DISCIPLINE FOR G. A. R. MEN.

IF THEY MARCHED AS SUCH AT THE REAR OF THE DEWEY PARADE.

Department Commander Kay Calls On the Post Commanders for the Names of All Such and the Names of Such as Have Appeared as Critics of Their Superiors.

Joseph W. Kay, Commander of the Department of New York, Grand Army of the Republic, has issued an order to the commanders of all Grand Army posts in New York city and Long Island, directing them to furnish him at once with the names of all of the men in their posts who participated in the land parade in this city on Sept. 30 last, in honor of Admiral Dewey. From the tone of the order it is inferred that those who disobeyed the original order issued by Albert D. Shaw, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, not to join in the parade, after Major-Gen. Roe had asked to give the veterans the right of line, are to be disciplined. Commander Kay's order, which was sent out from his office in Albany on Oct. 25, has created a sensation among Grand Army men in this city. Something like a thousand of those who marched in unarmed division of the Dewey land parade, and several score others in line with other militia or Federal troops. The issuing of Commander Kay's order also at a time when scores of all Grand Army men who marched looked their superior officers in the eyes is generally believed to be a direct rebuke at Col. Henry H. Adams, who was Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff to Gen. O. O. Howard, commanding the unarmed division of the land parade. Col. Adams was quoted in a New York newspaper at the time of the controversy between Commander Kay and Major-Gen. Roe, about the position in line assigned to the Grand Army of the Republic, as saying unpleasant things about Gen. Shaw. This interview was afterward denied by Col. Adams. Col. Adams is a past commander of Lafayette Post of this city, and his friends said yesterday that there would be a very merry laugh if Commander Kay or anybody else should place Col. Adams before a court-martial.

When the time for the Dewey land parade were being made the officers of the Grand Army of the Republic in the State made formal application for a place in the line. The Grand Army posts were assigned to the unarmed division under command of Gen. O. O. Howard, the division bringing up the rear of the parade. There was an immediate protest. The veterans declared that they had been slighted and argued to Gen. Roe. Gen. Roe said that he was sorry, but could see no way out of it. A place had been assigned to the Grand Army of the Republic, and it was too late to change the plans. At the meeting Grand Army men all over the country began to take up the matter. Commander-in-Chief Shaw came on from the West and Commander Kay appealed to New Jersey. The latter ordered Gen. Roe to give the Grand Army the head of the column, but withdrew his order when he learned that Gen. Roe was acting as a citizen marshal of the land parade and not as Major-General of the State troops.

When it was seen that there was no chance of getting the desired position Commander Kay wrote a letter to Gen. Roe in which he said that the place assigned to the Grand Army men was not one that they could be expected to accept. Columns of Kay's letter wound up as follows:

"The members of the Grand Army of the Republic are now verging on old age. The head of the column will not probably start until 1 o'clock in the afternoon. The position assigned the representatives of the Grand Army renders it impossible for them to move for more than five hours after the head of the column has started. It is very unlikely that they will pass the reviewing stand until after 6 o'clock. And it is certain that their physical condition should not be exposed to this strain. The spirit is willing, as in the days of 1861-65, but the flesh is weak. Their request for position as a special civic guard of honor at the head of the column having been refused by you, both in whole and in part, there remains nothing to be done by me but to decline the invitation."

Gen. Shaw supported Commander Kay and said:

"The criticism made by my beloved comrade, Col. H. H. Adams, in reference to what he did and what he advised, is not germane to this controversy in view of the fact that he holds no office in our G. A. R. and had no delegated authority to speak in its behalf. The G. A. R. is an organization founded on rules and regulations somewhat similar to those of the regular army. Every veteran becomes on a member solemnly promises to obey its rules and regulations and the orders of its commanding officers. It follows that the irresponsible chatter of comrades holding no official position in our order, and who cannot even remember the solemn obligation they have taken to obey their superior officers, is not to be taken as an expression worthy of consideration. The humble celebrity had better be thrown over as the uninvited guest at a wedding."

A few days later Gen. Shaw went to Topeka where he made a speech at a reunion of veterans, in the course of which he referred to the controversy in this city and said that no Grand Army men would be in the Dewey parade. Despite this there were nearly a thousand Grand Army men in line behind Gen. Howard. Very few of them were in uniform or wore the Grand Army badges, but they paraded merely as veterans. Among them were men from almost every post in this city or Long Island. There were four platoons, two hundred and twenty-four feet, from Lafayette Post alone. A few comes the order from State headquarters.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, ALBANY, Oct. 25, 1899.

General Order No. 7.

The commanders of all posts in the counties of New York, Kings, Queens, Nassau, Richland, Westchester, Rockland and Suffolk will report to these headquarters without unnecessary delay the names and addresses of comrades who participated in the land parade in this city on Sept. 30, 1899, including also all other comrades who, in defiance of General Order No. 7, were in attendance in uniform or in other distinctive dress, and have or have been officers of the Grand Army in the highest attained position or in any other capacity, to the Commander-in-Chief, or Department Commander, and where any such member has resigned the action of the Grand Army should be advised, by number or otherwise, and was made in the public press as so done, that the fact should be reported as an act of patriotic obedience to duty.

By command.

JOSEPH W. KAY, Department Commander.
NELSON MCCLURE, Acting Adjutant-General.

According to Grand Army men who paraded in the Dewey parade at once, the wording of the order is clear enough to all who participated in the unarmed division of the land parade. Gen. Howard, the unarmed division, marched down the Broadway beats in five columns and filed into Fifth avenue at Twenty-third street yesterday as follows:

Commander Kay calls for the names and addresses of comrades who wear uniforms, badges or other distinctive dress. I venture to say that they were a small minority. Those who wore a Grand Army uniform, or any uniform. They were an insignificant minority, but regarded themselves as the men in their capacity as members of the Grand Army of the Republic, and have had the right to be there. I marched and almost a thousand others marched out as veterans of the Grand Army. You will consult Gen. Shaw's order for the unarmed division, which was sent out by Col. Adams on the day before the parade, and which was in the hands of the Republican press in advance of the parade. It was the request of Union Veterans of the Civil War and Veterans of the Spanish war, and I call the attention of the order you will find in the newspapers of that date.

I, as one of the unarmed veterans of the Grand Army, marched in the parade in the ranks of my comrades, and I am proud of it. I am a member of Lafayette Post, and I am proud of it. I am a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and I am proud of it. I am a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and I am proud of it. I am a member of the Grand Army of the Republic