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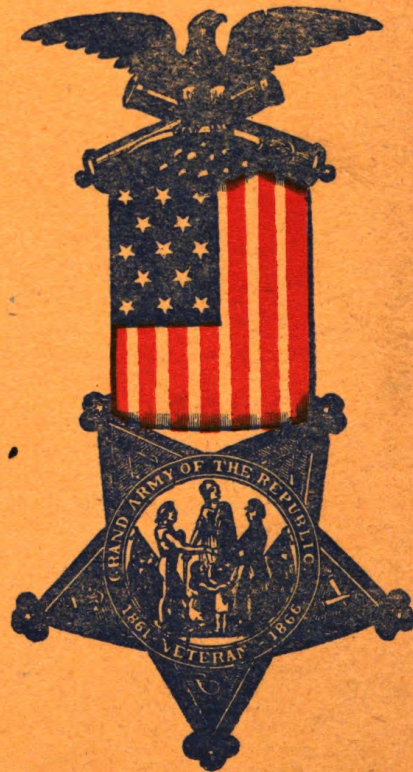
**Journal of the
66th
Annual
Encampment**

Department of Michigan

**Grand Army
of the
Republic**

★ ★

**Held at Bay City
June 23rd-24th
1944**



JOURNAL
OF THE
SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

GRAND ARMY
of the **REPUBLIC**

HELD AT

BAY CITY, JUNE 23, 24, 1944

WITH ADDRESS

OF

WILLIAM H. FERGUSON, *Department Commander*
AND REPORTS OF OTHER DEPARTMENT OFFICERS,
GENERAL ORDERS, ETC.

*A spirit of true comradeship was beautifully exemplified by the
citizens of Bay City.*

Verily "I was a stranger and ye took me in."

FRANKLIN DEKLEINE COMPANY
PRINTERS. LITHOGRAPHERS. BOOKBINDERS
LANSING - 1944



MAR 16 1945

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Headquarters Department of Michigan,
Grand Army of the Republic,
Lansing, 1944.

Hon. Harry F. Kelly, Governor of the State of Michigan :

Sir: I have the honor to transmit to you the Journal of the Sixty-sixth Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan, Grand Army of the Republic, held in Bay City, June 23-24, 1944, as required by the statutes.

WILLIAM H. FERGUSON,
Department Commander.



HARRY F. KELLY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Department Commander..... William H. Ferguson, Kent City
Department Senior Vice Commander..... Ralph Towner, Allegan
Department Junior Vice Commander..... George Heusted, Mayville
Chaplain..... Martin J. Warner, Grand Rapids
Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General.....
Eugene Owen, Grand Rapids

OFFICIAL STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Judge Advocate..... Orlando Le Valley, Caro
Patriotic Instructor..... Charles Riker, Cement City
Chief of Staff..... James Rooney, Port Huron
Senior Aide..... George Morgan, Grosse Pointe
Sergeant National Colors..... E. M. Holt, Shelby
Sergeant Department Colors..... Baker T. Cole, Tecumseh

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION

Orlando Le Valley..... Caro
John Killeen..... Portland
Cyrus Perrigo..... Vassar
Corydon Foote..... Flint
George W. Wilt..... Ogden Center
Secretary..... Leah M. Simpson

DELEGATE AT LARGE TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

Martin J. Warner..... Alternate, Ralph Towner



WILLIAM H. FERGUSON
Department Commander 1943-1944



EUGENE OWEN
Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General 1943-1944
Died in Office February 24, 1944

PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS

Russell A. Alger, deceased	Detroit, 1867
Wm. A. Throop, deceased	Detroit, 1868
Wm. Humphrey, deceased	Adrian, 1870
C. V. R. Pond, deceased	Lansing, 1878-9
A. T. McReynolds, deceased	Grand Rapids, 1880
Byron R. Pierce, deceased	Grand Rapids, 1881-2
Oscar A. Janes, deceased	Detroit, 1883
Rush J. Shank, deceased	Lansing, 1884
Charles D. Long, deceased	Flint, 1885
John Northwood, deceased	New Lothrop, 1886
L. G. Rutherford, deceased	Hart, 1887
Washington Gardner, deceased	Albion, 1888
Michael Brown, deceased	Big Rapids, 1889
Henry M. Duffield, deceased	Detroit, 1890
Charles L. Eaton, deceased	Paw Paw, 1891
Henry S. Dean, deceased	Ann Arbor, 1892-3
James H. Kidd, deceased	Ionia, 1893-4
Louis Kanitz, deceased	Muskegon, 1894-4
S. B. Daboll, deceased	St. Johns, 1895-6
Wm. Shakespeare, deceased	Kalamazoo, 1896-7
Aaron T. Bliss, deceased	Saginaw, 1897-8
Alex L. Patrick, deceased	Detroit, 1898-9
Russell R. Pealer, deceased	Three Rivers, 1899-1900
Ethan M. Allen, deceased	Portland, 1900-1
James Van Kleek, deceased	Bay City, 1901-2
Edward C. Anthony, deceased	Negaunee, 1902-3
D. B. K. Vanraalte, deceased	Holland, 1903-4
George H. Hopkins, deceased	Detroit, 1904-5
E. C. Cannon, deceased	Evart, 1905-6
Joseph B. Griswold, deceased	Grand Rapids, 1906-7
William Jibb, deceased	Adrian, 1907-8
Charles Foote, deceased, died in office	Kalamazoo, 1908-9
Geo. L. Holmes, deceased, to fill vacancy	Detroit, 1909
James M. Greenfield, deceased	Flushing, 1909-10
Samuel J. Lawrence, deceased	Detroit, 1910-11
Geo. W. Stone, deceased	Lansing, 1911-12
John T. Spillane, deceased	Detroit, 1912-13
Frank R. Chase, deceased	Smyrna, 1913-14
Riley L. Jones, deceased	Detroit, 1914-15
Henry Rankin, deceased, died in office	Ypsilanti, 1915-16
Eli Strong, to fill vacancy, deceased	Kalamazoo, 1915-16
Lucius H. Ives, deceased	Mason, 1916-17
William O. Lee, deceased	Port Huron, 1917-18
David S. Howard, deceased	Pontiac, 1918-19
Edwin F. Lamb, deceased	Detroit, 1919-20
Henry Spaulding, deceased	Lansing, 1920-21
J. J. Holmes, deceased	Eaton Rapids, 1921-22
William Mears, deceased	Manton, 1922-23
Lyman A. I. Gilbert, deceased	Highland Park, 1923-24
Marvin C. Barney, deceased	Flint, 1924-25
John Steel, deceased	Benton Harbor, 1925-26
James R. Stephenson, deceased	Grand Rapids, 1926-27
Charles A. Bartlett, deceased	Detroit, 1927-28
A. C. Estabrook	Allegan, 1928-29
A. C. Estabrook	Allegan, 1929-30
A. C. Estabrook	Allegan, 1930-31
Orestus Blake, deceased	Jackson, 1931-32
Orestus Blake, deceased	Jackson, 1932-33
Charles M. Cook, (died in office)	Kalamazoo, 1933-34
John Killeen	Jackson, 1933-34

Frank D. Keeler, deceased **Saginaw, 1934-35**
Ira M. Stewart, deceased **Petoskey, 1935-36**
Ira M. Stewart, deceased **Petoskey, 1936-37**
S. H. Carlton **Kalamazoo, 1937-38**
A. C. Estabrook, deceased **Grand Rapids, 1938-39**
A. F. Chappell, deceased **Detroit, 1939-40**
Martin J. Warner (advanced) **Grand Rapids, 1940-41**
John M. Park, (Orlando Le Valley presiding) **Coopersville, 1941-42**
Orlando Le Valley **Caro, 1942-43**
William H. Ferguson **Kent City, 1943-44**

PAST SENIOR VICE DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS

H. M. Bigelow, deceased	Montague, 1878-9
No record for 1880 or 1881	
G. R. Wright, deceased	Benton Harbor, 1882-3
M. A. Merrifield, deceased	Union City, 1884
George L. Fisher, deceased	Fowlerville, 1885
S. A. Hosmer, deceased	1886
W. W. Cook, deceased	Lansing, 1887
True Hart, deceased	Midland, 1888
William H. Russell, deceased	Clio, 1889
E. L. Negus, deceased	Chelsea, 1890
C. L. Brundage, deceased	Muskegon, 1891
James A. Crozier, deceased	Menominee, 1892
L. M. Ward, deceased	Benton Harbor, 1893
Herman C. Frieseke, deceased	Owosso, 1894
Norm G. Cooper, deceased	Sturgis, 1895
Lucian W. Lyon, deceased	Saginaw, 1896
L. W. Sprague, deceased	Greenville, 1897
Moses F. Carlton	Port Huron, 1898
J. C. Bontecou, deceased	Petoskey, 1900
Theo C. Putnam, deceased	Grand Rapids, 1901
Marvin C. Barney, deceased	Flint, 1902
L. D. Vankleek, deceased	Pontiac, 1903
S. A. Aldrich, deceased	Muskegon, 1904
John J. Cornwell, deceased	Battle Creek, 1905
M. D. Morgan, deceased	Traverse City, 1906
Riley L. Jones, deceased	Saginaw, 1907
Edwin B. Nugent, deceased	Bay City, 1908
J. J. Drake, deceased	St. Joseph, 1909
Henry P. Shutt, deceased	Kalamazoo, 1910
A. J. Ward, deceased	Holland, 1911
H. C. Rankin, deceased	Ypsilanti, 1912
John A. Wardell, deceased	Lansing, 1913
Frank L. Manning, deceased	Jackson, 1914
Eli Strong, deceased	Kalamazoo, 1915
Thomas Davey, deceased	Detroit, 1915
M. M. Andrews, deceased	Bay City, 1916
H. W. Stevens, deceased	Tecumseh, 1917
J. J. Holmes, deceased	Eaton Rapids, 1918
George H. Keating, deceased	Bay City, 1919
M. D. Richardson, deceased	Lansing, 1920
E. A. Jennings, deceased	Flint, 1921
Samuel D. Bailey, deceased	Detroit, 1922-23
John A. Miller, deceased	Grand Rapids, 1923-24
Edwin R. Havens, deceased	Lansing, 1924-25
George W. Howe, deceased	Port Huron, 1925-26
Willis W. Crocker, deceased	Jackson, 1926-27
William E. Walker, deceased	Benton Harbor, 1927-28
J. P. Riley, deceased	Kalamazoo, 1928-29
J. P. Riley, deceased	Kalamazoo, 1929-30
John Killeen	Jackson, 1930-31
S. S. Puckett, deceased	Petoskey, 1931-32
J. J. Reiser (died in office), deceased	Grand Rapids, 1931-32
C. M. Cook, deceased	Kalamazoo, 1932-33
Eugene Owen	Grand Rapids, 1933-34
Ira Stewart, deceased	Petoskey, 1934-35
Theodore Burden, deceased	Holly, 1935-36
Theodore Burden, (died in office)	Holly, 1936-37
J. F. Beaumont	Milford, 1937-38
Gilbert LaCroix, (died in office)	Mt. Clemens, 1938-39
J. F. Beaumont, (died in office)	Milford, 1939-40
M. L. Warner	Grand Rapids, 1940-41
Orlando Le Valley	Caro, 1941-42
Cyrus Perrigo	Vassar, 1942-43
Ralph Towner	Allegan, 1943-44

PAST JUNIOR VICE DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS

S. B. Kitchell, deceased	Coldwater, 1878
W. A. Palmer, deceased	Grand Rapids, 1879
W. A. Palmer, deceased	Grand Rapids, 1879-80
Dallas Johnson, deceased	Montague, 1881
Oscar A. Janes, deceased	Hillsdale, 1882
J. N. Kellar, deceased	Saginaw, 1883
M. H. Humphrey, deceased	Three Rivers, 1884
H. F. Higgins, deceased	Petoskey, 1885
August Gobel, deceased	Detroit, 1886
Thomas H. Williams, deceased	Jackson, 1887
George W. Stone, deceased	Harrison, 1889
William Jibb, deceased	Adrian, 1890
Wm. H. Marston, deceased	Grand Rapids, 1891
Thomas M. Wiley, deceased	Owosso, 1892
E. C. Anthony, deceased	Negaunee, 1893
James M. Greenfield, deceased	Flushing, 1894
Oscar Palmer, deceased	Grayling, 1895
James O. Bellaire, deceased	Grand Rapids, 1896
Ren Barker, deceased	Reed City, 1897
D. C. Spears, deceased	Azalia, 1898
S. H. Mallory, deceased	Lake Odessa, 1900
Samuel J. Lawrence, deceased	Wyandotte, 1901
H. A. Backus, deceased	Detroit, 1902
M. D. Richardson, deceased	Lansing, 1903
Edward S. Jamison, deceased	Marine City, 1904
Dan J. Wilson, deceased	Jackson, 1905
S. M. Kent, deceased	Grand Rapids, 1906
O. Palmer, deceased	Grayling, 1907
Henry Spaulding, deceased	Hartford, 1908
George W. Wheeler, deceased	Boon, 1909
Albert Dunham, deceased	Jackson, 1910
George I. Nash, deceased	Marcellus, 1911
J. J. Holmes, deceased	Eaton Rapids, 1912
Charles A. Coolidge, deceased	Detroit, 1913
Marvin C. Barney, deceased	Flint, 1914
Thomas Davey, deceased	Detroit, 1915
Alison L. Bryant, deceased	Mayville, 1916
E. E. Lewis, deceased	Coldwater, 1917
Frank Lester, deceased	Mason, 1918
William G. Miner, deceased	Portland, 1919
E. S. Post, deceased	Grand Rapids, 1920
George G. Freeman, deceased	Detroit, 1921
John Seel, deceased	Benton Harbor, 1922-23
A. C. Estabrook	Allegan, 1923-24
Arthur E. Ferry, deceased	Owosso, 1924-25
Josiah Creque, deceased	Jackson, 1925-26
George S. Farrar, deceased	Port Austin, 1926-27
J. P. Riley, deceased	Kalamazoo, 1925-26
Wm. Barrett, deceased	Bay City, 1928-29
James Churchill, deceased	Pontiac, 1929-30
A. F. Chappell, deceased	Detroit, 1930-31
C. M. Cook, deceased	Kalamazoo, 1931-32
Frank D. Keeler, deceased	Saginaw, 1932-33
John W. Finch, deceased	Greenville, 1933-34
John W. Finch, deceased	Greenville, 1934-35
Edmond Rogers, deceased	Allegan, 1935-36
J. F. Beaumont, deceased	Milford, 1936-37
Eugene Owen	Grand Rapids, 1937-38
William Parker, deceased	Lake Odessa, 1938-39
Ira M. Stewart, deceased	Petoskey, 1939-40
Orlando LeValley	Caro, 1940-41
Cyrus Perrigo	Vassar, 1941-42
M. A. Loop	Adrian, 1942-43
George Heusted	Vassar, 1943-44

ROSTER
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
JANUARY 1, 1944

CUSTER POST NO. 5, GRAND RAPIDS.

Chartered September 27, 1878. Membership 2.
 Post Commander—Eugene Owen.
 Martin J. Warner.

WOODBURY POST SO. 45, ADRIAN

Chartered February 13, 1882. Membership 1.
 Post Commander—Charles E. Riker.

EDWARD POMEROY POST NO. 48, JACKSON.

Chartered March 9, 1882. Membership 1.
 Post Commander—John Killeen.

SHIELDS POST NO. 68, SHELBY.

Chartered July 27, 1882. Membership 1.
 Post Commander—E. M. Holt

WHITESIDE POST NO. 143, CARO.

Chartered May 25, 1883. Membership 1.
 Post Commander—Orlando Le Valley.

STEELE BROS. POST NO. 441, MASON.

Chartered December 31, 1897. Membership 1.
 Post Commander—Holden Albro.

Comrades at Large—Jan 1, 1944	Sponsors
George Culver	Bessie Nimmerfall Aux. No. 8
William Dubay	Mary Wood Tent No. 13
Corydon Foote	Tent No. 20
George Heusted	Past Presidents Tent No. 14
Martin A. Loop	Tent No. 13
James F. Lyon	Blanche Griffith Aux. No. 8
Oscar Mott	Tent No. 34
George Morgan	Camp No. 8
Nelson Porritt	Tent No. 40
James Rooney	Tent No. 18
Homer Sherwood	Aux. No. 8
Ralph Towner	Tent No. 41
William Ferguson	Tent No. 44
Cyrus Perrigo	

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

HELD AT
BAY CITY—JUNE 23, 24, 1944

WITH ADDRESS
OF
WILLIAM H. FERGUSON, *Department Commander*
AND REPORTS OF OTHER DEPARTMENT OFFICERS,
GENERAL ORDERS, ETC.

The Sixty-Sixth Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan, Grand Army of the Republic was called to order in Suite 142, Wenonah Hotel, Bay City, promptly at 9:30 o'clock, Friday, June 23, 1944. Commander W. H. Ferguson presiding.

Commander: Comrades, I greet you in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty; though our numbers are few, I hope we have a pleasant and profitable Encampment. I shall depend on the Secretary to keep the business before us. The Chaplain will lead us in prayer.

Chaplain Martin Warner:

Dear Lord, our Protector and Guide we give thanks that we are able to meet here with our Comrades and Secretary. We thank Thee for our lives and for all the great blessings given us and our Country. Be with us and guide us in this meeting and at last receive us all in Heaven. We ask in Jesus name. Amen.

Commander Ferguson: The Secretary will call the roll of officers. Commander Ferguson, Judge Advocate Le Valley and Chaplain recorded present.

Commander: We have lost our Jr. Vice Commander, Quartermaster General Owen and ten comrades since last we met. We stand for a thoughtful moment in silent tribute.

Commander asks Chaplain Warner to take the chair while the Secretary reads

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S ADDRESS TO THE OFFICERS
AND COMRADES OF MICHIGAN GRAND ARMY OF
THE REPUBLIC.

Dear Comrades:

Saturday, June 19, 1943, in the city of Lansing you elected me to the honored position of Commander of the Michigan Department; the ceremony of Installation was conducted by Commander in Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans and almost at once I entered on the pleasant duties that were to continue through the year, by attending with the Comrades and Secretary, a dinner sponsored by the Aides of the Woman's Relief Corps. In the afternoon we visited the Capitol that I might visualize the Headquarters, where our Secretary carries on the work of the Grand Army. We left for Grand Rapids, late, tired and happy to again "serve".

August 26—the arrival of Miss Simpson at our Country home, to confer with me and outline plans for the National Encampment was the forerunner of two happy days, our only regret that her duties forbade her remaining longer as our guest.

September 14—I attended the meeting of the Woman's Relief Corps, at this meeting my wife was initiated; a very fine lunch was served and the ladies showed me every kindness and consideration; I enjoyed this meeting very much.

On the 19th accompanied by Mrs. Ferguson we left Grand Rapids by train for the National Encampment at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Arriving just at dusk, we taxied to the Hotel Schroeder where our Secretary had engaged a delightfully comfortable room and made every arrangement for our ease and pleasure. During the week I rode in the parade with Comrade Owen, and out to Juneau Park to enjoy the U. S. Marine Band; Attended the banquet, honoring C. in C. Dumser as guest of Mrs. Elizabeth Calliau, Department President of the W. R. C. and the dinner given by the Veterans Administration at Wood, Wisconsin, in Company 8, Mess Hall, a most elaborate and delightful affair. For all the courtesies and gifts I received I express deep appreciation.

I attended every session of the Encampment with exception of the very last as I was taken suddenly ill that afternoon; the following morning after close of Encampment on the advice of the Dr. and sanction of my wife and our Secretary, I was taken by ambulance to the Veterans Administration Hospital where I remained nearly two weeks, receiving every care and medical aid that could be rendered. Our C. in C. Jones was resting there at same time and we enjoyed some very pleasant visits together. Miss Katharine Flood, National Secretary, in the midst of her

endless work, took time to call on me, this I thought unusually kind and considerate.

The month of October found me improved in health and to avoid the rigors of the winter in the Country we moved to Grand Rapids.

In November our Secretary notified me of the sudden passing of Past Dept. Commander Carlton. Through the kindness of Dept. Sr. Vice Linsley of the Sons, with Dept. Chaplain Warner, we motored to Kalamazoo only to find a change had been made in the day of the service; we paid our respects to our Comrade at the funeral home: and at the services not being able to return to Kalamazoo, the Department was represented by our Secretary Simpson.

December brought several happy gatherings with our Allied Orders. I was able to visit Comrades Porritt and Warner at the Home, and Comrade Owen who was ill at his home, and enjoy two visits of our Secretary. On the 12th of January Comrade Owen was admitted to the Soldier Home Hospital; a week later seemingly much improved we attended the birthday party in his room, planned by our Secretary and assisted by the Daughters—a happy affair as Comrades Warner and Porritt, three Civil War widows, Dept. Sr. Vice Commander of the Sons, and many friends were with us.

I was not able to attend Preliminary meeting in Bay City accordingly I delegated the Secretary to preside and represent the Department.

February was a busy month. With Comrade Warner have a part in the Tableau program on St. Valentine night; motor to Kalamazoo to Regional meeting of the Sons making a short speech; on Washington's birthday addressed the grade pupils at Straight School—a fine program and presentation of Flag by Auxiliary to V. F. W.

Miss Simpson had arrived in the morning to visit Comrade Owen and accompany us to the school exercises. Comrade Owen seriously ill did not recognize us.

On the 25th Mrs. Ruby Anglem, of Fenton, Past Department President of the Daughters and Mrs. Pat Buchanan made a nice long call, much enjoyed.

February 26, drove to Soldiers' Home to call on Comrade Owen and was informed he expired between 1 and 2 A. M., a severe shock to us. Visit Comrades Warner and Porritt who are saddened at the passing of their friend and Comrade. Miss Simpson arrives from Lansing. I feel I must make special mention of the great kindness of Sr. Vice Linsley through these trying days, always ready to take us to Soldiers' Home, with Miss Simpson to make arrangements for the Ritual service for our Comrade, then to the funeral home where we pay our respects and to the Chapel where Comrade Owen lay in State the day of the service.

Early Wednesday morning Mr. and Mrs. Linsley, Department Chaplain Warner, Department Secretary Simpson and Miss Eleanor Giradot drove to Mancelona to attend the last sad rites for our Comrade as he was laid to rest in the family lot in his home town. I did not feel equal to a 300 mile trip in one day though my thought went with them.

The following week a long distance call from our Secretary, that she would arrive on next bus with important message for me; this was a request from the Commander in Chief, that I accept the appointment of Quartermaster General, the office made vacant by the passing of Comrade Owen as Miss Simpson will continue the work at Headquarters, I appreciate the honor that is mine.

April 19th with Department Chaplain Warner, Mr. and Mrs. Linsley and Miss Giradot, motor to Portland to spend the 96th birthday of Comrade Killeen with him and the members of the Relief Corps and many friends who gathered to pay him honor, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. Green with whom he has lived more than fourteen years; another delightful party planned by our Secretary.

The early weeks in May found Comrade Warner quite ill. I visit him several times as does our Secretary.

May 5th, attend the Initiation ceremony as exemplified by Eva Gray Tent of Daughters as my wife became a member.

May 8th, 1944 will always hold first place in memories of my birthday; and I record another kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Linsley who graciously offered their home for the birthday party planned by our Secretary and sponsored by Eva Gray Tent; although the rain poured all day Comrade Le Valley, his daughter Ivah and Mrs. Kirk with Mr. Kirk, motored from Caro; Mrs. Elizabeth Colliau, Department President of the Woman's Relief Corps, from Detroit; Mrs. M. Harold Saur, wife of our State Senator from District 17 Kent City; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Bettes from Sparta; Secretary Simpson, Lansing; and about thirty guests seemed not to mind the rain. The great birthday cake made by Mrs. Pat Buchanan was not only gorgeous with its 96 Flags and flowers but really delicious and soon nothing remained but the decorations, altogether it was a grand day long to be remembered. My only regret our beloved Comrade Warner was not permitted to attend though he is much improved.

My last public appearance in Grand Rapids before returning to our country home will be to have part in a supper given by the Sons.

Memorial Day I will be guest of honor as only Civil War Veteran in the exercises in Sparta where I shall give the Gettysburg Address at the Cemetery.

Reviewing the year with our Secretary has been a pleasure; I marvel how Miss Simpson with her manifold duties can keep a record of my slightest activity and that of our staff officers for these reports, my true thanks are hers, no word of mine can bring to you her devoted service; now as we enter the "Sunset Trail" may God give her strength to go with us to the end. A portion of sorrow has been mine in the passing of so many Comrades, yet I know they are bivouaced on a happy shore.

In deep gratitude to all I bring my administration to a close and reaffirm my Loyalty to my successor and to the Grand Army of the Republic.

In F. C. and L.,

WILLIAM H. FERGUSON.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The possibility that no Encampments will be allowed in 1945 must be considered; I therefore recommend that we express our choice as to city, but leave final decision in the hands of our Secretary and Board to be promulgated in General Orders; Secretary to notify heads of the Allied Orders.

II. Realizing the assistance and comfort the visits of our Secretary have been to me and our Comrades, I recommend her travel expense be allowed and whenever possible the Michigan Department be represented by her at the funeral of our Comrades.

III. That again we affirm our Loyalty to National decisions and agree to carry on as a Department so long as one Comrade survives.

IV. That we record our approval of legislation, passed by the House and now before Senate Committee, granting pension to every Civil War veteran's widow, not heretofore eligible.

W. H. FERGUSON,

Department Commander.

Chaplain Warner: What is your pleasure with this report:

Judge Advocate Le Valley:

I move we discuss the recommendations separately so Miss Simpson can explain each one; Miss Simpson reads the new legislation regarding Pensions. After general discussion of all as presented by Commander—the motion made by Comrade Le Valley “that this fine report be received and approval of each recommendation be given” carried and so ordered by Commander.

Commander Ferguson resumes the chair with a word of thanks to Comrade Warner.

A visitor enters.

Secretary Simpson: Commander I present Brother Charles Lester Department Patriotic Instructor, SUVCW.

Commander: We welcome our Son.

Brother Lester: It is a great honor to me to bring greetings to the Comrades of my Father. As Department Patriotic Instructor of the Sons, I have tried to bring as much happiness to our Detroit Comrade, George Morgan, as I could, now the only one left us in Detroit. I called on him just before leaving hoping he would be able to attend but he has not been well since Memorial Day and was not able to make the trip but he sends greetings to every Comrade and hopes you will have a grand time. His daughter, Mrs. Miller joins in these good wishes.

Commander Ferguson: Son, I thank you in the name of my Comrades for this visit and the message from Comrade Morgan; carry our greetings and good wishes for restored health to him. We had counted on his being with us.

Secretary adds a few words for her "home friends" and presents badge of Encampment.

Commander Ferguson: Secretary, please present the next report.

**REPORT OF ASSISTANT ADJUTANT AND QUARTERMASTER
GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN,
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC**

To Comrade William H. Ferguson, Department Commander:

I have the honor to submit the report of the Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General as prepared by the Department Secretary from the books kept at Headquarters for the year ending June 15, 1944; the Supplemental report to appear in the Journal as our Encampment closes June 24th.

The passing of Comrade Owen in February brought to me the added honor of serving our Department as Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General; I held a long conference with our Secretary this month as she visited and explained the work of the past year with our Comrade Owen who so thoroughly understood the Department work.

MEMBERSHIP

Number of POSTS June 1, 1943	8
Number of POSTS June 1, 1944	5
Number of members June 1, 1943	25
Number of Members June 1, 1944	14

So far as we know only one veteran of the Civil War now living in Michigan is not a member of the Department. Our Secretary has made every effort to enlist his interest by enrolling as a Comrade at Large but to no avail. Our report to National showed 21 on our roll December 31, 1943, for whom the Per Capita Tax of one dollar each was sent to National, the past six months has seen Comrades with whom we have served many years slip away; their work well done, they entered the reward promised the FAITHFUL.

Cash on hand as shown on last report ending June 1 . . . \$239.44

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ENDING JUNE 30, 1943

Divided as follows, Defense Bond \$18.50 with Cash Balance \$220.94

Receipts

Gift from Woman's Relief Corps	\$100.00
Ladies of the G. A. R.	4.00
Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War	5.00
Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans	5.00
Lyman A. L. Gilbert Corps, of Detroit	3.00
Sale of Amendment10
Total	\$338.04

Disbursements—items in Ledger	\$101.78
Cash balance	\$236.26
Audited and approved—bills rendered Quartermaster— Eugene Owen	
Forward Cash balance, July 1, 1943	\$236.26
Receipts, ending June 15, 1944	\$729.93
Total Cash	\$966.19
Disbursements ending June 15	\$581.54
Cash Balance	\$384.65

Assets: one Defense Bond, \$18.50.

Four dollars advance Per Capita Tax from Comrade Morgan.

The books of the Secretary are splendidly kept; every item however small the disbursement is entered in the Ledger for my approval and the bills filed. At personal expense she has the books audited and presents the statement of bank balance as received from Cashier. This work would be impossible for any Comrade; I appreciate our Secretary and her devotion to every Comrade.

I wish to express my thanks to Commander Ferguson for this appointment.

Sincerely in F. C. and L.,
MARTIN WARNER,
Asst. Adjt. & Asst. QM. General.

Commander announces that following the death of Quartermaster General in February, he appointed Comrade Warner to finish the term.

Comrade Le Valley: It is a fine report and shows strict economy in handling our funds; the gifts help us out and help us show a balance in funds so I think we can be sure of going to another Encampment as long as our Secretary looks after us. Report accepted with thanks.

Commander suggests that after the Chaplain and Patriotic Instructor reports are read by Secretary all others appear in Journal without reading. Consent given. Secretary explains that countless letters have been written to comrades and members of our Allied Orders through the year, asking for a report of every activity of the Comrades and that from the replies the reports are compiled; it is no longer required of our Comrades to fill long detailed report blanks.

REPORT OF DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN



MARTIN J. WARNER
Dept. Chaplain

William H. Ferguson, Commander:

Only through our Secretary can I keep in touch with our comrades; from the many letters received at Headquarters we find every comrade physically able joined with the patriotic organizations in observing Memorial Sunday, Memorial Day, Flag Day and all Anniversaries. No Post meetings are held but every Commander remembers his members of past years.

Reports show that our Commander attended all services and gave the Gettysburg Address in Sparta. The parade was routed past the home of James Lyon in Menominee, the only comrade in that area, he reached his one hundredth birthday last September; Comrade Le Valley, Caro; Oscar Mott, Benton Harbor; Charles Riker, Cement City; Cyrus Perrigo, Vassar; Ralph Towner, Allegan; Homer Albro, Leslie; George Morgan, Detroit were honored guests of their communities several leading the parades.

For the first time I rode alone, sadly missing Comrade Owen.

Thousands of Flags on graves and flowers strewn on the waters, not one forgotten; nine comrades attended church service; one unmarked grave reported for which Miss Simpson has made application for the headstone.

Attended always by some faithful member of our Allied Orders I have enjoyed two luncheons with Tent No. 2, DUV. and an evening with the Sons; had a part in the tableau program given by Tent No. 2; attended the party planned by our Secretary for Comrade Owen on his 96th birthday; gave the Roll of the 17th Illinois Infantry at the Flag presentation in Straight School; motored to Portland to spend the day with Comrade Killeen, another party planned by Miss Simpson for his 96th birthday; was honored in having a Corps named for me but too ill to attend the Institution ceremony conducted by Department President, Elizabeth

Colliau; have given two broadcasts regarding my service and the Grand Army.

Fourth of July, our Commandant Baker received a call from St. Joe, asking if they could have a Civil War veteran to lead the parade, his answer was "yes, Comrade Warner". I was royally entertained, escorted there and returned to the Home, always with a trained nurse in attendance.

I attend church service every Sunday and the Bible study on Tuesday, led by Chaplain Swart, in the Auditorium of the Hospital.

The sudden passing of Comrade Owen was a great shock; with Comrade Porritt we had been a happy three in the Home. I conducted the Ritual service in the Chapel where he lay in state and the following day with Secretary Simpson journeyed to Mancelona to pay our tribute of respect as he was laid to rest in his home city, the long trip of three hundred miles made possible by the kindness of Sr. Vice Commander Linsley of the Sons, Mrs. Linsley and Miss Eleanor Girodat who accompanied us.

In April death called Comrade Porritt and I am left alone.

One by one they reach that shining shore
Yes, one by one.

In May Comrade Killeen was admitted to the Hospital and I anticipated days of happy comradeship but this was not to be as he survived only a short two weeks.

Flag Day was spent quietly at the Home with our Secretary to review my year that she may have my report ready for Encampment, a deep sense of gratitude is mine without her I would be lost, indeed. We visit two Civil War widows.

To every member of our Allied Orders, the entire Staff of the Home and Hospital and the many new friends of the year my thanks are freely given for the courtesies heaped upon me.

MARTIN J. WARNER,

Department Chaplain.

Always a happy interruption in routine business to receive the greetings and report of the work of our Auxiliary, the Woman's Relief Corps.

William H. Ferguson, Commander, Department of Michigan Grand Army of the Republic. As President of the Department of Michigan—Woman's Relief Corps, I wish to extend to you and your Comrades our very best wishes for a happy and successful encampment, and to tell you of the work done by your Auxiliary during the year which is now drawing to an end.



ELIZABETH D. COLLIAU
Department President



IDELLA MacNEAL
Department Secretary

No. of Corps March 31st, 1943	105
No. of Corps March 31st, 1944	105
No. of Corps instituted before March 31st, 1944	1
No. of Corps disbanded before March 31st, 1944	1
No. of Corps instituted after March 31st, 1944	2
No. of members, March 31st, 1943	5552
No. of members, March 31st, 1944	5814
Cash expended by Corps for relief	\$697.65
Cash expended by Department for relief	\$ 25.00
Relief other than money	\$2,479.78
Child welfare other than money	\$212.85
Cash by Department to non-pensioners at Soldiers Home	\$ 24.00
Cash to Detroit Chapter—Red Cross to purchase case workers automobile	\$ 1,000
Cash to National for blood plasma fund	\$7,853.25
Cash to Miss Lillibridge for ladies at Soldiers Home	\$ 50.00

And now dear Commander our year is ended; we assure you the Woman's Relief Corps will always carry on and we are happy to have the very great honor of being your Auxiliary and to renew once again our pledge of loyalty.

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH D. COLLIAU,
Department President.

Commander Ferguson:

I am fairly overcome with the amount of work accomplished by our Auxiliary and the immense amount of money disbursed in their war service; it is marvelous. Now, Miss Secretary, what have you good for us, so far reports are most satisfying.

Miss Simpson presents the many visitors who have called to pay their respects to the Grand Army of the Republic—Past Department Presidents of the Daughters—Mrs. Ruby Anglem and Marie Robinson, Miss Girodat, Mrs. Elizabeth Regan, Mrs. Eyestrom, Mrs. Nygard and Mrs. Martin; Commander has a word of greeting for all. Reporters and photographers call, before we resume business.

Commander: Present whatever seems necessary.

Miss Simpson reads requests to hold Charters; one from Edward Pomeroy Corps No. 5 to hold and care for the Charter of Post No. 48, disbanded on the death of Comrade Killeen. Fenton Corps No. 66 and Tent No. 25 of Fenton ask to hold charter of the disbanded Post No. 24, and the tattered Post Flag. Secretary explains each would be held in a building considered permanent. Requests were granted.

A communication from the Army and Navy Union asking to grant honorary membership to every comrade of the Grand Army. Not being familiar with the Union and considering so few comrades present it was decided to hold action on the request. Secretary instructed to acknowledge the courtesy offered.

Answering the alarm at the door, Miss Simpson presents Past Dept. Commander of the Sons who was Commander Le Valley's partner, last year.

Brother Birt Hammond of Jackson: Commander and Comrades I just couldn't let the morning pass without greeting you and extending in the name of Department Commander Tiffany and all the Sons our good wishes. I hope you are enjoying yourselves—it looks as though you were—so comfortable in your big chairs.

Comrade Le Valley: Glad to see "my Son" come again.

Commander Ferguson: Carry our greetings to your Commander, we repeat, "come any time".

Communications continued. Account of the patriotic work done by Mrs. Rozellia King and Mrs. Aiken. Recounting the many pleasant visits with our Comrade Mott, still interested in Memorial Day work. Secretary calls attention to the family Service Flag with its 25 stars loaned to us by Mrs. King which graces our wall and the beautiful floor Flag, gift of Department of Michigan Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War to which we pledge Allegiance.

Commander: Secretary, we are highly honored by these courtesies, please write these good friends how greatly we appreciate their kindness. A beautiful bouquet was sent in "for the Secretary" as it bears no name of the sender may this word of thanks reach the donor; we all enjoy it.

Regrets and best wishes received from Comrades Morgan, Towner, Lyon, Albro, Riker, Culver and the President of Vassar W. R. C., who had hoped to bring Comrade Perrigo.

More visitors are announced—our old friend Perle Fouch and our new one William H. Marshall, good wishes and pleasantries exchanged and the pledge to “always stand ready to assist the Comrades of the Grand Army” is renewed.

INVITATIONS: To hold 1945 Encampment in Lansing from Hotel Olds; Wenonah Hotel, Bay City; Grand Rapids Convention Bureau and Pantlind Hotel in Grand Rapids. All so desirable, each presented and discussed separately. Motion by Comrade Warner, seconded by Comrade Le Valley, we accept the invitation to meet in Grand Rapids if details work out as anticipated by the Secretary and in accordance with the resolution offered by the Commander which has been approved.

Comrade Warner speaks of the passing of his three Comrades in the Home, leaving him alone again and thanks the Secretary for many visits through fair or foul weather, through happy or sad hours and the comradeship enjoyed with Commander Ferguson as he wintered in Grand Rapids. Secretary Simpson: This brings to mind my record of last year which you have approved with the wish I continue such visits to comrades, travel expense allowed. I thank you for the confidence expressed, only asking when you want me let it be known—I will come. Motion by Comrade Warner, seconded and carried that “the Secretary use her judgment in making visits, whether called for or not” and that all comrades known to be ill receive card, gift or visit “from the Secretary”.

We recess while more pictures are taken and receive other visitors with greetings and gifts.

“Friendship is the golden chain that binds our hearts together” is proven as group after group clasp hands with the comrades, wishing them God Speed and tender care “Till we meet again”.

Commander calls to order: Secretary explains the envelopes presented by Mrs. Genevieve Viets, Past Department President of the Ladies of the G. A. R. in memory of her father, Comrade Metzger, contain money to get “just what you like best”. The other gifts and envelopes from Mrs. Kate Bowen, Department President of the Ladies and from the President of Lyman Gilbert Corps No. 59, Detroit, honoring Department Commander Lyman Gilbert for whom their Corps is named. In all the years since the passing of comrades Metzger and Gilbert this memory visit has been made. Gone from our midst, the inspiration of their lives remains with us.

Commander: The Secretary informs me all business is completed; we are now ready for election of officers.

Comrade Le Valley: We have been informed it is legal to elect a comrade who is not present; this is done in National. I think it would be well for us to do this as we have all held the offices, it would be fine to pass the Commander office to one not here.

Comrade Warner: I object to that, I think any one not attending should not receive such a high office. As presiding officer, Comrade Ferguson offers no comment. After some discussion Comrade Le Valley nominates Comrade Ferguson who declines; Comrade Warner is nominated, receives the unanimous vote and declared elected.

For Sr. Vice Commander, Ralph Towner retains his office; Jr. Vice Commander George Morgan; Chaplain Charles Riker; Council and appointed officers to be retained so far as possible; Comrade Le Valley appointed Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General with Leah M. Simpson Department Secretary in charge of Headquarters in the Capitol.

Election concluded we adjourn for luncheon at 12:30 o'clock.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

William H. Ferguson, Department Commander: I have had no real duties through the year; have enjoyed several social events sponsored by the local organizations of our Allied Orders, in Allegan. On my 96th birthday was royally entertained by the Daughters at the party held in the Griswold Auditorium and again with the Sons of Union Veterans who planned and carried out a joint observance of the birthdays of Washington and Lincoln. Also attended a Pot Luck supper given by Sons and Daughters. These occasions have been pleasant and largely attended.

It has been my custom for many years to ride in the Allegan parade on Memorial Day; no comrade's grave is ever forgotten at this time.

I appreciate the honor that has been mine in serving the Department of Michigan Grand Army of the Republic and would especially mention the many letters and remembrances received from our Secretary and the great pleasure her visit to my home gave me.

Loyally in F. C. and L..

RALPH R. TOWNER,
Department Sr. Vice Commander.

REPORT OF JUDGE ADVOCATE:

W. H. Ferguson, Department Commander:

Peace reigns in the Department of Michigan, not one complaint or question has come to me, our only regret, the passing of comrades with whom I have worked these many years.

It has been my pleasure to attend some meetings of our Allied Orders and spend the week in Wisconsin with the many social activities of the National Encampment where I also happily passed my 95th birthday. With my daughters and son-in-law I motored across the state to attend the 96th birthday of our Commander in Grand Rapids; visited Comrade Warner in the Soldiers Home, also Comrade Perrigo in Vassar. The sad message of the sudden passing of our youngest Comrade George

Heusted was a great shock to all; I attended the services in Vassar—a splendid military service was rendered the Guard changing every ten minutes while he lay in state. Firing Squad and Taps formed a fitting close.

Memorial Day in Caro, I was guest and only Civil War veteran in observance of the day attending all ceremonies and riding in the parade to the cemeteries. For the appointment to this honorable office I express my thanks and to all who have shown such consideration and kindness to me through the year.

In F. C. & L.,

ORLANDO LE VALLEY,

Judge Advocate.

REPORT OF PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

Cement City, June 1944

Commander and Comrades:

The years have brought many changes in the work of the Grand Army of the Republic; the age of every Comrade must prevent much activity but we can safely leave the things which should be done to our Allied Orders and the Department Secretary. I appreciate the honor given me by Commander Ferguson and only wish I could have carried the honor as I would have years ago; As the only surviving member of Post No. 45 I received letter from the Secretary that I succeeded to the Commandership of the Post; I at once thanked her for her letters and cards received from time to time but felt as I am not able to walk much that I could only by example and voice in our little Community keep the traditions of the Grand Army alive.

To the Department the record of placing hundreds of Flags and the attendance of many Comrades to the Cemeteries on Memorial Day; Mrs. Rozellia King and Mrs. Aiken placed Flags on every Soldiers grave in all community Cemeteries and on the graves of 9 Unknown soldiers and presented Flags to 4 Schools and often visits Comrade Mott with flowers and Flags; he sends his warmest greeting to every Comrade; In Detroit thousands of Flags were placed and Comrade Morgan headed the parade. Two Flag poles have been repainted and one unmarked grave reported. While I have done little I believe not one Comrade's grave was forgotten. Services held in 22 Cemeteries, reported 9 Comrades attended services.

I have anticipated a visit from our Secretary and will welcome the day I may greet her. I shall at all times endeavor to do my best for the Grand Army. In F. C. and L.,

CHARLES E. RIKER,

Department Patriotic Instructor and Commander of Post No. 45.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON—Second Session

Commander Ferguson: Please come to order. Let us repeat the Lord's Prayer. I will ask the Secretary to tell us the plans for tomorrow.

Miss Simpson: We will begin with the Camp Fire Dinner at 6:30 tonight. I hear it whispered a great surprise is in waiting for you. We breakfast in the Coffee shop with our Commander at 9 in the morning and at 12 will be guests of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic at luncheon in the Presbyterian Church. We have promised a visit to every Allied Order during the forenoon if possible so that you may be ready to leave for your homes before nightfall.

Comrade Warner: I have asked Comrade Ferguson to act as Installing officer, the Sons present will guard the door though I am sure all coming our way may enter.

Commander Ferguson gives the obligation in a manner befitting the dignity of the pledge made by Commander Warner and Le Valley and confirms the appointment of Leah M. Simpson as Secretary though elected Life Secretary years ago. The badge worn by Commander Ferguson presented to him, a new one pinned on Commander Warner with many wishes for a happy year.

Commander Warner: Is there other business to come before us?

Past Commander Ferguson: Yes, I want to record my thanks to our wonderful Secretary. She has been everything to me the whole year, how she manages the work alone in that Headquarters to say nothing of the hours and days doing our work all over the State with never a day's vacation is marvelous. Comrades agree.

Secretary Simpson: I am reminded of a little verse, runs something like this:

*"The kind words you would say,
Say while their ears can hear and their hearts
Be made happier by them".*

I do try to do my duty—such a happy duty I can never do quite enough and it is pleasant to know I please you. I thank you Comrade Ferguson.

Commander Warner: Let us stand and repeat the Lord's Prayer.

I now declare the 66th Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan Grand Army of the Republic, closed.

**MEMORIAL ROLL
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN G. A. R.
FOR THE YEAR 1943**

POST NO. 25—OGDEN CITY

George W. Wilt Private, Co. I, 3rd. Michigan Infantry

POST NO. 32—BATTLE CREEK

W. R. Howland Private, Co. L, 8th. N. Y. Heavy Artillery

POST NO. 35—SOUTH HAVEN

Nelson R. Woods Co. E. 196 Ohio Infantry

POST NO. 45—ADRIAN

Baker J. Cole Corporal Co. H. 11th. and Co. B. 8th. Mich. Cavalry

POST NO. 79—KALAMAZOO

Smuth H. Carlton Corporal Co. K. 28th. Michigan Infantry

COMRADES AT LARGE

Louis Bourbino Co. D. 27th Michigan Infantry
 Alonzo Dibble Captain of the guns on S. S. Victory
 Philip Dohm Co. F. 6th. Michigan Cavalry
 Charles P. Hurd Co. D. 133rd. Indiana Infantry
 John M. Park Co. H. 2nd. Ohio Cavalry
 Wm. Parker Co. G. 19th. Ohio Infantry
 Joos Ver Planke Co. I. 25th. Michigan Infantry

*“We give them back to Thee, dear Lord, who gavest them to us,
 Yet as thou dost not lose them in the giving
 So we have not lost them, in the return”*

TRIBUTE TO THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
MEMORIAL HOUR—WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS

*When all is done, say not their day is o'er
That through the Night they seek a dimmer shore:
Say rather, that the Morn has just begun
They greet the dawn and not the setting sun.*

Again we stand in reverent contemplation of the mystery that comes to the life of each of us. Again we pay tribute to the comrades of the Grand Army, again lay our flowers on the altar of Memory.

Never in doubt or fear, but valiantly as in the long years ago they marched forth to battle, have they whispered the last good bye, closed their eyes to the cares of this world to enter into the life Triumphant, prepared for the faithful. Only to Death's cold hand have the "Men of 61-65" surrendered.

The Department mourns the passing of six from the Official Staff; two Past Department Commanders and four members; twelve since last we met in Memorial hour.

In their youth they served their Country and through the long years God spared them to us never faltered in their Loyalty and Faith in the Republic they saved for us. We can add nothing to the glory which now surrounds them. We can, in this sacred hour dedicate our lives to perpetuate their memories. This to be our monument of GRATITUDE.

*Sleep sweetly through the ages
O dear and gallant dust;
The hands that guard your victories
Stand sacred to the trust.*

LEAH M. SIMPSON,
Department Secretary Grand Army of the Republic.

**INSCRIPTION ON MONUMENT OVER THE GRAVE OF
2111 UNION SOLDIERS AT ARLINGTON CEMETERY**

Beneath this stone, repose the bones of 2111 UNKNOWN soldiers gathered from the fields of BULL RUN and the route to the Rappahannock. Their bodies could not be identified but their names and deaths are recorded in the archives of their country and its grateful citizens honor them as their noble ARMY of MARTYRS.

MAY they rest in peace.

THE CAMP FIRE DINNER

Nothing could have been added for our enjoyment of the program prepared by Chairman Minnie Van Tuyl and committee. Carl M. Smith, Circuit Judge, in happy mood presented Mayor W. H. Tomlison who welcomed us to Bay City. Hon. M. Sharp, Supreme Court Judge, gave the address of the evening; as each Department head greeted our Comrades, as a happy climax came the gifts presented to Michigan Department Grand Army of the Republic.

Mrs. Elizabeth D. Colliau, Woman's Relief Corps	\$150.00
Mrs. Kate Bowen, Ladies of the Grand Army, personal gifts	
Mrs. Harriet Gogarn, Daughters of Union Veterans	10.00
Mrs. Bernice Tiffany, Aux. Sons of Union Veterans	10.00
John L. Tiffany, Commander Sons of Union Veterans	25.00

In the name of the Department, Leah M. Simpson, Department Secretary expressed appreciation of these generous love gifts pledging no Comrade would be forgotten through the coming year—all will share in this "Happiness Fund". Each comrade was presented, his age and service record given by Secretary Simpson.

The program was interspersed with solos by Mr. James Hendry, all joining lustily in the old Camp Fire songs. Nearly 400 in attendance.

THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Seventy-six years ago April 6, 1866, thirteen men, only a picket post of the nearly three million, who had worn the Blue of the Union soldier, met in Decatur, Ill., at the call of Dr. B. F. Stephenson, a surgeon of the 14th Ill. Infantry and organized the first Post of the Grand Army.

The name derived from Napoleon's "Grand Army of France".

Only on the presentation of a bit of parchment—tattered and torn as it may have been, has the door ever opened for membership. The honorable discharge of a Union soldier, sailor or marine is the magic key. The Grand Army is unique among organizations. It had no predecessors; it can have no successors.

Men enlisted in the Civil War	2,859,122
Killed in Battle	67,058
Deaths from all Causes	359,528

There were over 2,500 battles fought in 1400 days.

WHY THEY CALL US "BOYS"

Under 11 years and over 10	25
Under 12 years and over 11	28
Under 13 years and over 12	224
Under 14 years and over 13	302
Under 15 years and over 14	1,523
Under 16 years and over 15	104,998
Under 17 years and over 16	231,051
Under 18 years and over 17	844,891
Under 19 years and over 18	1,151,438
Over 19 years	524,641

Average age 18 years. Of the half million meeting death, 85 per cent were under 21 years of age.

Enlistments in Michigan without reference to periods of service 90,048

The peak of membership in Michigan Grand Army of the Republic was reached in 1889 with 21,418 on the rolls.

In 1890 the membership on National rolls stood at 458,230

January 22nd, 1879, the Department was re-organized, reaching a membership of 21,418 during the next ten years. Today the Michigan Department holds second place in membership on the roll of the National Organization.

The following numbers show the gain and loss of Posts and members in the Department of Mich. after it was re-organized—year by year from Jan., 1879, to Jan., 1944:

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Year	Posts	Members	Year	Posts	Members
1879	6	127	1912	286	8,707
1880	9	281	1913	279	8,226
1881	13	482	1914	271	7,821
1882	27	1,019	1915	267	7,452
1883	100	4,442	1916	263	6,995
1884	209	10,311	1917	252	6,257
1885	288	14,475	1918	240	5,553
1886	316	16,957	1919	238	5,115
1887	348	19,226	1920	227	4,667
1888	371	21,353	1921	212	4,000
1889	373	21,418	1922	197	3,386
1890	377	21,255	1923	193	3,105
1891	375	20,765	1924	190	2,836
1892	391	20,905	1925	149	2,377
1893	390	20,469	1926	125	1,882
1894	384	19,020	1927	119	1,563
1895	383	18,059	1928	112	1,212
1896	373	16,766	1929	109	991
1897	382	16,096	1930	102	817
1898	385	15,831	1931	97	656
1899	386	15,531	1932	89	550
1900	382	15,102	1933	81	418
1901	375	14,930	1934	78	314
1902	368	14,406	1935	68	244
1903	359	13,716	1936	66	198
1904	355	13,168	1937	45	120
1905	346	12,282	1938	35	78
1906	340	11,566	1939	31	59
1907	326	11,068	1940	26	50
1908	318	10,688	1941	21	35
1909	313	10,220	1942	16	47
1910	311	9,854	1943	10	33
1911	309	9,372	1944	6	21

ENCAMPMENTS

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Year	Entertaining City	Presiding Commander
1868	Detroit	Russell A. Alger
1869	Lansing	William A. Throop
1870	Lansing	William Humphreys
1879	Grand Rapids	C. V. R. Pond
1880	Grand Rapids	C. V. R. Pond
1881	Quincy	A. T. McReynolds
1882	Muskegon	Byron R. Pierce
1883	Battle Creek	Byron R. Pierce
1884	Detroit	Oscar A. Janes
1885	East Saginaw	Rush J. Shank
1886	Jackson	Charles D. Long
1887	Grand Rapids	John Northwood
1888	Lansing	L. G. Rutherford
1889	Bay City	Washington Gardner
1890	Adrian	Michael Brown
1891	Muskegon	Henry M. Duffield
1892	Ann Arbor	Charles L. Eaton
1893	Benton Harbor	Henry S. Dean
1894	Owosso	James H. Kidd
1895	Mt. Clemens	Louis Kanitz
1896	Saginaw	S. B. Daboll
1897	Greenville	William Shakespeare
1898	Port Huron	Aaron T. Bliss
1899	Petoskey	Alex L. Patrick
1900	Grand Rapids	Russell R. Peeler
1901	Flint	E. M. Allen
1902	Pontiac	James Van Kleeck
1903	Muskegon	Edward C. Anthony
1904	Holland	D. B. K. VanRaalte
1905	Traverse City	George H. Hopkins
1906	Saginaw	E. C. Cannon
1907	Bay City	Joseph B. Griswold
1908	Detroit	William Jibb
1909	Kalamazoo	George L. Holmes
1910	Holland	James M. Greenfield
1911	Ypsilanti	Samuel J. Lawrence
1912	Port Huron	George W. Stone
1913	Lansing	John T. Spillane
1914	Jackson	Frank R. Chase
1915	Kalamazoo	Riley I. Jones
1916	Bay City	Eli Strong
1917	Battle Creek	Lucius H. Ives
1918	Saginaw	William O. Lee
1919	Traverse City	David S. Howard
1920	Port Huron	Edwin F. Lamb
1921	Flint	Henry Spaulding
1922	Detroit	J. J. Holmes
1923	Grand Rapids	William Mears
1924	Lansing	Lyman A. Gilbert
1925	Port Huron	M. C. Barney
1926	Jackson	John Seel
1927	Benton Harbor	James R. Stephenson
1928	Kalamazoo	Charles A. Bartlett
1929	Bay City	A. C. Estabrook
1930	Pontiac	A. C. Estabrook
1931	Grand Rapids	A. C. Estabrook
1932	Petoskey	Orestus Blake
1933	Saginaw	Orestus Blake
1934	Grand Rapids	John Killeen

SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

Year	Entertaining City	Presiding Commander
1935	Mt. Clemens	Frank D. Keeler
1936	Battle Creek	Ira M. Stewart
1937	Detroit	Ira M. Stewart
1938	Grand Rapids	S. H. Carlton
1939	Jackson	A. C. Estabrook
1940	Ann Arbor	A. F. Chappell
1941	Lansing	M. J. Warner
1942	Grand Rapids	Sr. Vice Orlando Le Valley
1943	Lansing	Orlando Le Valley
1944	Bay City	W. H. Ferguson

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Lansing, Michigan, June, 1943.

General Orders No. 1,
Series 1943 - 1944.

- I. Having been unanimously elected to serve as Commander of the Michigan Department, Grand Army of the Republic, at the 65th Annual Encampment held in Lansing, June 18-19, 1943, I assume command and express my appreciation of the honor bestowed on me.

To the limit of my strength and ability, I pledge my every effort will be to advance the interests of the Grand Army of the Republic. I ask the continued cooperation and good will of every Comrade and the leaders and members of our Allied Orders, that the year may see much worthwhile work accomplished.

II. OFFICERS ELECTED OR APPOINTED

Department Commander . . . William H. Ferguson, R. 2, Kent City
Department Senior Vice Commander Ralph Towner, Allegan
Department Junior Vice Commander . . George Heusted, Mayville
Chaplain Martin J. Warner, Grand Rapids
Asst. Adjt. and Quartermaster General . Eugene Owen, Gd. Rapids

DELEGATE AT LARGE TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

Martin J. Warner

Alternate, Ralph Towner

OFFICIAL STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Judge Advocate Orlando Le Valley, Caro
Patriotic Instructor Charles Riker, Cement City
Chief of Staff James Rooney, Port Huron
Senior Aide George Morgan, Grosse Pointe
Sergeant National Colors E. M. Holt, Shelby
Sergeant Department Colors Baker J. Coke, Tecumseh

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION

Orlando Le Valley Caro
John Killeen Portland
Cyrus Perrigo Vassar
Corydon Foote Flint
George W. Wilt Ogden Center
Secretary Leah M. Simpson

We are honored in having as our Installing Officer, Henry Towle, Commander in Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans. We appreciate the willing service of our Sons in this ceremony.

III. Many faithful Comrades were missed in our deliberations. Senior Vice Commander Perrigo, Past Department Commander Killeen and Assistant Adjutant Eugene Owen were too ill to attempt the journey. The messages received, as we opened our session, cheered and relieved our anxiety. We wish for each a speedy return to health.

IV. The invitation to hold the 66th Annual Encampment in Bay City was considered and accepted subject to any change the coming months may demand. The usual call to our ALLIED ORDERS from Department Commander to be issued early in the New Year.

V. The 77th National Encampment will convene in Milwaukee, Wis., the week of September 19-24. Headquarters in the Hotel Schroeder. Comrades, address our Secretary, Leah M. Simpson, Box 433, Lansing 2, Michigan, as early as possible for details and reservations; changes can be made later. May I urge every Comrade to make extra effort to attend this Encampment. Let Michigan rally again to the call of National.

VI. The Encampment just closed voted support of every truly American effort for a speedy conclusion of the present WAR and to lend some material form of comfort to our wounded soldiers now confined to Percy Jones Hospital in Battle Creek. This, left in care of our Secretary.

Approved all legislation to increase the pension of widows of the Civil War veterans, and emphatically disapproved legislation changing the manner of giving the Pledge of Allegiance, and recent decision the flag need not be saluted. We love the symbol of our Country and would see all honor given it.

VII. Personal letters intended for the Department Commander may be addressed to William H. Ferguson, Route 2, Kent City. All reports and business connected with the Department, address the Secretary, Leah M. Simpson, Box 433, Lansing 2, Michigan.

The 65th Encampment will long be remembered as one of the most delightful in the history of the Department. While more than 200 gathered at the Camp Fire Banquet, many could not be seated but waited patiently for the program which followed. The Mayor, Mr. Ralph Crego, paid tribute to the Comrades in sincere words, bidding us "come again."

The address of our Governor, Harry F. Kelly, was the feature of the Encampment; words never to be forgotten.

Comrade Le Valley, Department Commander, declared the "65th Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and Conventions of the Allied Orders officially opened".

For the generous gifts presented to the Department, by the Presidents of our Allied Orders, for "some added pleasure or comfort of the Comrades" and for personal gifts to each Comrade, we are profoundly grateful.

For the many greetings and good wishes that came to me I am thankful. To the newly-elected officers of every Department, may success crown your efforts. To our Secretary, General Chairman for the Encampment, mere words fail to express our appreciation of your devotion to us.

By command of

WILLIAM H. FERGUSON,
Department Commander.

Official:

EUGENE OWEN,
Asst. Adjt. and Quartermaster General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Lansing, Michigan, Oct., 1943.

General Orders No. 2

Series 1943-1944.

I. The 77th National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic held the week of September 18, found Commander W. H. Ferguson, Comrades Owen, Warner and LeValley with Comrades from 14 States in attendance; never was there more ideal weather for a National Encampment or greater effort made for our pleasure; music by the United States Marine Band; noted speakers; banquets and the Parade; while every Comrade rode slowly by the great throng after the first hush their appearance brought, burst into applause while every group was surrounded by those who would clasp the hand of a Comrade.

Our Secretary saw to it that we were well cared for in the great Hotel Schroeder, every detail arranged for us; to her I feel we owe endless gratitude.

II. Comrade George H. Jones of Maine, was chosen by unanimous vote, our Commander in Chief; a true soldier and fine gentleman. Your Commander, taken suddenly ill following the close of Encampment, remained in Milwaukee a guest at the Veterans Administration where he enjoyed hours of "soldierly fellowship" with Commander in Chief Jones who also rested there a few days before leaving for Maine to begin the strenuous duties before him. To Commander in Chief Jones and his entire staff we reaffirm our Loyalty. Michigan Department was again honored by the appointment of Comrade Eugene Owen as Quartermaster General. Our Secretary will continue the bookkeeping and have charge of National supplies at our Department Headquarters. Address communications intended for Q. M. General Owen, other than personal, to box 433, Lansing 2, Michigan.

III. That Des Moines, Iowa, was chosen Encampment City for 1944 brought many expressions of approval.

IV. The year saw the disbanding of six Posts; we realize Post meetings can no longer be held; the work must now be in the care of the Secretary appointed by the Commander or some member of our Allied Orders, but the acknowledgement of past efforts of the National organization in securing the pension benefits we now enjoy should prompt every Comrade to send to Headquarters the one dollar National Per Capita Tax, due ending December 31st. Department must send full return for every member we carry on our Roll. Michigan with 39 members last December, stood second in number on the National report; several did not remit this Tax. Our thanks to the sponsors of Comrades at Large, only one failed.

V. It is the wish of Secretary Simpson to have a record of every activity and every event in which a Comrade has a part, not only Memorial Day but through the year, as from these all reports are made. The Secretaries and members of our Allied Orders and members of the

family, have been faithful in sending these items in letters prized by our Secretary as many interesting details are not covered in any report blank formerly issued at close of the year. Please continue this service when sending Tax. This mail has brought the first Tax received for this year from Tent No. 18, Port Huron, with a most interesting account of the birthday party for "their Comrade Rooney"—celebrating his 99th birthday, and in the best of spirits. Thank you, Past Dept. President Estelle Dicer, D.U.V.

VI. Notice to heads of Departments giving date of Preliminary Meeting, will be mailed early in the year.

VII. Department Commander has located in Grand Rapids for the winter; address, W. H. Ferguson, 531 N. Prospect Ave. For the many cards, gifts and messages during days of illness deep appreciation is expressed. "Love and kind thoughts encircled me."

VIII. Again we ask the return of Charters of disbanded Posts to Department Headquarters. Any member knowing where these now priceless relics of our Posts may be, please address the Secretary.

THANKSGIVING: While our hearts turn cold with thought of suffering and want because of War, yet can we rejoice that America still has the FREEDOM for which we fought. Comrades be truly grateful that God in his great mercy still directs his sunshine to cover us. Share your plenty, with others.

CHRISTMAS: With the pealing of the bells, give thought to the homes where Christmas joys are dimmed, where loved ones are missing, some never to return—may our prayer be

*Lord, not alone on Christmas Day
But every day throughout the year
Grant to my heart so much of cheer,
It generously shall overflow,
And scatter joy where ere I go.*

May this Holy Day herald the coming of a glad New Year, for all.

*Press onward; Pursue your work;
Attain deeper riches, grander desires
It depends on you—speed on to your utmost
Lo, God is within you, Tis HE who inspires.*

By Command of

W. H. FERGUSON,
Department Commander.

Official:

Eugene Owen,
Assistant Adjutant General.

**HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC**

Lansing, Michigan, March, 1944.

General Orders No. 3

Series 1943-1944

- I. The Preliminary Meeting of the Grand Army of the Republic and heads of our Allied Orders was held February 28 in Wenonah Hotel, Bay City. Our Secretary was delegated to represent the Department and preside in the absence of the Department Commander. Unanimous approval of plans as outlined by the Secretary and manager of Wenonah Hotel was given.

It is hereby announced the 66th Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan and Conventions of our Allied Orders will be held in Bay City, Michigan, June 23 and 24, 1944.

- II. Headquarters in the Capitol will be closed June 21st and established in Wenonah Hotel, Bay City, Thursday, June 22nd, where all sessions and social activities will be held.
- III. Secretary Simpson has made arrangements for all comrades; please arrive to occupy rooms in Wenonah Hotel Thursday night. For any details, address Leah M. Simpson, Box 433, Lansing 2, Michigan.
- IV. Comrades, it may not be easy for you to journey to Bay City, but I urge one and all to be with us; Our Allied Orders plead for the inspiration our presence brings to them; To the community and younger generation of Bay City our determination to carry on, is a lesson in patriotism, that never again may come to them. It is not given the next generation to clasp the hand of a Civil War veteran.

PROGRAM

- V. Thursday, June 22—Comrades arrive in afternoon.
7:00 P.M. Meeting of Council of Administration; Audit.

Friday, June 23.

- 9:00 A.M. Business session; Election.
12:00 Noon. Luncheon.
1:00 P.M. Business session; Installation.
6:30 P.M. Camp Fire Banquet with Allied Orders.

Saturday, June 24.

- VI. Notice received from Commander in Chief Jones, there will be no change in Countersign, this year.
- VII. Reports coming to Headquarters show a splendid participation by Comrades, in observance of birthdays of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. This is most gratifying to your Commander.
- VIII. May has aptly been called "the month of Memories".

MOTHERS DAY.

Display the Flag and wear the white flower in loving memory.

IX. MEMORIAL SUNDAY.

May 28th. I ask every loyal comrade, physically able, to attend some service honoring the dead of all wars; breathe a prayer for our boys now serving on the far flung battle fields of this Global War. What this war costs in dollars and cents will some day be forgotten but what it costs in precious lives must NEVER be forgotten.

X. MEMORIAL DAY.

May 30. Display the Flag at half mast till noon, then float it high in thankfulness that it still waves—"O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave." Let no grave of a Civil War veteran be left without the flag for which he offered everything in his youth; Remember those who sleep beneath the waves—scatter the flowers on this sacred day. Comrades join with our Allied Orders and patriotic organizations, who now must take the lead in this duty so long ours.

*We are not many, we, who stand today
Beside our comrades' graves,
While life lasts, our reverent tribute to pay.*

XI. FLAG DAY.

June 14th, Again I urge your attendance at Flag presentations and observances of the day in your community. Make a special effort to visit schools.

*Keep it floating in the breeze
Point it out to young and old
Tell the children of its glory
Its sacredness in every fold.*

XII. When these sacred days have passed please report every activity to Department Secretary, Box 433, Lansing 2, Michigan. No form necessary. These for the Journal report. Do not fail.

XIII. Comrades, as I close the Last General Orders of my year as your Commander, pleasant memories linger of happy fraternal visits with our Allied Orders; the faithful care and courtesies of the Dept. Commanders and Sr. Vice Commander of our S.U.V.; the long visits with our three comrades in Soldiers' Home and always the devoted service of our Department Secretary and officers. For all your friendships and favors I am truly grateful.

"Into each life, some rain must fall."

Ever about us has hovered the Angel of Death. Since last encampment, solemn TAPS have sounded, marking the going HOME of ten comrades.

On February 26th, our little group of four comrades in Grand Rapids was broken by the passing of Quartermaster General Eugene Owen—a short month after his 95th birthday so happily spent with him.

Our well known Past Department Commander, Smith H. Carlton passed on in November. We mourn the loss of every Comrade who has left us.

- XIV. Following the death of Quartermaster Owen the Commander in Chief, George H. Jones, tendered me the honor of completing the term of office, retaining Miss Simpson as Secretary. I am appreciative of this recognition of the Michigan Department and the honor that is mine in serving the National organization and the Department. To merit the confidence of my comrades I pledge my every effort.
- XV. To the comrade who succeeds me as Department Commander, I pledge the same true Comradeship and Loyalty as has been accorded me. May the blessings of the Supreme Commander be conferred upon you and your officers as you uphold the traditions and ideals of the Grand Army of the Republic.

By command of

WILLIAM H. FERGUSON,
Department Commander.

IN MEMORIAM.

Eugene Owen—Quartermaster General for the National organization, Asst. Adjt. and QM. General in Department and Commander of Post No. 5, Grand Rapids, died at the Soldiers' Home Feb. 24th, where he had been ill since Jan. 12.. Born in Perry, Ohio, Jan. 19, 1849, he enlisted in Co. I, 177th Ohio Inft. and served till close of the war. He mustered in Custer Post in 1919 and in 1929 became Commander, holding the office till his death, leaving only one surviving member.

While many times offered the office of Department Commander, he refused, tho always his service in Department was most outstanding. Following the death of Quartermaster General James Hamilton, in December, 1941, Comrade Owen accepted the appointment from National and as Quartermaster General served faithfully 'till Death claimed him. Comrade Owen laid in state in the chapel of the Soldiers' Home where Chaplain Cornelius Swart spoke from the words, loved by our comrade.

*I have fought the good fight
I have finished my course.*

Under direction of Department Commander Ferguson and Department Chaplain Warner, assisted by Dept. Commander Tiffany, Sr. Vice Linsley, S.U.V., Comrade Porritt and Dept. Secretary Simpson, the ritual of the Grand Army of the Republic was read. Solemnly, tenderly, the Flag was placed by Department Commander for his loved Comrade. Burial was in Mancelona where full military honors were rendered by George Pucket Post, American Legion. Rev. Swart, Department Chaplain Warner, Sr. Vice Comm. Linsley and our Department Secretary, with many friends, paid a final tribute at the grave in Mancelona.

Smith H. Carlton—Past Department Commander enlisted in Co. K., 28th Inf. Feb. 16, 1865 as Corporal, was mustered out Feb. 19, 1866. Elected Department Commander in 1937 while serving as Post Commander. One by one he paid last tribute to his Post members 'till the passing of Comrade Sergeant in 1940 left him to carry on alone. He died Nov. 29, 1943. City Flags were at half mast in his honor during the hours he lay in state. The Department was represented by Commander Ferguson, Chaplain Warner and Secretary Simpson.

Corydon Foote—Only surviving and Charter member of Post No. 145, enlisted as Drummer Boy when only 13 years of age, made the March with Sherman—serving three years and twenty days. Death came quietly a few hours after celebrating his 95th birthday, Jan. 9th, 1944, at his home in Flint. He served in Company F. Tenth Infantry.

George W. Wilt—Charter member and Commander of David Becker Post No. 25. Born in W. Virginia, April 4, 1844, he enlisted in the Third Maryland Inft. at the outbreak of the Civil War; was mustered out in

June, 1865 and came to Michigan in 1868; settled in Ogden Center where he lived the remainder of his life. August, 1881, he became a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, serving his Post in many offices. His passing leaves Comrade Charles Riker to carry on, alone.

Louis Bourbino—Enlisted in Company D, 27th Inft. when 18 years of age. Was taken prisoner Aug. 21, 1864 at Weldon Railroad, Virginia. Discharged at Camp Chase, Ohio, June 15, 1865, after seven and one-half months of prison horrors. A member of Post No. 33.

Joos Ver Planke—Died at home of his son in Hobart, Indiana, Dec. 20, 1943, aged 99 years. Mustered in Company I, 25th Inft. Sept. 23, 1862. From Kalamazoo, the long march into Kentucky to join the Army of the Cumberland, began his service which continued 'till mustered out at Salisbury, N. C., June 24, 1865. In 1900 he became a member of Weatherwax Post No. 25 and at the time of his passing was the only surviving member. In 1873 was elected town marshal of Holland, serving until 1876, when elected Sheriff of Ottawa County and relected in 1878.

William Dubay—Born April 2, 1844. At the age of 18 enlisted in Company G, Twenty-second Infantry for three years, August 29, 1862. In 1863, during the battle of Chickamauga, he was taken prisoner and suffered the horrors of Andersonville. He returned to his regiment Jan. 27, 1865 and was mustered out June 26, 1865. Always a leader in veterans' affairs, was the leading figure for more than twenty years in New Baltimore's Memorial Day observance. Veterans of Foreign Wars, a firing squad from Selfridge Field and U. S. W. V. paid military honors at the grave. Michigan Department of Grand Army of the Republic was represented by the Secretary. This well loved member would have been 100 years old April 2.

Nelson Porrett—Enlisted in Company B, Second Mich. Inft. March 25, 1864, at Groveland, for three years, age 18, serving 'till May 5, 1865, when honorably discharged. More than two years ago he entered the Soldiers' Home where on April 8th, 1944 he answered the final call as the Easter morn was dawning.

*The soldier sleeps—in quiet peace;
Eternity is thine, to spend in everlasting joy
Who lived and loved, and died
For Country and for God.*

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT SECRETARY
HEADQUARTERS MICHIGAN GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

June 21, 1943—June 30, 1944

Dear Commander:

I returned to Headquarters in the Capital, June 21, a busy week before me; all bills for Encampment and outstanding for the month must be paid, the copy for stationery prepared and General Order No. 1, written and sent to Estimate Department before making the Supplemental report closing the past administration—the year ending June 30th.

Messages that Comrades Owen and Killeen were improving brightened the week. I was obliged to decline two social affairs but did attend two meetings with Allied Orders and an evening with Past Presidents of the Daughters. Because of the heat and vacations—social affairs in July were limited to one Bohemian dinner; while waiting General Orders I bring the books of the National up to date preparatory to making the Quartermaster General's report for Sept. Encampment and the Audit.

The passing of the husband of my dear friend, Idella MacNeal, Department Secretary of the W. R. C. brings sadness to me; I attend the services in Detroit, am entertained at dinner with Department President, Elizabeth Colliau and staff officers.

Because of scarcity of paper and workers, General Orders not received until August 3; I work late to get them in mails; While no prospect of receiving the Journal, I begin compiling and typing to be ready for the printer. Two meetings with Allies, a trip to Soldiers' Home, dinner with a Townsend Club with prominent speakers, a day with Comrade Killeen in Portland who is very ill. Pot Luck dinner with Daughters and seemingly endless Headquarters work which continues way into the small hours of the night, that the days may be free 'till eventful August 26 dawns cool but pleasant as happily I take the early bus to Grand Rapids, lunch at the Soldiers' Home and continue on to Kent City to spend a day with Commander and Mrs. Ferguson at lovely "Green Acres", a visit anticipated since June Encampment to make plans for the National in Milwaukee. Even the long border of pink Hibiscus seemed waving a welcome. My thanks Commander and Mrs. Ferguson—"Green Acres", lovely flowers and happy hours in your home will have a place in happy memories of the year.

Returning to Grand Rapids, spend the day rechecking the funds and year's work with Comrade Owen, who is far from well; visit the Soldiers' Home to spend some time with Comrades Warner and Porritt; they enjoy the gift I bring from our "Happiness Fund".

The G. A. R. Headquarters seems a Mecca for visitors; this month 34 have signed the record, from out of town—rarely, one not inquiring for record of some ancestor; gladly I give my attention to this and thrill to the record of service of the men of the Civil War.

The month closes with one party with the D. U. V. and one Corps meeting.

September spells WORK, as I must contact every Comrade urging attendance at National Encampment; mail out National and Department General Orders; credentials; make all arrangements for Hotel reservations; a hurried trip to Grand Rapids; close the National books; ship supplies to Milwaukee and with no work left unfinished leave September 18 for Chicago and on to Milwaukee, where I find Commander and Mrs. Ferguson comfortably located in Schroeder Hotel with Comrade LeValley and daughter, Ivah. Sunday Comrades Owen and Warner arrive with Miss Giradot and our group now safe and ready to enjoy the week together.

Because of the care I give our Comrades it is not possible for me to attend sessions of our Allied Orders but with them and old friends, enjoy all the social activities and review the parade from the Grandstand with our C. in C. and officers, proud indeed of our four Michigan Comrades.

The only shadow on the week—the sudden illness of our Commander the last day; we were obliged to leave him in Veterans Hospital.

Returning to Lansing I make one visit to Comrade Killeen and to a city considering an invitation to hold our June Encampment there.

First week in October visit Quartermaster General Owen, checking expense account and vouchers, begin typing copy for Journal; two Corps meetings, two visits with greetings to Camps of S.U.V., one D.U.V. session; one Rally with message on G.A.R.; spend two days on official business in Detroit; visit Comrade Morgan; attend session and Installation of District No. 3; one day in Bay City, meeting Hotel Managers; Past Presidents Club; prepare three papers on Navy Day; carry the greeting from the Commander to Camp No. 8. An attack of laryngitis forces me to decline to speak at two Navy Day events.

November, compile General Orders No. 2, type copy and start on its way through Estimate to printer. Spend Armistice Day with our Comrades in Soldiers' Home; Pot Luck and regular session with Camp No. 7 S.U.V. in Jackson in observance of Veterans night greetings from our Commander and speak on "Our Comrades"; secure electrotypes and finish compiling and typing Journal, ready for printing. On the 29th the sad message that Past Department Commander Carlton suffered an automobile accident from which he never regained consciousness; send the messages to officers and heads of Departments and leave for Kalamazoo to represent the Department at the service in Funeral Home and at the grave. City Flags are at half mast; firing squad from Camp Custer pay him honor. His passing disbands Post No. 79, chartered in 1882.

December—The month brings two Christmas parties with Allied Orders; proof read General Orders No. 2; mail Christmas greetings to every Comrade and our courtesy list of 129; National General Orders with report blanks; begin proof reading the Journal; 149 greetings received at Headquarters; type names and addresses of our Comrades for seventeen members and officers of Allied Orders that they may remember our Comrades at Christmas.

Represent our Comrades at the funeral of Mrs. Ida Glasgow, Past National President of the Daughters, in Grand Rapids; visit Comrade Owen who is quite ill and our Comrades and widows at the Home. Mail General Orders No. 2, close the Headquarters as usual, as Christmas falls on Saturday, return to Capitol on Monday, closing on the 30th to spend New Year's Day at home.

Time was when December meant only happiness—"Christmas was coming"—now I enter the month in questioning mood, have any golden hours slipped by with no real work accomplished, could greater effort have been made? The thought is a challenge to serve more truly, to be worthy the heritage that is mine. I will enter the new year with a prayer and a song.

*A prayer for a Guiding hand
A song of praise for the lovely things
That every day most surely brings,
By Our Heavenly Father, planned.*

The first duty of the New Year, to acknowledge the many letters of greeting and mail 300 Journals; meet with the Ways and Means Committee regarding our Appropriation budget. Trip to Bay City to inspect rooms and confer with Hotel management. Called by telegram to Grand Rapids as Quartermaster General Owen had been admitted to Hospital, very ill. On the 19th he is so much improved we celebrate his birthday in his room; a real event as Comrades Ferguson, Warner and Porritt, Mrs. Ferguson, Department Sr. Vice Linsley and wife, Miss Giradot, the Civil War widows' guests in the Home, with the Hospital staff enjoy the afternoon and the lunch with us.

The long trip from Grand Rapids to Bay City prevented our Commander from attending the Preliminary meeting called for the heads of Departments to complete arrangements for the June Encampment; I was appointed to represent the Grand Army and preside at this meeting, held in Wenonah Hotel. For the first time I record only one social activity for the month but with 87 letters to answer, nine records of Civil War service to clear, type and mail, and twenty-two out of town visitors to Headquarters and the many trips to Post Office with the Annual Journal, the month has been a busy one.

February—Report and Per Capita Tax to National; Attend dinner and session of S.U.V. Camp No. 7, Department Commander and Department President of Auxiliary with many officers also guests. The 8th, an eventful day in Lansing—the opening of the new home for the Historical Commission and Museum in the spacious old Turner mansion. Governor Kelly paid high tribute to the men of the Civil War who made the blessings we enjoy today, possible; Mrs. Kelly in a gown of the "sixties" presided at the tea table—I appreciate my invitation as a tribute to the Grand Army of the Republic.

Spend the 9th in Portland—lunch and old time visit with Comrade Killeen and with Mrs. Green attend meeting of W. R. C. No. 185; continue on to Grand Rapids, lunch with Commander Ferguson and attend to official business with Comrade Owen; visit our Comrades in Home, and two Civil War widows.

Attend Institution of Junior Club in Ecorse, honoring the Grand Army; dinner with Department President and officers of the W.R.C.; attend reorganization of the Simpson-Flansburgh Junior Club in Jackson.

On the 22nd, called to Grand Rapids, Comrade Owen had suffered a slight stroke and lies in coma—no answering smile to my greeting. With Commander Ferguson and Department Chaplain Warner attend Flag presentation and observance of Washington's birthday at Straight School; pay tribute to Grand Army; return to Soldiers' Home, no change in Comrade Owen I return sadly to Headquarters as many messages to be sent out.

On the 26th, delegated to represent Department at the Regional in Jackson, where message reached me that Comrade Owen passed suddenly; leave by train Monday and with Department Chaplain Warner, visit Rev. Swart of the Home and arrange for the Ritual service in the Chapel where Comrade Owen lay in state; the following day with Comrade Warner motored to Mancelona, where Comrade Owen was laid to rest in the family cemetery; full military honors rendered by the Legion of Mancelona. My thanks to Bro. Linsley for making the three hundred mile trip possible for us. I reached Lansing at dawn, ending a tragic month.

March 6, by bus to Grand Rapids to offer appointment of Quartermaster General to Commander Ferguson, return with his acceptance on evening bus to send telegrams. Message from Marine Hospital that Comrade Dubay is very low; on the 12th message that Comrade Rooney passed suddenly in Sarnia—received too late to attend services; telegraph flower order.

Compile General Orders No. 3; send gift to Comrade Albro on his 98th birthday, now so nearly blind; observe St. Patrick Day dinner with Camp No. 7 and regular session; Confer with Accounting Division asking that even a part of my travel be allowed as such expense is many times more than in other years as our Comrades cannot and are not expected to do the work—social or business. On the 17th Comrade Dubay passed quietly in Marine Hospital, Detroit, just two weeks short of his life long ambition to reach the age of 100. I leave for New Baltimore via Detroit to represent the Department. The last veteran in Macomb county and one who suffered the horrors of prison life for 14 months after the battle of Chicamauga, Comrade Dubay was accorded military honors by the American Legion Post, soldiers from Selfridge field, and U.S.V. Returning to Detroit I visit Comrade Morgan in Grosse Pointe Park; lunch with Department President Colliau and Department Secretary MacNeal of the Woman's Relief Corps.

The month closes with two patriotic sessions, and meeting of Junior Club. Mail Easter Greetings to Comrades and our exchange members in other Departments; Write special Memoriam; send National notice to Departments that National Encampment will be held in Des Moines; Notice of the death of Comrade Porritt at the Soldiers' Home comes as a great shock—since his residence in the Home I had enjoyed many hours with him as he lived over the days of '61. I plan to motor to Belleville where burial service will be held as no bus service available.

The 19th, honoring Comrade Killeen on his 96th birthday our most successful "at Home" in Portland where he has lived the past 14 years with Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Green. Department Commander Ferguson and wife, Comrade Warner, Miss Giradot motor with Department Sr. Vice Linsley and Mrs. Linsley, from Grand Rapids; the members of W. R. C. No. 185 join us; Comrade Killeen having a "good" day joins us in signing the old songs.

On 26th, officially visit Owosso Corps to locate Charter and property of disbanded Post No. 205.

May, ushered in with dinner with Past President Club of Corps No. 5. Proof read General Orders No. 3 and Special Memoriam; visit Comrade Warner quite ill in Home; Begin writing the officers reports for the Encampment; on the 8th, with Department President of W. R. C. motor to Grand Rapids to spend the 96th birthday of Commander Ferguson with him and many friends in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Linsley. Department Chaplain Warner too ill to attend we visit him at the Home happy to find him improving.

National General Orders Nos. 2 and 3 bearing important rules mailed out as Department Orders not received from printer.

Death again enters our Department claiming our youngest Comrade, Jr. Vice Commander, George Heusted, after only one day's illness. I regret no message was received until after the funeral held in Mayville; Comrade Heusted was a dear friend of mine.

Official business calls me to Kalamazoo; I attend sessions of the S.U.V. and Tent No. 8 in the evening and on following day continue by bus to Allegan to spend a few hours with our Sr. Vice Commander, Ralph Towner hoping to prevail upon him to attend Encampment and to secure account of his activities during the year for the Journal report; enjoy a meeting of Corps No. 197 and regretfully leave our good friends to return to Lansing on the night bus. Opening Headquarters in the morning am stricken to receive a message from Portland that Comrade Killeen died at the Soldiers' Home where he had been hospitalized only twelve days. I leave at once for Portland where service was held at the Funeral Home, preceding our motoring to Jackson for the service in the Soldiers' burial plot. His passing disbands the Jackson Post; he rests with the Comrades with whom he lived and worked for many years; another Flag and another wreath for Memorial Day. I pay a short tribute at the grave, closing the service given by Sons of Camp No. 7.

Returning to Lansing mail all General Orders and Memoriam; clear the desks of all mail; type all officers reports for Encampment; finish Commanders Address and send copy for his approval.

The passing of new Pension laws for Spanish War widows seems to have aroused the hopes of our widows as the week brings three requests for assistance in securing pension, but no change affecting Civil War, I feel our work is in vain. Also made four Applications for headstones and one for admittance to Soldiers' Home.

June 6th, the long expected D. Day; the clanging of the gong in the Capitol sends our thoughts around the world with a prayer for victory for all who offer life itself, for a better world.

On the 13th take early bus to Grand Rapids to have full day with Chaplain Warner, review his year, and explain Ledger accounts of the Assistant Quartermaster General.

Remember Comrade Perrigo on his 99th birthday sending check to Vassar Corps, later received account of the day from the President.

Sunday, June 18, the opening day of U.S.W.V. Department Encampment, return to Lansing to represent our Department at the banquet and attend Memorial service: Monday carry the greetings of Commander Ferguson and Department to the session; am royally received by Commander Hosfelt and the new Commander Henry Mestemaker. During the Encampment twenty "old friends" with whom I have worked many years in Detroit visit Headquarters as a mark of respect to the Grand Army.

June 21st, ship books, Flag and supplies to Bay City, close Headquarters, to open in Bay City Thursday, June 22, in Wenonah Hotel, which we find filled with unexpected Service men, but are comfortably housed by noon. Commander Ferguson, Comrades Warner and LeValley arrive with their group in time to enjoy the first banquet that evening; I pay tribute to the Grand Army as guest in the Courtesy hour with Daughters and Auxiliary.

Friday we complete all business, election and installation before the Camp Fire Banquet in evening—the first appearance of Comrade Warner as Department Commander. Saturday our happy family breakfast together, the Comrades lunch with the Ladies of the G.A.R., together we visit a session of each Allied Order; I give the tribute for the Comrades in the beautiful Memorial Hour service of the W.R.C. and attend installation of my only niece as Department President of the Women's Relief Corps.

Comrades and their escorts leave at four o'clock; I close Headquarters, make settlement with Hotel and Coffee Shop and leave for Jackson at midnight.

In carrying on the Department work the past year the mileage checked with folders and furnished by travel agents' records I have traveled 6,060 miles by bus with an extra 500 miles by train in attending National Encampment in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

I have made 49 calls on 10 Comrades; attended the funeral services of five assisting officers when Ritual was given; written 4 General Orders; the Memoriams; the tribute to the Grand Army for the W. R. C. Memorial hour; 6 papers for patriotic programs on the "Grand Army of Today"; the Annual Journal; any number of newspaper articles aside from the routine work at Headquarters. These are labors of love—remembering always "the pen is mightier than the sword" in this way I try to do my part in perpetuating the memory of the "Men of 61-65".

The Department has contributed to 6 patriotic and service funds, solicited during the year.

DEPARTMENT MAILING

National and Department General Orders	1296
Greetings; sympathy; cards, all kinds	314
Service records typed	196
Annual Journals	303
Applications; pensions; social service; headstones	12
Official letters; receipts; badges; programs	802
	<hr/>
Total Pieces	2923

To all who have showered courtesies, gifts and good wishes upon me, adding the sunshine of their friendship, I am truly grateful.

The passing of 12 Comrades dear to me through years of service darkened many hours, yet deepened my determination to faithfully guard and care for the ones God has spared to us—yet a little while.

*"I never wonder whither I shall wend
I'm certain of my duty on this earth
To work with honor, be a loyal friend,
And sow one seed of worth".*

Loyally yours,

LEAH M. SIMPSON,
Department Secretary.

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A.

Adrain Woodbury Post No. 45

C.

Caro Whiteside Post No. 143

G.

Grand Rapids Custer Post No. 5

J.

Jackson Edward Pomeroy No. 48

M.

Mason Steele Bros. No. 441

S.

Shelby Shields Post No. 68

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"Heritage of the Grand Army of the Republic

"The Grand Army of the Republic is a unique organization. No child can be born into it. No proclamation of President, edict of King or Czar can command admission. No university or institution of learning can issue a diploma authorizing its holder to entrance. No act of Parliament or Congress secures recognition. The wealth of a Vanderbilt cannot purchase the position. Its doors open only on the presentation of a bit of parchment, worn, torn, and begrimed as it may be, which certifies to an honorable discharge from the armies or navies of the Nation during the war against the rebellion, and, unlike any other organization, no new blood can come in. There are no growing ranks from which recruits can be drawn into the Grand Army of the Republic. With the consummation of peace through victory its ranks were closed forever; its lines are steadily growing thinner, and the ceaseless tramp of its columns is with ever-lessening tread. The gaps in the picket lines grow wider every day. Details are made for the reserve summoned into the shadowy regions until by and by only a solitary sentinel will stand guard, waiting until the bugle call from beyond shall muster out the last comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic."