Address
returned to Odd Fellows
Cemetery
San Francisco (Cal)
May 30, 1888

No. 11.

Supersite

[Signature]

Generals W. Dowell & Thomas
Efficiency

Addressing Old Insulation

Emerald Square

Signed on 11/11/76

Date: 11/11

Director

[Signature]

Prepared by: [Signature]
Memorial Day at Odd Fellows Cemetery

Of late it has been my privilege on such memorial occasions as this, to select the name of some deceased officer or soldier whom I personally knew and who performed some distinguished service during the War of Rebellion. I have alluded to General Grant, McPherson, Weed, Lytle, Harker, Steinor & often commended officers, and I have also chosen non commissioned officers and private soldiers who have appeared to me to be types of devotion and heroism characteristic of our cause & file during the most trying parts of our great struggle for existence.

Today permits me to name two, who were fortunate to survive the perils of war but who afterwards always bore the marks of war worn veterans, till death came to call them away to his domain. It is appropriate to name them because they both created their last in this your land of fruits & flowers. One of them left his family among you and the other has here an adopted family of veterans that are proud to hear his name. I mean Genl. M. S. Powell and George N. Thomas.

In the house where I live, the trees & shrubbery from different climates, the flowers so charming to the eye & so various for my education to designate, the protecting...
barricares covered with cheese and wine and the roads and paths safe from fire, and solid like his own character and moving gracefully about the presidio cárists. There are a daily & hourly reminder of Mr. Powell. One could not look upon him without saying. He was a nearly man! He had many faults, and vanity may create, malice might be. Yet from the July 1, 1838, onwards, the disputant territory conflicts, the war of Mexico, the war of Mexico and the war of rebellion till the day of his death. He was in San Francisco for a sentiment Mr. Powell never felt. He gave to his profession a healthful manhood free from vices, a cultured mind of a high order replete with all that a thoughtful, studious habit could bring to it. He was called to pass thro. many dark valleys, and of late, designed that the nation should pass thro. the valley of the shadow of death. There was a brook bedecked, a gentleman and a golgotha for our leaders. Earliest in the field. Nearly & strong, the very might arm of General Scott. Whom could the president without have chosen? Defeater! What of it? He stood his ground. He did not flinch; his proud crest was not lowered. He delivered his blow. He delivered many blows. They were always for his country; for right; for justice; for mercy. A nation is fortunate to...
have had men, strong, true, pure, loyal men like Mr. Powell. It is fortunate to have ever as hard men, who can bear rectification, hardship & hatred without flinching. At times the wrong seems to get inside our works and become triumphant. At times there is such a loud call for charity towards the enemies of our flag, that these enemies begin to carry off the palms of self and imagine themselves the best defenders of the nation.

But it is only because Mr. McDowell's, Mr. Logan, and Mr. Sheridan are about taking bears! Shame on us, comrades, to get so absorbed with the tragedies, who do not confess the truths that they did eat, as to forget the elder brothers who were always staunch & true. Let the name of Mr. Powell be kept green!

Now a moment to George H. Thomas. Such men as Douglass, Newton, Farragut & Thomas, keep up our pride in Old Virginia. It is not necessary to erect monuments to mistaken good men, who believe it right to destroy their nation's life. So it is wiser & better when we can do so to remember those who bore the heaviest of crosses, those who endured the sears of companions and the bitter rejection of family friends for principle, for the love of country.
Not for a time had nothing to cheer their loyal eyes, but the sight of the colors which endear'd their devoted allegiance.

Of them was George H. Thomas. His history is written and need not be repeated. Strong, warm hearted, generous, brave, true in every instinct, right in opinions, wise in counsel, and steady in action, who wonders that the historian says of him: "Gen. H. Thomas was second to none in representing all that is best and noblest in the life of the most and greatest nation on the globe."

Let our children, children's children, ever keep the memory of sections of Virginia's noble sons, as we do today.

Let them keep green his memorials, long after the names of Confederate great men shall have become dim in the mists of time. Our enemy will not be worth the blood that was shed for it. If the shall keep this grandest of men in the shade of oblivion.

Forgive our errors! Yes with all my heart, but let us remember with tender love my true and loyal friends.