



WILLIAM TECUMSEH SHERMAN

GENERAL SHERMAN

WILLIAM TECUMSEH SHERMAN, a distinguished American officer in the War of the Rebellion, was born at Lancaster, O., Feb. 8, 1820, and died at New York, Feb. 14, 1891. He graduated at West Point in 1840, and entered the army as a lieutenant of artillery. He served in Florida and during the Mexican War in California, but seeing no immediate chance for promotion, he resigned in 1853 and became a banker in San Francisco. When the Civil War broke out he was head of the Louisiana Military Academy. In May, 1861, he became a colonel of infantry, and after the battle of Bull Run was appointed brigadier-general of volunteers. In August of the latter year having been sent to Kentucky, he demanded 200,000 men for offensive operations, but in this was regarded as a visionary and was relieved of his command. After the battle of Shiloh, where he had a chance to distinguish himself, he was made major-general and became Grant's right-hand man in the operations around Vicksburg. In July, 1863, having been appointed a brigadier in the regular army, he drove General Johnston out of Jackson, Miss., and once more rendered efficient assistance to Grant at Chattanooga. In March, 1864, he was appointed to the command of the Army of the Southwest, and in April began his operations against Atlanta, which was taken by him, Sept. 2, 1864. He undertook and carried out successfully the famous "march to the sea," and entered Savannah on December 21. He was made major-general and received the thanks of Congress. In February, moving north, he captured Charleston, and by the seventh of February reached Columbia. He aimed to cut off Lee's retreat or else to join Grant before Richmond, but Lee surrendered on the ninth of April, and Sherman received the surrender of General Johnston, April 26, 1865. For four years he commanded the Mississippi division, and when Grant became President, Sherman was appointed head of the army, with the rank of general. In 1874, he was retired at his own request. Sherman was distinguished for his perseverance, originality of design, and fertility of resource. He contributed to the literature of the war "Memoirs of General Wm. T. Sherman, written by Himself." This first appeared (in 2 vols.) in 1875, and in a revised edition in 1891.

THE ARMY AND NAVY

ADDRESS DELIVERED AT THE BANQUET OF THE NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY,
DECEMBER 22, 1875

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE
NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY,—I confess that I
never come to a New England festival in the city of
New York without commingling feelings of pleasure and
dread: pleasure, because I am always certain of finding here

all that can satisfy the palate, the fancy, the eye, and, better still, the wit and good feeling that always abound; and dread, at being compelled to face an audience such as this, every one of whom could teach me, and before whom I should be silent. Whenever I see the name of my friend Choate, I am sure of an abundant supply of that exquisite wit for which he is famous, and this, added to the many other attractions of your New England Society, will ever draw me hither, if time and distance permit.

Though I had hoped to sit to-night and listen to others, I find myself allotted to the old familiar toast, "The Army and Navy," and had a right to expect in this great seaport some representative of the navy to relieve me at least of that branch of the subject, but I look about me and see none of them present. Where is Porter, or your Vice-Admiral Rowan, or Paulding, or some other representative of that most honorable body who carry our flag to the uttermost parts of the earth, and cause it to be respected everywhere, who should avail themselves of an occasion like this to speak a few words for their honored comrades? The subject is a noble one, and would inspire any speaker. We know but little of the "Mayflower," which, two hundred and fifty-five years ago, brought the small band of Pilgrims to the dreary shores of Plymouth Bay, but there are hundreds of gentlemen who well remember those gallant clippers that used to sail for California—the "Huntress," the "Maid of the Mist," the "White Cloud," the "Mist of the Morning." How beautiful! But all are gone. In like manner did you use to go down to the Battery to see depart for foreign service the old frigates such as the "Constitution" and "Independence," so clean and beautiful, with their tiers of 18-pound carronades, bull-dogs then, but mere pop-guns now,

still the same with which our gallant tars fought great battles, and the same with which Nelson fought and won at Trafalgar. Steam and modern improvement have changed all these, and in their stead what do we have? Low black monsters made of iron and driven by steam; nothing visible above water but small towers, called pepper-boxes, with their pairs of heavy guns, with long, projecting beams with torpedoes at the ends, like devil-fish, dangerous sea-monsters, and with uncouth names like "Canonicus," "Sassacus," etc. But these changes are necessary, and our navy must conform, and we cannot but admire their courage and patriotism in so gracefully conforming, to the necessities of service. I confess I do not want to go to sea in such sea-monsters, and, had I to choose, would far prefer to accept death on the deck of the old "Constitution."

Change, however, is universal—you are no more like the old Pilgrim Fathers than are the contents of this room like the utensils and tin cups which furnished the cabins at Plymouth. Still the lessons of Plymouth Rock remain, and other Plymouths exist on our remote borders. I can take any of you to-day to some of our military posts on the upper Missouri or in Arizona where the soldiers have to practise the same economy, the same self-denial, which the Pilgrims did in their days of trial and exposure, and I assure you that your words of greeting will be as welcome to them in their rude huts and dugouts as though they were your guests here to-night. How all is changed! Houses and palaces have taken the place of huts, and abundance replaces the scanty tin cup of shelled corn; but with them nature is the same. The cold pinches now as it did then; hunger is the same. Distance and privation of the society of family and friends remain as they were when our Pilgrim Fathers banished themselves

from all that was valued on earth for the sake of principle, and our little army to-day is fulfilling the same general object in preparing the way for others to follow, who will extract from the rock its hidden gold and silver and make the desert to blossom with the rose and the corn. The little army of which I have spoken is scattered from the frozen regions of Pembina to that other arid region of Arizona, where General Porter has said the surgeon once recommended that dropsy patients be introduced to increase the supply of water.

Our country is very large, extending from the frigid to the torrid zone; from the Atlantic to the Pacific; and our little regular army of 25,000 men is the connecting link between the present and future; but, in the language of your toast, it is essentially an army of peace, preparing the way for future States and future civil communities, and I hope the day will come when even at Fort Yuma there will be a celebration like this at Delmonico's, celebrating their past hardships and privations in abundance and luxury. I repeat that the army is now one of peace, engaged in preparing the way for the expansion of peaceful communities. But I see that your minds and thoughts revert to a period only ten years ago, when this whole nation was in arms, when all were soldiers, when, in fact, we were struggling for a national existence. I did not wish to refer to this, but somehow we naturally revert to it. Then the army was numbered by millions of men and the war was essentially a struggle between two branches of civilization. The North prevailed and naturally their phase of civilization became predominant, and the principles of Plymouth Rock became the standard for this country. By it I mean that freedom of thought and speech, the assertion of the rights of man,

the individual to go where he chooses, and to exercise all the privileges of a freeman, which characterized our fathers—a freedom that conceded to all others the same rights and privileges he claimed for himself, giving to the black man absolute freedom and assuring to the Japanese, whose minister sits side my side, that his people may freely come and soon enjoy all the privileges and advantages of the native-born American. Still my belief is that the English-speaking races that first settled our Atlantic shores will prevail on this continent, that their civilization will prevail over all others; that their forms of education, refinement, fidelity to contracts, forms of business, will be the standard law and custom of the country. As to our Southern brethren I believe it is universally conceded that since the Christian era there never has been a case where the conquerors so promptly conceded to the conquered all the rights they themselves possessed, not only the rights to live in peace, to share in the business and prosperity of the whole country, but actually to share in its government, and the army was among the first to share with them their rations the moment hostilities ceased; and I believe, if they accept these terms in the spirit they were granted, that peace henceforth will prevail in all our country; but should they have anything in reserve, any boast of the "Old Confederacy," that a storm would arise in the land tenfold more furious than was the last.

I am sorry to hear so much talk in New York of hard times. I don't see the evidences of it in your streets. I see magnificent equipages and elegantly dressed people, and the signs of luxury and extravagance everywhere. If your Pilgrim Fathers had possessed one tenth of the luxuries you now enjoy, they would have considered themselves rich. And were you all to practise their economy in a short while

all these complaints would cease. The fact is, too many of our people flock to the cities and want to be merchants and business men. The solution is in the west, where millions of acres remain in a state of nature. In the border States there is land enough to give occupation to another forty millions of people. Food is abundant, but of course there you cannot have the luxuries and advantages of New York city. Therefore I advise the young men, instead of staying here as clerks and porters in stores, to "go west," for there is abundant room and occupation for all who are willing to work. Excuse me. I had no intention to take up so much time or to touch on so great a variety of subjects, but have been drawn on by your interest.

In conclusion I will say that I hear that the necessities of the country will compel a further reduction of our little army. If such be the case, so be it. For one, I am willing to set the example and try once more to turn my sword into a pruning-hook and earn a living as I did before the war; but I advise all in authority to bear in mind the advice of Washington, always to preserve and maintain in this country the nucleus of an army; especially a knowledge of the art of war, so that when danger does come we may not have to do, as we did in our revolutionary days, send to Germany for another Steuben, to teach our soldiers the common drill.

GENERAL DEVENS



CHARLES DEVENS, American orator, jurist, and soldier, was born at Charlestown, Mass., April 4, 1820, and died at Boston, Jan. 7, 1891. He graduated at Harvard College in 1838, studied at the Harvard Law School, and began the practice of his profession in 1841. In 1848-49, he was a member of the State Senate, and from 1849 to 1853 held the office of United States marshal for the district of Massachusetts. In 1854, he resumed his practice at Worcester, but on April 19, 1861, entered the army, having accepted the office of major, commanding an independent battalion of rifles. He served in this capacity for three months, and in July was appointed colonel of the Fifteenth Massachusetts Volunteers. With this regiment he served until 1862, when he was appointed brigadier-general. General Devens was in the battles of Fair Oaks, Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville, and was several times wounded. After the evacuation of Richmond, Devens's troops were the first to occupy it, and he was afterwards brevetted major-general for his gallant conduct at the capture of the city. General Devens remained in the service a year after the termination of hostilities, and then, at his own request, was mustered out, in June, 1866. He immediately resumed the practice of his profession at Worcester, and in April, 1867, was appointed a justice of the superior court of Massachusetts. In 1873, he was named a justice of the supreme judicial court of the State, and in 1877 became attorney-general in the cabinet of President Hayes, a post he retained until 1881. On his withdrawal to Massachusetts he was reappointed a justice of the supreme judicial court, an office he continued to hold until his death. General Devens was an eloquent and forcible orator, an accomplished jurist, and a gallant soldier. Among his famed addresses were one delivered at the centennial celebration of the battle of Bunker Hill, and one at the dedication of the soldiers' monuments at Boston and Worcester.

SONS OF HARVARD

SPEECH AT COMMEMORATION EXERCISES HELD AT CAMBRIDGE,
JULY 21, 1865

THE sons of Harvard who have served their country on field and flood, in deep thankfulness to Almighty God, who has covered their heads in the day of battle and permitted them to stand again in these ancient halls and under these leafy groves, sacred to so many memories of youth and learning, and in yet deeper thankfulness for the