

THE STATUE OF THOMAS

TO-MORROW'S CELEBRATION IN WASHINGTON.

A GRAND DEMONSTRATION EXPECTED—WHAT THE PROCESSION WILL BE LIKE—THE CITY PROFUSELY DECORATED—A DESCRIPTION OF THE STATUE—THE PROGRAMME OF THE UNVEILING CEREMONIES.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—The demonstration which will be made in this city on Wednesday next by the Army of the Cumberland, upon the occasion of the unveiling of Ward's equestrian statue of Gen. George H. Thomas, promises to be larger and more imposing than any which has occurred here since the close of the rebellion. In addition to the members of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland, of whom there will be in the line of procession about 500, there will be present about 1,000 regular troops, an equal number of marines and sailors, and a large attendance of uniformed State troops from New-York, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. It is proposed to distribute the regular and State troops among the several divisions of the procession, in order to add to the general attractiveness of the column and to maintain the interest of the spectators. Seven bands of music from various United States military posts will supply the marching music, the head of the column being assigned to the Marine Band, of Washington. The procession will be formed east of the Capitol, and the line of march will be westward in the direction of the Executive Mansion, at which point it will be reviewed by the President, who will be given a marching salute. Gens. Sherman, Sheridan, and McDowell, with their respective staffs, in full-dress uniform, as well as all the officers of the Army and Navy now in Washington, will be in the procession.

The city is being profusely and tastefully decorated with flags and bunting, and already presents a very handsome appearance. Nearly every building on Pennsylvania-avenue and along the line of march is bedecked with flags and streamers, and some of the houses are being trimmed with elaborate designs and appropriate mottoes. The Quartermaster-General's office, opposite the Treasury Building, on the corner of Pennsylvania-avenue and Fifteenth-street, which corner is one of the pivotal points on the line of march, has been profusely decorated, and is one of the most attractive points. From the octagonal corner of the building there is stretched a halyard festooned with the flags of all nations, interspersed with the various corps badges and other devices of the Army and Navy. Midway from the halyard is suspended a large canvas bearing a full-face portrait of Gen. Thomas. From the windows of the building depend the national colors, tastefully draped, while the silk flags which were torn and shattered in the battles of the war with Mexico are displayed from the upper portion of the building. The decorations at the circle where the statue has been erected are on the most elaborate scale, and surpass anything of the kind ever before seen in this city. The Thomas Circle is in the most attractive part of the city, about half a mile in a direct line northward from the White House, and at a point where Vermont and Massachusetts avenues and Fourteenth and M streets intersect. The elevation of the plateau of which the circle is the centre is at least 50 feet above Pennsylvania-avenue, which is distant about three-quarters of a mile, looking down Fourteenth-street, so that the view from the statue, sweeping down the broad streets and avenues which diverge from the circle like spokes from a wheel, embraces a large portion of the city, particularly to the south and west. Around the Thomas circle, and in the immediate vicinity in full view of it, are the residences of Senators Edmunds, Bayard, Morrill, Windom, McPherson, and Hill; Associate Justice Miller, of the Supreme Court; Judge Wylie, of the District Court; the Japanese Minister, Gen. Schenck, and a number of other persons of wealth and distinction. All the residences, as well as the circle itself, have been handsomely decorated, and the scene presented from the numerous points from which the statue can be seen is extremely effective. Around the circle 38 poles have been erected, each of them being 33 feet high, and each bearing the ensign of the particular State which it represents. These State flag-poles are united by means of an evergreen rope, fastened to and communicating with their tops, thus representing the union of all the States. A shield bearing the coat of arms of each of the States depends from the poles, and below these shields are panels, upon each of which is painted the name of a deceased general officer who served in the Army of the Cumberland, or the name of one of the battles in which the Army of the Cumberland participated. At each of the four corners of the pedestal upon which the statue stands there is a pole, 43 feet high, dressed to correspond with the poles representing the States, and flanked by stacks of muskets and field-pieces, the spaces intervening being ornamented with pyramids of cannon-balls. From the line of Vermont-avenue west to Fourteenth-street, on the line of the circumference of the circle, a platform has been erected measuring 30 by 240 feet, and capable of seating 1,500 persons. Projecting inward from the centre of the platform is the stand for the orator of the occasion and others who will be called upon to speak, and at each corner of the platform are placed poles, similar to those on the outside of the circle and bearing similar decorations, omitting the State flag and coat of arms. The four panels on the platform-poles bear the names of Anderson, Sherman, Buell, and Rosecrans. At various points appear panels, draped in mourning and bearing the names of the following Brigadier-Generals who were attached to the Army of the Cumberland, and who were killed in battle or died of wounds received in action:

W. R. Terrill, killed Oct. 8, 1862, at Perryville, Ky.
R. S. McCook, died Aug. 6, 1862, of wounds inflicted by guerrillas Aug. 4, 1862.
J. W. Sill, killed Dec. 31, 1862, at Stone River, Tenn.

W. H. Lytle, killed Sept. 20, 1863, at Chickamauga, Tenn.

O. G. Hurker, killed June 27, 1864, at Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.

Daniel McCook, died July 17, 1864, of wounds received in action at Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.

In addition to the above there are panels bearing the names of the following commanders of corps and divisions of the Army of the Cumberland:

MAJOR-GENERALS.

W. T. Sherman,	T. L. Crittenden,
P. H. Sheridan,	J. M. Schofield,
W. S. Rosecrans,	J. A. Reynolds,
George H. Thomas,	J. A. Mower,
Gordon Granger,	Daniel Butterfield,
O. O. Howard,	A. J. Smith,
D. S. Stanley,	C. C. Washburn,
T. J. Wood,	R. H. Milroy,
J. M. Palmer,	D. C. Buell,
Joseph Hooker,	Lewis Wallace,
Carl Schurz,	George Stoneman,
H. W. Slocum,	S. H. Hurlbut,
A. McD. McCook,	L. H. Rousseau.

BRIGADIER-GENERALS.

E. Dumont,	W. T. Ward,
H. P. Van Cleve,	A. Von Steinwehr,
J. H. King,	H. Tyndale,
A. Baird,	Robert Anderson,
W. P. Carlin,	A. S. Williams,
G. P. Buell,	J. F. Knippa,
C. C. Walcutt,	J. W. Geary,
J. D. Morgan,	P. W. Johnson,
J. M. Brannan,	J. C. Davis,
Charles Cruft,	S. S. Fry,
William Grose,	R. B. Mitchell,
N. Kimball,	J. S. Negley,
W. C. Whittaker,	R. S. Granger,
G. D. Wagner,	N. J. Jackson,
W. L. Elliott,	M. S. Hascall,
O. Opdyke,	T. W. Sherman,
A. Willieh,	T. J. McKeau,
Samuel Beatty,	O. M. Mitchell,
E. A. Paine,	J. Kilpatrick,
C. C. Gilbert,	J. H. Wilson,
Albin Schoeff,	E. Hatch,
W. B. Hazen,	John Newton,
J. C. Starkweather,	J. T. Croxton,
J. B. Turchin,	J. MacArthur,
J. B. Steedman,	S. G. Burbridge,
E. M. McCook,	Emory Upton,
George Crook,	Eli Long,
J. St. C. Morton,	J. A. Garfield, Chief of Staff,
W. F. Smith, Chief Engineer,	W. D. Whipple, Chief of Staff,
T. H. Ruger,	G. S. Greene,
K. Garrard,	J. F. Miller,
A. C. Gillen,	

Panels bearing the names of battles in which

Gen. Thomas and the Army of the Cumberland participated are also scattered around the circle, as follows:

Mexican War—Fort Brown, Texas, May 3, 1846; Monterey, Texas, Sept. 21, 1846; Buena Vista, Feb. 22, 1847.

War of the Rebellion—Mill Springs, Ky., Jan. 19 and 20, 1862; siege of Corinth, April 19 to May 30, 1862; Stone River, Dec. 31, 1862; Hoover's Gap, June 26, 1863; Chickamauga, Sept. 19 and 20, 1863; Missionary Ridge, Nov. 23 and 25, 1863; Ringgold, Ga., Nov. 26, 1863; Dalton, May 7, 1864; Cassville, May 19, 1864; Resaca, May 13, 1864; Dallas, May 25, 1864; Kenesaw Mountain, June 20, 1864; Peach-Tree Creek, July 19, 1864; siege of Atlanta, July 22, 1864; Jonesboro, Sept. 1, 1864; battle of Nashville, Dec. 15 and 16, 1864.

The statue is now in position on the pedestal, ready for the ceremony of unveiling. It is veiled with four garrison flags so arranged as to form a square about the statue, the flags being of sufficient size to cover the figure and pedestal. The unveiling exercises will be conducted in the following order:

First—Prayer.

Second—Music, "Hail to the Chief."

Third—Music, "Star-spangled Banner," by the chorus with the Marine Band and drum corps, and artillery accompaniment by Battery A, Second United States Artillery, under direction of L. E. Gannon.

Fourth—Unveiling of the statue; salute of 13 guns at Fort Whipple and by Hanneman's Battery.

Fifth—Grand hymnus; words by Herbert A. Preston, music by J. Max Mueller; chorus of 100 male voices, supported by full Marine Band, drum corps, and artillery, under the direction of Prof. Mueller.

Sixth—Oration by the Hon. Stanley Matthews, and the presentation of the statue as an offering from the Army of the Cumberland to the nation.

Seventh—Acceptance by President Hayes in behalf of the people of the United States.

Those who are competent judges pronounce the statue perfect in all its details. It represents Gen. Thomas as having suddenly checked his horse on the summit of a slight acclivity to make an observation, and he sits with loosened rein and hat off, surveying the field with searching eye. The horse, in complete sympathy in thought and motion with his rider, looks abroad with head raised high in air, swelling neck and chest, and fore feet firmly planted on a strip of rock. His mane and uplifted tail are tossed by the wind, and one of his hind feet on the slope is placed before the other. Rider and steed are erect and eager at the first view, and full of the glow caused by the quick ride up the ascent. The former sits easily, firmly and straight, leaning slightly backward with the action of the horse and in his effort to get the furthest possible horizon. With his left hand he holds the rein, while in his right, hanging down to the saddle-cloth, are his army slouch hat and gloves. His double-breasted military frock coat is buttoned to the chin and fits easily, giving picturesque and well-managed folds. The skirts fall over his right leg, and are blown back on to his left thigh. His plain riding-boots rest in open stirrups, and his sword hangs on his left side. There is no flummery, no needless trapping. The General is free in his saddle and in trim for active work. One rein, bridle, bit, surcingle, breast and belly-bands, a McClellan saddle, and a cloth are the horse's caparison. There are no holsters, housings, saddle-bags or blanket. This extreme simplicity has its use, for it concentrates the attention on the rider and horse. The lines from the junction of the lifelike head of the horse, with eyes wide open and swelling nostrils, with the neck, down to the fore hoofs, are grandly graceful; the side to side swaying motion in unison, of the hind quarters of the animal and the body of its rider, caused by the ascent, is admirably caught at the moment of pause, and is especially well carried out in the anatomy of the latter's back seen through his coat. The face of Gen. Thomas is expressive, and the head well modeled. The intent expression, as he looks with firmly compressed jaw, and with that intense interest which imparts earnestness to the entire figure, is well rendered. The figure of the horse is admirably given. It is especially good anatomically, and has noticeably careful veining. The whole work is about 15 feet in height from the ground on which the animal stands to the top of his rider's head, nearly on a level with which his own rises. The figures are about twice life-size. The color of the bronze is clear light brown, almost the natural color of the alloy. It stands on a pedestal of granite, in horizontal section of elliptical shape, about 16 feet in height, on which there are decorations and tablets, also of bronze, representing the badge of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland, partly surrounded by a wreath of laurel. The cost of the statue was \$40,000, which sum was subscribed by the members of the society and their friends. The pedestal was erected by the Government, and cost \$20,000.

The reunion of the Army of the Cumberland will be held in a large tent, 40 by 800 feet, erected on the public grounds immediately south of the Executive Mansion. The entire space covered by the canvas has been substantially covered with boards, and seats for 2,000 persons have been provided. Wednesday will be devoted to the unveiling ceremonies, and the business meeting of the society will be held on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. In the afternoon the society will be taken by the Citizens' Committee to Mount Vernon, two large steamers having been chartered for this purpose. At 8 o'clock in the evening President Hayes will receive the members of the society and their families at the White House, and at 10 o'clock the promenade concert and ball will begin in the large tent.

Major-Gen. T. T. Crittenden will act as Chief Marshal of the procession on Wednesday, and has designated the following named gentlemen as his staff: Chief of Staff—Brevet Col. H. C. Corbin; Adjutant-General—Brevet Brig-Gen. Albert Ordway, and the following aides: Cols. James G. Payne and John Hancock, Commander F. J. Higginson, Lieut.-Col. C. S. Holstein, Major Augustus Nicholson, Major William O. Roome and Major M. D. Anderson.

RICHMOND, Va., Nov. 17.—The Richmond Light Infantry Blues, whose organization dates back to 1793, held a meeting to-night, and decided to participate in the ceremonies of unveiling the Thomas statue, at Washington, on Wednesday. The company will leave here to-morrow night, under command of Capt. John S. Wise, son of ex-Gov. Henry A. Wise.