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THOMAS BARDON,
PRESIDENT.

GEORGE J. DAY,
CASHIER.

Farmers and Citizens Bank,
WORTHINGTON, MINN.

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Call and Try Us. Babcock's Old Drug Store Room.

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BLY BUILDING,

Next Week

A. L. BURNELL.

G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

PREPARATIONS PROGRESSING NICELY.

The City Will be Thronged with the Nation's Defenders.

The is no grander object lesson to the young men and women who were too young to have any recollection of the stirring events of the great civil war, or to those who have been born since, than the annual encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic, one of which will be held in our beautiful little city June 12, 13 and 14, at which gathering the boys in blue live over in memory the deeds of former days. There is no finer, more eloquent or more pathetic passage in any commemorative oration from the lips of man than Webster's splendid reference to the men of a former generation, the small group of venerable Revolutionary fathers who gathered around the platform at the laying of the corner stone of the Bunker hill monument. Those men, then at the verge of the grave, had performed memorable and glorious deeds, but no memorable or worthy than those who will be here in June from all over the district in an annual reunion. Commander J. A. Town and the several committees are already working hard arranging for the coming event and nothing will be left undone that will add to the success of the encampment.

Governor D. M. Clough has consented to deliver an address. He came to this state in 1857, before Minnesota had been admitted into the union of states, and has had many thrilling experiences among the waving pines and on the rivers of Minnesota. He is a good orator and his presence will add much to the success of the encampment.

Judge Ell Torrance of Minneapolis, who was elected state commander last March, has promised to be here and deliver an address. The Judge is held in high esteem by the boys, as he was elected to his high office without any opposition. In accepting the honor conferred upon him, he said: "Every year our order becomes more valuable to us, more full of precious memories, more full of hope. How could we get through these hard times, these long winters, these days of feebleness and advancing age without the fellowship of our comrades in arm. We are here to stay, and teach and exemplify the principles of F. C. and L. until the lamp of life expires." He is one of the most polished orators in the state.

The G. A. R. men all over the district will be pleased to learn that Congressmen J. T. McCleary will be present during the three days of the encampment and has consented to make one or two speeches. The boys realize that in Mr. McCleary they have a warm and enthusiastic friend, and all will be glad to hear and see him. Mr. McCleary is a polished orator, a deep thinker and a scholar. There will be a warm welcome for the G. A. R. boys at the McCleary headquarters.

Senior Vice-Commander J. J. McCarty, who was elected to his office by acclamation, will be here. He is a representative of the loyal Union soldier born and raised in Dixie. There was consolation and comfort in the mountain dew these boys gave the Union men from original packages which the U. S. revenue agents were never able to find. Cemented by such ties of friendship it will be a treat for the boys to hear him speak.

Past Commander S. R. VanSant, one of the speakers engaged, is one of the most jovial and entertaining orators coming. He is a comrade high in rank and who was brave in the fields of battle. The committee should feel proud of the fact that they have secured Mr. VanSant.

Assistant Adjutant General J. K. Mertz, of Minneapolis, has promised to be present and will address the boys in blue.

Major P. R. Bailey, of Primghar, Iowa, served during the war upon the staff of Gen. George H. Thomas and had an experience that but few men could have and he has a wonderfully eloquent way of telling that experience. He is one of O'Brien county's most brilliant lawyers and is one of the best campfire talkers of the west.

Col. D. G. Eldredge, a leading

member of McKenzie Post No. 72, of Sheldon, Iowa, is one of Northwest Iowa's most prominent campfire orators, and will give the boys a good talk.

Rev. E. C. Clemons, of Minneapolis, is a Son of a Veteran, and last year at Luverne proved himself a most ready and eloquent speaker and his addresses there will be remembered by all as among the best things of the encampment.

The Hon. C. K. Davis promises to be here if it is possible for him to do so, without interfering with other engagements.

Other speakers are expected, but the committee have not received positive assurance they will come, and does not propose to make any announcements which will not be filled.

The following is a list of the G. A. R. Posts that belong to this association and will be represented at our encampment:

- Zach. Taylor No. 42, Fulda,
- Nat. Lyon No. 46, Adrian,
- John A. Meyers No. 60, Jackson,
- John A. Logan No. 64 St. James,
- LaGrange No. 79, Windom,
- Simon Mix No. 95, Pipestone,
- John A. Dix No. 96, Luverne,
- Stephen Miller No. 139, Woodstock
- B. F. Sweet No. 149, Heron Lake,
- Logan No. 162, Slayton,
- John Buford No. 166, Beaver Creek
- Stoddard No. 34, Worthington.

All old soldiers and sailors of the late war living within the district are members of the association whether they belong to any post or not. All members of the Women's Relief Corps, ladies of the G. A. R., Sons of Veterans, Daughters of Veterans and the families of all the old soldiers are expected to take part in the exercises and entertainments of the camp. A cordial invitation is extended to the general public, and all may feel assured that the exercises will be of that character that neither the religious nor political feelings of any will be hurt by attending. While it is expected that the old soldiers, by reason of the strong ties which bind them together, will enjoy these Reunions best, yet all others who love the country will most heartily enjoy the exercises.

The camp will be in the village park upon the bank of West Okabena and is without doubt the most pleasant camping grounds in the district. The camp will be so guarded that it will be a pleasant and safe place for women and children. No disturbance of any kind will be allowed to interfere with the quiet of the camp during the night. Those wishing to camp out must furnish their own tents, but they will be furnished good clean straw to sleep upon and fuel for cooking. The camp will be supplied with water and ice free of expense. All games of chance and all fakirs, of every kind will be excluded from the city and the grounds. A sutler's store, well supplied with all necessary articles for sale, will be upon the grounds and the profits arising from the sales therein will be used for the purpose of helping to defray the expenses connected with the encampment.

Without doubt we will have the largest crowd at this encampment that has been in Worthington for many years past, and it is hoped that all citizens will unite in making the visitors feel at home. Let us see to it that Worthington keeps her place as being one of the best towns in the state in which to hold any kind of a meeting. Stoddard Post must furnish music, prepare camp, furnish fuel, bedding, hay, water, ice, etc., must pay for some freight, must do the draying to and from the depot, must entertain some of the speakers and pay other incidental expenses, and should have at least \$400 to meet these expense. This amount can be easily raised if each of our citizens will do their share.

A boarding house will be opened on the grounds. The male quartette will help enliven the camp fires. All the committees are busy and all preparations are progressing nicely. Worthington's hotels are the best in the land—do not stay away for fear you cannot be accommodated. Worthington's Silver Cornet band will furnish music. They are practicing regularly and will make a record for themselves.

Captain Burnell expects to have an

hundred girls in his company. All can rest assured, that he will have them well drilled.

Advertising matter will soon be sent out.

The following committees have been appointed:

- General—Frank Glasgow, B. F. Thurber, M. H. Damon.
- Reception—Daniel Shell, M. H. Damon, A. L. Burnell.
- Soliciting—L. B. Bennett, J. B. Green, Fred Humiston.
- Music—Fred Heron, John Pepple, A. H. Palm.
- Decorations—C. J. Smallwood, C. H. Babcock, J. P. Peterson, Mesdames W. S. Hazard, F. F. Cross, C. H. Alford.
- Grounds—Frank Glasgow, B. F. Thurber, H. Ager, W. C. Oliver.
- Forage—L. N. Wilson, Wilson Ager, John Hansberger, Jos. Firth.
- Water and Ice—F. C. Pannell, H. B. Tibbetts, R. H. Bibby.
- Entertainment—L. B. Newkirk, S. F. Pepple, Mesdames Newkirk, B. F. Johnson, Blair.
- Ordinance—G. W. Brant, F. A. Stevens, F. A. Miller.

Let There Be (Electric) Light.

Mr. Editor: In response to a request for my views on the question suggested in the title, I take pleasure in submitting the following reflections, somewhat hastily, though none the less candidly penned.

The first question to be considered, as I understand the situation, is, whether the village shall issue bonds for light at all this year, irrespective of the particular kind or quality of the lumiant.

It is contended that light should be voted now.

1st. Because the money to pay for it will be raised from the sale of bonds and, therefore, with respect to means, it will cost no more to raise them now than later.

2nd. Because all sorts of material, as well as labor, is cheaper under present conditions than they will naturally be when times are better.

3rd. Because it is claimed, and not without good reasons, that an electric light plant would not only be self-sustaining, but would amply provide for payment of interest on bonds.

4th. Because the sooner we have light the sooner we will get the benefit of a good thing, without extra cost to the village.

5th. Because electric lighting gives an air of cosmopolitanism and thrift to a community which tend to hasten its growth and prosperity,—results in which all citizens, particularly property owners, are interested.

6th. Because the well-nigh Egyptian darkness into which the village is emersed at night, renders it not only inconvenient but absolutely unsafe to travel through the streets by either vehicle or foot, to say nothing of the danger occasioned by reason of fire, accident or sudden commotion.

7th. Because darkness facilitates crime, and the sooner you stop the facility the better of course.

8th. Because well-lighted streets bring the inhabitants of the village out in the evening, and consequently invites shopping, to the advantage of the merchants.

9th. Because even if light is voted next month, it will hardly be ready for use until the holidays—when it is especially valuable to all. To vote it down now means no light for over a year, at least not until a year from next fall.

10th. Because light is life, and life is the acme of all things. Therefore you cannot get too much of it nor get it too soon. Waiting for something better than electricity as now applied, is like waiting for the millennium. It may come, but only through a series of evolutionary stages altogether too stagnant and remote for present purposes. The same argument would have applied to gas when first introduced. New-fangled generators and conducting agents, in common with the storage system, do not give promise of any further advance in practical application than the confines of the laboratory and the school for the illucidation of natural phenomena. The electric fluid long since gave evidence of being susceptible of many and varied manifestations, all more or less curious and interesting, but nowhere and at no time, since its introduction as a lumiant about twenty years ago, has it risen above the utility of minor agents, except in connection with the steam engine and the conducting wire.

ELCTRICITY VS. GAS.

To those who at first blush would espouse the cause of the vaporous lumiant—being overcome by gas, as it were—the following random distinctions are recommended:

1. There is not, to my knowledge, a single house or store in Worthington which is piped for gas. Few would tear up their houses or stores to put in invisible pipes, and not many, if any, would consent to run the ungainly pipes along the walls and ceilings of their homes, and cer-

tain Burnell expects to have an

CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR.

SIDE OBSERVATIONS.

There are beautiful sights to meet the eye While journeying mile by mile Along life's way, but nothing so charms As the tender mother-smile.

There is music grand to please the ear And brighten the way along. But never a lay-one-half so sweet As mother's lullaby song.

A kindly word from a cherished friend Uplifts and sweetly cheers, But dearer the words from the mother-lips Than any a mortal hears.

There are acts most kind when dread disease Is holding complete command, But never an act so thrills and soothes As the touch of the mother-hand.

There are loves most dear to fondly hold. 'Tis lead in the pathway pure, But never a love like the mother-love To suffer and to endure.

'Tis next to that of the God above, And lasts to the latest breath; It clings in sorrow, in sin and shame, Yes, clings till the hour of death.

It is more intense in the realms where now There's many a mother waits To gladly lead in the sweet sometime Through Eden's beautiful gates.

There is an endearing tenderness in the love of a mother to a son that transcends all other affections of the heart. It is neither to be chilled by selfishness, weakness, by worthlessness, nor stifled by ingratitude. She will sacrifice every comfort for his convenience; she will surrender every pleasure to his enjoyment; she will glory in his fame and exalt in his prosperity. If misfortune overtakes him, he will be the dearer to her from misfortune; and if disgrace settles upon his name, she will still love and cherish him in spite of his disgrace. If all the world besides casts him out, she will be all the world to him. A father may turn his back on a child; brothers and sisters may become inveterate enemies; husbands may desert their wives, and wives their husbands, but a mother's love endures through all. In good repute, in bad repute, in the face of the world's condemnations a mother's love still lives on, and she still hopes that her child may turn from his evil ways and repent; still she remembers his infant smile that ever filled her bosom with rapture, the merry laugh, the joyful shouts of his childhood, the opening promise of his youth; and thinking of these she can never be brought to think him all unworthy.

Young man speak kindly to your mother, and be ever courteous and good to her. But a little while and you shall see her no more forever. Her eye is dim, her form is bent, and her shadows fall heavenward. Others may love you when she has passed away. A kind hearted sister perhaps, or she whom of all the world you choose for a partner—she may love you ever so warmly; children may love you passionately; but never again, never, while time is yours shall the love of woman be to you as that of your old trembling mother. Alas, how little we appreciate mother's tenderness while living! How heedless we are of all her anxiety. But when she is dead and gone, when the cares and coldness of this world come withering to our hearts, when we experience how hard it is to find true sympathy, and how few will befriend us in misfortune, then it is that we think of the mother we have lost.

The loss of a mother always deeply felt. Even though age and infirmities may have incapacitated her from taking an active part in the cause of the family, still she is a rallying point around which affection and obedience and a thousand tender endeavors to please, concentrate. She is like the lonely star before us; neither its heat nor its light are anything to us in themselves, yet the shepherd would feel his heart sad if he missed it when he lifts his eye to the brow of the mountain over which it rises when the sun descends. The mother's love is indeed the golden chord which binds youth to age; and he is still but a child, however time may have furrowed his cheek or silvered his brow, who can yet recall with a softened heart the fond devotion or the gentle chidings of the best friend that God ever gave us.

When we are among strangers, without acquaintances and friends, and not possessed of an overly large supply of this world's goods, fancy forces memory to be silent, and twines the image of our dear mother with a garland of graces, beauties and virtues, which we doubt not she possesses.

CASUAL OBSERVER.