

CONFEDERATE VETERANS MARCH ON WASHINGTON



NATIONAL MUSEUM

By CAPT. J. WALTER MITCHELL.

"On to Washington" was the battle cry of the gray-clad legions of Lee and Jackson, Jeb Stuart and Longstreet, in the sanguinary, smoke-dimmed days of war more than half a century ago. In the capture of the Federal capital then the southern leaders saw peace with victory for their cause.

Now, after the lapse of years, the surviving warriors of sunny Dixie will at last have their hope realized. It has been planned for them to capture Washington and hold it the week beginning June 4. They will come armed with love and loyalty. Instead of the deadly bayonet thrust, there will be the handclasp of friendship. The coming men in gray will storm the capital city, but it will be with a rapid fire of affection for their country and its flag, and their objective will be the capture of the hearts of their countrymen and to add to the history of the United Confederate Veterans another bright and interesting chapter.

For the first time since the formation of the United Confederate Veterans their annual reunion, the twenty-seventh, will be held outside the geographical limits of the late Confederate States, and in making this innovation the selection of the convention city was a most happy one. At Washington, the capital of the greatest nation of earth, the former units of the great armies of the South, with rapidly thinning ranks, will hold their sessions and be royally entertained. The venerable boys in gray will not only be the favored guests of the citizens of the District of Columbia, but Uncle Sam, too, will be the host of the visiting veterans, and give them cordial welcome to his picturesque workshops.

Happy, also, was the choice of the time for holding the annual reunion—the first full week in June—the season of memories, when the capital city will wear her brightest garlands of flowers and foliage and recall the words of Nesbit:

*"The tears—the tears—by are the dew
That greets the coming day,
The gray is blending into blue—
The blue fades into gray."*

In the Memorial Day season the men who battled for the "lost cause" more than fifty years ago will find on the Virginia hills overlooking Washington from the west a Mecca and a shrine in historic Arlington National Cemetery, where is located a Confederate section and its famous monument erected in honor of the Confederate dead. The monument is the masterpiece of the late Sir Moses Ezekiel, himself a veteran of the Southern armies. From the sacred heights of Arlington may be had a magnificent panoramic view of Washington, while a visit to the silent city of the dead will bring to the soldier vision memory pictures of the past with its battles and then the dawn of peace.

Undoubtedly the most imposing and pathetic feature of the twenty-seventh annual reunion of the United Confederate Veterans will be the review of the brave men who followed the fortunes of "Marse Robert" E. Lee, by the President of the United States, himself a native of old Virginia. The grand parade will present passing pictures in real life of the men who followed the stars and bars into the hurly-burly of death on many noted battlefields of the Southland. The opportunity to witness the serried ranks of the one-time soldiers of Dixie as they pass in review may never come again. To many it will be the "once in a lifetime." The famous "rebel yell" of more than fifty years ago will take on a new meaning as it is blown with the "Star Spangled Banner" at a time when the Republic is in a ferment of patriotism.

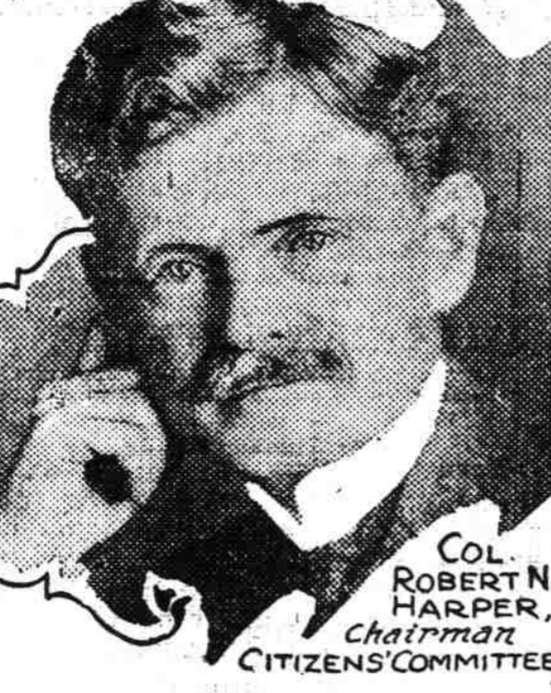
Plans for the Reunion.
Plans for the reunion events are rapidly taking form under the direction of Col. Robert N. Harper, chairman of the general committee, who is giving to the work the benefit of his experience in the successful handling of big events, notably the ceremonies attending the second inauguration of President Woodrow Wilson. Colonel Harper is a member of an old and honorable Virginia family. He was born in that State and is one of the foremost citizens and leading financiers of Washington. He has been actively in the labor of love are men who hold high places in social, business and professional circles at the nation's capital. Among the vice-chairmen of the reunion committee are: Thomas Grant, and R. P. Cary, chairman of the finance committee, who is securing a large fund for the entertainment and care of the visiting veterans. The publicity of the historical event is in charge of Capt. Winfield Jones, a Washington journalist of ability and wide experience.

Co-operating with the committee in its labors are the Washington Board of Trade, Chamber of Commerce, Retail Merchants' Association, the local Camp of Confederate Veterans, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Southern Society, and the several branches of the Federal Government and the municipality. There is a unanimity of purpose among all to make all the twenty-six former annual gatherings in Southern cities. The outward, and the great key of the national city is ready for delivery to the gray hosts and their friends when they journey to Washington June 4 next.

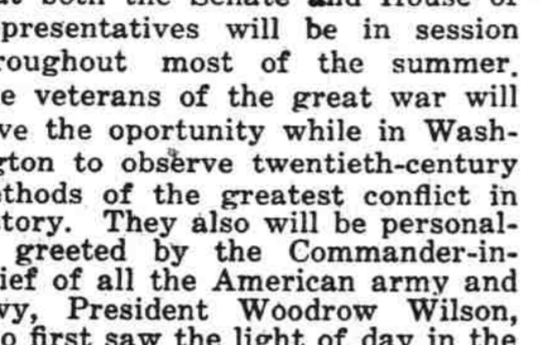
Assurance that the reunion events personnel or lack is found in the fact, which is in the nature of Colonel Harper's personal staff. At the head of the body of men of affairs is Ross P. Andrews, president of the Retail Merchants' Association. Assisted by him are Hon. Oliver P. Commissioners of Hon. Louis Brownlow, Columbia; Capt. Fred Beall, Colonel, C. C. Calhoun, D. J. Callahan, E. F. Gude, Hon. W. Eastment, W. F. G. H. B. Howry, H. A. Herbert, M. D. Hon. Henry B. F. Marcy, P. T. Moran, Theodore W. Noyes, president of the Evening Star Publishing Company; Capt. James F. Oyster, Col. Myron M. Parker, Col. M. S. Thompson, Hon. Cuno H.



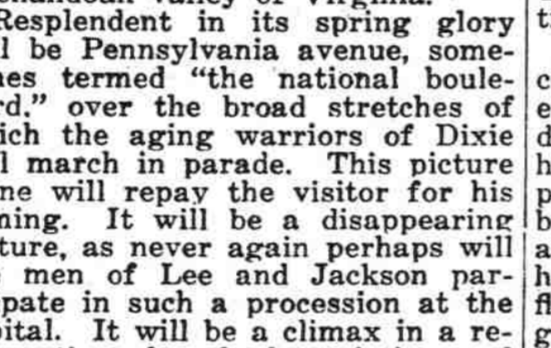
WASHINGTON MONUMENT



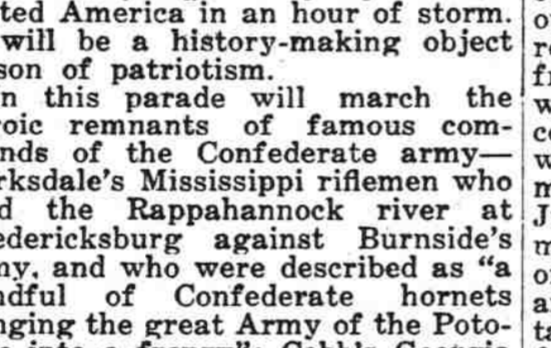
COL. ROBERT N. HARPER, Chairman of the Citizens' Committee



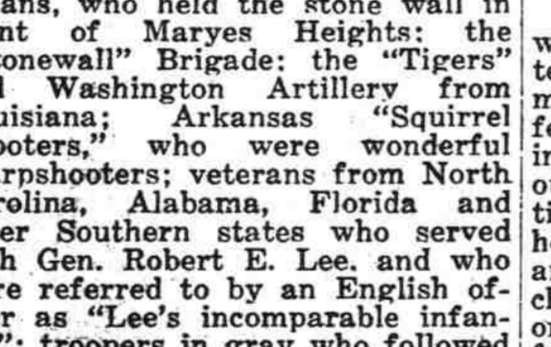
GEN. U.S. GRANT



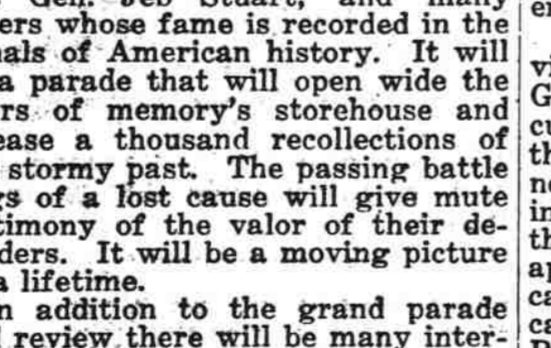
GEN. R.E. LEE



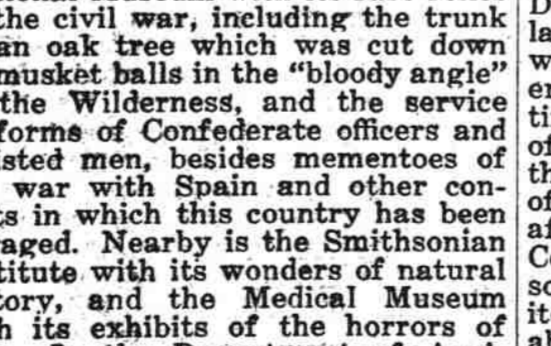
GEN. GEORGE P. HARRISON, Commander in Chief of the United Confederate Veterans



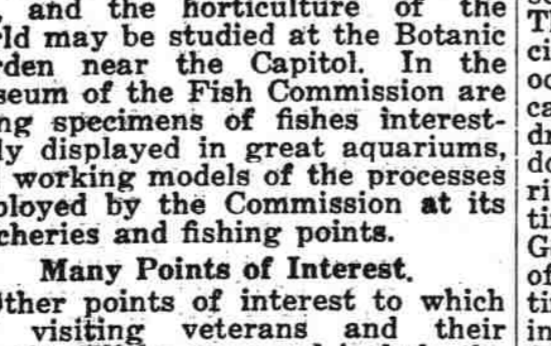
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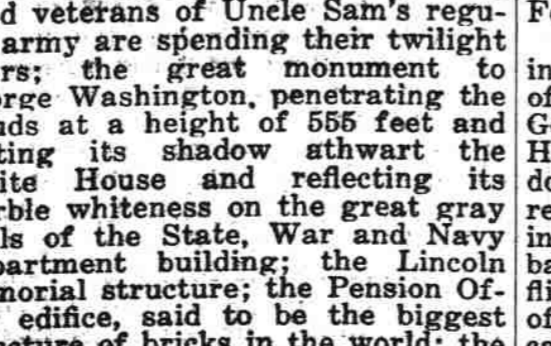
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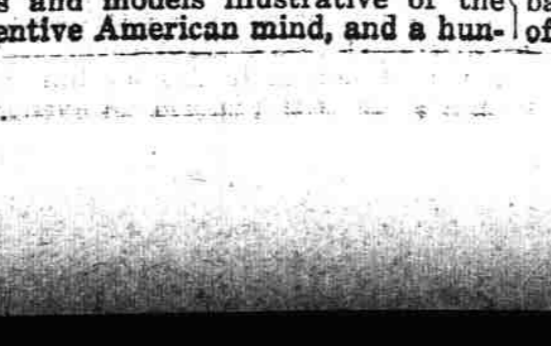
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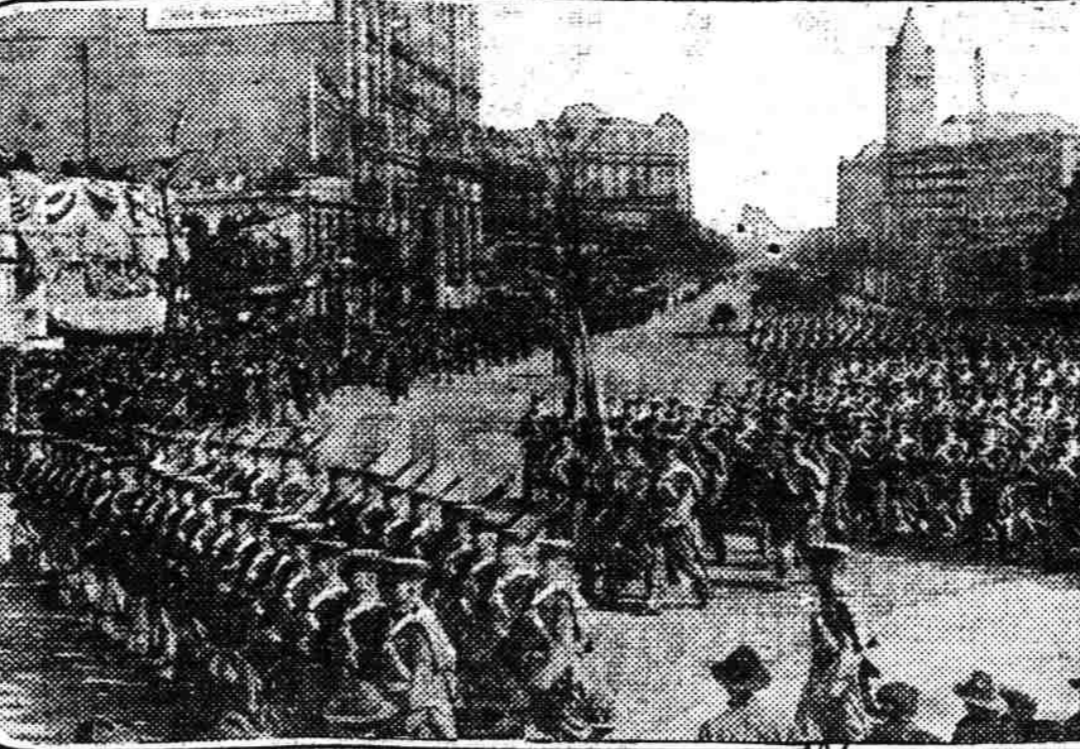
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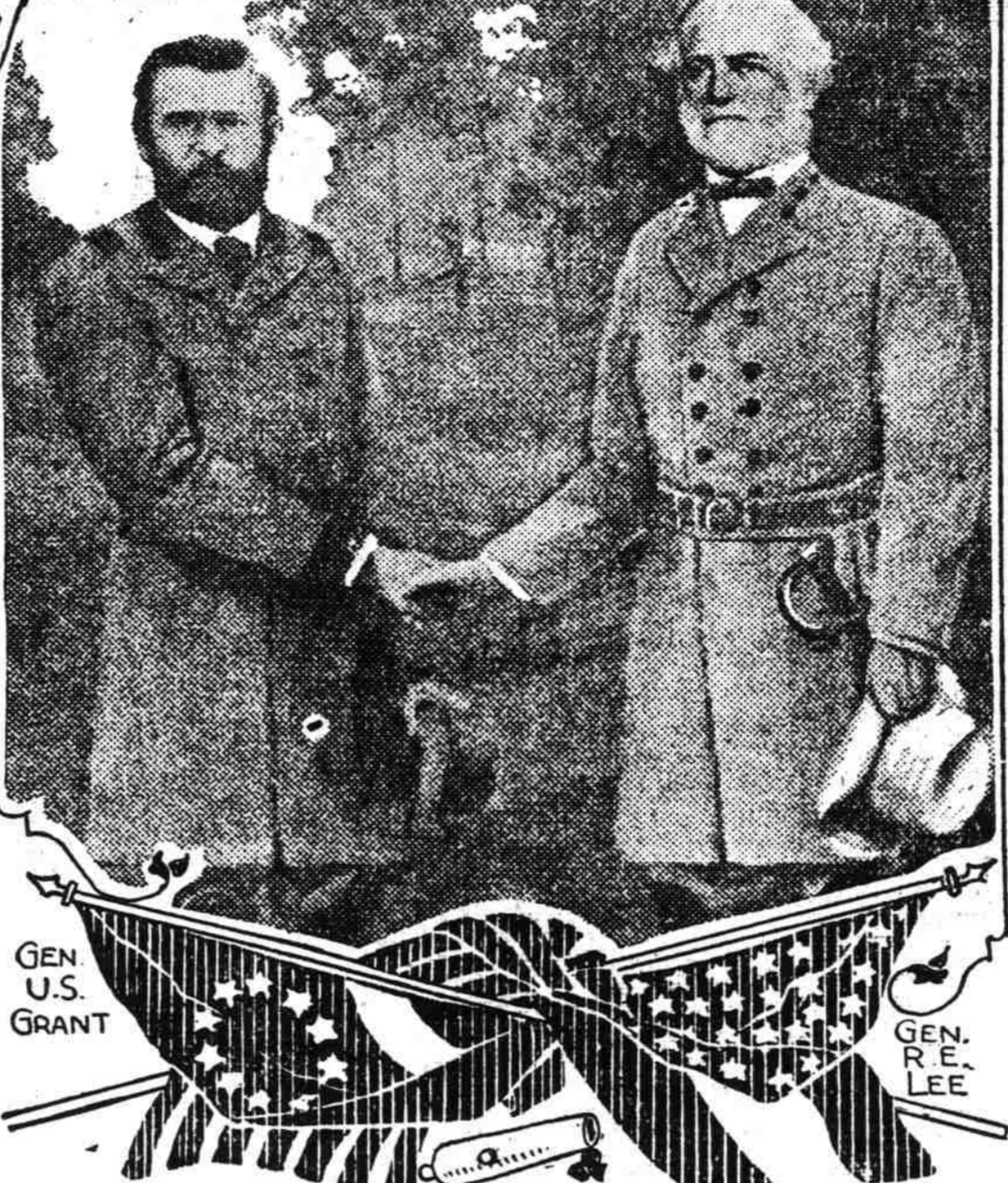
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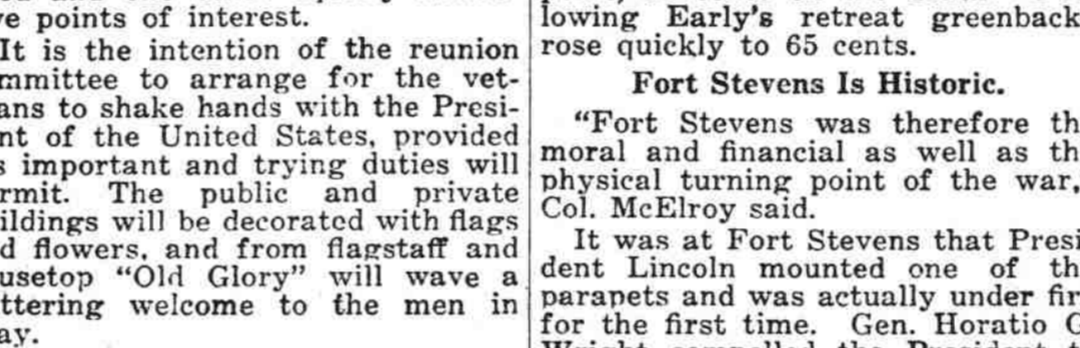
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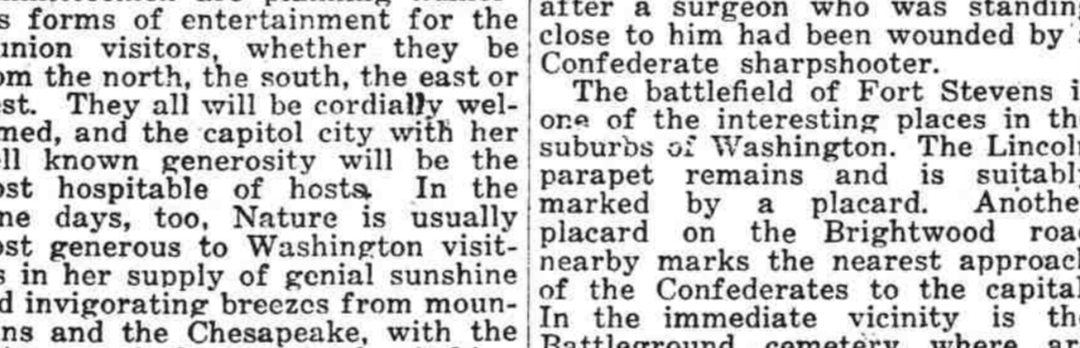
PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE



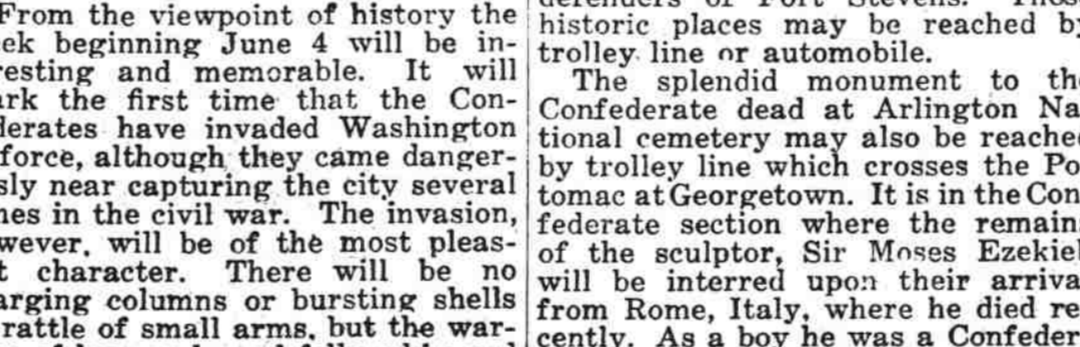
PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE



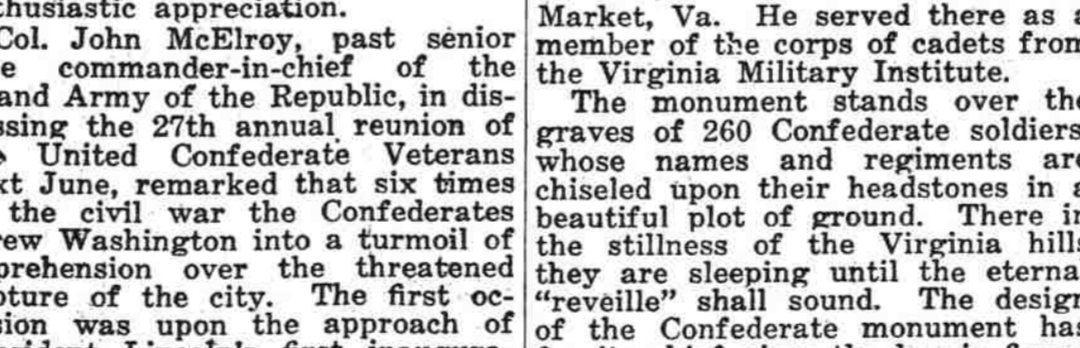
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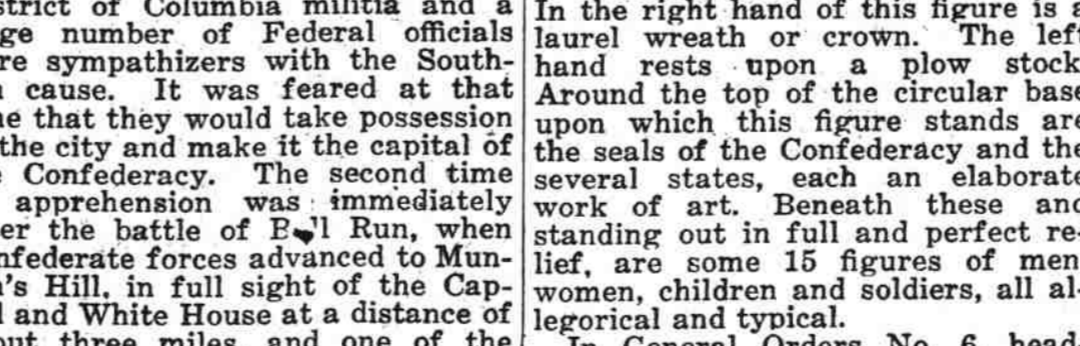
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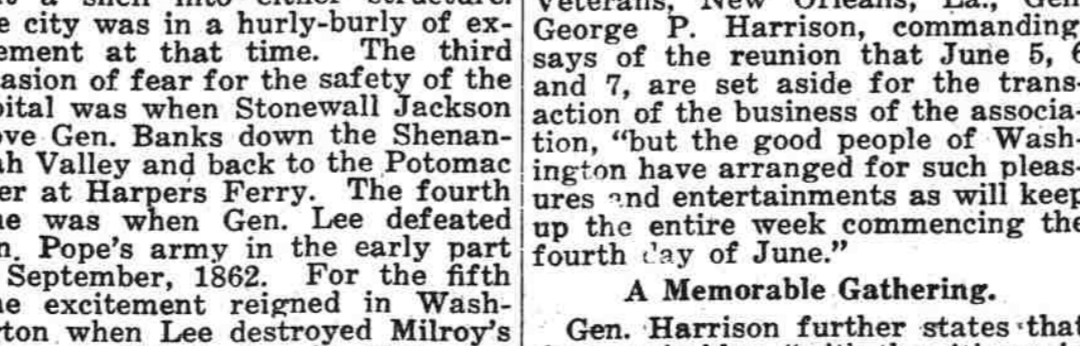
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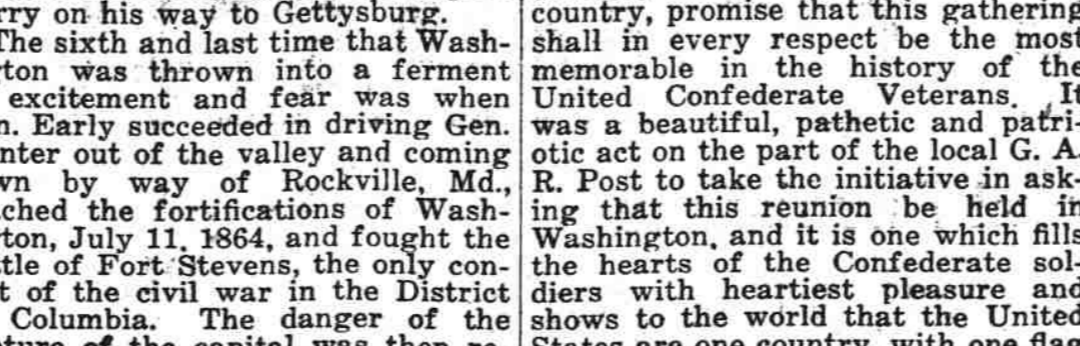
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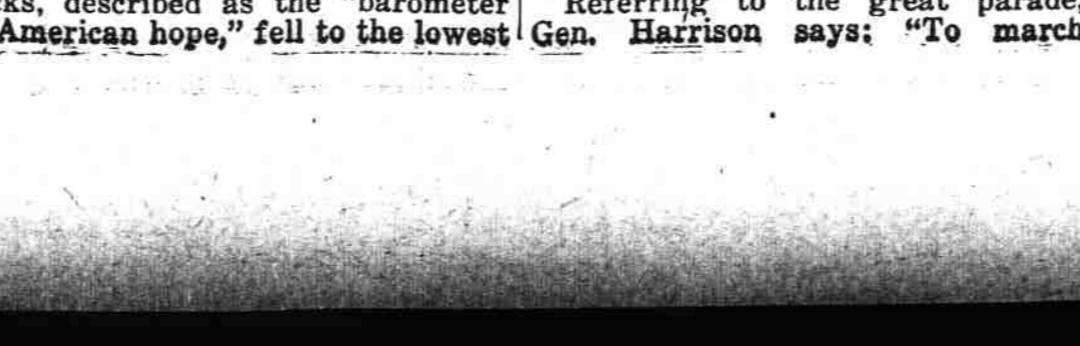
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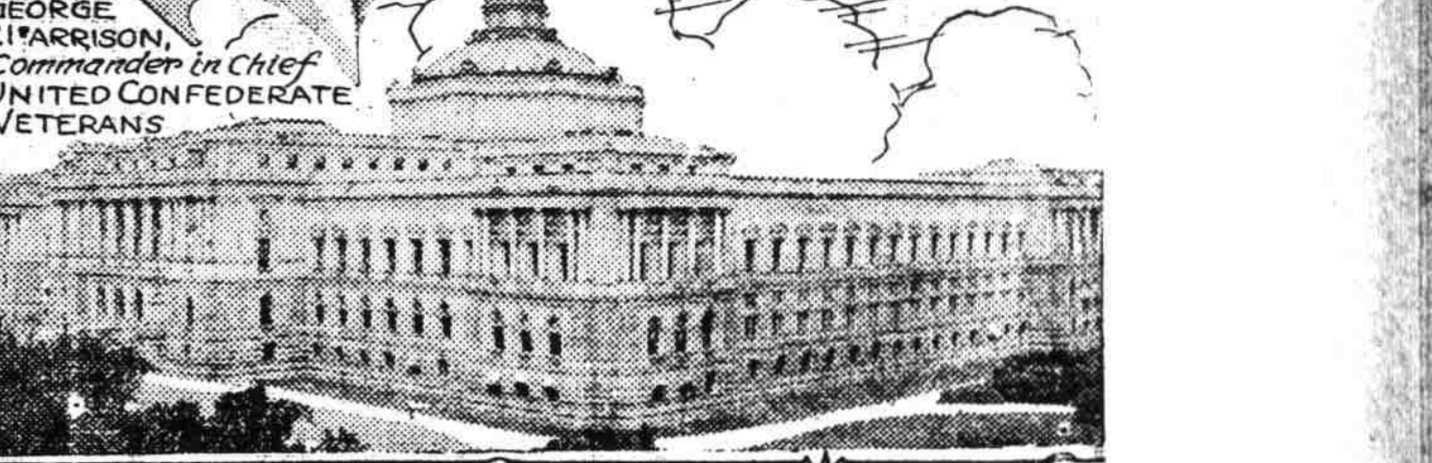
PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE



PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE



CONFEDERATE MONUMENT, ARLINGTON



CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY

down Pennsylvania avenue in full uniform, to be reviewed by the President of the United States, surrounded by all the foreign dignitaries in Washington—this should arouse the enthusiasm of the martial and add to the attendance from the entire South. The General commanding urges every one to attend this great assembly, which promises to be one of the most notable events in American history, long to live in the memory of every one who is present and who will be proud to say, "I was at the Confederate reunion in Washington."

The general orders request that members of Camps of Confederate Veterans attend in uniform, and announce that the monument erected by the State of Virginia to the memory of her soldiers at Gettysburg will be unveiled on June 8 and 9 on the battlefield.

The official Confederate Reunion badge will locate the wearer by Division, Camp, and place of residence. It consists of a medallion on which is prominently shown the St. Andrew's Cross, in the center of which are four clasped hands, representing the brotherhood of the North, East, South and West. Around the edge of the medallion is inscribed: "Official Badge, U. C. V. Reunion, Washington, D. C., June 5, 6, 7, 1917." On the red-white-and-red pendant will be printed in clear, distinct letters the name of the Division, location of Camp, and its name and number.

Col. Harper asks that every Confederate Camp which will attend the reunion immediately communicate with him in order that suitable housing and entertainment arrangements be made early.

The citizens' committee on points of historic interest, of which W. P. Van Winkle is chairman, will indicate for the benefit of the visiting Confederate veterans and others several hundred points of interest in and about Washington. These places will be located by iron markers with descriptive inscriptions. Among the places to be marked will be the old Ford theater where President Lincoln was assassinated; the war time defenses of Washington; the site of the old War Department, and many other points of historical interest, including the mansions of noted Americans who have figured in history since the days of the Revolution.

Those of the visiting Confederate veterans who desire to renew acquaintance with the Civil War battlefields in nearby Virginia and Maryland, will be given an opportunity to make side trips to these historic places. Within a radius of seventy-five miles of Washington some of the most important and terrific battles of the Civil War were fought, and visits to the famous fields may be made by railroad, electric line or automobile. Notable among these are the two battlefields of Bull Run or Manassas; Fredericksburg, the immediate scene of two great battles, with several more in its vicinity, including Chancellorsville, May 3, 1864, Salem Church, Mine Run, and the terrific fighting in the Wilderness and at Spottsylvania, from May 5 to May 20, 1864; all of which are within 60 miles of Washington. Then there are the two battlefields of Bristow Station, four miles south of Manassas, and that of Chantilly, where Gen. Pope's army, while in retreat, was fiercely attacked by Stonewall Jackson and his men in gray. In this action Maj. Gen. Kearny and Maj. Gen. Stevens of the Union army fell before the Confederate fire. The spots where they were killed have been marked by memorial tablets.

Battlefield of Antietam.
In nearby Maryland, less than 70 miles west of Washington, is the famous battlefield of Antietam, and a few miles east of that location is the scene of the battles of South Mountain and Crampton's Gap, where lively fighting occurred in 1862.

Winchester, which has been described as "the cockpit of the Shenandoah Valley," and about which place were fought at least fifty battles and skirmishes, is about 70 miles by railroad from Washington, Gettysburg, the turning point of the Civil War, is about the same distance from the national capital in an air line.

A trip by steamboat down the historic Potomac river will bring the visitor to the famous stretch of water known as Hampton Roads, where the famous battle was fought between the Confederate ram Merrimac and the Union Monitor.

international situation it is expected that both the Senate and House Representatives will be in session throughout most of the summer. The veterans of the great war will have the opportunity while in Washington to observe twentieth-century methods of the greatest conflict in history. They also will be personally greeted by the Commander-in-Chief of all the American army and navy, President Woodrow Wilson, who first saw the light of day in the historic and picturesque valleys of the Shenandoah valley of Virginia.

Resplendent in its spring glory will be Pennsylvania avenue, sometimes termed "the national boulevard" over the broad stretches of which the aging warriors of Dixie will march in parade. This picture alone will repay the visitor for his coming. It will be a disappearing picture, as never again perhaps will the men of Lee and Jackson participate in such a procession at the capital. It will be a climax in a regeneration of exalted patriotism and a renewed pledge of loyalty to a reunited America in an hour of storm.

It will be a history-making object lesson of patriotism. In this parade will march the heroic remnants of famous commands of the Confederate army—Barksdale's Mississippi riflemen who held the Rappahannock river at Fredericksburg against Burnside's army, and who were described as "a handful of Confederate hornets stinging the great Army of the Potomac into a frenzy"; Cobb's Georgia Legion and Kershaw's South Carolinians, who held the stone wall in front of Marye's Heights at "Stonewall" Brigade, the "Tigers" and Washington Artillery from Louisiana; Arkansas "Squirrel Shooters," who were wonderful sharpshooters; veterans from North Carolina, Alabama, Florida and other Southern states who served with Gen. Robert E. Lee, and who were referred to by an English officer as "Lee's incomparable infantry"; troopers in gray who followed the plume of the gallant and courteous Gen. Jeb Stuart, and many others whose fame is recorded in the annals of American history. It will be a parade that will open the doors of memory's storehouse and release a thousand recollections of the stormy past. The passing battle flags of a lost cause will give mute testimony of the valor of their defenders. It will be a moving picture of a lifetime.

In addition to the grand parade and review there will be many interesting sideights of the reunion. The National Museum with its rare relics of the civil war, including the trunk of an oak tree which was cut down by musket balls in the "bloody angle" at the Wilderness, and the service uniforms of Confederate officers and enlisted men, besides mementoes of the war with Spain and other conflicts in which this country has been engaged. Nearby is the Smithsonian Institute with its wonders of natural history, and the Medical Museum with its exhibits of the horrors of war. In the Department of Agriculture is much of interest to visitors, and the horticulture of the world may be studied at the Botanic Garden near the Capitol. In the museum of the Fish Commission are living specimens of fishes interestingly displayed in great aquariums, and working models of the processes employed by the Commission at its hatcheries and fishing points.

Many Points of Interest.
Other points of interest to which the visiting veterans and their friends will be conveyed include the United States Soldiers' Home, where aged veterans of Uncle Sam's regular army are spending their twilight hours; the great monument to George Washington, penetrating the clouds at a height of 555 feet and casting its shadow athwart the White House and reflecting its marble whiteness on the great gray walls of the State, War and Navy Department building; the Lincoln memorial structure; the Pension Office edifice, said to be the biggest structure of bricks in the world; the Patent Office with its myriad drawings and models illustrative of the inventive American mind, and a hundred and one other equally attractive points of interest.

It is the intention of the reunion committee to arrange for the veterans to shake hands with the President of the United States, provided his important and trying duties will permit. The public and private buildings will be decorated with flags and flowers, and from flagstaff and housetop "Old Glory" will wave a fluttering welcome to the men in gray.

Chairman Harper and his fellow committeemen are planning numerous forms of entertainment for the reunion visitors, whether they be from the north, the south, the east or west. They all will be cordially welcomed, and the capital city with her well known generosity will be the most hospitable of hosts. In the June days, too, Nature is usually most generous to Washington visitors in her supply of genial sunshine and invigorating breezes from mountains and the Chesapeake, with the foliage and flowers in bewitching fullness.

point, 35 cents on the dollar. Following Early's retreat greenbacks rose quickly to 65 cents.

Fort Stevens Is Historic.
"Fort Stevens was therefore the moral and financial as well as the physical turning point of the war," Col. McElroy said.

It was at Fort Stevens that President Lincoln mounted one of the parapets and was actually under fire for the first time. Gen. Horatio G. Wright compelled the President to descend from his dangerous perch after a surgeon who was standing close to him had been wounded by a Confederate sharpshooter.

The battlefield of Fort Stevens is one of the interesting places in the suburbs of Washington. The Lincoln parapet remains and is suitably marked by a placard. Another placard on the Brightwood road nearby marks the nearest approach of the Confederates to the capital. In the immediate vicinity is the Battleground cemetery where are buried the remains of some of the defenders of Fort Stevens. These historic places may be reached by trolley line or automobile.

The splendid monument to the Confederate dead at Arlington National cemetery may also be reached by trolley line which crosses the Potomac at Georgetown. It is in the Confederate section where the remains of the sculptor, Sir Moses Ezekiel, will be interred upon their arrival from Rome, Italy, where he died recently. As a boy he was a Confederate soldier, and was wounded and won distinction at the Battle of New Market, Va. He served there a member of the corps of cadets from the Virginia Military Institute.

The monument stands over the graves of 260 Confederate soldiers, whose names and regiments are chiseled upon their headstones in a beautiful plot of ground. There in the stillness of the Virginia hills they are sleeping until the eternal "reveille" shall sound. The design of the Confederate monument has for its chief piece the heroic figure of a woman to represent the South. In the right hand of this figure is a laurel wreath or crown. The left hand rests upon a plow stock upon which this figure stands are the seals of the Confederacy and the several states, each an elaborate work of art. Beneath these and standing out in full and perfect relief, are some 15 figures of men, women, children and soldiers, all allegorical and typical.

In General Orders No. 6, headquarters of the United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, La., Gen. George P. Harrison, commanding, says of the reunion that June 5, 6 and 7, are set aside for the transaction of the business of the association, "but the good people of Washington have arranged for such pleasures and entertainments as will keep up the entire week commencing the fourth day of June."

A Memorable Gathering.
Gen. Harrison further states that the men in blue, "with the citizens in general of the capital city of the country, promise that this gathering shall in every respect be the most memorable in the history of the United Confederate Veterans. It was a beautiful, pathetic and patriotic act on the part of the local G. A. R. Post to take the initiative in asking that this reunion be held in Washington, and it is one which fills the hearts of the Confederate soldiers with heartiest pleasure, and shows to the world that the United States are one country, with one flag and one aim."

Referring to the great parade, Gen. Harrison says: "To march

There are many interesting places in the immediate vicinage of Washington, including the Fort Stevens battleground, that may be reached by street car line. The Great Falls of the Potomac, reached by electric line, was the scene of sanguinary activities between the men in blue and those in gray in the early years of the Civil War. This is one of the beauty spots near the capital, the tumbling, rushing waters of the Potomac being confined between the narrows and towering blue hills of Virginia and Maryland. The venerable Lee mansion at Arlington remains in all its original glory overlooking Washington, and from its wide porticos a magnificent view may be had of the capital city of the nation.

Sons of Confederate Veterans.
The Sons of Confederate Veterans are planning to take an important part in the reunion of their seniors. Thousands of them will parade in uniforms of Southern gray. They will hold their annual meeting here on the same dates as the United Confederate Veterans, June 4 to 7.

The Sons' organization is a splendid body of representative descendants of the men of Lee, Jackson and other great Confederate commanders. In the membership are embraced historians, Congressmen, scientists, educators, and many men who served with the colors in the war with Spain and others in the forces on the Mexican border and the present war.

Due to its location at the Capital, where it draws from the whole South, the local Washington camp of Sons has a very large number of the most representative men. These men have perfected plans to give the Sons a deserved prominence at the reunion, without detracting from the Veterans, never before reached by the Sons' organization. They have opened headquarters at the Raleigh Hotel, Washington, D. C., under the management of Major E. W. R. Ewing, chairman of the Sons' official committee. All inquiries by the Sons or their friends and the Sons' official women, to avoid confusion with the work being done by the Veterans' organization, should be sent to Chairman Ewing at the Raleigh Hotel, Washington, D. C.

In order that every detail of the reunion may operate like clockwork, Col. Robert N. Harper, general chairman, has named committees of prominent citizens of Washington covering every angle of coming events. These committees and their chairmen are: