

Volume 16, No. 4

*The Veteran*

April - June, 2003

**C.W.V.H.A. Officers**

**President**

Dan M. Mitchell  
874 S. Lakehurst Drive  
PO Box 56.  
Franklin, IN 46131-0056  
dmitc874@aol.com

**Recording Secretary**

Jack Buchert  
PO Box 33367  
Indialantic, FL 32903-0367  
JHBuchert1@aol.com

**Treasurer**

Dave Aeberli  
9372 Almar Place  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237-4872  
dla9372@nauticom.net

**Editor, Printing & Distribution**

George G. Kane  
123 Springfield St  
Chicopee, MA 01013-2627  
gkane1@prodigy.net

**Contributors**

Jeff Dygert  
Ralph Gallo  
Craig Cassidy  
George Finlayson  
Charlie Otte  
Noel B. Preston

**The Captured Cannon Souvenir Badges  
by George G. Kane**

With the resurgence of the G.A.R. in the early 1880's, came renewed interest in the national encampments of that organization. The G.A.R. began to create and sell "Official" G.A.R. souvenir badges for every national encampment. The first attempt to sell these badges was less than successful and caused some controversy. The 1886 souvenir badge looked very similar to the delegate badges that were issued at this encampment in San Francisco. They also didn't sell. There were so many copies left over that seventeen years later they were trying to sell these badges again. In 1903, with the national encampment at San Francisco again, the National GAR Office placed ads in the *National Tribune* attempting to sell the large cache of 1886 medals they still held in their vault. In the 1890's these souvenir badges finally became popular. Most of the "official" souvenir badges issued after 1895 are so common, that they are one of the lowest priced GAR memorabilia available on the market today. There is, however, one "official" badge that is quite uncommon. (continued on page 39)



### The President's Message

By Dan Mitchell

I am now down in a three-point stance ready to takeoff for Mansfield. This is the very high point in my collecting year. I can't wait to see so many friends and fellow collectors. There is not a year that I don't return from the show more knowledgeable about my hobby than I was before I attended the meeting.

Again, we are blessed with George Finlayson, MD, as the person who actually puts this meeting together. He obtained the dining room; ordered the meals; and this year has obtained the historically restored GAR Hall in downtown Mansfield for us to visit. George always does such a great job. I think that we all owe him a round of applause.

Take a good look at the "The Veteran" you are now holding as you read this. This is simply the best publication dealing with our hobby of which I am aware, and the credit goes to George G. Kane, our editor, as well as each of you who has contributed articles for the publication.

I am looking forward to seeing and talking to each of you and I hope that you will all come with wonderful stories and great finds to share with us all.

### The Editors Message

by George Kane

After having missed last year's encampment at Mansfield, I am looking forward to attending this year's festivities. As always, I am planning to be frugal, but I am prepared for the ultimate purchase. I sometimes feel like a kid in a candy store when I attend this show. I can hardly wait to get to the CWVHA section of dealer tables. While Everitt and Doc and Dave and the rest of the dealers are setting up, I'm hoping to find that elusive badge for which I've been searching for years, right as they take it out of their satchels and place it in their cases. I'm afraid that first hour of searching is dog eat dog. Greetings and salutations are curt. Conversations can wait until the frenzy dies down. What is it in these small pieces of metal and ribbon that drives us so crazy?

Please remember that our fraternal year runs from the end of the Mansfield show to the beginning of the show the following year. A renewal form will be attached to this newsletter.

### 17<sup>th</sup> National Encampment of the CWVHA

The CWVHA National Encampment will hold its annual dinner/meeting at the Comfort Inn, Saturday, May 3, 2003. A cash bar will open at 6:00 PM and the dinner will be served at 6:30 PM. The entrée choices are Chicken Monterey or ½ rack of Damon's BBQ Ribs. Either entrée is \$16.00. After the dinner meeting, we will adjourn to the Mansfield Memorial Museum for a tour of the historically restored GAR Hall. It is located one block west of Mansfield's Central Square. Mansfield is now home to two Sultana Plaques and a new John Sherman plaque. Please mail a check with your entrée selection to:  
George Finlayson, 98 Parkwood Blvd., Mansfield, OH 44906-3218

### Table of Contents

The Captured Cannon Souvenir Badges.....	37, 39
President's & Editor's Messages .....	38
A Book Well Traveled .....	40, 41
GAR.Dance Card .....	42
Last Union Widow Dies .....	42
GAR Encampment City Campaign Ribbons .....	43
A Miniature G.A.R. Share .....	44
The Glorious Fourth .....	44
GAR / UCV Music Cover .....	45
Play Ball .....	45
Veterans in Cyberspace .....	46
More G.A.R. Postcards .....	47
Veteran I.D. Requested .....	48
GAR Officer of the Guard Belt Buckle .....	48
GAR Coat Checks? .....	48

### The Veteran

*The Veteran* is published quarterly and is the official publication of the Civil War Veterans Historical Association. All articles, photographs, and art is copyrighted, 1996. All rights reserved. Nothing may be reprinted or copied without permission of the  
**C.W.V.H.A.**

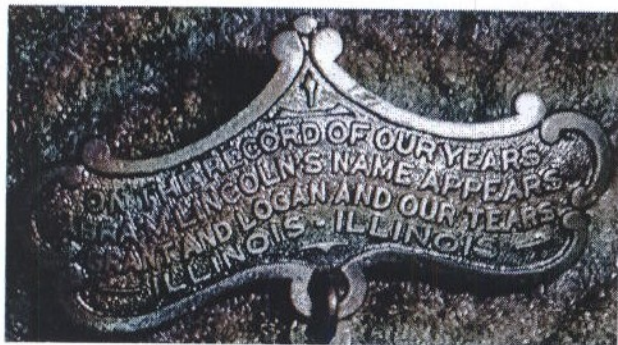
Articles may be submitted either in typewritten form or electronically (e-mail or disk) MSWord, or Excel is the preferred software choices. All materials will be returned. If you have questions, please call George Kane at 413-592-2166. Postal and e-mail addresses are listed on the front page.

**Captured Cannon Badges**  
(continued from front page)

In 1900, The Grand Army decided to make, not one, but two "official souvenir" badges for the Chicago encampment. Besides the regular "Official Souvenir" badge, a special "School Souvenir" was created. Their intent was to sell it only to schoolchildren at twenty-five cents per piece. The G.A.R. took out ads in the *National Tribune* and other veteran's newspapers. Post and department Patriotic Instructors offered these for sale during their school visits. Considering the few examples offered for sale today, these efforts were not very successful. By contrast, the "Official Souvenir" is quite common and easily acquired in the market place.

The badges are quite similar. The hanger of both badges was identical. The hanger has imprinted the chorus to the Illinois state song:

*On the Record of our Years  
Abram (sic) Lincoln's Name Appears  
Grant and Logan and our Tears  
- Illinois - Illinois -*



The reverse of the hanger is marked "S. D. Childs, Makers - Chicago", just below the pin.

Both pendants have an aluminum overlay, which is attached with clips on the right and left of the overlay. Both overlays have three sections with a picture of a statue. The first statue is General Grant on a horse. The middle statue is Lincoln, standing holding a cane. The third statue is an equestrian statue of Logan holding his sword aloft. The two overlays are different in size and borders:



School Souvenir



Official Souvenir

There is one other similarity on these badges. Both have inscriptions on the reverse of the pendants, signed by the Commander-in-Chief, Albert D. Shaw. The messages are different. On the Souvenir reverse, the message is:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT  
THIS BADGE IS MADE FROM  
CAPTURED CANNON

*Yours faithfully* (written)

*Albert D. Shaw* (written)

Commander-in-Chief  
G.A.R.



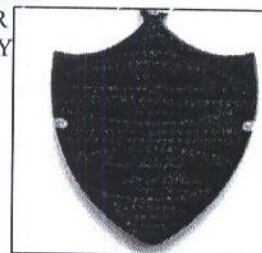
The message on the School Souvenir is a little more involved.

CHILDREN  
LET THIS BADGE WHICH IS MADE FROM  
GUNS  
CAPTURED BY LOYAL SOLDIERS DURING  
THE GREAT WAR THAT SAVED YOUR  
COUNTRY  
AND GAVE FREEDOM TO ALL REMIND  
YOU THAT IT WILL SOON BE YOUR  
PRIVILEGE AND DUTY TO RIGHTLY  
MAINTAIN THIS GREAT REPUBLIC

*Yours faithfully* (written)

*Albert D. Shaw* (written)

Commander-in-Chief  
GRAND ARMY  
OF THE  
REPUBLIC



As you probably noticed, the die-cut shapes of the pendants are very different. The School Souvenir is in the shape of a U.S. shield. Above the aluminum overlay on the obverse, in script, are the words "School Souvenir". Below the overlay, not in script, are the words: "CHICAGO / ENCAMPMENT / G.A.R. / 1900"

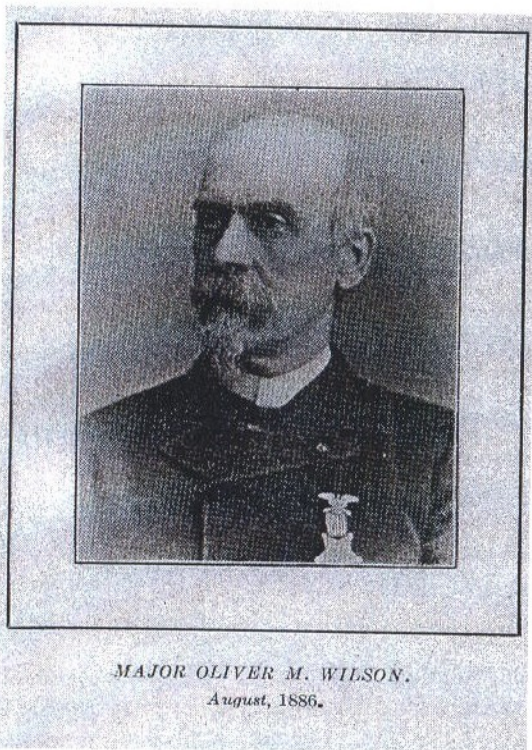
The Official Souvenir pendant is a G.A.R. star, from the membership badge with a banderole at the top and a scroll below. The banderole reads "Official Souvenir". The scroll reads "CHICAGO ENCAMPMENT G.A.R. 1900".

On the reverse of the two pendants, you'll notice the two aluminum clips, which hold the aluminum overlay to the pendant. The overlay is sometimes missing on these badges and sold in the marketplace. Don't believe the dealer story that the veterans, because of prejudices against Logan, removed the overlays. It is just a story to save the dealers investment. Other stories question the actual metal content of the badge. The weight of these badges seems to indicate that there may be some truth to the rumors that the metal may not have been from captured confederate cannon.

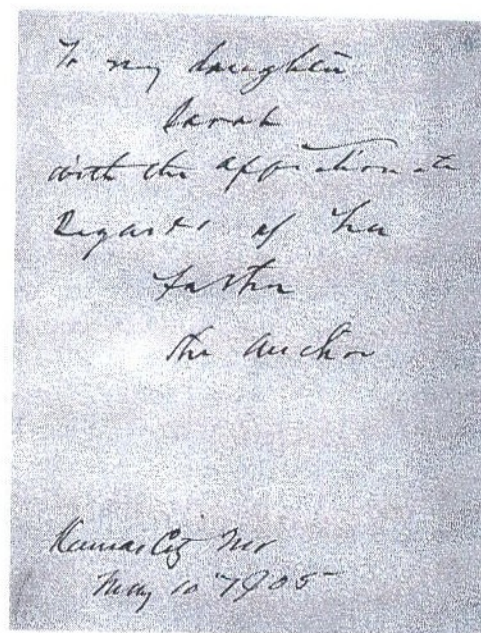
## A Book Well Traveled

by George G. Kane

One of the rarest of all G.A.R. history books is Major Oliver M. Wilson's "The Grand Army of the Republic under its First Constitution and Ritual", published in 1905 in Kansas City, Missouri by Franklin Hudson Publishing Co. The book is rarely offered in the

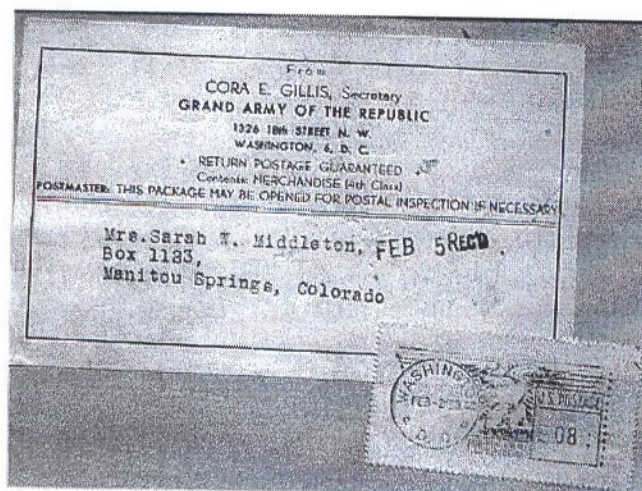


marketplace. Recently I was surprised to discover a bookseller on-line, who not only had a copy of this book, he had two. When I called the dealer to inquire, he told me the story of these well-traveled books. The books had been the property of Major Oliver, himself. In 1905, when the books were published, the Major gave these two books to his son and daughter. Inscribed on the first page was a dedication to each of his children. His daughter's book has the inscription, "To My daughter Sarah with the appreciation and regards of her Father, The Author, Kansas City, Mo, May 10, 1905". The son's copy is almost identical, "To My Son, Edward, with the appreciation and regard of his Father, The Author, Kansas City, Mo, May 10, 1905". The son's copy has a plain white jacket attached with the inscription "This package belongs to Ed. S. Wilson"



Both books appear to be in excellent condition, but the son's is in almost mint condition, protected by the jacket from scuffing.

At some point, both books ended up in the G.A.R. library in Washington, D.C. under the watchful eye of Cora E. Gillis, the last secretary of the organization. In the Early 1950's, Cora was busy distributing the assets of the National Office before the last of the veterans passed on. Most of the books in the library went to the Library of Congress, while flags and other artifacts went to the Smithsonian Institute. At this time, Cora returned by mail the two Wilson books to the Major's daughter, Mrs. Sarah W. Middleton in Manitou Springs, Colorado.



The mailing label and postage sticker, dated Feb. 2, 1950, reveal the date of its transmittal. At some point,  
(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

probably in the 1950's, Mrs. Middleton donated the two books, still in their mailing envelope to the Manitou Springs Historical Society. There they resided until last year, when the society sold off part of its library to raise money. The book was purchased by a Colorado book dealer who eventually sold them to me, completing their fourth cross-country trip.

The book, itself, is the recollections, letters and documents of Major Wilson of the first five years of the organization that would eventually be called the Grand Army of the Republic. This book is very significant due to the fact that very little information from those first five years has survived. In 1868, Adjutant General N. P. Chipman had begun to centralize the records of the national organization. In 1872, these records arrived in Boston. on Memorial Day The boxes were stored in the Department offices of the Department of Massachusetts. The very next day, the building burned to the ground. All the records of the National Organization and the Department of Massachusetts were destroyed in the fire. The National organization solicited copies of documents from the departments, but the loss of so much information was hard to replace. In 1876, the G.A.R. began to issue a compilation of the encampment journals of the National Encampments up to that time. Nothing else was attempted until the publication of Robert Beath's "History of the Grand Army of the Republic" in 1888. Beath mentions a number of individuals for their help in creating the early history of the organization. Major Wilson was not among them. Wilson's records, which were collected when he was Adjutant General of the Department of Indiana from 1866 to 1868 and Department Commander from 1869 to 1870, are quite extensive. They include many documents and records, which he did not make available to Robert Beath. Wilson states that "what follows is not based upon memories of what transpired during the founding of the Grand Army, but is a statement of facts as appear upon the records of those years now in my possession and my personal property." In 1901, Wilson finally finished this book.



For some reason, it was not published until 1905 and not in significant quantities. Today, the book is rarely seen in libraries, never mind private collections. The book measures 5.5" by 8" and is 271 pages in length.

A lot of the material in this book was covered in Beath's book, but Wilson's detail and insight outshine Beath's sterile presentation. One of the major problems in this era was the Degree System, which eventually replaced the Stephenson Ritual. Both authors admit the negative affect of the installation of this ritual on the organization as a whole, but Wilson is unafraid to point fingers and name names, revealing the dirty politics of the organization. At one point, Wilson states that Dan Sickles would have beaten Logan in the Commander-in-Chief election, except for some "loose talk" by the General. If Sickles had defeated Logan, the degree system would never have been instituted and the society would have averted the incredible loss in membership and departments of the 1869-71 period. Wilson did not personally blame Logan, but "parasites" within his staff. The degree system broke down the membership into three grades, Recruit, Soldier and Veteran. Many members, especially those with combat experience, found these grades humiliating and refused to submit to the new ritual. Wilson felt that the main impetus for this system was money and control. All supplies, even printed forms, had to be purchased from the National office. Graduation to the next grade would cost a member a tax. This system was dropped in 1871, but by then, the damage had been done. In the late 1860's, the Grand Army boasted it had 250,000 members. In the 1870's, membership hovered around 30,000. In 1870 there were 23 departments, but by 1877, only 12 existed, mostly in the Northeast.

The book is well written and except for some ranting and raving by Wilson on why Indiana should be the Senior GAR Department, the book travels chronologically through events of this five-year period.

Five appendixes make up the final 70 pages of the book. The first is a reproduction of the actual constitution of the order. The second appendix is a copy of the 1866 issued Regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic. The third appendix is a short history of the early years of the order, created in 1901 at the behest of the National Encampment of that year. The fourth appendix is a speech given at the corner-stone ceremonies at the Soldiers Home at Knightsville, Indiana by the Governor, Conrad Baker, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1867. The last appendix is a short note by Wilson on the statistics of departments and their losses from 1869 to 1880.

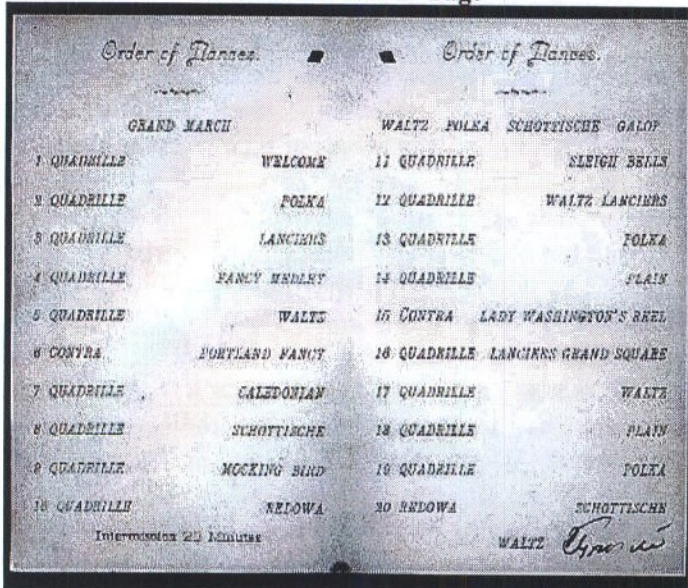
**GAR Dance Card**

by Ralph Gallo

The pictures below are of a dance card from a dance given by the Louis Bell GAR Post, No. 3, of Manchester, New Hampshire, in honor of the John A. Andrew GAR Post, No 15, of Boston, at Mechanic's Hall Manchester on December 6, 1886. The outer, card stock cover has an embossed GAR Medal. The first page of the four-page paper insert has an illustration of Col. Louis Bell, killed in action in the battle for Fort Fisher in Wilmington, North Carolina, in January of 1865. He was the commander of the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Division of the XXIV Army Corps. His father, Samuel Bell, was the Governor of NH. There are two pages with the order of dances, and a page with the names of the dance's marshals and aids. The card measures 3 3/8" X 5 1/4".



Front Cover and 1<sup>st</sup> Page



Order of Dance Pages

**Last Union Widow Dies**

by George G. Kane

Gertrude Grubb Janeway, the widow of John Janeway, died Friday, January 17, 2003. She was 93. Mrs. Janeway's husband was a veteran of the civil war and served six months in Company E, 14th Illinois Volunteer Cavalry. Gertrude was the last widow of a Union civil war soldier.



John and Gertrude Janeway (circa 1928)  
Photo courtesy of Daniel L. Earl, SUVCW

John Janeway was discharged at the end of the war and immediately moved to California. In 1922, John, then 77, returned home to Blaine, Tennessee. In 1925, John began to court the 16 year-old Gertrude. They were finally married June 9, 1927. He was 81, she was 18. In 1932, the couple purchased a three-room log cabin in Blaine. Gertrude would live in this cabin until her death. John Janeway passed away in 1937 at the age of 91. He died from pneumonia. Gertrude never remarried. Every month, she received a \$70 pension from the Veterans Administration.

Now, the last living link to the American Civil War is a frail 96 year-old widow in Alabama. Alberta Martin married William Jasper Martin on December 10, 1927. Martin joined Company K, 4<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry (CSA) in May 1864 and was a participant in the Siege of Petersburg. He died in 1931. Mrs. Martin now lives in a nursing home in Elba, Alabama. She is the last known Confederate Widow.

## GAR Encampment Location Campaign Ribbons

by George G. Kane

Today, every major city has a civic center, a sports dome, or some other large convention venue. The city, usually heavily in debt to construct such behemoths, tries to pay for these buildings by soliciting national or state-wide fraternal, religious or political groups. Although the professional sports teams, the tractor pulls, and the computer shows bring in some income, a national convention of a major group brings in money, not only to city government, but it also attracts people who stay at hotels, eat in restaurants and enjoy the local entertainment. This translates into millions of dollars being pumped into the local economy. This is not a modern phenomenon. The late 19<sup>th</sup> Century was the golden age of fraternal societies. Cities from around the country would send representatives to try to cajole these groups into having next year's convention in their city. The convention selection committee would be bombarded with telegrams, literature and photos from all the competing cities.

The Grand Army of the Republic National Encampment in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century was a prize for any city. These encampments would bring in, not only the delegates, but also regular members who would march in the parade and then look for the party. Many members brought their families. Venders from out of town, would also come to hawk their wares. The crush would usually pack the hotels and boarding houses to capacity. Usually, many veterans would have to stay at a tent city in a local park.

The cities often found an ally within the GAR. The local GAR posts and state departments were always campaigning to bring the encampment to their state. One of the departments' campaign strategies was handing out ribbons to anyone who would wear one. The ribbons shown below are representative of that strategy. The date on these ribbons was always a future year, but not always the next year. The second ribbon from the right was issued by the Department of Utah at the 1907 encampment to try to persuade voters to select Salt Lake City for the national, two years hence. Other ribbons are for losing campaigns. The second ribbon from the left promotes Sioux Falls for the 1899 encampment (It went to Philadelphia). The middle ribbon was distributed in 1903 for the encampment to take place in 1904. Denver did not win the 1904 convention (Boston Mass.), but did win the rights to the following year, 1905.

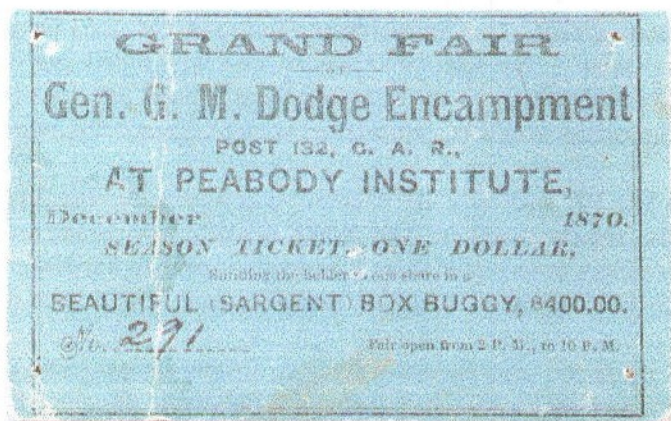
The competition for the department encampments was no less significant. The last ribbon, on the right, is seeking the 1908 Missouri department encampment in 1908 for Kansas City, which it did win.



### A Miniature G.A.R. Share

by George G. Kane

The ticket below is not only a season pass to a GAR sponsored "Grand Fair", but an entitlement to one share (of 400) in a "Beautiful (Sargent) Box Buggy".



Today, that might seem like a very good deal, but in 1870, buggies were selling in the \$15-20 price range.



*A (piano style) Box Buggy*

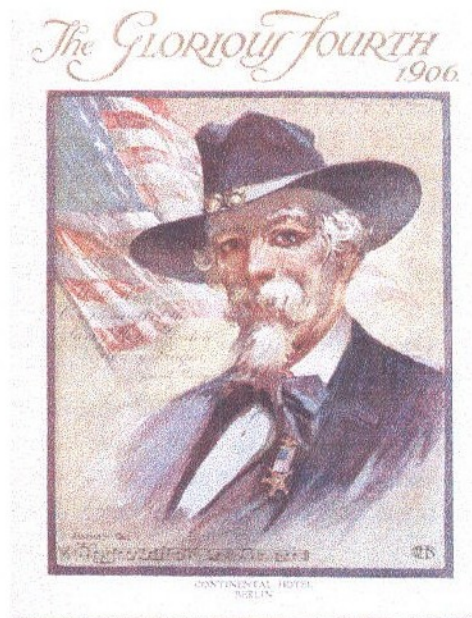
Obviously this was an attempt to raise money for charity and not a business opportunity.

The Fair was sponsored by the General G. M. Dodge Post No. 132, G.A.R. of Peabody, Massachusetts in December of 1870. This ticket is numbered 291, but were only 400 tickets sold? The 2¼ by 3½" card has a green background and a blank back. This post was mustered in during the same year. In 1879, it merged with an Army and Navy Union Command and became Union G.A.R. Post #50 of Peabody, Massachusetts. The post finally surrendered its charter July 6, 1932 with the death of its last member, John L. Adams.

### The Glorious Fourth

by Craig Cassidy

Pictured below is a 1906 unused 7 ½" by 10" menu cover, apparently printed to celebrate July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1906.



The words "The Glorious Fourth 1906" appear in gold print at the top of the menu cover. The illustration shows a distinguished white-haired veteran of the American Civil War, wearing a blue military G.A.R. uniform with a GAR membership badge attached to his lapel. A U.S. flag waves in the breeze behind the veteran.



At the bottom of the page is printed the musical notes to "Assembly Call". Printed over the lower portion of the flag at left is "With the compliments of the Savoy Hotel, London, Henry Pruger, General Manager". At the bottom margin of the menu cover is printed "Continental Hotel, Berlin". It would appear that the Savoy in London and the Continental in Berlin shared management and these 1906 menus. There is no printing inside the menu or on its back cover. The cover is made of a very stiff cardboard. This is a rarely seen European tribute to the American Civil War.

**GAR / UCV Music Cover**

by  
**Jeff Dygert**

The picture below is that of an original sheet music Cover published in 1913. Titled, "I Love The Whole United States", it superimposes two civil war veterans shaking hands over a map of the United States. The map of the U.S., sits on a large red heart. A large American eagle, a wreath in its talons, sits upon the top of the heart. It is possible that the song was issued to celebrate the joint meeting of northern and southern veterans at Gettysburg, PA in July of that year. The union veteran to the right is wearing his G.A.R. membership badge on his left breast. The southern veteran is facing the union veteran and no UCV regalia is visible.



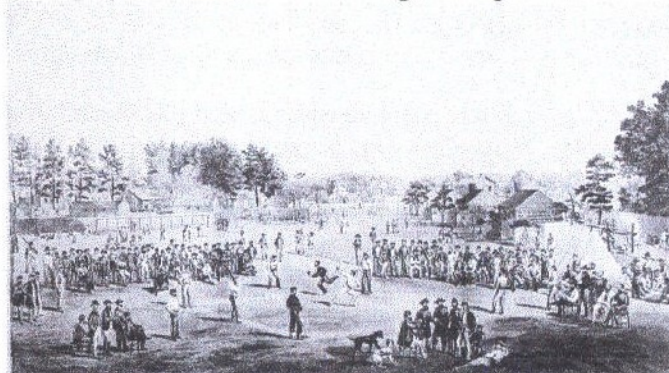
The Song was written by Roger Lewis (words) and Ernie Erdman (music) and published by Tell Taylor Music Publishing of Chicago and New York. There is a small picture of a Walter S. Sherwood at the bottom of the cover, in between the legs of the two veterans. Mr. Sherwood receives no credit anywhere on the cover. He may have been the vocalist.

The sheet measures 10' by 13' and the back page is blank.

**Play Ball**

by  
**George G. Kane**

After a long hard winter, it appears that spring is finally upon us. We all know that in the spring, a young man's fancy turns to.....BASEBALL. It's been that way for well over 150 years. During the civil war, both sides played Baseball. A Union game is pictured below.



Baseball was played in POW camps and any place where large groups of soldiers sat around idly.



The souvenir of the Western Kansas Veterans Association, pictured above, was for a reunion of soldiers and a "ball tournament" at St. Francis, Kansas in 1903. The graphic depicts a civil war soldier, but veterans of other wars may have attended. Civil war veterans would probably be in their 60's in 1903. Let's hope none of them tripped over their beards fielding a ground ball.

## Veterans in Cyberspace

by George Kane

In 1893, the state of Nebraska completed a Census of civil war veterans, then living in that state. That census is now on the Internet. The veterans were asked their rank, unit and state where they enlisted. The census also provides name and 1893 city of residence. The census is sorted by state enlisted. The web site is:

<http://www.usgennet.org/usa/ne/county/holt/1893/index.html>

An old web site that had disappeared has recently resurfaced. "The Generals of the American Civil War" has pictures of Union and Confederate Generals. There are 1,008 Generals listed from both sides. A new feature lets you view alternate photos of each General. General George Armstrong Custer has 15 extra pages of photos. This seems appropriate for the man, many called, "the most photographed man of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century"

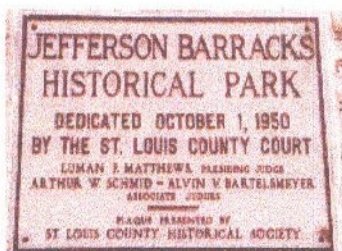
<http://www.generalsandbrevets.com/default.htm>

There is a compilation of all civil war veterans from Michigan regiments on the web. These are compiled from "Michigan Soldiers and Sailors", published by the State of Michigan in 1915, known commonly as the "Brown Books". They are a copy of the "Muster Out" rolls containing the name and basic record of every soldier, who served in a Michigan regiment or any Michigan citizen enrolled in another state's regiment or any federal units. Naval and USCT personnel from Michigan are also listed. This site lists only the name, unit and home of residence for each soldier. Officer's ranks are also listed:

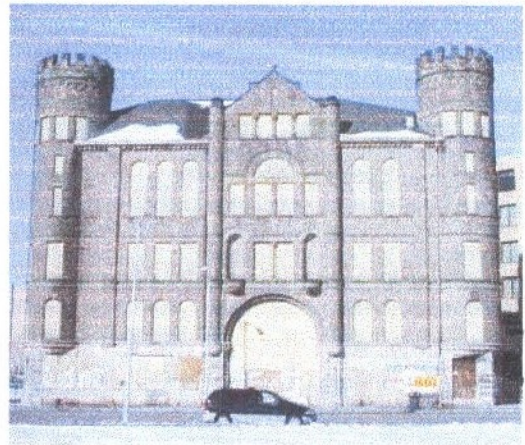
<http://www.michiganinthewar.org/rosters.htm>

The Missouri Civil War Museum is being built on the Jefferson Barracks Historic Military Complex in St. Louis, Missouri. This Museum will consist of 15,000 square feet of display galleries and meeting rooms. It will be exclusively dedicated to the study of the American Civil War and its relevance to the State of Missouri. Their web site is:

[www.missouricivilwarmuseum.org](http://www.missouricivilwarmuseum.org)



Pictures of the former Detroit, Michigan G.A.R. Post, now located in what is the inner city are not pretty.



<http://www4.stormfront.org/Whitehistory/hwrdet2.htm>

Two museums in Philadelphia are in court fighting over a horse's stuffed and mounted head. The Grand Army of the Republic Museum and Library and the Civil War Library and Museum have been battling over "Old Baldy" in Orphans' Court, which deals with nonprofit institutions. "Old Baldy" was General George G. Meade's horse, which he rode during the civil war. This horse was wounded 14 times during the conflict. Once, he was left for dead on the battlefield, only to be found grazing in an adjoining field some time later. The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Museum says it is the rightful owner of Old Baldy, despite lending him to the Civil War Library and Museum 25 years ago. The Civil War Library argues that they've had him so long and the GAR Museum can't prove ownership.

[http://abclocal.go.com/wpvi/news/02122003\\_bb\\_horsehead.html](http://abclocal.go.com/wpvi/news/02122003_bb_horsehead.html)

Even the British (BBC) are interested in this story.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/low/americas/2838037.stm>

Even the horse has his own web site:

<http://www.aretesurf.com/baldy/>



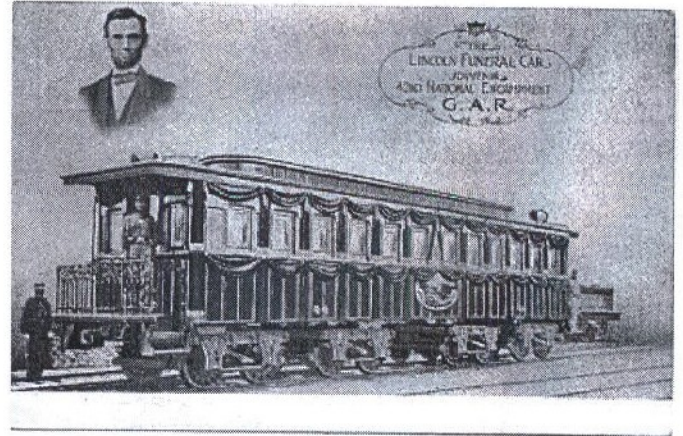
The Head in Question

Before he lost his head

**More GAR Postcards  
From Members**

**George Finlayson**

The car illustrated on this post card had been built for President Lincoln and his cabinet. On April 21<sup>st</sup>, it became his funeral car. On that date, this car, along with a locomotive and six other cars, all heavily draped in black, left Washington for Springfield, Illinois. The remains of Willie Lincoln, Abe's 11-year-old son had been recently exhumed and placed in the car with his father. The train took a slow serpentine route to their last resting place. On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, the train finally arrived in Springfield. This postcard was a souvenir of the 1908 GAR National Encampment in Toledo, Ohio.



**Charlie Otte**

The postcard shown here is a souvenir of the 1908 GAR National Encampment. The creators of this card wanted to give the appearance of distance between the veteran and Memorial Hall. Instead, the old vet appears to be Gulliver in Lilliput. The figure was obviously cut out from another picture and pasted onto a photo of the Hall. A photo of the hall and the now attached vet was taken and *voila*. The printers do further damage by cutting off the top of the hat of the saluting, unsmiling vet. They also cut off the top of the GAR badge and the top of the steeple on the GAR Hall. A large mockup of a GAR membership badge hangs over the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor window over the entrance.



**Noel B. Preston**

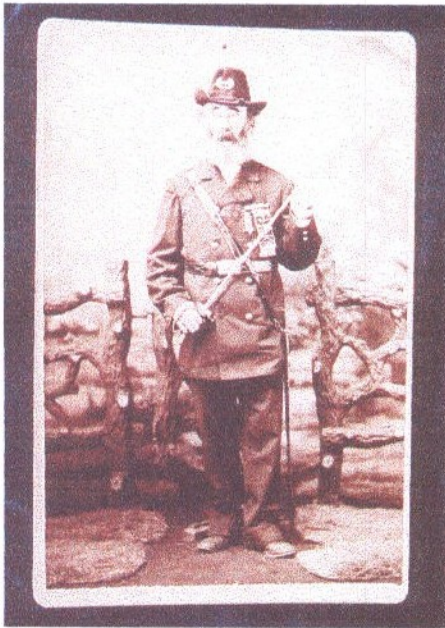
Now why would a GAR post need two 1-pdr Maxim-Nordenfelt naval machine guns..... crowd control at the post's summer picnic? These Maxims were manufactured in England and were very popular with navies of the world in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The Boers used the "Pom-Pom" variation of this model very effectively against the British during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Boer War. Col. Edwin Schall Post No. 290 was located in Landsdale, Pennsylvania, about 50 miles north of Harrisburg. The guns were probably lent by the Navy for a Memorial Day or 4th of July celebration.



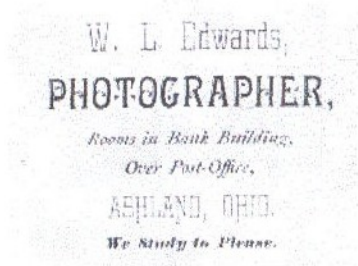
**Veteran I.D. Requested**

by Jeff Dygert

The cabinet card below is of a G.A.R. veteran from Ohio.



The Photographer's backmark on the reverse is W. L. Edwards / PHOTOGRAPHER / Rooms in Bank Building / Over Post-Office / ASHLAND, OHIO / We Study to Please



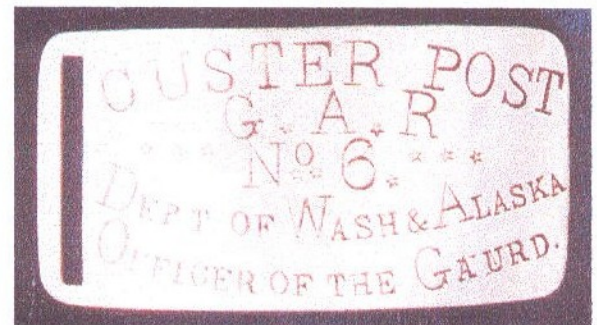
The large badge on his left breast has in large letters at the top, the word "GARFIELDS" arched over "42<sup>nd</sup>". The Initials O.V.I. are directly under the regiment number. The lettering in the middle of the badge is obscured by the man's sword. The bottom of the badge reads "Columbus, O. / Sept 1888". It appears that the badge was for vets of the Late President Garfield's Regt at the 1888 Nat'l Encampment at Columbus, Ohio. Does any member have an Ashland Post (#132-Andrew) roster with a vet from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry? Does anyone have a copy of this badge that can tell me what the blocked lettering reads? Please contact me at:

[jeffd4@mindspring.com](mailto:jeffd4@mindspring.com) or Tel: (425) 259-2721 or write me at: Jeff Dygert, PO Box 2151, Bothell, WA 98041-2151. Thanks.

**GAR OOG Belt Buckle**

by Jeff Dygert

The photo below is an "Officer of the Guard:" belt buckle from the Custer Post #6 in Tacoma, Washington. The belt plate is nickel plate over brass. The badge was probably manufactured at an encampment by a ladder badge vendor. The piece measures 4" by 2". Please note the spelling of the word "Guard". The word was originally printed correctly, but stamped over, incorrectly. Remains of the original letters can be still be seen.

**G.A.R. Coat Checks?**

by George G. Kane

The two pieces pictured below are not your typical G.A.R. pieces. Both appear to be brass, but the 1904 piece has a silver wash with the wash worn through in several areas to reveal a yellow brass coloring. I've speculated about these pieces for some time. If I had to guess, I would say that these are hat or coat check pieces. I doubt anyone had these on their key chain. They're not pretty enough for any GAR display. Can anybody enlighten me on the origins of these pieces?

Please contact the editor. They are shown at actual size.

