CLEVELAND, OHIO, DURING THE CIVIL WAR

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by

Phyllis Anne Flower, B. A.

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Approved by:

Eugene H. Rosbottom
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CHAPTER I

EARLY HISTORY OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

A partnership or association was formed by the purchasers of three million acres of land in the Western Reserve. The deed for the land covering the entire purchase from the State of Connecticut bears the date of September 5, 1795, in the name of the Connecticut Land Company. It was this company which was responsible for the first settlement in the present Cuyahoga County area and the establishment of a village on the site of the present city of Cleveland, Ohio.1

General Moses Cleaveland, a lawyer of Windham County, Connecticut, was appointed the general agent and superintendent of the land company. It was his duty to survey the newly acquired land and return graphs of the area covered by his party. The surveying group journeyed to the vicinity of the present city of Cleveland and was situated by September, 1796, on a high plateau on the eastern shore of the mouth of the Cuyahoga River. The site was chosen because of its advantageous position, beauty, and healthful location, which differ-

1. Charles Whittlesey, Early History of Cleveland, Ohio, (Fairbanks, Benedict, and Co. Printers, Herald Office; Cleveland, Ohio. 1867.), 165
entiated it from the swamps of the river below.\textsuperscript{2} The area was surveyed, mapped, charted, and the village site named in honor of the general superintendent, Moses Cleaveland, sometime during September, 1796. \textsuperscript{3}

Its work accomplished, the surveying group departed in the early fall leaving three of its members in the Reserve at Cleveland. John Milton Holley, a surveyor in the 1796 party, recorded in his diary: "Tuesday, October 18, 1796, We left Cuyahoga at three o'clock seventeen minutes for home. We left at Cuyahoga Job Stiles and wife, and Joseph London, with provision for the winter." \textsuperscript{4} During the ensuing year the first white child in the newly established Cuyahoga village was born to the wife of Job Stiles. \textsuperscript{5}

In 1797 the Kingsbury family moved to the village along with the Lorenzo Carter's and Ezekial Hawley's. From then through 1801 several additional pioneering groups settled in the valley among whom are

\begin{flushleft}


5. Henry Howe, \textit{Historical Collection of Ohio} (Henry Howe & Son, Columbus, Ohio. 1890), II, 503.
\end{flushleft}
noted the names of Doan, Edwards and Huntington. Samuel, nephew of Governor Huntington of Connecticut, became a prominent figure in governmental and judicial affairs in the new community and was elected governor of the state in 1808.

The little settlement at the junction of the Cuyahoga and Lake Erie had several setbacks from dysentery epidemics, drownings, and severe weather conditions, but was finally chosen as county seat when the district skirting the river was designated as Cuyahoga County in 1810. 6

During the War of 1812 the newly incorporated village became an important military station because of its strategic location on the lake. 7 The Perry Monument, in commemoration of that period in the city's history, still maintains a place of prestige on Cleveland's public square.

In 1814 Cleveland was granted a full village charter. This stimulated the growth and development of the thriving community. Its natural position insured the city a share of the trade of the interior of the state and of the settlements on the chain of lakes. The commercial importance of the mouth of the Cuyahoga

7. Ibid.
River was hampered, however, by a very shallow harbor. It was necessary to have lighters unload larger vessels anchored out in the deeper channels of the harbor. This detriment to trade was partially eliminated by 1827 when the federal government constructed a deep channel to remedy the lighter process at a cost of approximately five thousand dollars. 8

In 1828, before Cleveland was incorporated as a city, a new product which had tremendous effects on later industry in the area was introduced. Henry Newberry purchased a shipment of coal for some of his friends as a new kind of fuel. He had little success, at first, as wood was both plentiful and cheap, but he finally induced Philo Scovill, for whom the present Scovill Avenue is named, to demonstrate it in his Franklin House Hotel. The results were successful and many were persuaded to make use of the new product in their homes. Thus started the coal industry in Cleveland, a factor which correlated so closely with the rapid growth and development of other industries. 9

The commercial prosperity of Cleveland was tied up with the completion of the Ohio Canal from Lake

Erie to Akron in 1828. This system of waterways was put through to the Ohio River by 1832 and Cleveland shared in the general influx of population which resulted.  

The ship building interests of the city, started in 1808 by Lorenzo Carter, received increased impetus after 1835 when Seth W. Johnson opened a new shipyard. Several additions to the business were made and a partnership with a Mr. Trisdale was arranged. The firm of Quayle and Morten also started at this time and lasted for many years. By 1856 a total of thirty-seven boats in service was reported with a tonnage of approximately sixteen thousand.  

Cleveland's closest rival in trade and growth was Ohio City, situated on the west bank of the Cuyahoga at Lake Erie. It maintained a separate municipal administration until 1854 when it was finally united with the city of Cleveland by mutual vote. The addition of Ohio City was the last territorial annexation to Cleveland until the close of the Civil War. The United States Census showed a rapidly increasing population in Cleveland from approximately one thousand in 1830 to seventeen thousand in 1850, and over forty-


11. James Kennedy, The History of the City of Cleveland (The Imperial Press, Cleveland, 1896), 263.

three thousand in 1860. 13

Thus we see by the beginning of the decade in which the Civil War took place that the city of Cleveland was a municipality of increasing importance in trade. Its major interests were commerce on the Lakes and the canal traffic through the interior of the state. The railroads were just beginning to influence the trade with Pennsylvania by a newly established network of short lines. At the outbreak of the war Cleveland was a young midwestern city with hopes of becoming a large commercial center.

CHAPTER II

ASPECTS OF MUNICIPAL LIFE DURING THE WAR.

1. The Educational System and its Problems.

The school system of Cleveland was not seriously affected by the advent of the Civil War. The children were taken care of in a satisfactory manner and learned a new type of devotion to their government. General procedures were carried out in their customary way, but with added vigor, except for slight changes made by the individual superintendents in charge.

The pupils in the public schools were wide awake and enthusiastic about the war situation; they never hesitated to express their loyalty and devotion to the Union. A decided spirit of nationalism and patriotism became apparent in school assemblies and programs. A daily ritual of flag raising was observed in most of the grammar schools. This included the unfurling of the flag, the singing of the Star Spangled Banner, and the pledging of allegiance to the Union. 1 Parents and friends often gathered at the schools to participate in the general displays of patriotism.

The older children enrolled in schools caused some apprehension among the educational authorities because of absences accumulated whenever a soldiers' parade

1. Cleveland Leader, May 1, 1861. Hereafter this newspaper will be cited as Leader.
or drill was conducted. The superintendent of schools, Luther M. Oviatt, made a public plea to parents in the daily newspapers by saying: "You are not aware, probably, how seriously the schools are suffering at this time from interruptions occasioned by the frequent absences of your children - chiefly to witness the military displays at Camp Taylor .... four hundred pupils are absent daily... the interruptions are so constant that all order and progress are ... at an end .... An effort will be made to recover these losses but ... nothing efficient can be done without your aid .... Require your children to attend school ...." 2 The excitement over military affairs gradually subsided, however, as the city accustomed itself to the daily maneuvers of camp life; schools were able to resume their instructional programs with more assurance and vigor.

However, when the school term opened in September, 1861, the census of both public and private schools showed a total of over ten thousand of school age in the city, approximately five thousand enrolled, and over four thousand not attending any school. 3 A special effort was

2. Daily Morning Cleveland Herald, May 1, 1861. Hereafter, this newspaper will be cited as Herald.

3. Cleveland Plain Dealer, October 23, 1861. Hereafter, this newspaper will be cited as Plain Dealer.
made to canvas the city to determine the reasons for lack of attendance, especially in the primary grades and the high school. Lack of necessary clothing and equipment was the general reply in most cases, but overcrowded conditions of the school rooms or army enlistments were given as answers by others. 4

The school board was concerned with the financial situation of the entire school system and called a special meeting shortly after the Civil War started to determine a policy in relation to school expenses for the duration of the war period. The deficit was increasing rapidly at that time so a tentative plan was sought to eradicate it. 5 The schools kept growth space with the rest of the city, but it was difficult to stay within the provided budget or eliminate crowded conditions. The new West Side High School was dedicated and it aided in carrying the burden of a decided increase in upper grade pupils from 1860 through 1861. 6

In the annual report of the Board of Education for the school year of 1862 - 1863 it was stated to the public that: "All the ... school rooms within the city are occupied by as many as they can accommodate ... there are five primary schools averaging one hundred each .... The

4. Plain Dealer, October 23, 1861.
5. Herald, June 25, 1861.
number of scholars now enrolled in the city limits is 5,924. One year ago there were 4,694... there are no new schools ... none in progress ... scholars are increasing now, perhaps, more rapidly than ever before." 7

To substantiate this report on crowded conditions Superintendent Ansom Smythe reported:"... Our present accommodations are utterly inadequate.... The school census... shows an increase of eleven hundred children during the last year.... The lower grades... are overflowing.... The pressure is found mainly in the primary departments...." 8 Yet, there is little evidence to prove that the public became particularly alarmed with school problems at this period during the war. Children attended schools as usual, teachers received approximately the same salaries, promotions and failures were rated on the same basis as in previous years. Nevertheless, the problem of building was a decided worry to the school authorities, although the general public was so interested and involved in the larger problem of war that little was done to change the school situation.

As the war extended over a larger period than had been anticipated, however, the school budget had to be pared. This brought forth a wave of agitation and protests by several parents. Public indignation meetings

8. Ibid., October 30, 1863.
were held. The board was charged with gross neglect of public funds and immediate remedial measures were sought, but as far as newspaper accounts are obtainable, nothing constructive was done to relieve the situation. A committee of supervision, after a survey, presented its findings to the board of education in reply to the public attacks on the schools. Its only statement was: "... since 1861 the population has increased by the ten thousand or more ... and some children have been refused admittance due to lack of room .... The parents are justified in complaining ... as school taxation entitles them to certain privileges ...." 9 The crowded conditions were acknowledged but no plan for their improvement could be devised at that time.

The general crowded conditions of the buildings continued for the duration of the war, but according to the reports at the close of the school year in 1865 no evidence of harmful effects to the curriculum were apparent. Graduates of Cleveland schools were in good standing in local colleges and teacher personnel had remained on a high standard. 10 The school system felt the effects of a long, costly war, but generally, it was conceded that Cleveland cared for the education of its youth

10. Leader, May 20, 1865.
during the period to the best of its ability in light of all other problems confronting the city.

2. Improved Fire Protection.

The fever and unrest over the war was aggravated in the city by a series of large and costly conflagrations which destroyed several important business places. The first serious alarm was in May, 1861, when the business blocks of Gaylord Company and the A. M. Ferry Company situated on Superior Street were burned almost beyond repair. A total of approximately fifty thousand dollars in property and stock was destroyed in the first large fire the city had witnessed in over a decade. This was followed by a blaze which completely destroyed Hewitt's Steam Block and reduced the occupants to penury.

The damage, loss, and fright from many unexpected fires brought about a series of lengthy controversies in the city council. A strong plea was made for the adoption of a system of steam fire engines to replace the depleted hand-pump volunteer service which was becoming obsolete and inadequate. Many men had enlisted in the army and the city was aware of a shortage of hands for the pumps.

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12. Ibid., March 5, 1862.
13. Leader, September 5, 1862.
Inquiries were made in cities where steam apparatus had been installed and a trial steam engine was obtained by Cleveland in December 1862. It was possible to test the new equipment shortly after its arrival in fighting a serious fire in the Weddell House during the night of January 1, 1863. Owing to the short distance the engine had to travel to reach the scene of the fire, the work of creating steam was slow, but the fire was soon extinguished in an admirable way. The general public approved the first trial as a success. One loyal observer stated; "...with this trial of the Selsby Fire Engine ... its superiority becomes more apparent." The final change was made when the volunteer department was abandoned in February, 1863, and replaced with a paid steam fire department. Several citizens who thought it was a waste of money and believed that volunteers would give better service than "hirelings" stressed their opposition in public letters to the newspapers and city council.

Praises of the new system were voiced again, however, after a serious fire had been extinguished satisfactorily in the Cleveland and Erie Railroad Company

15. Ibid.
16. Plain Dealer, April 3, 1863.
building. The entire lower area of Cleveland's business section was saved by the speed and efficiency of the newly installed engines. A local editor supported the council in its purchase of two additional engines with these remarks: "... the best investment the city ever made was in its Paid Fire Department, and all that is wanted now to make it complete is another steamer, or perhaps two more .... Cleveland has made its first step from the class of a small to a large city."  

The council made an additional progressive step in fire protection when it adopted the fire alarm system, then so satisfactory in Providence, Rhode Island. Cleveland's reputation for fire safety during the decade of the war was publicized; and as a result the Mayor and department on fire hazards were hosts to Pittsburgh and Buffalo delegations, which were sent to the city for a study and investigation of the local system.

In spite of increased protective measures Cleveland was handicapped by another series of destructive fires in the closing months of the war period. The Atlantic and Great Western Passenger Depot was burned to

17. Herald, November 9, 1863.
19. Leader, August 6, 1864.
20. Ibid., December 6 and 21, 1864.
the ground in November, 1864. This was followed by the total destruction of the Ives Brewery in January, 1865. These two fires were succeeded by a third blaze which consumed the Athenium Meeting Hall, a popular meeting place of soldiers, ladies' aid societies, and general civic groups during the war. This large building had also served as temporary quarters for itinerant soldiers and wounded veterans. It was a decided loss to Cleveland in its dire need for all available space for war purposes. Many thought the fires were the work of incendiaries, the Confederate sympathizers from Canada, or persons direct from the Confederate States. Yet, no proof was found to substantiate the assertions.


The momentous activities which centralized around the organization of war camps and the increasing number of persons travelling through the city tended to attract the more undesirable members of society into Cleveland. The operations of pickpockets in the crowds that gathered at Camp Taylor increased rapidly as no less than twenty of the

21. Ibid., January 2, 1865.
22. Ibid., March 30, 1865.
23. Ibid., January 2, 1865.
light-fingered individuals had been arrested, tried, and fined before the local magistrates within the first few days of the war period. 24 Robberies were frequent; even the churches were not free from the operations of pickpockets. 25 Unwelcome classes of refugees from the South were moving into Cleveland and the northern cities where troops were quartered. 26

Counterfeiting was prevalent. The public was constantly being warned against accepting forged postal currency and treasury notes. A large number of fifty-dollar counterfeit bills, issued in the Cleveland area, were so well made that experts were called in to trap the forgers. 27 The forged bills were usually made on some distant bank and were accurate duplicates of real money. Due to the prevalence of counterfeiting the arrested culprits were dealt with severely. One Indiana man who had made over ten thousand dollars profit in the Cuyahoga County district was sentenced to seven years in the penitentiary at Columbus. 28

Contraband traffic was also common in Cleveland because of improved railroad connections with the main

24. Herald, April 29, 1861.
25. Plain Dealer, May 14, 1861.
26. Ibid., May 21, 1861.
27. Herald, February 21, 1863.
28. Ibid., May 5, 1864.
western and southwestern areas where war materials were needed. Such cases were turned over to the field Marshal's office and handled there. One of the largest consignments captured by authorities in the city was a total of over four thousand dollars worth of military trappings destined for Tennessee.

29

During the closing years of the war there was a petty crime wave throughout the city and county. Burglaries were numerous, especially in areas near the camps. In cases of housebreaking the stolen goods were usually clothing, food, or money. In the opinion of one of the local papers: "The tendency for crime and petty thievery has increased due to the long duration of the war and the inability of the city to care for adequate relief." 30

The general trend in dealing with arrested persons was rather toward a lenient policy. In some cases the policemen took it upon themselves to punish offenders with their fists rather than to have the culprits arraigned before the magistrate for a hearing. Drunkenness was evident and it, too, was lightly dealt with as shown by court records which were commented upon by a local editor in these words: "... We question whether the police records

29. Ibid., February 9, 1862.
30. Leader, July 26, 1864.
of another city in our state or in this section of the West will exhibit a similar state of things; and yet, this is the rule not the exception in Cleveland. The crime of intoxication is fearfully prevalent ... and is still on the increase. As a usual thing ... one dollar charge and dismissal.\textsuperscript{31} This short list of charges against arrested persons and the fines imposed in the usual cases is some indication of the general attitude of leniency of the courts:

\begin{itemize}
    \item Disturbances \hspace{1cm} \$3.00 and costs.
    \item Keeping house of ill fame \hspace{1cm} 35.00
    \item Residing in house of disrepute \hspace{1cm} 10.00
    \item Visiting houses of ill fame \hspace{1cm} 10.00
    \item Assault and battery \hspace{1cm} 25.00 to 3.00
    \item Intoxication \hspace{1cm} 1.00
    \item Resisting an officer \hspace{1cm} 2.00
    \item General disturbance \hspace{1cm} 3.00
    \item Fast driving \hspace{1cm} 5.00" \textsuperscript{32}
\end{itemize}

The inadequacy of the police system was discussed but because of a growing city deficit and limited budget it was impossible to enlarge the police force until early in 1864. The number on duty was increased at that time from twenty to thirty. \textsuperscript{33} In the city there had developed a

\textsuperscript{31} Editorial in \textit{Leader}, February 1, 1865.
\textsuperscript{32} \textit{Plain Dealer}, February 26, 1864.
\textsuperscript{33} Cleveland, Ohio: Annual Reports of the Various Departments of Government, "City Documents from April 10, 1863 to May 10, 1864" (Cleveland, 1864), 7.
bolisterous, floating population which was difficult to control. It was impossible to lock up all law-breakers because as one editor asserted: "We find the city prison to be a common nuisance and a burning shame to the city of Cleveland." 34 In all fairness to the city administration, however, it should be pointed out that it recognized the necessity of a new jail. The building, which was started late in 1862, was completed and fully equipped by the summer of 1864. The new prison was a two-story building with offices accommodating the city clerk, jury-men, record keeper, and a large courtroom in addition to the necessary cell blocks. 35 This addition to the facilities for better police power and care of criminals aided in abating the number of escapes and gave the city a better reputation among cities of corresponding size.

4. Growth and General Conditions.

In spite of the war and its discouragements the city of Cleveland and vicinity showed a constant growth. The increase in population from approximately forty-three thousand in 1860 to sixty-five thousand by the close of 1865 made it necessary for considerable to be undertaken. Private residences were at a premium. One found it difficult to rent living quarters, so several citizens ventured

34. *Leader*, May 23, 1861.

to build small homes on the outskirts of the city as an investment. 36 The local papers carried daily references to the "building boom" and published notices concerning land sales, prices of city property, and building permits. 37 The public, in general, became tremendously interested in construction within the city and supported the projects to its utmost. A friendly competitive spirit prevailed among the builders and buildings were raised rapidly. 38

As the homes were completed the problem of transportation and travel arose. The first street car system in Cleveland was opened late in October, 1860, under the management of Henry S. Stevens, president of the Cleveland Street Railroad Company. 39 This line of cars travelled from Water Street, on the square, out to Wilson Avenue, but was not long enough to accommodate the residents living in the newly occupied area. Thus it was necessary, for business purposes, to extend the street railroad as far as East Cleveland and Doan's Corners, an addition of approximately five miles of rails. The opening of this new section of track caused much excitement. Banners, flags, and pennants decorated the route. Leland's band

36. Plain Dealer, May 18, 1863.
37. Ibid., May 23, 1863.
38. Ibid., May 27, 1863.
39. James Kennedy, The History Of the City of Cleveland, (The Imperial Press, Cleveland, 1896), 379.
furnished patriotic music for the occasion and the mayor gave a short address commending the railway company for its farsightedness in fulfilling a need which would ultimately lead to the further growth of Cleveland. 40

Very few of the streets in the city were paved at the opening of the war. The constant traffic over the dusty or muddy roads which increased as the war camps were organized was a problem. Residents in the city complained to the city council about the deep furrows in the roads which were cut by heavy wagons and caused small rivulets of water to flow freely through the mud in rainy weather. 41 Walking was practically impossible under such conditions. The council could do very little during 1861 and 1862 because of demands made upon the city finances for war purposes, but after May, 1863, road improvements were authorized. Previous to this time Cleveland had approximately sixteen thousand lineal feet of paving. This was increased by five thousand feet which made a total of over four miles at the close of the fiscal year in April, 1864. 42 Further demands were made by the public for additional road improvements but a limited allowance checked further paving until the end of the war.

The conditions of public health in Cleveland during the war were fair. The hospital building, according

40. Plain Dealer, October 17, 1863.
41. Leader, October 13, 1861.
42. Plain Dealer, May 12, 1864.
to Mr. I. H. Marshall, the city physician, was too small to accommodate the patients who required care. It was poorly equipped and operated under a limited amount of funds. An unprecedented prevalence of smallpox and measles among the poorer classes made it necessary for the city to urge parents to have their children vaccinated as a precautionary measure. The city doctor reported; "I have vaccinated on account of the city, outside the schools, five hundred and forty-two persons... since my last report." But there was no evidence of any serious epidemics or decidedly unhealthy conditions to alarm the people during the war years.

Cleveland was afflicted during the war period by a series of severe storms. The first occurred on the afternoon of August 12, 1861. It was reported as the worst summer storm witnessed in the city for many years. The rain commenced about two o'clock and continued with unabated violence into the night; the wind finally turned into a furious gale. Streets were flooded, trees were blown down, windows were shattered, camp barracks were partially destroyed and general destruction was widespread. It was impossible for boats to dock because of the agitated condition of the lake. The Cleveland and Pittsburgh railroad tracks were washed out in places, thus delaying trains.

43. Herald, April 13, 1864.
44. Herald, April 14, 1864.
45. Herald, August 13, 1861.
Commerce and trade were impeded for a few days until the soldiers and workmen aided in clearing away debris and patrolled areas which were severely damaged. 46

This storm was followed by a similar one in the summer of 1863. A high wind, which was referred to as a tornado by some, suddenly whipped across the west side of the square and left a path of destruction. 47 The path of the wind was not wide, but it did considerable damage to the buildings which were located in its direct course. Many thought the storm surpassed the summer gale of 1861 in violence and actual cash loss. 48

The severest winter storm of the entire war years occurred early in 1864. The weather was the main topic of news for several days. 49 There was a serious amount of suffering among the poor and the shortage of blankets in the soldiers' camps kept the women busy. One comment was as follows: "The coldest snap within the memory of the oldest inhabitant is now upon us. Last night the cold was of extraordinary severity. Fires in rooms were of little protection .... Sufferings of the poor were terrible. The tremendous snow storm in the West, the flood in the East, and intense cold through the Middle

46. Plain Dealer, August 17, 1861.
47. Herald, August 12, 1863.
48. Ibid., August 14, 1863.
49. Ibid., January 3, 1864.
region has... put an end to regularity on the railroads. No mails have arrived for three days. The intense cold has prevented any great amount of business transactions in the city." 50

Nevertheless, Cleveland was able to maintain an indomitable public spirit which carried the city along during the war years. In his annual message to the city council after the close of the war Mayor Senter urged the people to continue the improvements and progressive ideas which were responsible for the city's growth and prestige.51

5. Public Opinion

The news of the attack upon Fort Sumter and its subsequent surrender created an intense excitement throughout the city. 52 People gathered in the streets and meeting halls to discuss the problem of war. The general opinion prevailed that the firing on the fort had more strongly united the entire North than six months of deliberation had done. 53 As a result of the first dispatches from the East the armory was crowded with enthusiastic young men enlisting for duty to fill President Lincoln's first call for seventy-five thousand volunteers. Civilians were watch-

50. Herald, January 4, 1864.
51. Leader, May 2, 1865.
52. Leader, April 15, 1861.
53. Ibid., April 16, 1861.
ing the drilling of recruits while mothers and sisters stood nearby weeping and lamenting the catastrophe which the nation faced. 54

The Plain Dealer, a Democratic organ, but not a Copperhead sheet, ridiculed the early hysteria which was apparent in Cleveland by saying: "... it was occasioned for the 'poor nigger', who now chuckles at the mess he has made." 55 A reply to the remark was made by the Leader which stated: "Such an article is an outrage upon our community. Who wants to be told now what caused the trouble. It is upon us, and we are called upon to meet it. While we are opposed to all mob law, we advise our con-
temporary to talk a little less insultingly when our country and our people here are as strongly excited as they are now." 56

The editorial battles between the Cleveland papers continued for the duration of the war but in fairness to the Plain Dealer it should be said that the dominant policy of that paper was one of loyalty to the federal cause throughout the war years. Controversies arose and the Plain Dealer took sides on several issues against the Leader and Herald, but it seemed to carry out its princi-
ple as stated in the early hours of the war when the editor

54. Plain Dealer, April 17, 1861.
55. Editorial in Plain Dealer, April 16, 1861.
56. Editorial in Leader, April 17, 1861.
declared: "... we must stand by the government, without any flinching .... The President is ... the nation's President.... Secession is rebellion, and now that it has become aggressive ... it must be met by force.... We can have no unity without this. Partisan organization ... should not mar our unity of purpose." 57

Early in 1865 the Plain Dealer was discontinued for a few weeks and this was heralded in other Cleveland papers. It was soon revived, however, under the supervision of a new editor, W. W. Armstrong, who had had charge of the Tiffin Advertiser. When the publication of the paper was resumed the new editor challenged his opponents of the press by stating: "... the Plain Dealer, granting the right of all to differ with it on political questions, claims the same privileges for itself but intends to carry on its usual principles." 58

The churches aided in formulating public opinion in Cleveland. On Sunday, April 14, 1861, the ministers throughout the city commented on the war and preached loyal, patriotic sermons. Bishop Rappe of the Catholic church, urged a devoted loyalty to the President and his policies. 59 Special church services were held in the city during the first few weeks of the war and some phase of war or peace

57. Editorial in Plain Dealer, April 23, 1861.
58. Editorial in Ibid., April 26, 1865.
59. Leader, April 15, 1861.
was discussed in the sermons. Union church services were held on Sunday afternoons in the soldiers' camps located in Cleveland. The public was invited to participate in them, and often the crowds were so large people were turned away. The devotions provided the soldiers and people of Cleveland with a stamina and spiritual guidance which was so necessary in facing the problems of war.

Individuals were decided in their opinions but the women hesitated to voice their ideas except on a few occasions. One quiet, reticent old lady ventured to say that she would never rest or feel secure in her grave unless the Union's safety was assured. Children were loyal to the patriotic teachings of the schools and their parents. They viewed with suspicion those who were conservative and did not openly and loudly express themselves in favor of the northern cause. One may fairly say from reading the newspapers of the period that Cleveland public opinion was overwhelmingly with President Lincoln and the federal government.

60. Herald, June 9, 1861.
61. Ibid., October 7, 1861.
63. Plain Dealer, December 4, 1864.
CHAPTER III

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY.

1. Commerce, Shipping and Trade.

There was a considerable advancement in commerce and industry during the entire war period, especially in the closing years of the struggle. This growth was evident in the Cleveland area which included the northern section of Cuyahoga County. The state legislature was interested in Cleveland’s position as a lake commercial center and passed an act providing for the necessary appropriations for deepening the channel of the Cuyahoga River.¹ The city was unable to finance this project because of a drain on public finances by increased relief demands.

Before the outbreak of the war Cleveland ship owners were enthusiastic over the prospective increase in business upon the great lakes. The local shipyards were employing an unusually large force of laborers to complete necessary repairs upon vessels in the harbor. There was sufficient work to keep the mechanics busy into the summer months as Cleveland shipyards had developed a reputation for skilled workmen and excellent construction.² By

¹. Herald, May 3, 1864.
². Leader, March 26, 1861.

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November there were no less than four hundred men employed in the Cleveland shipyards. The firm of Quayle and Martin was proud of its newly constructed barque, the Levi Rawson, which excited considerable attention among shipping men for the excellence of its build. The vessel was equal in strength and completeness to many ocean going boats of the period. The Levi Rawson served as a lake transport vessel for iron ore during the entire war and aided in increasing Cleveland's import trade.

The Ohio Canal served as a connection with sections of the interior and made it possible to distribute goods easily and to carry into Cleveland the local food products which were so necessary for feeding the city's increasing population. Weather conditions were favorable in 1861 for canal traffic to continue late in the fall season. Timber for boat construction was also transported from the Ohio region into the Cleveland shipyards on canal boats.

Vessels were in great demand and the shipping business and ship building industry continued to grow. The American Union was launched by Ira Laffrinier's yard amid patriotic displays of flags and music. This boat was built

3. Leader, November 7, 1861.
4. Ibid., May 13, 1861.
5. See pages 4 - 5.
6. Plain Dealer, November 2, 1861.
7. Ibid., November 5, 1861.
at a cost of thirty-one thousand dollars and proved to be one of the largest constructed on the lakes during the war.\(^8\) Peck and Masters shipyard contracted to build three first class freight and passenger vessels. The engines were built at the Cuyahoga Iron Works and other materials were purchased from local industrial concerns as much as possible. In this way the commerce and industry of the city were closely connected.\(^9\)

The commercial growth of Cleveland was stimulated by the war. The city became one of the main centers in the Middle region for an exchange of goods between the East and West on one hand and the great lakes and interior areas on the other. War materials, food, manufacturers, and general supplies passed through Cleveland by boat or railroad.\(^10\) The total export trade from Cleveland for 1864 amounted to over one hundred four million dollars while the value of imports totalled approximately one hundred seven million.\(^11\)

The improved railroad facilities were aids to the growing trade in the Cleveland district. The Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati Railroad started a new depot to accommodate the heavy freight which passed through the

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9. Leader, July 30, 1862.  
11. Leader, February 24, 1865.
city. This structure served as a storage place for large quantities of commodities. A new site for a modern passenger depot was purchased at the foot of the hill between Water and Bank Streets. The Cleveland and Erie Railroad contracted for this new depot with the assistance of the Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati Company.

One of the most important phases of Cleveland's commercial growth was accomplished when the closing link of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway, the present New York Central, was completed. New York and Cleveland were placed in direct and unbroken communication with each other. A train of cars made up on the long dock, opposite New York City, came through directly to Cleveland for the first time in November, 1864. The excursion train which formally opened the route arrived in the city carrying people to attend a large celebration. A local paper commented upon the occasion by saying: "No more important work was ever completed since the opening of the first line to the east, and its influence on the business interests of the city will be incalculable...."

2. Increase in Industry

At the advent of the Civil War one may say that Cleveland was a commercial city which looked to the lake and railroad traffic for the main monetary enterprises. The interests of the city so closely depended upon shipping that little effort was made to use the natural resources in the nearby areas and convert them into manufactured products ready for use or shipment. Certain limitations had been placed upon the manufacturers in Cleveland when the city council passed an ordinance making it unlawful to pour any refuse or waste into the Cuyahoga River within the city limits, which in effect hindered the growth of the plants and refineries which were already established on a small scale on the river banks along the valley bottom or "flats", as the area was referred to by many. 17

Those who evaluated the industrial facilities of Cleveland accurately and realized the importance of the city's opportunities in competitive industry because of the resources at hand urged that the restraining order, which hindered manufacturing, be repealed. 18 The businessmen stressed the point that such restraint would divert business and trade to other cities with fewer natural environmental advantages than Cleveland possessed.

17. Leader, March 5, 1861.
18. Ibid., March 6, 1861.
While these controversies were going on, war was announced and business dropped to a low level, but revived again by September. New demands by the federal government stimulated industry and with a bound Cleveland set out on a new course guided by the demands of industry. Contacts with manufacturers in the South and in other regions where battles were being fought were severed and this made it necessary for northern cities to take over the manufacturing of such commodities as had been purchased previously in those regions. It was rather difficult to obtain tobacco after the Richmond factories were cut off from the North, so Cleveland's first large tobacco factory was established by the T. Maxfield and Company which employed about fifty hands. This new industry prospered and rivaled similar enterprises in Detroit and Toledo.

A growing demand for clothing caused a second new industry to develop gradually as the war progressed. The German Woolen Factory in Hulrburt's block on Ontario street was the pioneer enterprise in making Cleveland a cloth manufacturing city. Previously, the city had

served as a shipping center for Ohio wool, which was exported to the East and there manufactured into cloth, to be reshipped to Cleveland for sale. It was decided that a saving could be made on transportation commissions and profits increased as well as labor benefitted if the processing of wool became a local manufacture. 26

The discovery of oil near Titusville, Pennsylvania, just before the Civil War attracted attention to that area and several small oil refineries began operation in Cleveland as the natural resource was transported to the city by short line railroads. 27 Those who first invested capital in the petroleum and coal oil refineries were called wild speculators, as the general public distrusted the new industry, and considered it a swindle. 28 The demand for coal oil, or "illuminating oil", as it was referred to, increased the demands for larger refineries until the industry was well established by the closing years of the war. 29

The products of the petroleum fields aided in the development of a large business in Cleveland.

28. Leader, April 2, 1861.
29. Ibid., January 26, 1864.
The growth of the oil industry was rather slow because people were cautious about war time speculations. However, the petroleum trade in the city grew rapidly after M. B. Clark and John D. Rockefeller, commission house men who invested their capital in oil, formed a partnership in the Andrews, Clark and Company. The refineries of this company were located on Kingsbury Run and were the most extensive works in the Cleveland district. They occupied eight large buildings, had six stills with a capacity of five hundred barrels per week, and employed twenty hands. The business grew rapidly and by 1864 employed approximately one hundred in the direct activities of the refineries and gave employment to several other men indirectly in the hauling and shipping of the raw materials and finished products. By the close of 1864 the oil refineries were valued at three quarters of a million dollars. It has been said that by the close of 1865 there were thirty refineries of crude petroleum in Cleveland with an aggregate capital of more than one and a half million dollars, and turning out products valued at

30. Herald, April 27, 1862.
31. Ibid., September 22, 1863.
32. Ibid., September 23, 1863.
33. Leader, January 26, 1864.
34. Herald, January 21, 1865.
not less than four and a half million dollars. 35

During the war years Cleveland's iron industry grew tremendously because it united the cheap coal of northeastern Ohio and western Pennsylvania with the iron ore deposits which had been discovered in the Lake Superior area. The railroad connections with the Massillon coal fields, lake connections with the ore deposits, in addition to the growing demand by the federal government for manufactured products, provided the necessary stimuli for successful operation of iron mills.

The public became interested in the establishment of new shops and foundries. A mass meeting was held in Melodeon Hall to determine the feasibility of establishing a national foundry in the city. The arguments presented which favored the opening of the foundry stressed the nearness to the necessary raw materials and the centralized and healthful situation of Cleveland. The city iron works factories had been supplying quantities of gun stocks, ready to be turned, to the Springfield Armory where they were completed for the federal troops. Citizens of Cleveland thought it more profitable to manufacture the finished product and thus benefit several industries. 36 Nothing came of this.

35. Avery, op. cit., I., 247.
The Cleveland Iron and Nail Company constructed a new plant covering three acres of land early in 1862. It gave work to many smaller concerns in the city. Plans included a large machine shop, twenty puddling furnaces, and eight heating furnaces. All the machinery was ordered from Cleveland manufacturers; stone and brick work was done by local workmen. The site for the new place of production was on the Scranton Flats along the Cuyahoga.

The iron trade increased rapidly and attained an important position in the business of the city. Manufacturing houses of various kinds could be found throughout the city, but were mainly centralized on the flats in the river valley. The hum of business could be heard all along the Cuyahoga, and Cleveland was more liberal with manufacturers than previously, for little adverse opinion was expressed about the growing smoke and smells. Numerous workmen were employed; there was a general atmosphere of prosperity in spite of war obligations, but few citizens seemed to estimate fully the significance of the rising industries in the life of the city.

Other industries, incident to these leading ones,

38. Leader, August 19, 1862.
40. Ibid., September 10, 1863.
shared in their rapid progress, but on coal, iron, and oil it was evident the future of the city depended. Cleveland's investors had begun to turn their energies from railroads and commerce to the development of the available natural resources, and to bring them into the city factories for manufacture and trade. The previous decade in railroad building had furnished ready means for distributing the finished products. 41

Thus one may say that at the outbreak of the Civil War the city of Cleveland was a commercial and trading center, but the war years provided the necessary impetus to carry the city through a successful transition period in its growth from a commercial terminus to a thriving industrial center. The demands of the war upon Cleveland industries awakened business men to the realization that the future of the city depended upon the maintenance and development of the iron mills and foundries rather than an emphasis on commerce.

3. Labor Unrest.

As the war progressed and men enlisted or were drafted into active army service, the workmen who were organized could make demands of their employers and receive what they asked for because of the shortage of labor. Skilled workmen were needed, but these were generally rel-

41. Plain Dealer, September 10, 1864.
iable and cooperated with their employers about hours and wages. Usually the men could arrive at amicable terms with their employers by negotiating through their representatives, but a few open strikes were recorded in the daily newspapers of the city.

The miners of the Massillon coal banks struck for higher wages in November, 1862. As miners were scarce and cheap coal was absolutely necessary for the iron industry, the demands were generally met. A settlement of hours and wages averaged a total from sixty to one hundred dollars per month for each man. The price of coal went up from a dollar and a quarter to two and a half dollars a ton during the strike, and it was impossible to supply the demand until the strike was settled. 42

An unorganized group of laborers on the docks caused some apprehension among the shippers when the wheelers and lifters employed to reload iron from the Lake Superior vessels from Marquette refused to work unless wages were raised from thirteen to twenty-five cents per ton. The employers refused to concede this increase and hired new hands but the strikers refused to let the new men work. The entire city police force was promptly called to prevent violence. After several hours of bickering the demands of the laborers were acceded to and work was resumed. 43

42. Leader, November 24, 1862.
43. Plain Dealer, June 4, 1863.
The only outstanding labor trouble recorded for the war period in the iron industry occurred when the puddlers of the Cleveland Iron and Nail Company refused to continue work because of a dispute over the "heats." The puddlers maintained that five hundred pounds of iron could be melted satisfactorily in a heat, but the proprietors insisted that smaller quantities would produce better iron. Men were paid by the tonnage of ore melted, therefore, larger heats were more favorable to the individual workman. Work was completely suspended for two weeks; orders accumulated cut could not be filled; there was a general suspension in the iron production of the city. Terms were finally arranged whereby the smaller heats were accepted by the workmen. The federal government's requests for supplies made it necessary for the mill to maintain a twenty-four hour schedule to fill demands. There was no evidence of riots or serious labor difficulties in the Cleveland area during the war years in spite of the shortage of hands in the growing industries of the city.

44. *Herald*, January 21, 1864.

CHAPTER IV.

WAR AIDS SPONSORED BY CLEVELAND CITIZENS

1. Family Relief Service.

The public spirited citizens of Cleveland deserve commendation for their timely efforts in war relief work. The prompt answer for aid in general city relief work was an accurate indication of their willingness to help the Union cause in all possible ways. As men enlisted for service many families were left without support and it became necessary for the city to do its share by inaugurating a plan for public relief. The first call for support of its citizens was made by the city at a general meeting in Melodeon Hall when the subscription fund was started to care for immediate relief among the most deserving families. ¹ Those present were asked to subscribe to their utmost for the preservation of the Union and the honor of the flag. ² At this first mass meeting of its kind in the city Mr. A. Stone, Jr., was elected president of the meeting and a central committee of seven members, whose work was to care for all collection and disbursement of funds, was organized. The committee was voted the power to act in

¹ Leader, April 23, 1861.
² Leader, April 24, 1861.
concert with the city council, or other sub-committee groups which appropriated funds for relief in Cleveland. 3 Within the first month of its existence the relief association had collected approximately six thousand dollars by subscription but it was difficult to enlarge the amount. 4 A series of pleas appeared in all the city papers for donations of money, clothing, food or any other supplies which could be spared. 5 A loyal citizen, Sarah Brownson, in the Newburgh district, replied to one of the public requests in a letter to the editor of a daily saying: "We are few, but are eager to aid ... and confident that in such a time as this there must be work for woman's zeal." 6 Thereupon, the women of Newburgh became active in family relief service for the remainder of the war.

The German women of the city were also active in relief work. They not only did much in their own section on the west side of the square but increased the general relief fund of the city with worthwhile do-

3. Leader, April 25, 1861.
4. Ibid., May 6, 1861.
5. Plain Dealer, May 10, 1861.
nations. They sponsored a series of activities during the war to replenish their funds, the first of which was a grand ball in their national hall. It was attended by practically all the loyal German citizens in Cleveland and furnished a considerable purse to care for growing demands due to the approach of winter weather. One of the most outstanding activities sponsored by the German west side relief group was a small fair which lasted for a week. Arrangements included the usual attractions but the highest point of interest centered around the splendid dinner served each evening in the national hall. Many came from all over the city to partake of the home cookery, which aided in making the entire fair a great success.

One of the most commendable movements inaugurated in the city for family relief was the action of the fourth ward people. Judge R. P. Spalding was elected as chairman of the section and he chose a group of nine men and thirteen women to carry on the work. A visiting committee was organized which decided upon the families needing aid. Additional obligations of the committee were to secure soldiers' pay, to obtain work for the needy

7. Leader, November 16, 1861.
8. Ibid., November 16, 1861.
if possible, to provide fuel and to supply the constant relief demands. A separate soliciting group was organized to canvass the ward for all kinds of contributions.\textsuperscript{10} The work in the fourth ward of the city was an inducement and incentive to other wards to do likewise.

Reference has already been made to the severe storm in 1864 when the various ward relief groups found it most difficult to care for the needy. One hundred and fifty families were supplied in one day, yet it was only the beginning of the work of alleviating conditions which could only be met by industry and effort on the part of all.\textsuperscript{12} Appeals to the public for donations were made in the newspapers. Requests for any kind of supplies were repeated daily.\textsuperscript{13} Cleveland would have been unable to meet its relief demands under such severe conditions if the local and ward associations had not given their loyal support throughout the entire war.

2. Cleveland Ladies' Aid Societies.

At an early date in the war period many soc-

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11. See page 23.


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cial volunteers were able to devote their time and energy to more than one aid society. Small organizations, which were entirely independent of the Soldiers' Aid Society, exerted tireless effort in doing special war work. Practically every church in Cleveland organized an aid group to do general work such as sewing, rolling bandages, caring for widows and orphans of men who had been in service, and aiding in building up the spirit of the parishioners. 14

The colored ladies' aid society was organized in 1863 with the hope that it could act independently and yet be an auxiliary to the Soldiers' Aid Society. The women organized themselves feeling it their duty to do all in their power to help soldiers in the hospitals and in battle. Within the first six months of its founding the negro society had accomplished much in proportion to the means of the small group. 15 A Mrs. Parker was elected president of the organization and served in that capacity until the end of the war.

One of the most peculiar societies inaugurated by Cleveland women during the Civil War was started by a group of ambitious young women against the importation of foreign goods. A call to the public resulted

15. Herald, January 16, 1864.
in a large meeting at Brainards with representatives from some of the most influential families joining the project. 16 The proposed pledge was: "... that we will not ... knowingly purchase foreign silks... ornaments... and that we will ... discourage the use of all articles of foreign manufacture or growth, especially those of English origin." 17 Many Cleveland citizens ridiculed the idea of a Non-Importation League and called the group the "Dress Reform League" and the "I Wear Cotton Girls". 18 Nevertheless, various committees were appointed to investigate the problem, and something may have been accomplished. However, very little definite information concerning the actual organization has come to light. It is supposed that the enthusiasm for the project gradually diminished under pressure of public opinion.

3. Soldiers' Aid Society.

Within a few days of President Lincoln's call for troops in 1861 the women of Cleveland assembled for the purpose of administering aid wherever necessary. At that early date the volunteers had little idea as to the enormous amount of assistance that would be required of

17. Ibid., May 19, 1864.
18. Ibid., June 14, 1864.
them. The first general meeting resulted in the formation of the Ladies' Aid Society on April 20, 1861; the same organization was later called the Soldiers' Aid Society. Cleveland's aid society deserves special mention as it was the first organization of its kind in the United States for the relief of soldiers in the Civil War. The city group was started just five days before that of New York and only five days after the first call for troops.

The main organization meeting of the local society was held in Chapin Hall on Thursday evening, April 25, 1861. All women in the city were invited and urged to come. It was thought advisable to form an organization for the purpose of improving the condition of the soldiers' quarters in Cleveland by preparing blankets, garments, and by doing other necessary work for the men's comfort. Plans were made to meet on alternating Saturdays at Chapin Hall to report the progress of work and devise means for increased usefulness. Mrs. Benjamin Rouse became the first and only president of the group. Her assistant officers were Mrs. John Shelley, Mrs.

William Melhinch, Mary Clark Brayton, and Ellen Terry. 23

The movement on the part of Cleveland women spread rapidly to other localities which resulted in the formation of working units throughout the country with Cleveland as the central headquarters. 24 Permanent residence of the Soldiers' Aid Society then was moved to ninety-five Bank Street, from which center the managers of the organization kept in close communication with the surgeons of regiments in the field and the Sanitary Commission at Washington. 25

The members of the Aid Society worked diligently. They canvassed the city thoroughly for donations of food, clothing, bedding, yard material, and reading matter. The organization had to rely on contributions and ingenious programs for financial backing, as the only charge made was a twenty-five cent fee as dues, which was required each month of members. Small mite boxes were placed in advantageous places throughout the city, which proved to be an excellent way to collect the small gifts of children and less fortunate citizens. 27

23. Herald, April 27, 1861.
24. Ibid., August 4, 1861.
25. Ibid., August 16, 1861.
26. Leader, August 23, 1861.
27. Mary Brayton and Ellen Terry, Our Acre and Its Harvest (Fairbanks, Benedict & Co., Cleveland, 1869.), 24.
A great step was made in the history of the Soldiers' Aid Society when on October 9, 1861, Cleveland was offered as a branch office of the United States Sanitary Commission and was accepted by the federal organization on October 16, 1861. Dr. J.S. Newberry, of Cleveland, was assigned by the federal commission as supervisor of the Cleveland branch. The city was also designated as the western depot for the collection and distribution of all articles for soldiers' aid because of its convenient railroad connections leading to the western battle fields of the war.

Thus the women's work became broader in scope and required many hours of detailed service. The society, although nationally affiliated, was sustained entirely by private enterprise and benevolence. Citizens of Cleveland and vicinity found it necessary to work harder than ever to fulfill the demands made daily upon the society. The Marine Hospital for sick and wounded soldiers was arranged for by the federal commission, but the work of supplying the necessary equipment for the crowded rooms fell upon local citizens. Calls for medical supplies, clothing, blankets and undergarments made it necessary

for the women to travel about in their buggies and make
house to house stops to collect promised equipment. Women were requested to send to the Bank Street rooms for
assignments of work which could be sewed at home.

The Depot Hospital was opened under the
auspices of the aid society to care for wounded soldiers
passing through the city. The Cleveland, Painesville,
and Ashtabula Railroads donated rooms for a temporary
resting place. All physical equipment for the rooms was
obtained by public solicitation. It was not an unusual
sight to see buggies and wagons piled high with cots,
bed-clothes, mattresses, pails, brooms, and staple foods
arrive at the depot with contributions from all parts of
the county.

The help of the districts outside the city
must not be overlooked. Newspaper accounts contained
weekly summaries of donations from the rural areas. Veg-
etables, eggs, milk, fruit, barrels of pickles, salted
meats, sides of beef and slabs of bacon were among the en-
umerated articles sent into Cleveland for necessary dis-
tribution. One writer, in commenting upon the articles

31. Herald, July 16, 1862.
32. Ibid., April 18 and 19, 1862.
33. Ibid., July 20, 1862.
34. Ibid., January 13, 1864.
of diet, said: "... a total of 8,017 bushels of onions valued at $16,215 and 38,841 bushels of potatoes valued at $38,341. These common and greatly needed vegetables were received with such hearty favor that it was said onions and potatoes captured Vicksburg." 35 The generosity of northern Ohio families was evident by the publication of the first annual report of the Soldiers' Aid Society by Ellen Terry, treasurer of the organization. 36

The work of soldiers' relief never ceased. Calls were made for help in the field of battle, in distant hospitals, and in the local units. Supplies were consumed quickly and it was difficult to meet pledges. During the closing months of 1863, the society was hard pressed for funds and equipment. Mrs. E. Rouse, president, in an open letter to the district asked: "Every soldier's friend to be up and doing. Our supplies are nearly exhausted .... We need stores of every description.... We appeal ... not only for personal effort but for funds to enable us to accomplish what we have promised ...." 37

The building and furnishing of the Cleveland


36. See Table I in the appendix, page 70.

Soldiers' Home, an enlargement of the early depot hospital, proved that Cleveland citizens were not lacking in devoted support of the aid society. Solicitations were made and by generous contributions it was possible to construct a two-hundred-foot wooden structure on a piece of property donated by the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati Railroad conveniently situated near the Union Depot. 38 The site was chosen because it would not necessitate the carrying of wounded soldiers for lengthy distances after their arrival by train. The home served as a haven for sick and wounded soldiers returning from the battlefields, as well as a resting place for furloughed or discharged soldiers. 39 It also provided a lodging for those soldiers who were without money and were awaiting pensions. The home continued its work for several years after the close of the war and aided considerably in caring for itinerant soldiers on their way home. 40 The women were rewarded for their tireless efforts in maintaining the soldiers' home by endless letters from grateful men in all areas of the country. The Herald cited an article in the Tuscarawus Advocate wherein some thankful soldiers said of

38. Herald, December 7, 1863.
39. Ibid., December 14, 1863.
40. Brayton and Terry, op. cit., 131.
the Cleveland aid society: "We could not have been better nor more kindly cared for by our own families." 41 A battery from Minnesota wrote a public thank-you letter, which was printed in the Plain Dealer, stating: "The men have organized... to express, in bidding the ladies of Cleveland an affectionate farewell of appreciation and best wishes... and may they live long to remember... their welcome home of the war wearied soldiers ...." 42 These communications were representative of the daily expressions of gratitude recorded in the news sheets during the entire war period.

The citizens of Cleveland and northern Ohio cooperated whole heartedly with the Soldiers' Aid Society in conducting its relief work. Many gave liberally of their household supplies, of their finances, and of their time. During its years of existence the society distributed a total of over nine hundred and eighty-two thousand dollars worth of materials. 43 The genuine support which the society received throughout the duration of the war was the best evidence that the public had complete confidence in the women and their work.

41. Herald, February 9, 1864.
42. Plain Dealer, July 11, 1865.
43. Brayton and Terry, op. cit., 427.
4. The Sanitary Fair

The largest single undertaking managed by the Ladies Aid Society of Cleveland with the aid of units throughout northern Ohio and western Pennsylvania was the Sanitary Fair which was scheduled to open in Cleveland on February 22, 1864. The first notice to the public anticipating a fair was made by printed circulars and distributed to all aid societies for miles around the city. 44 The Herald carried an open letter to all those interested asking them to send in their reactions to and suggestions for such a project. 45 The public generally favored the proposed plans for a fair and donations of all kinds began to pour into Cleveland. 46

The executive group of the Soldiers Aid Society, in order to secure efficiency, selected a general committee of thirty-six members, which was divided into sub-committees, each of which was scheduled to have charge of a specific assignment in preparing for the fair. 47 The building committee arranged for donations of lumber from local yards, hours of work from carpenter contractors, and funds for building materials. Construction began on

44. Herald, November 23, 1863.
45. Herald, November 24, 1863.
46. Ibid., January 13, 1864.
47. Ibid., January 15, 1864.
January 19, 1864, on the public square around the Perry Monument and was completed without a serious mishap under the supervision of Messrs. R. P. Herrick and E. Lafler.

The building for the Northern Ohio Sanitary Fair covered sixty-four thousand square feet of land in the heart of the city. It was arranged in the form of a Greek cross with the center rotunda at the monument. One wing was arranged as an audience room accommodating about five thousand persons with other large rooms to house the ladies' bazaar, exhibits of machinery, tools, produce, fine arts, relics and curiosities, and refreshment places. As plans materialized the prospects of a successful fair seemed encouraging. People showed a genuine enthusiasm in the project which was destined to unite all the aid societies in the area.

Lieutenant Governor Anderson formally opened the fair building on the afternoon of February 22, 1864, giving the main address of the ceremony, which included talks by Major General James A. Garfield and Speaker Hubbell of the state legislature, music by Leland's band, and a military drill by the twenty-ninth Ohio Volunteers.

49. Plain Dealer, February 19, 1864.
50. Herald, February 3, 1864.
51. Editorial in Ibid., February 12, 1864.
52. Ibid., February 23, 1864.
The exhibits, which were entirely donated, as well as the attendance more than realized all expectations. People thronged the streets, stores, exhibit halls, and railroad depots. The railways were cooperative in charging only half-fare for passengers holding fair tickets and in carrying donations to the fair free of freight charges.

The weather, which always did much to make or mar a fair, was all that could be desired. The attendance grew as the fair progressed, with crowds on the third day surpassing all others. Receipts for the first week totalled approximately sixty thousand dollars, and total gross receipts for the entire sixteen days exceeded one hundred and one thousand dollars, which netted over seventy-eight thousand dollars for use in soldiers' relief. Fifty-thousand dollars of this was invested in United States Securities bearing interest to be used by the Soldiers' Aid Society as its wants required.

53. Plain Dealer, February 23, 1864.
54. Ibid., February 13, 1864.
55. Herald, March 11, 1864.
56. Ibid., March 2, 1864.
57. Plain Dealer and Herald, April 8, 1864.
58. Ibid.
The complete success of the Sanitary Fair was additional proof to all that the citizens of Cleveland and vicinity did not shirk their duty in supporting war relief. The unlimited donations which made the fair possible and successful were given with a genuine feeling of gratefulness and helpfulness. Praise was forthcoming from all sections of the Union and a local resident commented that: "Cleveland may proudly claim the banner as the city in which the most successful Sanitary Fair as yet has been held." 59

59. Leader, April 3, 1864.
CHAPTER V

CLEVELAND'S MILITARY SHARE IN THE WAR.

1. Camps Located in Cleveland, Ohio.

During the Civil War there were four camps maintained in or near the city limits. The first of these was Camp Taylor, which was started on April 22, 1861, on the county fair grounds. It served both as a barracks for soldiers and as the brigade headquarters for the district. ¹ A second large camping area for troops was known as Camp Cleveland, which was located on the south side of the city on the Newburgh road near Forest and Kinsman streets. This camp was organized on August 16, 1861, ² and like Camp Taylor served as barracks throughout the war. The smaller camps were Brown, which served through 1863 as quarters for the German regiments, ³ and Wade, which was organized on August 31, 1861, but was removed to the county fair grounds on October 22, 1861, thus enlarging Camp Taylor. ⁴

The conditions in the camps were poor during the early months of the war as it was necessary to quarter soldiers before adequate preparations could be made. ⁵

¹. Herald, April 23, 1861.
². Ibid., August 17, 1861.
³. Plain Dealer, November 23, 1863.
⁴. Herald, October 23, 1861.
⁵. Ibid., July 5, 1861.
The men put up with rude and scant accommodations. The hastily constructed barracks had bunks arranged along narrow aisles and gave the impression of shelves in an apple bin. The women in Cleveland were moved by reports of such poor conditions to solicit bedding and mattresses for the camps. As soldiers arrived it was necessary at times for them to help construct their own shelters before they could be provided with accommodations. They took this in good spirit and accepted it as one of the phases of a soldier's life. As companies of volunteers moved in, one could see costumes of all sorts from farm overalls to tailored business suits. One writer described the enlisted men as a "motley crew." Uniforms arrived in due time. They consisted of light blue pants, dark blue coats with shoulder scoles, black felt hats, and stocks, which were seldom worn except as a joke. It was not always possible to fit individuals correctly, so a well dressed company was not a common sight.


10. Captain Joseph B. Molyneaux, "Remarks in Reminiscence" Typewritten manuscript (Palmer Collection, Western Reserve Historical Library, Cleveland, Ohio. Added in 1913.)
As the war progressed physical equipment in the camps improved and further construction made living conditions satisfactory. The men took pride in maintaining clean and orderly grounds. Occasionally disturbances were recorded such as shooting or noisy carousing but, generally, life in the camps was well conducted. The camping sites became places of public inspection as numerous carriages drove through and visited daily. Visitors seemed well satisfied with conditions as they existed and continued to give their support to camp funds.

2. Recruiting and Drafting.

When the news of the attack on Fort Sumter aroused the north and a call for troops was made, Cleveland men volunteered immediately at the recruiting office which was opened in the city, as county seat. The military enthusiasm which everywhere characterized the first few hours after Sumter swept the city and continued for a time, as military drill rooms were crowded with new recruits and applicants for enlistment. All seemed

11. Leader, December 2, 1862.
12. Ibid., December 5, 1862.
14. Ibid., September 1, 1863.
15. Ibid., April 16, 1861.
to have strong hearts and to be willing to serve their country. 16

The Cleveland Grays, whose membership was chosen from some of the best families in the city, were the first volunteers to leave for battle. Their enlistment was listed for three months and the company was ordered to prepare itself for departure on April 17, 1861. 17 After final orders had been filled the company left Cleveland for Camp Dennison on April 18, 1861. 18 A crowd of fifteen thousand people thronged city streets to cheer and bid farewell to the troops, who left the union depot as Leland's band played "Yankee Doodle" and "The Girl I Left Behind Me." One editor was of the opinion: "Cleveland had never seen anything to equal the enthusiasm which attended the departure of the Grays." 19

As an incentive to recruiting the Cleveland Bank of Commerce had offered to continue the salary of any of its clerks who enlisted in the Grays. Shipping companies and other business houses followed the precedent. 20 New companies were formed quickly, among which

16. Leader, April 20, 1861.
17. Herald, April 17, 1861.
18. Plain Dealer, April 19, 1861.
20. Leader, April 17, 1861.
was the famous Seventh Ohio Regiment, \(^{21}\) which served for more than three years, until its time was out, though many of its members later returned to the war in other divisions. The Seventh Ohio was likewise given a hearty send off by citizens of Cleveland after the ladies had prepared a festive meal for them. \(^{22}\)

The Cleveland Grays, who returned from three months of service on August 2, 1861, were greeted warmly and feted at a large banquet in the main dining hall of the Weddell House. \(^{23}\) Their reports of war activities increased enlistments and aroused enthusiasm in the city. The Grays re-enlisted when the second call for volunteers was made, and were able to maintain their standards and to fill their ranks. \(^{24}\)

A necessary drive for recruits was started early in July, 1862, in the Cleveland district to fill the reduced ranks of various regiments. \(^{25}\) The call of President Lincoln for an additional three hundred thousand men kept the recruiting officials busy. Cuyahoga county was expected to fill a complete regiment of over two thousand men, thus making Cleveland's share approx-

\(^{21}\) Plain Dealer, May 6, 1861.

\(^{22}\) Leader, May 6, 1861.

\(^{23}\) Plain Dealer, August 2, 1861.

\(^{24}\) Herald, May 28, 1862.

\(^{25}\) Ibid., July 10, 1862.
imately seven hundred. 26 The German people in the city started the One Hundred and Seventh regiment and made satisfactory progress in its organization. 27

When the volunteer enlistments did not fill the county quota, a joint meeting of the military committee and citizens of Cleveland was held in the county court house to lay plans for recruiting sufficient men to eliminate the stigma of a draft. Judge R. F. Spalding was elected chairman of the meeting and he explained that the county commissioners had been authorized to borrow fifty thousand dollars to be paid out in sums of fifty dollars to each recruit for old or new regiments. 28 This provided bounties for a thousand men but left eleven hundred to be accounted for. An attempt was made to meet this problem by dividing the city into three recruiting districts and canvassing the wealthy men for contributions to cover the counties. Governor Tod allowed until September 1, 1862, for filling old regiments and until August 22, 1862, for new divisions. If ranks were not filled by that time a draft would be inaugurated in the county. 29

27. Leader, July 24, 1862.
28. Herald, August 18, 1862.
29. Ibid.
Wards in Cleveland organized their own recruiting groups, offered additional bounties ranging from fifty to one hundred and fifty dollars, and worked strenuously to eliminate the draft. Nevertheless, drafting in Cleveland started in October, 1862, and lasted six days. Of the eleven wards in the city the ones free from draft because their quotas had been filled were wards four, ten, and eleven.

The second drafting period during the war was conducted in Cleveland during January, 1864. It created the same excitement, dread, and bitterness apparent in the former one. The wards tried again to fill their quotas but the banner ward of the city, the fourth, was the only section to achieve success a second time. A total of over five hundred men was drafted in the remaining ten wards of the city.

Before the worry of the second draft had been forgotten the city was filled with rumors of fraud in the provost marshal's office. Vague charges were made about discrimination in the draft and malfeasance in handling substitute fees. These were partially quelled by

a report in the Herald which announced that the United States grand jury had completely exonerated Captain Nash following an investigation. Agitation concerning the provost marshal was commenced again, however, early in 1865 when a second investigation by the grand jury was called which placed two indictments against Captain Nash and postponed his case until later.

A court martial appointed by commanding General Hooker met in Cleveland April 6, 1865, and found Captain Nash guilty of charges which included procuring substitutes for persons drafted into military service at a cost of five hundred to eight hundred dollars, and also making false statements to obtain fraudulent claims for others upon the government. As a result Captain Nash was cashiered out of the army, fined two thousand dollars, and sentenced to six months in prison, but it was not deemed necessary to make an example of the provost marshal after he had been found guilty, and so the last two penalties were commuted.

During the period of the court martial the city was host to several companies of returning soldiers.

34. Herald, June 18, 1864.
35. Leader, February 8, 1865.
37. Ibid.
The citizens were busy preparing receptions, banquets, and entertainments for the men before they were marched to the various camp sites. Some of the largest units which came to Cleveland were the One Hundred and Third Ohio Volunteers, the Ninety-Eighth Ohio, and the One Hundred and Fifth Ohio, many of whom were native sons. Cleveland was as proud to receive its troops as it had been to send its share of volunteers.

In summarizing the local numbers who went to the Civil War from Cleveland, it may be said that the city had volunteers in ninety-two regiments; it sent ninety-four military companies to battle and furnished a total of six hundred and twenty-one commissioned officers in all.

3. Final Tribute to President Lincoln.

The news of President Lincoln's assassination cast a pall of grief over the city. Business was virtually suspended, crowds gathered at the bulletin boards of news offices for last minute notices, stores and public buildings were draped in mourning, and intense feeling was apparent on people's faces as they spoke in hushed tones.

38. Herald, May 26, 1865.
39. See Table II, p. 71.
40. Orth, op. cit., I, 312.
41. Herald, April 17, 1865.
All other news was set aside for telegraphic communications from Washington. The usual joyous Easter season and services were replaced with solemn and saddened ones. In some of the leading churches Reverend Mr. Rylance of St. Paul's, Dr. Goodrich of the Stone Church on the square and Bishop Rappe of the Catholic Cathedral delivered sermons on the great national calamity. 42

When the general announcement was made throughout the nation that funeral services were scheduled for the afternoon of April 19, Mayor Senter, in a public proclamation, requested that all business places be closed during that entire day. 43 Churches in the city were opened for services from noon until two o'clock. Officers at Camp Cleveland made arrangements for minute guns, which were fired during the day at definite intervals with a final salute at sundown. 44 A local police officer remarked: "Yesterday was one of the most solemn and quiet days in my knowledge of Cleveland." 45

People in the Cleveland area were hopeful when it was announced that the body of President Lincoln perhaps would lay in state in the city on April 28. 46

42. Herald, 43. Ibid., April 18, 1865. 44. Leader, April 20, 1865. 45. Ibid. 46. Herald, April 19, 1865.
As soon as the statement was affirmed, plans were arranged by a joint committee of citizens, under the leadership of mayor and army officials in the district. Colonel James Barnett was appointed chief marshal of arrangements with General A. S. Sanford as chairman of the special military committee. An appropriate building was erected on the square which included a raised dais so visitors could view the assassined President with the least amount of confusion. Fifty special policemen were appointed from army ranks to aid the regular city force on the day of the arrival of the funeral train.

General Sanford arranged for a complete military escort from the time the body of President Lincoln arrived on the morning of April 28, until it left the city on its journey to Columbus. The Twenty-Ninth Ohio National Guard gave the official salute of thirty-six guns to the cortege as it left the union depot for the place of honor on the square. Six divisions under Colonel Hayward's command provided a military escort along the route. The Eighth Independent Battery fired half-hour guns during the day as a tribute. The Camp Chase band played appropriate music for the funeral procession and at intervals in the afternoon. Bishop McIlvaine read a short memorial service under the draped canopy.

47. Leader, April 21, 1865.
48. Herald, April 27, 1865.
which covered the dais. A special honor guard of veteran reserves stood at the foot of the bier, as a squad from the Twenty-Ninth Ohio National Guards aided approximately ninety thousand in viewing the remains. 49

The body of President Lincoln was returned to the funeral train in the late evening with the same military guard and order which had been observed in the morning and throughout the day. The entire occasion was characterized by the greatest solemnity and respect. Thus loyal soldiers and citizens in the Cleveland area paid their final tribute to the war President.

49. Herald, April 29, 1865.
TABLE I.
FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY

Material is compiled from "Annual Report" of Soldiers' Aid Society by Ellen Terry, Treasurer, in the Herald, July 19, 1862.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial Statement</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership fees</td>
<td>306.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>7,291.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Receipts</td>
<td>7,598.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Disbursements</td>
<td>6,799.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance on hand</td>
<td>798.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Some of Hospital Supplies handled:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blankets</td>
<td>6,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pillows</td>
<td>11,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheets</td>
<td>12,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirts</td>
<td>22,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towels</td>
<td>47,738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socks</td>
<td>10,621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdominal bandages</td>
<td>8,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pounds of linen &amp; lint bandages</td>
<td>22,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cans fruit &amp; jellies</td>
<td>7,879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pounds dried fruit</td>
<td>69,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dozens of eggs</td>
<td>6,665</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TABLE II.
CLEVELAND MEN IN VARIOUS REGIMENTS.

Data taken from Samuel Orth, *A History of Cleveland, Ohio*, 1, 312-313.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Division</th>
<th>Number Enrolled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Ohio Light Artillery</td>
<td>886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Ohio Infantry</td>
<td>567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Hundred and Fiftieth Ohio</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twenty-third Ohio</td>
<td>341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forty-first Ohio</td>
<td>407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Hundred and Third Ohio</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth Ohio</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Hundred and Seventy-seventh Ohio</td>
<td>399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Cavalry</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Ohio Volunteer Infantry (Cleveland Grays)</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirty-Seventy Ohio Volunteer Infantry</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixtieth</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixty-fifth</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixty-seventh</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One hundred and Seventy Ohio Volunteer Infantry</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth Ohio Cavalry</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twelfth Ohio</td>
<td>&quot; 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenth</td>
<td>&quot; 55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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