

Address
delivered at Odd Fellows
Cemetery
San Francisco Cal
May 30th 1888

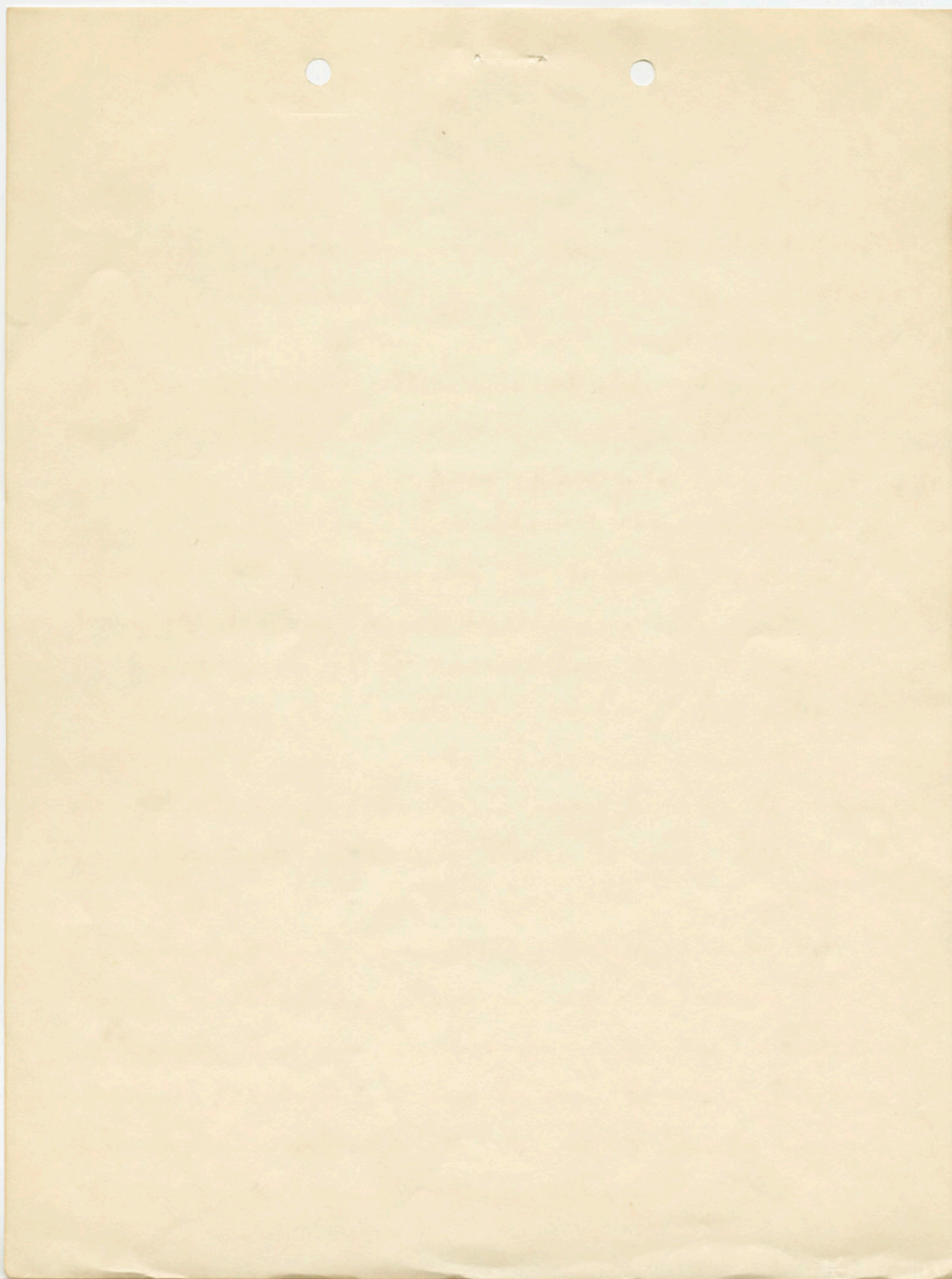
No. 11.

Subject
Generals M Dowell & Thomas

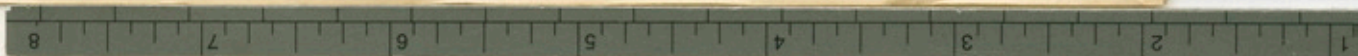
Address
delivered at the following
Conventions
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No. 11.

James M. Brown
Editor



[Faint, illegible handwriting on aged paper, likely bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is arranged in approximately 15 horizontal lines.]

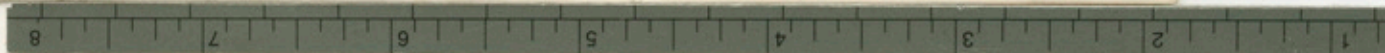


Memorial Day at Odd Fellows Cemetery
San Francisco, May 30 / 1888.

Of late it has been my purpose, for such memorial occasions as this, to select the name ^{and speak} of some deceased officer or soldier whom I personally knew and who performed some distinguished service during the war of rebellion. I have hitherto spoken of Grant, McPherson, ^{Garfield}, Weed, Lytle, Harker, Stinson & other remarkable 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 ranks & file during the most trying parts of our great struggle for existence.

Today permit me to name two, who were fortunate to survive the perils of war but who afterward always bore the marks of war-worn veterans, till death came to call them away to his domain. It is ^{especially} appropriate to name them ^{here} because they both breathed 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 bear his name. I mean Gavin McE Dowell and George H. Thomas.

The ~~at~~ house where I live; the trees & shrubs ^{various plants} from different climes; the flowers so charming to the eye & too various for my education to designate, the ^{high} protecting



blooming ^{and} ~~and~~ the roads
 barricades covered with choicest vines, ~~and~~ the roads
 and paths ^{brave} ~~solid & firm~~ firm, and solid like his
 own character ~~and~~ ^{and} moving gracefully about the
 presidio crests. These are a daily & hourly reminder
 of Mc Dowell. One could not look upon him without
 saying, behold a manly man! Rivalry may talk,
 enmity may create, malice ^{may} ~~port & fume~~. Yet from ~~the~~
 July 1, 1838, ^{when he graduated into the army} thro. the disputed territory conflicts, thro the
 war of Mexico, ~~thro. the war of Mexico and thro.~~
 the war of rebellion till the day of his death
 here in San Francisco ^{honorable} ~~in~~ sentiment Mc Dowell
 never faltered. 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. God, almighty, designed that this nation should
 pass thro. ^{even} the valley of the shadow of death. There
 was a brook Kedron, a getsemane and a Golgotha
 for our leaders. Earliest in the field, manly & strong,
 the very right arm of General Scott, whom could the
 president better have chosen ^{than Mc Dowell?} Defeated! What of
 it? His soul ~~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

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have had men, strong, true, pure, loyal men
like Mr Dowell. It is fortunate to have ever at

hand men, who can bear vituperation, slander & 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 ~~and~~ and imagine themselves the
best defenders of the nation.

But it is only because the Mr Dowells, the Lugans
and the Sheridans are ^{quietly resting} ~~at rest~~ taking breath!

Shame on us, comrades, to get so absorbed with
the prodigals who do not confess the husks
that they did eat; ^{to get so absorbed} as to forget the Elder Brothers
who were always staunch & true. Let the
name of ^{our} Mr Dowell be kept green!

Now a moment to George A. Thomas. Such
men as ^{Robert Williams} Crayhill, Newton, Farragut & Thomas, keep
up our pride in Old Virginia. It is not necessary
to erect monuments to mistaken good men, who
believed it right to destroy their nation's life. No it is
wiser & better when we can do so to remember
those who bore the heaviest of crosses, those who
endured the scoffs of companions and the bitter rejection
of family & friends for principle, for the love of country;

of friends (friends for principles) for the cause of humanity
and the souls of ever perishing men and the bitter rejection
that has gone the beset of crosses, those who
have a better when we are so to remember
believe it right to destroy their nations life - so it is
to meet men who to maintain peace well, we have
up our hands in the confusion. It is not necessary
we are, especially, Houston, Fort Worth & Dallas keep
Robert Williams
there a movement to keep it strong. I think
of Mr. D. well, but kept peace!
with new changes, stand at a time. But the
that they did not, but to forget the other brothers
the principles upon the west coast of the United States
Shannon and Samuels, to get to know it with
want the responsibility and risk taking
But it is only because the old people, the old people
best depend on of the old people, the old people
the people who are in the old people, the old people
of a new day, that there are in the old people
with a new call for liberty, the old people
can make a new call for liberty. At times, the old people
without feeling. At times the old people seem to get
kind men, who are in the old people, the old people
like Mr. D. well. It is not necessary to know about it
have been, there, there, there, there

^{These} who for a time had nothing to cheer their tearful eyes but the sight of the colors which emblemized 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 council and steady in action, who mandered that the historian says of him: "Geo H. Thomas was second to none in representing all that is ~~best~~ best and noblest in the life of the freest & greatest nation on the globe."

Let our children & children's children ^{ever} love the memory & the mention ^{of Thomas} of Virginia's noble son. as we do today

Let them keep green his memorials, long after the names of Confederate great men shall have become dim in the marble by the corradings of time. Our country will not be worth the blood that was spilt for it, if she shall keep this grandest of men in the shade of oblivion.

Forgive our enemies! Yes with all my heart but let me remember with tender love my true & loyal friends.

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for a time but nothing to show their despair
eye but the sight of the colors which surrounded them

of their was death. This feeling is written
and very far in the distance. Strong, never broken, genuine
power, true in every instinct, right in every word, was
in command and steady in action. What wonder
that the history of their life; the H. H. H. H.
was so soon to move in representing all that is
best and noblest in the life of the
present & greatest nation on the globe.
Let us believe & cherish this love
the memory & the mission of Virginia's noble
glory as one of today.

Let them keep green his memories, long
after the names of our fathers pass from the
lips of those who are the masters of the
country of their. Our country will not be
worth the blood that was spilled for it, if the
shall keep the promise of men in the shade
of oblivion.

Again our country! Do with all our hands
but let our memories with the living men
live & inspire the future.