

From page 22/23 of the 1901 Encyclopedia of the History of Missouri Vol 6

Sons of Veterans. --- The military order of the Sons of Veterans owes its origins to Major A.P. Davis, who instituted the first camp in Philadelphia in 1878. A national organization was effected at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, in 1881, and in 1897 there were in the United States 680 camps, with an aggregate membership of 33,000. Like the Society of the Cincinnati, established immediately after the Revolutionary War, it was designed to perpetuate the memory of the achievements of the American patriots who had served their country on the field of battle, through the banding together in fraternal relationships of their male descendants. Those admitted to membership are the sons of officers and soldiers who served in the Union Army during the Civil War who have reached the age of eighteen years, and are of good moral character, and the provision has since been made for the perpetuation of the order through successive generations. During the earlier years of its existence the membership of the order was confined mainly to the Eastern States, but in time was extended throughout all the Northern States. The first camp organized in Missouri was instituted at St. Joseph in 1883. In the same year General George H. Thomas Camp was organized in St. Louis with fifteen charter members. At the end of an existence of four years this camp surrendered its charter. In the fall of 1885 the ten camps then in existence in the State, through duly chosen representatives, formed the Missouri Division of the Sons of Veterans, electing Charles S. Chrysler colonel in command of the division. The next camp organized in St. Louis was the General F. Schaefer Camp, No. 28, which came into existence October 28, 1886. Since then the following camps have been instituted in the city: General John C. Fremont Camp, No. 35, February 3, 1887 ; Admiral Porter Camp, No. 47, May 11, 1887 ; General John W. Noble Camp, No. 51, June 3, 1887 ; Colonel D.P. Slattery Camp, No. 85, September 7, 1888 ; Major Leo Rassieur Camp, No. 4, July 21, 1893, and Elijah P. Lovejoy Camp No. 100, composed of colored men, March 19, 1889. The official title of the division commander is colonel, and that of the commander of a camp captain. The number of camps in the State in 1900 was nineteen, with 435 members. There were six camps in St. Louis and one each at St. Joseph, Melrose, Isadora, Cape Girardeau, Grant City, Webb City, Sticklerville, Memphis, Sedalia, Sheridan, Arnsberg, Bethel and Pierce City.

From page 256/257 of the 1901 Encyclopedia of the History of Missouri Vol 6

United Confederate Veterans. – An organization of surviving soldiers who did service in the army of the Confederate States in the Civil War of 1861-5, its object being social, benevolent and historical ; to hold reunions at which the members may mingle in song and recollections and keep alive the fraternal memories of the lost cause ; render assistance to needy survivors and their families, and collect and preserve facts, incidents and events of the struggle. It covers all the States that took part officially or through the voluntary action of a considerable body of their citizens in the Confederate cause. The smallest member of the organization is a camp, composed of the Confederate veterans in a locality ; who unite together for the purpose ; all the camps in the State constitute a division ; and all the divisions hold a reunion or encampment once a year in a city chosen by a committee of the general organization. The Missouri division had its beginning in February, 1895, when General John B. Gordon, of Georgia, commander of the general

organization, appointed General Jo. O. Shelby commander of Missouri with authority to organize camps. General Shelby divided the State into the Eastern and Western Brigades, and appointed Brigadier General Robert McCulloch, of Boonville, commander of the Eastern Brigade, and Brigadier General Gid. W. Thompson, of Barry County, of the Western Brigade. The organization of camps was rapidly prosecuted, and the Missouri division, represented by nine camps, and with Miss Lyda Kelly, of Windsor, as sponsor, attended the fifth annual reunion of the United Confederate Veterans at Houston, Texas, May 21, 1895. In October of the same year, Major James Bannerman, of St. Louis, president of a body already existing, known as the Confederate Association of Missouri, in the interest of the Confederate Home, came to the assistance of the Missouri division, and through him and his associates of the Confederate Association, sixty additional camps were formed in the State. The national reunion of 1896 was held at Richmond, Virginia, June 30th, and the Missouri division incited by a stirring appeal from their commander, General Shelby, sent over 300 ex-Confederate soldiers from seventy camps, with Miss Sa Less Kennard, of St. Louis, as sponsor, to the Virginia capital to represent it, the State standing third in the number of camps attending the reunion. On the death of General Shelby, in February, 1897, General Gordon appointed Brigadier General Robert McCulloch to the command of the Missouri division, and at the seventh annual reunion of the national organization held at Nashville, Tennessee, June 22, 1897, the Missouri division was represented by 238 ex-Confederates, Miss Ethlyne Jackson, of Marshall, granddaughter of Governor Claiborne F. Jackson, officiating as sponsor, with fifteen maids of honor. General McCulloch was unanimously elected major general of the Missouri division, and General G.W. Thompson to the command of the Western Brigade, and S.M. Kennard, of St. Louis, to the command of the Eastern Brigade. The same year, September 28th, 29th and 30th, the Missouri division held its first annual reunion and convention at Miller's Park, in Moberly, the order of proceedings being, call to order by General McCulloch, followed by prayer by Rev. J. R. Hitner, one of Stonewall Jackson's men ; address of welcome by Honorable Willard P. Cave, mayor of Moberly ; address of welcome by Mrs. L.W. McKinney, of Randolph County, in behalf of the Daughters of the Confederacy ; oration by Honorable M.E. Benton, orator of the day ; address by Honorable C.H. Vandiver, of Higginsville ; address of General William H. Kennan to the survivors of Pindall's battalion of sharpshooters, Parsons' brigade, on presenting the old flag of the battalion from the widow and only surviving son of L.A. Pindall, commander of the battalion ; report of Colonel Henry A. Newman, of Huntsville, adjutant general and chief of staff, Missouri Division, United Confederate Veterans, with roster of camp officers ; address by Colonel John C. Moore, of Kansas City, General John S. Marmaduke's chief of staff, Colonel Moore's address being an eloquent eulogy upon General Jo. O. Shelby, the deceased commander. The roster presented by the adjutant general, Colonel Newman, showed seventy-two camps at the following places: St. Louis, Bowling Green, Hannibal, Memphis, Paris, Madison, Moberly, Huntsville, Fayette, Columbia, Mexico, Fulton, Jefferson City, Boonville, Bunceton, Vienna, Waynesville, Rolla, Steelville, Salem, Huston, Cabool, West Plains, Alton, Eminence, Doniphan, Greenville, Poplar Bluff, Farmington, Fredericktown, Marble Hill, Jackson, Morley, Dexter, New Madrid, Kennett, Bloomfield, St. Joseph, Platte City, Liberty, Plattsburg, Gallatin, Richmond, Mooresville, Linneus, Kansas City, Independence, Belton, Lee's Summit, Pleasant Hill, Oak Grove, Odessa, Higginsville, Lexington, Waverly, Miami,

Marshall, Sweet Springs, Sedalia, Warrensburg, Windsor, Clinton, Butler, Springfield, Greenfield, Eldorado Springs, Lamar, Carthage, Waddill, Pineville, Exeter and Nevada. The Daughters of the Confederacy of Missouri held their first annual meeting at Moberly at the same time and in connection with the convention of United Confederate Veterans. A cordial and friendly relation exists between the two bodies, and it was through their united efforts and their common action at the Moberly reunion that the erection of the noble and beautiful Confederate monument in the Confederate Cemetery at Springfield was assured. On the occasion of the national reunion at Nashville, Tennessee, in June, 1897, a committee was appointed to visit the battlefield at Franklin, eighteen miles south of Nashville, and report on the condition of the graves of the Missouri Confederate soldiers who fell in the disastrous attack by General Hood's army at that place. The committee were cordially received by the Franklin Camp of the United Confederate Veterans and driven over the battlefield. They found that the Missouri dead had been taken up from the place where their comrades buried them after the battle, and reinterred on Colonel John McGavock's farm about a mile from Franklin. In that delightful location a beautiful cemetery had been laid out, and the dead of each State buried in a separate place, each grave to itself, marked with a headstone bearing the initials of the soldier buried beneath, and also a number. This number refers to a register which gives the company and regiment. There were 130 known Missouri graves thus marked. The headstones cost \$2 each, and the entire work had been accomplished by the generous people of Franklin, who for thirty-three years had with affectionate diligence cared for the brave Missourians who fell far away from home in one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War.

From page 306 of the 1901 Encyclopedia of the History of Missouri Vol 1

Blue and Gray. -- An organization formed in St. Louis in 1896, to bind together by fraternal ties those who fought on opposite sides during the Civil War, took the name "Veterans of the Blue and Gray." The patriotic movement which resulted in the formation of this society was originated by Major Charles G. Warner, Captain Joseph Boyce, and other gentlemen who sent to Union and Confederate veterans residing in St. Louis invitations to attend a meeting to be held at the Planters' Hotel, October 19, 1896, the object of which was set forth in the invitation. In response to this invitation the following named gentlemen assembled at the Planters' Hotel at the appointed time: Samuel M. Kennard, Colonel M.C. Wetmore, Captain George T. Cram, Major Charles G. Warner, Captain Joseph Boyce, Colonel Edward D. Meier, Edward C. Rollins, Judge Daniel Dillon, Colonel William Bull, Colonel Alvah Mansur, Captain Lloyd G. Harris, Captain E.K. Holton, Captain Robert McCulloch and Captain J. Russell Dougherty. A committee was appointed at this meeting which formulated a constitution and by-laws, subsequently adopted, for the government of the society, which makes those who served in either the Federal or Confederate armies or navies eligible to membership upon the recommendation of the membership committee of the society, although applicants may be rejected by the votes of three members against their admission. Distinguished veterans of either the Union or Confederate armies may be admitted as honorary members of the society by a two-thirds vote, such honorary members to be admitted in

the “Blue and Gray pairs.” The honorary members thus chosen prior to 1898 were General John M. Schofield, General James Longstreet, General John B. Gordon, and General O.O. Howard. The purposes of the organization are set forth in its constitution as follows: “ To cultivate a feeling of friendship and fraternity between those who were once opposed in arms ; to extinguish all animosities which were engendered by the late Civil War ; to eradicate sectional jealousies ; to prevent civil convulsions and future conflicts between the various sections of our common county ; and finally to unite the surviving soldiers of the Union and Confederate armies and navies more closely in support of good government and in defense of the Constitution and laws of the United States.” The organization of Veterans of the Blue and Gray was incorporated in the office of the Secretary of State of Missouri, December 14, 1896. The unit of organization is called a company. The union of two companies is to constitute a battalion, and the further union of companies a regiment. The St. Louis company was the only one in existence in 1897, and it numbered at that time seventy-five members, ex-soldiers of the Federal and Confederate armies, being about equally represented. The first annual meeting of the company was held at the Insurance Exchange Building, February 22, 1897, and was followed by a banquet at the Planter’s Hotel. At this meeting, February 12th – Lincoln’s birthday – was fixed as the date for holding future annual meetings, upon the motion of ex-Confederates, a graceful act evidencing the sentiment which dominates the organization.