

Coast-

represents at the  
monthly dinner of the  
Quill Club  
New York City  
May 9<sup>th</sup> 1893

No 17

Subject-  
"The Army"

Book -  
reference to the  
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T O A S T

by

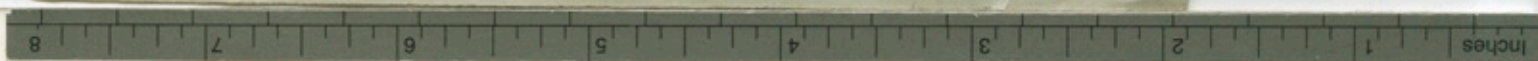
General O. O. H O W A R D , U. S. Army , delivered

at the monthly Dinner of the QUILL CLUB , in New

York City, May 9th 1893.

Subject  
The Quill







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General O. O. HOWARD, U.S. Army, at the monthly  
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Your good Secretary, gentlemen of the Quill Club,  
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T H E    A R M Y .

JOSEPH E. WORCESTER, L. L. D., makes this signifi-  
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He says the ARMY is, " a large body of troops,  
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its own commander. The whole being under the di-  
rection of the General, or Commander in Chief."  
This comprehensive definition excludes everything  
belonging to our extensive country, except, the  
PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES; and it is not seen  
how he <sup>can</sup> properly <sup>be</sup> embraced in the terms of  
the definition, as <sup>Mr Cleveland</sup> ~~is~~ is not, never was, and proba-  
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excludes. You <sup>may</sup> say that, in time of war, we had an army. Yes, we had more than one, which came up to the definition. Our Confederate brethren, which extremists <sup>have</sup> called by all sorts of incongruous names, and some ventured even to denominate them "Rebels," "Hostiles"; Confederates, had a corresponding army, or opposing armies, in the which it would have made Dr. Worcester happy to see the comprehensiveness and completeness of his definition realized.

Oh, that we had at the present time such an army even in embryo, well organized, well appointed, and thoroughly drilled and disciplined, and under <sup>our own</sup> <sup>with full rank & authority</sup> A competent Commander, to hurl against all the evil workers within and without our borders. Surely, if we had such an efficient force known to exist and ready like the Minute Men of the Revolution, or the Hermandad of Spain under Queen Isabella, to withstand the ballot-stuffing of New York, the family-feuds of Kentucky, the strikes of Carnegie in Pennsylvania, the Chinese opposition to registration in California, the prison emptyings of Tennessee, the gambling proclivities of New Jersey, the Negro ebullitions every-where, and other intrinsic evils within our borders, <sup>age!</sup> <sup>ready also</sup> such a force to withstand ~~also~~ old England, so much disposed to resist the Mc.Kinley



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Bill at the Welland Canal and the Sault St. Marie;  
<sup>so eager</sup> to capture our fish near New Foundland, and gather  
our seals in the Behring Sea, yes, to withstand not  
only the British Lion growling at us from every  
quarter, but also <sup>to face</sup> the representative wild beasts of  
other nations, which in their greed stand ready to  
spring upon our domain, or <sup>to seize</sup> upon convenient ground  
north or south of us, with the distinct and consci-  
ous purpose of violating the famous and much cheri-  
shed Monroe Doctrine.

This doctrine you know means not only that,  
the United States of North America belongs to us  
but that, all North America belongs to Americans.  
Without such an army, what would be the good to re-  
sult from holding the Isthmus of Darien, <sup>The Nicaragua Canal,</sup> or the ac-  
quirement of Cuba; of the Hawaiian Islands, or even  
of the North or South Poles. I know that in the  
case of these acquirements there should be a grand  
Navy, exceeding the Navies of the World; but, let me  
remind you, that there would have to be in addition  
to our great central force, that is <sup>our</sup> ~~an~~ Army indeed,  
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have not , and can not have? Your Secretary, however, must have anticipated the difficulty of my subject in view of its almost limitless proportion<sup>s</sup> and its hopeless definition, for he suggested to me in a confidential letter a charming limitation namely, " OUR NATIONAL DEFENDERS. "

In one sense it is a limitation, but in another it is a magnificent extension. In order to satisfy ourselves as to who are our National Defenders, we inquire first: What is our Nation, spelling nation, <sup>aspiringly,</sup> tentatively with a large N.

First we will venture a few negatives, our Nation if it be a nation, has in it intrinsically <sup>without doubt,</sup> the sovereignty, so that our Nation is not a collection of Sovereign States.- It is not a collection of official groups, whether we denominate <sup>groups as,</sup> the Courts, Congress, or Executive Officers and Employees; some stalwart clerks, spurred on by politicians imagine that they are the Nation, but they are not. <sup>Seminal</sup> ABRAHAM LINCOLN seems to have condensed the idea in the phrase, " Government of the people, by the people, for the people." It is then plain that all authority in this Nation is primarily derived from the people <sup>who are</sup> embraced within the Nation's boundaries. Therefore, properly speaking, Nation and People in



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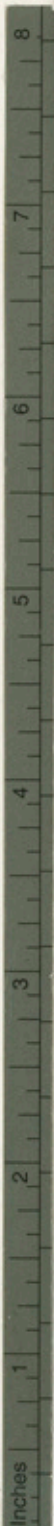


pane top - any can not pane; Hon. Sec. of State's room-

this Republic, are interchangeable. Our Nation's defenders must then be men choosen by the people, to defend the people. For fear that even now we shall strike too broad a field, we will introduce the word, military; so it follows <sup>that</sup> our Nation's military defenders are military men choosen to defend the people in their military sphere. Who have these defenders been? For the Revolution, WASHINGTON, his generals, his colonels, his captains, and the other soldiers who fought, who bled, who suffered privation and died to give this Nation its birth; <sup>for 1776-1812,</sup> WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON, ANDREW JACKSON, SCOTT, WOOL, and other brave and selfsacrificing soldiers who defended the Nation's existence; <sup>for 1817,</sup> TAYLOR and SCOTT with numerous other enterprising soldiers, who extended the Nation from ocean to ocean; <sup>for 1861,</sup> and GRANT, SHERMAN, SHERIDAN, MEADE, THOMAS, HANCOCK, and many hundreds of thousands of other fearless and persistent soldiers, who now and then in conjunction, or contact with ROBERT E. LEE, JOSEPH E. JOHNSTONE, <sup>Brayton</sup> BRAGG, PEMBERTON, and their singularly energetic confederates succeeded in cleaning all the stalls which slavery had been centuries in filling with infectious material, and in purifying even the old <sup>Compromise</sup> Constitution of the Republic, and in removing the bones of



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contention, which our fathers had every-where stowed away for this generation to snarl over. You see, that it is the soldiers sometimes grumbling, sometimes hungry, sometimes striking at each other in the dark, sometimes wading through the valley of the shadow of death, sometimes fighting amid white monuments and grave-stones, sometimes in the wilderness, sometimes in the passes of the mountains, sometimes above the clouds, sometimes in contact with the savages, and sometimes pushing through the ugly masses of city rioters; It is the soldiers, who are the Defenders of the Nation, that is, of the People, - the people in their institutions, in their rights and privileges, in their life and happiness.

If you mention a great soldier's name, it is but a Type.- Here are some of our historic types:

In the face of WASHINGTON mankind catches <sup>glimpses</sup> of the strength of steel, the bow of promise, and the consummation of deeds; in HARRISON, energetic action and aggressive defense; in <sup>Andrew</sup> JACKSON, indomitable resistance to enemies and broad patriotism; in TAYLOR, carefulness, boldness and uniform success; in SCOTT, marvellous leadership with royal dignity; in THOMAS, unselfish devotion, sound judgment, and



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rocky firmness; in SHERIDAN, energy, brilliancy, glory; in SHERMAN, knowledge, strategy, zeal with intense love of country; in HANCOCK, military gallantry personified; in GRANT, a singular combination of the soldier's qualifications; to wit; courage never flagging, reverence for rulers and for GOD, plans far-seeing, judgement clear-sighted, patriotism never doubted, terrible for War, true to friends, magnanimous to enemies, and cherishing his family while loving peace with a whole soul.

In our little nucleus of a standing Army, we have the treasures of name and character, if nothing more. Woe to the civil or foreign foe, who forgets these treasures and despises in our Defenders either the TYPES, or the expanded Armies of the future, which the Nation garners in her bosom.

BUT JOY AND BLESSING AND GLORY TO ALL OUR NATION'S DEFENDERS NOW LIVING AND TO LIVE, FOR EVERMORE!



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