

THIRD  
RE-UNION

Fifteenth N. J. Volunteers,

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MORRISTOWN, N. J.,

August 17th, 1882.



MORRISTOWN, N. J.:  
"CHRONICLE" BOOK AND JOB PRINT.

1883.

## COMMITTEES :

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF REGIMENT :

Adj. E. D. HALSEY,  
 Lieut. E. G. BUDD,  
 Lieut. W. S. EARLES,  
 SILAS B. GENUNG.

### Sub-Committees appointed by Gen. Torbert Post :

Entertainment Committee:—John A. Clift, Jas. C. Youngblood, W. H. K. Emmons, W. S. Earles, Amos Pruden, James P. Sullivan, Aug. W. Cutler, Francis A. Day, Lewis Pierson, Joseph C. Bird and E. A. Doty.

Finance Committee:—Jas. C. Youngblood, Henry W. Miller, J. Frank Lindsley, Paul Revere, Wm. E. Church. H. H. Davis and H. G. Emmell.

Invitation and Reception Committee:—Henry C. Pitney, Alfred Mills, John Whitehead, Theodore Ayers, Richard M. Stites, W. S. Earles and H. M. Dalrymple.

Music Committee:—John R. Runyon, Wm. C. Caskey, W. W. Beers, Isaac G. Arnold, Wm. A. Halsted, W. S. Babbitt, J. D. Shawger and Wm. Broadwell.

Exercise Committee:—S. Pierson, H. M. Dalrymple, E. D. Halsey and W. S. Earles.

The Third Annual Reunion of the Fifteenth Regiment New Jersey Vols., was held at Morristown, August 17, 1882, the anniversary of the engagement at Winchester, Va., in 1864, when the First New Jersey Brigade and a division of Cavalry under the late Gen. A. T. A. Torbert, made stubborn resistance to Early's whole command.

An invitation had been extended to the regiment by Gen. Torbert Post, G. A. R., and the citizens of Morristown, who appointed the sub-committees to cooperate with the Executive Committee of the Regiment.

The citizens generally united in their efforts to do honor to the survivors of the 15th Regiment, while loads of people from the surrounding country and every train in the morning helped to swell the crowd.

The G. A. R. Post and Citizens' Committees had been working for several days, and on the morning of Thursday could find nothing left undone to add to the comfort and convenience of their guests.

The procession started from the depot about 9:30 in the following order:—W. E. Church, Marshal; Becker's Band; Morristown Committee and Invited Guests in carriages; 15th Regiment Association about 100 strong, with the old battle flags at their head; Dover Fife and Drum Corps and Maj. Anderson Post of Dover, 30 strong in bright new uniforms; Sedgwick Post of Hackettstown, 30 strong. A. T. A. Torbert Post, with about 60 men in line. Marching up Elm and South streets they were received at the Park by the Mayor and Common Council and Fire Department who gave the customary salute as the procession passed, and, falling in on the left, marched with it up Washington street, down High street and

Speedwell avenue and around the Park, when the parade was dismissed about 10:15.

The interval between that time and noon was spent in social intercourse, the rooms of Torbert Post, the Lyceum and Washington Headquarters being thrown open to their disposal.

At noon the assembly roll was beaten in the Park and the Fifteenth and Posts of the Grand Army fell in line and marched into Washington Hall where a superb collation had been prepared by the citizens of the town, which judging from the abundance of good things with which the tables were freighted, was sufficient for the entertainment of an almost unlimited number of guests. About four hundred sittings had been provided, and these were soon filled by the veterans, the officers and invited guests occupying seats at a table upon the stage.

Gen. Campbell commanded "attention," and Chaplain Haines invoked the Divine blessing, after which the vast company began with a will the consumption of the viands before them in the preparation of which the county seat gave evidence of the possession of an abundance of culinary skill.

At 1:30 o'clock the line was re-formed and proceeded to the Lyceum where the public exercises were held. Every seat and all the standing room in the large auditorium were packed with people, the veterans occupying the front tiers, and the whole presenting a very animated appearance. The decorations of the hall showed excellent taste. The national colors were artistically grouped at many available points; all around the gallery front festoons of bunting were caught up with cartridge boxes and bayonets; stands of arms packed upon the stage, upheld well won battle colors.

After a number of patriotic airs had been rendered by the band Maj. H. M. Dalrymple, who presided at the opening, introduced Rev. Mr. Durant, who offered prayer. The Glee Club of the veterans then sang, "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground," in the chorus of which the audience joined as in those of the other songs which interspersed the exercises.

Major Dalrymple in opening said :

*Ladies and Gentlemen :*

We commemorate to-day, the twentieth anniversary of the gallant and glorious 15th Regt. New Jersey Volunteers. Just twenty years ago these heroic men of Old Morris and Sussex, Warren, Somerset and Hunterdon counties sprang to arms at their country's call, and leaving their homes and dear ones, grasping sabre and musket went forth to put down treason and armed rebellion ; taking with them engraved in their hearts this motto : " One Country and One Flag, Victory or Death." During its history this Regiment numbered and bore upon its rolls some 1,800 men, to-day at its roll-call less than 200 responded, and as far as is officially known there are not 300 living members ; the majority have passed away and gone to answer the roll-call of our Great Captain among the armies of Heaven.

The living we have with us to-day as our distinguished guests, and we delight to do them honor. God bless them.

Comrades and fellow soldiers we welcome you with all our hearts, and I now have the pleasure of introducing to you, one of your own comrades-in-battle, Col. E. L. Dobbins of the 23d New Jersey Volunteers, who will now address you with words of welcome.

Col. E. L. Dobbins then made the address of welcome, which was in fact a brilliant and patriotic oration, meriting the frequent bursts of applause with which it was received.

"The Songs we Sang Upon the Old Camp Ground" was given by the Glee Club, and Major Dalrymple stated that he would now resign the chair to Gen. E. L. Campbell, who was received with cheers. He said that in looking back over the eighteen years which has intervened a picture came to him which he would endeavor to describe—the scene of which occurred at the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, when the First Jersey Brigade was required to feel of the enemy in front, and the 3d and 15th Regiments were ordered to do the job. In a moment the 3d deployed as skirmishers and the 15th formed a line of battle in the rear. He could hardly believe his ears when he received an order to charge with his men, for he had

an idea of what was on the other side. A finer line of glittering steel he had never seen than that which moved then. There was only one sign of wavering, on the left, and when he reached there he found it was because the men were in a bog. That little column went through the enemy's defense like a slug and made a hole, but 101 men fell in twenty minutes. One of them was Capt. Lewis Van Blarcom, whom he had the honor to introduce, minus the leg he left on that field.

The Captain (who succeeded Ira J. Lindsley as Capt. of Co. C.) after the applause, delivered an address in which he reviewed the history of the regiment from its organization till the time he left it, which elicited frequent applause.

The Glee Club sang "Victory at Last," and Gen. Campbell then thanked the citizens of Morristown for their unbounded hospitality and was sure he expressed the feelings of all the veterans of the 15th when he said "God bless the people of Morristown." He then delivered the address he had prepared and which was afterwards published in full in the *Jerseyman*.

His extended description of the battle of Winchester and the events preceding it in which the regiment participated was of the most graphic nature and interspersed with humorous incidents which kept his hearers in constant good humor. At the conclusion the "Battle Cry of Freedom" was sung.

In the annual election for officers of the Association which followed, all the old ones, as follows, were re-elected with hearty acclamation. Gen. E. L. Campbell, President; Adjutant E. D. Halsey, Secretary; Chaplain A. A. Haines, Treasurer. These, with Major Davis, and one member from each company, constitute the Executive Committee.

The place of the next re-union was left to the Executive Committee who decided on Newton.

The following resolutions, offered by Major Davis, were adopted with shouts of approval:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the 15th Regiment, N. J. Vols., be given to the members of A. T. A. Torbert Post and the other citizens of Morristown for the very

handsome and hospitable manner in which they have entertained us this day.

*Resolved*, That special thanks be given to the ladies of Morristown for the bountiful collation furnished by them for the members of the regiment.

Chaplain Haines was introduced amid enthusiastic cheering. He spoke touchingly of the comrades who had gone before but are not forgotten—of Capt. Bowman, of Co. A., Capt. Lindsley, of Co. C., Capt. Walker, of Co. D., Capt. Vanderveer, of Co. E., and others. Only a few of us remain, but we should hold their memories pure and fresh while life shall last. One word I want you to remember, and that is, duty. As you did your duty to your country once, do it now to yourselves and your God.

Hon. John Hill was introduced by Gen. Campbell. He spoke of the brave men of the 15th who died at the front and were never afraid of meeting the enemy. These re-unions should be kept up, that the generations since might know the work these veterans did in the conflict, that they might be stimulated to keep the flag of their fathers flying. His township, old Pequannoc, had furnished 888 men for the war, and well they did their duty as these men had done theirs.

In behalf of the surviving members of Co. C, Gen. Campbell presented to Chaplain Haines a beautiful pillow of everlasting flowers, bearing the name of the Company and Regiment and the badge of the Sixth Corps, in red flowers upon a ground of white.

H. C. Pitney, Esq., on being announced, said that it never seemed to him that anybody but soldiers had any right to talk to soldiers. The services of the soldier gives a man a sense of pride and respect which one who has not been a soldier can never feel. He complimented those who had done the work necessary to be done, and asserted that what all others had done is not to be put in comparison with the services of a single soldier who carried a musket. He spoke of the value of that personal service, of the incidents connected with the organization of this regiment, and the pleasure of their visit to-

day. He had never realized what war really was until he had visited a battle field and hospital after a conflict. He expressed the sentiments of all our citizens when he said that we have not had so much pleasure in years as to see here to-day the members of the 15th, and closed by expressing the hope that these re-unions would be held as long as two or three remained to take each other by the hand. In conclusion he made fitting recognition of their sufferings, hardships and dangers and wished for them a future as delightful as this day has been.

The Chaplain then dismissed the audience with a benediction.

This concluded the public exercises, which had continued for three hours, and the retreat was sounded, and the visiting veterans marched to the depot for their homes, all giving expression to the feeling of satisfaction that the day had been so replete with genuine enjoyment.

