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Illinois
Monuments
At Gettysburg.



ILLINOIS MONUMENTS

AT

GETTYSBURG.

COMMISSIONERS:

JOHN L. BEVERIDGE.

DAVID B. VAUGHAN,

JOSEPH B. GREENHUT.

1891.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.
H. W. ROKKER, STATE PRINTER AND BINDER.
1892.

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W. J. ...

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

CHICAGO, December 1, 1891.

HON. JOSEPH W. FIFER, *Governor of Illinois:*

SIR—The commissioners appointed by Your Excellency pursuant to an act entitled “An act to appropriate six thousand dollars to erect a mark on Gettysburg battle-field where the Illinois troops opened the engagement of said battle,” respectfully submit herewith their report.

Yours very truly,

JOHN L. BEVERIDGE,
DAVID B. VAUGHAN,
JOSEPH B. GREENHUT,
Commissioners.

REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS.

LEGISLATION AND COMMISSION.

The Thirty-sixth General Assembly of the State of Illinois enacted as follows:

“An act to appropriate six thousand dollars to erect a mark on the Gettysburg battle-field where the Illinois troops opened the engagement of said battle.”

WHEREAS, All the loyal states of the Union having had troops engaged in that memorable battle have made liberal appropriations to erect suitable marks where their troops were engaged, and

WHEREAS, The 8th Illinois cavalry, commanded by Major John L. Beveridge, opened the engagement on that memorable field, and the 12th Illinois cavalry commanded by Capt. George W. Shears, and the 82d Illinois infantry, commanded by Lieut. Col. Edward S. Solomon, participated in said engagement, and all were conspicuous for their bravery in winning the grand and decisive victory of the late war, therefore

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly,* That the sum of six thousand (\$6,000) dollars is hereby appropriated to procure and erect a suitable mark upon the spot where the Illinois troops opened the battle of Gettysburg, and that the Governor is hereby authorized to appoint three (3) commissioners, one present on the field of battle from each command, who shall procure and have erected said mark at a cost not to exceed the appropriation hereby made, and that such commissioners serve without pay.

Section 2. The Auditor of Public Accounts is hereby authorized and directed to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer for the sum herein specified to said commissioners when appointed upon presentation of the proper authority from the Governor for the same, and the State Treasurer shall pay the same out of any funds in the State treasury not otherwise appropriated.”

Approved May 29, 1889. In force July 1, 1889.

Under and by virtue of this act, on July 9, 1889, the Governor appointed commissioners, John L. Beveridge, of Cook county, late major of the 8th Illinois cavalry; David B. Vaughan, of Kankakee county, late sergeant of 12th Illinois cavalry; Joseph B. Greenhut, of Peoria county, late captain of 82d Illinois infantry.

ORGANIZATION AND WORK OF COMMISSION.

The commissioners met in Chicago, October 2, 1889, and organized by electing John L. Beveridge, chairman, and Joseph B. Greenhut, secretary and treasurer. They set aside five thousand

dollars (\$5,000) for the erection of a monument, leaving one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for contingent expenses. To each regiment was assigned one face of the monument for regimental inscriptions, and the fourth and front face was reserved for general inscriptions. Each member of the commission was authorized to invite designs to be presented by December 1, 1889.

At a meeting of the commissioners December 14, 1889, several designs were presented. After inspection of the same and consideration of their merits, the commissioners decided to defer further action until they had visited the battle-field at Gettysburg.

This visit was made in June, 1890. The object of the visit was to acquaint themselves with the purposes and plans of the Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association and the character of the monumental architecture of the battle-field, and to select a site for the Illinois monument.

In riding over the battle-field, the commissioners found that all the loyal states, except West Virginia and Illinois, had erected monuments in honor of their troops. These monuments number now over three hundred (300). Most of them are plain in character, marking the spot where the regiment stood in line of battle. The plan of the Memorial Association is to commemorate victory and to honor the victors, living and dead, and by the monuments, their location and inscriptions, to trace the lines of battle and render the field historic.

The preamble of the act assumes that the 8th Illinois cavalry opened the engagement, and the act contemplates the erection of one monument to mark the spot where the battle was opened.

It was impossible to follow strictly the act of the legislature and conform to the rules of the Memorial Association and the facts of history. The question arose, "Where was the battle opened? On the picket line or on the battle line?" If on the picket line, and the monument was erected on this line, it would be two miles beyond the lands of the Memorial Association; if on the battle line, the 8th and 12th Illinois cavalry occupied the same line and both had part in opening the engagement.

The commissioners therefore, at a meeting held June 3, 1890, at Gettysburg, considering it would be more in accordance with the plans of the Memorial Association and the historical facts, and believing it would be more satisfactory to the survivors of the three regiments and to the people of the State of Illinois, resolved to erect three monuments, one for each regiment, to mark the spot where it stood in the line of battle on the morning of July 1, 1863.

This action of the commissioners has been fully approved by all the survivors of the three regiments and Illinoisans who have visited the battle-field.

The Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association is the owner of over five hundred (500) acres of land and has been to great expense in the purchase, care and improvement of the same. The states erecting monuments have borne a part of this expense for the privilege of erecting monuments on the lands of the Association. For this privilege the commissioners contributed the sum of six hundred dollars (\$600), believing it to be a legitimate expense in the erection of the monuments.

The State of New York had erected a monument for the 8th New York cavalry regiment on the ground occupied by the 8th Illinois cavalry regiment in the first line of battle on the morning of July 1, 1863. After a lengthy correspondence with the Memorial Association, the New York Monumental Commission and the 8th New York Cavalry Veteran Association, it was arranged to remove the 8th New York cavalry monument, and to place the 8th Illinois cavalry monument on the foundation of the former. The risk and expense of this removal was undertaken by the Memorial Association, and the expense of putting in a new foundation for the 8th New York monument was assumed by the Illinois commission. This additional expense was necessary and justifiable in order to obtain the true position of the 8th Illinois cavalry monument on the battle-field.

At a meeting of the commissioners held in Chicago, October 11, 1890, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the commissioners approve of the designs of the Smith Granite Company for monuments for the 8th and 12th Illinois cavalry regiments, and the design of Triebel & Sons for the 82d Illinois Infantry regiment, to be erected on the Gettysburg battle-field, and that we accept the bid of the Smith Granite Company to erect said monuments for the 8th and 12th Illinois cavalry regiments, and the bid of Triebel & Sons to erect the monument for the 82d Illinois infantry regiment, according to the designs and specifications furnished, and that the commissioners enter into a proper contract for the erection and completion of the same; the monuments, with inscriptions, to cost not to exceed \$1,500 each, and to be placed at such points on the ground of the Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association as may hereafter be designated. Said monuments are to be erected and fully completed by June 1, 1891.

CONTRACT WITH THE SMITH GRANITE COMPANY.

This memorandum of an agreement, made at Chicago, Illinois, this 11th day of October, 1890, between the Smith Granite Co., of Westerly, R. I., a corporation created under the laws of the State of Rhode Island, and Messrs. John L. Beveridge, D. B. Vaughan and J. B. Greenhut, Commissioners of Illinois,

Witnesseth: The said Smith Granite Co. agrees to furnish and set complete, upon foundation provided by said Smith Granite Co., in Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association grounds, in plot selected for that purpose, two memorials of blue Westerly granite, in accordance with designs 8th and 12th Illinois of the Smith Granite Co.'s collection, as per design and specifications attached hereto, and which forms a part of this agreement, the general dimensions of the same being—the 8th: 4 feet 10 inches x 3 feet 2 inches x 8 feet 1 inch high. The 12th: 4 feet 0 inches x 2 feet 0 inches x 10 feet 0 inches high. Polished panel front and rear of each with V sunk letters—the inscription to be furnished by commis-

sion and approved by them before being cut. Photos of models of saddle and bronze to be submitted to commission for approval before being cut or cast.

All material and workmanship to be of the best quality, ten steel cut, and to be completed on or about June 1st, 1891. For more definite description see specifications accompanying this contract.

And in consideration of the faithful performance of the foregoing the said Messrs. Beveridge, Vaughan and Greenhut hereby agree to pay to the order of the said Smith Granite Co. the sum of three thousand (\$3,000) dollars on completion of the work, and on the presentation of this contract.

The Smith Granite Co., by R. A. Young.

John L. Beveridge, } D. B. Vaughan, } J. B. Greenhut, }	Commissioners for Illinois.
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SPECIFICATIONS OF MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP

required for the erection of "Granite Memorials" to be erected in the Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association grounds at Gettysburg, Pa., upon plot of ground designated for that purpose, "To honor the memory of those who gave their lives for their country, July 1st, 2d, 3d, 1863." The whole to be erected in accordance with drawings prepared by the Smith Granite Co., of Westerly, R. I.

FOUNDATION.

All excavations shall be made to a depth of six (6) feet, unless rock bottom shall be reached, in which case it shall start from that. The foundation shall be made of good hard stone and Portland cement laid in a substantial manner. It shall be built plumb and straight, and to a proper height to receive the monument.

GRANITE.

The granite shall be the best "Blue Westerly," even in color, and equal to the sample submitted. The cut work shall be good ten (10) steel, all beds shall be full and the joints filled with wedge lead, driven into same making them impervious to water.

PEDESTAL.

The pedestal of the 8th Illinois will consist of three (3) pieces of granite of the following general dimensions: 4 feet 10 inches x 3 feet 2 inches, x 8 feet 1 inch high. The 12th Illinois will be of one piece, general dimensions: 4 feet 0 inches x 2 feet 0 inches x 10 feet 0 inches. Two sides of die of each will be polished for lettering in V sunk letters, to be selected and approved by committee.

On 8th will appear above die, in raised polished letters, "8th Illinois Cavalry," on front of gable to cap, in bronze, State coat of arms and regulation sabre, the cap to be surmounted by regulation army saddle cut in granite.

On 12th will appear above polished panel, in large V sunk letters, "12th Illinois Cavalry, 1st Brig. 1st Div. Cav. Corps." above that, in bronze, State coat of arms and regulation saber. The cap to be surmounted by regulation army saddle, cut in granite.

BRONZE.

The bronze will be U. S. standard bronze, models of which, with models of saddle, will be submitted to committee for approval, before being cast or cut.

ROCK WORK.

The rock work will be broken in such a manner that when completed the whole will produce a work of art.

COMPLETION.

When completed, all dirt and rubbish shall be carted away from the lot, and the same left in good order.

IN GENERAL.

These specifications and plans accompanying, are intended to call for a first-class piece of work in every particular.

The material used, and all work, to be done to the entire satisfaction and acceptance of commissioners appointed for that purpose.

CONTRACT WITH TRIEBEL & SONS.

This memorandum of an agreement, made at Chicago, Illinois, this 11th day of October, 1890, between Triebel & Sons, of Peoria, Ill., and Messrs. John L. Beveridge, D. B. Vaughan and J. B. Greenhut, Commissioners of Illinois,

Witnesseth: That said Triebel & Sons agree to furnish and set complete, upon foundation provided by said Triebel & Sons in Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association grounds, in plot selected for that purpose, one (1) memorial of blue Westerly granite in accordance with design 82d Illinois infantry and specifications attached hereto and which forms a part of this agreement, the general dimensions of the same being 5x5x 12ft 6 in. high.

The inscription to be furnished by commissioners and approved by them before being cut. Photo of model of State coat-of-arms to be submitted to the commissioners for approval before being cast.

All material and workmanship to be of the best quality, ten (10) steel cut, and to be completed on or about June 1st, 1891. For more definite description see specifications accompanying this contract.

And in consideration of the faithful performance of the foregoing, the said Messrs. Beveridge, Vaughan and Greenhut, commissioners, hereby agree to pay to the order of the said Triebel & Sons the sum of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) on completion of the work and on presentation of this contract.

TRIEBEL & SONS.
JOHN L. BEVERIDGE.
D. B. VAUGHAN,
J. B. GREENHUT,

Commissioners for Illinois.

SPECIFICATIONS OF MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP

Required in the erection of a granite memorial, to be erected in the Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association grounds at Gettysburg, Pa., upon plot of ground designated for that purpose, "To the memory of those who gave their lives for their country, July 1st, 2d, 3d, 1863."

The whole to be erected in accordance with drawings prepared by Triebel & Sons, of Peoria, Illinois.

FOUNDATION.

All excavations to be made to a depth of six (6) feet, unless rock bottom shall be reached, in which case it shall start from that. The foundation shall be made of good hard stone and Portland cement, laid in a substantial manner. It shall be built plumb and straight and to a proper height to receive the monument.

GRANITE.

The granite shall be the "Blue Westerly," even in color, and equal to the sample submitted. The cut work shall be good ten (10) steel. All beds shall be full and the joints filled with wedge lead, driven into the same, making them impervious to water.

PEDESTAL.

The pedestal of the 82d will consist of four (4) pieces, general dimensions 5x5x12 ft. 6 in., all fine ten (10) steel cut work. The column to be carved with laurel wreath and palm branch, under this the corps badge "Crescent". The die to have State coat-of-arms and inscription as furnished and approved by the commissioners.

BRONZE.

The bronze, "State coat-of-arms" to be U. S. standard bronze, model of which will be submitted to committee for approval before being cast.

COMPLETION.

When completed all dirt and rubbish shall be carted away from the lot, and the same left in good order.

IN GENERAL.

These specifications and plans accompanying, are intended to call for a first-class piece of work in every particular.

The material used, and all work to be done to the entire satisfaction and acceptance of commissioners appointed for that purpose."

The monuments have been constructed in accordance with aforesaid contracts and specifications, and have been accepted and paid for by the commissioners.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

JOSEPH B. GREENHUT, TREASURER,

IN ACCOUNT WITH THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

		Dr.	
1891.			
June	To amount of appropriation.....	\$6,000 00	
CONTRA.			
June	19 By cash to Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association for privilege of erecting monuments on its grounds		\$600 00
July	24 By expense of John L. Beveridge.....		60 00
Aug.	26 By expense of David B. Vaughn.....		73 40
"	26 By expense of Joseph B. Greenhut.....		70 00
	in visiting Gettysburg to select a site for monument and attending sundry meetings of commissioners.		
Sept.	3 By expense of dedication to W. M. Taylor, platform and band	\$60 00	
"	4 To T. Zeigler, carriages.....	75 00	
"	15 By cash to Triebel & Son for 82d Ill. monument, as per contract.....	\$1,500 00	
"	15 By cash for sodding	8 00	
			135 00
			1,508 00
Oct.	23 By cash to Smith Granite Co., 8th and 12th Ill. monuments, as per contract.....	\$3,000 00	
"	23 By cash cost of new foundation for 8th N. Y. Cav. monument removed.....	252 75	
			3,252 75
Nov.	9 By cash, N. G. Wilson's bill for grading and sodding 8th and 12th Ill. and 8th N. Y. monuments		21 00
"	28 Expense of John L. Beveridge		42 50
"	28 Expense of David B. Vaughn		45 00
"	28 Expense of Joseph B. Greenhut.....		47 50
	to Gettysburg to accept and dedicate the monuments.		
"	28 Expense of Commissioners' Report.....		144 85
		\$6,000 00	\$6,000 00

THE MONUMENTS.

The 8th Illinois cavalry monument is situated west of Gettysburg, on the first ridge west of Seminary Ridge, south of Chambersburg pike, on the east side of Reynold's avenue facing west, about midway between the pike and Reynold's grove, formerly known as McPherson's woods, very near the center of the line of battle of the 8th Illinois cavalry on the morning of July 1, 1863.

It is 8 feet 1 inch high and consists of three pieces of granite; a base 4 feet 10 inches x 3 feet 2 inches x 1 foot high; a die or solid block 3 feet 10 inches x 2 feet 2 inches x 4 feet 7 inches high, and a cap 4 feet 3 inches x 3 feet 8 inches running to a peak 2 feet 4 inches high, surmounted by a regulation cavalry saddle complete, with an army blanket rolled and buckled over the pommel and one over the rear of the saddle, all being a part of the cap stone.

On the front gable of the cap, in bronze, is the coat-of-arms of the State of Illinois, 13 inches in diameter, overlying cross sabers in bronze 28 inches in length. Across the front in raised, polished letters, three inches long, are the words:

8TH ILLINOIS CAVALRY.

The front and reverse sides of the die are polished, in which are cut in V sunk letters the following inscriptions:

Front—

1ST BRIG. 1ST DIV.

CAVALRY CORPS.

FIRST LINE OF BATTLE

JULY 1ST, 1863,

OCCUPIED UNTIL RELIEVED BY 1ST CORPS.

ONE SQUADRON PICKETED RIDGE EAST OF MARSH CREEK AND
SUPPORTED BY ANOTHER SQUADRON MET ENEMY'S RIGHT
ADVANCE.

LIEUT. JONES, CO. E, FIRED FIRST SHOT AS THE
ENEMY CROSSED MARSH CREEK BRIDGE.

Reverse—

ON REFORMING LINE REGIMENT TOOK AN ADVANCED
POSITION ON HAGERSTOWN ROAD. LATE IN THE DAY DELAYED
ENEMY'S ADVANCE BY ATTACKING HIS RIGHT FLANK,
THEREBY AIDING THE INFANTRY IN WITHDRAWING TO
CEMETERY HILL. IN EVENING ENCAMPED ON LEFT FLANK.

JULY 2, 1863.

BUFORD'S DIVISION RETIRED TOWARD WESTMINSTER.

DAVID DIFFENBAUGH.



8th Illinois Cavalry, Gettysburg.



12th Illinois Cavalry, Gettysburg.

The 12th Illinois cavalry monument is situated west of Gettysburg, on the same ridge, north of the Chambersburg pike, on east side of Reynold's avenue facing west, about midway between the pike and railroad cut, on the ground occupied by the regiment in line of battle, on the morning of July 1, 1863.

The monument is a die, a single granite rock in the rough, 4 feet 0 inches x 2 feet 0 inches x 10 feet 0 inches high, rising up out of the earth, surmounted by regulation army saddle, with blankets on pommel and rear as part of the granite shaft.

On the upper part and front of the die are cut in large V sunk letters the words,

12TH ILLINOIS CAVALRY,
1ST. BRIG. 1ST DIV.
CAV. CORPS.

Above in bronze are the Illinois coat-of-arms and cross sabers of the same dimensions and pattern as those on the 8th Illinois monument.

On the front and reverse sides of the die are polished surfaces, each 2 feet 8 inches x 4 feet 6 inches, in which are cut in V sunk letters the following inscriptions:

Front—

FIRST LINE OF BATTLE
JULY 1, 1863,

HELD UNTIL RELIEVED BY 1ST CORPS.

ONE SQUADRON PICKETING RIDGE EAST OF MARSH CREEK
MET ENEMY'S LEFT ADVANCE.

KILLED.

FERDINAND USHUR,
THOMAS G. BLANSET,
JOHN ELLIS,
GABRIEL B. DURHAM,
HOMER C. STEDMAN.

Reverse—

REGIMENT RETIRED TO RIDGE ON LEFT REAR; WITH BRIGADE
FOUGHT DISMOUNTED, REPELLING ATTACKS OF THE ENEMY;
COVERED THE WITHDRAWAL OF LINE TO CEMETERY HILL, AND
IN THE EVENING TOOK POSITION ON LEFT FLANK OF THE ARMY.

JULY 2, 1863.

BUFORD'S DIVISION RETIRED TOWARD WESTMINSTER.

The 82d Illinois infantry monument is situated north of Gettysburg, west of Carlyle road, on the south side of Howard avenue, facing northwest.

This regiment, in formation of 11th corps north of Gettysburg, supported Wheeler's battery, and was stationed to the right and rear of the battery. The Wheeler battery monument is located in Howard avenue, marking the spot where the battery opened fire. The 82d Illinois monument is located to the right of the Wheeler battery monument in Howard avenue, little in advance of the position of the regiment, to have it stand on the grounds of the Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association.

The general dimensions of the monument are 12 feet 6 inches high and 5 feet square at the base. Monument consists of four pieces of granite; a base 5 feet 0 inches square x 1 foot 0 inches high; a moulded plinth; a die cut concave containing the coat-of-arms of the State of Illinois in bronze.

The inscriptions are as follows:

Northwest—

82ND ILLINOIS INFANTRY.
1ST BRIGADE, 3D DIVISION, 11TH CORPS.
FIRST LINE OF BATTLE
JULY 1, 1863.

Northeast—

MOVED IN RETREAT TO CEMETERY HILL, JULY 1, 1863.

Southwest—

OCCUPIED THE CREST OF CEMETERY HILL, JULY 2 AND 3, 1863.

Southeast—

PARTICIPATED IN REPULSE OF EWELL'S CORPS ON NIGHT
JULY 2, 1863.

REGIMENT LOST DURING THE THREE DAY'S BATTLE
112 KILLED, WOUNDED AND MISSING.

And a column representing a minie ball ornamented with a laurel wreath, a palm branch and a crescent (being the corps badge), all highly carved in relief. The letters "82d Illinois Infantry" at base of column are raised and polished, and thirteen raised stars, near the top of column, complete the design, the combination making a pleasing outline, well proportioned, and forming a substantial appearing memorial.



82d Illinois Infantry, Gettysburg.



EDWARD S. SALOMON,
Lieut. Col. Commanding 82d Ill. Inf'ty, at Gettysburg.

The monuments are constructed of Westerly Rhode Island granite and set upon foundations of stone and Portland cement, six (6) feet in depth.

With the appropriation, monuments grand and ornate could not be erected. They are plain, simple structures, comparing favorably with most of the regimental monuments erected on the battle-field. They are substantial and will endure as a memorial of the State of Illinois, in honor of her troops who fought on that bloody field, as long as New England granite will defy the ravages of storm and time. Their location was selected by the commission and approved by the Memorial Association.

In receiving the monuments, the Memorial Association becomes the custodian thereof, and is bound to protect and preserve the same.

DEDICATION.

For the purpose of visiting the battle-field and formally dedicating the monuments erected by the State of Illinois, in their honor, the surviving members of each regiment appointed a committee of three:

8th Illinois Committee.

Lieut. Alexander McS. S. Riddler,
 Captain Andrew Dunning,
 Major Woodbury M. Taylor.

12th Illinois Committee.

Sergt. David B. Vaughan,
 Lieut. Jasper Johnson,
 Major William M. Luff.

82d Illinois Committee.

Private Peter Adler,
 Lieut. William Loeb,
 Capt. Jacob Gross.

The three committees met in joint session, elected Lieut. Riddler, chairman, Capt. William C. Hazleton, of 8th Illinois cavalry, secretary, and Lieut. Loeb, treasurer; named Thursday, September 3, 1891, as the day of dedication, and appointed Major Taylor, Major Luff and Capt. Gross, with Capt. Hazleton as secretary, a committee of arrangements.

This committee provided a special train of Pullman palace cars, over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, one fare for the round trip. Members of the regiments and their friends, the Governor and staff and State officers left Chicago at 1 P. M. Tuesday, September 1, 1891, and arrived at Gettysburg, Wednesday evening.

On Thursday a large delegation of Illinoisans from Washington, D. C., joined them to take part in the dedicatory exercises. Col. C. H. Buehler, Vice-President, and other officers of Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association, Mayor H. S. Benner and city officers, and many citizens of Gettysburg also participated in the services.

At 2 p. m. the procession formed in the public square and preceded by the Grand Army band of Gettysburg, marched out to the location of the 8th Illinois cavalry monument, where the general exercises were held.

EXERCISES.

Singing the Doxology.

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above ye Heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.”

Invocation by the Rev. W. H. Keith, late chaplain in U. S. Army and pastor of the M. E. Church at Gettysburg.

“Our Father, who art in heaven, we acknowledge Thy loving-kindness to-day, in granting us the privilege of meeting on this historic field, where the right, as taught us by Thy blessed Son, won its grandest victory. Here, where patriot blood was shed, and human life so freely offered. Here, where the heroic in patriotism met the heroic in treason, and achieved for union and liberty an abiding place in this our nation.

We thank Thee that so many of these brave men, participants in the fearful struggle witnessed on this field, are here to-day to dedicate a monument to the memory of their comrades who fell in this battle.

May these veteran patriots, who have escaped the carnage of war, be also saved from the enemy of their souls, that with the redeemed of all lands and ages, they may greet their fallen comrades in that country where life, joy and peace shall be theirs forever.

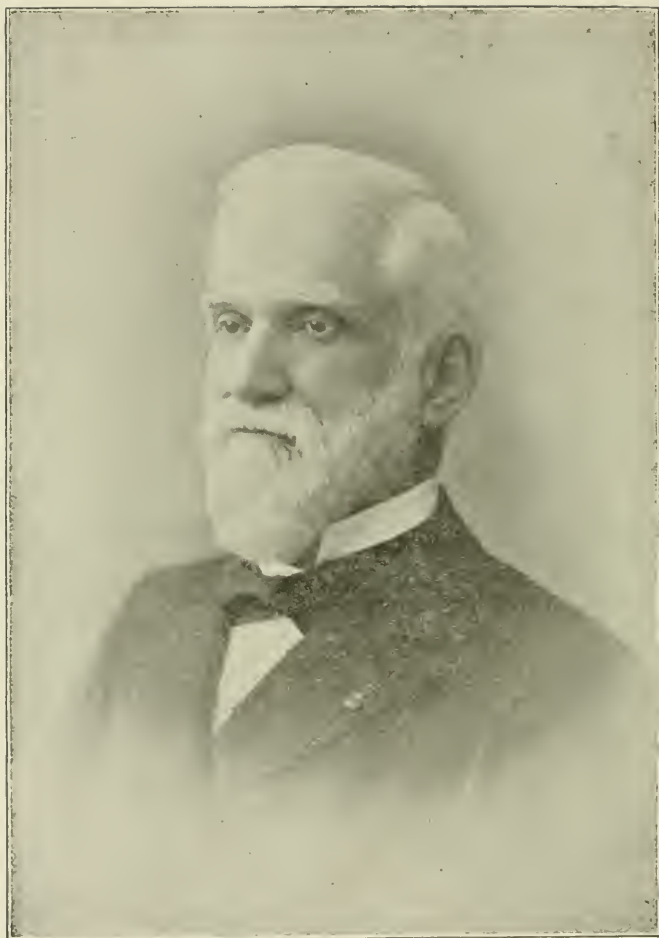
Bless, dear Father, our maimed and needy comrades, who have found an asylum from want in the homes provided for them by a grateful people. In their retirement may they have the joy of an experienced christianity and the consciousness that they did what they could for human liberty.

Grant the consolations of Thy grace to the aged parents, widows and orphans of our deceased comrades. May they know that their loss was a priceless contribution to civil and religious liberty throughout the world.

Be Thou, dear Father, very gracious to all the inhabitants of the great State represented here to-day by her chief executive, and his associates in authority. Help him do all he can for the moral, intellectual and material advancement of his people, and at the last may he hear Thee say: “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Be pleased, dear Father, to help Thy servant, the president of these United States, in the great work assigned him. Be his counsellor and strength, and may he witness the steady growth of our united country in christian character and material wealth.

Blessed God, remember the survivors of armed rebellion against our government. Be very merciful and kind to them and their loved ones, and may the spirit of resistance to the rightful authority of our country, once so marked in their history, have given place in their affection and manhood to true and abiding loyalty to our flag, and every principle it represents.



JOHN L. BEVERIDGE,
Commissioner.
Major Commanding 8th Ill. Cav., at Gettysburg.

Look Thou in great compassion upon all the people within our boundaries. Make us strong in righteousness, and may those of other lands, who have sought a home among us, be induced, by our example, to love Thee and our free institutions, which were conceived in the faith of our fathers, and brought forth and consecrated by the blood of our patriots.

Mercifully forgive all our sins and hasten on the day when all shall serve and know Thee. And when we shall have served our generation, bring us at last to the fellowship of the just made perfect through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Presentation of the monuments to the State of Illinois, by ex-Gov. John L. Beveridge, late major of the 8th Illinois cavalry, commanding the regiment at the battle of Gettysburg, and chairman of the Illinois Monumental Commission:

"On the afternoon of June 30, 1863, the 1st and 2d brigades, Buford's division of cavalry, 8th Illinois in advance, marched up the road to Emmetsburg, through Gettysburg; the first, Gamble's brigade, turning to the left, marched out the Chambersburg pike and encamped in the little valley between this ridge and Seminary Ridge on the east; 8th Illinois in front, south of pike; 8th New York in its rear; 12th Illinois, 3d Indiana and Calef's battery north of pike.

It was a bright, beautiful afternoon. The sunlight danced on the hill-tops and dallied with the foliage of the plain. The landscape green was dotted, here and there, with patches of grain, yellowing for the harvest. The cattle were feeding lazily in the fields. Peace, and prosperity which accompanies peace, reigned. All was quiet and still. There was no sound or sign of war, save the bugle call, the trappings of the horses, the accoutrements of the men and the guns of the artillery. Yet, knowing an armed foe: a brave, bold, daring, determined enemy was in our front, a few miles to the west, every precaution was taken to prevent a surprise.

The 8th New York sent a picket force down through McPherson's woods to the south-west; 8th Illinois sent a squadron out on the Chambersburg pike two miles, and picketed the ridge east of Marsh creek; one post in pike, three posts south of pike, two posts north of pike and one post in advance on the pike at blacksmith shop near the bridge; 12th Illinois and 3d Indiana picketed the ridge to the right of 8th Illinois pickets. Devin's brigade picketed to the north and the north-east.

The afternoon waned; the sun sank below the western hills; twilight grew on apace; the stars came out; the moon shed her soft radiance over mountain high and valley low; "taps" sounded. Thus picketed, thus bivouaced, beneath our own skies, on our own soil, with a sense of security and a feeling of homeness, thinking of the loved ones, and breathing praise and prayer to Him who had blessed us and our arms, we lay down upon the green sward, pillowing our heads on our saddles, to rest and to sleep, little dreaming the morrow would usher in a battle so terrible and sanguinary which would determine the destiny of the Republic, and fix the fate of human liberty on the earth.

The morning dawned; the sun rose in splendor over the eastern hills; no cloud dimmed the sky, nor fog obscured the valley; 'reveille' sounded; the camp was astir; men prepared and partook of the morning meal; horses were fed and groomed; arms cleaned and burnished.

Many troopers and officers had gone up to the city to converse with friends. For eighteen months we had camped, marched and fought in the enemy's country. All Gettysburg, all loyal Pennsylvanians, were that morning our kith and kin. About 8:30 A. M., Captain Daniel W. Buck, in command of the 8th Illinois squadron on picket, sent word the enemy was advancing in force in two columns. Finding no superior officers in camp, I ordered another squadron of the 8th Illinois to the front in support of the picket line, and sent orderlies up town to give the alarm.

'Boots and saddles' was sounded, then 'to horse,' and the brigade stood to horse, prepared to mount, when Gen. Buford and Col. Gamble rode into camp. The brigade mounted and moved forward into line of battle along the ridge: 3d Indiana on the right, north of the railroad cut; 12th Illinois between the cut and the pike; Calef's battery, two guns north of pike, two guns in the pike, and two guns south of pike; 8th Illinois to left of battery, on the very ground where we now stand, and the 8th New York to the left and rear under the ridge, in front of McPherson's woods.

Devin's brigade took position further to the north. Thus formed in line of battle we waited the approach of the enemy, ready to do and to die for our country.

In early morn our pickets on the ridge east of Marsh creek observed a cloud of dust rising at the foot of the mountains over Cashtown, seven miles away. This cloud came nearer, and nearer, and nearer, as Heth's division, Hill's corps, six thousand strong, in gray, marched down the pike to Gettysburg town. As the enemy neared the stone bridge across Marsh creek, an officer riding at the head of the column halted by the stone coping to allow his men to pass. Lieut. Marcellus E. Jones, now postmaster at Wheaton, Ill., in command of the 8th Illinois picket line, standing in the pike, took the carbine of Sergeant Shafer, raised it to his shoulder, aimed at the officer sitting his horse, and fired the first shot at the battle of Gettysburg.

Just over the fence from the Chambersburg pike, in a private door-yard, on the summit of the ridge, about seven hundred feet east of Marsh creek, and three miles from Gettysburg, stands a simple stone, quarried and cut at Naperville, Ill., five feet high, eighteen inches square at the base, and nine inches square at the top, which speaks for itself. On one face is inscribed, "First shot at Gettysburg, July 1, 1863, 7:30 A. M." On another, "Fired by Captain M. E. Jones, with Sergeant Shafer's carbine, Co. E, 8th Regiment, Illinois Cavalry." On third, "Erected by Capt. Jones, Lieut. Riddler and Sergt. Shafer." And on fourth, "Erected 1886." To indicate the spot where the first gun was fired at Gettysburg, these three veterans, actors and eye-witnesses of the events written in rock, nearly a quarter of a century after the events happened, purchased the ground and thereon erected their memorial. This stone, beyond the domain of the Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association, far removed from the many monuments on the Gettysburg field stands alone, a solitary and silent witness to tell the true story of the opening of the great decisive battle of the world, on the morning of July 1, 1863.

Other claimants there may be. It is claimed, a 9th New York cavalryman fired the first shot at 7:30 A. M. The 9th New York cavalry belonged to Devin's brigade. Devin's brigade picketed to the north of Gamble's brigade. The enemy did not advance in front of Devin's brigade, but did advance down the Chambersburg pike in the immediate front of the 8th Illinois pickets.

It is claimed, a 17th Pennsylvania cavalryman fired the first shot in early morn, near the bridge across Marsh creek. The 17th Pennsylvania belonged to Devin's brigade, and had no pickets near Marsh creek bridge in front of the 8th Illinois pickets.

It is claimed, a 6th New York cavalryman fired at daybreak into the fog, at the sound of the enemy's cavalry close to his picket post. The fog was so dense he could not see them. He must have fired at the champing of the bit, the clink of the saber, or the clattering of the hoof. The 6th New York cavalry also belonged to Devin's brigade. He may have fired at some imaginary foe. I say imaginary, for there is no evidence that the enemy had any pickets or scouts along Marsh creek on the night of June 30, 1863. The claim is improbable. The enemy had no cavalry on the field July 1, 1863. Five brigades of cavalry were with Gen. Stewart in his raid around the right of the Union army, one brigade was with Gen. Ewell at Carlyle, and one brigade with Gen. Lee, near Chambersburg. The claim is impossible. There was no fog along the valley of Marsh creek on the

morning of July 1, 1863. The claim is preposterous. From investigation, I am satisfied, to Capt. Jones belongs the honor of firing the first gun at Gettysburg, on the morning of July 1, 1863, as the enemy advanced to give battle. He opened the fight.

Archer's Tennessee brigade crossed the bridge, deployed skirmishers on right of pike and advanced. Davis' brigade crossed next, deployed skirmishers north of pike and advanced. Brockenbrough and Pettigrew's brigade followed.

As soon as skirmishers deployed, firing commenced all along the line. Our pickets mounted, firing, fell back slowly upon the reserve, when dismounting, sent their horses to the rear and fighting on foot, bravely resisted and retarded the advance of the enemy.

When Buford formed his line, Calef's battery opened fire to encourage our boys and tell the advancing hosts Union troops were prepared to resist any farther invasion of northern soil. Through the depression of the hills to the northwest, three-fourths of a mile away, beyond Willoughby Run, Davis' brigade was seen advancing in column. Upon the head of this column Calef trained his guns. Presently the boys of 8th Illinois with the led horses were seen coming over the ridge west of Willoughby Run, in our immediate front: then a line of smoke along and beyond the crest of the hill: then our pickets: then another line of smoke: then the skirmishers: then twelve guns wheeled into line, unlimbered and opened fire. As the pickets retired slowly down the slope, followed by the skirmishers, Archer's brigade in line of battle, rose above the hill, marched up to and past the guns. The guns ceased firing till the brigade dropped below their range, then opened again. The pickets and skirmishers were down by Willoughby Run. Archer's brigade had advanced half way down the hillside. The moment was critical, two guns to one, three men to one. We could easily fall back and elude pursuit, but we were not here to retreat, nor was it our habit to retreat.

Reynolds' corps had encamped the night before on Marsh creek, four miles south of Gettysburg. The corps was on the march when they heard the sound of our guns. Looking to the left rear, we saw Wadsworth's division of First corps, led by Reynolds and Wadsworth in person, coming across the meadow on the double-quick. Cutler's brigade came into our rear, right resting on the pike, and dropped to the ground for breath and protection. Wadsworth led two regiments across the pike to meet Davis' brigade, the 12th Illinois and 3d Indiana retiring towards Seminary Ridge.

Meredith's, the Iron Brigade, came up to our left, passed into the woods and formed in line, the right in the edge of the timber, with the left swinging around toward Willoughby Run. To uncover Cutler's front the 8th Illinois filed to the left, in rear of the Iron Brigade, and took position to left and rear of the 8th New York, near Seminary Ridge. Cutler, with three regiments and second Maine battery, advanced to this ridge, and moved immediately forward through the open ground to the next ridge, where stands McPherson's house, and opened fire.

In the mean time Archer's brigade had descended the hill and was crossing the Run. To escape Cutler's galling fire, the enemy moved quickly into the woods, and unexpectedly encountered the Iron Brigade. With Meredith in his front and on his right flank, and Cutler on his left flank, after a desperate struggle and great loss on both sides, Archer and a thousand of his men surrendered prisoners of war, and his broken and depleted line was driven back across Willoughby Run.

North of the pike Davis charging fiercely upon Wadsworth, before he had got his regiments into position, forced him back. Reinforced by the 6th Wisconsin, 12th Illinois and 3d Indiana, Wadsworth checked the onslaught, charged the enemy, captured a regiment coming down the railroad cut and drove Davis back across the Run.

About 10 A. M. Gen. Reynolds, cheering on his men, was killed near the edge of the woods. A monument marks the spot where he fell. On his death, Col. Doubleday, who had arrived on the field in advance of his division, assumed command.

Gen. Howard, with 11th corps, encamped the night of June 30 near Emmetsburg. He was on the march to Gettysburg, when hearing the guns, he hastened forward with his staff, arrived on the field about 11 A. M., after the enemy had been forced back, and assumed command. Gen. Doubleday retained command of the First corps, and the entire corps having come up, he proceeded to reform the line. The Iron Brigade remained in the woods. Cutler retained his position across the pike and railroad cut. Biddle's brigade took position under the ridge south of McPherson's woods. Doubleday's division was stationed to the north and rear, and Robinson's division was held in reserve.

Buford stationed the 12th Illinois and 3d Indiana, dismounted, behind the fence and rocks south of the Seminary; one section of Calef's battery at the south-east point of McPherson's woods, supported by the 8th New York cavalry, and ordered the 8th Illinois out to the south-west, on the Hagerstown road to watch the enemy in that quarter. The 8th Illinois occupied an orchard south of the road, near the timber, and sent a squadron through the timber into the open ground beyond.

About noon Gen. Schurz came up with the 11th corps. He ordered Steinwehr's, second division, to occupy Cemetery Hill. At that time Cemetery Hill was unshaded and its marble head-stones gleamed and glistened in the sunlight. He led the first and third divisions through the town to the open country on the north, and formed in line, his right resting near the county poor house, facing north.

In the evening of June 29th, Gen. Lee, whose headquarters were at Chambersburg, thirty miles to the west, and whose objective point was Philadelphia, was first advised that the Army of the Potomac had crossed the river and was marching up through Maryland. Fearing what Gen. Hooker had planned to do before he was superseded by Gen. Meade, that a strong force would be thrown upon his line of communication, Gen. Lee resolved to make Baltimore his objective point and compel the Army of the Potomac to throw itself in his front to protect that city. He at once sent orders to his lieutenants to concentrate without delay at Gettysburg.

Gen. Ewell, who was at Carlyle, thirty-five miles to the north, received his orders in the morning of June 30, as he was preparing to march on Harrisburg. He sent Johnson's division with his train down through the mountains to the Chambersburg pike, near Greenwood, and with Rhodes' division marched direct on Gettysburg. On the night of June 30th, he encamped near Heidelberg, about twelve miles from Gettysburg.

Gen. Early, with one division of Ewell's corps, had passed through Gettysburg three days before, and was at York, forty miles to the northeast, under orders to move north along the west bank of the Susquehanna river, burn the bridge and join Ewell in the capture of Harrisburg. Early received these orders on the morning of June 30, drew in his pickets, and started in hot haste for Gettysburg, and by a forced and late march encamped that night five miles northeast of Heidelberg, and some fifteen miles from Gettysburg.

On the morning of July 1, Gen. Ewell, hearing the sound of battle, hastened forward and about 2 P. M. announced his presence by opening his guns on Doubleday's right, from Knob Hill, an elevation of Seminary Ridge, three-fourths of a mile north.

The appearance of the enemy in that quarter necessitated a change in the Federal lines. Gen. Doubleday extended his line to the north, with the right refused. Gen. Schurz advanced his right resting on Rock creek, facing northwest, but unfortunately left an opening of one-fourth of a mile between his left flank and Doubleday's right.

In the meantime Heth had reformed his line, and Pendar's division, Hill's corps, had arrived on the field. Rhodes' division, five brigades, had come up and formed in brigade column. About 4 P. M. Heth vigorously attacked Doubleday's centre. Ewell drove three brigades of Rhodes' division like a wedge into the opening between Schurz and Doubleday's lines. Gen. Barlow, in command of Schurz's right, thinking he could swing his division around and strike Rhodes' column on the flank, gave the proper orders and commenced the movement, when one of the unexpected and inopportune things happened which turned the tide of battle. Early coming down from the northeast struck Barlow's right flank, doubled it up, and Barlow wounded, his division gave way. The third division of 11th corps, in which was the 82d Illinois infantry, supporting Wheeler's battery, struggled desperately to hold its position against the combined attack of Early on its right, and Rhodes on its left flank, but was finally compelled to fall back, through the town, to Cemetery Hill. The 82d infantry covering the retreat of Wheeler's battery through the town, suffered severely from the fire of the enemy down the cross streets. Doubleday's right, after a desperate resistance, fell back, then his centre, and then his left, and withdrew through the town to Cemetery Hill.

About 6 P. M. Col. Gamble ordered the 8th Illinois cavalry to retire toward Cemetery Hill, making as much show as possible. Recalling the squadron on picket to the west of the woods, without waiting its return, I moved the regiment into the open fields to the southeast, threw down the fences, and formed the regiment in column of squadrons.

About this time Lane's brigade, Pendar's division, which had formed under cover of the woods, emerged from the timber, *in echelon*, from left to right, his last regiment coming out of the woods near the orchard by the Hagerstown road, with the 8th Illinois squadron on picket, hanging upon its flank. From my position I saw Doubleday's right falling back, then his centre, then the Iron Brigade coming out from McPherson's woods. Biddle's brigade, lying under the ridge, was watching the fight to the north, unconscious of Lane's advance, and unseen by Lane's brigade as it moved steadily forward. Noting Biddle's peril, I made a feint for his rescue. I ordered the 8th Illinois, in column of squadrons, forward, increased its gait to a trot as if about to make a charge upon Lane's right. His right regiment halted, changed front, and fired a volley; Biddle's brigade rose to their feet, saw the enemy, fired and retired across the field toward Seminary Ridge. The 12th Illinois and 3d Indiana dismounted behind the stone wall, covered the infantry and the 8th Illinois, its left flank on its withdrawal to Cemetery Hill.

Joined by Col. Gamble, and the other regiments of the brigade, we crossed the Emmetsburg road and went into camp down on a branch of Rock creek, covering the left flank of the army, and the infantry slept among the tombs on Cemetery Hill. Slocum's corps had come up, Hancock's was not far away, and we lay down to sleep with a sense of relief and a feeling of security. The battle of the morning was in our favor; the battle of the evening against us; the enemy occupied the town; we occupied Cemetery Hill, the key to the position, the Gibraltar of our hopes and the citadel of our defense.

The day's work was done, equalled only the second day in heroism, and surpassed in carnage and death by the fierce struggle around Culp's Hill, up Cemetery Ridge, at the bloody angle, in the peach orchard, through the wheat field, around the Loop, down through Devil's Den, along Death's Valley, and up and around Little Round-top; and on the third day, by Pickett's grand charge, across the open fields, upon the Union centre, in face of one hundred and fifty guns and fifty thousand muskets.

The battle is fought. The victory is won. The Nation lives. Here on Gettysburg field, the wave of the rebellion culminated. A clump of trees, now fenced in by an iron railing, marks the spot where Armistead fell, and Cushing, disemboweled, fired his last shot; where the top wave dashed against the ridges and rocks, broke and receded never more to rise.

Gettysburg becomes an historic field. All the loyal States, except West Virginia, having troops on this field, have erected monuments, over three hundred and thirty in number, in honor of the men who fought here and who fell here. Illinois was first in the fight and is the last to dedicate her monuments.

In the winter of 1889 the legislature of Illinois appropriated six thousand dollars for monuments and authorized the governor to appoint three commissioners, one from each regiment present at the battle, to carry out the will of the legislature. His Excellency appointed Joseph B. Greenhut, of Peoria, late captain in the 82d Illinois infantry, David B. Vaughan, of Kankakee, late sergeant in the 12th Illinois cavalry, and John L. Beveridge, of Cook, late major of 8th Illinois cavalry.

The preamble of the act recites the facts that the 82d infantry, commanded by Col. Edward S. Solomon, the 12th cavalry, commanded by Capt. George W. Shears, and the 8th cavalry, commanded by Major John L. Beveridge, were present and took part in the engagement, and assumes as a fact that the 8th Illinois cavalry opened the engagement, and contemplates the erection of a monument to mark the spot where the battle was opened.

The commissioners visited the battle-field in June, 1890, and the question arose "Where did the battle open? Was it on the picket line where the firing commenced, or on the battle line?" If the picket line, then the three named veterans had already erected their memorial to mark the spot. If on the battle line, then the 8th Illinois was entitled to no more honor than the 12th Illinois, and Illinois was entitled to no more honor than Indiana and New York, for all three States stood side by side in the same line of battle on the morning of July 1, 1863.

After riding over the field, and finding that a large majority of the monuments were of a regimental character, marking some spot where the regiment stood and fought, and believing it would be more in accordance with the scope and design of the Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association and the historic facts, and also believing it would be more satisfactory to the survivors of the three regiments and the patriotic people of Illinois, the commissioners resolved to erect three monuments, one for each regiment, marking the spot where it stood in the first line of battle.

With six thousand dollars we could not erect monuments very expensive, ornate or artistic, but we think the Illinois monuments will compare favorably with the other regimental monuments erected on this field. The commissioners studied simplicity and durability. The monuments are plain, suggestive and historic. They are constructed of New England granite, founded on cemented rock, and will stand as long as the hills around Gettysburg lift their heads to the skies.

Our work is finished. Thanking the Governor and the State for the confidence reposed in us, as chairman of the commission I am instructed to tender these three monuments to His Excellency, and through him, to the good people of the State of Illinois to be dedicated to the honor and memory of the men, living and dead, who fought on this field."

Acceptance of the monuments in behalf of the State and presentation of the same to the Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association, by His Excellency, Hon. Joseph W. Fifer, Governor of the State of Illinois:

"We are upon historic and thrice consecrated ground. Here American valor fought, died and triumphed for union and liberty; here Lincoln from out of the gathering shadow of sad but triumphant death spoke simple dedicatory words of such high pathos and meaning that all who follow can but echo his sublime sentiments. If Lincoln in 1863 declared it impossible then further to hallow this sacred place, what can be left for him who would now speak:



JOSEPH W. FIFER.
Governor of Illinois.

Nevertheless, it is fitting we thus come, under the eye of an approving nation, and with appropriate ceremonies further consecrate the manhood and youth of America to those great principles which national valor here carried through appalling carnage, upon the points of triumphant bayonets, across the decisive battle-field of the civil war.

Scarcely had the American union been formed when the question was asked 'Can a State dissolve it?' Scarcely was the Supreme Court of the nation robed when it was declared that not this tribunal but each component state, through its own petty agencies, might judge of the extent of the powers conferred by the federal constitution.

Heated discussions and much ill-will arose. On one side were the Kentucky and Virginia resolutions with those who drew them, and the many who advocated their principles; on the other were the wise counsels and commanding prestige of Washington, the masterly opinions of Marshall, the potent and luminous arguments of Hamilton and Webster. One side believed this a weak league of states each in itself a political sovereignty, which might any day jostle from its uncertain place in the Union; the other said 'We have a nation with a nation's powers and a nation's integrity, sovereign, grand and free.'

But for the firebrand flung into the waning conflagration early in the century by the rising interest of slavery, the doctrine of national sovereignty would have had a national and bloodless triumph. But slowly and ominously up Columbia's fair sky crept two great shadows: the first a fast growing slave power, fierce, barbarous and insatiable: back of that, and its dire consequence, civil war. The conflict was truly irrepressible. Extreme on the northern side were ranged sentimental philanthropists who would make no allowance for southern environments, such men as are always on hand to do good at others expense and practice high virtues by proxy. At the other extreme was the swaggering slave-driver who delighted in blood drawn by the lash, and who foolishly supposed the consciences of a great Anglo-Saxon people could be awed to silence by a display of bowie knives.

Between these extreme lines both sides produced able and conscientious statesmen: both were infused with sturdy valor: both numbered adherents of the truest Americanism, who, in anguish and tears, deplored the awful crisis they helplessly saw approaching: both prayed sincerely to the same God.

At length the lightnings from the cloud struck. We older ones knew what followed, but none can ever describe it. It is good, however, that we all see more clearly since the storm cleared the atmospheres. Brethren know each other better since they have looked into the muzzles of each others' guns.

It were folly to now contend, in the pride of individual opinion, as to where the right lay in this great strife. History is already pronouncing the final judgment. That judgment will be charitable and kind to all: but let no faint-hearted patriot doubt that God's eternal truth will be established in it. Nor should we forget that at the bar of history, prior adjudications of armed force cannot be pleaded. He who would win in the supreme court of civilized opinion must leave captured colors and the spoil of cities, and come with fruits of justice and humanity in his hands. To this judgment bar, we of the north, bring the broken chain of human bondage: we bring tears of joy from cheeks unvisited by smiles: we bring the realized hopes of a nation and the imposing majesty of a people: we bring the civilizing potency of a union of American interests under a single flag: we bring the answered prayers and fulfilled aspirations of our heroic forefathers, who, in sore travail planted free institutions in a wilderness; and here, in all meekness and charity, we are content to rest our cause. Let judgment be pronounced. Let it be told whether 'the hero born of woman' has indeed 'crushed the serpent with his heel' and whether God verily has 'marched on' over a redeemed continent.

If any single battle of the civil war can properly be called decisive, perhaps it was that fought on this field. Here the confederate dream of northern invasion was dispelled: and when the triumphant guns of Grant at Vicksburg answered these thundering volleys of Meade, the result was known.

The sons of Illinois were here as on other fields of that war, to do conspicuous and honorable service. You have heard what part they took, from the lips of a distinguished Illinois soldier, who then shared their perils and now shares their honors. They were sons of Illinois: but they were in a broader and a better sense sons of the nation. They were not here to fight for Illinois alone: yet Illinois honors them and all the more for the great national cause they so gallantly upheld. As citizens of the great Prairie State we are proud to know it was the virile of two citizens of Illinois—Lincoln and Grant—that completed the work of Washington and Hamilton, cemented forever the jostling fragments of the Union, and made the term American citizen indeed 'the panoply and safe-guard of him who wears it.'

In the name of the people of Illinois, whose appreciation I am here to voice, I accept these monuments. Precious souvenirs are they of a State's gratitude to the valor which defended the nation. To future ages they will tell the story how, into the balance of destiny, wherein a third of a century ago uncertainly trembled the fate of the republic, Illinois threw her oft-flashed sword and helped to turn the scale. Here stood her gallant sons, shoulder to shoulder, with brethren of so many commonwealths, baring their breasts to the fury which so nearly rent a nation: and here, too, 'on fame's eternal camping ground,' some of them sleep in patriot graves, fallen, but not forgotten.

To the gentlemen who have so well executed their commission in the erection of these memorials, I return the thanks of their fellow citizens: and in turning them over, as I now do, to the Association, I will add this word.

In your keeping, gentlemen, we of Illinois, in great confidence, leave the remains of our sacred dead. We do not rely upon granite or marble alone to perpetuate the memory of their sacrifices. We know that memorials made by human hands, far more costly and imposing than the simple tablets we leave with you to-day, must soon decay and fall. There is a grander and better monument than any of masonry or bronze, which is now building to the memory of our nation's defenders, living and dead. That monument is the progress, social, industrial and political, of the great republic they saved. The life work of every worthy American citizen is wrought into this grand monumental structure. It belongs not to regiments or brigades, to army corps or to political divisions, but to all beneath our flag who have wrought in the holy cause of freedom and good government. About its shaft cluster the hopes and aspirations of every living patriot, and under it, in assured immortality, sleep all our heroic dead."

Acceptance of the monuments in behalf of the Memorial Association by Hon. Edward McPherson, Clerk of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, and one of the directors of the Association:

"GENERAL BEVERIDGE, GOVERNOR FIFER, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: After the terse and vivid description of the first day's engagement by Gen. Beveridge and the comprehensive, philosophical and patriotic remarks of Governor Fifer on the rebellion, its causes and consequences, I cannot but feel that my duty will be best performed in the use of the fewest words.

The association which, by substitution, I am made to represent on this occasion, was conceived immediately on the close of the battle in July, 1863. It was incorporated at the first meeting of the legislature of Pennsylvania. It has existed thenceforward, in the hands of public-spirited

citizens who have sought to prepare and keep the actual lines of battle as fitting resting places for the memorials erected to commemorate the valor of the Union soldiery, dead and living.

This conception has been realized to an extent not realized on any other battle-field of the world. All the participating states, save one, are here, in their proper places, in bronze and marble and granite, lifting up enduring monuments to mark the eternal hills on which slavery got its death blow, on which freedom won a great victory, on which a continent was re-dedicated to the illustration of the rights of man.

Our Battle-field Association bids me welcome to its field the State of Illinois—the Empire State of the Central Belt—which, like the rest of us, slumbered while the conspiracy of disunion was developing, and till Sumter was fired upon, but which then awakened and sprang to arms and slept not till that act of treason was fully avenged, and till the emblem of rebellion was finally furlled at Appomattox. The Association all the more welcomes Illinois because the history of your State is as a radiance of glory in the tempest-time through which the country has passed. Her place through all that storm was in the front rank. To the Supreme Court of the nation it gave the luminous intellect of David Davis to help set up the new landmarks. To the Senate of the nation it gave the aggressive intellect and the patriot heart of Stephen A. Douglas, who amid the perils of the period forgot all the past and, aflame with loyalty, stood on March 4, 1861, by the side of and in full amity with his former rival, Abraham Lincoln, as the president-elect, touchingly but vainly pleaded with his 'dissatisfied fellow-countrymen' not to force the 'momentous issue of civil war;' and it gave, in later years, to the same august body, the faithful heart and sturdy nature of John A. Logan, its soldier-statesman. To the army it gave, besides others, the tenacious will, the steady purpose, the prodigious force, the overmastering military genius of Ulysses S. Grant. And to mankind it gave the matchless name of Abraham Lincoln. Yours is thus a pre-eminence of achievement. We concede it. And what Illinois gives to this field is accepted as a precious gift, to be jealously guarded, to be sedulously preserved from harm, to be honored as becomes the gallantry and greatness which these memorials represent and commemorate."

Address by Col. Asa C. Mathews, comptroller of the currency and a member of the Army of the Tennessee:

"COMRADES AND FRIENDS: The few citizens of Illinois who are temporarily on duty at Washington, hearing of the intended coming of the chief executive of that State, with his staff and others, to aid in the dedication of these monuments to the memory of the Illinois soldiers who fought and fell at Gettysburg, have hastened here 'to meet you and to greet you.' I pause on the threshold to say, that more patriotic, union-loving men and women never left any city to meet the prominent men of their State, than those who meet you to-day from Washington. When we first heard the Governor and his staff were coming, we resolved to send a good strong committee of fifty men and women, and when we heard that they were to be accompanied by General Beveridge and his family, we resolved to send a committee of one hundred; when, however, we found the fact to be that these were to be added the survivors of the 8th and the 12th Illinois cavalry, and the 82d infantry—the men who fought at Culp's Hill, and the Bloody Angle—we resolved to come in a body and take part in the interesting ceremonies. It occurred to us that after the monuments were dedicated you would be pleased to visit Washington, the capital of the greatest republic that ever existed; that you would like to continue your journey to Mount Vernon, and see the tomb of the father of his country; that you would like to stand where Lincoln stood when he liberated four millions of slaves; that you would be pleased to see where General Grant guided the ship of state for eight years, during the dark days of reconstruction, and that you would be delighted to visit the Senate chamber where the voice of Logan had been heard, and to see the avenue over which he marched the Army of the Tennessee in 1865, one of the grandest

armies that ever marched under any flag, and to that end we come to extend a cordial invitation. Your friends in Washington will give you a soldier's greeting, and we are here to conduct you from this historic field to that beautiful city, after the ceremonies are concluded at this place.

On this historic field, so full of memories, after the lapse of 28 years, many of the survivors of the great battle meet to-day for the first time. The mutations of time have thinned their ranks, but the approach of old age has not dimmed their ardor or dampened their patriotism. Your long journey has been made to perform an act of patriotic duty, the evidence of which will live long after the participant in the battle shall have passed away. The historian has written the battle of Gettysburg as one of the most important of the many great battles fought in the late rebellion. The forces on the respective sides were about equal in number, and the battle was fought in the open field.

While the Army of Northern Virginia had frequently met the Army of the Potomac, in most cases the Army of Northern Virginia had the advantage of position and generally fought on the defensive and behind fortifications. Matters had changed now. Grant had made such rapid and decisive inroads in the west, and especially at Vicksburg, that Lee was driven to assume the aggressive and now became the attacking party. A fair stand-up battle was to be fought without advantage on either side. Lee had the flower of his army chosen for an invasion of the north, under his command, and his men were accustomed to victory. The assault of Hays' brigade, the Louisiana Tigers, and their repulse by the 82d Illinois infantry, the 33d Massachusetts, with other forces; the repeated assaults and repulses of Longstreet's men on the Federal left, on the second day, and the terrible charge of Pickett and his bloody repulse on the third day, are all filled with evidence of American manhood, which challenge the admiration of all admirers of courage and chivalric dash, and deserve, if time allowed, particular mention. The contest raged for three days with varied success, until the afternoon of the last day, when victory crowned the efforts of the Union forces, but not until twenty thousand men had been killed or wounded on the respective sides.

A field so renowned in its conception, and in all its details and varied surroundings, it was deemed meet and proper should be marked and perpetuated by everlasting monuments, during the life of the survivors, who knew most of the facts. It is intended that the place on the Union line, where each command fought, shall be marked by some monument. In most cases this has been done. The soldier or the citizen from New York, which, by the way, had over sixty regiments and some twenty batteries of artillery in the fight, or Pennsylvania, which had about the same force, including the reserve, or proud old Massachusetts which had a large force, have long since been able, when he visited this field, to tell by the ground monuments, marking the spot, the places where his friends battled for the right. But prior to this time Illinois had not done her full duty in the grand work. Today, thanks to the Thirty-sixth General Assembly, the work is done. These places made sacred by the blood of our people are now permanently marked and pointed out. While the force we had on the field was small and did well its part it must not be inferred that Illinois was an idle spectator in the great conflict for the preservation of the Union. We had over 250,000 men in the field scattered all over the west and south, 75,000 of whom never returned.

Our position in the Mississippi Valley was such that we could never consent to the dismemberment of the Union. The Mississippi river was our natural outlet to the sea and we proposed to open it to the commerce of the world, if to do so, we had to make a grave-yard from Cairo to the mouth of the river. There were not men enough south of us to defeat Illinois alone in that contest. That river had to be opened and it was done the day after this great battle was fought. On that day there were surrendered at Vicksburg fifteen general officers and 31,000 troops to the forces of General Grant. They constituted the largest force ever surrendered at one time, in the great rebellion, not excepting the surrender at Appomattox.

Illinois, however, did great and good service on this field. The names of Generals Beveridge, Merritt and Farnsworth, and the officers and men of the 8th and 12th Illinois cavalry and the 82d Illinois infantry will go down into history with the names of Hancock, Webb and Crawford and their men, who defended the 'Bloody Angle.' Illinois is proud of their deeds of patriotism and valor, and to-day does herself honor by honoring them. The soldiers of Illinois stood shoulder to shoulder with the men of Pennsylvania and the other loyal states on this great field, in driving from this grand commonwealth the enemies of the Union.

While the great contest was a physical one, there was beyond it and beneath it, a great principle of government, which actuated the Union forces.

This government was dedicated by its founders to the idea that all men were created equal, and that it was a 'government of the people, for the people and by the people' and that in all contests in regard to its proper management and the elections occurring therein, the will of the majority when legally expressed, should govern the whole. This principle of government, and its proper practice, had been acquiesced in by all the states from the foundation of the government, to the election of Mr. Lincoln in 1860. Then for the first time, it was declared by certain of the southern states that the will of the majority should not govern, and that they had the right to secede from the Union whenever they thought proper. They were told that such action would not be tolerated; that 'liberty and union were one and inseparable; that one could not live without the other, and that a resort to forcible means would be met with sufficient force to overcome all resistance, and that the union of the states would be maintained at all hazards, and at whatever cost they made necessary.

The conflict came; you know the result, so do they and so does the world. American manhood was not lacking on the part of the north. It was resolved that the experiment of self-government should not 'perish from the earth,' and as a result, to-day we are a happy and united nation of over sixty millions of people, marching at the very head of the column of the nations of the civilized world, and slavery no longer contaminates the soil of this country. Our dignified bearing and courage drove monarchy from Mexico and made a republic of sunny France. The flag of this grand Union is respected in all countries and the down-trodden of all nations point to us as the beacon light of liberty and progress regulated by law and upheld by a strong, healthy, moral sentiment among our people. The cavalier thinks more of the Puritan and the western man now, than he did in 1860.

It was my duty in 1890 to cross the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean. It was the near approach of our natal day. Everywhere, and on all occasions, the evidence of a high patriotic devotion to the country, was visible. The love of one's country is natural: all parties have that love, and there is 'always the clinging to the land of one's birth.' If the red man loves his native hills, and the Laplander his snow-capped mountains and icy plains, and is devoted to them, how much more should we love our country, with its splendid development, wonderful possibilities, and its intelligent and progressive people!

Perpetuate, if need be, all the battle-fields of the late war, to the end that the crime against the Union may not again be attempted: but, in my judgment, the participants, and the whole people, should cultivate a feeling of patriotic devotion to the Union of the states and justice to all: that feeling will make the Union as perpetual as time itself. If our Confederate friends can and will reach the patriotic standard of the Union Army, the government will last forever. This nation should learn war no more. The last war cost us 600,000 lives, the flower of our youth, and over six billions of money. Peace is the blessing that should be perpetual in this country. It should be at the fireside and should be praised by every tongue. A man who favors peace makes the best warrior in time of war, and the man who favors war on slight provocation, in time of peace, seldom gets to the battle-field and never stays long.

Now, my friends, as you return to Illinois, carry to the people of that grand old commonwealth our best greetings. Express to them the hope that they will never again be called to defend the flag against attacks of treason at home or from invasion from abroad. Express to them the fact, however, that we entertain the belief that if again called to duty, they will again respond as they did in 1861, when called to defend the nation. The uprising of the Revolutionary fathers to establish the independence of the country was no more prompt and no more patriotic than the uprising of the people of Illinois to defend the Union, when it was assailed in 1861.

Peace to the ashes of those who fell, and happiness to those who survive.

These monuments may soon crumble and fade away, or they may stand as long as the pyramids of Egypt, but they will not outlive the story of the devotion to the country of the patriotic Union men who died on this field that the republic might live. Their names and fame will live forever, and go on,

‘Till the sun turns cold,
And the stars grow old,
And the leaves of the Judgment Book unfold.’”

Address by Col. Horace S. Clark, Commander of the Department of Illinois of the Grand Army of the Republic and a member of the Army of the Potomac:

“COMRADES AND FRIENDS: As the representative of more than thirty thousand surviving soldiers for the Union, now residing in the State of Illinois, for them and for myself, I cheerfully join in these ceremonies.

The regard in which the life of the individual man is held is evidenced by the conduct of the survivors who knew him, and the character of the survivors is known by such conduct.

The high regard of our country and its appreciation as a nation, and of the different states which were represented by regiments in the great battle of Gettysburg, for the patriotism and valor of those who dared risk their lives for the nationality of the states and the perpetuation of the Union is evidenced by the memorials erected on this historic field, monuments marking the sacred ground where each command, in most deadly conflict, met and defeated the armed allies of treason and rebellion.

Upon this field, as upon every other field of conflict, did the sons of Illinois maintain the glory and honor of our grand State, and the character of her illustrious leaders.

Here, where we now stand, looking over this beautiful country, the Eighth and Twelfth regiments of Illinois cavalry and the Eighty-second regiment of Illinois infantry, in the very advance of our army, met and received the shock of the invaders upon the soil of Pennsylvania, and held them in check, against such overwhelming numbers until the arrival of the main army, as to elicit the praise and gratitude of the nation, thereby contributing largely in turning what seemed to be impending defeat and disaster, into a glorious victory, hailing the surrender of Vicksburg and giving unto trembling patriotism courage throughout the land.

In commemoration of the heroism of these regiments and to the memory, dead and living, as Governor Beveridge has so well said, of the individual members, are our services held to-day.

These monuments, erected through legislative appropriation, with a hearty approval of our Governor and the people, are the testimonial homage of a grateful commonwealth, to the honor and bravery of these noble sons of Illinois, against which time shall not prevail.

As we have, unto the memory of our martyred Lincoln, Grant and Logan, and thousands more of that 250,000 patriots given by Illinois, as a sacrifice to the principles of liberty and self government, do we, the rep-

representatives of that prosperous and liberty loving people, join in paying just tribute to the memory of those who so gallantly represented our State in this terrible conflict, and while we look with pride upon the bravery and patriotism of our departed comrades, these memories bring to us a feeling of sorrow, which cannot be dispelled by military pomp and parade, nor can eulogies however touching and heartfelt, drive away the sadness of the hour: yet the cheering thought comes to us that whether life was given up in the midnight rally, amid the beating of the long roll, and the cry of 'fall in, fall in,' with the rattle of musketry and deadly hail, in the bayonet charge, on the forced march, upon the cold wet ground, in the hot southern sun, or in rebel prison pens, in the field hospital away from home and kindred, or whether the soul took its flight in peace and quiet among loved ones, or elsewhere, it was the death of the patriot, and no sting of death was there.

The sacrifice was offered and came like death to the conqueror, like the sigh of joy from the wounded hero as he hears the glad cries of his victorious comrades, who have escaped the deadly missiles of the vanquished foe.

The gratitude of future generations awaits the noble sacrifice, while the present beams with honor and glory for the dead, and care for those who survived.

As songs are chanted to the memory of those who are gone, let us be true to the living, and true to the words of the immortal Lincoln, which we now seem to hear gently wafted over this hallowed ground, like 'the still, small voice' for more than a quarter of a century in time, 'Care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and orphans.'

How well this admonition has been kept by the government is shown by its great liberality towards the survivors, and to their widows and orphans.

I would that we, as individuals, had more power of human sympathy, that we might stop in the turmoil and struggle for possessions and position, and the happiness which is supposed to follow in their train, in glitter and in splendor, and have greater care for struggling humanity, that we might, in the midst of great national prosperity, have more regard for those whose suffering has contributed so largely thereto: a prosperity marvelous and wonderful, even at the time of the country's greatest peril, away from the actual seat of war and from those who participated therein, and continues to the present time, such material prosperity and wealth as was never known before.

In the great struggle of life for property, position, comfort and happiness, the soldier, as a class, has not had an equal chance.

In the loss of time, with but meager pecuniary recompense, while in the service of his country, and often crippled by wounds received in action, weakened by disease, hardships, privations, exposures and sufferings, the soldier could not start anew in the strife of civil life on an equal footing with his more favored friends.

As he cast off his armor of war and launched into the stream of civil life, with the same heroism and courage as he did in the war, he found his struggle upward and against the current.

The rapid increase in value and general appreciation which marked the time of war, was now changed to reduction and depreciation, but manfully and heroically has he struggled on, commanding respect and admiration, and rightfully can he claim a share of the present wonderful prosperity, through wise legislation he has, by the generous suffrages of the people, helped to make for the government of the country he fought to preserve, and while we honor and praise the great leaders whose history is written in the grandeur of the nation and in those records made possible by the bravery and patriotism of those who dared to follow where others dared to lead, we must not forget that many of those brave men and their loved ones are in want and distress, and we must not forget that they are truly

the wards of the nation, and extend that spirit of true sympathy that reaches forth the helping hand in such manner as to do honor to the donor and to the object of charity alike, and along the pathway of life, monuments of kindness to the living will adorn our way, more lasting than the granite shafts erected to the memory of the dead, and as the reaper of death gathers one by one of our comrades to their eternal resting place, along the line pass the word 'Close up, boys, close up,' and in the consciousness of well doing let us trust to the services that the justice which we do so freely give to those in whose honor these services are held, will continue in the future as in the past, the priceless evidence of a nation's gratitude and honor."

Preceded by the music, the procession moved to the location of the 12th Illinois monument, where special services were held.

Address by William M. Luff, Esq., late major of the 12th Illinois cavalry:

"COMRADES: We have met here as the representatives of our comrades in arms, living and dead, who gathered on this historic ground on the first day of July, 1863, when that great general, John Buford, with the 8th and 12th regiments of Illinois cavalry, opened the battle of Gettysburg. This little band of comrades represents not only the survivors of that immortal field, but those who there nobly finished a patriot soldier's career: striking manfully their last hard blow in the battle for the Union and cheerfully giving their lives for the cause. Beneath the green sod of this beautiful valley, they rest peacefully and their sleep is sweet, while a grateful State and a grateful nation honor their repose. It is fitting that the memory of their brave deeds should live in imperishable granite, as well as in the hearts of the people, and that our great State of Illinois should plant here a monument to commemorate the heroism and devotion of her gallant sons. Well has the sculptor done his work and long after we shall have passed away will this stone stand as a perpetual memorial of their brave deeds. It marks an epoch in the history not only of the United States but of the world, of that grand struggle, as old as the world itself and forever going on, for liberty. The battle that was so nobly fought and won here, was for the maintenance of those principles of freedom and equality declared in our great bill of rights in 1776. The same pure patriotism that inspired the mighty authors of that declaration sustained the heroes who fought for its maintenance here; and now in every state of a restored and firmly established union, all are born free and equal and with equal rights before the law. Law and order—the constitution and laws adopted by the people, sustained by arms—reign in all the land. Long may it be before a resort to force becomes necessary to maintain the rights of the humblest citizen.

Standing here to-day amid these peaceful scenes, our thoughts will still stray backwards to the old days of '63; and, such is the force of memory as to scenes and events so deeply impressed, we can see the long lines of cavalry marching and forming as plainly as though it were yesterday. The striking figure of our commander, the soldierly bearing of our men only attained by long service, their uniforms worn, soiled and dusty, their guidons torn and stained by the smoke of battle, present a picture once seen never to be forgotten. Such is my admiration for these men, of whom I can speak as one who saw and knew them, that I do not hesitate to say that for skill, courage, prompt obedience to command and all the high qualities that distinguish the first-class soldier, they were never equaled in any army. They rode straight to the front and their aim was unerring. Gettysburg proved that no task could daunt them, no situation appall. Ready and prompt they responded to every call and well upheld the renown dearly won on other hard fought fields.

Comrades, I am sure you will gladly follow me in these backward glances toward what we may, without vanity, call the glorious days of the republic, when the chosen of the nation stood up here to do battle for freedom and for the right. Many a noble soul reached here the ultimate



GEORGE W. SHEARS,
Captain Co. H, Commanding 12th Ill. Cav., at Gettysburg.



DAVID B. VAUGHN,
Commissioner.
Sergeant Co. I, 12th Ill. Cav., at Gettysburg.

test of devotion and the survivors of that fierce conflict grow fewer year by year. We cannot hope that many of us will meet here again to review the past, but let us trust that the future may have for the old soldier, good store of comfort and that the respect and consideration of his fellow citizens may never be wanting.

There is no time to speak in detail of the achievements of the 12th, but it is proper, on this occasion, to give a brief sketch of the history of the regiment.

The 12th Illinois cavalry was organized at Camp Butler, near Springfield, and was mustered into the United States service on the 28th day of February 1862, Col. Arno Voss commanding. The regiment arrived in Virginia about the first day of July, 1862, encamped at Martinsburg and was engaged in scouting and fighting guerrillas in the Shenandoah valley until early in September. A detachment composed of company A and parts of companies F and G, about fifty men in all, under command of Col. Hasbrouck Davis, on the 7th of September charged a force of 300 rebel cavalry at Darksville on the Winchester turnpike, completely routing them. Other companies of the regiment then came up and the enemy was pursued to Winchester, ten miles, losing twenty-five killed and thirty prisoners. Upon the evacuation of Martinsburg, the regiment marched to Harper's Ferry. It formed a part of the column of 1,200 cavalry that marched out of Harper's Ferry on the night of September 14, 1862, the day before the surrender, passed through the enemy's lines and reached a point near Williamsport, Md., before daylight on the morning of the 15th. Here the command captured 112 wagons loaded with ammunition and provisions belonging to Longstreet's train, which were driven to Greencastle, Pa. This capture seriously crippled Longstreet in the battle of Antietam, fought on the 17th. The regiment served in Maryland and Virginia until the spring of 1863, when it joined the cavalry corps of the Army of the Potomac. Col. Voss was, temporarily, placed in command of a brigade and was succeeded in the command of the regiment by Lieut. Col. Davis. The next important service of the regiment, under Col. Davis, was the Richmond raid in April, 1863. After this the regiment was assigned to the first brigade, 1st division, cavalry corps, Buford's, where it encountered much hard service during the campaign of 1863, including the battle of Gettysburg. Here it was commanded by Capt. George W. Shears, a brave and capable officer. In November, 1863, the regiment re-enlisted as veterans and was sent to Chicago to recruit. It left Chicago under command of Col. Davis, 1,200 strong, in February, 1864, going to St. Louis and thence to New Orleans. Col. Davis was at this time made brigadier general and was succeeded in command of the regiment by Lieut. Col. Hamilton B. Dox. Part of the command joined Gen. Banks on the Red river campaign, and after much hard fighting returned to New Orleans. The regiment was constantly engaged in scouts, raids and actions in Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee until the close of the war, when it was sent to Texas and remained on duty there until May, 1866. I will now call upon Capt. W. H. Redman, of Company C, who fought at Gettysburg and who will give some particulars of the services of the regiment in that battle."

Address by W. H. Redman, Esq., late captain in the 12th Illinois cavalry:

"COMRADES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I must confess for the moment I feel somewhat embarrassed, for comrade Luff has introduced me as captain. This was not intentional on his part and I excuse him. Permit me to assure you the record will show that I served in the ranks at Gettysburg. My old comrades of the Twelfth cavalry, including Captain Luff, will attest this. It has become popular of late to be classed with those who bear the distinction of having been private soldiers. At least it seems when an old veteran seeks preferment or public endorsement, if he was a private he gets to the front; and especially is this so in the Prairie State where most of us have our homes. Out there even a Fifer, when heralded as "private" proves a winner. It has at last dawned upon

a dazed world, and especially upon the people of the great Prairie State, that the men who fought in the ranks are worthy of consideration. Thanks for justice, if it does come late. It is better late than never.

Well, my embarrassment is not so great after all, for the captain was kind enough to say I was a 'fighter.' All Illinois soldiers were fighters, whether they gave or obeyed orders.

We are assembled to-day upon hallowed ground. Here upon this very spot of earth we stood in battle array and in deadly strife, in the hot days of July 1, 2 and 3, 1863. Here the blood of many Union soldiers was spilled like water and their lifeless bodies laid in death's cold embrace. Was the cause for which they died a holy one? If so, then I am right in saying 'hallowed ground.' They contended for national unity and universal freedom. They faltered not, but fell in line of duty. Listen to the immortal words of Lincoln, uttered in his address nearly twenty-eight years ago, on yonder hill, in dedicating that beautiful cemetery where they now rest. 'We cannot dedicate. We cannot consecrate. We cannot *hallow* this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our power to add or detract.' Inspired truth, disputed then, but axiomatic now.

We are in the midst of the blessings of profound and tranquil peace, a peace which has reigned supreme, casting its benign sunshine of prosperity upon a united and happy people for more than a quarter of a century: a peace assured at the battle of Gettysburg, and conquered upon Appomattox field, when that chieftain of chieftains issued the order, 'The war is over: let us have peace:' a peace which all the world accredits to the valor of that grand army of patriots, who, responding to the call of duty, sprang to arms in 1861-5. It came as the finale of a long and bloody conflict in which father and son, brother and brother were arrayed against each other. It came, and though purchased at a fearful price of blood and treasure, it is worth all its cost. It is ours to enjoy and ours to transmit to our posterity, and may it continue as long as the sun shall rise and set upon America's fair domain.

For the time being we have laid aside the ordinary cares and duties of life and come hither to be present at and assist in dedicating these monuments to the honor of the three Illinois regiments which were engaged in the great battle here fought. Our mission is at the same time both pleasant and sad. It is pleasant, in the realization of the truth, eternally established, that the services which these stones were erected to commemorate were put forth in a just and righteous cause, which, under the guidance of an All-Wise providence, was carried to a glorious and final triumph: sad because of the vivified remembrance of the heartrending scenes here witnessed.

Willingly and yet sadly we muse upon the happenings of those hot summer days. Here we were taught the true lesson of patriotism. Here love for the old flag, bursting into a flame, consumed the brightest hopes of treason. Here the spirits of our brothers took flight to the realms beyond, and on eagle wings flew away to God and eternal victory. Ah! time does not efface nor changed circumstances destroy the recollections of those events. They come trooping home to-day.

My dear and worthy comrade, General Beveridge, has very graphically and very correctly pointed out to you the position occupied by the Eighth and Twelfth Illinois cavalry when the enemy opened his batteries upon us early in the morning of July first. The general has told you how General Buford, with his cavalry held his position at this point until General Reynolds came up with the infantry: and the fact that General Reynolds was killed in advance of the position of the cavalry, as is evidenced by the location of the monument erected where he fell, shows very clearly that Buford and his cavalry were equal to the emergency.

The general very appropriately makes mention of the fact that comrade Jones of the Eighth fired the first shot on the Union side. He is right, and it is right and proper that the credit and honor should go where it belongs. But the general omits on item of history which deserves mention



JOSEPH B. GREENHUT,
Commissioner.
Captain Commanding Co. K, 82d Ill. Inf'ty, at Gettysburg.

here. The omission was not intentional on the part of the major. Pardon me, General Beveridge, I am thinking of you as of the time when you were winning your stars. You were a major then, and let me assure you that you never held a higher position or performed a greater service to your country than when you commanded the Eighth Illinois cavalry. I want to say now and here, that while General Beveridge is correct as to who fired the first shot, that *Private Ferd Ushuer*, of Co. C, Twelfth Illinois cavalry was the first man to lay his life upon the altar of his country at Gettysburg. Over there to my right, on that hillside, but a few rods away, about seven o'clock in the morning on that eventful day just as we were forming into line, Private Ushuer was struck with a piece of bursting shell, which was one of the first fired by the enemy. He was instantly killed. As proof of what I say I point to the records, and here near me stands Ushuer's weeping mess-mate, comrade R. A. Drury, whose hand I have not grasped for more than twenty-five years, who with me, witnessed that awful scene. Ushuer was but eighteen years old. A manly boy, a true patriot and as brave a hero as ever unsheathed a sword. I can find no trace of his last resting place, although I have made a diligent search. He undoubtedly sleeps with the 'unknown' in the National cemetery.

Comrades, we are surrounded by shafts of marble and granite. They have been erected as a sign and witness of patriotic deeds here performed. We dedicate three more monuments. Over there in that cluster of trees, not far in the distance, you see a monument erected to commemorate the bravery of the men who fired the first shot. I say, well done. It should be so, and General Beveridge very properly makes mention of that fact at this time and on this occasion. Our children and our children's children will know where the first shot was fired. But who will tell them where Ushuer fell? He was the first sacrifice. But who will know it when we are gone?

If General Reynolds died the death of a patriot, and no one disputes it, so did comrade Ushuer. If one is to be remembered, the other should be. I ask that the name of Ferd Ushuer shall be engraved upon the monument here dedicated to the honor of the Twelfth cavalry. Shall it be done? And will it also upon this stone appear that he was the first man killed at Gettysburg? Governor Fifer and General Beveridge, in the name of the comrades of the Twelfth cavalry, I appeal to you to see that this request is granted.

Comrades and friends, I am done. I bid you farewell. We have met for the last time. A little more fleeting time and then the great hereafter. May it be the aim of each to so live that when the last 'reveille' shall be sounded it shall be said of us, 'Well done, good and faithful servants, come up higher.'

Thence preceded by the band, the procession moved to the location of the 82d Illinois monument, where the following services were held:

Address by Joseph B. Greenhut, Esq., one of the Illinois Monumental Commissioners, and late captain in the 82d Illinois infantry:

"FRIENDS AND COMRADES: We are assembled here to-day on the spot where, on the first day of July, 1863, our regiment stood in line at the beginning of the first day's memorable battle of Gettysburg. More than twenty-eight years have passed since that eventful struggle, but our memory is refreshed and brightened when we cast our eyes about us and view these familiar fields and surroundings, and we are impressed, in part, with the feelings which raged in our breasts when we were formed into line on this field to stem the advance of the rebel army. It was a herculean task we had to perform, when we consider that only a small portion of our army was in the field on the first day's battle, while the larger portion of Lee's army was concentrated on our front and right.

None of us knew what a hot day's fight was before us when we broke camp at Emmetsburg early on the morning of July 1st, and began our march towards Gettysburg. We had not gone very far when orders came to move faster and to be prepared for an engagement. As we approached the town of Gettysburg on the Emmetsburg road, we could hear the first shots that were fired by the cavalry skirmish lines, and soon thereafter received word that the First corps, which was ahead of us, was already engaging the enemy, and then the sad news that Gen. Reynolds had been killed. We then moved double-quick through the town to this field, when our batteries were placed in position, and at once opened fire on the advancing enemy. I was detailed in command of two companies of our regiment to support Dilger's battery, and I can bear witness of the effective work done by that gallant battery in holding the enemy in check. We were exposed to the fearful cannonade fire which the enemy opened in our front, and by which we had several of our men wounded. We held our ground for a long time against the large force in our front, but later in the afternoon Ewell's corps flanked us on the right, and as our numbers were entirely too small to combat the overwhelming force of the approaching enemy on our right, there was no other alternative for us but to retreat through the town and take up a position on Cemetery Hill.

It was in this retreat through the town that our regiment suffered most severely, the rebels coming in through the side streets, which compelled us to fight our way through the entire town. Besides the killed and wounded we suffered in this street conflict, a number of our officers and men were cut off and captured by the enemy. It was a fearful struggle against great odds, and as our regiment covered the rear of our brigade in that retreat, it has been a surprise to me that we were not entirely annihilated or captured in our endeavor to force our way through the town up to Cemetery Hill. Each of us can, however, vividly recollect the hair-breadth escapes experienced on that occasion without any allusions on my part. From Col. Solomon, who had his horse shot from under him in the street, down through the entire rank of officers and men, none will ever forget that terrible day.

As soon as we reached Cemetery Hill, we felt that we were in a better position and could resist any further attacks, if they should be made on us, and the rebels evidently came to the same conclusion, as they did not make any further attempt that day.

During the night we were reinforced by the remainder of our army, which reached Gettysburg from different points, and which brought confidence and encouragement to us who had withstood the hardships of the engagement of the first day's battle, and when daylight appeared on the second day of July, we were prepared and ready for the second day's struggle.

The early morning hours of the second day were spent in comparative quiet, each army in full view of the other, and each waiting for the other to begin the fight. The rebels, however, who had possession of the town, had filled the houses standing on the outskirts and just below Cemetery Hill, with sharpshooters, for the purpose of picking off our officers whom they could easily spy standing or walking about on Cemetery Hill. This had become quite troublesome, and General Schurz requested Colonel Solomon to send a detail of about one hundred men to dislodge those sharpshooters. I had the honor to command that detail, which was made up of volunteers, and stormed those houses, driving out the sharpshooters, and keeping possession of the houses the balance of the day. In making up this detail an incident happened which I shall remember as long as I live, and I cannot refrain from referring to the same at this time. Brave John Ackerman, a private in my company who on every previous occasion was the first to respond when volunteers were asked for to engage in some daring work, did not come to the front on this occasion. I was very much surprised at his action, and stepped over to him to speak with him about it. He said to me, 'Captain, I cannot go with you this time. I feel as if something terrible was going to happen to me to-day.' He looked very pale and despondent. Believing that

he did not feel well, I left him after saying a few encouraging words to him. Within an hour after I left him, Ackerman was killed, a rebel shell cutting off more than half his head. His remains are buried on Cemetery Hill close to where he was killed. It is singular that he is the only one of our regiment killed at Gettysburg whose name appears on any headstone in the National Cemetery.

The great artillery duel consisting of firing of more than two hundred cannon, which was the beginning of the second day's battle, was especially severe on the exposed position occupied by the 11th corps on Cemetery Hill, and the rebels seemed determined to dislodge us from our position. They were unsuccessful in their efforts, but all of us can recollect the myriads of shells and bombs that flew in our midst and over our heads, dealing out death wherever they struck in our ranks, and very few of the headstones which marked the graves in that old cemetery were left unbroken after that shower of shells.

The terrible charge the rebels made on the evening of the second day, to force us from our position on Cemetery Hill, has passed into history as one of the most desperate and bloody of this memorable battle. The charge was made from the streets of the town, by the rebel brigade known as the Louisiana Tigers, and it is officially stated that out of 1,700 men in that brigade, less than 300 Tigers returned to the town after that charge.

The third day's battle was nearly a duplicate of the day preceding, our regiment holding the same position on Cemetery Hill and standing the terrific fire of the enemy with the same bravery and gallantry that had characterized our organization from the beginning. We can all recollect how, with frantic desperation, the rebels tried to dislodge us from the position we occupied, but all their attempts were unavailing, and when the radiant sun sank behind the western horizon, after the third day's battle, the rebels signaled their defeat by making a hasty retreat southward.

We can also vividly remember how lighthearted and joyous we felt on that early 4th of July morning, when we gazed on those fields and hills in our front, which, only the evening before were full of life, covered with rebel soldiers and cannon, and now looked deserted and forsaken. We then first began to fully realize the great victory we had won, a victory which I confidently believe was the turning point for the salvation of this country. But while the face of every Union soldier on that morning was glowing with the flush of heroism, there were but few, however, who could pass without sad emotions over those fields which were so thickly strewn with the dead and dying that, in many places it was impossible to walk without stepping on some of the dead; but such are the consequences and results which follow the terrors of war, and I sincerely hope it may never again become necessary in this glorious country to call out large armies, and to bring such great sacrifices in order to perpetuate our liberties and freedom.

It is not necessary here to-day to eulogize the many brave deeds of the officers and men of our regiment on this battle-field, as the official records bear ample testimony on that subject, and I doubt whether any regiment can show a better record for bravery and efficiency than the old 82d Illinois.

This monument which has been erected through the generosity of the State of Illinois to commemorate the noble deeds of the 82d regiment on this battle-field, will stand for ages as a tribute of a grateful people to her sons now living or dead, who participated in this, the greatest battle which was fought during the war for the preservation of the Union.

We, the surviving members of the 82d regiment, fully appreciate this token erected in our honor by the State of Illinois, and in behalf of our comrades, I desire to express, through His Excellency, Governor Fifer, our sincere thankfulness for the same."

Address by Hon. Jacob Gross, late State Treasurer, and captain in the 82d Illinois infantry:

"Twenty-eight years ago we stood upon this same spot, but under circumstances different from those which bring us here to-day. At that time we hurriedly came, double quick step, from Emmetsburg to the relief of our sorely pressed cavalry and the First army corps. To-day we are here in order to unveil a monument erected by our State in honor of our fallen comrades. The wild tumult of battle greeted us then, to-day we enjoy peace and quiet. The proud monuments surrounding us on all sides bear evidence of the deadly struggle which devastated these rich fields, and covered them with the blood of thousands of Union men and Confederates, and a brief recital or our participation in the memorable events of those days may therefore not be out of place.

Our regiment, the 82d Illinois infantry, arrived here at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon of the 1st of July, and found that the brave General Reynolds and many of his valiant troops had been mowed down by the enemy's bullets. The boys who, in May of the same year, had suffered so heavily at Chancellorsville, were commanded by Lieut. Col. Edward S. Solomon, our brave Col. Hecker not having recovered from the wound received in that battle. Solomon's valor justified the confidence which his soldiers placed in him in the fullest measure, two horses being shot under him, and he himself suffering severe injuries in the fall, but with undaunted courage he remained on the field at the head of his command to the end of the fight.

We were successful in the repulse of the enemy until the Confederate General Ewell came to his succor with reinforcements of 40,000 men, which necessitated a retreat, the enemy's force being six times stronger in number than ours. Our brigade, under the command of brave Schemmelpfenig, covered the retreat, and all proceeded in good order until we were attacked by the enemy in the streets of Gettysburg, where we became engaged in a bloody hand-to-hand fight, losing many in killed, wounded and prisoners. Arriving at Cemetery Hill, we took up a position and successfully resisted the fire of the enemy. We shall never forget the second day of the battle, where for more than two hours we were exposed to the most fearful cannonading ever witnessed. In the evening, our division hurried to the support of Gen. Slocum, who was being hotly pursued, when we charged bayonets and drove the enemy from the field with wild hurrahs.

On the 3d of July, when Gen. Hood's attack on the left wing was repulsed and finally the enemy was driven back along the whole line, we were also engaged in a hand-to-hand fight, and are proud to say that we participated to the last in the final overthrow of the desperate foe during these memorable days.

Our losses were severe and many of our brave comrades sleep in these shady groves around Gettysburg. This battle-field, as well as many others, particularly Mission Ridge, Resaca, Dallas, Pine Mountain, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek and Bentonville, will forever bear eloquent testimony concerning the valor of our regiment, and that in commemoration of the courage and patriotism with which we discharged the sacred duty to preserve the union of our states in a bloody four years' conflict, the erection of this monument is well deserved.

But on this hallowed ground it becomes us rather to stand in silent admiration of the men who gave up their lives in defence of our glorious country. Sacred is this spot, and forever will it gather those who love their country in order to do worship at the shrine of patriotism. Grand and glorious were the achievements of the army of citizens who shouldered the musket, not for the sake of conquest or for glory, but to protect the fabric of our government, than which human wisdom has never, in the history of the race, devised anything equal. This spot on which we stand, decided, more than any other battle ground during the war of the rebellion, the fate of our nation. It was the last invasion of our free

states, by a desperate foe, who was too blind to recognize that the supremacy of the federal government was the strongest guaranty of the liberties of the people, as it is the surest protection against aggressions from without. The country has emerged from the war more powerful than it was before. The notion of the right of a state to secede from the Union found its grave on this battle-field, and to-day our government stands before the world the strongest and greatest of all, and the people the most prosperous of all the nations on the earth. The blood of the patriots who lie buried here has cemented the Union, and may the Union live forever and ever."

Having dedicated the monuments and traced the Federal lines of battle during the three days of the bloody contest, by the monuments erected by the several loyal states, the party left Gettysburg at 2 P. M., Friday for Washington, D. C.; stopping there one day; arriving in Chicago at 12 M., Monday, all highly pleased with the success of the trip, the services of dedication and the visit to the battle-field and the national capital; and prouder than ever of the part the three Illinois regiments took in the battle of Gettysburg, in defense of the nation and the nation's capital.

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