

MORTON IN BRONZE

INDIANA CIRCLE, VICKSBURG BATTLEFIELD

Report of
Vicksburg State Memorial Commission

Compiled by
ORAN PERRY, Secretary
Indianapolis, 1926

WM. B. BURFORD
CONTRACTOR FOR STATE PRINTING

REPORT OF THE VICKSBURG STATE MEMO-
RIAL COMMISSION

THE STATE OF INDIANA,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
August 19, 1926.

Received by the Governor, examined and referred
to the Auditor of State for verification of the financial
statement.

OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE,
Indianapolis, August 20, 1926.

The within report, so far as the same relates to
moneys drawn from the State Treasury, has been ex-
amined and found correct.

L. S. BOWMAN,
Auditor of State.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,
August 20, 1926.

Returned by the Auditor of State, with above certif-
icate, and transmitted to the clerk of the Printing
Board, upon the order of the Board of Public Printing.

PLINY H. WOLFARD,
Secretary to the Governor.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC PRINTING.

Received the within report and delivered to the
printer August 20, 1926.

J. OTTO LEE,
Clerk Printing Board.



HON. ED JACKSON
Governor of Indiana
1926

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Hon. Ed Jackson,
Governor of Indiana.
Sir:

The undersigned members of the Vicksburg State Memorial Commission, appointed under authority of an act approved March 12, 1925, herewith submit to you this report, showing the work accomplished by this Commission in the erection of the Statue of Governor Oliver P. Morton in Indiana Circle, Vicksburg Battleground.

Respectfully submitted,

WINFIELD T. DURBIN, President.
ORAN PERRY, Secretary-Treasurer.
FRANCIS M. VAN PELT, Commissioner.



STATUE OF GOVERNOR OLIVER P. MORTON
Indiana Circle, Vicksburg Battleground

INTRODUCTORY

In taking up the work of the Vicksburg Battleground, where the Commission of 1908 left off, the Commission of 1926 feels that, as an introduction to its narrative of accomplishment, it cannot do better than to quote the following from the report of the Commission preceding this.

INDIANA CIRCLE

“On the opposite page is pictured Indiana Circle, the spot selected by the Vicksburg Military Park Commission as the site for the proposed Indiana State Memorial. This location is a commanding one in the park and is in the very heart of a colony of Indiana monuments. From its elevation can be seen many of the interesting views of the park and a beautiful panorama is observed.

It is within easy distance of the old camp sites of the following Indiana commands: 8th, 11th, 16th, 18th, 24th, 34th, 46th, 47th, 49th, 54th, 59th, 60th, 67th, and 69th Infantry; 1st Battery; 1st and 4th Cavalry. Hovey's, Keigwin's, Slack's, McGinnis' and Benton's headquarters are nearby.”

“Surmounted by a beautiful memorial, as some day it must be, and surrounded by reminders of the men from Indiana who went into the South and clamored for entrance to Vicksburg during those weary months, it surely would be a place for a Hoosier to love and revere.”

Believing that the interest of the reader will be enhanced and to keep pace with the improvements that have been made in the park in the last eighteen years, we have taken the liberty to incorporate in this report a descriptive article from a pamphlet issued by the Illinois Central Railway, entitled

VICKSBURG FOR THE TOURIST

The general plan and scope of the Park make it an intensely interesting and instructive place to visit. The region is a highly picturesque one—a rolling country of beautiful valleys and high hills overlooking the majestic waters of the Mississippi River; and the arrangement of the park avenues, aided by the topography and the peculiar nature of the conflict it commemorates, enables one to follow the story of the siege in a clear and accurate manner.

The story will be found engrossing and perfectly easy to follow, because, unlike any other engagement of the Civil War, the assaults at the Siege of Vicksburg were few, each side learning to respect the prowess of the other early in the struggle. With some few exceptions, the conflict was confined on the part of the Federals to a gradual vice-like closing-in through the agency of artillery and by approaches, or saps; and to a heroic and brilliant defense on the part of the Confederates. Therefore, the operations were along clearly defined and, generally speaking, parallel lines, with no radical shifting and intermingling of positions, as at Shiloh and Chickamauga, to confuse the visitor in the reading of these military field-pages of the nation's history.

Another feature that makes for a clear picture of the military events of '63 at Vicksburg is the fact that the park hills overlooking each other have been purposely kept clear of any trees that would obstruct the view. There were no trees on the field of operation at the time of the siege, and those now there are the growth of the intervening years. But sufficient foliage will be found in the valleys and on the hills to add a touch to the charm of the landscape. In short, for picturesque beauty and historic interest, no other

battlefield of the country surpasses the one included in the Vicksburg National Military Park.

The Park contains 1,323 acres, and practically includes the battle lines of the two opposed armies during the investment of Vicksburg, May 18-July 4, together with all the fighting ground between them. Every part of the battlefield is made accessible by the park roadways, and the secondary avenues and the circles were constructed to give individuality to the State Memorials and the statues that have been placed in the Park.

Fourteen State Memorials have been finished—those of Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, West Virginia and Wisconsin. Indiana and Ohio have provided generously for regimental and battery monuments and markers, but not for State Memorials. Each of the memorials now in the Park is beautiful and appropriate, but specific mention is made of three of them.

Upon the classic white memorial of the State of Pennsylvania appears the following inscription:

**“HERE BROTHERS FOUGHT FOR THEIR
PRINCIPLES, HERE HEROES DIED FOR
THEIR COUNTRY. AND A UNITED
PEOPLE WILL FOREVER CHERISH THE
PRECIOUS LEGACY OF THEIR NOBLE
MANHOOD.”**

The Illinois Memorial is a beautiful marble rotunda with a classic portico, bearing on its inner wall the names, more than 35,000, of the soldiers of that State who then belonged to a command engaged in the Vicks-

burg campaign and siege. It is one of the noblest and most appropriate battlefield memorials in the world.

A feature of Iowa's impressive peristylar Memorial is its six artistic and stirring bronze battlefield pictures, each in a separate panel.

The first panel on the left shows a gun in action on a Union gunboat at the bombardment of Grand Gulf, April 29th. The second panel—the 99th Illinois capturing two guns (one shown) of the Botetourt (Virginia) Battery in the battle of Port Gibson, May 1st—the 21st, 22d and 23d Iowa immediately at the left and not shown.

The third panel—the 17th Iowa charging the Confederate entrenchments at Jackson, May 14th, with the 6th Wisconsin Battery on the run to keep even with the infantry line.

The next panel to the right, the center one, is a black marble slab, on which are inscribed the thirty-two Iowa commands engaged at Vicksburg in 1863, and their respective casualties.

The fourth panel from the left shows the 24th Iowa capturing four guns (one shown) in the engagement at Champion's Hill, May 16th, and the three Confederates fighting their gun to the last extremity are the heroes of the picture.

The fifth panel—the 23d Iowa charging the Confederate entrenchments on the double quick at Big Black River Bridge, May 17th.

The sixth panel on the right shows the placing of the flag of the 22d Iowa on the parapet of the Confederate Railroad Redoubt in the assault, May 22d.

An ideal equestrian figure of a soldier bearing a standard occupies a pedestal in front of the Iowa Memorial to complete its martial character and artistic effect.

WHAT THE COMMISSION HAS DONE

There are sixteen bridges in the Park—six of steel, ten of reinforced concrete—flung across the ravines that diversify the terrain. There are 898 tablets largely of bronze in appropriate locations, on which are told briefly the stories of the siege and defense. Of them 569 are Union and 329 Confederate, and they are classified by subject as follows: historical 162, battery 197, Union trench-marker 228, Confederate trench-marker 151, Union approach-marker 136, headquarters 19, mortuary 5. The avenues, circles, and public roads in the Park, aggregating about thirty-two miles of roadway, are marked by 124 guideboards.

The United States has mounted 114 field guns on light carriages and fourteen heavy guns with their siege carriages, like the ones used during the campaign, making 128 mounted guns in the Park at the old battery sites—sixty-six on the Union and sixty-two on the Confederate lines.

Three reinforced concrete observation towers have been constructed: one on Logan Circle; one on the area bounded by Confederate Avenue and Observation Circle; and the third on Confederate Avenue near All Saints' College. These afford comprehensive panoramas of large areas of the field of operations.

A Union Navy Memorial, located at Battery Selfridge, commemorative of the service of the Union Navy during the campaign and siege, with its statues and bronze tablets, is one of the features of the Park; and a similar memorial for the Confederate Navy, to be located on the area bounded by the Louisiana Circle and the Warrentown Road, is in contemplation.

A handsome new Memorial Arch, contributed by the United States and placed at the principal entrance to the Park, was dedicated in October, 1920.

Six hundred and ninety-one memorials, monuments and markers (551 Union, 4 Union-Confederate, 136 Confederate) are in place in the Park.

In the main body of the Park the lines of the opposed armies are plainly shown, without confusion or uncertainty by the monuments, markers, tablets, and, in a very realistic sense, the battle is again set in order.

With two exceptions (Generals Lloyd Tilghman and J. H. Forney, C. S. Army), a bronze portrait of each brigade and division commander, Union and Confederate, engaged in the operations commemorated, has been placed in the Park. Illinois has given bronze equestrian statues of Generals U. S. Grant and J. A. McClernand and a statue of General Logan. The War Department has placed bronze statues of Generals E. O. C. Ord, John C. Pemberton and C. C. Washburn. To complete this feature of the work four additional bronze portrait statues are needed—of three Union corps commanders, Generals McPherson, Parke, Sherman, and of General Joseph E. Johnston, C. S. Army.

The United States has placed a total of 7 statues, 49 busts, and 59 tablets; various states have placed 18 busts, statues, and tablets; 4 statues, 5 busts, and 29 tablets are gifts. The total number of bronze portraits (statues, busts, and tablets) is 171, of which 105 are Union commanders and 66 of Confederate commanders.

THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER

Riding comfortably in an automobile along the beautiful boulevards of the Vicksburg National Military Park, one who sixty years ago was dodging up and down a line of battle bristling with cannon and blazing with musketry, is filled with wonder at the transformation that has been wrought by the initiative and persistence of practically one man, the Resident Commissioner.

No doubt he has had behind him a willing government and a harmonious Board, aided by capable experts, with the result that today this is one of the most beautiful battleground reservations in the world, but the guiding hand was that of the Resident Commissioner.

The Indiana Commission feels it a bounden duty to record its appreciation of the service rendered by Captain Rigby while groping its way to success. He it was who, for many years, did a volunteer's part in arousing among legislators and leading citizens of Indiana a sentiment in favor of a state memorial of some sort in Indiana Circle.

He it was who, in his desire for perfection in art, recommended the sculptor who so nearly attained it in the noble figure that now graces the most prominent circle in the Park. The Commissioners believe they can pay the Resident Commissioner no higher compliment than the publication of his activities from manhood to the present time.



CAPTAIN WILLIAM T. RIGBY
Resident Commissioner

WILLIAM T. RIGBY

was born at Red Oak Grove, Cedar County, Iowa, November 3, 1841. In 1862 he assisted in enrolling Company B, 24th Iowa Infantry, and rose through the commissioned grades to the captaincy of his company in August, 1863. With his regiment he was engaged in the operations against Vicksburg and Jackson, the Teche and Red River Campaigns and at the battles of Winchester and Cedar Creek in the Shenandoah Valley in 1864.

In every stress there always arises a cool, level-headed man to meet the emergency, so it is not surprising while reading the records of the Iowa Historical Society to find the subject of this sketch turning the tide of battle as if it was an everyday occurrence.

It was at Sheridan's Battle of Winchester and the Union troops were getting the worst of it.

"From a sheltered position an overwhelming mass of Confederate infantry arose in front of the charging brigades, fired a stunning volley and moved irresistibly forward against the disorganized Union men. For a time they fought desperately but the Confederate onslaught was too powerful. The already disorganized troops fell back in utter confusion." . . .

"Some of the regimental organizations disappeared for the time being; steadily Early's veterans advanced with yells of triumph and murderous musketry, threatening to rout Sheridan's Army before the battle had fairly begun. Generals and brigade commanders rode hither and thither endeavoring by threats, commands and entreaties to halt and reform the panic-stricken stragglers. It was the bloodiest, the darkest, the most picturesque, the most dramatic, the only desperate moment of the day."

"In contrast to the general panic, one instance of coolness and discipline was conspicuous. Through the midst of the confusion came Captain William T. Rigby with Company B of the 24th Iowa Infantry, all marching as composedly as if returning from drill."

"Captain, you are not going to retreat any further I hope," called an artillery officer who was trying to rally the fleeing soldiers. 'Certainly not,' replied Rigby, 'Halt, front; three cheers, men; hip, hip, hurrah!'"

The little band cheered lustily—the first note of defiance that broke the desperate monotony of the panic. It stopped the retreat in that part of the field. In a few minutes Captain Rigby's company had swelled to a battalion of men from half a dozen regiments determined to hold their ground. The rally spread and the Confederate attack was checked. Piece by piece the shattered Union line was re-established and most of the lost ground was recovered. "By sundown the battle was won and Early's army was fleeing down the Winchester Pike toward Cedar Creek and Fisher's Hill." Sheridan received the credit for winning the battle but Rigby turned the tide. Nothing more need be said.

Mustered out of the service September, 1865—Rigby immediately entered Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa, and graduated in June, 1869. In June, 1870, he married Miss Eva Catron, and to the credit of both they are still living together. He engaged in farming until 1895 when the Vicksburg Military Park Association was formed with General Stephen D. Lee as President, Colonel Floweree, Treasurer, Wm. T. Rigby, Secretary, its purpose being to secure the authority of Congress for the establishment of the Vicksburg National Military Park.

The bill was written by Secretary Rigby but it took three years to get it passed, it being approved by

President McKinley in February, 1899. General Lee, Captain Everest and Captain Rigby were appointed Commissioners and the latter came to Vicksburg to live on March 15, 1899. By order of the Secretary of War he now bears the title of Resident Commissioner. One needs to ride through the National Military Park but once to arrive at the conclusion that the Republic will be ungrateful if it does not rear a notable monument to its Resident Commissioner.

A SKETCH OF THE "GREAT WAR GOVERNOR"

Since the completion of the monuments and markers by the Commission of 1908, there have been a number of efforts to interest the Legislature in building a memorial in Indiana Circle without success, until 1925 when a bill was introduced to erect a statue to the honor of the Great War Governor, which it passed without a dissenting vote.

In order that later generations may understand the reason for this unanimity the Commission is pleased to publish extracts from a recent article by Hon. William Dudley Foulke, author of "The Life of Morton," detailing the activities and characteristics that endeared him to the soldiers of Indiana, beginning with

HIS RECORD AS GOVERNOR

Sprung from sturdy English ancestry, he first saw the light in the little town of Salisbury, the former county seat of Wayne County, Indiana, a place which has now wholly disappeared. He was brought up amid the rough surroundings of a country which had just passed its pioneer stage. In his early life he was put to the hatter's trade, but he was dissatisfied with the limitations of this calling, and as soon as he could escape from it he determined to acquire at least the elements of a liberal education. This he did in the course of two years' study in the little college at Oxford, Ohio. Returning to Indiana he married and applied himself to the practice of the law at Centerville, which had now become the seat of justice of Wayne County, and at the bar as well as in the debating society of the village he became a leader.

Morton had been raised in the faith of the Democratic party. He was opposed to all anti-slavery agi-

tation. The Missouri compromise had defined the boundaries between slavery and freedom, and it should be maintained inviolate. The Wilmot proviso and all other sources of irritation between the North and South were unwise. Clay's compromise measures of 1850 were to be a "Finality." It was not until the Democracy had committed itself to the Kansas-Nebraska bill, overthrowing all these compacts in the interest of the slave power, that Morton broke the bonds which education and custom had imposed, and joined the new party of liberty. He attended as a delegate to the convention at Pittsburgh.

He was a leader among the Republicans of his state and in 1856 they nominated him for Governor in opposition to Ashbel P. Willard. The rival candidates took the stump together in debate. The contest was close, but Morton was defeated. Willard became Governor and Buchanan President.

During the next four years the pro-slavery element won the supremacy but the Dred Scott decision and the Lecompton Constitution aroused the anti-slavery sentiment of the North and added to the strength of the Republican party, while the breach between Douglas and the administration Democrats, resulting finally in two separate conventions, offered a bright promise of victory to their opponents. To strengthen the Republicans in Indiana it was determined to nominate for Governor Henry S. Lane, who had been a Whig, and for Lieutenant Governor, Morton, who had been a Democrat. If the new party should control the Legislature, Lane would go to the Senate and Morton would become Governor; and so it was. The Republicans elected both the state officers and the Legislature, and in November Lincoln was chosen President.

The new administration was confronted with the problem of secession. South Carolina had already taken steps to withdraw from the Union. Other states were preparing to follow. What was to be done? Politicians were all at sea. Even prominent Republicans cried out: "Let our erring sisters depart in peace, let the Union slide." Morton's voice was perhaps the first to set forth the necessity of preserving the nation by force of arms. At the courthouse in Indianapolis, on the 22d of November, 1860, he spoke these memorable words: "What is coercion, but the enforcement of the law? Is anything else intended or required? Secession or nullification can only be regarded by the general government as individual action upon individual responsibility. In this matter the President has no discretion. He has taken a solemn oath to enforce the laws and preserve order, and to this end he has been made commander-in-chief of the army and navy. . . . I would rather come out of a struggle defeated in arms and conceding independence to successful revolution than to purchase present peace by the concession of principles that must inevitably explode this nation into small and dishonored fragments."

In the midst of the tumult of great events by which this speech was followed and surrounded it has been almost forgotten by the world. But to those who fell under the spell of its unanswerable logic its influence was lasting and unbounded. It outlined the purposes and set forth the convictions of the Union party during the four years of the war. When the Legislature met in January, Lane was chosen Senator and Morton became Governor of Indiana. We must pass rapidly over the stirring events that crowded his administration. State after state seceded. Sumter fell and the

North became one blaze of indignant patriotism. Before the news came of Lincoln's call for troops Morton had offered 10,000 men; 4,600 only was the number assigned to Indiana. The quota was filled to overflowing. He knew that they would soon be needed, so he organized them as state troops and turned them over to the federal authorities as soon as he could get them accepted. He called the Legislature together. He dispatched agents everywhere for the purchase of arms. The three months regiments were sent to the field. The disaster at Bull Run awakened the North to the gravity of the crisis. New regiments were enlisted for three years. Call after call for troops were answered by the patriotic people and by the unparalleled energy of the great war Governor until the grand total furnished by Indiana rose to the enormous sum of 208,000 men.

The speed with which he raised troops in emergencies was phenomenal. On the occasion of the invasion of Kirby Smith and the subsequent raid by General Morgan, regiments would spring up as if by magic in a single day.

But Morton's efforts were not confined to raising troops. He took it upon himself to see that they were properly equipped, and did not suffer for lack of clothing, food or attention. It made no difference to him that this duty belonged to the federal government; these troops had gone to the field in response to his call, and he did not intend that they should suffer. His book of telegraphic correspondence is filled with messages following up supplies of food and clothing which had not reached their destination, and with protests against the negligence of incompetent quartermasters and commissaries. He called upon the women of Indiana to furnish provisions necessary for the

comfort and health of the men in the field. He organized a system of state agents; wherever there was an Indiana regiment there was someone from home to look after the welfare of the men. It was upon his instance that additional surgeons were appointed in each regiment. He established a Soldiers' Home in Indianapolis. He created the Indiana Sanitary Commission, and when a great battle was fought, as at Fort Donelson and Shiloh, he collected physicians and nurses, chartered steamboats and went to the field himself to see that the wounded were provided for.

In the early days of the war there was a lack of proper ammunition and no means to procure it. Morton, on his own responsibility, established the arsenal, and so well was it managed that a profit of over \$70,000 was afterwards turned over to the state. Morton possessed in a strong degree the military instinct, and at one time desired a command, but he was needed at home. Dissatisfaction and conspiracy were already beginning to show themselves in his own state, and there was no one to take his place, so his ambition had to be relinquished. When Sumter fell all voices of sympathy with the South had been stifled in the universal burst of patriotic enthusiasm. But later on this sympathy first began to show itself in complaints and criticisms of those in power and afterwards more boldly and defiantly, while denunciations were showered upon those who had plunged us into the struggle.

As time wore on and reverses came this dissatisfaction increased. In the Democratic convention of January 8, 1862, Mr. Hendricks declared: "If the failure and folly and wickedness of the party in power should render a restoration of the Union impossible, then the mighty Northwest must take care of herself

and her own interests." In the state election of that year the Democratic party was successful and at the beginning of 1863 the "Peace Legislature" convened. Morton had prepared his message for delivery, but the House of Representatives declined to receive it, but in lieu thereof passed a resolution thanking Governor Seymour of New York for the patriotic defense of the Constitution contained in his message to the Legislature of that State. The General Assembly proceeded to a consideration of the war. Hundreds of pages of resolutions were tossed into the cauldron of turbulent discussion—proposals for an armistice, for a withdrawal of the emancipation proclamation, for peace conventions to consider impossible compromises—dismal wailing at the calamities of war, at the "overthrow of sacred rights and liberties by tyrants and usurpers," incoherent ravings against the President and Governor, the Abolitionists, the negroes, the tariff laws, the Massachusetts Yankees—threats of "not another man and not another dollar," mutual criminations and charges of treason and mendacity, a great tumult of words—interminable debates meaning nothing and coming to nothing—much would-be Demosthenic eloquence, loud-mouthed, dissonant and ungrammatical. Meanwhile reports of all this wordy tumult reached the army and the answer was a series of resolutions addressed to the General Assembly. Those adopted by the regiments at Stone River are a sample: "We tender to Governor Morton the thanks of his grateful friends in the army for his extraordinary efforts in their behalf and assure him that neither time nor the corrupting influences of party spirit shall ever estrange the soldiers from the soldiers' friend."

Other similar resolutions followed, but the wran-

gling went on. It might have continued until the end of the session had it not been for a really dangerous scheme for taking the military power of the state out of Morton's control and putting it into the hands of a board composed of men who were opposed to the war, and the majority of whom were afterwards discovered to be members of the secret order of the Sons of Liberty. Bayless W. Hanna introduced the bill. It was adopted in caucus and had passed its second reading. If it became a law the support of Indiana could no longer be counted on in the prosecution of the war. The Republican members, with Morton's concurrence, determined to break up the quorum in the House of Representatives, and the session came to an untimely end.

The Legislature had made no appropriations, and it was believed that Morton would be forced to call a special session to carry on the state government; he did nothing of the kind. He established on his own responsibility a bureau of finance, with Mr. Terrell as financial secretary. He applied to counties, corporations and individuals for money to carry on the government. They came forward and contributed large sums. The men who gave their money knew that Morton could not repay them but they relied upon his word, supported as they believed it would be, by the ultimate patriotism of the people of Indiana. The interest upon the state bonds became due and the state officers refused to pay it. Morton applied to Winslow, Lanier & Co., bankers in New York; Mr. Lanier was an Indiana man, and this patriotic firm advanced more than half a million to redeem the credit of the state. Morton also applied to the general government for help. Lincoln could see no way to furnish him with funds. He went to Stanton. Stanton

declared, "By God, I will find a law." He found one and money was advanced for the military expenses of the state. When the next Legislature met, Morton saw to it that all these sums were returned.

Meanwhile the tumult and dissatisfaction continued. Morgan invaded the state, and in less than three days all Indiana seemed to be under arms. Lincoln and Stanton felt that they had no stronger supporter than the man who thus carried upon his own shoulders the whole burden of his state. The political campaign of '64 came on. Morton had no competitor for the Republican nomination. McDonald became candidate for the Democracy. There were joint debates between them in every district, and never was Morton's power as a speaker more strongly shown. Able and popular as McDonald was, he could do nothing to stem the tide of sentiment which was now fully aroused in favor of the prosecution of the war, and Indiana, at the close of the campaign, returned the largest Republican majority that was ever given. This was the precursor of Lincoln's election in November.

In addition to Morton's herculean efforts in raising, equipping and supplying troops and caring for the men in the field, in addition to the daily excitement of the campaign, his energies were required to expose and crush the dangerous conspiracy nourished by the secret societies, the Knights of the Golden Circle, afterwards the order of American Knights and then the Sons of Liberty, which plotted an armed insurrection in the state, the release of the Confederate prisoners at Camp Morton and the assassination of the Governor himself. Morton's agents penetrated the most secret council of the conspirators. From day to day he received information of their designs and took such efficient steps to thwart them that finally this

widespread conspiracy became a plaything in his hands and by arousing the indignation of the people against it he coerced it into his own services and the service of his country. There is not time to go into details. The "Northwestern Conspiracy" collapsed. Some of its leaders became fugitives from justice, others were arrested, tried, convicted and held prisoners until after the termination of the war.

The new Legislature of 1864 was thoroughly loyal. It made provisions for the repayment of the vast sums borrowed by Morton and ratified the thirteenth amendment, which gave freedom to the slaves. The war was now at an end. The flag floated everywhere. As each regiment returned, Morton was there to bid it welcome. But soon he was stricken by the hand of disease. The form that was so full of strength and physical vigor could scarcely be dragged along with cane and crutch. In the hope of cure he took a brief respite from his labors and went abroad. It was in vain. The disease had fixed its hand upon him and was incurable. He could not remain long away from the scene of his activities. He returned to Indiana and found his party in confusion. He rallied them in the memorable philippic at Masonic Hall, and the hopes of their adversaries withered and perished. The new Legislature sent him to the Senate where he became one of the foremost advocates of the policy of Congress against that of President Johnson. His great reconstruction speech set forth the logic of this policy as it had never been set forth before, and led to the constitutional amendments which accompanied readmission of the states. To his efforts more than to any other man is it due that the fifteenth amendment was ratified by three-fourths of the states which the Constitution requires.

As early as 1869 he introduced a measure for the resumption of specie payments, substantially the same as that which was adopted seven years later. He became the special champion of the loyal men of the South, and wrought into legislation all that could be done for their protection. He was the bulwark of Grant's administration. He advocated measures leading to the acquisition of San Domingo. In 1876 he was a candidate for the Republican nomination for President at the Cincinnati convention. Hayes was chosen and there was no one more active and powerful than Morton in his behalf. When the Electoral Commission was devised Morton opposed it. But when the bill passed and he was appointed a member he became one of its leading spirits. But these great labors at last overcame him. He was again stricken with paralysis upon a journey to the Pacific, and after months of suffering he passed from the struggles of life November 1, 1877.

MORTON'S CHARACTERISTICS

What were the physical and mental traits of the man who did these things? To those of you who came forth at his call to accept the wager of battle for the preservation of our national life they are well known. A large head; a high forehead; black hair; dark, searching eyes; a serious countenance; a nose slightly flattened at the end; a voice not loud but deep, full and distinct; a huge, well-proportioned body, broad shoulders; a powerful frame and commanding presence were the physical manifestations of his indomitable will, his tenacity of purpose and the plain and simple strength of his intellect and character. His mental processes were clear as daylight. The object to be attained he pursued by the directest road and

crushed all obstacles by sheer force. He disdained the finesse of diplomacy. In argument, as in deed, he was not so much persuasive as compelling. He would condense the logic of his opponent into a few words, and then "break it into fragments like spray upon a rock." Fertile as he was in resources, the methods he chose were the plainest and most natural ones. He was no dreamer. His work was with the practical duties of the hour. To put forth his power he must, like Antaeus, have his feet upon the earth. In his public addresses he renounced all tricks of diction and transmitted, as nearly as he could, his naked thought. He cared little for the form of his speech. Even method in arrangement was neglected. If what he said brought conviction, that was enough. His earnestness was so manifest that all who heard him felt its influence. He employed the language of the masses. His mode of presenting a subject was so plain that a child could understand it. And sometimes from this very simplicity his diction was matchless. Morton was rarely dramatic, yet in some of his speeches after the war was over he invoked most impressively the recollections of his hearers by asking those who had lost friends in the army, either in prison or in battle, who remembered some dear face that they could see no more to rise and come to him and take his hand. Multitudes would come, many in tears. Except in the midst of bitter opposition he cared little for applause. The attention of his audience was more grateful to him than their plaudits. And he was always heard with attention, no matter how long the speech or dry the subject. There was no man of his time who could hold so many thousands in silence before him for so many hours. In his early manhood his commanding presence added to the impression he

produced. But later, when crippled by disease and he spoke from his chair ("Sitting Bull" his adversaries called him), the effect of his oratory lost nothing by the manifestation of the infirmity through which he had dragged himself to the argument. His physical helplessness set in still stronger relief the power of his commanding intellect and indomitable will.

Before all things he was loyal to the nation. And yet he had an intense state pride and a devoted attachment to the commonwealth of which he stood at the head. He felt keenly the humiliation which rested upon Indiana at the outbreak of the war in its depreciated credit, in the widespread contempt of Hoosier rawness and ignorance and in the imputation which had been cast upon the courage of the Indiana troops at Buena Vista. He determined that the honor of his state should be redeemed, not by the assertion of its sovereignty, nor by denying the powers of the federal government, but by generous emulation of its sister states in courage, credit and patriotism. No state should surpass Indiana in its energy and promptness in furnishing troops and supplies for the war. Its financial reputation must be beyond the taint of suspicion and later, in the Senate, he in his own person asserted that intellectual leadership which he sought for the commonwealth he represented. And he realized his ambition for his state.



Winfield D. Durkin

THE AUTHORITY TO ERECT THE STATUE

A bill for an act to provide for the erection of a State Memorial in Indiana Circle, Vicksburg National Military Park, was introduced in the Senate by Senator William E. English of Marion County, known as Senate Bill No. 23, and passed by the Senate February 5th, by the House March 6th, and approved by the Governor March 12, 1925. Following is the text.

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL No. 23

A Bill for an Act to provide for the erection of a suitable state memorial in the Vicksburg National Military Park, on the ground known as "Indiana Circle," commemorating the siege and capture of the historic city of Vicksburg, appropriating money therefor, creating a board of commissioners to assume charge of the erection of such memorial and prescribing its powers and duties, and declaring an emergency.

Whereas, Vicksburg was the turning point of the Civil War, having also been declared by Whitton, the English historian, to be "one of the five decisive battles of modern times," and Indiana having furnished twenty-eight of the organizations which accomplished this result; and,

Whereas, The battleground has been converted into one of the most beautiful reservations in the world, and the government having set aside "Circles" two hundred (200) feet in diameter especially for the erection of memorials by each state participating in the siege, and nearly all states except Indiana having already erected memorials

varying in expense from fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) ; and,

Whereas, The Department of Indiana, Grand Army of the Republic, and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, having memorialized this General Assembly to appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to erect in "Indiana Circle" a suitable memorial, commemorative of Indiana's distinguished part in this notable battle; therefore,

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, That the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated for the purpose of erecting a suitable memorial in "Indiana Circle" on the Vicksburg battleground. The appropriation hereby made shall be available upon the passage of this act and shall remain available until expended or until the first day of January, 1927.

Sec. 2. That for the purpose of organizing to build such memorial, the governor shall appoint a board of three commissioners, each of whom shall be a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Such appointments shall be made not later than thirty days after the passage of this act, and the term of each commissioner shall not exceed four years.

Sec. 3. The commissioners so appointed shall, within thirty days after their appointment, qualify by taking an oath that they will honestly and according to law discharge their duties as commissioners and shall give bond in the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) each, conditioned for the faithful performance of their duties. Such commissioners shall be known as the

“Board of Commissioners of the Vicksburg State Memorial,” and, except as hereinafter provided, shall serve without pay. They shall elect one of their members as president and another as secretary and treasurer. They shall keep a record of their proceedings and shall, on conclusion of their services, report to the governor, for the use of the public, an account of their expenditures.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the board to select the design of the memorial, to select an architect and to have general supervision of the erection and dedication of such memorial. They shall set aside one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of the appropriations for the expenses of the commission such as typewriting, printing, postage, telegraphing, dedication, traveling, premium on the bonds of the commissioners, and other expenses incidental to the erection of the memorial.

Sec. 5. The architect or sculptor whose plans are selected shall be the superintendent in building the memorial, shall give bond in such sum as may be fixed by the commission, with the approval of the governor, and shall be liable on his bond for any failure in discharging his duties and for all losses and damages incurred on account of his violating any of the provisions of this act or for his neglect or incapacity in discharging the duties of his office. Such architect shall also enter into a contract with the board of commissioners, which contract shall be in writing and shall be approved by the governor, and the form of such contract shall be approved by the attorney-general.

Sec. 6. Whereas, emergency exists for the immediate taking effect of this act, the same shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.



THE STATUE UNVEILED
By Winfield T. Durbin, Jr.

THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION

On the 11th of May, 1925, Governor Jackson appointed the members of the Vicksburg State Memorial to serve until May 5, 1929, as follows: Winfield T. Durbin, Anderson; Oran Perry, Indianapolis; Francis M. Van Pelt, Anderson.

The Board of Commissioners of the Vicksburg State Memorial met at the office of the Soldiers' Monument, Thursday, May 14th, at 2 p. m., and organized by electing Winfield T. Durbin President and Oran Perry Secretary-Treasurer.

Mr. E. V. Clark, local manager of the American Surety Company of New York, who was present by invitation, was directed to prepare bonds in the sum of one thousand (\$1,000) dollars for each of the members of the Board, subject to the approval of the Governor.

A meeting of the Board was held at the office of the Monument, Monday, June 15th, at 2 p. m., the purpose of which was a conference with Mr. Geo. T. Brewster, sculptor, of Tottenville, Staten Island, New York, who had been recommended to the Commission by Captain Wm. T. Rigby, the Resident Commissioner of the Vicksburg National Military Park.

In conversation with Mr. Brewster it developed that he was the sculptor who had equipped the Soldiers' Monument with the army and navy astragals and the beautiful figure of "Miss Indiana" at the top, after which the Commission had no hesitancy in accepting the advice of Captain Rigby by closing a contract with Mr. Brewster, who filed a bond of \$14,000 for his faithful performance of contract.

After an exhibition of many models and photographs of statues erected by him, it was decided that

the statue of Governor Morton should be of heroic size, viz.: a 12-foot figure in bronze, mounted on a 5-foot granite pedestal, having the same effect in pose as the life-sized picture in the corridor of the Soldiers' Monument, a copy of which is inserted in the volume; a contract was signed which was carried out by the sculptor with the greatest fidelity and to the unanimous satisfaction of the Commissioners.

We will not weary the reader with the correspondence regarding details which passed between the sculptor and the Board; suffice to say that on the 20th of May, 1926, Mr. Brewster informed the Board of the completion and shipment of the statue to Vicksburg, and the Board selected Wednesday, June 16th, as the date for the dedication of the statue.

ON TO VICKSBURG

Wednesday, June 16th, having been chosen for the dedication of the statue at Vicksburg, the Indiana delegation, including Governor and Mrs. Jackson, Commissioners Durbin, Perry and Van Pelt, Adjutant General and Mrs. Kershner, Master Winfield T. Durbin, Jr., Col. A. B. Crampton, representing Indiana Commandery Loyal Legion, Mrs. Grace Hoffmyer, State President Women's Relief Corps, her son, Keith E. Hoffmyer, Mrs. J. J. Browne of the Daughters of the Union, her granddaughter, Mary Elizabeth Pell, Frank Shellhouse, representing the Sons of Veterans, and Mr. Harold Feightner, staff correspondent of the Indianapolis News, assembled at the Union Station the evening of Monday, June 14th, and left at 6:15 p.m. over Pennsylvania lines via Louisville and the Illinois Central via Memphis to Vicksburg, arriving at the latter city Tuesday, June 15th, at 4.45 p.m.

The party and its luggage was taken in charge by the Yellow Cab Company and by 5.30 p.m. everyone was comfortably housed in his room at the National Park Hotel, which is perched on an elevation three hundred feet above the river, affording an extensive view westward.

During the evening and the next morning many leading citizens called to pay their respects to the Governor and party, the editor of the Daily Post hailing us with

A HEARTY WELCOME

"Vicksburgers extend a hearty welcome to Governor Jackson and wife of Indiana, and also to the other members of the distinguished party.

The visitors come here to assist in the dedication of a statue in the military park to War Governor Morton of Indiana.

It is well that men pause now and then and forget the happening of the day and hark back to the deeds of honor and valor by our forefathers. Governor Morton was a man of strong character, at a time when strong men were needed, and it is most suitable that he is to be commemorated on the battleground here where the fate of the nation to a large degree was decided.

It was a happy thought of Capt. W. T. Rigby, Resident Park Commissioner, to suggest that statues of war governors of the various states, who had troops at Vicksburg in 1863, be placed in the park here, and it is to be hoped that the years to come will see all such Governors appropriately remembered in lasting stone and bronze."

TRIP THROUGH THE PARK

Wednesday morning, guided by Captain Rigby, the Hoosier party left the hotel at 9 a. m. for a three-hour auto ride through the park, entering at the southern extremity and leaving it through the cemetery at the north end of the boulevard.

The interest of the occasion was enhanced by the explanatory short talks delivered by Captain Rigby at points of historical or personal interest, these pauses affording the owners of kodaks an opportunity to secure many interesting pictures.

An incident of much interest to the Governor occurred when Captain Rigby pointed out the place in the federal line held by the 47th Indiana, with which his father, Pressley E. Jackson, served as a corporal. The place is marked by a monument on which, in bronze, is

inscribed the service of that regiment in the Vicksburg campaign the details of which might well be to the Governor a source of pride.

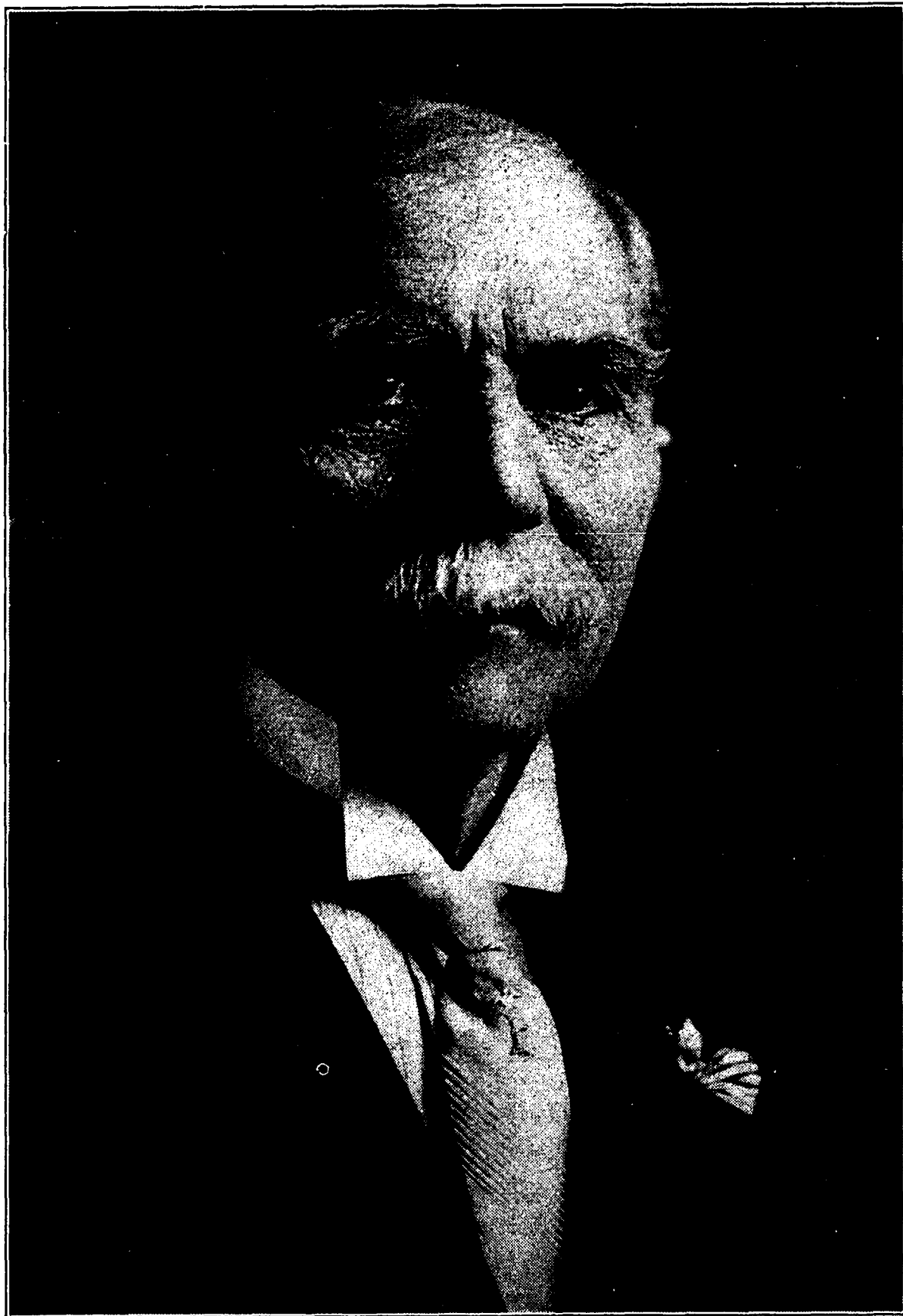
The pleasure of the trip was increased by the presence of Major Calvin Wells, representing the Governor of Mississippi (absent from the state), whose pleasing personality won the good will of all with whom he came in contact. The major served his country in France part of the time on General Pershing's Staff, and is at this time at the call of the government for service in war as a major in the United States Reserve Corps.

DEDICATION OF THE STATUE

About four o'clock in the afternoon a number of gentlemen of the Vicksburg Board of Trade, driving their own automobiles, called at the hotel and carried our party out to Indiana Circle for the dedication service and back again after it was over, an unexpected courtesy which was highly appreciated by the Indiana delegation, who were also grateful for the presence on the ground of so many of Vicksburg's leading citizens.

On arrival at Indiana Circle our party immediately recognized it as an ideal location for a statute of the class just erected to Governor Morton; in the center of a commanding eminence, devoid of everything to detract, from which one views a vast expanse of country and looks down on the roofs of country residences while a broad highway from Vicksburg to Jackson and partly embracing the rim of the circle, affords the passerby an unobstructed view of Morton in bronze.

The program for the dedication was exceptionally simple and impressive. There were no salutes of artillery, no blare of trumpets, no waving of banners nor



Wm. Van Pelt

beating of drums, but a total absence of anything warlike. We were on a mission of peace which was not marred by a single discordant note.

The call to order was made promptly at five o'clock by Colonel Durbin, President of Memorial Commission, who, following a few well chosen words, gave the signal for

UNVEILING THE STATUE

The cord that revealed the statue of the "Great War Governor" was cut by Winfield T. Durbin, Jr., of Chicago a grandson of the President of the Commission, who was a Colonel in the Spanish War and later a Governor of Indiana. This grandfather who, as a boy of fifteen, fought with the 16th Indiana in the Vicksburg campaign, looked proudly on as his grandson performed his simple mission of homage.

Following the unveiling the President presented Captain Francis M. Van Pelt, a member of the Commission who recited a poetical address,

TO THE STATUE OF MORTON

Can't speak for the future, but present and past,
Will honor the hand that can chisel so true,
The statue of friend that sends thrill through and
through
The heart of each comrade; yes, makes us forget
That we have grown older, and grayer, and yet
It brings fresh to mind all our troubles and joys,
When he stood up for us when we were but boys,
When waves of secession caused well nigh to dip
Our old union vessel; he stood by the ship,
With red, white and blue at the mast.

Whether waking by day, or dreaming by night
The thought of this hero brings back the old days,
Of long, weary marches, through woods and byways,
While we claimed the honor and called him our own,
So broad was his effort, his fame had so grown
No one state could claim him, the nation his home.
Where e'er our flag floated, 'neath heaven's blue dome,
In field or in forum, where duty called most
We always found him standing true to his post,
For country, for God and the right.

Like eagle that sits on the old mountain crag,
Though speechless and still as the mummies of old,
To us it is *precious—stone, diamond and gold*,
The features bring back to us boys of the blue,
A friend who was steadfast, was loyal and true,
In fond retrospection we think of the way,
That friend guarded o'er us by night and by day,
And standing together here let it be said
We'll now nail this motto high up overhead,
One country, one Morton, one flag.

Flag that takes us way back yonder
 'Neath historic apple tree,
Where one chieftain makes surrender,
 And while shaking hands with Lee.

Grant said, "Thank God comes the ending
 Of this bitter, cruel war,
Now let's put our time in mending,
 Healing up the bloody scar."

How this pledge was kept was proven
 When the cry from Cuba came,
Blue and gray were interwoven
 Under one flag just the same.

O'er each school house, north and southland,
One flag flutters in the breeze,
Not alone at home but elsewhere
Far away o'er foreign seas.

On the Oregon with Dewey,
Our old banner was unfurled
When he sent the "news to Garcia"
That went sounding round the world.

Later on when Major Conger,
Standing for the Christian world
In command at siege of Peking
The first flag he saw unfurled

That was coming to his rescue
There in China, could it be?
'Twas the same one he marched under
From Atlanta to the sea.

Then when "Kaiser Bill" was pushing
Britons back against the wall,
France with all her gallant rushing
Could not keep him back at all.

Christians held their breath and wondered
What the great U. S. would do,
While the Kaiser's cannon thundered
With all barriers broken through.

God then seemed to touch the button.
If not, how else could it be?
Moulding into one great army,
Champions of both Grant and Lee.

Then the old Atlantic Ocean
 Glittered with our flag so dear,
And soon Pershing, gently kneeling,
 Whispered, "Lafayette, we're here."

Kaiser never owned he feared us,
 Yet while driving back the line,
All the world looked on and cheered us,
 As they fell back to the Rhine.

Yes, they knew the starry banner
 Says tis *right* that makes the *might*,
We ne'er fight for land or lucre,
 But humanity and right.

Then let us all rejoice to say,
 All our efforts were not vain,
While some wore blue, and others gray,
 Thank God, we now are friends again.

Then let each stand, with hat in hand,
 From valley up to mountain crag,
Rejoicing that in all this land,
 We've just *one country and one flag*.



WINFIELD T. DURBIN II

The thirteen-year-old lad who unveiled the statue

THE PRESENTATION OF THE STATUE

to the General Government was made by Governor Ed Jackson in a short speech from which we call the following words:

Oliver P. Morton, Governor Jackson said, was one of the great, farseeing statesmen of his day. We cannot forget the prophetic words he uttered November 22, 1860, when as the north and the south were drawing apart, he said: What is coercion but the enforcement of the law? Is anything else intended or required? Secession or nullification can only be regarded by the general government as individual action upon individual responsibility. In this matter the President has no discretion. He has taken a solemn oath to enforce the laws and preserve order. I would rather come out of a struggle defeated in arms and conceding independence to successful revolution than to purchase present peace by the concession of principles that must inevitably explode this nation into small and dishonored fragments.

"This Union," the Governor said, "was preserved by heroes, both from the north and south, who fought on this battlefield. Each made a great sacrifice for what he believed to be right and by their joint sacrifices they cemented the Union forever."

INDIANA'S APPRECIATION

"For sixty-three years thousands of men of the north and the south have rested here. Indiana has now come to speak her official appreciation for what her sons did in this momentous struggle

but all that can be said now, even the voices of oratory no matter how loudly they declaim cannot measure to what they did.

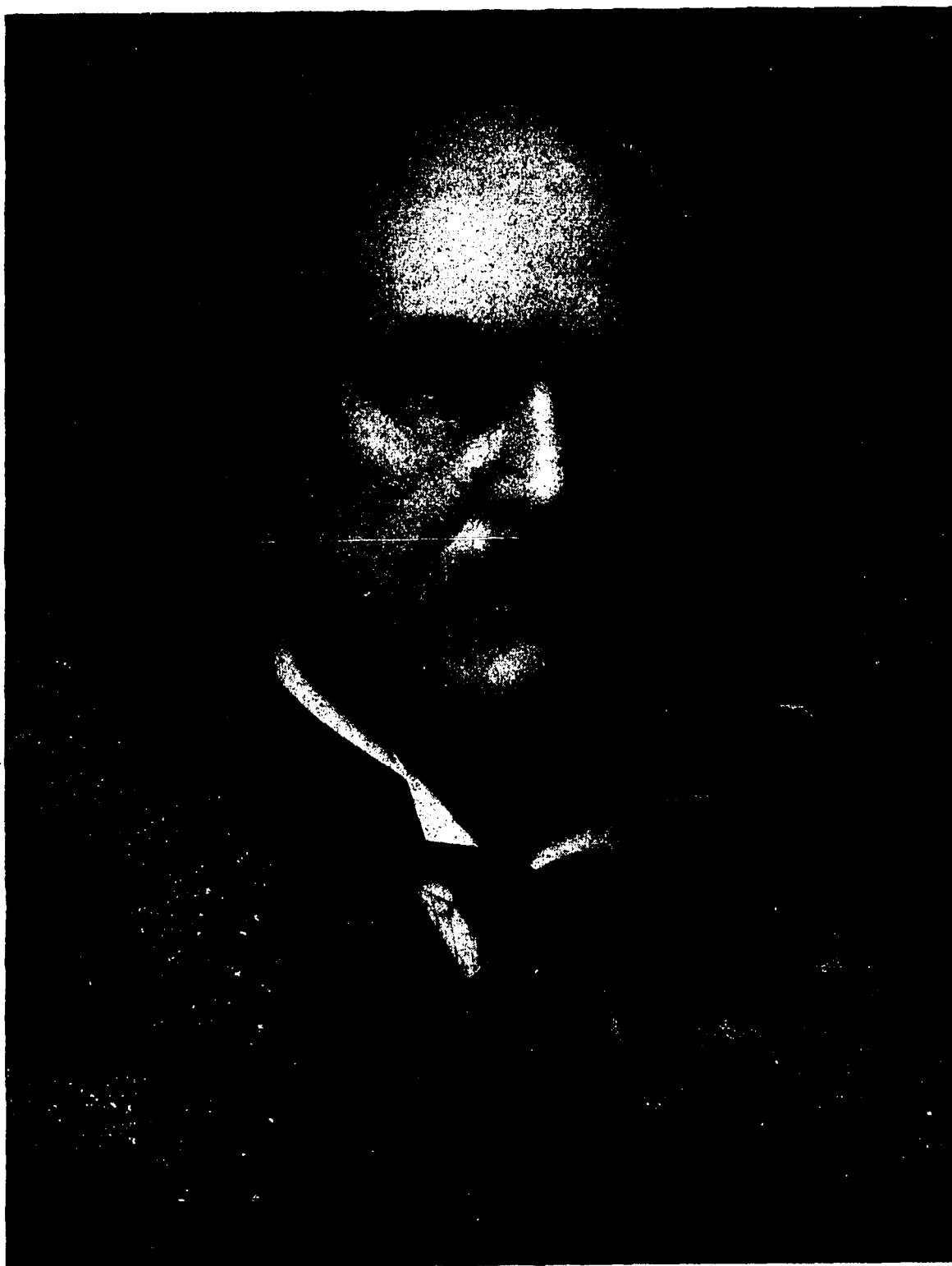
“America believes fundamentally in peace and as a peaceful nation has made marvelous progress. We can have no fear of the future if we remain true to the faith of our fathers.”

THE RECEPTION OF THE STATUE

in behalf of the General Government was performed by Captain Wm. T. Rigby, for more than a quarter of a century the resident commissioner of the Vicksburg National Military Park, as follows:

Governor Durbin, President and members of the Indiana State Commission, Governor Jackson of Indiana, Major Calvin Wells, representing Governor Whitfield of Mississippi.

My friends: The National Military Parks, authorized by congress and established under direction of the War Department, recall a time of utmost trial and commemorate the spirit in which our people, North and South, faced the demands then made on their courage and constancy. They are indeed memorials to American manhood. On a hundred stricken battlefields the soldiers of the two opposed armies gave supreme examples of the courage that laughs in the face of danger and defies death. The devotion to duty that inspired these heroes was personified in the great War Governors, the leaders and the representatives of their people. For this reason the War Department authorized on the battlefield parks portraits of the War Governors of the states that had troops engaged in the operations commemorated by each park. Indiana is the first to honor her soldiers in this most appropriate manner. Iowa comes next and a bronze heroic por-



Oran Perry.

trait bust of my own War Governor, Samuel J. Kirkwood, will be placed on this battlefield near the Iowa State memorial. As resident Commissioner in charge of the work I strive to secure for the park the portraits of many other great War Governors, Union and Confederate.

Governor Jackson: When the 16 beautiful monuments and the 53 massive markers erected by your state on the park were dedicated nearly 18 years ago, I expressed a wish that the work so well begun might be completed by an Indiana State memorial on the commanding knoll where we were then assembled. Today this wish is gratified, my long cherished dream has come true and now by authority of the War Department and for the United States I have the honor to accept from you this imposing statue of your great War Governor, Oliver Perry Morton, as the state memorial and in honor of the Indiana soldiers engaged in the Vicksburg operations. I thank you and the people of Indiana for it.

Colonel Perry told how the 69th Indiana led the advance of Grant's army from Milliken's Bend to Carthage, after five unsuccessful attempts had been made to capture the stronghold, and opened the way for the great flanking movement which brought Vicksburg to surrender July 4, 1863.

He described in detail the parts played by Indiana troops in the historic campaign in the following paper entitled

THE BATTLE FOR VICKSBURG

One of the five decisive battles of modern times.

"The fall of Vicksburg sealed the fate of the Confederacy."—U. S. Grant, Personal Memoirs.

“The fall of Vicksburg, coinciding with Lee’s retreat from Gettysburg, was the turning point of the war, and the news of the double victory sent the Northern people wild with delight, reviving in them the determination to continue the war which had grown faint under the failures of 1862.

“The joyful sense of relief which was felt over Lee’s withdrawal from Pennsylvania, gave to Gettysburg a prominence which tended somewhat to over-shadow the capture of Vicksburg in the West, but as time went by the significance of the latter event was seen in its true light. The fall of Vicksburg sealed the fate of the Confederacy.

“The capture of the Mississippi rent the Confederacy in twain, depriving it of its resources in men and food which otherwise would have flowed to it from the great states of Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas. Taking the Confederate position as a whole its left flank was now definitely turned and the Union had in the Mississippi both a splendid line of communication and a base for operations against the very heart of the Southern States.

“Although the war was not yet over the end was practically certain. From the great trial of strength between the two sections of the country the Northern states were to issue victorious; the Union was to continue; and America was to survive, not as two unfriendly congeries of states, but as one great and undivided nation.”

The above extract is from “The Decisive Battles of Modern Times”, by Colonel F. E. Whitton, Prince of Wales Regiment.

The battle for the capture of the Confederate stronghold at Vicksburg began in October, 1862, on a field

embracing hundreds of square miles in the states of Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana and from that time until the surrender on July 5, 1863, not once did the great Commander of the Federal Army cease to exert a pressure on some part of the line.

Failure met him at Holly Springs, a second under Sherman at Chickasaw Bluff, a third by the way of Lake Providence, a fourth through Yazoo Pass and a fifth when the flood broke through the head of William's Canal destroying the work of hundreds of men during the winter and carrying away all of the tools leaving every one but the Commander himself in the depths of despair.

Nothing daunted he concentrated his army at Milliken's Bend about 25 miles north of Vicksburg on the west side of the river where he began his preparations for that last and successful movement which has no parallel in the history of warfare and which was the turning point in the war and the doom of the Confederacy. In the language of Pollard the Southern historian: "It was one of the most successful and audacious games the enemy had yet attempted; in daring, in celerity of movement, and in vigor and decision of its steps, it was the most remarkable of the war."

It developed that Grant's new plan was to find a new route for the army on the west side of the river from Milliken's Bend to New Carthage or some other point south of Vicksburg, run the blockade with gun boats and transports, ferry the army over the river, cut loose from his supplies, live off the country and put his army astride the railroad tracks back of Vicksburg. The proposition seemed so quixotic that his corps commanders could not agree with him, although none opposed him.

To General McClernand of the 13th Corps was intrusted the task of finding a practicable route for the army from Milliken's Bend to New Carthage, some 25 miles below Vicksburg, who immediately began operations by the issuance of the following order.

"Headquarters Thirteenth Army Corps, March 30, 1862.

"Brigadier General P. J. Osterhaus, Commanding Ninth Division,

"General:—

You will order one regiment armed and equipped with forty rounds of ammunition in their cartridge boxes, an ammunition wagon laden with suitable ammunition, their camp and garrison equipped with four days' rations, to report opposite these headquarters at 8 o'clock tomorrow for further orders. I would suggest that the Sixty-Ninth Indiana, Colonel Bennett, be detached for the service contemplated.

By order Major-General McClernand.

WALTER B. SCATES,
Lieutenant Colonel and Adjutant-General."

"Headquarters Thirteenth Army Corps, Milliken's Bend, March 30th.

"Colonel Bennett, commanding Sixty-Ninth Indiana Volunteers.

"Colonel:—

Besides your own regiment will have command of detachments of cavalry and pioneers for the purpose of the important expedition with which you are charged.

The main purpose of the expedition is to open a practicable communication for our forces via., Richmond, La., between this camp and New Carthage. Of course the shortest route whether by land or water, all other things being equal, would be preferable. It is certain that there is a navigable communication between Richmond and New Carthage by Roundaway and Bayou Vidal, and it is also believed that there is a road along the bank of Roundaway Bayou almost the whole distance. That route which you can make available for the passage of troops and trains with the least labor and shortest time, you will select and make available at the earliest practicable moment."

"The detachment of pioneers as already mentioned, will be at your command for that purpose and Lieutenant William R. McGomas, aide-de-camp and engineer on my staff, will give any assistance in his power. If a practicable route be found, you will not only consider it with reference to passage but also with reference to its capabilities of defense, and for this purpose you will select and report suitable sites for posts or garrisons along it. If no practicable route can be found, you will immediately report that fact.

"Starting tomorrow you will march to Richmond and upon personal examination you will decide in view of military consideration, whether you will camp on this or the other side of Roundaway Bayou. Upon reaching the bayou at Richmond it may be found expedient to cross the cavalry first and send it forward rapidly under orders to scour the country around Richmond as far as water will permit for the purpose of capturing hostile parties, preventing the destruction of cotton

and other property, verifying the names and political antecedents of its owners and bring in beef cattle.

"All cotton abandoned by its owners or forfeited by treasonable acts, may be brought in and condemned by a Provost Marshal for the use of the United-States, in which case the particular lot of cotton and facts relating to it, will be reported to these headquarters. You will also report to these headquarters daily, of the progress of your operations. Any reinforcements you may request will be properly forwarded. While you are authorized to draw provisions and forage from the country giving receipts to owners, payable upon satisfactory proof of their loyalty at the end of the rebellion, you will be strict and prompt to prevent marauding. Let nothing be taken except by your orders. Until otherwise ordered, you will report to these headquarters through your Division Commander Brigadier General Osterhaus.

Your obedient servant,

JOHN A. McCLEARNAND,
Major-General Commanding."

In obedience with the above, Colonel Bennett selected Captain McGomas of the Engineers as his aid and organized the expeditionary force as follows:

69th. Indiana Infantry, Lieut-Colonel Oran Perry commanding; two companies 2nd Illinois Cavalry, Captain commanding; a howitzer battery, commanding; a long train of pontoons and yawls with a large company of men to operate them under Capt. Patterson and the commissary and ammunition train under quartermaster Mount, a total of more than 1,000 men.

On March 31st, at eight o'clock the small expeditionary force filed out on the road to Richmond, Louisiana and traveled cheerfully until late in the afternoon when it was halted by a big bayou in front of Richmond, the passage of which was disputed by a small number of the enemy.

The impracticability of laying a pontoon bridge under fire was immediately apparent. The men under Captain Patterson rushed a sufficient number of yawls to the water edge to carry two companies of the 69th, Indiana, Lieut-Colonel Perry in command and supported by the troops on the banks overhead and behind, the crossing was successfully carried out and the enemy was chased through the town and out into the country beyond.

During the night the pontoon bridge was laid and early on April 1st, the rest of the command came forward and began scouring the country to the south and west as far as the high water would permit. By the evening of the third day the march came to an abrupt end at Smith's Plantation on Bayou Vidal. As far as the eye could reach the country was under water, with Carthage several miles away and evidently under water too.

To one less stout of heart than the Colonel commanding, the situation would have been appalling. Wasting no time in vain regret, he ordered Capt. Patterson forward with boat transportation sufficient for two or three companies of infantry. A reconnoissance developed the fact that a landing could be effected at a plantation several miles below where there appeared enough dry ground to camp a considerable body of troops. Among the transportation was a large scow belonging to Smith's Plantation which was boarded up almost as high as a man's head, with oars on each side

like a war-galley of old, and with port-holes at sides and ends, at which were mounted the howitzers: It was christened the "Opossum," and was destined to play a brief but very important part in the expedition.

Launching enough yawls to carry the Colonel, Lieut.-Colonel and Companies A and F of the 69th Indiana, the embarkation took place at one o'clock of the afternoon April 7th, when the little fleet set sail amid the good natured guying of those left behind.

It was a quaint voyage, spread out like a skirmish line the boats were floated across the fields, through the woods, at one time locking with the thick, heavy limbs of the trees and then anchoring in the stubborn undergrowth with which the ground was covered.

New Carthage was passed under water, compelling further search for dry land sufficient for the object in view. Finally, the expedition came in view of a wide expanse of high dry ground, very vigorously defended by a small contingent of the enemy with some appearance of success, when suddenly the "Opossum" emerged from the woods and gave them the bow-gun and then a broadside. The gun-boat had always been a terror to our Confederate brother and now here was one, walking right across the country, down behind the level and into the back door yard. One look was sufficient and abandoning all thought of defense of country, homes and fireside, away they went down the level with our troops after them, through the lawn of the imposing mansion past the negro quarters and the saw-mill and finally losing themselves in the woods below.

It was soon learned that this was Ion Plantation, owned by Mr. Joshua James who had been a member of the Legislature that had passed the ordinance of secession. No time was lost in strengthening the posi-

tion by making a strong barricade of logs fronting the enemy southward.

The Colonel returned to Smith's Plantation to report to General Osterhaus, leaving the Lieut.-Colonel and the little battalion to hold the fort. He returned the next day bringing with him the rest of the regiment, together with compliments of General Osterhaus and McClernand, upon the success thus far and orders to hold at all hazards what had been gained until the gun-boats and transports had run the blockade and had tied up at Ion.

From the colored people it was learned that about two miles down the river was Perkin's Plantation where there was a good boat landing and ample space for a large army and what they called an army of Confederals was camping there now. The men of the little garrison were inclined to believe it for from the time of landing at Ion, until the running of the blockade by the gun-boats on the 16th, they were given no rest from attack, all of which were successfully resisted.

In the meantime Colonel Bennett was using the 2nd Illinois Cavalry in search of a road from Richmond around to Perkin's Plantation by which the bulk of the army could move. Upon the report of his success, the gun-boats ran the blockade at Vicksburg on the night of April 16th, and tied up at Ion the next morning. In the meantime, the 49th Indiana had joined the 69th at Ion. The morning of the 17th, the 49th and 69th were sent on a reconnoissance to Perkin's Plantation being protected by gun-boats on their flank. On their return they reported that the enemy had withdrawn to Grand Gulf during the night and that there now was no impediment to the concentration of Grant's army at Perkin's Plantation.

On Wednesday April 27th, at 4 A. M. the 49th and 69th broke camp and led the way to Perkin's and by

6 A. M. were established in quarters on the splendid camp ground at Perkin's Plantation.

This ended the special service for which the expeditionary force had been selected, a successful mission in every respect, full of danger, adventure and anxiety, a success that out-balanced five failures of the same battle and the importance of which has not yet been fully recognized.

The officers and men of the expedition have always been justly proud of the commendations showered on them by their Brigade, Division and Army Corps Commanders but such is the carelessness of human nature that it is possible that not one of these orders is in existence.

Too much praise cannot be given Colonel Thos. W. Bennett, Commander of the expedition; so ill most of the time that any other man would have been in bed; he never for a minute failed to be at the right place at the right time; his indomitable will keeping him on duty through campaign against Vicksburg until after the assault on the works May 22nd, when he was invalided home, after which he was no longer fit for active duty in the field. It is gratifying to know that near the close of the war the President recognized his service by making him a Brigadier General by Brevet.

The troops were arriving rapidly at Perkin's Plantation and a fleet of seven transports, with accompanying barges, under protection of the gun-boats were tied up at the landing. On April 29th, were embarked the four Divisions of the 13th Army Corps. Then followed the battles at Grand Gulf, Port Gibson, Raymond, Jackson, Champion Hills, Black River Bridge, the siege and surrender of Vicksburg July 4, 1863.

The Confederacy was split in twain and "the great river went unvexed to the sea".



MAJOR CALVIN WELLS
Representing Mississippi

The dignity of the State of Mississippi did not suffer in the least at the hands of Major Calvin Wells, representing Governor Whitfield through his delivery of the brief, manly and eloquent

WELCOME TO MISSISSIPPI

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I share with you, your disappointment in not having with us this afternoon our genial governor, his Excellency Henry L. Whitfield, and likewise the absence of our beloved Lt. Governor and Acting Governor, the Hon. Dennis Murphy, a previous engagement keeping both away.

But as their personal representative, in the name of the commonwealth of Mississippi I bid you welcome to our state, and extend to you a warm welcome but of a different kind from that which our forefathers gave you on these historic hills.

My father, a Confederate soldier, fought in defending this city. As a beardless boy of sixteen he fought with all the ardor of a Crusader, experienced all the hardships of a private soldier and gave four years of his life to the Lost Cause.

I would be ashamed of myself and you would have a contempt for me if I held in aught but pride and honor the valor of our forefathers who defended this place to the utmost of their ability.

But with equal pride, cannot I glory in valor of those who wore the blue, and share with you in doing homage to the bravery of the sons of Indiana in these dedicatory services this day held among us in amity and peace. Both are a common heritage of a united country.

Yes, thank God, this is a united country, sealed with the blood of her sons on the jungles of Cuba and upon the fields of France.

So we welcome you here today. Long may this monument to Governor Morton endure in its dignity and beauty. May the hand of no Goth or Vandal ever desecrate its lines but in the centuries to come may your children and mine, to the remotest generation, stand uncovered in its presence and vow with a mighty vow that Liberty shall not perish from off the earth.

The address of Major Wells was a fitting ending of a perfect day. The new made friends seemed loath to part, lingering about the statue until near the setting of the sun.

The large number of ladies and gentlemen who called at the hotel the evening of our departure was indubitable evidence of the sincerity and good will of our hosts, which was heartily reciprocated by the visitors.

Our happy company arrived home Thursday June 17th at 9:40 p. m. from a three days' trip during which there was not one unpleasant incident. To close the account with the sculptor the Secretary was directed to forward the following letter.

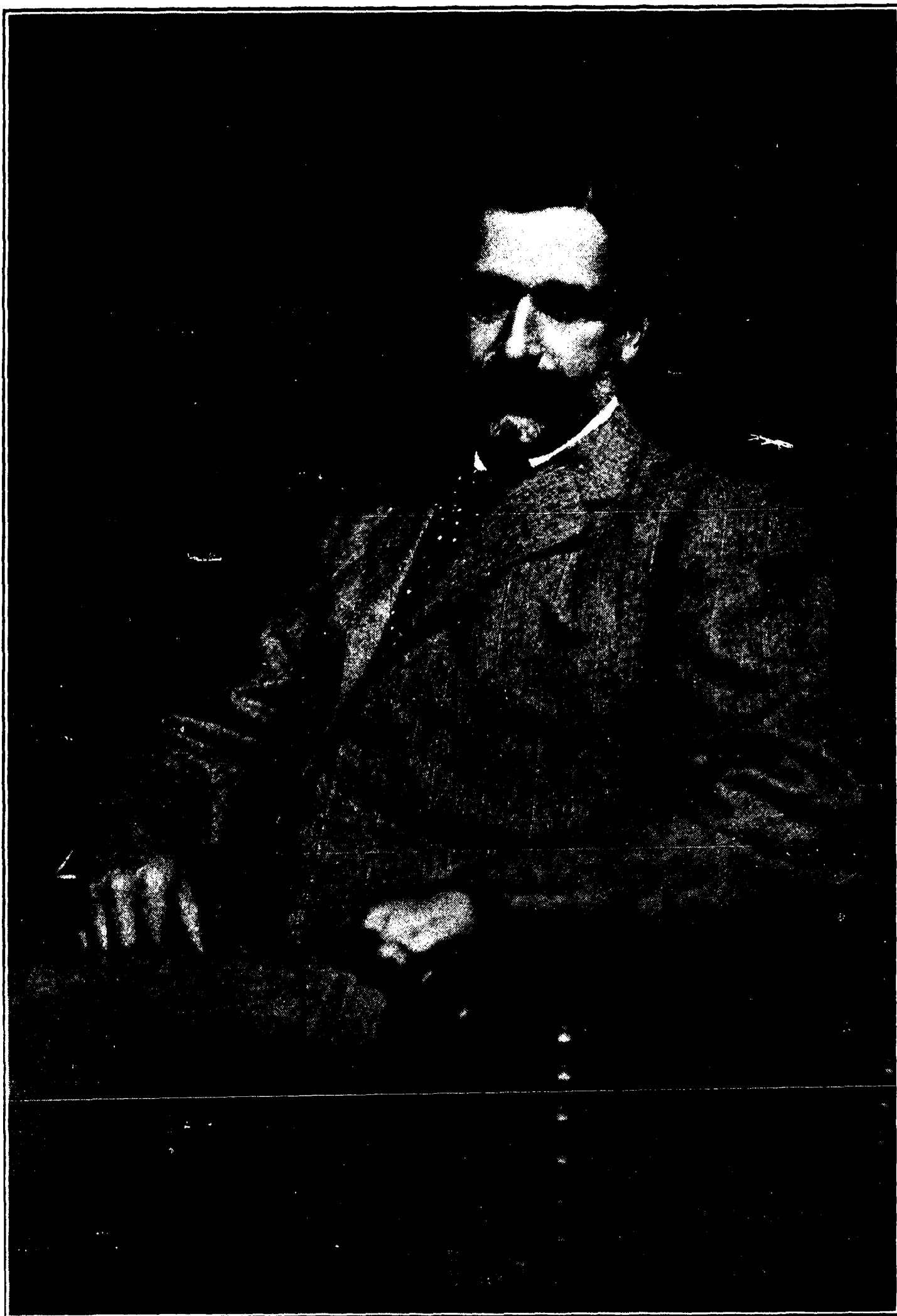
“Indianapolis, Ind.

June 18, 1926.

Mr. Geo. T. Brewster,
Tottenville, State Island,
New York.

My Dear Mr. Brewster:—

The Commission has just returned from Vicksburg and it directs me to express its approval of the splendid statue you have produced and its gratification that regardless of the expensive memorials occupying various state sites, that the statue of Morton is the outstanding figure in the park and is in a class by itself. It was acclaimed by all who saw it as a work of art seemingly without a flaw.



GEO. T. BREWSTER, SCULPTOR
Tottenville, Staten Island, New York

The Commission instructs me to thank you for the honest effort, the patience and preserverance which characterized your endeavor, which resulted in such brilliant success.

In handing you our check for the final payment of \$5,000 the Commission regrets the necessity which compels the severance of relations with a very estimable gentleman and an eminent artist.

I have the honor to sign myself,

Very truly yours,

ORAN PERRY, Secretary."

In acknowledgment of the above, there was received the following reply:

"OVERLOOK

Tottenville, Staten Island, New York,

June 29, 1926.

Colonel Oran Perry,
Soldiers Monument,
Indianapolis, Ind.

My Dear Colonel Perry:—

Thank you for your very kind letter of the 18th, with enclosure of check for \$5,000 in full for Morton statue, Vicksburg Military National Park.

I am very happy that you and your Commission were so much pleased with it, and what sensations must have gone through your minds, none but you could have or understand. I wish I could have been there.

In conclusion I wish to thank you and your Commission for your kindness and constructive criticism all through the period of executing the model of the Morton statue, for your promptness in meeting payments and I can say that never in my experience of over forty years in my profession, have I ever met a

committee who have treated me as well as yours; it was a pleasure to meet you, a pleasure to know you and when I think of you, I only hope we shall meet again.

Sincerely and with best wishes,

GEORGE T. BREWSTER."

The Commission is chargeable with \$15,000 the appropriation made by the Legislature for purpose of erecting this statue at Vicksburg; \$14,000 for the statue and \$1,000 for expenses of the Commission.

The following statement of receipts and expenditures up to August 1, 1926, is submitted, showing a balance on hand of \$464.91.

RECEIPTS

Appropriation by state.....\$15,000 00

DISBURSEMENTS

Geo. T. Brewster, bronze		
statue	\$14,000	00
Expenses, bonds, printing,		
postage, typewriting, rail-		
road fare and dedication...	536	09
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		14,536 09
Balance	\$	464 91

No salary or compensation has been paid to the Secretary-Treasurer or either of the Commissioners.

In closing, the Commission desires to express their grateful appreciation to Governor Jackson of the honor conferred on them by their appointment as Commissioners to carry out the wishes of the people of Indiana, in the erection of this tribute in bronze to the "Great War Governor."

WINFIELD T. DURBIN,
ORAN PERRY,
F. M. VAN PELT.