

ON THIS DAY IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY OCTOBER 9



Confederate veterans arriving at Moorefield for reunion, October 9, 1912

The West Virginia Division of Confederate veterans held their annual reunion in Moorefield on October 9, 1912.

CSO: SS.8.22, ELA.8.1

Investigate the Document: (*Moorefield Examiner*, 10/10/1912)

1. Approximately, how many Confederate Veterans were in attendance?
2. Who gave the annual address?
3. What adjective was used to describe the reunion?

Think Critically: Describe the sectional tensions that existed in Hardy County during the Civil War. Was the county pro-union or pro-Confederate? Both? The pro-union faction of the county formed *this* county in 1866, assuming the name of this Civil War General and soon-to-be President of the United States.

Moorefield Examiner.

MOOREFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA, THURSDAY, OCT. 10, 1912.

Confederate Reunion

A good attendance of the old heroes of the Confederacy, availing themselves of the cheering hospitality of sons and daughters of Confederate soldiers, good meals, sleep at all hours, the re-awakening of war-time friendships and good will for everybody marked the Annual Reunion of the W. Va. Division of Confederate Veterans at Moorefield, Wednesday, Oct. 9, 1912.

About 150 Veterans attended. A reception committee assigned them rooms. Every veteran was made comfortable, the homes of our people being opened to those attending.

The meetings were held in Inskens Hall, Rev. Dr. Bencke, of Romney, opened the meeting with prayer at 10 o'clock a. m. Rev. Dr. J. W. Duffey of Winchester, delivered the address of Welcome, stating the place of the late Gen. Haller. Dr. Duffey said all the confederates' hospitality could claim and paid a beautiful tribute to the one whose place it was asked to fill.

The response on behalf of the Veterans was made by Col. Bobb White, of Wheeling, Commander of the W. Va. Division. Col. White's address was very impressive, full of high thought and love for the past. Short talks were made by Col. Ferguson, Col. Alderson and others.

Capt. Lee, who was to have been here was prevented on account of sickness and the annual address to the veterans was delivered by Rev. Dr. Bencke, of Romney. Touching the tender hearts of the past, he dealt tenderly and proudly up them. Dr. Bencke has talked to his old comrades before and knows exactly how to interest and please them.

After the address the general routine of business was taken up and the following officers were elected:

Mag. Gen. Cass S. Poston, of Ronceverte, Commander W. Va. Division U. C. V.

Col. A. C. L. Gatewood, of Linwood, was elected Brig. General First Brigade. Brig. Gen. Wagon P. Ferguson, of Kenova, re-elected Brig. Gen. Second Brigade.

Col. Bobb White, who has been commander for 17 years, was followed at his own request and elected Major General for life.

At 5 o'clock p. m. the meeting was called to order in Inskens Hall and Hon. Ignatius Brennan, of Wheeling, was introduced, and entertained the old veterans and large audience, with recitations, jokes, etc. Mr. Brennan is a master of the art of entertaining and he had his audience in a roar at all times. Congressman Brown and Hon. W. D. Zion, candidate for Commissioner of Agriculture, were introduced and made short talks.

Huntington was selected as the next place of meeting.

Many flattering remarks were lavished on Moorefield by her visitors, not only because of her generous hospitality, but on her handsome buildings and other tokens of her progressiveness and prosperity.

The following resolutions was passed:

Moorefield Reunion
Oct. 8, 1912.

W. Va., Division United Confederate Veterans.

Whereas, the Ladies, Veterans, Sons of Veterans and citizens of the Town of Moorefield and County of Hardy and the beautiful South Branch Valley have graciously given us the most hospitable entertainment ever extended to this Division at any of our Reunions, which is gratefully appreciated by the Confederate Veterans, Sons of Veterans, their wives and daughters here assembled; Therefore be it:

RESOLVED: That the heartfelt thanks of this Division is expressed, with true and loyal devotion and unanimously tendered to the Ladies, Veterans, Sons of Veterans and Citizens of this patriotic town, county and God blessed South Branch Valley, for their unsurpassed kindness and royal hospitality they have bestowed with open hearts and open hands.

We hope to publish next week a list of the veterans present and other resolutions adopted.

All told it was a glorious meeting.

Transcript of Newsprint:

Moorefield Examiner

October 10, 1912

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About 150 Veterans attended. A reception committee assigned them homes Every veteran was made comfortable, the homes of our people being opened to those attending.

The meetings were held in Inskeep Hall, Rev. Dr Brooke, of Romney, opened the meeting with prayer, at 10 o'clock a. m. Rev. Dr J W Duffey, of Winchester, delivered the address of Welcome, taking the place of the late Benj Dailey. Dr. Duffey paid all the courteous rites hospitality could claim and paid a beautiful tribute to the one whose place he was asked to fill.

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Col. A. C. L. Gatewood, of Linwood, was, elected Brig General First Brigade

Brig. Gen. Wayne P Ferguson, of Kenova, reelected Brig. Gen. Second Brigade

Col. Robt White, who has been commander for 17 years was relieved at his own request and elected Major General for life.

At 8 o'clock p. m., the meeting was called to order in Inskeep Hall and Hon Ignatius Brennan, of Wheeling, was introduced, and entertained the old veterans and large audience, with recitations, jokes, &c. Mr. Brennan is a master of the art of entertaining and he had his audience in a roar at all times. Congressman Brown and Hon. W. D. Zinn, candidate for Commissioner of Agriculture, were introduced and made short talks.

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