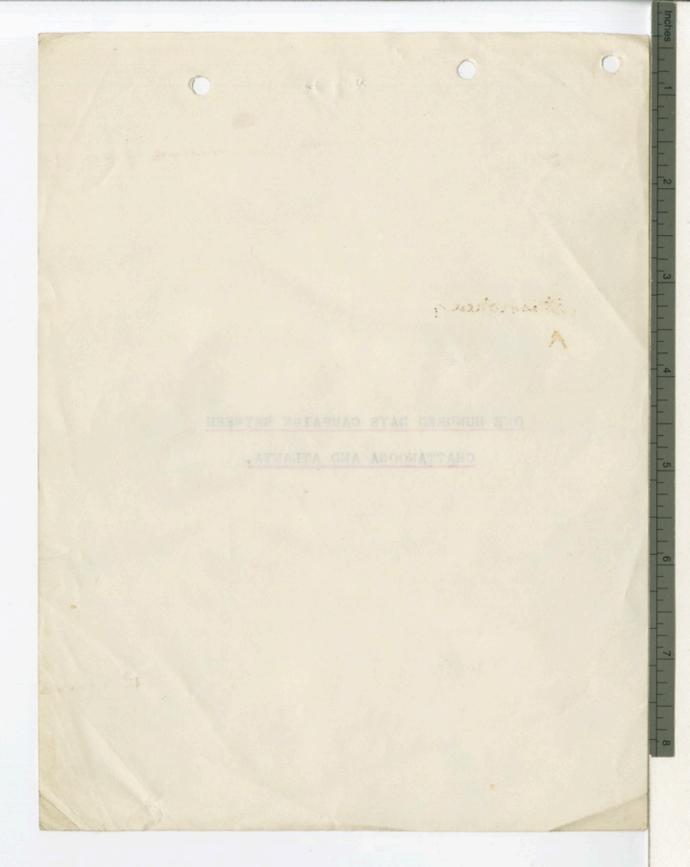
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ONE HUNDRED DAYS CAMPAIGN BETWEEN

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CHATTANOOGA AND ATLANTA.



Comrades:-

On this memorial occasion it is proposed first briefly to review a campaign.

1.

Our one hundred days campaign between Chattanooga and Atlanta holds the front.

At the "Cheatham House" in Nashville, the 18th of March 1864, Grant and Sherman met. Grant had just been to Washington and put on his new crown of General-in-Chief. Sherman had but recently visited Meridan, Miss. on an experimental tour to try the mettle of his horses, the endurance of his mules and the legs of his men. Now behold these men together, Grant and Sherman! Grant

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When, next in the presence of this review, as did our exemplar, Abraham Lincoln, in the presence of the facts of Gettysburg, speak forth a few high resolves -- resol-, it is hoped, res, not in the interest of comperheatism nor of pessimtan; but in the interest, as you would express it, of a

Our one hundred days campaign between Chattanooga

At the "Cheatham House" is Nashville, the 18th of derive 1864, Grant and Sherman met. Grant had just been to Washington and put on his new crown of General-in-Chief. Sherman had but recently visited Meridan, Miss. on an exoprimental toor to try the mettle of his horses, the endurance of his mules and the lags of his men. Now behold these men together, Grant and Shermani Grant of medium size, of short neck, square shoulders, wall proportioned head, and firmly knit frame. His heavy brow and large eye, changeable surely, but always masked by his strong self-control, accorded him quiet dignity and becoming respect. His smile, which never failed him up to the last sickness, lighted his face, bespoke humor and good-fellowship, and to Sherman the utmost friendliness. Sherman appeared tall beside him; his forehead high, his hair light and sandy, his eye keen and piercing, and his frame though not so compact as Grant's, supple and expressive of health and energy. Grant inspired you in his wholeness like a fertile prarie, Sherman like a hillcountry abounding in choice knolls and mountain heights. His buoyant coming put one at ease. His deep pleasant voice rivited attention, and his fast flowing conversation rewarded your silence.

There at Nashville they met, and Grant turned over to Sherman the Western Armies. Grant hastened back to Washington, Sherman went with him as far as Cincinnati. In a sentence, Sherman has summed up their prolonged council

and large eye, changeable surely, but always masked by Sherman appeared tall beside him; his forehead high, his ington, Sherman went with him as far as Cincinnati. In a

of war: "Amidst constant interruptions of a business and social nature we reached the satisfactory conclusion that as soon as the season would permit, all the armies of the Union would assume the 'bold offensive' by 'concentric lines' on the common enemy, and would finish up the job in a single campaign if possible." "The main objectives were Lee's Army behind the Rapidan in Virginia, and Joseph E. Johnston's Army at Dalton, Georgia."

3.

Johnston's Army was our work, comrades In a nut-shell. Substantially, take a bold offensive.- Beat Johnston.-Get into the interior.- Inflict damage, and keep our enemy so busy that he cannot reinforce elsewhere. 64. - emy so busy that he cannot reinforce elsewhere. 64. - To catch glimpses of how the work so ordered was undertaken, there are other pictures. General Sherman had some original ways of rapid transit. A special car took him, the 25th of March, to General G. M. Dodge, a Corps Commander, then at Pulaski, Tenn. Next he joined Mc Pherson at Huntsville, Ala. The two latter were very soon with Thomas at Chattanooga; and were after that speedily with Schofield a hundred miles eastward without rail-cars

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at Knoxville. Schofield turned back with them, so that shortly after, at Chattanooga, in the left hand room of a one story house, now owned by Mr. J. T. Williams, took place before the end of March another memorable war-meeting.

One figure was that of General Schofield. He was to bring into the field about fourteen thousand men. He was in form more like Grant than Sherman. He combined intelwhy was lectual vigor with marked judiciousness. Another Mc Pherson & He had to furnish some twenty-five thousand soldiers. cousto-He was already abreast of Sherman in quickness of thought, but, like all engineers, more wary in his execution. With his genial face, his large high head and fine figure, he stood with the noblest. The third, General Geo. H. Thomas, with his nearly seventy thousand aggregate. He was tall, and broad, and heavy, and handsome, of good judgment and sterling record. These three Army Commanders were thus assembled and the hearty Sherman was with them. Of this group, Sherman in his story has said: "We had nothing like a council of war, but consulted free-

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"ne had nothing like a council of war, but consulted free-

ly and frankly on all matters of interest to them, then in progress or impending." At farthest the first of May was to end the period of preparation, when the different clans should be gathered and ready for the fray. The leaders of corps and divisions, and the essential consolidations were there fixed upon; and the great problem of safe supply was, at least to themselves, satisfactorily solved. The meeting broke up - the commanders returned to their places, taking Sherman for a while to Nashville. No man can tell the amount of hard work that resulted from this interview. The next month was pregnant with the faith and hope of the coming campaign. Behold the loaded trains, following untiringly in sight of each other; but do not stop to count the broken engines by the way side, or the cars turned topsy turvey. Behold the duplicate and triplicate bridges, the hosts of mules and horses in motion, the redoubts and block-houses constructed or building, the sugar, the coffee and the hard-bread and other supplies, coming into Chattanooga,

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and the herds of cattle looing along the dusty roads leading to the front, all the way from Louisville and Nashville. The soldiers said: "Tecumseh is a great fellow. He means business." Thorough and confident preparations are always a source of encouragement and inspiration.

When we were ready for the "bold offensive," the left of Thomas, (Howard's Corps) rested at Catoosa Springs; his centre, (Hooker) at Ringold, and his right, (Palmer) at Leet's Tan Yard. Mc Pherson was near Villanow, and Schofield moving southward from Cleveland, Tenn., approached Dalton. It was the sixth of May.

Notice Catoosa Springs, a summer resort. The surrounding hills were covered with trees, light green, in tender leaf; and the mountain ranges on two sides, Lookout and Taylor's Ridge, gave substantial back ground to a variagated and charming landscape. The effect of war had already nearly depopulated the village, so that there was little use for the large hotel buildings or the smaller boarding houses - a few trembling citizens and a few dubious black people were all that remained to satisfy

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This bright May morning I saw Thomas and Sherman together. Sherman, now that things were in motion, appeared happy and confident. With a map before him, he gave us briefly the entire situation. "Here is Dalton,- there your force! - on this side Schofield. Down there Mc Pherson, soon to pass the Snake Gap and strike Johnston's line." Thomas in his quiet way put forth then the bolder view, viz: "Send at once the larger force, not the smaller, through the gap." Sherman shook his head, and signified that he was not yet ready to exchange bases with Johnston. But there was no jar, only confidence in each other and strong hope in our hearts as we separated that day.

Early the next morning was another meeting, out in Leheth by oherman from a curful paint the open field. Stanley with his strong build, fine face and long beard. T. J. Wood of smaller stature, grayish hair and decisive, caustic ways; and Newton with his handsome figure and keen sensitive looks, never thoroughly contented till the conflict was actually joined. These

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Division Commanders of the fourth corps stood near each other intently gazing upon the crest of Tunnel Hill. Our troops were already deployed and advancing in the beautiful morning light - arms were never brighter - and the Confederate cavalry, in full array, coming up from beyond the ridge, with skirmish interval, added interest and emotion to the parade. A battery or so, hastening to place, only deepened the feeling in the breasts of our experienced veterans. At a word of command and a bugle call the outer line took up the run, and soon cleared the whole front. A few "zip, zips" of the foremost rifles, a few cannon salutes, a few screeches of shells, a few men wounded to the death or maimed for life! and that was all! When I took my stand by Stanley's Side on the crest of the hill just gained, and thence sought to reconnoiter Taylor's craggy mountain range which still sheltered the bulk of Johnston's host, Stanley cried out: "General, the ball is opened!" And so it had. It was a curious "ball", Staty news Iong dance, for more than one hundred days. And it was

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a terrible dance, wilder at times than comes to foresters amid the bending and falling trees in a hurricane; it was fearfully suggestive of the savage war-dance of the red men that ends in death to white men and desolation to homes.

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Far off to the centre and right, Palmer with his strongly marked face and Thomas-like proportions, and the handsome, "fighting Joe" Hooker, always a law unto himself. bore their part in the opening ball, closing up speedily to the Rocky-face-barrier, and estopping that mouth of Georgia, whence issued stranger, screeching, whizzing birds than those which gave the gapping moue its name of "Buzzard's Gap." One such savage bird in the shape of a minie-ball flew between Howard and Thomas, wound its way through their group of staff officers, grazed the limb of a tree and fell upon the ground tearing in its flight a general's coat in three rents, and pecking an uncouth hole through the rim of a staff hat. Meanwhile Newton and his brave men against bloody resistance, were dragging cannon

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to the very hostile crest northward; and Hooker was ascending the mountain against heavy odds southward of the old Buzzard's formidible roosts.

Next, one scene at Resaca might be painted. , Two rivers come together, one the Oostenaula flowing west, and its tributary, the Connasauga, south. Confederate Johnston, after fleeing from Dalton, placed his Army in the N. W. angle of the streams, resting Polk's Corps against the Oostenaula, facing west, put Hardee's next above, running euro pont up a creek, and then bore Hood back in a convex curve till his men touched the Conna-sauga. Sherman made Mc-Pherson breast Polk; Schofield face Hardee's indented lines, and Thomas take care of Hood. Thus we were holding the outer or enveloping lines, all in the midst of forest land exceedingly rough and wild. Thomas had not fill his line + men enough to cover half of Hood's front. Stanley, of Howard's Corps, held the left. He put much cannon on convenient knolls and had as large reserves as he could spare; but either the indomitable Hood or the wary John-

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and Marganier

ston had discovered the weakness of our left, so that about three P. M. the masses of Hood came pouring, like mountain torrents, upon Stanley and far beyond the reach of his rifles and the staying force of his artillery. Word came, "Stanley"s left is turned." And so instantly I rode to a group of mounted officers. Here were Hooker, Thomas and Sherman together. "What is it Howard?" asked + Sherman in Vinserma Oreath Thomas anxiously. "I want a division at once for my left". "General Hooker will give you one." "Yes, " said Hooker. "Williams' Division is right there." Col. Morgan of Howard's staff, in less than five minutes was guiding Williams' brave men in quick time, to the threatened flank. In less than fifteen minutes Hood's masses were running back for cover to his fortified ground . This was the crisis. Prompt action and fearless men saved the left from impending disaster.

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ground Newton's skirmish line, as it joined fire with Johnston's rear guard. Musketry was lively and a few cannon were sounding. It was something like a lion's interrupted roar, or the thunder of an approaching storm. with their full-glasses Sherman and other officers rode up and began to take observations. Suddenly from a new place, from the edge of a wood, a hostile four-gun battery took us for a practicetarget. Shell after shell cut the air and burst beside and behind us, and over our heads. It was, probably, the fourth shot which exploded high up, skyward, but at just the point to scatter its fragments among the men and animals of our company, Col. Morgan's horse was injured; Lieut.Col. Fullerton's put hors du combat, and several others of the orderlies and escort lamed or slain. Capt. Bliss, of Newton's staff, by a flying fragment, lost his shoulder-strap and he himself was painfully hurt. Of course that social crowd instantly altered the shape of the practice-target and changed its location. the field of Marry Further on, after, Sorry days, was the picture of New

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Here Sherman found his fors in place. 13. Hope Church. , R crowds memory like the painting of a young artist who has put too much upon his canvass. There was Hooker just at evening in an open wood, - there were glimpses of log-breastworks beyond him from which came fierce firing against his lines stretched out, - there were numberless maimed and many dead among the trees, - and a little back, was a church with many wounded and many surgeons doing bloody work. It was dreadfully dark that night. Schofield's horse stumbled and disabled him, and Gen. Cox took his place. We had numerous torches wierd in effectamong the trees as our men bravely worked into place and intrenched the batteries, and covered their front. But the torches seemed to make the darkness darker and our hopes that night beat low. Johnston had stopped us rudely at New Hope Church. But afterwards, Dallas and McPherson, off to our right, gave us the reverse side, and so hopes which had drooped revived, when confederates, and not yankees, were there several times driven back.

Another night scene, though not quite so gloomy as

lops Church. Et crowis nemory like the painting of a young artist who has put too much upon his canvasa. There was Hooker just at evening in an open wood, - there were glimpses of log-breastworks beyond him from which a little back, was a church with many wounded and many 0

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that of New Hope Church, the 27th of May at Pickett's uns. Our enemy thus describes its cause. Mill. He says: "The fighting rose above the grade of skirmishing especially in the afternoon when, at half past five, the fourth corps, (Howard's) and a division of the 14th (Palmer) attempted to turn our (confederate) right, but the movement, after being impeded by the cavalry, was met by two regiments of our right division (Cleburn's) and two brigades of his second brought up on the first. The federal formation was so deep that its front did not equal that of our two brigades; consequently those troops were greatly exposed to our musketry, - all but the leading troops being on a hill side facing us. They advanced until their first line was within 25 or 30 paces of ours and fell back only after at least 700 men had fallen dead in their places. When the leading federal troops paused in their advance, a color bearer came on and planted his colors eight or ten feet in front of his regiment, but was killed in the act. A soldier who sprang forward to

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hold up or bear off the colors was shot dead as he seized the staff. Two others who followed successively fell like him, but the fourth bore back the noble emblem. Some time after night-fall, we (the confederates) captured above bwo hundred prisoners in the hollow before them."

It was of that sad night that General Howard has anne written: "We worked our men all that weary night in fort-The confederate commander was ready at dayifying . here light to take the offensive against us at Pickett's Mill, but he did not do so, because he found our position too strong to warrant the attempt. With a foot bruised by a fragment of a shell I sat that night among the wounded in the midst of a forest glade, while Major Howard of my staff led regiments and brigades into the new positions Aur Devision chosen for them. Gen. R. W. Johnson, (Palmer's Div.Com-(1) had been wounded and Captain Stinson of my staff had been shot through the lungs, and a large number lay there on a sidling slope by a faint camp fire, with broken

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limbs or disfigured faces." Actually but one division, and not a corps, made that unsuccessful assault and its conduct has received a brave enemy's high praise. The Ir gur, Inequar fighting and the night work secured the object of the movement causing Johnston to swing back his whole army under Shermons 240

to a new position. custing un

Now behold the scene at Pine Top mountain, where, a reconnoitering group of Confederate Generals were surprised and scattered by a shell, but Polk left behind, lay Later behold the Kenesaws twin-mountain ridges dead. with southern slope, rugged with abbatis and fallen trees, with ditches and heavy logs, and manned by abundant con-

federate rifles and cannon, ALA Shernen Sulduch There The twenty-seventh of June a strong and well sus-

tained assault was made. Through shot and shell, over entangled trees and rough ground, the divisions of Newton and Jeff. C. Davis struggled up. Harker and Dan Mc-Cook and a host of other gallant soldiers leading a forlorn hope, surrendered life close to the impassible barlimbs or disfigured faces. Actually but one division; and not a corps, made that unsuccessful assault and its conduct has received a brave even 's high praise. The righting and the night work secured the object of the movement causing Johnston to swing back his whole army

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Here Atlanta was in plain sight. Johnston had bothered us long. He had repelled direct assaults with success except, perhaps at Muddy Creek where Baird and Harker had ditched and covered their men, in the open, at one of his angles, and then had run squarely over his barricades. But Sherman by that unceasing flanking operation of his, have been by that unceasing flanking operation of his, have been and accomplished, while Hooker, Palmer and Howard were hammering away at the centre motes, which had no approaches and no draw-bridges, had now at last pressed Johnston back, back across the Etowah and across the Chattahoochee! Johnston had planned a final terrible The ensuing fourth of July, Smyrna Camp Ground develin Manuan, Manual, Manual oped a hostile earth-work amid forest trees, behind a lubbroad open field. Stanley there showed how to double stirmishers, capture intrenched pickets, put cannon behind new epaulments while the air and neighboring groves were fuid-of crazing noises and hateful missels.

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blow for him at Peach Tree Creek, when, fortunately for Sherman, Jefferson Davis favoring, as he claimed, the indications of Providence, relieved the able Johnston He at fonce, as was expected, took the offensive. He came on, as at Gettysburg, from the close wood into the valley, to welcome us in his charming way, several miles out from Atlanta. His blows were so swidten and his onslaught so swift that at first it distarbed Hooker's breathing; made Williams talk fast and Geary auspend his favorite Kansas stories and tales of the Mexican War. In the language of the foot-ball men, the Unions had, for a few hours, "a hard tussie". They lost heavily, but managed to keep on the Atlanta side of the Peach Tree. Newton planted his big cross, made of soldiers, at the east end of Thomas' line, and, though no doubt badly terrified, was, as always, too obstinate to go back. Thomas -----

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The twenty-seventh of July ensuing, by the President's 3 corps J'armée order, Howard was given Mc Pherson's command. He led the way to Ezra Chapel, going from the left around by the

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those low-land intervales. So Thomas and Newton preserved that weak left flank from capture. Hood had put forth his tremendous energy, but was baffled and turned back to his cover within the fortified lines of Atlanta. Mark the twenty-second of July. Hood dispatched Hardee in the night, to turn, by a fifteen mile circuit, the southeast flank of Mc Pherson. The attack came from the south and east. Dodge's corps in reserve was first struck Me Pherson being slain! then Blair's, - than Logan's. Dodge held his ground. Blair gave, after heavy loss, a double repulse, and Logan gallantly repaired the final break. Meanwhile Sherman, Thomas and Schofield ast upon their horses near the Howard House watching with deep interest the play of the lightning and hearing the roar of the thunder till the terrible storm had passed. Once more Hood withdrew his shattered column to town. The twenty-seventh of July ensuing, by the President's 3 corps d'annés order, Howard was given Mc Pherson's command. way to Ezra Chapel, going from the left around by the

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road to the extreme right. Dodge, of this command, deployed his corps next to Thomas, then Blair, and lastly Logan As he was finishing the flank movement the next Logan. who were riting set in gode morning just in front of Sherman and Howard, and about was allaning attaining with his deployed line a wooded height, the future battle begun. It raged for hours. Logan's front was mainly engaged, but regiments and batteries from Blair Kungho & and Dodge, promptly led to place by Inspec Marin stopped a fearful breach and effectually held back se flanking hordes. As this was Hood's third attempt, anger 'w his heart and energy were engendered and transfused into his charging lines; it showed itself in the scream, the yell, the run, the brisk unceasing musket-fire and the cannon roar. We who were there cannot forget them! But at last our enemy was effectually repulsed and the sad field at night was ours. The baffled Confederates again returned to the shelter of their protecting batteries. nerruns last Then Edosald a Another plan. From the twenty-fifth to the thirtieth of August, Sherman's forces made a curious manoeuvre. If

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you should face a line of artillery to the rear, and then make a little more than a half wheel about its new left as a pivot, you would get some idea of the manner in which we fell upon Hood's communications. Yet the line, like an India-rubber string, was stretched out till the Army of the Tennessee reached Renfro Place, twenty-five miles away from Atlanta. Schofield kept near the pivot; and Thomas was between.

The evening of the thirtieth, after a weary day during which our cavalry and infantry had been forcing a succession of log barricades and repairing culverts and bridges, we came to a tract of barren sand-banks, intending to camp there for the night. After a short halt **Herman**d called Kilpatrick to **Herm** and said: "It is but six miles to Flint River, where a bridge crosses, and but a few more miles to Jonesboro, the railway station. Can you send me an officer who can take a squadron of cavalry and keep Wheeler's rear guard in motion?" "Yes, here is Captain Estes. He can do it, if any body can!" "All right, go

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gives a graphic picture: "That night", he says. "I was so restless and impatient that I could not sleep, and about midnight there arose, toward Atlanta, sounds of shells exploding and other sounds like that of musketry. myself I walked to the house of a farmer close by my bivouac, called him out to listen to the reverbrations which came from Atlanta, (20 miles away from us,) and inquired from him if he had resided there long. He said he had, and that these sounds were just like those of a battle. An interval of quiet then ensued when again, about four A.M., arose another similar explosion, but I still remained in doubt whether the enemy was engaged in blowing up his own magazines, or whether Gen. Slocum had not felt forward and become engaged in a real battle." "Later that day rumor reached me that Hood was gone. Finally a note from Slocum himself assured our anxious General of the facts. Then as he turned back to take possession he sent Mr. Lincoln that memoriable despatch: "Atlanta is ours and fairly won."

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Probably no words uttered at this date could give to our children an idea of the joy and the assurance of hope that penetrated all classes of society when the proclamation was made at Washington and echoed through the North and West, "Atlanta is won."

It meant, that "our glorious cause had prevailed! Rebellion, it said, cannot last much longer!" "Henceforth every slave that touches our soil shall be free. It spoke of the end of war, of the beginning of peace, glimpses of which were already seen from the hill-tops of Georgia.

It meant speedy emansipation to white men as well as to black.

It spoke of happy homes soon to be visited, of lovely women and precious children who had long waited for such good mews, and whose eyes were already sparkling with delight to welcome us home.

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Yes, Yes, "Atlanta won" was indeed a bow of promise set in the clouds though yet heavy; a bow of promise to America and to the world that right and justice should prevail, and God's will be done sooner or later upon the earth. Spermanis Sun had now burst from the Churdy. in view of all this and a hundred other campaigns of unparalled hardship and sacrifice, what do the veterans ask on these memorial occasions?

They earnestly desire their children to remember not so much their prowess as their cause.

Loyal souls fought, first, that our Constitutional Government might not perish. I propor My Hashing) RESOLVE then that what we saved by blood shall remain

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Where ballot-box stuffing goes on with impunity in any district, there follows the stealing of the boxes, the Soon will filler cheating of the voters, and the murder of the inspectors. The freed men are thus cruelly cheated out of their rights of freemen, - of manhood. Flue Funger for the function

Loyal souls fought, third, that citizenship should mean something.

RESOLVE then that citizenship to the nation, shall be clearly defined and maintained by whatever quantum of power is essential to its maintenance.

That will not be enough: "Godless schools" will be the next cry till the public money shall be divided, and our out complete common school system, that Senator Hoan loves complete gammer plead for, shall be forever destroyed.

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Loyal souls fought, fourth, to make it clear as the daylight that session or rebellion against the nation was a great wrong.

RESOLVE then that secession and rebellion shall not be honored.

Loving-kindness toward the vanquished is right. But let loyal tongues never praise the wicked conspiracy which so nearly ruined the Republic. And shame on the craven man who takes the part of anyconfederatex against the Solftur, bluck which of my loyal black man, be he ever so humble!

Loyal souls fought, fifth, that every man under the flag should be granted a fair chance in the race of life.

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Then to sum up my review.

Whatever injures the man or the woman or the child in our land in a measure robs us of the fruitage which we covet.

Rum drinking, licentiousness, sabbath-desecration, cheating in business, malignant defamation and other crimes so prevalent in our large cities, are rotten places attual in the bulwarks, if not breaches in the bottom of our ship. To my mind the remedy lies in our best loved institutions, those for which we and our fathers labored and fought, vizn the family, the school and the church, or put them in the

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RESOLVE then, highly resolve that we will do our part to preserve them in their integrity and their purity Multiple and community will be perchance the true comrades on the other shore brightened and blessed by eternal sunlight may be even to tay singing to us a responsive Amen! as we echo, Our part! Our part we will do.

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