

THE
Second New Jersey Brigade
SOCIETY.

REPORT
OF THE
Seventh Annual Reunion,

ASBURY PARK, N. J.,

April 9th, 1894.

TRENTON, N. J.:
The J. I. Murphy Pub. Co., Printers.

1894.

OFFICERS.

PRESIDENT.

GEN. JAMES F. RUSLING.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

LIEUT. A. B. HUTCHINSON, Fifth New Jersey Regiment.

CAPT. JOS. C. LEE, Sixth New Jersey Regiment.

PRIVATE J. F. THOMSON, Seventh New Jersey Regiment.

SERGT. E. GORDON, Eighth New Jersey Regiment.

COL. JOHN SCHOONOVER, Eleventh New Jersey Regiment.

MAJ. H. ANDRES, Second New York Regiment.

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

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

GEN. ROBERT PATTERSON, One Hundred and Fifteenth Penn-
sylvania Volunteers.

COL. THOS. B. MATHEWS, First Massachusetts Volunteers.

COL. CHARLES RIVERS, Eleventh Massachusetts Volunteers.

MAJ. JAMES F. COSSELL, Sixteenth Massachusetts Volunteers.

COL. NATHANIEL SHATSWELL, First Maine Heavy Artillery.

SECRETARY.

CAPT. U. B. TITUS.

TREASURER.

PRIVATE JAMES B. CLUGSTON.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REUNION.

By invitation of C. K. Hall Post, No. 41, G. A. R., Asbury Park, Wm. H. Carman, Commander, the Executive Committee of the Society decided to hold their Seventh Annual Reunion in their beautiful city. In accordance the following order was issued:

PRESIDENT'S ORDER.

TRENTON, N. J., February 9th, 1894.

COMRADE:

The Seventh Annual Reunion of the Second New Jersey Brigade Society, composed of the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 11th New Jersey Regiments, the 2d and 120th New York, the 26th and 115th Pennsylvania, 1st and 11th Massachusetts, 1st Maine Heavy Artillery and Clark's Battery, will assemble at Asbury Park, New Jersey, on Monday, April 9th, 1894.

The comrades will be met at the railroad station by a detail of the comrades of C. K. Hall Post and citizens' committee, who will escort them to place of meeting.

At 11:30 o'clock A. M. the Society will be called to order, in Educational Hall, for the transaction of the regular business, election of officers for the ensuing year, &c.

We expect to have with us a large number of the prominent officers who served with the old Brigade.

RALLY, COMRADES, and let us once more grasp the hand and look into the face of those who commanded and those with whom we touched elbows from '61 to '65.

Generals Sickles, Carr, Sewell, Ramsay, Price, Rusling and others will be there to greet you, and we hope to have Gen. Joseph Dickinson, Hooker's Assistant Adjutant-General, Gen. George H.

Sharp, of the 120th New York, Gen. S. W. Parks, of the 2d New York, with us.

Gen. Harry E. Tremain, of the old Excelsior Brigade, and Chaplain Edwin H. Stewart, will address the Society.

Comrade P. F. McManus, of the 71st Regiment New York Volunteers, will deliver a poem written expressly for the occasion.

Asbury Park is easy of access by railroad from all parts of the State, and everything looks promising for one of the largest and most pleasant reunions the Society has ever held.

The local committee who have the matter in hand not only very cordially invite, but do most earnestly urge their old comrades to visit them at their beautiful city by the sea. Quoting their words: "We intend to make the day and occasion one long to be remembered by the comrades of the old Second New Jersey Brigade."

By order of the Hon. John J. Gardner, President of the Society, Comrades James H. Bird and W. H. Carman have been appointed a local committee, with power to add to their number, to perfect the arrangements for the reception and entertainment of the visiting comrades.

Respectfully,

HON. JOHN J. GARDNER,

CAPT. U. B. TITUS,

Secretary.

Pres't 2d N. J. Brig. Society.

The comrades of C. K. Hall Post took the matter in hand, and in conjunction with a number of citizens formed a general committee. James H. Bird was appointed Chairman and Wm. H. Carman Secretary. They proceeded to carry out the details for the entertainment of the Society.

Proverbial as is the open-handed hospitality of the City-by-the-Sea, the comrades of the "Old Second New Jersey Brigade" and their friends will ever remember the loyal reception, the genial welcome accorded us on our arrival and manifested throughout the entire day, leaving nothing undone that would in the least enhance the enjoyment of the occasion. And not the

least was the kind remembrance of the Ladies' Relief Corps, who are always mindful of the wants of the old soldier, by furnishing a lunch of coffee and sandwiches, which was gratefully appreciated and enjoyed by all.

The Society assembled in C. K. Hall Post room. The President, Hon. John J. Gardner, being unavoidably absent, Col. John Schoonover, senior in command, presided.

Prayer was offered by Chaplain E. H. Stewart, after which the regular business of the Society was transacted.

Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

TRENTON, N. J., April 9th, 1894.

"We live in deeds, not years, in thoughts, not breaths ;

In feelings, not in figures on a dial.

We should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives

Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best."

Thus it is that our lives have been made up in a measure in deeds that count on the roll of our country's history—in thoughts that actuated to the accomplishment of that decision at Appomattox April 9th, 1865, of right against wrong, of freedom against slavery, of patriotism against rebellion, and of loyalty over treason; for the establishment of a free and undivided union of States, against the dismemberment of a rankling confederacy of contending commonwealths; then and there establishing for all time to come the grand, God-given declaration of Abraham Lincoln, "that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that the government of the people, by the people and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

"Nay, we are to resolve that if reason direct we must do it, and if we must do it, we will do it; and by the grace of God we did

do it," not stopping to think "that the journey to high honor lies not in smooth ways."

What higher honor should any man crave than the consciousness of having done his duty to the full measure of his ability, whether in command or in obedience to orders?

Assembled, as we are to-day, in this our Seventh Annual Reunion, each mindful of the part he took in the struggle for the right from '61 to '65, commemorating the day that loyalty stood supreme over disloyalty, re-establishing the principle that the government under the Constitution must and shall be preserved, are there any who would chide at these gatherings of old soldiers and say that they were but self-congratulatory associations? True, there are a few, but how small their caliber, how short their range; their windy puffs fall far short of even the skirmish line—they hardly disturb the most exposed vidette. And there are some who seem to think that the veteran has no further claim on the government than to gain his meager existence of penury and want, though crippled or sick he may be, the result of his service in the army.

On the other hand, there are many—yes, a good majority of the loyal people of our country—who are willing to ascribe honor and praise to him who fought against rebellion, and at the same time advocate that he should not be allowed to suffer for the comforts and necessities of life, but be pensioned to an amount that would keep him from our alms-houses or a pauper's grave.

We have in the United States Senate ten, and in Congress sixty-four Representatives who were Union soldiers. Are they all men who dare to advocate the soldiers' rights and stand by the widow and the orphan? There are some noble examples, we know—our honored President, John J. Gardner, and Geo. B. Fielder, of our own State, and we could happily mention, had we time and space, a number of others. But there is no one who stands more prominently before the country to-day as the exponent of this just principle than our honored, beloved Corps Commander, General Daniel E. Sickles.

It has been rightfully and truthfully said of him, that he fears not the thunders of the Executive nor the cruel heel of patronage, but stands to-day with the soldiers with whom he fought. And we voice with him, and say amen to the sentiment, that the Commis-

sioner of Pensions was not only guilty of bad law, but at the same time of bad manners. And I believe every one present will equally agree that the appointment of Hoke Smith as Secretary of the Interior was an insult to every soldier who fought against the rebellion.

Owing to the small balance in the treasury to meet the current expenses of the Society, the Executive Committee would respectfully call the attention of the members to the importance of punctual payment of the yearly dues.

IN MEMORIAM.

With the recurrence of our Annual Reunion, we are reminded that there are some names to be designated as accounted for. We have grasped their hand for the last time! They have joined the vanguard on the other side, and have lain down to sleep within the tent whose folds never outward swing.

I have been informed up to this date of the death of only one of our members. William C. Lee, Sergeant of Co. I, 6th N. J. Volunteers, expired on the eighteenth of March last, after only a few days' illness of typhoid pneumonia. Comrade Lee always took a lively interest in the welfare of our Society.

Out of four brothers, members of the old Brigade, three have fallen asleep, leaving but the one to follow.

These are impressive truths. Let us then, comrades, be vigilant, watchful for the muster-out and into that Grand Army where Thou, Oh, God! art the Supreme Commander.

Respectfully submitted,

U. B. TITUS,

Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

TRENTON, N. J., April 9th, 1894.

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 Atlantic City:

Balance last report.....	\$5 36
Initiation fees.....	3 00
Annual dues.....	36 12
Total.....	<u>\$44 48</u>

I have paid the following bills, as per vouchers:

The John L. Murphy Publishing Co.....	\$25 95
U. B. Titus (postage).....	5 00
	<u>\$30 95</u>

Balance on hand..... \$13 53

Also on hand twelve Brigade badges, valued at \$1 each.

Respectfully submitted,

JAS. H. TALLON,

Treasurer.

Approved—

WM. B. MASON,
 BENJ. MURPHY,
 E. R. GOOD,
 SAM'L PHILLIPS,
 J. E. SIMONS.

It was moved and carried that the Society now go into the nomination and election of officers for the ensuing year.

Gen. James F. Rusling and Harry J. Garrison were put in nomination for President. Comrade Garrison withdrew. The following comrades were nominated and elected:

PRESIDENT.

GEN. JAMES F. RUSLING.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

LIEUT. A. B. HUTCHINSON, Fifth New Jersey Regiment.
 CAPT. JOS. C. LEE, Sixth New Jersey Regiment.
 PRIVATE J. F. THOMSON, Seventh New Jersey Regiment.
 SERGT. E. GORDON, Eighth New Jersey Regiment.
 COL. JOHN SCHOONOVER, Eleventh New Jersey Regiment.

MAJ. H. ANDRES, Second New York Regiment.

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

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

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

COL. THOS. B. MATHEWS, First Massachusetts Volunteers.

COL. CHARLES RIVERS, Eleventh Massachusetts Volunteers

MAJ. JAMES F. COSSELL, Sixteenth Massachusetts Volunteers.

COL. NATHANIEL SHATSWELL, First Maine Heavy Artillery.

SECRETARY.

CAPT. U. B. TITUS.

TREASURER.

PRIVATE JAMES B. CLUGSTON.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.

Fifth New Jersey Regiment.

J. H. MELICK, W. S. COBB, RODERICK EGAN.

Sixth New Jersey Regiment.

CAPT. B. D. COOLEY, EDWARD JACKSON, JOHN QUIRK.

Seventh New Jersey Regiment.

CAPT. W. A. BARROWS, EMILE REINGLEIB, JOHN MACKEY.

Eighth New Jersey Regiment.

CAPT. W. H. HOWARD, E. W. OSBORN, ROBERT SMITH.

Eleventh New Jersey Regiment.

CAPT. W. H. HAND, ALPHEUS ILIFF, CAPT. E. R. GOOD.

Twenty-Sixth Pennsylvania Regiment.

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

REPORT OF MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.

Your committee have been informed of the death of only four of our members during the year past: James Colligan, Company B, Seventh New Jersey Regiment; ——— Flynn, Company B, Fifth New Jersey Regiment; Major P. M. Sunderling, Surgeon Eighth New Jersey Regiment, and Sergeant W. C. Lee, Company I, Sixth New Jersey Regiment. We are fully convinced that in the course of the invisible roll-call of the old Second New Jersey Brigade, others as well as these have been required to answer the final call. Therefore,

Resolved, That we fondly cherish the recollection of the fallen ones as our honored dead, and tender our sincere sympathies to their relatives, realizing, as we do so, that we should all be ready for the final muster-out.

E. H. STEWART,
A. L. SPARKS,
GEO. E. WILSON,
EDWARD DONNALLY,
ROBERT SMITH,
E. R. GOOD,

Committee.

Motion was made that the next meeting of the Society be held in May or July. The motion was lost.

On motion, it was decided to hold the next Annual Reunion Tuesday, April 9th, 1895, at Trenton, N. J.

The business meeting of the Society then adjourned.

The line was then formed under the command of Chief Marshal William Abels and his efficient aids, and marched to Educational Hall, where a most sumptuous collation was partaken of by the members of the Society, their friends and invited guests. After all had been fully satisfied with the many good things of the bounte-

ous feast spread before them by the very efficient local committee, attention was called, and we were invited up into the large audience-room of Educational Hall, beautifully decorated for the occasion. Chairman James H. Bird called the meeting to order, and invited the Rev. A. J. Miller to offer prayer.

Hon. Robert Allen, Jr., welcomed the Society on behalf of Monmouth county, referring to its historic connection with the Revolutionary War. Hon. Geo. M. Robeson was to have spoken in behalf of the State. The committee, learning that it would be impossible for him to be present, his duty was assigned to Hon. Henry M. Nevius. He also being officially prevented, detailed his law partner, Edmund Wilson, Esq., who said he was present to welcome all who served from other States with the boys of the old Second New Jersey Brigade, eulogizing the soldiers of our State and her loyalty for having sent eight thousand more than her quota to surpress rebellion.

The response was made by Col. John Schoonover, Acting President of the Society.

Chaplain E. H. Stewart introduced the following resolution, thanking all who had so hospitably contributed to the enjoyment of the day :

Resolved, That we desire to express our hearty appreciation of the entertainment and the royal reception we have this day enjoyed, and we would also make special mention of the untiring efforts of the Reception Committee, Gen. John C. Patterson, Capt. James H. Bird, Comrades Wm. H. Carman, Robert M. Worthington and Messrs. Geo. F. Wilbur, M.D., John D. Beegle and Uriah White; and the Citizens' Cornet Band, Elias Applegate, leader; Company A, Third Regiment, N. G. N. J.; Post Drum Corps, Jesse Green, leader, and to the C. K. Hall Post, No. 41, G. A. R., Comrade W. H. Carman, Commander, as well as to the Women's Relief Corps,

Mrs. Rosabell Casner, President, and the general public of Asbury Park, who have in any manner contributed to the hospitable entertainment of the Second New Jersey Brigade Society on this our Seventh Annual Reunion, and the inspiration of the copious display of flags and bunting, that eloquently speaks of the earnest patriotism of this country and the high appreciation of the soldiers of New Jersey.

After which he addressed the assembly, giving many reminiscences of the Brigade and the battles in which he was engaged. At the mention of General Hooker's name the vast hall rang with cheers. He said if Gen. Joe Hooker ever made a mistake it was of the head, and not of the heart. He also paid a glowing tribute to General Grant.

Major H. Andres, of the Second New York Regiment, made a few touching remarks, well received by the boys.

Comrade George B. Shebbard recited the "Coat of Blue" from his wheeled couch, which he is unable to leave.

POEM.

The following original poem was read by P. F. McManus, of the Seventy-First New York Volunteers:

To the Second New Jersey Brigade :

To old Atlantic's sea-girt shore,
 We greet our comrades brave and true ;
 And clasp their hands with love once more,
 Our glorious boys who wore the blue.
 And proud we are this day to meet
 Those heroes who such record made,
 And shake the hand and fondly greet.
 New Jersey's Second Grand Brigade.

When cruel war o'erspread our land,
 In 'sixty-one, that fateful year,
 New Jersey's sons, with courage grand,
 At country's call responded " Here."

They bade farewell to every tie
 That happiness had ever made,
 To wave our glorious flag on high,
 In New Jersey's Second Grand Brigade.

Their leader first was Colonel Starr,
 And after in the battles hot
 Grand Soldier Sewell, Glorious Carr,
 McAllister brave, and General Mott;
 While other Comrades grand and true,
 A gallant record there they made;
 Brave Ramsay, Price and Rusling, too,
 Were heroes of this old Brigade.

Where old Potomac flows so grand,
 Those gallant boys so brave and merry
 Encamped in lower Maryland,
 Near dilapidated old "Budd's Ferry."
 They tore "salt-horse" and munched "hard-tack,"
 And jeered at foes with calm derision,
 And ever-glorious "Little Mac"
 Placed them in "Hooker's Old Division."

At Williamsburg and old Fair Oaks,
 The Jersey boys were in the front;
 In thick saltpeter's flame and smoke,
 They bore the battle's deadly brunt;
 While through the swamps to "Malvern Hill,"
 Their line was just like dress-parade,
 While shot and shell kept shrieking still
 Among this glorious old Brigade.

At Bristow and at famed Bull Run,
 They in the front were fighting still,
 And history tells what deeds were done
 At Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville.
 And Gettysburg, where Sickles grand
 His record as a hero made,
 There in the front with his command,
 Fought gloriously this old Brigade.

From Wapping Heights to Centreville,
 To Mine Run, o'er the Rapidan,
 Their flags in front were floating still,
 Upheld by glorious Jerseymen.
 While Maine and Massachusetts grand,
 With Pennsylvania's sons so true,
 No braver soldiers in the land,
 They marched and fought with Jersey Blue.

And Sickles' brave Excelsior,
 Grand heroes of the Empire State;
 From first to last, all through the war,
 Their fighting was sublime and great.
 From Rapidan to Wilderness,
 And Spottsylvania, their record made;
 And where the bullets thickest hissed,
 They fought beside this old Brigade.

To Petersburg still in the front,
 This old Brigade, so tried and true,
 Still bore the battle's fiercest brunt
 And fought as heroes grand can do.
 Oh, glorious boys! who fought so brave,
 To name your battles all, I can't;
 For in the front your flags did wave,
 Till Lee gave up to Glorious Grant.

But, oh! sad memories will arise,
 Of gallant hearts we loved so well;
 Dear comrades whom we fondly prized,
 Who for their country fought and fell.
 Those heroes ever bold and brave,
 No more will hear the cannon boom;
 But while their country's flag shall wave,
 May glory guard their hallowed tomb.

Those years of strife have passed away,
 Whose trying scenes seem like a vision;
 Yet they were ever glorious days,
 We fought in Hooker's Old Division.
 And now in memory fight them o'er,
 And proudly point to record made,
 When fighting in the old Third Corps,
 With New Jersey's Second Grand Brigade.

Oh, gallant comrades, brave and true!
 With pride we greet you here to-day;
 And as our numbers do grow few,
 God bless you each and all, we pray.
 And may our glorious flag so free,
 From spotless honor never fade,
 And may they ever honored be,
 This grand and glorious old Brigade.

Adjutant-General W. S. Stryker was introduced as the person who rescued the New Jersey war flags when the State House was burned, some eight years ago. He

eloquently portrayed the beauty of our "Old Glory," and the patriotism it instilled in the hearts of all Americans.

Rev. Dr. Chandler, being introduced, related several incidents of the war which came under his notice through his warm friendship with Joel Parker, New Jersey's War Governor.

The last speaker, Comrade Ritchie, a Presbyterian clergyman, made an address full of patriotism, enthusing all with a fresh loyalty to country and flag, a fitting close to one of the most enjoyable Reunions of the Society.

Benediction was pronounced by Rev. Wm. T. Abbott, of Ocean Grove.

NEW MEMBERS.

ELIAS C. LEWIS, Co. H, Eighth Regiment, Asbury Park.

HENRY L. FRATT, Co. H, Fifth Regiment, Long Branch.