IN MEMORIAM

C. H. Grant

Academy of Music, Jersey City,

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7th, 1885.
THE NATION MOURNS A PRESIDENT

An outpouring of national grief took place in the days following the death of Ulysses S. Grant in 1885. Services were held throughout the country to honor the former General and President. The most notable of these ceremonies occurred in New York City.

On Thursday August 6, 1885, hundreds of thousands viewed the casket of Ulysses S. Grant at City Hall in New York City. At times 150 people passed by the casket per minute, and the crowds continued to file past until 1 o’clock A.M when the gates of City Hall Closed. The following day the scene was much the same.

On Saturday, August 8, there was a vast funeral procession led by Major General Hancock and his staff for President Grant. The procession marched all the way from City Hall to Riverside Park where Grant’s body was placed in the temporary tomb.

THE GREAT COMMANDER LYING IN STATE IN THE CITY HALL, N.Y.
The New York Times reported the events of Grant's funeral in New York City as follows:

A NATION AT A TOMB
THE REUNITED REPUBLIC BURES GENERAL GRANT

The day broke heavy as though the smoke of his hundred battles yet hung in the sky. Before dawn the hum of busy preparation began; by 8 o'clock it had strengthened to a roar; a hundred ferries and trains brought their myriads to the host already gathered, and there were 1,500,000 people in the streets before the great hour was tolled. Broadway moved like a river into which many tributaries were poured. At first the movement was downward and rapid, but the great street soon filled to its limit, and the incoming streams were turned back and set like a tide to the north, sweeping up Fifth Avenue to the park and thence along the winding route to be traveled, until there was one living mass choking the thoroughfare from where the dead lay in state to the grim gates at Riverside open to receive him. Such a crowd had never been gathered within the city before. It was orderly, quiet, respectful; eager to secure a place of vantage, yet obedient to the sway of those who guarded the dignity of the occasion. By 9 o'clock every balcony, window and door commanding a view of the line of march was teeming, the roofs and cornices swarmed, there was not an accessible point, however high and dangerous, but had its observer; men climbed the telegraph poles and clung to the wires; boys were high in the trees, carriages and wagons thronged the crossings where the police would allow them, and furnished eminences from which hundreds could see; the statues in the squares were black with climbers, and even the lamp posts granted many a foothold. The clouds had now parted, and the west wind was filling the sky with torn and drifting fleece, through which the sunshine sifted. Travel was blocked, and the tenantless cars stood in long lines before the barriers, while the carriages hurrying to and fro were compelled to make long detours to reach their destinations. Those who came late, and they were thousands, used every effort to reach the street, but soon saw the hopelessness of the task and wandered up Fifth or Sixth Avenue to try again at some distant point.

The concourse at Madison Square was most impressive. From the roof of the Fifth Avenue Hotel to 20 feet beyond the curb there was not a foot of accessible space untenanted. Beyond the ranks of the watchers gathered a mass of vehicles of every description, filling Broadway to Twenty-second Street. An unbroken line of them stretched to Fourth Avenue, the horses grateful for the unwonted rest. Suddenly there was a stir. The police made a concerted movement and the people were forced back. The Twenty-second Regiment of 500 strong marched by column of fours into the triangle and swung into line fronting the hotel. A battery of artillery rumbled heavily by, the stout horses straining at theirgrim load; the jolting caissons bearing the gunners; a whirl of angry red and flashing metal, and they had passed, taking position on the Twenty-second's right. Detachments of the Grand Army, with somber dress, crape on every arm, and on every breast the bronze medal of service, came to the measured throb of their muffled drums, swinging into place with the sturdy step they had learned on gallant fields long ago.

A murmur ran through the gathered multitude, and every head bent forward. The Captains spoke sharply and a thousand lifted muskets glittered together. And so they passed, the legions of New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Virginia, Connecticut, Georgia, Minnesota, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia – all martial and reliant, for East or West, North or South, the soldier of this flag is the same; the van passed upward and over the hill and beyond; for two hours the
platoons in close order had gone rapidly by, and yet from Fourteenth Street up was the same harmonious flowing of sparkle and color. Band succeeded band and regiment regiment in quick succession, but the pulse of the drums beat to the same sad strain, and the downward weapons and trailing standards told the same solemn story. But now a brigade trod by and there was emptiness and a hush.

The dead Conqueror. There under a canopy as of night, where the sun kissed the purple and silver that hid him, he came; not leading, but led; not victorious, but himself surrendered. From the throats of flute and clarinet and tuba the sighs and sobbings of the Nations were voiced in the softest, saddest music, but no heart could be struck deeper than by the sight of that reverent blackness that bore him as a cloud. Around him the men who had shared his suffering and his honors from Palo Alto to Appomattox; the Chief Magistrate and the honored of the people were in his train. The place of teeming thousands was stilled as by the awe of a temple, as this greatest of the great went onward to his grave. The universal gaze was drawn at the first herald of his coming; it followed steadfastly until distance had shut its gates upon the view; even after all had gone it still lingered. Then the rattle of many wheels and mourners and delegates, ambassadors and companions joined the line. Half a mile of these and then strode the comrades of his camps and battles.
Onward to the old commander's grave. His last march was nearing the final camp. At last came the halt, and through the ranks of his resting soldiers, as many a time before when he had approved them for their valor, he passed to his couch. For the last time the light of earth rested upon his coffin. Then he was shut away. Now leaped from the mouths of a hundred guns the red gleam and the thunder and cloud of the salute. From the hill the angry muzzles shot their clamors and the battle cloud billowed and rolled above the pennons and spars of the answering river. Land and sea spoke their highest tribute. The soldier was at rest.

Illustrations from The Life and Public Services of General U.S. Grant by Herman Dieck and Life of General Grant by Poore and Tifffany.
GRANT COTTAGE NEWS

- On August 8 The Ulysses S. Grant Cottage State Historic Site at Mt. McGregor, NY will present a program of readings commemorating Grant's death and funeral. On that same day they will also present a commentary on the General and Mrs. Grant with music by Linda Russell.

- Attendance is up at Grant Cottage this year and is partially being attributed to the recent comparisons being made between Clinton's current autobiography and Grant's Memoirs.

- The Cottage is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M through Labor Day. For further information and details about programs call 518-587-8277
Obsequies of Gen'l U. S. Grant,

NEW YORK CITY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 7 AND 8, 1885

IN MEMORY OF THE SUCCESSFUL GENERAL AND HONORED STATESMAN

The Dead Chieftain
TO RECEIVE UNEXAMPLED HONORS FROM THE NATION.

The Civilization World to Participate in the Funeral Ceremonies.

Army and Navy
Grand Army
Civil Societies TO BE REPRESENTED.

The Remains to Lie in State.

Round-trip Tickets to be sold for Regular and Special Trains over the WEST SHORE RY.

Emblems of mourning are conspicuously displayed on business houses and residences.

The remains of General Grant will lie in state in the City Hall, New-York, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, August 6th, 7th and 8th, 1885, giving to all who desire to pay a last tribute of respect to the illustrious soldier, the coveted opportunity to view all that is mortal of one beloved by his countrymen and whom nations have delighted to honor. His name and fame are imperishable.

FOR the benefit of those desiring to participate in or witness the obsequies of General ULYSSES S. GRANT,

- ROUND-TRIP TICKETS TO NEW-YORK AND RETURN -

will be sold at all offices of WEST SHORE RAILWAY, for Regular and Special Trains, on WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 6, 7 and 8, 1885.

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RETURN TRAINS leave New-York City from foot of Jay Street, and from foot of West Forty-Second Street, as usual; except that on the evening of Saturday, August 8th, as many sections of regular trains will be run as may be required to accommodate the travel.

ROUND-TRIP TICKETS WILL BE GOOD GOING ON ALL REGULAR AND SPECIAL TRAINS UNTIL AUGUST 8TH, AND RETURNING BY REGULAR AND SPECIAL TRAINS ANY TIME WITHIN THIRTY DAYS FROM DATE OF SALE.

Purchase your Round-Trip Tickets by the popular West Shore Railway,
The only line with new and comfortable cars and possessing an Up-Town Station at foot of West Forty-Second Street, and Down-town Station foot of Jay Street, within a few blocks of the City Hall, where the remains of General Grant are to lie in state.

HENRY MONETT, General Passenger Agent.
GRANT MEETING IN WASHINGTON D.C.

The Ulysses S. Grant Association held a weekend-long meeting in Washington D.C. this April and provided members with an impressive variety of Grant-related activities. One of the highlights of the weekend included a presentation of “Grant Seen and Heard,” written by John Y. Simon and Harold Holtzer. The program illustrated Grant’s life through slides with narratives and quotes performed live by Harold Holtzer and Judge Frank J. Williams. Another notable presentation took place at the Library of Congress, where John Sellers of the manuscript division displayed some significant Grant holdings, to include the original manuscript of Grant’s Memoirs, as well as some of Grant’s correspondence. A tour of the city included a trip to the Smithsonian to view some of the Grant items on display there, as well as a stop at the Grant Memorial, an impressive equestrian statue of Grant in front of the Capitol. After a dinner at the George Washington University Club, an organization that owns some furniture that formerly belonged to Grant, Ulysses Grant Dietz, a great-great grandson of Ulysses S. Grant, presented a slide show concerning his famous ancestor.

FORMER SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE WRITES ABOUT GRANT

Those who relish “what if” historical fiction might be interested in the new novel, Grant Comes East by Newt Gingrich and co-author historian William Forstchen. Gingrich and Forstchen also co-authored the fictional book Gettysburg last year. Grant Comes East, published in June 2004 by Thomas Dunne Books (ISBN 0312309376) is available through Amazon.com and other bookstores.
GRANT’S MEMOIRS IN THE NEWS

Former President Bill Clinton’s recent autobiography, *My Life*, has generated some comparisons to Grant’s Memoirs in the past few weeks. According to the article “What’s Written in Grant’s Tome” by Dinitia Smith in the *The New York Times* (Sunday, June 27, 2004) many critics have not found Clinton’s book to be as gripping as Grant’s; some have even labeled it boring. Mark Perry, author of the recent book, *Grant and Twain*, said that *My Life* is not written as well as Grant’s Memoirs. Larry McMurtry, also of *The New York Times*, takes issue with the comparison saying that Grant’s “autobiography is about being a general in a big war” while “Clinton’s is about being a president at the end of the 20th century.” Nevertheless, Grant’s autobiography has stood the test of time and is still considered to be one of the greatest literary accomplishments by a former president. Gertrude Stein wrote that it was “one of the most unflinching studies of war in our literature.” Edmund Wilson praised it in his book, *Patriotic Gore: Studies in the Literature of the American Civil War*, and compared it to Caesar’s Commentaries.

COLORIZED $50 BILL

The Federal Reserve recently announced that the new multi-colored $50 bill will be released September 28, 2004. The new bills will still feature Ulysses S. Grant on the front and the U.S. Capitol on the back, however the oval borders and fine lines surrounding the portrait of Grant will be removed and the shoulders will extend into the border. The colorful new bill will have subtle touches of red, blue, and yellow, and will also feature a waving American flag and a small metallic silver-blue star. The traditional stars and stripes of the flag will be printed in blue and red behind the portrait of Grant. A field of blue stars will be located to the left of the portrait and three red stripes to the right. These details and the colorizing of the bill will make it more difficult for counterfeiters to copy. The new design incorporates several other anti-counterfeiting features such as an embedded plastic strip, a watermark image, and color-shifting ink which changes appearance as it is tilted against the light. When the bill is held up to the light a watermark, similar to the larger portrait of Grant, will be seen. This watermark is part of the paper itself and will be visible from both sides of the note.