

ness, whatever success I may have since attained.

The characteristics that struck me most in him were his extreme modesty and lack of self-assertion, together with his fearless independence in carrying out whatever he conceived to be his duty, regardless of consequences to himself.

He had always a hatred for all shams, a hypocrisy and self-glorification, and a noble scorn for all efforts to secure military advancement through political influence or the aid of newspapers.

No newspaper reporter was ever allowed by him free quarters as a part of his military family, to glorify him and write him up, as was often the case with our general officers.

Though a graduate of West Point, he was always a citizen and a volunteer. He seemed to have acquired no prejudices from his West Point training, and retained only his military knowledge and love of discipline. He valued an officer not for what he had done or could do, and not because he was a graduate of that institution.

To every commander under whom he served he gave prompt and loyal support, doing to the utmost of his power whatever duty came to his hand. No one ever had reason to complain of slowness or languid and insufficient support on his part. Always courteous to his equals and subordinates, and submitting to some assertion on their part, without meddling or flattery, he was firmly independent with his superiors, and would never submit to unjust criticism or action from him to himself or his command. His military career is spotless and without stain. It was inspired from first to last by pure and noble-minded patriotism.

General Slocum was always and essentially a domestic man. His staff officers during the war were simply members of his family. Ever familiar and kind, he endeared himself to all of us by the personal interest he took in everything that concerned us. He restrained our excesses, taught us honesty, temperance and frugality, and while he treated us as his equals, he never allowed us for a moment to forget the respect we owed to him and his position. He influenced us by his example in the formation of those habits which contribute to permanent success in life.

In the years that have passed since the close of my military experience, I have seen and known many men struggling in the battle of life for existence and power. I have watched them greedily grasping for the smallest distinction, magnifying their own services, and either appropriating or belittling those of others, and I have learned to better appreciate the noble character of the soldier who has just left us. In all the sterling qualities that go to make up a man, I have seldom met the equal or superior of Major-General Henry W. Slocum.

Firm and resolute of purpose, yet with so much of modesty, so little of self-assertion; so faithful in the performance of whatever he believed to be his duty; so independent in his speech and conduct; whatever might be the future result. He was the noblest and greatest soldier that the State of New York gave to the nation; he was an honor to his name, his race and his country.

A very able address, relating to the navy, was given by Professor Thurston of Cornell, in which a number of personal incidents, in connection with the blockading fleet on the South Carolina coast were given. This was followed by a good address by Professor Tyler of Cornell which abounded in vitticisms. General James B. Curtis of Buffalo spoke at length, and later in the evening favored his comrades with a recitation on the "Trump."

Col. John G. Butler of this city was called upon, as the captain of the first company to leave Syracuse for the front. Colonel Butler is still in the service. He received an ovation from his comrades when he responded. At a late hour the speechmaking was brought to a close.

For Over-Indulgence.

He entered the service an obscure and unknown colonel, he was made a Major-General of Volunteers. This rapid promotion was without solicitation or influence from the Republican politicians of the State of New York, or the aid of the press, and due only to his merits.

He did good service in the second battle of Bull Run, and fought his way over South Mountain and through Crumpton Gap to Antietam, bringing the reinforcement of his fresh troops, leading the advance, and enabling our army to recover lost ground and maintain their line.

In the month of October, 1862, he was assigned to the command of the 12th Army Corps, and with that body of men, afterwards consolidated with other troops and forming the 20th, he was subsequently identified during the war. In every field where that corps was subsequently engaged, in every army, East or West, in which it was placed, that noble body of men maintained its high reputation of being one of the leading divisions of our national forces.

In May, 1863, we moved upon Chancellorville. Never shall I forget that magnificent army of 105,000 fighting men. I served before and afterwards, in the east and in the west, in the armies of Buell and Thomas, Sherman and Grant, and never have I seen, before or since, an armed force so splendidly disciplined and appointed, so full of high courage and hope, so determined to achieve some final and lasting result toward the suppression of the rebellion, as that body of men of May, 1863.

Drawing the movement upon Chancellorville, General Slocum commanded Hooker's army. The troops under him were obliged to cross the Rappahannock and Rapidan at different places. He accompanied the Twelfth corps on the extreme right, which moved some twenty miles up the river from our camps. We crossed the Rappahannock on a pontoon bridge, and came down to the Rapidan. Other commands lower down and similarly placed, when they had crossed the first river, waited to get their pontoons before crossing the second one. Knowing the supreme importance of dispatch, General Slocum, without waiting for pontoons, sent his own corps through the Rapidan, wading to their arms pits to the north bank; and it was only when the news came down the river that Slocum's men were wading the water, that other troops plunged in, and did the same. His column which had the farthest to go, was the first to arrive at the assigned rendezvous, the Chancellorville House. I mention this merely as an instance of the intelligent and energetic and hurried out on an order.

At this great battle of Chancellorville, without fault on the part of General Slocum, with great loss to his own corps, for they stood the brunt of the rebel attack, when the right of the army was routed through the incompetency of its commander-in-chief, the Union army met with serious repulse, and disaster at the hands of an inferior force, and retreated across the river.

After that defeat, openly and without concealment, General Slocum presented his views to the President as to his cause, and in doing so valued the sentiment of Hooker should be removed from its command. When asked if he would serve under Meade, his inferior in rank as commander of the army, he promptly replied that he would cheerfully serve under any officer of reputation, who had not demonstrated his unfitness for such position. He never intruded himself to obtain command of the Army of the Potomac, although well fitted for that position, nor did he ever assist others in doing so. He did not throughout the war solicit or ask for a commission except that of captain of artillery in 1861.

Time will not allow me to state the gallant and meritorious services that were performed by him at Gettysburg. But for him and the stubborn resistance of his men, the right of our line would have been crushed and overwhelmed; the Baltimore Pike and the rear of our army would have been reached, and apparently irretrievable disaster could not have been averted.

During the march to the sea, he commanded the army of Georgia, one-half of Sherman's men. He always felt the enormous responsibility resting upon him, and sometimes passed nights of sleepless anxiety, fearing that all might not go well. His army did all of the fighting; that was done upon that march outside of the cavalry, and just before its close a portion of it under his immediate command handsomely repulsed Johnson's army of superior forces at Bentonville, with a loss of some 1,500 killed and wounded. It was his last fight and a hard one, and a fitting termination of his military career.

During that march so far as it was in his power, he endeavored to restrain unnecessary pillage and injury to the inhabitants of the country, but never received the credit which he should have done for such efforts, for he had but scant sympathy from his superior officer. Members of the Twentieth corps here present will remember that their advance was double-quickened into the pretty revolutionary village of Willsboro, to put out the fires which some of our bummers had started, and saved the little place from destruction.

I joined the staff of Major-General Slocum, then in command of the Twelfth Army Corps, in the fall of 1862, as one of his personal aides, and continued with him until the close of the war. Though I had been in the service for a year and a half, I was still a boy only nineteen years of age, when he was so kind as to select me that position, and he tried at least, with more or less success, to exert some degree of parental care and control over me while I was with him. During that period I learned to know him intimately and to love, admire, respect and honor him. At that impressive age he unquestionably exercised a great influence over my after life, and I feel that I owe to him in part whatever strength of character I may now possess.

ment on our part, not for our individual benefit, not to succor one whom we loved and cherished, but simply and solely to that gave birth.

In the lives of most of us it was a high water mark of self-abnegation and devotion to duty, that he have never since attained; and if at times we are inclined to brag and boast a little about our services, in glancing backward, there can contemplate with equal satisfaction, sure that we performed and fulfilled our whole duties as citizens and individual men.

One by one we are passing away. The youngest of our number is a man beyond the meridian of life. One after another of our great generals whom we have loved and followed, we have laid to rest, and now the last of all the great commanders of the war has just departed. It has seemed fitting upon this occasion when we hoped he would be present, that I should endeavor to give some account of the life of Major-General Slocum; that I should try to put upon record some estimate of his worth; that a member of his personal staff, one of the little band who ate with him, drank with him, and sometimes even slept with him, for a period of four years, should rise and bear testimony on his behalf.

Henry Warner Slocum was born in the little village of Delhi, the sixth child in a family of eleven. He seems always to have been of a studious disposition, he supported himself while at the Cazenovia seminary by his scanty earnings outside of the hours of study, and then taught a country school until, the age of twenty-one, when he entered West Point. He graduated seventh in his class, a proof of intense application, good conduct and ambition, and received a commission in the artillery. Two years afterwards he married a girl of his own county, who had been a fellow student with him at the Cazenovia seminary, and thus formed a union founded upon love and affection, which resulted in his lifelong happiness.

In 1856 he could no longer endure the stagnation of army life in time of peace, and chafing at its inactivity, with a wife and family to support, he resigned his commission. With no capital save the scanty savings from his pay, having fitted himself for the bar he took the plunge, and entered upon the race of life as a citizen, with no backing but his brains and hands.

I fear he did not meet with much success as a lawyer. Indeed he once confessed to me that the practitioners of that times used to hoe round him with-out much difficulty; and I well remember the silent look of sad foreboding which he received, my announcement of the wane of the study of the law.

In politics he did better; was sent to the Assembly, was the treasurer of this county when the war broke out and had already acquired a reputation and standing in the community where he lived. Strange as it may seem this man, who was afterwards to play so important a part in the suppression of the rebellion, had some difficulty at first in getting a suitable command. As soon as Fort Sumter was fired upon he went at once to Albany and tendered his services to the Governor. Did he ask that he might be made a Brigadier-General, or even given the command of a regiment? Oh, no! He was far too modest for that. He simply requested permission to raise a battery of artillery. The then Governor of this State, bravely assured him that he thought the rebellion could be subdued without the use of artillery, and refused to grant him authority to do so. He came home disgusted with the blindness of that official, for he had been stationed in the south and well knew the character and disposition of the Southern people.

A regiment was raised in the county of Onondaga, and some of his friends suggested that he should be made its colonel, but the colonel of a militia organization was selected in his place, and Onondaga county lost an opportunity of furnishing a celebrated regiment to the war.

Some officers who had raised companies gathered together at Elmira, determined that they wanted a West Point officer for a colonel, and while they knew him only by reputation, offered to him by telegram the colonelcy of their regiment. He promptly accepted it. Thus almost by accident, unthought of and unknown, the great opportunity of his life came to him, which he so nobly improved and embraced; the opportunity to devote his life to the service of the country which had educated him, and which he loved so well. From that time onward, without merits solely and only, without the support of politicians or newspapers, upon the recommendation and through the confidence of his superior officers, inspired by the energetic and faithful performance of his duties, he rose to the front rank of the commanders of the war. He joined the Army of the Potomac in the spring of 1861, only one of a thousand colonels. He made his regiment, the 27th New York, a good one. At the first battle of Bull Run, brigaded with regular troops, that regiment was thought to have behaved better than the men by whom it was surrounded. He himself was severely wounded at that battle, and for his good conduct and gallantry upon that occasion was made a brigadier general.

Moving steadily forward, both he and his brigade attracted attention. He impressed his character upon his troops, and for coolness, bravery and steadiness, they were equal to any in the army. In times of the greatest danger and emergency he was a rock upon which all could and did rest with confidence and support.

He was specially promoted to the command of a division, and participated in the severe battles of the Peninsula at Yorktown, West Point, Gaines Mills and Malvern Hill, in all of which he gained credit and reputation; and on the 4th of July, 1862, little more than a year after

The Syracuse Journal.

THE LOYAL LEGION

Old Soldiers Meet Once More Around the Festal Board.

REMINISCENCES OF THE WAR

Addresses by Col. Jacob L. Greene and Major W. G. Tracy—General Doyle and Staff the Guests of Honor.

The annual banquet of the Loyal Legion was held at The Yates last evening, and the occasion was one of the most memorable in the history of the organization. The guests of honor were General Doyle and staff. Among those present were Colonel Burhans, Captain Brinker of Buffalo, Major T. L. Poole, Lieut. C. O. Shephard, Rev. Mr. Rose of Cazenovia, Major Davis Cossitt, Major Hardin, Lieut. Peet of Auburn, Capt. G. K. Collins, Major A. P. Clark of Cazenovia, Capt. Jocelyn, Lieut. Barlow, Capt. Rosseau of Rome, Lieut. Thurston of Syracuse, Capt. Kerby of Auburn, Capt. Holmes, Mr. Tiffany of Kenyon, Capt. Marcus, Major Merriman, Capt. Tilton, Major Gray, Lieut. G. W. Richardson of Auburn, Col. W. Krentzer of Lyons, Major Jacob Knapp of Syracuse, Lieut. Bacon, Lieut. Barley, Col. Manning of Waterloo, Col. McDougall, Prof. Thuston of Cornell, Dr. Chamberlain of Lyons, Col. O. V. Tracy, Col. Greene of Hartford, Conn., Col. Hunter of Sterling, Dr. Hoyt of Canandaigua, Major W. A. Tracy, Prof. Tylero of Cornell, D. B. Cooper, Col. Byrne of Buffalo, Dr. Van Duyn, Jr., Col. Walbridge of Buffalo, Lieut. Allen of Auburn, Major Coville, Col. John G. Butler and Major R. J. Myers of Auburn.

The seat of each guest was marked, and beside each plate was a handsome buttonhole bouquet, the gift of Mrs. D. B. Cooper, wife of Comrade Cooper. The University Glee club quartette rendered several selections. The members of the quartette are I. A. Jackson, first tenor; W. A. Niver, second tenor; G. W. Hoyt, first bass, and F. K. O'Connell, second bass.

After coffee was served, Col. O. V. Tracy, the chairman, said: "In welcoming so many companions of our order to Syracuse to-night, I regret that my first duty should be a sad one. One of our local members, who attended our first meeting to arrange for this gathering, died suddenly three days afterwards. He entered the service as major of the 101st New York Volunteers, and subsequently was lieutenant-colonel and colonel of the 185th New York Volunteers, and while holding the latter position was brevetted brigadier-general for gallant services on the battlefield. After the war he occupied positions of honor and trust, and was highly respected by the entire community—a modest, unassuming and gallant soldier, a good citizen and a faithful friend. I ask you to rise and drink to the memory of our beloved companion, Gen. Gustavus Sailer."

While the companions were still standing the Glee club sang:— Soldier rest, thy warfare's o'er; Dream of battles no more; Break, break, break, of toil or nights of waking. The principal speaker of the evening was Col. Jacob L. Greene of Hartford, Conn. His subject was "Reminiscences of the Cavalry Campaign in the Wilderness During the Year of 1864." During the course of Colonel Greene's remarks he referred to the many interesting points of the civil war during the years of 1863 and 1864. He gave a graphic description of the Army of the Potomac, and spoke particularly of General Grant's efficient work. He described at length his capture by General Fitzhugh Lee in June 1864.

Major W. G. Tracy of this city also spoke at length, as follows:— Friends and Comrades—On behalf of the resident members of the Commandery and at their request, I extend to you a hearty welcome to our midst. The veteran soldiers of the nation comprise one vast brotherhood, which sprang into existence under the noblest impulses of their individual lives, and, never faltering, pushed its work to a final and complete conclusion. The days that have passed will never be forgotten by us, the ties still bind us, cemented with blood in hours of danger and strife. We have all known and suffered alike the vicissitudes of an army life in an active campaign; the fatigues of the long and weary march, succeeded by the browne upon the cold and wet ground, without other covering than the sky above us; the insufficient supply of food we would reject at home. We have at times heard bullets whistling so thick about our ears as to make us half believe we had a charm against death. Some have been struck and crippled for life. Some have sustained the suffering of wounds improperly cared for, and endured, yet still survived, the barbarous horrors inseparable from confinement in a rebel prison. Others, more fortunate, have escaped, and after weeks of torturing suspense and anxiety reached our lines. We have all felt alike the bitterness and despair of defeat, and the exhaustion of victory.

By these our recollections of dangers passed, of sorrows made, of triumphs won, of noble aims and their complete and entire fulfillment, the body of veteran soldiers throughout the land is knit and welded together.

As we now selfishly shrink from peril, inconvenience and self-sacrifice, we can scarcely realize that there ever could have been a time in our lives when we were willing to lay them down cheerfully and without claim or assumption of

ALL OLD SOLDIERS

Members of the Loyal Legion Banquet at the Yates.

GEN. DOYLE AND STAFF

Were the Guests of Honor--Col. Greene of Hartford Made the Principal Address--Reminiscences of the Civil War.

About fifty members of the Loyal Legion of New York State banqueted at the Yates last evening. Most of them were from cities west of here and with the few Syracuseans who are members of the order the visitors enjoyed the feast—but enjoyed more the retelling of the scenes and incidents of the civil war through which they had passed. It was a jolly reunion.

Gen. O. C. Doyle of Buffalo and his staff were guests of honor.

This is an organization of the commissioned officers who had records of honorable service during the war. The officers of the organization reside in and about New York city and there are but few members in this city. Among them are O. V. Tracy, H. N. Burhans, D. B. Cooper, John Dunn, jr., W. G. Tracy, George K. Collins, Orsin Coville, Jacob Knapp, J. S. Kenyon, S. L. Poole and George Tilson, who were present at the banquet last evening.

Those present were: Colonel Burham, Captain Brinker, Major Poole, Lieutenant C. O. Shephard, Rev. Mr. Rose, Major Cossett, Major Hardina, Lieutenant Peet, Captain Collins, Major Clark, Captain Jocelyn, Lieutenant Burham, Captain Rossean, Lieutenant Teary, Captain Barney, Colonel Thurston, Captain Kirby, Captain Knapp, Captain Holmes, Mr. Tiffany, Captain Myers, Mr. Jenney, Captain Robinson, J. S. Kenyon, Captain Marcus, Major Mernam, Captain Tillson, Major Graw, G. W. Richardson, W. Kreutzer, Lieutenant Bacon, Lieutenant Barley, Colonel Manning, Colonel Morgan, General McDougall, Professor Thurston, O. V. Tracy, Colonel Green, General Curtis, Captain Hunter, Dr. Hoyt, Dr. Chamberlin, Major Tracy, Professor Tyler, D. B. Cooper, Colonel Bryne, Dr. Van Duyn, Colonel Horton, John Dunn, Colonel Waldrige, Lieutenant Allen, Major Coville, Colonel Butler.

Captain Doyle's staff consisted of the following: Colonel Warren, Major Pettibone, Major Weeks, Major Bale, Major Crugo, Major Ranson, Captain Fry and Captain Smith. Invited guests from this city consisted of Messrs. O. D. Burhan, George Cooper, W. B. Seward, jr., C. S. Tracy and L. R. Hunter.

Colonel Jacob L. Greene of Hartford, Conn., was the principal speaker of the evening. His subject was "Reminiscences of the Cavalry Campaign in the Wilderness During the Year of 1864."

During the course of Col. Greene's remarks he referred to the many interesting points of the civil war during the years of 1863 and 1864. In his introductory remarks he said that it gave him peculiar pleasure to meet so many members of the New York commandery, and he then spoke of the noted New York State men who were in the war.

"In the winter of 1863 and '64 Sheridan was sent to us with a brilliant record, and from that time on the cavalry was busy."

He gave a complete description of the Army of the Potomac, and spoke in particular of General Grant's efficient work. He described at length his capture by General Lee in June 1864. Lee at that time declared that Custer was a good general, but no soldier.

The colonel's address was full of interesting facts and was thoroughly enjoyed.

Major W. G. Tracy of this city also

spoke. The University Glee club quartet rendered several selections. The members of the quartet are I. A. Jackson, first tenor; W. A. Niver, second tenor; G. W. Hoyt, first bass, and F. K. Congdon, second bass.

VETOED AND SIGNED.

Governor Flower Acts on Local Bills Passed.

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LOYAL LEGION DINE

Former Officers of the Union Army
Compose the Organization.

A BANQUET AT THE YATES

Brig.-Gen. Doyle of Buffalo, With His Staff,
Attend in Uniform After Review
at the Armory.

There was a distinguished gathering of ex-army officers at The Yates last night, the occasion being a banquet given by the New York state commandery of the loyal legion of the United States. The legion which is composed of commissioned officers of the union army has 1,300 members in the Empire state. There is a commandery in each of the northern states and in the District of Columbia. The regular meetings of the New York commandery are held in October, December, February, April, and May of each year in New York, and on each of these occasions an elaborate banquet is given at Delmonico's. The banquet at The Yates last night was for the members of the legion residing in central or western New York or between the cities of Syracuse and Buffalo. The legion has about a dozen members in this city and nearly all of them were at The Yates last evening. The Syracuse members are John S. Kenyon, clerk of the state senate; Osgood V. Tracy, W. G. Tracy, John Dunn, jr., Maj. Theodore L. Poole, Dr. John Van Duyn, Jacob Knapp, Maj. Henry N. Burhams, George K. Collins, Maj. Alexander H. Davis, Orson Coville, Capt. George M. Jillson, D. B. Cooper and Davis Cossitt. The late Gen. Sniper was also a member of the legion.

The eldest lineal male descendant of an army officer is taken into the legion. He becomes a member by inheritance, and is distinguished from the members who rendered actual service on the field of battle by a blue instead of a red ribbon. The legion badge which is worn on dress occasions, is suspended from this ribbon. The members wear a small rosette when not in uniform.

Bishop Ireland of Minnesota, a chaplain in the army was present at the last meeting in New York, and delivered an address. President Rutherford B. Hayes was the national commander of the legion when he died and he was succeeded by Gen. Harrison, late President of the United States.

Brig.-Gen. Peter C. Doyle of Buffalo and his staff attended the banquet in uniform, going direct to The Yates from the armory, where they reviewed the Fifth battery and the Forty-first separate company. Col. O. V. Tracy of this city presided at the banquet. There was singing by the University glee club. Addresses were delivered by W. G. Tracy of Syracuse, Col. Greene of New York and others. A fine menu had been prepared and covers were laid for 74.

Brig.-Gen. Doyle's staff consisted of Peter C. Doyle, E. S. Warren, Edson S. Weeks, J. H. Ball, L. W. Pettibone, F. S. Crego, C. M. Ransom, G. S. Frey and W. H. Smith, all of Buffalo.

Among the visitors present were Francis Bacon, Watertown; W. M. Kirby, Auburn; A. P. Clarke, Cazenovia, and E. P. Graves, Corning, and C. O. Shepard, L. Marans, Buffalo; John Bryne, Joseph H. Horton, James E. Curtiss, Capt. Brinker, E. S. Whelan, J. W. Dwyer, Capt. W. H. Robins, Capt. S. P. Jocelyn, C. E. Walbridge and Robert M. Harding, all of Buffalo, and C. D. Rensseau, Rome.