

## GRANT – CHAMBERLAIN CONNECTIONS (THIRD IN A SERIES)

In the course of her ongoing study of the life and times of Ulysses S. Grant, our round table's long-time member, Noma Petroff, encountered a number of "Grant – Chamberlain Connections" that have been featured over the past year. One such connection occurred during the "Grand Review" of the Union Armies in Washington D.C. on May 23–24, 1865, where General Grant paid a special tribute to General Chamberlain.

Noma discovered this interesting and telling narrative in an article entitled "Letter from Maine," written by Bowdoin graduate Samuel Roland Crocker (Class of 1855), as a "Special Correspondent" for the *Sacramento [CA] Daily Union*, published on September 11, 1865:

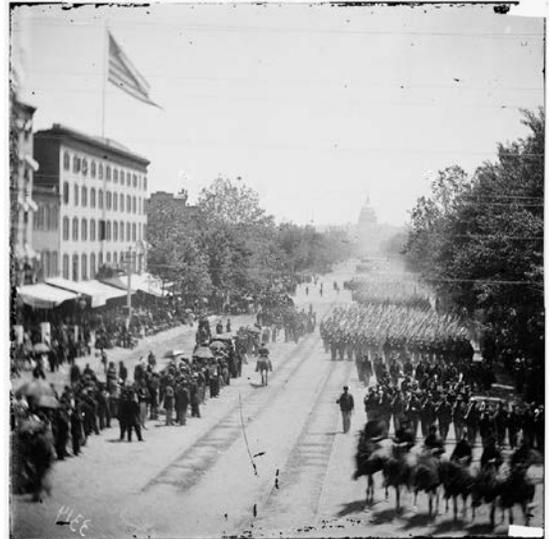


Figure 1. Washington, D.C. Infantry units with fixed bayonets passing on Pennsylvania Avenue near the Treasury. (Library of Congress.)

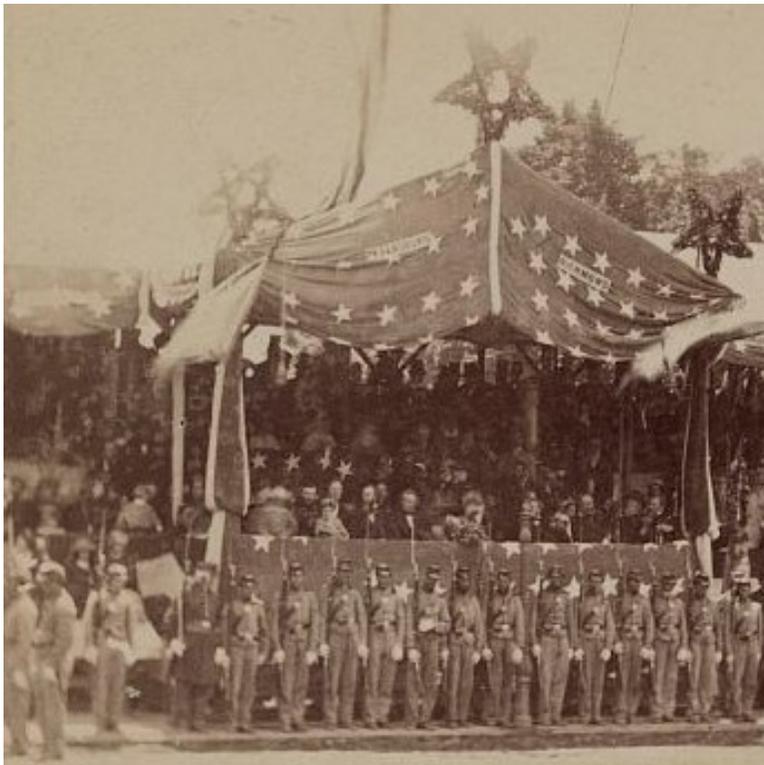


Figure 2. Grand review of the great veteran armies of Grant and Sherman at Washington, on the 23d and 24th May, 1865. The Army of the Potomac. The stand in front of the President's house occupied by the President and cabinet, Grant and Sherman, and reviewing officers. (Cropped for presentation. Library of Congress.)

*I have the following anecdote in relation to him [General Chamberlain] from high authority: At the grand review at Washington last May, General Grant, Secretary Stanton and many other dignitaries sat together upon a stage erected for the purpose. When General Meade passed at the head of the Army of the Potomac, General Grant rose from his seat and bowed. He did not rise again in acknowledgement of salutes till Major General Chamberlain appeared in command of the First Division, Fifth Corps. He then rose, took off his hat and bowed three times. Secretary Stanton turned to Senator Grimes, of Iowa, his neighbor, and slapping him on the knees exclaimed: "By —, Grimes, I'd rather have that compliment than be President of the United States."<sup>1</sup>*

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> [Samuel] Roland [Crocker], "Letter from Maine," *Sacramento [CA] Daily Union*, September 11, 1865, <https://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=d&d=SDU18650911.2.9&srpos=7&e=01-01-1865-14-12-1865--en--20--1-byDA-txt-txIN-Bowdoin-----1>.

## PICTURE CREDITS

Fig. 1. *Washington, D.C. Infantry units with fixed bayonets passing on Pennsylvania Avenue near the Treasury.* Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, Civil War Photographs, reproduction number, LC-DIG-cwpb-02804.

Fig. 2. *Grand review of the great veteran armies of Grant and Sherman at Washington, on the 23d and 24th May, 1865. The Army of the Potomac. The stand in front of the President's house occupied by the President and cabinet, Grant and Sherman, and reviewing officers.* Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, reproduction number, LC-DIG-stereo-1s02874. (Cropped for presentation.)