THE GRAND ARMY.

News From the Departments---New Posts, etc.

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

[THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE desires to publish a list of the newly-elected officers of each Post in the Grand Army, and calls on the comrades to furnish the same. The names of the officers should be written very plainly, in order to avoid mistakes. Owing to the crowded condition of our columns, it will be impossible to publish installation ceremonies.]

ILLINOIS.—

The annual Encampment of this Department was held at Springfield Feb. 20 and 21, and was attended by over 800 delegates. Department Commander Sexton in his annual address recommended that the wives of inmates of the Soldiers' Home should be permitted to live with their husbands, and that some provision should be made to that end. Among the resolutions which were presented and referred was one memorializing the General Assembly to provide for a custodian at the Lincoln Monument, and place this shrine above the cupidity of custodians who charge every visitor for looking at the tomb. Another resolution which was adopted was a greeting to President-elect Harrison, pledging the Illinois Department of the G.A.R. to support him in a just and fearless administration of National law, equally alike in every State in the Union, for which his splendid abilities so well fitted him. The resolution further declares that the men who bared their breasts to the storms of battle are, all other things being equal, entitled, as the President-elect well knows, to that preference in civil appointments which soldiers have so justly and heroically merited. The report of A. A.-G. A. D. Reade showed the Department made a gain of 1,108 members and 18 Posts last year. During the year $2,072.22 was contributed to the various monument funds, as follows: Grant Monument Fund, $27.63; Logan Monument Fund, Washington, D. C., $265.98; Logan Monument Fund, Chicago, $1,778.66. A grand Campfire was held on the evening of Feb. 20. The address of welcome was delivered by Gov. Fifer, and he was followed by Mayor Hoy, who also welcomed the veterans. Commander Sexton responded to both these welcomes, and speeches were made by Ex.-Gov. Hamilton, Dr. McKinney, of Chicago, and others. Miss Nellie Graham, of Quincy, gave a recitation, as did others. The Campfire was the grand success of the Encampment. At the second day's session resolutions were adopted petitioning Congress to establish a National asylum or home for the incurable insane veterans; recommending that the National Encampment take up the case of several thousand colored soldiers in Louisiana who are now barred from membership in the Grand Army; asking the General Assembly to pass an act providing that the use of the G.A.R. button or badge by political societies be made a misdemeanor. Gen. Sheridan's memory was honored by appropriate resolutions. The election of officers resulted as follows: Department Commander, Gen. Martin; S. V. C., H. S. Deltrich, Post 28, Chicago; J. V. C., D. E. Manger, Princeton; Chap., George W. Gue, Rock Island; Medical Director, Dr. P. L. McKinnie, Evanston. Council of Administration, Wm. Clendenin, Moline; V. B. Thistlewood, Cairo; William Venable, Macomb; J. S. Hassal, Aurora, and O. F. Avery, Pontiac. Delegates, L. B. Crooker, Mendota; W. L. Distin, Quincy; H. H. Evans, Aurora; H. C. Reeves, Bloomington; James Farrell, H. H. Thomas, R. F. Wilson, Chicago; W. D. E. Andrews, Rock Island; W. W. Bean, Streator; Joe Goudy, Arcola; William Hill, Chicago; C. C. Jones, Rockford; C. B. Loop, Belvidere; J. I. Neff, Freeport; J. O'Donnell, Chicago; Benjamin E. Funk, Bloomington; George H. Hurst, Springfield; George Lill, Lake View; A. C. Matthews, Pittsfield; C. Mummecke, Danville; B. B. Longnecker, Robinson. The next Encampment will be held at Quincy.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by Harley Wayne Post, No. 169, Marengo:

Whereas many of the surviving soldiers of the late war are unable to perform the labor necessary to maintain themselves and families; and whereas the Government they helped to save has thus far failed to suitably reward them for the great sacrifice they made in leaving home, business and all the comforts of life to save their country: Therefore,

Resolved, At a regular meeting of Harley Wayne Post, No. 169, we earnestly indorse THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE Pension Bill, introduced in Congress by the Hon. J. C. Burrows, and earnestly pray for its passage.

U. S. Grant Post, No. 28, Chicago, will hold the second of its series of literary and musical entertainments on March 12.

Abraham Lincoln Post, No. 91, Chicago, together with W.R.C. No. 108 and S. of V. Camp No. 87, and their friends, were entertained Thursday evening, Feb. 14, by an illustrated lecture on "Paris and Vicinity," by Dr. Henry W. Boyd, a comrade of Lincoln Post.

KANSAS.—

The Grand Army of Kansas undoubtedly includes in its ranks more State officials than any other Department in the Order. Among these are the following: Gov. Martin, Auditor McCarthy, Treasurer Hamilton, Adjt.-Gen. Bradford, Adj't-Gen. Campbell, Assistant Attorney-Gen. Taylor, Assistant Adj't-Gen. Lanham, Judges Simpson, Holt and Clogston, Railroad Commissioner Greene, Private Secretary Smith; also Comrades McDowell in the Governor's office, Omar and Fox in the Secretary's office.

Post No. 319, New Albany, has adopted resolutions of regret on the death of Comrade T. G. Mahan.

George Messick, Commander, Latham Post, Latham: At a meeting of our Post we resolved to indorse the action of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE in advocating the cause of the old soldiers, and we heartily indorse "The National Tribune" Pension Bill.

KENTUCKY.—

Officers of George H. Thomas Post, No. 6, Louisville: Commander, Michael Minton; S. V. C., Chas. E. Carroll; J. V. C., Cyrus H. Bliss; Q. M., Chas. W. Erdman; Surg., Dr. Chas. F. Dupre; Chap., Robert Denny; O. D., Chas. H. Maydwell; O. G., Richard Munk; A. D. C., Richard B. Caldwell; S. M., James Mullen; Q. M. S., Allen Peterson. The Post is in a flourishing condition, with a membership of 319.

Officers of Andrew Wiley Post, No. 86, Johnsville: Commander, John H. Riley; S. V. C., J. T. Yelton; J. V. C., John Lowrey; Q. M., W. B. McKee; Adj't, W. T. Jackson.

Officers of Walter A. Whittaker Post, No. 75, Louisville: Commander, G. W. Menz; S. V. C., Lew. Fensterer; J. V. C., D. O. Talcott; Adj't, Phil Hager; Q. M., J. W. Hammond; Surg., Dr. John R. Pirtle; Chap., John Blaes; O. D., Adam Grierson; O. G., Jos. Reese; S. M., William Seibert; Q. S. M., J. D. Shepperd.

Officers of Lincoln Post, No. 56, Hodgenville: Commander, A. S. Cagle; S. V. C., R. W. Smith; J. V. C., Felix Grundy; Chap., J. R. Redmon; Q. M., J. H. Middleton; Surg., N. McDowell; O. D., T. J. Wilkins; Adj't, S. W. Mathers; O. G., Wm. Evens.

MAINE.—

Officers of W. L. Haskell Post, No. 108, Yarmouth: Commander, Horace G. Rows; S. V. C., Joseph A. Chase; J. V. C., John F. Brown; Q. M., Joseph H. Loring; Chap., Andrew Leighton; Surg., W. W. Thomas; O. D., George Bryant; O. G., Thos. Chase. Delegate, Andrew Leighton; Alternate, Joseph Raynes.

Officers of J. P. Jones Post, No. 106, South China: Commander, C. T. Webber; S. V. C., C. H. Low; J. V. C., J. H. Haskell; Q. M., F. D. Robbins; Adj't, J. Tucker; Chap., A. D. Miller; O. D., C. H. Jackson; O. G., P. M. Cousins.

MARYLAND.—

The annual Encampment of this Department was held at Hagerstown Feb. 22. Delegations of Posts were present from West Virginia and Pennsylvania. In the afternoon the Grand Army Posts, the fire company of Hagerstown, and the Hagerstown Light Infantry paraded, and the Grand Army made a very creditable appearance. After the parade the Encampment was called to order, and the Department Commander delivered his annual address. Resolutions concerning the death of Gens. Sheridan and Hunt, and resolutions encouraging the sons of Veterans were passed, and the following officers elected for the ensuing year: Department Commander, Comrade Wheeler, Post No. 6; S. V. C., Ira Taylor, Post 2, of Frederick; J. V. C., Dr. Henry, Glyndon, Md.; Medical Director, Dr. Graham, Post No. 3; Chap., Rev. A. Allord, Post 3, Baltimore. Capts. W. W. Walker, of Hagerstown, George Cramer and Chas. H. Marburg, of Baltimore, were elected delegates to the National Encampment. The next annual session will be held in Cumberland on the 21st and 22d of February, 1890. Among the prominent Grand Army men present were Gens. A. E. King and W. E. W. Ross, Cols. G. W. F. Vernon and R. W. Scarlett, Capt. John Suter, of Baltimore, and Gen. John A. Steiner, of Frederick.

MASSACHUSETTS.—

Officers of Charles Sumner Post, No. 101, Groveland: Commander, Isaac C. Day; S. V. C., Charles D. Twombly; J. V. C., Samuel K. Friend; Adj't, John P. Rundlett; Q. M., Rufus Hopkinson; Surg., Lewis A. Woodbury, M. D.; Chap., Amos P. Chase; O. D., Lyman U. Lee; O. G., Nathan Longfellow; S. M., Lowell H. Hopkinson; Q. M. S., Charles H. Cammett.

Officers of Berry Post, No. 40, Malden: Commander, Fred T. Hawley; S. V. C., John O. Bush; J. V. C., George W. Phillips; O. D., Wm. F. Spalding; O. G., Levi W. Fall; Q. M., Eben Symonds; Chap., Ludwig Wolfsen; Adj't, Albert W. Mann; S. M., Samuel Derby; Q. M. S., W. H. Lord.

Officers of Otis Chapman Post, No. 163, Chicopee: Commander, Z. T. Zamon; S. V. C., O. W. Eldredge; J. V. C., P. W. Warner; Q. M., George Beterly; O. D., Fred G. Cutler; O. G., Wm. Meserve; Surg., Andrew Hopkins; Chap., J. Chapin Warner; Adj't, C. H. Tracy; S. M., C. V. Bangs; Q. M. S., Henry Noble.

MICHIGAN.—

General Orders, No. 13, issued at Jackson, Feb. 13, by order of Washington Gardner, Department Commander—G. M. Devlin, A. A.-G.—contain the following:

The 11th annual Encampment of this Department will be held at Bay City, March 13, 14 and 15. Place of meeting—Opera House. Department Headquarters will be established at the Frazer House. The Encampment will be called to order at 2 o'clock p. m., March 13. A meeting of the Council of Administration will be held at Headquarters rooms, Frazer House, at 7:30 p. m., March 12. The Commander of U. S. Grant Post, No. 67, Bay City, will furnish a detail to act during the Encampment, of an Officer of the Day, Officer of the Guard, one comrade to act as Orderly and eight comrades to act as guards. They will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General, armed and uniformed, at 1 o'clock, March 13, at the Opera House. The books of the Department will be closed March 11. Requisitions received after that time will be turned over to the new officers to be filled. A letter received from Comrade George H. Hopkins, Chairman of the Transportation Committee, announces that the Michigan Railroad Passenger Agents' Association, at a meeting held at Detroit on the 17th of January, decided to give half fare on all the railroads of the State. Tickets will be sold March 12, 13, 14 and 15, good to return up to and including the 16th. The Commander-in-Chief has been invited and is expected to be present during the Encampment; also the Department Commanders of Ohio and Wisconsin. Representatives and others entitled to seats in the Encampment will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General on their arrival at Bay City, present their credentials, and receive badges which will admit them to the Encampment. The following is a list of hotels and their price per day, as agreed upon with the committee, to keep the comrades while in Bay City, on the occasion of the meeting of the Department: Frazer House, corner of Water and Center streets, rate from $2.50 to $3; Rouech House, between Water and Saginaw streets, on Fifth street, $1.50 to $2; Campbell House, Third street, rate from $1.50 to $2; Brunswick House, 1010 Washington avenue, rate from $1.25 to $1.50; Forest City House, corner of Washington avenue and Sixth street, rate from $1 to $1.50; Portland House, 1300 Washington avenue, rate $1; Mansion House, 1304 Washington avenue, rate $1; La Fever House, 1310 Washington avenue, rate $1; Republic House, 922 Saginaw street, rate $1; Hibbard House, corner of Jefferson and Fifth streets, rate $1; Kelson House, corner of Adams and Sixth streets, rate $1; Madison House, corner of Madison and First streets, rate $1; Park City Hotel, corner of Adams and First streets, rate $1; Commercial House, corner of Saginaw and Fourth streets, rate $1; Anscom House, corner Washington and Third streets, rate $1; Eagle Hotel, corner of Saginaw and Sixth streets, rate $1; Anderson House, corner Water and Second streets, rate $1; American House, corner of Washington and Eleventh streets, rate $1; Moulton House, corner of Saginaw and Fourth streets, rate 75c.; Russell House, corner of Saginaw and Third streets, rate 75c.; Winsor House, corner of Saginaw and Second streets, rate 75c. The above list comprises most of the hotels that are handy or convenient to the place of meeting. There are others that can be reached easily and the prices will run the same. They will be able to take care of all that come.

Officers of Orcutt Post, No. 79, Kalamazoo: Commander, C. E. Foote; S. V. C., W. F. Sherman; J. V. C., A. B. Huntley; Surg., J. A. Partridge; Chap., W. A. Waterman; O. D., W. A. Keyser; O. G., W. F. Rogers; Adj't, J. D. White; Q. M., Gideon Drake; S. M., Charles W. Barnes; Q. M. S., D. Lawrence.

MISSOURI.—

Daniel Miles Post, No. 360, Iantha, has adopted resolutions condemning the action of the German authorities at the Island of Samoa in firing on the American flag, and calls on the State Department to demand an apology for the insult.

Andrew Harris, Panacea: H. G. Blake Post, No. 335, was organized July 15, 1887, with 18 charter members, and now has 68 comrades in good standing, a gain of 50 in 18 months. What Post can make a better showing, outside of cities or large villages? At our last regular meeting the G.A.R. Pension Bill, as presented to Congress by the National Committee, was indorsed and its passage recommended by a unanimous vote. Our Post considers THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE the best soldiers' paper published, as it has done more for the interest of those connected with the army during the late war than any other publication.

Philip Sheets, Quartermaster, Wakefield Standley Post, No. 282, Carrollton: I desire to warn all comrades against a man giving his name as Geo. E. Bowers, and claiming to be Officer of the Day of Gen. Geo. H. Thomas Post, No. 5, Chicago, and Chairman of its Relief Committee. He called upon our Post, and claimed that he had spent all his money in taking a comrade who had his legs and one arm cut off by the cars to his relatives in Kansas City. He collected $2 from the Post. The Commander of Thomas Post, when written to in regard to the matter, answered that there was no man in the Post by the name of Bowers, and never had been. This impositor is about five feet nine inches in hight, has black hair and eyes, and was well dressed. He wore a cap and pretended to be a little deaf.

Officers of James A. Mulligan Post, No. 11, Lexington: Commander, John Shinn; S. V. C., John B. Burris; J. V. C., Thomas Cark; O. D., M. Benedict; Chap., Thomas Hare; Adj't, F. Gramm; Surg., C. M. Pirner; O. G., M. Studdard.

NEBRASKA.—

A. B. Ball, Tecumseh: Heckathorn Post, of this place, held a very successful Campfire on Feb. 12. We had the presence of Commander Henry, of Fairmont; Rev. Mr. Dillon, Chaplain House of Representatives; Mrs. Emma Manchester, State President, W.R.C., and other prominent workers. The spacious Opera House and Odd Fellows Hall adjoining were crowded with members of the G.A.R., W.R.C. and visitors. Supper, consisting of all the fine things for which Nebraska is so celebrated, was served by the Woman's Relief Corps, under whose direction there is no such word as fail. After the "chicken fixens," pies, cakes, peaches and cream, and various jokes and stories were disposed of, the multitude resolved itself into a regular old Campfire, and speeches were "fired off" by Commander Henry, Chaplain Dillon, Mrs. Manchester and others, interspersed with songs. The Department Commander is responsible for saying that this was one of the very best meetings of the kind he ever attended. Great praise is due to this flourishing Post, of whose members the whole community feel justly proud; for there are no more active and energetic men anywhere than those of this Post. We were informed by the Commander that in Nebraska at this time there are 284 Posts and 7,000 members; also that there are 84 Corps and 1,400 members. Everything pertaining to the Order in the State is in first-class shape, with interest increasing yearly.

Officers of A. W. Howard Post, No. 271, Alexandria: Commander, Geo. L. Archer; S. V. C., J. E. McClellan; J. V. C., R. L. Jackson; Q. M., J. H. Enslow; Surg., S. Monon; Chap., L. D. Willard; O. D., J. C. Pluss; O. G., E. H. Plowman.

NEW JERSEY.—

Officers of Uzal Dodd Post, No. 12, East Orange: Commander, W. H. Latimer; S. V. C., J. H. Robinson; J. V. C., S. M. Long; Chap., W. H. Dodd; Surg., Geo. Lethbridge; O. D., D. D. Taylor; O. G., A. Everson; Adj't, A. W. Griffing; Q. M., W. M. McChesney; S. M., J. M. Freeman; Q. M. S., B. Livingston.

Officers of Gen. Howell Post, No. 31, Woodbury: Commander, Hiram B. Vaneman; S. V. C., James W. Davis; J. V. C., Alex. M. Deen; Q. M., James L. Franklin; Adj't, Geo. W. Smith.

NEW YORK.—

The annual Encampment of this Department was held at Binghamton Feb. 20 and 21, and was attended by over 1,400 delegates. The delegates were welcomed to the city by F. W. Downs, who was responded to by Department Commander Curtis. The election of officers resulted as follows: Commander, Harrison Clark, of Norwich; S. V. C., J. M. Hood; J. V. C., W. L. Scott; Medical Director, H. W. Caldwell; Chap., Louis M. Beaudry.

Officers of Hudson Post, No. 159, Fair Haven: Commander, George Van T. Brinkerhoff; S. V. C., Charles Howland; J. V. C., Lewis Marback; Adj't, H. S. McArthur; Q. M., James H. Marvin; Surg., O. Bloomfield; Chap., F. M. Jones; O. D., Andrew Elder; O. G., D. McHenry; S. M., A. R. Garner; Q. M. S., Enos Humphrey.

Officers of Chauncy Gardner Post, No. 585, West Amboy: Commander, C. H. Heller; S. V. C., A. Mallerson; J. V. C., George Trumbull; Q. M., J. R. Moore; Chap., P. Mattenson; Surg., W. P. Tole; O. D., Alfred McClellen; O. G., N. C. Humes.

Officers of Edw. Hunting Post, No. 353, Greenport: Commander, Elbert W. Tabor; S. V. C., Robert Jefferson; J. V. C., James H. Conklin; Adj't, Isaac A. Monsell; Surg., A. C. Sully; Chap., William E. Shipman; Q. M., Christopher B. Moore; O. D., John D. Cleveland; O. G., Henry Gaffga; S. M., Lewis Kluge; Q. M. S., Nathaniel Munsell.

Officers of W. W. Bates Post, No. 633, Albion: Commander, Samuel Tent; S. V. C., Benj. Franklin; J. V. C., Jno. Wilson; Surg., Gen. J. B. Brown; Chap., H. K. Bliss; O. D., C. H. Beach; Adj't, O. C. Benton; Q. M., William L. Bliss; O. G., O. W. Barney; S. M., M. Hamilton; Q. M. S., Jonathan Biott.

Officers Nash Post, No. 386, South Dayton: Commander, B. A. Whipple; S. V. C., A. J. Hulett; J. V. C., G. F. Shelters; Surg., B. Ricebeck; O. D., E. G. Harrington; Q. M., Chas. Shults; Adj't, D. G. White; Chap., A. L. Powers.

Officers of J. B. Butler Post, No. 111, Pulaski: Commander, B. E. Parkhurst; S. V. C., G. W. Seamons; J. V. C., G. P. Doane; Adj't, A. N. Burr; Q. M., W. M. Hinckley; Surg., Dr. H. W. Caldwell; Chap., Rev. D. D. Owen; O. D., W. H. Paddock; O. G., R. D. Ehle; S. M., F. H. Cross; Q. M. S., L. D. Barber.

OHIO.—

General Orders, No. 18, issued at Lebanon Feb. 7, by command of Joseph W. O'Neall, Department Commander,—Josiah Holbrook, Assistant Adjutant-General,—contain the following: The Department Commander desires to thank the Posts and comrades of this Department for the very generous response to the appeal in General Order, No. 15, for contributions for the purchase of presents for the orphan children, inmates of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home at Xenia. The Department Commander feels sure that if the comrades of the Department could have been present and witnessed the distribution of gifts, they would have felt many times repaid, and would have fully realized that "it is more blessed to give than to receive." A visit made by the Department Commander and the committee to each of the cottages, after the distribution of presents, disclosed the remarkable fact that of the 650 children in the Home, each receiving a present from the G.A.R. and W.R.C., only one expressed dissatisfaction with his G.A.R. present, and that one had his wish gratified. Nine hundred and five dollars and seventy-one cents were received from the Posts, and $737.05 were expended, leaving a balance in the Christmas fund for next year of $168.65. A full report will be made by the Assistant Adjutant-General, and the name of the Post contributing and the amount contributed by each Post will be published in the annual report. The Department Commander on behalf of the entire comradeship of this Department desires to thank the ladies of the committee appointed by him to purchase and distribute the presents, to wit, Mrs. Belle T. Bagley, Mrs. J. B. Foraker, Mrs. A. L. Conger, Mrs. Kate E. Putnam, Mrs. A. R. Byrkett, Mrs. J. J. Sullivan and Miss Fannie B. O'Neall, for the very efficient manner in which they discharged their duties. Each member of the committee took special pride in her work; never was a committee more faithful. Many of the articles were bought at less than cost price, thus saving a large sum to the Department. At the 22d annual Encampment it was

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to secure and present to Department Commander Putnam the usual testimonial of the semi-annual Encampment and a badge at the 23d annual Encampment.

In accordance with said resolution the following committee is appointed, with authority to prepare and present a suitable testimonial to the widow of our late Department Commander, viz: Past Department Commanders A. L. Conger, H. P. Lloyd, R. B. Brown, John L. Kountz and Charles T. Clark. The 23d annual Encampment will be held in the city of Dayton, commencing on April 24. Full particulars will be given in General Orders hereafter published. It is suggested that each Post in this Department pass the following resolution at their next meeting:

Resolved, That Congress be requested to immediately make the necessary appropriation to speedily complete the publication of "The Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies during the War of the Rebellion." That when so passed it be certified by the Post Commander, attested by the Adjutant, and forwarded to the Member of Congress for the District in which the Post is located, and a copy sent to these Headquarters. Only by the publication of these official records will justice be done to many gallant commands. By their publication many facts may be ascertained, which would otherwise never be obtained. By their publication we may some time hope to have a fair and impartial history of the war of the rebellion.

The large number of suspensions made during the last quarter are very discouraging. The Department Commander and the members of his staff, assisted by Past Department officers, and ably seconded by a large majority of the Posts in this Department, have been making a gallant fight to place Ohio "on the right." The quarter ending Sept. 30, 1888, showed a membership of 43,704, leaving our membership 253 behind the Department of Pennsylvania. While in most of the Posts the good work of recruiting and reinstating has been going on, the increase made by these Posts has been more than neutralized by suspensions, one Post alone suspending 176, leaving 180 in good standing. Each of the newly-installed officers is requested to at once set to work and try to bring back into our ranks every worthy suspended or dropped comrade. Every comrade in the Department is urged to put forth an extra effort during this the last quarter of the present administration to place Ohio, that furnished more soldiers and sailors to the Union army than any other State in the Union, in the lead. Comrades, shall we not pass Pennsylvania? If each comrade will do his duty; if every active member will bring into the Grand Army one worthy soldier or sailor, or have reinstated one suspended or dropped comrade, we may bear upon our banner the proud word "Excelsior," and we will be the banner Department.

Morris Burns, Galion: Comrade Wallace Stahle, of Crestline, is being urged by many Posts in Ohio to become a candidate for the office of Senior Vice Department Commander. Comrade Stahle stands high as a Grand Army man, having been elected Commander of Snyder Post, No. 129, for five consecutive years. He has a good military record; was wounded twice at Stone River; taken prisoner and confined in Libby Prison. Comrade Stahle is a lawyer by profession, and is well worthy to fill the high position to which his Post and others recommend him. Snyder Post, No. 129, has adopted resolutions requesting the election of Comrade Stahle.

James Smith Post, No. 337, Wellston, has adopted resolutions presenting the name of E. B. Bingham, of that Post, as a candidate for the position of Department Commander. Comrade Bingham has three times filled the position of Commander of James Smith Post, and is now for the third time filling the very responsible position of Quartermaster, always being efficient and prompt in the discharge of his duties, whether that of an officer of the Post or of a private member. Comrade Bingham has three times represented this Post in the Department Encampment, and was a delegate from this Department to the National Encampment held in Columbus, O., in 1888.

Jobes Post, No. 157, Greenville, has adopted resolutions presenting the name of Comrade John O'Conner for the office of Junior Vice Department Commander. Comrade O'Conner was a charter member of this Post, and has served two terms as Commander of and has acceptably filled all the various offices in the Post. He was a Delegate to the Department Encampment at Cincinnati, Youngstown, Akron and Zanesville, and has always been a faithful attendant at the meetings of the Post, and an active and earnest worker in Grand Army circles.

Officers of Daniel Noe Post, No. 617, Reynoldsburg: Commander, John G. May; S. V. C., John C. Green; J. V. C., Stewart Wilson; Q. M., N. N. Mason; Chap., Robert Barb; O. D., Col Henderlick; O. G., Thomas Williamson; Surg., Thomas Powers.

Officers of Phil H. Sheridan Post, No. 328, McConnelsville: Commander, John S. Adair; S. V. C., R. H. Cheadle; Adj't, E. M. Kennedy; Q. M., Jas. M. West; O. D., Abel D. King; O. G., George W. Benjamin; Surg., H. L. True; S. M., A. P. Whitaker; Q. M. S., John R. Whitaker.

Officers of Joshua M. Wells Post, No. 461, Columbus: Commander, Andrew Gardner, jr.; S. V. C., Thomas Jeffrey; J. V. C., William Felton; Adj't, Cyrus Shumway; Q. M., Alexander H. Fritchey; Surg., Sylvester M. Sherman; Chap., George B. Simons; O. D., Robinson G. Murphy; O. G., Nathan K. Taylor; S. M., John A. Hall; Q. M. S., Frank W. Borden.

PENNSYLVANIA.—

In his first General Order Department Commander Stewart, beside formally announcing the appointments of Adj't McCormick and Quartermaster Harry G. Williams, says: "Having been elected Commander of the Department of Pennsylvania, I hereby assume command. I thank the comrades for the high honor conferred. Fully realizing the responsibilities of the position, and appreciating the duties imposed, I assure the comrades that I shall aim to advance the interests of the Department and of the Grand Army of the Republic; to make the organization so strong in its membership, so pure in its character, so earnest in its work that the surviving soldiery of the Nation shall become anxious to share the duties devolving on them, so alive to the necessities of the unfortunate comrades of the war and to the soldier's widow and orphans, that our roll may soon contain the name of every man who battled for the perpetuity of the Union and the honor of the flag." Department Headquarters have been continued at their present location, No. 39 South Tenth street, Philadelphia.

Department Commander Stewart has already buckled on the armor of his new office, and is making arrangements for a series of visits to the Posts. His first official visit was made on Thursday evening, Feb. 21, and the recipient was Post No. 51, of Philadelphia. He was accompanied by Past Department Commander Gen. J. P. S. Gobin, Assistant Adjutant-General James McCormick and Department Chaplain Rev. John W. Sayers. "The Lambs," that is, Post No. 51, received them in royal style, and the conventional Campfire was lighted, with Past Commander Robert Winterbottom in charge. The visitors made addresses, and also shared in the abundance of hardtack, coffee, etc., of which the Post always keeps a large supply in its cupboard.

There were 645 soldiers, sailors or marines buried under the indigent burial act during the year 1888, at a cost of $50 each, or a total of $32,250 to the State. For $50 the friendless soldier is buried neatly, and his grave is marked by a neat headstone. The largest number of deaths of this class were in Philadelphia, 117 being buried; the next largest, 69, was in Allegheny County, and in Lancaster County 33 were buried. The County almshouses of this State there are at present 377 ex-soldiers; of course "soldier" also includes sailors and marines. It may be of interest to many comrades to know that it is almost impossible to get these former comrades into the Soldiers' Homes, partly owing to the crowded condition of the National Homes, but principally because they refuse to leave the institutions where they are paupers pure and simply. To my own knowledge in the Philadelphia almshouse there are soldiers who cannot be induced to leave on any account. Some few are eligible to the State Home, where there is room at present for at least 100 more inmates, but when urged to go there they peremptorily refuse. They become accustomed to their pauper surroundings, and form an attachment for their abode, and nothing can get them to leave. "They get there and stick," if you will pardon the phrase.

A suggestion made by Ass't Adj't-Gen. Thomas J. Stewart, before his promotion, is worthy of serious consideration. Almost daily you will hear some one say that there are so many ex-soldiers not in the Grand Army. No doubt there are many who are eligible to membership who have not connected themselves with any Post; but why any respectable man who has an honorable discharge from the army, navy or Marine Corps, is not an active Grand Army man is a conundrum that I cannot solve. But, while you hear of these comrades who are not in our Order, it is rarely that you hear of a plan being suggested to get them in. Why, I have heard frequently that there are as many soldiers who are eligible to membership living in Pennsylvania who are not members of the Grand Army as there are members. I do not believe that there are 40,000 soldiers in this State who are not members, but it may be true, and as I cannot prove otherwise at this writing, I will not press the point. But supposing that there are one-half of that number? Just think for a moment of 20,000 men living in our midst who do not join hands with us now. Aside from this the Department of Pennsylvania needs all the recruits it can get, to remain for another year the "Banner Department" of the G.A.R. Ohio and Kansas want that honor, want it badly, and unless the comrades of this State realize the fact, and "turn in" and secure these 20,000 recruits that are floating around, they will get it. The plan suggested by the new Department Commander Stewart is given in his own language:

"This is a subject of deep concern to the Grand Army of the Republic. We cannot hope to have every soldier in our ranks, yet no good reason can be given by them for not enjoying membership. Many who are eligible to membership are so engrossed in business or in the every-day affairs of life that they seldom think of the Grand Army; yet, if some comrade would call upon them and their attention be called to it, their membership could be secured. The officers of a Post, even when anxious to do their full duty, cannot do all the work; every comrade should help, but how much more is the assistance of comrades necessary where Post officers are careless. Many recommendations have been made on this subject, and I renew one I made two years ago. Let each Post Commander appoint a Recruiting Committee, consisting of three comrades or upwards, according to the size of the Post. Have every comrade of the Post, knowing of any person eligible to membership, and not a member, hand the name to the Recruiting Committee, let the committee call upon the person in question, or if any other comrade of the Post would be more likely to secure his application, let that comrade be given the name. Let the committee be composed of the best and at the same time the active members of the Post—comrades who will attend every meeting. If the Grand Army would continue its good work for the soldier, its charities and its help to the unfortunate, and continue to reflect honor on its membership, it must be active, influential and strong. In a few years it will decline rapidly. Whatever of benefit or of good is to come from its effort must be the result of work done now."

G. E. Parker, Philipsburg: We have one of the liveliest little Posts in the Department, and in connection a Circle, known as Phil Sheridan Circle, No. 45, Ladies of the G.A.R., who remind me in spirit of the gallant little man whose name they bear. They are always on deck when they can do anything to benefit the Post. On last Thursday night they secured the services of that bright little star, Miss Lillian Burkhart, of Pittsburg, known in the Department of Pennsylvania as Comrade Phil, and raised money enough to send their Delegates to the Encampment at Erie on the 12th and 13th inst.

RHODE ISLAND.—

The 22d annual Encampment of this Department was held at Providence Feb. 9. Among the distinguished comrades present were Past Department Commander John D. Billings, of the Department of Massachusetts, and Past National Aid-de-Camp C. G. Hampton, of Detroit, Department of Michigan, who were received with proper honors at Headquarters and by the delegates. Department Commander Spencer's address was an excellent one, and was heartily applauded by the comrades. A letter was read by Acting Ass't Adj't-Gen. Philip S. Chase, dated at Washington, D. C., Feb. 7, 1889, from Commander-in-Chief Warner, stating that illness would prevent him from meeting his comrades of Rhode Island, as he had anticipated, but that he hoped to meet with them in the near future. The report of Ass't Adj't-Gen. E. Henry Jenks, which was at Thomasville, Ga., having gone South for his health, showed that the number of comrades in good standing Dec. 31, 1887, was 2,611. Gain during the year by muster, 296; by transfer, 37; by reinstatement, 49; total gain, 382. Loss during the year by death, 47; by transfer, 42; by honorable discharge, 16; by suspension, 160; by dishonorable discharge, 2; total loss, 267. Number in good standing Dec. 31, 1888, 2,726. Net loss first quarter ending March 31, 85. Net gain second quarter, ending June 30, 120. Net gain third quarter, ending Sept. 30, 12. Net gain fourth quarter, ending Dec. 31, 1888, 18. Loss, 35; gain, 150; net gain, 115. The Assistant Quartermaster-General's report showed a balance on hand of $321.45. Expenditures, $419.91. Total receipts, $714.36. According to the report of the Department Inspector there was expended for charity during the year, $2,154.33; amount in relief fund, $2,236.50; amount in Lamb fund, $15,176.15; amount of property belonging to 15 Posts, $8,007.11—six Posts not reporting. The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That it is the consensus of this Department, in convention assembled, that the time has come when the State of Rhode Island should take more decided and liberal steps for the care of the soldiers and sailors of the late war, and render justice to those who left their peaceful vocations to imperil their lives to save the country from dissolution and prevent the elimination of a single star from the glorious emblem of liberty, the American flag.

Resolved, That a committee of five, of which committee the Department Commander for the ensuing year shall be Chairman, be appointed by the Department Commander to influence legislation by all honorable means, and by all the influence of this Department, with full authority to act for the Department in the matter, and to bring to a successful issue a more liberal care of all soldiers and sailors, with all widows and orphans of soldiers and sailors who fought in the rebellion of 1861-1865, residents of this State, and, if possible, to establish a Soldiers' Home within the boundaries of the State for the especial care of those who have no homes of their own.

Resolved, That said committee shall have power to draw on the Department treasury for as much funds as will be necessary to tabulate material, and for printing the same, to present in proper form to the Joint Special Committee appointed by the Legislature for a hearing in this matter.

The following officers were then elected: Commander, Alonzo Williams; Senior Vice Department Commander, Benjamin F. Davis; Junior Vice Department Commander, E. Henry Jenks; Medical Director, Charles O. Ballou; Chap., Rev. E. O. Bartlett. Council of Administration, George Edward Allen, Post 10; Charles Cornell, Post 14; Ben H. Child, Post 1; Rev. B. H. Lane, Post 3; William Hamilton, Post 5. Delegates, Patrick Eagan (at large), Post 1; Henry P. Williams, Post 9; Nickerson, Post 17; William A. Phillips, Post 10. Alternates, J. Alonzo Babcock (at large), Post 18; David S. Ray, Post 20; Henry S. Olney, Post 10; Frederick A. Gay, Post 1. The Department Commander appointed the following-named comrades on his staff: For Assistant Adjutant-General, George M. Turner, Post 10; Assistant Quartermaster-General, David S. Ray, Post 20; Inspector, Carlos A. Hart, Post 10; Judge Advocate, William A. Phillips, Post 10; Chief Mustering Officer, Alonzo E. Pierce, Post 17. The sum of $25 was voted to the retiring Commander to be appropriated for a suitable testimonial to him, as a slight token of the appreciation of the members of the Encampment for his untiring energy to promote the interest of the Department during his term of office. In the evening the Department Commander, accompanied by the Department officers, attended the reception of the Woman's Relief Corps.

General Orders, No. 2, issued at Providence Feb. 16, by command of Alonzo Williams, Department Commander,—George M. Turner, Assistant Adjutant-General,—contain the following: At the Department Encampment held Feb. 9, 1889, the following-named officers were elected: Department Commander, Alonzo Williams, Post No. 10; S. V. C., Benjamin F. Davis, Post 17; J. V. C., E. Henry Jenks, Post 1; Medical Director, Chas. O. Ballou, Post 1; Chap., E. O. Bartlett, Post 1. Council of Administration—George Edward Allen, Post 10; Charles Cornell, Post 14; Benjamin H. Child, Post 1; B. H. Lane, Post 3; William Hamilton, Post 5. The following staff appointments are hereby announced, and they will be obeyed and respected accordingly: Assistant Adjutant-General, George M. Turner, Post 10; Assistant Quartermaster-General, David S. Ray, Post 20; Inspector, Carlos A. Hart, Post 10; Judge Advocate, William A. Phillips, Post 10; Chief Mustering Officer, Alonzo E. Pierce, Post 17; Senior Aid-de-Camp, Theodore A. Perry, Post 1. The following-named comrades were elected delegates and alternates to the 23d National Encampment: Delegates (at large), Patrick Egan, Post 1; Henry P. Williams, Post 9; Ansel D. Nickerson, Post 17; William A. Phillips, Post 10. Alternates, J. Alonzo Babcock, Post 18; David S. Ray, Post 20; Henry S. Olney, Post 10; F. A. Gay, Post 1. The office of the Assistant Adjutant-General will be open for business from 2 to 3 p. m daily, with the exceptions of Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, these two days being set apart for the meetings of the State Aid Commissioner. The address of the Assistant Adjutant-General is P. O. Box 678, Providence, R. I.

WISCONSIN.—

The 23d annual Encampment of this Department was held at Milwaukee, Feb. 20 and 21, nearly 500 veterans being in attendance. Ass't Adj't-Gen. E. B. Gray in his annual report to the Department Commander gives figures indicating the progress of the Department since 1878. On Dec. 31 of that year its total membership was 253, and at the present time the membership is 12,070, a net gain of 1,419 since