

THIRTY YEARS AGO.

Tribute to Those Who Then Battled For the Union.

An Old-Time Bill of Fare—Men Who Ran the Political Conventions in Early Days.

The following poem by Ethel A. Carter, entitled "Thirty Years Ago," was written at the request of Fremont Post, Grand Army of the Republic, of Downieville, and was read at the Memorial Day services there on the 30th of May last.

Thirty years ago the rattle And the first shot did awaken Echoes that our land has shaken Whose reverberations on the Nation's year yet have scarcely died.

Steady hearts grew faint and weary; Cheery hearts were cold and dreary; Freedom's sons sprang bravely forward, and her daughters sadly mourned.

Fields where birds so late were singing, With the bugle's notes were ringing, And from pleasant towns and cities burst forth flames and battle smoke.

Peace, through weary souls is stealing With soft touch, the deep wounds healing, Though to those who loved and lost, the scars must evermore remain.

Time has brushed away the traces Of hot tears from wintry faces, And has washed the crimson blood from the fields and battle plain.

And Columbia, haughty, peevish, With her valiant sons and fearless, Her bright stars about her forehead, and the flag about her furled.

Where are they who strove and suffered, When dark clouds around them hovered, Who raised again the banner to its old place, proud and free?

Where the beams with ardor glowing, Where the white waves southward flowing, That swept away a nation's curse—the stain of slavery?

Some gray hair will tell the story Of the battles, fierce and long; When years have passed—to round-eyed children held by wonder dumb;

And old soldiers' eyes still glisten When to them they tell of the legion, As they wait till the Commander's final order bids them "come!"

These were not all. The burning fever Of those war-days gone forever, Began in many other hearts that answered to their country's cry.

Loyal hearts that thrilled and bounded, When the first loud cannon sounded, Hearts of men who bled and struggled—men who died with their God.

Where were they? When war was ended, When God's peace on earth descended, Silent were their voices—heard not in the soldiers' cheering cheer.

From the glen and sloping hillside, From the river banks and hillside, From the plain and through the valley, comes the answer, "We are here!"

Where the sunshine shifts and dances, And at night the moonlight glances, Where the song birds, in the trees, sleep the true, the tried, and brave!

There, old birds, sweetly, you sing! Green the grass, the trees, the spring; And all fall, with tender fingers, decorate each soldier's grave!

Whether fallen in the watches Of the night, or dying in barren hospital of hall, Whether their stanchions have risen From the reeking Southern prison, Or from crimsoned walls, where they were heroes—MEMORS ALL!

We, who share the good that cost them, All they had—their lives—who lost them, So little we can give to them, who so much for us gave.

What grand words or burning speeches To their glorious light e'er reached, We can only give them tears, and love, and strew with flowers each grave.

Sons of heroes come with gleaming banners on the soft breeze streaming! And fair daughters, bring your tributes—garlands fresh with morning dew, Blossoms like the daisies of the May; Like the flag they fought so well for—Roses, violets, and lilies, bring the red, the white, the blue.

.....A Calaveras paper lately published the following bill of fare. The "El Dorado Hotel" was located where the Cary House now stands, in Placerville, and was a frame building, which was afterward destroyed by fire. A copy of the original bill of fare is said to be in the possession of J. M. Hutchins, the pioneer of Yosemite Valley. The distinctions in the grades of hash, beans and potatoes show that eaters were well versed in their business, and would make the most of their opportunities. The extra charge of 25 cents for potatoes "peeled" is particularly refreshing.

EL DORADO HOTEL. M. ELSTNER, Proprietor. HANCOCK, January, 1850.

BILL OF FARE. SOUP. Ox Tail (choice).....\$1 00 Beef (choice).....1 00

ROASTS. Beef, Mexican (prime cut).....\$1 50 " Up along.....1 00 " with one potato (fair size).....1 25 " Tame, from the range.....1 50

VEGETABLES. Baked Beans, Plain.....75 " Grated.....1 00 Two Potatoes (medium size).....75 " Peeled.....75

ENTREES. Sauer Kneut.....\$1 00 Bacon, Fried.....1 00 " Stuffed.....1 50 Hash, Long.....1 00 " 1/2 Cakes.....1 00

GAME. Codfish Balls, per pair.....75 Crispy, fried.....1 00 " Fried.....1 00 Jackass Rabbit (whole).....1 00

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