1861

23d Regiment N. Y. Vols.

1885

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

—)OF THE(—

23rd Regiment N. Y. Vols.

THIRD ANNUAL RE-UNION,

—)HELD AT(—

ELMIRA, N. Y., JULY 4. 1885.

ELMIRA, N. Y.
GAZETTE COMPANY, PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS.
1885.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1885.

President.—GEN. N. M. CRANE,
CORNELLSVILL, N. Y.

Secretary.—R. B. VAN GORDER,
ELMIRA, N. Y.

Cor. Secretary.—MAJ. H. H. ROCKWELL,
ELMIRA, N. Y.

Treasurer.—D. C. SHERWOOD,
CORNING, N. Y.

Quarter-Master.—HIRAM T. SMITH,
ELMIRA, N. Y.

Vice-Presidents.—Co. A, D. B. BOILLEAU, Bath, N. Y.
" " B, LEWIS M. LAMB, Friendship, N. Y.
" " C, CHAS. O. DURLAND, Elmira, N. Y.
" " D, ELIAS W. PALMER, Corning, N. Y.
" " E, HUGH J. BALDWIN, Waverly, N. Y.
" " F, G. V. R, MERRILL, Elmira, N. Y.
" " G, ELIJAH HALLETT, Canisteo, N. Y.
" " H, J. W. PATRICK, Cuyler, N. Y.
" " I, W. L. NORTON, Watkins, N. Y.
" " K, LORENZO HOWES, Elmira, N. Y.

INTRODUCTORY.

About the 1st of September, 1883, the surviving members of the 23rd Regiment, N. Y. Vols, Southern Tier Rifles, whose names and places of residence could be ascertained, were invited to meet at Corning, N. Y., for the purpose of organizing a Regimental Association.

The number so notified was not large, for there had theretofore been no effort made during the twenty three years and more that had elapsed, to keep any record of the members of the regiment.

However, pursuant to such invitation, seventeen of the comrades assembled, comrade E. M. Royce was called to the chair, and comrade E. C. English acted as secretary.

It was unanimously resolved to organize an association, through which regimental reunions might be had, and in pursuance thereof Col. N. M. Crane was elected President; R. B. Van Gorder, Secretary; H. H. Rockwell, Corresponding Secretary; D. C. Sherwood, Treasurer; M. V. Doty. Quartermaster, also one Vice President from each company.

On September 16, 1884, the association again met at Corning, and in the absence of the President, comrade Joseph Furtherer took the chair. Forty comrades were in attendance, and every company of the regiment was represented, except "B." The meeting was held in a grove near the town, in connection with the veterans of the 86th and 141st N. Y. vols, and the Steuben county veterans associations. Tents were pitched, and a very pleasant time had, closing with a dress parade, in which the 23rd formed one com-

pany, and a camp fire was held in the evening. Comrade H. H. Rockwell of Elmira, was chosen President ; R. B. Van Gorder of Elmira Secretary ; D. C. Sherwood of Corning, Treasurer ; Hiram T. Smith of Elmira, Quartermaster, and one Vice President from each company. The time for holding the next reuniou was left to the officers, the muster roll of the regiment as printed in "Camp Fires of the 23rd" was called, and the known addresses of all comrades were taken, making nearly three hundred.

In May 1885, the officers of the association met and resolved to hold the annual reunion at Elmira, on the 4th of July, the comrades of that city agreed to tender their comrades from abroad a complimentary banquet, and a circular was prepared aud sent to every survivor of the regiment, whose name and address could be procured, earnestly inviting them to be present.

THE RE-UNION.

The arrangements of the local committee were very complete, The drill and banquet rooms in the Masonic Temple were procured, and handsomely decorated, and handsome satin ribbon badges were furnished to all members. A reception committee attended at all morning trains, and escorted the comrades to the rooms, which were thrown open at nine o'clock, for social greetings and intercourse. As will be seen by the list hereafter given, about 125 comrades were present. In addition to those, were many friends, citizens of Elmira and vicinity, representatives of other "home" regiments and comrades of the G. A. R.

The assemblage was thus described in the "Telegram" of the following day :

"More than 100 survivors of the Twenty-third regiment, New York Volunteers, attended the third annual reunion of that organization in this city yesterday. The brave "boys" commenced

gathering in the city as early as Friday, and many arrived on the early morning trains yesterday. The veterans are not quite so strong as they were when they first gathered in Elmira during those troublous times which first called them together. Their step is not quite so elastic, and the silvering hair tells of the passage of time between those days and now. Their eyes are not so keen and bright as twenty odd years ago, but the blood which courses through their noble hearts is as warm and patrotic as when rebellion reared its ugly head and threatened to destroy the government. Many of the "boys" as they are wont to call themselves, were but boys in reality then. Now they are getting to be pretty old boys, but they are still boys when they meet at a reunion or camp fire.

Of the Twenty-third regiment reunion it can truly be said that a better, more reliable lot of citizens of this country never assembled than the crowd which the roof of the Masonic temple covered yesterday."

Three hours flew swiftly by, in talking of old times, and renewing old friendships, the proceedings being agreeably varied with selections of martial music, by the Continental martial band of Elmira, who generously volunteered their services, and by the singing of old war songs led by Mr. Charles Palmer with his cornet, accompanied by Mr. Griff Palmer on the cabinet organ, until the assembledge was called to order for the purpose of holding the annual business meeting.

PROCEEDINGS.

Meeting called to order at 11:30 a. m., President Rockwell in the chair.

The Secretary being otherwise engaged, comrades J. W. Manier and Hugh J. Baldwin were chosen Secretaries, *pro. tem.*

The muster roll of the regiment was called and names and addresses of a large number of comrades taken in addition to those already on the roll of the Association.

The following are the names and places of residence of all the survivors of the regiment so far as known :

Those marked with a * were present at the Re-Union.

*GEN. N. M. CRANE, LT. COL., HORNELLSVILLE, N. Y.
M. H. MANDEVILLE, Q. M., ST. LOUIS, MO.
DR. W. A. MADILL, SURGEON, ARCHIBALD, PA.
REV. E. F. CRANE, CHAP., CORRY, PA.

COMPANY "A."

Lt. Ben Bennett, Hammondsport.
Lt. A. J. Tunnicliff, Bath.
Fred Arnd, "
S. A. Allen, "
J. R. Bennett, "
O. D. Bump, Addison.
*J. R. Braden, Penn Yan.
*D. B. Boilleau, Bath.
J. W. Boilleau, "
*W. H. Brooks, Hornellsville.
W. P. A. Brown, Bath.
*D. D. Chapin, "
C. C. Campbell, "
*F. A. Dickinson, "
*D. H. Dickinson, "
C. Dudley, Rothdale, Tex.
Horace Else, Bath.
*Joseph Furtherer, Bath.
A. S. Gould, Harrison Valley, Pa
W. A. Hopkins, Bath.
*C. Hush, Adrian.
A. H. Halsey, Whitesville, Pa.
J. H. Hammond, Avoca.
W. B. Kiney, Philadelphia, Pa.
A. S. Martin, Woodhull.
H. Mora, Wayland.
E. E. Ostrander, Kanona.
Wm. Pratt, Southport.
J. J. P. Potter, Hammondsport.
M. W. Reed, Wheeler Center.
Wm. Rutherford, Hammonton, N. J.
*C. W. Smith, Savona.
J. R. Schlick, New York City.
M. L. White, Hornellsville.

COMPANY "F."

Lt. M. C. Wilkinson, U S. Army.
Lt. S. N. Benedict, New Haven, Conn.
*Lt. G. V. R. Merrilt, Elmira,
Lt. J. H. Smith, "
H. Argetsinger, Baldwin.
Ezra L. Benton, Elmira.
Martin Bean, "
Nelson Brown, "
Wm. Beck, "
J. M. Berry, Troy, Pa.
Jas. Chriscaden, Branchport.
*D. Chase, Gilletts, Pa.
*Chas. Cassada, North Chemung.
R. Conklin, Wellsburg.
James Dunn, Elmira.
W. H. Dunn, Keuka.
Jas. Dildine, Elmira.
Albert Easton, Elmira.
A. D. Inman, Milton, Ia.
*M. W. Jenkins, North Chemung.
*Johnson Little, " "
Samuel McManus, Jersey City, N. J.
Oscar Nelson, Penn Yan.
Chas. G. Lewis, " "
*H. H. Peters, Elmira.
C. A. Pitts, Centerville, Brad. Co., Pa.
*Julius Schall, Southport.
D. Stedge, Towanda, Pa.
Rodney Stevens, Elmira.
Harris Taber, New York City.
*W. H. Tice, East Elmira.
*Ch' Thomas, Elmira.
*Geo. VanGorder, Elmira.
*Leroy Wyborn, Bath.
*Wm. Woodhouse, North Chemung.
*Geo. S. Whitlock, Elmira.

COMPANY "D."

Cap. L. Todd, Corning.
Lt. L. T. Colby, New York City.
A. A. Brown, Corning.
Henry Brown, Elmira.
J. A. Ball, Painted Post.
Wm. Byxbe, Lock Haven, Pa.
A. R. Crandall, Lexington, Ky.
C. H. Crandall, Andover.
A. A. Carmer, Scranton, Pa.
*Peter W. Calkins, Corning.
C. J. Chatfield, New York City.
T. J. Decker, Corning.
*L. A. Durand, "
A. B. Davenport, Oneida.
Timothy Dean, Millport.
E. C. English, Corning.
*J. A. Gilbert, Caton.
D. K. Gilbert, Lindley.
Jackson Gorton, Phillipsburg, Pa.
J. M. Heath, New York City.
W. P. Hogarty, Kansas City, Mo.
*H. C. Howell, Penn Yan.
Geo. J. Johnson, Leavenworth Kan.
D. C. Johnson, Lock Haven, Pa.
*Thos. Jones, Havana.
Nelson Jones, Corning.
Geo. E. Lacey, Buffalo.
E. H. Miles, Corning.
Wm. Messenger, Renova, Pa.
C. N. Mance, Elmira.
*E. L. Martin, "
Isaac Miles, Scio.
Peter McNeil, Caton.
Parker McIntosh, Swartwood.
Alfred Nash, Blossburg, Pa.
*Elias W. Palmer, Corning.
Geo. Platt, Williamsport, Pa.
Joseph Pitts, Towanda.
C. P. Quick, Avon.
*Ezra M. Royce, Thurston.
Ellis Randall, Athens, Pa.
D. H. Russell, Caton.
J. O. M. Russell, "
J. K. Rathbone, Larned, Kan.
*D. C. Sherwood, Corning.
D. B. Salmon, Elmira.
*S. H. Smith, Jr., North Elmira.
*Oliver P. Thomas, Corning.
S. E. Wolcott, Davenport, Ia.
Wm. Whitford, Kendall Station.

COMPANY "I."

Capt. J. H. Chapman, Corry, Pa.
Lt. S. W. Cass, Watkins.
B. J. Bond, Lodi.
*J. S. Ball, Hector.
*J. Hanley, North Hector.
O. Kelly, Ovid.
F. Matthews, Eddytown.
*W. L. Norton, Watkins.

Dan Collins, Owego.
Jacob Coon, Lawrenceville, Pa.
Geo. H. Carsons, Detroit, Mich.
*A. M. Coburn, Elmira.
A. B. Dart, Cayutaville.
F. S. Dimond, Fort Dodge, Kan.
*Geo. H. Dickens, Williamsport, Pa.
*C. M. Evarts, Hector.
Daniel Hogencamp, Mecklenburg.
*Silas Hogencamp, Trumansburg.
*W. E. Howard, North Hector.
*E. D. Hall, " "
*W. H. Price, Altay.
*E. Perry, Pine City.
*Wm. R. Paulding, Altay.
C. E. Roreson, Waterloo.
H. H. Sailor, Mecklenburg.
*S. A. Shewman, Moreland.
W. Sreeves, Watkins.
*S. M. Seamans, "
W. E. Smith, "
A. Wescott, North Hector.
*H. Wallenbach, Mecklenburg.

COMPANY "C."

Capt. Sumner Barstow, Grand Rapids.
Lt. M. VanBenschoten, Owego.
*Lt. C. O. Durland, Elmira.
*C. Bliven, Nichols.
B. W. Brown, Schenectady.
Wm. H. Camp, Owego.
J. W. Camp, "
J. J. Cole, Erwin Center.
Walter Curcendall, Tioga Center.
Charles DeGroat, Halsey Valley.
James Dinehart, Tioga Center.
S. Dean, Uniontown, W. Va.
D. Granger, Owego.
W. H. Harding, Waverly.
J, Loveliss, Smithbrro.
C. Lansing. Truxton.
W. Lollis, Nichols.
*John Mynhan, Tioga Center.
*G. K. McNeil, Nichols.
D. Ogden, Owego.
G. W Probosco, Owego.
M. M. Perry, Smithboro.
H. R. Smith, Waverly.
*A. J. Towner, Smithboro.
G. W. Truesdell, Jamestown.
L. VanDemark, Nichols.
H. VanGorder, Catlin
A. G. Wright, Owego.
Kelsey Witse "

COMPANY "H."

Lt. A. D. Waters, Cortland.
B enj. Austin, Truxton.
L. C. Ball, Marathon.
A. F. Bailey, Barre, Mass.
Fred Burrett, Bath.
*D. O. Clough, Groton.
Delos Daniels, Truxton.
Thomas Dodd, "
*A. W. Dunbar, Cuyler.
D. Dodge, McGrawville.
M. W. Down, Marathou.
J. J. Dodd, Truxton.
G. E. Ellsworth, Cortland.
*G. W. Edgcomb, "
M. Grant, Freetown.
*E. Ed. Harvey, McGrawville.
A. Lansing, Truxton.
Alex. Manier, Union Center.
*J. W. Manier, Binghamton.
H. J. Manier, 1106 Poplar-st., Phila.
A. McKivett, Syracuse.
*John O'Connor, Elmira.
*S. L. Palmer, Cortland.
*J. W. Patrick, Cuyler.
A. N. Rounsevell, Kansas City, Mo.
W. H. Seamans, Cuyler.
John Traver, Cortland.
H. Williams, Groton.
Joseph Walton, Auburn.

COMPANY "E."

*Lt. H. J. Baldwin, Waverly.
*Lt. Hiram T. Smith, Elmira.
Seeley Brink, Bowling Green, Ky,
*Rich. Andrews, Lockwood.
G. W. Brown, N. Spencer.
*H. C. Brown, Owego.
C. H. Bardon, Sunbright, Tenn.
*Sam. Hubbell, Waverly.
Joseph Knapp, Waverly.
*W. H. Leonard, Webbs Mills.
J. H. Lathrop, Binghamton.
*Geo. B. Morgan, Waverly.
*Robt. N. Manners, "
Wm. McCutchen, "

*Wm. M. Ball, Waverly.
*Jos. V. Bogart, Lockwood.
*Jas. V. Bogart, Hickstown.
*Edmund F. Bean, Chemung.
Chas. Burton, Big Flats.
G. M. Bosworth, Chemung.
*Geo. W. Collins, "
*B. F. Collins, Hornellsville.
*James Curren, Waverly.
Leroy Edgecomb, "
O. Elwell, Breesport.
*Geo. W. Foulke, Chemung.
*Miles Floyd, "
Eug. Goetchins, Waverly.
M. Harrigan, Athens, Pa.
*D. H. NcIntyre, Lowmans.
Wm. H. Morgan, Waverly.
*A. Morehouse, Jersey City, N. J.
*S. W. Olmstead, Moscow.
*F. A. Tyler, Waverly.
Jonas Swain, Towanda, Pa.
W. H. Sliter, Waverly.
Aaron Slade, Port Jervis.
Foster Whittaker, Port Jervis.
H. K. Woodward, Waverly.
A. E. Wolcott, Silver City, N. M.
Chas. Whittlesy, Beloit, Kan.
Thad H. Woodward, Chemung.
Sayer Wynkoop, Bay City, Mich.

COMPANY "K."

*Lt. F. Sullivan, Elmira.
Lt. J. D. Burt, Bradford, Pa.
Lt. Geo. N. Clute, DuBois, Pa.
D. S. Allen, Canton, Pa.
D. G. Beckwith, Pine City.
Marvin Beckwith, Elmira.
Stephen T. Baker, Webbs Mill.
W. W. Brown, Bradford, Pa.
*D. K. Bunnell, Elmira.
Geo. Baker, Jackson Summit, Pa.
C. A. Chapin, Milwaukie, Wis.
*Seymour Dexter, Elmira.
H. T. Dunn, Brunswick, Ga.
Geo. F. Dudley, Washington, D. C.
Charles Foster, Buffalo.
*W. E. Griffiths, Addison.
D. B. Hurlburt, "
*F. Hamilton, Elmira.
Simon Q. Howard, Quincy, Ill.
Jno. R. Frank, Sterling Run, Pa.
*M. G. Johnson, Elmira.
L. H. Kenyan, Ward, Alleg'y Co. N. Y.
Michael Grady, Elmira.
*G. W. Holbert, "
*L. Howes "
Jarias Lamoree, "
Michael Lemon, Binghamton.
George E. Lewis, Geneva.
Richard Long, SanFrancisco, Cal.
W. E. Maxon, Westerly, R. I.
F. H. Mandeville, U. S. A.
Ira N. McKibbin, Salamanca.
S. G. H. Musgrave, Elmira.
*A. Morse, Bath.
*E. B. Pickering, Elmira.
*Allen Packard, "
*Clinton Robbins, "
*H. H. Rockwell, "
*E. E. Rockwell, Lawrenceville, Pa.
*W. H. Robinson, Corning.
*Jos. M. Roe, Elmira.
Israel Reynolds, Williamsport, Pa.
Mark Shepard, Alfred Center.
T. C. Saunders, Devils Lake, Dak.
*Geo. W. Stratton, Addison.
*T. G. Stull, Binghamton.
*Chas. W. Sweet, Waverly.
S. W. Searles, Brainard, Min.
L. K. Tatcher, Kansas City, Mo.
*Jno. C. Todd, Southport.
*C. C. Thompson, Bentley Creek, Pa.
*R. B. VanGorder, Elmira.
Geo. A. Williams, DeSmet, Dak.
H. P. Wormley, Quincy, Cal.
*Wm. M. Walters, Bradford, Pa.
*N. P. Young, Rathboneville.

COMPANY "G."

J. Arnold, Tyrone.
*J. T. Brigdon, Hornellsville.
C. Brown, Oswago, Pa.
B. Collier, Boston, Mass.
J. Cone, Grand Rapids, Mich.
J. A. Derby, Avoco.
E. A. Edwards, Andover.
L. D. Hawley, Hornellsville.
W. Jones, Burns.
*B. O. King Canisteo.
E. Morgan, Tallahasse, Fla.
Wm. H. Manhart, Howard.
*R. C. Morgan, Canisteo.
*G. W. Miller, Watkins.

*Wm. H. Foster, Susquehanna. Pa.
Levi Force, Oakland, Cal.
John F. French, Cameron.
D. Fleet, Tyrone.
*Henry Hathaway, Tioga Pa.
F. Hallett, Canisteo.
*Elijah Hallett, Canisteo,
A. W. Osgood, Suspension Bridge.
*A. Prentice, Hornellsville.
A. Stewart, Howard.
H. J. VanScoter, Buffalo.
W. K. Wentworth, Burns.
S. A. Zimmerman, Bradford, Pa.

COMPANY "B."

Capt. William Cole, Cuba.
Lt. L. B. Main, Pleasantville, Pa.
B. G. Bartle, Port Allegany, Pa.
C. J. Allen, Friendship.
J. B. Bigelow, Cuba.
E. B. Coats, Friendship.
Jno. Coats, "
Chas. E. Coon, Washington, D. C.
W. W. Halliday, Cuba.
E. H. Keller, Cuba.
*Lewis M. Lamb, Friendship.
James M. Lewis, Centerville, Pa.
S. S. Randolph, Cuba.
A. B. Roberts, "
L. B. Scott, Friendship.
Rufus Scott, Wellsville.
*G. W. Wilcox, Wirt.

Total.....356.
Present at Re-Union.....116.

The comrades will confer a favor by sending the name and address of any comrade not in the foregoing list to the corresponding secretary.

H. H. ROCKWELL,
100 LAKE ST., ELMIRA, N. Y.

A recess was had of fifteen minutes.

Comrades again assembled.

Minutes of last re-union (at Corning), were read and approved.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President.—Gen. N. M. Crane, Hornellsville, N. Y.

Secretary.—R. B. VanGorder, Elmira, N. Y.

Corresponding Secretary.—H. H. Rockwell, Elmira, N. Y.

Treasurer.—D. C. Sherwood, Corning, N. Y.

Quarter-Master.—Hiram T. Smith, Elmira, N. Y.

Vice Presidents.—Co. A, D. B. Boilleau, Bath, N. Y., Co. B, Lewis M. Lamb, Friendship, N. Y., Co. C, Charles O. Durland, Elmira, N. Y., Co. D, Elias W. Palmer, Corning, N. Y., Co. E, Hugh J. Baldwin, Waverly, N. Y., Co. F, G. V. R. Merrill, Elmira, N. Y., Co. G, Elijah Hallett, Canisteo, N. Y., Co. H, J. W. Patrick, Cuyler, N. Y., Co. I, W. L. Norton, Watkins, N. Y., Co. K, Lorenzo Howes, Elmira, N. Y.

On motion of Col. Crane the place for holding future meetings was fixed at Elmira, N. Y., and August 30th, 1886, was designated as the date of the next meeting.

A collection was taken, amountiug to $28.38.

Treasurer reported as follows :

Cash received at last meeting.....	$ 9.50
Expended	5.12
Balance on hand	$ 4.38
Amount now on hand	32.72
Less expenses of this meetings	

On motion the out-going President and Secretary were directed to procure the proceedings to be printed and sent to all members.

At 1:45 p. m. the Association adjourned for dinner and re-assembled at 5 p. m.

On motion of Col. Crane the thanks of the Association were tendered to the Elmira comrades, for the splendid reception accorded it and to the ladies who had so generously furnished the beautiful floral tributes.

On motion of Comrade Rockwell, a vote of thanks was tendered to the Continental Band and all other citizens and civilians who had contributed to our pleasure.

The resolutions were adopted with cheers.

On motion of comrade Seymour Dexter, it was resolved that the comrades be requested to bring their wives and daughters to the next re-union.

On motion the Association adjourned.

J. W. Manier, Secretary, pro. tem.

H. H. Rockwell, President.

THE BANQUET.

After the business had been finished the Continental drum corps played the dinner call and followed it by a march, to which music the veterans marched into the banquet hall with true military step. Two tables extending the entire length of the hall and loaded down with all the choice edibles that a connisseur of the epicurean art could desire, and tastefully decorated and ornamented with choice flowers, greeted the sight of the comrades. The chairs about the tables were speedily filled, and the attack on the choice edibles was carried on with a bravery equal to that shown by the diners when they advanced on the enemy at Antietam or elsewhere during the war. Words of praise for comrade R. B. VanGorder, under whose supervision the meal had been gotten up, were frequent and well bestowed. The beautiful floral designs were greatly admired. . The most noticeable piece was an elegant design, the gift of Mrs. H. D. Wells. The figures "1861" and "1885" worked in the bank of flowers were conspicuous and appropriate. Another very handsome design bore a card with the inscription "From Eloise Hoffman—in memory of Colonel Hoffman." The figures "23" were marked on the pillow. Two baskets of choice flowers were the gift of Mrs. J. Sloat Fassett, and other offerings were by Mrs. M. Coburn, Mrs. John Arnot, Mrs. Stephen T. Arnot, Mrs. George W. Hoffman and Mrs. John S. Hoffman. After the meal had been discussed to the satisfaction of the "boys," clay pipes and good tobacco were produced and the room rapidly assumed the appearance of an old fashioned camp-fire. After the

smoking had been enjoyed a reasonable time, the Palmer brothers and John Hill led in singing that good old song "Marching Through Georgia." When the singing had been concluded Major Rockwell delivered the following

ANNUAL ADDRESS:

Comrades—On April 15, 1861, the first war meeting was held in Elmira, and the first enlistments made of men who formed the nucleus of the Twenty-third regiment. On May 16, 1861, our field and staff officers were commissioned and our organization completed. On the Fourth of July, 1861, we made our final parade in the streets of Elmira; left for the front the next day, July 5, and on the night of July 7 slept on the sidewalk in Washington. In a day or two we went into camp on Meridian hill, where, on July 17, General Diven and his daughters brought us our colors, a gift from the ladies of Elmira. We were reviewed by President Lincoln, Secretary Seward, Senator Harris, David Wilmot, Governor Bigler and Hon. R. J. Walker, every one of whom long since died. Shall we ever forget them? The tall, awkward president, in pepper and salt clothes, striding up and down in front of our line without the slightest idea of keeping step to the music. Beside him, looking almost diminutive, the secretary of the state, taking two steps to his one. How little we thought of what the future had in store for these two men. Nor shall we forget the earnest and eloquent words of General Diven as he gave us the colors: "Soldiers, behold the figure of Liberty side by side with Justice, both reposing on the same shield, and on its base is inscribed "Excelsior." The ladies who send these colors would rather see them folded around your corpses than see them dishonored on the field of battle."

Comrades we followed those colors almost two years. We upheld them at Cedar mountain, Rappahannock Station, Gainesville, Second Bull Run, South mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg. In storm and sunshine, in victory and defeat, we acquitted ourselves creditably and honorably, so as to win the admiration and respect of our commanders. Said General Doubleday, when in command of our division: "The Twenty.third is the coolest regiment in the field that I have." General Howard, at Antietam, addressing his own flying men, pointed to the the Twenty-third

and said; "Men, that is the way to leave the field. That regiment is acting like soldiers." And when our term of enlistment had expired we brought those colors back to Elmira, and on May 13, 1863, again paraded her streets, receiving a welcome from her citizens, and then broke ranks and went our several ways, never to meet again as a regiment. But we were not utterly dissevered. In camp and in field, on the weary march and in the fire of battle, we had formed ties that shall never be broken. We had learned how common trials, dangers and adversities knit men's hearts together.

"The strongest bond that bearded men can know,
The soldiers' fellowship of weal or woe."

And now, after a lapse of twenty-two years, we again assemble in the city of Elmira. But not all. Gallant Colonel Barney Hoffman has been mustered out. Brave Major Gregg lies sleeping with him in our beautiful Woodlawn, which they helped to dedicate thirty years ago. Adjutant Hayt and Captain Doty both died fighting under the same flag as when with us, but in a new organization, and with them were many other brave boys of the old Twenty-third. Many died like Doty, on the field of battle, and still more have died since. Every day adds to the roll of our dead. Only the other day our Quartermaster, Bingham, who had promised me to be present at this meeting, was laid away at his boyhood home at Warsaw. Including recruits, we had on our rolls 913 men. We lost 237, leaving 676 at the close of our term. Of these we have on our rolls the addresses of about 300 known to be living. They are widely scattered in different states and territories from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast. I am glad so many of us are present here to day. We are growing old. Gray heads and beards, and wrinkled faces are the rule and not the exception among us. Would that we could sum up the results of these twenty-two years. So far as we can do so the out-come seems creditable. I know of only one of our number who has gone to state prison, and one to congress. Several have been sent to the legislature and served their time and are now trying to lead honest lives. There are some bank officers who have not gone to Canada, some lawyers, doctors and preachers, but the most of us are plain business men, mechanics and farmers. I believe that, as a rule, we are better citizens for having been soldiers. We learned what

citizenship in an undivided union is worth by realizing what it cost. We have out-grown the illusions of youth and have learned that the battle of life is a hard one, with trials, dangers and adversities to meet just as we met them in 1862 in Virginia and Maryland, and we try to meet them in the same spirit that we did them. Let us thank God that so many of us are spared and are to-day permttted to clasp hands in renewed fraternity. On behalf of our association I welcome you one and all to this meeting.

The address was enthusiastically received and President Rockwell stated that in the unavoidable absence of Mayor Henry Flood he would call upon General Diven, who had presented the regiment with its colors, to deliver the address of

"WELCOME."

The General was loudly cheered as he took the floor, and his remarks were listened to with great attention. "Comrade Rockwell," said he," is very fertile in his imagination. I remember the presentation of the colors very well, but for the eloquent words attributed to me you are largely indebted to Comrade Rockwell's vivid imagination. I should have been glad to have made the speech if I could have thought of the words." Concluding he paid a merited tribute to the memory of the lamented Col. Hoffman. The Palmer brothers and their choir followed him by singing the "Star Spangled Banner," and the comrades joined heartily in the chorus.

"THE TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT."

This toast was responded to by General N. M. Crane, of Hornellsville. His appearance was greeted with a regular old battle cheer that shook the temple, and it was several minutes before the applause died out. The comrades of the 23rd and the 107th loved their old commander, whose response touched every

heart, and when he concluded the cheers and applause broke forth with renewed vigor. He spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman and Comrades of the 23rd Regiment:

I feel much the responsibility of any attempt on my part to make a proper or suitable respone to the sentiment proposed the 23rd Regiment. I feel very deeply the enthusiastic response given me by my old comrades of the 23rd. I stand before you the only representative and survivor of the field officers of the gallant old Regiment. The thoughts to me are full of sadness when I remember our gallant Colonel Hoffman, a man endowed with splendid qualities as a soldier, and full of all the generous impulses of a noble and honorable nature, and Major Gregg, brave, generous, patriotic and earnest in the cause for which he fought. I am grateful beyond measure to meet so many members of my old Regiment on this occasion Most of you I have not seen for twenty-two years, and your presence to-day brings back vividly the day of twenty-four years ago, when we left our homes and friends to encounter the dangers and hardships of the battle field; all young, full of patriotism, to defend our country, without bounties or hope of future reward. It was with you I first learned my actual experiance of war. I remember well our first battle and the impression it made upon me. I was in command, in consequence of the unfortunate illness of our much loved Colonel. I remember it only as yesterday, the pale determined faces of the regiment, as I glanced along the line and saw firm determination on every face to do your whole duty. My greatest anxiety was for myself, whether I would have the nerve to face the chances of battle without showing the fear that was within me. How I succeeded you all know. How gallantly you all performed your duty under the terrible ordeal, *I* know. I remember how much pride I felt in my command at Bull Run 2d, when our entire brigade was forced back broken and decimated, except our regiment, which retired from the field in as perfect order as though on dress parade, bringing off all of our wounded comrades; and again at Antietem, how gallantly you performed in that terrible charge of Hooker's, through the cornfields, made famous by the fearful slaughter, and at last when forced back by the breaking of Sedgewick's division, how grandly you retreated by the rear under fire. Such firmness and disclipine I never saw equalled in any other field. I also remem-

ber the presentation of the beautiful Stand of Colors by the city of Elmira, and the generous welcome given us on our return at the expiration of our term of service. I have on two occasions experienced a warm and generous welcome by this beautiful city on the return of two favorite Regiments, and I feel a just pride that I was one of the members of the Regiments thus honored, and that I shared with you all your dangers and hardships. We returned the Colors, and the torn and smoke begrimmed folds told the story of how we had carried them. After all these years, the recollections of those scenes are clear to me and to you, and as years roll on we will feel more and more the ties that bind us together. Let us bring to these reunions our little sons, that they may learn the reasons and the cause of our warm love for each other, and the causes for which we fought, that if the necessity ever arises they may be inspired with the same patriotism and love of country which inspired us. I hope we shall meet annually for many years to come. Twenty years have silvered the heads of most of us, but the memories of our past will always be fresh, and the ties grow stronger as the years roll on. I again thank you, comrades, for the warm and heartfelt welcome you have given me.

"LETTERS OF REGRET."

Major Rockwell then read the following letters of regret from Governor Hill and Gen. M. R. Patrick:

State of New York, }
Executive Chamber, Albany, July 1, 1885. }

Major H. H. Rockwell, President, 23rd Regimental Association, Elmira, N. Y.

DEAR SIR.—I bave received your cordial invitation to attend the reunion banquet of the 23rd Regimental Association, July 4, at my home.

It would give me great pleasure to meet the survivors of the regiment, and my friends and fellow townsmen who will be present but I regret that prior engagements render the acceptance of the courteous invitation impossible.

Most sincerely hoping the reunion will be a success in every feature' I remain

Very truly yours,
DAVID B. HILL.

National Millitary Home, Ohio.

Major H. H. Rockwell, My Dear Sir: –I have just received your letter of invitation of the 26th inst.

It would certainly give me very great pleasure to meet the remnants of the 23d, that served with me so faithfully in the war of the Rebellion, but I have been for a number of weeks on the sick report and am only this week getting so as to move around a little.

Please present my kind regards to all the membens of the Regiment, and any others of the old brigade who may be present at the reunion

Yours truly,

M. R PATRICK.

The letters were enthusiastically cheered, and at the conclusion of Gen. Patrick's, the audience rose to its feet and joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne."

"OUR BOYS"

The response by Hon. Seymour Dexter to this sentiment was an eloquent one. He paid deserved tribute to "our boys," who went forth at their country's call to save the union. The applause was frequent and of the heartiest kind and the only regret was that his time was so limited that his fine response was too brief. The comrades would have gladly listened an hour longer to their comrade orator – Seymour Dexter.

After the applause had subsided, the comrades sung with spirit "The Girl I left behind me," and Samuel A. Payne, associate editor of the TIDINGS, responded for

"THE PRESS"

So wittely as to elicit roars of laughter, and continuous applause. In concluding he promised the veterans that the PRESS would "continue to immortalize their achievements at the usual rates, terms strictly in advance."

"COLONEL HOFFMAN AND MAJOR GREGG."

Leroy W. Norton, Esq., of Watkins, responded to this toast. Mr. Norton does not waste any sentiment, but stood up and told the truth, giving credit where credit is only due, but his description of Gen. Gregg as Colonel of ihe 179th, walking out in front of his regiment before Petersburg and telling the boys to follow him, and the description of the charge upon the albatoirs, was a splendid

tribute to that gallent officer, and earned for Mr. Norton rounds of applause.

Geo. W. Hoffman, Esq., brother of Col. Hoffman, presented his compliments to the comrades in the form of a liberal supply of cigars, which were promptly accepted and devoted to use for which they were designed.

After more singing the President announced as the next sentiment,

"THE WOMEN OF 1861 TO 1865,"

and called on Col. G. L. Smith to respond, Col. Smith made a felicitious and happy response, keeping the comrades alternately in smiles and tears, and his effort was warmly received.

"GENERAL U. S. GRANT."

Colonel Caldwell, in his usual eloquent manner, responded to this toast, closing by reading an original poem, which left a pleasant impression upon the comrades and gave the colonel rounds of applause.

"THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC."

No comrade is better prepared to speak of the Grand Army of the Republic than Arthur S. Fitch, and upon this occasion he acquitted himself in a brilliant manner. He reviewed the history of the noble order and closed his response by reciting some lines that were cheered to the echo.

Sandwiched between the toasts the Continental Drum Corps and Palmer's quartette furnished patriotic music, which was a special and pleasing part of the programme. At the conclusion,

COMRADE CRANE AGAIN

addressed the meeting, and called for a vote of thanks and three cheers for the ladies who had so kindly donated flowers. It is needless to say that the motion prevailed, as did one made by President Rockwell, that the Palmer brothers and other civilians who had assisted in the exercises should be thanked and cheered for their kindness. All hands joined in singing "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," and the pleasant meeting was at an end.