

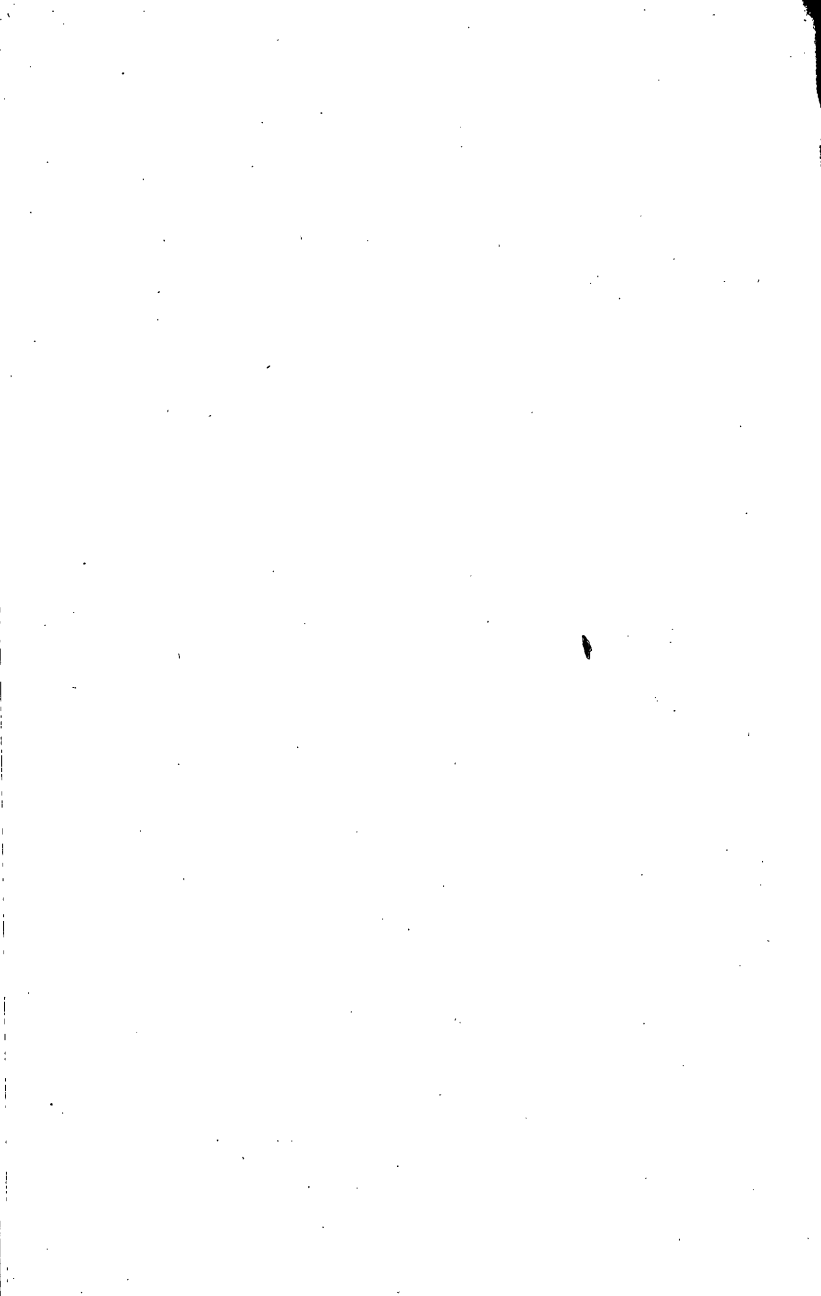
THE
Second New Jersey Brigade
SOCIETY.

REPORT
OF THE
FIFTH ANNUAL REUNION,

JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY,

April 9th, 1892.

TRENTON, N. J.:
The J. L. Murphy Pub. Co., Printers.
1892.



FIFTH ANNUAL REUNION.

By order of the President of the Society, Gen. Joseph B. Carr, the matter of arrangement for our Fifth Annual Reunion was placed in the hands of Gen. John Ramsay and Capt. Benjamin Murphy, with full power to add to their number. The veterans and a number of the citizens promptly responded to their call. Gen. Ramsay was selected as their Chairman and Capt. Benjamin Murphy as Secretary.

The very hospitable and effusive manner in which all the details were carried out for the entertainment of the veterans of the Second New Jersey Brigade, "Hooker's Old Guard," was fully attested by all present, making it one of the most enjoyable reunions the Society has ever held.

VAN HOUTEN POST ROOM, G. A. R.,
JERSEY CITY, April 9th, 1892.

Promptly at eleven o'clock A. M. President Gen. Joseph B. Carr called the Society to order.

In absence of the Chaplain, Gen. James F. Rusling offered prayer. Nearly two hundred members of the Society from New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania regiments were present.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Secretary's and Treasurer's reports being read, were received and ordered spread upon the minutes.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

"Waning moons their settled periods keep." Thus twelve moons have waxed and waned since we met in our last, our Fourth Annual Reunion. And all who were permitted to be present bear in kind remembrance the social greetings, the genial intercourse, and the lavish hospitality that characterized the festivities of the occasion.

We have assembled again to-day, to renew the cherished memories of the camps, battles and marches with which we in years gone by were once familiar. And though age may have whitened our locks, and our eyes perhaps are less bright, and years have made our steps less elastic and steady, yet I trust we all are able to take our rations, and glory in the recollection of the deeds which gained for the Second New Jersey Brigade the proud cognomen "Hooker's Old Guard."

It is my happy privilege, comrades, to greet you all, from your honored, revered, beloved Corps Commander, Major-General Daniel E. Sickles, who led you through so many battles, and suffered so severely with you at Gettysburg, down to the humblest man in the ranks; each one, all, are worthy of the high honors that are being tendered to you to-day.

It is hardly needful to recite the merits of your deeds, but if by the hardest and severest of battles, where is the brigade that excelled it? If by bravery and patriotism, where were troops more true to country and flag than you? If for what you overcame, and the hardships endured, what soldiers were ever more loyal?

And those of our members who passed away, either in camp or field, or who have more recently died, their example still lives, and the result of their labors and what they accomplished are ever borne in kind remembrance by a grateful people. It is true that year by year our comrades are dropping out. The number is annually becoming less. Let us on this, our Annual Reunion, remember them all, and if they are permitted to look down on us as we are happily gathered here to-day, they rejoice with us and feel repaid for all their labors and sufferings by the glorious results they accomplished.

A gallant General once said in calling to mind those who were

killed in battle or had fallen out of the ranks of life since, "That to speak of them is not to dampen mirth, but as we would like to be remembered when life its light withdraws in the hour of social intercourse, 'When the hand of friendship grasps the hand of a friend.'"

Happily, so far as your Secretary has been informed, are we called upon to chronicle but few deaths during the year passed. It would be a matter of convenience, as well as record, if your Secretary could be informed of the demise of any member of the Society.

The old headquarters flag, so tenderly, so feelingly given to the Society, at our last Reunion in Camden, by Mrs. McAllister, is now in our possession, consigned to the custody of the Second New Jersey Brigade Society. And I would suggest that its reception and ownership be suitably acknowledged by the Society, and that a committee of one from each regiment represented to-day be appointed to draft suitable resolutions expressive of the sense of the Society in its reception and ownership. And your Secretary would further suggest, that in consideration of the esteem and high honor in which we as members of the old Second New Jersey Brigade have always maintained for our old commander, General Robert McAllister, that we elect his two oldest grandsons as honorary members of the Society, Robert McAllister Lloyd and Robert McAllister Baldwin.

Very respectfully submitted,

U. B. TITUS,
Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

TRENTON, N. J., April 9th, 1892.

To the Officers and Members of the Second New Jersey Brigade Society, War 1861-1865:

COMRADES—The following is my report as Treasurer since our last Reunion at Camden, N. J., April 9th, 1891:

Balance last report.....	\$12 11
Initiation fees.....	32 00
Dues.....	54 50
Total.....	<hr/> \$98 61

I have paid the following bills, as per vouchers:

June 6th, 1891, U. B. Titus (postage).....	\$7 50
June 22d, 1891, J. L. Murphy Publishing Co.....	17 00
July 29th, 1891, J. L. Murphy Publishing Co.....	32 75
March 31st, 1892, Cook & Jaques (15 badges).....	15 00
April 5th, 1892, John L. Murphy Publishing Co.....	7 50
Jas. H. Tallon (postage).....	1 00
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	\$80 75
Balance on hand.....	\$17 86

Respectfully submitted,

JAS. H. TALLON,
Treasurer.

Reception of the old headquarters flag of the Second New Jersey Brigade, Army of the Potomac.

EDGEWOOD PARK, Allegheny Co., Pa., April 1st, 1892.

Capt. U. B. Titus, Secretary Second New Jersey Brigade Society:

MY DEAR CAPTAIN—Mother sends you to-day by express (please find express receipt inclosed) the brigade flag, which at your last annual meeting she gave to the custody of the Second New Jersey Brigade Society, but which has never been forwarded to you. Whether a new flag was given the brigade and no order given as to the disposition to be made of the old one, or whether this was still the brigade flag when the troops were mustered out of service, and no order given as to the disposition to be made of it, I cannot tell; but I know that father was so exact in his obedience to orders that it must have come to him in some such way. It has been tenderly preserved all these years and never used, except on dear father's casket the day of his funeral. We never had a flag-staff for it. It gives mother and her family real pleasure to give this flag into the custody of the Second New Jersey Brigade Society. With warm esteem for the Society you represent, and for yourself, I remain truly yours,

HENRIETTA McALLISTER BALDWIN.

After reading the letter and unfurling the old tattered ensign that they had followed on so many weary

marches and carried to the front in many a hotly-contested fight and so often had rallied around in camp and field, when again their eyes once more rested on the old white diamond in its field of blue, they rose *en masse*, waving their hands, cheering, and not a few shedding tears of joy.

The old flag is contained in a solid tin box and will be jealously guarded and sacredly revered.

Moved, that a committee of one from each regiment represented to-day be appointed to draft a set of resolutions, and have them properly engrossed, expressive of the sense of the Society on the reception and custody of the headquarters flag of the old Second New Jersey Brigade, and forwarded to Mrs. Ellen J. McAllister and family.

COMMITTEE.

GEN. JAMES F. RUSLING, Fifth New Jersey Regiment.
 SAMUEL TOMLINSON, Sixth New Jersey Regiment.
 GEN. FRANCIS PRICE, Seventh New Jersey Regiment.
 GEN. JOHN RAMSAY, Eighth New Jersey Regiment.
 COL. JOHN SCHOONOVER, Eleventh New Jersey Regiment.
 MAJ. H. ANDRES, Second New York Regiment.

RESOLUTIONS.

On motion, the two grandsons of General Robert McAllister, Robert McAllister Lloyd and Robert McAllister Baldwin, were elected honorary members of this Society.

Moved, that the name of Rev. Julius D. Rose, deceased, Chaplain of the Seventh New Jersey Regiment, be placed on the rolls of this Society. Moved, that his son, John J. W. Rose, also the son of Lieut.-Col. Daniel Hart, be and are hereby elected as honorary members of this Society.

Resolved, That we hereby acknowledge the receipt from Mrs. Robert McAllister of the original headquarters flag of the Second New Jersey Brigade, and salute it with greetings and reverence. It is the same old flag that we carried from Williamsburg to Appomattox, and is bedewed with memories as unfading as the stars. Its history is the unsullied history of the Army of the Potomac. It reminds us of Starr and Patterson, and Carr and Mott, and McAllister and Sewell and their gallant companions-in-arms of whatever rank or grade. It represents the heroism and valor of the patriot soldiers of New Jersey in the great struggle for liberty and union from 1861 to 1865, and will be preserved and cherished by us and our posterity with reverence and honor, while time lasts or history endures. We make this record upon our minutes, and hereby tender to Mrs. McAllister our profound gratitude for her precious gift.

COMMITTEE.

GEN. JAMES F. RUSLING, Fifth New Jersey Regiment.
 SAMUEL TOMLINSON, Sixth New Jersey Regiment.
 GEN. FRANCIS PRICE, Seventh New Jersey Regiment.
 GEN. JOHN RAMSAY, Eighth New Jersey Regiment.
 COL. JOHN SCHOONOVER, Eleventh New Jersey Regiment.
 MAJ. H. ANDRES, Second New York Regiment.

IN MEMORIAM.

Moved, that a committee of three be appointed to draft resolutions upon the death of Col. Starr, late commander of the Fifth New Jersey Regiment Volunteers.

RESOLUTIONS.

At the Fifth Annual Reunion of the Second New Jersey Brigade Society, at Jersey City, N. J., April 9th, 1892, Gen. James F. Rusling, Gen. Francis Price and Hon. Ed. F. McDonald, M. C., were appointed a committee on the death of Col. Starr, and reported the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Society has heard with unfeigned regret of the death since our last Reunion of our first Brigade Commander, Samuel H. Starr, late Major Sixth United States Cavalry and Colonel Fifth New Jersey. He entered the regular army as a private in 1832, was promoted to Corporal, Sergeant, Second Lieutenant, First Lieutenant, Captain, Major, Lieutenant-Colonel and Colonel United States Army. In August, 1861, he was detached from the regular service and appointed Colonel Fifth New Jersey. He became our first Brigade Commander in December, 1861, and commanded the brigade with signal ability until May, 1862, when relieved by Gen. Frank Patterson, and soon afterwards returned to the regular army and commanded the brigade of regular cavalry at Gettysburg, where he lost an arm in action with the enemy. His military record from private to Colonel and Acting Brigadier-General is his own best eulogy, and New Jersey will long hold him as one of her most gallant and distinguished soldiers. This Society tenders to his afflicted family the assurance of its deepest sympathy, and directs a copy of the foregoing resolution to be forwarded to them.

JAMES F. RUSLING,
ED. F. McDONALD,
FRANCIS PRICE.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers for the ensuing year being in order, on motion, Capt. Benjamin Murphy, Company E, Eighth New Jersey Regiment, was nominated for President, and elected by acclamation.

The following officers were duly nominated and elected:

VICE PRESIDENTS.

SERGT. ROBERT SMITH, Fifth New Jersey Regiment.
COL. JAMES T. HATFIELD, Sixth New Jersey Regiment.
CORP. HENRY J. GARRISON, Seventh New Jersey Regiment.
SERGT. JOHN W. WILLIAMS, Eighth New Jersey Regiment.
COL. JOHN SCHOONOVER, Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers.
GEN. S. W. PARKS, Second New York Volunteers.

GEN. GEORGE H. SHARP, One Hundred and Twentieth New York Volunteers.

COL. S. J. W. MINTZER, Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

GEN. ROBERT E. PATTERSON, One Hundred and Fifteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

COL. THOMAS B. MATHEWS, First Massachusetts Volunteers.

COL. CHARLES C. RIVERS, Eleventh Massachusetts Volunteers.

MAJ. JAMES F. COSSELL, Sixteenth Massachusetts Volunteers.

COL. NATHANIEL SHATSWELL, First Maine Heavy Artillery.

SECRETARY.

CAPT. U. B. TITUS.

TREASURER.

LIEUT. JAMES H. TALLON.

CHAPLAIN.

REV. A. ST. JOHN CHAMBRE.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.

Fifth New Jersey Regiment.

SAMUEL RAY, JOSEPH SIMONS, ANTHONY LUKENS.

Sixth New Jersey Regiment.

LIEUT. JOS. C. LEW, SAMUEL PHILLIPS, REV. E. H. STEWART.

Seventh New Jersey Regiment.

GEORGE SENIOR, E. DINGLER, J. T. TRONSON.

Eighth New Jersey Regiment.

GEORGE W. THURSTON, B. F. CROSS, ROBERT SMITH.

Eleventh New Jersey Regiment.

CAPT. E. R. GOOD, CAPT. WM. HAND, J. A. GOODWIN.

Second New York Regiment.

W. A. EVERITTS, A. W. BRODLEY, W. H. BOUGHTON.

Twenty-Sixth Pennsylvania Regiment.

JOHN S. KUHLE, WM. B. WRIGHT, ADAM WALKER.

Several places for our next meeting were named—Atlantic City, Troy, N. Y., New Brunswick and others. Neither of these places being decided upon, it was moved to leave the whole matter to the President and Executive Committee to select the place for holding our next Reunion. The business of the Society being completed, the meeting adjourned to Wood's Hall, where the collation was spread.

Under the command of Gen. John Ramsay and Chief Benjamin Murphy, the Old Guard and guests fell into line, marched to Taylor's Hotel, escorted by a platoon of police, Capt. Brensinger, Co. F, Fourth Regiment, National Guard, Cappa's Seventh Regiment Band heading the procession, and escorted Major-Gen. Daniel E. Sickles, Gen. Joseph B. Carr, Hon. E. F. McDonald, Maj. D. A. Peloubet, Hon. Frank Coles and other invited guests, and marched to Wood's Hall, where four long tables were spread with covers for 350.

Mr. Fred. G. Wolbert, Chairman of Citizens' Committee, presided at the banquet as Master of Ceremonies, and in a patriotic speech welcomed the old soldiers to the hospitality of their friends.

After which, Chief of Police Murphy thanked the citizens for the cordial and hearty reception they had tendered the veterans and their friends.

After all had bountifully partaken of the sumptuous repast, the following toasts were read and responded to:

"The Second New Jersey Brigade," responded to by Gen. Jos. B. Carr. Gen. Carr spoke with much difficulty. He had been very ill. He expressed great delight at being with his dear old comrades again. He said that when Gen. Joseph Hooker (whose name elicited great cheering) consigned him to the Second Brigade, he discovered that it was a fighting brigade.

He paid a tribute to Gen. Sickles, the man who, he said, won the battle of Gettysburg.

“The Army and Navy of the United States,” responded to by Major-Gen. Daniel E. Sickles. Gen. Sickles received an ovation when he arose to speak. He said :

“The older we grow (I am not speaking for myself), the fewer there are left, the more we rise in value in our own estimation. [Laughter.] In our country appreciation and gratitude have been shown to those who have risked their lives for the country’s honor and the Union’s preservation. I say to you that I will never support a man for office who would take away one penny of the pensions that are paid to old soldiers annually. Add to that golden stream. Don’t take one drop away.”

“Congress, the Law-making Power of the Government.” Hon. Edward F. McDonald. Among the many good things he said :

That the comrades were met to renew their vows of fealty to their country, and to keep fresh before the eyes of the coming generation what the old soldier had done. “As the old comrades pass away,” he said, “the pension-rolls lessen as the years go by. Who is there who could say that we should not take care of the widows of our fallen dead by giving them pensions?”

“The Volunteer Soldier.” Major David A. Peloubet. A soldierly, patriotic address.

“The Honor and Dignity of Our Country Must be Maintained at all Hazards,” responded to by Hon. Frank O. Coles, in one of his sharp, clear-cut, rattling good speeches.

A POEM,

“The Second New Jersey Brigade,” written and read
by the author, Sergt. Thomas D. Marbaker.

To the Second New Jersey Brigade :

I sing not of the knights of the olden time ;
 Tho' encased in armor bright,
 Rode over the fields of many a clime
 With lances poised for the fight.
 Who battled to right the wrongs of the few,
 While the many felt the yoke
 Of a wrong and oppression, that grew and grew
 Till slumbering manhood woke,
 And the people's voices like thunder rolled
 O'er mountain, stream and sea,
 And the knell of a feudal tyranny was tolled
 By a manhood erect and free.
 But I sing of the knights of these later days,
 Who born beneath Freedom's sun,
 Yet saw that a cloud obscured its rays ;
 That Liberty's work was not done.
 Who heard in the tones of the passing years
 The groan, the shriek and the sigh,
 And the pattering sound of falling tears,
 And the mother's stricken cry.
 Who when traitors sought to tear from the blue
 Of our Union glittering stars,
 And hoist up above the old banner so true
 An emblem of stars and bars—
 Like their patriot sires in the days of old,
 Grasped the sword and gun
 With the high resolve that each sacred fold
 Of the flag their sires had won
 Should remain untarnished, each golden star
 Remain in the field of blue,
 As beacons of hope to people afar—
 Fulfillment of promises true.
 Among the thousands who answered the drum's quick roll,
 That echoed through valley and glade,
 None deserve higher place on Fame's bright scroll
 Than the men of the Second Brigade.

It was found where bullets were flying the thickest,
 Where death was striking the surest and quickest,
 Where the sound of the shell, and the groans of the dying,
 Mingled in an inarticulate crying.

When the warm blood was dyeing the leaves and the grass,
 And tinging the green of the stagnant morass,
 Where comrades fell beneath the hot cannonade,
 There were found the men of the Second Brigade.

In Williamsburg's wood, though by foemen outnumbered,
 With the courage of heroes they faced shot and shell,
 Though scores of their comrades around them slumbered
 In the cold arms of death, where fighting they fell.
 At Fair Oaks again you heard the wild yelling
 Of the foe as they sought to grasp Victory's bay,
 And cheer after cheer you sent back to them telling
 That Hooker's brave fighters yet stood in their way.
 Down the Peninsula to Harrison's Landing,
 At Seven Pines, Savage Station and famed Malvern Hill,
 The foe when they pressed found the old brigade standing
 Stern and grim in their pathway to baffle their will.

The peninsula brought deaths from fevers that rose from low, reeking swamps,
 Deaths from the sun's hot flashes and the night's poisonous still-creeping
 damps;

Deaths that came quick without warning, or crept slowly on day after day,
 Till the blood was heated to burning and the lips were too dry to pray;
 And the tortured ones raved in frenzy of the well by the homestead door,
 Where the cool mossy bucket was hanging with silver drops sprinkled o'er,
 And murmurs and cries for the touches that strangers can never replace,
 The healing caress of the mother, a sight of her sweet loving face.
 Ah! death came as often and surely, with step soft-sounding and low,
 As when *clothed in thunder and fire it flashed from the guns of the foe.*

You came from the James with bright wreaths of glory
 Twined 'round your standards all tattered and torn,
 And Bristow, and Bull Run, and Chantilly's story
 But added new leaves to the laurels then worn.

At Chancellorsville too, when Jackson's men cheering
 And flushed with victory swept down through the wood,
 A quick blow and charge sent them back from the clearing
 Where waiting undaunted the old brigade stood.

At Gettysburg next we find it, though scattered
 From the Emmitsburg road to the famed Devil's Den;
 At the close of the fight its ranks thin and shattered,
 Told the story of valor and honor again.

There's no need to follow each step o'er the roadway,
 Traveled by feet often blistered and worn,
 Through the dim silent night or the glare of the noonday,
 When you longed for the nightfall or prayed for the morn.

Through the thick-tangled maze of the wild Wilderness,
 Where the musketry rolled like thunder of heaven,
 And the ranks of the dead as in battle line dress,
 Proved the love and devotion of those who had striven.

At Spottsylvania's Bloody Angle of death,
 Where from dawn's earliest break till far in the night
 There was no lull long enough to gather a breath
 That was free from the smoke of the terrible fight.

And all down the line to the James river's shore,
 Where death's harvest was reaped near Peterburg's town,
 You gathered fresh laurels to add to your store;
 On every new field you conquered renown.

At last few were left, but the diamonds resplendent
 Scintillated like stars through the thick battle smoke;
 The emblem of emblems, to warriors transcendent,
 Whose waves were of steel and whose hearts were of oak.

Some sleep in graves unmarked, unknown,
 Unvisited by all,
 Save singing birds, or winds that moan
 Sadly through brambles tall.
 Near reedy swamp, by murmuring stream,
 Within the forest's glade,
 Just where they fell amid the gleam
 Of battle, they are laid.
 Perhaps no comrade's hand prepared
 Their lowly resting place,
 But foemen who but little cared,
 Who spared but little grace.
 Yet though we cannot mark the spot,
 Nor scatter there our flowers,
 Their sacrifice is not forgot,
 We love them all as ours.

THOMAS D. MARBAKER,

Late Sergeant Co. E, Eleventh N. J. Vols.

At the conclusion a resolution of thanks was presented and unanimously passed.

Moved, that a vote of thanks be most gratefully tendered to the citizens and comrades of Jersey City for the hearty and most hospitable manner in which we have been entertained in this our Fifth Annual Reunion, to the Committee of Entertainment, to the comrades of Van Houten Post for use of their beautiful room, to

Capt. Brensinger and detail of Co. F, Fourth Regiment, National Guard, who so gallantly acted as our escort, to detail of police and officers in command, and to the citizens who displayed the national colors on their residences and places of business.

Adjourned.

Members wishing to procure the silver badge of the Society can do so by remitting the cost price, one dollar and twelve cents, to either the Secretary or Treasurer.

Comrades in arrears for dues will confer a favor to the Treasurer, Lieut. James H. Tallon, No. 247 Hamilton avenue, Trenton, N. J., by remitting same.

NEW MEMBERS.

ALFRED HUSH, 84 Second street, Newark.
 SYLVESTER NOVROT, 68 Bridge street, Jersey City.
 LEONARD GILLEN, Newark.
 G. F. BAYLES, Morristown.
 N. B. WILLIAMS, Caldwell.
 P. M. SUNDERLING, Jersey City.
 COL. JOHN W. NEWELL, New Brunswick.
 M. A. HANLEY, Perth Amboy.
 ROBERT G. VASSAR, Troy, N. Y.
 DENNIS M. BUCH, 449 Palisade avenue, Jersey City.
 JOHN CASSADY, 448 Grove street, Jersey City.
 JOHN ELLENBERGER, 288 Baldwin avenue, Jersey City.
 LEWIS R. MORRIS, 413 Sixth avenue, Brooklyn.
 JAMES T. HATFIELD, 24 W. Sixtieth street, New York.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

ROBERT McALLISTER LLOYD.
 ROBERT McALLISTER BALDWIN.
 JOHN G. ROSE, Box 851, New York City.