

does credit to the donors, and yet is, I trust, only the nucleus of a much larger library to be secured in the future. It will recall the scenes in which you have nobly played your part. It embalms the memory of the heroes whom you cherish. The transfer of it gives me more pleasure than I can tell, more pleasure than to be the recipient of any similar gift intended solely for myself. One more word and I have done — I thank the representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic for their many expressions of regard for me. They have honored me with the title of the 'Soldier's Friend.' I trust I may always do all in my power to deserve so proud a designation.'

"The speech was received with enthusiastic applause by both veterans and guests. General Slocum, on the part of the Board of Trustees, read the following resolution of thanks which the Board had adopted just previous to the ceremonies :

"WHEREAS, The New York State Soldiers and Sailors' Home has recently received through the generosity of the Hon. John H. Starin a valuable library and book-case.

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees gratefully accept the same, and hereby tender to Mr. Starin and the committee of the Grand Army of the Republic, who aided in the selection of the books, the sincere thanks of the Board and of the inmates of the Home.

Resolved, That the Board will preserve the library with the greatest care consistent with the use for which it was designed." *

Mr. Starin's tastes, also, are of the most simple and domestic character. He loves country life with its healthy and ever-varying changes; and often, when harassed and worn out with the cares and anxieties of business, he becomes, for the nonce, a second

* Admirable speeches were also made on this occasion by Colonel Willard Bullard of New York, General W. T. Rogers of Buffalo, General J. B. Murray of Seneca Falls, the Rev. S. Nichols of Bath, and the Rev. J. M. Foster of Waterloo, which were received with enthusiasm. At the conclusion of the ceremonies, General Slocum, on the part of the Board of Trustees, invited the assembled guests to a collation which was spread in the library-room. On motion of General J. B. Murray, the assembled members expressed their most cordial approval of the Board of Trustees of the Soldiers and Sailors' Home, and thanks for the generous reception of their representative. Mr. Starin and other guests then made a tour of the Home buildings with General Slocum, and they expressed themselves greatly pleased.