

JERSEY VETERANS HAVE A GALA DAY

They Parade and Smell Gunpowder at Washington Park on the Delaware.

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Guns Thundered and a Great Crowd Viewed the Warlike Spectacle. Other Features of the Day.

There was a great gathering of New Jersey veterans, their wives and children and their friends and neighbors, at Washington Park on the Delaware yesterday. Last evening when the crowd was greatest nearly 50,000 people were scattered throughout the spacious park. It was New Jersey Day in the three days' fete, given in honor of the Grand Army of the Republic. The railroads ran special trains and gave a reduced rate from all stations south of Trenton, while extra trolley cars and boats were put on to carry the throng of visitors from Camden and vicinity.

Nearly every town and village in South Jersey was represented in the crowd. The blue uniforms of the veterans, the nautical flag of the Naval Reserves and the bright colors of Sons of Veterans and artillerymen gave a martial air to the gathering. The old soldiers straightened their time-bur-



JERSEY VETERANS AT WASHINGTON PARK

dened frames at the sound of music and marched about the park. In the evening there was the din of thundering guns and the smell of burning powder.

The main body of the veterans, consisting of the Camden Post of the G. A. R., reached the park about half-past 2 o'clock. They had joined in a parade in Camden under command of Captain R. M. Hillman, whose adjutant was R. L. Robinson and his aides, Daniel Carter and S. S. Weaver. The line was made up of Posts 5, 37, 51, 102 and the Sons of Veterans.

The parade down Federal street, Camden, was a pretty and inspiring spectacle, the White City Band leading the square-long procession of "vets" with the march from Sousa's "El Capitan." In the centre, marching with proud and measured step, was a pretty, curly-haired little girl, clad in red, white and blue and carrying the Stars and Stripes jauntily on her shoulder.

At Federal street ferry the veterans boarded the steamer George Law and were taken to the park. They marched to Camp Howell, where ranks were broken, and then scattered through the park to enjoy the amusement features or look up old comrades.

At half past 5 o'clock the veterans lined up on the river bank for dress parade. There were a thousand of the gallant defenders of the Union in line, and a pretty sight they made, stretching in a long line of blue across the green sward. In addition to the Camden posts there were delegations from William Howell Post, 31, of Woodbury; Parker Grubb Post, 16, of Burlington; Post 21, of Beverly; Post 42, of Bridgeton; Maurice River Post, No. 60, and Euphemia Grubb Camp, Sons of Veterans. A great crowd witnessed the dress parade and applauded the veterans.

The ceremony concluded with a salute to the flag and the firing of seventeen guns, the Governor's salute.

The great event of the day was a naval engagement in the evening, intended to represent the bombardment of Fort Morgan, in Mobile harbor. Fort Morgan was located some distance out in the river, while the shore was lined with twenty guns and a mortar. Some of the guns were from the Richmond, of Uncle Sam's Navy, and others were from Post 51, of Philadelphia. The bombarding force was made up of men from Post 51, of Philadelphia; a detachment of Battery A, N. G. P., Captain Stafford; Naval Reserves from the monitor Ajax, and Sons of Veterans. Out in the river was a naval flotilla of private yachts, under command of Commodore Abe Townsend. The boats were all gorgeously illuminated and decorated, and added much to the beauty of the spectacle. Captain of the shore battery:

Joseph Mackey, of Naval Post, 400, of Philadelphia, supervised the work.

The engagement opened shortly after 8 o'clock. As the gunners warmed up to their work the din became deafening. Shells burst in the air over the fort, rockets soared skyward and the surface of the river was lighted up for miles. The fort was finally captured, amidst a triumphant display of fireworks.

The committee of the G. A. R. in charge of the affair gave a dinner at which, among other guests, were Generals Wagner and Mulholland and Captain Mackey, of Philadelphia; Department Commander Stauffer and members of his staff, of Pennsylvania; Captain, Leary, of the Richmond, U. S. N.; J. B. Kendrick, vice-president of the Third National Bank of Philadelphia, and Mayor Westcott and a number of Camden officials.