

**SOCIETY OF THE ARMY OF THE
POTOMAC. RECORD OF
PROCEEDINGS AT THE FIFTH ANNUAL
RE-UNION, HELD IN THE CITY OF NEW
HAVEN, CONN., MAY 14TH, 1873**

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The following table shows the results of the experiment. The data is presented in a grid format with columns for different conditions and rows for different measurements. The values are represented by small black dots and lines, indicating the presence of data points or artifacts.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
FIFTH ANNUAL RE-UNION
OF THE SOCIETY
OF THE
ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
HELD IN NEW HAVEN,
May 14th, 1873.

THE Fifth Annual Re-union of the Society of the Army of the Potomac was held at New Haven, Conn., on Wednesday, May 14th, 1873.

The weather, fortunately, was everything that could be desired. The attendance of members of the society was large; and the enthusiasm that has hitherto characterized their Re-unions not only remained unabated, but a fullness of feeling was apparent in every man and every act, which showed that this enthusiasm is becoming intensified with the progress of the years.

The Re-unions of several of the corps associations were held at the same place, and, approximately, at the same time. This cir-

cumstance invested the occasion with a character of great interest, and contributed largely to the *éclat* of the celebration; the meeting of the Ninth Army Corps being particularly remarkable, and its banquet being attended by the President of Yale College, the Governor of Connecticut, and many distinguished citizens of New Haven.

As the hour set for the formal gathering of the society was 3 o'clock in the afternoon, comrades took advantage of the leisure of the forenoon hours to exchange cordial greetings and form in congenial groups to revive the hallowed memories of the camp and of the field, and of the honored companionship of their dead. Each told again to each varied incidents of battle-life. Each in turn drew from the rest the soldier's merry laugh and ready compliment, the warm encomium for the brave living, and the tender eulogium and blessing of the brave dead.

At a few minutes of three o'clock the comrades "formed" at the New Haven House, and marched to the place of *rendezvous*—the Music Hall. Here they found the spacious galleries already filled to the farthest limit with eager and interested spectators, of whom fully three-fourths were the fair women of New Haven. The hall was tastefully and appropriately decorated. The main floor having been reserved for the members of the society, the stage was provided with accommodations for the officers and prominent members of the society, and a few invited guests. The hall is estimated to accommodate two thousand persons, and it was packed in every part. The most unreserved enthusiasm pervaded the scene—the spectators uniformly—the ladies notably—participating in honors and applause to the soldiers. Every face was bright and glad, and everybody was, or seemed to be, happy.

Soon after the comrades had seated themselves, President Grant, accompanied by a few friends, entered the hall. His first step upon the floor was the signal of welcoming the representative man of the army, in whom all are honored, and the applause was continued until the very *walls* and ceiling seemed to participate. The President and party proceeded up the hall towards the platform, and, as they went, cheer succeeded cheer. Vice-

President Wilson followed shortly after, and again the applause rang through the hall with all the old-time vigor, and as the corps commanders and prominent army officers entered in rapid succession, the cheering came again in great waves as if the end would never come.

THE APPOMATTOX TABLE.

An interesting feature of the occasion was the fact that the table which served the purposes of the presiding officer, was the identical table on which the surrender was signed at Appomattox Court-House. It is a plain piece of furniture, and bears the following inscription :

“ On this table was signed the final agreement for the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox C. H., Va., at 8.30 P. M., April 10, 1865, by Lt-General J. Longstreet, Major-General J. B. Gordon, and Brigadier-Genl. W. N. Pendleton, C. S. A., and Major-General John Gibbon, Bvt. Major-General Charles Griffin, and Bvt. Major-General W. Merritt, U. S. A.”

Besides the President and Vice-President of the United States and the General and Lieutenant-General of the army, a number of other distinguished army officers and a few guests were seated on the platform.

General Burnside, President of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, called the meeting to order.

OPENING ADDRESS BY GENERAL BURNSIDE.

COMRADES: It affords me very great pleasure to open this, the Fifth, Annual Re-union of the Society of the Army of the Potomac.

We have met here for the purpose of exchanging congratulations and renewing old army friendships. Our good friends of this beautiful New England city have done everything to make our sojourn among them agreeable and pleasant; and their genial hospitality reminds us of the support and encouragement they gave us when we were in the field. [Applause.]

Since we last met, our Society has suffered a great loss in the death of one of its members, General Meade, a former President of the Society, and a most gallant and successful commander of the Army of the Potomac. Our hearts were stricken with grief by his unexpected death, and in the joyous festivities of this Re-union, we will not forget to pay a tribute of respect and reverence to the memory of one of our country's most gallant and faithful soldiers.

The pleasure of our Re-union is enhanced by the presence of the President of the United States, the General and Lieutenant-General of the army, and many other distinguished officers whom we are glad to welcome as comrades. [Applause.]

For information as to the business affairs of the Society, I beg to refer you to the very complete reports which will be presented to you by the several officers, to all of whom I tender my thanks for their most efficient aid to me in the discharge of my own duties.

I sincerely thank the association for the great honor it did me by electing me as its President for the past year, and I desire to say to you that my recollections of my association in that connection with the Army of the Potomac, will be saddened only by my failure to do all that I could have desired to do.

I can truly and honestly say, however, that the friendships I have formed through my experience with this army, will never be forgotten by me. [Applause.]

I now call upon Chaplain Twitchell to invoke the Divine blessing.

PRAYER.

CHAPLAIN TWITCHELL then offered prayer, as follows:

Our Father, which art in Heaven, God over us all, blessed for ever, we thank Thee for the favor which brings us together on this occasion. We thank Thee for all the sacred pleasures which we enjoy. We thank Thee for the past, with all its stores of glorious memories; and as we rehearse to-day, and live over scenes and experiences of former days, may we remember Thy goodness and kindness and the infinite care that was extended over us.

We pray Thee, O Lord, that as we recall to-day the incidents of war, our hearts may be touched with a full sense of the right-