THE HISTORY
OF
OUR COUNTRY
FROM THE DISCOVERY
OF AMERICA TO THE
PRESENT TIME

BY
EDWARD S. ELLIS, A. M.


INCLUDING A
COMPREHENSIVE HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION, COPIOUS ANNOTATIONS,
A LIST OF AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES, ETC.
COMPLETE IN EIGHT VOLUMES.

PROPRIETE AND BEAUTIFULLY ILLUSTRATED. MAPS, CHARTS, PORTRAITS, FAMOUS HISTORIC SCENES AND EVENTS, AND A SERIES OF BEAUTIFUL POLYCHROMATIC PLATES IN BRILLIANT COLORS, EXACT COPIES OF FAMOUS HISTORICAL PAINTINGS.

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CHAPTER XCVI

M'KINLEY'S ADMINISTRATION — 1897—(CONTINUED)

[Authorities: To anyone who sees in passing events signs of things that are to come, perhaps nothing connected with the events described in this chapter has deeper significance than the words, “Let us have peace.” They fell from the lips of Grant when he was at the zenith of his power. Carved in granite they look down upon the silence of his final rest. They are instinct with philosophy, and express a universal yearning for “Peace on earth and good will towards men.” And this peace is coming. Great as are the achievements of such leaders of men as he who rests in that beautiful mausoleum, they are only means to an end. They do not delay, but hasten the approach of the time when all men shall be at peace. They stimulate those discoveries in the art of warfare that, sooner or later, will convert into monuments of human folly the mighty battleships of which nations are now so proud, and upon which they so confidently rely. The means for human destruction will become so effective as to render war only national folly. Whether the fame of the great captains of the world will be dimmed by these new conditions might perhaps be an interesting question for speculation.

The authorities for the matter in this chapter are so numerous and so well known to the reader that it is not deemed necessary to cite them.]

The bones of the leaders of the great Civil War are widely scattered. Sherman sleeps on the banks of the Mississippi; Sheridan at Arlington, across the Potomac from Washington; Major Anderson, of Fort Sumter, Generals KIlpatrick, Sykes, and Keyes at West Point; John A. Dix in Trinity Cemetery on Washington Heights; Frémont in Rockland Cemetery on the Hudson; McClellan at Trenton; Burnside in Rhode Island; Hooker at Cincinnati; Meade in Philadelphia; Lyon at Eastford, Conn.; Cushing (the destroyer of the Albermarle) in the Naval Cemetery at Annapolis; Hancock at Norristown, Pa.; Farragut at Woodlawn Cemetery, New York; Phil Kearny, the “one-armed devil,” in Trinity churchyard, New York;
McPherson at Clyde, Ohio; Mansfield at Middletown, Conn.; J. F. Reynolds at Lancaster, Pa.; Logan in the National Cemetery at the Soldiers' Home, Washington; Slocum at Washington; Butler at Lowell, Mass.; Crook, the Indian fighter, Harney of the regulars, Doubleday, Gibbon, with Admirals Porter and Jenkins, and Rear-Admirals Queen, Johnson, Shufeldt, and more than a score of other heroes rest with Sheridan at Arlington.

The little town of Lexington, Va., holds the ashes of Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson, while those of Jeb Stuart and Pickett repose in the Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond. Near Westbrook, close to Richmond, lies the body of A. P. Hill. Jo Johnston was buried in Greenmount Cemetery, Baltimore; Polk underneath the chancel of St. Paul's church at Augusta, Ga.; Albert Sidney Johnston was the only army commander killed in battle; Beauregard was buried in Metairie Cemetery, New Orleans; Forrest at Elmwood Cemetery, Memphis; Semmes in New Orleans; Armistead at Gettysburg, and Garnett among the unknown dead in the same historic town.

General Grant will always remain the overshadowing military leader connected with the War for the Union. It was he who directed the decisive and closing campaign of that mighty struggle for the life of the nation, and a grateful republic will never fail to do honor to his memory.

The life and achievements of Grant have been so fully set forth in the preceding pages that a repetition of them is unnecessary. The following analysis of his character, however, is so clear and truthful that it deserves permanent record. It was written by Lieut.-Gen. John M. Schofield, an intimate and trusted friend of the great soldier:

"General Sherman wrote that he could not understand Grant, and doubted if Grant understood himself. A very distinguished statesman, whose name I need not mention, said to me that in his opinion there was nothing special in Grant to understand. Others have varied widely in their estimates of that extraordinary character. Yet I believe its most extraordinary quality was its extreme simplicity, so extreme that many have entirely overlooked it in their search for some deeply hidden secret to account for so great a character, unmindful of the general fact that simplicity is one of the most prominent attributes of greatness.

"The greatest of all the traits of Grant's character was that
which lay always on the surface, visible to all who had eyes to see it.
That was his moral and intellectual honesty, integrity, sincerity,

veracity, and justice. He was incapable of any attempt to deceive anybody, except for a legitimate purpose, as in military strategy; and above all, he was incapable of deceiving himself. He possessed
that rarest of all human faculties, the power of a perfectly accurate estimate of himself, uninfluenced by vanity, pride, ambition, flattery, or self-interest. Grant was very far from being a modest man, as that word is generally understood. His just self-esteem was as far above it as it was above flattery. The highest encomiums were accepted for what he believed them to be worth. They did not disturb his equilibrium in the slightest degree. Confiding, just, and generous to everybody else, he treated with silent contempt any suggestion that he had been unfaithful to any obligation. He was too proud to explain where his honor was questioned.

"While Grant knew his own merits as well as anybody did, he also knew his own imperfections and estimated them at their real value. For example, his inability to speak in public, which produced the impression of extreme modesty or diffidence, he accepted simply as a fact in his nature which was of little or no consequence and which he did not even care to conceal. He would not for many years even take the trouble to jot down a few words in advance, so as to be able to say something when called upon. Indeed, I believe he would have regarded it as an unworthy attempt to appear in a false light if he had made preparations in advance for an 'extemporaneous' speech. Even when he did in later years write some notes on the back of a dinner-card, he would take care to let everybody see that he had done so by holding the card in plain view while he read his little speech. After telling a story in which the facts had been modified somewhat to give the greater effect, which no one could enjoy more than he did, Grant would take care to explain exactly in what respects he had altered the facts for the purpose of increasing the interest in his story, so that he might not leave any wrong impression.

"When Grant's attention was called to any mistake he had committed, he would see and admit it as quickly and unreservedly as if it had been made by anybody else. and with a smile which expressed the exact opposite of that feeling which most men are apt to show under like circumstances. His love of truth and justice was so far above all personal considerations that he showed unmistakable evidence of gratification when any error into which he might have fallen was corrected. The fact that he had made a mistake and that it was plainly pointed out to him did not produce the slightest unpleasant impression, while the further fact that no harm had resulted from
his mistake gave him real pleasure. In Grant’s judgment, no case in which any wrong had been done could possibly be regarded as finally settled until that wrong was righted, and if he himself had been, in any sense, a party to that wrong, he was the more earnest in his desire to see justice done. While he thus showed a total absence of any false pride of opinion or of knowledge, no man could be firmer than he in adherence to his mature judgment, nor more ear-

nest in his determination, on proper occasions, to make it understood that his opinion was his own and not borrowed from anybody else. His pride in his own mature opinion was very great; in that he was as far as possible from being a modest man. This absolute confidence in his own judgment upon any subject which he had mastered and the moral courage to take upon himself alone the highest responsibility, and to demand full authority and freedom to act according to his own judgment, without interference from anybody, added to his accurate estimate of his own ability and his clear perception of the necessity for undivided authority and responsibility in the conduct of military operations, and in all that concerns the efficiency of armies in time of war, constituted the foundation of that very great character.
"When summoned to Washington to take command of all the armies, with the rank of Lieutenant-General, he determined, before he reached the capital, that he would not accept the command under any other conditions than those above stated. His sense of honor and of loyalty to the country would not permit him to consent to be placed in a false position, one in which he could not perform the service which the country had been led to expect from him, and he had the courage to say so in unqualified terms.

"These traits of Grant’s character must now be perfectly familiar to all who have studied his history, as well as to those who enjoyed familiar intercourse with him during his life. They are the traits of character which made him, as it seems to me, a very great man, the only man of our time, so far as we know, who possessed both the character and the military ability which were, under the circumstances, indispensable in the commander of the armies which were to suppress the great rebellion.

"It has been said that Grant, like Lincoln, was a typical American, and for that reason was most beloved and respected by the people. That is true of the statesman and of the soldier, as well as of the people, if it is meant that they were the highest type, that ideal which commands the respect and admiration of the highest and best in a man’s nature, however far he may know it to be above himself. The soldiers and the people saw in Grant or in Lincoln, not one of themselves, nor a plain man of the people, nor yet some superior being whom they could not understand, but the personification of their highest ideal of a citizen, soldier, or statesman, a man whose greatness they could see and understand as plainly as they could anything else under the sun. And there was no more mystery about it all in fact than there was in the popular mind."

It having been decided that the body of General Grant should be buried in New York, with the right of sepulture of his widow beside the remains, she selected Riverside as the final resting-place. The task of providing a suitable tomb then confronted his friends.

By the close of September, 1866, the subscriptions to the monument fund amounted to $82,669.69, and in February following the legislature incorporated “the Grant Monument Association.” Subscriptions then virtually stood still for several years, though considerable additions were made in 1890 and 1891. The one man, under Gen. Horace Porter, who deserves our admiring gratitude for bring-
SCENE AT THE GRANT TOMB—DEDICATED APRIL 27th, 1897
ing the subscriptions to a triumphant success was Edward F. Cragin, of Chicago. In the face of obstacles that not one in a thousand would have faced, he set to work, and by his ability, his tact, his daring, and his untiring vigor, he raised $350,000 in a period of six weeks, that making every dollar required. Then, accepting a modest fee for his services, he returned to Chicago.

Ground had been broken with appropriate ceremonies on the an-

niversary of Grant's birthday, April 27, 1891, on the site of River-
side Drive and 123d Street, and one year later the corner-stone was laid by President Harrison.

The lower section of the grand sepulchre, which was planned by John H. Duncan, measures 90 feet on a side, is square in shape, and of the Grecian-Doric order. On the south side the entrance is guarded by a portico in double lines of columns, approached by steps 70 feet in width. The structure is surmounted with a cornice and a parapet at a height of 72 feet, above which rises a circular cupola, 70 feet in diameter, terminating in a pyramidal top, 150 feet above grade, and 280 feet above the Hudson River.
The architecture is severe but noble. The interior gives a cruciform plan, 76 feet in greatest length. Piers of masonry at the corners are connected by arches forming recesses. The arches reach a height of 50 feet above the floor, and over them is an open circular gallery, surmounted by a panelled dome, 105 feet above the floor. The plane and round surfaces are ornamented with sculpture in alto-rilievo, depicting scenes in General Grant's career. This sculpture is by J. Massey Rhind. The granite used in the structure is very light in color, and the sarcophagus is made of brilliant reddish porphyry. The crypt is directly under the centre of the dome, and stairways lead to the passage surrounding the sarcophagus where in time will rest the remains of General Grant's widow.

The removal of the remains of General Grant to their last resting-place in the new and magnificent tomb on Morningside Heights overlooking the beautiful and historic Hudson was attended by one of the most imposing sights ever witnessed in the metropolis of America. The demonstration consisted of three great spectacles,—the ceremony at the tomb; the grand parade of the army, the
National Guard, and civic bodies, and the review of the navy and
the merchant marine on the Hudson.

Among those gathered to witness the formal transfer were the
President and Vice-President of the United States, many state gov-
ernors, representatives of other nations, and distinguished American
citizens. On our picturesque Hudson, now honored by the presence
of the tomb, were brought together some of the mightiest ships of
war ever assembled in this country, with representatives from other
nations, and a vast array of merchantmen, all brilliant with marine
bunting. The water-front from 125th Street to the Battery, and
from Whitehall up the East River to the Bridge, was decorated with
the beautiful colors of our glorious flag, and with flags of other na-
tions, while the city throbbed for hours with the tramping of thou-
sands of marching feet, the rumble of artillery, and the tread of
horses’ hoofs. There were 60,000 men in the line of the land
parade, which took more than six hours to pass a given point.

The day was very disagreeable. It was unusually cold, and
marked by gusts of wind, which often filled the air with blinding
dust, and made the situation of the spectators extremely uncomfort-
able; but, unmindful of this, most of them remained in their places
until the close, unwilling to lose even a portion of the remarkable
demonstration.

At twenty minutes to eleven the booming of guns from the river
fleet, followed by cheers, announced the coming of the Presidential
party on their way to the dedication-stand. They were escorted
by Squadron A, while the Grant family were under the escort
of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee, New York Command-
ery, and Military Order of the Loyal Legion, with four comrades
of George G. Meade Post, No. 1, G. A. R., Department of Penn-
sylvania, in carriages, all under the command of Gen. Daniel But-
terfield.

The Presidential party included Secretary Sherman, Secretary
Bliss, Secretary Russell A. Alger and Mrs. Alger, Attorney-General
and Mrs. James McKenna, Secretary and Mrs. James Wilson, Gen-
eral Miles, Mrs. Miles, daughter, and aide.

The occupants of the Grant carriage were Mrs. Julia D. Grant,
Mrs. Frederick D. Grant, Miss Julia Grant, Master U. S. Grant
third, U. S. Grant, Jr., Mrs. U. S. Grant, Jr., Miss Marion Grant,
Master Grant, Mrs. Julia Grant, Mrs. Fannie Grant, Master U. S.
Grant fourth, Mrs. Nellie Grant Sartoris, Algernon Sartoris, Miss Vivian Sartoris, Miss Rosemary Sartoris, Jesse Grant, Mrs. Jesse Grant, Miss Nellie Grant, Master Chapman Grant, Miss Virginia Grant Corbin, and M. J. Cramer, Mrs. M. J. Cramer, and Mrs. Jesse Cramer.

Next came the diplomatic corps, led by the British Ambassador, followed by the French and German Ambassadors, and the Mexican, Swiss, Danish, Portuguese, Turkish, and Belgian ministers, and the ministers of Ecuador. Amid repeated applause President McKinley appeared at the door of the tomb, and, linking arms with Mayor Strong, descended the platform to the speaker's desk. Ex-President Cleveland seated himself beside the President, and the two talked together with every appearance of the best of good fellowship.

The exercises opened with prayer by Bishop Newman, who had been an intimate friend of General Grant. President McKinley was warmly welcomed as he stepped forward to speak. His address was as follows:

"A great life, dedicated to the welfare of the nation, here finds its earthly coronation. Even if this day lacked the impressiveness of ceremony and was devoid of pageantry, it
would still be memorable, because it is the anniversary of the birth of the most famous and best beloved of American soldiers.

"Architecture has paid high tribute to the leaders of mankind, but never was a memorial more worthily bestowed or more gratefully accepted by a free people than the beautiful structure before which we are gathered.

"In marking the successful completion of this work we have, as witnesses and participants, representatives of all branches of our Government, the resident officials of foreign nations, the governors of States, and the sovereign people from every section of the country, who join in the august tribute to the soldier, patriot, and citizen.

"Almost twelve years have passed since the heroic vigil ended and the heroic spirit of Ulysses S. Grant took its flight. Lincoln and Stanton had preceded him, but of the mighty captains of the war Grant was the first to be called. Sherman and Sheridan survived him, but have since joined him on the other shore. The great heroes of the civil strife on land and sea, for the most part, are now
dead. Thomas and Hancock, Logan and MacPherson, Farragut, Du Pont, and Porter, and a host of others have passed forever from human sight. Those remaining grow dearer to us, and from them and the memory of those who have departed, generations yet unborn will draw their inspiration and gather strength for patriotic purpose.

"A great life never dies; great deeds are imperishable; great names immortal. General Grant's services and character will continue undiminished in influence and advance in the estimation of mankind so long as liberty remains the corner-stone of free government and integrity of life the guarantee of good citizenship.

"Faithful and fearless as a volunteer soldier, intrepid and invincible as Commander-in-Chief of the Armies of the Union, calm and confident as President of a reunited and strengthened nation, which his genius had been instrumental in saving, he has our homage, and that of the world. We love him all the more for his home life and homely virtues. His individuality, his bearing and speech, his sim-
pie ways, had a flavor of rare and unique distinction, and his Americanism was so true and uncompromising that his name will stand for all time as the embodiment of liberty, loyalty, and national unity.

"Victorious in the work which, under Divine Providence, he was called upon to do; clothed with almost limitless power, he was yet one of the people—patient, patriotic, and just. Success did not disturb the even balance of his mind, while fame was powerless to

swerve him from the path of duty. Great as he was in war, he loved peace, and told the world that honorable arbitration of differences was the best hope of civilization.

"With Washington and Lincoln, Grant had an exalted place in the history and the affections of the people. To-day his memory is held in equal esteem by those whom he led to victory and by those who accepted his generous terms of peace. The veteran leaders of the Blue and Gray here meet not only to honor the name of Grant, but to testify to the living reality of a fraternal national spirit which has triumphed over the differences of the past and transcends the limitations of sectional lines. Its completion—which we pray God to speed—will be the nation's greatest glory.
"It is right, then, that General Grant should have a memorial commensurate with his greatness, and that his last resting-place should be the city of his choice, to which he was so attached in life and of whose ties he was not forgetful even in death. Fitting, too, is it that the great soldier should sleep beside the noble river on whose banks he first learned the art of war, and of which he became master and leader without a rival.

"But let us not forget the glorious distinction with which the metropolis among the fair sisterhood of American cities has honored his life and memory. With all that riches and sculpture can do to render the edifice worthy of the man, upon a site unsurpassed for magnificence, has this monument been reared by New York as a
perpetual record of his illustrious deeds, in the certainty that, as time passes, around it will assemble, with gratitude and reverence and veneration, men of all climes, races, and nationalities.

"New York holds in its keeping the precious dust of the silent soldier, but his achievements—what he and his brave comrades wrought for mankind—are in the keeping of seventy millions of American citizens, who will guard the sacred heritage forever and evermore."

Mayor Strong, who presided, introduced Gen. Horace Porter, the president of the Grant Monument Association, who spoke as follows:

"It is all like a dream. One can scarcely realize the lapse of time and the memorable events which have occurred since our hero President was first proclaimed one of the great of earth. The dial hands upon the celestial clock record the flight of more than a generation since the legions of America's manhood poured down from the hilltops, surged up from the valleys, knelt upon their native soil to swear eternal allegiance to the Union, and went forth to seal the oath with their blood in marching under the victorious banners of Ulysses S. Grant. To-day countless numbers of his contemporaries, their children, and their children's children gather about his tomb to give permanent sepulture to his ashes and to recall the record of his imperishable deeds.

"It is peculiarly fitting that this memorial should be dedicated in the presence of the distinguished soldier who marched in the victorious columns of his illustrious chief, and who now so worthily occupies the chair of state in which he sat. There is a source of extreme gratification and a profound significance in the fact that there are in attendance here not only the soldiers who fought under the renowned defender of the Union cause, but the leaders of armies who fought against him, all uniting in testifying to the esteem and respect which he commanded from friend and foe alike.

"This grateful duty which we discharge this day is not unmixed with sadness, for the occasion brings vividly to mind the fatal day on which his generous heart ceased to beat, and recalls the grief which fell upon the American people with a sense of pain which was akin to the sorrow of a personal bereavement; and yet it is not an occasion for tears—not a time to chant requiems or display the sable draperies of public mourning.

"He who lies within the portals of yonder tomb is not a dead
memory; he is a living reality. He has been consigned to the chamber of death, but not to the realms of forgetfulness. Our grief is calmed by the recollection of the blessings his life conferred and the fame he has left to the custody of his fellow-citizens.

“We consecrate this day a tribute to the memory of departed worth. The story of his life is the history of the most eventful epoch in his country’s annals. Upon an occasion such as this it would seem more fitting to stand silent by the tomb and let history alone speak, but it has been deemed proper that living witnesses to his virtues should pay the grateful tribute of their testimony. The allotment of time permits only a brief allusion to the achievements of his marvellous career.

“Ulysses S. Grant sprang from the loins of the American people and derived his patent of nobility direct from God. He possessed an abiding confidence in the honesty and intelligence of his fellow countrymen, and always retained his deep hold upon their affections. Even when clothed with the robes of the master he forgot not that he was still the servant of the people. In every great crisis he was content to leave the efforts to his countrymen
and the results to God. As a commander of men in the field he manifested the highest characteristics of the soldier, as evinced in every battle in which he was engaged, from Palo Alto to Appomattox. He was bold in conception, fixed in purpose, and vigorous in execution. He never allowed himself to be thrown on the defensive, but always aimed to take the initiative in battle. He made armies and not cities the objective points of his campaigns. Obstacles which would have deterred another seemed only to inspire him with greater confidence, and his soldiers soon learned to reflect much of his determination.

"His motto was, 'When in doubt, move to the front.' His sword always pointed the way to an advance; its hilt was never presented to an enemy. He once wrote in a letter to his father, 'I never expect to have an army whipped, unless it is badly whipped and can't help it.' He enjoyed a physical constitution which enabled him to endure every form of fatigue and privation incident to military service in the field. His unassuming manner, purity of character, and absolute loyalty inspired loyalty in others, confidence in his methods, and gained him the devotion of the humblest of his subordinates.

"He exhibited a rapidity of thought and action on the field which enabled him to move with a promptness rarely ever equalled, and which never failed to astonish, and often to baffle, the best efforts of a less vigorous opponent.

"A study of his martial deeds inspires us with the grandeur of events and the majesty of achievement. He did not fight for glory, but for national existence and the equality and rights of men. His sole ambition was his country's prosperity. His victories failed to elate him. In the despatches which reported his triumphs there was no word of arrogance, no exaggeration, no aim at dramatic effect. With all his self-reliance he was never betrayed into immodesty of expression.

"He never underrated himself in a battle, he never overrated himself in a report. He could not only command armies, he could command himself. Inexorable as he was in battle, war never hardened his heart or weakened the strength of his natural affections. He retained a singularly sensitive nature, a rare tenderness of feeling; shrank from the sight of blood, and was painfully alive to every form of human suffering.

"While his career as a soldier eclipsed by its brilliancy his
achievements as a statesman, yet when we sum up the events of the eight years during which he was President of the Republic, their magnitude and importance challenge comparison with those of any other Chief Magistrate since the inauguration of the Government. When he took the helm of State the country was in a condition of ferment and disorganization, which is always consequent upon a long-continued civil war.

"The Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution had not yet been ratified by the States. In the South secret societies and armed bands of lawless men were creating terror and defeating the ends of justice. The prosperity of the country was still lagging, the public debt was oppressive, and inflationists and repudiators were weakening the national credit. Our merchant marine had dwindled to a mere shadow of its former self; political rancor had envenomed whole sections of the country, Indian wars were brewing, unsettled disputes with foreign powers threatened the national peace, and the new Chief Magistrate was confronted with problems so formidable that they were enough to appall the stoutest heart and discourage the most hopeful mind.

"In the letter of acceptance of his nomination for the Presidency he uttered one of the sublimest sentences ever penned by statesman's hand, 'Let us have peace.' Of all the many aphorisms which emanated from him, this has been deemed the most fitting to engrave indelibly over the portals of his tomb. It is typical of his nature and emblematic of the eternal peace enjoyed by his soul.

"He began his administration vigorously and firmly, but he declared that he would have 'no policy of his own to enforce against the will of the people.' In his first inaugural address he urged measures to strengthen the public credit and give to the world an unquestionable pledge of financial honesty. His early experience among the Indians while he was serving on the frontier had eminently fitted him for inaugurating practical methods for improving their condition.

"He took up earnestly the work of civilizing and Christianizing them, placing them on reservations, treating them as wards of the nation, and fitting them for ultimate citizenship, and thus avoided wars and saved vast sums of money. Under his administration the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution was ratified and all the States were readmitted to the Union. In 1870 he recommended the
refunding of the national debt, and an act was passed soon after providing for bonds at four per cent., a much reduced rate of interest, and they were successfully negotiated.

"For the first time in our history he brought about a genuine reform in our civil service, and in the face of the most persistent opposition organized the first civil service board.

"At the breaking out of hostilities, while many eminent and experienced public men were declaring that the war would last but a few months, and orators were waving their white handkerchiefs and proclaiming that they were large enough to wipe up all the blood which would be shed in the coming struggle, Grant announced his belief that the war would continue for years, and that preparations should be made commensurate with its formidable proportions.

"He wrote a letter from the field to E. B. Washburne, in which he said: 'It became patent to my mind early in the rebellion that the North and South could never live at peace with each other except as one nation, and that without slavery. As anxious as I am to see peace established, I would not, therefore, be willing to see any settlement until this question is forever settled.'

"Before any battles had been fought he said to a staff officer: 'I believe that Virginia will be the principal field of military operations in this rebellion, that the cavalry will play an important part in that section of the country, and that the decisive battle in the war will occur there.' This prediction was verified in every particular. When it was represented that Kentucky would remain neutral, Grant declared that no State could remain neutral in a national war of such magnitude, and that it would be taken possession of by the troops of one side or the other, and he, without awaiting orders, promptly threw his command into Kentucky to gain the vantage-ground and hold that important territory.

"In his proclamation issued at the time he spoke with the true bluntness of the soldier, saying: 'I have nothing to do with opinions, and shall deal only with armed rebellion and its aiders and abettors.'

"When the enemy came out of Fort Donelson and attacked him, no one could divine the object of the movement. He promptly ordered the haversacks of the dead to be examined, and, finding they were well filled, said: 'Men defending a fort don't carry three days' rations when making a charge unless they are trying to get
away,' and, after driving them back, sent word: 'I propose to move immediately upon your works.'

"As early as the capture of Vicksburg he expressed entire confidence in the belief that it was not a military necessity to deal harshly with the enemy, and that all possible leniency should be shown to the Southern people, as they would soon again become our fellow-countrymen. He therefore treated the prisoners with every consideration, paroled the officers and men, and issued this characteristic order: 'The garrison will march out to-morrow. Instruct your commands to be quiet and orderly as the prisoners pass by, and make no offensive remarks.'

"He early foresaw that to overcome the rebellion it was not only necessary to maintain large armies in the field, but to have a vigorous support of the war in the Northern States. Over a million of loyal voters were absent at the front, and thus deprived of the right of suffrage, and prevented from offsetting by their votes the votes of the disloyal element in the North, and he wrote a remarkable letter to the Secretary of War, setting forth a plan in great detail, providing a method which would enable the soldiers to vote in the field.

"The plan, accompanied as it was by such checks and safeguards that the votes would be entirely free and untrammeled, so strongly commended itself to the authorities that it was carried out, and proved a complete success. At Appomattox it was a nice question of judgment as to what terms to accord to the opposing army. Civil warfare is always the most bitter.

"The worst feelings had been engendered; the war had claimed as a sacrifice the best blood of the country; the land was filled with mourning; the excitement was at fever heat, and there was in many quarters a vindictiveness which prompted the harshest treatment permissible in civilized warfare.

"General Grant, without consulting higher authority and without hesitation, took the responsibility of according lenient treatment and avoiding unnecessary offence. He did not demand Lee's sword, and allowed the men to take their horses home 'to work their little farms,' and when the Union batteries began to fire triumphal salutes he sent out an order, saying: 'The war is over, the rebels are our countrymen again, and the best way to rejoice after the victory will be to abstain from all demonstrations in the field.'

"With his uncommon range of mental vision, he foresaw that the
granting of these conditions would induce other armies throughout the South to accept the same terms, and thus prevent a guerilla warfare from being carried on for an indefinite period in the interior, and would induce such influential men as Lee and other Confederate army commanders to use their influence in aiding in the rehabilitation of the Southern States.

"He was quicker than any one else to see that reconstruction would be a task almost as formidable as the suppression of armed rebellion. He refrained from entering the captured capital, did not even step within the enemy's lines, and shrank from every act which might make him appear to pose as a conqueror.

"When President Johnson, soon after the war, inaugurated his campaign for making treason odious, and when indictments were brought in the Federal courts against Lee and other ex-Confederate officers, Grant foresaw that if such a course were pursued it would be interpreted as a gross breach of faith and a violation of the terms given in the paroles; that it would lead to exciting trials, which would last for years, be a constant source of irritation, and probably compel the Government to hold the Southern States for a long time..."
as conquered territories, while he believed that every effort should be made to bring them back into the Federal Union.

"His judgment was so clear upon this subject that he declared his intention to resign his commission in the army if his prisoners were not protected. The result was the quashing of the indictments and the creation of a disposition on the part of the South to accept the results of the war.

"As President he showed in his first inaugural that he foresaw

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THE NAVAL PARADE—"THE FULTON," CORVETTE (FRENCH NAVY)
"Early in his first Presidential term he took vigorous measures to have competent surveys made for an inter-oceanic canal, believing that it was essential in connecting our extensive Atlantic and Pacific coasts by a shorter water route. His foresight told him that it was impossible to defend such a canal in case of war unless we had a commodious naval station in the Gulf of Mexico.

"He realized the fact that other nations held possession of fortified islands from Bermuda to the West Indies; he believed that we would some day build a competent navy, and that we would be greatly embarrassed by not having even a coaling-station on any of the islands in the Gulf. He therefore negotiated a treaty for securing possession of San Domingo, with its magnificent Bay of Samana, which would afford a harbor for the largest navy afloat.

"The treaty gave us, virtually without cost, an island occupying a commanding position, rich in many products necessary to this country, and with so sparse a population that there were only seven inhabitants to the square mile. The Senate defeated the treaty by depriving it of the necessary two-thirds vote upon the question of its ratification."
"Now, twenty-seven years thereafter, when we have an ironclad navy and have begun an inter-oceanic canal, have recently been threatened with grave complications in Cuba, Venezuela, and elsewhere, there are few patriotic American citizens who do not regret that at that important crisis the President's policy did not prevail.

"In defining the qualities of public men, it has been said that the politician looks forward to his next election, the statesman looks for-
enemies and one ingrate.' He was assailed more bitterly than any
one who ever sat in the chair of State, save Washington. He
was brought to realize that 'reproach is a concomitant to great-
ness, as satire and invective were an essential part of a Roman
triump,,' and to learn that in public life 'all honors wound, the last
one kills.'

"Envy and malice made him at times the target for their poi-
soned shafts, but their fragments fell at his feet as shattered as the
reputations of those who aimed them, and even the wrath of his
enemies may now be counted in his praise.

"General Grant was a man who seemed to be created especially
to meet great emergencies. It was the very magnitude of the task
which called forth the powers that mastered it. Whether leading
an attack in Mexico, dictating the terms of surrender to countless
thousands in the War of the Rebellion, suddenly assuming a vast
responsibility in great crises both in peace and in war, writing state
papers as President which were to have a lasting bearing upon the
policy of the Government, travelling through older lands and min-
gling with the descendants of a line of kings who rose and stood un-
covered in his presence—he was always equal to the occasion, and
acquitted himself with a success that challenges the admiration of the world.

"In trivial matters he was an ordinary man; in momentous affairs he towered as a giant. As Johnson said of Milton, 'He could hew a Colossus from the rocks; he could not carve faces on cherry-stones.'

"Even his valor on the field of carnage was not superior to the heroism he displayed when in his fatal illness he confronted the only enemy to whom he ever surrendered. His old will power reasserted itself in his determination to complete his memoirs. During whole months of physical torture he with one hand held death at arm's length while with the other he penned the most brilliant chapter in American history.

"It is twelve years since he left the living here to join the other living, commonly called the dead, and the laurel on his brow was intertwined with the cypress. His last words, uttered at the close of his agonizing illness, were eminently characteristic of his patience and his consideration for others: 'I hope no one will be distressed on my account.'

"Now that more than a decade has passed since he stood among
us, we can form a better estimate of his character than when he was close by. Time has shed a clearer light upon his acts; he has reached a higher altitude; distance has brought him into the proper focus, and the picture upon which we now look appears in its true proportions. We see his traits moulded into perfect symmetry and blended into majestic harmony.

“A tree can best be measured when it is down.

“He reached the highest pinnacle of human distinction. Men have dwelt upon his achievements till they know them all by heart. The record of his deeds rises to the sublimity of an epic. The story of his life is worthy the contemplation of his greatness. He did his duty and trusted to history for his meed of praise.

“The more history discusses him the more brilliant becomes the lustre of his name. He was a natural leader; he was born to command. He was one of the men who ‘mark the hours while others only sound them.’ No one can rob him of a single laurel; no one can lessen the measure of his renown. He honored the age in which he lived, and future generations will be illumined by the brightness of his fame.
"His countrymen have paid him a tribute of grateful hearts; they have reared in monumental rock a sepulchre for his ashes, a temple to his fame. The fact that it has been built by the voluntary contributions of the people will give our citizens an individual interest in preserving it, in honoring it. It will stand throughout the ages upon this conspicuous promontory, this ideal site. It will overlook the metropolis of the Republic which his efforts saved from dismemberment; it will be reflected in the noble waters of the Hudson, upon which pass the argosies of commerce, so largely multiplied by the peace secured by his heroic deeds.

"They owed a sacred duty which they could not fail to perform. They have reared his monument to a majestic height; but if it towered above the eagle's flight it would not reach as high as the summit of his fame. Its flawless granite is typical of the spotless character of his reputation. Its delicate lines and massive proportions will remind us of the childlike simplicity which was mingled with the majestic grandeur of his nature.

"The hallowed memories clustering about it will recall the heroic age of the Republic. Its mute eloquence would plead for equal sacrifice should war ever again threaten the nation's life. In this tomb, which generosity has created and which his services have sanctified, his ashes will henceforth rest, but his true sepulchre will be the hearts of his countrymen.

"I take great pleasure in testifying to the wise counsel, material assistance, and hearty cooperation received at all times from the trustees, officers, and members of the committees during the entire period of my official association with this enterprise. The Executive Committee, consisting, besides the officers, of Mr. Henry W. Cannon, Ex-Gov. A. B. Cornell, the Hon. C. N. Bliss, Gen. C. H. T. Collis, Mr. Alexander E. Orr, Mr. Cornelius O'Reilly, Col. S. V. R. Cruger, Gen. Wager Swayne, and Col. Elliott F. Shepard, now deceased, have by their indefatigable and unselfish labors in the work conducted by the association during the past five years commended themselves to the grateful thanks of this community and the nation at large.

"The Vice-Presidents, Mr. Elihu Root and Gen. Grenville M. Dodge, have been conspicuous in giving to the association the benefit of their excellent judgment, their constant endeavors, and professional labors."
"The Secretary, the late Mr. James C. Reed, gave his time and services for five years to the vast bureau work of the position, conducted the extensive correspondence, kept the elaborate accounts made necessary by the manifold details of the office, and was at all times conspicuously active in the labors which were entailed upon him. He exhibited a devotion to the interests of the association which commanded the respect of and endeared him to all his associates. It is most pathetic that he should have been placed in his grave the day before the dedication of the tomb, in the erection of which he bore such an honorable part. All patriotic hearts mourn his loss, and their sympathies go forth to his bereaved family.

"Mr. Frederick D. Tappen has been for five years the Treasurer of the association. His high character and the esteem in which he is held in the community have everywhere inspired respect and confidence. He has labored unceasingly in the arduous duties of his office, and the enterprise is deeply indebted to him for his untiring labors in receiving for the numberless small sums subscribed and keeping the financial accounts, and for the constant and watchful care he has exercised over the fund of which he has been the official custodian.

"It would be difficult to accord a commensurate degree of credit to Mr. Cornelius O'Reilly, the efficient Chairman of the Building Committee. He has been identified with the enterprise from its very start. His practical experience in building and rare knowledge of the best mechanical methods, his willingness to give a very great portion of his time to supervising the manifold detail of construction, have stamped him as one of our most public-spirited citizens, and should command for him grateful recognition by all our people.

"During the entire work of construction all the executive officers of the association have cheerfully given their time and services without compensation to the arduous duties which they had undertaken.

"Mr. John H. Duncan, whose design for the monument was accepted, and who has held the position of architect, has made all of his other interests yield to the supervision of this memorial, with which his name will always be inseparably connected, and which will forever stand as a monument to his architectural skill.

"Mr. Edward F. Cragin, of Chicago, was prominently identified with the association during the most active period of the work of
raising the fund, and by his suggestiveness, fertility of resources, and excellent equipment for the duty he performed he contributed invaluable aid, and it is due him that at this time public acknowledgment should be made of the important services he rendered to this great national work.

The acknowledgments of the association are also due to Col. G. L. Gillespie, of the United States Engineer Corps, for his efficient services in giving the Construction Department the benefit of his long experience and high scientific attainments.

The services of Mr. A. Dorflinger, the engineer of the association, have been of very substantial value in the progress of the work. His professional skill and intimate knowledge of the most advanced methods of construction entitle him to very high commendation.

Mr. J. Massey Rhind, the sculptor, displayed his skill to great perfection in the decoration in high relief sculpture, which adds so much to the ornamental features of the monument.

It is a great pleasure to make public acknowledgment to Mr. D O. Mills, who, besides being a contributor to the fund, has for five years generously furnished the general offices for the association free of charge.

Mr. John T. Brady, contractor, has throughout the entire work of construction been engaged upon portions of the work, and his devotion to the interests of the enterprise have commended him warmly to the association.

One of the most cherished memories of my life will be the recollection of the privilege of sharing in the labors of such honored colleagues as those who have been connected with me in this association.

And now, Mr. Mayor, it only remains for me to formally transmit through you to the nation's metropolis this memorial tomb, which henceforth is to remain in the custody of the city over which you have the honor to preside."

The President and others congratulated General Porter when he had finished, and Mayor Strong replied:

"Erected as it was by the voluntary contributions of nearly 100,000 of our fellow-citizens, mostly from the territory of the Greater New York, this magnificent tomb will forever perpetuate the name and fame of one of the bravest military chieftains of the country. I render grateful acknowledgment to the municipal authorities who
selected this classic spot to receive his remains. The citizens of our city will be justly proud of their action, for here will be the shrine where his old comrades will worship, and where the people of a grateful nation will journey to offer the silent tribute of admiration. Let it be the Mecca where posterity for ages to come will gather fresh inspiration for patriotism. Great in war, greater in peace, let his memory never fade from the heart of a grateful nation. As he invoked peace for us, let us see that his ashes repose in peace so long as the country exists he so heroically defended, aye, so long as the waters of the Hudson flow silently by this noble structure. From this day forth let us hope that every passing steamboat, going in either direction, shall toll its bell in recognition of the great services rendered this country by the silent soldier who sleeps within these granite walls. For such an object, gentlemen of the New York Legislature, your request would have the weight of law. As he served his country in peace and war, making our present conditions possible, we this day reconsacrate ourselves to all that is best in American citizenship, to all that is best in this Government founded by the fathers, preserved by our martyred heroes, and blessed by the grace of Almighty God."

The invaluable services of General Porter in bringing about success in this magnificent work deserve record. At a meeting of the Grant Monument Association, held on April 21st, and fully attended, the following, offered by General Butterfield, was unanimously adopted:

"The Grant Monument Association was charged by the Legislature in its act of February 3, 1886, with the duty of procuring voluntary contributions and erecting therewith a suitable monument or other memorial to the memory of the illustrious General Grant at Riverside Park. That duty has been performed, and the association now authorizes its President in behalf of the corporation to formally deliver the completed structure to the custody of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the city of New York."

"The association directs that the official record of its corporate acts for the period ending April 27, 1897, be closed by the entry of the following minute:

"The chief and substantial credit for the successful accomplishment of this work of patriotic sentiment, of affectionate regard for
the memory of our great leader, and of national self-respect, is due to the President of the association. Gen. Horace Porter.

"He was elected to the presidency at a time when, for more than six years, the undertaking had languished, when the original design seemed to have been imperilled.

"His affection for the chief to whom he had been bound by the closest ties in war and peace, his patriotism and his civic pride inspired him with an unselfish devotion.

"His strong personality infused his spirit throughout the whole association. Confidence in his will and his ability renewed public expectation of success.

"His faith in the people's feeling for General Grant led him to appeal directly to them. His power of organization and capacity for administrative details enabled him to reach them. By the selection and direction of faithful and efficient assistants, by organizing committees in every trade and calling, by pressing home the sense of duty to every individual citizen, he accomplished in sixty days what six years had failed to bring about, and procured the necessary fund. And this fund came from more than 60,000 voluntary contributors, so that the monument which we are about to dedicate is built not with money compelled by taxation from unwilling hands, but wholly with the free offerings of grateful hearts.

"Then with unremitting care he directed the building. He made every contract, and saw that it was faithfully performed. He scrutinized every detail. He enforced rigid economy, so that the expenses of administration have been but a small fraction of the interest received upon the fund; and every contributor may know that every penny of his contribution has actually gone into the construction of the monument itself. With constant thought and labor he has carried out the plan, and kept the cost within the fund. So that the completion of the work may be regarded with unmarred satisfaction.

"For this great public service we believe General Porter to be entitled to the gratitude of the whole American people, and especially to that of the citizens of New York, whose honor was so deeply involved.

"This record is made to express the grateful appreciation of his associates in the Grant Monument Association."

Everybody will recognize the justice of the foregoing tribute to General Porter's splendid services in behalf of the Grant monument fund.