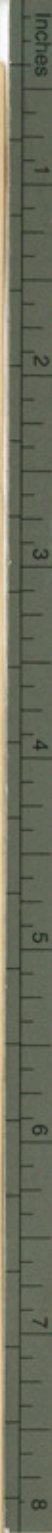


Address
delivered?

No 23

Subject
The Grand Review at Washington



officers
present

No 23

The House of Representatives
of the United States

Ladies, Gentlemen;
Be in ruder:

1.

The grand review at Washington is too great a subject to be depicted in words. The canvas could but feebly present it, and that only in fragments. It lasted two whole days, and it took the reviewing columns more than six hours each to pass the President's reviewing stand.

Having been, before the arrival of my wing of the army, assigned to other duty, upon my request to be permitted to ride with his staff from the Capitol to the White House, General Sherman kindly invited me to ride by his side.

From early in the morning and all the day of that memorable 24th of May, the multitudes, having come from all parts of the country, thronged the avenues and streets, and darkened the balconies and roofs of the houses, and filled the porches and windows of all public buildings.

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Review, April 1865
General Sherman

1.

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a subject to be depicted in words. The canvas
could not feebly present it, and that only in
fragments. It lasted two whole days, and it
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Sherman kindly invited me to ride by his side.
From early in the morning and all the day of
that memorable 24th of May, the multitudes,
having come from all parts of the country,
thronged the avenues and streets, and filled
the balconies and roofs of the houses, and fill-
ed the porches and windows of all public build-
ings.

There were innumerable flags, large and small; there were flowers in superabundance; there was a joyous multitude to behold, and a joyous acclaim seemed to spring from every lip, and yet the whole was so orderly that there was little need for the restraints of policemen or guards; nothing riotous, not even boisterous mirth; but the exhibition of great gladness and intense joy that the great war had ended and peace had at last come. It was Sherman's triumphal day. He had lately been misunderstood, misinterpreted, almost proclaimed as another Czar, notwithstanding his magnificent processions through Mississippi, Georgia and the Carolinas. Still the great heart that understood him, the heart of Abraham Lincoln, had ceased to beat, and the whole press of the country was loaded with mingled praise and sus-

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3.
picion and accusation owing to his peace terms with Johnston. But the people whose instincts were sharper and quicker than those of the press cabinet or the new President, had crowned him with their approval, their confidence and their love. So that it was a great privilege and a great honor to ride by Sherman's side, at the head of that magnificent column of strong men, from the Capitol to the Treasury, - from the Treasury to Jackson Square.

There exists a great historic picture which takes in the commanders of the corps which marched in review. Sherman is in the centre, Logan sitting on the right, Slocum and Blair on the left. Standing in the intervals are Mower, Jeff C. Davis and Hazen. Having been prematurely detached, I have only a leaning place on the outer edges of the group. Gen. Granville M. Dodge ought to have another leaning place against the opposite column.

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ched in review. Sherman is in the centre, lo-

gan sitting on the right, Slocum and Blair on

the left. Standing in the intervals are Mower,

and

Dodge ought to have another leaning place

against the opposite column.

Put on these men their war-paint and equipments; give them their staff officers and orderlies, and locate them at even intervals from the head to the foot of a column, which, well closed up and at quick time, it takes six hours to pass a given point, and you have some faint conception of Sherman's review.

Permit me to read to you his own brief description, which, though clothed in simplicity, could not be excelled. General Sherman says:-

"On the 19th (May 1865) I received a copy of War Department Special Orders, No. 239, Adjutant General's Office, of May 18th, ordering a grand review, by the President and cabinet, of all the armies then near Washington; General

inches 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

...on Tuesday, May 19th, 1945, ...
...the men their war-paint and equip-
...give them their staff officers and order-
...and locate them at even intervals from
...the foot of a column, which, while
...closed up and at quick time, it takes six hours
...to pass a given point, and you have some faint
...conception of Sherman's review. It has been used so
...Permit me to read to you his own descrip-
...scription, which, though often inaptly,
...could not be excelled. General Sherman says:
...commanded by General Heade
...On the 18th (May 18th) I received a copy of
...War Department Special Order, No. 338, Adjutant
...General's Office, of May 18th, ordering
...a grand review, by the President and cabinet,
...of all the armies then near Washington; and
...the Capitol, down Pennsylvania Avenue, past the

Meade's to occur on Tuesday, May 23rd, mine on Wednesday, the 24th; and on the 20th I made the necessary orders for my part. Meantime I had also arranged (with General Grant's approval) to remove, after the review, my armies from the south side of the Potomac to the north; both for convenience and because our men had found that the grounds assigned them had been used so long for camps that they were foul and unfit.

By invitation I was on the reviewing-stand, and witnessed the review of the Army of the Potomac (on the 23rd), commanded by General Meade in person. The day was beautiful, and the pageant was superb. Washington was full of strangers, who filled the streets in holiday-dress, and every house was decorated with flags. The army marched by divisions in close column around the Capitol, down Pennsylvania Avenue, past the

the Capitol, down Pennsylvania Avenue, past the
army marched by divisions in close column around
favorite regiments or battalions, and every thing
and every house was decorated with flags. The
ground, lined with bouquets of flowers for their
sisters, who filled the streets in holiday-dress,
seemed very beautiful. Washington was full of stran-
gers, and the day was beautiful, and the pa-
tomac (on the 24th), commanded by General Meade
and witnessed the review of the Army of the Po-
tomac (on the 24th), and the 4th Cavalry Corps
about the Capitol, and the 4th Cavalry Corps
By invitation I was on the reviewing-stand,
crossed Long Bridge, dismounted in the streets
long for camps that they were foul and unfit.
that the grounds assigned them had been used as
During the afternoon and night of the 24th,
for convenience and because our men had found
then eight years old.
south side of the Potomac to the north; both
father, the Hon. Thomas B. King, and my son Tom,
to remove, after the review, my sisters from the
man, who arrived that day, accompanied by his
also arranged (with General Grant's approval)
I had telegraphed to Lancaster for Mrs. Grant
necessary orders for my part. Meantime I had
front of the White House.
Wednesday, the 24th; and on the 20th I made the
Meade's to occur on Tuesday, May 23rd, mine on
President and cabinet, who occupied a large

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President and cabinet, who occupied a large stand prepared for the occasion, directly in front of the White House.

I had telegraphed to Lancaster for Mrs. Sherman, who arrived that day, accompanied by her father, the Hon. Thomas Ewing, and my son Tom, then eight years old.

During the afternoon and night of the 23rd, the Fifteenth, Seventeenth, and Twentieth Corps, crossed Long Bridge, bivouacked in the streets about the Capitol, and the Fourteenth Corps closed up to the bridge. The morning of the 24th was extremely beautiful, and the ground was in splendid order for our review. The streets were filled with people to see the pageant, armed with bouquets of flowers for their favorite regiments or heroes, and every thing was propitious.

corner of Lafayette Square, some one asked me
was propitious.

I passed the brick-house opposite the hotel
favorite regiments or heroes, and every thing

been prepared on both sides of the avenue. As
gent, armed with bouquets of flowers for their
throng of people, for whom extensive stands had
streets were filled with people to see the pa-

which end of the White House was an immense
was in splendid order for our review. The

we passed the Treasury-building, in front of
Sath was extremely beautiful, and the ground

steel, moving with the regularity of a pedestrian.
closed up to the bridge. The morning of the

glistening mosaics looked like a solid mass of
about the Capitol, and the fourteenth Corps

magnificent. The column was compact, and the
crossed Long Bridge, pivoted in the streets

building, and looked back, the night was bright
the fifteenth, seventeenth, and twentieth Corps.

fifteenth Corps. When I reached the bridge
During the afternoon and night of the 23rd,

closely by General Logan and the head of the
then eight years old.

almost obstructing the way. He was followed
father, the Hon. Thomas Ewing, and my son Tom,

and children, densely lining the sidewalks, and
man, who arrived that day, accompanied by her

Pennsylvania Avenue, the crowd of men, women,
I had telegraphed to Lancaster for Mrs. Sher-

Howard and all my staff. I rode slowly down
front of the White House.

lined, when in person, attended by General
stand prepared for the occasion, directly in

President and cabinet, who occupied a large
President at 9 A. M. The night before

Punctually at 9 A. M. the signal-gun was fired, when in person, attended by General Howard and all my staff, I rode slowly down Pennsylvania Avenue, the crowds of men, women, and children, densely lining the sidewalks, and almost obstructing the way. We were followed closely by General Logan and the head of the Fifteenth Corps. When I reached the Treasury building, and looked back, the sight was simply magnificent. The column was compact, and the glittering muskets looked like a solid mass of steel, moving with the regularity of a pendulum. We passed the Treasury-building, in front of which and of the White House was an immense throng of people, for whom extensive stands had been prepared on both sides of the avenue. As I neared the brick-house opposite the lower corner of Lafayette Square, some one asked me

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so punctually at 9 A. M. the signal-gun was
fired, when in person, attended by General
Howard and all my staff, I rode slowly down
Pennsylvania Avenue, the crowds of men, women,
and children, densely lining the sidewalks, and
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glistening muskets looked like a solid mass of
steel, moving with the regularity of a pendulum.
We passed the Treasury-building, in front of
which and of the White House was an immense
throng of people. For whom extensive stands had
been prepared on both sides of the avenue. As
I neared the brick-house opposite the lower
corner of Lafayette Square, some one asked me

to notice Mr. Seward, who, still feeble and bandaged for his wounds, had been removed there that he might behold the troops. I moved in that direction and took off my hat to Mr. Seward, who sat at an upper window. He recognized the salute, returned it, and then we rode on steadily past the President, saluting with our swords. All on his stand rose and acknowledged the salute. Then, turning into the gate of the presidential grounds, we left our horses with orderlies, and went upon the stand, where I found Mrs. Sherman, with her father and son. Passing them, I shook hands with the President, General Grant, and each member of the cabinet. As I approached Mr. Stanton, he offered me his hand, but I declined it publicly, and the fact was universally noticed. I then took my post on the left of the President, and for six hours

to notice Mr. Seward, who, still feeble and
and a half dead, while the army passed in the
dressed for his wounds, had been removed there
order of the fifteenth, seventeenth, twentieth,
that he might behold the troops. I moved in
and the fifteenth Corps. It was, in my judgment,
that direction and took off my hat to Mr. Seward.
The most magnificent army in existence -- sixty
and, who sat at an upper window. He recognized
five thousand men, in splendid physique, who
the salute, returned it, and then we rode on
had just completed a march of nearly two thousand
steadily past the President, saluting with our
and miles in a hostile country, in good drill
swords. All on his stand rose and acknowledged
and who realized that they were being closely
the salute. Then, turning into the gate of the
scrutinized by thousands of their fellow-country
presidential grounds, we left our horses with
men and by foreigners. Division after division
orderlies, and went upon the stand, where I
placed, each commander of an army corps or division
found Mrs. Sherman, with her father and son.
vision coming on the stand during the passage
Passing them, I shook hands with the President,
of his command, to be presented to the President
General Grant, and each member of the cabinet.
cabinet, and the President. The President and
As I approached Mr. Stanton, he offered me his
firmness of the stand, the careful dress on the
hand, but I declined it publicly, and the last
guides, the uniform intervals between the regiments
was universally noticed. I then took my post
see, all eyes directed to the front, and the
on the left of the President, and for six hours
fattered and bullet-riven flags, festooned with

and a half stood, while the army passed in the order of the Fifteenth, Seventeenth, Twentieth, and Fourteenth Corps. It was, in my judgment, the most magnificent army in existence -- sixty-five thousand men, in splendid physique, who had just completed a march of nearly two thousand miles in a hostile country, in good drill, and who realized that they were being closely scrutinized by thousands of their fellow-countrymen and by foreigners. Division after Division passed, each commander of an army corps or division coming on the stand during the passage of his command, to be presented to the President, cabinet, and spectators. The steadiness and firmness of the tread, the careful dress on the guides, the uniform intervals between the companies, all eyes directly to the front, and the tattered and bullet-riven flags, festooned with

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lattered and bullet-riven flags, fastened with
ies, all eyes directly to the front, and the
called for the laughter and cheers of the crowd.
guides, the uniform intervals between the company
Some little scenes enlivened the day, and
firmness of the tread, the careful dress on the
Government which could claim such an army.
cabinet, and spectators. The steadiness and
their sense of confidence in the strength of a
of his command, to be presented to the President
of the spectators still lingered to express
vision coming on the stand during the passage
the rear of the column had passed by, thousands
passed, each commander of an army corps or di-
crowd of spectators left his place, and, when
men and by foreigners. Division after Division
Pennsylvania Avenue; not a soul of that vast
scrutinized by thousands of their fellow-country
tread of the Army of the West resounded along
and who realized that they were being closely
a tornado. For six hours and a half the strong
sand miles in a hostile country, in good drill,
wonder that it had swept through the South like
had just completed a march of nearly two thou-
well commanded and disciplined; and there was no
five thousand men, in splendid physique, who
an army in the proper sense, well organized,
the most magnificent army in existence -- sixty-
then saw, and recognized the fact, that it was
and Fourteenth Corps. It was, in my judgment,
our Western army as a sort of mob; but the world
order of the Fifteenth, Seventeenth, Twentieth,
good people, up to that time, had looked upon
and a half stood, while the army passed in the
flowers, all attracted universal notice. Many

10.
flowers, all attracted universal notice. Many good people, up to that time, had looked upon our Western army as a sort of mob; but the world then saw, and recognized the fact, that it was an army in the proper sense, well organized, well commanded and disciplined; and there was no wonder that it had swept through the South like a tornado. For six hours and a half the strong tread of the Army of the West resounded along Pennsylvania Avenue; not a soul of that vast crowd of spectators left his place; and, when the rear of the column had passed by, thousands of the spectators still lingered to express their sense of confidence in the strength of a Government which could claim such an army.

Some little scenes enlivened the day, and called for the laughter and cheers of the crowd. Each division was followed by six ambulances,

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your Western Army as a sort of mob; but the world
then saw, and recognized the fact, that it was
an army in the proper sense, well organized,
well commanded and disciplined; and there was no
wonder that it had swept through the South like
a tornado. For six hours and a half the strong
front of the Army of the West resounded along
Pennsylvania Avenue; not a soul of that vast
crowd of spectators left his place; and, when
the rear of the column had passed by, thousands
of the spectators still lingered to express
their sense of confidence in the strength of a
Government which could claim such an army.
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called for the laughter and cheers of the crowd.
Every division was followed by six ambulances,

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11.
as a representative of its baggage-train. Some
of the division commanders had added, by way of
variety, goats, milch-cows and pack-mules, whose
loads consisted of game-cocks, poultry, hams,
etc., and some of them had the families of freed
slaves along, with the women leading their child-
ren. Each division was preceded by its corps
of black pioneers, armed with picks and spades.
These marched abreast in double ranks, keeping
perfect dress and step, and added much to the
interest of the occasion. On the whole, the
grand review was a grand success, and was a
fitting conclusion to the campaign and the war!

(1899)

At Portland, Me., last fourth of July, Gen.
Walker, the orator of the occasion, in the pres-
ence of General Sherman and a host of other
officers, gave a wonderful portrature of the
review of the Army of the Potomac, on the 23rd.

of May.

will know

as a representative of the baggage-train. Some
By some accident he placed his revolver with the
of the division commanders had added, by way of
expression: "This added the great review of
variety, goats, milk-cows and pack-mules, whose
Wentworth." Sherman, who sat near me, and
loads consisted of game-cocks, poultry, hams,
naked in this and by some other unorthodox
etc., and some of them had the families of freed
things that had treated him that day. He found
slaves along, with the women leading their child
in my face with a little of the old time and
ran. Each division was preceded by its corps
apart of the eye which I had often seen in
of black pioneers, armed with picks and axes.
various, and said aloud: "Howard, did that and
These marched abreast in double ranks, keeping
the review? I thought there was another day!"
perfect dress and step, and added much to the
Answering his feelings more than his words,
interest of the occasion. On the whole, the
reviewed. Sherman, this is their day; wait till
grand review was a grand success, and was a
our meeting here and we will watch it."
fitting conclusion to the campaign and the war.
But we could not wait; people throughout the hall
At Portland, Me., last fourth of July, Gen.
called loudly for him, and as usual, he went
Walker, the orator of the occasion, in the pres-
sented to the mark. He spoke briefly of the
ence of General Sherman and a host of other
orator and of his description; but he begged the
officers, gave a wonderful portrait of the
make a few revelations concerning the disability
review of the Army of the Potomac, on the 28th.
years of that occasion. He went further, with

By some accident he closed his remarks with the expression: "Thus ended the great review at Washington." Sherman, who sat near me, was annoyed by this and by some other unpropitious things that had fretted him that day. He looked in my face with a little of the old flash and sparkle of the eye which I had often seen in war-times, and said aloud: "Howard, did that end the review? I thought there was another day!"

Answering his feelings more than his words, I replied: "Sherman, this is their brag; wait till *Tennessee* — our society meets and we will match it."

But he could not wait, people thronging the hall called loudly for him, and as usual, he went straight to the mark. He spoke highly of the orator and of his description; but he begged to make a few revelations concerning the disabilities of that occasion. He sent Custer, with

- The Review of the Eastern army, flying

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expression: "Thus ended the great review at
Washington." Sherman, who sat near me, was am-
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things that had fretted him that day. He looked
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our society meets and we will match it."
But he could not wait, people thronging the hall
called loudly for him, and as usual, he went
straight to the mark. He spoke highly of the
orator and of his description; but he begged to
make a few revelations concerning the disabili-
ties of that occasion. He went on, with

The Review of the Southern Cause

13.

his sword and hat on the ground and a wreath of flowers hurled against his horse's neck, speeding away from the President's stand at a break-neck pace; he put new and showy bands of music across the avenue; and excused the soldiers for not keeping step to fancy airs. He turned their faces promiscuously to gaze at the great men *on the platform!*

He showed that the guides lost their distances; *the* and *the* ranks their regularity. In brief, he expressed his disappointment that the Army of the Potomac, which had the reputation of all the regularity of regulars, should have presented so many points of criticism. *half-* Then with a serious air, he told how he sent word to his *own* corps and division commanders to use only their old and tried bands of music; to impress the guides to keep their distances, and all as soldiers, in a soldierly way, to keep their eyes straight to

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his sword and hat on the ground and a wreath of
flowers buried against his horse's neck, speed-
ing away from the President's stand at a break-
neck pace; he put new and showy bands of music
across the avenue, and excused the soldiers for
not keeping step to fancy airs. He turned their
faces promiscuously to gaze at the great men.
He showed that the guides lost their distances
and ranks their regularity. In brief, he ex-
pressed his disappointment that the Army of the
Potomac, which had the reputation of all the
regularity of regulars, should have presented
so many points of criticism. Then with a serious
air, he told how he sent word to his corps and
division commanders to use only their old and
tried bands of music; to impress the guides to
keep their distances, and all as soldiers, in a
solidly way, to keep their eyes straight to

14.
the front as they passed the President; and not
be gaiking about; ^{Now} I tell you, gentlemen,
that the review which was of so little account
that the orator had forgotten it, was needed to
round out the great display and close up the
war scenes.

Sherman was that day perturbed in spirit be-
cause he simply coveted a co-equal presentation
of the soldier's merits, East and West, North
and South.

~~The~~ great army has been dissolved; the last
procession, filled with sorrow instead of glad-
ness, with aching hearts and eyes filled with
tears, followed him sollemnly from New York to
his last resting place on the banks of the Miss-
issippi. A few ears caught the last cry of his
devoted son at his open grave as he heralded
the lesson of his departure, and ^{sounded} the voice of

14.
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tears, followed him solemnly from New York to
his last resting place on the banks of the Missis-
sippi. A few ears caught the last cry of his
devoted son at his open grave as he heralded
the lesson of his departure, and the voice of

his resurrection.

Now, comrades and friends, let us not in the presence of great facts and greater faith, be filled with sorrow, but with joy. Joy at the great work of a great man. Joy at ^{his choice} ~~the~~ recognition at the grand review. Joy at the cleansing power of an Infinite Spirit; yea! triumphant joy at the great hosts which his ever growing soul has at last joined!

Lift up ye heads oh ye gates, and be ye lifted up ye everlasting doors! <sup>The King of Glory him-
and put him into</sup> self is yonder to fit him for the niche which in eternity he is to fill.

his resurrection.

Now, comrades and friends, let us not in the presence of great facts and greater faith, be filled with sorrow, but with joy. Joy at the great work of a great man. Joy at the recognition at the grand review. Joy at the cleansing power of an Infinite Spirit, yes, triumphing and joy at the great hosts which his ever growing soul has at last joined.

Lift up ye heads oh ye gates, and be ye lifted up ye everlasting doors, the King of glory himself is yonder to fit him for the niche which in eternity he is to fill.