

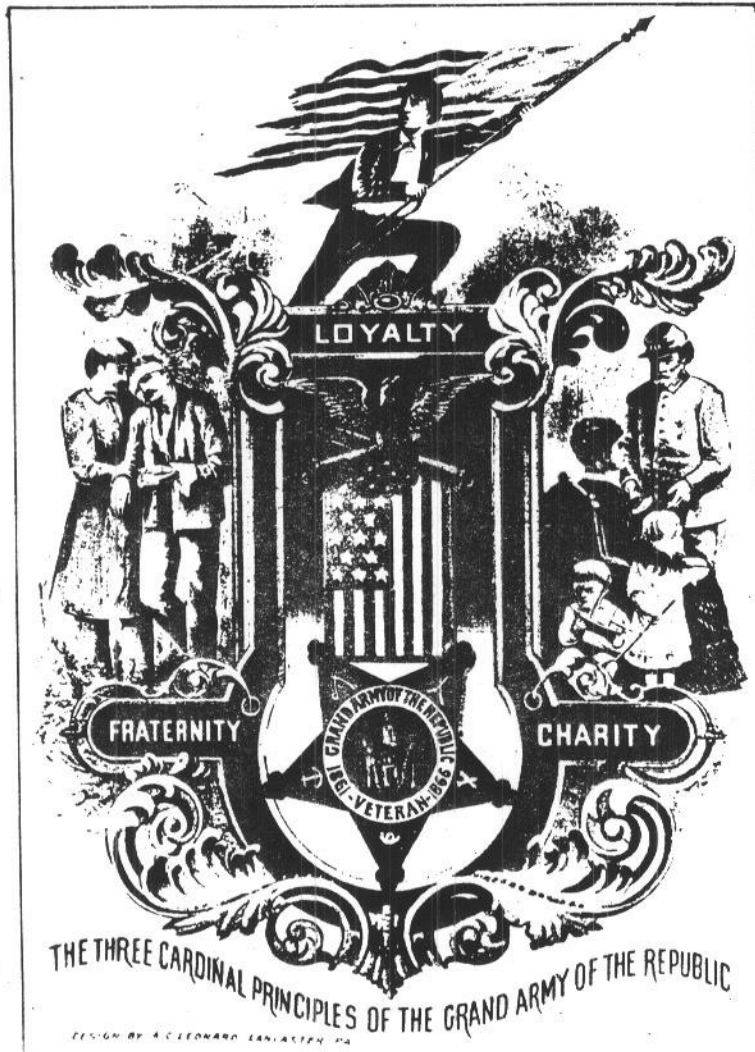


THE OFFICIAL NATIONAL ORGAN OF THE G.A.R..HISTORIANS & COLLECTORS

Vol. 2 - No. 3

South Lyon, Michigan · October 1981

\$10.00 per annum



COLOR LITHOGRAPH PUBLISHED AND DESIGNED BY A. C. LEONARD

THE GREAT REPUBLIC®

Published six times a year in South Lyon, Michigan by Roger L. Heiple. All letters and communications to this office must be addressed to: Roger L. Heiple, THE GREAT REPUBLIC, P.O. Box 16 South Lyon, Michigan. 48178.

Roger L. Heiple: Editor and Publisher
Warren Barber II.: Associate Editor
David J. Klinepeter: Associate Editor
Robert C. Marcotte: Research Mgr. - GAR hall registration.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Roger

I would like to bend your ear about the letter to the editor in Vol. 2, No. 1 issue of the GREAT REPUBLIC. I have to disagree with the statement that only the government issues medals. I do agree with Attwood that membership and convention badges are properly called badges.

The term medal is broadly understood to mean any small item usually, but not limited to, circular, made of metal (such as bronze, brass, silver, gold) with a sculptured relief; a picture in metal. It is, I suspect, the use of metal as the medium of creation and medal as the descriptive term that causes confusion. I personally have no difficulty with people who use the term medal in a very generalized way. In fact, at flea markets and antique shows if I do not use the term medal, people are not sure what I want.

The word badge, "a mark, sign, token, or cognizance worn to show the relation of the wearer to any person, occupation, or order", is less common today except in certain instances; i.e. we say police badge because that is proper.

It seems contradictory that service recognized by the U.S. government with a campaign is required to join the VFW and wear that society's badge. In a way, the requirements for both are the same; so why are they different? The difference I define as emphasis on why the badge/medal is issued, not on who issues the badge/medal.

In the preceding example, the government campaign medal is issued to recognize service in a particular geographic location during war conditions. The VFW membership badge is issued to exhibit membership in a particular veterans society. The campaign medal may also exhibit membership in a select group of veterans, but that is not why the medal is issued.

The American Legion has a general membership badge; let us be sure and call it a badge. It also issues a medal for scholastic achievement. This medal is for personal accomplishment as much as a commendation medal and is rightly called a medal. Even though it is not issued by the government, I call it a medal. And is it not more a "cognizance worn to show the relation....." than a campaign medal.

The aim of the above examples is to show the term medal extends beyond the bounds of the issuing authority. I see no reason why a private organization cannot create and issue medals.

As a final thought, consider this: if the GREAT REPUBLIC made bronze, wearable, medallion pictures for all its subscribers because they are subscribers, it would be called a badge; if it made a bronze, wearable, medallion picture for all its subscribers because they all served in a combat zone, it would be called a medal.

I shall now get off my soapbox..... I have no particular ax to grind against Mr. Attwood and perhaps I read more into his statement than he intended. I do not wish to start a fight or argument. After all, he did point out the misuse of the word badge. And I do agree the distinction is important.

Richard

BOOK REVIEWS



A. C. LEONARD, PUBLISHER
PAST COMMANDER OF POST 405, G. A. R.
COMPANY F, 54TH REGT., P. V.

THE BOYS IN BLUE OF 1861 - 1865, A Condensed History Worth Preserving. By A.C. Leonard
Published by A.C. Leonard, Lancaster, Pa. [Press of the New Era Printing Co.] 1904. 79p. Dornbusch 181

Considered a regimental history of the 54th. Penn. Inf., this book is also a good addition to any G.A.R. library. A.C. (Albert Charles) Leonard was quite a publisher of veteran materials, and many items can be found with his name on it. This book is a small history from the call to arms at the beginning of the war to the founding of the GAR and description of Andersonville "Today" (1904). Most of the story is the description of the prisoner camps in which the 54th. Penn. Inf. spent their time after capture at Patterson Creek, West Virginia. The narrative includes Richmond, Belle Isle, and Andersonville. Other chapters cover Andersonville in 1904, Peace, and the Grand Army of the Republic. This is not a book of scholarly research, but a narrative and account of A.C. Leonard's personal thoughts of the situation of the veterans in 1904. He wrote this following a list of GAR principles and objects.

How well these noble aims have been lived up to is a part of the history of the country, for though the instrumentality of the Grand Army Republic just pension and other important legislation, in the interest of former comrades and their widows and orphans, has been enacted, State and national homes for the aged and needy were established, to the end that no man who wore the Union blue need spend his days in an almshouse. Schools for the mental, moral and physical education of the veterans' children are provided, and measures have been adopted whereby every honorably discharged soldier and sailor is assured a respectable Christian burial, his grave being properly marked and forever kept green.

In addition to all this the hundreds of thousands of dollars dispensed in charity by the Grand Army of the Republic is something the world knows nothing about, and the good work of this brotherhood will go on until the last comrade has been mustered into the Grand Army above.

The cover of this month's issue is a copy of the lithograph printed by A.C. Leonard. It measures 19 X 25 and is in color. An illustration can be found in *Boys in Blue*.

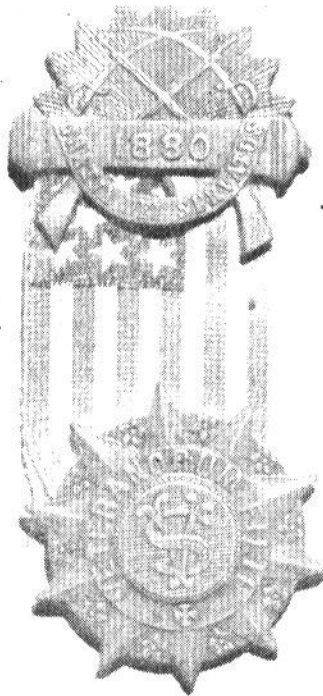
3BN-GAR COLUMN

A REGULAR COLUMN SHARING
THE RESEARCH OF THE EARLY
GAR ORGANIZATION & EMBLEM

This enlarged cut of the 1866 membership badge is provided so that closer inspection can be made of the early symbols of the G.A.R. The badge designer is unknown, but may have been one or more of the badge committee; Adj-Gen Webber, A.O. Behm, or Major O.M. Wilson. Major Wilson stated in his book, *The Grand Army of the Republic Under Its First Constitution and Ritual*, that the committee designed the first badge, but gives no specific credit. We do know that A.O. Behm was the secretary of the Grand Army Badge Company of Lafayette, Indiana, the company that produced the badge.



fig. two



EARLY SONS OF VETERANS BADGE IDENTIFIED

An illustration (fig. one) found on an 1882 brochure identifies the early Sons of Veterans badge. Formed in 1878 in Pennsylvania, the order spread into New York, New Jersey, and Delaware in 1881. The national organization of the Sons was developed in 1881 and the first badge was designed. An example of this badge is shown in figure two.

fig. one



The badge measures 80 mm long and 34mm wide. Examples of the badge appear to be made from brass with either a brown finish or gold wash. The ribbon is 30mm wide and is a red, white, and blue flag ribbon. The clasp reads, "1880 Gratia Dei Servatus" and the pendant "Veteranorum Filii".

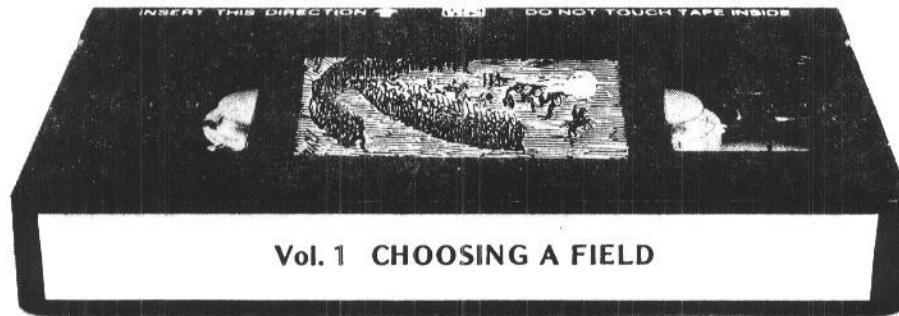
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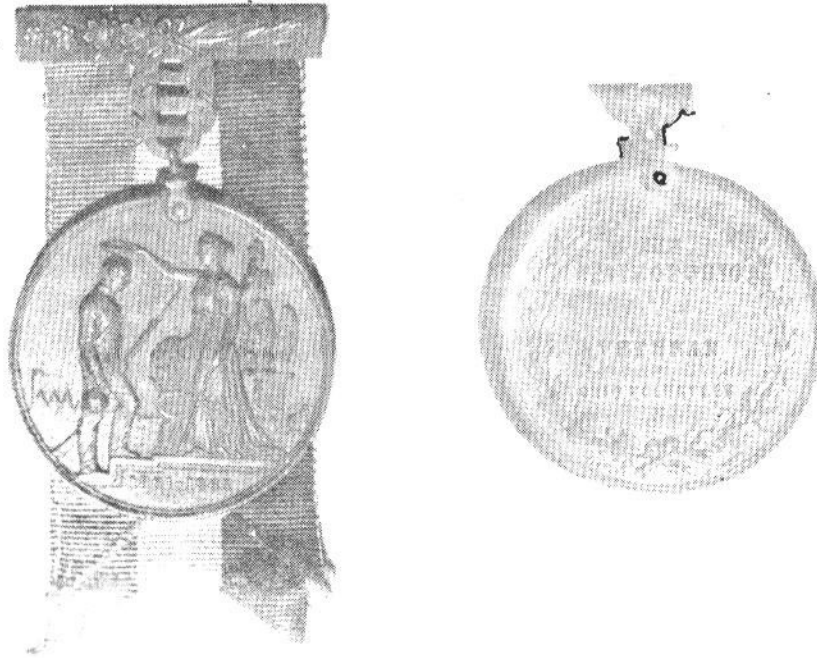
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THE STATE OF OHIO VETERAN MEDAL OF HONOR FOR THE CIVIL WAR



One of the most beautiful medals of the Civil War is the medal issued by the State of Ohio. Of the total enlistment of 213,180 men from Ohio, only 20,708 were entitled to the medal. A resolution by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio restricted the awarding of the *Veteran Medal* to those who, being already in service in Ohio regiments, re-enlisted for an additional term of three years.

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That the Governor procure, or cause to be procured, for each Veteran Volunteer who re-enlisted from this state under General Orders No. 191, or 1863, a bronze medal, one and one-half inches in diameter, containing upon one side in bold relief, the following or some similar design, to-wit: Ohio personified, crowning one of her soldiers with laurel. Emblems- wheat sheaf, tented field, springing from the wand, which supports the liberty cap, a buckeye leaf: Clasp—a plain bar on which shall be raised the buckeye and laurel; the swivel of the clasp in form of a monogram U.S. Upon the reverse side to be engraved the name of the recipient, with his regiment, battalion or battery, surrounded with a laurel wreath. The medal to be suspended by a piece of tri-colored silk ribbon, and in its artistic features to equal to the "Crimean medal".
Passed April 13, 1865.

The manufacturer of the medal was Tiffany & Company, which appears on the lower rim of the reverse side and is stamped: *TIFFANY & COMPANY*. The dimensions of the medal are as follows: Width of clasp bar- 34mm., Diameter of pendant- 36mm., Length of medal- 58mm., and Total length with ribbon- 75mm. An unusual feature of this medal is its unique swivel for the pendant. This swivel allows the medal to be worn with either side showing. The swivel apparently did not hold up under much use, and many of the medals are now found without the top clasp attached. The red, white, and blue ribbon is also missing on most of the medals. It was not sewn on, but simply folded over a bar on the back of the clasp bar. The length of the ribbon unfolded is 140mm.

In 1893 a publication was sent to the G.A.R. posts and other veterans organizations from the Adjutant General of Ohio with a list of the *Veteran Medals* remaining unclaimed in his office. This list name approximately 1500 veterans whose medal was never claimed.

The reverse of the medal is marked: *THE STATE OF OHIO TO _____ VETERAN _____ OHIO VOLUNTEER _____*. The spaces were engraved with the name of the veteran, regiment with company designation, and branch of service. It is not known who engraved the medals. One blank medal is in the collection of the author and is reported to have been the manufacturers sample.

References

List of Veteran Medals of Honor, Original discharge and Commissions. Published by the Adjutant General of Ohio, 1893.

G. W. SIMMONS & CO., BOSTON.
 ← 32 to 41 NORTH STREET. →



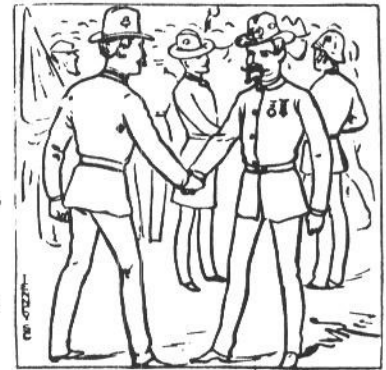
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- “ “ 3, “ “ Vests
- “ “ 4, “ “ Pantaloon
- “ “ 4, “ “ Vests

White Duck Military Pantaloon,

(See inside back cover for Samples 2, 3

S. B. Blouse, unlined, made from Union Fl
 with G. A. R. Buttons,

Unlined, all-wool Blouses, (U. S. Gov't.)

G. A. R. Buttons,

Lined Blouse, (otherwise same as above)

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 back cover)

Indigo Blue, all wool, unlined Blouse, V
 Seams, G. A. R. Buttons, (see Sample
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 G. A. R. Buttons, (see Sample No. 4, back

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(See Samples on inside back cover.)



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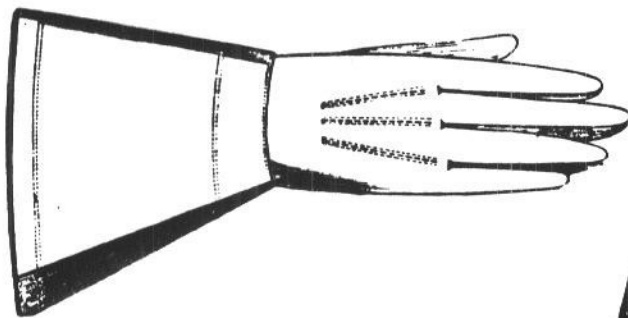
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- White Berlin Gloves, per doz. pairs, \$1.50
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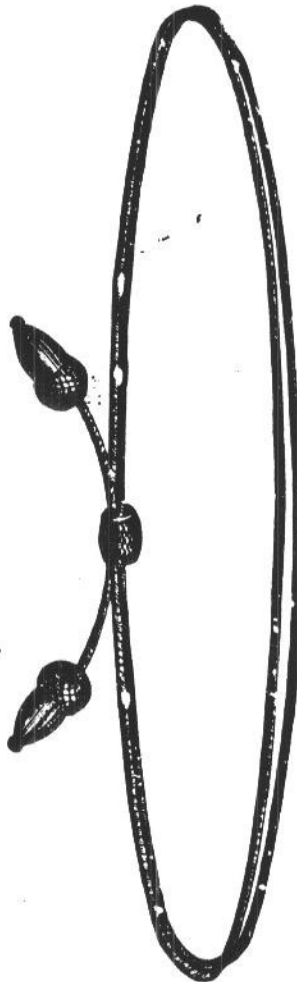
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- Gilt and Black, double, with Acorn, per doz., \$2.00.
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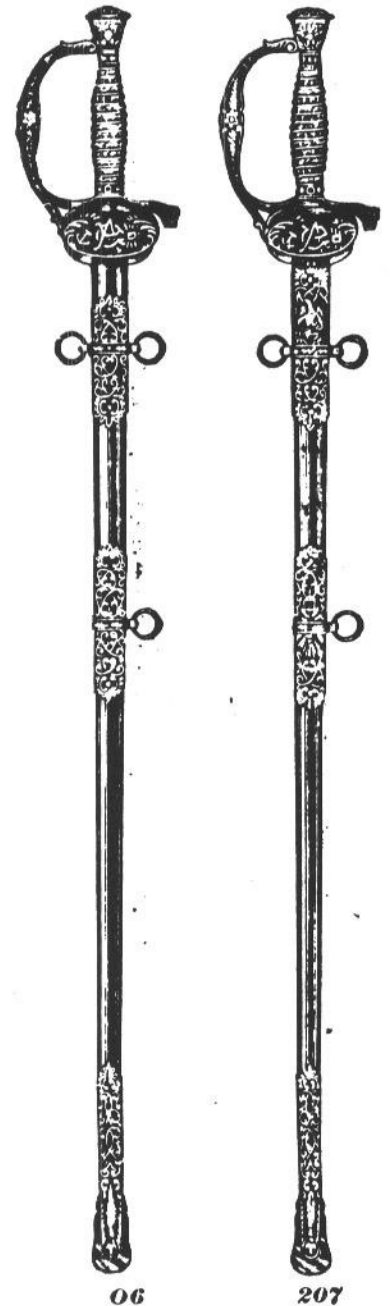


HAT & CAP TRIMMINGS.

- Metal Wreaths and Letters, per doz., \$1.00
- Embroidered Wreaths and No. of Post, per doz., \$7.50.
- Nickel Letters and Figs., per doz., . 50c.



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Price, \$30.00



The History of the War as told in Souvenir Spoons.

THESE spoons were all designed by a member of U. S. Grant Post, No. 327, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and must appeal strongly to the war memories of the boys in blue and their friends. As an educator to the younger members of the veteran's family they will prove invaluable, impressing as they will upon their minds the great historical scenes of the war, reminding them of the dangers that their fathers have passed through, and inculcate in them a feeling of patriotism and love of their country.

Also, to the American people who honor and love the veteran for all he has done for them and for the country, they must prove an invaluable reminder of the stirring times of 1861 and 1865.

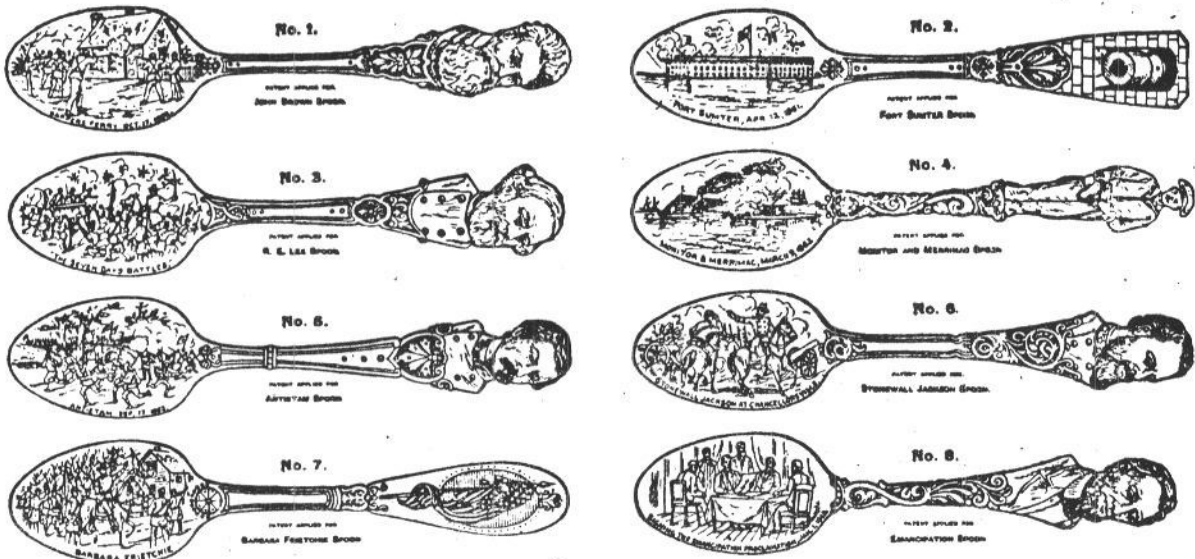
The very words "Appomattox," "The March to the Sea," "Sheridan's Ride," "Grant," "Sherman," "Sheridan," and "McClellan," must always be souvenirs to the American people of that great struggle that cost so many lives. And what can be a more fitting reminder of these great deeds and great men than a Souvenir Spoon, recalling and depicting the stirring scenes with which their names are forever identified? Being in constant use they will be a daily reminder of these events and the cause of an interesting topic of conversation at the table, when the old veteran can live once again the memories of the war.

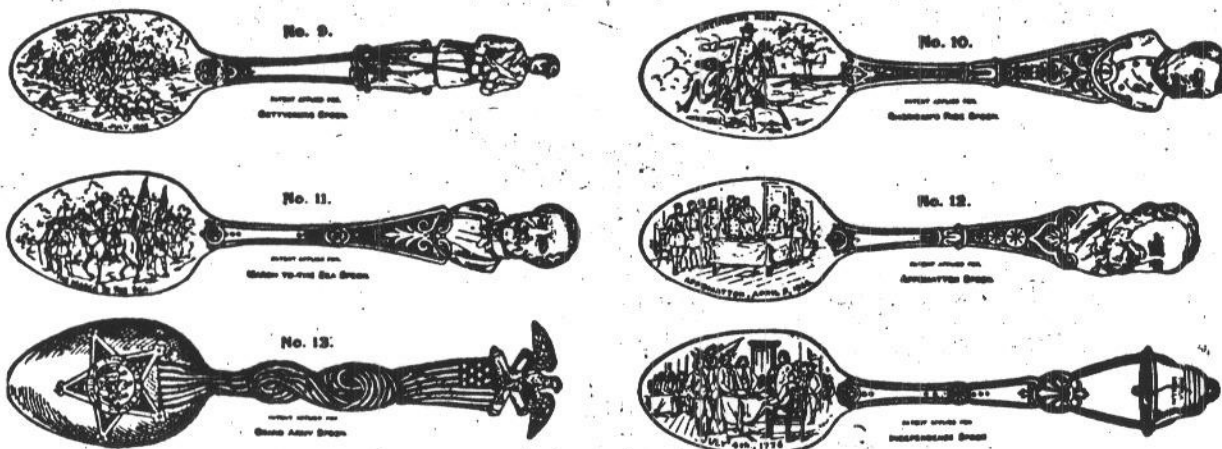
Call on your jeweler for these Spoons, and if he does not keep them, or says he cannot get them, send to the patentee at Boston, who will furnish them to you at the regular price.

Remember these cuts are only one-half the size of the spoon, and are all of sterling silver.

WAR + SPOONS.

TRADE MARK REGISTERED 1891.





THESE CUTS ARE ONE-HALF ACTUAL SIZE OF THE SPOONS.

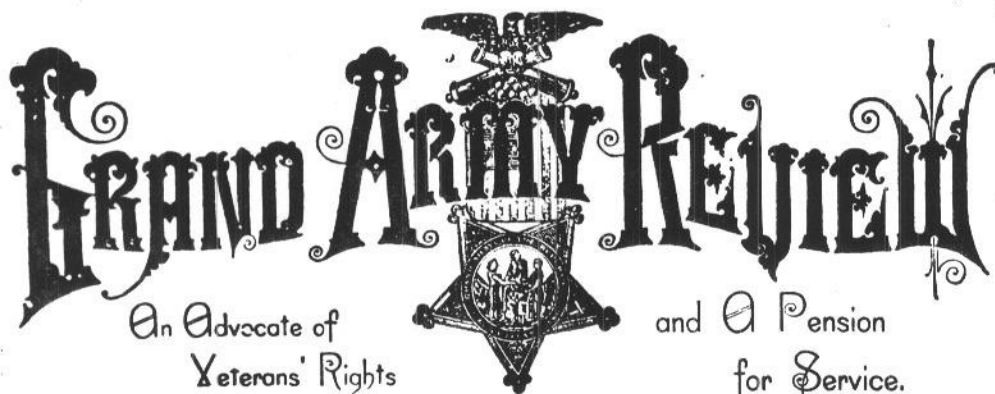
These SOUVENIR TEA SPOONS are of sterling silver, heavy weight, and sell for \$3.00. Ask your jeweler for them, and if he does not have them, or will not get them for you, send your orders to

*Please distribute these amongst
the comrades at your next meeting.*

E. A. WHITNEY,
403 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

The original copy of the War Spoons in the collection of Orland L. Roberts

VETERAN NEWSPAPERS



"Fraternity Means Something."

Entered at the New York Post-Office as Second-Class Mail Matter.

This list indicates the wide range of veterans new papers. These papers give the researcher one of the best tools in discovering the day-to-day working of the G.A.R. and the local or regional news. If you have information that would expand this list or give more accurate publication dates, please forward it to the editor.

| Name of newspaper | City published | Date examined |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| The Bugle | Cincinnati | 1884 |
| The Bivouac | Boston | 1883 - 1885 |
| American Tribune | Indianapolis | 1892 |
| The Republic Magazine | New York | |
| The Great Republic | New York | 1867 |
| The Canteen | Washington | 1890 |
| The Grand Army Advocate | Des Moines | |
| The Grand Army News | Lancaster, Pa. | 1888 |
| Grand Army Guard | Indianapolis | 1883 |
| Western Veteran | Topeka, Kansas City | 1889 - 1904 |
| The Grand Army Journal | Topeka, Hutchinson | 1890 - 1892 |
| The Grand Army Record | Boston | 1896 |
| Vetrans's Advocate | Concord, N.H. | 1888 |
| The Veteran | Columbus, Ohio | 1883 |

THE G. A. R. MEMORIAL HALL MUSEUM IN WISCONSIN

One of the fine Civil War Museums established by the influence of the veterans and the G.A.R. is located in Madison, Wisconsin. The G.A.R. Memorial Hall Museum is administered by the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and is located on the fourth floor of the State Capitol. The imposing capital is in the center of the downtown business and impossible to miss. The admission is free and there is parking nearby. The museum is open on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on weekends from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

The collection includes many G.A.R. items, most notable being the Weissert papers and memorabilia. Weissert was the Commander in Chief of the G.A.R. during 1892. If you wish to plan a trip to the Museum for use of the research materials, it would be best to contact Dr. Richard Zeitlin or Lynnette Wolfe at the following address.

*G.A.R. Memorial Hall Museum,
Capital 419 North, Madison, WI 53702*

Wisconsin was very important in early G.A.R. history, being second in seniority. Lucius Fairchild was Senior Vice Commander in 1869 and 1870, then he was Commander in Chief in 1886.



Horseman of the Second Wisconsin Cavalry. (State Historical Society of Wisconsin)

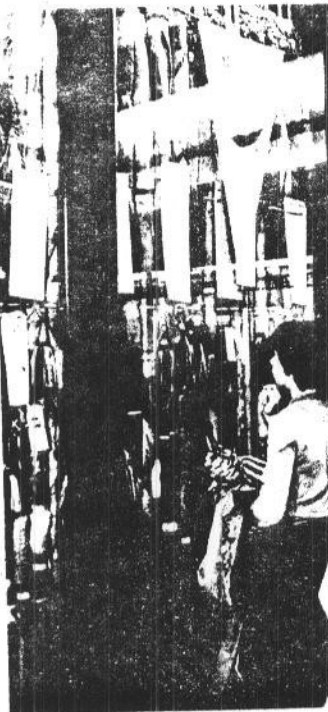
Wisconsin sent fifty-three infantry regiments, four of cavalry, thirteen batteries of light artillery, and one battalion of heavy artillery to the war. The flags and standards of all but a few Wisconsin units are furled and on display in the G.A.R. Memorial Hall Museum.



"Old Abe," the Wisconsin war eagle, and members of the Eighth Wisconsin Infantry. (G.A.R. Memorial Museum)



Weissert during the war



Wisconsin had been a state for barely a dozen years when the war broke out, but its citizens responded handsomely to President Abraham Lincoln's call for volunteers. For every nine residents, Wisconsin furnished a soldier for the Union armies; in all, more than 80,000 men volunteered for service. (Another 3,400 men were conscripted into the army.) Of these, some 11,000 paid "the last full measure of devotion," either dying of wounds or disease, or being reported missing in action.

At war's end, veterans of the Union armies organized the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.), an organization that exerted a powerful influence on state and national politics for a generation. In 1901, the Wisconsin legislature established the G.A.R. Memorial Hall to honor Wisconsin soldiers who took part in the Civil War and to collect and display their mementoes. (This emphasis on state participation was appropriate, because state regiments made up the overwhelming bulk of the Union armies in the Civil War. Although the volunteers were incorporated into larger units—brigades, divisions, corps, armies—it is in terms of the regiment that each state remembers its own participants.)

When the State Capitol burned in 1904, the original G.A.R. Memorial Hall was destroyed. Architects included the present quarters in their designs for a new Capitol, and when it opened in 1917 the G.A.R. Memorial Hall functioned as both a meeting room and a military museum.

The G.A.R. Memorial Hall Museum displays a wide range of Civil War artifacts, including uniforms, swords, firearms, musical instruments, and flags. Many soldiers donated portraits, diaries, and letters to the collections; some of these are displayed as well. The museum exhibits a number of items, including flags, used by the less-well-supplied Confederate forces. Uniforms and artifacts commemorating Wisconsin's role in the Spanish-American War (1898) are also on display.



Wisconsin artillery unit, photographed in Madison in 1861. (State Historical Society of Wisconsin)

CLASSIFIED

WANTED Gettysburg souvenirs, reunion and monument dedication ribbons and badges. National Encampment badges for 1938, 1940, 1942, 1943, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948. John J. Bellinger 724 German St. Elmira, N.Y. 14901

WANTED GAR-Suv National and Ohio encampment medals. Also blacksmith equipment and books. Robert E. Davis 13920 S. Secrist Rd. Salem, Ohio 44460.

WANTED Nationals to 1889, 1897, 1911, and 1938 to 1949. Also want U.S. Agricultural society award medals, sutler and indian trader tokens, Indian peace medals, Vermont merchant tokens and Miscellania. Andy Harkness, 368 River Hts, Rochester, N.Y. 14612.

GAR Medals, Badges, Emblems. Always wanted to purchase. Collection or accumulation. Buy outright or sell at auction. We are largest medal dealers in America. Hold 4 auctions a year. \$10 per year or write free catalog. Johnson & Jensen, Box 1085, Danbury, Connecticut 06810.

WANTED Would like to buy all types of GAR badges. Please include price in first letter. Richard Daugherty, 2117 Reed Rd., Ft. Wayne, IND 46815

MILITARY PAPER ITEMS Books, Magazines, Documents, Letters, Images at affordable prices. Colonial to WWI. GAR paper items. Bought and Sold. Two 15 cent stamps for comprehensive catalog. Gordon Toddy, Historic Paper Americana, 576 Massachusetts Ave., Lunenburg, MA 01462

WANTED 3BN, 1894, 1921, 1948 National Encampment Badges, Rep. souvenir, unusual items - Buy-Trade-Sell. Also Bosworth Post and 1893 Columbian Expo. SASE for wants. Wayne Bosworth, 5216 S. Moody, Chicago, Ill. 60638

WANTED Anything GAR from Indianapolis (8 National Encampments) bert F. Neidhamer, 624 E. Normal Ave. Fresno, CA 93704

WANTED Collecting GAR items and information from Holmes and surrounding counties in Ohio. These Posts include: 702, 298, 305, 384, 428, 619, 691, and 702. Jeff Schrock, Rt 3 631 Behler St. Ext. Sugarcreek, Ohio 44681

WANTED If you have any duplicate representative badges to state and national encampments, please write. Lou Small, 10106 Leisure Lane N., Jacksonville, Fla. 32216.

WANTED Looking for New York State GAR items especially from Binghamton, N.Y. and 27th Vol, 89th NYV, 109th, NYV, 137th, NYV and 50th, NY Eng. John W. Ferry P.O. Box 174 Westview Station, Binghamton, N.Y. 13905.

STATE OWNED MUSEUM wishes contact with other GAR collectors. Seek Civil War and GAR materials, especially from Wis. Will Trade. GAR Memorial Hall Museum, Capital 419 North, Madison, WI 53702.

GAR Medals BADGES, and EXONUMIA bought and sold. Write for free auction catalog. Will purchase large collections or single items. Rich Hartzog, P.O. Box 4143 NS, Rockford, IL 61110

AMERICANA MAIL AUCTION Civil War and GAR items at your price or less. Free copy and information. George M. Rinsland, 4015 Kilmer Ave. Allentown, Pa. 18104

WANTED Any material marked 3BN-GAR. National DElegates BADges 1948, 1947 and before 1890. Also National Journals, Dept. PA Delegate badges, various state journals. Officer badges. David J. Klinepeter, 32 South 24th. Street. Harrisburg, PA 17103

WANTED GAR Dept. of Mass. items and other New England Dept. material. National and Dept. badges and cavalry reunion ribbons as well. Have items for trade. Hank McGonagle, 26 Broad St., Newburyport, Mass 01950

BOOKS FOR SALE Regimental histories and other civil war books. Lists issued five time per year. Ray Russell - Books. P.O. Box 1008 Rochester, Michigan 48063

WANTED Southern and Western Department GAR material - anykind. Warren Barber III, P.O. Box 43, Richland, MI 49083

WANTED 1938 Des Moines National Encampment Delegate badge in good condition. Will trade or purchase. Roger Heiple, P.O. Box 16, South Lyon, MI 48178.

INFORMATION WANTED on the following Civil War Veterans.
John W. Wolf, Sgt. Co.F, 7th Regt. Cav. Vol. and Jacob Hiller, Co. C. 67th. Regt. Inf. George Siessell 93 Henshaw Ave, Springfield, N.J. 07081;

WANTED Member and officer badges for GAR, Society War of 1812, UCV, UVU, UVL, Army Cumberland, Army Tennessee, Army Navy Union, other similar organizations. Describe and price. John Banter, 998 N.W. 15th. Ave., Boca Raton, FL 33432.

WANTED Originals or copies of letters, diaries, photos or reunion ribbons of Men of the Old 4th. Michigan Inf. Would like to contact descendants. William F. Heckert, 730 Westminster Lane, Kokomo, Indiana 46901

WANTED GAR & UCV items esp. Dept. of Ohio, annual encampment badges. Will send want list for name and address. Larry Moesle, 804 Harriet Ave. N.W., Canton, Ohio 44703

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CHEER OF
U. S. GRANT POST, No. 28,
Department of Illinois, G. A. R.

One, two, three---who are we?
We belong to the Grand Armee,
From Chicago---Lincoln's state,
U. S. Grant Post---twenty-eight.

EDITORIAL CREDITS

Pages 6 & 7 David Klinepeter, as always our major contributors. Thanks again Dave.

Page 8 & 9 War Spoons - O.L. Roberts.

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