



# The Sons of Revolutionary Sires and the Origins of the Sons of the American Revolution



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All of our Compatriots are aware that the **Sons of the American Revolution** has its roots in our parent organization, **Sons of the Revolutionary Sires (S.R.S.)** Unfortunately, the original records of the S.R.S. and the first years of the California Society, SAR were lost in the terrible San Francisco earthquake and fire. The history of both Societies was re-created

from the memory of members and a few surviving documents, for the most part, secondary sources. Recently copies of the newspapers of the era have been reviewed, and from them a history of the S.R.S. has been recreated from primary sources. That factor makes this article one of significant historical importance.

The Centennial year 1876 - - the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, resulted in many celebrations throughout the country including the first Worlds Fair to be held in the United States; the International Centennial Exposition that opened in Philadelphia on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1876. Cities throughout the nation planned events to celebrate the momentous signing of this document of freedom.

San Francisco was one among those many cities. The year 1875 ended with a proclamation from San Francisco Mayor Andrew J. Bryant, on December 30<sup>th</sup>, 1875, that the new year begin with the ringing of the city's fire bells for five minutes and the ringing of the city's church bells for a half hour beginning at midnight. The next day, the National and City Guards and the First California Guard fired gun and cannon salutes at various locations in the city, special church services were offered, and fireworks were the order of the day. This was just the beginning of a year that in San Francisco, like many other cities throughout the country, included many plans for celebrating the Centennial, in particular events to be held between July 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

On June 26<sup>th</sup>, 1876 a letter submitted by an unidentified granddaughter of Revolutionary War patriots to the editor of the Daily Alta California one of San Francisco's newspapers, was printed on page one concerning the forthcoming celebration in San Francisco. Exhibit one is a copy of this letter as it was printed. (See Exhibit 1).

by Jim L.W. Faulkinbury, CG<sup>SM</sup>  
and Past President, Sacramento Chapter

## EXHIBIT 1

FROM THE DAILY ALTA CALIFORNIA  
OF JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup>, 1876, PAGE 1, COLUMN 5

## CENTENNIAL.

### Suggestion for Descendants of Revolutionary Heroes to Participate in the Celebration.

EDITORS ALTA: Wouldn't it be a most novel but strikingly interesting idea in the programme of the procession for our city Centennial celebration to have represented our grandparents of the Revolution by the grandchildren now living residents of this city? There might not be a single living son or daughter, but no doubt there might be a score or more of real grandchildren. Wouldn't it be splendid if enough could be found to represent every State in the Union, to ride in a car sufficiently large to carry them all, each one carrying a small flag with the name of the State they represent, and the car designated the Revolutionary Grandchildren? The writer of this is such an one, an elderly lady, 66 years of age. I am the granddaughter and step granddaughter of six who passed through that bloody struggle inaugurated by the Declaration—the anniversary of the signing of which we have celebrated for ninety-nine years, and now are about to give unusual eclat to the Centennial anniversary. Two of these grandparents lived to be 93 and 96 years of age, both received pensions from the United States Government. One of them never laid on a bed after that terrible struggle for our Liberty, being deprived of that privilege, through the asthma, contracted from taking colds, sleeping out in snows and rains, suffering and exposure. If the writer could be transported back to my native home in good old Massachusetts, almost in sight of Plymouth Rock, I could (I think it is so fresh in my memory) put my feet on the very spot where I have stood with one of my grandmother's when she told me there was where my grandfather dropped his plough, rushed into the old farm-house, shouldered his musket, kissed her and his infant child, (which only died two years ago, just a hundred years old), mounted his farm nag, just unbitched from the plough, and while the terrible sound of the horseman, "To arms, to arms!" was wringing in my grandmother's ears, he was away to Boston as a volunteer. All honor to our glorious, noble grandparents to-day. I could tell many, many incidents that they all have related to me, so green and fresh and heart-stirring to-day to me, as, when a child, I heard them from their own lips, which I

continued on page 11 -->



EXHIBIT 1 *continued*

have told myself to many a dear little child in this city, to try to explain what the Fourth of July, or Independence, means. These things must be kept before the minds of our young and rising generation, for from some of them at least must come the future support of the whole "fabric," so dearly won by those martyred heroes whose cry, "Liberty or death!" went up to the ears of a willing, Merciful Father to relieve us from tyranny and oppression, making a home for all to worship as they choose, and to buy, sell and get gain, and send it where they list. If the General of the Day thinks anything of this, for I know you will let him see it, tell him I want to go and carry the old Bay State flag, my dear native home, which I have not seen for fourteen years. I am the poor widow of one of the victims of the privateers of our last war, living in obscurity.

Yours, etc., ———.

The following day, another letter to the Editor from J. L. Cogswell appeared in the Daily Alta California (see Exhibit 2)

EXHIBIT 2

FROM THE DAILY ALTA CALIFORNIA  
OF JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup>, 1876, PAGE 1, COLUMN 1

**Revolutionary Descendants.**

**Express ALTA:** The idea suggested by the granddaughter of one of our Revolutionary sires seems a capital one. And as I belong in the same category with your correspondent, being the grandson of one of the Revolutionary heroes, I shall be happy to have all who belong to this class call at my office, No. 230 Kearny street, and organize for the occasion.

J. L. COGSWELL.

San Francisco, June 26th, 1876.

The role of Dr. James L. Cogswell in the creation of the Sons of Revolutionary Sires will be discussed at length later in this article.

In the June 29<sup>th</sup>, 1876 issue of the Daily Alta California, among the several "special items" published on page one to notify various groups of meetings in preparation for the celebration, another brief notice was published calling for the descendants of Revolutionary patriots to meet to discuss participation in the celebration to be held in that city (see Exhibit 3)

It is said that the meeting called for on the evening

EXHIBIT 3

FROM THE DAILY ALTA CALIFORNIA  
OF JUNE 29<sup>TH</sup>, 1876, PAGE 1, COLUMN 1

The Descendants of the Revolutionary patriots in this city are requested to meet at the headquarters of the Grand Marshal, at No. 212 Kearny street, at 8 o'clock this evening, for the purpose of making arrangements to participate in the celebration.

of June 29<sup>th</sup> was in response to an agreement of those who attended Dr. James Cogswell's meeting that they should coordinate any plans with the Grand Marshal for the planned parade.

According to a published notice in the July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1876 issue of the Daily Alta California (see Exhibit 5) recording the events of the most recent meeting of the Sons of Revolutionary Sires, this first meeting was called by James P. Dameron, Esq. and twenty-six people attended and enrolled as members of a new society.

A second meeting was held on July 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss the celebration and another thirty members joined the organization. Another meeting was held on July 4<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the new Society's participation in the Grand Procession. Members of the Society joined the procession on foot carrying thirteen shields representing the thirteen original colonies. After the Procession, the members returned to the Palace Hotel where James Dameron delivered an address. By the end of that meeting, there were eighty members of the Sons of Revolutionary Sires. Albert Maver Winn (1810-1883), a '49er who had been an officer in the Mississippi Militia prior to his arrival in California and had risen to the rank of Major General in the California State Militia, was among those men and was chosen as chairman of this new society. Gen. Winn was the grandson of Revolutionary War patriot William Winn of Maryland. It should also be noted that Gen. Winn, who had for several years been a member of San Francisco's Fourth of July Celebration Committee, organized a group of California pioneers to dress in miner's garb typical of the gold rush days and participate in the Independence Day parade in 1875. That group formed the Native Sons of the Golden West and he is considered their founder as well.

As chairman of the newly formed organization, Gen. Winn called for another meeting on July 11<sup>th</sup>. An advertisement for that call was published in the Alta of 11 July (see Exhibit 4).

EXHIBIT 4

FROM THE DAILY ALTA CALIFORNIA  
OF JULY 11<sup>TH</sup>, 1876, PAGE 2, COLUMN 2

**Sons of Revolutionary Sires**

**Meet in lower Dashaway Hall, 139**

Post street, THIS (TUESDAY) NIGHT, at eight, July

11th, 1876. [Jy 11-1876] A. M. WINN, Chairman.

The meeting of July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1876 was given as the official date on which the Sons of Revolutionary Sires (S.R.S.) was formally organized. At that meeting, its



## THE SONS OF REVOLUTIONARY SIRES *continued from page 11*

first slate of officers was selected. Gen. Winn was elected as President. The other officers of the S.R.S were: Caleb T. Fay, First Vice-President; Samuel Graves, Second Vice-President, Ira S. Root, Third Vice-President, William B. Easton, Recording Secretary; William H. Mead, Financial Secretary; J.P. Dameron, Treasurer; and William B. Moses, Marshal. (see Exhibit 5).

EXHIBIT 5  
FROM THE DAILY ALTA CALIFORNIA  
OF JULY 16<sup>TH</sup>, 1876, PAGE 5, COLUMN 1

### SONS OF REVOLUTIONARY SIRES.

#### The Society Fully Organized and Officers Elected.

On Tuesday evening, July 11th, the descendants of Revolutionary patriots met at Dashaway Hall General A. M. Winn, President *pro tem.*, in the Chair. In the absence of Dr. E. L. Willard, Secretary *pro tem.*, W. B. Easton was chosen to fill his place.

The roll was called, absentees marked, and reading the minutes of the former meetings dispensed with. The Chairman then opened the meeting by saying:

Now that our Revolutionary fathers have put on the robes of blissful immortality and left us a Republican form of government as a national inheritance, we, as their descendants, take pride and pleasure in commemorating their heroic deeds and keeping alive the spirit of independence evinced by them, in opposing tyrannic rule and establishing a nation.

This lengthy article includes the names of all of the first elected officers, and the names of the 81 members then on the rolls.

At another meeting the following week, the membership adopted a Constitution, By-Laws and articles of incorporation. A Historic Council was created to be responsible for "all matters of biography, history and relics" and a Female Department was created to enlist the "influence of the ladies in promoting the labors undertaken by their male relatives." Social reunions were proposed to be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October each year to celebrate the anniversary of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis to Gen. Washington at Yorktown. Celebrations were also to be held on February 22<sup>nd</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup> each year. Exhibit 6 is part of the entry in the July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1876 edition of the Daily Alta California.

Evidently a lot of interest in this new society was generated in San Francisco and there was a great deal of confusion over the qualifications necessary for membership. In the November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1876 issue of the Daily Alta California (see Exhibit 7), another article appeared to clarify the confusion over the membership

EXHIBIT 6  
FROM THE DAILY ALTA CALIFORNIA  
OF JULY 29<sup>TH</sup>, 1876, PAGE 1, COLUMN 1

### Sons of Revolutionary Sires.

The officers of the new Society of Revolutionary descendants, to whom was referred the Constitution, By-laws, and articles of incorporation, have had a meeting.

#### THE CONSTITUTION

Was adopted by unanimous vote. It provides that the name shall be "Sons of Revolutionary Sires;" its object, to unite the descendants of Revolutionary patriots; perpetuate the memory of those who took part in the American Revolution, and maintained the independence of the United States; to promote social intercourse, mental improvement and mutual benefit of its members; to organize auxiliary, co-equal branches and representative bodies at such times and places as the Directors may determine.

#### HISTORIC COUNCIL

Is provided for, to be composed of forty members, over forty years of age, to whom all matters of biography, history and relics are to be referred for arrangement, record and preservation. It is to be an auxiliary of the Association, with power to pass By-laws for its own organization, and will recommend such measures as they think proper for the action of the whole Society.

#### A FEMALE DEPARTMENT

Is to be organized as an auxiliary, which will be composed of the wives, daughters, etc., of the male members of the Society. The object is to enlist the most efficient influence of the ladies in promoting the labors undertaken by their male relatives. A social reunion is proposed to be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October of each year, being the anniversary of the Surrender of Lord Cornwallis to Washington, at Yorktown, in 1781. The days of celebration will be the 22<sup>d</sup> of February and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, when certain commemorative ceremonies will be observed by public demonstration of some kind.

requirements for joining the S.R.S. In this article is was stated that, contrary to the beliefs of some that descent from a patriot who provided military service was necessary, "Its (the Societies) objectives are to unite the descendants of Revolutionary patriots." This included the signers of the Declaration of Independence, judges, State Legislators, town councilmen, farmers who raised the grain, those who made the guns, clothes and ammunition, etc. (see Exhibit 7).

It is an interesting point that this recognition of non-military patriotic service as qualifying service in the S.R.S. is one of the differences between the current



Exhibit 7 *continued from page 13*

The signers of the Declaration of Independence, the Judges, State Legislators, Town Councilmen, the Ministers to foreign countries, the farmers who raised the grain, the mechanics who made the shoes, the guns, the clothes, the ammunition, and every thing necessary to support and give efficiency to the Army, were alike patriots, though not soldiers in the ranks. To confine membership to the descendants of soldiers would be to exclude the descendants of John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, and a long list of men who laid the plans, made the laws, raised the men and equipped and fed the rank and file, etc., etc. The founders, seeing this would be the case, took a more expansive view, and embraced all who had, in any way, taken part in the Revolution. The minister who prayed for the cause, the teacher who inculcated in the minds of youth the principles of a Republican Government, and the mothers and daughters who made clothes for the soldiers, were all important and useful patriots. Each in their sphere did their part, and are alike entitled to membership in the Sons of Revolutionary Sires.

"Sons of the American Revolution" and the "Sons of the Revolution" both of which organizations claim descent from the S.R.S.

Why is October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1875 used as the Institution date for the CASSAR?

The California Society, Sons of the American Revolution recognizes the date, October 22<sup>nd</sup> 1875 as the "instituted date" of the CASSAR in their history. As the preceding account suggests, the S.R.S. was formally organized at the meeting held on July 11<sup>th</sup> 1876. The discrepancy in dates requires some analysis to determine why the earlier date is used.

On June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1875 Colonel Richard H. Savage, Chief Aid to General John McComb, the Grand Marshal of the Independence Day celebrations in San Francisco, delivered an address asking the people of the city to perfect their arrangements for a fitting celebration. As a result of his address, a group was formed and dressed as a platoon of Continental soldiers to participate in the parade. (See Exhibit 8).

According to accounts written in the 1897 "History, Constitution and By-Laws, Membership, California Society

EXHIBIT 8

FROM THE DAILY ALTA CALIFORNIA (SAN FRANCISCO)  
OF JULY 6<sup>TH</sup>, 1875, PAGE 1, COLUMN 4

The platoon of Continental soldiers, commanded by Captain F. C. M. Fenn, was a marked feature of the procession and as they marched past in their antique uniforms, one almost fancied that the procession was a pageant of the 17th century rather than a celebration of this age of military and civic enlightenment.

of the Sons of the American Revolution Instituted at San Francisco October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1875 as Sons of Revolutionary Sires" and the 1901 "Register of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Instituted at San Francisco, California, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1875 as Sons of Revolutionary Sires", as a follow-up to the interest demonstrated in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, Dr. James L. Cogswell of San Francisco held a meeting at his office at 230 Kearney Street in San Francisco on the evening of October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1875. Among those present were Dr. Peter W. Randle, Dr. Emory L. Willard, Joseph Reed, Ira Root, Richard B. Randle, and Major Edwin Sherman. That evening, they discussed creating an organization for the descendants of Revolutionary heroes.

According to an account of the meeting written by Major Edwin A. Sherman in a 1904 pamphlet, "Genesis and Revelations of the Former 'California Society of Sons of Revolutionary Sires' but now the California Society of Sons of the American Revolution", Dr. Cogswell called

this meeting to discuss with a group of his friends who were descendants of Revolutionary sires, the creation of a society to get ready and make preparations for celebration of the Centennial anniversary of American Independence. Major Sherman's account goes on to state that they first chose the name "California Society of Sons of Revolutionary Sires" but since Major Sherman was then a resident of Nevada, he objected and the proposed name was changed to "National Society of Sons of Revolutionary Sires". Dr. Randle was selected

as chairman but in turn nominated Dr. Cogswell as National President. Dr. Randle was named Vice President for California, and Major Sherman as Vice President for the State of Nevada. Shortly after that meeting Dr. Sherman returned to Nevada and in June and July 1876, when the aforementioned events of the Centennial Celebration took place in San



THE SEAL OF THE SONS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY SIRENS RECREATED FROM A WRITTEN DESCRIPTION



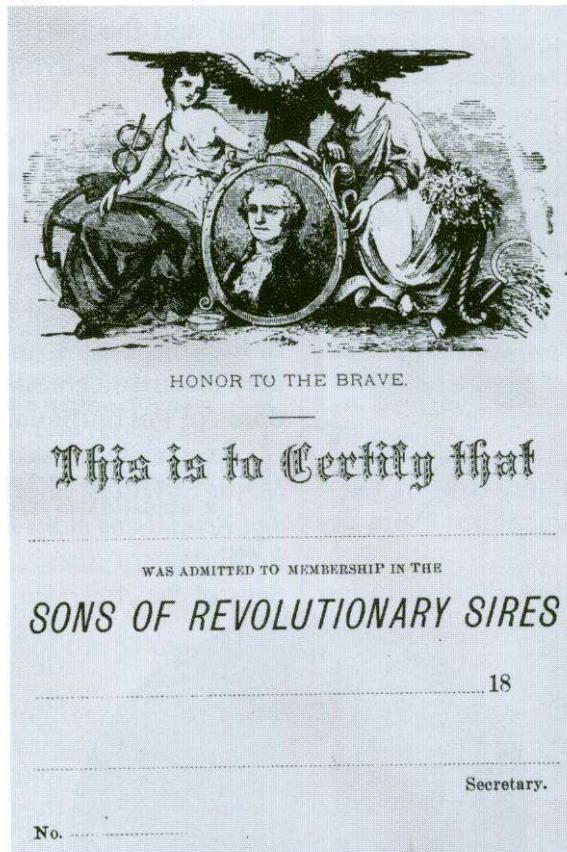
Francisco, he was a delegate to the Republican National Convention. Major Sherman's pamphlet is an angry account of intrigues that he states were perpetrated by Gen. Winn in usurping the original organization established in October 1875 from the duly elected officers of that organization and taking it over as his own. It was also an angry statement about how the newly formed CASSAR refused to support the building of a monument in Monterey dedicated to Rear Admiral John Drake Sloat, USN who took possession of California in 1846, hoisting the American flag at Monterey. Major Sherman was, at the time he wrote this pamphlet, the Secretary of the Sloat Monument Association.

From the account of the meetings held in June and through July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1876 as published in the Daily Alta California of July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1876, it is evident that 26 men attended the first meeting on June 29<sup>th</sup> at which time Gen. Winn was elected as Chairman of the organization. A roll was started at that meeting with Gen. Winn's name first on the roll. The July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1876 article lists the names of the first eighty-one men who signed the roll. It can be assumed that the numbering on the roll corresponded to the order in which it was signed. James L. Cogswell's name appears as number 18, Peter Randle's as 21, and Ira C. Root's as number 47. Since the account states that 26 men signed the roll at the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting on June 29<sup>th</sup> and another 30 at the meeting on July 1<sup>st</sup>, James Cogswell and Peter Randle were involved in the first meeting and Ira Root was at the second meeting. These three men were all present at the October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1875 meeting in Dr. Cogswell's office and it would appear that they considered this to be a follow-up to that meeting, formally organizing the S.R.S. Maj. Sherman was not in California during any of the meetings in June or July 1876. His account indicates that Dr. Cogswell had told him that the only discussions subsequent to the October 1875 meeting were casual meetings on the street where they talked about what regalia to use for the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> of July

celebration and it wasn't until his (Dr. Cogswell's) call for another meeting at his office in the Daily Alta California of June 27<sup>th</sup>, 1876 that any further activities were conducted. It should be noted that the call made in the June 27<sup>th</sup> notice did not mention any formal organization, only that Dr. Cogswell, like the granddaughter of the Revolutionary sire who wrote the letter to the Editor in the June 26<sup>th</sup> paper, was the grandson of a "Revolutionary hero".

It is therefore reasonable to conclude that some of those present at the meeting on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 1876 were also present at the meeting of October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1875 and considered this the formal follow-up to an idea that had begun eight months earlier. They used the same name for the society as had been previously proposed and considered the meeting in October 1875 as the point at which the idea for the S.R.S. was conceived thus giving that date as the "instituted date" that has carried on.

Many of the records of the S.R.S. were lost in the conflagration that destroyed much of San Francisco following the disastrous earthquake of April 18<sup>th</sup> 1906. The newspaper accounts and the annual Registers of the Sons of the American Revolution provide an insight into the activities of the S.R.S. leading to their merge into the Sons of the American Revolution.



tion.

As dictated in the meeting in July 1876 where the Constitution and By-Laws were approved, the annual reunion and social event was held on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1876 to commemorate the victory at Yorktown. An advertisement of the Grand Reunion appeared in the Alta of October 16<sup>th</sup>, 1876 (*see Exhibit 9*).

The activities of the S.R.S. were continued on a monthly basis by a governing board and much of their work was done in secret. Around July 1877, Gen. Winn moved to Sonoma County, California and Col. Hubbard, who was Secretary of the S.R.S., also departed the state. Without their leadership the Society's meetings were less frequent and from 1878 to September 1881, when Col. Hubbard returned, the Society was



EXHIBIT 9

FROM THE DAILY ALTA CALIFORNIA (SAN FRANCISCO)  
OF OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup>, 1876, PAGE 3, COLUMN 5

# SONS OF REVOLUTIONARY SIREs.

Grand Reunion October 19, 1876,  
AT UNION HALL.

PROGRAMME.

- 1—Prayer by the Chaplain.
- 2—Oration by Colonel Caleb T. Fay.
- 3—The "Marseillaise," by the Band.
- 4—Poem by Colonel Frank Soule.
- 5—"Star Spangled Banner."
- 6—"The Grand March and Quadrille National," dedicated to S. H. S., during which the programmes will be delivered to the dancers.
- 7—Grand Waltz.
- 8—Minuet de la Cour by 36 members, in elegant Continental costume, to be danced in artistic style, followed by 13 other dances, according to programme.
- 9—The canvased floor must be kept clear for dancing.
- 10—Ladies not allowed on the floor with bonnets on.
- 11—Carriages must come in on Third and go out at Fourth street.

One Ticket will admit a gentleman and his ladies. Tickets for sale at Sherman & Hyde's music store, corner of Sutter and Kearny streets; Col. Andrew's jewelry store, under the Russ House, on Montgomery street; at Anderson & Randolph's, corner of Sutter and Montgomery; and at 623 Washington street, third floor. All persons of good repute can purchase tickets at one dollar each.

The supper room is in charge of J. H. Johnson, Superintendent, for the benefit of the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society.

dormant. He restored vigor to the Society and it again began holding meetings and celebrating Revolutionary anniversaries.

A newspaper article in the Alta of July 30<sup>th</sup>, 1885 gave a tribute to the late President, Ulysses S. Grant. The article indicates that President Grant was a life member of the S.R.S. His patriot ancestor was his grandfather, Noah Grant

The following men served as President of the Sons of the Revolutionary Sires

Gen. A.M. Winn	1876-1880
Hon. Caleb T. Fay	1881
Capt. Augustus C. Taylor	1882-1883
Loring Pickering	1884-1885
Col. Aloyius S. Hubbard	1886-1889

Source: "Register of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution" (San Francisco: CASSAR, 1901).

From its beginnings, the California Society of the S.R.S. had been promoting the idea that other states also create similar societies as well as creating a national society. By 1889, twenty states had created state societies. Some used the same name as the California Society while others took the name "Sons of the Revolution". One of those societies, the New York Society

EXHIBIT 10

FROM THE DAILY ALTA CALIFORNIA (SAN FRANCISCO)  
OF JULY 30<sup>TH</sup>, 1885, PAGE 1, COL. 3 & 4

# SONS OF REVOLUTIONARY SIREs.

## Another Tribute to the Memory of General Grant.

The Society of the Sons of Revolutionary Sires offer the following tribute of respect to the memory of General Grant:

HEADQUARTERS SONS OF REVOLUTIONARY SIREs, SAN FRANCISCO, July 28, 1885.

It is our painful duty to announce to the Society the death of our illustrious and honored life-member Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, at Mt. McGregor, N. Y., early in the morning of Thursday, 23d inst.

Our gifted comrade was a scion of Revolutionary stock, being a grandson of Capt. Noah Grant, of the Connecticut line of the Continental Army—a soldier of the Republic, combining the virtues of Washington, the first Commander-in-Chief, with the military genius of a conqueror, an honor to our Society and a giver to all Americans of the heritage of his example, that of an overflowing measure of patriotism, courage and fidelity.

As the descendants of the brave and vallant few, who, by their wage of arms, assisted in laying the foundation of the American nation, we recognize the hand of the Omnipotent in organizing, directing, controlling and securing the victory to the great Commander in battle.

The career of Ulysses S. Grant is so widely known that every nation has heard of his broad statesmanship and noble deeds of valor, and recorded his fame in their hearts and letters.

His life and military achievements represent some of the finest traits of the American citizen and soldier—unswerving integrity, intrepid conduct, truthfulness, honor, firmness in discipline and zeal in the profession in which he was educated, "tempering the administration of an exact discipline by the most elevated courtesies."

As a token of respect for his eminent ability, exalted character and devotion to the American people, which traits are without parallel in the annals of the Republic, the members of this Society will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days, and a page of our records will be set apart to perpetuate the fact that his name is borne on the roll of our membership.

The members of this Society are especially enjoined to assist in the parade and be present at the obsequies, held on August 8th.

[Seal.] LORING PICKERING, President.  
A. S. HUBBARD, Secretary.

of the "Sons of the Revolution", established in 1883, called for a convention to be held in New York City to discuss organizing a national association and also to recognize the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington as the first President of the United States. (See Exhibit 11).

The Honorable Hamilton Fish, Col. A.S. Hubbard, Col. David Wilder, Major George Blight Halstead (then living in Elizabeth, New Jersey) were appointed as delegates to represent the California Society at this convention. Only Maj. Halstead was able to attend but



EXHIBIT 11

FROM THE DAILY ALTA CALIFORNIA (SAN FRANCISCO) OF  
MAY 5<sup>TH</sup>, 1889, PAGE 1, COL. 5

From Colonel A. S. Hubbard, President of the local society, it is learned that delegates have been invited from all the State organizations to meet in New York City this week for the purpose of organizing a national association of the Sons of Revolutionary Sires, the origin of which was the outgrowth of the brief item which appeared in the news columns of the ALTA nearly thirteen years ago.

he maintained telegraph contact with the S.R.S. President, Col. Hubbard [*Register of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution* (San Francisco: CASSAR, 1901), pp. 1-11]. Thirteen of the twenty state organizations attended the convention. In a dispute over whether the various state societies should be considered as "auxiliary" to the New York Society as proposed by the Pennsylvania Society, both the New York and Pennsylvania societies dropped out of the convention and continued under the name, "Sons of the Revolution". The remaining 18 state societies decided to organize the "National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution".

At a Board of Directors meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1890, the "California Society, Sons of Revolutionary Sires" officially changed its name to the "California Society, Sons of the American Revolution". On October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1891 a new Constitution and By-laws was adopted. [*Register of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution* (San Francisco: CASSAR, 1901), pp. 11]

Meanwhile, according to an article in the New York Times of April 20<sup>th</sup>, 1890 (p. 1, col. 4), the District of Columbia, New York and Pennsylvania Societies of the "Sons of the Revolution" met in Washington D.C. on April 19<sup>th</sup> and organized the "General Society of the Sons of the Revolution". At a meeting held in Los Angeles on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1893, another group of men organized the "California Society, Sons of the Revolution" [*Articles of Incorporation, Sons of the Revolution, California State Archives, Incorporation*

No. 22515]. This organization became a member of the General Society of the Sons of the Revolution.

The role of the officers of the Sons of Revolutionary Sires in establishing the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution did not go unnoticed. At the First National Congress on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 1890 in Louisville, Kentucky, a resolution was made recognizing Col. A.S. Hubbard as a Past President-General of the National Society. At the Third Annual Congress in 1892, another resolution was made recognizing Col. Hubbard as "the founder of the California Society Sons of the American Revolution and thereby founder of the Society at large" and another resolution was made stating that "the name A.M. Winn, first President of the California Society, shall hereafter appear in the roll of Past Presidents-General of this society".

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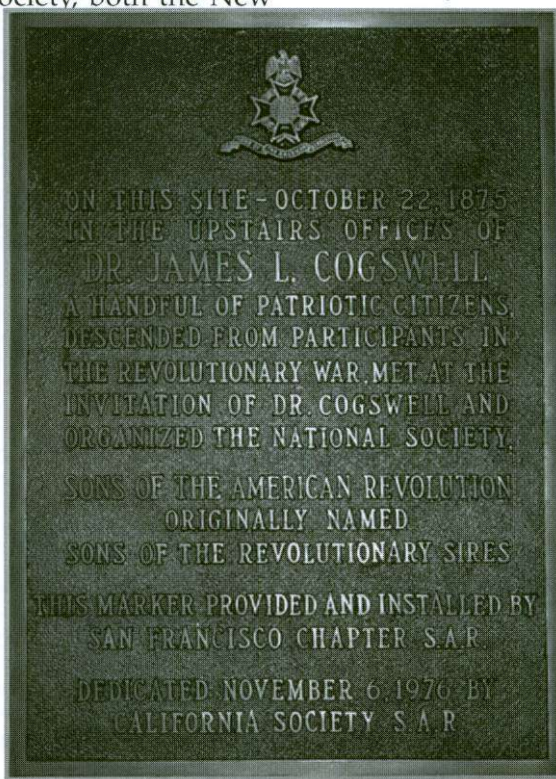
"History, Constitution and By-Law, Membership, California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Instituted at San Francisco October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1875 as Sons of Revolutionary Sires", (San Francisco: CASSAR, 1897).

"Register of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Instituted at San Francisco, California, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1875 as Sons of Revolutionary Sires" (San Francisco: CASSAR, 1901). See the web site with a roster of these members. <http://www.calarchives4u.com/organizations/sar/index.htm>

"Genesis and Revelations of the Former 'California Society of Sons of Revolutionary Sires' But Now the California Society of Sons of the American Revolution", by Major Edwin A. Sherman, 1904 (no publication data, copy available online at <http://www.archive.org/details/genesisrevelatio00sonsrich>

Articles of Incorporation, Sons of the Revolution, California State Archives, Incorporation No. 22515

Jim L. W. Faulkinbury, CG<sup>sm</sup>  
Past President,  
Sacramento Chapter



THE PLAQUE DEDICATED BY THE SAR MARKING THE LOCATION WHERE THE SRS WAS ORGANIZED