

REUNION OF VETERANS

ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND SURVIVORS AT ROCHESTER.

GENS. SHERIDAN AND LOGAN GIVEN A RECEPTION BY THE MAYOR—MEMOIRS OF THE DEAD HEROES.

ROCHESTER, Sept. 17.—The sixteenth annual reunion of the Army of the Cumberland began to-day. Large numbers of members have arrived from all over the country. The hotels are all crowded, and Power's Hotel, the headquarters of the society, presents a busy scene. Many distinguished members are present. Among them are Gens. Philip H. Sheridan, John A. Logan, Henry M. Cist, J. J. Morgan, W. M. Kilgour, H. A. Barnum, J. G. Parkhurst, Daniel Butterfield, Joseph B. Carr, A. B. Underwood, Stewart L. Woodford, Horace Porter, James Barnett, R. I. Mussey, Horace Boughton, and many others of lower rank. Ex-Speaker Keifer is also in attendance. Gen. Rosecrans telegraphed that he was under a physician's charge and could not attend.

At 11:30 o'clock the delegates marched to the City Hall in a body, headed by the Rochester City Band. Soon after 11 o'clock Gen. Sheridan called the first business session of the Army of the Cumberland to order in the City Hall. The Rev. Dr. Baldwin opened the session with prayer. The reports of the officers and committees were called for. Gen. Henry M. Cist, Chairman of the Republican Committee, presented a bound volume containing the report of last year's session to the attention of the society, commenting briefly upon the manner of its preparation and upon its contents. The report of the Committee on Memoirs was called for, and Gen. Cist reported that arrangements had been made for the preparation of memoirs of nearly all the members of the society who have died during the past year. The Treasurer of the society presented his report, showing the receipt of \$2,460 84 and the expenditure of \$1,432 78, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$1,028 06. The Secretary announced the committees which had been appointed by Gen. Sheridan. Gen. Cist brought up the question of securing a portrait of Gen. Crittenden for the society records. Other members suggested the names of several commanders of whom the society possesses no pictures, and the matter was referred to the Committee on Publication with power to act. The society accepted invitations to visit Power's art gallery, Randall's art gallery, Warner Observatory, and the "Wild West" exhibition. At 2 o'clock this afternoon the members and guests of the society took carriages provided for them and visited the points of interest in the city. From 7 to 8 o'clock this evening a reception was given in honor of Gens. Sheridan and Logan in the Mayor's office. Thousands of citizens were presented to both. To-morrow at 10 o'clock the business session will be concluded and officers elected. To-morrow evening a complimentary banquet will be given by the citizens of Rochester. The arsenal has been magnificently decorated for the occasion. J. Q. A. Ward and Miss C. L. Ransom, the artists, are in attendance. The latter expected to present to the society a life-size portrait of Gen. Garfield, but she has not been able to complete the work in time, being delayed by the hot weather, which affected her eyes.

Major D. D. S. Brown, Chairman of the local Executive Committee, delivered an introductory address at the meeting in the City Hall this evening. It was followed by an address of welcome by Mayor Parsons, extending the hospitalities of the city to the visiting society. Gen. Sheridan's response was as follows:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER: The members of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland highly appreciate the warm welcome and kindly feeling which they have received of you at this, their annual meeting. They highly appreciate the kind words of welcome from his Honor the Mayor, and they feel that unto him and all the people of this city are due their most hearty thanks. There were a great many soldiers from Rochester in the Army of the Cumberland, who served with us in the West, and we have often heard them speak of you and of your beautiful city, and they have often asked us to hold our annual reunion here. This invitation was accepted at our meeting a year ago, and it certainly has been seldom, if ever, that men have received a more cordial and hearty greeting than we have to-day. Mr. Mayor and Ladies of Rochester: In behalf of the Army of the Cumberland, to you I extend my sincere thanks. We may meet you elsewhere, but we shall never have a happier time than we have spent here in this city of Rochester.

A reunion song, composed by A. F. Hopkins, was then sung, and a poem was read by Benjamin F. Taylor, entitled, "Chickamauga." The oration of the evening was then delivered by Major William H. Lambert, of Philadelphia, on Gen. George H. Thomas. He said that Thomas was a Southern man; that his army association was principally with Southern men. He had been spoken of by several of the secession members of the convention as the fit man to be General of the forces of Virginia should she secede. Then, when the crash came, on the one hand were ambition, sympathy, friends, family, home, State; on the other his obligation as a soldier. What anguish he endured in this crisis we cannot know, but for George H. Thomas the conflict between feeling and duty could have but one issue. He could not break his plighted faith. He must be true to his flag. Continuing, the orator spoke of the great services of the man and of his rapid promotion. He traced the character of Thomas and eulogized him in the highest possible terms. The oration was a masterly one and frequently applauded by the vast audience present.

The New York Times

Published: September 18, 1884

Copyright © The New York Times