BANQUET GIVEN BY THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA, DECEMBER 31, 1910, TO CELEBRATE THE NINETY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE GORDON MEADE

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Banquet given by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, December 31, 1910, to celebrate the ninety-fifth anniversary of the birth of Major General George Gordon Meade by Various

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MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE GORDON MEADE

BANQUET GIVEN BY THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA, DE-CEMBER 31, 1910, TO CELEBRATE THE NINETY-FIFTH ANNIVER-SARY OF THE BIRTH OF MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE GORDON MEADE

THE ninety-fifth anniversary of the birth of Major General George Gordon Meade, Commander of the Army of the Potomac from June 28, 1868, until the disbandment of that army after the surrender at Appomattox, was chosen as a fitting time to bring to the attention of a too-forgetful people, the genius and great services of the victor of Gettysburg. The movement originating with former Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker, President of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, found a quick response from the members of the Society, and a committee composed of Hon. Charlemagne Tower, Hon. Samuel W. Pennypacker, Col. William Brooke Rawle and Col. John P. Nicholson, was appointed to make suitable arrangements for a banquet. On Saturday evening, December 81, 1910, military and naval officers, statesmen, diplomats, judges, barristers of national reputation, authors, journalists and captains of industry, who met in the Hall of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, made up an assemblage seldom seen even in this city of distinguished gatherings. Three Lieutenant Generals-

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Miles, Bates and Young—and an Admiral of the Navy, Melville—made a unique setting for the occasion. In the main Reading Room were displayed a portrait of the father of General Meade, and three jewelled swords presented by the city of Philadelphia, the citizens of Philadelphia at the Great Sanitary Fair in 1864, and by his soldiers on the Rappahannock, respectively. The Assembly Room, in which the banquet was served, was decorated simply but impressively with the National and State Standards. Back of the guests' table hung a life size portrait of Meade, painted at Head Quarters Army of the Potomac, in the Field during the winter of 1863—4, by Thomas Hicks, draped by a large American flag, and flanking it, his tattered headquarters and Fifth Corps flags.

Descendants of General Meade who shared in the honors of the evening, occupied seats in the balcony to listen to the speeches. They were:—Mrs. George Meade, Miss Henrietta Meade, Mrs. John B. Large, Miss Florence Meade, Mr. Saunders L. Meade, Miss Salvadora Meade, Mr. and Mrs. George J. Cooke, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Francine, Mr. Sergeant Large, Miss Henrietta Large, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Large, Jr., Mrs. G. G. M. Large, and Mrs. Robert H. Large.

The following guests of honor, members of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and veterans of the Army of the Potomac, participated in the celebration:—

Nelson A. Miles, Lieut. Gen. U. S. A. (retired);
S.*M. B. Young, Lieut. Gen. U. S. A. (retired);
John C. Bates, Lieut. Gen. U. S. A. (retired);
George W. Melville, Rear Admiral, U. S. N. (retired);
Hon. Samuel W. Pennypacker;
Hon. Hampton L. Carson;
Col. William Brooke Rawle;
Col. John P. Nicholson;
Charles Leonard Moore;
L. W. Moore, Commander Depart. Penna., G. A. R.;
J. D. Fenimore, Commander Meade Post, G. A. R.;
George Gordon Meade;
George G. Meade Large;
Robert H. Large;

George W. Ochs, Public Ledger; Dr. A. C. Lambdin, Public Ledger; Samuel C. Wells, The Press; John P. Dwyer, Record; William A. Connor, Associated Press.

Edwin J. S. Adams, Thomas Willing Balch, William J. Barr, Hon. Norris S. Barratt, Gen. Robert B. Beath, Hon. Dimner Beeber, T. Brown Belfield, Col. R. Dale Benson, L. S. Bent, Major Sylvester Bonnaffon, Jr., Gen. Wendell Phillips Bowman, Peter Boyd, Alexander P. Brown, Jno. Cook Brown, M. G. Brumbaugh, John Cadwalader, Richard McCall Cadwalader, George W. Carpenter, Gen. L. H. Carpenter, Allen Childs, B. Frank Clapp, James Clarency, William M. Coates, Frederick W. Conaway, John F. Conaway, J. Cardeen Cooper, M.D., D. E. Dallam, William Drayton, Henry Sturgis Drinker, Frank Brooke Evans, Clarence T. Faries, Gen. B. F. Fisher, George Harrison Fisher, Stanley G. Flagg, Jr., J. Roberts Foulke, W. R. Gaulbert, George S. Graham,

John T. Lewis, Jr., Hugh McCaffrey, Clayton McElroy, William MacLean, Jr., Hon. J. Willis Martin, Capt. S. Emlen Meigs, Charles K. Mills, M.D., W. M. Mintzer, Thos. M. Montgomery, John T. Morris, M. Richards Mucklé, S. Davis Page, Harold Pierce, E. E. Pennock, Isaac A. Pennypacker, James L. Pennypacker, Joseph W. Pennypacker, Horace Pettit, John R. Read, Joseph G. Rittenhouse, Jr., W. J. Roe, Major J. G. Rosengarten, Henry W. Rupp, Edward S. Sayres, D. Nicholas Schaffer, C. Morton Smith. Ernest Spofford, George Stevenson, George R Stull, Hon. Mayer Sulzberger, H. G. H. Tarr, Edmund C. Taylor, Gen. John P. Taylor, Joseph Thompson, Nicholas Thouron, Hon. Charlemagne Tower, Geoffrey Tower,

Major John C. Groome,
Hon. Thos. Skelton Harrison,
Charles Henry Hart,
W. J. Heller,
Charles E. Hires,
James Hogan,
Samuel Hafty,
Gregory B. Keen,
John R. Kendrick,
Major William H. Lambert,
Col. E. A. Landell,
A. Layman, M.D.,
Col. J. Granville Leach,
David P. Leas,

John W. Townsend,
T. Chester Walbridge,
John G. Watmough,
W. H. Wetherill,
Col. Theo. E. Wiedersheim,
Francis H. Williams,
George Willing,
Hon. W. W. Wiltbank,
William D. Winsor,
Charlemagne Tower Wolfe,
Leon B. Wolfe,
Edward Randolph Wood,
Howard Wood,
J. A. Wood,

Stuart Wood.

President Pennypacker presided at the banquet, and at the plate of each guest, in addition to the menu, was an excellent card photograph of General Meade (see frontispiece), presented by Mr. Frederick Gutekunst, an active member of the Society for half a century. When Coffee and Cigars were reached the attention of the banqueters was asked, and the President in his introductory remarks said:

ADDRESS OF HON. SAMUEL W. PENNYPACKER.

Ladies and Gentlemen:—The object of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, is not alone to collect and preserve the materials which throw light upon the history of the Country. It is, beside, so to utilize them that the important part borne by this State in the origin and development of the Nation may be proven, and may make its proper impress upon those given to research, and in time upon the people everywhere.

The most important public service is often forgotten by the neglectful and perverted by the unfaithful. There is as much need to preserve reputations as there is to protect bank accounts. We meet to-night to do honor to a most distinguished soldier of the War of the Rebellion, and to indicate our appreciation of his preëminent achievement. It