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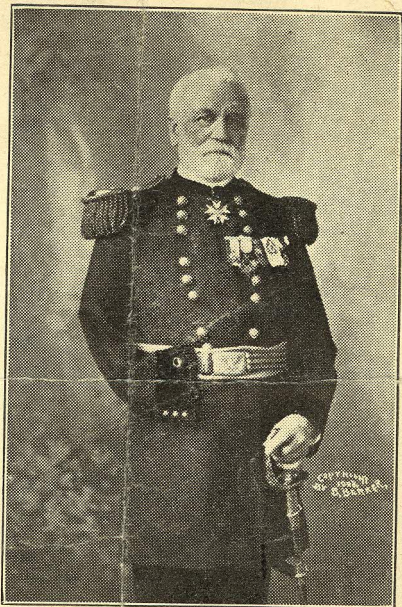
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FAMOUS
WAR LECTURES

BY

General O. O. Howard.



SUBJECTS:

- I. Personal Recollections of Abraham Lincoln.
- II. Grant and His Generals.
- III. Sherman and the March to the Sea.
- IV. General George H. Thomas, the Rock of Chickamauga.
- V. The Battle of Gettysburg.
- VI. The American Volunteer Soldier.
- VII. A Sojourn with Wild Indians, Living in the Camp of the Apache Chief Cochise.
- VIII. Father Love, Patriotic and Christian (Religious).
- IX. The Power of Small Things (Religious).

General Howard is the last surviving commander of an American Army in the Civil War, and now one of the very few who can speak from the platform entertainingly and with authority on the topics of that stirring period. He is still in vigorous health, and his addresses are able and instructive. The Springfield (Mass.) Republican of February 15th, 1909, says of his address on Lincoln :

“ The Court Street Theatre was filled for yesterday’s meeting. Every man who went to hear Major-General O. O. Howard came away with a distinct impression of reverence and sympathy, mingled with admiration for Lincoln, reflected through General Howard’s love for the man. He sketched the character of the man by a series of stories, each with a point and most of them of a personal nature. His address was at times keenly humorous, often the stories were full of pathos but always interesting. The meeting was undoubtedly the most perfect tribute to Lincoln than any held in this vicinity.”

For information and dates of appointment and rates write to H. S. Howard, Secretary, 156 College Street, Burlington, Vermont.

General Howard at Colonia

Major General Oliver Otis Howard, United States Army (retired), was the guest of the citizens of Port Arthur, Texas, on July 6, 7 and 8, 1903. Never was welcome more cordial and sincere than that which the people of this section of the South gave to the illustrious soldier of the North—the hero of Fair Oaks; the commander of 147,500 men, comprising the Army of the Tennessee; the leader of the right wing of Sherman's army in the historic march to the sea. Never was welcome more profoundly appreciated or kindly feeling more ardently reciprocated than by this great-hearted soldier-philanthropist, whose life a mob once threatened to terminate in this same Texas at the close of the Civil War.

For three days the citizens of Port Arthur did honor to their guest. A committee of old soldiers, riding in carriages decorated with flowers, flags and bunting, met the famous visitor at the railway station and escorted him to his hotel, which was also decorated. Three other committees, each with its particular functions, reinforced by unofficial delegations of citizens, gave ample evidence that the honor of the General's visit was keenly appreciated.

The public reception on the evening of July 7th was the most brilliant and successful affair ever seen in Port Arthur. The place of reception was lavishly decorated with flowers, flags and colored electric lights. A banquet was served to three hundred persons, and during its progress a band entertained the outside crowd with patriotic music. After the banquet seven addresses of welcome were delivered by the foremost men of the county. Of special note was an address of welcome by a former Confederate soldier who was on the firing-line at Fair Oaks at the time that General Howard lost his right arm.

In his address of reply General Howard discussed the issues of the day in a manner so clear, forceful and convincing that even the most radical of Southern men present demonstrated their approval by frequent and enthusiastic applause. As many persons present afterward expressed a strong desire to have this notable address preserved in book form, it is possible that it may be printed.

The General Refines Texas Oil

During his stay in Texas General Howard accepted an invitation to visit the works of the Colonia Oil Company, on Taylor's Bayou, near the head of the ship canal, three miles from Port Arthur. He became so deeply interested in the possibilities of Texas crude petroleum that he passed the greater part of two days at the works, where he carefully and patiently investigated the Colonia refining process in all its details, beginning with the arrival of the crude petroleum from the oil wells and ending with the filtering, bleaching and barreling of the finished product.

General Howard's visit to Colonia is best described in his own words, which are here reproduced, by permission, from letters written by him to friends in the East.

Extract from a Letter to a Friend in Vermont

DEAR FRIEND:— . . . The next day I had the privilege of running over, by water, in a launch, to the Colonia Oil Refinery. Here **I was gratified and surprised at finding so large a plant.** Mr. William Willard Howard, the treasurer, had told me something of the enterprise, and of the possibility of refining the crude oil, which is so abundant in this part of Texas; but I had no idea that the concern could turn out what is called the Texas Red lubricating oil in such large quantities. I saw in several large tanks this oil already refined and ready to be pumped into barrels to be shipped to market.

The first day I satisfied myself with watching the refining operation from start to finish. To please me, Mr. Howard and the refinery superintendent set apart still No. 4 and its accompanying equipment for a complete test of the refining process. I watched the workmen while they filled the still with crude oil. A hot fire was then kindled under the still. (Oil and steam are used in a vaporized state for fuel.) The process of distillation went steadily on until the works were stopped to enable the workmen to attend my reception in the evening.

The next day, a little earlier than before, my visit was repeated, and the still gave out the oil, which was put through the process of distillation again. A sample of the product of the second distillation was then carefully filtered through bone charcoal. From this I was permitted to take with me a small vial of the rich product. It is called "**General Howard's distillation**," though, to save his life, he could not have done it without help.

People have said to me several times that the Texas oil cannot be refined. **I know that it can be refined**, and what is wonderful to me, with so little loss of material. The refined oil has a volume of about one-tenth reduction. The men assured me that if they put into the still 200 barrels of the crude oil they would take out, after distillation and refining, not less than 180 barrels.

On my second visit I had also the privilege of filling another little vial from the tanks of the refined oil which is very soon to be pumped into the barrels. This has a beautiful dark-red color, and is said to be as good a lubricating oil for steam engines and other machinery as can be found in the market.

Everything about the plant for the refining of oil indicates **knowledge, painstaking and economy**.

I am not much acquainted with refineries, and did not know that so many different kinds of refined oil could be evolved from the crude oil. Indeed, the variety is astonishing, and I do not see how anybody could have truthfully said that Texas oil, which has in its crude state and its abundance made so many people rich, could not be refined; and, whether I understood the process or not, I did examine the crude oil itself and I did enjoy following it on, step by step, through the different coils of pipes, to the final result—namely, refined oils of different grades, and for different uses in the mechanical world. I congratulate my friend Mr. Howard, the treasurer, and his directors and stockholders upon the successful experiments which they have put through. I was glad to see the tanks already filled with refined oils ready for the market. I wish my friends abundant success in their undertaking, which appears to me to be **now, beyond peradventure, abundantly assured**.

Extract from a Letter to a Friend in Boston

MY DEAR FREDERICK:—Since I wrote you I have visited the great center of oil in the oil regions of Texas. M. has bought oil lands and paid in I do not wonder that he found oil, but I do wonder at his investment, because I find that it is **more profitable to buy the crude oil and refine it**. My good friend, William Willard Howard, showed me that by a practical demonstration at his refineries situated on the great canal which leads from Port Arthur across Sabine Lake to the Gulf of Mexico. His works border on the canal. I became very much interested in following the crude oil from the still to the place of issue, and also was interested in seeing the many processes by which it could be refined and still lose very little of its bulk.

The profit is evident; but the trouble in this part of the country is the phlegmatic character of the average laborer. The heat is great and prolonged, and so men grow lazier and lazier the longer they enjoy the climate. . . . I have wished all the time that you had been with me and taking in the chances to make a fortune. But I will tell you more about it by and by. . . .