

October 4, 1997

Department of Missouri
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
2743 Bloomfield
St. Louis, Mo. 63129

Dear Commander and Brothers:

I hereby give to the Department of Missouri the Grand Army of the Republic Altar from the Darveau Post #329 of Morris, Illinois which I received from the National Woman's Relief Corps. This gift shall only be used at formal ceremonies and the installation of officers at a Department meeting. This does not mean it must be used at one of the qualifying meetings. Moreover, I must be the caretaker of the Altar and I shall have the right to designate any aids or successors to this job who shall also have the right to designate their successors. Finally, if the Department is disbanded the Altar shall be given to the National. If the National is no longer in existence, the Altar must be given to the Woman's Relief Corps G.A.R. Museum in Springfield, Illinois. If the Woman's Relief Corps is no longer in existence, then the Altar shall go to the Missouri Historical Society or whatever preservation or historical institution receives the other Department property.

The Altar is over 100 years old and must be maintained in the same manner as any other delicate and aged piece of our history.

If the Department does not agree to these conditions or attempts to change any of the conditions of this gift, then I shall retain custody and control and my successors shall have the same right to retake control. If any caretaker fails in his duties, then the Department Commander shall retake control and designate a new caretaker with all of the attendant rights and responsibilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Steven D. Leicht".

Steven D. Leicht