CHAPTER L

Commands Department of Mississippi. Resignation

By formal orders of President Andrew Johnson and the Secretary of War, June 24th, General Slocum was notified that he was assigned to the command of the Department of Mississippi, with headquarters at Vicksburg. This was more than double the territory and responsibility of his former command of the District of Vicksburg. June 27th the War Department issued its General Orders Number 118, dividing the United States anew into military divisions and departments. Much thought had been given to this work by Lieutenant-General Grant, the Secretary of War, and their advisers.

General Sherman was returned to the southwest as he desired to be, with headquarters at St. Louis, Missouri.

It was a great compliment to General Slocum to be returned to Vicksburg with extended territory and increased powers. But he did not seek the place. He did not want to return to the South. He preferred to leave the military service now that the war was practically ended and the Union preserved in all its integrity, if the laws could be enforced. However, he realized that he had done much good in Mississippi before being imperiously called to aid Sherman in the Chattanooga-Atlanta Campaign; and he recognized the great compliments of General Grant regarding his work at that time and, also at this time in insisting upon his return to Mississippi to continue the work of instituting, or continuing, that law and order that should prevail throughout the land, and which was there formerly so well begun by him. It had not been, in any way, characteristic of Slocum to shun danger or responsibility, and now it was not his desire to shun any assistance that he could give to the new administration in the delicate, and possibly unpleasant, work before it in inaugurating much of a new and possibly difficult regime in one of the great and haughty States of the South which, though its strongest armies had laid, or were about to lay, down their arms, there was an open boast that the South was yet unconquered. General Slocum accepted the assignment, and soon reported to the War Department in person as ready for duty.

General Slocum proceeded to Mississippi, met the prominent

officers there, military and civil, with whom he would have to deal and, after considering the entire field, its conditions and needs, he issued his General Orders Number One, dated Vicksburg, Mississippi, July 14th. It announced to the United States soldiers, and the citizens of the State, his authority for coming to them, and named the members of his staff that they might be known and respected accordingly, namely: Captain J. Warren Miller, assistant adjutant-general; Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Eugene W. Guindon, Captain and Brevet Major William W. Moseley, and Captain and Brevet Major William G. Tracy, aides-de-camp.

In his General Orders Number Two, July 17th, General Slocum announced his military divisions of the State, namely: The Western District of Mississippi, embracing the counties of Bolivar, Sunflower, Washington, Yazoo, Issaquena, and Warren, with his assignment of Brigadier-General Jasper A. Maltby to its command with headquarters at Vicksburg; The Southern District, embracing that part of the State south of the northern line of the counties Claiborne, Copiah, Lawrence, Covington, Jones and Wayne, with Brevet Major-General John W. Davidson commander with headquarters at Natchez; and the Northern District, embracing the part of the State not included in the Western and Southern Districts with Major-General Peter J. Osterhaus as commander with headquarters at Jackson. The Northern and Southern Districts were designated as 'Divisions' and the Western District as a 'Separate Brigade' in the sense implied in the War Department's General Orders Number 251, Series of 1864, to enable the commanding officer to convene general courts-martial when necessary.

By General Orders Number 130 of the War Department July 28th, Generals Osterhaus, Manning, Force, Ewing, and Davidson, were ordered to report to General Slocum at Vicksburg for assignment duty.

The Special Orders Number Four, July 21st, of General Slocum, transferred the 66th Regiment of Colored Infantry from the Western to the Southern District of Mississippi, and it there reported to Brevet Major-General Davidson at Natchez. The quartermaster's department was ordered to furnish means of transportation.

Announcement of further appointments on General Slocum's staff was made this day, namely: Colonel Henry M. Whittelsey, as chief quartermaster; Colonel Samuel H. Sturdevant chief commissary of subsistence; Colonel Van E. Young, 49th United States Colored Infantry, provost marshal-general; Lieutenant-Colonel George S. Kemble, surgeon of volunteers, medical director; Captain George A. Williams, Ist United States Infantry, chief mustering officer; Captain James H. Landers, 8th New Hampshire Veteran Infantry, assistant commissary of musters; Captain Samuel Caldwell, 8th Illinois Veteran Infantry, judge-advocate.

By order of the War Department August 14th, there was a reduction of the number of white United States troops by the following named discharges: in Virginia 5,000; the Middle Division 6,000; Washington, District of Columbia, 8,000; Kentucky 5,000; North Carolina 8,000; in Slocum's Department of Mississippi 2,000. Up to August 22nd white Union troops had been mustered out of service to the number of 719,338.[111] This was getting down to a dangerous basis of colored troops, in the State of Mississippi particularly without thoughtful and prudent generalship.

The emancipation of the slaves had been broadly considered throughout the North, and in other countries, England particularly, as a distinct moral result of the war; but the later acts of President Johnson, a Southern man, made him open to severe criticism by the Congress and the general sense of the Northern people; while those of the South had become highly elated and emboldened by Johnson's proclamations of pardon and amnesty; also with some of his appointments of provisional governors.

At this juncture influences were brought to bear upon the President for the appointment of General Carl Schurz to make a tour through the South for observation of the condition of affairs generally. Schurz started early in July, and he passed three months in travel and in interviewing all classes of people. He found them all unable, or unwilling, to look upon or to deal with the colored people other than as slaves. Wherever these people began to assert their freedom, or to object to the extreme dictations of the former regime, they were maltreated in various

ways. The work of the Freedman's Bureau was nullified by word and deed as far as possible. He found the sentiment 'overpowered, but not conquered' lauded as chivalorus by the newspapers, women, young people, and clergymen; in fact by practically all of those who had not been in the army, as well as by many who had been soldiers. The pernicious effects of this sentiment were seen everywhere, making it difficult in some districts for the United States military officers to maintain peace. Some citizens who had been known to express Union sentiments in the past, were now driven from their homes. "If there were some optimists regarding the proposed new order of things, there were far more pessimists of the cynical kind. . . . It was the sincere desire of the United States Government, including the military officers and soldiers, to hasten the self-governing condition of every part of each of the Southern States, although many things occurred to largely defeat the intended good result."[106]

It was part of the plan of General Schurz to visit all of the prominent military commanders. As early as practicable he called on General Slocum at Vicksburg and he there received a cordial welcome. He found Slocum pondering over a most important, and complicated question. The military forces of Mississippi, or many of them, desired to retain their organization in order to 'keep peace with the obstinate niggers.' They had raided different bands of negroes who were not readily coerced to accept the desires of the soldiers along the antebellum line of coercion. To this conduct of affairs, as a matter of course, General Slocum objected. The provisional governor, William L. Sharkey, favored the continuance of the State Militia to keep in favor with the popular sentiment; while the United States Colored troops saw serious result in such continuance. In this last opinion General Slocum warmly concurred; and he issued an order for the disbandment of the Mississippians. General Schurz readily and fully accorded with General Slocum's view and action regarding this question, and he so reported to President Johnson. The reply from Johnson was that General Slocum should not have issued such order. Governor Sharkey had, upon further consideration, given up his acquiescence for a State Militia as an experiment too dangerous to continue, thus placing himself in harmony with General Slocum's action.

Upwards of 200,000 negro troops had been gathered into the United States service. The number of these remaining in Mississippi in 1865 was but 1,412.[112]

His warm friend Sherman no longer had control of Slocum's department; but there was a regular private correspondence between them. In Slocum's letter about this time he foreshadowed his resignation from the military service, and he inclosed a copy of his order against the organization of the Mississippi Militia at this time. His letter reads as follows:

Headquarters Department of Mississippi,
Vicksburg, Miss., August 27, 1865.

My Dear General:

Your favor of the twenty-second has just come to hand. I came here without my family with the intention of remaining only until the surplus generals were mustered out. I did not like to go out with a crowd of worthless officers who should have been mustered out long ago; but I think ———— and Company will outlive me after all, as I do not intend to spend the winter here. I shall pay you a visit on my way home.

Force has reported and been assigned to the command of the Vicksburg District, relieving Maltby. Force is a good officer and I am glad to get him. Charley Ewing has not yet come.

Woods has been very sick at Mobile but is better. I have met many of your old officers and soldiers since we parted, and all of them, without exception, are 'loyal.'

I inclose an order just published. I did not like to take this step; but Sharkey should have consulted me before issuing an order arming the rebs, and placing them on duty with the darkies in every county of the State. I hope the United States Military will soon be removed from the State, but until this is done it would certainly be bad policy to arm the militia.

Yours truly,
H. W. SLOCUM.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
St. Louis, Mo.

The reply to this letter was prompt, and is here shown:

Headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi,
St. Louis, Mo., September 7, 1865.

Dear Slocum:

I have just received your letter of August twenty-seventh. Since I wrote you, Charley Ewing has gone down, and must now be with you. I have read all your orders and of course approve beforehand, as you, on the spot, are the competent judge. Sooner or later the people South must resume the management of their own affairs, even if they *felo-de-se*; for the North cannot long afford to keep armies here for local police. Still as long as you do have the force, and the State none, you must of necessity control. My own opinion is that self interest will soon induce the present people of Mississippi to invite and encourage a kind of emigration that will, like in Maryland and Missouri, change the whole opinion. They certainly will not again tempt the resistance of the United States; nor will they ever reinstate the negro. The only question is when will the change occur.

I agree with you that if you see your way ahead in civil life, it is to your permanent interest to resign; it don't make much difference when. You have all the military fame you can expect in this epoch. All know your rank and appreciate you, and I would not submit to the scrambling for position next winter if I were in your place, unless you have resolved to stay in the army for life.

I shall be delighted to meet you as you come up. I am now boarding at the Lindell Hotel, but expect to go to housekeeping in a few days on Garrison Avenue, near Franklin avenue, a fine property, presented to me, on the outskirts of the city, where I shall be delighted to receive you. My office is on Walnut Street, between five and six, near the Southern Hotel.

Always your friend,
W. T. SHERMAN.

General Slocum was offered high rank in the United States Regular Army during his lifetime. This would have led in a few years to the chief command, with rank of Lieutenant-General. But the war was at an end. He could not be a soldier in time of peace, preferring the free life of a civilian among his friends. He sent to the War Department his resignation from the military service under date of September 28, 1865. It required several weeks' time for the appointment of his successor, and for his reporting in person for duty. In due course of time Slocum returned to his family in Syracuse, New York, and he there greatly enjoyed the atmospheric and social conditions of his native county, so different and more invigorating were they than had been those of the summer at Vicksburg.

General Slocum's military service had been one of the most continuous and active of all of the officers, throughout the Civil War. His constancy, tenacity, and entire trustworthiness had led to his rapid promotion. He was frequently called upon to command large bodies of men. None of his superiors had just cause of complaint that he was ever dilatory or disobedient. His discipline was so thorough that he had little complaint to make regarding his subordinates. Those unworthy were soon recognized as such, and they were 'weeded out' of his command. His

worthy generals, and men of the rank and file not disabled, remained with him until the last battle was fought and won. He was thorough regarding all details for success—and success uniformly accompanied his commands and his banners.

The following is a resume of the different Army Corps with which General Slocum was connected from time to time:

Ist Corps in the Army of the Potomac, as commander of a regiment in the Battle of Bull Run, in 1861.

VIth, Army Corps as commanding a brigade, and as division commander, as Brigadier-General, and Major-General, in protecting Washington; in the Peninsular Campaign; the Maryland Campaign and at the Battles of South Mountain or Crampton's Pass, and at the Antietam.

XIIth Corps, as full commander; at Harper's Ferry; the Shenandoah Valley; in the Grand Reserve protecting Washington, to and at the battles of Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg; pursuing the enemy back to the Rappahannock and Rapidan; and in protecting the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, in the Army of the Cumberland.

Ist IIIrd, XIth, and XIIth Corps, Army of the Potomac, the evening and night of the first day at battle of Gettysburg.

Vth, VIth, XIIth, and parts of other Corps, in the Battle of Gettysburg.

IInd and XIIth Corps in pursuit of the enemy from Gettysburg to and at the Rappahannock and Rapidan.

XVIIth Army Corps in part, and local forces, garrisons in fortifications at Vicksburg, Natchez, and other parts of the District of Vicksburg, including gunboats and naval militia, with headquarters at Vicksburg.

XXth Corps, composed of the Union of the XIth and XIIth Corps, in the Chattanooga and Atlanta Campaign from Chattahoochee and in the occupation of Atlanta, Army of the Cumberland.

XIVth and XXth Corps, composing the Army of Georgia, and often the Cavalry, in the great March to the Sea, the occupation of Milledgeville, and Savannah.

XIVth, XVth, and XXth Corps in the Campaign of South Carolina, also the Cavalry, from Savannah to Sister's Ferry.

XIVth and XXth Corps, composing the Army of Georgia,

in the Campaign of the Carolinas, the battles of Averysborough and Bentonville; and in the Triumphal March through Richmond and to Washington, at the close of the war.

The great March to the Sea, through the heart of Georgia, and northward through the hearts of South and North Carolina, without any permanent or friendly base of supplies excepting while at Savannah and Fayetteville, must always be considered as a most brave and perilous undertaking. It will remain in history as the longest, one of the severest, and most hazardous undertakings on record in a civilized country. Its results on the surrender of the different Confederate armies from those of Lee and Johnston to all others, as well as of important cities, was all that could have been desired. It fully demonstrated to the strong belligerant States, and Armies, of the rebelling Confederacy the futility of their further struggle.

The proud cities of Milledgeville, Savannah, and Fayetteville, were captured without battle, and Columbia with little show of opposition. Charleston was vacated of armed resistance to its occupancy by United States authorities as soon as its railway lines of food supplies were cut by the Union troops on the great march.

The battle of the Last Chance of the Confederacy was fought, and won, by General Slocum March 19th and 20th. The Confederate Government disappeared from sight and hearing with the surrender of General Robert E. Lee April 9th. General Joseph E. Johnston, Slocum's opponent, surrendered April 26th. Lieutenant-General Richard Taylor made what he thought to be the last surrender of the war east of the Mississippi River, May 4th at Citronelle, Alabama. General Samuel Jones surrendered the enemy's troops in Florida May 10th. The Unionist President Andrew Johnson issued a proclamation May 10th, to the effect that all armed opposition to the enforcement of the laws of the United States had ceased. But General Jefferson Thompson surrendered only part of the troops west of the Mississippi River May 11th at Chalk Bluff, Arkansas; and May 13th the last engagement of the militant Confederates occurred at Palmetto Ranch, Texas. General Kirby Smith did not lay down his arms until May 26th, and he was nominally in charge of all Confederate troops west of the Mississippi.

H. W. Slocum

Maj. Genl. U. S. V.

At the Close of his Military Career. Age 39 Years

On the sea, the Confederates did not take down their flag until July 1, 1865, their vessels having been distant from United States port.

According to the decisions of the Supreme Court the Civil War ceased as a status in Tennessee June 13, 1865; in Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, North Carolina, Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Florida, it ceased as a status April 2, 1866. In Texas, New Mexico, and the Indian Territory, it ceased August 20, 1866. But these later dates were judicial, not military.

General Slocum did not sheathe his sword finally until the last armed enemy of the United States had fully surrendered. The war was ended; and he could not be a soldier in time of peace.

CHAPTER LI

To Brooklyn. Letters. Elected to Congress

The political parties of New York were very active in the year 1865 and, as early as August, General Slocum had been quite annoyed by long letters from prominent members of the parties there importuning him to accept the office at the head of the ticket, that of Secretary of State, the Governor not being elected this year. Both parties urged their claims for their platforms, and for him to permit his name to be presented to the convention. Slocum's family and other immediate friends were surprised when the Democratic Convention placed his name at the head of its ticket. But this was a Republican year and General Francis C. Barlow, whose name was at the head of the opposing ticket, was elected, in the November election. Barlow was an able officer, and a worthy man, and Slocum did not mourn his own defeat. As an item of news, Slocum must needs mention in his letter this, his first defeat, to his friend Sherman. The reply was characteristic:

Saint Louis, Mo., December 26, 1865.

Gen. H. W. Slocum, Syracuse, New York.

Dear Slocum:

I got home last Friday after a three weeks' absence down in Arkansas, and found, among a budget of letters received, your valued favor of Nov. thirtieth. This is my first leisure hour since, and I hasten to assure you of my great personal attachment, and that I would do almost anything that would mark my favor to you.

I think I was more disappointed at your non-election than you could have been; for I thought that politics had not so strong a hold on New York as to defeat you for an office that should have been above the influence of mere party organization. But you are young, and can stand it; and I know that, some time later, your State will recognize and reward you if you need it, for the military services such as you rendered your country.

At some future time I will come on to Syracuse and stop a day with you to assure you of my great partiality, and also to renew the short but most agreeable acquaintance formed in Washington with your wife, to whom I beg you will convey my best compliments.

As to delivering a lecture at Albany, I must decline. The truth is, on abstract subjects I know I would be as prosy as a cyclopedia, and not half as accurate; and to speak on matters of personal interest, past, present or future, I would be sure to give rise to controversies, useless or mischievous. Of the events with which we are connected, I am already committed, and must stand by the record. Were I to elaborate them it would detract from the interest of what now stands as a contemporaneous narrative. I really think we do best to let others now take up the thread of history, and treat of us as actors of the past.

Please write to Mr. Doty that I am much complimented by his flattering invitation; that I appreciate the object he aims to accomplish, and would be glad to assist therein, but that outside considerations would make it unbecoming to appear in the nature of a lecturer. Too much importance has already been given to the few remarks I have made at times when I simply aimed to acknowledge a personal compliment, and to gratify a natural curiosity by people whose imaginations have been excited by the colored pictures drawn by the press.

I have not preserved out of the late war a single relic—not a flag, not a curious shot or shell; nothing but those simple memories which every New York soldier retains as well as I do. I do think that your regiment was so filled by young men of education and intelligence that the commissioners will find their records swelling to an extent that will more than gratify their fondest expectations.

We are now living in great comfort here. Your excellent photograph has its place in the albums of each of my children, and Mrs. Sherman regards you with special favor. Wishing you all honor and fame among your own people, I shall ever regard you as one of my cherished friends.

With respects,

W. T. SHERMAN, Major-General.

It was not the nature of General Slocum to remain idle. It had been his desire, and expectation, to open an office for the continued practice of the law. While considering the important question of the city for his future residence, the great advantages of that part of New York City then known as Brooklyn

were forcefully presented to him and, after a short prospecting visit in that city among friends, he and his wife decided upon that city for their residence; and he there entered upon the practice of law in the spring of 1866.

It is the desire of the writer to present every item in the history of his subject that may give the reader side-lights as well as front-lights upon the character and actuating motives of this great military commander, who was always sensitive regarding the fair names and fame of those who were, or had been, under his command and, to a just degree sensitive regarding his own rights in all things and at all times. The following letter relates to subjects relative to which most writers on the Great Civil War have been ignorant or defective, in their duty to their readers:

Brooklyn, N. Y., March 8, 1868.

My Dear General:

Your favor of February twenty-fourth has been received. The enclosure (relative to claim for services of a woman in Georgia) was endorsed and forwarded in compliance with your request.

I read with much interest your views as to the future meetings of the officers of your old armies. I have read the proceedings at Cincinnati, including the speeches of yourself and General Thomas, and I frankly confess to you what I have admitted to no other person, that I was a little disappointed that no mention whatever was made by any one of my command under you in the Great March. My command constituted nearly one-half of your force [one-half excepting Kilpatrick's relatively small arm of cavalry] on that march, and your reports show that it bore more than one-half of the losses you suffered, and I think it entitled me to a word of recognition. According to the maps, General Thomas [in far off Tennessee] commanded the Army of Georgia as well as that which defended Nashville, and I cannot for the life of me tell what command I had! I begin to doubt whether or not I was with you! In order that I may get posted on these matters, I think I shall attend the next meeting; but I assure you I am too lazy or too indifferent on the subject to quarrel with my associates for 'the honors.'

Since the eventful days that we spent in Raleigh, I have witnessed some wonderful changes. Logan, who then feared that Frank Blair and myself would be radicals when we reached home, can now throw 'old Thad Stevens' in the shade. Stanton is earnestly supported by the Grand Army of the Republic, although at that time he was exceedingly unpopular in the Army of Georgia.

Ambition and self-interest have wiped out the memory of the past, buried old friendships, and brought into the same fold those who were then sworn enemies. I presume that it is better that it should be so. Still,

I cannot curse a man one day and fawn on him the next. I cannot declare slavery the natural and proper condition of the negro to-day and to-morrow advocate his right to make constitutions and laws. Hence I think I shall never make a politician. And if I am not a politician, of what value is a military record? Thomas may have the credit of commanding your Left Wing, and Logan the credit of Bentonville. . . . On personal as well as political matters, I stand on the Raleigh platform.

Perhaps I owe you an apology for referring to these matters in replying to your kind letter; but as I never allude to them in conversation with friends, or in letters to the press, I trust you will pardon me for writing to you just what I think and feel.

I am still living a quiet and happy life at my home in Brooklyn where Mrs. Slocum as well as myself will ever be glad to welcome you.

Your friend, H. W. SLOCUM.

Lieut. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
St. Louis, Mo.

An early reply to this letter was received, namely:

St. Louis, Mo., March 13, 1868.

Dear Slocum:

Yours of March eighth is received. I was very glad to see that you took things so philosophically. It should have been my business to have looked after the interests of the absent; but I was told that all would be toasted and noticed, and as many officers of the Fourth and Fourteenth Corps were there I looked to them to say some kind words of you. At all events, I was not conscious that any one had been so omitted till the reports came in print, when I saw at a glance what construction you would put upon it. I will, however, make all the amends I can, and aim to bring all together for once this winter at Chicago, early in December, and afford all the armies once in my command an opportunity to have their own spokesman.

I have a letter from Schofield highly approbating and will now write Thomas, who has never recovered exactly from the criticism on his slow fighting at Nashville, and my taking out of his army two strong corps, a fact that I see, plain enough, he would ignore.

As to politics, it is impossible for language to convey my detestation of them. I have seen Fear, Cowardice, Treachery, Villainy in all its shapes contort and twist men's judgment and actions, but none of them like politics. It may be that politics are honest, respectable, and necessary to a republican form of government; but I will none of them. As you say, Logan is a sample. I remember his ranting and pitching about that old Pagan in Raleigh, pretty much the same style as now, but slightly different in principle.

They have tried to rope me in more than once, but I have kept out and shall do so as long as I can; and then I hope I shall die before what little fame I have is lost and swept away.

Your friend,
W. T. SHERMAN, Lt. General.

Unsought by him, Slocum's name was placed on the ticket for Member of the Forty-first United States Congress in 1868, also for Presidential Elector; and he was elected to both offices. At the expiration of this term, he was re-elected to the next Congress in the year 1870, when the opposing party in the district had a natural majority.

In justice to General Hooker who had apparently ceased being vindictive, as well as to General Slocum who twice officially declined to serve under Hooker for which he took offense, the following letter is here presented to show that Slocum could meet Hooker in a civil way as man should meet man, namely:

Brooklyn, N. Y., May 20th, 1875.

Dear General:

Please accept my thanks for the copy of your book received yesterday. I have not read it, but have read all the extracts published in the New York papers, together with editorial comments. While I anticipate a great row to result from it, I am glad you published it. It throws a flood of light on the story of your campaigns, and not only corrects many errors that have crept into history, but will prevent other falsehoods from appearing.

I accidentally met General Hooker a day or two ago. He was very cordial in his manner towards me. Your book of course became a topic of conversation at once. He is not pleased with it, but was less bitter than I anticipated he would be. He showed me a letter written to him by Geo. Wilkes on October 14, 1864, in which Wilkes relates an interview he had just had with Stanton, in which Stanton shows his animosity to you. He suggests to Hooker that he has placed him in command of a Department where he can not only build up himself, but undermine you. There is not a doubt but that the letter is genuine, and it is a truthful statement of the interview.

I would very much like to see you. When are you going on the plains? You promised to inform me. Yours truly,

H. W. SLOCUM.

In the year 1876 General Slocum was chosen for the important office of Commissioner of Public Works in the rapidly developing City of Brooklyn. His personal business affairs became so engrossing, however, that he deemed it wise to resign the commissionership before his term had expired. He passed the summer of 1880 in travel through Europe with his family, returning home in time to participate in the presidential campaign of that year, delivering addresses in different Northern States

in favor of the candidacy of his old comrade, General W. S. Hancock.

At the New York State Convention in 1882, his Democratic friends presented his name for Governor. The writer of this book was in this convention at Syracuse, where the first few ballotings portended his nomination. During an intermission the delegates from the western part of the State 'connived with certain ones of New York City' and by the next ballot Grover Cleveland of Buffalo was declared nominated, by a small majority. At the election this was declared to be the tidal wave Democratic year. Mr. Cleveland, from the simple fact that he was a Democrat, received the phenomenal majority of 192,000. Slocum's friends placed his name on the ticket for member of the United States Congress and he was elected by a full share of the great number of votes cast. The writer cannot refrain from transcribing here another characteristic letter from the great Sherman:

Washington, D. C., Dec. 9, 1882.

Dear SLOCUM:

Looking over the New York papers of this morning I noticed the Club Dinner in Brooklyn in which you and Beecher spoke, and it occurred to me that may be I ought to have written you congratulating you on your recent election to the next House of Representatives. As a matter of course, my thoughts of you, if not of all persons and things, revert back to our army service together, and I do believe I feel the pleasure of a father when any of my old comrades attain anything they desire, be it wealth, influence or station; but time has not stopped, and we hardly recognize each other after seventy eventful years. Politics too, seem to color objects as with a glass, and it might seem disloyal for me to rejoice at the success of a Democrat. But if you, General Slocum, want to come to Congress, I surely am glad that you have come endorsed by such a vote of your fellow citizens, which I choose to interpret as more due to your personal merits and qualities than to your partizan associates. One reason of my regret is that you come just as I leave.

Don't for a moment believe that because a few newspaper scribblers have construed me a martyr, and consequently that I am a fit subject for a Presidential candidate. The thought to me is simply repulsive. I would not be a candidate if I could, and I could not if I would. No, I have my house at St. Louis, my family are anxious to get back, and I am equally so. All our neighbors are as jubilant at the idea of our coming back, and I would be the veriest fool to undergo the torture of a canvass and four years of worry and discomfort for an honor I do not covet or appreciate.

I have seen Presidents Jackson, Harrison, Taylor, Grant, Hayes, and Garfield, and there is nothing in their experience which tempts me to depart from my convictions. I am under no obligations to sacrifice myself for the Republicans. They called me to Washington against my will, and so legislated that I could not afford to live in a house given to me as a compliment. They cut my pay down below what Lt. Gen. Scott had in 1848, when a dollar was worth two of to-day. Not a year since but my personal expenses have exceeded my salary. They allowed Secretary Belknap to pile up his indignities on me, so that self respect compelled me to go away. All this you know; so that I should owe anything like gratitude to the Republicans is out of the question. But enough. I am glad you have succeeded, and sorry I must leave just as you are coming.

Yours truly,

W. T. SHERMAN.

In 1883 General Slocum's friends again rallied for his nomination for the presidency; but there was again at this time a combination of political intriguers with whom he declined to train. But he permitted his name to be used on the ticket for Congress at large from New York State, and he was elected. He was chosen Commissioner of the great Brooklyn Bridge, the first effort in that form of enterprise, and he was influential in declaring it free for the public use.

CHAPTER LII

CIVIL AND SOCIAL SERVICES. BUSINESS VENTURES

In the year 1882 as many surviving members as were able of General Slocum's first command in the Civil War, the 27th New York Regiment, attended a reunion at the General's residence in Brooklyn. Here refreshments were served to them in part by members of the General's family. This hospitality recalled to the minds of the veteran survivors an incident that occurred at the Elmira Barracks in 1861, early in their preparatory soldierly experience, as follows: One day a deputation arrived from Syracuse to pay respects to Colonel Slocum's men. The Barrack Mess-tables were soon spread and the boys partook of a feast of good things, home made by the visitors. Among the party was Mrs. Slocum with an infant in her arms. During the time of compliments and speeches which followed the repast, Captain Wanzer held out his hands to the child which, attracted by his smile and his shining buttons, leaped into his arms.

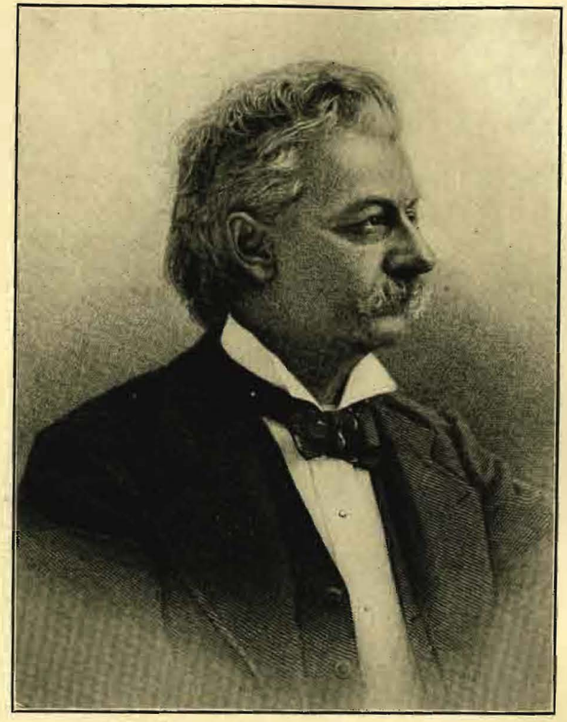
Wanzer called to order, and congratulated his comrades that Syracuse had sent with their handsome Colonel a darling child as 'Daughter of the Regiment.' None who witnessed this pleasing episode then thought that those baby fingers would help serve a banquet to battle-scarred veterans, only a remnant of those youthful volunteers, at a regimental reunion at the residence of General Slocum twenty-one years later. This communication comes to the writer in part from the Philadelphia Times newspaper by way of George L. Kilmer.

In compliance with urgent requests, the General attended the annual reunions of his former troops in different States as often as his increasing business and more local duties would permit. During his official years in the Congress, as well as in his business and social life, he was ever mindful of and for the best interests of those who had done good military service in the Civil War. While he could not for a moment sympathize with pretenders, false or insufficient claims for government bounties in form of pensions or any other undue favors, he was fully sympathetic for all those who had been persistent and honorable servers of their country in any capacity during the years of great need of loyal and trustworthy servants.

While favoring United States Homes for certain disabled soldiers, he sympathized with the efforts of States as much as possible that they might care for their own soldiers in State institutions. He early took action regarding the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Bath, Steuben County, and, from its inception to his death, he continued to serve as the head of its board of control without any pecuniary compensation.

To his former brave comrade in arms, Major-General Fitz John Porter, he remained a loyal, firm friend when nearly all others forsook, or became discouraged, after the charges preferred against him by General Pope, and the action of the Congress thereon. One of Slocum's longest and best speeches in the Congress was delivered Friday, January 18, 1884, when the House was in Committee of the Whole, having under consideration the relief of Porter from the findings of former military court, the contention at this time being for Porter's restoration to the Army on the retired list, so as not to oppose, or set aside any worthy officer in commands or places then filled.

General Slocum early became interested financially in the Williamsburg City Fire Insurance Company, this Williamsburg being then within the City of Brooklyn. Other financial investments were presented to him, some of which he discrimin-



H. W. Slocum

General Slocum as a Citizen and National Legislator. At Age of 56 Years

ately entered upon, The Peoples' Trust Company of his city being one, and in which he was later chosen a member of its Board of Managers. The business of the Hecker-Jones-Jewell Milling Company attracted him, and he became a member. The other

members being cognizant of his superior business qualities, elected him member of its Board of Directors.

The General early observed that the street railway companies were not developing their roads as fast as the rapidly increasing population and the necessities of the citizens required. He entered upon this business, developed the Crosstown Railroad Company and was chosen its president. He also developed the Smith and Jay Street and Coney Island Trolley Line, and accumulated a controlling interest, bringing all of these ventures to a satisfactory condition for their patrons and stockholders.

A deep and increasing interest in children and in the proper progress of civilization in their behalf led Slocum to champion the right for their betterment; and to contend strenuously if necessary for the proper punishment of evil minded persons who, for pecuniary gain or any other cause, sought to demoralize them, or any person or the community, in any sense or way. In this great work we find the General's name heading the list of a loyal band of moral heroes' standing shoulder to shoulder in Brooklyn with Rev. William Ives Buddington, D. D., Henry R. Jones, Alfred S. Barnes, Courtland Dixon, J. C. Hutchinson, M. D., and others in the support of Anthony Comstock for the suppression of vice instigation and dissemination.

A short time before the decease of General Slocum his friend General Stewart L. Woodford met him in the street and asked him how much of truth there was in the statement of a mutual friend that he (Slocum) would like to be a member of the Board of Education. General Slocum replied that he had made such statement, and he said to Woodford: "Mayor Sehieren is my near neighbor, and I would not like to say it to him myself, but I wish you would tell him that if, when he is making up the list of new trustees, he has no one else, I would like to go into the Board of Education. All my ambition has passed away, but in the closing years of my life I would like to help the children of Brooklyn. A man can do more good in helping the children to be taught well than he can in commanding an army."

The Brooklyn Club appealed to Slocum as a good place to occasionally meet his friends of the city, and to entertain an occasional caller from a distance; and his election to the board

of control had a strong effect in retaining this institution within wholesome bounds of operation.

The General was a member, to the time of his decease, by State appointment, of the Board of Gettysburg Monuments Commissioners. To the multiform duties of this State work he gave much time and thought. New York far surpassed any other State in the number of troops in the Battle of Gettysburg, and its losses there were at least relatively in same proportion. There were of the citizens of New York killed in this battle, 82 officers and 912 enlisted men; wounded 306 officers and 3,763 enlisted men.

General Slocum had the reputation of being a good public speaker although he appeared as little as practicable in public addresses. He visited the Battle-field of Gettysburg occasionally in line with his duties there as Monuments Commissioner, and there it was necessary that he should address the large numbers of those anxious to hear him. Part of his address at the dedication or unveiling of the monument erected in honor of his 149th Regiment of New York Volunteer Infantry, September 18, 1892, will be here given to illustrate his practical style of presenting historical questions, being at once very satisfactory to those present from its descriptive data, and quite the opposite to those at home who evaded military service. The report of this address is printed in full in the Final Report in the year 1900, of the Commission occupying three quarto volumes, in volume iii, pages 1016, 1017. The monuments referred to in the address are beautifully pictured in these books, all of which does great honor to the great Empire State, the native place of the General and the writer. The address in question is as follows:

"Comrades, Ladies and Gentlemen:

"We have assembled to dedicate this beautiful monument, which marks one of the places where the One hundred and forty-ninth New York Volunteers fought on this field. My relations to this regiment were peculiar. It was raised in my native county. Many of its members were my personal friends. It served with me from the Battle of Antietam to the close of the war, taking an active and important part not only on this field, but in a score of other battles. It was with me on the great

march from Atlanta to the Sea, and from Savannah to Washington. I should be ungrateful, indeed, if I failed to do all in my power to perpetuate the memory of its gallant deeds.

"Soon after the close of the war, a few gentlemen, foreseeing the interest which must be felt in the field on which the turning battle of the great civic war was fought, formed an association known as the 'Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association.' A portion of the land on which the battle was fought was purchased, and it became the property of the Association. The location of the various regiments and batteries were marked. The first monument erected on the field was the one on this line, erected by Massachusetts to mark the place where so many men of the gallant Second Massachusetts gave up their lives. This was followed by the State of Pennsylvania. Then some of the soldiers of our State, remembering that we had more men in this battle, and lost more in killed and wounded than any other State, went to our legislature and secured an appropriation of $1,500 for each regiment and battery from New York, to be used in the erection of monuments. We have now on this field eighty-two monuments. I congratulate you that after the lapse of twenty-nine years you are permitted to return, and with this monument mark the place where you and your comrades so gallantly fought.

"For many years after the Battle of Waterloo, English historians, poets and novelists vied with each other in glorifying the heroes who fought under Wellington on that renowned field. These laudations reached every fireside where the English language was spoken. In my schoolboy days a part of our daily exercises in reading was an extract from 'Childe Harold' on the celebrated ball given by the Duchess of Richmond to the officers of Wellington's army on the night before the Battle of Waterloo. Every schoolboy could repeat those lines from Byron. And at that I thought, if I ever crossed the ocean my first visit would be to that far-famed field, and that the sight of it and of one of the heroes who fought there would amply recompense me for the journey.

"And yet, comrades, you fought on this field a battle greater than that of Waterloo; greater in the number of men engaged;

greater in the loss of killed and wounded; and far greater in its effect upon the destinies of mankind.

You often hear some of your comrades spoken of as 'poor old soldiers.' Some of them, I regret to say, are poor—poor in health and poor in pocket. But, in another sense, no soldier is absolutely poor. We are all rich in a wealth of memory; rich in feelings such as must have come rushing upon you as you approached this field after a lapse of twenty-nine years. They are all rich in a nation's gratitude.

"During our Civil War there were men in every Northern State of an age and in a physical condition to qualify them for the service, and had no ties binding them to their homes stronger than those which bound you and me to ours, but who could not be drawn into the ranks even by a draft. Some of them cannot prove to-day by their substitutes that they ever bade 'God speed' to one of these substitutes, or to any other soldier as he marched to the field! Some of them cannot prove by their own families that in the hour of the Nation's peril that they did so much patriotic service as to even breathe the hope that the next news from the front would bring tidings of a Union victory. They spent their time criticising the government—cursing Lincoln's hirelings and damning the draft law. And when the war was over, disappointed that it had not proven a failure, some of them sought to rob the government creditor by compelling the redemption of his bonds by an unlimited issue of paper money. Now, my comrades, I know not of what you think of this breed of patriots, but I have no hesitation in saying that, in my judgment, the poorest old soldier that served on this field, as he hobbles past you on crutches and in rags, is rich in comparison to one of them!

"Once more I congratulate you on the happy circumstances under which you are permitted to return to this field which reflects so much honor upon you. To-morrow you go to the Nation's Capitol, and will march once more over the same route that you followed at the Grand Review at the close of the war. You will find the Capitol City greatly improved. Instead of a straggling village with unpaved and dirty streets, you will find one of the most beautiful cities in world—a city teeming with life and prosperity. The improvement in the City of Washing-

ton is typical of that of the entire country. We are a prosperous and happy people, and to you and to your comrades the Nation is indebted for this prosperity and happiness."

Among his other business ventures was his membership with the Coombs, Crosby and Eddy Company which, like his other associations in business, proved successful.

He was invited to membership in the high Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. He accepted membership in this patriotic association, and was later chosen its Commander which office was rather more honorary than otherwise. He was also chosen Honorary President of the Society of the Army of the Potomac.

CHAPTER LIII

Decease. Spontaneous Testimonials

At the beginning of his last sickness General Slocum said positively that death was near. He added 'I am ready; the world owes me nothing,' wrote Sydney Reid in Harper's Weekly soon after the General's decease.

His sickness was pneumonia, with renal complication, and weakness of the heart, causing death in the early morning of April 14, 1894, after about a week's confinement to his house. His widow's decease occurred in March, 1898.

The General had said to his family that he preferred a quiet and unostentatious funeral, even with as little display as possible to avoid. His family, however, justly felt obliged to accede to the requests of the thousands of his, more or less, personal friends and his companions in arms, that they be allowed to do him the honor they felt he so richly earned by his distinguished services to the Republic.

The history and associations of General Slocum's life had been of such public, and important, interest and value in different senses, that it was inevitable that there should follow his decease numerous public, society, and private testimonials expressing sadness at his departure, and the high esteem in which he was held.

The Assembly of the State Legislature publicly acknowledged a sense of its and the State's loss in his death, and appointed a committee to attend the funeral. The Common Council of the City of Brooklyn resolved to attend the obsequies in a body, that irrespective of politics, "as a lawyer and a business man we have all learned to respect this great man. His name and deeds are a heritage to our beautiful City. . . . that it was not difficult for many of us of this later generation to think of him as the compeer of Lincoln, Grant and Sherman." The Board of Supervisors of Kings County, embracing Brooklyn, also met, expressed their warm sense of loss to themselves and the public, and offered condolence to the family; a committee of five was appointed to attend the funeral. Such was the action of the business companies with which the General had been associated. The Senate of the State of New York, and the United States Congress, were quick to take such action, and to spread their sentiments upon their journals. Likewise the Committee on Military Affairs. The social and fraternal societies also sent their similar resolutions, including the Grand Army Posts of the State of New York, and of other States throughout which the numerous soldiers of the general's different commands were dispersed.

The funeral exercises consisted of a brief service at his home, 645 Clinton Avenue. Then Rankin Post of the Grand Army of the Republic, of which he was a member, escorted the body to the Church of the Messiah—Protestant Episcopal, it being the family place of worship and support. The First United States Artillery Band played a dirge during the march. Reservations were made at the church for the members of the family and relatives, for delegations from the Loyal Legion, and Grand Army, for officers of the Regular Army and Navy, of the National Guard, and for other public, social, and fraternal organizations.

The services consisted of the reading of a chapter of Scripture and prayer by the Reverend Charles R. Baker, D. D., rector, and then the rendering of the full choral service. The Reverend Richard Salter Storrs, D. D., pastor of the Church of the Pilgrims, Congregational, upon request delivered the Address, from which the following are liberal extracts, namely:

> The spontaneous feeling throughout the city, and equally among the many who have come to us from abroad, seems to take this occasion out of the common, and to allow—perhaps to require—a freer individual utter-

ance than is usual, concerning him who has gone from among us. It is not so much for honor to him as for satisfaction to our own hearts that we pause for a little, in grateful reminiscence, before going forth, with banners furled and muffled drums, to the final rites.

In the brief address assigned to me by the desire of the household of our friend, and through the courtesy of the rector of this church, it is evident that no just and adequate tribute can be paid to the brilliant commander and noble citizen around whose coffin we are gathered. The office of sufficient eulogy must plainly be reserved for other times and other voices. But we are surely at liberty to speak, as we are prompted to speak, of what we are henceforth to miss, of what the city is to miss, of what his own household most sadly and deeply is to miss in the removal of this eminent and trusted man from life on earth. We are at liberty, as we are prompted, to recognize gratefully God's goodness toward him, in the powers which He gave him, in the education of mind and character which He supplied, and in the opportunity which He opened for great service to the Nation and its future. And while we bow ourselves submissively before the present Divine appointment, it is our privilege to gather, as far as we briefly may, certain natural and helpful impressions of what has been and must always be this remarkable and now rounded career.

It is, of course, not an especially prolonged life which we commemorate, though it had nearly reached the scriptural limit of three score years and ten, and to our eyes gave promise of much longer continuance. Nor, of late years, has it been a particularly conspicuous life, this which is now closed, eminent in public observation and thought; though a luster from the past has always signally rested upon it, and the great results coming from one sublime and crowded passage in it have always been recognized. As far as I have seen and known it, it has seemed far more than is common among men removed from the reach of human censure. Certainly it has been a life noble in spirit, in aim, and in effort, which has justly entitled him who achieved it to the place which he held, not only in the affection of friends, but in the universal public esteem. It has been a life presenting as we all must know, extraordinary contrasts, impressive and memorable. This has been true even of the circumstances of his recent departure out of mortal limitations to the greater though unseen Life beyond.

Always it is a thing strangely impressive when an invisible chill in the air smites fatally a life which shot and shell, saber and bayonet, on the most fiercely contested fields of battle had failed to reach; when one who has trodden battle-fields thickly covered with the dying and the dead, and swimming in blood, is done to death by an impalpable atmospheric current; when one who has pushed his stubborn and impetuous way through swamps writhing with wounded and echoing with groans, or through thickets and forests where the very air was almost solid with the shattering bullets, himself more than once dangerously wounded in such terrific collisions of force and fire, survives them all, to die afterward in the midst of friends, in his own quiet home, beneath the tender dew of tears,

to be laid to rest in the lovely and tranquil neighboring cemetery 'the place of sleep.'

There is a contrast here which stirs the imagination, which touches the heart, and which must live in the memory of all.

But even this is not so remarkable as that between the career of a great and brilliant general of armies, as our friend was for a series of years, and the quiet, unostentatious, always unassuming citizen and friend, whom we have familiarly known. I remember to have been much impressed by this one summer-day nearly a year ago when General Slocum, in one of the last conversations which I had with him, did me the honor to ask me and urge me to give an Address at Gettysburg, on the then approaching anniversary of the great and fateful battle there fought. The Address was impossible, but the interview I gratefully recall. It seemed almost incredible at the time that the modest, friendly, unassuming gentleman, who sat so quietly talking in my library, should be the great leader who, with forces suddenly diminished, had held the right of the national army with unflinching steadiness to the perilous edge on that day with whose fame the world resounds; who had recaptured positions already torn from him by overwhelming numbers, and had contributed so grandly to the ultimate triumphant success. But so it was always: when one met him on the street, or on any social or festive occasion. The glamour of a great past was upon him, yet beneath it he was as simple as if wholly unknown. He who had fronted the grimmest and fiercest perils of war with an undisturbed pulse, and at whose command batteries had opened and armies had been launched on their victorious and destroying way, was still our helpful neighbor and cordial friend.

Yet even this contrast of past and present positions before men was not so remarkable as was that between the moral and personal qualities shown in the camp, or amid the uproar of battle, and those appearing in subsequent domestic and social life. Men could hardly believe, sometimes, that the daring, energetic, invincible leader, fiercely aggressive, with flashing intuition and trained intelligence, and with an utterly unconquerable persistent courage, was the same man in whom what was gentle, gracious, playful, affectionate, came so constantly into view at the home and in society; the grasp of whose hand was so cordially welcoming; whose eye was so kindly, whose voice had in it the musical pathos of such serene sympathy; who was so fond of children and friends, of books and of home; that one who had been stern and terrible on occasion, should present himself to all who knew him in later life as among the most lovable and delightful of men. But the contrast here was not a real one. It was only apparent. Always there are two aspects of a great character. Strength and beauty are joined in it, as sparkling fountains issue singing from rocky recesses, as delicate blossoms charmingly appear on craggy cliffs.

Paul, the most martial of apostles, illustrates this. His favorite imagery was always, as we know, derived from the camp and its armor, the shield, the sword, and helmet of battle. He exhorts his son in the

gospel to endure hardness as a good soldier. He felt himself a sworn champion for the Crucified and the Crowned; and his words ever since have rung in the world as trumpet-notes, as the throb of artillery, as the stern prophetic shouts of victory. It is impossible not to feel that if he had been a leader of legions he would have been one of the most stalwart of commanders; would have marched to battle with a step as untrembling as that with which he went to his martyr-doom. Yet Paul was the one who wrote to the fierce and fickle Galatian Christians those memorable words "the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance" and who exemplified in his life what he so touchingly and persuasively commended.

So was it, in his different measure, with our friend. The two phases of character were combined in him, as in even his physical frame grace and strength were met together, elegance of figure with a strange strength and power of endurance. The stern self-surrender and self-sacrifice of the soldier were in him; but also the gentleness, goodness, peace, of the man both loving and beloved. Men will always admire and praise that golden side of his shield which flashed so brilliantly before the eyes of the nation, the eyes of the world, in the years of the war. But all who knew him have deeply felt that the silver side, which was turned toward them, was not less rare, and had upon it a still lovlier luster.

So it was that his return to civil and social life when the war was over was wholly natural, involving in it no violent transition. He had not loved war for its own sake. No great commander ever does. He had recognized it as sometimes a sad necessity; the dread arbitrament of battle between the irreconcilable doctrines, causes, tendencies of the age. But it was in order to ultimate peace that he fought. It was for the maintenance and advancement of a benign civilization that he had so often fronted death; and therefore when the war was over he turned again to the pursuits and habits of peace, as naturally and as easily as an eagle from his flight returns to his nest, and settles into its shaded repose. He had done his historic work. He had builded his life into the life of the Nation. Thenceforth the city in which he was joyfully welcomed and honored was to be his sphere of labor, his home, his paradise.

It is of course only just to say, what we all feel to be true, that in the removal of this brilliant and faithful soldier and friend Brooklyn has lost her most famous citizen, of the widest present renown; that the Nation has lost one of the foremost among the few thus far remaining of its great and honored commanders in the terrible and successful struggle of the last generation for liberty and national unity. A fresh sense should come to us, on every occasion like this, of our obligation to maintain the nation and make it nobler, for which our friend, and for which many others now present, dared, endured, and were faithful to the end. 'Purchased by blood' is the crimson and conquering legend on the front of the Church of Christ on earth. 'Purchased by blood' is a legend forever to show itself in the history of this Christian nation. Let us highly resolve, now and always, that such heroism in deed, such supremacy of self-sacrifice, shall not for us have been in vain; that the real palm branches borne before our illustrious soldiers, as one by one we carry them to the grave, shall be just laws, public equities, the ever advancing power and beauty of the nation which they saved, within itself, and toward all others. And let us learn, most of all, the great lesson of the character of him who has gone, as it arises before us; that the bravest are the gentlest, the most daring are the most delicate, the most stern in the exacting and critical conjunctures of public history are also the most modest and magnanimous. So his life will further live in our personal lives, as it will live also, in all coming time, in the renewed and exalted life of the nation which honored him while he lived, and which to-day watches his obsequies.

The descending sun leaves behind him a tranquil, lucent glory in the sky, showing that still he shines as before, though now beyond the reach of our vision. The happy remembrance of a friend departed is like that gold on the western heavens, still for a time irradiating our hearts, while telling us also of other spheres of life and work, in God's grace of a serene and heavenly rest, beyond our furthest time-horizon. And so we leave henceforth our honored friend, our noble citizen, to History and to God.

After the church services the body was borne out by the eight sergeants and placed on a gun-carriage. It was then carefully covered by the American Flag which he had so strenuously upheld, and the large and impressive procession moved forward, General Horatio C. King directing. The Light Battery of Artillery from Fort Hamilton under command of Colonel Loomis W. Langdon, and the Twenty-third Regiment of Infantry under Colonel A. C. Smith, which had been massed near the church, fell in with others in prescribed order, to the number of 3,000 or more, including old soldiers and the National Guard, with long line of carriages containing the families and close relatives, dignitaries, and citizens generally. The principal part of the military escort turned away at Fourth and Atlantic Avenues, and the others continued to the historic Greenwood Cemetery Reception Vault. As the body was there being deposited the United States Artillery, in which he began his military service, announced his final departure from the view of his mourners by the Major-General's farewell of twelve gun-discharges, the bugler's sound of 'taps.' The vault door was closed, and the long procession began its silent return homeward.

The Will of General Slocum was filed for probate by the Brooklyn Trust Company, which was named therein as the ex-

ecutor. No schedule of property was filed. The testator had been successful in his business ventures and his estate was large. He had been successful in bringing the Brooklyn street railways to a large and profitable patronage by the public. He owned a large amount of the stock of the general system, and a controlling interest in the Brooklyn and Coney Island Railway which was generally spoken of as Slocum's road. He was its president and general manager until the last two years of his life when he voluntarily gave way to his older son bearing his name. His Will was a short document making two public bequests, namely: $5,000 to the Children's Aid Society of Brooklyn, and $5,000 to the Brooklyn Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, thus contributing to the proper care of some of those who were and are to become the protectors and supporters of their community, State, and Nation. All of the residue of his estate was bequeathed to his widow and their three children.

Some of the most touching sentiments of personal loss came later from the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Bath, New York. The flag over this institution was directed placed at half-mast, and a special meeting of the Board of Trustees was called for an 'expression of profound sorrow and regret at the loss of their distinguished President.' At this meeting an extended In Memoriam was adopted and ordered published. A few excerpts will be here given, namely:

The first Board of Trustees of the Soldiers' Home was appointed by Governor Lucius Robinson. It comprised the most distinguished soldiers of New York State, and its members of whom General Henry W. Slocum was appropriately the first named, were eminently fitted by their ability and their devotion to the objects for which the Home was established, to successfully inaugurate its management and make sure its benefits. With unanimous voice General Slocum was elected President, and until the hour of his death he continued the discharge of the duties of that office with unabated zeal. Although residing at a great distance from the Home, and notwithstanding the demands of his large personal business and public duties, he seldom missed a meeting, and never failed in his faithful care for and devotion to the Home and its interests. His rare good business judgment was of inestimable value, and in all trials and difficulties the Board and management turned to him as a tower of strength. But it was not this alone that won and retained our regard and affection. Besides this it was those qualities of heart displayed in social intercourse which made him the loved and valued friend of every member of the Board.

We mourn his loss to the institution as irreparable. But above and beyond this we are impressed with inexpressible sadness at the sudden sundering of the ties of friendship and social intercourse which have so long existed.

The Nation has lost a great soldier, the State an eminent citizen, the business community a distinguished member, and the Soldiers' Home a devoted officer. Appreciating his service to our country in war and peace, and the personal qualities that made him worthy of all affection and esteem, we tender to his bereaved family our heart-felt sympathy for the loss of a loving husband and father, a wise counsellor and friend.

The Board attended the funeral in a body, at the residence, the church, and to the end. Its In Memoriam ran on for several pages in length.

The Keeley League of the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home held a special meeting in their club rooms and adopted a series of resolutions regarding their 'loss of a true and warm advocate and liberal patron of their league.'

Independent Memorial services were held in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, April 29, 1894, where General Slocum's comrade General Oliver O. Howard delivered an eloquent address, and General Benjamin F. Tracy before offering resolutions, said: "We should erect for him a monument, not for his sake, not for ourselves, but for those who will come after us, that they may read of the virtues of this departed hero."

General Slocum had promised to deliver an address, in a historical series, before school children of Brooklyn May 4, 1894; but this date was turned into a memorial service of the deceased expected speaker, with Major William G. Tracy, a long-time member of the General's staff, as speaker. After carefully reviewing the life of his subject, Major Tracy closed his address as follows:

To every commander under whom General Slocum served, he gave prompt and loyal support, doing to the utmost of his power whatever duty came to his hand. No one ever had reason to complain of slowness or languid and insufficient support on his account. Always courteous to his equals and subordinates, and submitting to some assertion on their part, without meddling or flattery he was firmly independent with his superiors, and would never submit to unjust criticism or action from them of himself or his command. His military career is spotless and without stain. It was inspired from first to last by pure and noble-minded patriotism.

General Slocum was always and essentially a domestic man. His staff

officers during the war were simply members of his family. Ever familiar and kind, he endeared himself to all of us by the personal interest he took in everything that concerned us. He restrained our excesses, taught us honesty, temperance and frugality, and while he treated us as his equals, he never allowed us for a moment to forget the respect we owed to him and his position. He influenced us by his example in the formation of those habits which contribute to permanent success in life.

In the years that have passed since the close of my military experience, I have seen and known many men struggling in the battle of life for existence and power. I have watched them greedily grasping for the smallest distinction, magnifying their own services, and either appropriating or belittling those of others, and I have learned to better appreciate the noble character of the soldier who has just left us. In all the sterling qualities that go to make up a man, I have seldom met the equal or superior of Major-General Henry W. Slocum. Firm and resolute of purpose, yet with so much modesty, so little of self-assertion; so faithful in the performance of whatever he believed to be his duty; so independent in his speech and conduct, whatever might be the future result. He was the noblest and greatest soldier that the State of New York gave to the nation; he was an honor to his name, his race and his country.

The leading Editorial in the daily newspaper, The Brooklyn Citizen of April 14, 1894, read as follows:

General Slocum who, since the period of the Civil War in which he won his renown, has had his life and fortunes identified with Brooklyn, died in this city at two o'clock this, Saturday, morning. The sad announcement comes with a great shock to the community upon which he had long shed luster, and in which he was much beloved. The cause of his death was pneumonia, but so far was the public from being prepared for a fatal termination that, as late as last evening, the news was that he seemed to be on the road to recovery. The attack of the disease, so far as the newspapers were informed, though serious, was not regarded by the attending physicians as likely to carry off the patient. The sudden change for the worse is but another proof that there are contingencies which can neither be foreseen nor provided against by the highest professional skill. The General, though not an old man—his age was but sixty-seven—had evidently lived so fully up to the measure of his strength that less than sufficient energy remained with which to face the crisis of the disorder which, under other conditions, would have been successfully surmounted. A man of slight build, distinguished at all times for nervous and intellectual activity notably out of proportion to the bone and muscle of his body, he was capable of offering but little resistance to a malady which accomplishes its end rather by sapping the vigor of the frame than by vitiating the blood. The remark that 'man's life is an appendix to his heart' is peculiarly applicable to this relation; and not less so is the still older observation that 'to live long it is necessary to live slowly.' The deceased had

left no fiber of the propulsive organ unstrained, and the story of his life furnishes all the evidence necessary that to achieve rather than to exist was with him the dominant purpose.

The name of General Slocum is permanently enshrined in the history of the Republic. It is inconceivable that a time will ever come when Americans will not be profoundly interested in the records of the great struggle for the perpetuity of the Union, and which gave us at once a united country, deliverance from the overhanging curse of human slavery, and the foremost place ever held by a self-governing people on the globe. But until such time does arrive, the name and fame of the modest, valiant and efficient soldier, whose death we lament, will remain undimmed. . . . After the eye of the student of history has lingered upon the names of Grant, Sherman, Meade, Sheridan, Thomas, and McClellan, it will turn with hardly lessened interest to those of Hancock, Hooker, McPherson, Howard, and Smith, and second to none of these will stand the name of Slocum. From the beginning of the war till its close, almost from the first beating of the drum that called the patriotism of the North to arms, till the last rebel against Federal authority had laid down his sword, Slocum was in the field. He was a fighting general. The first Battle of Bull Run found him steadfast in the midst of defeat, even as Gettysburg found him a pillar of triumphal defense, and the March to the Sea, one of the most conspicuous of the commanders whose skill and valor clove the Confederacy in twain.

In the West, in the East, around Vicksburg, there were few engagements of the first order which did not find him conspicuous among the most distinguished and successful marshals of the North. He served under McClellan, under Burnside, under Meade, under Pope, under Sherman, and under all he, alike in the darkness of defeat and the glory of victory, was notable as a soldier who never failed in his duty, never shrank from the face of an enemy, never quarrelled with a superior officer, never complained of ill treatment or disappointed ambition, and always proved himself equal to the largest duties laid upon his shoulders. Than his there are more shining records in the annals of the army, but none better. Fortune might have advanced him in rank, but it was never in the power of fortune to enable any soldier to show more decisively that whatever might befall he could be counted upon to do his duty with an unfaltering heart and a capacity equal to the most pressing emergency.

Of the life of General Slocum here in Brooklyn little need be said. It is enough perhaps to say that he never shrank from the discharge of any of the duties of citizenship, that he placed his hopes of good government in the Democracy, and that in all the pleasant ways in which a cultivated and interesting gentleman can contribute to the pleasure of the community he exercised his talents. He wore his honors with so fine a grace that he might have sat any day for a picture of modesty. It is impossible that any man ever lived who presumed less upon his claims to deference for services rendered to the public than General Slocum.

It is with almost as much of pride as of sadness that we say farewell to this gallant spirit. It is sad to reflect that few of the more conspicuous commanders of the North remain. They have one by one gone to the Valley of Avilion, like King Arthur, to heal them of their grievous wounds; and with the passing of Slocum we gaze, as it were, upon the last member of the shining procession as it fades from the physical vision to reappear in the permanent sphere of memory. But this, as it is in accordance with nature, is a melancholy mood that gives way to the joy that arises upon the further reflection that the deeds of our heroes are a permanent possession, that their example has increased the total value of life, that it was a high privilege to have shared existence with them, that the very atmosphere of the Republic is vital with their spirit, and that they and liberty are destined to a common immortality.

The Brooklyn Standard-Union daily newspaper of April 14, 1894, carried the following leading editorial on The Death of General Slocum:

Visitors to the Battle-field of Gettysburg and students of war history do not need to be military experts to know, when the headquarters of General Slocum are pointed out on the extreme right of the lines of the Army of the Potomac, that he was placed in a position of supreme and critical importance.

The world knows all about the picturesque in Pickett's charge on the third day of the Gettysburg combat, and the sweeping assault by Longstreet on the second day; and has accepted the romantic stories of the two Round Tops and the Devil's Den, as it has the battle above the clouds [by Slocum's men] at Chattanooga; but there is great imperfection in the general understanding of the splendid struggle on the right (Slocum's wing) on the second and third days, in which five New York regiments, with only thirteen hundred muskets, under Greene, supported by Wadsworth, resisted the desperate advance of Johnston's Confederate division through the afternoon of the second and the morning of the third day's fighting.

Slocum was not a noisy and advertising chieftain, but a soldier whose make-up was pure steel, and he always bore an edge like a battle-axe in the flaming front of war. Right behind him at Gettysburg was the reserve of artillery and ammunition of the army, and the choice troops of the Confederacy were sent to turn the right flank of the National position; and for them to have done so would have been the irretrievable ruin of the Army of the Potomac, and in that event who can conjecture the tremendous and disastrous changes of history?

During the Longstreet battle, beating back Sickles, on the second day, troops were withdrawn from the right (Slocum) to help on the left, until Slocum made so absolute a remonstrance that he was allowed to keep Greene and Wadsworth. The National line was in the form of a fish-hook,

the curve being around Cemetery Hill, the shank of the hook extending southward, the position of Slocum just at the barb, and his services there were beyond all estimation.

We state this with particularity, now that the hero is gone, as a typical fact in his career. Throughout the war, from Bull Run to Bentonville, whenever, wherever a true, unfaltering, competent soldier was wanted, the commanders of the armies, from McDowell to Sherman, knew Slocum was brave, faithful and capable, among the very strongest and bravest of the brave and the strong. Wounded at Bull-Run; in the thick of the Seven days' battles before Richmond; conspicuous at Malvern Hill; the commander of the corps that at last checked the daring and brilliant assault at Chancellorsville of Stonewall Jackson, the last stroke of the Southern genius of the war; in the vortex of the whirlpool of fight at second Manassas; in the great South Mountain skirmish, and the fierce tempest at Antietam; going west for the North after Gettysburg, as Longstreet for the South; commanding the Army of Georgia on the march from Atlanta to the Sea; standing against Joe Johnston in the despairing rush of the forlorn but gallant and dangerous army of the Confederacy on Sherman's left in the forests of North Carolina; riding under the fiery sleet, cool and commanding, from the first great battle of the great war to the last; imperturbable in victory; on horseback cheering his troops, hat and sword in hand, steadying their broken ranks at Chancellorsville, was Henry Warner Slocum. Under all fortunes a hero, under all circumstances a gentleman and soldier, and becoming all the glory of those proud and chivalric titles, he was a man his friends loved without stint, and the Nation owes him gratitude, and the generations to come should remember him as one of the foremost of the patriots who, with blood and iron, saved the noblest fabric of human government from the desolation of ruin and dishonor. His figure will stand imperishable in the group of the leaders—whom history and art shall illuminate and embody and enshrine—in the mighty and glorious cause that won the war.

The characteristics of General Slocum in military life distinguished him in his civic affairs. He was of a temperament that made garrison duty when he was a young officer extremely irksome, and when he had endured nearly five years of it he insisted upon resigning and returning to Syracuse. . . . The outbreak of the war called him to the field, where he was as soon as there was fighting to do, and remained until it was all over. When the war was ended he refused to remain in the regular army, and in Brooklyn resumed the practice of law. He was too manly a man to submit to the manipulators of the politics of intrigue, and it was impossible that he could be a subordinate of the Boss whose iron rule has made so broad and sinister a mark. Nothing but local opposition, in the highest degree creditable to him, prevented his nomination for Governor when Grover Cleveland carried off the prize from the Syracuse Convention of 1882. If General Slocum had then succeeded, his majority would in all probability have been larger than that which Cleveland re-

ceived, and that gave him the pedestal from which he stepped to the Presidency. The majority of the people wanted Slocum, and the opposition of his own county because he was not a Boss man alone prevented his nomination. As Governor of New York, with two hundred thousand majority behind him, he would have been the nominee against Blaine in 1884, and the political and partisan record of the country from that day to this would have been cast in different molds; and other names than those now prominent would have been on the wires and in the prints, and sounded through trumpets blown from the towers to tell of triumph. The name of Slocum will be memorable. In war and in peace, around his person was shifted the scene of history.

The citizen of highest distinction, and beloved beyond expression by his comrades in arms, who in their thin ranks will feel lonesome in their bereavement; the quiet, kindly man, who never posed or faltered or paltered, and was clear in the high and sacred offices of friendship; the loving domestic man of peaceful days; the successful man of business; the 'good gray head that all men knew' disappears from the walks of men. A glorious personage, the school children recognized as significant of honorable and eventful achievement, and revered as embodying the reputation of their country, as the streaming Stars and Stripes typifies its splendor, has departed from our midst, to dwell in the firmament of memory, while ages on ages unroll the illuminated scroll of the great days of the Republic.

The leading editorial of the newspaper The Brooklyn Daily Eagle of April 14, 1894, well expressed the opinion of its many well informed readers in the following choice sentiments, under the heading HENRY WARNER SLOCUM, as follows:

The army and the Nation will note in the death of General Slocum, this morning, the loss of one of their most distinguished historical military figures. Congress will recognize that a man who came to it with renown as a chieftain, and who, in its service, gained reputation as a representative, has passed away. The State will reflect that the most celebrated of her sons in the war for the Union is no more. The military and civic societies to which he belonged will truly declare that their most illustrious member has passed away.

Only secondarily in any of these respects will the man who died this morning be suggested to Brooklyn. They were respects that fitted the man in perspective. To the people of this town the man was a citizen, a neighbor, a voter, and an incumbent of business and public trusts. Here he was also known as a husband, a parent, a grandfather, a friend, a confidant. Brooklyn had to do with his personality. His achievements framed him to the rest of the world.

The difference was great. It did not reduce his fame here. It simply here made his fame a property which he and his townsmen set aside when

they met. He never paraded it. They never needed it in their relation to him or in their association with him. There never was a great soldier who bore himself in peace with less recurrence to his record. The town knew that in him it could boast a compeer of Grant, Sherman, and Sheridan. It also knew that boasting was not his liking or his habit. The man's modesty and the city's practicality a little disadvantaged the current estimate of General Slocum.

Those in whom the war did not move as a fact in which they took part —especially those born or matured since the war ended—found it not always easy to account for the world-wide reputation of the man as a matter in relation with his plain, homespun, every-day bearing with them. The only really great soldier of the war among us, he was the least military man here. A great commander of great armies and the victor in tremendous battles, he was locally dwarfed on display occasions by not a few whom he so outclassed in every substantial regard that they ought not to be named—and shall not be—when he is. This was as he would have it. He had only contempt for professional soldiers, as he had only affectionate regard for soldiers by profession. With Howard, Langdon, Swayne, and Porter he was as friendly, in their character of warriors in reality, as he was with William Marshall, William J. Coombs, Henry R. Jones, and his few other close civilian friends here.

The shyness and reserve that made his merits under-appraised in life will convert to high value now that he is dead. They were real. The cheap silver of display, the gilt tinsel of uniform, epaulettes, cockade, buttons, sword and sash and plumes and the like, distinguished, or at least characterized, quite different men. He was the gold of soldiership and of citizenship. They were the scum of war and the froth of peace.

Long Brooklyn's, he is History's now and Fame's. It is, therefore, due to say that the former President of the Crosstown Railroad Company was the man whose vote decided, and whose valor held Gettysburg as the pivotal battle-ground in the war between the States. The citizen who devised for his son a control in the Smith and Jay Street and Coney Island trolley line was the captor of Atlanta. The some time head of the Department of City Works commanded one of the two armies that Sherman lead to the Sea. The quiet and neighborly occupant of the frame house on Clinton Avenue was the hero of Bentonville, who closed the long chase of Joe Johnston with a terrific whipping of him in a stand-up fight against great odds. The quiet member who so easily managed the interests of the Brooklyn Club awhile ago was the military governor of an immense province washed by the Mississippi and the ocean.

These contrasts were little appreciated here at times, for when Slocum came to Brooklyn he resumed the modest role of citizen which he filled in Syracuse before he went afield. He sheathed his sword down South, and never bared it for the eyes of vanity or for the applause of the multitudes up North. He put on plain clothes and a plain life. Occasionally he would

reappear in his historical character, but it would be with Grant, Sherman, Hancock, and such men, on occasions replete with friendly reminiscence and destitute of spectacle.

He went to Congress, he accepted local place, he acted with his party, or with citizens against it, entirely in his capacity and on his right as a citizen, and in none of these matters did he solicit or relish support on the ground of his military service. He regarded that service too highly to market it in or for any other. For those who did market their military service as a make-weight or make-place in politics his contempt was constant. Before the war he went to the Assembly, and was elected Treasurer of Onondaga County. Before that he was graduated from West Point; but the idea of being a soldier in peace or of being a civilian in war was repugnant to him, while the notion of playing both roles at once was simply intolerable to him.

He went to West Point from liking for military science. He served long enough to repay the government's educational claim on him. He then studied for the bar, practiced law, and represented his fellow citizens in the offices they chose him to fill. When the Union was attacked he sought military service again and took what was first offered. The government's claim was an ever renewable one for cause to him. The army record of no man was better. He was never relieved. He was never superseded. In command he was never surprised or defeated. No complaint was ever justly made of him by others or of others by him. He was repeatedly promoted, and in every instance for gallantry and success on the field. With natures and capacities as different as those of McDowell, McClellan, Burnside, Stanton, Hooker, Schofield, Thomas, McPherson, Meade, Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Logan, and Lincoln, he got on equally well. He served and was served splendidly. He followed and led grandly. He obeyed and commanded and planned admirably. His was the most even and progressive success of any Northern chieftain. The war done, he left the army as absolutely as he had identified himself with it.

It was inevitable that abilities and availabilities such as his would be recurred to by politicians. Their recurrence to them cannot be charged to him. He did nothing to stimulate it. He did much to bring the effort to naught. He had been a Republican before the war. In the war he was politically nothing. At the close of the war preferment waited on Republican soldiers. He coolly became a Democrat. That party ran him for Secretary of State. He was in command at Vicksburg when he was nominated at Syracuse. None on his ticket was successful, but his object of staying or reducing the tide of reproach unjustly running against Northern Democrats was accomplished so far as the instance of a soldier of his renown porclaiming his adhesion to that party could do so. He could have been the Republican instead of the Democratic candidate that very year for that very office, but he elected to become a Democrat for causes that took political pacification and not personal success into account. He always remained a Democrat, but he reserved the often used right to oppose unfit

candidates and oppressive organizations and their despotic policy within that party.

Twice the governorship nomination could have been his by stooping to the mud. Unaffectedly he wanted it for the power for good it had in it. Besides, it was on both occasions the apparent prelude to the Presidency. But he had never stooped in the past. The fact was certain that he would not stoop in the future. Politicians, therefore, could form no union on his name that was not chilled by apprehension. None was on that account formed. The General came to regard the freedom he retained, to have in it more happiness than the function he escaped It is questionable that the organization here, as it then was and still is, could have commanded the nomination of a messenger from a State convention or of a doorkeeper from a National convention of the Democracy. It was certain that the only luster its men won was due to their speculation in the name of the man who had repeatedly defied them on their own ground, and who consistently despised them, as well as defied them, when they sought to harass or hopple him.

No review of the General's political career would either be complete or candid that omitted to note his defection from Cleveland, or his apparent support of Hill for President, and of Chapin for Governor. He erred in both instances. The provocation to the first error was quite as chargeable to Cleveland as on any one else. President Cleveland and the General misunderstood one another. The misunderstanding was increased by those who had in its increase a reason which neither man perceived nor shared. Mr. Cleveland's first administration carefully avoided recognition of General Slocum's position in affairs. Nevertheless, the General loyally supported him for re-election in 1888.

In 1891 the General took part in the Chapin movement for Governor, but his heart was not in it. Neither was it in the movement for Hill in 1892 for President. He, however, realized that in both movements he was repaying efforts that had been put forth for him, and that those efforts had been put forth by men whom he had not hesitated here often to oppose. Gallantry, as well as gratitude, was appealed to by these facts. The consciousness that he was engaged in the impossible was his in both instances. It did not affect the claim laid on his honor. He hesitated not to go down with those who had dared the same fate on his own behalf. The facts which qualified his relation to Democratic reform did credit to his sense of manliness and appreciation. Success based on the forgetfulness of obligation was not coveted by him.

But all that is past. It ceased to have a share in his attitude toward the Federal administration, or in its attitude toward him. The Eagle has the pleasure of believing that it brought them together. The zeal with which the General sustained the President's efforts to make the pension roll a roll of honor was shown in these columns. He was most gratified by the selection of his friend, General Lochren, as Commissioner of Pensions. His letters to the Eagle, and other expressions of a less public character,

were followed by a dissipation of all causes of difference between the Federal administration and himself. The tender of high evidences of its consideration was declined by him, in a way at once to show his appreciation and his inveterate resolve to maintain himself in citizenship alone for the residue of his life.

It is not unsatisfying to know that he put away resentments when he put away ambitions. He resolved political disappointments into factors that enhanced his military fame, by making it stand in the shadow of no equal civic preferments. He lived and died among his kindred, his friends and his books by him loved almost equally well. Few greater soldiers of America preceded him. None so great has survived him. He was getting lonely, for his peers had answered to roll-call on the other shore.

Yet he was not old, as age is rated in these times. It seems not long ago when Sumter was fired on. The veteran who died at sixty-seven today, was but thirty-four then, and he wrote his name with his sword among the immortals before he was thirty-nine. He came to Brooklyn as, historically, the most illustrious, and personally the most modest, of her citizens in that year. Here life and death have come to those he loved. Here in turn death now has come to him. Here his service solidified to history, and his ambitions dissolved into forgotten dreams. Here were the companions he cherished, not lost, but gone before. Here are the companions who cherished him, and who number him among their treasuries of memory. The world knows him as great. The Nation knows him as one of its preservers. The city would rather know him as simply one of her sons, and world and Nation can find their estate in him of conqueror uncoveted by those who loved him in the better relation of citizen, townsman, neighbor and friend. Hail, and farewell!

CHAPTER LIV

Public Memorials on Land and Sea

Immediately following the decease of General Slocum the surviving members of the New York Monuments Commission for the Battle-field of Gettysburg held a meeting and, with warm preamble and resolutions they expressed the high esteem in which they had held him, and their sense of bereavement in his loss.

The 10th of December, 1894, the Common Council of the City of Brooklyn adopted a resolution petitioning the State Legislature to erect a befitting statue of the great soldier at Gettysburg.

The Monuments Commission drafted a bill providing for the expenditure by the State of New York of $25,000 for an

equestrian statue of its deceased hero on the Battle-field of Gettysburg. This bill was introduced in the State Senate February 5, 1895, by Senator John Raines and it was referred to the Committee on Finance. Senator Raines introduced a similar bill January 23, 1896. This bill was subjected to some amendments the last of March and, April 4th, it became a law. The latter part of April a committee of fourteen members of the Legislature, including the presiding officers of both bodies, was chosen for the purpose of visiting the battle-field, selecting the site for the proposed statue, and for the inspection of the monuments already erected by the Commission. This Legislative Committee performed these duties May 1-3, 1896.

Survey of the ground was duly made, a map was traced accordingly and, upon its presentation before the National Park Commission, and the Secretary of War January 19, 1899, they endorsed on this map their approval of the site and arrangement.

Sculptors near and far soon learned of the invitation advertised for sketches of models and, in April, 1897, ten pictures of models by nine sculptors were set up in a large room adjoining the office of the Commission at Albany for the examination of all interested parties. These sketches were discussed in every part, and adversely criticised to the degree of the rejection of all of them. Up to the time of June 15, 1897, eighteen other sketches of models from seventeen sculptors known only by numbers, were opened for examination.

The work chosen by the Commission and their chosen critics was ascertained to be that of Edward C. Potter, after five sculptors had each presented full plaster model about one-and-a-half life size. The pedestal, to support Mr. Potter's work in bronze, was designed by the engineer and secretary of the Commissioners, A. J. Zabriskie; and the equestrian statue, its pedestal, and foundation, were completed and assembled in due time.

The date of September 19, 1902, was settled upon for the dedication of this statue. The Legislature appropriated twelve thousand and five hundred dollars for the transportation to and from the dedicatory exercises of about fifty survivors of each of the New York Regiments which served under General Slocum in the XIIth and XXth Corps which aggregated nineteen regiments

of infantry and five batteries of artillery. The survivors of General Slocum's original regiment, the Twenty-seventh New York, were also included in the invitation. Arrangements were made whereby these venerable surviving soldiers might be housed for the night near the monument in tents shipped from Washington for that purpose. The Seventh Regiment of the New York National Guard with its band of music served as escort to Governor Benjamin B. Odell, Junior, and they encamped nearby.

The weather being auspicious, the dedicatory exercises were largely attended, and the full spirit of respect for the honored dead interred nearby, as well as high regard and due honor for the memory of the departed great commander, pervaded the throngs of thousands of people, including the dignitaries of New York, Pennsylvania, and other States.

The dedicatory program was impressive throughout, namely: Music, Seventh New York Regiment National Guard Band. Prayer, by Rev. W. T. Pray, D. D. Address by General Daniel E. Sickles, U. S. A., Chairman. Music, by the Second U. S. Cavalry Band. Unveiling of Monument by Governor B. B. Odell. Major-General's salute of thirteen guns by the Fourth U. S. Battery. Address, by Governor Benj. B. Odell, Jr. Address by Governor William E. Stone. Music, by the Second U. S. Cavalry Band. Address by Governor Franklin Murphy. Oration by General James C. Rogers. Music by the Seventh N. Y. Regt. Band. Oration by Colonel Archie E. Baxter. Music by the Seventh N. Y. Regt. Band. Benediction by Rev. Joseph Twitchell, D D. Parting Salute by the Fourth United States Battery.

The Reverend Doctor Pray was a member of both the Seventy-eighth and the One hundred and second New York Volunteer Infantry Regiments. His prayer was both eloquent and appropriate.

The address of General Sickles gracefully welcomed the more than one thousand of General Slocum's surviving men who fought so nobly and successfully under his leadership. He annunciated many interesting and valuable historical items of Gettysburg and other battle-fields in part as follows:

"More than a million people had visited Gettysburg during the first nine years of its possession as a National Cemetery.

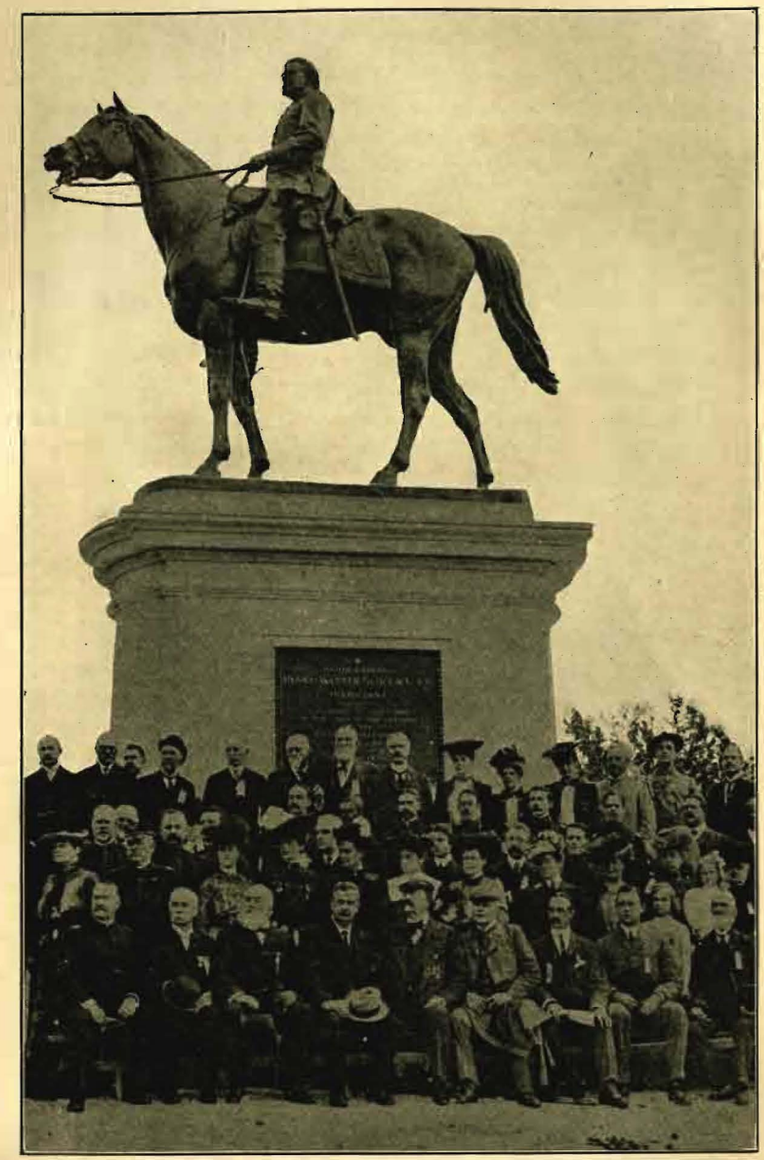
More than four hundred graceful memorials had already (1902) been erected. No other battle-field on earth is so consecrated by loving tokens of remembrance. There are (in 1902) more soldiers' monuments in the United States of America than have ever been erected in all the other parts of the world. New York State took precedence on this field from the first gun fired, the first Union soldier to fall, in the largest number of Union soldiers engaged, and in the losses, numbering 6,707, more than thirty per cent of the total losses in the Union Army on this field. New York regiments and batteries fought in every division but one of the Army of the Potomac which fought this battle. New York has erected on this battle-field (up to 1902) eighty-six regimental and battery monuments, besides the magnificent State Memorial to our dead who lie buried in yonder National Cemetery, and besides this equestrian statue to General Slocum. Continuing, he said:

"General Slocum's terse sentence 'Stay and Fight it Out' was the advice given by the Council of War to General Meade 'who was not satisfied with his position at Gettysburg.' The Army of the Potomac did 'Stay and Fight it Out; and the victory gained is the best comment that can be made on Slocum's judgment.'

"I am thankful to have been spared to come here to-day to assist in the dedication of this monument to my comrade and friend, the foremost soldier New York sent to the field during the Civil War. Fortunately, he was one of the few of our commanders who had unbounded confidence in our volunteers; therefore he never failed. We were associated in four campaigns of the Army of the Potomac. We were both successively regimental, brigade, division, and corps commanders.

"General Slocum never lost a color or a gun. Although his voice will never again be heard by his beloved comrades, this heroic figure will stand for ages to come, as a type of an American commander, modest, resolute, sagacious, brave."

Governor Odell, of New York, in his address emphasized the underlying principle of equality, of right, and justice, as the actuating and inspiring motive of the Civil War. "In the patriotic general whose monument we dedicated to-day, was found one of those sturdy men who knew not only duty but



Near View of the Equestrian Statue of Major-General Slocum at Gettysburg, looking Northeasterly. His right hand holds his hat. The Headquarters Party at the Dedication, in Part. Seated, from right to left: George Engs Slocum, brother; Clarence R. and Henry W., sons of the General; Major Bradley, General Sickles, Governor Odell, General Webb, Major Richardson, and Adjutant-General Henry. September 19, 1902.

who gave to its performance an intelligence which insured to him the respect and confidence of his associates and those whom he led. He and the brave men of New York and other States of the Union need no monument to perpetuate their glory. Monuments may be erected as the Nation's tribute, but our country and this battle-field stand as the monument of their devotion, their patriotism, and their heroism."

The address of Governor William E. Stone of Pennsylvania, was brief. He said: "Pennsylvania is proud of the fact that the most decisive battle of the war was fought on her soil, and while the soil is the soil of Pennsylvania it is consecrated by the blood of the bravest men of all the States and Territories. This battle-field belongs to the whole Nation, because here is where the whole Nation was saved from dissolution. Whether it is among nations or individuals, some decisive moment comes in the lives of each. The decisive moment for our Nation was here at Gettysburg in 1863, and the Nation was saved."

Governor Franklin Murphy of New Jersey also gave a brief address. He said: "First and over all, I feel it a very great privilege and honor to be with you, to join with the representatives of the great State of New York in doing merited honor to my old Commander. If you will look at his face—and I never saw a more speaking face in bronze than that yonder—you will understand why it was that General Slocum easily won and always held the confidence and affection of his soldiers. They never doubted him, and when we saw him we had the confidence in him. A face like that inspires the world over. I repeat that I am glad to be here with you, to join with the citizens of New York in doing honor to that great man. I will say just one thing more. I went over this field to-day; it was my first visit since the battle thirty-eight years ago. I cannot tell you how it impressed me. Our regiment fought away over yonder, on the extreme Union right, and we started this morning and went over the field to the left and I saw this magnificent monument. As I rode over the field and the inspiration of that heroic day came to me, it seemed that I should go away from here—as I believe you will go away—a better citizen, not alone from the beauty of the day and its great attractions, but because of the patriotic inspiration which on this day inspires us."

General James C. Rogers, of General Slocum's XIIth Corps, was the next speaker. He said in part:

It was my good fortune to have been associated with General Slocum during a large part of his brilliant military career, and because I knew him and loved him with the enthusiastic ardor that the young soldier feels for the chief in whom he trusts and believes. And General Slocum had that in him, both as officer and as man, to inspire confidence, admiration and love. There were seen, by me and observed, a number of other leading generals. And now, after all this time has passed, with the impressions of those early days and years strengthened by the judgment of maturer years, I can truthfully say that in the combination of high soldierly qualities with the purest patriotism, in decision of character and the power of quick adaptation of means to the end to be accomplished, in coolness and courage, Henry W. Slocum was, at least, the peer of them all. He had all the sterling soldierly qualities which the others possessed, and some of the head and heart in which the others were deficient.

The XIIth Army Corps was a fine body of troops, and it was splendidly officered throughout, and over all and inspiring all with his high soldierly qualities and calm, quiet but impressive personality, was the great leader whose bronze statue looks down upon us to-day. General Slocum, although a West Point graduate and Regular Army Officer, had resigned from the army before the breaking out of the Civil War, and his mind had been broadened, and humanized as it were, by daily contact with all kinds of men in civil life. He knew and recognized better than most officers who had remained in the army service and whose duties had run in the narrow channels of army life in time of peace, that the young officers and men of volunteer regiments of those days were not of the kind that had been in the habit of enlisting before the war, but were of the best blood of the land and could be moulded and made effective as soldiers more by kindness and by the inspiration of duty than by rough handling and compulsion of fear.

In the Battle of Chancellorsville, which began so brilliantly by Slocum only to end in defeat from the fault of others, Geenral Slocum so skillfully handled his corps that although it was largely composed of regiments that had never been under fire, it did not waver when the other troops on its right were swept away and thrown into a panic such as sometimes comes to the bravest troops when surprised and attacked at a disadvantage. At midnight Slocum swung forward his corps at right angles to the line of breastworks which it had built and occupied in the morning, and there at the edge of the woods at the foot of Chancellorsville Hill, with its Ist Division just to the left of the famous Plank Road, it fought on that Sunday in May, after all its former supports had forsaken it, and only as brave men fight, until the line was crumbling all about it.

It is perhaps enough to say that General Hooker was so impressed with the coolness and skill displayed by General Slocum in that battle, and

the gallantry of his corps under the most trying circumstances, that when Lee had crossed the Potomac and Hooker was following him and planning how to fight and defeat the Confederate Army, he decided to send General Slocum with his XIIth Corps and the ten thousand Union troops then idle and useless at Harper's Ferry, to the upper Potomac there to head off and attack and defeat what was left of Lee's army after the Army of the Potomac had fought and defeated it somewhere near Gettysburg and driven it back towards the river. With General Meade's appointment to command in Hooker's stead, General Slocum's assignment to duty by Hooker fell with him. Of course it is mere speculation now, but one cannot help thinking of what would have been the result if, after Lee's army had been defeated here, and promptly followed up, a cool determined fighter like General Slocum with twenty thousand men had been at the fords of the upper Potomac to head it off. In that event, how much of that army and its immense baggage train would have recrossed the river into Virginia?

Look at General Slocum's record—not one mistake, not one event in those long years of active leadership which we would wish to blot out. And then, when the war was over and that for which he fought is won, he sheathes his sword and returns to the peaceful avocations of the citizen. Oh, life is worth living when it can furnish such record as this! Is it any wonder that the officers and men whom he commanded trusted and believed in him and loved him? Is it any wonder that the great State of New York erects this magnificent monument to his memory on this historic battlefield, which, as the years go by, shall more and more become the mecca of American patriotism and valor? Here our children's children shall come and, gazing at this statue, and others like it, and these hundreds of monuments of regiments and batteries, and those thousands of little nameless granite slabs over yonder in the cemetery, they will be inspired with new love for the Union of these States, and new reverence for all that is noble and beautiful and good in the lives of those who fought and won our country's victory here.

The Oration of Colonel Archie E. Baxter, of General Slocum's XXth Army Corps, was eloquent and impressive. But part of it will be here noted, namely:

Our purpose here naturally recalls recollections of the illustrious soldier who, at a crisis in this great struggle, averted irretrievable disaster and made possible the victory that marked the beginning of the end of the Confederacy, and brought fresh renown to our arms and a luster to our flag that will never fade. As boys we loved, trusted and were proud of this great captain, and confidently followed wherever he led. To-day as men, many of us grown old beyond our years, we are reverently gathered to honor his memory. Patriotic New York has been generous with monuments and statues in honor of her sons, but never has she erected one more deserved than is this in commemoration of the inestimable service

to his State and Nation of her greatest soldier Major-General Henry Warner Slocum.

How like is this bronze hero of to-day to the living soldier of forty years ago! True, there is no recognition in these sightless eyes; no greeting falls from these silent lips. The flag he loved, streaming gloriously here in to-day's sunlight, the strains of war-like music, the roar of cannon, or the acclaims of those he led to victory no longer thrill the warrior's heart. Heedless of all, he keeps, in this city of the dead, ceaseless vigils over the field he fought to save.

And yet, as we gaze on the grim, bronze figure, forgotten are the years that are gone. Once more as boys we are in the presence of the general we loved so well. Again we see the kindly eyes, the grave, clean-cut soldierly face, the erect martial figure. We see him in the quiet of the camp, dignified yet gentle and approachable, modest and unassuming. We see him with his staff, an elder brother in his military family, admired, honored and loved by all. Genial, warm-hearted and familiar, but through his innate dignity restraining excesses and exacting the respect due him and his exalted station. We see him in the heat of battle, cool, deliberate, and self-poised amid the wild excitement, the awful crash and roar. But mark the change when he discoveres that 'some one has blundered.' The whole man seems transfigured. There is a terrible intensity in the compressed lips, the blazing eyes. It is not the joy of conflict, or the lust of battle; but rather the outward mark of a relentless will, of a determination to save what the blunder has endangered; to triumph for his flag and country.

Let the battle roar, the lines surge and waver, he never loses his soldierly grasp of the situation. No sudden reverse discourages or dismays. Through scenes that blanch the faces and unnerve the hearts of veterans, he stands unshaken, noting, with eyes from which no detail escapes, the shifting scenes, and weighing with unerring skill the varying chances of battle. Never needlessly sacrificing his men, but relentless as death where victory may be won by supreme courage and sublime devotion. We see him on a score of historic fields stemming disaster, wresting victory from defeat, winning new glory for the flag; and from Manassas to Bentonville, carving with his stainless sword his name among the immortals. He still lives in the memory of his achievements and exalted manhood.

It is my privilege to speak to-day for the XXth Corps; for the living, and for the dead, of that army of heroes who, fresh from the scenes of glorious conflict in the East, sought and won new laurels on Western fields; whose place in line was always where the battle raged the fiercest; whose flag was never lowered on the field, whose bugles never sounded a retreat, whose proud boast was that they never lost a color or a gun; and whose badges of Stars, like those that blazed on the flag they bore, grew brighter in every battle from Chattanooga to the Sea. We saw the flashes of their musketry and heard the roar of their cannon at Wauhatchie's midnight fight. We watched them clamber up grim Lookout's rugged side

and plant Old Glory in triumph above the clouds. We beheld them sweep grandly across the plain and, with ringing cheers, storm the lowering heights of Missionary Ridge. We saw them between Chattanooga and Atlanta when, in all those hundred days, the minie balls never ceased singing in ghoulish glee; fighting gloriously, dying fearlessly, always victorious and constantly displaying the splendid courage, endurance and devotion that made them the equals of the best soldiers the world has ever seen.

On the 2nd of September, 1864, at the head of the XXth Corps, General Slocum was the first to enter and take possession of Atlanta. Soon after this date preparations began for a most unusual campaign, bold in conception, brilliant in execution, and fruitful in results, the March from the Mountains to the Sea; a campaign that split the Confederacy in twain, cut off the supplies upon which Lee's army relied for subsistence, filled with consternation the heart of the great Confederate martial leader who saw therefrom that the real objective of this erratic and defiant campaign was a junction with Grant, and it made clear the hopelessness of further resistance, and sounded the death knell of the Rebellion. To General Slocum, who so valiantly commanded the Right Wing of the Union Army of the Potomac at Gettysburg, was intrusted the Left Wing of the historic Army that was to march a thousand miles without a friendly base of supplies. It was a post of great importance, one that called into full play the superb soldierly traits of the experienced and resourceful general. This army cut loose from the outer world, the world of its friends, and swung boldly toward the Sea, surrounded only by its enemies. As General Slocum's command was the first to enter Atlanta so it was the first to enter Milledgeville the capitol city; also first to scale the Confederate works and enter Savannah the chief port and emporium of the greatest commonwealth of the enemy. Continuing onward, Slocum's mid-winter march with heavy wagon trains and artillery through the flooded swamps and across the swollen and bridgeless rivers of the Carolinas, surrounded by the ever increasing enemy, was one of General Slocum's greatest achievements, and we may well say one of the greatest achievements in history. At Averysborough he won a handsome victory over the Confederate General Hardee. Near Bentonville, General Joe Johnston discovering that our two Wings were moving by divergent routes massed his whole force and entrenched them in General Slocum's front, intending to surprise and crush his army piecemeal. But General Slocum, always alert, rapidly deployed in line of battle with less than one-third of his men, a force of less than one-third of the enemy confronting him. While his men were hurriedly gathering fence rails for barricades, using their tin plates and cups for shovels, the shock of battle broke upon them. Out of the woods in front burst the gallant gray lines of the enemy. Their flags were waving gaily; sabers flashed and bayonets gleamed. To our waiting lines fronting the onset it was a thrilling sight. On, though ploughed and torn by our artillery, with the steadiness of veterans confident of success, they came. Midway

across the field they broke into a run and, with the old Confederate yell, came sweeping toward us. Suddenly out of the guns of our ranks leaped sheets of living flame. Volley after volley ran flashing, rattling and hissing down our lines. Thinned and staggered by the withering fire, they wavered, broke, and went reeling back across the field. Again and again with desperate courage they recklessly charged, and though men of the blue and gray fell side by side in the fierce embroilment, six times did the grays charge to be driven back in confusion over a field thickly strewn with their wounded and dead. Then, as the sun broke through the clouds and the smoke of battle and bathed our flag in a flood of glory, from our triumphal lines the old Union cheer burst from the lips of veterans who, in grim silence, had fought like heroes and splendidly won the last battle of the Confederacy. This Battle of Bentonville was known as Slocum's battle. Here practically ended his military career in the field. The war was over, the Union saved and liberty was again proclaimed throughout the land.

General Slocum's heart now turned longingly toward the pursuits of peace, and he gladly sheathed his sword forever. He had proved equal to every trust committed to him. His heart had been untouched by intrigue, quarreling, undue rivalry, envy, or sad disappointment of ambition. Apparently unmindful of personal advancement, he sought only his country's safety and glory. Heedless of all else save personal honor, he was content to do his best, modestly and resolutely where duty called him, calm, strong and fearlessly. As a citizen, though crowned with the luster of great achievements, he bore himself so meekly that there was no vocal reminder from him of the days when his words were so potent upon the fields of mighty conflict. Successful in everything he undertook, esteemed, and loved, he might have gained the highest civil offices in the State and Nation had he but consented 'to stoop to conquer.'

Comrades, we can truly say to those who slumber, and are monumented, here that we have kept the faith. Rest in peace.

Of the living, officers as well as the rank and file, we would say to the public, in the name of patriotism, of loyalty, and of the flag they yet bear and honor, criticise them less and praise their valor and devotion more. Let us as a people make for our country a tithe of their sacrifices, and we will awaken to a truer sense of the duties of citizenship, love our country more zealously, advance with quickened strides the cause of liberty and humanity, and prolong the days of our Republic's greatness and glory.

The old soldiers present, and others of the vast assemblage, then examined the monument of General Slocum in all of its details. It will be described as follows: Founded on concrete about five feet thick from the rock under ground, twenty-two feet long and sixteen feet and two inches wide. This concrete is capped by dressed Gettysburg granite sixteen inches thick, as the

base for the pedestal which is of granite from Barre, Vermont, twenty-one feet and eight inches long, fifteen feet and ten inches wide, and sixteen feet three and a half inches high and composed of ten courses or layers. The bronze statue, including its base or plinth also of bronze, is fifteen feet and six inches to the top of the general's head. The plinth on which the horse stands is eleven feet nine and three-quarters inches long, and four feet wide. The total cost was $29,951.57. The amount appropriated for it by the State was $30,000.

The bronze tablets, one on each side of the granite pedestal, are each four feet nine and three-quarter inches wide and three feet ten and one-eighth inches high. The lettering on the tablet of the westerly side, shown in the near engraving, reads as follows:

A Star | Major General | Henry Warner Slocum, U. S. V. | 1826-1894 | In Command of Right Wing | of the Army of the Potomac | at the | Battle of Gettysburg | July 1, 2, 3, 1863. | "Stay and Fight it Out" | Gen. Slocum at Council of War July 2, 1863. | Erected by the State of New York, 1902. | At the lower left hand corner of this tablet is the Seal of the State of New York.

The lettering on the tablet of the easterly side reads as follows: | Major General Henry Warner Slocum, U. S. Vols. | Cadet U. S. Military Academy July 1, 1848: 2nd Lieut. | First Artillery July 1, 1852: 1st Lieut. March 3, 1855. Resigned | October 31, 1856. | Col. 27th N. Y. Infantry May 21, 1861. Severely wounded | Bull Run July 21, 1861. Brig. Gen'l of Volunteers August 9, 1861. | Assigned to command of 2nd Brigade, Franklin's Division, Army | of the Potomac September 4, 1861, and to command of Ist Division | 6th Corps May 18, 1862. | Maj. Gen'l U. S. Vols. July 4, 1862. Assumed Command of | 12th Corps October 20, 1862. Temporarily commanded the Right | Wing of the Army of the Potomac, consisting of the 5th, 11th | and 12th Corps April 28-30, 1863. In Command of the Right | Wing of the Union Army, composed of the 5th and 12th Corps | at Gettysburg July 1, 2, 3, 1863. | Relinquished command of the 12th Corps April 18, 1864 | and on April 27, 1864, assumed Command of the Military District | of Vicksburg, which he held until August 14, 1864. | Assumed Command on the 20th Corps

August 27, 1864 | and of the Left Wing of Sherman's Army, known as the Army of | Georgia, November 11, 1864. Assigned, in orders dated June 27, | 1865, to Command of the Department of Mississippi, | Headquarters at Vicksburg, which he held until relieved September | 18, 1865, and on September 28, 1865, Gen'l Slocum Resigned from | the Army and was Honorably Discharged. |

Soon after the decease of General Slocum some of the leading citizens of Brooklyn instituted a movement for the erection in that city of a fitting memorial monument in his honor. A popular subscription for this purpose was the first thought, but better counsels prevailed, and the financial part was assumed by the municipality. A law was enacted in the year 1895 authorizing an issue of bonds not to exceed $30,000 for this purpose.

The American sculptor, Frederick MacMonnies, a native of Brooklyn, and at this time with residence and studio in Paris, was enlisted in the enterprise by his friends in Brooklyn; and he in due time wrought a model that was satisfactory to all persons who saw the work. The casting in bronze was done in Paris under the sculptor's supervision, and the statue was shipped to Brooklyn late in the year 1902. Upon its receipt it was stored for a considerable length of time on what was known as the East Side Lands, as from various causes the completion of the foundation and pedestal was much delayed.

The base of this monument is nineteen feet long and eighteen feet wide. The pedestal is granite from the State of Maine. It is surrounded by posts of the same rock which are connected by chains of artistically wrought bronze. The tip of the general's sword is twenty-five feet above the pavement around the base of the monument. It was erected at Eastern Parkway and Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn Borough, New York City.

Memorial Day, May 30, 1905, was chosen for the dedication of this memorial. The assemblage on this occasion was large, composed of numerous citizens and old soldiers from near and far, and embracing several thousand school children in the parade, a sight that always cheered General Slocum's heart. The municipality of New York was fully represented by its officers, including a Commissioner from each of the Boroughs of Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan, Richmond, and the Bronx.

THE EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF MAJOR-GENERAL HENRY WARNER SLOCUM
Erected by the City of New York, 1905, at Eastern Parkway and Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn Borough
Showing Parade at Unveiling

The order of exercises was as follows: Music, 'Hail Columbia.' Invocation, by the Right Reverend Bishop Frederick Burgess. Presentation of the Statue by Commissioner Michael J. Kennedy for the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens. Unveiling of Statue by Gertrude Slocum, who was less than six years of age, daughter of Henry W., son of General Slocum. Acceptance of the Statue in behalf of the City of New York by Honorable George B. McClellan, Mayor, formerly General Slocum's commanding general in the Army of the Potomac. Music, the 'Star Spangled Banner.' Address by Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States.[117] Benediction by the Right Reverend Bishop Charles E. McDonnell. Music 'America.' The Major-General's Salute of thirteen guns was fired by soldiers present during the time of the dedication. At the close of the ceremonies President Roosevelt reviewed the parade as it passed along the Parkway.

It has been the custom for many years, if not during the history of all mankind, to give the name of a prominent personage to children, and to objects, either in honor of the person whose name was so used, or to honor the person or object so named, and probably from both of these causes generally. Such has been the case with the name of General Slocum.

Probably one of the most enduring objects that has been named to perpetuate and honor the memory of this General, is Fort Slocum, one of the strongest fortifications for the protection of the City of New York. It is situated on Davids Island which is a little east of the larger Glen Island, southward of the City of New Rochelle, New York, and at the narrowing eastern part of Long Island Sound. It is about five miles north of Fort Schuyler, and six miles northward of Fort Totten on Willetts Point. The principal purpose of Fort Slocum is the protection of the easterly entrance to the East Strait, generally known as East River, New York City.

The great guns of Fort Slocum, and their arrangement, are modern and of the most approved pattern of the artillery service. Every device and agency known to modern warfare have been, and are yet being, mustered to render Fort Slocum impregnable. Very large sums of money and great efforts have already been expended by the General Government for this purpose, and the

work is yet in progress. Mrs. Margaret Olivia Slocum Sage, widow of the late Russell Sage, and vice-president of the International Woman's Auxiliary, completed a good building in the year 1910 for the Young Men's Christian Association work by permission of the War Department. This building is situated near the barrack quarters of Fort Slocum and it is for the benefit of the thousands of United States Soldiers who will from time to time be here received, organized, drilled, and distributed for special or general service at other fortifications, or fields. Fully 3,700 soldiers have been counted at this building in one day. The police justice of the nearby City of New Rochelle has asserted that, when fewer soldiers were brought to him for disorderly conduct he attributed the decrease to the severe sentences he had inflicted upon them; but he later found that their better conduct was due to the opening of this Young Men's building and its wholesome influence over them.

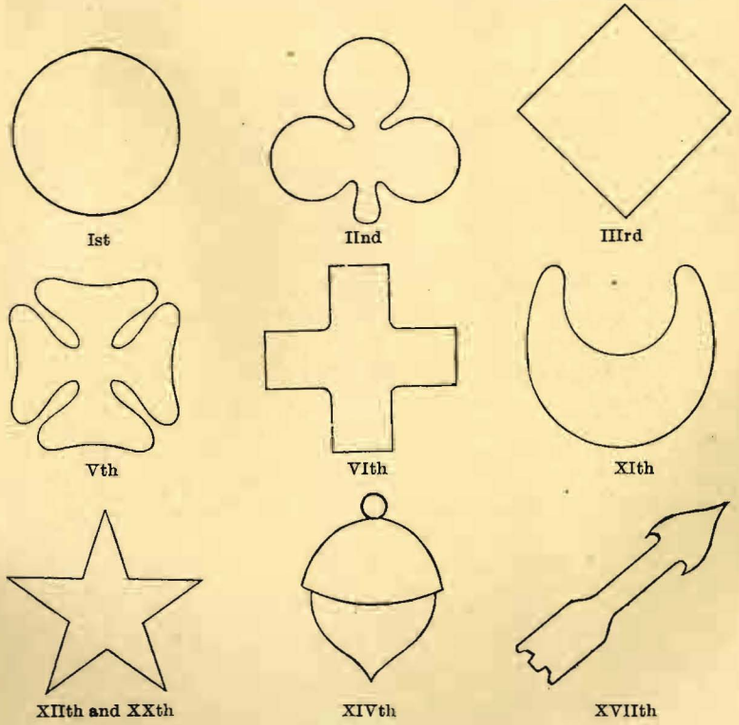
A large and elegant steamship was built near New York City and was named *General Slocum*, the name being placed so prominently on its sides as to be easily read at long distance. This dirigible palace was used solely to supply the demand for additional pleasure and recreation excursions on the different waters of this city and its neighborhood. It became very popular and, during the years of its use, it was frequently overloaded by the thousands who desired to patronize it. On June 15, 1904, while carrying a church excursion party of 1,800 persons up the East River or Strait a match or lighted cigar set fire to some inflammable material of the excursionists and the spread of the flames was so rapid that before the ship could be beached on the nearby North Brother Island the panic was so great that from 900 to 1,000 or more were crushed, burned, or drowned.

A Free Kindergarten was established in Brooklyn Borough in the year 1894, and it was named the Slocum Kindergarten to honor and perpetuate the memory of the General who did so much for the children.

A large United States Transport ship, for carrying soldiers and army supplies during the Spanish-American War in 1898-1899, was named *Slocum*, and she has since borne the name. She suffered injury on the rocks off the east coast of Porto Rico

in November, 1899, but she was readily repaired and continued her work to the Philippine Islands and less distant ports.

A large, strong, seaworthy United States craft for towing barges, dry-docks, and disabled ships was also named *Slocum*. She did good service April 18, 1906, in taking a battalion of the 22nd Infantry, United States Army, from Fort McDowell on Angel Island to San Francisco to support the municipal authorities in their aiding the earthquake sufferers there. She also aided in policing the city's wharf-lines at this time. This Tug *Slocum* also towed the disabled Transfort *Sheridan* to and into San Francisco Harbor November 23, 1906, from the rocks off Barber's Point, Hawaiian Islands—which service of salvation brings to mind the saving of the youth Sheridan for his brilliant career in the United States Army during the Civil War by the youth Slocum aiding him to pass the necessary grades in his studies while they were both cadets in the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. See page 10 of this book.



ARMY CORPS' BADGES

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97. O. R., I, XLIV, 826. **98.** The same, 827. **99.** The same, I, XLVII, I, page 536.
100. The Last Chance of the Confederacy, by General Alexander C. McClurg, The Atlantic Monthly, September, 1882.
101. O. R., I, XLVII, I, pages 47, 25, 26.
102. Military Reminiscences of the Civil War, by Major-General Jacob D. Cox, of Ohio.
103. O. R., I, XLVII, III, 32, 43, 54, 75. **104.** The same, Part I, 419-425. **105.** The same, Part III, 213.
106. Maj. Gen. Carl Schurz's Reminiscences, Volume III.
107. O. R., I, XLVII, III, 435. **108.** The same, 454-5. **109.** The same, 478. **110.** The same, 630, 631. **111.** The same, Series III, Vol. V, page 98. **112.** The same, 134.
113. Sydney Reid in Harper's Weekly soon after General Slocum's decease, April 14, 1894.
114. The Photographic History of the Civil War, 1911.
115. The Story of the Great March, by Brevet Major George Ward Nichols, 26th edition, New York, 1866.
116. Sherman; Memorial Sketch. Government Print. 1904.
117. Presidential Addresses Volume IV, The Review of Reviews Co.
118. O. R., Series I, Volume XLIV, page 274.

SOLDIERS BY STATES, REGIMENTS AND BATTERIES

Under the more constant command of Major-General Slocum are given below. Many other regiments, and parts of regiments, were added to this list frequently to take the places of those whose terms of enlistment had expired, and who were killed or disabled in battles, or by diseases. There were frequently so much change in companies as well as in regiments, that full account could not be kept for this list of the incoming men by transfer or direct enlistment. For names of officers, see the General Index.

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