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## TOLD OF THE VETERANS

The One Who Tries.  
Yes, I love the little winner  
With the medal and the mark;  
He has gained the prize he sought for,  
He is joyous as a lark.  
Every one will haste to praise him,  
He is on the honor list,  
I've a tender thought, my darlings,  
For the one who tried and missed.

One? Ah, me! They count by thousands—  
Those who have not gained the race,  
Though they did their best and fastest,  
Striving for the winner's place.  
Only few can reach the laurel,  
Many see their chances lit by  
I've a tender thought, my darlings,  
For the earnest band who try.

'Tis the trying that is noble;  
If you're made of sterner stuff  
Than the lagards who are daunted  
When the bit of road is rough,  
All will praise the happy winners,  
But, when they have hurried by,  
I've a song to cheer, my darlings,  
The great company who try.  
—Margaret E. Sangster.

Told at Regimental Reunions.

"Down at the reunion of our regiment at New Philadelphia, Ohio, two weeks ago," said the Sergeant, "I met a good many of Dan McCook's men, and each one told some story of the Colonel. Henry Conkelton of Company G, Fifty-fifth Ohio, was the best wrestler, with one exception, in the brigade. The exception was a man named Nelson, who was the champion. Conkelton, however, was matched against all the wrestlers in the brigade, and he was always the winner except when our own boys had bet too much money on the other man.

"Col. McCook was greatly interested in athletics, and when the wrestling matches occurred near his quarters was always an interested spectator. At the end he always invited the wrestlers in to take a drink, and Conkelton admits that when he thirsted for a drink he would inveigle some other thirsty man into a wrestling match, go down to Col. Dan's headquarters, and wrestle simply for the drinks that the Colonel was sure to give them.

"Although Conkelton handled himself well in any kind of a scrap he kept out of controversies and personal encounters. On one occasion, however, he came upon a large, strong man bullying a small man who had not fully recovered from a siege in the hospital. The large man insisted on fighting, when Conkelton intervened, explaining that he was averse to fighting, but he would not see a boy or an old man abused, and if Jack persisted he would have to lick him. Jack persisted and Conkelton proceeded to dress him down and was finishing the job in great shape when Col. McCook rode up. He was very angry and ordered both arrested. The little fellow in whose interest Conkelton had intervened explained the matter and the Colonel sent for Conkelton and told him he did right."

At the New Philadelphia reunion John Smith told of an adventure at Lookout Mountain. The skirmishers were being shelled by the enemy's artillery and whenever they were warned by their lookout posted in advance would jump behind trees or into holes which they had dug in the ground. Just as the signal was given to take shelter, Smith made a dash for his tree, but another man jumped in ahead of him. Grumbling and swearing Smith jumped into a hole just in time to escape the broadside of shot and shell.

A heavy cannon ball struck Smith's tree near the roots and crushed it over on the man who had taken shelter behind it. Then Smith felt glad that the other man had insisted on taking his place behind the tree. As the regiment was ordered forward at once he did not know what became of the man who stole his tree. Thereupon Martin Pretymann of Company F, present at the reunion, said he was the man who stole the tree and was crushed under it. He escaped with a few bruises and lived to meet Smith forty-two years later at a regimental reunion.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Soldier's Marvelous Record.

The oldest man in the Denver Grand Army parade, on the occasion of the recent national encampment, was William R. Taylor, better known more than fifty years was a resident of La Crosse, Wis.

Mr. Taylor was born May 10, 1806. He is in full possession of his faculties, stands as straight and marches as firmly as a young, well-trained regular. He walked three miles to join the Wisconsin delegation and then marched nearly three miles before passing the reviewing officer. No man in the line made a more soldierly appearance. He did not seem greatly fatigued at the end of the day's work.

All of this for a man not far from 100 years of age seems quite marvelous. He has the promise of a good many more years, judging from his appearance and the condition of his health, which he says was never better.

Mr. Taylor engaged in fighting Indians in the Northwest previous to the Black Hawk war, in which he served as a volunteer. At one time during that war he served briefly under Capt. Abraham Lincoln.

While in the regular army he served at Fort Crawford when that post was commanded by Gen. "Zach" Taylor. He also served in the Mexican war under Gen. Taylor.

Very soon after the civil war began he enlisted in the Fourteenth Wisconsin, serving four years, and was with his regiment in all of the battles in which it was engaged. During the war he fought in battles where Gen-

Grant was the commander, among them Shiloh.

For a brief time in the Mexican war his command was attached to a brigade commanded by Gen. Franklin Pierce, and at another time a brigade commanded by Col. Jefferson Davis, from which it will be seen that this man, still up-to-date, and apparently in the full vigor of life, was a uniformed servant under the command of five officers who subsequently served as presidents—Taylor, Pierce, Lincoln and Grant, presidents of the United States, and Jefferson Davis, president of the southern confederacy. What other living or dead soldier has such a record?—Lieut.-Col. J. A. Watrous, U. S. A.

His Large Army of Ghosts.

One of the leading Irishmen of Boston has as a standard joke his first picket duty in the civil war. Unfortunately, the churchyard was the place designated for him to be on guard. Bob could not overcome the idea, instilled in him from infancy, about ghosts frequenting this place, so it was not long before he saw them on all sides of him. From a brave soldier he instantly became the slave of fear.

Drenched with cold perspiration, he called faintly to the corporal of the guard, who was stationed within hearing distance. The latter was friendly to Bob, so, on hearing his story, instantly relieved him. Although the corporal promised not to give Bob away, on second consideration he deemed the story too good to keep, and told it next day to the boys in camp. It reached the captain of Bob's company, who, looking upon it in a serious light, reported it to the colonel.

The colonel sent for Bob, and accosted him thus: "Well, Bob, is it true that the enemy could have easily taken the post where you were stationed last evening because of your cowardice?"

"A devil a bit could they have taken the post, colonel," replied Bob, "for I had 100,000 ghosts on my right and left flank and 200,000 in the center to prevent them. Why, colonel, with me commanding the ghostly forces I could have marched to Richmond and taken the city."

Bob was acquitted of cowardice by the smiling colonel.

Oldest Civil War Veteran.

Denver can boast of having among its residents the oldest survivor of the civil war, the youngest soldier to enlist in the union army when that great struggle was on, and to complete the two, the youngest soldier to receive a medal of honor.

The oldest soldier is "Uncle Billy" Taylor, 99 years of age, and still ready to fight for the flag, if needed. J. A. Howland, the youngest to enlist, was only a little past 12 years old when he was accepted for service, and Harry J. Parks was the youngest soldier to receive a medal of honor, being awarded it for distinguished gallantry at the age of 16.

"Uncle Billy" Taylor was born in Scotland and has always been a military man. He joined the British army at the age of 18. Served in the Black Hawk Indian war of 1831-32, and in the Mexican war of 1845, and in the civil war. He is a noted character in Wisconsin, as he lived there 55 years. Two years ago he came to Denver.

The youngest soldier, Mr. Howland, was a prisoner in Libby prison and has the honor of being the first character member of a G. A. R. post in Indianapolis.

Mr. Parks was a member of Co. A, 9th N. Y. cavalry; captain of battery A, Colorado volunteer artillery in the Spanish-American war.—New York World.

Army of Tennessee.

At the final business meeting of the Society of the Army of Tennessee at Cincinnati Gen. G. M. Dodge presided. Gen. O. O. Howard, the last commander of the Army of Tennessee, was present. Gen. Fred D. Grant and his son, Lieut. U. S. Grant III, were also present. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Gen. Granville M. Dodge; vice presidents, Gen. Fred D. Grant, Col. W. L. Barnum, Captain George H. Richmond, Major A. Sabine, Capt. J. C. Banks, Mrs. James A. Sexton, Major Leo Raasteur, Capt. W. L. Cadle, Capt. R. M. Campbell, Gen. James G. Wilson, Capt. T. W. Stevens, Capt. E. B. Soper; corresponding secretary, Major W. H. Chamberlin; treasurer, Major Augustus Vanduyke; recording secretary, Col. Cornelius Cadle. Council Bluffs, Iowa, was selected as the place for the next meeting.

Profanity of Commanders.

Speaking of swearing in the army, Stonewall Jackson of the Confederate Army and Gen. Howard of the Union forces were praying Christians, and never swore, though Kilpatrick, Blenker and Custer made the air blue in the heat of battle.

Blenker was in Howard's Eleventh Corps. The boys called it the Y. M. C. A. Corps. At the battle of Chancellorville, when the Eleventh was being driven back, Blenker charged his brigade of Germans right by Howard, using such unprintable words as "Giv 'em blank, boys!"

"That's right, boys!" shouted Howard. "Give it to 'em as Blenker says!" —The Sunday Magazine.

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