

1869

Historical Happenings

- March 4
Washington, D.C.
Ulysses S. Grant sworn in as 18th President
- April 10
Washington, D. C.
Amendment to Judiciary Act raises number of Supreme Court justices from seven to nine.
- April 7
Cincinnati, Ohio, **First Pro Baseball team, Red Stockings, to pay shortstop \$1,400.**
The Red Stockings captain-shortstop, George Wright contracted for a salary of \$1,400 for the season. The team, while playing amateur ball last year, were the first club to perform in uniforms that featured shortened pants known as knickerbockers.
- May 10
Union Pacific railroad joining East to West is completed today. Now the trip from New York to San Francisco has been cut from three months to eight days.
- May 24
Colorado
Major John Wesley Powell begins exploration of the Grand Canyon.
- May 28
Fossil Creek, Kansas
Band of Cheyenne Indians destroys section of Union Pacific Railroad.
- June 8
Washington, D. C.
Ives W. McGaffey granted patent for vacuum cleaner.
- June 15
Boston, Ma. The Great Peace Jubilee Grandest concert celebrates peace
The opening-day audience thrilled to the festival that was staged by “Musical Demonstrations.” It was organized to herald the “Restoration of Peace.” Held in the vast new Coliseum, built just for this purpose, the five day event is featuring a chorus of more than 10,000 and an orchestra of 1,000. The effect has been truly staggering as the sound of the unprecedented chorus washes over the audience in echoing waves.
See George Wadsworth’s diary entry June 16 and related newspaper article.

