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**ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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**MS 616**  
**Grand Army of the Republic**  
**Papers, 1881-1938 (Bulk 1881-1928)**

**DESCRIPTION**

Records, official documents, and correspondence of the Tucson chapter (Negley Post No. 1) of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.), a fraternal organization for veterans of the United States Civil War. The collection includes administrative records and reports, personal information pertaining to individual members of the Post, and correspondence.

6 Boxes, 4 linear ft.

**ACQUISITION**

Unknown

**ACCESS**

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

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Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society, Tucson, Archives Department.

**PROCESSING**

The collection was processed by Aubrey Carrier, intern, in February 2001.

**ARRANGEMENT**

Series 1/Administrative Documents, 1883-1928; Series 2/Member information; Series 3/Correspondence, 1886-1938 (bulk 1886-1902); Series 4/Bound Volumes, 1881-1821.

## **HISTORICAL NOTE**

The Grand Army of the Republic was a fraternal organization open to all Union veterans of the U.S. Civil War. The organization's purpose was to aid veterans who were sick, wounded, or in need; and to honor those who served in the war by promoting awareness of Memorial Day and sponsoring other patriotic events such as 4th of July celebrations and annual encampments.

The Tucson chapter of the G.A.R., Negley Post No. 1, was named for Major General James S. Negley, who as a Congressman sponsored the establishment of the Soldiers' Home at Sawtelle, California. Negley Post was first "mustered in" on December 12, 1881, with 13 members. Statewide, G.A.R. membership reached its peak in the late 1880's/early 1890's, before gradually tapering off due to the aging of the veterans.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The collection documents the day-to-day operations of the Tucson chapter of the Grand Army of the Republic, as seen through official documents and correspondence. Official papers include officers' reports, circulars from the G.A.R.'s local and national headquarters, members' applications and official records of military service, as well as death notices and funeral arrangements.

Other materials of interest include papers relating to Memorial Day celebrations and annual encampment activities. Correspondence is mostly related to official G.A.R. business, but also includes personal letters between individual members. Some names that appear frequently include A.B. Sampson and R.B. Kelley, both of whom were officers and active members in the organization.

## **BOX AND FOLDER LIST**

### **Box 1**

#### **Series 1: Administrative Documents, 1883-1928**

- f. 1 Finding Aid for G.A.R. Collection
- f. 2 Post Surgeon's Reports, 1892-1902
- f. 3-4 Adjutant's Reports, 1883-1921
- f. 5-8 Quartermaster's Reports, 1884-1913
- f. 9 Quartermaster's Financial Reports with Receipts, Disbursements, and Vouchers, 1901-1906 (bulk 1902-1903)
- f. 10 Chaplain's Reports, 1896-1902 (some undated)
- f. 11 Assistant Inspector's Reports, 1884-1901
- f. 12 Administration Committee's Reports, 1885-1893
- f. 13 Administrative Inventories, 1887-1902
- f. 14 Special Committee's Reports, 1887-1903
- f. 15 Memorial Day Committee's Reports and Receipts, 1885-1893
- f. 16 Memorial Day Publications, 1886 and 1902
- f. 17 Arrears Reports, 1886-1907
- f. 18 Cemetery Committee's Reports, 1887-1896 (some undated)
- f. 19 Dispensations, 1888-1894
- f. 20 Officers' Election Results, 1884 and 1893
- f. 21 Officers' Bonds, 1883-1895
- f. 22 Officers' Rosters, 1887-1909
- f. 23 Officers' Letters of Resignation, 1887-1902
- f. 24-25 National Circulars, 1885-1919

### **Box 2**

- f. 26 Local Circulars, 1888-1903
- f. 27 Bills and Receipts, 1888-1917
- f. 28 Property Indentures, 1884-1889
- f. 29 Pension Documents, 1906-1928
- f. 30 Power of Attorney Certificate for Charles Hale, 1883
- f. 31 Lists of Dues Paid, 1902-1914
- f. 32 Advertisements for 37th National Encampment, 1903; and 54th Encampment, 1920

#### **Series 2: Member Information, 1881-1822**

- f. 33 Lists of Negley Post Members, 1890-1898 (mostly undated)
- f. 34-37 Members' Applications, 1881-1909 (arranged alphabetically)
- f. 38 Application Transcripts from Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society
- f. 39 Official Records of Military Service, 1879-1902
- f. 40 Transfer Cards, 1887-1903
- f. 41 Court-Martial Proceedings, 1887
- f. 42 Death Notices and Memorials, 1883-1911

f. 43 Members' Funeral Arrangements, 1889-1886; 1922

**Series 3: Correspondence, 1886-1938 (bulk 1886-1902)**

- f. 44 Headstone Applications, 1887-1903
- f. 45-46 Official Correspondence, 1886-1922 (bulk 1886-1903)
- f. 47 Invitations and R.S.V.P.s, 1887-1903
- f. 48 Favors and Individual Correspondence Relating to G.A.R. Business, 1887-1908 (bulk 1887-1902)
- f. 49 Correspondence with Theodore Gansen, 1893
- f. 50 General Correspondence, 1886-1902
- f. 51 Correspondence Between Senator Hayden and Mrs. Kitt (of the Pioneers' Historical Society), Regarding Preservation of the G.A.R. Records, 1938

**Box 3**

**Series 4: Bound Volumes, 1881-1921**

- f. 52 Negley Post By-Laws and Rules of Order, 1892
- f. 53 Receipt Book, 1897-1923
- f. 54 Receipt Book, 1902-1923
- f. 55 Partially filled-out Memorandum Book, 1910-1913
- f. 56 Partially filled-out Memorandum Book, 1913
- f. 57 Cemetery Record Book (date undetermined)
- f. 58 Headstones Record Book, 1890
- f. 59 Bank Book from The Arizona National Bank, 1910-1915
- f. 60 Annual State Encampment Journals, 1898-1904
- f. 61 State Department Rosters, 1914-1916
- Receipt Book, 1889-1894
- Warrant Book, 1888-1913

**Box 4**

Record of Interments at the G.A.R. Cemetery, 1921  
Minute Book, 1893-1908  
Post Orders and Circulars, 1882-1897  
Journal, 1881-1890  
Journal, 1890-1901  
2 Descriptive Books, dates undetermined

**Box 5**

**Series 4, Oversize**

Ledger, 1889-1913

**Box 6**

Cash Ledger, 1890-1913