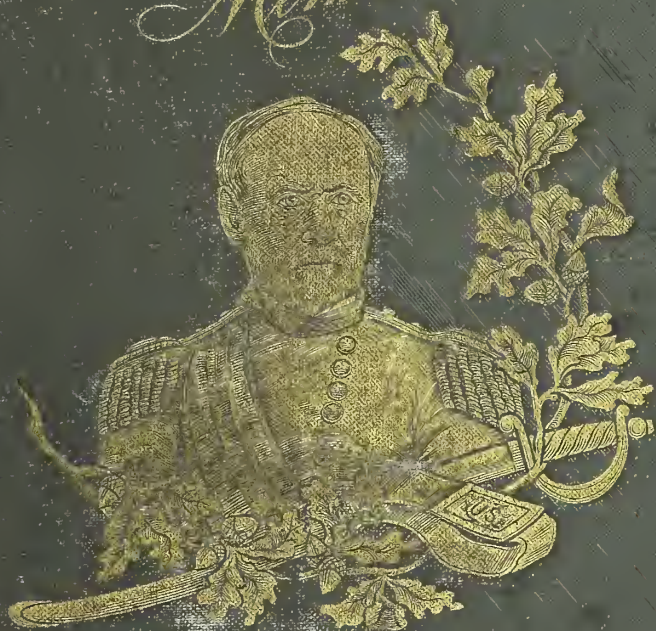


*In Memoriam*



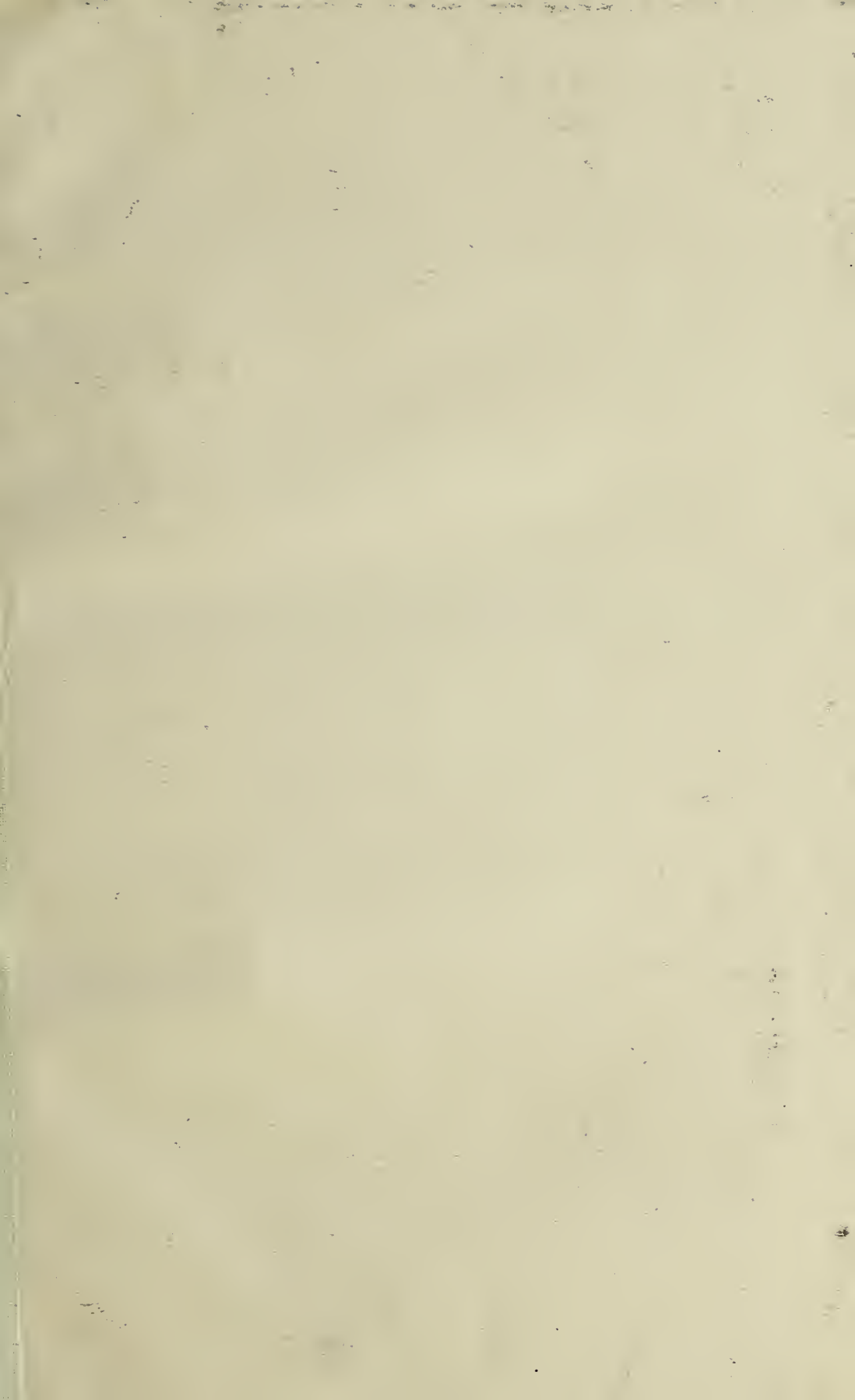
GENERAL WILLIAM T.  
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W. T. Sherman



In Memoriam.

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William T. Sherman.

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“WHOSE EVERY BATTLEFIELD IS HOLY GROUND.  
WHICH BREATHES OF NATIONS SAVED, NOT WORLDS UNDONE.”

“WHO TROD THE WAVES OF GLORY  
AND SOUNDED ALL THE DEPTHS AND SHOALS OF FAME.”





PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
STATE OF NEW YORK,  
ON THE LIFE AND SERVICES OF  
GEN. WILLIAM T. SHERMAN,  
HELD AT  
HARMANUS BLEECKER HALL,  
ALBANY, MARCH 29, 1892.

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

RELATIVE TO THE

LIFE AND SERVICES

OF

GENERAL WILLIAM T. SHERMAN.

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# PROCEEDINGS.

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HARMANUS BLEECKER HALL, }  
ALBANY, March 29, 1892. }

The Legislature having met in joint session in Harmanus Bleecker Hall, in the city of Albany, in pursuance of arrangements made by the Joint Memorial Committee, Gen. Martin T. McMahon, Chairman of the Joint Committee, called the meeting to order after an overture by the orchestra. The proceedings were opened with prayer by the Rt. Rev. Francis McNeirney, Bishop of Albany, as follows:

Almighty and Eternal God, we humbly place ourselves in Thy divine presence, acknowledging Thy power and might and majesty, confessing our own weakness and our entire dependence upon Thee.

To Thee do we owe all things — creation, existence and continued preservation, and there is naught that we possess that doth not come from Thee.

As individuals we have been singularly blessed by Thee. As a people, we have been the special object of Thy affection. In the days of blissful peace Thou wert



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with us. In the sad hours of fraternal strife Thou didst not abandon us. For all this to Thee be honor, glory and praise.

The founders of the nation Thou didst endow with eminent wisdom and prudence, and on the shoulders of their successors Thou didst make their mantle fall. Down deep in the hearts of all—of people and rulers alike—Thou hast implanted an earnest, undying love of country. For this also, to Thee be honor, glory and praise.

May this solemn memorial service in honor of him who fought so strenuously, so courageously and so successfully to maintain and support the fabric of the Union, tend to increase our admiration and our love for the founders and for the defenders of the Republic. May we emulate their civic virtues ever. May we be disposed to follow Thy footsteps ever, and for our beloved country to sacrifice all, save honor, ever. May their example nerve us to deeds of righteousness and valor, and may we all demean ourselves here, ever as to merit, with the gratitude of our country and of our fellow men a blissful inheritance hereafter.

The song, "Comrades in Arms," was rendered by the Excelsior Quartette, composed of Thomas Impett, Charles P. Stimpson, Charles A. White and C. A. Stein.

Gen. McMAHON then spoke as follows :

MR. PRESIDENT, SENATORS AND GENTLEMEN OF THE ASSEMBLY.—The joint committee

**Gen. William T. Sherman.**

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appointed by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of New York, to conduct these Memorial Exercises, have directed me to present as your presiding officer to-night a distinguished soldier well known to all of you.

He was second in command to the great hero whose memory we are here to-night to honor during the most interesting and most remarkable of the campaigns of that illustrious soldier, known as "The March from Atlanta to the Sea." And during this, as in other campaigns, both in the east and the west, he made for himself a reputation of which his countrymen and fellow citizens of the State of New York have every reason to be proud.

He is one of the last who remain to us of the great leaders who commanded armies during the civil war, and whose names will stand high in history.

I have the honor to present to you Major-General HENRY W. SLOCUM, as the presiding officer of the evening.

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Gen. SLOCUM, upon taking the chair, said:

I desire to return my thanks to the Legislature of our State, for according me the high honor of presiding at these memorial exercises. I am well aware that this high compliment paid to me is due simply to the fact that I had the honor of serving under General Sherman during the war.

It seems to me that it is very appropriate that these memorial exercises should be held in the city of Albany, the Capital of our State; that they should be under the auspices of our State Legislature, for, while General Sherman was not a native of New York, he was a citizen of our State by choice. General Sherman, General Grant and General Sheridan, the three men who will always occupy the highest positions accorded to any of the Union Generals of our late struggle, were born in country villages in the State of Ohio. Sherman spent his boyhood days in that State.

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The days of his early manhood were spent in California, at the time when that State was about to take her place in the Union. For years before the war he spent his time in the State of Louisiana. Several years after the close of the war he spent in the most beautiful city of our country, if not of the world, the city of Washington. He had ample time of judging for himself where it would be most desirable to make his home. He deliberately selected New York as the place in which he wished to spend his last years.

I think I risk nothing in saying that these last years of General Sherman, spent in our midst, were the happiest years of his life. He mingled freely with all classes of our community. He was fond of society. He loved to mingle and be with his old comrades. No gathering of veteran soldiers was ever considered complete unless Sherman was present. He visited Albany, Syracuse, Buffalo, Utica, Troy, all of our principal cities, to attend their gatherings;

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and on all occasions he was their most beloved companion. No great public occasion took place in New York, while Sherman was a resident there, at which he was not the honored guest. At the social board he was the most brilliant and the most beloved companion. He visited our public institutions. He went to our public and common schools and to our academies. His voice was heard on all occasions and when he died, of all the Union Generals, he was the best known and the best beloved by the people of our State.

I think I could stand here on this stage to-night and, perhaps, entertain you by anecdotes illustrating his military genius and his peculiar temperament. But this duty has been allotted to another who will perform it more acceptably than I can. I can only say this: That I regard it the happiest and most fortunate event of my life, that I was permitted to serve under this great General, to enjoy his confidence and his friendship in war, a confidence and

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friendship which was not destroyed up to the hour of his death.

I congratulate the audience, and I congratulate the Legislature of our State upon the happy selection that they have made for the orator on this occasion. I know full well that no man in New York city enjoyed to a greater extent the affection and confidence of General Sherman than did the man who will to-night portray to you his character and his achievements.

I will take pleasure at the proper time of introducing him to you.

“I know that My Redeemer Liveth” was then rendered by Mlle. Clementine De Vere. A descriptive fantasia of the late war, entitled “The Battle of Gettysburg,” by the orchestra, and the song, “Remember Now Thy Creator,” by the Excelsior Quartette.

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW, LL. D., then delivered the following memorial address :

SENATORS AND MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY.—  
The passions of civil war usually survive

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centuries. We can not yet impartially and calmly estimate the ability and services of Hamilton and Jefferson. Their names still stand for antagonistic principles and antagonized followers. But the issues of the rebellion were buried with its dead. That struggle was unique, both in magnitude and settlement. It was an earthquake which rent asunder a continent and plunged into cavernous depths millions of men and money and the shackles of the slaves. It closed, and the survivors, freed from the causes of contention, were united for the upbuilding of the new nation. Prior to the war we were singularly provincial and insular, but we have since grown to be as radically liberal and cosmopolitan. Then our judgments of statesmen and measures were governed by considerations which were territorial or inherited. Now those who were in the front and heat of the great battle can fairly view and freely weigh the merits of their friends and foes. We can eliminate our feelings, our prejudices and



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our convictions upon the purposes for which they fought, and contrast Grant and Lee, Sherman and Joe Johnston, Sheridan and Beauregard, as to the genius and ability with which they planned and played the game of war, with equal candor and better light than the historian of the future. Yesterday General Sherman was the last of that triumvirate of great captains, Grant, Sherman and Sheridan, who were the most distinguished soldiers of our country, and of our times, and a familiar figure in our midst. His presence revived and embodied the glories and the memories of the marches and the victories of the heroes who fought, and of the heroes who had died, for the preservation of the Union. To-day we commemorate his life and deeds; and the civil war is history.

General Sherman's ancestors had been noted for many generations for their culture, ability and intellectual power. His father was a judge of the Supreme Court of Ohio, and his grandfather of a Connecticut court, while

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the grandfather of the Connecticut judge was a Puritan clergyman, who came to Massachusetts in 1634, in company with a warrior relative, Captain John Sherman, the ancestor of Roger, the signer of the Declaration of Independence. Much has been said, but the whole can never be written, of the influence of the Puritan stock upon the formation and development of the United States and the destinies of mankind. They alone of all colonists emigrated, not to improve their worldly condition, but to secure liberty of conscience and to live under a government of just and equal laws. All through the career of General Sherman the spirit of Cromwell and the Covenanter was the motive power of his action. His principle of war was to use up and consume the resources of the enemy. The destruction of Atlanta and the devastating march through Georgia and the Carolinas were upon Puritan lines. The enemies of his country were as much to his mind the enemies of the Lord as were the Cavaliers

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of Prince Rupert to Cromwell and his Ironsides. He was by nature the most genial, lovable and companionable of men, but the mailed hand and merciless purpose followed any attack on the things he held sacred. This appears not only in his campaigns, but also in his dispatches to Generals Grant and Halleck. "I will make the interior of Georgia feel the weight of war." "The utter destruction of its roads, houses and people will cripple their military resources." "I attach more importance to these deep incisions into the enemy's country, because this war differs from European wars in this particular: We are not only fighting hostile armies, but a hostile people, and must make old and young, rich and poor, feel the hard hand of war as well as their organized armies." And in his letter demanding the surrender of Savannah he says: "Should I be forced to assault, or the slower and surer process of starvation, I shall then feel justified in resorting to the harshest

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measures, and shall make little effort to restrain my army, burning to avenge the national wrong, which they attach to Savannah and other large cities which have been so prominent in dragging our country into civil war."

This was the language of the Puritan soldier. It was born and bred in the children of the people who first separated Church from State, and went to the stake for believing and declaring that the will of God could be one way, and the will of the king the other, and their allegiance was to the Lord. It was the same conscience which beheaded Charles the First, and afterwards threw the tea into Boston harbor. Marston Moor, Lexington and the March to the Sea were fruits of the same tree. Sherman was a soldier, educated by the Government of the United States, and the Republic was his love and his religion. The intensity of his passion for the nation would in other times and surroundings have made

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him a general in the Parliamentary army, or the leader of a New England colony.

I shall never forget a dramatic scene at a notable gathering in New York, when Charles Sumner indirectly attacked President Grant, as a failure in civil affairs, by ridiculing Miles Standish. General Sherman was a stranger to a New York audience, and none knew that he could speak. Few men would have dared reply to the world-famed orator. But he had assailed the two tenderest sentiments of General Sherman—his love and admiration for Grant, and his pride in his profession of a soldier. Without any opportunity for preparation, but without hesitation, he immediately arose to meet this unexpected and surprising attack. Defense, under such conditions, would with most untrained speakers have degenerated into abuse, but with Sherman it became the most impressive eloquence. It was a direct and simple statement of his faith in his friend, and a description of the merits and mission of the soldier, which was

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like the brilliant dash and resistless momentum of a charge of cavalry through the broken squares of the enemy. It was a speech Captain Miles Standish might have made after two hundred and fifty years of American opportunity, and the mighty soul of the Puritan captain seemed inspiring the voice and the presence of his advocate.

The same qualities made him the most amiable and lovable of men, and the most rigid of disciplinarians. His heart was easily touched, and his sympathies aroused by the distress or want or sorrow of others, but he was the incarnation of the vengeance of the law upon military crimes. A corps commander of the Army of the Potomac once said to him: "General Sherman, we had trouble in enforcing strict obedience to orders, because the findings of the courts-martial had to be sent to President Lincoln for approval in extreme cases, and he would never approve a sentence of death. What did you do?" "I shot them first," was the grewsome reply.

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General Sherman was destined from his birth for the career which has become one of the brightest pages in his country's history. The hero among the early settlers of the Ohio valley was that brave and chivalric Indian chief, Tecumseh, who had commanded the admiration of the whites by his prowess, and their good will by his kindness. He fought to exterminate, but he could as quickly forgive as he fiercely and savagely struck. The qualities of this wild warrior became part of the characteristics of his namesake. It was ruthless and relentless war with the enemy in the field, but no commander ever granted more generous terms to the vanquished, or was so ready to assist with purse and influence a fallen foe.

His father, Judge Sherman, died suddenly, leaving his widow with little means, and a family of eleven children. The helpfulness of the American family when thrown upon their own resources, and the ready and practical sympathy of American communi-



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ties, so extended as to convey, not charity, but compliment, has no better example than in the story of this household, and the success in life of its members. The bench and the bar felt that the boys were the wards of the profession. Ohio's leading lawyer, and United States Senator, the Honorable Thomas Ewing, said: "Give me one, but the brightest," and the brothers and sisters of the future captor of Atlanta answered, "Take Cump; he is the smartest." This profound jurist and keen observer of character saw the future general in this quick, nervous, intelligent, pugnacious boy, with his Indian warrior name, and appointed him to the West Point Military Academy. His fertile and versatile mind pushed its inquiries into too many directions, and explored fields too diverse for that methodical and accurate mastery of the curriculum which makes a valedictorian, but not always a man. Nevertheless, he stood sixth in his class, and was its most original and attractive

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member. He had a fondness for topographical studies, and a keen eye and natural and trained instinct for the opportunities for defense and attack which could be utilized in the places where he was stationed and the country over which he traveled.

His first service was in Florida, and his duties carried him, during his six years in the South, through South Carolina, Alabama, Georgia and the adjoining counties of Tennessee. The great debate as to the powers of the general government and the reserved rights of the States was at its height. General Jackson had placed his iron heel upon John C. Calhoun and registered the mighty oath, "By the Eternal, the Union of these States must and shall be preserved." South Carolina was specially independent and defiant. Threats of disunion met Sherman at every social gathering. Webster's masterly and unequalled argument and eloquence had converted the North and thousands of broad-

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minded men in the South to the idea that the United States was a nation, with the right to use all the resources of the country to enforce its laws and maintain its authority. The possibility of these questions being decided by the arbitrament of war was ever present to the suggestive thought of the young lieutenant. The line of the Tennessee river, the steep ascent of Kenesaw mountain, the military value of Chattanooga and Atlanta, were impressed upon the intellect of the maturing strategist, to materialize twenty years afterwards in the severance and ruin of the Confederacy by his triumphant March to the Sea.

Sherman had been brought up and trained in the school of Hamilton, of Webster, and of Henry Clay. His Bible was the Constitution. He had imagination, but no sentiment; passion, but no pathos. Believing slavery to have guarantees in the Constitution, he would have unsheathed his sword as readily against a

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John Brown raid as he did at the firing upon Fort Sumter. His imagination led him to glorify and idealize the Republic. Its grandeur, its growth, and its possibilities captured and possessed his heart and mind. The isolation and loneliness of the life in frontier forts destroys many young officers. Their energies are exhausted and their habits and principles demoralized by dissipation, or their faculties paralyzed by idleness. But the card table or the carouse had no attractions for Sherman. His time on the plains was fully occupied. He was building railroads across the continent on paper, and peopling those vast regions with prosperous settlements, long before they had any roads but the paths of the buffalo, and any inhabitants but roving tribes of wild Indians. He could never understand the lamentation, so common, over the extermination of the buffalo. The patient oxen drawing the plow through the furrow, and the lowing herds winding home at sunset, seemed to him to have replaced the wild

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and useless bison with the sources of individual and national wealth and happiness. He would have destroyed the Indians, because with their occupancy of extensive and fertile territories, which they would neither cultivate nor sell, and the wars with them, which frightened settlers from their borders, they retarded the development and checked the majestic march of his country to the first place among the nations of the earth.

This intense nationalist and accomplished soldier was selected by the State of Louisiana to be the superintendent and organizer of her State military school. The veteran who could bring to the business of banking little more than unswerving integrity, and failed; and whose directness of purpose and transparent candor were disgusted with the law, found in this field of instruction a most pleasant and congenial occupation. He was at the head of a university which was fitting youth for careers in civil life, and training them, if needs be, to fight

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for their country. The institution grew so rapidly, and wisely, that the attention of the State authorities was attracted to its able and brilliant principal. He did not suspect treason, and they were organizing rebellion. To capture this born leader of men was to start with an army. Social blandishments, political pressure, and appeals to ambition were skillfully applied to his purposes and principles. Suddenly the truth burst upon his frank nature. He was poor, and had a large and helpless family. He held an honorable, congenial, lucrative and permanent position. The future, if he abandoned his place, was dark and doubtful, but the Union was in danger, and he did not hesitate a moment. His letter of resignation to the Governor of Louisiana reads like a bugle-call of patriotism: "As I occupy a quasi-military position under the laws of the State, I deem it proper to acquaint you that I accepted such position when Louisiana was a State in the Union, and when the motto of this seminary was

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inserted in marble over the main door, 'By the Liberality of the General Government of the United States. The Union Espo Perpetua.' Recent events foreshadow a great change, and it becomes all men to choose. If Louisiana withdraws from the Federal Union, I prefer to maintain my allegiance to the Constitution as long as a fragment of it survives. \* \* \* On no earthly account will I do any act or think any thought hostile to or in defiance of the old government of the United States."

Events move rapidly in revolutions, and the situations are always dramatic. Captain Sherman is in Washington, offering his services to the government. Lincoln is President; Seward, Secretary of State; Chase, Secretary of the Treasury; John Sherman, the new United States Senator from Ohio, and old General Scott in command of the army. Nobody believes there will be war. It is the general conviction that, if the Southern States are rash enough to attempt to secede, the rebel-



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lion will be stamped out in three months, and the campaign will be a picnic. Alone in that great throng of office-seekers and self-seekers stands this aggressive and self-sacrificing patriot. He understands and appreciates better than any man living the courage, resources and desperate determination of the South. "They mean war," he cries; "they will soon have armies in the field officered and led by trained and able soldiers. It will require the whole power of the government and three years of time to subdue them if they get organized before you are on them." Congressmen laughed at the wild talk of the dramatic alarmist; old army officers significantly tapped their foreheads, and said, "Poor Sherman, it is too bad;" and the President answered coldly, "Well, captain, I guess we will manage to keep house."

The Confederate army had concentrated at Manassas, threatening Washington. There were few West Point officers available,

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and Captain Sherman was commissioned a colonel and given command of a brigade at Bull Run. He was the one earnest man among the crowd of triflers in uniform and citizen's dress who flocked to the field. Congress adjourned to see the rebels run, and Congressmen led the tumultuous flight from the battle to Washington. Holding in hand all there was of his brigade which had not stampeded, exposing himself with reckless courage, and keeping a semblance of discipline which did much to prevent pursuit by the victorious enemy, Colonel Sherman rode into Washington to so freely acknowledge the faults on the field, and so vigorously denounce the utterly inadequate preparations for civil war, that he again fell into disrepute, was again assailed as a madman and banished to the West. But Ohio never lost confidence in him and demanded and secured his appointment in the long list of brigadier-generals.

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The senseless clamor which frightened the Cabinet and the War Office by shouting "On to Richmond," was not appeased by the disgrace and slaughter of Bull Run and Manassas. The frightful recoil which had followed obedience to the popular cry only infuriated the politicians. If they could not put down the rebellion in a day, they could at least punish those who had insisted upon the power of the Confederacy. There was a significant display of that singular quality of human nature which leads people who have been warned against a rash act, to turn in defeat and disappointment and rend the prophet who foretold the result. Sherman, from the more commanding position of his superior rank, was once more announcing the strength, power and resources of the rebels in Kentucky and Tennessee. He boldly proclaimed that the forces collected to hold those States were so absurdly inadequate that another and more fatal Bull Run was sure to follow unless the means were equal to the emergency. The

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government, the press and the people united in condemning his terrorizing utterances, and for the third time he was sent into retirement as a lunatic. Accumulating perils and providential escapes from hopeless disasters speedily demonstrated that this madman was a seer, and this alarmist a general.

Then, for the glory of the American army and the incalculable advantage of the Union cause, came the opportunity for the most brilliant soldier and magnetic commander in our annals. The control of the Mississippi, the allegiance of the border States, and the existence of the western army, were in gravest peril at Shiloh. Sherman was at the front on those two desperate days, holding his men by his personal example and presence. He was as much the inspiration of the fight as the white plume of Henry of Navarre at Ivry. Though wounded, he still led, and though three horses were shot under him, he mounted the fourth. General Halleck, then Commander-in-Chief of all the national forces, reported to the govern-

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ment that "General Sherman saved the fortunes of the day on the sixth, and contributed largely to the glorious victory of the seventh."

Critics and historians will forever discuss the men and the movements of the civil war. As time passes, and future events crowd the record, most of the figures of that bloody drama, now so well known to us, will disappear. It requires, even after the lapse of only a quarter of a century, an effort and a history to recall many names which were then household words. But Sherman's March to the Sea, like the retreat of Xenophon and his ten thousand Greeks, will, through all ages, arouse the enthusiasm of the schoolboy, the fervor of the orator, and the admiration of the strategist. When at last, with a picked army of sixty thousand veterans, Sherman was encamped at Atlanta, he had grasped and materialized the factors of success in the dream of his youth. He bombarded the President and the commanding general with letters and

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telegrams: "I can divide the Confederacy, destroy the source of its supplies, devastate its fertile regions, and starve its armies." "Give me the word 'go,'" burdened the wires and the dispatch boxes. The Cabinet said: "Your army will be lost floundering in the heart of the enemy's country, and cut off from your base of supplies." The headquarters staff said: "Turn back upon the course you have traversed and destroy Hood's army, which threatens your communications and your rear, and then we will discuss the question with you." Sherman detached that most remarkable general, Thomas, with a force sufficient, in his judgment, to take care of Hood, and that superb officer vindicated the trust reposed in him by pulverizing the rebel army.

At last the President gave an approval so reluctant that it threw the responsibility upon General Sherman, and Grant gave his assent. Said General Sherman to me, in one of the confidences so characteristic of

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his candid mind: "I believed that this permission would be withdrawn, and sent immediately a detachment to destroy the wires for sixty miles. I never felt so free and so sure as when the officer returned and reported the work done. Years afterwards I discovered an official memorandum that, 'owing to the sudden interruption by the rebels of communication with Atlanta, a message countermanding the assent to General Sherman to march across the country to Savannah could not be delivered.'" Upon such slender threads hang the fate of campaigns and the fame of illustrious men.

The armies of Tennessee and of Georgia had the dash and daring, the free and breezy swing and ways, and the familiarity with their officers, characteristic of the West. They idolized their fatherly but cyclonic commander. This superb specimen of the pure Puritan stock, born and bred in the West, careful of every detail which promoted their comfort and efficiency, and careless of the form and dignity which



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hedges in authority, won their love and admiration. Most veteran armies, with their lines of communication and supplies abandoned, and marching into the enemy's country, ignorant of the food and forage which might be found, or the forces which might cross their path, would have murmured or hesitated. But the soldier who, with only a day's rations in his haversack, called out to his grim and thoughtful General as he rode by, "Uncle Billy, I suppose we are going to meet Grant in Richmond," expressed the faith of his comrades. If Richmond was their objective point, nor mountains, nor rivers, nor hostile people, nor opposing armies, could prevent Sherman from taking them there triumphantly. The capture of Atlanta had aroused the wildest enthusiasm among the people. For the thirty days during which the victors were lost in the interior of the Confederacy, the North listened with gravest apprehension and bated breath. Then the conquering host were on the shores of the sea, Savannah



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was laid at the feet of President Lincoln by their general as a Christmas present, the Confederacy was divided and its resources destroyed, and William Tecumseh Sherman became "one of the few, the immortal names, that were not born to die."

Having placed his army across all the roads by which General Lee could escape from Richmond, Sherman left his quarters to visit Lincoln, then with Grant at City Point.

In April, 1861, Captain Sherman had informed the President in the White House that "he might as well attempt to put out the flames of a burning house with a squirt gun as to put down the rebellion with 75,000 men, and that the whole military power of the North should be organized at once for a desperate struggle," to be laughed out of Washington as a lunatic. Four years had passed. Two millions of men had been mustered in; five hundred thousand had been killed in battle, or died in the hospital or had been disabled for

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life; and in March, 1865, General Sherman stood in the presence of the President. It was the original faculty of Mr. Lincoln that he could so acknowledge a mistake as to make it the most delicate and significant compliment. "Mr. President," said Sherman, "I left in camp seventy-five thousand of the best troops ever gathered in the field, and if Lee escapes Grant, they can take care of him." "I shall not feel secure, nor that they are safe," said the President, "until I know you are back again and in command." "I can capture Jefferson Davis and his Cabinet," said General Sherman. "Let them escape," was the suggestion of this wisest of Presidents; "and, above all, let there be no more bloodshed, if that is possible." General Joseph Johnston and the last army of the Confederacy in Sherman's hands; the terms of reconstruction and reconciliation which he had heard from Lincoln in that final and memorable interview, submitted as the conditions of surrender; the President's assassination and its

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dread consequences; the contemptuous repudiation of his terms by Secretary Stanton; the grand review of his soldiers by the Cabinet and Congress at Washington; the indignant refusal of the proffered hand of the Secretary of War in the presence of the Government and the people; the farewell to and muster out of his beloved army, and one of the most picturesque, romantic and brilliant military careers of modern times came to a close. Its ending had all the striking and spectacular setting of its course, and its adventures, achievements and surprises will be for all time the delight of the historian, and the inspiration of the soldier.

The later years of most heroes have been buffeted with storms, or have come to a tragic end. Cæsar, in the supreme hour of his triumph, fell at the foot of Pompey's statue, pierced by the daggers of his friends. Napoleon fretted out his great soul in the solitude of St. Helena. Wellington lost popularity and prestige in the strifes of parties. Washington was worried and wearied

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into his grave by the cares of office and the intrigues of his enemies — enemies, as he believed, also of his country. Grant's death was hastened and his last days clouded by the machinations of politicians and the crimes of trusted associates. But General Sherman, in retirement, led an ideal life. Only Von Moltke shares with him the peaceful pleasures of content and of his people's love.

The fathers of the Republic were fearful of military influence and apprehensive of dangers to liberty and perils to the life of the young Republic. Some of them even distrusted Washington and a dictatorship. After him they set aside all the Revolutionary generals, and selected statesmen for Presidents. But with confidence in the power and perpetuity of the nation came the popular strength of the successful soldier. None of our heroes have been able to resist the fascination and dangers of the Chief Magistracy, except General Sherman. All of our great captains would have led happier

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lives, and left their fame less obscured, if they had spurned the temptation. In nearly every canvass since Jackson, one or both of the great parties have had military candidates. General Sherman had such peculiar and striking elements of popularity that party leaders begged and besought him to carry their standard. His election would have been a certainty, and he knew it. But his answer was, "I will not accept if nominated, and I will not serve if elected. In every man's life occurs an epoch when he must choose his own career, and when he may not throw off the responsibility, or tamely place his destiny in the hands of his friends. Mine occurred in Louisiana, when, in 1861, alone in the midst of a people blinded by supposed wrongs, I resolved to stand by the Union as long as a fragment of it survived on which to cling. I remember well the experiences of Generals Jackson, Harrison, Taylor, Grant, Hayes and Garfield, all elected because of their military services, and am warned, not encouraged, by their sad

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experiences." Not the least of the dramatic memories which will distinguish this most sincere and original actor in the drama of life will be that he will remain forever the only American who refused the Presidency of the United States. Though declining political preferment for himself, he rejoiced in the honors bestowed upon any member of his old army. "I am proud," he said, "that Ben Harrison is our President; that Foraker, Hovey, Fitler and Humphreys are Governors of the great States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Kansas — all 'my boys,' " and he would have been wild with delight if he could have added Slocum, Governor of New York.

His daily walks were a series of triumphal processions. The multitudes never obtruded upon his privacy, but separated as he approached, and united, when he passed, to express their individual and collective affection and gratitude. The encampments of the Grand Army were tame in his absence, but his presence called together from fifty to a

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hundred thousand comrades to greet "Uncle Billy," and rend the heavens with the chorus of "Marching Through Georgia." His versatile genius met instantly and instinctively the exacting requirements of an impromptu address before a miscellaneous audience. He possessed beyond most men the quick sympathy with the occasion, the seriousness and humor, the fervor and story, the crisp argument and delicacy of touch, which make the successful after-dinner speech. He was the most charmingly unconscious of conversation-alists. In his effacement of himself, and cordial recognition of others, picturesque narrative of adventure, and keen analysis of character, dry humor, and hot defense or eulogy of a friend, his talk was both a panorama and a play. He was always a boy, with a boy's love of fun, keen interest in current events, and transparent honesty of thought and expression.

He loved the theater, and the stage, feeling the presence of a discriminating but admiring friend, was at its best when General



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Sherman was in the audience. He was delightfully happy in the applause and praise of his countrymen and countrywomen. He felt that it came from their hearts, as it went to his. Through his course as a cadet at West Point and his career as a young officer he revealed his innermost soul in frequent correspondence with the daughter of his adopted father, who became afterwards his wife, and whose wisdom, devotion and tenderness made his home his haven and his heaven. No impure thought ever occupied his mind or unclean word passed his lips. There was something so delicate and deferential in his treatment of women, the compliment was so sincere both in manner and speech, that the knightly courtesy of Bayard had in him the added charm of a recognition of woman's equal mind and judgment.

He lived in and with the public. There was something in the honesty and clear purpose of crowds which was in harmony with his ready sympathy and unreserved expression and action on every question.



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He delighted in large cities, and especially in New York. The mighty and yet orderly movements of great populations were in harmony with his constant contemplation of grand campaigns. His penetrating and sensitive mind found rest and recreation in the limitless varieties of metropolitan life. He so quickly caught the step of every assemblage that he was equally at home among scientists and Sunday-school teachers, alumni associations and national societies, club festivities, chambers of commerce celebrations and religious conventions. He never hesitated to respond on any and all these occasions to a call for a speech, and always struck a chord which was so in unison with the thought of his audience as to leave a lasting impression. After the most serious and important of consultations or meetings, the small hours of the night would often find him the honored guest, a boon companion among Bohemians, or old comrades; but in all the freedom of story and repartee, of humor or recitation, neither he nor they ever for an instant forgot

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that they were in the presence of General Sherman.

He was entirely free from the intense and absorbing passion for wealth which characterizes our times. He knew little of and cared less for the processes of money getting. The one place in the country where fortunes were never estimated was his house, and his was the only presence where riches, their acquirement and their uses were never discussed. He was satisfied with his well-earned pay from the Government, and did not envy those who possessed fortunes. In his simple tastes and childlike simplicity, as he lived and moved in the midst of the gigantic combinations and individual efforts to secure a larger share of stocks and bonds and lands, he stood to the financial expansions and revulsions of the day as did the Vicar of Wakefield to the fashionable society of his period.

This soldier, citizen and patriot, this model husband, father and friend, held a place in every heart and a seat by every fireside in the land. His death carried a sense of

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personal bereavement to every household, and plunged the country in mourning. The imposing catafalque has attracted the curiosity of thousands as it has borne to the tomb eminent citizen or soldier, but the simple caisson rumbling over the pavement, and carrying General Sherman to the side of his beloved wife and adored boy in the cemetery, drew tears from millions. His name and his fame, his life and his deeds are among the choicest gifts of God to this richly endowed Republic, and a precious legacy for the example and inspiration of coming generations.

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The conclusion of Mr. Depew's address was followed by "March et Cortege" by the orchestra, and song by Mlle. Clementine De Vere, and "Marching Through Georgia" by the Excelsior Quartette, the orchestra and the audience.



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A P P E N D I X .

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK

RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF

GENERAL WILLIAM T. SHERMAN.

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# PROCEEDINGS.

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IN ASSEMBLY, }  
MONDAY EVENING, *February 16, 1891.* }

A message from the Governor, by the hands of his private secretary, was received and read, in the words following :

STATE OF NEW YORK, EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, }  
ALBANY, *February 16, 1891.* }

*To the Assembly :*

It is my sad duty to announce to the Legislature the death of General William T. Sherman, at his residence in New York city, on Saturday last.

His distinguished patriotic services and pure life have endeared him to the hearts of his countrymen, who everywhere now deeply mourn his loss. In this hour of universal expression of the nation's sorrow and esteem, it is proper that the Legislature of this State, which in recent years has claimed him as a resident, and in which he died, should manifest by appropriate action the people's grief at his death, and the affection and respect with which they cherish his memory.

I have already directed that as a mark of respect for the distinguished dead, the flags upon the Capitol, and upon all the public buildings of the State, including the armories and arsenals of the National Guard, be displayed at half-staff until and including the day of the funeral, and I commend to your consideration such further action as in your judgment may fitly indicate the public sense of appreciation and loss.

DAVID B. HILL.

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Said message was laid upon the table and ordered printed.

MR. McMAHON offered for the consideration of the House a memorial and resolution, in the words following:

He who but yesterday was the most illustrious of living Americans, has been called to join the equally illustrious brothers-in-arms who have gone before him, and the last of the pre-eminently great names of the passing century remains but a memory to the American people. With sorrowful hearts his countrymen accept the decree and bow in humble resignation; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, By the Assembly of the State which he had chosen as the home of his later years, that there be entered upon the Journal this testimonial of the honor, veneration and affection in which the people of the State of New York and their representatives in this House hold the great soldier of the republic, William Tecumseh Sherman, late general of the army of the United States. It was given to him in his three-score years and ten of robust, heroic life, to win undying renown as a citizen, soldier and patriot. Trained by the nation for the profession of arms, he was yet distinguished in civil life beyond the lot of his contemporaries. During the earliest war in which he was engaged, he furnished proof of executive ability in the acquisition and organization of the new States of the Pacific, which gave promise of the higher renown to which he attained in the greater struggle for the very life of the republic. With wise and unerring judgment, he foresaw and predicted the magnitude of the peril which threatened the nation, and resuming the sword which he had long laid aside, he passed from a comparatively humble rank in the service of his country through an unclouded series of triumphs to the command of all her armies, and to the full realization of the high hopes which he shared with the lovers of liberty among all the nations



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of the earth. He was stern in his views of duty, unflinching in its performance. He was frank and outspoken with friend and foe; just but generous to the vanquished, in thought and word and act. From the close of the war which lifted him to the high rank which he holds among the great soldiers of the world to the last sad hour when his great soul passed in suffering from among us, he held the unflinching love of his countrymen. To this high consolation which remains to those who were dear to him, this Assembly, while reverently thanking God for having vouchsafed to His people the life and services of such a man, leaving to those who are to follow him the high example of his stainless record and heroic career, desires to add this expression of the universal sorrow.

Mr. SPEAKER put the question whether the House would agree to said resolution, and it was determined in the affirmative.

Mr. HITT offered for the consideration of the House a resolution, in the words following :

*Resolved*, That the message of the Governor, together with the tribute offered by the gentleman from New York, General McMahon, be entered in full in the Journal of this House, and each be engrossed under the direction of the clerk, and transmitted to the family of the distinguished patriot and soldier.

Mr. SPEAKER put the question whether the House would agree to said resolution, and it was determined in the affirmative.

The Senate sent for concurrence a resolution, in the words following :

WHEREAS, The Legislature has heard with profound regret of the death of General William T. Sherman; and

WHEREAS, This sad event calls for more than ordinary notice from the people of the State through their representatives; therefore,

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*Resolved* (if the Assembly concur), That a committee, consisting of five members of the Senate and nine members of the Assembly, be appointed, who shall prepare resolutions suitably expressing the feeling of the people of the State at the loss they and the country have sustained.

Mr. SPEAKER put the question whether the House would agree to said resolution, and it was determined in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That the clerk return said resolution to the Senate, with a message that the Assembly have concurred in the passage of the same.

Mr. R. P. BUSH offered for the consideration of the House a resolution, in the words following:

*Resolved* (if the Senate concur), That a committee of five on the part of the House be appointed by the Speaker to attend, with a similar committee from the Senate, the funeral of the late General William T. Sherman, to be held in New York on Thursday.

Mr. SPEAKER put the question whether the House would agree to said resolution, and it was determined in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk deliver said resolution to the Senate, and request their concurrence therein.

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IN ASSEMBLY, }  
TUESDAY, *February* 17, 1891. }

Mr. R. P. BUSH offered for the consideration of the House a resolution, in the words following:

*Resolved* (if the Assembly concur), That the committee appointed pursuant to a concurrent resolution adopted February 16, 1891, in relation to the death of General W. T. Sherman, act as a joint committee of the two

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Houses of the Legislature to arrange for and to supervise at some future time, proper memorial services in commemoration of the illustrious dead.

MR. SPEAKER put the question whether the House would agree to said resolution, and it was determined in the affirmative.

The Senate sent for concurrence a resolution in the words following:

*Resolved* (if the Assembly concur), That the Legislature do adjourn on Wednesday, the eighteenth instant, until Monday evening, the twenty-third instant, at 8.30 P. M., for the purpose of permitting the members of the two Houses to attend the funeral of General William T. Sherman.

MR. SPEAKER put the question whether the House would agree to said resolution, and it was determined in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk return said resolution to the Senate, with a message that the Assembly have concurred in the passage of the same.

The Senate sent for concurrence a resolution in the words following, with a message that they have appointed as a committee on the part of the Senate, Messrs. Vedder, Laughlin, Sheard, Linson and Cantor.

WHEREAS, General William T. Sherman died on the fourteenth instant, in the city of New York, therefore,

*Resolved* (if the Assembly concur), That a joint committee of five Senators and nine members of the Assembly be appointed by the presiding officer of the two respective Houses, to arrange fitting joint memorial services in commemoration of the life and character of the eminent citizen and illustrious soldier, William Tecumseh Sherman.

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MR. SPEAKER put the question whether the House would agree to said resolution, and it was determined in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk return said resolution to the Senate, with a message that the Assembly have concurred in the passage of the same.

MR. SPEAKER announced as such committee on the part of the Assembly, Messrs. McMahan, Husted, Osborne, Southworth, Croak, McBride, Whipple, Strahahan and Parsons.

The Senate returned the concurrent resolution providing for the appointment of a joint committee on the part of the Senate and Assembly to attend the funeral of the late General Sherman, with a message that they have concurred in the passage of the same, with the following amendments, and have appointed as such committee on the part of the Senate, Messrs. Fassett, Sloan, Erwin, McNaughton and Stadler.

Line 2, strike out the word "five" and insert the word "nine."

Line 4, strike out the word "similar."

Line 5, after the word "committee" insert the words "of five."

MR. SPEAKER put the question whether the House would concur in said amendments, and it was determined in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk return said resolution to the Senate, with a message that the Assembly have concurred in the amendments.

MR. SPEAKER appointed as such committee, on the part of the House, Messrs. R. P. Bush, McMahan, Beakes, Webster, Rice, I. S. Johnson, Chamberlain, Thompson and Worden.

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IN SENATE,  
MONDAY EVENING, *February 16, 1891.* }

A communication from the Governor, by the hands of his private secretary, was received and read, in the words following :

STATE OF NEW YORK—EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, }  
ALBANY, *February 16, 1891.* }

*To the Legislature :*

It is my duty to announce to the Legislature the death of General William T. Sherman at his residence in New York city on Saturday last.

His distinguished patriotic services and pure life have endeared him to the hearts of his countrymen, who everywhere now deeply mourn his loss. In this hour of universal expression of a nation's sorrow and esteem it is proper that the Legislature of the State which in recent years has claimed him as a resident, and in which he died, should manifest by appropriate action the people's grief at his death and the affection and respect with which they cherish his memory.

I have directed that as a mark of respect for the distinguished dead the flags upon the Capitol and upon all the public buildings of the State, including the armories and arsenals of the National Guard, be displayed at half-staff until and including the day of the funeral, and I commend to your consideration such further action as in your judgment may fitly indicate the public sense of appreciation and loss.

DAVID B. HILL.

Mr. SAXTON offered the following :

WHEREAS, The Legislature has heard with profound regret, of the death of Gen. William T. Sherman; and

WHEREAS, This sad event calls for more than ordinary notice from the people of this State, through their representatives; therefore,



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*Resolved* (if the Assembly concur), That a committee, consisting of five members of the Senate and nine members of the Assembly, be appointed who shall prepare resolutions suitably expressing the feelings of the people of the State at the loss they and the country have sustained.

The PRESIDENT put the question whether the Senate would agree to said resolution, and it was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

The PRESIDENT appointed as such committee on the part of the Senate, Messrs. Saxton, Jacobs, Veeder, Robertson and Brown.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk deliver said resolution to the Assembly, and request their concurrence therein.

The Assembly sent for concurrence the following resolution.

*Resolved* (if the Senate concur), That a committee of five on the part of this House be appointed by the Speaker to attend, with a similar committee from the Senate, the funeral obsequies of the late General William T. Sherman, to be held in New York on Thursday.

*Ordered*, That said resolution be laid upon the table.

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IN SENATE,  
TUESDAY EVENING, *February* 17, 1891. }

Mr. VEDDER moved to take from the table the concurrent resolution, in the following words:

*Resolved* (if the Senate concur), That a committee of five on the part of the House be appointed by the Speaker to attend, with a similar committee from the Senate, the funeral obsequies of the late General William T. Sherman, to be held in New York on Thursday.

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The PRESIDENT put the question whether the Senate would agree to said motion, and it was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. SAXTON moved to amend said resolution by striking out the word "five," first occurring, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "nine" and making the committee on the part of the Senate five.

The PRESIDENT put the question whether the Senate would agree to said motion, and it was decided in the affirmative.

The PRESIDENT then put the question whether the Senate would agree to said resolution, as amended, and it was decided in the affirmative.

The PRESIDENT appointed as such committee on the part of the Senate, Messrs. Fassett, Sloan, Erwin, McNaughton and Stadler.

*Ordered,* That the Clerk return said resolution to the Assembly with a message that the Senate have concurred in the passage of the same, with amendments.

The Assembly sent for concurrence the following resolution:

*Resolved* (if the Senate concur), That the committee appointed pursuant to a concurrent resolution adopted February 16, 1891, in relation to the death of General William T. Sherman, act as a joint committee of the two Houses of the Legislature to arrange for and supervise, at some future time, proper memorial services in commemoration of the illustrious dead.

Mr. VEDDER moved to substitute in lieu thereof the following:

WHEREAS, General William Tecumseh Sherman died in the city of New York on Saturday, the 14th inst., therefore,

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*Resolved* (if the Assembly concur), That a joint committee of five Senators and nine members of the Assembly be appointed by the presiding officers of the respective Houses to arrange fitting joint memorial services in commemoration of the life and character of the eminent citizen and illustrious soldier, William Tecumseh Sherman.

The PRESIDENT put the question whether the Senate would agree to said motion, and it was decided in the affirmative.

The PRESIDENT then put the question whether the Senate would agree to said resolution, and it was decided in the affirmative.

The PRESIDENT appointed as such committee on the part of the Senate, Messrs. Vedder, Laughlin, Sheard, Linson and Cantor.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk deliver said resolution to the Assembly, and request their concurrence therein.

The Assembly returned the concurrent resolution relative to appointment of committees to draft resolutions on the death of General William T. Sherman, with a message that they have concurred in the passage of the same.

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IN SENATE,  
WEDNESDAY, *February* 18, 1891. }

Mr. SEXTON, speaking to a question of privilege, said:

Mr. PRESIDENT.—The Senate on Monday evening passed a resolution for the appointment of a general committee on the part of the two Houses to draft resolutions that were proper to the occasion of the death of General Sherman. That resolution was adopted by the Senate and went to the Assembly



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and was adopted by the Assembly. The Chair in pursuance of that resolution appointed a committee on the part of the Senate to prepare those resolutions, but the Speaker of the Assembly did not appoint a committee to meet with us for that purpose. The reason assigned was that they had already adopted resolutions on the part of the Assembly, not concurrent, and had spread them upon the records, and, therefore, it was thought entirely superfluous that they should adopt further resolutions as joint resolutions.

Mr. SAXTON then offered the following:

WHEREAS, The death of the distinguished citizen, William Tecumseh Sherman, which recently occurred within this State, where he had resided during the closing years of his life, calls for public expression by this Senate of the high esteem in which his memory is held by his fellow-countrymen.

*Resolved*, That his death has removed from the world a great general whose fame had extended to all civilized lands, and whose name is inseparably connected with the most renowned military achievements of the present century. He was the last survivor of that immortal trio who led to victory those grand armies of the Union that fought so bravely for country and human freedom and popular government. It is largely due to his courage, genius and patriotism that the American nation still lives, the greatest Republic of all times; and that the national idea, which is its corner stone, had been placed upon a solid and enduring foundation. Since the death of his renowned compeers, Grant and Sheridan, he has been by common consent the most illustrious of living Americans. His fellow-citizens have not only been proud of him but their affections have gone out to him in unstinted measure. They recognize in him those traits

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that combine to make up a remarkable and exceptional personality; simplicity, courage, honesty, loyalty and magnanimity. Their admiration for these noble and heroic qualities was only surpassed by their gratitude for his priceless services to his country and his race. In social life he was the most genial and lovable of men, as every one will testify who ever came within the circle of his personal influence. He leaves to his family the heritage of an illustrious and stainless name; and to his native land the inspiring memory and glorious results of Chattanooga and Atlanta and the wonderful march to the sea.

*Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be engrossed and forwarded to his bereaved family with the assurance that the Senators of this body profoundly sympathize with them in their great sorrow.

On motion of Mr. SAXTON, and by unanimous consent, said resolutions was laid upon the table and ordered printed, and made a special order for Monday evening, February twenty-three.

The Assembly returned the concurrent resolution offered by Mr. Vedder as a substitute for Assembly resolution, relative to appointment of committees to arrange joint memorial services in honor of the death of General Sherman, with a message that they have concurred in the passage of the same, and have appointed as such committee on the part of the Assembly, Messrs. McMahan, Husted, Osborne, Southworth, Croak, McBride, Whipple, Stranahan and Parsons.

The Assembly returned the concurrent resolution authorizing the joint committee appointed to attend the funeral of General William T. Sherman, to take charge of and make arrangements for the attend-

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ance of the Legislature at said funeral, with a message that they have nonconcurring in the passage of the same.

The Assembly returned the concurrent resolution as amended by the Senate, relative to appointment of committees to attend the funeral obsequies of the late General Sherman, with a message that they have concurred in the amendments, and that they have appointed as such committee on the part of the Assembly, Messrs. R. P. Bush, McMahan, Beakes, Webster, Rice, I. S. Johnson, Chamberlain, Thompson and Worden.

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IN SENATE,  
MONDAY EVENING, *February 23, 1891.* }

The PRESIDENT announced the special order, being the consideration of the resolutions previously offered by Mr. Saxton.

Mr. SAXTON moved that said preamble and resolutions be adopted, and addressed the Senate as follows:

Mr. PRESIDENT.—Thousand of voices have been lifted up during the past week in praise of the life and character of General Sherman. Hundreds of thousands of hearts have been touched with more than a passing grief at the thought that this illustrious citizen has departed forever from the scenes of his earthly labors and triumphs.

The whole American people have expressed, in the most impressive manner, their sorrow at his death and their reverence for his memory. But the sense of bereavement which is so universal is especially keen among the ex-soldiers of the civil war who

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have long felt toward him as they did toward Grant and Sheridan, the adoring love which soldiers always feel for those great captains who have led them on to glorious victory. They will miss more than others that kindly face and pleasant companionship which they have always eagerly looked for at their reunions and encampments and Memorial Day exercises. They will cherish more tenderly than others those dear and inspiring memories which have sprung up like fragrant flowers along the pathway of the many years during which he has been their faithful friend and comrade. As one of the ex-soldiers who served during the war, a private in the ranks, I wish, in the few moments at my disposal, to place my humble wreath upon his honored tomb.

General Sherman was a born soldier and leader of men. He had by nature, and in a marked degree, those qualities which are certain to make that man who possesses them a successful general when the right time comes for their full development. His mental vision was clear and penetrating. At the beginning of the war he was convinced that a great conflict was before us; and when the President called for 75,000 three months' volunteers to put down the rebellion, he was struck by the utter absurdity of attempting to accomplish so great a result by such grotesquely inadequate means. It seemed to him like trying to destroy a fortress of stone and iron with a battery of popguns. He expressed the opinion that "at least 200,000 men would be required to conquer the Confederacy," and the peo-

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ple of the north were inclined to doubt his sanity. Some even went so far as to doubt his loyalty. Later on, when the valor and determination of a million battle-scarred veterans were hardly sufficient for the gigantic work before them, we all saw that he had understood the real situation far better than did the great mass of his fellow-citizens.

But the outset of his career was clouded by the unjust prejudice which had been thus excited against him. This was not overcome until we had passed that early period when campaigns were mapped out in newspaper offices, and had reached the stage of experience when we were convinced that the war was a serious affair, and could only be brought to a successful termination by competent generals commanding trained and experienced soldiers. Then his great qualities began to be estimated at their true value, and before the war had ended his splendid achievements had made him not only a great national hero, but a great popular idol as well.

Let me state briefly what, in my opinion, were the chief elements of his character that contributed to his marvelous success. Of course, he had that physical courage which is presumed in every soldier from the general down to the humblest private. That is fundamental. The old Romans made it the chief of all the manly virtues, and with reason, because it is the foundation of all high and noble character. At the battle of Shiloh Sherman, who was in the thickest of the fight all through that fatal first day, was wounded twice, and had several horses shot under him; and there



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it was that he also exhibited that finer quality, the pertinacity or "clear grit," as we sometimes call it, which wrests victory from the very jaws of defeat. General Thomas was called the Rock of Chicamauga because he stood like a rock against which the waves of assault madly rushed only to be broken and dashed back in bloody spray. With equal justice, Sherman might have been called the Rock of Shiloh. On that terrible Sunday when the clouds of defeat were gathering, when rout and disaster were seen on every side, and it seemed as if the army must be annihilated, there was one man who said to the tide of victory that seemed to be rolling on with resistless force, "Thus far shalt thou come and no further." That man was Sherman. He held the right against the most desperate assaults of the enemy; and the day was saved. General Grant wrote to the War Department that to Sherman's individual efforts he was indebted for the success of the battle; a tribute no less honorable to him who gave it than to him who received it.

His patriotism was another striking feature of his character. When the war broke out every one who knew his views upon certain subjects, and were familiar with his surroundings, would have predicted that his sympathies would go out toward the South. But he did not hesitate a moment as to what course he would take. He loved his country with every fiber of his being. He revered the flag. He believed in American nationality. It was his love of country and faith in her destiny which inspired him to win great victories; and if he had been

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less a patriot he would have been less a conquerer. This passion was so absorbing that it swallowed up all mere personal considerations. He was stationed at the mouth of the Cumberland while Grant was assailing Fort Donelson, and although the superior of the latter general in military rank at that time, he wrote to him that he would waive all question of rank and render any assistance in his power. Grant might have the glory. All he asked was a chance to serve his country.

He was magnanimous, as all truly great natures are. There was no trace of meanness about him; no vindictiveness; no petty jealousy; no lurking desire for revenge upon those who had done him an injury. He was as loyal to his friends as he was generous to his vanquished foes. Never did he permit his ambition to stand in the way of his duty. A striking illustration of this is to be found in the history of the Vicksburg campaign. The fleet had succeeded in passing the rebel batteries, and Grant was getting ready to cross the river at Grand Gulf, when he wrote to Sherman, saying that a feint on the Yazoo river at Haines Bluff might aid in concealing his real intentions from the enemy. Sherman had already been repulsed in a similar attack, and knew that the attempt would expose him to the charge of a second failure, but he replied at once: "I believe that this diversion at Haines Bluff is right, and I will make it, no matter if they do say I am repulsed." When he arranged for the surrender of General Johnson at the close of the war the conditional terms that were agreed upon aroused the anger of the northern

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people against him. After what he had endured and accomplished for his country, he must have keenly felt the injustice of his fellow-countrymen; but, like the loyal and gallant soldier he was, he did not permit this feeling to swerve him one hair's breadth from the line of his duty.

I have always thought that he had in a greater measure than any of his comrades in arms that something called genius, which eludes the grasp of definition and defies the analysis of the acutest logic, but a spark of which illumines with a divine illumination the soul of him to whom it has been communicated. That creative imagination was his which can lay out the most comprehensive plans; not in the air, but upon the solid earth where they can be made realities by the same genius that conceived them. He saw his campaigns before him, not only in their general features, but also in their minutest details. The campaign that ended in the fall of Atlanta was one of the most splendid specimens of generalship to be found in the annals of warfare. Grant wrote to him about it as follows: "I feel you have accomplished the most gigantic undertaking given to any general of the war, and with a skill that will be acknowledged in history as unsurpassed, if not unequaled." The march to the sea, while it presented itself as a bold and even startling conception at the time, was really the only logical sequence of the then existing situation. The brilliancy with which it was carried into execution made it one of the most romantic and thrilling episodes of the age.

During the quarter of a century that has passed since the war, General Sherman has lived in the most familiar



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relations with his fellow-countrymen. He was received with love and respect wherever he went. We all liked to meet him. There was something magnetic about him, something inexpressibly charming in his personality. When he came into a room he was at once the center of attraction, not merely because he had been a great general and a great hero, but because he was a delightful and much beloved man. His brain was full of quaint and original ideas. He was often called upon to speak on public occasions, and always spoke eloquently, not with the eloquence of fine language or polished rhetoric, but with that loftier eloquence which is informed by thought and adorned by character; the very essence of good speaking without which words however artistic, are but a tinkling cymbal.

And so farewell to the last great hero of our civil war. But while we still see him no more we know that the best of him still lives among us, his character and achievements which will never die. His fame will shine brighter and brighter as posterity appreciates even more than we do, not only the splendor of his military genius, but the magnitude of the work in which he was so potent a factor, and its tremendous effect for good upon the destinies of the human race.

MR. BROWN addressed the Senate as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT.—I should indeed feel remiss in the discharge of the duty devolving upon every true-hearted American when opportunity occurs did I not say a word on this occasion.

The history of the achievements of General Sherman has been given in detail eloquently and ably by the Senator who has preceded me.

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A few thoughts in connection with the distinguished career and character of one of the most renowned men of history may not be amiss. I knew him as a neighbor and a friend. In my younger days I appreciated his great achievements on the field of battle, his great conquests in the cause of liberty and in the perpetuation of this Union. Since then I came in frequent contact with this great man, and learned to know his lovable and charming nature, his great simplicity in life, his devotion for home, his fondness for family and the dear ones about him. Speaking of home, that is the well-spring of patriotism, that is the keynote that imbues men to love country, to bare their forms against invading foes, or those who shall assail the sacred precincts of the most lovely and endearing spot on earth, the fireside. With the fireside and about it are instilled the spirit of patriotism, the love of country, that has imbued men through all times to daring deeds, even at the hazard of life, to maintain its integrity. The spirit of patriotism is imbued at home. It is there inculcated by the mother at the fireside, and the spirit there given to the growing child and the developing mind has a controlling influence through future life. Love of home is but another word for patriotism and devotion to country. This devotion to country has been an inspiring principle with intelligent men through all history. The brave Spartans fell 300 in number at the Pass of Thermopylæ, and all they asked was that there might be inscribed upon their tomb, "Oh, stranger, go tell it at Lacedæmon that we died here in obedience to her laws." The love of law,

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the love of order, the love of constitutional liberty is the most inspiring thought in man's heart. Agamemnon after returning from the most glorious victories would not even greet his mother, his wife or his children till he gave homage to his country. Without country, without law, without devotion to principle, there is no home, there is no happiness, and scarcely could be Heaven on earth or beyond it. Christ himself, the divine perfection of humanity, acknowledged the sacred principle when he promulgated the glad tidings which shall be for all people, and commanded that they should first be proclaimed throughout the land of his birth, and grieved in sorrow for those who go from their homes and shall return no more, nor see their native land. The spirit and love of home, the spirit and love of liberty established the blessings that we now enjoy, established this constitutional government, and the stars of many pure spirits who died in the cause are now looking down with angels' eyes upon the quiet earth. They form a constellation in the skies and will live in history and in the memory of every friend of liberty and freedom through all time. Amidst this mighty galaxy of great spirits of the Revolution, those who fought and died that this government might be enjoyed by us there was added in the death of the distinguished gentleman and general whose memory we commemorate, one of its most brilliant lights, that will shine like a gem forever and ever, whose name will live in history in glittering light, bright and glorious, as if painted by sunbeams. It would seem, and it is proper indeed in my conception, that the heroes of war far surpass in the admiration and enthusiasm of men

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those of civil or any other condition of life. It does seem too, that you may talk of moral government or moral suasion, the liberties of any people after all are sustained and maintained, by the power of the sword. There is, perhaps, no country on earth that could better live without that power than this charming land of ours, and yet take it away, even for a fortnight, and imagine the conditions. Therefore, I conceive it is fairly proper, as I say, that men who with "sword and shield in the bloody field" have won immortal fame should be and are the heroes of history. It is easy to sit in quiet houses and enjoy the peace and contentment afforded you by the law, but it is not so easy to maintain against contending foes and embattled thousands your position and your life. Through all time intelligent people, and even before the intelligence of the middle or the present age, the heroes of war have been honored in story and in song, and so it will ever be. No general in my time, and no man no matter how great in peace or war, has a greater degree of affection or admiration in my heart than General Sherman. His achievements are acknowledged equal to if not greater than any other man who ever so gallantly bore the sword, and the enthusiasm of the American people in devotion to his memory will grow as time goes on. "To live with fame the gods allow to many, but to die with an equal luster is a blessing Heaven selects from all the choicest boons of fate and with a sparing hand on few bestow." Years after the achievements of this great man, long after the restoration of the Union, he lived and grew in magnitude and in the love and affection of his countrymen. "How shall we rank him upon glory's page?" Dead, gone; but still he lives. He

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lives in the heart, in the love and affection of the American people. He sleeps as one of the greatest soldiers of this country.

“How sleep the brave who sink to rest  
With all their country’s honor blest?  
When spring with dewy fingers cold  
Returns to deck their hallowed mold,  
She there shall find a sweeter sod  
Than fancy’s feet have ever trod;  
By fairy hands their knell is rung,  
By forms unseen their dirge is sung.  
Here honor comes a pilgrim gray  
To bless the turf that wraps their clay,  
And freedom shall a while repair,  
To dwell a weeping hermit there.”

This great hero of whom we speak has been followed to the grave by such a pageant as no living one I believe will ever again see; spontaneous, an outgrowth of the love and affection of the American people. He needs no eulogy to perpetuate his name and fame. He needs no mausoleum of brass or marble to proclaim his greatness. Enshrined in the hearts of the American people, he will live on and shine on for ages and ages. Let him rest in peace amidst the tokens of that freedom he so much loved. Let him sleep on where the dashing and splashing of the mighty waters in their grandeur and sublimity, where the whistling of the tameless and unchained winds through the pines of the mountain vale, ceaseless and forever, where the rippling and bubbling of the gentle rivulet, and the songs of the wild birds commingled with all that speaks of liberty, may chant his eternal requiem.

Mr. ROBERTSON addressed the Senate as follows:

Mr. PRESIDENT.—The death of General Sherman filled the whole country with profound sorrow. For



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several years before his death he was its most illustrious citizen, and its greatest living soldier. Comparison between Grant, Sherman and Sheridan at this time would be out of place, but I may be permitted to say of all three that they tower above all our other military heroes as do Webster, Clay and Calhoun above all other American statesmen. I have met many great men in my time, but the greatness of each, with five or six exceptions, burst upon me in all its fullness at the first meeting. Of these exceptions, General Sherman stands first. I met him frequently after the war, and on each occasion he seemed greater than on the one immediately preceding. His resources in peace, as well as in war, were as inexhaustible as the waters of the ocean. His memory for the sections of the country which he had seen was marvelous. I remember his telling me that he visited Tarrytown, a large village in my district, and that he drove through it and its suburbs; that he had never visited it before nor since, and that was several years previously, and yet he described its chief features, and told to what points the various roads led as accurately, as faithfully, as any resident of the village could have done. He was peerless in conversation. He used a greater proportion of Saxon words in his talk than any other person of my acquaintance, more than can be found in any book, perhaps, with the exception of the Bible. He was generous, he was unselfish, he was just; he was more than just. He often gave more credit to others than they deserved for their part in his own brilliant exploits. He was a pure patriot,

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free, perfectly free, from envy, jealousy, selfishness and unholy ambition. He could have been president, but there was no power, no influence that could wring from him the desired consent. There may be others in civil and in military life competent for that place who would have refused the presidency, but history fails to record their names. He desired to stand on a level with other citizens. He was averse to hero-worship; he would have none of it. He conceded to others the same right that he claimed himself. There was no other person in this broad land at the time of his death who had more admirers, truer friends and fewer enemies, north and south, east and west, among the gray and among the blue, than General Sherman. There was no more sincere mourner at his funeral than General Joseph E. Johnson. General Sherman captured Johnson and his confederate soldiers in war by his great military skill; he recaptured them in peace by his utter lack of vindictiveness, his great love for the whole country, and for all of its citizens. His fame will live until republics are no more, and his famous march from Atlanta to the sea will not even then be forgotten.

Mr. COGGESHALL addressed the Senate as follows:

Mr. PRESIDENT.—It was not my purpose, sir, to take part in the observances of the evening, and yet I feel that I can not let the occasion pass without paying my humble tribute to the greatness and worth of William Tecumseh Sherman. At the portals of his grave the whole civilized world mourns. His was indeed a life symmetrically crowned, employed in usefulness, crowned

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with honor and rewarded by success. We may well say of him, as has been said of the illustrious father of our country, that he was "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

It was my privilege, Mr. President, to enjoy the personal acquaintance and friendship of General Sherman. With no man so great, so honored as he, have I ever engaged in conversation with such pleasure and profit. One of the grandest characteristics of the man was his simplicity of manner, his absolute unostentation, meeting all those with whom he came in contact upon a common level. It mattered not to him whether it was the crowned head, whether it was the distinguished man, whether it was the officer or the humble private, the big heart and the open hand of General Sherman were given to each and all alike. Nothing, sir, so much impressed me as to his loving nature and grand character as when I had the pleasure of sitting by his side at a banquet in the city of New York. Referring to the many compliments and honors that had been conferred upon him, he said: "With me the warfare is nearly ended, and within a short time I shall join those who have gone before me," as he loved to express it, "I am the last of the Mohicans," and when with trembling lips and bedewed eyes he turned to General Slocum who was sitting by him, and said: "In a little while, I will be sleeping with my wife and my soldier boy Willie." Greater encomium can be paid by no man than the sentiment uttered by Col. Brown in referring to his love of home. This, General Sherman indeed had in an eminent degree, and it was that side of his nature and his character that I so much admired. Already, Mr.



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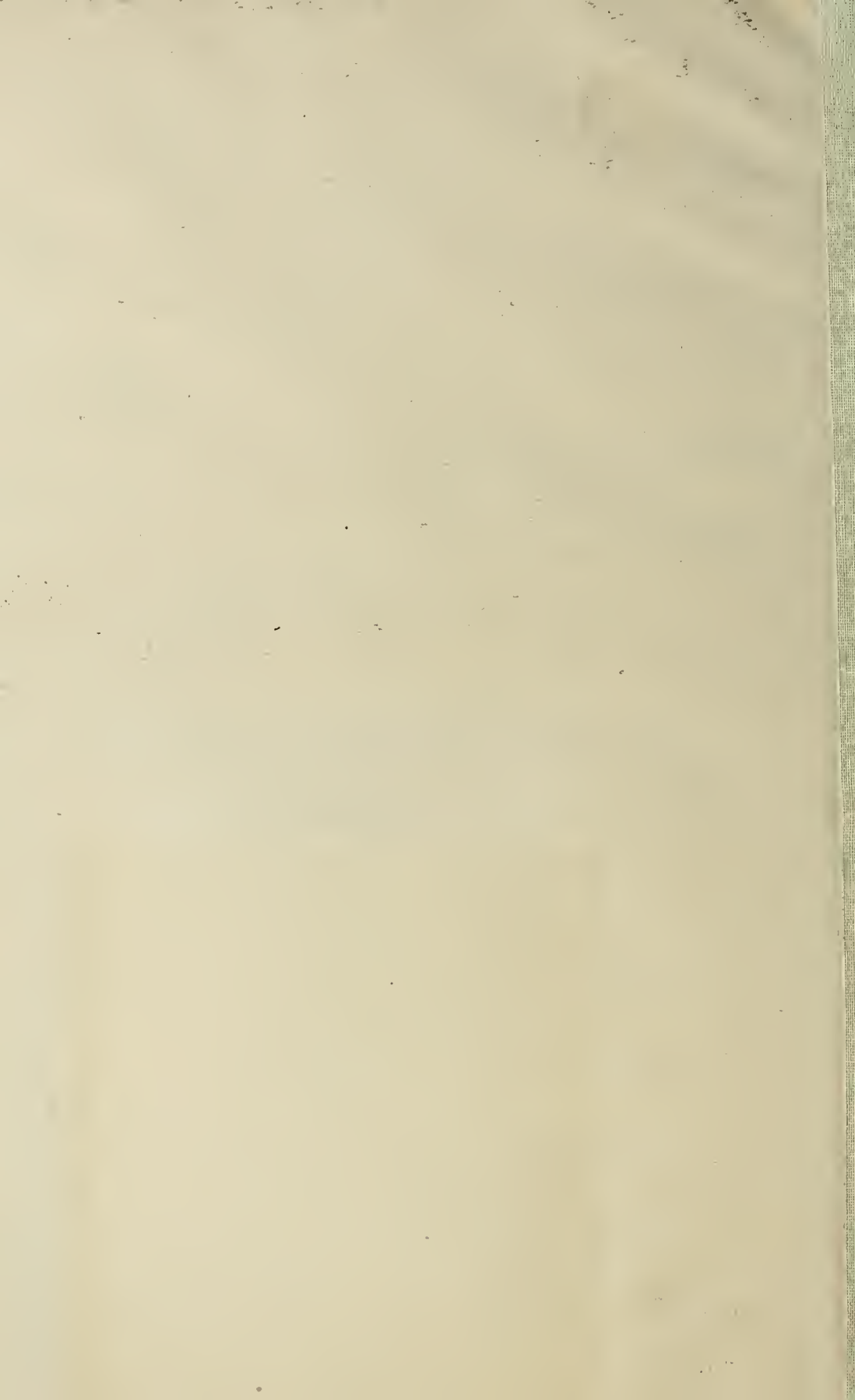
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President, the military career of General Sherman has been eloquently dwelt upon by the Senator from the twenty-eighth, and the Senator from the fifth. I, therefore, forbear further speaking, and unless there be other remarks I most respectfully move the adoption of the resolutions.

The PRESIDENT then put the question whether the Senate would agree to said resolutions, and it was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.







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