
MINUTES
OF THE
FIRST ANNUAL MEETING
AND REUNION
OF THE
United Confederate Veterans



Held in the City of Chattanooga, Tenn.

JULY 3rd, 1890.

Gen'l J. B. GORDON, General Commanding.

Col. D. A. GIVEN, Secretary.

1891.

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PROCEEDINGS.

FIRST RÉUNION UNITED CONFEDERATE VÉTÉRANS
CHATTANOOGA, JULY 3, 1890.

The meeting was called to order by Col. J. F. Shipp, Chairman of the local Executive Committee, who introduced the Hon. Xenophon Wheeler (representing the Mayor), who welcomed the Veterans in an eloquent and polished address, which was responded to in feeling terms by Jno. B. Gordon, General Commanding the United Confederate Veterans.

Col. Shipp in a few remarks, nominated Col. D. A. Given, of New Orleans as Secretary, and he was elected unanimously.

Gen C. A. Evans moved, and it was duly seconded, that a committee of seven be appointed by the chair on revision of the Constitution, to report back to the reunion at 4 o'clock, p. m.; said Committee to meet at the "Read House at 2 o'clock, p. m., carried, and the General Commanding appointed the following comrades on said committee, viz:

Gen. C. A. Evans, Chairman; Gen. E. Kirby Smith, Gen. W. L. Cabell, Col. D. A. Given, Col. S. F. Washington, Col. Leon Jastremski, Dr. J. Wm. Jones.

Col. Shipp requested those members of Gen. Jno. B. Gordon's staff, now in the city, to meet at the rooms of N. B. Forrest Camp, at 1 o'clock p. m.

Gen. E. Kirby Smith was introduced, and after delivering a telling speech, requested his staff to meet at the Read House at 3 o'clock, p. m.

Gen. Tige Anderson was then called upon and bowed his thanks.

Gen. W. L. Cabell was called for and delivered a most excellent speech.

Capt. Kell was called for and made an appropriate reply.

Gen. Evans was loudly called for and made a most eloquent and stirring speech.

Col. J. F. Shipp announced an entertainment, to be given in the present tent, at 8 o'clock, p. m., for the benefit of the monument fund to the memory of the "Wizard of the Saddle."—N. B. Forrest—and invited all present to attend.

All Chaplains present were requested to meet at Dr. Bockman's, at 5 o'clock, p. m.

Surgeon General, Joseph Jones, requested the medical corps to meet at the Stanton House at 3 o'clock, p. m.

There being no further business, upon motion the reunion adjourned to meet at 4 o'clock, p. m.

D. A. GIVEN, Secretary.

EVENING SESSION, 4:15 P. M.

Reunion met pursuant to adjournment, Gen. Jno. B. Gordon, commanding, in the chair, and Col. D. A. Given, Secretary, at his post.

Secretary Given, by request of Gen. Evans, Chairman, read the report of the Committee on Revision of the Constitution, which being read article by article, was adopted, and upon motion was unanimously adopted as a whole.

Col. Given, by request, made a few appropriate remarks and read a memorial from "The Christian Woman's Exchange," of New Orleans, which was received with great enthusiasm.

Secretary Given was instructed to notify the Christian Woman's Exchange, of the approval, thanks and support of the United Confederate Veterans, in what they had already done and proposed to do.

A memorial from "Sons of Confederate Soldiers" asking authority from this body to organize throughout the United States, organizations as auxiliary to said United Confederate Veterans, was presented in a speech by one of their delegates as follows, viz:

MEMORIAL FROM CONFEDERATES' SONS.

HEADQUARTERS F. M. WALKER CAMP No. 1, }
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS. }

CHATTANOOGA, July 3, 1890.

United Confederate Veterans, Jno. B. Gordon Commanding:

At a meeting of Frank M. Walker Camp, and visiting Sons of Confederate Soldiers, in the city, held this day at 3 p. m., a committee was chosen, as undersigned, to memorailize your organization with a view to establish throughout the United States an organization to be known as the United Sons of Confederate Soldiers.

In pursuance of this duty thus imposed, we respectfully submit the following.

Inasmuch as through the unalterable laws of nature the participants in the great struggle between the States are rapidly passing away and only a few years remain until even the youngest of them will have crossed over to join their comrades in the great "Beyond;" and honoring our fathers who fought in the forces of the Confederate States, and desiring in some substantial way to prove our esteem for them as men and due admiration for their valor and courage as soldiers; and to the end that we may aid in the perpetuating the story of their prowess in the greatest war of modern times, and that history shall do them and their memory justice, and that a fair and impartial record of their deeds and the causes for which they fought may be kept; and further to render aid and assistance to our fathers, members of the Veterans' organization of the country in all their efforts at fraternization, and in keeping alive a keen interest in the sentiments that should actuate all patriotic organizations.

We, therefore, petition you to take some action looking toward the chartering of the Sons of Confederate Soldiers, so that they may by authority effect a permanent organization, acting under one general charter and having one central, grand aim as outlined above.

Believing that the desire for such an organization is general among the young men of the South, we respectfully ask that action be taken by you at as early an hour as possible, so that our general organization may be perfected without unnecessary delay.

T. R. GRESS, Atlanta, Chairman.

S. M. PAYNE, Atlanta.

A. W. EDENS, South Carolina.

S. T. RUCKER,

L. G. WALKER,

S. P. DODSON,

of F. M. Walker Camp, Chattanooga.

Upon motion of Dr. J. Wm. Jones, duly seconded, it was referred to the Committee on Revision of Constitution, Gen. Evans, Chairman, with full power and authority to act. Said Committee on Revision met the committee from "Sons of Confederate Soldiers," and after some little explanation and discussion, the following resolution was offered by Col. D. A. Given, and seconded by Gen. W. L. Cabell, which was unanimously adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the United Confederate Veterans authorize and recognize all organization of "The Sons and Daughters of Confederate Veterans (not *soldiers*), throughout the United States, provided the said organizations or associations shall *first* submit their Constitution and By-Laws to the General commanding the United Confederate Veterans, for his sanction, approval and authority to organize.

The following resolutions were offered by Gen. C. A. Evans, seconded by Gen. W. L. Cabell, and after glorious speeches by both of these comrades, were unanimously adopted as follows, viz:

The United Confederate Veterans in their first annual convention assembled, desire to say to the South that they will regard it as a high privilege to have committed to them the sacred duty of carrying forward the plans already projected at New Orleans for erecting a suitable monument to the memory of Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States. Their organization originated amidst the solemn scenes of his death, and it appeared then as it does now, most fitting that such a body should be the agent through which multitudes who revered the great chieftain might express their admiration of his virtues, their veneration for his character, and their appreciation of his martial and civic heroism in adversity as illustrated in his life.

No prejudice, passion nor partisan politics becloud this proper and patriotic purpose to display that high veneration in which the dead President is regarded, and to represent in durable stone to future generations the esteem in which the Confederate cause was held by Southern men. His monument will signify an embalming of his personal dignity within the furled folds of the Southern flag, not to be the spot where future people will come to foster sectional strife, but where they will be inspired afresh with the sentiment of lofty, heroic patriotism.

The United Confederate Veterans are men incapable of cherishing other feelings than those of the noblest toward the common country in all its broad dominion. Their affection for each other as comrades in march, camp and battle where they enjoyed victory or suffered defeat; their admiration for their great leaders, living and dead, their pride in Southern valor; their devotion to the Heaven-favored land of the South; their purpose to preserve an impartial history and to perpetuate the

glorious memories of the great war are not inconsistent with their proven fidelity to the terms of their surrender; their manifest appreciation of the heroism of the Union veteran; their patriotic allegiance to the Government of the United States; their enthusiastic cheers with which they greet our country's flag; their willingness to unite with all sections to build up the whole commonwealth, their resentment of any foreign invasion of the common rights or realm; and their readiness to give themselves, their sons and their fortunes in defense of this great Union of free and sovereign States.

The monument which they wish to erect will be of that chaste, simple and suggestive form appropriate to the character of the Chieftain and to the sentiment of the South. As no passion prompts its construction, so no mere pride of display will be the motive of this expression of their regard. They would make that monument become the voice of the noble-hearted Southern people who will not, because of adversity, forget the chivalrous, sincere, devoted man who was their civil leader in war and their example of dignified submission in defeat.

With these views the United Confederate Veterans beg permission to unite with all associations formed for the purpose of raising the funds required for this appropriate monument, and would call upon the entire South as well as on every admirer of heroism anywhere, to share in this expression of a common sentiment. Therefore,

Resolved, That the General of this organization appoint a Central Committee to have charge of this movement, of which Committee he shall be the Chairman, and that this Committee confer and co-operate with other associations, appoint other Committees and proceed at once to organize the most suitable plans for carrying out this object with the least delay possible."

Col. Given arose and said that the ladies of the "Christian Woman's Exchange," of New Orleans, with whom the movement for a monument to our lamented President originated desired to state that all their collections and donations would be through the United Confederate Veterans; received with cheers and "God bless them."

Election of officers for the ensuing year being in order, the following comrades were elected by acclamation amidst great enthusiasm, viz:

Jno. B. Gordon, General commanding; W. L. Cabell,

Lieutenant General Trans-Mississippi Department; E. Kirby Smith, Lieutenant General East of Mississippi Department.

Upon motion of Dr. Joseph Jones, Surgeon General, a committee composed of the General commanding and staff, were appointed to devise the best plan for caring for indigent Confederate soldiers.

The question regarding the place of next reunion having arisen, several cities were placed in nomination, but upon motion being made, duly seconded and carried, the time and place for the next reunion was left with the General commanding and staff, with full power and authority to act.

The following resolution was offered by Col. D. A. Given, and passed unanimously, viz:

Resolved, That the badge of the United Confederate Veterans shall be the Confederate battle flag (square in shape), with the initials *U. C. V.*, the size of which to be adproved by the General commanding, and a record filed at General Headquarters.

Col. Colquitt offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the thanks of all visiting Confederates are hereby extended to N. B. Forrest Camp, and to the citizens of Chattanooga, for their splendid reception and generous hospitality during our stay in this city.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Convention is instructed to furnish a copy of these resolutions to the Commander of N. B. Forrest Camp and to the daily papers of Chattanooga.

The following parties handed the Secretary their credentials, authorized as delegates to the reunion on behalf of their camps, viz:

Army of Northern Virginia, New Orleans—F. S. Washington, chairman; L. Jastremski, E. D. Willett, J. Moore Wilson and L. Smith.

Association Army of Tennessee, Louisiana Division—R. D. Scriven, chairman; Jno. Glynn, Jr., L. J. Fremaux, James H. Duggan, R. W. Gillespie, E. L. Bower, John K. Renaud.

Veteran Confederate States' Cavalry, Louisiana Division—D. A. Given, chairman; J. B. Donally.

Washington Artillery, Louisiana Division—Chas. G. Johnson, C. L. C. Dupuy.

Bivouac of Confederate Veterans, Shreveport, La.—D. Holland.

Confederate States' Veterans' Association of North Louisiana, Ruston, La.—Judge Allen Barksdale.

Coldwell Bivouac, Russellville, Ky.—Joe B. Briggs.

Turney Bivouac, Winchester, Tenn.—R. G. Slaughter, Robert Harris.

Bartow Camp, Cartersville, Ga.—A. M. Foute, W. A.

Anderson Bivouac No. 21, Tullahoma, Tenn.—Dr. G. D. Buckner, John P. Bennett, Dr. J. B. Cowan, W. S. Daniel, Jas. Ferrell, J. M. Travis, W. L. Norton, W. T. Wilson, J. F. Mitchell, W. H. McLemore, J. G. Aydelott.

Troup County, Ga., Veteran Association—W. B. Jones, R. S. Foster, J. E. Toole, E. T. Winn.

Floyd County, (Ga.), Confederate Veterans—J. W. Turner. Dr. C. S. Harris, J. F. Wardlaw, J. A. May, W. H. Camp, J. E. Moore, A. D. Hardin, F. W. Carroll, J. M. Perkins.

Confederate Veterans, Campbell County, Ga.—Jno. M. James.

Veterans of Shelby and Panola County, Texas—Cicero Smith, James Blackenship.

Hall County, Ga.—Geo. W. Johnson.

Shackelford Bivouac, Tennessee—J. H. Holman, F. M. Kelso, R. J. Small,—Crump.

Ex-Confederate Association of Chicago, Ill.—Jno. I. Kendall, R. H. Stewart.

Confederate Veterans' Association, Talladega, Ala—R. F. Cauley.

And very many other Ex-Confederates of good record, who met with us to assist in forming a permanent and lasting Association of United Confederate Veterans. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to take part in the parade of the morrow (4th of July), and to lend their aid in properly celebrating the "Natal day" of our common country, subject to the call of the General commanding, who will appoint date and place of the next reunion.

D. A. GIVEN, Secretary.