANUARY 31, 1879

General W. F. Rogers, of Buffalo, the retiring Department Commander, was introduced and said:

GEN. ROGERS ADDRESS.

Mr. President, Fellow Citizens and Comrades— I offer no apology for occupying the position in which you find me to-day, nor express any regret that the task imposed upon me was not entrusted to other hands. I find myself simply the creature of circumstances. One year ago I was honored by my comrades by being chosen the Commander of the Department of New York Grand Army of the Republic, and holding this position at the time when these buildings were completed and ready for occupation, those having charge of the work, together with a committee of Comrades associated with them to make arrangements for their dedication to the purposes for which they were erected, detailed me for this duty, not because it is my fortune to be at the head of the Department. As obedience is the next duty of the soldier, although I felt that they might have done much better for you as well as for myself, I assumed the task imposed upon me.

Comrades and fellow citizens, we have assembled here to-day to dedicate to valor and patriotism an institution partially erected by private benevolence but now endowed by the State to be a Home for the support of the helpless and indigent comrades who participated in the struggle for national existence and aided in again making the flag we followed the symbol of a reunited country, but who are debarred the benefits of the homes under the patronage of the national government.

It was meet that this Home should have opened its doors at this season of the year, when the human heart is open, more than at any other time to charitable deeds. The last anniversary of the advent of the Saviour of mankind found thirty-one inmates in this Home who owe their lives and cheer within these walls; (applause) and each retaining anniversary of an event which is celebrated throughout Christendom—the birth of this meek and lowly son of God, who took upon himself man's nature and man's sufferings, and became a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; that the crying children of the race might through him offer a more perfect Rome beyond the realms of this world—they will continue to remind those who are gathered here, remnants of the host who went forth to battle for the right, that the lesson taught by him who speaks as never man spake, brought down to us through the centuries, are spreading their benign influences in the hearts of men and moving them to noble deeds of charity, to commiserate the misfortunes of those who, by the mysterious decrees of Providence, are bereft of the glad gifts which enable us to see our way and speak as well as the subjects of that worst of all human afflictions, a mind diseased.

The distinguished citizen who is to follow me, and who has made these subjects his special study—letting to them a large-hearted benevolence which will entitle his name, in after years, to rank among the benefactors of his kind—will tell you

WHAT NEW YORK HAS DONE

and is doing for this class of unfortunate humanity. And he comes here to-day to participate with us in celebrating the establishment of a sacred project, the outgrowth of a sentiment so pure as any which adorns human nature—the sentiment which recognizes the trials, dangers and sufferings of those who left behind them their families to break the storm of war, and form a wall of fire between your homes and an enemy, who, whose recalcitrant arms were raised to destroy the inheritance bequeathed to us by the fathers of the Republic. Happily for us the resources and patriotism of the North were equal to the task of re-equipping the national authority. The Union was saved, but at what fearful cost. Happily for us, also, when the emergency had subsided and responded to the call of their country, and accomplished its work and returned to their quiet homes, and again assume the duties and responsibilities of citizens, there was a demand for the services of all in the peaceful pursuits of life, and years of prosperity have been to the wounds of war. Then followed a time of general depression, and the years passed it seemed that many who followed the flag became the peculiar

VICTIMS OF THIS CHANGED CONDITION

of things. The homage to the returning hero

at the close of the war was forgotten. The platforms of political conventions which during the strife abounded with promises that those who fought for the country should, other things being equal, be entitled to places within the gift of the State or people, no longer alluded to the services of the great volunteer army. Loyalty to party is recognized as paramount to loyalty to country, and the humble position of the poor soldier for the privilege of earning his bread by the labor of his hands is too often ignored. But those who shared with him the baptism of fire are always ready to sympathize with him and aid him. Few outside the

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

are aware of the benefits which the soldier and his family have received from the funds contributed by its members. It has been charged that our organization is a political one, that we are banded together for the purpose of controlling political action, and this charge has tended to prejudice the minds of free soldiers against us, who have consequently kept aloof from our councils. The occasion which has called us together to-day would be a sufficient refutation of this charge; but let us try to further satisfy the unjustified, will quote

ITS OBJECTS.

First—To preserve and strengthen those kind and fraternal feelings which bind together the soldiers, sailors and marines who united to suppress the late rebellion, and to perpetuate the memory and history of the deed.

Second—To assist such former comrades in arms as need help and protection, and to extend useful aid to the widows and orphans of those who have fallen.

Third—To maintain true allegiance to the United States of America, based upon a permanent respect for and fidelity to the national constitution and laws; to discourage whatever tends to weaken loyalty, incite to insurrection, treason or rebellion, or in any manner impair the efficiency and permanency of our free institutions, and to encourage the spread of universal liberty, equal rights and justice to all men.

This is our platform, and to these principles we are solemnly bound. It is an association which has entitled us to enjoy the wants of our comrades, and the needy one knows that where there is a host of the Grand Army he will be sure of a fraternal welcome and such assistance as their ability will permit. It is an association which brought to our knowledge the unpleasant fact that worthy comrades, bereft down by disease and suffering, were inmates of every almshouse in the State.

Those of us who have been more favored, and permitted to greet each other in our common graves, actuated by a common bond of sympathy, determined to make an effort to relieve these unfortunate comrades from the humiliating condition into which they were forced by dire necessity, and resolved to appeal to the sense of justice of the people of the State to aid us in providing a asylum for their reception and support.

I need not go into the details of the efforts put forth from time to time during the last few years to accomplish this result. It was not until the

DEED OF BENEVOLENCE

through the personal efforts of Commander Tanager and Harbison, had guaranteed the sum of ten thousand dollars towards the erection of a Soldiers' Home that the scheme of establishing it by voluntary contributions was thought likely to succeed. How well that patriotic city reference to the promise of giving us fourteen thousand dollars of us is fresh in your memories; and then when the village of Bath, with generous liberality, offered this sum and a money contribution of five thousand dollars, aggregating over twenty thousand dollars, we set on foot that success was within our grasp, and that the establishment of Home in the near future was assured. Our comrades throughout the department were called to bend their energies to the work which resulted in such flattering success that the work of construction was commenced early in the spring of 1877, and in the month of June of that year

THE CORNER STONE

was laid by Commander Tanager. In the presence of the Encampment and a large concourse of citizens who assembled here to witness and participate in the interesting ceremonies. The fall of that year found the walls of these buildings up and enclosed. But our funds were exhausted, and the prospect of securing the means to complete them by voluntary contributions seemed hopeless. Then it was determined to go to the Legislature with a proposition to turn them over to the State provided it would finish, furnish and maintain them. Without a dissenting voice the Legislature accepted the proposition, and thus in a little over eighteen months from the time the corner stone was laid the Encampment is again here, in mid-winter, to find the cope stone in its place, and to-day we have the proud satisfaction of realizing that the stain which has been resting upon the fair fame of our beloved State is effaced forever.

Comrades and fellow citizens: The event we this day celebrate is one of the proudest in the history of this proud State. It marks the performance of a duty too long delayed, but now accomplished. It is a promise for the future that if under Providence this country should again become involved in war, a place of refuge is provided for those who, after serving it faithfully, may need its shelter. The country which cares for the one who serve it faithfully will certainly care for the defender. Here is erected a monument which will perpetuate the services of the humble heroes who will be gathered within these walls. We shared their dangers, their hardships—the bronze on the column, the midnight alarm, the forced march and the shock of battle, when the sound of the gun, the shrieking shell and whistling bullets greeted the ear, where the throu of the charging lines drowned the cries of the wounded as we shivered beneath the hail of arrows and the stinging glance of the glared eye settling in death, which but served you to push forward to victory, or, like them, sink to earth and die. Who but those who have passed through the furnace of war can feel as we feel for these scattered and shivered remnants of our legions? And now having accomplished that for which we have labored we can go hence with the proud satisfaction of having aided in providing a place for their reception, not as objects of charity, but as the recipients of a just debt for services rendered. And here, were a majority assure has been clothed this beautiful valley in the verdure of spring, and these meadow and impenetrable woods shall look down from these hills upon the buildings erected for their, or gaze sorrow upon the battle-fields, and

think thoughtful on the solemn, silent shore

Of that vast ocean they must sail an ocean,

will they not miss their eyes in devout thankfulness

to him who permitted them to live long

enough to be thus rescued from a pauper's life

and a pauper's grave?

While we have been instrumental in affording

them a home, we have been instrumental in affording

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NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME, BUILDING 29 HABS No. NY-6339-A

THE STEVEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

We have no accurate statistical information as to the number of helpless soldiers in the neighborhoods of our State. Therefore I will not attempt to give every...

and anxious of religion, black and of sight, and men, acted by a common instinct of universal brotherhood...

and anxious of religion, black and of sight, and men, acted by a common instinct of universal brotherhood...

It is probable that the thousands who the Home will receive in the next year, when the national crisis of life will begin to subside, will be a grateful stimulus...

The equal character and practical judgment of the gentleman comparing favorably with the belief that a certain number will be maintained...

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THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

JANUARY 31, 1879

State Senator J. H. Loomis, of Attica, was introduced by the Chairman, and said:

SPEECH OF SENATOR LOOMIS.

Mr. President, members of the Grand Army, ladies and gentlemen: It gives me great pleasure that I am permitted to be present with you. It will ever be a cherished thought in my memory that it was my privilege to be with you at the dedication of this Home, and I only regret that the whole committee appointed by the Senate were not able to be here with me and with you. Your representatives from this district have done their work nobly in caring for this institution. I did not rise to make a speech. I could not if I would, and I would not if I could, after the grand words that we have heard here to-day. My friend who has given his life's work to elevating the poor and suffering and needy, has shown us his interest in this noble work of erecting a Home for New York's disabled veterans. The Legislature willingly, when the opportunity was given them, granted all that was asked of them. Mr. President, it devolves upon you and the Board of Trustees of this institution to ask for what you need for the comfort of the veteran soldiers and sailors, and I believe the response of the Legislature will be a hearty "aye." [Applause]. From my heart I congratulate you and those with whom you are associated on the grand success of the work. I congratulate the people of the State of New York that this institution has been placed in charge of such safe hands. We feel, sir, that there has not been, and will not be a feature of fraud in connection with this institution. [Applause]. Could we say the same thing for every institution belonging to the State, how much richer the State would be, how much stronger it would be. Sir, the people of this State are simply paying a debt. It is but a few years since the echoes of war were reverberating through all our hills and valleys. Our interests were then centered in the soldier. The soldiers have done their work. The soldiers saved us our country. Let us not forget that work. We cannot repay them in full, but let us be grateful and do what we can. I again say that I congratulate myself upon this privilege and this opportunity to say a word. I shall go back to my work at Albany very much better prepared when the question comes up that money is demanded for this institution, to give my vote for the supplies needed. I will simply say to you who represent this institution, draw upon us to the last dollar you need, and never let the soldiers suffer for want of necessities and comforts. [Applause]. Mr. Baldwin, of the Apollo Club, sang a Grand Army song, composed by General McQuade, to the air of "Henny Havers Oh," the audience joining the chorus. Assemblyman Brennan, of Franklin, addressed the audience as follows:

Mr. President, you have chosen a fitting site for such a home of rest and refuge as we treat this to be. The lovely landscape, that here in summer unfolds itself to the eye, will speak to the mind of the war-worn veteran a bit more for the tumult and confusion through which he has passed. In the quiet of this beautiful valley he may recall, without pain, the stern memory of the past, and look forward, without the fear of an unrequited burial, to the peaceful close of the long campaign of life. And, as the blessings of a fruitful country, which surely cluster about this spot, and upon the brave men who are to dwell here, so also, as surely, shall their widows rest their bones on the fruits of whose labors they enjoy—the Legislature of the State of New York, and the Grand Army of the Republic.

The addresses was warmly and frequently applauded.

At the close, Major E. E. Sill, of Buffalo, proposed three cheers for Mr. Letchworth, which was heartily given.

General Slocum then read the following dispatch from Colonel Brown, Governor of the National Soldiers' Home at Dayton, Ohio:

Soldiers' Home, Dayton, O., Jan. 23, 1879. To Colonel E. C. Parkinson, Supt., Bath, New York: I had intended to be with you to-morrow, and would, only for the delay of a train. Will write particulars. Eight hundred New York soldiers of this Home unite with me in congratulations at the successful establishment of your Home. E. F. Brown.

Three cheers were given for Governor Brown.

The following dispatch, from the Department of New Jersey, was read:

Orange Depot, Jan. 23, 1879. To W. F. Rogers, Commander Soldiers' Home, Bath, N. Y.: The comrades of New Jersey, in Department Encampment assembled, and seasonal greeting to their comrades of New York. Congratulations upon the successful completion of their noble work and formal opening of the Veterans' Home. JAMES MURPHY, G. A. R., N. J.

Three rousing cheers were given for the Department of New Jersey.

SPEECH OF MR. BROWN.

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, and fellow soldiers: I am indeed proud to be here to-day. I am proud to be here as a representative of the great State of New York to help dedicate this institution to the use for which it is appointed—a home for the disabled veterans of the war. I am more proud that I can come here and call you "fellow soldiers," than that I can come and say, I am a representative of the State of New York. [Applause]. The soldier is legitimately the child of the State. His duty is due to the State. He not only gives his body and mind to the service of the State, but he is ready on occasion to give his life for his country. [Applause]. As has been justly said here to-day, all nations in all times have recognized the fact that the incapacitated soldier is entitled to the beneficent bounty of the State. Look at the grand hospital erected by the English at Chelsea, and the grand Hotel des Invalides, on the Seine, in which are quartered 3,000 veterans of the French Republic. Now the State of New York has come to recognize this fact, and is willing to make comfortable the declining days and years of those men who have sacrificed so much for the United States, the best and greatest government on earth. And I am glad that, as has been said so many times, this is not given to these men as a charity. I am glad that the patriotism in the hearts of this audience burst forth in loud acclaim when it was said that these men are not paupers, but are the wards of the State, and entitled to protection. And I can say that it is the unanimous voice of the Assembly delegation here present, that this institution shall have what it needs for the support of those brought into the sheltering care of this Home. And if we go back to Albany and find a single man in that Legislature who is so cringing and grudging as to object to those demands, we will bring the whole Legislature down here, let them see for themselves the noble work that has been done, and then we shall get what we want. Let us invite our scattered veterans to the comforts of this Home. I am glad the word "Home" is used, it is so sweet and brings comfort to the hearts of every civilized man, and I trust it will prove indeed a home to these men who come here, who through the vicissitudes and misfortunes of life have been rendered homeless, and that here in peace and comfort and quietness they may end their days. This is a place where they may come and pass their time either in amusements or in reading, or doing that work which shall be allotted them to do, and I can easily perceive how it may become to them indeed a home, where the beautiful lines of Goldsmith may be realized:

"The broken soldier, limply made to stay, sits by the fire and talks the night away; "Weene weeps his wounds or slumbers slumbering; "Shoulders his crutch and shows how needy were we."

We are going to take the veterans of that memorable war for the salvation of the country and give them a comfortable resting place for life. We cannot do too much for the men who shall gather within the walls of this building. Their glory will hallow it. When will that glory fade? Never! Never! Never! [Prolonged applause].

The glee club and audience sang "Marching through Georgia," and then Post Department Commander, James Tanner, was introduced. He was greeted with three cheers and then said:

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29

HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 40)

PAGE 16 OF 22

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

JANUARY 31, 1879

SPEECH OF JAMES TANNER.

Mr. Chairman, ladies, comrades and gentlemen: I never broke down yet in facing an audience, but I feel very much like it to-day in this hall, more like it than ever I did in my life before. And it is simply because we have got this Home finished.— Thank God for that. [Applause]. If I should tell you that I wasn't ready to make a speech on the Soldiers' Home the first of the gang that got me outside would tell me I lied. [Laughter]. I have one idea in my head and I want to get it out. Comrade Brennan, speaking of our asking the Legislature for what we needed, said that there might be a member of that body who would vote against an appropriation.— Now, I have been looking around and I did we haven't started a graveyard here yet. Mark Twain tells a story of a place out west which was so healthy that they had to import an old man, already at the point of death, to come out and die there so that they might start a graveyard. I think you will all say at once, as I do, that if there is one man in the New York Legislature who will not vote the money necessary for this Home, the best thing that can be done with him is to bring him down here and start a graveyard with him. [Applause and laughter]. But I don't think there will be the slightest occasion for that. We have had a little experience, and to their credit be it said they stood by us loyally. Senator Ira Davenport, Comrade Parkinson, and myself went before the Senate Committee on Finance. We had taken the precaution to write to the superintendents of the poor houses of the counties represented by the members of that committee, and obtain full official returns of the old soldiers residing in each. The bill which had been drafted was read through by Senator Robinson, who then said, jocosely, "Now, Tanner, we are ready to hear your speech". I said "before I make any speech I would like to hand you something I thought you might wish to consider. I find among these documents that in the poor houses of the county represented by Westchester, which comprises a part of the district there are eighteen disabled veterans." The chairman and the others examined the papers for a minute. The chairman asked one of the Senators to look at the document. The gentleman did so, and then said in the most emphatic manner "This is a damned shame, and I am in favor of the bill." I would like to give you a history of this concern and of the condition of matters when we first went to work at it. The first movement was a small meeting in Sawyer's Hall in Brooklyn. The encouragement we got was not much, and, like Lincoln during the war, we determined to throw ourselves upon the hearts of the people. Then we went to the annual encampment.

Parkinson said that the people of Brooklyn ought to have a chance to put their names down on the subscription list and secured twelve subscriptions of \$100 each. Two of these subscribers are now on this platform. The third to subscribe was John F. Henry and then Henry W. Sluans. [Applause]. And if either one of these had been caught first that one's name would have been signed first. Then we went to Albany. We had a dozen or thirteen subscriptions of \$100 each at the back of us, and we were authorized to pledge Brooklyn for \$10,000. [Applause]. We returned from that encampment and went before the people of Brooklyn and you know what they did. We got up a mass meeting at the Academy of Music and we secured the services of the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher who by his silver-tongued eloquence electrified the crowd as they sat there. He told us that when the work got heavy and we needed help, all we had to do was to call upon him and he would go to every city, town and village in the State and lecture for us. Thank God for such sentiments. [Applause]. When we started this Home we always had an idea of making it a great institution. We do not intend to be content with these three buildings. We shall not stop until every wounded and disabled New York soldier is out of the poor houses and out of the National Homes. No sentiment will ever come against us. The day for all doubt and despair in this matter has passed away. We must have grand buildings here. Another building I want to see here—a little one, perhaps, but a noble one. We want to see here a building in which shall be hung in honorable prominence the tattered battle-flags we bore during the war. They say they are going to give them entombment in that grand marble palace at Albany. But for many years they have kept them stowed away in a loft of an old engine house. We want these flags here.

There is another thing. The figures from the Adjutant-General's report show that New York sent 485,000 men to the field. Some men seem to think that we are asking, and the State doing too much for the soldiers. We cannot do too much for them. We have here 210 acres of land and here we intend to gather the shattered remnants of that vast host. Our men fought bravely, suffered bravely, died nobly. The survivors should have all that they need to make them comfortable and happy through life. I feel to congratulate the founders of this institution that it is located at this place. There was something of a struggle about the location, but Bath won by a large majority. Those of us who have visited Bath would be derelict in our duty if we made no allusion to the way in which we have been received. The hearts of the people of Bath have been warm towards us. They have helped us nobly. Not until life shall have faded away will we forget the grand manner in which the people of this town have done so much more than their share in this enterprise.

One time I visited Governor Brown at the National Soldiers' Home at Dayton, Ohio. I stayed in the headquarters building and there I saw ranged before me a great mass of men gathered. They were New York soldiers, hundreds upon hundreds of them who came to me there to ask for an opportunity to get back home to this State. I took on that occasion the liberty to promise them that sometime we would have a Soldiers' and Sailors' Home in this State. Now we have it started, and those men are gazing eastward with longing eyes hoping that we will soon send for them. I want to make it honorable for any disabled soldiers of the Union army to come here. We want to take these men off the streets and out of the poor houses, to let them know that they have a chance to come here, and a welcome when they come. In the names of those who suffered and died for the Union we ask the help of the people of the State for these men. [Applause].

Comrade Tanner offered the following tribute of respect to the memory of the late Post Department Commander, McKean:

Witness, It has pleased Divine Providence to remove from our midst our beloved comrade, James B. McKean, who combined with purity and force of character, brilliant intellectual attainments and a record for gallant services to our country in the field, and in the halls of congress possessed the proud distinction of having been the first Commander of this Department of the G. A. R., therefore be it Resolved, That in humbly submitting to the decree of the Grand Commander of the Universe, we desire to put on record our high appreciation of the character of our late Post Commander, and our deep sense of the loss which not only ourselves but society at large has sustained in his demise.

Resolved, That in remembrance of Comrade McKean, a memorial page be incorporated in the proceedings of the Annual Encampment.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be furnished the press, and forwarded to the family of our late Comrade McKean, properly attested by the officers of the Encampment.

The resolutions were adopted.

THE STEVEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

JANUARY 31, 1879

After music by the band the Chairman introduced the Hon. John F. Henry, of Brooklyn, "Comrade by Deed" of the G. A. R." Three cheers were given for Mr. Henry, and then he said:

Speech of J. F. Henry.

Mr. President, and ladies and gentlemen: I am very glad that the chairman requested us to be brief in our speeches, for I know it is getting very late. I am also glad that, under the circumstances, he called on me at all, because I was early in this enterprise. We have erected a Home at Bath for the soldiers and sailors of the State, and I want to bear testimony to the generosity of the people of this town and of the State at large. Corporal Tanner has alluded eloquently to the first days of the Home project away down in Brooklyn. Ladies and gentlemen, those were dark days for the Home. We found, I am sorry to say, men, some of them soldiers, opposed to the project and I am still more sorry to have to say that we found men in the two great cities of New York and Brooklyn who belong to that profession that should above all others teach the doctrine of charity and good will, ministers of the Gospel, opposing the Home. I refer to this matter now simply to show what we had to overcome. After the great meeting at the Academy of Music in Brooklyn, there were many men who had subscribed liberally who withdrew their subscriptions because some of the ministers had been denouncing the scheme as impracticable and they thought their money would be wasted uselessly. These ministers said that the Home would never be built and if it were built it would be entirely useless. The successful dedication of these noble buildings to-day proves how mistaken these gentlemen were, and the Home, the happy Home that we find here for these unfortunate defenders of our country, proves how utterly mistaken these gentlemen were and how very unfortunate they were in their judgments. But I don't intend to occupy your time on this subject. We spoke of the work to the people of Brooklyn, to the ministers and in the churches. Let me do justice to the many ministers in that city who helped us, for with but few exceptions, the ministers were with us. In the cities of New York and Brooklyn, Protestant ministers and Catholic priests joined hands in the good work. I think now that one Catholic minister in New York raised four or five hundred dollars by his own exertions.

Comrade Parkinson:—Rev. Father Farrell raised over \$1000.

Mr. Henry:—That is correct, I remember now. Several times money came from him. The Poets of the Grand Army did nobly and showed the civilians that the soldier boys were earnest in the work. At last brighter days dawned and to-day we look at the result of hard work and much anxiety, and feel proud that the great Empire State can at last give a good home to the helpless men who risked life for us on many a bloody battle-field. [Applause.]

There were loud calls for "Com Young" and the chairman introduced the Comrade who was greeted with three cheers. He said:

SPEECH OF COE YOUNG.

General Slocum has organized his army to-day in direct opposition to the rules of war and the manner in which he used to do it. He put the generals in front, then he advanced the colonels, finally got down to the corporals and put the privates in the rear, whereas, he always used to stick us in front. [Laughter]. As one who has reached the end of a long and wearisome journey and finds himself at last at home among friends and kindred, and who, in the sweet associations of the fire-side, finds compensation for all the hardship, privation and anxiety which he may have endured on the homeward journey, I feel to-day as I come with you to participate in the exercises of the dedication of this long looked for Soldiers' Home.

While the people have responded liberally to the building of the Home it required a vast amount of energy and perseverance on the part of those who had the matter in hand to bring it to successful completion. We have reason to be grateful to Almighty God and to a generous public that we are permitted to gather here and enjoy these dedicatory services. The pleasure and satisfaction of this hour more than compensates us for all our efforts, speeches, journeys, trials and sacrifices of time, ease and comfort in behalf of this noble enterprise, and to-day we have the right to feel happy, the right to shout and sing, and cheer, and toss up our hats high in the air, for success has finally crowned our efforts. The misgivings and fears as to whether the thing could be done, and the anxiety in carrying out the necessary measures in securing private subscriptions and legislative help are to-day things of the past. To-day the sun shines upon us and propitious fortune favors us, and to-day the Comrades of the Department of New York, Grand Army of the Republic, stand gathered around their completed work of benevolent love and patriotism. To-day we can do what we could not do a few years ago, lift up our heads and say that the grand old Empire State has at last done her duty to those who fought in her behalf. We will have no more homeless and friendless veterans here. No longer will the men who fought for the Union have to lie out shelterless under the sky, for here will we feel, clothed, warm and care for our poor and newly crippled soldier boys. This Home takes rank with the noblest charities of our land and age, and is a monument to the memory of the boys of New York State who offered their lives a sacrifice on the altar of their country's liberty. [Applause.]

The Glee Club and audience sang "My Country 'tis of Thee." Then the Rev. O. R. Howard, D. D., of Bath, pronounced the Benediction, but the comrades were determined to hear Comrade McQuade, Department Commander, and after repeated calls the General came to the front and said:

SPEECH OF GEN. McQUADE.

I wasn't aware that it was the intention to-day to call upon any one whose name was not upon the programme of exercises, and therefore I will excuse myself from addressing you by using that old, hackneyed excuse—lack of preparation. I don't find myself included in this list. If you will indulge me for a moment I will try to express some ideas suggested to me, by the words of the gentlemen who have preceded me. It has been said that these buildings are a monument; they are, a monument in honor of the valor of the heroic living, and of the heroic dead; they are a monument because when within their walls the old soldiers come together to fight their battles over again, they will keep in recollection the comrades that they left on the bloody battle-field, and I believe that when these old soldiers are thus listening in imagination to the shriek of the shells and the rattle of the musketry so familiar in days gone by, it is not a very extravagant flight of fancy to imagine that there may be unseen forms gathered around them, forms of those whose bones are mouldering in the grave, who join with their living comrades in voiceless communion. I hope that it will not prove as a monument that will keep alive recollections of the animosities, rancors and jealousies of the war, which I hope are buried forever. An old soldier is invariably magnanimous, and scorns to spurn a fallen foe. If some weary old confederate soldier should find his way here, there is not a man of the Union veterans that would not stretch out his hand and welcome with hearty glee the poor old veteran soldier. [Applause.]

General Henry A. Barnum was called for and responded as follows:

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME, BUILDING 29 HABS No. NY-6339-A (Page 42)

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

JANUARY 31, 1879

SPEECH OF GEN. BARNUM.

Mr. President: I feel to-day very much as I felt when, after the long and toilsome March to the Sea, under your command, the sun of December, 21, 1864, looked down upon us in the streets of Savannah. When the brave patriots of the Union sprang to arms, giving up home, friends, families, everything, risking life and health in defence of the country, we do not forget that the people of the State promised to take care of the families and provide for the widows and orphans of those who should call. We do not forget how in those dark days, when the bravest men of the North were flocking to the standard, gracious matrons came to us with benedictions on their lips, and comely maidens cheered us with their smiles, and encouraged us with their prayers. But during these last days we have been many of our old comrades consigned to the poor houses or to homes beyond the borders of our State, and then we remembered your promise in days gone by, and asked you to help us to bring our disabled New York boys to a comfortable home in our State. We did not ask you in vain. To-day we see the first fruits of the generous deeds of the people of the Empire State. Before long we shall witness the full fruition.— We tried the Legislature in times gone by, but they did not move until the people bade them move. The reward to which the soldier who went to the war in defence of his country is entitled is being paid now to these, our defenceless comrades. There are, Mr. Chairman, in this Home three old soldiers who climbed with us Lookout's bristling height and helped plant "old glory" victorious there! Under your guidance they threaded the swamps of Georgia until they reached the sea victorious, and made the march that shall go down through history as one of the most brilliant of military achievements. These three men who to-day rest at these tables and sleep within these walls, helped to make the most brilliant military record in the world's history. It is but simple justice that to-day they should be cared for in this noble manner. I came here in response to an invitation from your Trustees, and have lived here three days with them, and I find that they are given good food, and plenty of it, and receive kind and considerate treatment. Let us all unite in this thanksgiving to-day and go on as has been promised, until these walls shall be wide enough to take in all the veterans entitled to their recompense. [applause].

At the close of Comrade Barnum's remarks, three cheers were given for Comrade Parkinson and the Board of Trustees, and the audience dispersed.

FOR WHAT EXPENDED.	BY OLD BO.	BY NEW CO.	TOTAL.
Purchase of grounds (24 1/2 acres)	10,500 00		10,500 00
Construction of building	25,166 33	115,310 47	140,476 80
Furnishing of building		9,374 23	9,374 23
Waterworks		3,504 21	3,504 21
Filling and grading ground	497 33	1,812 44	2,310 77
Trustees' expenses	1,212 70	1,223 26	2,435 96
Repairing and furnishing Supt. residence		1,278 47	1,278 47
Architects compensation	175 00	1,000 00	1,175 00
Kitchen furniture and tools		874 00	874 00
Stationery, express, telegraph and postage		212 71	212 71
Sewerage	1,221 30	154 12	1,375 42
Sundry expenses, such as printing, stationery, &c.	2,771 73		2,771 73
Civil engineer	316 00		316 00
Rail road switch	120 00		120 00
Secretary's salary	1,218 12		1,218 12
Insurance account	122 17		122 17
Interest	81 50		81 50
Pay't of cash borrowed on note and otherwise	2,922 30		2,922 30
Cash turned over to the treasurer of the Home	2,806 17		2,806 17
Total	170,323 43	144,027 02	314,350 45

Statement of amounts expended by the old and new Home, consisting of the purchase of the land, water works, &c., and the purchase of the building and including Dec. 31, 1878.

REMARKS.	
AMOUNT OF APPROPRIATION BY STATE.	
Amount to be applied in payment of existing contracts as the same should become due	\$17,216 75
Construction and furnishing	34,043 00
Maintenance	15,000 00
Total	66,259 75
AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED BY THE PEOPLE OF EACH T. T.	
Farm (2 1/2 acres)	\$14,500 00
Cash	6,000 00
Total	20,500 00
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS.	
Amount of voluntary contributions	\$70,323 43
Total cost of improvements, construction, furnishing, &c., of building, water works, &c.	\$118,084 00

—IN SPITE OF FLANNELS, coughs and colds will make a lodgment in the system. But they are not tenant at will. You can dispossess them with HALE'S HONEY & HONORABLE AND TART, in less time than it takes a sheriff to execute a writ. Sold by all Druggists.
Pike's Toothache Drops cure in one minute.—Jan 10 4w

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29

HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 43)

PAGE 19 OF 22

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

The Farmers' Advocate



FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 1879.

THE SOLDIERS' HOME.

The Advocate, to-day, may, we think be justly styled, a "SOLDIERS' HOME PAPER." At considerable expense, and many hours of incessant labor, we have gathered and compiled, a brief history of the origin, progress, and final dedicatory services, of this patriotic work. We have tried to give a faithful resume of all that had passed up to Wednesday and Thursday of last week. We also give a complete, stenographic report of the Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, on Wednesday; also, all the addresses, etc., made during the dedication.

It was a proud occasion for Bath—and the people of this village, who have labored so assiduously for the past three years to bring to completion the buildings of the Home, that the promises made to those who took up arms in defence of our homes might be realized—were, indeed happy. We rejoice that their well known hospitality was not slackened or stifted, during dedication week.

The addresses will well repay the reader for the time spent in perusing them—and the remembrance of justice at last done to the wounded, disabled and needy defenders of the flag, which every American so proudly bears, will bring gratification to all.

We are glad also to refer to the meed of praise awarded the building committee and the Board of Trustees for their great care, and close economy, shown in the expenditures upon the Home. It is certainly a proud name for Bath, to have it said by those whose duty it is to examine public buildings, that the Soldiers' Home is the only State Institution, "erected without a public steal."

It is to be hoped, that in all time to come, like economical expenditure of the public funds will be adhered to. If so, the Empire State will never fail to keep the Home supplied with the necessary funds for its maintenance.

JANUARY 31, 1879

SOLDIERS' HOME TRUSTEES

The gentlemen who compose the Board of Trustees of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, have performed already an arduous work, and there is yet a great deal more to be done; and all without the hope of fee or reward. They have labored faithfully for the best interests of the tax-payers in the construction of the work; and they have been careful to see that every dollar of the fund appropriated for the erection of the buildings has been judiciously expended. Governor Robinson, has taken occasion to return thanks to the Trustees for their good work in his letter of regret, published elsewhere. The Board is as follows:—

Henry W. Slocum, Brooklyn, N. Y.
James McQuade, New York City.
Isaac F. Quimby, Rochester, N. Y.
William F. Rogers, Buffalo, N. Y.
Nirvan M. Crane, Hornellsville, N. Y.
Hyrion B. Teggart, Watertown, N. Y.
Abuel J. McCall, Bath, N. Y.
Jonathan Robie, Bath, N. Y.
John F. Little, Bath, N. Y.

BREVITIES.

—The silver product of Colorado for 1878 was about \$9,500,000.

—There are now 126 American vessels employed in the whale fishery.

—J. D. Walker, Dem., has been elected United States Senator by the Arkansas Legislature.

—The Governor has signed a bill to authorize the extension of time for the collection of taxes.

—Colonel Fitzhugh, the "bigger man than old Grant," has been elected door-keeper of the Texas Senate.

—The Supreme Court of Indiana has decided that a subscription, made on Sunday for the benefit of a church is not binding, and cannot be collected.

—General Greene Clay Smith, who once ran for President of the United States on the Prohibition ticket, is about to take charge of a Kentucky hotel.

—The present ice crop along the Hudson river is the finest ever known. The harvest employs 12,000 persons. Three million tons will be gathered.

—The bill restricting the emigration of Chinese to America passed the House on Wednesday by a vote of 155 to 71. Congressman Hungerford voted against the bill.

—The annual fair for the State Agricultural Society for 1879 will be held at Albany, commencing on the 5th day of September. The Society has made Hon. Horatio Seymour its President.

—A bill has been introduced in the legislature providing that hereafter not more than one dollar shall be charged by the Pullman or other sleeping car companies for a berth and seat in a palace car.

—The election of General James McQuade, of Utica, to the command of the Department of this State, of the Grand Army of the Republic, is a deserved and well-earned compliment to a gallant soldier and a worthy citizen.—*Albany Argus.*

—President Hayes signed the Pension Arrears Bill last Saturday. This will draw from the treasury many millions of dollars, which in due time will be paid over to the soldiers' and their widows. Pension agents will once more have plenty of business.

—A law suit has just been tried in Albany, which developed the fact that the expense of the publication of the Greenback organ of that City, on the morning of election and the day proceeding, was defrayed by Republicans, the result of which was the defeat of the Democratic candidates for Assembly and Congress.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A

(Page 44)

PAGE 20 OF 22

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

JANUARY 31, 1879

Grand Commander McQuade.

Hon. James M. Quado, one of the Trustees of the Home, was chosen Grand Commander of the G. A. R. In honor of this event, the Apollo Glee Club sang an original Grand Army song written by the General. It is as follows:

GRAND ARMY SONG.

I
Pour forth a full libation now
To Fortify the brave—
The idol of the Navy and
The ruler of the wave;
He's gone aloft, lashed in his shroud,
Where soon we all must go;
He's waiting there to welcome us
With Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh!
With Benny Havens, Oh!
He's waiting there to welcome us
With Benny Havens, Oh!

II.
Beneath the Jolly shelter tent,
In calm repose Stoude lies;
The stars he wore so brilliantly
Are transferred to the skies,
Where in the Army of the West
Forevermore they glow
Upon a private in the ranks
With Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc., etc.

III.
We'll cherish in our mem'ry green
The gallant Sedgwick's name;
He lay down in a meadow
Of imperishable fame,
To wake when the Reveille
Shall summon friend and foe
To everlasting brotherhood
With Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc., etc.

IV.
With wreath immortal the grave
Of Sumner's filly crowned,
As through the echoing halls of time
His glories still resound;
The page of truthful history
Fresh honors will bestow;
Hail, hand in hand, by Reynolds' stand,
With Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

V.
Upon the James, the Rapidan,
And Rappahannock's shore,
We lost heroic soldier friends,
On earth to meet no more;
But when the angel trumpet shall
The last Assembly blow,
We'll find them in the shining host
With Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

VI
While gathered at the festive board,
Will yet remembered be,
The Army of the Cumberland
And of the Tennessee;
The brave Tommas with their Good
Unites in loving flow;
A mighty tide of comradeship
With Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

VII.
The summer wind sighs softly through
Atlanta's lovely vale,
A fragrant hymn of requiem,
McPherson to bewail;
O'er Thomas, on Mount Ida's slope,
Sweet roses incense throw
Deep in our hearts are both enshrined
With Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

VIII.

'Till ghostly walls, the cypress trails
Dark plumes on Malvern's height,
With plaintive thrill, the whippoorwill
Pipes for a special sight;
See Mars advance, with radiant lance
And Chastice's bold crew;
Back to the sky the shadows fly
With Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

IX.

Down under battle-mounds that rock
Fair fields with ghastly green,
The busy worm on stressless loam
Waxes, in selection stoned,
From warp of blue and wool of gray,
Reboe white as driven snow—
The uniform for Judgment Day
Of Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

X.

When life's campaign is at an end
And we are mustered out,
The Yankee cheer and Rebel yell
Will mingle in one shout;
We'll greet our late antagonists,
And then no more shall know
The Union or Confederate
With Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

XI.

For our noble old commanders
We crush a cup of wine,
To sprinkle on the laurels bright
That round their deeds entwine;
To Grant, McClellan, Hooker,
Let bumper overflow;
May they live long to sing the song
Of Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

ADDENDA.

BY THE MEDICINE MAN OF THE ONONDAGAS.

I.

And now the vials are gathering
From hamlet and from town,
To keep alive the memories
Of deeds of high renown
A leader we shall here extol,
That every where we go,
We shall be proud to come along
With Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

II.

Fraternity and charity
To all our veterans true,
They each deserve a laurel crown
Who were the faithful blue.
And though we cannot all elect
Commander, that we know,
We'll rally round the one preferred,
Like Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

III.

Each comrade all do honor much,
No better men are made,
But for our next Commander
We shall elect McQUADE,
He is brave and he is great,
His merits all do know,
No better man e'er wore the blue
Of Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

IV.

The poorest comrade in our ranks
In him a friend still find,
While in the presence of the great
He will not be denied,
And when the chieftains of our clan
To them do go,
We'll march him 'gainst the best of them
With Benny Havens, Oh!

Cueus—With Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

* And they did elect him.—[Eurus.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME, BUILDING 29

HABS No. NY-6339-A PAGE 21 OF 22
(Page 45)

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

JANUARY 31, 1879

Contributions for the Home taken from Treasurer J. F. Henry's cash book new in possession of the Board of Trustees, up to the date when the G. A. H. turned the property over to the State.

The first subscription for the Home was obtained Jan. 14th, 1875, by E. C. Fairbank in the City of Brooklyn, N. Y., in sums of \$100 each from the following named persons:

John F. Henry	\$ 100 00
C. F. Dixon	100 00
John S. Norris	100 00
Wm C. Kingsley	100 00
S. S. Barnard	100 00
D. B. Haggerty	100 00
Philip C. Crooks	100 00
Merion Bliss & Co.	100 00
Albert Deppert	100 00
F. A. Schroder	100 00
D. W. Stocum	100 00
John F. Henry	100 00
Cash	14 00
Subscribers Post No. 6	48 00
A. A. Jew	25 00
Geo J. Christensen	100 00
Mrs Rose How	25 00
Geo H. Fisher	100 00
S. D. Walker	100 00
P. H. Oakley	25 00
J. O. Vane	10 00
A. J. Pearson	25 00
F. A. Tisdelle	25 00
J. M. Avery	50 00
P. F. Jefferies	100 00
Thomas Kell	100 00
Mrs H. B. Snow	50 00
Mrs Buckingham	50 00
Samuel McLean	100 00
Charles Denison	100 00
Mrs Chas. Deane	50 00
D. G. Corfield	50 00
R. W. Rapp	100 00
D. S. Arnold	100 00
C. A. Newcomb	50 00
W. B. Hazard	100 00
John Lafferty	50 00
J. D. Buchanan	100 00
A. U. Foster	50 00
J. Henry Hall and family	100 00
Henry W. Sage	100 00
Geo W. Berger	100 00
Moore J. Smith	100 00
Paul Bacon, Utica	100 00
W. H. Case	25 00
S. Waterbury	25 00
L. O. Waterbury	25 00
B. A. Richardson	100 00
A. Haley	25 00
J. B. Allen	25 00
Post No 48	11 82
C. W. Braggins	1 16
J. C. Tompkins	100 00
Joe T. Kelley	100 00
C. C. Bridgman, (Decoration day)	51 33
Wm. Edson	10 00
Alexander Forman	100 00
B. F. Blair	25 00
S. M. Postings	100 00
Levee, Brooklyn Academy	52 50
R. W. Raymond	2 00
H. S. Wells	21 00
A. C. Fisher	21 00
R. W. Maxwell	5 00
Thomas Pittsford	100 00
Mrs B. Wallis	10 00
E. H. Toulagee	100 00
R. H. Manning	100 00
Edwin Atkins	100 00
Henry Wilson Post, No 48	11 82
Chas M. Field	25 00
J. W. Pitkin	25 00
Central Post 37	253 00
F. B. Harrison	10 00
W. H. Thomas	100 00
James Condemner	200 00
B. S. Haggerty	100 00
O. P. Pierce	100 00
C. Z. Campbell	50 00
J. F. Conkling	100 00
J. Wiley	100 00
H. C. Kay	25 00
D. H. Raughtaling	100 00
C. R. Stevens	25 00
Shiloh Post No. 47	400 00
J. C. Smith, Treasurer	50 00
J. C. Harsted	100 00
Decoration Day, Brooklyn, 1877	24 27
Caplan Glasser	48 00
Subscribers Post No. 48	11 82
Calver Guard, Brooklyn Academy	113 31
McKintock Post No 48	41 50
Henry Lee Post No 21	104 12
James F. Knapp	100 00
G. F. West	100 00

Henry C. Murphy	100 00
J. B. Clendenen	250 00
Thos. McLean	100 00
Samuel South	25 00
John L. Hill	14 23
South Post No 81a	250 00
W. F. Libby	100 00
Decoration Day, N. Y. City, 1877	100 00
Post No. 81	15 00
Law Benedict Post No. 8	500 00
Peter Cooper	50 00
Joseph F. Hall	50 00
Duke Brothers	50 00
W. McGwire	25 00
Keller Post No 25	1,123 18
C. F. Chandler	100 00
Wm Madden	2 00
A poor woman	10 00
Meeting at N. Y. Academy	31 81
John Kelly	100 00
Asst. Jerome	5 00
Hugh Auchincloss	100 00
Isaac Sherman	100 00
Harrell O. Roberts	100 00
Thos. H. Hubbard	100 00
John R. Graham	100 00
Dr. Lewis A. Jaffe	100 00
D. G. Dwyer	100 00
Chas. F. Nichols	100 00
James Kelly	100 00
Dr. Chas. Carey	25 00
Oswald Ottumwater	100 00
F. D. White	100 00
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F. W. Bangs	25 00
James Kelly	100 00
Dr.	

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME, BUILDING 29 HABS No. NY-6339-A (Page 46)

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

JANUARY 31, 1879

Alt James P. K. Church Brooklyn	10 41
St. Patrick's Church Chathamville	8 00
Church of our Father Brooklyn	23 78
Union Meeting Church Wilcox	4 70
1st Central Church Auburn	14 42
Universalist Church Westerlo	6 00
Park Church Elmira	114 00
West Orange Church Deer Street	2 75
Trinity Church Fredonburgh	2 00
Zion's Church Ashburn	1 25
Episcopal Church Westerlo	1 00
William Adams	40 00
O T Reynolds	100 00
E L Milligan	100 00
J B Hadden	60 00
George Law	600 00
B F Rogers	10 00
Decorations Day, 1877, Catskill	13 40
Decorations Day, 1877, Ontario	8 40
Hampden Post No 22 Poughkeepsie	43 40
Rev S Malone	10 00
Child's Fair, by Mrs Geo Palmer	8 75
Memorial Service, Chathamville	15 40
L W Parks	10 00
Decorations Day, 1877, Westerlo	37 40
Decorations Day, 1877, Westerlo	10 45
Decorations Day, 1877, Delaware	14 40
Post No 77	25 00
Post No 118	25 00
Post No 11	411 40
Post No 64	100 00
Post No 1	23 80
Ladies Aid Society, Lockport	120 00
Post No 11	150 00
One of Burr	1 00
A M Decker	100 00
L F Decker	25 00
Decorations Day, 1877, Elmira	25 76
John A King	100 00
One of Burr	500 00
Decorations Day, 1877, Pike	6 40
S A Shuman	40 00
Post No 43	75 25
Rev W B Smith	100 00
Wm J East	100 00
W Schaeffer	8 00
St Mary's School, Rochester	2 50
Samuel Smith	25 00
Post No 1	200 00
J W Mann	100 00
J T Nash	60 00
J W Sawyer	100 00
U P Spaulding	250 00
John A Adams	100 00
Post No 43	43 28
C C W. New York	2 00
J L Woodford	100 00
Rev Wm C West	100 00
Andrew T Acker	10 00
U M Palmer	100 00
Cash, Westerlo	23 00
Festival at Worcester	30 00
Samuel East	8 00
Post No 43	110 00
Henry Berg	40 00
Post No 43	35 44
Jan McFarley	10 00
Post No 43	1 00
J T Norton	23 00
Samuel Campbell	400 00
John Lawrence	100 00
John Woodford	22 28
Samuel D Babcock	11 44
U C Cannon	20 00
Post No 43	30 00
Post No 43	100 00
L M Dray	22 45
J J Packer	10 00
John R Brady	100 00
W D Dwyer	400 00
George S Hildner	25 00
J C Custer	100 00
John R Taylor	100 00
H C White	100 00
Decorations Day, 1877, Brooklyn	175 00
Mrs Mary Hildner	10 00
Wm Trumbull	100 00
W D Sawyer	100 00
Henry's Chh. N Y City	22 00
Post No 43	100 00
Post No 43	125 00
James Cook	3 20
Wm Duran	100 00
Rev Thomas Farrell	313 77
W Mitchell	125 00
W Greenwell	10 00
Elmira G & K	60 00
Post No 43	100 00
China H Wright	3 28
Post No 43	25 00
N Y Reg Ass. D C	45 74
H A Dwyer	2 20
Sherman's Smith	10 00
P H Deane	8 00
Chas L Norton	8 00
Post No 43	100 00
Citizens of Newark	3 25
T K Deane's Lecture, Elmira	200 00
B H Arnold	20 00
Albert Daggett	100 00
Chas Dwyer	60 00

Citizens of Stanwix	2 00
M S Hall	8 00
John H Baker	8 00
Reynold M Pack	8 00
Mrs W A Husted	250 00
Mrs A T Stewart	250 00
E N Tall	25 00
Thomas New	100 00
Post No 47	34 18
Post No 110	250 00
H H Claffin	250 00
Post No 80	100 00
Citizens of Fly Mountain	4 75
Citizens of Russia	25 00
Citizens of Jaricho	25 00
Lecture at Lockport	25 00
A W Lenny	100 00
O Smith	75 00
S A Millard	20 00
Post No 37	2 00
A Van Winkle	7 00
A U Brown	8 00
A J Green	100 00
J C Huron	100 00
G H Agnew	5 00
G W Hammond	25 00
A H Lawrence	6 00
Joseph West	200 00
John Dykeman	111 47
Post No 13	120 00
Gen Woolford's Lecture, Brooklyn	3,163 70
Young Men's Bible Class, Brooklyn	25 00
Major Campbell's Lecture	50 00
C M Wetland, England	25 00
Philip Decker	75 00
Louis Berglund	200 00
E G Latham	250 00
Gen Woolford's Lecture Funds	25 00
Citizens of Ninetah	30 00
Citizens of Afton	31 00
Pamella Lounsbury	25 00
Company D, Albany	164 71
Citizens of Albany	228 73
Post No, Buffalo	85 00
Citizens of Avoca	8 00
Meeting at Dalebridge	32 20
Meeting at Cooperstown	117 33
Meeting at Middleburgh	120 00
Mrs John D Webster	100 00
Meeting at Buffalo	411 81
Citizens of Port Leyden	6 75
Sherman's Rogers	100 00
Meeting at Dinghamton	437 33
Jonathan Leitchworth	25 00
Post No 43, Cuckoo	45 41
L Ee Young	20 00
Mrs Anna T Pratt	100 00
Meeting at Worcester	25 42
Ninth Reg N Y S N C	100 00
P D Uke	45 00
Decorations Day, Bitterton	31 00
Post No	21 50
J. W. Hunter	100 00
Decorations Day, Nassau	22 20
Thos. Lathrop	5 00
H. C. Ogden	20 00
Richard Lewis & Co	20 00
Mrs C. A. Green	6 00
G. A. Davis	10 00
Post No. 40	10 00
A Lady Friend	100 00
W. D. Yale	1 00
Village of Bath	22 00 00
Total amt of voluntary Contributions	\$722 45

WHO ARE THERE,
On Thursday, the 31st Inst., the Roster at the Soldiers' Home, showed one hundred inmates, as follows:

1 John W. Adams	Ca. Reg't
2 Labor Agency	15th U. S. Inf.
3 Jacob Ayer	A. 10th Inf.
4 John T. Bates	F. 10th Inf.
5 Edward Blaney	A. 10th Inf.
6 Joseph Bonney	F. 60th Inf.
7 Nicholas Blackfield	11 20th Inf.
8 James Bowday	E. 15th Inf.
9 A. A. Burleigh	E. 4th U. S. Art.
10 Melachi Buckley	D. 20th Inf.
11 John Collins	A. 20th Inf.
12 Cornelius	F. 10th Inf.
13 Edward Clines	M. 1st Cav.
14 James Caruso	H. 11th Inf.
15 Thomas Corley	H. 11th Inf.
16 Moses H. Cross	G. 10th Inf.
17 W. H. Clear	F. 10th Inf.
18 David T. Darrin	F. 11th Art.
19 Fred F. Drake	H. 11th Inf.
20 Dwight DeShler	F. 54th Inf.
21 Matthew Dooly	G. 2d H. Y. Art.
22 Daniel DeForest	H. 10th Inf.
23 Edward Drummer	H. 11th Inf.
24 Wm. M. Dwyer	H. 11th Inf.
25 Edward Dwyer	F. 15th Inf.
26 Wm. O. Davis	E. 1st Artillery.
27 Frank Gallagher	E. 10th Infantry.
28 Wm. Ferguson	F. 27th Inf.
29 Otto Gessler	E. 1st U. S. Art.
30 Frank Gregory	F. 2d H. Y. Art.
31 Chas. H. Gayford	1st Bat. Vet. Vol.
32 John Gault	J. 34th N. J.
33 Patrick Gannon	H. 15th Inf.
34 Lucius Granger	F. 21st Inf.
35 Edward Hayes	E. 10th Inf.
36 James Harris	15th N. Y. Battery.
37 George Hedrich	D. 11th Inf.
38 Patrick Huges	F. 10th Inf.
39 John Harwood	F. 120 Infantry.
40 Frederick Huber	K. 17th Inf.
41 Charles Held	1st Art.
42 Charles A. Hosmer	H. 102d Inf.
43 Ferdinand Ludwig	K. 20th Eng's.
44 John J. Ickhard	C. 12th Inf.
45 John Kelley	K. 11th Cav.
46 Patrick Keary	E. 12th Cav.
47 James Kiggins	F. 1st Art.
48 Michael Keller	D. 24th Inf.
49 Wm. Kivella	C. 24th Inf.
50 John D. Lead	B. 10th U. S. Art.
51 Timothy Lynch	G. 10th Inf.
52 William McCros	E. 12th Inf.
53 Edward McCreary	F. 12th Inf.
54 Timothy McCreary	G. 1st Art.
55 Daniel Morrissey	G. 1st Cav.
56 Gibson C. Hall	F. 24th Inf.
57 James Maloney	F. 11th Inf.
58 Cornelius Hartson	K. 16th H. Y. Art.
59 Thomas Maylor	H. 2d Inf.
60 Patrick O'Brien	G. 1st Cav.
61 John O'Fallon	F. 11th Art.
62 Thomas Quinn	F. 1st Cav.
63 Alex. Rogers	B. 1st Dragoons.
64 Fred Reedington	A. 17th Inf.
65 John Ryan	E. 10th Inf.
66 Anthony Sheehan	F. 2d Art.
67 Mathew Smith	E. 11th Inf.
68 John Shanley	F. 12th Inf.
69 George Thurston	B. 2d Cav.
70 Andre Tubut	A. 11th H. Y. Art.
71 Joseph Weisert	K. 1st Art.
72 Patrick Weldon	K. 10th Inf.
73 Solomon Yawell	M. 2d Cav.
74 F. A. Andrews	G. 24th Inf.
75 James Barrett	C. 1st Inf.
76 Patrick Barlow	E. 6th Inf.
77 Phileas S. Bernat	D. 16th Inf.
78 James Connors	C. 6th Pa. Inf.
79 John Guerdich	A. 21st N. Y. Inf.
80 Thos. Glenn	E. 1st Artillery.
81 Vincent E. Guin	C. 1st Inf.
82 Thomas Mahan	C. 17th Inf.
83 Wm. McCormick	C. 24th H. Y. Art.
84 William Peters	K. 2d Inf.
85 Lewis S. Prosser	K. 20th Inf.
86 Wm. Residencio	H. 12d Inf.
87 David Scensid	D. 10th Inf.
88 Jerome J. Sullivan	B. 2d U. S. Inf.
89 Thomas Stanton	D. 10th Inf.
90 James Sharp	A. 11th U. S. Inf.
91 Eli W. Smith	F. 10th Inf.
92 W. H. Sheehans	C. 50th N. Y. Eng's.
93 Samuel Tomason	B. 12th Inf.
94 John B. Tracy	F. 2d H. Y. Art.
95 Alexander Thom	F. 12th H. Y. Art.

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

1 Edward French	C. 1st Vet. Cav.
2 Michael Juntan	H. 12d Inf.
3 Chas. W. Wheeler	H. 24th Eng's.
4 Chas. Tetterton	H. 25th Inf.
5 Altona Mervell	H. 12th Cav.
6 Chas. W. Heath	P. 12th Inf.
7 Joseph H. Johnson	H. 21st U. S. Inf.
8	11th U. S. Inf.
9	1st Artillery.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 47)

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

MAY 9, 1879

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME.
New Buildings to be Erected—A Description of the Proposed Changes.

The Board of Trustees of the Soldiers' Home at Bath held a meeting on Friday of last week, and authorized Warner & Brockett, the well-known architects of Rochester, to prepare drawings for the new buildings to be erected for the use of the institution. The plans have been prepared, and it is expected that the work will be commenced immediately.

The first building will be known as the Headquarters, Library and Chapel Building. The structure will be of brick, trimmed with stone, and will have a frontage of 70 feet, with a depth of 30 feet.—The roof will be slated, and the outside will be ornamented with bands of black brick. The ground floor will be divided into reception rooms, offices, and a room for the Superintendent. The second floor will consist of a library, 28 feet by 29, and a smoking-room of the same size. A broad piazza will run round three sides of this floor. The top floor will be used as a chapel.

The next building is an ice or store house two stories high and will be built of brick and will have a frontage of seventy-five feet with a depth of forty-five feet.

The hospital building will not be entirely completed at present, only the main building being constructed. The present structure will be sixty by eighty feet, and will also be built of brick. The plan of the ground floor embraces dining-rooms, sergent and surgeons rooms, bath-room and kitchen. The upper floor will contain the hospital proper, having accommodations for seventy patients. In addition there will be a private hospital and bath-rooms. When this building is completely finished it will have a frontage of 124 feet.

A two story frame cottage, thirty-six by sixty-six feet, for the accommodation of the officers, will also be built. The ground floor will be divided into parlor, sitting-room and kitchen. The up stairs will be divided into sleeping apartments. All these buildings will be of the corresponding style with those which were recently built by the same architects, and with the exception of the ice-house will be heated by steam and ventilated throughout. The projected improvement will cost some \$10,000, and will be very complete when finished.—[Rochester Union.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A

(Page 48)

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

JUNE 6, 1879

THE SOLDIERS' HOME.

The Contract awarded for the Erection
of Additional Buildings.

A special meeting of the committee on the buildings and grounds of the Soldiers' Home, was held Saturday afternoon. Mr. McCall, of Bath, acted as chairman. The object of the meeting was to open the bids made for erecting a building to be used as the headquarters, another for a hospital, and the third for a store and ice-house. The first named is to contain rooms for the different officers of the institution, a chapel, and library and reading-rooms. The contract was let entire to Mr. Cooley S. Chapin, Buffalo, for about \$24,000.

The Home is now in a prosperous condition and has now about three hundred and eighty inmates.

THE STEUBEN COURIER
BATH, N. Y.
Friday, May 4, 1883.

IN THE HOSPITAL.

A MORNING AT THE SOLDIERS' HOME.

Interesting Tour Through the Wards
of the Hospital With Surgeon
Dolson.

The idea of a half past six o'clock breakfast was rather terrifying, but as we were very anxious to accept the kind invitation of Dr. Dolson, Surgeon of the Soldiers' Home, to accompany him on his daily morning round through the hospital last Monday, we nerved ourselves up to ordering breakfast at the alarming hour above mentioned. Before seven o'clock he was at our door with his frisky gray, and we found that the ride of a mile and a half to the Home in the bracing early morning air was not so bad after all.

ENTERING THE HOSPITAL.

which is beautifully located on a slight eminence, we found the benches in the hall filled with a goodly number of soldiers who were not inmates of the hospital, but had come from the barracks to get the Doctor to excuse them from duty, or to have him prescribe for ailments which did not require their residence in the hospital. Leaving our overcoats and hats in the Doctor's pleasant private office, we went into

THE EXAMINING ROOM.

and the waiting soldiers came in one by one, detailed with great vividness their physical woes, and were examined and prescribed for, the Doctor dictating the prescriptions to his faithful hospital steward, Mr. Eugene DuPuy, who wrote them off with unmarvellous rapidity. A record was made of each case. Thirteen men were examined, a smaller number than usual. During the month of March, the Doctor wrote 2,295 prescriptions, and during the year ending March 31st, 1934. After the Doctor had disposed of the men and signed the requisition for the day's supplies, we began the tour of the wards.

THE BUILDING

is of brick and is so constructed that every ward has windows on three sides, thus giving the very best opportunity for light and ventilation, and affording the inmates beautiful views in all directions. There are numerous ventilating registers, and the entire building is heated by steam. It is divided into six wards, which will accommodate sixteen patients each, making 96, and there are in addition six smaller rooms in each of which four beds can be placed, making the total capacity 120. Closets and a bath room are connected with every ward. There are a number of pleasant piazzas on which the convalescents can sun themselves and take the air. The hospital has a kitchen and dining room of its own, and a reading room, well supplied with periodicals and books, and presided over by a veteran who reads to the blind and all others who care to listen. There is also a well-stocked dispensary, which is in fact a miniature drug store, where Mr. DuPuy compounds the prescriptions.

THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS AND DEATHS.

At the time of our visit on Monday there were 598 inmates, 76 of whom were patients in the hospital. There were also 20 other persons connected with the building as nurses, cooks, waiters etc. At one time last winter the number of patients reached 112. Since the opening of the Home in January, 1877, there have been 164 deaths, 31 occurring during the past year. The first two or three years after the Home was opened, the number of inmates was not nearly so great as at present, and the death rate is of course constantly increasing as the veterans grow older. It must be remembered that it is now eighteen years since the war closed.

A REMARKABLE FEATURE.

The feature which attracted our attention the most particularly during the three hours we spent in the hospital was the entire absence of disagreeable odors, which are so apt to be found in such places. This result is only obtained by paying the most rigid heed to sanitary laws, and by the most careful attention on the part of surgeon and nurses.

THROUGH THE WARDS

The Doctor went through each ward, interviewing all the inmates, listening patiently to whatever they might have to say, and carefully attending to their various wants. We were accompanied on our tour by Mr. De Puy who wrote down the prescriptions, by Mr. Frank Kraus, the efficient ward-master, by Mr. John Lloyd, the skillful dresser, and by the two nurses of each ward we entered, who listened attentively to all the directions which the Doctor gave. He says that he could not ask for a more faithful and efficient body of nurses.

There were a great variety of cases, all possessing more or less interest, and furnishing an excellent field for observation and study. The Doctor was thoroughly familiar with the personal and medical history of every patient, and was thus enabled to accomplish a large amount of work in a comparatively short time. Of the 76 patients, 20 had some affection of the throat or lungs, 10 had paralysis, 8 were breaking down with old age, 8 had some disease of the brain, 7 were rheumatic, 3 were blind, 2 had dropsy, 1 had erysipelas, 1 was suffering from an obstinate wound, and the remaining 14 were the victims of various diseases and complications of diseases, doubled and twisted.

A card in a tin frame is attached to the foot of the bed of each occupant, giving his name, nativity, age, date of admission to the hospital, name and address of nearest relative, religion and disease. Probably not more than half of the patients were confined to their beds, many sitting by the side of their beds or by the windows, some moving around in rolling chairs or on crutches, and others walking slowly through the halls or sunning themselves on the porches. They all seemed glad to see the Doctor, and, as a rule, manifested a remarkable degree of cheerfulness. One poor fellow, who is comparatively young, has lost all use of his legs and sat near a window reading one of Appleton's Handy Volume series—an inmate who recently died left twenty of these volumes as a legacy to the hospital reading room. Our paralysed friend looked as happy and smiling as though his great-uncle had just died in England and left him a million pounds. He said that he didn't believe in looking on the dark side of things. After a time, becoming tired of reading, he lifted himself into a rolling chair, seized his cribbage board and started off for a game with some fellow sufferer in another ward.

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 50)

THE STEUBEN FARMERS ADVOCATE

JANUARY 31, 1879

The hard lot of these unfortunates belonging to our State was soon brought to the attention of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of New York, and by them to the attention of the Legislature.

In the year 1872, through the personal efforts of Gen. Henry A. Barnum, then commanding the Department of New York, G. A. R., the Legislature passed an act incorporating "The New York Soldiers' Home," which provided that said institution should be created and maintained by the State. The following are the persons named therein as Trustees of the Home:

Henry A. Barnum,	John Hammond,
Geo. C. Robinson,	James McQuinn,
Henry W. Stearns,	Wm. F. Rogers,
Wm. Johnson,	John B. Murray,
James Jourdan,	Wm. M. Gregg,
John E. Martindale,	David C. Stoddard,
Clyton D. McDougall,	J. B. Kiddon,
Timothy Sullivan,	Adolphe Noits,
Geo. C. Carmichael,	N. M. Curtiss,
Joseph Forbes,	James E. Jones,
Edmund L. Cole,	

The act however failed to provide any appropriation, and none was made. On account of the diversity of opinion as to where the institution should be located, and from other causes, although each encampment of the G. A. R. in the years 1873 and 1874 sent a committee to the Legislature for that purpose, no appropriation was ever made, and the Trustees became discouraged.

Then E. C. Parkinson, now Superintendent of the Home, then residing in Brooklyn, thought the best thing was to make direct appeal to the people for funds. He called on several of the leading citizens and obtained promises of a number of \$100 subscriptions, with the understanding that none was to be paid until \$10,000 had been raised.

At the annual encampment of the G. A. R., held on January 20th and 21st 1876, in accordance with a recommendation made by Comrade E. C. Parkinson, Department Inspector, in his annual report, a committee of fifteen comrades was appointed to consider the feasibility of establishing a Soldiers' Home, and to report at the next semi-annual encampment, the following persons having been appointed such committee:

John B. Murray,	M. S. Hicks,
Edward L. Woodford,	L. W. Fiske,
Henry W. Stearns,	E. J. Loomis,
Geo. H. Sharpe,	R. A. Willis,
Wm. F. Bakers,	E. L. Cole,
E. W. Palmer,	James E. Curtis,
W. C. Parkinson,	John Palmer,
E. J. Quinn,	

The report of said committee was, that 188 acres of land lying on Lake Keuka would be donated by the citizens of Penn Yan and vicinity. No positive action was taken upon the report of the committee, and it was discharged. At the annual encampment of the G. A. R., Department of New York, held at Albany, January 25th and 26th, 1876, the following persons were appointed a committee with power to add six additional names, having full power to take such action as in their judgment might seem proper in regard to the establishment of a Soldiers' Home, and to fill vacancies, &c.:

Seymour Dexter,	E. C. Parkinson,
Wm. F. Rogers,	W. F. Emery,
Frank H. Sheppard,	Willard Bullard,
J. A. Lewis,	L. W. Fiske,
E. L. Cole,	S. P. Curtis,
John Palmer,	W. F. Sheppard,
E. B. Gere,	R. L. Fox,
A. H. Nash,	

At the encampment, James Tanner, on behalf of the delegation from Brooklyn, pledged \$10,000 as that city's share for building the Soldiers' Home.

The committee met at once. E. C. Parkinson, Chairman of the General Committee, Seymour Dexter, Willard Bullard, and R. L. Fox were appointed a sub-committee on organization and plan.

A committee on location was also appointed. The bill of incorporation was drafted by Hon. Seymour Dexter, of Elmira, presented in the Assembly by Hon. Eugene B. Gere, of Owego, and taken charge of in the Senate by Hon. L. Bradford Prince, of Queens County. The bill was duly passed, and signed by the Governor, Samuel J. Tilden, on the 15th of May, 1876.

By the terms of the bill of incorporation the above committee of fifteen, with six other gentlemen to be by them selected, together with the Governor and Comptroller of the State, and the Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic of the State of New York, formed the first Board of Trustees.

The six additional Trustees chosen at a meeting in New York on June 1, 1876, were John F. Henry and Henry W. Sage, of Brooklyn; Henry W. Ballows, of New York city; Chas. G. Craft, of Albany; Farley Holmes, of Penn Yan; and Frederick Davis, Jr., of Watkins. The Board was duly organized by the election of E. C. Parkinson, President, J. A. Lewis, Secretary, and John F. Henry, Treasurer.

LOCATING THE HOME

All places in the State desirous of offering inducements for the site of the Home were requested to make their proposals to the locating committee at Elmira on July 10th. Watkins, Penn Yan and Bath made proposals, and on July 14th, after visiting the places named, the committee decided to locate the Home here, the offer from our people being the best received.

The success of the Home was now assured, as, at a meeting at the Academy of Music, Brooklyn, on May 8th, 1876, at which Corporal Tanner presided, and Rev. Henry Ward Beecher delivered a powerful appeal, the magnificent sum of \$10,000 was raised. New York City followed with \$10,000 from one meeting, and besides this large amount were constantly being received by the comrades who were canvassing. Other parts of the State did nobly, and our own town capped the climax by beating them all and giving land and money to the extent of \$22,500.

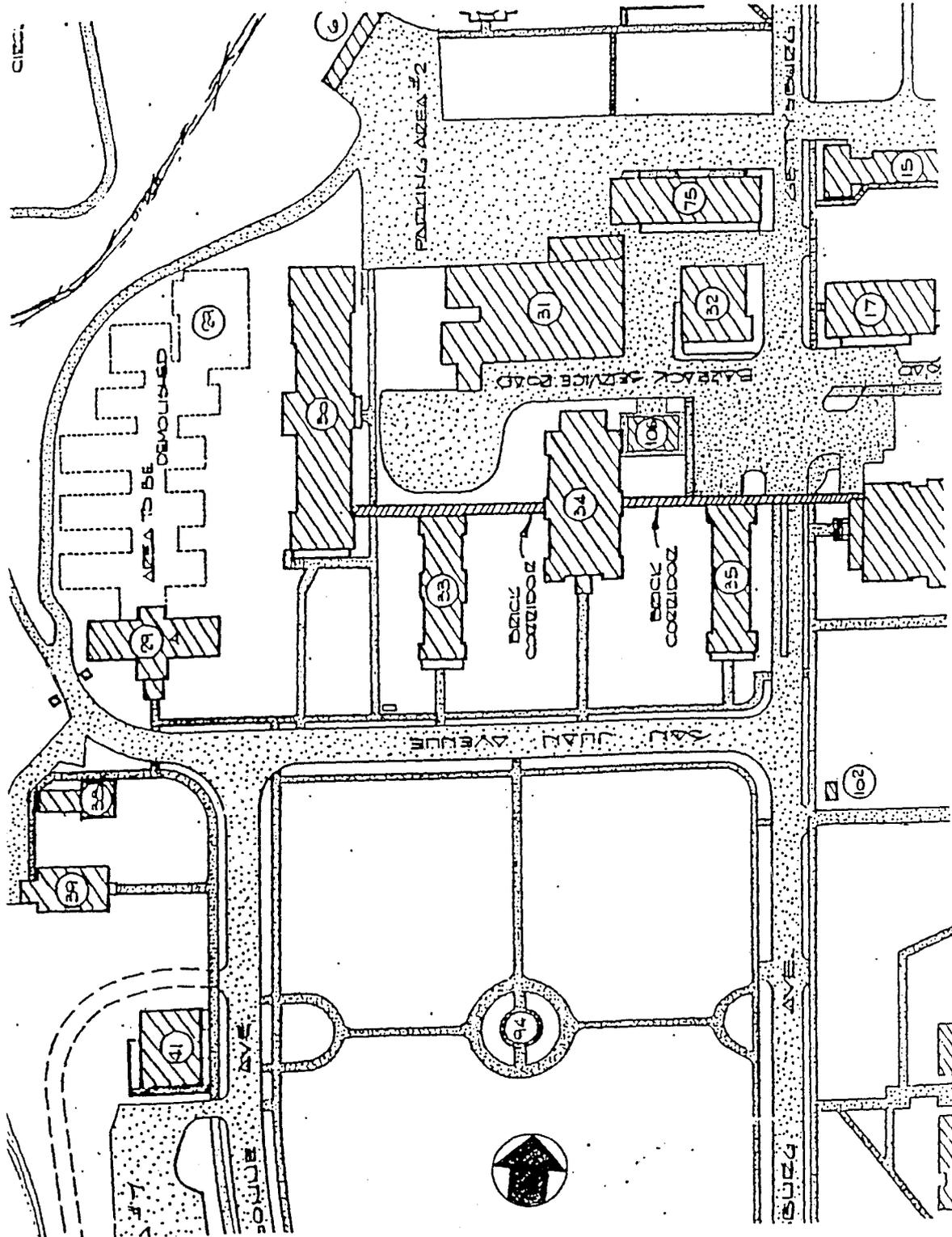
On September 25th, 1876, at a meeting of the Board of Trustees, held here, Judges David Ramsey, Hon. Ira Davenport and Jonathan Robie, Esq., of Bath, were appointed a citizens building committee to act in connection with the building committee of the Board of Trustees, with full power to proceed at once to the

ERECTOR OF THE BUILDINGS.

Plans were submitted by a number of architects, and those of Messrs. Warner and Cutler, of Rochester, were accepted. John Y. Cuyler, Superintendent of the the Brooklyn Park, drew up a plan for the laying out and decoration of the grounds, which was accepted.

In November a stone quarry was opened upon the farm from which sufficient stone for all the foundations, and all the cut stone, excepting window sills, was obtain-

NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS'
AND SAILORS' HOME,
BUILDING 29
HABS No. NY-6339-A
(Page 52)
51



ADDENDUM TO:
NEW YORK STATE SOLDIERS & SAILORS HOME, BUILDING NO.
29
(National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, Bath Branch)
(Building No. 29A)
Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, 76 Veterans Avenue
Bath
Steuben County
New York

HABS NY-6339-A
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