

He then made up his mind if he ever had any influence or power it should be exercised to try to ameliorate their condition, and the Indian Commission was his idea. He wished to appoint the very best men in the United States. He selected William E. Dodge, Felix Bruno, of Pittsburg, Colonel Robert Conklin, of St. Louis, and George H. Stuart, of Philadelphia. They were a portion of the Indian Commission which he always endeavored to establish, and they always could count upon him in aiding them in every possible way. He took that great interest always and never lost that interest. Even to his last moments he watched the progress of the matter, but it was a very difficult matter to handle at any time, and then especially as there was a great Indian ring to break up.

He was of a very kindly nature, generous to a fault. I would often remonstrate with him and say: "General, you can't afford to do this," and I would try to keep people away from him. In the case of one subscription, when they wanted him to contribute to a certain matter which I did not think he was able to do, I wouldn't let them go near him. Some injudicious person went there and he subscribed a thousand dollars.

General Grant always felt that he was badly treated by Halleck, but he rarely ever spoke unkindly of any one. In fact, I could hardly say he spoke unkindly, but he did feel that he was not fairly treated by Halleck. During one of my last visits to him he showed me his army orders, which he had kept in books. He had a copy of everything he ever did or said in regard to army matters. He was very careful about that, as he had written all the orders with his own hand. He pointed to one of this large series of books and said that it was fortunate that he had kept these things, because several of the orders could not be found on any record at the War Department. But during my long friendship I never heard him more than two or three times speak unkindly of Halleck, although he was very unjustly treated by him—a fact which I think will be borne out by the records. I told him of something that occurred to me in connection with one of the parties in charge of the records at Washington. He had been a strong friend of Halleck, and prejudiced against General Grant in the office where all these things passed through his hands. But, after twenty years of examination, he said that there was not a line relating to Grant that did not elevate him in the minds of thinking people.

#### LIFE AT LONG BRANCH.

It was through me that General Grant first came to Long Branch. He always enjoyed being here. He was totally unspoiled by all the honors conferred upon him. He was, simple, unaffected, and attached all the people to him. He drove out twice a day, and knew