

Inventory of the

Grand Army of the Republic
C.A. Address Post No. 135
Mendota, Illinois

Records

In the

Regional History Center

RC 85

INTRODUCTION

Nancy Maze, President of the LaSalle County Historical Society, donated the records of the Grand Army of the Republic to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center on September 25, 1987.

Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: .75
Number of containers: 2
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 85

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Grand Army of the Republic records date from 1868 to 1933. The majority of the collection consists of reports of the Adjutant and Quartermaster, financial records, and membership lists and applications. Of special interest to researchers are the rules, regulations, services and ceremonies brochures for the Grand Army of the Republic. Although the collection lacks important historical documents such as annual reports and minutes, the records complement the Civil War material held by the Center.

Researchers interested in veteran's organizations and the Civil War should consult the Grand Army of the Republic, DeKalb Chapter (RC 126), the DeKalb Daughters of Veterans Records (RC 127), the F.E. Griffith Family Correspondence (RC 89), and the Merritt J. Simonds Diary (VFM 4.14).

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The first post of the Grand Army of the Republic organized in Decatur, Illinois on April 6, 1866. Soldiers and sailors of the United States Army, Navy, or Marine Corps and the men of the United States Revenue Cutter Service who served during the Civil War were eligible for membership. The organization sought to preserve the fraternal feelings of men who fought together, to provide for the support, care, and education of soldiers' orphans and widows, and to protect and assist disabled veterans.

The C.A. Address Post No. 135 from Mendota, Illinois was chartered on April 25, 1882 and held their first meeting on April 28, 1882. At the first meeting Charles J. Yockey was elected Commander; William Conkey, Senior Vice Commander; William Parker, Junior Vice Commander; R.F. Shipley, Quartermaster; W.H. Lives, Chaplain; George W. Haar, Officer of the Day; and M.D. Palmer, Outer Guard; John Smith, Adjutant; Henry H. Eby, Sergeant Major; and Henry Richards, Quartermaster Sergeant.

The G.A.R. post was named in memory of Lieutenant Colonel C.A. Andress. Andress was a member of the Eleventh and later of the Fifty-fifth Illinois Infantry. After being promoted to lieutenant colonel he commanded a regiment on Sherman's March to the Sea. The post was in existence until on January 22, 1935 when the last surviving member, John Bellinghausen, passed away.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

C.A. Andress Post No. 135
Civil War
Grand Army of the Republic
Mendota
Veterans

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1	Lease, 1903
	2	Correspondence, (1881-1906), 1918
	3	Bank Book, 1911-1929
	4	Journal, 1902-1923
	5-5a	Receipts, (1882-1930)
	6	Receipt Books, 1900-1904; 1919-1923
	7	Membership Lists, 1881, 1894, 1906, n.d.
	8	Membership Applications, 1882-1899, n.d.
	9	Adjutant's Report, 1882-1895
	10	Quartermaster's Report, 1882-1895
	11	Reports of Adjutant and Quartermaster, 1896-1905, 1924-1933
	12	General and Special Orders, (1895-1932)
	13	Rules and Regulations and Rules of Order of the National Encampment, 1881, 1883, 1899
	14	Services and Ceremonies, 1908
2	1	Memorial Day Programs, 1899, 1931
	2	Alphabetical Index to Places of Interment of Deceased Union Soldiers, 1868
	3	Broadside and Certificates, 1899, n.d.
	4	Silk Banner, n.d.
	5	Proceedings of 18th Annual Encampment of the Department of Illinois, G.A.R., January 30-31, 1884
	6	Proceedings of 22th Annual Encampment of the Department of Illinois, G.A.R., February 20-21, 1889
	7	Proceedings of 29th Annual Encampment of the Department of Illinois, G.A.R., May 14-16, 1895
	8	Illustrated Catalogue of Grave Markers for G.A.R. ..., 1894