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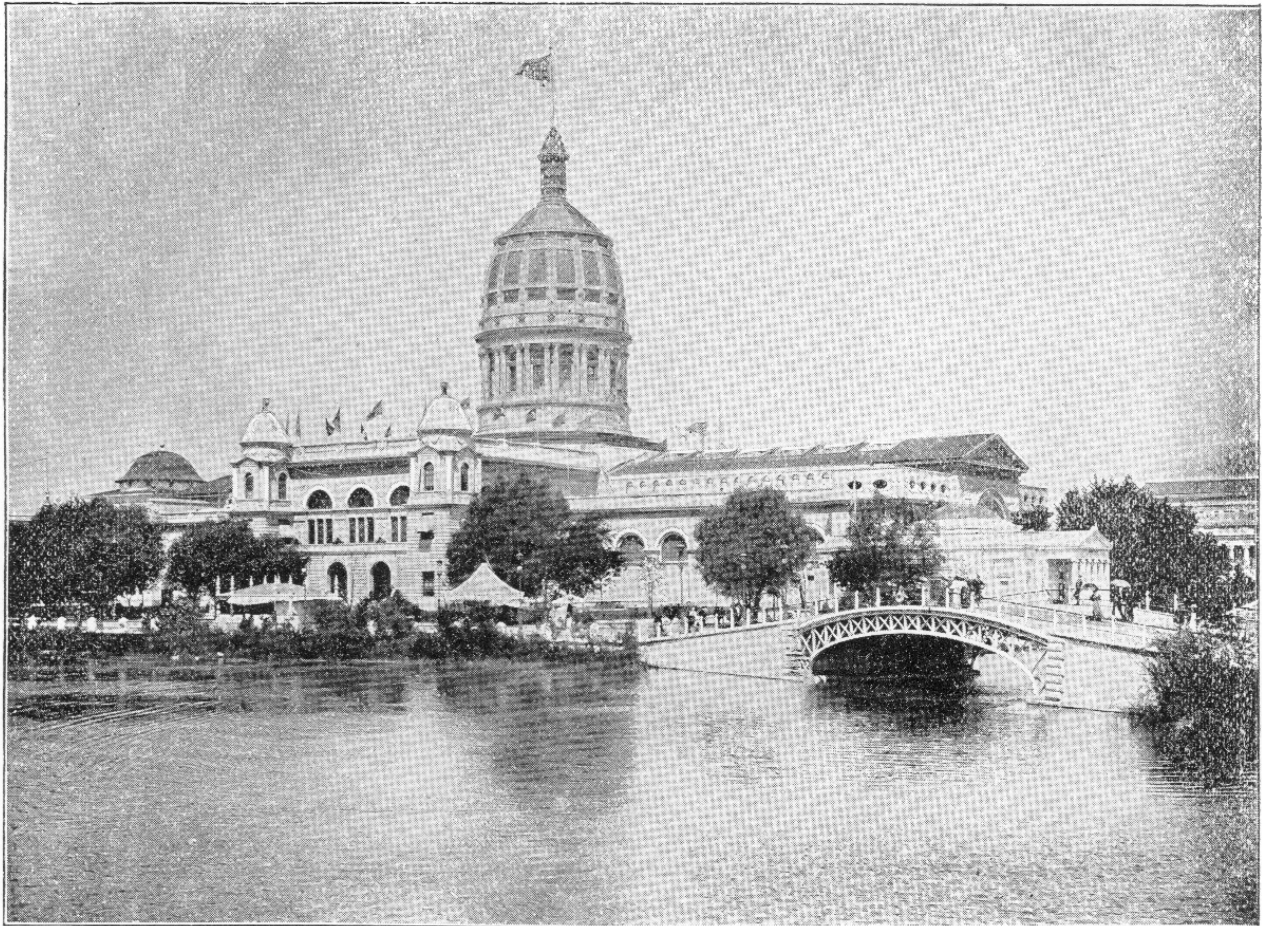
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Grand Army of the Republic Day, September 9, 1893 at the World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago.

The old soldiers of the Grand Army, returning from an annual encampment at Indianapolis, took the World's Fair by storm. About thirty thousand of the veterans were present. They first charged upon the Illinois State Building, where headquarters were established, the day's proceedings being under the direction of the Illinois department of the Grand Army, Major E. A. Blodgett commanding; they were also specially honored guests at the California Building.



ILLINOIS BUILDING.

Largest State building. Size, 160 by 450 feet. Cost, \$250,000.

In the afternoon a parade was formed to Festival Hall where an old time camp fire was held. At the head of the line marched the Columbia Post, No. 706, carrying the old headquarters flag of General George H. Thomas, which has been carried at all the parades of the Grand Army from Maine to California.



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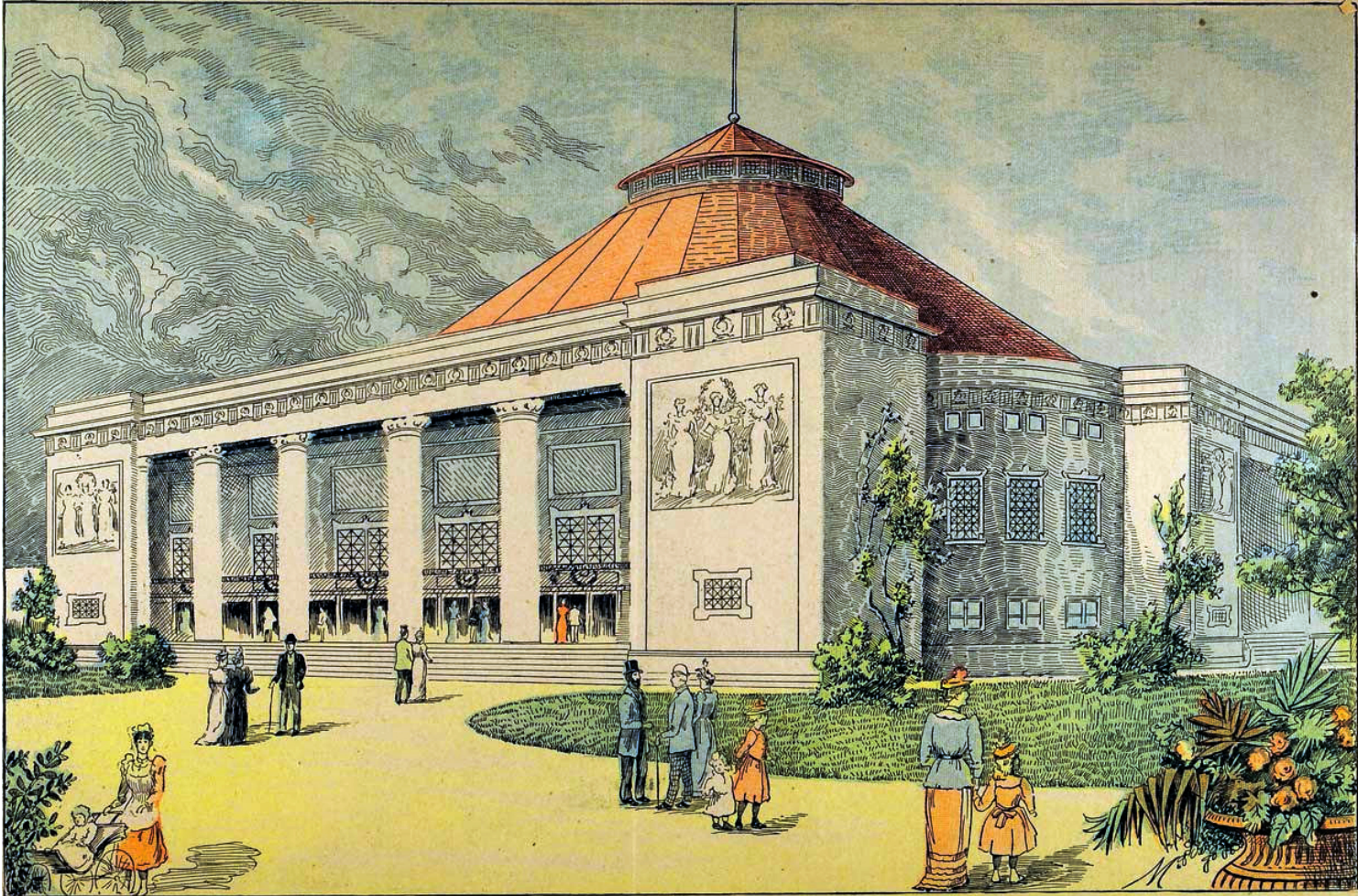
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Festival Hall

The old soldiers listened to speeches by Commander-in-Chief Adams, of Massachusetts; Past Commander-in-Chief Russell A. Alger, of Michigan; John Palmer, of New York; and John P. Rae, of Minnesota. "Uncle Jerry" Rusk was there also, and General Butterfield and Robert Henry Hendershott, the drummer boy of the Rappahannock.

At the close of these exercises they marched to the plaza west of Administration Building to assist in the ceremonies of the first ringing of the Columbia Liberty Bell. The chimes in Machinery Hall played patriotic music at intervals all day.