

## GRAND ARMY REUNION.

The Encampment at St. Paul to Be Well Attended.

Some of the Gentlemen Who Desire to Be Commander in Chief—What Is Being Done for the Comfort of the Veterans.

[Special Chicago Letter.] Citizens of St. Paul are deeply interested in the approaching encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, to be held in that city September 1-5 next, and are exerting themselves in effort to make the occasion a memorable one, so far as lies within their power to do so.

Members of the Grand Army are looking forward to the meeting with decided satisfaction, and they confidently predict that it will be the largest gathering of that body since the memorable gathering at Washington in 1892, when strong desire to see the old ground once over in the great review of 1865 and to visit the southern battlefields attracted exceptionally large numbers of soldiers and their wives.

St. Paul is especially fitted for entertaining the encampment, as she has three excellent halls, any one of which is sufficiently large for the holding of the body, while the hotel accommodations of that city and Minneapolis are ample for all comers. The vicinage offers many attractions, and during the gathering excursions will be made to the various points of interest within a radius of 100 miles.

The first day, Tuesday, will be given to the council of administration, a body composed of 45 members, one from each department, whose duties consist of a revision of the work of the several officers of the body. From this council is made up the executive committee of seven, the quartermaster general and adjutant general, with the commander in chief being ex-officio members.

The grand parade, which will go over a course nearly two miles in length, will take place on Wednesday, commencing at ten o'clock, and will consume the greater part of the day. There is confidence on the part of Commander Walker and of Quartermaster Gen. Burbank that not less than 50,000 old soldiers will be in line, and the latter thinks the number may swell to 75,000. He declares that interest in the grand army grows with the years; that the veterans make new acquaintances at each gathering and are naturally desirous of seeing them again, as well as those who fought with them in the same regiment and have been their friends through more than a generation.

The third and fourth days, Thursday and Friday, will be given to the actual work of the encampment, and during this time advantage will be taken of the opportunity to view the scenic beauties of the country around about the city.

During the encampment camp fires, five or six in number, will be held in

various portions of the city every evening, beginning with Tuesday. The managers have been fortunate in securing orators of note, all of whom are very popular with the members of the grand army. Among the number are Gen. John C. Black, of Chicago; Washington Turner, secretary of state of Michigan; Gen. R. B. Beath, past commander in chief, of Pennsylvania; Comrade O'Donnell, republican candidate for governor of Michigan, and Hon. William Warner, of Missouri, past commander in chief. These have all signified their acceptance of invitations to be present and address their old comrades.

Simultaneous with this gathering there will be two additional national rallies at St. Paul, both of these having association with, or rather, growing out of the former organization. The first and older of these is the Woman's Relief corps, composed of wives, sisters, mothers and daughters of the veterans,

and the name suggests the object of the body, it being to afford succor to old soldiers and their families whenever they may be in need. The president of the Woman's Relief corps is Mrs. Elizabeth A. Turner, of Boston.

The other organization is the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Mrs. Catherine E. Hirst, of Louisville, president. Its scope is the same as that of the Woman's Relief corps, but any loyal woman is eligible to membership, whether or not her father, brother, husband or son was a soldier in the late war. Both of these organizations are entirely independent of the Grand Army of the Republic, although they both meet at the same time with it, for the reasons that most of the members have relatives who are members of the grand army and it is a matter of convenience that the meetings be held at the same time and in the same city. The Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic are especially strong in Pennsylvania, outnumbering the Woman's Relief corps in that state, but the latter are much stronger numerically throughout the United States. Both organizations promise to hold interesting meetings and to carry out varied programmes.

The present officers of the Grand Army of the Republic are Ivan N. Walker, commander in chief; Irvin Robbins, adjutant general, and A. J. Burbank, quartermaster general; and these officers are kept busy arranging for the coming gathering. Quartermaster General Burbank, whose headquarters are in Chicago, is especially active in promoting the work and giving his attention to its details.

Naturally enough, and as always in the case in advance of the encampment, greatest concern focuses about the selection of a successor to Commander in Chief Walker. Three candidates are in the field and nominations would seem to have closed. The aspirants for the place are T. S. Clarkson, of Omaha; Daniel R. Bellou, of Rhode Island, and John Linehan, of New Hampshire. All of these men have excellent war records, and are worthy and good citizens.

Mr. Clarkson was originally from Illinois, from which state he entered



MAJ. THADDEUS CLARKSON.

the army in 1861. Going west after the war he has prospered in business, he being a very successful and astute broker of Omaha. He would seem to be the most formidable candidate for the position. At last year's encampment he was a candidate for commander in chief, but the sentiment for Mr. Walker was so strong that in the interest of harmony he withdrew. There is a widespread feeling among his comrades, especially in the west, that this action, together with Mr. Clarkson's record as a soldier and citizen, entitles him to the distinction. All that militates against the success of Mr. Clarkson is the fact that those of the past five commanders in chief were western men, but as an offset to this the west is the great recruiting ground of the grand army. In this portion of the country is greater enthusiasm, and the preponderance of acquisitions to the order is from the geographical region which Mr. Clarkson represents. He is a man about 55 years of age, is affable in manner, makes friends, and holds them, and possesses in strong degree those qualities which go to make up the successful leader. He has courage, tact, organizing qualities and knows how to control himself as well as to direct others. He has legions of friends who are enthusiastic over his candidacy and who predict that he will be elected by an overwhelming majority.

Mr. Bellou's candidacy is somewhat interfered with in the fact that Mr. Linehan also hails from New England, that section naturally dividing its strength between the two. He enlisted as a private in the Twelfth Rhode Island infantry and was afterwards promoted to a lieutenant. His war record is a clean one, and covers the four years of strife. Since the war he has practiced his profession, that of law, in which he has been very successful. Mr. Bellou has long been actively identified with the grand army, he, like the other two candidates, having filled the positions of post and department commander. He is a clear-cut, live and energetic man, whose merit qualifies him eminently for the position to which he aspires.

Mr. Linehan has long been active in grand army circles in New Hampshire, and, in fact, throughout New England. He is a man of about 50, held in high repute by his neighbors and most zealous in furthering all matters in which the old soldiers are interested.

WILLIAM ROSSER COBBE.

The dollar gold piece was authorized by act of congress March 3, 1849, and its coinage was begun in the same year.

## FOUND AMONG RUBBISH.

A Congressional Directory Issued in the Year 1838.

It Contains Information That Is of Great Interest in a Country Where Half a Century Has Changed Every Condition.

[Special Washington Letter.] The congressional directory of the Fifty-fourth congress contains a list of 554 members of the house of representatives and 89 senators, making a total of 643 members of both houses of congress. The directory gives the autobiographies of the statesmen, and also their addresses while resident of the national capital.

How many years congressional directories have been authorized and printed is difficult now to ascertain. It has recently been made apparent, however, that a congressional directory was published 50 years ago, and it is presumed that it was by private enterprise and not by congressional authority. When the total membership of the senate was only 50 and there were less than 200 members of the house of representatives, the directory was a small pamphlet. It has gradually grown into a volume of 300 pages.

The early directories did not give biographies of the congressmen, but simply noted their congressional districts, and the states which had honored them. The directories of the present day give condensed histories of the lives of the statesmen, including the majorities received by them at the last elections. Brief biographies are also given of the president, vice president and members of the cabinet. There is also a list of members admitted to the press galleries, and an alphabetical list of the ambassadors, ministers, consul generals and consuls sent by this country to foreign nations. Several pages are devoted to the ambassadors and other representatives of foreign governments at this capital, with their addresses in this city. Every public man and every newspaper man in Washington has a copy of the latest congressional directory on his desk, or within easy reach.

The directory of 50 years ago was altogether different, although the meager information contained between its covers is of interest at this time. Therefore it is valuable, and the story of its discovery, with extracts from its pages will prove to be more entertaining to some readers than an exciting novel.

While picking over a pile of debris from the cellar of the historic Van Ness mansion a colored urchin found a small volume, yellowed by age, which he recklessly thrust into his bag with a varied assortment of junk. The book was disposed of to a B street dealer in old bones, iron, rags and what not, and from him the soiled little volume was obtained by a scribe.

The unique title page of the book read as follows: "Congressional directory of the third session of the Twenty-fifth congress of the United States of America. December, 1838.

"Washington: Printed by J. Elliot, Jr., on Pennsylvania avenue. Price, 25 cents."

The title page is printed in queer antique and German text letters. The volume leads off with the state of



THE DISCOVERY.

Maine, which was represented at that time by Senators John Ruggles and Reneel Williams, together with eight representatives. As the boarding houses and hostels in Washington were not numbered in 1838, the directory states that John Ruggles resided at "Mrs. Limrap's, the Pennsylvania avenue," while his colleague, Hon. Reneel Williams, was a guest at "Mrs. Kennedy's, Four-and-a-half street."

New Hampshire follows, and the name of Franklin Pierce appears as one of its senators. His residence is also given as "Mrs. Kennedy's, Four-and-a-half street," which was in those days a famous capital resort.

Below New Hampshire comes Massachusetts, with Daniel Webster and John Davis as her senators, while among her list of 12 representatives there appear the names of William B. Calhoun, John Quincy Adams, Caleb Cushing and Levi Lincoln.

Then comes Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont and New York. The Empire state was represented by Senators "Nat" P. Talmage and Silas Wright, Jr., in addition to 49 representatives, including Millard Fillmore.

New Jersey is next, and in the Delaware column is found the name of Rich-

ard H. Bayard, senator, who resided at "James Young's, on the Capitol Hill." Next is Pennsylvania, whose list is headed by James Buchanan. He was a guest of "Mrs. Irondale's, 7 street." The Keystone state had a representation in the lower house during the year 1835 of 28 members.

Maryland and Virginia are next in order, and North Carolina was represented in the senate by John C. Calhoun and in the house by the famous Francis W. Pickens, after whom the fort in Charleston harbor was named.

Georgia is followed in the directory by Kentucky, with two celebrated Americans as her senators—Henry Clay and John J. Crittendon.

Tennessee numbered among its 13 representatives James K. Polk, who was then speaker, in the Twenty-fifth congress. His post office was given as "Columbia, Maury and Bedford counties," and his Washington residence as "Elliot's, the Pennsylvania avenue."

In the Ohio list of members is found the name of Thomas Corwin, while Louisiana had only three members in addition to her senators. The Washing-



IN THE HANDS OF THE SCRIBE.

ton city address is given of one of the representatives as "the 5 Buildings." These are now the dilapidated old structures which stand on the southeast corner of New Jersey avenue and E streets northeast, then a most fashionable and aristocratic locality.

John Tipton appears as one of the senators from Indiana, while in the Mississippi column it is announced the two members of the house, S. S. Prentiss and T. J. Word, were "elected by general ticket," meaning a vote of the people, as the state had not then been divided into congressional districts.

Illinois had but three representatives, Alabama five, Missouri two, Arkansas one and Michigan one. The delegates were George W. Jones, Wisconsin territory; Charles Downing, Florida, and W. W. Chapman, Iowa.

Following the congressional lists are several pages under the caption: "Board houses and members' messes," arranged in alphabetic order. Among the larger hostels mentioned were "Brown's hotel, built of best brick," "Beer's Native American hotel," "McGunnagel's, Knowles, on Mechanic's road, near Pennsylvania avenue," "Union hotel, Georgetown, with busses leaving from city of Washington every hour," and "Upperman's."

Next in order is an alphabetic list of senators and representatives in the committees of the senate and house. Henry Clay was chairman of the militia committee, and James Buchanan of foreign relations. Mr. Calhoun was a member of the house committee on Oregon territory. Tom Corwin, of Ohio, was a member of the judiciary committee and John Quincy Adams chairman of the "select committee on duelling."

The directory toward the close of the quaint little volume announces that "Martin Van Buren, of New York, is president of the United States, at the executive mansion; Richard M. Johnson, of Kentucky, is vice president of the United States and president of the senate, Capitol Hill; John Forsight, secretary of state, residence, the Pennsylvania avenue; F. Grundy, United States' attorney, at Mrs. Crane's, the G street; Levi Woodbury, secretary of the treasury, President's square; Lovell R. Poutrett, the secretary of war; Maj. Gen. Alexander Macomb, general of the army; James K. Paulding, secretary of the navy; Amos Kendall, postmaster general."

Then follows the bureau chiefs, officers of the senate and house of representatives and the members of the supreme court.

The latter are given as Roger B. Taney, chief justice, Baltimore, Md.; associate justices: James Story, Salem, Mass.; Smith Thomson, New York; John McLean, Cincinnati, O.; Henry Baldwin, Pittsburgh, Pa.; John W. Wayne, Savannah, Ga.; Philip P. Barker, Gordonsville, Va.; John Katron, Nashville, Tenn., and John McKinley, Florence, Ala.

The list following is that of "foreign ministers near the United States and ministers and consuls of the United States abroad," and it is not nearly so formidable numerically as the list in the modern directories. We had no ambassadors in those days, very few ministers and a little bit of a list of consuls. We were not ambitious in international affairs, but our government was devoted wholly to the welfare of our own people. President Monroe had told the world that we as a nation should attend strictly to our own business, and had warned all nations of the old world to keep their hands off of this continent.

SMITH D. FRY.

## EARTH'S GIANT VALLEY.

Fierce Natives Indulge in Strange and Disgusting Customs.

The greatest valley in the world, according to Dr. J. W. Gregory, an English explorer, is the Great Rift valley, which is an immense depression or trough which runs through eastern Africa 4,000 miles "from the Lebanon almost to the cape." "The Great Rift Valley" is the title of Dr. Gregory's book, which has just appeared in London, which is the newest, most comprehensive and important of the works that have appeared on this region.

One of the most fascinating portions of this record of travel is that relating to the Masai, the most ferocious of the African races. You never can be sure of your Masai, even when you have spat upon him and he upon you. That is how they swear eternal friendship, Dr. Gregory says—the harder one spits the more the other feels flattered. How it is done and what the Masai equivalent for handshaking is the traveler explains in this wise:

"The chief came up, and for the first time held out a 'knobkerry' cut from a rhinoceros horn for me to shake. I, of course, shook it, glad of this expression of friendliness, though quite aware that if it stopped at this it meant nothing. But as I walked down the slope from the camp after the men he came up again, and this time not only held out his knobkerry, but as I shook one end he shook the other. After walking a few yards he repeated this more vigorously. Then at last he held out his hand; we shook hands, at first coldly, and then more cordially. Finally, after we had walked a couple of hundred yards, he repeated the process and the chief spat upon me, a salutation which I returned with perhaps unnecessary vigor. I had been warned that whenever Masai retire from a conference without spitting the spit of peace squalls may be expected. I was, therefore, much relieved when the friendly rite had been performed."

But all this meant nothing, for that very night a band of Masai warriors, led by this same chief, came crawling snakily through the grass, bent upon massacring the camp. But the traveler was ready for them and they crawled back, leaving several of their dead upon the field.

Dr. Gregory's botanical and zoological observations are full of interest. He seems to have solved one of the problems that have vexed African explorers for a long time: Why there should be in some places vast heaps of bones of animals all mixed together. Some writers have attributed this to the action of a deluge, but Dr. Gregory says the bones are the remains of animals that in season of drought have fought around the water holes for their last drop.—N. Y. Journal.

## HOW GUNPOWDER IS MADE.

The Part That Each of the Three Ingredients Plays.

Gunpowder then steadily developed as mechanical skill constructed better and better weapons in which to use it, until to-day it has reached a perfection of manufacture for various purposes which allows its effects to be foretold in any weapon, even to the time it takes a grain to burn, and to the distance it will drive a shot.

Roger Bacon's gunpowder was made of saltpeter, sulphur and charcoal. Saltpeter is chemically called niter, and is a natural product found bedded in the earth in different parts of the world, chiefly in India and China. Sulphur, too, is found in a natural state in many volcanic countries, like Sicily, while, as is well known, charcoal is made from wood or woody substances by heating them almost to a burning heat in an airtight vessel, thus driving off everything in them but carbon.

Saltpeter, sulphur and charcoal are still the only ingredients of the gunpowder in common use, although a new gunpowder made of different materials, is undergoing successful experiment. A mixture of saltpeter and charcoal alone would form an explosive, and sulphur is added chiefly to make it plastic, or capable of being pressed into cakes and shapes. All three ingredients have to be purified by the most careful chemical skill before they are combined. Then an exact proportion of each has to be measured out according to the kind of powder to be made.

For the gunpowder generally used you would find in every 100 pounds, 75 pounds of saltpeter, 15 pounds of charcoal and ten pounds of sulphur; but it would be almost impossible to separate the ingredients, for they are not merely mixed together as you might mix pepper and salt, but they are ground and rolled and stirred and pressed together by special machines until they are almost sufficiently united to form a single new substance.

This mixing process is called "trituration," and the powder is thus made into the form of big cakes, called press cake, and then broken up, and screened into grains of special sizes, or ground to the fine powder used for shotguns and revolvers. The large-grained powders are still further stirred together until the grains become highly glazed, and these are called cannon powders. A lighted match may be held to a grain of cannon powder and it will be found almost impossible to set it on fire, but once ignited it flashes off very suddenly and violently.—Lieut. John M. Elliott, in St. Nicholas.