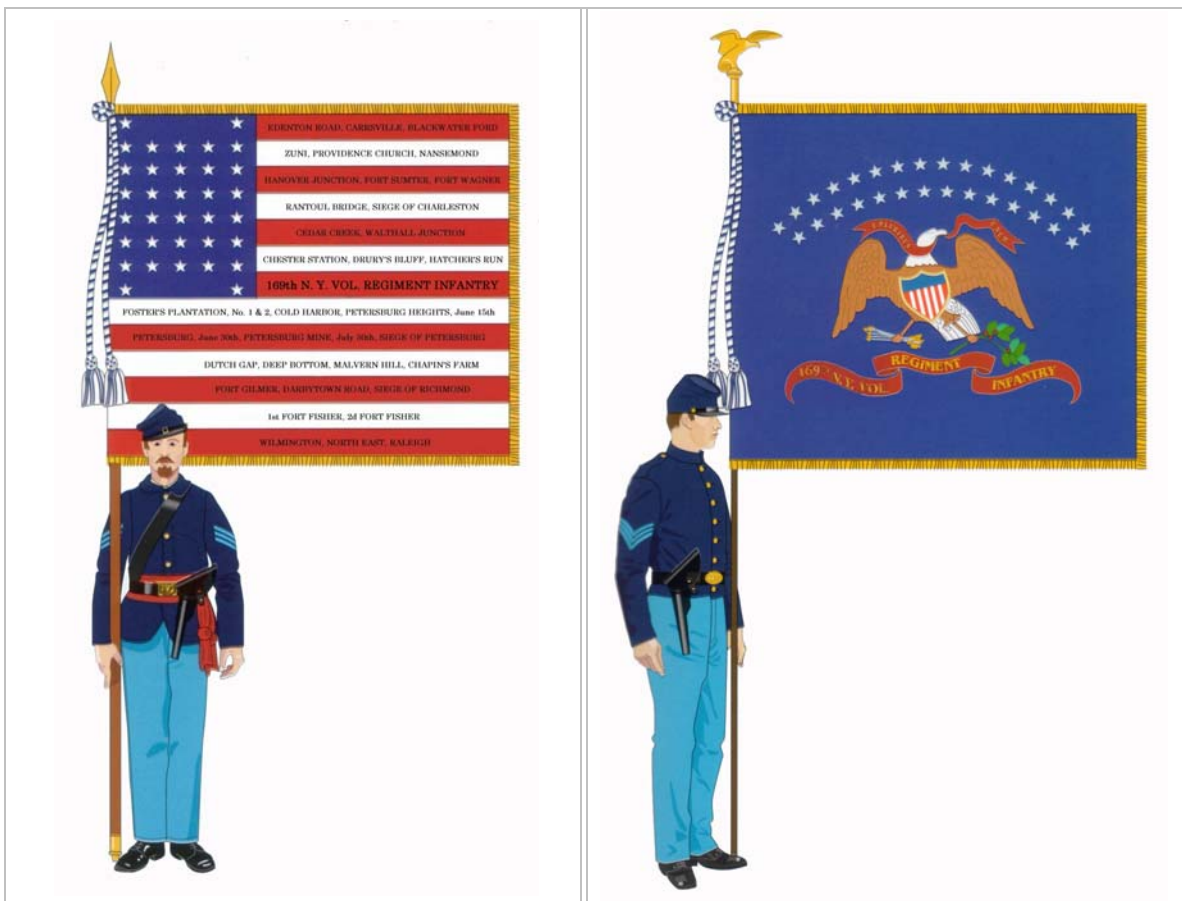




FLAGS OF THE 169TH N. Y. S. V. INFANTRY REGIMENT



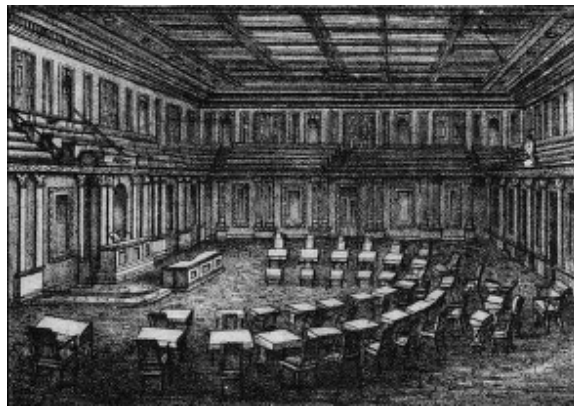
The Troy Daily Whig.

APRIL 6, 1863.



U. S. Capitol (1863)

☞ THE One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment attended the great mass meeting held in Washington on Tuesday evening last, in a body. – Speaking of the gathering, the *Star* says: "The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth New York Regiment, under command of Lieut.-Col. John McConihe, accompanied by their full band, led by Prof. Smith, marched into the Senate Chamber, but were unable to obtain seats or even standing places in a body.



Senate Chamber

"Over the Vice President's chair was a splendid flag, on each side of which the colors, both

National and State, of the 169th New York were placed." The "boys" are having a "fine time," evidently, in the capital city.

The Troy Daily Press.

NOVEMBER 16, 1863.

Interesting Letter from the One Hundred and Sixty-Ninth – Presentation of the Sword to Lieutenant-Colonel McConihe.

CAMP 169TH REGIMENT,
FOLLY ISLAND, NEAR CHARLESTON, S. C.,
Nov. 11TH, 1863.

AN AGREEABLE INCIDENT – HONOR TO THE BRAVE.

Editors Daily Press:

One of the most agreeable incidents in the history of this regiment occurred on Saturday, 7th inst. It was one, too, that will be cherished in the memory of every member of the 169th with feelings of just pride, in view of the substantial tribute of honor it paid to one of our commanding officers. It was the occasion of a sword presentation, in which Lieut.-Col. John McConihe bore the conspicuous honor of being the recipient. The presentation speech was made by Col. Buel, and was a most happy effort, eliciting the spontaneous plaudits of the highly distinguished auditory present.

THE HOUR FOR THE PRESENTATION.

was fixed at four o'clock, P.M., after the regiment had been drawn up in line for dress parade. Accordingly, at that hour the line was formed, as usual, with the regimental band of the 103^d N. Y. V. resting on the right, whose services had been secured for the occasion, from the fact that our own band is at present without a leader, and is hardly up to the standard once accorded it for excellence while the regiment was quartered at Washington.

APPEARANCE OF THE REGIMENT.

The line, as thus formed, with the men at support arms, presented a splendid appearance, and must have made a most favorable impression upon the minds of the high military notables who honored the occasion with their presence. Cols. Buel and McConihe soon made their appearance upon the ground, accompanied by some fifty or more invited and voluntary guests and spectators.

THE SWORD,

shrined in a handsome black walnut case, was borne by a guard of honor, consisting of a Sergeant and four privates, detailed from the ranks of Company A for that purpose, who took position with their valuable charge upon the right of the regiment until the command "In place, rest," was given by Col. Buel, when they advanced and took

position on the Colonel's right, and awaited the given moment to deliver the magnificent gift into the hands for which it was intended. As the sword has already been minutely described by the Troy PRESS, it would be useless to essay a description at this time.

Col. Buel at once took his position in front of the regiment, which, after the order of "Guide post," was brought to the position of open order by Acting Adjutant Clark Smith, when the

PRESENTATION CEREMONY

was immediately commenced, Col. McConihe taking his position in front of Col. Buel, and with uncovered head, listened with feelings of lively interest and evident emotion, to the reading of the letter accompanying the sword, and the eloquent speech of our Colonel.

THE LETTER,

which contains over one hundred signatures, comprising the names of our most eminent citizens at home, is as follows:

TROY, N. Y., Oct. 10, 1863.

LIEUT.-COL. JOHN MCCONIHE –

DEAR SIR – You will please accept from us, your fellow townsmen, the sword, sash, belt, and passants accompanying this letter, as a token of our personal friendship and esteem; of our admiration of your noble qualities, both of the head and heart; of our appreciation of your fortitude and endurance, as displayed in the long and fatiguing marches during the campaign in Missouri in 1861; of the alacrity with which you left a sick bed to participate in the bloody field of Shiloh, of your courage and ability, as displayed on that fiercely contested field, where you were severely wounded; and of those continual evidences of courage and high military capacity, evinced by you at the action on the Edenton Road, and during the pending siege of Charleston.

We trust this sword to you, feeling confident that it will never be drawn in an unjust cause, and that it will never be sheathed until the glory and power of our country shall be fully vindicated in this contest for the suppression of an unholy rebellion.

Yours very sincerely, &c.

SPEECH OF COL. BUEL.

The presentation speech of Col. Buel was as follows, and prompted demonstrative marks of approbation from the highly enlightened and patriotic auditors in attendance:

LIEUT.-COL. MCCONIHE – SIR: – The agreeable duty has been assigned to me of confiding to you on behalf of your fellow-townsmen, a most elegant testimonial of their friendship and esteem for yourself personally, and of their admiration of your high soldierly qualities; and I accept the trust with more unalloyed satisfaction, for the reason that my close association with you in duty for more than a year past, has assured me that you are well worthy of this noble tribute, and of the gratifying sentiments with which it is accompanied.

This beautiful sword, with its accompanying insignia, are the spontaneous offering of your friends and fellow townsmen of Troy, New York, your native city where your character and services are best known and appreciated, and where your career is watched with most cordial interest and friendly pride. And here, in passing, I may be allowed to say that it is a peculiar honor to be the recipient of any meritorious token from the citizens of Troy, a city of which it is only a modest encomium to say that it has been surpassed by none other, in the proportion of men and means which it has contributed to the country during the existing rebellion – a city from which no less than five complete regiments have gone forth since the commencement of the war, and which must have sent almost an equal number in the way of recruits to these and other regiments in

the field, and one, which, alone in the State of New York, has, by voluntary enlistments, obtained a total exemption from the operation of the recent draft.

The letter which accompanies this splendid testimonial, is signed by more than a hundred names, among which I recognize those of many of the oldest, most honorable and influential citizens of Troy. And when you take home to your heart the sentiments which that letter expresses, you will, I know, cherish it as a treasure not even secondary to the elegant token which it so fittingly accompanies.

With your permission, I will read it, not only as expressing the most gratifying sentiments on the part of the donors, but as affording the most appropriate terms in which I can discharge the grateful duty they have assigned to me: (Here Col. Buel read the letter.)

And here, sir, I might very well bring my remarks to a close, for I can add nothing to the appropriateness of the language I have just read. You will allow me to say, however, that the feelings it breathes forth are cordially shared by myself, and by the officers and men of the regiment in which you hold an honorable command.

It is surely unnecessary to direct attention to the beauty and exquisite finish of the sword itself, or to the elegance and completeness of the insignia with which it is accompanied. They speak for themselves, and are all as they should be – chaste, elegant and substantial – alike fitted to shine in the gay tournament and to do good service on the field of glory – the useful and the beautiful harmoniously blended in the form most agreeable to the eye of the soldier. Its inscriptions, too, are equally appropriate – one of them your own cheering cry to your brave men on the bloody battle field of Shiloh, "Come on boys!" and the residue a modest mention of some of your services during the past three years.

And now, sir, I present to you, in the names and on the behalf of the donors, your former fellow townsmen, this magnificent sword and these elegant trappings, adding, in conclusion, a single sentiment taken from one of the choicest gems of poetry, which I heartily apply to the sword now entrusted to your keeping:

"The sword – a name of dread; yet when
Upon the Freeman's thigh 'tis bound –
While for his altar and his hearth,
While for the land that gave him birth,
The War drums roll, the trumpets sound,
How sacred is it then!"

* * * * *

"Whenever for the truth and right
It flashes in the van of fight."

* * * * *

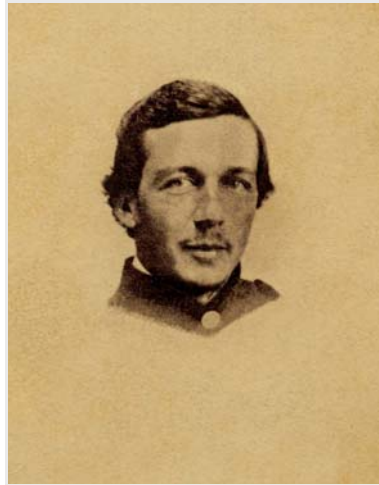
"Still, where'er the battle cry
Is Liberty – when men do stand
For justice and their native land.
Then Heaven bless the SWORD!"

LIEUT.-COL. McCONIHE'S RESPONSE.

Colonel and Fellow Soldiers. – I am indeed overwhelmed at the reception of this magnificent testimonial in recognition of my humble services, freely rendered in the cause of my country since the outbreak of this rebellion. I have not adequate speech to properly express my great gratitude for this mark of esteem from my friends at home. – Through you, sir, I thank them; and here, in the presence of this assembled concourse of our Republic's Defenders, with my hand upon this jeweled hilt, I pledge myself, I swear, never to draw my sword but to uphold the glorious fabric of our Government, as handed down to us by our fathers, and never to sheath it, so long as my country accepts my services, and until this war discloses an honorable peace, based upon free institutions, reunited sovereignties, and an entirety of States. – Although, sir, I would much prefer to grasp the hand of friendship in my native city, yet this generous gift of those whose familiar names you have just read, many of whom have been my intimate associates through life, and all of whom I have delighted to esteem and

honor, points to another duty. Such incidents as this in a soldier's life, nerve and cheer him in his many trials, and I acknowledge to a sense of pride at being the recipient of so proud and generous a testimonial. It shall be my only aim to preserve its bright blade unsullied, and I trust my course in the future, as in the past, will receive the approbation and sanction of its generous donors and my friends generally.

I cannot conclude these few remarks of appreciative gratitude without expressing my unfaltering belief in the complete preservation of this Union, and an honorable and successful termination of the war. Last Spring, while this regiment was doing duty in the city of Washington, I often had occasion to admire the stateliness and grandeur of the Capitol Buildings. As I looked upon the magnificent proportions of the unfinished dome surmounting that house of marble, alive with busy artisans working the massive blocks of marble, piece by piece, to its completion, while the corridors and halls below were swarming with the wisdom of the Republic, assembled and engaged in devising means to carry on the war and preserve the life of the Republic, I felt reassured of the completion of our liberties and the preservation of our country. *You, my, fellow soldiers, are the artisans at work upon the dome of our country's liberties, and beneath that starry banner your valiant arms shall cement these States, State by State, until the fabric of our Government shall spread over all our people the mantle of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.*



Lieutenant-Colonel John McConihe
169th N. Y. S. V. Infantry Regiment
Collection of the Albany Institute of History & Art, Albany, N. Y.

At the conclusion of this most happy response, Lieut.-Col. McConihe assumed his position as commander of the regiment (as I stated in my previous letter, Col. Buel being temporarily detached as presiding officer of a General Court Martial,) having, however, first donned the sword and its appurtenances, when the ceremonies of the Dress Parade were concluded, the 103^d performing its *role* most admirably, discoursing euphony of the first order, and to which hundreds of grateful ears listened, as with martial step it marched down and up the line.

THE DISTINGUISHED PERSONAGES PRESENT.

Among the distinguished officers who honored the occasion with their presence, I noticed the following: Brig.-Gen. Vogdes, commanding Division, and north end of Folly Island; Brig.-Gen. Foster, commanding Brigade; Brig.-Gen. John W. Turner, Gen. Gillmore's Chief of Staff; Act. Brig.-Gen. L. H. S. Fairchild, 89th N. Y. V., and their brilliant staff; Col. C. J. Dobbs, and Lieut.-Col. Wilson, 13th Ind.;

Capt. McHenry, A. A. Gen. Vogdes' staff; Capt. P. A. Davis, A. A. Gen. Foster's staff, and many others, to your correspondent unknown.

The press was represented by Osbern and Lawyer, of the N. Y. *Herald*; Whitmore, of the N. Y. *Times*; Crane, (artist), of Frank Leslie's *Illustrated*, and Shepard, of the N. Y. *Tribune*.

GOOD CHEER AND GOOD FEELING.

Immediately after the dismissal of the parade, such of the officers and spectators as felt inclined, adjourned to Lieut.-Col. McConihe's quarters, where the best of good cheer had been provided for all who chose to partake of the Colonel's liberal hospitalities and eminent good feeling, and the interchange of friendly sentiment characterized the evening's intercourse.

THE EXCELLENT BAND

of the 103^d in the meantime collected in front of the Colonel's quarters, and gave full scope to their talent as first-class musicians, keeping the whole regiment, as well as large bodies of eager listeners from other regiments, spellbound, as it were, for an hour and a half.

THE PRIVATES NOT FORGOTTEN.

During the evening whiskey rations were issued to all hands, and cheers for the Lieut.-Colonel, as well as the Colonel, were given on every side.

ENTHUSIASM AND SONG-SINGING.

Enthusiasm and the best of feeling prevailed, throughout the regiment. Song-singing, cheering, and other demonstrations of an enthusiastic character, were indulged in until "tap," when the camp again assumed its garb of wonted quiet.

THE OCCASION

was one long to be remembered by all who witnessed the presentation, and more especially by the officers and privates of the 169th.

THE BOMBARDMENT.

The bombardment of Sumter and the other Rebel works still continues. Little progress is being made, however. I hope to have something to chronicle in the way of news in my next letter.

Yours, truly,

T. S.

The Troy Daily Times.

MAY 16, 1864.

From the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth.

Correspondence of the Troy Daily Times.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., May 10.



Scene from "The Red Badge of Courage" (1951)
Directed by John Huston (1906-1987)

The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth regiment has again witnessed and participated in the scene of a day marked by carnage and blood, and to-night some of its brave men sleep in death on this Virginia soil, others are wounded and prisoners in the hands of the enemy, while yet others languish in the hospitals, all having nobly borne up the honor of the flag on the desperately contested field of Chester. The battle of Chester, on the 10th day of May, 1864, will fill up its page in history, and will long be remembered for the severity of its incidents, and the bloody results upon which night closed in. I shall simply recount the part Col. McConihe's command so nobly sustained in the heat of the day, feeling assured that such recital will best attest the matured character of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth for courage, coolness and well-disciplined military ability. In respect of these attributes, the regiment is already well nigh prepared to take the place of the tried and gallant Thirteenth Indiana volunteers, Col. Dobbs, who go out of the service on the 19th of June proximo, after a magnificent career of usefulness in the armies of the Union, crowned with those exalted laurels of a lofty and unselfish patriotism that will ever constitute questionless passports to the choicest affections of their countrymen. In all the events of to-day, which I am about to recite, no regiment enacted a more glorious and truly heroic part than the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth, as the noble support it gave Howell's menaced brigade at the front will witness.

In accordance with orders that portions of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth regiment not doing picket duty, left camp, at Foster's Plantation, eight miles above City Point, Va., about 3 o'clock A.M. on the morning of the 10th of May, 1864, and in junction with the Thirteenth Indiana volunteers, Col. C. J. Dobbs, proceeded to a point on the Richmond and Petersburg Turnpike, near Chester Station, – arriving there about daylight, and duly reporting to Col. Voris, of the Sixty-seventh Ohio. Co. H, Lieutenant Wm. H. Lyon, commanding, was ordered forward on the right, and Capt. Daniel Ferguson, Co. K, on the left of the Turnpike, in support of the Fourth New Jersey battery. Co. C, Capt. Joseph H. Allen; Co. D, Capt. Spencer W. Snyder; and Co. F, Capt. Augustus D.

Vaughn, moved, all under command of Lieut.-Col. Alden, out on the right side road leading to Henry Friend's House, deploying as skirmishers from the route to the Turnpike. Soon thereafter, the enemy were discovered in force on the right and in front, manœuvring to advance, and passing around our right flank, Lieut.-Col. Alden found this flank movement in time to change the line of skirmishers, so that our right might connect with Col. Howell's brigade. Col. Alden had but just accomplished this when the enemy made the general attack. The first shots were exchanged at 6½ A.M. At 9 o'clock A.M., Co. G, Lieut. C. D. Merrill; Co. I, Capt. D. J. Cary; Co. A, Capt. J. F. Thompson; Co. E, Lieut. H. Mulhall, and Co. B, Lieut. J. H. Dunn, rejoined the regiment – having been relieved from picket duty. Cos. A and I moved out on the right to strengthen the line of skirmishers, while Co. B took position on the left – Co. E and C being on the right in support of the battery. A desultory firing and skirmishing was maintained until about 11 o'clock in the forenoon, at which hour the enemy made a general attack with one brigade upon our right flank, and another with cavalry and artillery upon our centre and left. The advance of the enemy was made in columns of four ranks. They were received with a terrific fire, both from the regiment and the battery. Both the officers and men stood to their respective posts with great courage and nobleness, and the quick discharge of grape and canister made most perceptible openings in their ranks. Not until the enemy were fairly upon the guns did the line fall back, and then the regiment fell back, firing, but a short distance to our line on the right, on the crossroads, for the purpose of checking a flank movement of the enemy on our right. The two companies on the right (E and G) and the two companies on the left of the battery remained in their respective positions and did not fall back until the gun on the right of the road had limbered up, and the caisson without the gun on the left was moving to the rear. The companies then retired by orders. This position was held nobly against a very superior force, the Lieutenant commanding the battery behaving with distinguished gallantry; yet Col. McConihe could not account for the caisson going to the rear without the gun. Every effort was made to halt the caisson, the Lieutenant commanding the battery discharging his revolver at the driver. There are some few incidents of the day worth relating as favorably affecting the character of the officers of the regiment for bravery and intelligent military discretion. During the heat of the fight, while Col. McConihe was in front of his command, directing the various movements of his regiment, he was made the target of a terrible bullet hail, none of which, in the good Providence of God, stuck him; but his escape from falling pierced again and again was, under the circumstances, truly miraculous. His horse, familiarly known in the regiment as "Old Dick," and formerly owned by Col. Clarence Buel, when that young prelate commanded the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth, fell, while the Colonel was mounted upon him, with sixteen bullets in his equine body. The horse fell with Colonel McConihe, who was with much difficulty extricated from beneath the carcass. – The part enacted in the battle by Lieut.-Col. Alonzo Alden was conspicuously creditable and able. Colonel Voris, of the Sixty-seventh Ohio volunteers, who had command of the brigade, under the general direction of Gen. Howell, of the Thirty-ninth Illinois volunteers, directed Colonel Alden to extend his deployed line until he could connect with the left of Col. Howell's brigade. In compliance with these orders the line was extended about three-fourths of a mile, when a large force of the enemy was discovered about six hundred



"Equestrian Standard Bearer" (ca. 1860-'65)
Alfred Rudolph Waud (1828-1891)
 Collection of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

yards to our right. Col. Alden immediately made a hazardous reconnaissance, in person, for the purpose of effecting a junction of the picket lines. At this point Col. Alden discovered that a large force, at least one brigade, of the enemy was already far advanced in closing upon our rear. With the assistance of Major Butler of the Sixty-seventh Ohio, and the gallant Lieut. Smith, acting Adjutant of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth, Col. Alden, with great difficulty, effected a change of front, by which strategical manœuvre the enemy were prevented from attacking our rear. No sooner had Col. Alden effected this change of front than a vigorous attack was made upon our entire line, by a force of at least three brigades. – At this moment Major Butler of the Sixty-seventh Ohio assumed command of the right deployed line, by order of Col. Alden, with explicit directions to check any flank movement of the enemy. Col. Alden, accompanied by Adjutant Smith, then left to join Colonel McConihe, who was in immediate command of the forces on the Petersburg and Richmond turnpike. At this point the attack was vigorously pressed, and a continuous and heavy fire of artillery and musketry from the solid ranks of the enemy, was most sharply returned by the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth New York, the Sixty-seventh Ohio, the noble old Thirteenth Indiana, and a section of the Fourth New Jersey Light Artillery, whereby the enemy were severely punished – as was afterwards confessed by them, under flag of truce they sent in when general defeat was settling down upon them. At this moment it was discovered that large forces of the enemy were being massed upon our right and left flanks. A rear change of front was effected under a galling fire. In this manœuvre a little incident occurred worthy of mention. [Colonel Alden, while rallying his men around the colors](#)

upon the new line of battle, received the announcement from Lieut. D. S. Durbin, of Gen. Ames' staff, confirmed by a staff officer of Gen. Gillmore's, that Gen. Grant had accomplished a glorious victory over Gen. Lee, who was fast falling within the entrenched lines around Richmond. In making this announcement to the men, Col. Alden proposed three cheers for Gen. Grant and his army. The response was truly electrifying, the cheers of the men vying with the roar of the cannon, the bursting of shell and the whistling of bullets. As soon as the cheering had subsided, the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth moved to a point farther to the right and rear, and successfully checked a renewed effort of the enemy to get to our rear, and at the same time effecting a junction with Col. Howell's brigade. The enemy having been effectually repulsed and punished at all points, suffering most severely in killed and wounded, discontinued the attack, and by flag of truce were permitted to enter our lines and bury their dead. Thus ended the hotly contested battle of Chester Station, twelve miles from Richmond – the losses of the enemy being unexaggeratedly triple those of the Union forces engaged. The following is a list of the casualties in the regiment:

Killed – Wm. S. Hand, Theodore Sheldon, Co. A; John Mallery, B; Oliver Gilchrist, J. W. Taylor, E; Leonard Fish, F; Wm. Wilbrand, Wm. Campbell, K.

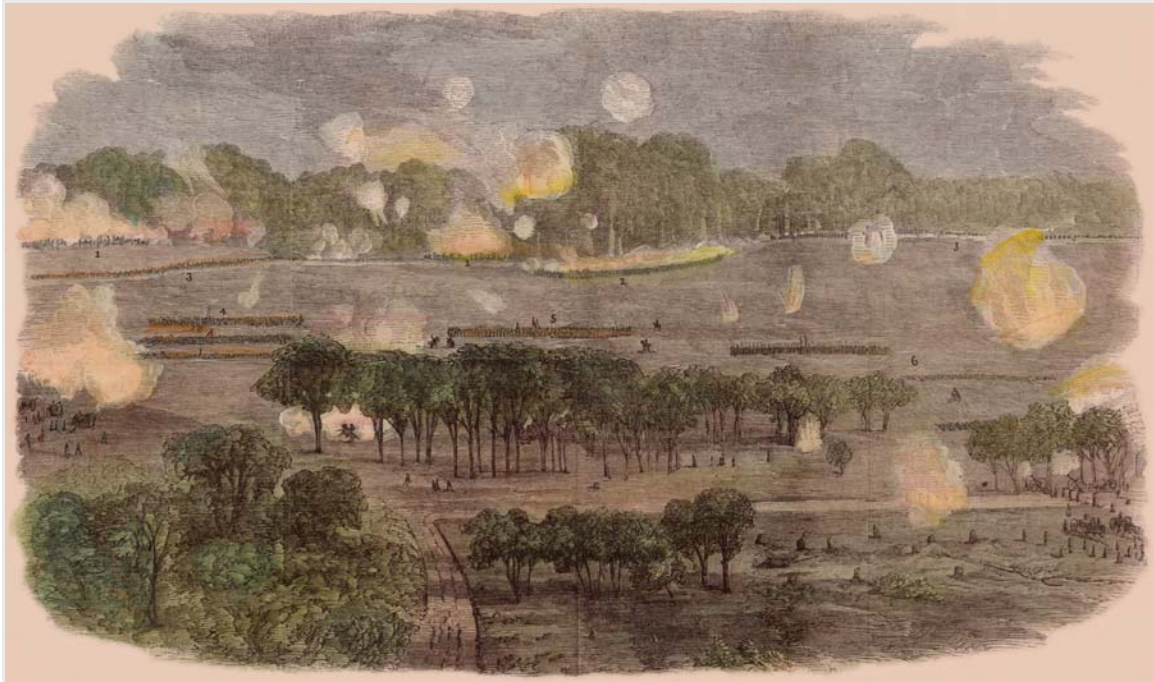
Wounded – Privates Daniel Osborn, E. A. Prouty, W. H. Shufelt, Jonathan Hoag, Co. A; First Sergeant M. Ryan, privates Robert Anderson, Edward Clary, John Moran, Patrick O'Brien, Owen Tanzey (badly), George Roarbock, John Barlow, Jeremiah Cahill, Co. B; Corporal Hugh Toole (slightly), Co. D; privates G. C. Edgerton (leg amputated), John H. Bligh, George D. Bennett, H. J. Nichols, Charles Peer, Co. E; private S. B. Keech (badly wounded in the abdomen), Co. F; Corporal Louis Winkler (mortally), privates Valentine Rheinholtz (badly), John Beckstein (slightly), John Leach (severely), Co. G; privates H. E. Stuart, Peter Quinlan, Daniel Odell, King Goodell, Co. H; privates Jeremiah Murphy (mortally), Nathaniel Harris, Oliver Santos, Co. I; privates Alfred J. Moss (severely), J. H. Mower, George Burgess, Wm. E. Griggs, Co. K.

Sergeant Jaques, and private Theodore Schutt, Co. A, and several others are wounded and prisoners in Richmond, making the whole number of killed, wounded and missing fifty-six.

Lieuts. Mulhall and Van Santvoord had narrow escapes from bullets which perforated their clothes. I ought not to omit mention of the fact, that at one time during the day, a large portion of Co. A were completely surrounded by the enemy, including Capt. Thompson and Lieut. Alexander R. Bell, who bravely and literally cut their way out, each killing several fierce greybacks with their sabres, while many of the surrounded privates beat rebel brains out with the butts of their muskets. All the officers and men, I may properly repeat, did their whole duty, and did it in a manner to reflect the highest credit upon themselves and the command. This is so true that to individualize would be invidious. Col. McConihe in his report to Gen. Gillmore, speaks in high terms of the services rendered throughout the day, by Lieut.-Col. Alden, the accomplished, energetic, and disciplinary Major James A. Colvin, and Chaplain Chapman, as well as all of the line officers. The Brigade is at present under command of Col. J. C. Drake, of the One Hundred and Twelfth New York volunteers, Gen. Foster having been relieved and made Chief of Staff with Gillmore. Col. Drake is a most hardy, intelligent, efficient and active commander, and in my humble judgment really among those who should grace that "star" by Presidential promotion.

I close with saying that inasmuch as the compositors havocked the *nom de plume* attached to my last letter, I announce this dispatch as being written by

W. H. M.



1, 1. Rebel Guns. – 2. Rebel Line of Battle. – 3, 3. Rebel Earth-Works and Rifle-Pits. – 4. Devens' Division Charging Rifle-Pits, and Capturing 580 Prisoners. – 5. Brooks' Division. – 6. Martindale's Division.

THE CAMPAIGN IN VIRGINIA – FIGHT AT COLD HARBOR, JUNE 1, 1864 – GENERAL SMITH'S CORPS IN ACTION.

[FROM A SKETCH BY WILLIAM WAUD.]

Published in "Harper's Weekly, a Journal of Civilization" (June 18th, 1864).

*The 169th N. Y. was in the first line (Drake's Brigade) of Devens' Division.
A flag is visible in Drake's column in the drawing.*

The Troy Daily Press.

JUNE 7, 1864.

☞ **COL. MCCONIHE'S FUNERAL.** – THE BODY TO ARRIVE THIS P.M. – Hon. Isaac McConihe, Jr., received the following dispatch this morning:

WASHINGTON, June 6th, 1864.

John's remains will arrive in Troy to-morrow (Tuesday) evening.

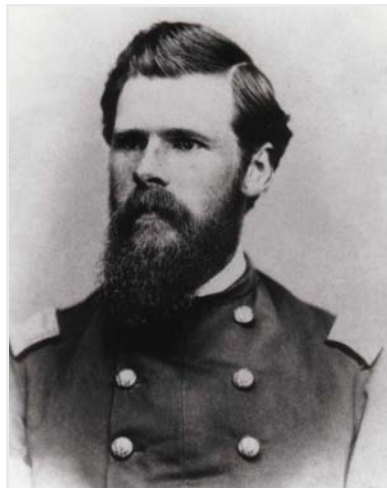
WM. MCCONIHE.

The remains will probably arrive on the Hudson River train which reaches here at 5½ P.M. The Troy City Artillery has been detailed by Lieut.-Col. Leroy, of the Twenty-fourth regiment, to receive the remains at the Union Depot, and escort them to the Common Council chamber, where they will lay in state until the hour fixed for the funeral. It is probable that the funeral will take place on Thursday afternoon. The deceased will be buried with military honors.

P. S. – Lieut.-Col. Alden and Capt. Allen arrived by the noon train to-day. The body of Col. McConihe will arrive this afternoon or to-morrow morning, in charge of Chaplain Chapman.

Col. Alden says Col. McConihe was struck by several bullets, which passed through the heart and coming out at the back. He died instantly. His right arm and hand were also shattered. As he fell he exclaimed, "Oh!" and expired. His remains were taken charge of by a member of the regiment. The regiment was in Gen. Devens' [division], and was on the left of the 18th (Baldy Smith's) corps. The fight was most desperate at the time. – The 169th was facing a rebel rifle pit at a distance of about 600 yards, in an open field. – Being ordered to "charge" and take the works, the gallant regiment advanced steadily, led by its commanding officers, and drove the rebels from their first line of rifle pits.

No sooner, however, had they taken possession, than the rebels poured volley after volley into their ranks, from their second line of rifle pits, which were partially concealed in a dense wood. But the 169th bravely advanced, and was in the act of driving the rebels from the second line of rifle pits, when Col. McConihe fell, mortally wounded. He died as he no doubt wished to die – at the head of his gallant band, and with his face to the foe!



Lieutenant-Colonel Alonzo Alden
169th N. Y. S. V. Infantry Regiment
Collection of the U.S. Army Heritage & Education Center, Carlisle, Penn.

Lieut.-Col. Alden then assumed command, and as the regimental colors of the 169th were being placed on the second

line of rebel works he too, fell, a rebel bullet entering his right ear, striking the bone directly back of that organ, proceeding downwards in the neck and lodging under his chin. The ball has not as yet been extracted. Col. A. was then carried to the rear, and Major Colvin took command.

Lieut. Clark Smith, of the 169th, who was a member of Gen. Martindale's Staff at the time, was badly wounded; also Lieut. Morey, in the body; Lieut. E. R. Smith, in the shoulder; Capt. Ferguson, in the back; and Capt. Jos. Allen in the arm. The fight was most terrific at the time, and no doubt the 169th suffered severely.

Lieut.-Col. Alden is at his residence in this city. He looks well, but is somewhat faint in consequence of his wound, which is a painful one. Capt. Allen is at his home in Brunswick. The other wounded officers are on their way home.

Col. McConihe's body has not been embalmed.

The Troy Daily Times.

JUNE 7, 1864.

☞ COL. MCCONIHES BODY. – The remains of the late Col.

John McConihe, of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth regiment, will reach here at a late hour to-night. The family having yielded to the request of the military of the city, to pay a suitable tribute to the deceased officer, the arrangements have been placed in the hands of the public authorities and soldiers; and no doubt the Common Council will take action this afternoon. The Twenty-fourth regiment will be under the command of Lieut.-Col. Leroy – their Colonel being a brother of the deceased. – On the arrival of the body at the *dépôt* to-night, it will be received by the Troy City Artillery, who will conduct it to the Common Council chamber, where it will remain until it is consigned to the dust. The ceremonies of the Masonic Fraternity will also be conducted, under the auspices of Mount Zion Lodge No. 311, of which the deceased was an honored member. The resolutions of the Lodge passed last evening will be found in another column.

– Lieut.-Col. Alonzo Alden, of this city, and Capt. Joseph H. Allen, of Millville – each wounded – reached here by the noon-train, since the above paragraph was in type. They state that Col. McConihe's body, in charge of Chaplain A. T. Chapman, will arrive by the next train due here at 4:25 P.M. Col. Alden is wounded in the head, but not dangerously.

– Capt. Wm. McConihe, brother of the deceased officer, also arrived by the noon train, and states that Col. McConihe fell while leading his men in a charge on the enemy's entrenchments,

last Wednesday. He was shot in several places almost simultaneously – the hand, arm and body. The latter wound proved fatal – the bullet passing directly through him, and he was instantly killed. The remains are not in a good state of preservation, as the nature of the wound prevented the process of embalming being performed with success. A second attempt was made in Washington to preserve the body, but it failed. The fact that Col. McConihe died thus gloriously will be a source of satisfaction to the community, and will partly mitigate the severity of the blow to his relatives and friends.

– We conversed with Lieut.-Col. Alden this afternoon at his residence. The bullet entered from above, near the ear, striking the bone, and it is still imbedded near his throat. Capt. Allen is wounded in the foot; Capt. Ferguson in the back; Lieut. E. R. Smith in the shoulder; Lieut. Morey through the body, and Capt. Clark Smith slightly. Col. McConihe was killed just as our forces had carried the first series of the enemy's rifle pits and were pushing towards the second. As the flag was planted on the second, Lieut.-Col. Alden was struck. Col. McConihe uttered a single exclamation, "Oh," and expired in the arms of a soldier who caught his falling form.

The Troy Daily Times.

JUNE 8, 1864.

Col. McConihe's Funeral.

The engrossing topic of local interest is the funeral of the late Col. John McConihe and the arrangements connected with it. The body reached the city at an early hour this morning, by the Hudson River Railroad train, and was received at the depot by a detachment of the Troy City Artillery, under command of Lieut. J. E. Curran. It was placed in a hearse in waiting, under direction of Wm. Madden, and about eight o'clock the remains were taken to the residence of Judge McConihe, father of the deceased, corner of First and Division streets. – Four officers acted as bearers – Col. Babcock, Lieut.-Col. Lawton, Major Otis and Adjutant G. G. Moore, – and the Artillery detachment formed an escort. The body will be taken to the Common Council room at half past six o'clock this evening, where it will remain until the funeral takes place. It is enclosed in a neat, plain coffin, draped in the American flag.

FUNERAL.

The funeral will take place to-morrow (Thursday) afternoon at 2 o'clock, from St. Paul's church. The services will be worthy of

the distinguished dead. Gov. Seymour and staff will be present, and in addition to the Executive of the State, the Mayor and Common Council of Albany, with the Twenty-fifth Regiment, will join in paying the last military tribute to this lamented officer. Thus far the military arrangements have been under the direction of Adjutant Moore. The following officers will act as bearers: Col. George Babcock, Col. Chas. E. Brintnall, Lieut.-Col. W. H. Lawton, Major John L. Flagg, Major George H. Otis and Capt. Charles Hughes, Provost Marshal. Col. Le Roy will act as Marshal of the day.

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

The order of procession at the funeral of the late Col. John McConihe, of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth regiment, will be as follows:

Platoon of police, forming on Third street, near Broadway.
Schreiber's Band.
Twenty-fifth Regiment N. Y. S. N. G., Col. Walter S. Church.
Döring's Band.
Twenty-fourth Regiment N. Y. S. N. G., Col. John I. Le Roy.
Hearse.
Troy City Artillery as guard of honor.
Military Mourners.
Mount Zion Lodge of Masons, No. 311, of Troy, as mourners.
Relatives of deceased.
Gov. Seymour and Staff.
Gen. Wool and Staff.
Gen. Allen and Staff.
Mayor and Common Council of Albany.
Mayor and Common Council of Troy.
Civic Associations.
Citizens in carriages.

The remains will lie in state at the Court House from half-past 6 o'clock this afternoon till 2 P.M. to-morrow, – the Troy City Artillery acting as guard of honor. The remains will then be removed to St. Paul's church, when the funeral services will be performed. The line of procession will move up Third street to Broadway, up Broadway to Fifth street, up Fifth street to North Second street, up North Second street to Hoosick street, up Hoosick street to Cemetery Avenue to Oakwood Cemetery, where the interment will take place.

Lieut.-Col JOHN I. LE ROY, Marshal.

COMMON COUNCIL.

The proceedings of the Common Council meeting are re-published from yesterday's second edition on our fourth page to-day. The remarks of the Mayor in announcing the object of the meeting, were as follows:

Gentlemen of the Common Council: It has been thought proper that a special meeting should be held to take action in reference to the death of our late townsman, Col. John McConihe of the One Hundred and

Sixty-ninth regiment, who was killed in battle at the head of his command, and whose remains are soon expected to reach here. The patriotic services of the deceased officer are known to you all; his bravery has been attested on many memorable fields, and his talents were recognized by all his fellow citizens. The regiment which he commanded was raised here, and was in every respect a home organization. It left Troy but a few months since, and has reflected lustre upon the city from which it was sent. Its gallant Colonel was born and reared among us; his father is among our honored and oldest citizens; his brother one of the ex-Mayors of the city. He fully deserves all the honor that we can bestow. It is noble to die for our country, and he has nobly rendered this truth. – Therefore, it seems proper, gentlemen, that some action should be taken worthy the city of Troy, to show that our soldiers and heroes are not forgotten by those who are protected by their danger and labors.

The committee appointed by the Common Council – Mayor Thorn, Ald. Starbuck and Murphy, Col. Le Roy, Capt. Tillman and Hannibal Green – have sent invitations to the Governor and staff, Mayor and Common Council of Albany, and to the other persons named in the invitation of the Common Council of this city.

MILITARY ORDERS.

HEADQUARTERS, 24TH REG'T, N. Y. S. N. G.,
TROY, June 7th, 1864.

Special Order: Lieut.-Col. LE ROY will assume command of the regiment until further orders.

I. McConihe, jr., Col. Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS, 24TH REG'T, N. Y. S. N. G.,
TROY, June 7th, 1864.

General Order: The regiment will parade on Thursday, the 9th day of June next, for the purpose of attending the funeral of the late Colonel John McConihe. Commanders of companies will report with their commands at the regimental armory at 1 o'clock P. M., fully uniformed and equipped. Line will be formed at 1½ o'clock precisely on River street, right resting on Congress. The field and staff will report fully uniformed at 1½ o'clock P.M., precisely, at the Colonel's quarters. Band will report at the armory at 1 o'clock. It is especially enjoined upon commandants of companies to be punctual at the time specified.

By order, JOHN I. LE ROY,
G. G. MOORE, Adjt. Lieut.-Col. Com'g.

MASONIC.

The deceased was one of the earliest members of Mount Zion Lodge No. 311, of Free and Accepted Masons, by which organization the funeral will be attended and the ceremonies of the order be conducted. In the absence of the Worshipful Master, L. A. Rousseau, at New York, Past W. M. Randol W.

Roberts will officiate. An invitation is extended by Mount Zion Lodge to the Fraternity in this city, Albany, West Troy, Lansingburgh, Waterford, Cohoes, Greenbush, Ballston, Saratoga and Schenectady, to attend the funeral. Apollo Commandery No. 15 of Knights Templar expect to attend the funeral as an escort, although the deceased was not a member of that body. A meeting will be held this evening.

COLONEL M'CONIHE'S LAST ORDER.

Col. McConihe's last order, as Commandant of the regiment, was given an instant before his death. The regiment had charged upon and aided to carry the enemy's first line of works, which made the carrying of the second line possible. While moving upon this second line, after passing an open field three-fourths of a mile in width – the enemy having fallen back – to order in these words: "Cease firing; fix bayonets, and charge again. Dress up on the colors – *don't leave the colors.*" The order was wisely given to meet a sudden emergency, and was necessary to prevent the regiment being mowed down. The Colonel fell instantly after the order.

He was dressed in a simple blouse at the time, with no insignia of military rank, and his sword was lost. The diary of the deceased was found in his pocket written up to Monday night, only one day remaining unwritten. When his body was taken to the rear, Chaplain Chapman took charge of it. He soon after met Major Samuel McConihe, of the Ninety-third New York, a brother of the deceased, who inquired of the Chaplain, "How is the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth?" The Chaplain replied: "Here is the dead body of your brother, the Colonel."

INVITATIONS TO OFFICERS.

We are requested by the committee of arrangements, to tender an invitation to the officers of the Second regiment, and other officers now in the city, to take part in the funeral obsequies.

HEADQUARTERS.

The Mayor has engaged rooms at the Troy House for the reception of the Governor and staff, Mayor and Common Council of Albany, and other guests. They are expected to be present at half-past 1 o'clock.

HALF-MAST.

Many of the flags in this city are at half-mast; all should be so. This mark of respect is due from our citizens, especially during the funeral to-morrow.

The Troy Daily Whig.

JUNE 8, 1864.

☞ THE WOUNDED IN WEDNESDAY'S FIGHT. —

Lieut.-Col. Alden arrived in this city yesterday. When Col. McConihe fell he assumed command of the regiment. As the regimental colors of the 169th were being placed on the second line of the rebel works, he too, fell, a rebel bullet entering his right ear, striking the bone directly back of that organ, proceeding downwards in the neck and lodging under his chin in the throat. The ball has not as yet been extracted. Col. A. was then carried to the rear, and Major Colvin took command.

Lieut. Clark Smith, of the 169th, who was a member of Gen. Martindale's staff at the time, was badly wounded; also Lieut. Morey, in the body; Lieut. E. R. Smith, in the shoulder; Capt. Ferguson, in the back, and Capt. Jo. Allen in the arm.

Capt. Allen arrived at his residence in Brunswick, yesterday. The other wounded officers are on their way home.

The following are among the casualties of the 169th on Wednesday: —

James Caton, ankle; J. Dewing, leg; Sergeant Geo. Descell, arm and hand; Sergeant N. Root, side; Corporal T. Ross, breast; J. Watt, shoulder; G. Klauss, knee; Sergeant Geo. Fellows, shoulder and neck; W. S. Parsons, shoulder; J. B. Randall, bowels; J. Jinyack, arm; A. Bailey, arm; Geo. Burgess, arm; J. Mower, thigh; E. Corron, foot; F. Hope, shoulder; Corporal A. B. Van Buren, head; M. Martratt, arm; J. Bachline, hip; B. Moore, head; M. Delker, shoulder; Corporal P. Murphy, head; Sergeant D. Corbett, groin; Geo. Broker, shoulder; L. L. Miller, arm; Sergeant S. Nevens, thigh.

The Troy Daily Times.

JUNE 10, 1864.

CASUALTIES IN THE ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-NINTH

REGIMENT. – We are indebted to Lieut. Thos. B. Eaton for the following list of casualties (ninety-four) in the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth regiment:

Killed – Col. John McConihe, Sergeant Dennis Corbett, Corporal C. W. Gardner, privates W. H. Mason, Wm. Hoag, Michael McBreen, George Galander, Geo. Wagner, Chas. Buckbee.

Wounded – Lieut.-Col. Alonzo Alden, Capts. J. H. Allen and D. Ferguson, Lieuts. C. E. Morey and E. R. Smith, Sergeants James H. Straight, John H. Williams, S. L. Cipperly, Michael Russell, D. S. Cruikshank, P. J. Aylmer, George Sauer, Samuel Sargeant, George Decell, Napoleon Root; Corporals A. B. Van Buren, H. Chamberlain, Geo. C. Wagner, Jas. B. Randall, James Perry, Thos. Ross, Patrick Murphy, John Waul, Chas. G. Bruce, Ed. Estus, David Keller, M. H. Martratt, Chas. H. Noyes, Michael Delker, John D. Havens, Frank Hope; privates R. B. Stillman, Philetus Brown, August Strassman, D. S. Corbin, Geo. Burgess, Francis Gillispie, J. H. Mower, I. G. Porter, Jos. Shannon, Ira Chamberlain, Geo. Greene, John Jinyack, Wm. Keech, Thos. McKanna, Labourn Miller, W. T. Warner, John McGinnis, Thos. McLaughlin, Bissell Moore, Jas. Caton, Geo. Seneca, John M. Farley, John P. West, Jas. Mulhall, Herbert L. Lott, Levi N. Gardner, Gustav Klauss, Wm. Tyrrell, C. D. Gibson, Geo. Broker, Chas. Gallagher, Charles Farley, John Brimmer, A. S. L. Bailey, Wm. S. Parsons, John Boechline, Wm. M. Swartwout, Martin Brabander, John Milligan, John Hughes, Arthur Desmond, Edward Corron, Stephen Joderain.

Missing – Privates John H. Grose, Wm. H. Wilson, Jas. Riley, Jos. Neddo, S. R. Cooper, Frank Lapprarie, Samuel Guiser, James Fraser.

– A correspondent writes as follows from Cold Harbor, Va., under date of June 4th:

The total number of casualties in the brigade was three hundred and fifty, including Col. Drake, its commander, who was mortally wounded and died on the 2^d. *This brigade was the first to charge and occupy the rebel works, and the two brigades from our division were rallied on the colors of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth, and held possession of the enemy's works.*

The Troy Daily Times.

JUNE 23, 1864.

Army Letters.

FROM THE ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-NINTH.

Correspondence of the Troy Daily Times.

We are permitted to make the following extract from a letter received yesterday morning, from Lieut. William M. Swartwout,

of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment, dated Cold Harbor, Va., June 10:

Since my last, our regiment has been in several skirmishing engagements. But on the 1st of June, our corps, (the Eighteenth,) also the Sixth, were hotly engaged, and after desperate charges won the field, but I am sorry to say not without a sad disaster in losing our Colonel and ninety-four others, in killed, wounded and missing. After marching all day in the hot sun from White House landing, and in sound of the distant booming cannon, we arrived about five o'clock in front of the enemy, stacked arms, and made coffee. In about half an hour we were ordered to take arms and charge the enemy's works, which was handsomely done along the whole line. *It was after charging across an open field, and at the edge of the woods, that Col. McConihe was killed. He was in front of the colors, and only about six feet from me when he fell. I assisted in raising him up, and saw him raise his arm and fall down instantly. "Oh!" was all he said, and he died in about fifteen seconds.* Lieut.-Col. Alden took command of the regiment, when we charged the entrenchments and took them. It was in the second charge and rally that I received my wound. I was on the left of the regiment, when a piece of shell struck me behind the knee, on the cords and muscles of my right leg, which instantly became so stiff that I could not use it. I was sent to the Eighteenth Corps hospital, but preferred joining the regiment after a few days, to remaining in hospital, but not to go on duty at present. There is a rumor that we are return to the south side of Richmond. I am happy to say that my leg is doing well.

The Troy Daily Times.

DECEMBER 16, 1864.

OUR ARMY CORRESPONDENCE.

From the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth.

Correspondence of the Troy Daily Times.

PORTSMOUTH, Va., Dec. 12.

The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment is again on the move, destination unknown. Day before yesterday, it came down the James river on board the transport *Sedgwick*, which proved un-seaworthy, and put into this port, to enable the regiment to be transferred to another and better vessel. The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth is now on the old Collins steamer *Baltic*, and, with other troops, will probably leave to-day for the scene of new and important operations. You will doubtless soon hear from "the boys" as bearing a hand in an enterprise at once successful and fruitful in good results to the cause of the country.

I had not seen the regiment previous to yesterday since last May, and it was therefore almost as a stranger that I met my old comrades. This

long absence, in the discharge of duties distant from the regiment, enables me to judge impartially of the effectiveness of the organization, its condition and discipline, while at the same time I may be permitted to indulge a laudable pride in the record of its achievements during the last seven months. I do not think the regiment ever was in a more effective state. It is now completely officered, its ranks are tolerably well filled up, considering the losses of the campaign, and as both officers and men have been tempered by the fire and storm of battle on too many fields to doubt them now, I can scarcely conceive of a position in which it may yet be placed where it will not, by the valor of the men and the gallantry of its officers, win new honors and do good service for the old flag. To Col. Alden, who is justly regarded as one of the best disciplinarians, as well as fighters in the service, is to be awarded most special commendation for bringing the regiment up to its present efficient standard. In the regiment, he is known as "old Casey," a complimentary recognition of his tactical knowledge and proficiency.

The following is a brief summary of the fighting record of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth, with the number of killed, wounded and missing in each engagement: Siege of Suffolk, Va., May, 1863, 7; siege of Charleston, S. C., Summer of 1863, 2; Rantoul Bridge, S. C., January, '64, 0; Cedar Creek, Fla., April 3, 0; Chester Station, May 10, 56; Drury's Bluff, May 16, 28; Foster's Plantation, May 18, 30; same, May 20, 5; Cold Harbor, June 1, 102; Petersburg Heights, June 15 and 16, 9; Petersburg, June 30, 74; Petersburg, (explosion of mine,) July 30, 13; siege of Petersburg, from June 23 to Aug. 1, 63; Dutch Gap, Aug. 13, 22; siege of Petersburg, Aug. 28 to Sept. 23, 1; New Market road, Sept. 29, 20; Fort Gilmer, Sept. 29, 17.

The officers killed and wounded were as follows:

Killed – Col. John McConihe, Capt. Vaughn, Lieuts. Birdsall and Crippen – 4.

Wounded – Cols. Buel and Alden, Maj. Allen, Capts. Tarbell, E. R. Smith, Ferguson and Snyder, Lieuts. Morey, Van Alstyne, C. Smith, Mulhall, Swartwout, Mandeville, Vanderzee (twice), Straight (twice), Hughes, Ryan, Russell, Jaques, Jenkins (twice), and Cipperly – 21.

Few regiments can show a more honorable record of service, or a more extended list of casualties, nearly all of the above being actual casualties, and not the result of captures by the enemy. In this latter respect the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth has been singularly fortunate, the number of those lost by capture probably not reaching twenty-five. At the battle of Chester Station, Co. A, of the regiment, lost twelve men by capture, six of whom have died in Southern prisons. As their names have not been published, I forward the list for publication, and this will probably be the first intimation the relatives of some of the deceased will have received of their fate: A. Bacchus, J. Hoag, A. C. Folmsbee, W. S. Hand, Ed. Stickles, Theo. Schutt, D. Morris, C. M. C. Varney, of Co. E, who was captured May 16, died in prison Aug. 31.

The old flags of the regiment, tattered and torn by shot and shell, wind and storm, have been sent by Col. Alden to his brother Charles L., and will, during the next session of the Legislature be presented to the State, for preservation in the military bureau. The blue or regimental flag is now home, on a staff captured at Petersburg, by the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth from the enemy, and replaces one shot away during one of the battles in which the regiment was engaged. The flags are now probably in Troy, in possession of Mr. Alden.

In thus briefly summarizing the battle record of one regiment whose term of service has not expired, leaving much yet to be written, I wish to add one word about Rensselaer county soldiers. I do not believe there is a county in the State that has sent into the field better soldiers in any respect than those who have gone from old Rensselaer. The record of the organizations that have gone from Rensselaer cannot be beaten. One Colonel from Troy (Carr) has been made a Brigadier, and will yet, I hope, attain higher honors; another (Tibbets) has recently won the brevet rank of a general officer; two have been killed, (Willard and McConihe;) four have been wounded, (Park, Crandell, Buel and Alden;) one Lieut.-Colonel has been killed, (Myer;) and one Major (Allen) wounded. In the grade of line officers, the list of casualties have been proportionately larger. I believe in the aggregate of casualties the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Regiment is ahead of any of the other organizations from the county, and in addition the members can boast of having been once captured in a body. Very fortunately, that was before the rebels set up their hell at Andersonville, or I very much fear few even of the survivors of that gallant regiment would now be left to tell the story of their misfortune at Harper's Ferry. Every Rensselaer county regiment has acquitted itself nobly in the field, and not a few companies, such as Landon's, King's and Brintnall's, in the Thirtieth, and McCarthy's in the One Hundred and Seventy-fifth, have been sufficient to leaven other organizations with a little Rensselaer county pluck and patriotism. And when the war is over, the historian who shall undertake the task of writing the record old Rensselaer has made in this war, through the valor and courage of her sons, may justly claim for her a preëminent place among her sister counties of the State, and award to her people the meed of praise which is their due. Someone should do this, and prepare for the task now, by "gathering up the fragments that nothing is lost."

W. E. K.

The Troy Daily Press.

JANUARY 18, 1865.

CAPTURE OF FORT FISHER.

DETAILED ACCOUNTS

BALTIMORE, Jan. 17. – A correspondent of the *American* gives the following detailed account of the capture of Fort Fisher:

OFF FORT FISHER, Jan. 13. – At 4 o'clock this morning we were aroused from our slumbers by a gun from the flagship, and the burning of the preparatory signal of red and green, as an indication that it was time to be up and stirring, preparing breakfast and getting through with the

routine of morning duty, so as to be in readiness at dawn to commence the serious work of the day.

The moon was still shining brightly in a cloudless sky, brilliant with stars. The throng of vessels were resting calmly on the sea, the wind being too light to even ripple its surface. We were, it should be remembered, just out of cannon shot of the dreaded coast of North Carolina. Truly, the elements promised to favor this great enterprise.

At 5 o'clock the second signal was given by the flagship, "get underway," when the work of weighing anchors commenced, and at half past five the signals of the divisional commanders to move forward were given and responded to, causing a brilliant pyrotechnic display.

The gunboat *Tacony* was sent ahead last night to anchor off Flag Pond Battery, and, the day not having yet dawned, her lights could be seen as the steering point of the fleet in shore, about three miles ahead of us. The three frigates, *Wabash*, *Minnesota* and *Colorado*, moved off first, led by Admiral Porter's flagship. They were followed by the *New Ironsides* and monitor fleet.

The signals from the army transports added to the scenic display. At the first dawn of day the whole *armada* was in motion. The wind had changed to due west during the night, and coming off shore tended to render the landing of troops comparatively easy.

At a quarter to seven, the Admiral signalized "form in line of battle," whereupon the *Brooklyn*, with her line of vessels, moved along close to the beach, in the following order: *Brooklyn*, 26 guns; *Mohican*, 7 guns; *Tacony*, 10 guns; *Kansas*, 8 guns; *Unadilla*, 7 guns; *Huron*, 4 guns; *Maumee*, 5 guns; *Pawtuxet*, 10 guns; *Seneca*, 4 guns; *Pontoosuc*, 10 guns; *Pequot*, 7 guns; *Yantic*, 7 guns, *Nereus*, 11 guns. Total, 116 guns.

This division was ordered to prepare for action, and move close to the beach to shell the woods at the point decided upon for the landing of the troops, about 3½ miles from Fort Fisher, near the deserted Half Moon Battery.

In a few minutes the whole division was in position, throwing shells into the narrow strip of woods separating the seashore from Cape Fear River, about a mile inland parallel with the beach. In the meantime the ironclads moved into position directly in front of Fort Fisher, the *Ironsides* about three-fourths of a mile, and the monitors about half a mile off, in the following order:

New Ironsides, Com. Radford, 20 guns; *Monadnock*, Com. E. G. Parrott, 4 guns; *Saugus*, Com. E. R. Colhoun, 2 guns; *Canonicus*, Lieut. Com. Geo. E. Belknap, 2 guns; *Mahopac*, Lieut. Com. E. E. Potter, 2 guns.

Before they got into position the fort opened on them, but they heeded it not until they had secured their anchorage, when, at 8:30, the *Ironsides* opened on the fort, and was followed by the monitors, with their tremendous shells. Every shot struck in the embrasures, and, exploding, threw clouds of sand high into the air.

The fort occasionally responded, but did not send more than one shot every ten minutes; and at times so rapid was our firing they found it impossible to work their guns.

At 9 o'clock the boats of the fleet were called away to assist in the landing of troops.

The woods had, in the meantime, been thoroughly shelled, and no enemy had appeared. The transports were enabled to go within half a mile of the shore, and they were soon surrounded by 200 boats, supplied from all the vessels of the fleet. – Several tugs also joined in

the work, and carried the soldiers to within 100 yards of the beach, where they were transferred to small boats.

The tents and camp equipage were also landed, with several days' provisions for the entire force, which was 8,000 strong. [At 9 o'clock boats from all the transports moved simultaneously for the shore, and in a few minutes the first 500 men stepped on the beach and planted their regimental flag on one of the highest sand hills, amid cheering from the transports and the fleet.](#)

The men were overjoyed to again get from shipboard and in a few minutes had cut down cedars sufficient to make a rousing fire to dry their clothes, some of them having got wet to their knees in getting through the surf.

The bands of music soon commenced playing, while the men could be seen running about and rolling in the warm sand, like schoolchildren enjoying a holiday.

Not a sign of any enemy could be seen at this time in any direction. At ten o'clock about 4,000 soldiers, having been landed, a skirmish line was sent forward on the beach.

Admiral Porter signaled to Capt. Glisson, commanding the *Santiago de Cuba*, to move with his gunboat division inside of the line of the frigates, and shell the beach in advance of the skirmishers. The division moved in the following order: *Santiago de Cuba*, 11 guns; *Fort Jackson*, 7; *Osceola*, 10; *Sassacus*, 10; *Chippewa*, 4; *R. R. Cuyler*, 10; *Maratanza*, 6; *Rhode Island*, 12; *Monticello*, 6; *Alabama*, 10; *Montgomery*, 6; *Keystone State*, 18; *Quaker City*, 7; *Iosco*, 10; Total guns, 127.

The woods, in advance of the pickets, were thoroughly shelled up to within a mile and a half of Fort Fisher, where we dropped anchor, about a mile in the rear of the ironclad fleet, and fully two miles in advance of all the balance of the fleet, which were in the vicinity of the landing of the troops, where they remained up to 4 P.M.

From our advanced position I had a splendid view of the work of the ironclads, which was the main business, though some of the shells from Fort Fisher, fired at the monitors, came in rather close proximity.

The firing on the fort from the monitors and *New Ironsides* was a magnificent sight. From eight o'clock in the morning up to four o'clock in the afternoon, the monitors poured in their tremendous shells at the rate of four per minute, the whole number thrown in that time being not less than two thousand. Every shot struck the embrasures or parapet of the fort, and the gunnery exhibited was never surpassed.

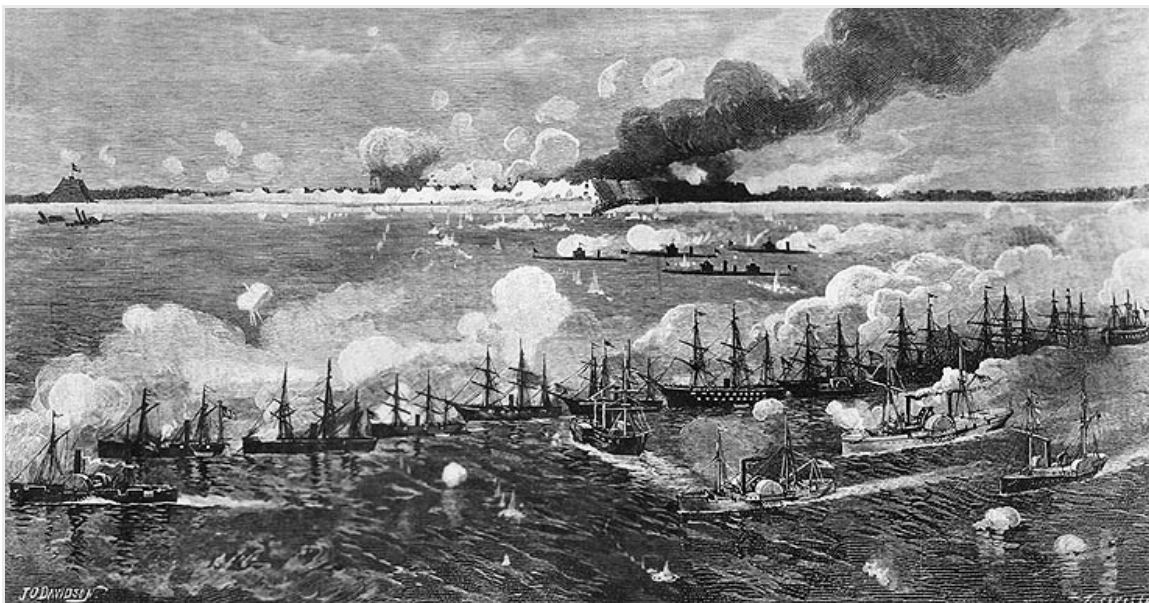
During this time the fort probably threw three hundred shells in return, but the difficulty they had in managing their guns amid the explosion of our shells and the clouds of sand that constantly enveloped the work from our well-directed shots, doubtless marred their gunnery, as most of the shells struck beyond or short of the mark.

All of our vessels, however, received honorable scars in the fight, and we could see that several of their smokestacks had been perforated and their armor bruised.

The damage to the fort by outward appearance was most distinct. What the internal damage may be, is, of course, not yet known.

About four o'clock a dense and continued smoke from the inside of the fort indicated that some of the rebel huts had been fired.

At four o'clock the Admiral signaled to the vessels in line of battle No. 2 to take the positions marked out for them in the chart, and join in the bombardment. They moved forward in the following order, presenting an array of the largest vessels in the service, a magnificent spectacle of



The Bombardment of Fort Fisher, Jan 15, 1865

Julian Oliver Davidson (1853-1894)

Collection of the U.S. Naval History & Heritage Command, Washington, D.C.

old wooden walls, with their ponderous armaments: *Minnesota*, 52 guns; *Wabash*, 48; *Powhatan*, 21; *Susquehanna*, 16; *Juniata*, 9; *Shenandoah*, 10; *Ticonderoga*, 20; Total, 176.

At twenty minutes to five o'clock these three immense divisions, carrying 419 guns, in addition to the ironclads, joined in the grand and awful, yet terribly brilliant cannonade, a spectacle that will probably never be witnessed again during the present age.

The number of shots fired while this great bombardment lasted, one hour and a half, closing at ten minutes past 6 o'clock, could not have been less than four per second, broadside after broadside being poured in, without the slightest interruption, occasionally interspersed with the [discharge] of the 15-inch guns of the monitors.

Four shots per second during this time counts up 21,600 shots. Indeed, I have no doubt that up to the withdrawal of the wooden walls this evening, not less than 25,000 shells were fired into Ft. Fisher.

After the general bombardment commenced, but one shot was fired by the fort in return, consequently none of the wooden vessels were injured.

The *Ironsides* and the monitors did not withdraw when the signal was given for the vessels to cease firing, but kept at work throughout the night, throwing one shell every ten minutes into the fort, to prevent the repairing of damage by the garrison.

The camp fires of our troops on the shore, together with the burning of signals and the display of white and green lanterns by the fleet, presented a grand spectacle.

To-night the troops have advanced up to within about a mile and a half of Fort Fisher, their camp fires extending down the beach for more than a mile.

An order has been received from the Admiral, it being impossible to bring our division into the fight, the anchoring room being too contracted, to proceed in shore to cover the encampment of the troops from any assault by Bragg from Wilmington. The troops, as I learn from officers who assisted in landing them, are in high spirits and

anxious to be led forward to the assault of the fort. They wish to wipe out the stain cast upon them by the withdrawal of Gen. Butler, and to prove to the country they did not believe the fort could not be taken.

The announcement received to-day that Gen. Butler had been relieved from the command of the Army of the James, caused great rejoicing throughout the fleet.

I regret to learn that one of the 15-inch guns on the *Mahopac*, bursted to-day, but am pleased to add that none of her ironclad crew were injured by the explosion. She remained in the fight throughout the day.

Some good shooting was made by the rebels, and all the ironclads have numerous indentations of their armor and perforations of their smokestacks.

JANUARY 14, 1865. – Another bright and beautiful day has dawned, being the second since we left Beaufort, scarcely a cloud dimming the heavens. The night was magnificently brilliant, the first quarter of a waning moon shedding its silvery rays over land and water, while a light southwestern wind, which seemed hardly to cause a ripple, made everything particularly pleasant. This morning the sun has risen in splendor and beauty. Not a cloud is perceptible in the sky. The cheering rays of Old Sol have already driven off the chillness of the morning atmosphere.

The monitors and the *Ironsides* have continued all night to throw a shell every ten minutes into the fort, discontinuing their work only as daylight approached. The troops on shore are having a fine time, and are in the most splendid spirits.

A foraging party has just returned to camp, with nearly 100 head of cattle and horses, which they succeeded in picking up during the night.

A number of the troops advanced during the night to the abandoned Fort Anderson, and held possession of the whole breadth of the peninsula to Cape Fear river. The advanced pickets are already within a mile of Fort Fisher, preparing to storm it when the proper moment arrives. The *Santiago*, with the division of Capt. Glisson, consisting of fourteen gunboats, is anchored this morning, close into the beach, with instructions to protect the troops as they advance and follow them as they move forward.

Our position for witnessing operations to-day is, if possible, more favorable than that of yesterday.

FLAGSHIP MALVERN, Saturday, 11 A.M. – I am just informed that the *Gettysburg* will start in a few minutes for Fort Monroe, and I close hastily. Up to this hour nothing has been done this morning. The monitors are lying quietly with the *Ironsides*, under the guns of Fort Fisher. Not a shot has been exchanged since four o'clock.

ONE O'CLOCK P.M. – The *Ironsides* and monitors have just opened again on Fisher.

TWO O'CLOCK P.M. – The division of wooden vessels are in short range of the fort, and are firing rapidly upon it, but eliciting no reply. I must close here, as the *R. R. Cuyler* is just about to leave with dispatches for Fort Monroe.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 17. – The *American* has the following from its special correspondent with the Wilmington expedition who has just arrived at Fortress Monroe: –

FORTRESS MONROE, Jan. 17. – 6:30 P.M. – After three days and nights of bombardment, Fort Fisher is ours, with all the contiguous works commanding New Inlet.

The assault was made by the army and the naval brigade, at 3 o'clock on Sunday, P.M. One corner of the fort was secured in half an hour, but

we had hand-to-hand fight with the garrison which lasted till 9 o'clock at night. It was a very stubborn and bloody resistance, and the fort and approaches were strewn with dead. The garrison had been heavily reinforced. The number of guns captured was seventy-two.

All the forts, including Mound and Oak Island batteries, surrendered.

The rebel loss in the assault is 500 dead, besides the wounded. Our loss, army and navy, is about 900, in killed and wounded.

The magazine in the fort exploded by accident on Monday morning, killing and wounding 200 of our men.



"Landing at Fort Fisher" by John Paul Strain

The Troy Daily Press.

JANUARY 19, 1865.

☞ THE ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-NINTH

AROUND. – The first troops landed at the Fort Fisher fight were in charge of Lieut.-Col. Colvin, of the 169th. Two other boats from the same regiment, one of them having Col. Alden with the colors of the 169th and the national flag also, reached the shore shortly afterward. Troy is always represented when "big things" are going on.



"U. S. Army Assault at Fort Fisher"
Currier & Ives

The Troy Daily Times.

JANUARY 19, 1865.

Our Triumph on the Coast.

The correspondent of the Baltimore *American* gives some additional details of the assault on Fort Fisher and our subsequent success. On the third day (Sunday), it was learned from the shore that Gen. Terry's artillery had some hard work during Saturday night with the rebel gun-boats *Tallahassee* and *Chickamauga*. Our batteries were planted to command a wharf to which was moored a rebel steamer, captured by us. The rebel gunboats would run up and shell the steamer occasionally, when our artillery would open upon them. The rebel gunboats were struck several times, but when the fort fell, they escaped to Wilmington. Meanwhile, our storming party, three thousand strong, were in the woods within a mile of Fort Fisher. They reported that the fort had been reënforced Saturday night by eight hundred men from Fort Caswell. At 11 o'clock A. M., two thousand sailors and marines joined the land force, effecting a landing without difficulty. The bombardment was progressing meantime most furiously, the only response being from a portion of the water batteries. At 3 P. M., a signal from the Admiral directed the vessels to change their fire from Fort Fisher to the water batteries, and in an instant the naval brigade on the beach were observed moving forward toward the fort. They had about

a mile to go to reach the abatis. They had scarcely got in motion before shells from the water and mound batteries were poured upon them. Numbers were seen to fall and scores of others to start back limping or crawling on their hands and knees.

Onward, however, the main body pressed at a double-quick, the fire momentarily increasing in its fatal effects, until the whole line of beach over which they had traveled was strewn with dead and wounded. The ditch and abatis were about one hundred yards from the ramparts, and into this they poured until it was filled to overflowing, when two guns opened upon them with grape and canister from the ramparts. [In half an hour, three American flags appeared on the rear wall of Fort Fisher, showing that the assault by Gen. Terry on that side had been at least partially successful.](#) The firing of musketry in and around the fort continued up to 7.30 P. M., with constantly increasing evidence that a tremendous struggle was progressing in Fort Fisher. At 9 o'clock, Gen. Curtis, who led the assaulting party, determined to make one more charge on the enemy, and, if that failed, to hold on to the ground that was in his possession until morning. Just as he was about to make the charge, the white flag was raised by the garrison, and possession given of the entire work. Loud and enthusiastic cheering was heard issuing from Fort Fisher, but doubts were expressed whether they were rebel cheers or loyal rejoicings. All doubts were soon removed by the appearance on the ramparts of the fort of one of Gen. Terry's signal officers with his flaming torches, and communicating with Admiral Porter's flagship. In a few minutes lights flickered all over the fort, and cheers were repeated with a heartiness that left no doubt that it had changed owners.

At 10 o'clock the Admiral commenced to throw up rockets from the flagship, which was instantly understood as evidence of the character of the glorious news that had been communicated to him. Every vessel in the fleet immediately responded by the burning of Roman candles, flashing of castors, signals, and throwing up rockets. Amid the rejoicing over the downfall, a tremendous explosion took place in the fort, sounding louder than the report of a 15-inch gun. A volume of smoke and sand rose fifty feet in the air, enveloping and hiding from view the whole of the immense work for four or five minutes. It was at once apparent that the magazine had exploded, and it must have been accompanied with great loss of life. It was soon after learned that the destruction of life was not less than two hundred, including many sailors from the fleet, who had not yet returned to their ships. The explosion was occasioned by the carelessness of some of the colored troops. The magazine that exploded was in the very centre of the parade, and it has "scooped" out earth to a great depth for fifty feet around, and added to the desolation that reigns in this past monument of engineering ability. Quite a number of sailors from the fleet and some of the officers, also suffered from the explosion. They had gone ashore to examine the works and fell victims to their excusable curiosity. The

losses of the Naval brigade were not less than one hundred and fifty. Our forces captured seventy-four cannon, and two thousand living prisoners. Seven hundred dead rebels fell into our hands. During Monday our gunboats drove the pirates *Tallahassee* and *Chickamauga* up Cape Fear river, thus effectually closing it to blockade running.

– Immediately on the reception of the glorious news from Fort Fisher, Secretary Welles issued a congratulatory order to Admiral Porter and his gallant sailors, and Gen. Terry and his brave comrades. He also issued an order to the commandants of the different navy yards to fire a salute.

The Troy Daily Times.

FEBRUARY 3, 1865.

The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth.

Correspondence of the Troy Daily Times.

FORT FISHER, N.C., Jan. 26, 1865.

In the belief that news from the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth will be sought after, I am anxious to communicate it through your columns.

It will be recollected that the regiment participated in the first expedition to this point. We returned to our old camp near Richmond about Dec. 30th. After remaining a few days, we were again ordered away, and after several days at sea, arrived (Jan. 13) off our former point of debarkation. The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth was the first regiment to land, and the writer was sent by Col. Alden in charge of the first detachment. Co. G was first ashore and immediately deployed as skirmishers, and in a few minutes were engaged in slight skirmish firing with the enemy. Co. I, (Nail Factory Co.,) commanded by Capt. Jas. H. Dunn, landed shortly after and advanced up the beach. They entered a redoubt and captured a 32-ponder Columbiad and a quantity of ammunition. The gun was spiked, but was soon put in working order by D. F. Winters, a member of the band. It was turned on the enemy. A skirmishing party from Co. I captured eighty-four head of cattle. The day was occupied landing troops and stores.

On the morning of the 15th, the command was ordered towards Fort Fisher. It soon became evident that work was to be done. The men moved in fine spirits, and never evinced better *morale*. The line of battle was formed but a short distance from the fort, the navy keeping up a furious bombardment, and greatly protecting the disposition of the troops.

Finally, the charge was ordered, and one of the fiercest assaults of the war began. The First brigade led. The Second followed, and then our own (the Third). The rear of the fort was reached through a storm of bullets and grape. The contest was desperate. The fort was to be taken or we were *all* gone. There was no such thing as getting away from it in case of failure. The men knew it, and with almost unparalleled

gallantry, stood up to the work. 10 P.M. found the fort in our possession, the enemy doing their best to get away. The forces engaged captured many prisoners – almost man for man. The enemy suffered terribly. While the fight was progressing, our line in the rear, which was defended by the colored troops and the Second brigade of the First division, was attacked. Capt. E. R. Smith was in command of the picket line at that point, and held his own until compelled to fall back under cover of the gunboats. This demonstration effected nothing, as our troops were not to be driven back. Capt. Smith reestablished his line at dusk.

The accounts and dispatches already published will furnish a better idea of our victory than any I can give. It is impossible to describe the extent and magnitude of this, the strongest earthwork, and one of the most powerful defenses in the world. An unfortunate casualty marred our triumph. Our brigade had been placed in charge of the fort after its capture. Early the next morning, a magazine exploded directly in front of, and but a few rods from the brigade. The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth was immediately opposite, and many valuable officers and men were buried and lost. About one hundred of the regiment were mingled in the ruins and covered by the debris. Col. Alden, who had been prominent for his coolness and gallantry in the assault of the preceding day, was dangerously if not fatally wounded. Capt. Daniel Ferguson and Lieuts. Cipperly and McGregor were killed, and others wounded. The cause of the explosion is a matter of doubt. Some say that a sailor carried a lighted candle into the magazine, while others attribute the disaster to the rebels. A wire was afterwards found leading from the magazine to the river, and supposed to run across to a rebel battery immediately opposite. Appended is the report of the Lieutenant-Colonel upon the operations of the regiment in the assault, together with a full list of casualties.

Yours, c.

[The casualties have already been published in the *Times*.]

HEADQUARTERS 169TH NEW YORK VOLS.,
FORT FISHER, N.C., Jan. 17, 1865.

Capt. G. W. Huckins, A.A.A.G.: The undersigned has the honor to report that upon the opening of the engagement of the 15th inst., Colonel Alonzo Alden was in command of the regiment, but on reaching the enemy's works assumed command of the brigade, (Colonel Bell being wounded.) The undersigned then took command of the regiment. It would seem almost invidious to make any special mention of officers and men when all did their duty with unparalleled gallantry and zeal. The undersigned can bear testimony that every officer led his men and the men vied with each other to attain the front. Colonel Alonzo Alden was distinguished for his accustomed coolness and bravery. Major J. H. Allen was shot through the arm and leg, but persisted in remaining with the command. Capts. Daniel Ferguson, Jas. H. Dunn, Chas. D. Merrill, J. H. Warren and E. W. Church, were distinguished for their coolness and gallantry. Lieuts. J. H. Straight, wounded; Michael Ryan, killed; Michael Russell, wounded; all in command of companies, were the right men in the right place. After the death of Lieut. Ryan, Lieut. J. B. Foot assumed command of his company and led it gallantly. Lieut. E. Van Santvoord deserves mention. Lieut. E. R. Mosher was hit by a spent ball on the 13th. He went into action on the 15th being obliged to use a cane. He hopped

into the fight, leading his men. Other officers distinguished themselves, and indeed all deserve mention. The undersigned has mentioned such as came particularly under his notice. Accompanying will be found a list of enlisted men who distinguished themselves; also a full report of losses in action. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. COLVIN, Lieut.-Colonel,
Commanding 169th New York Vols.

HEADQUARTERS 169TH NEW YORK VOLS.,
FORT FISHER, N.C., Jan. 17, 1865.

Capt. Geo. W. Huckins, A.A.A.G.: I have the honor to report the following names of enlisted men as having distinguished themselves for gallantry in the assault on the 15th: Private John Finlay, Co. A., wounded; First Sergeant John Fleming, Color bearer; Corporal Peter Osterhoudt, wounded; Corporal John McGolrick; Private Chas. Madden, B.; [Private Wm. H. Freeman, B., who volunteered to carry the brigade flag after the bearer was wounded](#); Corporal Patrick Holley, D; Sergeant L. R. Woodcock, wounded; Private Patrick Murphy, E, killed; Corporals John McLoughlin, T. J. Congden, Privates John Jenyack, Patrick Curley, F; First Sergeant Chas. H. Noyes, wounded, Corporal L. Odell, H., killed; First Sergeant Patrick Aylmer, Sergeant Benj. G. Walker, Private James Lester, G.; First Sergeant Geo. Campbell, Sergeants Jas. F. Smith, Robert Rainsbury, wounded, I; and specially commended for bravery in the presence of the commanding officer – Corporal Thomas Ryan, I.; First Sergeant Joseph White, K.; Sergeant Major T. H. Gardner. The commanding officer desires especially to mention Frederick Close, of Co. F., who was conspicuous for his gallantry and bravery in getting a field piece into position and firing upon the enemy after we had got inside the works. Many of the officers report that their men did so well that they could make no special mention, and the commanding officer is constrained to base his report chiefly upon circumstances within his own observation.

Very respectfully, JAMES A. COLVIN,
Lieut.-Colonel Commanding 169th N.Y.V.

The Troy Daily Times.

MARCH 30, 1865.

PRESENTATION OF BATTLE FLAGS. – The


old battle flags of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment are to be presented to the State by Col. Alonzo Alden, brevet Brigadier-General, through the Governor, some day next week. Ex-Quartermaster Kinney, now of the Inspector-General's department, Albany, is arranging the preliminaries as to time and place. These flags

are now at the office of Gale & Alden, corner of Congress and First streets, where we presume they may be seen by those who desire to take a look at these old emblems which have so often passed through the storms of battle, and which have never been dishonored by the brave men of the regiment who defended them. They consist of the State and National flags, and it is believed that over one hundred bullets have passed through each one of them. One of the staffs was captured from the enemy by the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment, and transferred to their flag to supply the place of the original one, which had been shot away by rebel bullets. The regiment fought under these flags in every State from Virginia to Florida, with the exception of the State of Georgia.

– The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth have now a new set of colors, which they will bring home with them upon the conclusion of their term of service next October.


The Troy Daily Times.

APRIL 10, 1865.

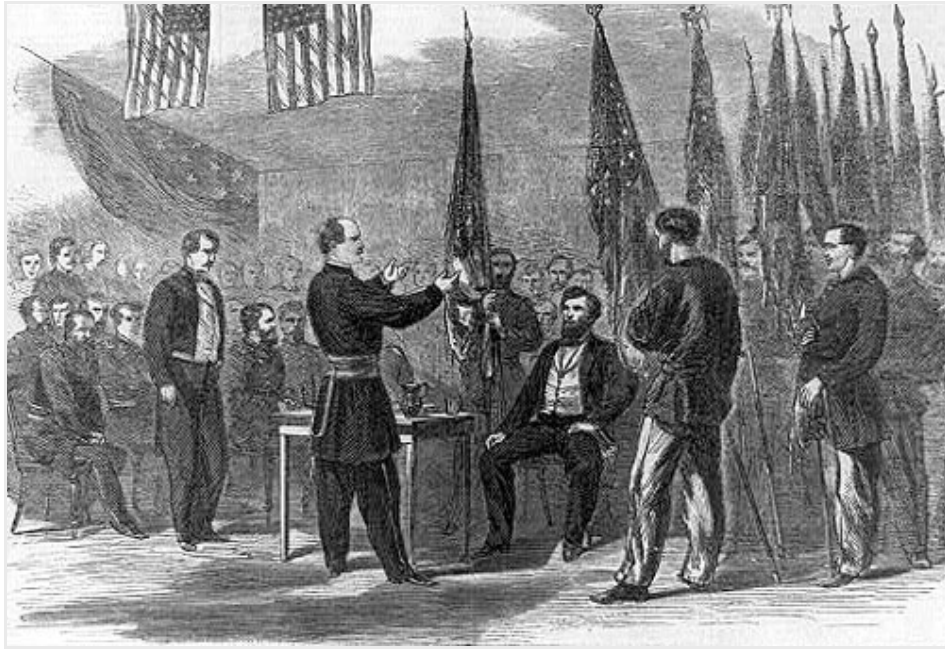
 **PRESENTATION OF COLORS.** – We understand that the battle-worn colors of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment are to be presented to Gov. Fenton for the Empire State, on Friday evening, by Gen. Alonzo Alden and the other officers of the regiment.

The Troy Daily Press.

APRIL 15, 1865.

 **PRESENTATION OF BATTLE FLAGS.** – One of the most interesting ceremonies that has yet taken place in this State, relative to the war, will be the presentation of battle flags to the Bureau of Military Statistics, which event takes place on

Monday evening next at the Assembly chamber. There are seventy in all, and many distinguished military men will be present to participate in the ceremony. Among others, that of the 169th regiment will be presented by Col. Alden.



Presentation of 200 Battle-Flags to Governor Fenton at Albany, New York, July 4, 1865
Published in "Harper's Weekly," July 29th, 1865

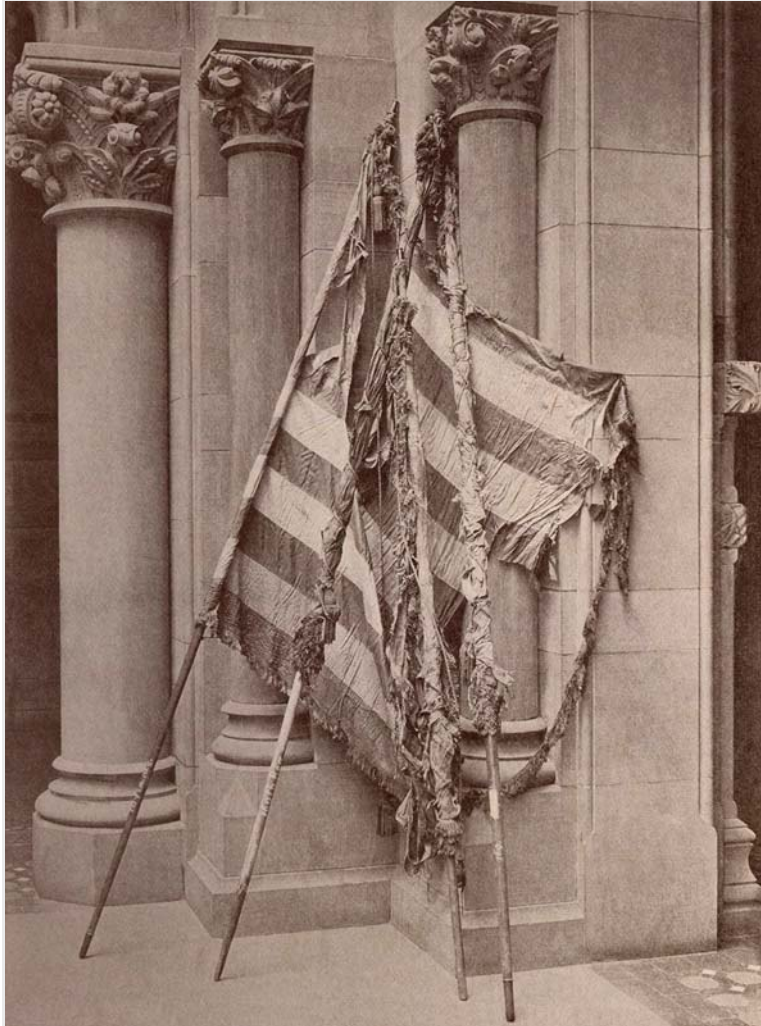
The Troy Daily Times.

JULY 6, 1865.

PRESENTATION OF BATTLE FLAGS FROM TROY REGIMENTS. – The battle-flags of nearly all the State regiments were deposited in the bureau of military record, Albany, on the afternoon of the Fourth of July, in the presence of Gen. Grant and an immense audience, and amid the most imposing ceremonies. The *Journal* has an interesting and elaborate account of the exercises, from which we copy the "record" of the flag of each regiment in which Troy is interested:

COLORS OF THE SECOND REGIMENT.

1. National Flag. This flag was in twelve battles, from Big Bethel to Chantilly. The Second Regiment



"Battle flags of the 169th Regt., N. Y. S. Vols. Said regiment is classified as one of the three hundred fighting regiments of the late rebellion. The top of one of the flag-staffs was shot away during the battle of Cold Harbor, Va., June 1, 1864." Published in "The Swartwout Chronicles 1338-1899, and the Ketelhuyn Chronicles 1451-1899" by Arthur James Weise (1899)

was organized in Troy, in the Spring of 1861. It took part in fourteen battles.

COLORS OF THE THIRTIETH REGIMENT.

[Represented by Surgeon F. L. R. Chapin.]

1. National Flag. Ten men were killed while bearing these colors at second Bull Run. The Thirtieth Regiment was composed of companies recruited in the counties of Washington, Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Warren, Columbia and Dutchess. It was in eight battles.

COLORS OF THE NINETY-THIRD REGIMENT.

1. National Flag. The Ninety-third was from Warren, Washington, Albany and Columbia. The flag was brought on the ground during the exercises.

The regiment was in the Peninsula, Antietam, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville campaigns, and in the campaign against Richmond under Gen. Grant.

**COLORS OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND
FOURTH REGIMENT.**

1. Regimental Banner. This flag was in nine battles; nine of its bearers were killed or wounded. The One Hundred and Fourth Regiment was composed of seven companies from Livingston county, and three from Troy. Out of an original roll of 917, only 315 men remained in the field, January 1, 1864.

**COLORS OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND
TWENTY-FIFTH REGIMENT.**

1. National Flag. 2. Regimental Banner. These flags returned from the field with the regiment. The One Hundred and Twenty-fifth was organized at Troy, in August, 1862. It was in eighteen engagements. It went out with 1,040 men, and returned with 240.

**COLORS OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND
SIXTY-NINTH REGIMENT.**

1. National Flag. 2. Regimental Banner. These colors have been in twenty-four battles and in several skirmishes. Each has at least one hundred holes from bullets and shell. Ten different color-bearers have been killed or wounded while bearing them. The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth was from Troy.

— A noble record for our city!

The Troy Daily Times.

JULY 24, 1865.

THE 169TH REGIMENT.

ITS ORGANIZATION AND HISTORY.

ITS BATTLES, SIEGES, MARCHES.

PERSONAL ITEMS AND OFFICERS' ROSTER.

[Prepared for the Troy Daily Times.]

The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth regiment was raised in this city in the month of September, 1862, under the call for 600,000 men by President Lincoln. Seven of the companies were from Rensselaer county and three from Washington. The following was the original organization of the regiment:

Colonel – Clarence Buel.
Lieutenant-Colonel – John McConihe.
Major – Alonzo Alden.
Adjutant – Wm. E. Kisselburgh.
Quartermaster – S. N. Kinney.
Surgeon – John Knowlson.
Assistant Surgeons – Jos. F. Skinner, P. L. F. Reynolds.
Chaplain – Rev. Joel Eaton.
Co. A – Capt. J. A. Colvin, Nassau.
Co. B – Capt. Nat. Wood, Troy.
Co. C – Capt. Joseph H. Allen, Brunswick.
Co. D – Capt. W. Coleman, Washington Co.
Co. E – Capt. J. Croff, Washington Co.
Co. F – Capt. A. D. Vaughn, Washington Co.
Co. G – Capt. J. T. McCoun, Troy.
Co. H – Capt. W. H. Wickes, Sandlake.
Co. I – Capt. M. Murnane, Troy.
Co. K – Capt. D. Ferguson, Lansingburgh and Troy.

MUSTER-IN AND OFF FOR THE WAR.

The regiment left the city of Troy on the 25th of September, and was mustered in at New Dorp, Staten Island, Oct. 6, 1862. On the 9th of October, it proceeded to the national capital, and reporting to Maj.-Gen. Silas Casey, the renowned tactician, it was assigned to Abercrombie's division of the Twenty-second corps, and, until February, 1863, constituted a part of the garrison of the fortifications surrounding Washington, – Col. Buel being assigned to the command of a brigade. In the latter month, it was sent to Washington, where it performed provost duty until the following April, when it

TOOK THE FIELD

for the first time, being ordered to re-enforce the troops at Suffolk, Va., during the investment of that place by Longstreet with an army of 30,000 men. The federal force was very small indeed; and the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth was the first to arrive of the re-enforcements that were sent to the relief of the endangered garrison.

FIRST FIGHT.

At Suffolk, it participated in its first action, Col. Buel being the first man wounded in an attack upon the enemy's entrenchments on the Edenton road. Private Brock, of Co. H, was the first man belonging to the regiment was killed. Major Alden was slightly wounded in the thigh during the engagement. On the 3^d of May, the regiment participated in the last of a series of skirmishes at

Suffolk – the enemy withdrawing on the night of that day after a considerable fight at Providence Church.

RAIDING.

The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth next took part in several raids to the Blackwater River, and in a number of inconsiderable skirmishes, – thus familiarizing it to a certain extent with battles, and educating it for the more serious contests through which it was destined to pass. In June and July, it formed part of an expedition under Gen. Dix, which was sent up the Peninsula to destroy the South Anna Railroad bridge, and thus cut off Lee's retreat from Pennsylvania. The expedition proved a total failure, and returned to Fort Monroe after a series of slight skirmishes with the enemy.

SIEGE OF CHARLESTON.

In August, the regiment was sent to Folly Island, S.C., and bore a prominent part in the siege of Forts Sumter, Wagner and Gregg, until the fall of the last two named, Sept. 6th. Here, owing to the insalubrity of the climate, the impure quality of the water, and the hard work imposed upon the troops in the trenches, the regiment lost heavily by sickness, though its actual losses in battle fortunately were comparatively light.

COL. BUEL RESIGNS.

In January, 1864, Col. Buel, greatly to the regret of both officers and men, to whom he had endeared himself by the highest military qualities, and by his studious interest in their welfare, resigned the Colonelcy, and Lieut.-Col. McConihe was promoted to fill the vacancy, Major Alden being advanced to the Lieutenant-Colonelcy, and Capt. Colvin to the Majority.

GILLMORE ISSUES AN ORDER.

At this time, Col. McConihe was home on recruiting service, and Lieut.-Col. Alden administered the affairs of the regiment, and so thoroughly did he discipline and drill the command, that in the month of January, Maj.-Gen. Gillmore, commanding the Department, issued a special order commending the officers and soldiers of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth upon their general efficiency and military deportment, calling the attention of other regiments to their superior equipment, drill and discipline, as exhibited in the report of his Inspector-General. In the same month, it took part in an expedition to John's Island, and engaged in a slight skirmish with the enemy.

AMONG THE EVERGLADES.

In February, the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth was sent to Florida, after the defeat of Gen. Seymour in the celebrated battle of Olustee. This engagement closed the campaign; and the regiment remained at Jacksonville (taking part in a little fight at Cedar Creek,) until April, when it came North with the "old Tenth Army Corps" to engage in the grand campaign against

Richmond, then being planned by Gen. Grant, and which, under God, was destined to forever end the rebellion.

FIGHTS "MIT" BUTLER.

The Tenth corps, under Gillmore, was assigned to Butler's command, and, with the Eighteenth corps, constituted that redoubtable warrior's force in his attack against Petersburg and Richmond from the South side. The expeditionary column left Gloucester Point, opposite Yorktown, May 5, and landed the following day at Bermuda Hundred, on the South side of the James River. On the 10th of the month, the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth engaged in the battle of Chester Station, on the Manchester and Petersburg Railroad, with a loss in killed and wounded of fifty-six men. Drewry's Bluff and Foster's Plantation, (two fights at the last place,) followed, to be succeeded by

COLD HARBOR, JUNE 1,

where the regiment suffered a loss of one hundred and two men, among the number, Col. McConihe, killed, and Lieut.-Col. Alden wounded. Col. McConihe's last words were: "Close upon the colors, men." His loss was sincerely regretted, not more so among his numerous friends at home, to whom he was affectionately endeared by the possession of great social powers, than among the officers and men of the regiment. He had reached, with the regiment, the line of entrenchments held by the enemy, and had stepped upon the embankment, when he was shot and instantly expired. The color-bearer had been wounded; Lieut.-Col. Alden seized the standard and planted it – one of the very first – on the rebel works, when he, too, fell, with a wound that happily was not mortal. The regiment bore itself with the most conspicuous gallantry during the battle, and at once asserted itself as one of the very best fighting organizations in the army.

PROMOTIONS AND MORE FIGHTING.

Alden was now made Colonel, Colvin Lieutenant-Colonel, and Capt. Jos. Allen Major. Allen was one of the sufferers at Cold Harbor – ball in the forearm. Grant now threw his whole army South of the James, and the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth took a hand in an engagement at Petersburg Heights, on the 15th and 16th of June. On the 30th of that month, in an attack upon the rebel line in front of Petersburg, the regiment suffered severely. An assault was to be made in front; a demonstration upon the flanks of the enemy was accordingly ordered, to divert their attention from the main point of attack. The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth took part in the feint. The officer commanding the brigade that was to lead the attacking column failed to get his troops in position at the hour named. The delay was fatal – the enemy discovered the plan of attack, and came down in unexpected force upon the flankers.

"Rebels to right of them,
Rebels to left of them,
Stormed, raved and thundered."

They seemed to come up from the earth – each blade of grass appeared to be converted into a rebel soldier. They poured a murderous fire into the Union ranks – no troops could withstand it. The regiment fell back, but with its face to the foe. There was no panic, no disorder, but a firm, unbroken line of glistening bayonets was presented to the howling, yelling devils that charged upon our boys. *In five minutes* seventy-four brave and noble soldiers as ever stood in serried ranks had either gone to swell the number of our martyred dead, or were laying torn and mangled victims of rebel shot and shell.

THE MINE.

The regiment next took part in the celebrated mine explosion of July 30. Here Capt. A. D. Vaughn, of Co. F, a gallant and glorious fellow, was killed. Brave as a lion, courteous and kind to all,

"None named him but to praise."

His dying request was to be buried on the field of battle, and he sleeps in an unknown, but not unwept or dishonored grave.

IN THE TRENCHES.

From June 23^d to August 1st, the regiment was in the trenches in front of Petersburg, subjected to the constant fire of the enemy. During this time, exclusive of the losses on the 30th of June and at the mine, it lost an aggregate of sixty-eight men.

A WICKED SHELL.

At Dutch Gap, August 13th, it was again engaged. Here Lieut. W. H. Swartwout, the Acting Adjutant, lost an arm – the same shell which paid its respects to him, killing and wounding thirteen officers and men of the regiment. The incident must not be passed over. Lieut. N. J. Crippen had been shot in the thigh by a canister ball. Under a heavy fire, Assistant Surgeon Mandeville extracted the ball, and presented it to Crippen with the remark: "Old fellow you are mighty lucky." No sooner were the words spoken than the fatal shell exploded, instantly killing Crippen, wounding Mandeville in four places, tearing away Swartwout's arm, and scattering death and destruction all around. Were all our implements of warfare as effective as this shell proved to be, wars and rumors of wars even would be entirely unknown the world over. A day's combat with such weapons would have annihilated both Grant's and Lee's armies.

FROM PLACE TO PLACE.

August 28th, the regiment returned to the Petersburg trenches, and remained just one month, until it was ordered on the North side of the James again. On the 29th of September, it took part in

two engagements, – New Market and Fort Gilmore, – suffering a loss of about forty in both affairs. The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth now remained on the North side of the James until Butler set out on his memorable expedition against Fort Fisher, when it was selected as one of the assaulting regiments. The enterprise, it will be remembered, resulted in lamentable failure. The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth again returned to winter quarters in front of Richmond, only to enjoy, for a very brief season, respite from the arduous labors of the campaign.

FORT FISHER AGAIN.

On the 3^d of January, under Maj.-Gen. Terry, it again set out on the dangerous duty of compelling the surrender of Fort Fisher. After days of hardship upon the sea, subjected to the storms which rock the bosom of mother ocean at that season of the year, the regiment approached the hostile shores of the Cape Fear River. It was the first to disembark from the army transports, and tread the enemy's soil, – this time with an unfaltering faith that Fort Fisher was to be ours. In the assault upon the fort, in which for seven hours our heroic soldiers fought and struggled from bomb-proof to bomb-proof, Alden commanded the brigade, and Colvin the regiment. We know of no fiercer or more desperate fighting during the late war. Better *pluck* was never exhibited. That fight is a good subject for a historical painting. No battle in the war begins to approach it in dramatic power. The fleet firing her fifteen-inch "pellets," which blaze in magnificent arches over the doomed fort, and fall in beautiful, fiery circles in traverse after traverse, just ahead of the boys in blue, advancing as they advance; the pyrotechnic glare of the musketry in the gloom of the night; the hand-to-hand contests and the desperate struggles over the crests of the bomb-proofs; the garrison driven out of the fort, and surrendering only when they are pressed back by the waves of the sea upon the bayonets of the victorious Unionists. Hell scenes mimicked on earth.

EXPLOSION OF THE MAGAZINE.

The magazine of the fort exploded next morning, and the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth "had a hand in *that*." Upwards of seventy-five of the members were either blown into shapeless atoms in the air, or found a living burial beneath the debris of the fort, or were left shattered wrecks on the great ocean of humanity. Alden was rescued from a mass of dead and dying, and for four weeks the vital spark glimmered so faintly that once it was thought to have fled; but he lived to read his obituary in our columns, and modestly wear the star his valor won at Fort Fisher. Capt. Ferguson, – a modest worthy officer – and Lieut. McGregor – promoted from the ranks for good conduct – both lost their lives in the explosion. Lieuts. M. Ryan and S. L. Cipperly were killed in the attack. The entire loss of the regiment in the fight and explosion was about one hundred and thirty.

THANKS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The New York troops engaged in this affair were complimented for their bravery and good conduct, by a concurrent resolution of thanks, passed by the Legislature, and approved by Gov. Fenton. We append an extract:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Legislature of the State of New York, and of the people of the State are due and are hereby tendered to the officers and soldiers of the Forty-seventh regiment, Col. Christopher McDonald; the Forty-eighth regiment, Lieut.-Col. Wm. B. Coan; the One Hundred and Fifteenth regiment, Lieut.-Col. N. Johnson; the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth regiment, Col. Alonzo Alden, commanding, for their consummate skill and undaunted bravery in wresting from the enemies of our Government their last stronghold on the Atlantic coast.

IN NORTH CAROLINA.

The regiment now remained in North Carolina until its muster out of the United States service. It was the first regiment to enter Wilmington, (where it did provost duty for a short time,) and it took part in the capture of Raleigh. The march of our forces through the State to the capital was attended with more or less skirmishing, and the regiment was constantly in the presence of the enemy.

STATISTICS.

Aggregate strength of the 169 th at date of muster	915	
Gained by recruits and transfer	953	
Total	1,868	
Lost by casualties, disease, resignations and other causes	916	
Original number of commissioned officers		39
New officers by promotion, appointment and assignment		44
Aggregate		83
Number of resignations	22	
Number of dismissals	6	
Number of killed in battle	8	
Number died of disease	2	
Number discharged	12	-50
Remaining		33

About five hundred men return with the regiment – a large number being absent sick and wounded, in hospital.

BATTLES.

The regiment has been in twenty-eight battles and skirmishes, beginning with Edenton road, and ending with Raleigh, N.C.

PERSONAL.

It is impossible, in a newspaper sketch, to do anything like full justice to the officers and men of the regiment, individually. Of the returning officers, only seven went out with the regiment bearing commissions: Alden, Major, now Brevet Brigadier; Colvin, Captain, now Lieutenant-Colonel; Surgeon Knowlson; J. H. Allen, Captain, now Major; F. W. Tarbell, First Lieutenant,

now Captain; B. N. Smith, Second Lieutenant, now Captain; E. R. Smith, Second Lieutenant, now Captain.

I do not wish the remark qualified in the least – no braver man than General Alden ever drew a sabre, or wore the single star. A superior disciplinarian, a thorough tactician, cool and fearless in battle, he had no superior in the army as the commander of a regiment or brigade. Going out in 1861 as a Second Lieutenant in the Thirtieth regiment, he musters out of service a Brigadier-General by brevet, in command of the Third brigade, Second division, Tenth army corps. – Lieut.-Col. Colvin and Major Allen have each done exceedingly well – the latter having been twice wounded. Dr. Knowlson followed the regiment through thick and thin, and comes home beloved by all in the command. His record is a proud one, and his friends may well congratulate him upon it. The Doctor was always on hand – whether duty called to the front, or devotion to the sick exercised his wits to procure from obstinate B.G.'s the necessary orders upon the commissary for a supply of prophylactics – by the barrel. Tarbell bears a terrible remembrance of the enemy's bullets on his person; and the two Smiths sustain the very best reputation as officers and gentlemen. B. N. Smith was, on one occasion, the recipient of a congratulatory order from Gen. Butler, for coolness and bravery in battle. Speaking of the Smith family, reminds me that at one time the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth was made happy by the presence of four Smiths as officers – two of them named Clark Smith.

There are others in the regiment – privates as well as officers – and some now out of it, of whom it would give me pleasure to speak; but where all have performed their duty so faithfully and heroically, the task may be well discharged when I say that what the regiment is they have made it, and its honor and fame belong as much to them as to those whose superior position attract the public eye in a more marked degree. Whatever of good report is attached to the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth regiment, the enlisted men have sustained their full part in its acquirement.

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

COLONELS

Name	Date of Rank	Remarks
Clarence Buel	October 11, 1862	Resigned
John McConihe	February 13, 1864	Killed
Alonzo Alden	June 1, 1864	

LIEUTENANT-COLONELS

Name	Date of Rank	Remarks
John McConihe	September 17, 1862	Promoted
Alonzo Alden	February 13, 1864	Promoted
James A. Colvin	June [1], 1864	

MAJORS

Name	Date of Rank	Remarks
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Alonzo Alden	September 20, 1862	Promoted
James A. Colvin	February 13, 1864	Promoted
Joseph H. Allen	June [3], 1864	

ADJUTANT

Name	Date of Rank	Remarks
W. E. Kisselburgh	September 1, 1862	Resigned

QUARTERMASTER

Name	Date of Rank	Remarks
Sidney N. Kinney	September 1, 1862	Resigned

SURGEON

Name	Date of Rank	Remarks
John Knowlson	September 3, 1862	

ASSISTANT SURGEONS

Name	Date of Rank	Remarks
Joseph [F.] Skinner	September 18, 1862	Resigned
Clark Smith	March 2, 1863	
John S. Delevan	August 18, 1863	Not mustered
Aust. Mandeville	May 11, 1864	
P. L. F. Reynolds	September 22, 1862	Resigned
Homer G. Newton	December 15, 1863	Declined
Peter M. Murphy	January 14, 1864	Resigned
I. M. Schermerhorn	April 11, 1864	Not mustered
John T. Parker	December 8, 1864	

CHAPLAINS

Name	Date of Rank	Remarks
Joel W. Eaton	October 11, 1862	Resigned
Edgar [T.] Chapman	October 31, 1863	

CAPTAINS

Name	Date of Rank	Remarks
J. A. Colvin – A	August 21, 1862	Promoted
J. [F.] Thompson – A	February 13, 1864	Dismissed
Clark Smith – A	August 19, 1864	
Nat. Wood – B	September 13, 1862	Dismissed
Nat. Wood – B	June 8, 1863	Re-appointed
B. N. Smith – B	December 7, 1863	
Jos. H. Allen – C	September 16, 1862	Promoted
Thos. B. Eaton – C	June 1, 1864	Resigned
C. D. Merrill – C	November 2, 1864	Discharged
E. Van Santvoord – C	March 21, 1865	
W. B. Coleman – D	September 17, 1862	Dismissed
S. W. Snyder – D	March 30, 1863	Resigned
Chas. E. Morey – D	July [19,] 1864	Resigned
J. H. Warren – D	September 16, 1864	
John F. Croff – E	September 17, 186[2]	Resigned
F. W. Tarbell – E	February 21, 1863	Discharged
E. W. Church – E	October 1, 1864	

Name	Date of Rank	Remarks
A. D. Vaughn – F	October 11, 1862	Killed
E. R. Smith – F	July 30, 1864	
J. T. McCoun – G	September 20, 1862	Discharged
E. R. Mosher – G	March 29, 1865	
W. H. Wickes – H	September 20, 1862	Dismissed
W. H. Lyon – H	February 12, 1864	Resigned
Henry Mulhall – H	August 16, 1864	
Michael Murnane – I	September 20, 1862	Resigned
J. B. Parmenter – I	December 31, 1862	Resigned
Dan'l J. Cary – I	November 29, 1863	Resigned
Jas. H. Dunn – I	October 8, 1864	
Dan'l Ferguson – K	September 20, 1862	Killed
F. W. Tarbell – K	January 16, 1865	

FIRST LIEUTENANTS

Name	Date of Rank	Remarks
J. B. Parmenter – A	August 21, 1862	Promoted
J. H. Hughes – A	December 31, 1862	Died
A. R. Bell – A	September 5, 1863	Discharged
C. D. Merrill – A	May 24, 1864	Promoted
E. R. Mosher – A	November 2, 1864	Promoted
John B. Foot – A	March 29, 1865	
D. P. Benson – B	September 13, 1862	Resigned
B. N. Smith – B	December 4, 1862	Promoted
Clark Smith – B	December 7, 1863	Promoted
E. F. Vanderzee – B	August 19, 1864	
F. W. Tarbell – C	September 16, 1862	Promoted
C. E. Morey – C	February 21, 1863	Promoted
J. H. Warren – C	July 19, 1864	Promoted
Michael Russell – C	September 16, 1864	
Rob't O'Conner – D	September 17, 1862	Resigned
W. S. Birdsall – D	December 26, 1862	Killed
Jas. H. Dunn – D	May 16, 1864	Promoted
Michael Ryan – D	October 8, 1864	[Killed]
Chas. H. Palmer – E	September 17, 1862	Died
W. H. Merriam – E	July 28, 1863	Resigned
N. J. Crippen – E	May 27, 1864	Killed
E. W. Church – E	August 13, 1864	Promoted
E. P. Jaques – E	October 1, 1864	
J. [F.] Thompson – F	September 25, 1862	Promoted
T. [D.] Jellico – F	February 13, 1864	Discharged
Jas. H. Straight – F	June 24, 1864	
Geo. H. Gager – G	September 20, 1862	Resigned
T. B. Eaton – G	January 21, 1863	Promoted
W. M. Swartout – G	June 1, 1864	Discharged
Chas. [L.] Knox – G	March 29, 1865	
W. S. Hartshorn – [H]	September 20, 1862	Dismissed
Wm. H. Lyon – H	February 22, 1863	Promoted
Henry Mulhall – H	February 12, 1864	Promoted
E. Van Santv'rd – H	August 16, 1864	Promoted
A. Tompkins – H	March 21, 1865	
S. W. Snyder – I	September 20, 1862	Promoted
Pat'k Connors – I	March 30, 1863	Resigned
Chas. Dummary – I	July 21, 1864	
Dan'l J. Cary – K	September 20, 1862	Promoted
E. R. Smith – K	November 29, 1863	Promoted

Name	Date of Rank	Remarks
R. B. Van Alstyne – K	July 30, 1864	Discharged
R. J. Horton – K	March 27, 1865	

SECOND LIEUTENANTS

Name	Date of Rank	Remarks
B. N. Smith – A	August 21, 1862	Promoted
W. S. Birdsall – A	December 4, 1862	Promoted
Clark Smith – A	December 26, 1862	Promoted
E. W. Church – A	December 7, 1863	Promoted
E. P. Jaques – A	August 13, 1864	Promoted
B. McGuire – A	October 1, 1864	
Mich'l Holmes – B	September 13, 1862	Resigned
E. M. Connor – B	January 2, 1863	Dismissed
Michael Ryan – B	September 20, 1863	Promoted
S. [L.] Cipperly – B	October 8, 1864	Killed
Chas. H. Noyes – B	January 17, 1865	Not mustered
Geo. A. Willis – B	March 30, 1865	
Chas. E. Morey – C	September 16, 1862	Promoted
James H. Dunn – C	February 21, 1863	Promoted
E. R. Mosher – C	May 16, 1864	Promoted
Mich'l Russell – C	August 16, 1864	Promoted
C. [G.] Francisco – C	September 16, 1864	
J. H. Hughes – D	September 17, 1862	Promoted
D. [E.] Scriven – D	December 31, 1862	Resigned
Alex. Bell – D	July 26, 1863	Promoted
Chas. Dummary – D	September 5, 1863	Promoted
T. D. McGregor – D	June 24, 1864	Killed
Jas. H. Straight – D	July 21, 1864	Promoted
Geo. Campbell – D	January 17, 1865	
Henry Mulhall – E	September 17, 1862	Promoted
J. H. Warren – E	February 12, 1864	Promoted
A. Tompkins – E	July 19, 1864	Promoted
T. H. Gardner – E	March 21, 1865	
T. D. Jellico – F	September 23, 1862	Promoted
R. B. Van Alstyne – F	February 13, 1864	Promoted
Rollin Jenkins – F	July [30,] 1864	
T. B. Eaton – G	September 20, 1862	Promoted
C. D. Merrill – G	January 21, 1863	Promoted
J. Faulkner – G	May 24, 1864	
William H. Lyon – H	September 20, 1862	Promoted
J. B. Benjamin – H	February 22, 1863	Discharged
W. M. Swartout – H	November 9, 1863	Promoted
Thomas J. Tilley – H	June 1, 1864	
Pat'k Connors – I	September 20, 1862	Promoted
N. J. Crippen – I	March 30, 1863	Promoted
E. F. Vanderzee – I	May 27, 1864	Promoted
Chas. L. Knox – I	August 19, 1864	Promoted
Benj. Duryea – I	March 29, 1865	
E. R. Smith – K	September 20, 1862	Promoted
E. Van Santv'rd – K	November 29, 1863	Promoted
John B. Foot – K	November 2, 1864	Promoted
James Hickey – K	March 29, 1865	Discharged.
C. S. Phillips – K	April 1, 1865	

[Note: Items in brackets were corrected according to the official roster of the regiment.]

The "discharges" were the result of wounds or physical disability contracted in the service. W. E. K.

The Troy Daily Times.

JULY 25, 1865.

RECEPTION OF THE 169th REG'T.

OVATION TO RETURNING VALOR.

TROY'S WELCOME TO ITS VETERANS.

We have had a local Fourth of July to-day in honor of the return of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment. They have had a reception in Troy such as was eminently due to their valor, their services, and the lustre they have shed on our city. Although the ovation was quite impromptu in its character, it was none the less successful on that account. The welcome was one that must have proved gratifying to Gen. Alden's brave boys, – showing that while absent they had not been forgotten.

ARRIVAL.

The regiment reached the city about 7 o'clock this morning on the transport *John Brooks*, and remained at the foot of Congress street until the arrangements for their formal reception could be completed. Nothing of moment occurred on the journey from Raleigh, N. C. to Troy.

ARRANGEMENTS.

It was not known until yesterday that the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth would arrive to-day. As soon as the fact was ascertained, Major Steenberg, commanding the 24th, ordered out that regiment, and the response was prompt and hearty. The firemen also resolved to do honor to their returning brothers, and the result was a very respectable procession at very short notice. The local military and firemen formed on River street, and awaited the coming of the returning soldiers. The reception line extended from Broadway to State street, – the military being opposite the Troy House.

THE HEROES OF THE DAY.

Expectation was on tip-toe among the military and firemen and the crowds of spectators in the streets as the war-worn One Hundred and Sixty-ninth filed from the transport, formed into line, and marched to the scene of the reception. – Aldermen Smart and Prentice, of the Common Council committee, were hurrying to-and-fro on horseback; the Capital Police cleared away teams; officers were giving the words of command, and windows on the bend were filled with faces. With steady tread the veterans marched along. At their head rode Alden, with well-earned stars upon his shoulders; Dr. Knowlson, the faithful Surgeon, and Capt. Clark Smith, doing escort duty. This triumvirate cleared the way, and close to them was Colvin, the brave Lieutenant-Colonel, while the efficient Major Allen brought up the rear, and the Adjutant and other officers were scattered along the line. But the central figures in the picture were the men – bronzed, travel-stained and dusty, yet with the erect bearing and firm tramp of veterans. Within their lines were borne the colors, riddled with shot, and torn amid the fierce onset of the foe – the same colors that McConihe, with his last breath, told his men to defend. It was a suggestive moment as the regiment passed into the streets of its home, and once more became a part of the busy current of our daily life. Soldiers no longer, but citizens again. Appropriate it was that the fine regimental band should play "Home Again," and that the flags should wave on every mast in honor of the soldiers' return.

THE PROCESSION.

As the regiment passed upward, the Twenty-fourth received it with a "present arms," and the entire procession formed in the following order:

Platoon of Capital Police, under command of
Capts. Cross, Northup, Squire and Clute,
Common Council Committee,
Veteran Officers,
Perkins' Drum Corps,
Sullivan's Band,
Twenty-fourth Regiment, Major Steenberg, commanding,
Assistant Engineers Simmons and Garfield,
Drum Corps,
Washington Volunteer Fire Co.,
Trojan Hook and Ladder Co., No. 3,
Chapin's Drum Corps,
J. C. Taylor Hose Co., No. 3,
Rough and Ready Hose Co., No. 4,
Hugh Rankin Steamer No. 2,
J. C. Osgood Steamer No. 3,
One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment, N. Y. S. V.,
Brig.-Gen. Alonzo Alden commanding.

Many features of the procession were eminently creditable. The Twenty-fourth Regiment turned out strong and looked well.

The Fire Department also made a highly creditable appearance. Severe illness in the family of Chief Engineer Noble caused the command to devolve upon Assistant Simmons. The Capital Police looked very finely, and there was a strong force out. The line of march was as follows:

Up River street to Jacob, up Jacob to North Second, down North Second to Grand Division, down Grand Division to Fourth, down Fourth to Congress, down Congress to Third, up Third to Broadway, down Broadway to Second, down Second to Liberty, down Liberty to First, up First to Washington Square.

The procession began its march about 10 o'clock A.M. Everywhere the heroes of the day had warm greetings. One of the first objects that met their eyes was a

BANNER OF WELCOME.

Mr. Geo. G. Arnold, the sutler of the regiment, who followed its fortunes through all the different campaigns in which it was engaged, empowered Kelly some weeks ago to paint a banner of welcome to the returning heroes. The work has been done in the most artistic manner. The banner is suspended across River street, from the Troy House to Starkweather, Norton & Co.'s store, and has attracted great attention. It bears the names of fifteen of the engagements of the regiment, and also the names of Buel, McConihe, Alden, Colvin, Allen, and Knowlson, and all of the officers who have been killed. On the reverse, the motto: "Honor to the brave! Future generations will bless the preservers of the Republic." The whole design is appropriate and graceful, and reflects credit upon Mr. Arnold for his liberality and patriotism.

In this connection, it may not be amiss to state that the testimony of the returning soldiers is universal in favor of Mr. A., whose connection with the regiment has always been marked by the best of feeling on all sides. We welcome George back to Troy.

THE REGIMENT'S RECORD.

After the full summary of the regiment's deeds, published yesterday, no sketch of their organization, personnel, nor services is needed. Their heroic deeds seemed to rise before every eye, as the tattered flags and the veteran forms passed in review this morning along our city's streets. They could be seen defying the swamps of Charleston, manning the trenches of Petersburg, and fighting from casemate to casemate at Fort Fisher. Even the explosion that hurled them into mid-air could almost be pictured on those torn ensigns. Noble Alden, at their head, receiving the plaudits of grateful fellow-citizens, seemed a type of the patient valor that had brought the regiment home in triumph – the same indomitable spirit that had wound up the rebellion. Five hundred strong they returned to-day.

AN INCIDENT.

As the procession was passing the residence of Mrs. M. E. Roberts, No. 30 Second street, a beautiful little girl of about five years, Aggie M. Arnold, daughter of George G. Arnold, presented to Gen. Alden a very handsome wreath, composed of myrtle, with verbenas, "everlastings," and other choice flowers. The little creature seemed delighted with this opportunity of paying her tribute to the worth and bravery of the hero of Fort Fisher, and we doubt not its reception was, to the war-worn veteran, one of the most pleasant features in this festal day of welcome. And the gift was no unmeaning one, for the little child has long manifested a deep interest in her friend, the General. One of her little prayers, for many days, was, "God bless Gen. Alden, and don't let him get shot at all." It is a blessed thing, the friendship and goodwill of little children.

AT WASHINGTON SQUARE.

On reaching Washington Square, about noon, the formal reception of the regiment took place. A large crowd had assembled, and the procession formed a triangle around the square. The exercises commenced with a fervent prayer by Rev. Dr. Baldwin. We have rarely heard a more impressive invocation.

Ald. Smart introduced Hon. John. A. Griswold, who said that while he appeared unexpectedly on this occasion, no one could appear with feelings of deeper gratitude. Mr. G. pictured the sudden call to arms – the noble response – the alacrity of Troy, Rensselaer, and Washington Counties in responding to the calls of our country. We are now welcoming them back, one after another, not as regiments, but as representatives of once strong organizations. In none of these did we feel more pride than in the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth. [We know that Charleston, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Fort Fisher, and the war-scarred banners all tell of the bravery and deeds of the regiment. And the obsequies of its martyred dead, from time to time, reminded us of its services. Mr. Griswold paid a high tribute to the late Col. John McConihe, and gave the regiment a renewed welcome to the community which would never forget the brave soldiers of the second war of independence.](#)

[Three cheers were given for Mr. Griswold and three for the "old Flag."](#)

Brig.-Gen. Alden bowed his acknowledgements, and Ald. Smart introduced Mr. Wm. A. Merriam, of the New York *Herald*, and formerly a Lieutenant in the regiment, who delivered a most eloquent and appropriate address, referring to the history of the regiment, its lamented dead, and its living heroes – with especial reference to Gen. Alden, which called forth three cheers for the General. We shall publish Mr. Merriam's remarks in full to-morrow. Our correspondent friend had a most enthusiastic reception.

COLLATION.

The regiment then marched to Harmony Hall, where a fine collation was in waiting. It was then arranged that the men should repair to their homes.

RAIN.

A slight shower fell while the speeches were being delivered, but this did not dampen the enthusiasm of the audience nor interrupt the remarks of Messrs. Griswold and Merriam.

LOOKED WELL.

It was the general remark that of all the returning regiments who had passed through Troy, the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth looked by far the best of any our citizens had seen. Their Band was a great feature, although deprived of its leader, who died the day the regiment left Raleigh.

SIXTH WARD.

The residents of the Sixth Ward intend to give a dinner to Co. I, at 4 o'clock, to-morrow afternoon, in Usher's Island Grove. We are indebted to the chairman of the committee, Mr. Travell, for an invitation to both the senior and local editors of the paper to be present.

MAJOR STEENBERG

won many praises by the manner in which he handled the Twenty-fourth Regiment. Col. Isaac McConihe, jr., was in the city, but did not parade, in view of his relationship to the late Col. John McConihe, of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth.

AT NEW YORK.

The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth had a splendid reception in New York yesterday – a fine dinner and a good time. The New York papers of this morning speak well of the regiment. The *Times* says:

The regiment marched up Broadway to the New York State Agency Rooms, over Centre Market, where a most substantial dinner was provided by Col. Colyer. Among the various items in the bill of fare, we noticed an abundant supply of peaches, pears and water-melons, which evidently gave the boys a pleasant surprise, as well as a delicious treat.

The *Herald* says:

The organization has done good service in the war, and is a credit to the State, and more particularly to the locality in which they were raised. At three o'clock, the regiment was marched down Broadway, accompanied by Col. Colyer. On reaching the Astor House, they were halted, when Gen. Hooker came on the steps, and was received with repeated cheers. He made a few remarks, welcoming the soldiers back to their homes. The General's short speech was received with great enthusiasm. At its conclusion,

the line of march was again taken up down Broadway.

ONLY ONE MORE.

The Griswold Cavalry is the only regiment that Troy can welcome home. Justice has been done to all the rest.

OUR POLICE.

Gen. Alden spoke in the highest terms of our Capital Police arrangements. He said "they were really admirable."

THE REGIMENT

is going to Albany this afternoon, and will remain at the barracks.

The Troy Daily Whig.

JULY 25, 1865.

**The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth
Regiment to Arrive in Troy To-day –
Preparation by the Common Council
Committee – Order for the Twenty-
fourth Regiment to Turn Out – Notice to
the Firemen, &c.**

The following despatches were received yesterday afternoon:

NEW YORK, July 24. – *To Troy Whig*: The steamer *John Brooks* is receiving coal, preparatory to leaving for Troy, with the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment on board.

B. F. CASWELL.

NEW YORK, July 24. – *Charles L. Alden*: The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment is now here. Will leave for Troy, or as near there as the steamer *John Brooks* can come, at 3 P.M., and arrive in Troy tomorrow morning.

Col. VINCENT COLYER.

NEW YORK, July 24. – *A. M. Knowlson, Troy*: We leave for Albany on the *John Brooks*, at 3 P.M.

JOHN KNOWLSON.

The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment left for the war in September 1862. It was officered at that time as follows: –

Colonel, Clarence Buel; Lieutenant-Colonel, John McConihe; Major, Alonzo Alden; Adjutant, William E. Kisselburgh; Quartermaster, S. N. Kinney; Surgeon, John Knowlson; Assistant Surgeons – Jos. F. Skinner, P. L. F. Reynolds; Chaplain, Rev. Joel Eaton; Co. A, Capt. J. A. Colvin, Nassau; Co. B, Capt. Nat. Wood, Troy; Co. C, Capt. Joseph H. Allen, Brunswick; Co. D, Capt. W. Coleman, Washington Co.; Co. E, Capt. J. Croff, Washington Co.; Co. F, Capt. A. D. Vaughn, Washington Co.; Co. G, Capt. J. T. McCoun, Troy; Co. H, Capt. W. H. Wickes, Sandlake; Co. I, Capt. M. Murnane, Troy; Co. K, Capt. D. Ferguson, Lansingburgh and Troy.

Of the returning officers, only seven went out with the regiment bearing commissions:

Alden, Major, now Brevet Brigadier; Colvin, Captain, now Lieutenant-Colonel; Surgeon Knowlson; J. H. Allen, Captain, now Major; F. W. Tarbell, First Lieutenant, now Captain; B. N. Smith, Second Lieutenant, now Captain; E. R. Smith, Second Lieutenant, now Captain.

The regiment, we are glad to announce, will receive an appropriate reception on the part of our citizens. The Twenty-fourth Regiment, the Fire Department and other organizations will turn out. The residents at the Nail Factory will entertain the members of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth from that locality at a public dinner at Usher's Grove. – The following patriotic order was issued yesterday afternoon by Geo. T. Steenberg, Major Commanding, for the parade of the Twenty-fourth:

HEADQUARTERS 24TH REGIMENT, N. Y. S. N. G.,
TROY, July 24, 1865.

General Order No: 18. – The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment N. Y. V., on its return from its honorable and arduous service, is expected to arrive in Troy to-morrow morning. The history of this regiment is well-known. *Going from among us at a period when danger lowered most darkly over the nation's cause, it has borne the flag over many a storied battlefield, and returns with a reputation of which we have reason to be proud, and a record of services which demand our deepest gratitude.* Its dead have consecrated with their blood the memorable scenes of conflict in Charleston bay, at Cold Harbor (where its noble commander, Col. McConihe, fell,) in the advance upon Richmond, and

in the capture of Fort Fisher. Its wounded bear the scars that advertise the heroism with which they faced the hazards of the bloodiest campaigns. *Their reputation is our glory; their record is our pride. Coming to us with the eagles of Victory perched upon their banners – the Cause triumphant – the Union saved – Peace restored – we should welcome them with open arms and beating hearts to the homes they left at the call of country, and to the rewards they have so nobly won.*

The 24th Regiment will parade, fully-uniformed and equipped, on Tuesday, July 25th. Commanders of companies will report, with their commands, at the regimental armory at 8 o'clock. Regimental line will be formed at 9 o'clock on the west side of First street – right resting on Congress street. Field and staff will report to the Major at the regimental armory. The Drum Corps, Drum-Major Perkins, will report to the Major at the armory at 8½ o'clock. By order.

GEO. T. STEENBERG, Major Comd'g.

G. G. MOORE, Adjutant.

The Committee of the Common Council, consisting of Aldermen Smart, Morris and Prentice met last evening, and made the following arrangements in regard to the reception of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth: –

The line of march for the reception of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment, will be as follows: Up River street to Jacob, up Jacob to North Second, down North Second to Grand Division, down Grand Division to Fourth, down Fourth to Congress, down Congress to Third, up Third to Broadway, down Broadway to Second, down Second to Liberty, down Liberty to First, up First to Washington Square. On Washington Square the regiment will be welcomed home. Carriages will be provided at the Troy House for disabled soldiers. The veterans are requested to form on the right of the 24th Regiment. The 24th Regiment will form on the right. The Fire Department will form on the left of the 24th Regiment and the 169th on the left of the Fire Department. The disabled soldiers will form on the left of the 169th Regiment.

By order of the Committee of the Common Council,

R. P. SMART,
R. MORRIS,
J. R. PRENTICE.

Troy, July 24th, 1865.

The Troy Daily Times.

JULY 26, 1865.

Speech of Mr. Wm. H. Merriam, at the Reception of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment N. Y. S. V., on Washington Square, July 25, 1865.

Soldiers and Fellow-Citizens: I am most overwhelmingly rejoiced that I left the capitulated capital of the so-called Southern Confederacy to behold this thrice-glorious day in the ever-memorable annals of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth New York Volunteers. After years of battle-scarred service, wherein honor and glory and imperishable renown have been truly won in defense of the country and the Constitution that is supreme over it, these gallant veterans return to you today, fellow-citizens of Troy and of Rensselaer, the torn, stained, but pure and righteous old banners which three years since they bore to the field of strife amid so much of hope and fear and sorrow. They come to you bronzed in the service of the Republic, worn-down and weary after many an honorable struggle in the holy cause of civilization, of freedom, and the eternal perpetuity of Constitutional government on this continent. It has been theirs to aid with sword in hand in meting out justice to a haughty, relentless and thoroughly implacable foe. They did it nobly in defense of your firesides and your fanes and all that you hold dear here below, and it is indeed fitting that you, whose immediate representatives and defenders they have been, should, on this calendar day in the Ides of July, in the season of foliage and genial warmth, pour out upon their honored heads the wealth of your gratitude and affection. To-day witnesses the consummation of that high and holy contract of three years' since between these hardy veterans and this people, which shall in all the future, in all the coming and fleeing years, constitute a lofty claim upon your remembrance, upon your respect and upon your veneration. All honor then to their unsurpassed devotion to the country in its hour of supreme agony and trial, – their dauntless courage, – their impressive gallantry on the field of battle, with their faces to the foe, and their honest, manly hearts and stout arms only bent on maintaining the integrity of the Union and its now really "gorgeous ensign," "the flag of the free," before the world. These gallant men have returned to you sanctified by all of those glorious and never-dying traditions that had their birth in the twenty-three days of great investment at Suffolk, and which were only heightened by the never-to-be-forgotten scenes on the banks of the Nansemond and the Blackwater; the siege of Charleston; among the green everglades of Florida; at Olustee; on the fatal but glorious field of Cold Harbor; on the banks of the placid and now more than historic James; in front of Richmond and at Fort Fisher. I say, now, that the scanty remnant of all those who went forth from these homes, these streets, these churches, these busy marts of commerce and impatient haste, these spots, where memory

*Always loved to linger, and
Loving lingered long,*

have come to you again to take on the character and form of model citizens; enshrine them in your hearts, and see to it that their deeds for

your weal do not soon perish from the memory of all who remained to encourage them with means, and inspire them with hope.

But they are not all here. Hundreds of those noble men, who three brief years since determined in their hearts that the Republic should suffer no detriment at the insistence of bad men within its borders, and joined their fortunes to this gallant command, are not here to-day, to smile at the gladdening welcome of these goodly citizens and accept the winsomeness of all these fair ladies. Many of them sleep their final sleep on the shores of the ever-musical sea, all along the Atlantic Coast, from Hampton Roads to Fort Fisher, and Charleston. The mighty waters of that great sea rise up in billowing and monumental splendor at their patriot graves, dash, break and die away, and the immortal dead of this city and county sleep on – sleep ever, till called to obey the final summons – the precursor of that lasting victory.

Foremost among the noble fallen, let us on this auspicious occasion not fail to remember the patriotic services of that fresh young child of the Republic, whose honored remains to-day rest, in the silence of death, in yonder Oakwood. Let us not forget that to the gallant Col. John McConihe was accorded the immortal privilege of falling on the field of battle, "in the front rank of the peril," in defence of an indispensable principle, and let it be ours to see to it that the memory of one who in life no less than in death twined around the historic features of the good old One Hundred and Sixty-ninth New York so many amaranths of sempiternal fame and glory, and honor, be not forgotten in all the hours that are to come and go. Unselfishly offering his life upon the altar of his country and its cause, let fragrant memories ever cluster around the grave of our young, daring and heroic leader.

Neither must we omit a melancholy remembrance of those other gallant, tried and faithful officers, who have fallen on the field ere reaching the goal of Peace. To memory dear will ever be the names of the manly and ardent Hughes; the impetuous, stern and noble Vaughn; the lovely, gallant and patriotic young Walter Birdsall, of this city, who died with his sword outdrawn upon the enemy; the chivalric and patient Ferguson; the courteous and brave Palmer; the earnest, handsome and thorough-going young soldier, Norman J. Crippen; the genial and true officer and soldier, Ryan; and Cipperly and McGregor, all of whom met soldiers' deaths as soldiers most of all desire to die.

Neither must we fail to recall here and now to our recollection the many deeds of high public service of that commander of the regiment who united to stern discipline and an unfaltering soldierly bearing, a boundless courage, a triple devotion to his flag, trailed by traitors-in-arms, and whose presence we hail here to-day with equal emotions of affectionate respect and gratitude, General Alonzo Alden, one of the perishless heroes of Cold Harbor and memorable Fort Fisher. May his gallant life long be spared to us, and may we never fail to yield a tribute of homage to a General who by his great deeds certainly deserves so well of his country.

Welcome then again, thrice glorious Hundred and Sixty-ninth. The laurel of success is yours – the chaplet of fame has been honorably won, and will fittingly deck in all the future those honest brows, the seat of so much patriotism, and the birthplace of so much genuine impulse. May it be yours henceforth to repose in the midst of arms, and that in your presence the brow of him who is war's majesty "may be encircled as at a festival with the bloodless but imperishable garlands of Peace, of Science, of Religion and of Art."

☞ **RECEPTION OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND**

SIXTY-NINTH. – The reception of this regiment yesterday was in every respect a success. The Common Council committee – Ald. Smart, Prentice and Morris – are entitled to much credit for their labors.

– On our first page we publish the eloquent speech of ex-Lieut. Wm. H. Merriam, delivered on Washington Square. We only wish it were possible to describe its effect on an old soldier of the regiment, one McGolrick*, who was a little "elevated" on this occasion. He stood directly in front of the speaker, appearing to drink in every word, and shouting at intervals, "Go in, old fellow." "Bully for you," etc., etc.

– We publish with pleasure the following card:

The officers and men of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment, hereby tender our thanks to the citizens of Troy, for the very flattering reception extended to us yesterday. It was to a certain extent a surprise. It was well-known that regiments had returned heretofore, and had uniformly been received with every mark of honor and approbation, and it was thought that you had become weary of such things. But this was a mistake. The greeting we received at your hands was one that will long be remembered by us all with pleasure, and serve to repay us somewhat for the sufferings and toils of the last three years. Our especial thanks are due to the Twenty-fourth Regiment, the Fire department, the veteran officers who were in line, the Capital Police, and to Hon. John A. Griswold and Wm. H. Merriam, who were more immediately engaged in the ceremonies of the day, and to Aldermen Smart, Prentice and Morris, the very efficient Common Council committee.

ALONZO ALDEN,

Brevet Brig.-Gen. and Col. com. Regiment.

– The officers had a very pleasant dinner at the American House during the afternoon. Ald. Smart presided. Sentiments and fun that are beyond the reportorial art to recall lent the chief zest to the occasion, but the regiment showed that it could talk, as well as fight. Brig.-Gen. Alden made a most telling reply to a toast in honor of his noble regiment; Mr. Merriam responded very feelingly to a sentiment eulogizing the memory of the dead officers of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth; J. S. Thorn, of

the *Times*, spoke for "The Union," and A. S. Pease, of the *Press*, very neatly for "the press" at large.



Lieutenant-Colonel James A. Colvin
169th N. Y. S. V. Infantry Regiment
Collection of the U.S. Army Heritage & Education Center,
Carlisle, Penn.

Volunteer toasts were then in order, and Lieut.-Col. Colvin gave:

Ald. Smart and Ald. Prentice, the Twenty-fourth Regiment and the Fire department: For their generous labors in our behalf this day, we cordially extend our thanks. The success of our welcome home is largely due to their organized efforts, and we take pleasure in recognizing this fact.

Ald. Smart, in response, said that the city felt as if it could not do too much for its returning soldiers; and that his own efforts were gladly given to welcome the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth. – After remarks by Col. Hyde, Major Steenberg, Mr. Charles L. Alden and others, Mr. Merriam, in a "high-toned" speech, toasted Adjutant Kisselburgh and Adjutant Clark Smith. This called out the former, who gave some humorous reminiscences of the regiment – especially private Merriam's adventures at the siege of Suffolk, when his festive companions threw a lot of stones on the roof of his hut at the moment when a gunboat fired at the enemy – causing the valiant W. H. M. to think he was being shelled.

Col. Colvin gave a patriotic sentiment in honor of the flag, ending with three cheers. Mr. Hurley, of the *Press*, toasted the band of the

regiment, whose sweet strains enlivened the entire entertainment. Then the company separated in the best of humor.

– The following orders will be read with interest and pleasure by every friend of the regiment. The first is the order of Gen. Littell**, the Division commander; the latter of Gen. Alden to his own men:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH CORPS,
RALEIGH, N. C., July 18, 1865.

General Orders No. 19: The Brevet Brigadier-General commanding, on his own behalf and that of a grateful country, avails himself of this most befitting occasion to thank the officers and men of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment New York State Volunteers for their gallant services during the past three years in suppressing a rebellion, the most formidable in the annals of history. As an organization, your career has been brilliant, and from records at these and superior headquarters, it appears that you have participated in twenty-eight different engagements, and on every occasion your conduct has not only been irreproachable, but such as to secure complimentary notice from your commanding Generals. Your work is done and *well* done; and now you return to your homes to enjoy the blessings of a peace which you have conquered, and to rejoice in the consciousness that you have borne no *small* part in the attainment of it. You bear with you into civil life the gratitude of your country – an honor to the "Empire State," and hereafter you may each be proud to say that you were members of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment New York State Volunteers, and as such identified with the famous Second Division, Tenth Army Corps. By order of

Brevet Brig.-Gen. J. S. LITTELL.

B. N. SMITH, Capt., 169th N. Y. V., A. A. A. G.

HEADQ'RS ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-NINTH REGT.,
RALEIGH, N. C., July 19, 1865.

General Orders No. 28: After nearly three years' military service, this command is about to return to its own State for final payment and discharge. When that is accomplished and your final accounts with the Government have been settled, the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment New York State Volunteers will cease to exist as an organization, but its memory and enviable reputation will long be cherished. Those who have served in its ranks and survived the fiery ordeals through which it has passed; and the friends of its honored heroes who have filled a patriot's grave, will never forget the One Hundred

and Sixty-ninth Regiment New York State Volunteers, or a single chapter of its history.

October 6th, 1862, this regiment was organized with an aggregate of 915 officers and men; since which time it has gained by recruits, transfers and otherwise, an aggregate of 953, making 1,868 officers and men connected with it since its organization; and the regiment has lost by casualties in battle, disease, etc., 963 officers and men.

Since its organization, there have been connected with the regiment eighty-seven commissioned officers. Because of resignations, casualties in battle and other causes, fifty-two officers have been dropped from the roll.

The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment has participated in twenty-eight separate and distinct engagements, and in some of them has lost heavily; in all, without exception, it has acquitted itself with honor, and received the compliments of the commanding Generals.

We are called upon to mourn the loss of many of our brave comrades who have fallen in the storm of battle. On the bloody field of Cold Harbor, our gallant Colonel, McConihe, fell. He knew no such thing as *fear*; he clearly comprehended the purpose of the commanding General, and with *victory* for his watchword, with coolness and deliberation, he led his command upon the terrible, and to him, fatal charge. Many of our brave comrades fell in this terrible conflict, which with Petersburg, Gilmer, and Fort Fisher, – charges already renowned in history – this command will have occasion long to remember. While we mourn with those who mourn and weep with those who weep for these, our country's martyrs, we also rejoice that their final and crowning efforts were patriotic and Godly – in defence and for the restoration of their insulted and bleeding country, and for the more effectual reöpening and reëstablishment of God's vineyard for this people.

You are about to resume your peaceful avocations. Anxiously and eagerly your families and friends wait to greet your return; and by all good citizens will you be honored as the saviors of our country. Let the same zeal and fidelity characterize your conduct in civil pursuits as have secured your success in arms, and your civil career will be attended with prosperity and success. By order,

ALONZO ALDEN,

Col. and Brevet Brig.-General com'dg reg't,

ED. P. JAKES, 1st Lieut. and Acting Adjt.

[Notes: *Corporal John McGolrick, Co. B. **Brevet Brigadier-General John S. Littell.]

The Troy Daily Whig.

JULY 26, 1865.

The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Home From the Wars – A Glorious Welcome to the Veterans.

At seven o'clock, yesterday morning, the steamer *John Brooks* arrived at the foot of Congress street, with the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment on board. During the time which elapsed before the soldiers were marched from the steamer, a large crowd of citizens were congregated at the dock, anxious to catch a glimpse of familiar faces among the returned veterans. There are in the regiment five hundred and fifteen men, of whom probably not more than one hundred and fifty are of the original number which left here in 1862. We published yesterday morning a list of the original officers of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth. The following is a complete list of the present field and line officers: –

Brevet Brigadier-General Alonzo Alden, Colonel
commanding.

Lieutenant-Colonel – James A. Colvin.

Major – J. H. Allen.

Surgeon – John Knowlson.

Assistant Surgeon – J. T. Parker.

Acting Quartermaster – Lieut. M. Russell.

Company A. – First Lieutenant, J. B. Foot; Second
Lieutenant, George Campbell.

Company B. – Captain, B. N. Smith; First
Lieutenant, Clark Smith; Second Lieutenant, Chas.
Phillips.

Company C. – Captain, J. H. Warren; First
Lieutenant, Chas. Dumary; Second Lieutenant, R. E.
Jenkins.

Company D. – First Lieutenant, Edward P. Jaques;
Second Lieutenant, B. McGuire.

Company E. – Captain, H. Mulhall; First
Lieutenant, Edgar Vanderzee; Second Lieutenant,
Thos. Tilley.

Company F. – Captain, E. R. Smith; First
Lieutenant, J. H. Straight; Second Lieutenant,
Benjamin Duryea.

Company G. – Captain, E. Van Santvoord; First
Lieutenant, Charles Knox; Second Lieutenant, J.
Faulkner.

Company H. – Captain, E. W. Church; First
Lieutenant, R. J. Horton; Second Lieutenant, C. G.
Francisco.

Company I. – Captain, J. H. Dunn; First Lieutenant, M. Russell.

Company K. – Captain F. W. Tarbell; First Lieutenant, A. Tompkins; Second Lieutenant, G. A. Willis.

The Twenty-fourth Regiment and Fire Department formed on River street and waited until the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth came into line, when the procession moved on up River street to Jacob, up Jacob to North Second, down North Second to Grand Division, down Grand Division to Fourth, down Fourth to Broadway, down Broadway to Second, down Second to Liberty, down Liberty to First, and up First to Washington Square. The procession was formed in the following order: –

Platoon of Capital Police, under command of
Capts. Cross, Northrup, Squire and Clute,
Common Council Committee,
Veteran Officers,
Perkins' Drum Corps,
Sullivan's Band,
Twenty-fourth Regiment, Major Steenberg, commanding,
Assistant Engineers Simmons and Garfield,
Drum Corps,
Washington Volunteer Fire Co.,
Trojan Hook and Ladder Co., No. 3,
Chapin's Drum Corps,
J. C. Taylor Hose Co., No. 3,
Rough and Ready Hose Co., No. 4,
Hugh Rankin Steamer, No. 2,
J. C. Osgood Steamer, No. 3,
One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment, N. Y. S. V.,
Brig.-Gen. Alonzo Alden, commanding.

The regimental colors of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth were borne in the procession. The colors were riddled with the bullets of twenty-eight battles and skirmishes, at Suffolk, Blackwater, Hanover Junction, Siege of Charleston, John's Island, Chester Station, Bermuda Hundred, Cold Harbor, Fort Anderson, Wilmington, Petersburg, Strawberry Plains, Chapin's Farm, Deep Bottom, &c.

The procession halted at Washington Square, where the reception ceremonies took place. Ald. Smart introduced Hon. J. A. Griswold, who welcomed the veterans in behalf of the city and county. He reviewed, briefly and eloquently, the career of the regiment, the war and its results, &c., and closed by tendering to the officers and members of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth a heartfelt welcome. The remarks of Mr. G. were loudly applauded by the returning veterans. The speech was, indeed, a fitting welcome, on the part of the citizens of Troy, to the gallant One Hundred and Sixty-ninth. Correspondent Wm. H. Merriam, of the New York *Herald*, was also introduced to the audience, and made one of his characteristic speeches. At the conclusion of Mr. Merriam's remarks, the One Hundred and

Sixty-ninth marched to Harmony Hall, where the Common Council Committee had caused a repast to be prepared.

The officers were entertained at the American House. At the conclusion of the dinner toasts, sentiments and speech-making ruled the hour. The following were the regular toasts:

The Union – Established by the wisdom of our forefathers; sustained and defended by the valor and patriotism of their sons, worthy examples of whom we welcome home to-day, – "The *Union* – it must and shall be preserved."

Responded to by J. S. Thorn, of the Times.

The One Hundred and Sixty-Ninth Regiment – From Suffolk to Charleston, from Charleston to Petersburg, from Petersburg to Cold Harbor, from Cold Harbor to Fort Fisher and Raleigh, they have kept step to the music of the Union, and in many a hard-fought battle illustrated the true type of the American citizen soldier. We welcome them with grateful hearts and open arms to the peaceful homes their valor has given to us and our descendants.

Responded to by General Alden.

The Memory of Col. McConihe, Captain Ferguson, Vaughn, and Lieutenants Birdsall, McGregor, Crippen, Ryan and Cipperly – the martyred dead of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth.

Responded to by William H. Merriam, Esq.

The Press – The Bulwark of our Liberties and the Defender of our Rights.

Responded to by A. S. Pease, of the *Press*.

Several volunteer toasts and sentiments followed, which were responded to by Col. J. A. Colvin, Ald. Smart, Jos. J. Alden, Col. Hyde, Major Steenberg, Major Kisselburgh, and others.

The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment left at four o'clock for the Albany Road Barracks, where they will remain until paid off and mustered out.

Great credit is due to the Common Council Committee, to Major Steenberg, who, on account of the absence of the Colonel and Lieut.-Colonel, had command of the Twenty-fourth Regiment, and to the officers of the Fire Department, for their exertions to make the reception a success, and a welcome worthy of the returning veterans.

– The New York papers of yesterday, had the following in regard to the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment: –

The regiment marched up Broadway to the New York State Agency Rooms, over Centre Market, where a most substantial dinner was provided by Col. Colyer. Among the various items in the bill of fare, we noticed an abundant supply of peaches, pears and water-melons, which evidently gave the boys a pleasant surprise, as well as a delicious treat. – *N. Y. Times*.

The organization has done good service in the war, and is a credit to the State, and more particularly to the locality in which they were raised. At three o'clock, the regiment marched down Broadway, accompanied by Col. Colyer. On reaching the Astor House, they were halted, when Gen. Hooker came on the steps, and was received with repeated cheers. He made a few remarks, welcoming the soldiers back to their homes. The General's short speech was received with great enthusiasm. At its conclusion, the line of march was taken up down Broadway. — *Herald*.

The Troy Daily Times.

AUGUST 7, 1865.


☞ **REGIMENTAL DINNER.** — The officers of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment, who were mustered out and paid off last week, had a very pleasant reunion ere parting, on Saturday afternoon. It took place at the Troy House, and all the appointments were of the most agreeable character. Gen. Alden, commanding the regiment, occupied the head of the table. Gen. Wool, with the officers and invited guests, flanked the festive board. After the discussion of the edibles, brief and pertinent speeches were in order. Gen. Wool responded to "Our Country," and was received with loud applause. As the General requested that his remarks should not be published, and said "he feared reporters more than he did the enemy," we will only say that he did full justice to the subject and to his high reputation as a patriot and a lover of his country. Capt. MacArthur, of the *Sunday News*, replied very felicitously to "The President of the United States." If Andy Johnson had heard the good things that Mac. said about him, the first vacant ten thousand dollar office would find an incumbent up this way. Not the least recommendation was found in the fact that the President's father had once saved the life of an editor. Capt. J. M. Landon, Superintendent of Police, (whose uniform caused him to be mistaken for a Brigadier-General,) responded for the Governor. "Our martyred dead," was drank in silence. J. S. Thorn, of the *Times*, spoke for the press; [Lieut.-Col. Colvin honored "the Flag"](#); Gen. Alden was called out by Gen. Wool's complimentary remarks; Adjutant Kisselburgh, Surgeon Knowlson and others made remarks.

On Capt. MacArthur's suggestion, and on motion of Col. Colvin, a committee was appointed to confer with other organizations and effect an organization of veterans. Gen.

Alden, Colvin and Capt. Church were appointed as such committee. Letters of regret were received from Maj.-Gen. Carr, Rev. E. T. Chapman, Chaplain, and Capt. J. T. McCoun. Gen. Carr and Capt. McCoun are on the sick list; the Chaplain was called to Peekskill very suddenly. After a reunion from 3½ to 6½ P.M., the guests separated, while the hosts of the occasion, officers no longer, save in name and history, bade each other good bye, with many wishes for the same success in private life that they had achieved in the tented field. And thus fell the curtain upon one of the most gallant of New York State regiments, and thus amid wine and good cheer, the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment dropped the armor of Mars. But its noble commander, Gen. Alden, still wears the star, and in his rank, and in the memories of Charleston, Petersburg and Fort Fisher, and in the hearts of the people of Troy and its neighborhood, the regiment "still lives."

The Troy Daily Whig.

AUGUST 7, 1865.

 **RE-UNION OF THE OFFICERS OF THE 169TH REGIMENT.** – A re-union of the officers of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment took place at the Troy House, on Saturday afternoon. It was indeed a pleasant occasion – that assembling of veterans who had fought side by side on many a battlefield. Among the officers of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth present, we noticed the following: Gen. Alonzo Alden, Lieut.-Col. J. A. Colvin, Major Joseph H. Allen, Adjutant W. E. Kisselburgh, Quartermaster Sidney N. Kinney, Surgeon John S. Knowlson, Captains Clark Smith, B. N. Smith, Thomas B. Eaton, C. D. Merrill, E. Van Santvoord, C. E. Morey, J. H. Warren, F. W. Tarbell, E. W. Church, E. R. Smith, E. R. Mosher, H. Mulhall, Daniel J. Cary, James H. Dunn, S. W. Snyder, First Lieutenants John B. Foot, E. F. Vanderzee, Michael Russell, James H. Straight, Wm. M. Swartwout, Charles L. Knox, Patrick Connors, Charles Dumary, Second Lieutenants B. McGuire, Geo. A. Willis, C. G. Francisco, J. Faulkner, Thos. J. Tilley, Benj. Duryea and C. S. Phillips. There were also present, among other invited guests, Gen. Wool, J. S. Thorn, of the *Times*, Thos. Hurley, of the *Press*, Capt. C. L. MacArthur, of the *News*, and Chas. E. File, of the *WHIG*.

The company sat down to an excellent dinner provided by "mine host" Jones, after the disposal of which toasts, sentiments and responses were in order.

The first regular toast was:

Our Country – Regenerated, disenthralled. Despite rebellion and traitorous assaults, redeemed and purified through suffering, she passes on to glory and a brighter day.

Gen. Wool responded. He referred to the prosperous condition of the country before the war – a prosperity which was enjoyed by thirty-one millions of free people. No part of the country enjoyed the blessings of our free government more than did the South; but the Southern people were the first to strike a blow at the National heart – the first to harbor treason. After a long and bloody war, this wicked rebellion was subdued, and once more our country has a bright future before her. The soldiers who have battled for the preservation of the Union well-deserve to be cordially welcomed home to the firesides of the North – and none deserve to be honored more than the members of the gallant One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment. The soldiers are the only true peace party. The venerable speaker referred to Generals Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, and Alden, in a manner which drew forth great applause from his hearers.

The second regular toast was:

The President of the United States – Grace and justice be with him.

Capt. Chas. L. MacArthur, editor of the *Troy News*, responded. He remarked that he took great pleasure in upholding the administration of Andy Johnson, the man occupying so high and responsible a position as that of President of the United States. The speaker regarded the Chief Magistrate of this free government as holding the highest office on the face of the globe. President Johnson is a self-made man. He is an example of what a firm purpose and steady perseverance can accomplish. A man who is capable of commencing life as an uneducated tailor's apprentice and working his way up to the Presidential chair, is worthy to be at the helm of our national affairs.

The third regular toast was:

The Governor of New York: Recognized as the soldier's friend.

Supt. John M. Landon, of the Capital Police, and formerly Captain in the old Thirtieth Regiment, responded: He paid a high compliment to Gov. Fenton, a man who did all in his power to aid the Government in suppressing the rebellion. The Governor of the Empire State sent 250,000 soldiers to the war, to battle for the undying principles of our glorious Union – for the freedom of all men who bear the image of their Maker. Supt. Landon closed his remarks by paying a fitting tribute to the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment.

The fourth regular toast was:

Our Martyred Dead: They "still live." Their deeds have set their impress for eternity. Living they fought a brave fight – dead – they see their victory won.

This toast was drank standing and in silence.

The fifth regular toast was:

Our Flag –

"Stand by the flag! all doubt and treason scorning,
Believe with courage firm and faith sublime
That it will float until the eternal morning
Pales in its glories, all the lights of time."

Lieut.-Col. Colvin responded. He felt that language was inadequate to express his sentiments on so great a subject. Who can regard our national banner without emotion? As the flag of a free people it is respected by all the nations of the earth.

The sixth regular toast was:

The Press – The intellect of humanity – powerful in its effects – admirable when conducted in accordance with good order and discipline.

Jas. S. Thorn, of the *Times*, responded in his usual happy manner. He regretted that the rotund, the bombastic Merriam was not present to respond to the toast. Gen. Wool had previously remarked that he "feared the reporters more than the enemy." If the General who had conquered the enemy at Queenstown, baffled them at Buena Vista and bagged them at Norfolk, thus feared the press, what must be its power? Mr. Thorn concluded by giving as a sentiment: – "The 169th N. Y. S. Volunteers – although dead except in memory, they will ever live through all the annals of recorded time by their deeds and the good name of their accomplished and gallant commander, Gen. Alden."

Adjutant Kisselburgh responded in an eloquent speech, paying a fitting tribute to the gallant 169th Regiment.

Gen. Wool offered a toast to Gen. Alden and the officers of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth, which was responded to by Gen. A., who remarked that the regiment had been in twenty-eight different battles and skirmishes, and on no occasion did it ever give occasion for reprimand. The colors of the regiment were – never dishonored.

A toast was offered by Lieut.-Col. Colvin to the old Grey Horse of the Medical Department, which was responded to in an exceedingly humorous manner by Surgeon Knowlson amidst laughter and applause. Several other sentiments and toasts were offered and responded to, after which the assembly adjourned.

The Troy Daily Times.

MAY 16, 1866.

The New Postmaster.

The nomination by President Johnson of Gen. Alonzo Alden as Postmaster of Troy, commands the unqualified endorsement of all classes and parties of the community. It has been made in obedience to a strong popular request, as well as in the interest of the community and the department, since it assures to us a capable, energetic and proper discharge of the duties of Postmaster, – a thing quite as novel as it is desirable in this office. Mr. Johnson could scarcely have overlooked the claims of Gen. Alden – claims so strong as to command recognition from two of his more prominent rivals for the place, Messrs. B. H. Hall and H. J. King, who withdrew in his favor, and united a powerful political interest in his support. The nomination also conforms fully to the spirit of the President's instructions to his subordinates in the cabinet, commanding the appointment to office of capable and meritorious soldiers – for of all who went into the army from Troy, none, perhaps, discharged their duty in camp and field with more courage, devotion and ability than did Gen. Alden; and certainly none of our more prominent heroes came home more battered and scarred by the storms of the conflict than did he who was shot down while planting the flag of his Troy regiment on the rebel works at Cold Harbor, or who, as the commander of his brigade at Fort Fisher, nearly offered up his life as a sacrifice to his country in that terrible explosion in which so many of his gallant comrades were so suddenly and mysteriously cut off. With superior ability for the Postmastership, the strictest integrity, and the record of a meritorious Christian soldier, it would indeed have been strange if the President had passed unrecognized claims like these, or if our Member of Congress, Mr. Griswold, had not endorsed by his efficient support the popular demand of the public.

Gen. Alden, as we happen to know, excels in administrative capacity – a talent all essential and important in the position to which he has been nominated. There will be no department of the Post office so minute or intricate that will be un-mastered by him; no defective detail so slight that he will not perceive and remedy it. We speak thus earnestly and confidently, because we know the man, and know to what excellent uses he will put talents that admirably qualify him for the discharge of the very important duties of the office to which he has been appointed.

The Troy Daily Times.

MAY 27, 1869.

☞ DECORATION DAY – MEETING OF VETERANS – SOME OF THE ARRANGEMENTS – MEMORIAL SERMON BY DR. BALDWIN. –

The arrangements for the observances of Decoration Day on Sunday next are being gradually perfected, and it is evident that there will be, if not a general turn-out of our civic societies, at least such a ceremonial as will evince the highest appreciation of the virtues and heroism of those who died that the Republic might live. The arrangements thus far perfected are as follows: About 9 A.M. Post McConihe G. A. R., Boshart's Zouaves and Engine Co. No. 5, preceded by Sullivan's band, will proceed from the South Troy Methodist church, and decorate in order the graves in the Sixth ward burying ground, St. Joseph's and Ida Hill cemeteries. They will then march down Congress street and unite with the other organizations to form the grand procession of the day. The line will be formed at about 1 o'clock, and in connection with Doring's and Sullivan's bands will proceed directly to Oakwood cemetery, where the decoration of the soldiers' graves will take place and also the attendant ceremonies, consisting of the reading of the scriptures by Rev. Mr. Bailey, pastor of the Universalist church, prayer by Rev. Mr. De Witt, pastor of the Park Presbyterian church, and an oration by Rev. Mr. Potter, associate rector of St. Paul's. The following organizations have signified their intention to participate in the ceremonies: Typographical Union, Stove Mounters' Union, Emmet Legion, Progressive Lyceum, Battery B, Empire State Engine Co. No. 5, Veteran Zouaves (Capt. Boshart), Post McConihe, Twenty-fourth Regiment, Police, Common Council, Brigade staff (Gen. Alden), Veterans of the War. A number of other organizations have been invited to participate but no answers have yet been received.

VETERANS' MEETING.

At the meeting of Veterans held at Fulton Market armory last evening – Major-Gen. Carr presiding – the several committees reported progress in their work, and promised a final report at the meeting on Friday evening. Gen. Alden regretted that in the general order of the Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R. designating the 30th of May as Decoration Day, provision was not made for the observance of Saturday or Monday whenever the 30th should occur on the Sabbath. Gen. A. said he did not consider the ceremony of decorating the graves of our soldiers at all improper in itself for observance on Sunday, for it should be made an occasion of deep solemnity, but he thought the effect would be to disturb church worship and Sunday school exercises, and to avoid this he made the following motion which was carried unanimously: That the President be requested to instruct commanding officers of all civil and military organizations to see that nothing is done in their respective commands that shall be inconsistent with the solemnity of the occasion or the sacredness of the day, and that the march of the procession be in common time at solemn music. Gen. A. also suggested that the firing of the half-hourly salutes be dispensed with; but this matter was left to the determination of the Marshall, Gen. Carr.

After the transaction of some other unimportant business, the meeting adjourned to Friday evening next.

A STIRRING ORDER.

Col. Steenberg, commanding the Twenty-fourth Regiment has issued the following eloquent order to his command:

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH REGIMENT, NATIONAL GUARD, S. N. Y., TROY, N. Y., May 25, 1869. – *General Orders, No. 7.* – This regiment will parade Sunday, May 30, 1869, Decoration Day, for the purpose of joining in the ceremony of decorating the graves of Union soldiers. The object for which this call is issued is one which must commend itself to every loyal, patriotic heart. The history of our country during the past few years, presents a record that will be read with admiring wonder by generations to come. Its menacing dangers, its intense struggles, its patient endurance, its marvelous sacrifices, and its glorious achievements, combine to make an epoch illustrious in all that can elevate a land. And while we pride ourselves upon this story, can we forget those whose self devotion made it possible? These sepulchered dead, from the armies of the Union, were the saviours of the Republic. They battled and died for liberty and unity. *When treason madly hurried its forces against our temple of government, they met and vanquished it in the fierce front of battle; their hands uplifted our starry banner above the smoke of the fray; their breasts gathered the bullets that were aimed at the national heart; their blood was poured forth a precious oblation for humanity; they died that America might live.* Green be the turf above their silent graves – sacred their names, in the list of our Country's only nobility. Their memory, and the memory of their deeds, is the priceless heritage of a regenerated Republic. We will transmit it to the future, with a luster that cannot dim.

Let us, then, devote one day to the grateful and solemn duty, inspired by patriotic gratitude. Let us gather with reverent emotion around their shrine of loyalty, consecrated by devotion, by suffering, and by blood. Let us strew above the graves of our fallen warriors the choicest, sweetest flowers of spring; emblematic of their own ever reviving fame. And thus while bearing them in holy remembrance, let us enkindle anew in our hearts the fires of love and devotion for the Republic, in behalf of whose cause their lives were given.

Commandants of companies, with their respective commands, will assemble fully uniformed, armed and equipped, (white gloves,) at the State armory, Sunday, May 30th.

Regimental line will be formed on River street, right on Ferry street, at 11:30 o'clock.

Field and staff will report (mounted,) to the Colonel, and non-commissioned staff, band, colors, general guides and drum corps will report to the Adjutant at the same hour.

By order of Col. GEO. T. STEENBERG.

WM. K. BARLOW, Adjutant.

MEMORIAL SERMON.

At a meeting of the members of Post McConihe G. A. R., held on Tuesday evening, Messrs. Gibbons, Woodruff and Wilkinson were appointed a committee to invite some clergyman to deliver a memorial sermon to the dead on the evening of the 30th inst. The committee accordingly extended the invitation to Rev. Dr.

Baldwin, pastor of the First Baptist church, and we are most happy to state that Dr. B. accepted the service with a willingness and gratification which mark his interest in the proceedings of the day. It will undoubtedly be a deeply interesting and eloquent discourse, and a fitting tribute to the memory of our heroic dead, as well as a most proper conclusion to the exercises of the day.

The Troy Daily Times.

MAY 29, 1869.

Decoration Day – Order of Exercises.

MY SOLDIER'S GRAVE.

Hark! Do you hear the fife and drums?
The troops are marching down this way.
How proudly the battalion comes,
With martial pomp and panoply.

They carry flowers to deck the graves
Of those we love – of those who fell
For Freedom! O'er Columbia's braves
Strew laurel and the asphodel.

My eyes are brimming o'er with tears,
As far away a grave I see,
Where lies the buried love of years,
And stranger hands strew flowers for me.

They do not know the weary pain,
They cannot feel the grateful joy,
With which I thank them o'er again
For memory of my soldier boy!

To-day I laid a fair, white rose,
Upon a grave, unclaimed, unknown.
With whispered prayer for all of those
Whose hearts are aching like my own.

Oh! ever let our banner bright,
Wave proudly o'er the daisied sod,
Where sleep the heroes in their might
Who died for Freedom and for God!

OAKLANDS, May 30.

JEANIE G –

GEN. CARR'S ORDER.

TROY, May 28, 1869. – The 30th of May, 1869, having been designated by the proper authorities as a day on which to commemorate the virtues and heroism of the men who lost their lives in defence of the Republic, the undersigned having been appointed Marshal by the Veterans of Troy, hereby promulgates the following order to be observed by all taking part in the ceremonies. He deems it unnecessary to recount the

deeds of the men whose death we mourn and whose memories we honor. They died that the Republic might live and the blessings of free government be transmitted to the farthest generations. They sacrificed not only their lives but all they counted dear that we their survivors might enjoy the fruits of the victories their valor achieved. Be it ours to enshrine their virtues and remember their deeds, in order that their example may inspire us to equal devotion and like sacrifice should the occasion ever arise in which we may be called upon to testify our love of country as they so nobly testified theirs; and to perform with reverent emotion and grateful hearts the sad but beautiful service which has been set apart for this commemorative day. Let us approach their graves with heartfelt gratitude and bedeck them with the offerings of love bespeaking our sense of the sacrifices they made for us and for all posterity. It is a pious and sanctifying act we seek to perform – one which we hope will lift us into communion with the great army of the Nation's dead, and which shall not only testify our appreciation of their heroic deeds but which shall refine and elevate us into a like conception of our duty to God and Man. In order to consummate in the purest spirit and loftiest purpose the act of devotion intended in the day's exercises, the Marshal urges upon all who take part in the services a due appreciation of the solemnity of the observance and the sacredness of the day itself; and in the confident hope that all will be inspired with a due sense of the holy character of the occasion, he announces the following

ORDER OF THE DAY.

I. In the morning Post McConihe, G. A. R., accompanied by the Veteran Zouaves, Capt. Boshart, and Sullivan's Band, will visit the following cemeteries and decorate in the usual manner the graves of our fallen heroes: Sixth Ward, St. Joseph's, Ida Hill and St. Mary's. This ceremony will be performed between 9 A.M. and 12 M., and upon its conclusion the above-named organizations will report to the Marshal at Washington Park at 1 P.M., to participate in the march to Oakwood cemetery.

II. The line will form at 1 o'clock in the following order: First division will form on Second street, right resting on Washington, and will be composed as follows: Capital Police, Capt. J. M. Landon commanding; staff of the Third division N. G. S. N. Y., mounted; Brig.-Gen. A. Alden and staff, mounted; Sullivan's Band; Progressive Lyceum, Mr. B. Starbuck Superintendent; Post McConihe G. A. R.; Veterans of the late war.

Second division will form on Washington Place, right resting on Second street, in the following order: Doring's Band; Twenty-fourth Regiment N. G. S. N. Y., Col. G. T. Steenberg, commanding; Battery B, Tenth brigade N. G. S. N. Y., Capt. I. S. Scott, commanding.

Third Division will form on Third street, right resting on Washington Place, as follows: Band; Veteran Zouaves, Capt. Boshart, commanding; German Turn-Verein Society; Empire State Engine Co. No. 5.

Fourth division, right resting on left of Third division: Twenty-fourth regiment drum corps; Emmet Legion; Moulders' Union; Typographical Union; Stove Mounters' Union; Disabled Veterans in carriages; Mayor and Common Council in carriages; Clergy of the city in carriages.

The procession will move precisely at 1½ o'clock, marching up Second street to Broadway, up Broadway to Fifth street, up Fifth to Hoosick, up Hoosick to Oakwood Cemetery, where the following exercises will take place: 1st. The decoration of the graves by Post

On motion adjourned to meet on Monday evening at eight o'clock.

COMMON COUNCIL.

This body met last evening – Mayor Beach in the chair – and the High Constable was directed to procure carriages for the accommodation of the Board, which will meet at the Common Council chamber at 1 P.M. to-morrow.

BOSHART'S ZOUAVES.

The Independent Veteran Zouaves will assemble at Fulton Market armory at 7½ o'clock A.M., leaving at 8 A.M. with Sullivan's Band for the Iron Works, where they will join with Post McConihe and Engine Co. No. 5 in the decoration ceremonies.

POST M'CONIHE.

The members of Post McConihe are requested to assemble at the old school house, Iron Works, on Sunday, May 30th, at 8 o'clock. A prompt attendance is requested.

PROGRESSIVE LYCEUM.

The Progressive Lyceum will appear in the procession on the occasion of the decoration of the soldiers' graves. The members of the Lyceum will meet at Harmony Hall at 12 o'clock to-morrow.

TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES.

The members of the temperance societies, Templars and Sons of Temperance, will meet at the Hall, No. 10 State street, at 12 o'clock to-morrow, for the purpose of participating in the decoration of the soldiers' graves.

VETERANS' MEETING.

The Veterans will meet at Rand's Concert Hall to-morrow at 11 o'clock. It is desired that every discharged soldier in the city will be present to participate in the exercises.

MOULDERS' UNION.

This body will meet to-morrow at 9 A.M. See notice in another column.

BATTERY B.

The members of Battery B are ordered to report at their armory at 11 A.M. Sunday.

MEMORIAL SERMONS.

In compliance with the invitation of the committee of the Grand Army of the Republic, a sermon in honor of our heroic dead will be preached in the First Baptist church, by Dr. Baldwin, to-morrow evening at 7½ o'clock. In consequence of this, the usual

afternoon service will be omitted, and the church appropriately decorated.

There will be no morning service or Sunday school for the Universalist church to-morrow. In the evening a discourse will be delivered by the pastor in memory of the patriot dead.

The Troy Daily Times.

MAY 31, 1869.

DECORATION DAY.

**The Weather – Exercises in the Morning – Presentation –
The Moving Processions – Exercises in the Afternoon –
Address by Rev. R. N. Potter – Strewing Flowers Over the
Graves – Memorial Sermons by Rev. Messrs. Baldwin and
Bailey – Miscellaneous.**

It is a matter of congratulation that the exercises yesterday were carried out with the solemnity and respect due the day. While as a general rule Sunday celebrations are as boisterous and noisy as those of any other day, the most bitter opponents of the proceedings yesterday must at least admit that the manner in which the memorial services were observed showed no lack of veneration either for the day or for the dead.

THE WEATHER.

The fair promise held out to those on Saturday evening anxiously watched the indications of the heavens was broken yesterday morning. The sun hid its face and seemed to be impressed with the character of the day. At about 11 o'clock a drizzling rain set in and continued at intervals during the remainder of the day. This together with the mud with which the streets were filled, rendered marching an extremely severe task to those who participated in the exercises.

PRESENTATION.

At about 10½ o'clock in the morning the larger portion of the ladies employed by Messrs. Gunnison & Stewart, presented to the veterans at Rand's Concert Hall a large and beautiful floral memorial to be placed in the "Soldiers' lot at Oakwood." The memorial consists of a large vase of flowers, surmounted by the American flag and a miniature goddess of liberty. The presentation address by Miss L. Isham was fitting and appropriate. Capt. Handy responded for the veterans in a very neat manner.

MORNING EXERCISES.

At 8 o'clock the Independent Veteran Zouaves, Capt. Boshart, and Sullivan's Band assembled at the Fulton Market armory, and, being provided with a special horse car, proceeded to the Iron Works, where they were met by Post McConihe, G. A. R., and Empire State Engine Co. No. 5. A procession was formed, with the Post in advance, followed by the Zouaves and the firemen, and immediately thereafter the organizations named commenced the march to the Iron Works Cemetery. Proceeding with slow step and mournful music from the "old school house" up Burden's road, through the beautiful wood side grounds, the cortege wended its way to this cemetery and there inaugurated the decoration ceremony. The manner of performing this act is calculated to inspire the mind with thoughts of a solemn character. A wreath of evergreens was placed so as to encircle the flag which indicated that underneath each mound reposed the mortal remains of one of the nation's dead. The first grave decorated was that of Private Thomas Plunkett, One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment, and at this place were conducted the funeral ceremonies of the Post. After the flowers – fragrant emblems of immortality – were strewn and the wreath placed in its position, Conrad Gillons read a brief but touching memorial of the heroic dead, and offered an invocation to heaven for the welfare of the living. Previous to his decease Mr. Plunkett was a member of the Post. Four members of the Post were detailed to decorate each of the other graves, after which the line was reformed and the assemblage proceeded to St. Joseph's Cemetery. The mud which "decorated" the roads rendered it impossible to preserve the line according to military ideas and usages, and therefore the men were directed to "march at will." This, together with the fact that it commenced to rain with a miserable drizzle, rendered the self-imposed task of those who constituted the procession an unenviable one indeed. Notwithstanding this, the programme was carried out and every cemetery visited. Marching up and down hills, climbing fences and crossing lots, St. Joseph's cemetery was reached, and the same order of exercises gone through with as at the Iron Works. Thence the participants proceeded up Fourth street to the red bridge, then for a short distance along the Hollow road, and then marching in the rear of several factories the old Mount Ida cemetery was reached. From here to the new cemetery was an easy route. This spot was soon reached. While here it was found that the time would not allow the main body to decorate the graves in St. Mary's cemetery, consequently it became necessary to detail a squad from Post McConihe to perform this act. The procession then marched down Congress street direct to Washington Park, and at about noon joined the grand procession with which, notwithstanding the fact that the men were fagged out, they remained all through the afternoon exercises.

EXERCISES IN THE AFTERNOON.

Punctually at 1 o'clock the various civic and military organizations which formed the procession began to assemble on each side of Washington Park. The different organizations upon their arrival at the park reported to the Marshal and took the position in the line assigned them. At about 2 o'clock, the preparations being completed, the line formed in the following order:

FIRST DIVISION.

Capital Police, under Superintendent Landon, numbering about forty veterans; Maj.-Gen. J. B. Carr, Marshal; Brig.-Gen. Alden and staff; Sullivan's Band, twenty pieces; Post McConihe, G. A. R., numbering about forty; Veterans, numbering about two hundred.

SECOND DIVISION.

Doring's Band, twenty pieces; Twenty-fourth Regiment, numbering about three hundred men; Battery B, numbering ninety-one.

THIRD DIVISION.

Band, twelve pieces; Veteran Zouaves, numbering forty; German Turn-Verein Society, numbering eighty; Empire Engine Co. No. 5, numbering thirty.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Twenty-fourth Regiment Drum Corps; Emmett Legion, numbering seventy-five; Moulders' Protective Union, numbering one hundred and fifty; Typographical Union, numbering forty; Disabled Veterans in carriages; Mayor and Common Council in carriages; Clergy in carriages.

LINE OF MARCH.

The procession marched up Second street to Broadway, up Broadway to Fifth, up Fifth to the Oakwood cemetery. On the route thereto, the bands played solemn and impressive music as the long procession marched quietly to the city of the dead, where it arrived at about 3 o'clock.

AT OAKWOOD.

The exercises were held immediately adjacent to the soldiers' lot, where a large platform had been erected. Gens. Carr and Alden and their staffs, together with Rev. E. N. Potter, associate pastor of St. Paul's church, and Rev. A. De Witt, pastor of the Park Presbyterian church, occupied the platform. While the members of Post McConihe were decorating the graves of their former comrades, the services were held. A solemn dirge was performed by Doring's Band, and on account of the absence of Rev. J. M. Bailey, Rev. Mr. Potter read the second chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews, after which he delivered a touching and eloquent oration. The following is a sketch of the reverend gentleman's remarks:

After remarking that the weather admonished brevity, and that the memorial sermon of the evening forbade the mention of the many honored names that were present, to the thoughts of those assembled such names as that of Col. Willard – whose first laurels were won in the Mexican war – and who falling at Gettysburg, has won that highest encomium – "The Model Soldier" – names of other officers and private soldiers who bore the brunt of battles, and carried forward the flag to victories – the name of one private soldier had been omitted in the printed lists – Louis E. Tator – a brave and honorable boy, a good soldier, who, wounded at Fort Donaldson, refused to leave the field until another shot totally incapacitated him for service. These names and many more we must not dwell upon. [They fell fighting for that flag which symbolizes unity, liberty, nationality – that flag whose name was the last word upon the brave McConihe's lips who fell in the fatal charge urging on his men, with the cry, "Rally boys, rally round the flag!"](#) These flowers, born from the long toll and labor of the earth, are symbols both of life's lesson, of the truth seen in the chapter we have read (the second of St. Paul's epistle to the Hebrews) and of the national history of these eventful years embodied in those words of inspiration, "perfect through sufferings." The conception of a being who is perfect, and yet has not known suffering, is entirely outside the sphere of human experience; as men we know of no perfection save that painfully attained. Our first parents in Eden, though sinless, were not yet perfected. The child, as it lies sinless in its mother's arms, is not yet perfect. A ripe and well-developed Christian maturity must have been attained before arriving at the stature of perfect manhood in Christ Jesus. Sinless-ness is freedom from fault. Perfection is a completed development. The one is the white seed – the other is the living plant, the blooming flower. The germ may have been without fault, but perfection is reached when all that lay potentially within it is actually and faultlessly embodied. There is no perfection in national life, as in individual life, except through suffering. Other influences may tend to the same end. God's smile and our own unclouded happiness may give completeness and rounded outline to character, but without some measure of suffering, perfection is impossible. This fact is patent to all who look thoughtfully about them. We know by observation that individuals suffer; but ponder the experience of nations. Does history tell of one that has not been led into the school of suffering? Famine and pestilence, foreign war and intestine feuds, these seem inseparable from national life. Nature even sympathizes with man. The law that governs the human soul and which holds its sway of animal life rules equally over inanimate nature. Was ever a plant perfected that had not felt the influence of cloud as well as sunshine? Did the oak grow sturdy in calm? Or the mighty palm build up its strength in unruffled quiet? Is the air purified by being motionless – or the water of the ocean by stagnation? No; the cloud must obscure the sun – lightning must flash along the angry front of heaven – the rain must fall – the storm must rage and the ocean hurl its billows landward in unbridled fury; nature must forsake repose and know darkness and tempest, and fire and cold; and the war of all the elements, before its myriad forms, may perfect themselves in health, and strength, and beauty. We know, saith St. Paul, "that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now." Yes, even until to-day, waiting for redemption's finished work.

Voices from these graves are speaking to living comrades; pale hands are pointing backwards eighteen hundred years to where the greatest sufferer hangs upon the cross in agony, a martyr for human freedom from the thralldom of sin, the only Redeemer and Savior of our race. Veteran soldiers, are you following the greatest Captain of all the ages, are you living worthily to-day in view of all the pledges and experiences of the past, of all the anticipations and vicissitudes of the future? Have you enlisted under the banner of Christ? Are you doing good service in His battle against corruptions and wrong? Are you fighting manfully against sin, the world and the devil? The Savior from the Cross entreats you, these graves admonish you, as God's minister I implore you, and there comes to us to-day the Master's word of warning and of promise, "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee the crown of life."

We have strewn flowers upon these graves. They inspire faith that all great principles will last, and out of seeming death – will bloom in life. These flowers are flowers of hope, for they are emblems of the resurrection, and speak of him who stood beside the grave of Lazarus and bade the dead come forth to life. These flowers are emblems of charity, of love for these loyal lost ones, of "charity towards all" – these flowers covering with their wide mantle of charity all the graves this fratricidal war has made in all the land.

Beside these flower-strewn graves is standing "Christus Consolator" – Christ the consoling Savior. We may imagine that He is present at each soldier's grave here, and at the far off "unknown graves" of the yet-remembered dead. While the land rejoices in its victory, there are hearts that bleed anew to-day – there are sorrows that will last through life's long, weary hours. May Christ, the comforter, console those whose light has gone out, and whose best hope lies buried in a soldier's grave. Yes, by the power of the Holy Ghost, the Comforter. He will console you. In every grave, in every grief, we are told that there is gain. From out of the gulf and grave of war may there come for all this land the unfading flowers of unity, of peace, of union "now and forever."

Half-mast the flag! Let the bell sound out its solemn call to prayer! Let the long procession go, with serious steps and slow! Let the dirge sound out the unspoken, the unutterable thoughts and emotions of the hour; and let the benediction of the Lord rest upon our waking hearts!

In the growing solitude and twilight we leave our dead alone with God, while flowers, the mute but unfailing prophets of the resurrection, rest upon their honored graves!

At the conclusion of his address Mr. Potter recited the Lord's Prayer. A dirge was played by Sullivan's Band, and the exercises concluded with a benediction pronounced by Rev. Mr. De Witt.

DECORATING THE GRAVES.

The members of Post McConihe were, during these exercises, scattered in various parts of the grounds searching out every grave on which was planted a flag. These small monitors served as guides to point out the graves of the dead veterans, and so far as could be ascertained not one was passed over. The supply of flowers was sufficient to carry out the original programme. The grave of Col. McConihe was beautifully and tastefully

ornamented. A large wreath with the inscription, "Col. John" was laid on the tomb, and odorous and bright colored flowers profusely scattered over and around the mound which is raised over the remains of the dead hero.

At a large number of the graves the relatives and friends of those there interred were present, and as the tokens of remembrance were scattered over their remains, several were so affected that they could not conceal their emotions, and down the cheeks of many mothers, sisters and widows coursed scalding tears, as standing by the silent tombs of their loved ones, memory called up sweet visions of happy days forever gone. All seemed gratified that the people of Troy showed by their acts that they had not forgotten these dead "boys in blue," that they kept their memories green, and that on this gloomy day – fitting for such a task – they had strewn the spotless rose, the pure violet and the perfumed geranium and the variegated tulip over their sepulchres. After decorating each grave with the perishing emblems of that life which is eternal, the cortege returned from its mournful task by the following

ROUTE.

Down Vail avenue to Vanderheyden street, down Vanderheyden to North Second, down North Second to King, down King to River, down River to Third, down Third to Ferry, down Ferry to Second, up Second to the Court House, where the column was dismissed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The organizations which marched in the morning through the Iron Works Cemetery and those on Ida Hill deserve special mention for the manner in which they did the parts assigned to them. They marched in all about sixteen miles, which may be taken as a pretty fair indication of their right to the name "Veterans." The Zouaves left their armory at 8 A.M., and from that hour until six were almost continuously on the march.

The members of Post McConihe, previous to leaving their headquarters, were each supplied with a wreath, and as they reached the various burying grounds one was left on each grave.

The members of the Progressive Lyceum appeared in their places in line, but after having marched through several streets, on account of the rain it was deemed necessary to withdraw the children from the column.

The members of the temperance societies, to the number of seventy-five, assembled at their hall and decided not to turn out in the rain.

The Turn-Verein society presented a neat appearance. Each member carried a neat bouquet, which was deposited on some grave in the "soldiers' lot." The bouquets were presented by the Sister Turn-Verein, a ladies' organization.

The dirge performed at Oakwood by Sullivan's Band was the "Immortality" composed by Prof. Thomas J. Guy, and dedicated to the memory of the late James S. Snow.

The veterans bore with them the colors of the old Second Regiment, and also those of the Griswold Cavalry.

Five wagons carried the flowers intended for the decoration of the graves. An abundant supply was received during Saturday afternoon and evening at W. H. Young & Blake's.

The veterans turned out in large numbers. They were commanded by Maj. Wm. McConihe, assisted by Capt. Donald Gillies, sr., Capt. Lee Churchill, and Lieut. Walter Douglas.

We are requested to tender the thanks of the marking committee to Superintendent Ferguson of Oakwood for the pains which he took to lighten the labors of this committee. He furnished every facility within his power, and materially aided the committee in finding the graves of the deceased soldiers. The same may be said of all others connected with the different cemeteries.

Church Services in the Evening.

SERMON BY REV. DR. BALDWIN.

The spacious Third street Baptist church was crowded by the veterans and their friends to listen to the memorial sermon which the Rev. Dr. Baldwin had been invited to deliver by Post McConihe. The members of the Post were present in a body. The church was beautifully draped with flags of various sizes and emblems of mourning. Over the pulpit was suspended a large flag intertwined with whose folds were stripes of mourning; underneath this was hung a fine portrait of our martyr President. The gallery fronts were draped with the sable tokens and the gas-brackets had fastened to them miniature flags. The music was of a fine character. The dirge "Lay them low," was sung by Prof. Wood and the choir in a manner that elicited praise from all who heard it. The organ was in charge of J. H. Huntington, and it is enough to say of his management of that instrument that he performed his duty in a manner equal to that with which the choir discharged theirs. The sermon by Dr. Baldwin was a chaste, eloquent tribute both to the gallant dead and their brothers who survive them. We append a full report of the beautiful address:

"Honor to whom honor." – *Romans 13; 7.*

The 30th of May is hereafter to be a memorable day in the circling years of our national history. It has been made such by the spontaneous impulse of Patriotism, which has designated it as the time when the graves of our heroic dead shall be decorated with flowers – those beautiful outwrought thoughts of God – living messengers of the tender love of their patriot comrades who survive them, and the permanent gratitude of the country they died to save.

That beautiful, appropriate, expressive service has been accomplished to-day. Amid the gloom of this night all over these sacred graves, bright colors, dyed by God Himself, are sparkling; on the night air around and over them perfume, such as God can only create, is floating.

These precious sleeping places of manly forms, which, throbbing with life, had stood out on the lonely and dangerous picket lines, amid starshine and storm; endured all the hardships of the camp and the weary march; faced the foe on deadly battlefields – until themselves wounded, killed, or starved to death – their last long resting places, have been thus newly honored, newly consecrated to-day.

At the request of the "Post of the Grand Army of the Republic" located in this city, on this holy Sabbath evening, we are gathered within this sanctuary to perform, in another way, a similar memorial service, in honor of our departed heroes. I may be pardoned for saying that this service is specially welcome in this house, for from within these walls, from the church congregation and Sabbath school belonging here, seventy-five young men went forth as soldiers of the Army of Liberty, some of whom never came back, some were brought back lifeless corpses. Parents who worship here yet wear the habiliments of mourning for beloved sons; while soldiers' funerals have been a frequent service here.

I feel myself greatly honored by the invitation to conduct these solemnities according to the dictates of my own judgment; and have concluded that in no way could I as highly honor the memory of our fallen braves as by speaking of some of the "Results of the War in which They Fought and Died." Volumes could not exhaust this theme. All you will expect of me, therefore, on this occasion will be the briefest outline of the more prominent of these results.

I. The late war determined the character of our nationality. It had never been absolutely determined before. Our fathers wisely agreed to accept events as they unfolded themselves in the providence of God, and did not attempt in the beginning to bring up the country to their own ideal. In the Declaration of Independence they merely intimated and affirmed their conception of the genius and spirit of a right government. As colonies they had combined simply to secure to each and all the right to govern themselves. After their independence the next question was as to the *kind of compact* by which they should be associated. That compact was finally agreed upon in the "Articles of Confederation," and they became known as "the *United States of America*."

A few years, however, demonstrated that these Articles were too loose, indefinite and inefficient to form a basis for permanent nationality. They left each state the right to secede, withdraw from the others, and gave no power to enforce obedience to the general government.

Subsequently this difficulty was met by the adoption of our Constitution, whose object was thus announced: "We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, do ordain and establish this Constitution." But ever since, two opposing forces, like a centrifugal and centripetal in nature, have been at work in adjusting the relation of the States to the Central Government. Hence has arisen – and always would have, save for the late war – embarrassments, vexations and strife between these antagonistic elements. The one bearing the popular title of "state rights," the other jealous of the power of the Central Government, took issue at last on the question of the right of power of a State to withdraw at its pleasure from the Union.

That momentous question was settled, *forever settled*, by the late conflict. The war demonstrated that "The United States" are not a loose collection of independencies, but a Nation, "indissoluble by secession, indestructible by assault." That demonstration disappointed the foes of

freedom in all the world. It showed to the tyrants of Europe, and all the enemies of liberty, our nationality established upon the rock of organic, constitutional unity; and defended by hundreds of thousands of the bravest of the brave – ready to fight and die to maintain it. And who shall tell, what imagination conceive the value of this result – to ourselves, to our children, to unborn generations, to the world!

Verily this war gave its final and permanent interpretation to our national motto, "*E Pluribus Unum*," out of many *one* – one nationality, indissoluble; one nationality covering North, South, East and West. Before 1860 it was common for persons to boast that they were citizens of some particular State; now and hereafter the proudest boast of every American, belong to what State he may, shall be: "I am a citizen of the United States; its flag of stars in my banner, my protection, my glory."

II. The practicality of Republicanism has been demonstrated by the war. The structure of our government is complex. It is not simple democracy, nor oligarchy; but a compound of these conflicting elements; and that we call Republicanism. It is a democracy, because every citizen has the right to vote in the election of officers and the determination of politics. It is an oligarchy, because the people are bound to obey the constitutional enactments of their chosen rulers.

Such a government was an experiment which had never been thoroughly tried. History shows us Democracies destroying themselves; failures of attempts to make Republics successful. The Monarchists of Europe both hoped and predicted the failure of our experiment. In our own land there have always been some who have feared for the result. Some of our truest patriots have gone to their graves fearing lest our government and people might not be adequate to the great exigencies to which all nationalities are subject. Therefore you all remember the efforts made in the rising conflict between supporters of the national government and the advocates of State rights – to "preserve the Union." You remember the arrogant demands, accompanied by threats of secession and rebellion, on the one hand, and the concessions and compromises on the other, in order to "preserve the Union."

All this was confession of weakness, and looked like the precursor of ruin. Freedom of speech, and freedom of the press, and freedom of actions were largely sacrificed – to "save the Union." But these concessions, instead of satisfying the slave aristocracy, only made them more imperious and exacting, until, having all things ready, they rebelled against the government and dared to fire against the grand old flag under which their own fathers had fought side-by-side with ours.

Ah! solemn, awful hour! Who of us can ever forget it! Long-dreaded, portentous for the trial of Republicanism! In it all the foes of liberty saw the realization of their hopes and prophecies. Tyrants rejoiced. Funereal sadness settled down all over our land.

But with our people, that state of mind was only temporary. One grand thought soon stood directly before them. It was this: *The fundamental idea of Government is Law – Law promulgated – Law enforced*; and then party bonds burst asunder, differing sects forgot their differences, and all classes of our people resolved that Law having been violated, it should – *cost what it might* – it should be enforced, the authority of the government should be maintained! And lo! from quiet homes, from work shops, from farms, from stores, from offices, from pulpits – at the call of Father Abraham – who had proclaimed to the world these immortal words – "I have taken an oath which is recorded in Heaven to support the Constitution and the Law" – citizens sprang

forth armed and marched to put down the rebellion. And they succeeded. Government was sustained. Law triumphed; and thus was given to the world the demonstration of the power of a Republic to meet the most fearful national exigency, and sustain itself triumphantly against intestine foes as well as foreign enemies!

And one such demonstration developing the latent patriotism of our people, the prodigious resources of our country, the heroic valor of our citizen soldiery, has not only been sufficient to prove the practicality of Republicanism but effectually discourage and dishearten for a century to come all the lurking elements of rebellion at home, and give majestic influence to our nation abroad.

III. Another result of the war was Emancipation. It has ever been our boast that ours was "the land of the free, and the home of the brave," but it was never true, until the end of the conflict, in which those whom we honor to-night, gave up their lives to God. Nay there were 40,000,000 of human beings "in this land of the free," wearing the galling bonds of a heaven-defying, humanity-disgracing slavery. This was our shame, our guilt.

But, I would have my young countrymen understand the history of the relation of our fathers to this institution – men forever dead – slain by the sturdy blows of our cherished warriors.

1. It was introduced by the British into this country when our people were colonies.

2. When slaves were first brought here, so indignant were our colonial fathers, that they fitted out a vessel at their own expense and sent them back to their own land.

3. Our fathers passed a law making man-stealing a felony, without benefit of the clergy; but this law was disapproved by Great Britain, and they were compelled to allow cargoes of slaves to be landed and sold on our shores.

4. As soon as our people became independent, they began the abolition of slavery.

5. In 1788, when all other nations were fostering the slave trade, they commenced measures for its suppression.

6. Just as the principles avowed in their "Declaration of Independence" have spread, slavery disappeared.

But despite all this, nourished by cupidity, it grew – struck its black roots deeper and deeper; spread its black branches wider and wider – desolating everything beneath the influence of its black shadows.

Wesley had called it the "sum of all villainies." Jefferson has said, "God has no attribute which sides with slavery. I tremble for my country when I remember that God is just." In 1791 Dr. Buchanan, himself a slaveholder proclaimed in Baltimore, "that slavery must eventually subvert the springs of government."

But though deplored by all real patriots, none could see how it could be removed. It was walled around by States' rights; protected by the General Government. It had reunited unto all departments of secular, social, business, political and religious life. What could be done with it? We knew not what. *God did. Yes, the God of our fathers, the God of liberty did.* He suffered slavery to place itself beyond the protection of the Government by assuming the attitude of treason – damnable treason – aiming blows with armed hands against the Constitution – against the very heart of freedom – against the unity of the Republic – and lo it came to pass that in order to save the nation we had to kill slavery, and our brave boys in blue did it – and all the loyal people cried, "*Well done; die a traitor's death, thou enemy of God and man,*

disgrace of our land, foe of free labor, corrupter of our politics and our religion, everlasting disturber of our peace, infernal breeder of rebellion and secession, murderer of our noble braves, barrier in the way of all progress, die, and be buried so deep that the hand of resurrection power may never reach thee." And now, thanks to Almighty God, thanks to a loyal President and Congress, and thanks to our soldiers living and dead, this is a free country – humanity is emancipated from the lakes to the gulf – from ocean to ocean – over all the broad shield of universal liberty is thrown.

It is an historic fact, and there seems beautiful appropriateness in it, that, while the custom of strewing flowers on soldiers' graves originated at the South, the first graves thus honored were those of Union soldiers; and the first that did it were 3,000 negro children and nearly 1,000 colored adults, led by Redpath the philanthropist, who strewed flowers on the graves of Union heroes, who had perished in Charleston and been thrown into pits on the race-course! It was a sublime sight, when the newly freed people, enjoying their first holiday after the fall of Charleston, marched through the main streets singing as only they could sing it,

*John Brown's body lies mouldering in the grave,
but his soul is marching on.*

And gathering around the graves of our brothers, who had died to free them, tenderly decorated them with flowers.

There, most appropriately began the significant custom, which will go down to the ages.

Finally, but on this I cannot dwell, this war had *results which reach beyond our own country*. It constituted an era in the progressive civilization of the world. The thunder of its cannon was the knell of dead issues at home, and the shouts of our victories were the herald of "the coming of the Lord" in the assertion of the rights of humanity abroad.

Sadowa glorious in the overthrow of ancient abuses; the uprising of the people in Italy; the overthrow of Bourbonism in Spain; the agitations in Great Britain; the disestablishment of the state church in Ireland; the revolution in Cuba – fair Queen of the Antillas – heaven prosper it, all these and similar results stand related to the freedom in America, achieved by the loyalty of the people and the sublime heroism of our soldiers!

Thus, friends, I have briefly indicated the more prominent results of the late war, and these shall constitute the imperishable monument of our fallen brothers which shall last when flowers strewn on their grave are all withered – yes, when marble and even granite columns erected to perpetuate their memory shall have crumbled. Oh! what an army of them have fallen. Two hundred and forty thousand lie in national graveyards – thousands more in private cemeteries! But while we honor all, can we forget that one grave out on the Western prairie! *His* grave! The good, kind, honest President; whom rebellion in its death agony slew – over whose untimely coffin twenty millions wept! Never – never – while memory lasts,

*Twine gratitude a wreath for him,
more fadeless than diadem.*

We have done what we could to honor our patriot dead, by act and word to-day. But, oh! soldiers, citizens, a still-higher duty is ours. They died – ah me! How some of them died – *starved* to death -

mangled to death – *abused* to death – but, God has permitted us to live for our country. Let us cherish the principles for which they were sacrificed. Let us never forget that "Righteousness exalteth a nation, while sin is a reproach to any people." Let us keep in mind that the foundations of our Republic are laid in the intelligence, virtue and piety of its citizens. Let the sublime principles of the Bible, and the sacred teachings of His Christianity who died for a world, be the guide of our manhood; and then shall we convey on to still higher places of progress our beloved nationality.

Let us love our country, our whole country. Let us cherish with increased tenderness the flag, the symbol of our Republic. How those we mourn loved it!

One of them, Capt. Perry, mortally wounded at Fredericksburgh in the heat of battle, said, "Boys, I am shot, don't wait for me; but just open the folds of the old flag, let me see it once more." They did so, and catching it in his stiffening hand, he pressed it to his lips and died.

The bravest men, the sternest foes in war, are best friends when the fight is over. So let it be with us and our Southern people.

The New York *Tribune* stated that the women of Columbus, Miss., animated by nobler sentiments than many of their sisters, showed themselves impartial in their offerings to the memory of the dead, and strewed flowers alike on the graves of National and Confederate dead; and one of our young poets has thus immortalized the dead:

THE BLUE AND THE GRAY.

By the flow of the inland river,
Whence the fleets of iron have fled;
Where the blades of the grave-grass quiver,
Asleep are the ranks of the dead;
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment day; –
Under the one, the Blue;
Under the other, the Gray.

These in the robings of glory,
Those in the gloom of defeat;
All with the battle-blood gory,
In the dusk of eternity meet;
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment day; –
Under the laurel, the Blue;
Under the willow, the Gray.

From the silence of sorrowful hours,
The desolate mourners go;
Lovingly laden with flowers,
Alike for the friend and the foe;
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgement day; –
Under the roses, the Blue;
Under the lilies, the Gray.

So with an equal splendor,
The morning sun rays fall;
With a touch impartially tender,
On the blossoms blooming for all;
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment day; –
Brodered with gold, the Blue;
Mellowed with gold, the Gray.

So, when the Summer calleth,
On forest and field of grain;
With an equal murmur falleth,
The cooling drip of the rain;
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment day; –
Wet with the rain, the Blue;
Wet with the rain, the Gray.

Sadly, but not with upbraiding,
The generous deed was done;
In the storm of the years that are fading,
No braver battle was won;
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment day; –
Under the blossoms, the Blue;
Under the garlands, the Gray.

No more shall the war cry sever,
Or the winding rivers be red;
They banish our anger forever,
When they laurel the graves of our dead!
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment day; –
Love and tears for the Blue;
Tears and love for the Gray.

UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.

At this church, Rev. J. M. Bailey preached a sermon in commemoration of our dead heroes. As this sermon was a beautiful and fitting tribute to the dead, and as the overcrowded state of our columns delays us from publishing it to-day, we shall endeavor to find room for it in full hereafter. We take this course because any synopsis would convey but a faint idea of this very eloquent production.

OTHER PLACES.

The day was observed in a fitting manner in Lansingburgh – the programme heretofore published being carried out.

Post Lyon G. A. R. of Cohoes, assisted by the citizens of that city, decorated the soldiers' graves on Saturday afternoon. Business was generally suspended.

The Troy Daily Times.

MAY 31, 1875.

DECORATION DAY.

**How it was Celebrated in this City – Oration at Oakwood –
Sermon by Rev. Dr. Webber – A Beautiful Memorial
Observance in City Churches.**

Decoration Day was appropriately observed in this city yesterday by the members of Posts Willard and McConihe. The rain on Saturday night cooled the atmosphere, and a pleasant breeze was blowing all day. Four wagon loads of elegant flowers were distributed. At 8 o'clock A.M. details from the Posts were sent out, and decorated the graves of the fallen heroes.

IN THE MORNING

one hundred and eighty-seven graves were decorated, as follows: Mt. Ida cemetery, 67 graves, including two of veterans of 1812; new Mt. Ida cemetery, 33 graves; St. Mary's, 34 graves; St. Joseph's, 17 graves; old Troy burying ground, 14 graves, including 4 of veterans of 1812; Iron Works cemetery, 12 graves, and St. Peter's cemetery, 10 graves. At 1 o'clock P.M. the members of Posts Willard and McConihe assembled at Col. Egolf's, and headed by the drum corps of the Second Battalion, decorated one hundred and twenty-three graves in Oakwood cemetery, including those of Cols. Willard and McConihe, and three of veterans of 1812. The first visited were the graves of

THE UNKNOWN DEAD,

where, after the usual services, Comrade C. L. MacArthur made remarks that were brief because of the great amount of work that had to be done. He alluded to the duties of the American soldier to cherish a spirit of patriotism and to pay tributes of respect to the memory of fallen comrades. He spoke of the vast extent of territory in the Union, and the sore trials of the brave men who participated in the late war. "If," said he, "these services had not been rewarded in this world, they had secured a fitting recompense in Heaven." He was pleased to see that in some of the Southern States the Federals and Confederates had united in the observance of Decoration Day. The decoration of graves was not to revive feelings of animosity, but to pay proper respect to the fallen dead and revive the spirit of patriotism in every true American. The Colonel concluded his remarks, which were eagerly listened to, by reading the following beautiful poem, which he thought was appropriate to the occasion. It is named

THE GEORGIA VOLUNTEER.

Far up the lonely mountain side
My wandering footsteps led;
The moss lay thick beneath my feet,
The pine sighed overhead.
The trace of a dismantled fort
Lay in the forest nave,
And in the shadow near my path
I saw a soldier's grave.
The bramble wrestled with the weed

Upon the lowly mound,
The simple head-board, rudely writ,
Had rotted to the ground;
I raised it with a reverent hand,
From dust its words to clear;
But time had blotted all but these:
"A Georgia Volunteer!"

I saw the toad and scaly snake
From tangled coverts start,
And hide themselves among the weeds
Above the dead man's heart.
But undisturbed, in sleep profound.
Unheeding there he lay –
His coffin but the mountain soil,
His shroud Confederate gray.

I heard the Shenandoah roll
Along the vale below –
I saw the Alleghenies rise
Toward the realms of snow –
The valley campaign rose to mind
Its leader's name – and then,
I knew the sleeper had been one
Of Stonewall Jackson's men.

Yet whence he came, what lips shall say?
What tongue will ever tell
What desolated hearths and hearts
Have been because he fell?
What sad-eyed maiden braids her hair,
Her hair which he held dear?
One lock of which perhaps lies with
The Georgia Volunteer.

What mother with long watching eyes,
And white lips cold and dumb,
Waits with appalling patience for
Her darling boy to come?
Her boy! whose mountain grave swells up,
But one of many a scar
Cut on the face of our fair land
By gory handed war!

What fights he fought, what wounds he bore,
Are all unknown to fame,
Remember, on his lonely grave,
There is not e'en a name!
That he fought well, and bravely too,
And held his country dear,
We know – else he had never been
A Georgia Volunteer!

He sleeps – what need to question now
If he were wrong or right?
He knows ere this whose cause is just
In God, the Father's sight.
He wields no warlike weapons now,
Returns no foeman's thrust –

Who but a coward would revile
An honest soldier's dust?
Roll, Shenandoah, proudly roll
Adown the rocky glen;
Above these lies the grave of one
Of Stonewall Jackson's men!
Beneath the cedar and the pine,
In solitude austere,
Unknown, unnamed, forgotten lies,
A Georgia Volunteer!

THE GRAVES OF HONORED CHIEFTAINS.

The Posts then moved to the grave of Col. McConihe, which was elegantly and tastefully decorated with flags and flowers, where the usual G. A. R. services were held. No oration was delivered. Col. G. L. Willard's grave was then visited, and after the customary services Comrade E. L. Cole, in a few appropriate remarks, alluded to the bravery of Col. Willard, and spoke of his death and burial upon the battle field. He considered it a burning shame that the graves of so many distinguished soldiers in all parts of the country were entirely uncared for. Two heroes, Gens. Wool and Thomas, are buried in this cemetery. It was shameful that a large city like Troy should leave the work of decorating their tombs to so few. Out of twenty thousand soldiers in the county of Rensselaer, only one hundred and fifty could be obtained to honor the dead. He believed the American Republic was ungrateful. England, Switzerland and other countries paid every respect to dead heroes, but in America even the locality of the grave of the hero of Bemis Heights is unknown.

INCIDENTS.

Details were then sent out and the soldiers' graves in the cemetery were decorated, and the Posts returned home, after having been entertained at Major Quinn's residence on Oakwood avenue. A large number of persons were refused admittance to the cemetery, not having tickets. We were at first constrained to think this action of the management entirely unnecessary, but when we saw the crowd in the cemetery continually crossing the grass plats to save a few steps by way of the gravel walks, we did not blame the managers for refusing admittance to everybody; nevertheless they should have announced that no one not having tickets would be admitted, and many worthy people who repaired to the cemetery would have obtained them in time. The Posts reassembled at 7:30 P.M., and marched in a body to the First Presbyterian church, for the purpose of hearing

THE MEMORIAL SERMON.

The church was suitably decorated for the occasion. The edifice was crowded. The singing in the choir was very fine. Rev. Dr. Webber preached an eloquent sermon, taking for his

text a portion of the 137th Psalm: "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem," etc. He said:

The quotation is a passionate outburst of patriotic feeling during the exile of the Jews. The presence of the representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic recalls many scenes of days gone by. Fourteen years ago the prayer "God save the State," met a hearty response. It is just as appropriate now to welcome soldiers as it was to welcome volunteers in those days. We meet here not only to honor the illustrious dead, but also the heroic living who were spared by a kind Providence. The object of Decoration Day is two-fold. First, to gratefully remember those who perished in the war, and by whose sacrifice the country was saved; and secondly, to nourish in the hearts of the living a true spirit of loyalty and devotion to the country's cause. A man who does not love his country is less than a man. When everything progresses quietly we do not feel the love we have for the State, but let rebellion show its hideous head and every patriotic heart will assert itself. The speaker then pictured the prevailing feeling upon receiving the news of the firing upon Fort Sumter. Inside of twenty-four hours after the call for troops, New York and Massachusetts were on the march.

PATRIOTISM SLUMBERS IN TIMES OF PEACE,

but it is an element of true greatness. It is the cohesive power of nations, and binds individuals in the body politic into a firmer body. An attempt was once made by a party of fanatics to break down nationalities and establish cosmopolitanism. They termed themselves "universals." Some of them experimented in France, and suffered death on the guillotine for their temerity. The secessionists underestimated the strength of the national spirit. They forgot that Americans were proud of their country and their flag; those who did not care about slavery one way or the other cared for the continuation of the Republic. Two dangers threaten the perpetuity of the Union – the extent of territory and the sentiment of races. The latter are terribly antagonistic to one another. Nothing but a vigorous patriotism can avert impending dangers. During the late war, men of all nationalities fought side-by-side, but they were all American citizens. This spirit must be maintained. The power of historic memories in perpetuating this spirit of patriotism is invaluable, and happy is the nation that can keep the spirit alive. This year a number of

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS

are being held to revive historic memories and pay tribute to the heroic dead. The men engaged in the late civil war were quite as heroic as those of revolutionary fame. The latter won liberty and the former saved it when treason held its dagger pointed at its heart. The heroes of the Revolution won independence, and the others preserved and purified it. The only spot that ever tarnished the stars and stripes was washed out in the blood of those whose graves were decorated to-day. The speaker concluded by saying that the decoration of graves was an ancient custom. Twenty-five hundred years ago Pericles pronounced orations in democratic Athens over the bones of citizens who had fallen in battle, and the custom was observed annually. The speaker requested his hearers to cherish the spirit of patriotism, and to instill it into the memories of their children.

The sermon was an able effort, and was listened to with marked attention, the speaker illustrating many of his remarks with appropriate incidents. The services were included by the singing in an enthusiastic manner of "My country, 'tis of thee," and Rev. Dr. Webber pronounced the benediction.

A BEAUTIFUL MEMORIAL.

At the conclusion of the services a beautiful memorial tablet, made by Miss A. E. Ishman, was unveiled. The splendid workmanship was admired by the large number who inspected it. The tablet is three feet high, made of wax and surmounted by an eagle. Six columns enclose a monument draped with the stars and stripes. On the sides of the tablet are memorials to Gen. Wool, Gen. Thomas, President Lincoln and the Union soldiers. The tablet is a magnificent work of art, and is to be presented, we understand, to Post G. L. Willard.

IN THE CHURCHES.

The request of the G. A. R. that the clergy of this city would commemorate Decoration Day by appropriate services or by sermons, was generally heeded, and some stirring and eloquent addresses were delivered.

FIFTH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH.

Dr. Sheldon of the Fifth street Baptist church preached an excellent memorial discourse relative to the dead soldiers yesterday morning. His text was, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." He showed that the sacrifice our loyal dead made was the last and utter one in their power. It was voluntary, for the Union Army was preëminently a volunteer force. No conscription, as in Europe, filled the ranks. The nature of the work they accomplished was then vividly traced, all showing the transcendent nature of the soldiers' gift to their country and to us. Yet they laid down their lives for their friends. One, even Christ, once performed a still greater sacrifice for all. He laid down from life for his enemies.

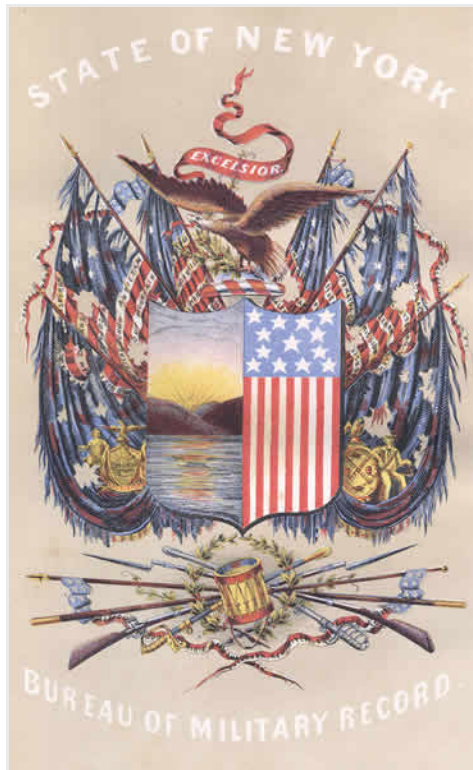
Rev. Mr. Meredith preached last evening from 2^d Samuel, 1:27: "How are the mighty fallen." In his introduction he referred to the relations existing between Saul and David and Jonathan, and then proceeded to draw analogies between them and those who fought in the late civil war. He referred to the sacrifices they made in parting from near relatives and intimate friends, and paid a very appreciative tribute to their memory. He preached without notes, and was listened to by quite a large congregation, in consideration of the fact that many had joined the several Posts in their services at the First Presbyterian church. Mr. Meredith expressed himself as deeply grieved that the decoration in Troy had not been attended to on Saturday or served for Monday, and that the recognition on the Sabbath of the day had not been confined wholly to the services in the churches.

STATE STREET METHODIST CHURCH.

Rev. Mr. Kimball delivered an address last evening appropriate to Decoration Day. The prayers and hymns were in consonance with his theme, and the services closed with "America." The address dwelt upon the memories of the dead, the lessons of patriotism and warfare that the conflict taught, and closed with a stirring apostrophe to Lincoln as the savior of our country. Mr. Kimball has rarely delivered a more eloquent pulpit effort than that of last evening.

DECORATION DAY AMONG THE GERMANS.

Decoration Day was observed in fine style at the German Methodist church, 43 State street. The altar was very nicely decorated. Rev. Mr. Moelling preached from 1 Sam. 11:13: "And Saul said, there shall not a man be put to death this day: for to-day the Lord hath wrought salvation in Israel." The speaker took his audience back to the beginning and to the end of the war. He drew a finely pictured parallel between the Israel of old and our country. *Our loved and fallen heroes sleep and "rest from their labors," many of them in distant southern graves, where the flowers never wither over their dust, but the banners under which they fought and fell are piously preserved in a special hall at the capital of this State.*



New York Bureau of Military Record



Capitol Flag Room (1900)

Here followed another comparison to the welfare of the soldier of the Cross. Then followed a picture of the United States as portrayed in Revelation 12: "A woman clothed with the sun,"

etc., which the preacher endeavored to show represented the thirteen original States, and verse 3: "A great red dragon, and his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth." This was portrayed as the Southern Confederacy and late slave-holding aristocracy. The speaker said he felt sorry that there is still a class of people who would rejoice to be able to continue to cut off Southern necks; that the carpet-bagger was nothing new in history. Salmanasser, the king of Assyria, carpet-bagged Samaria and Israel with the refuse of his people (2^d Kings, 17:24). Felix, the freedman of Claudius, was the grand Cyclops of the clan in down-trodden Asia Minor. History repeats itself to the end. Neither we nor Germany enjoys to this day the fruits of a most glorious victory. It is because we have forgotten the dying words of the martyred Lincoln: "With malice to none, with charity for all." This is what Saul meant after his return from the battle against the Ammonites. This is what Christ meant, when he ordained that the proclaiming of the gospel of peace should commence at Jerusalem among his crucifiers. After the sermon the choir sang a new and most touching piece: "The Watch-night on the Battle-field," which, by request, was repeated in the evening, at the Sunday school concert, when a very large audience again gathered. Twelve children spoke pieces and the school sang delightfully. Among the more prominent pieces were, "Secret Prayer," by Hatty Piper; "Turn Thee, O Lord," by Miss Amanda Kirchfield; "Ruth, the Moabite," recited by seven young ladies, accompanied with music by Prof. Chas. Wacker, the organist, and poetry by the pastor. But the gem of all was the concluding song, by three ladies, "The Evening Bells," with organ and bells accompaniment.

AT THE UNITARIAN CHURCH.

In the morning Rev. Mr. Young delivered an address suitable to the day. He said:

Death in whatever guise is always sad; it is something we never become accustomed to. * * * * So the Posts of the Grand Army decorate to-day the graves of their fellow comrades, not to revive the questions settled by the conflict, but as a beautiful and touching memorial. And to-day, when ten years after the war we recall its memories, there are two thoughts which should impress us deeply. The first is, that this great sacrifice of so many lives and so much treasure was made to keep us a single people and to preserve the permanence of our national idea. The second is that this Republic of ours is now and is to be in the future what the people make it. We must remember that there is no force inherent in republican institutions which can of itself insure great results; we must remember that we can get no national glory more glorious than is the character of our people. We are then to resist whatever may tend to lower the standard of our national life.

UNIVERSALIST.

Rev. A. B. Hervey's discourse yesterday morning, at the Universalist church, was a fine effort, and was delivered in truly

earnest style. "Abel offered up to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain," etc., were the words of the text. The memory of the departed defenders was to be again renewed by the scattering of flowers over their graves. In years to come not a sign of the dead martyrs will be left. By many they will be entirely forgotten, but in God's record their dear memory will always be fresh. Nothing but a verbatim report would do justice to the discourse.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

At 8½ o'clock A.M., in St. Mary's church, Father Havermans offered up the holy sacrifice of the mass for the repose of the souls of the fallen heroes of the late war, before a large congregation. In the middle aisle was placed the form of a coffin draped in deep mourning, on top of which was a soldier's cap with candles burning about it. The whole made a very solemn appearance. Father Havermans spoke of the dead heroes and recommended the congregation pray with him for those brave men to whom we owe the existence of the Union. It was noticed that many ladies in the congregation were in tears during the sermon.

The Troy Daily Times.

JUNE 19, 1879.

THE VETERANS.

Second Day of the Grand Army Reunion – Parade – The National Encampment – Meeting of the Army of the Potomac and James and the Different Corps – The Banquet of the Army of the Potomac – Departure of the Visitors.

The independent parade of the Red, White and Blue Battalion at Albany occurred yesterday morning, as previously announced, notwithstanding the rain which showered down soon after the commands left their armory. The line was formed as follows:

Platoon of Police.
Doring's Band.
Albany Burgesses Corps.
Downing's Band. Old Guard of New York.
Old Utica Band.
Utica Citizens' Corps.

The marching of the several organizations was greatly admired by the crowds of spectators who thronged the streets along the entire route of march.

THE GRAND ARMY ENCAMPMENT.

The Grand Army encampment met at Tweddle hall at 10 o'clock A.M. The following officers were elected to serve during the ensuing year:

Commander-in-Chief – Comrade William Earnshaw of Ohio.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief – Comrade John Palmer of Albany, N. Y.

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief – Comrade Harrison Dingman of Washington, the Department of the Potomac.

Surgeon General-in-Chief – Comrade Wm. B. Jones, M. D., of Pennsylvania.

Chaplain-in-Chief – Comrade Joseph F. Lovering of Massachusetts.

Council of Administration – Comrades Charles A. Boutelle, Maine; N. M. Smith, Pennsylvania; Thos. L. Matthews, Maryland; John C. Lanahan, New Hampshire; George H. Bigelow, Vermont; George S. Evans, Massachusetts; C. Henry Barney, Rhode Island; John McCarthy, Connecticut; S. F. Hamilton, New Jersey; S. E. Thomason, Potomac; Wm. N. Eaton, Virginia; E. A. Chamberlain, Illinois; George H. Bush, Nebraska; P. Mason Kinne, California; W. F. Conrad, Iowa; George B. Squires, New York.

The following resolution, offered by Chaplain Lovering, was unanimously adopted by a rising vote, accompanied with cheers:

That appreciating the magnificent welcome which has greeted us in this capital city of the Empire State,

Resolved, That we extend to our comrades, to the accredited authorities of the State of New York and of the municipality of Albany, and to all military bodies present our sincere, enthusiastic and heartfelt thanks for the generous, courteous and soldierly hospitality that has been shown us.

Commander-in-Chief Earnshaw presented an invitation from the citizens of Dayton, Ohio, to the encampment, requesting that the next encampment be held at that place. Pittsburgh, Pa., was also named, but on motion it was decided to hold the next encampment at the Soldiers' home, Dayton, Ohio.

THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

The reunion of the society of the Army of the Potomac took place at Tweddle hall in the afternoon at 2 o'clock. The platform was occupied by many prominent military gentlemen. Attorney-General Devens, Commander Robinson, Gen. Franklin, Gov. Van Zandt of Rhode Island, Govs. Hoyt and Hartranft of Pennsylvania, Gen. Hawley, Gen. McQuade and Gen. Curtis occupied seats near each other under the sacred battle flags of New York regiments. A prayer by the Rev. Dr. Reese and an address of welcome by S. W. Rosendale brought the formal proceedings to a close. Gen. Franklin then introduced Francis M. Finch of Ithaca, who read a poem prepared for the occasion.

It was a production which ably reflected the culture, refinement and literary ability of the author, and we regret our inability, on account of lack of space, to publish it in its entirety. It was most enthusiastically received by the audience.

Mr. Finch drew a graphic description of Gen. Sheridan's famous ride to Winchester, which he concluded as follows:

Fame ! – for the army he galloped to save
From the bar of the prison, the mould of the grave;
Fame ! – for the nation whose banners he gave
New flashes of freedom from mountain to wave;
Fame ! – for the lesson the proud worlds crave
That "the land of the free" *is* "home of the brave !"
 Sheridan, ride !
 With gold on the spur,
 And fame in the air,
 Ride ! – Ride !
 We laurel your hair !

The loyal scope of the poem may be inferred from the following:

We can forget ! – we do forgive !
The Wrong we slew; its armies live
We pardon him whose gallant fight
Shone like a duty, seemed but right;
Have love for foe who fought us fair
With honest flag in open air;
Wide swing the doors: come, welcome, in;
But – don't ask me to sugar the sin !
Because we took the lowered flag
 With smile, and kindness, shall our own
In dust of shame its splendor drag ?
 Because the prodigal has thrown
His fault away, must we, instead,
Love husks on which his hunger fed ?
And in our cups shall poison float
Because we know the antidote ?

The poet sketched the misfortunes of the men of the Potomac, beaten time and again, until the great leader came to write victory upon its banners. The following lines give a good idea of the character of the poem:

The brave, and battered columns pour,
But only on its marge to meet
The regular doom of sure defeat.
And yet, through all, reliant, brave;
The Nation's patient, faithful slave;
With tough endurance bearing wrong;
From wreck of weakness gathering strong;
And, traveling track of wasted blood
With pendulum swing o'er fatal flood;
And learning lessons taught, severe,
Of where to aim, and what to fear,
Till, at the last, it found the road,
And on to final victory strode.

Achieved it, when a leader came
As obstinately firm as they,
Who through the smoke, beyond the flame,
Saw Peace awaiting end of fray.
Cool, when the battery guns were hot;
Calm, while around him rained the shot;
Without one weak, vibrating nerve,
Though lines are broken, columns swerve;
In patience, planning fresh attack
While ragged front draws, sullen back;
With some resource forever left,
And never of last hope bereft;
And when his fortune scowled at worst,
When stormed what seemed destructive burst,
And fought his troops their bloodiest mile,
Gave back for answer all the while
The toughest strain of doubtful war,
Deliberate puff of calm cigar !
O, worthy he of truest strain
In colors spun from poet's brain ! –
And yet, perchance, would choose as soon
The coarser song, and rougher tune
His veterans, scarred, and fading, sing.
Or broken gun's unlovely ring.
And so, O comrade cannon, take
Of truth you saw, the song I make.

A shiver chills the capital,
And through the State
Is coldly flying;
And hope, shot down with rifle ball,
On breast of fate
Is dying, – dying !
But drowning fear, and stilling moan,
Rings out one cool, and confident tone. –
By the left flank, march !
Flag, and gun, and drummer.
We'll fight it out on this line
If it takes the whole of summer !

A blinded blow in wilderness,
And line, and rank
Are scarred, and bleeding;
And Stonewall's craft, and steadiness
His victor flank
Is leading, leading !
But through the columns torn, and blurred,
Is flung the one determined word, –
By the left flank, march !
Flag, and gun, and drummer.
We'll fight the foe on this line
Through all the bloody summer !

A charge at front of stern redoubt
Where sleet of fire
Is enfilading !
Can Hancock smoke the hornets out ?

His lines retire;
Are fading, fading !
But over sing, and thud of ball
Is heard anew the steady call –
By the left flank, march !
Strike the tune, O drummer !
Southward sweep the line;
There's something left of summer !

About Cold Harbor smokes the toil
Of flashing guns,
And fuse and hammer;
And through the stream of sad turmoil
An eddy runs
Of clamor, clamor !
But firmly gripes the iron hand,
And hard as grit the prompt command, –
By the left flank, march !
Drum us on, O drummer !
Close up the broken lines;
'T is almost end of summer !

A winter long of barricade;
Of grasp to close
The roads surrounding;
Of crafty mine, and activity spade,
And patient blows
Still pounding – pounding !
But while despair in shadow flies
A breeze of courage clears the skies !
By the left flank, march !
Work for you, O drummer !
We'll fight it out on this line

**[Note: Small segment of text
missing from microfilm print-
out. To be corrected in the
future.]**

Dogmatic baying !
And trampling north the army bands,
All jubilant,
Are playing, – playing !
But as thro' night, so now by day
Some quiet leader points the way; –
Homeward, boys, we march,
Flag, and gun, and drummer;
We've fought it out on this line;
We've won our battle summer !

The oration by Gen. Joseph R. Hawley was vigorous in thought and eloquent in expression. It discussed the question of the forces necessary to preserve a republic, and will be published in full hereafter in the *Times*. The following officers were subsequently elected:

President, Maj.-Gen. D. E. Sickles; Corresponding Secretary, Gen. Joseph H. Sharp; Secretary, Col. H. C. King; Treasurer, Gen. M.

MacMahon; Vice Presidents, 1st Army Corps, Gen. J. Stannard; 2^d, Col. G. F. Hopper; 3^d, Gen. Joseph B. Carr; 4th, Gen. John B. Farnsworth; 5th, Gen. Fred. T. Locke; 6th, Gen. Charles F. Devens; 9th, Gen. Jardine; 11th, Gen. Carl Schurze*; 12th, Gen. James L. Selfridge; Cavalry, Gen. John B. McIntosh; Artillery, Gen. Henry J. Hunt; General Staff, Gen. A. A. Humphreys; Signal Corps, Capt. F. R. Shattuck. Gen. T. M. Schofield, U. S. A., and Capt. Charles A. Bartell, U. S. N., were elected honorary members. [Note: *No vice president was listed for the 10th Army Corps.]

The next reunion will be held at Burlington, Vt.

ARMY OF THE JAMES.

At the meeting of the society of the Army of the James, Attorney-General Devens presided. The following officers were elected:

President, Gen. N. M. Curtis, New York; Vice Presidents, Gens. E. S. Greeley, New Haven; O. L. Mann, Chicago; J. L. Otis, Northampton, Mass.; C. R. Brayton, Providence; Col. Fred. A. Butts, New York; Major W. E. Kisselburgh, Troy; Treasurer, Gen. C. A. Carlton; Secretary, Private Joseph W. Parker, New York; Chaplain, E. T. Chapman, Greenbush.

The next place of meeting was left to the permanent officers, who constitute the executive committee of the association.

SIXTH ARMY CORPS.

The society of the Sixth Army Corps met in the ladies' reception room of the Delevan house at 11 o'clock yesterday. There were about 100 members present. The meeting was called to order by J. W. Satter, and the president, Gen. Truesdell, delivered an excellent address. The following officers were elected:

President, Gen. McMahon; Vice Presidents, Gen. Adam E. King, Gen. Chas. Devens, Col. E. H. Rhodes, Gen. T. H. Neill; Corresponding Secretary, Major Ivan Tailor; Recording Secretary, Col. Robert L. Orr; Treasurer, Col. Samuel Truesdell.

SECOND ARMY CORPS.

At a meeting of the Second Army Corps, Col. Joseph Egolf presided and a permanent organization was effected by electing the following officers for the ensuing year:

President, Gen. Joshua T. Owens, Philadelphia; Vice Presidents, Gen. James B. Coit, Norwich, Conn.; Col. Joseph Egolf, Troy; Maj. George T. Tait, Brooklyn; Treasurer, Gen. Joseph B. Carr, Troy; Secretary, Sergt. E. G. Lippett, Philadelphia.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS.

The society of the Fifth Army Corps was presented with two flags by Gen. G. K. Warren, former commander. Resolutions congratulating Gen. Fitz John Porter on the favorable verdict in his case were unanimously passed. The following officers were elected:

President, Gen. James McQuade; Vice President, Gen. W. S. Crawford; Secretary and Treasurer, Gen. F. T. Locke; Executive Committee, Gen. H. A. Barnum, Col. A. M. Clark and Private J. W. Webbe.

THE CAVALRY CORPS.

The following officers were chosen:

President, Gen. John B. McIntosh; Vice Presidents, Gen. A. T. A. Torbert, Gen. W. W. Blackmar, Gen. C. H. Chapman, Gen. David McM. Gregg, Col. A. H. White, Lieut.-Col. Charles Treichle, Major James H. Stephenson; Secretary, Major Charles H. Hatch, No. 120 Broadway, New York; Treasurer, Major R. R. Corson, Norristown, Penn.

It was resolved to hold the next meeting at Burlington.

THE BANQUETS.

The Burgesses Corps' banquet at their armory was a very brilliant affair. The banquet given by the society of the Army of the Potomac at the Delevan house was a fitting close to the encampment. The following toasts were responded to by the gentlemen named:

1. The President of the United States, Gen. Joseph R. Hawley.
2. The State of New York, Senator Charles Hughes.
3. The City of Albany, Mayor Michael N. Nolan.
4. The Army of the Potomac, Attorney-General Charles Devens.
5. The United States Army, Major-General John M. Schofield.
6. The Armies of the West, Major-General Henry W. Slocum.
7. The United States Navy, Col. Wm. C. Church of the *Army and Navy Journal*.
8. The Volunteer, Maj.-Gen. Daniel E. Sickles.
9. Sweethearts and Wives, Gen. James McQuade.
10. The Executive Committee and the Citizens of Albany, Gen. Fred Townsend.
11. The Press, William Winter of the *New York Tribune*.

The visiting military companies and posts of the Grand Army of the Republic departed for their respective homes during the afternoon and evening, and thus concluded one of the most successful national encampments that have ever been held in this country, and an event which prominently marks the history of Albany.

THE ADIRONDACK DAILY ENTERPRISE

SARANAC LAKE, N. Y., APRIL 12, 1961.

First Shot Fired at Ft. Sumter One Hundred Years Ago Today

Editor's Note: Today is the 100th anniversary of the shot fired on Fort Sumter, the shot that exploded into Civil War. Brave men and boys carried the battle colors of New York State's units. These flags, many torn, blood-stained, crumbling, are gathered in the Flag Room at the State Capitol. They tell the story of the Empire State's fighting men.

By JOHN MULLIGAN

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) – A faint, ghostly bugle sounds in the darkened Flag Room of the State Capitol.

A breeze rustles the old flags, in their glass cases...

It is 4:30 a.m., the hour the first shell of the Civil War shrieked into Fort Sumter – a hundred years ago today.

Shadowy figures converge from the corridors of time, from more than 2,100 battlefields, from beneath nearly 50,000 white headstones marked "N.Y.," from 5,000 nameless graves of New Yorkers from mighty Gettysburg to humble Pole Cat Station, Va.

Wraiths of lean color-bearers, all in step, all proudly erect.

Gently, they take the bullet-torn, blood-stained banners from their cases. Down the broad Seventy-Seven Steps to the Capitol lawn they march to pass in review before the mounted statue of Albany-born Gen. Philip Sheridan.

Their flags represent fully a fourth of the Union Army, more than 480,000 men of the Empire State, overwhelmingly volunteers.

In a war where battles often turned on flags, these were bravest of the brave – the men who carried the colors through what Blue and Gray called "the deadly, iron hail."

One hundred and three of them wear the Congressional Medal of Honor, earned capturing enemy colors or retrieving their own.

Drummer boy Benjamin Levy marches by with the flag of Manhattan's First Infantry, which he snatched from fallen bearers at Glendale, Va.

Another drummer boy, 15-year-old John Otto Swan of Medina, proudly holds the banner of the 28th Infantry from Orleans, Ontario and Genesee Counties. He stuffed the silk flag in his coat lining at Chancellorsville when he was captured and hid it successfully at a Richmond prison until exchanged.

Sergeant A. L. Van Ness of Dansville has the colors of the 27th Infantry of Rochester and nearby Livingston County. The cloth star pinned to its staff was picked up by him when it was shot out of the flag he carried up the Heights of Fredericksburg, Va.

A former Confederate named Townsend bears the American flag of Albany's 91st Infantry. Inducted into the rebel army against his will, he deserted and joined the 91st at Pensacola, Fla. He was fatally wounded carrying the flag at Port Hudson, La., the bullet was fired by his own brother, serving with the 10th Alabama, who recognized him too late.

Many march behind the faded banner of Oswego and Ontario Counties' 147th Infantry, which took 77.2 per cent casualties at

Gettysburg. But survivors watched Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House.

There's a note still pinned to the colors of New York City's Fifth Infantry, "Duryée's Zouaves," recording that of its 490 men, 117 were killed and 200 wounded at Manassas Plains. The Fifth claimed the heaviest casualties for any unit on either side in a single engagement.

Ten Hudson Valley men form the color guard of the 30th Infantry of Dutchess, Columbia, Rensselaer and Saratoga Counties. That many died carrying its colors in one battle, Second Bull Run.

Private Francis Foley of New York City holds the American flag of the 90th Infantry. His blood, spilled fatally at Cedar Creek, Va., stains its stripes.

Private Henry Lloyd bears the colors of the 14th Heavy Artillery, recruited from 20 Upstate counties, from Putnam to Chautauqua. He was killed at the head of this regiment, which led the assault on the "Crater" at terrible Petersburg, Va., an excavation blown out of Confederate lines by tunneling Blue-clad Pennsylvania miners.

The passing colors of the North Country's 169th Infantry are fastened to a Confederate flagstaff that replaced one shot at the Crater. There are 100 holes each in its American and regimental flags.

Corporal James Young carries the 44th Infantry (statewide) flag that he twice rescued in heavy crossfire at Hanover Court House, Va., where he was killed.

A Sgt. Hackett has the American flag of Albany and New York City's 43rd Infantry, which he hid when captured at the Wilderness, Va. When he died at infamous Andersonville Prison, the flag secretly was buried with him.

The American flag of Manhattan's 37th "Irish Rifles" is borne by a Private Loyd. At Chancellorsville, he removed it from the staff to prevent its capture, wrapped it around his body and crawled off through the brush. When he was killed, comrades who did not know of the flag hastily buried him. Attempts to find his grave were futile.

One of every three New York volunteers was foreign-born, and reminders of lands where a Kathleen, Maria or Lisa often waited word that never would come was written on their passing flags: The Irish Brigade, which included the famed Fighting Sixty-Ninth of New York City; the Irish Legion, Garibaldi Guards, Italian Legion, Schwarze Jaegers, German Artillery Corps, Mozart Regiment, Kossuth Guards, Hungarian Regiment, Polish Legion, Netherlands Legion, Garde de Lafayette and 55th French Regiment; British Volunteers, and the Cameron Highlanders of the 78th and 79th Infantry, who fought in kilts.

Next come the flags of the 20th and 26th U.S. Colored Infantry and other Negro units; those of regiments in which New York State Indians served, of Troy's dreaded "Northern Black Horse Cavalry," the Seventh; of the lumberjacks of the 118th

Adirondack Infantry, of the Railway Brigade, the 99th Naval Brigade, the Merchants Brigade, the huge Metropolitan Brigade, composed entirely of New York and Brooklyn policemen, of fire department units like the dashing 11th N.Y. Fire Zouaves, whose flag was presented by Laura Keene, a great actress of the day.

Flag on flag of the hundreds of New York regiments passes by, their stories better told in stark battle names on monuments across the State. There often stands Billy Yank, eternally at parade rest, facing South.

Dawn breaks. An early riser thinks he hears the wind keening in the winter-sleeping Capitol elms.

It is the voices of men long-dead, whispering a song they often marched to or sang around campfires in Dixie:

We'll rally 'round the flag, boys.
We'll rally once again,
Shouting the battle cry of Freedom!

[Notes: Full names of soldiers with abbreviated names in the article include: Sergeant Arch L. Van Ness, 27th N.Y.V.; Color Sergeant Samuel Townsend or Private Henry Townsend, 91st N.Y.V.; Private Henry M. Lloyd, 14th N.Y. Heavy Artillery; Sergeant Christopher Hackett, 43^d N.Y.V.; and Private Michael Loyd, 37th N.Y.V.]



Capitol Flag Room

The Civil War News

For People With An Active Interest in the Civil War Today

New York State Unveils 10 Restored Historic Flags

By Michael Russert, September '01 issue.

ALBANY, N.Y. – The New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA) and New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation recently unveiled 10 newly restored flags from approximately 1800 battle flags in the DMNA collection.

Lt. Col. Robert von Hasslen of the DMNA welcomed a large group of visitors. He noted that it was appropriate that the

second floor room of the New York State Capitol Building where the ceremony was held had been the storage area of the Civil War battle flags from 1865 into the 1940s.

Col. von Hasslen said, "It is not the artifacts, it's the story behind the artifacts that is so important. For example, the brave stories of the men who carried the flags into battle."

He called the conservation program an example of good government in action. It is a cooperative venture between the DMNA and the New York State Office of Parks. Von Hasslen observed, "What Parks Department has done for DMNA has been worth two regiments." He complimented Deborah Trupin, Textile Conservator, Office of Parks, and recently hired Assistant Conservator Sarah Stevens, who have worked on the project.

Stevens, who has a master's degree in historic costume and textile conservation from the University of Rhode Island, was hired last September to work strictly on flag conservation with a quarter-time per week assistant.

J. Winthrop Aldrich, State Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation, explained the intricacies of flag restoration – cleaning, vacuuming, and storing the flags on flat, pull-out trays for viewing without causing further damage.

The New York State collection has more than 10,000 artifacts of America's military conflicts, 1800 of which are battle flags dating from 1808 to the Gulf War.

Under Gov. George Pataki more has been done to preserve and stabilize the collection than at any other time. A professional staff of seven has been hired to work at the collection's temporary headquarters at the Watervliet Arsenal. They have cataloged and documented the collection, and there has been a greater recovery of missing artifacts.

Conservators at the Bureau of Historic Sites at Peeples Island, near Troy, have conserved 50 flags to date and will have 100 conserved and stabilized by the end of this year. William Howard, a deputy for Governor Pataki, noted that, "This administration has done more to conserve, protect, and exhibit the Civil War battle flags entrusted to its care than any other administration in history."

In May 1997, the state announced a 10-year plan to prepare some flags for exhibit, to preserve the rest, and to find a permanent home for the entire New York State collection. (See related article.) The State Legislature, to date, has allocated \$175,000, while various state agencies have spent an additional \$286,000.

A previous exhibit in the State Capitol displayed 10 Civil War battle flags which had been conserved. This new exhibit includes 10 additional restored flags; however, they represent a wider range of history. While the majority are Civil War, one flag dates to 1808, while another dates from the 1960s.

The earliest flag in the New York collection, the Albany Republican Artillery banner, was one of those selected for recent

preservation. The regimental-size flag was carried by Gen. Philip Van Rensselaer's independent artillery unit and was purportedly carried at the Battle of Sacket's Harbor, May 29, 1813. In its center is the Seal of Albany with a farmer and a Native American with the inscription "Assiduity" and "Diligence." On the reverse side the U.S. Coat of Arms is painted.

A silk presentation flag with the New York State Seal embroidered on both sides depicting a Native American and a sailor has also been preserved. Dating from the 1840s, it was the regimental colors of the 8th New York State Militia.

There are five flags from the Civil War period. One of the most interesting is the unique regimental flag of the famed 84th New York Militia, better known as the 14th Brooklyn. Although a large segment of the silk banner is gone, the cotton-backed fabric over a silk fabric which was the central focal point of the flag has been restored. Another treasure is the huge and totally intact regimental banner of the 26th U.S. Colored Troops. Organized primarily in New York City in February 1864, the motto, "GOD AND LIBERTY" graces the flag.

Three flanker flags are among the newly conserved flags. A crimson silk right flank flag, edged in gold fringe, was carried by the 77th New York, "The Bemis Heights" or "Saratoga Regiment," served with distinction in the VI Corps. A silk flanker flag with a painted design depicting a shield in the center belonged to the 83^d New York Infantry.

The third flanker flag that has been conserved was carried by the 56th New York. The silk swallow-tail guidon flew over a unit organized in New York's Tenth Congressional District. Known as the X Legion, which is denoted on the banner, the unit originally consisted of a combined force of cavalry, artillery and infantry until its reorganization in November 1861 as the 56th New York Infantry.

The final three conserved flags represent 20th-century units. The large silk regimental colors embroidered with the U.S. Coat of Arms in its center, was the banner of the 369th Regiment, U.S. Infantry. This Afro-American unit fought in World War I under French command, since the U.S. Army did not allow Black soldiers in combat. The unit was known as "Hell Fighters."

A wool guidon representing Co. B, 101st Signal Battalion, dates to the Korean War period. The final flag, a wool guidon, was the flag of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 27th Supply and Transportation Battalion, dating to the 1960s.

In addition, the 127th New York Infantry regimental banner, which was restored with a combination of state monies and local funds raised by the North Shore Civil War Round Table, is on loan to a site in Huntington, Long Island. [The regimental colors of the 169th New York Infantry is on temporary display at the Maple Hill High School in Schodack.](#) The 95th New York Infantry's regimental colors have also been restored through private fund-raising.



**Restored Regimental Colors of the 169th N. Y. S. V. Infantry Regiment
on Display at Maple Hill High School, Schodack, N. Y.**

*Standing next to the flag are Brian Gosslin (l) and Lt. Col. Robert von Hasslen,
New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs, Albany.*

Flag preservation and conservation is a slow and expensive process and many of New York's flags have been allowed to fall into a state of disrepair. However, the Pataki Administration has taken the first steps in the process of conserving and documenting its extensive collection.

As Joseph Thatcher of the New York State Office of Parks said, "This exhibit is not an isolated event, but part of a continuous presence." He noted that past support for the flag project "was on a low dollar scale" and \$175,000 more is available.

"Efforts are being made, movement is being made in the right direction, and it is movement," Thatcher said. The Temporary New York State Flag Preservation Committee will begin fund-raising to help finance the restoration project.

http://www.civilwarnews.com/archive/articles/NY_restored_flags.htm

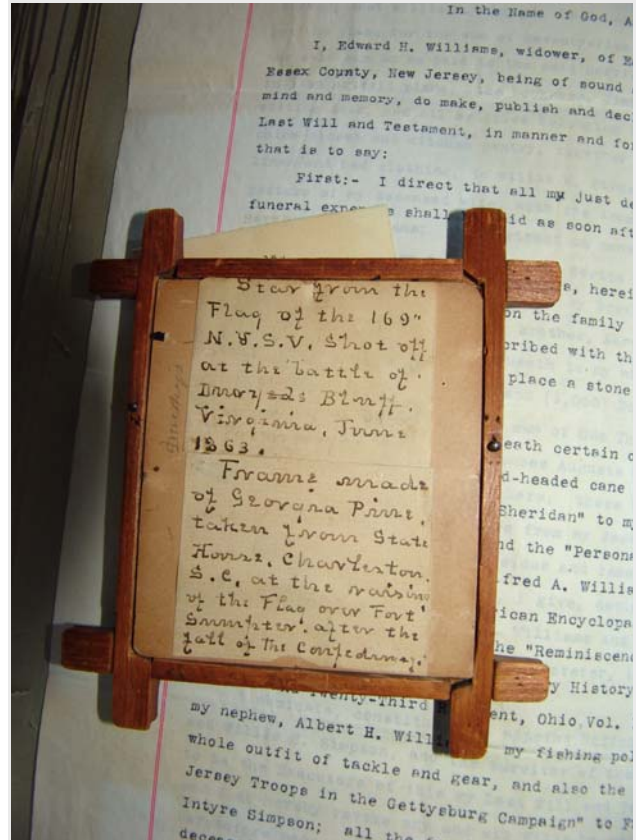
From: Linda Cary
To: smw700@hotmail.com
Subject: 169th Flag Star
Date: Mon, 23 Jun 2008 20:32:00

Hi Steve,

Your name keeps coming up regarding the history of the 169th N.Y.S.V. My great-great-uncle, Edward Williams, was good friends with Henry Slack, who was with the 169th N.Y.S.V. Williams was with the 123^d O.V.I., G.A.R. Commander, (1883), and G.A.R. Chaplain, (1914).

Henry gave Edward a piece of the flag, (a star), of the 169th, framed in wood from the State House at Charleston, S.C. The back reads,

"Star from the flag of the 169th N.Y.S.V., shot off at the battle of Drury's Bluff, Virginia, June 1863.* Frame made of Georgia Pine taken from State House, Charleston, S.C., at the raising of the flag over Fort Sumter after the fall of the Confederacy."



I even have an OLD photo of Henry at his desk with the flag fragment in the picture. This has been in the family a long time, along with a lot of Uncle Edward's Civil War artifacts. My family has a long history in New Jersey and were part of the Founding Fathers.

This item actually came from outside the family originally, and I wish to confirm its authenticity.

Please let me know if this is something you can help me with or perhaps point in another direction. I can forward pictures if you are interested.

Thank you for your time.

Best regards,

- Linda Cary

[Note: *The battle of Drewry's Bluff, Va., May 16th, 1864.]

From: Linda Cary
To: smw700@hotmail.com

Subject: Re: 169th Flag Star
Date: Tue, 24 Jun 2008 12:04:16

Hi Steve,

I took measurements from tip of star to opposite tip – basically the diameter. They range from 2-1/2" to 2-5/8".

Thanks again,

- Linda



**Restored Regimental Colors of the 169th N. Y. S. V. Infantry Regiment
Collection of the New York State Military Museum, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.**

From: smw700@hotmail.com
To: christopher.morton1@us.army.mil
Subject: 169th N. Y. Flag Star
Date: Thu, 26 Jun 2008

Hello Chris,

It was a pleasure speaking with you today. To recap on our discussion, I would like your estimate as to which flag of the 169th N.Y.S.V. Infantry Regiment may be the source of the star, (see attached photographs), that was allegedly shot off of a flag of the 169th at the battle of Drewry's Bluff, Va., May 16th, 1864.

Also, I was wondering if you have photos of the three flags of the 169th that you may be able to share with me? I have one photo of the restored regimental banner, but would like another one depicting it

prior to restoration, if possible, as well as "as-is" photos of the other two flags in the N.Y.S. Military Museum's collection.

As promised, I will send you a copy of my forthcoming report on the flags of the 169th, based on content from my research files.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

- Steve Wiezbicki

Subject: RE: 169th N. Y. Flag Star

Date: Fri, 27 Jun 2008

From: christopher.morton1@us.army.mil

To: smw700@hotmail.com

Steve,

Thank you very much – a very interesting story and a nice relic. The regimental color attributed to the 169th Regt N.Y.V.I. that appears on the Flag Project's webpage includes stars that measure approximately 0.75" wide, point to point. I see the Henry Slack star is considerably larger. So we can certainly rule out the Slack star as having been shot out from this particular regimental color.

We have not as yet conserved either of the two national colors in the collection attributed to the 169th Regt N.Y.V.I., so I cannot do a size comparison. I can say that depending upon the manufacturer and star pattern, stars on national colors can measure 2.5" wide and stars on certain regimental colors can reach that size as well.

So the jury is still out, I'm afraid. At least we can eliminate the star as having been shot from the regimental colors posted on the website.

Did the regiment carry another regimental? The star may belong to a different regimental, just to add to the uncertainty.

Unfortunately, I do not have photographs of the two national colors that await conservation. We photograph flags as part of the conservation process only. You have an image of the conserved regimental color? You got it off the webpage? That's fine.

Photographs of the regimental color, pre-conservation and during conservation are documentary in nature, in various formats, including black and white, and are not for public dissemination. Sorry.

If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Thank you very much,

Christopher Morton

Asst. Curator

N.Y.S. Military Museum

From: Linda Cary

To: smw700@hotmail.com

Subject: Re: 169th Flag Star

Date: Sun, 6 Jul 2008

Hi Steve,



Henry A. Slack at his desk, showing evidence of the gunshot (flesh) wound of the lower limb of his left arm, received at Petersburg Va., June 30th, 1864

If you look at the left side of the photo, you can see the star in the frame on [Henry's] desk. I found the position of his left hand interesting... was he injured perhaps? - Linda



**Our Banner in the Sky (1861)
Frederic Edwin Church (1826-1900)
de Young Fine Arts Museums, San Francisco**