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If you want to buy, sell, lease property or rent rooms, want a situation or want help, it will pay you to announce the fact in the advertising columns of The Star. They are closely studied by more than three times as many people as read any other paper.

AGAINST THE DRINK HABIT

Fourth Anti-Saloon Revival at Mt. Vernon Place Church.

Rev. Wheeler to Lecture and Mr. and Mrs. Beveridge to Sing—Sermons Yesterday.

The fourth anti-saloon revival, under the auspices of the Anti-Saloon League of the District of Columbia, will begin tonight at Mt. Vernon Place Church and will continue eight evenings at the same place. The speaker engaged for the entire series of meetings is Rev. Asaph J. Wheeler of Auburn, Me., who will speak tonight for the first time before a Washington audience.

Mr. Wheeler is a native of Maine and just passed his thirty-fourth birthday, but has traveled abroad and has already established a reputation, it is said, on both sides of the Atlantic as a fearless reformer and an eloquent advocate, especially of temperance. He comes here in this capacity.

At the age of nineteen Mr. Wheeler was called to the pastorate of a church in New Haven, Conn., where he served five years, and was subsequently in a pastorate at Concord, N. H., and Boston, Mass., respectively. When the Law and Order League of New Hampshire was organized Mr. Wheeler resigned his pastorate to become its secretary and has ever since devoted himself mainly to promoting the temperance reform.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Beveridge of Nebraska will assist Mr. Wheeler with temperance songs throughout the revival meetings. "The Beveridges," as they are familiarly called, were introduced to their first Washington audience in a midsummer concert in 1897, under the auspices of the Anti-Saloon League of the District of Columbia, which now announces their second appearance.

John Wills Baer, general secretary United Society of Christian Endeavor, says of these singers: "I assure you it would be a pleasure for me to recommend Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Beveridge as singing temperance evangelists. I have been in their meetings and not only was pleased and entertained, but greatly stimulated and helped."

The meetings will begin each evening at 7:30 o'clock, and the public is invited to fill the auditorium of Mt. Vernon Place Church, which has been decorated for the occasion.

Temperance Sermons Yesterday.

The sermons on different phases of the temperance reform preached yesterday in Washington pulpits differed somewhat widely, as usual, as to the methods of work and reasons why the progress of the reform is not more rapid, but they agreed as to the importance of the reform to the welfare of the city and nation and in the desire to do unitedly whatever can be done in opposition to the drink habit, especially with reference to protecting those who have not as yet begun the use of indulging in intoxicating drinks.

Following are extracts from sermons by ministers of different denominations, giving some idea of the variety of thoughts expressed:

Presbyterian.

At Eckington Presbyterian Church the pastor, Rev. George S. Duncan, Ph. D., preached at morning service on "The Growth of Public Opinion on Temperance." His text was "Though thy beginning was small, yet thy latter end should greatly increase" (Job viii:7). "Public opinion on any question," he said, "usually begins in a small way and slowly gathers strength. This has been most true of the great reform movements, and it is especially true of temperance reform. Once all classes used intoxicants most freely without the least scruple. At church dedications, installations of preachers, baptisms, marriages and funerals an enormous quantity of liquor was drunk. Every home served drink to the visitor. Drunkenness was most common, but public opinion felt it was the proper thing. Now all is fast changing. Public opinion on temperance has taken a mighty stride during the century. Never before were there so many forces lifting up public opinion to higher ideals on temperance. Laws are the expression of public opinion. When the latter reaches a certain standard then laws can be made and enforced which will stop the manufacture and sale of intoxicants. It is the duty of every one to do something to influence public opinion so that an evil worse than war, famine and pestilence combined may be eliminated from our national life."

At evening service Dr. Duncan preached on "The Saloon vs. the Ten Commandments."

The new pastor of the Western Presbyterian Church, Rev. Gerhard A. Wilson, preached at morning service on the text, "A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land * * * and my people love to have it so" (Jer. v:30-31). Some of his sayings were:

"If war is hell, then the drink traffic in our land is hell intensified a thousand times. There have been more deaths in our country due to intemperance during the last year than resulted from the war with Spain on both sides. The annual drunkards' grave in this country would be fifty miles long, if the dead lay side by side.

"This country pays more for liquor than for every kind of function of every kind of government, and this expenditure results only in additional paupers, criminals and mentally unbalanced people and all kinds of misery.

"The governments of our country are largely controlled by the liquor traffic, when the reverse should be true. There is need of every method of antagonism. It is a serpent threatening the destruction of our nation's manhood. Conversion saves many. Moral suasion does much good. Cures for inebriety are said to help; but that is not the way we seek to rid ourselves of other pests. We seek the eradication of the evil itself. Formation is better than reformation. Let us clean our country of the causes of evil and we will not have so much trouble with the consequences of evil."

At the Eastern Presbyterian Church Rev. Thomas Chalmers Easton, D. D., the pastor, gave what he termed "a temperance talk" at evening service on "Agitation and Agitators."

Methodist Episcopal.

Rev. Stowell L. Bryant, pastor of St. Paul's M. E. Church, 15th and R streets northwest, preached at morning service on the text "As many as received Him to them gave He power to become the sons of God" (John 1:12). On the subject of temperance he said:

"Here is the power capable of achieving a temperance reform that shall avail. We must begin at the center; we must preach and live the great fundamental truths of life and the gospel, which have been the moving power in all progress. We have grounded our exhortations on too shallow premises. It is not the most serious thing about a man's life who wastes his strength and his means, who blights his manhood and despoils his finest powers, that he will suffer for all this—sin is against God: 'Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned,' cried David; and it was the depth of his anguish. Wronging ourselves wrongs God. Having squandered his money and wasted his days, the prodigal cried out, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight.' He had sinned in the sight of his father, but his sin had been against his God. We must measure sin by looking up to God rather than to the days of remorse and physical pain; by what a man might have become rather than by what he is become. The highest teaching of the word of God, and the most real and vivid experiences of human life both declare that we are, at least potentially, the children of the living God; that we bear the Father's image of a possible righteousness and true holiness. This possible life, made ours, is the abundant life to give which was the purpose of Jesus. Here is the power that will redeem men from all evil; not legislation, not violence, not policemen—as necessary as these may be as preparatory measures—but the real redeeming power lies in the expulsive force of the great living eternal truths of the gospel; to use the fountain phrase of Chalmers, 'in the expulsive power of a new affection.'"

At Trinity M. E. Church, 5th and O streets southeast, Rev. E. D. Huntley, LL. D., the pastor, devoted both services to the theme of the day. His morning subject was "The Church and Temperance," and his evening subject, "The Home and Temperance."

At Twelfth Street M. E. Church, the pastor, Rev. C. T. House, preached at his evening service on "Anti-Saloon."

Methodist Episcopal Church South.

The new pastor of Epworth Church, 7th and A northeast, Rev. William S. Hammond, said in the course of his morning sermon:

"Southern Methodism stands in unequivocal opposition to the liquor traffic in all its forms. Our book of discipline calls drunkenness, immorality; it forbids, by specific rule, our people engaging in the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors, the signing of petitions for such sale, the becoming bondmen for those engaged in the traffic and the renting of property to be used for saloon purposes.

"From what I know of the work of the Anti-Saloon League I fully indorse its aims and its methods. It affords a platform broad enough to accommodate all who are opposed to the saloon, regardless of religious sect or party affiliation. In my judgment it affords the most practical plan yet devised for the destruction of the saloon."

Methodist Protestant.

Rev. J. W. Gray, pastor of the First Methodist Protestant Church, 4th street southeast, in his sermon Sunday morning said: "The only law that could settle the liquor traffic, as it should be settled, would be a law to abolish it. But there is little or no hope of such a law being enacted by the party that has been, or the one now in power, for both parties court the liquor influence to secure an election. It was this influence that put the canteen in the army, and the same influence is keeping it there. No matter if parents do weep and pray, and good people appeal to the powers that be to abolish it, this will not be done. To do so would be to lose the vote of the liquor and beer interest, and that vote is more valuable to a political party than the lives of the boys who are fighting in defense of their country. The government is now saying to the parents of this land: 'Give me your boys to defend the flag and if they are not killed on the field of battle, I have made the necessary provision to send them back to you confirmed drunkards.' I believe God will hold every man responsible who has the power to prevent evil and fails to do it, for the harm that evil may do. 'To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin.' Thus every man who rents his property as a place for the sale of liquor and every one who signs an application for license to sell it becomes a partner in the business and responsible for the evil it may do."

Christian Church.

Rev. F. D. Power, LL. D., pastor of Vermont Avenue Christian Church, discussed the temperance reform at morning service in reporting as to the "Jubilee Convention of the Disciples of Christ." He said in part:

"Most significant expressions on the moral questions of the day were delivered by this great convention of 20,000 delegates, among them protests against the army canteen. Greetings from the W. C. T. U. were received with cheers. Every declaration in favor of temperance reform met with tumultuous applause. Resolutions in strong denunciation of the liquor traffic and demanding that the army saloon be removed were greeted with a storm of approval.

"Great as have been the ravages of rum among our soldiers, strong, positive and clear as the language of the law may be casting out the rum demon; determined as good men and women may be to defend our nation's defenders against their deadliest foe, the drink demon must work on, and his master's interests be protected and his master's coffers be filled, no matter who suffers.

"But the end is not yet. The day of reckoning will come. Then, woe to the men that sell nation's honor or that serve as tools for the saloon and drag old glory in its slime."

Other Denominations.

At Luther Place Memorial Church, Thomas Circle, Rev. J. G. Butler, D.D., pastor, spoke on "Anti-Saloon League Work" at his evening service.

At the People's Church, G street northwest, Rev. Alexander Kent, pastor, spoke at morning service on "How to Prevent the Formation of the Drink Habit."

Fewer Sermons Than Last Year.

President Ewin of the Anti-Saloon League admitted to a reporter of The Star that the observance of Temperance Sunday this year was not as general as it was last year.

"One of the explanations," he said, "is that the recommendation of the league was based on that of the general assembly of the Presbyterian Church, as it supposed, and it was thought that a large number of the clergy of that denomination would preach on the subject; but very few of them did, so far as the league has learned. This was due in part to confusion in regard to the day, which has just come to the attention of the league, the latest official announcement in this week's Presbyterian Banner, the leading organ of the denomination, being as follows:

"'We desire to call the attention of pastors and church sessions to the action of the last general assembly recommending the observance as Temperance day of the fourth Sunday in October, one month earlier than heretofore. The action may be found on page 93 of the minutes, and is as follows:

"'"3. That the last Sunday in October be made Temperance day, and that this or some other convenient time be given in each church to temperance instruction from the pulpit, in the Sunday schools and young people's societies."'

"It will be seen," said President Ewin, "that the fourth and fifth Sundays have been confused not only by the league, but by high Presbyterian authority as well.

"Another reason," he said, "why there may have been fewer temperance sermons yesterday than on Temperance Sunday a year ago is that many of the pastors have been out of town the past week attending synods and conventions; then several of the Methodist pastors are in the midst of revival services, and others had already arranged to defer their temperance sermons until a later date.

Another Temperance Day.

"The following letter from the Protestant Episcopal bishop of Washington was in reply to a letter requesting him to arrange, if possible, for the participation of the Episcopal clergy in yesterday's observance:

"'In answer to your letter of the 7th, asking me as to the observance of the fourth Sunday in October as Temperance Sunday, I would say that it would give me pleasure to do as requested, were it not for the fact that the third Sunday in November has been appointed in our Church for this special purpose all over the country. I will be glad to mention the Anti-Saloon League to my clergy in connection with the observance of Temperance Sunday. Faithfully yours,

"'HENRY Y. SATTERLEE,
"'Bishop of Washington.'"

Big Fire in South Chicago.

A business block in South Chicago burned early yesterday, entailing a loss of $120,000 and painfully injuring twelve persons. Fourteen buildings were burned. An old landmark was destroyed in the Grand Central Hotel. It was a frame building, and was consumed rapidly. The guests had barely time to save themselves, and fled with little apparel.

Representative McRae's Condition.

Representative McRae of Arkansas, who has been in ill health for more than a year, is said to show no marked improvement. He is at his home in Arkansas and suffers a great deal from vertigo.

BATTLE OF TALANA HILL

Detailed Account of the British Victory Near Dundee.

Fight Was Won by Accurate Artillery Fire Followed by a Dashing Charge.

A London correspondent in Glencoe camp, telegraphing on October 20, and describing the fighting that followed the first engagement in the Boer attack upon the British position that day, says:

"It was after the battle was renewed, following the lull that ensued upon the sharp cannonading of the British which silenced the guns of the Boers on Smith's Hill, that our casualties began. The Indian hospital corps of coolies, under Major Donegan of the 18th Hussars, ran out, keeping in the rear of the advancing infantry and artillery that had galloped from the second position through the town, amid the cheers of the citizens.

"At this point the Boers became erratic. Our artillery was firing on the hill where the Boers were stationed in great numbers, but the return fire did little damage. The enemy kept up an incessant shooting, but our shrapnel began to tell its tale, with the result that the Boer fire visibly slackened. From a ceaseless rattle the rifle firing dwindled to straggling shots.

"A corporal of the Dublin Fusiliers was carried past me to the rear on a stretcher. Major Davidson of the Irish Fusiliers was shot through both legs and Color Sergeant Anderson of the Dublin Fusiliers was brought in wounded in the right shoulder.

"The artillery in front was shelling the hill, and the King's Royal Rifles, on the right front, were busy with the Maxims, making the Boers anxious about their position. Their artillery had been silenced by the splendid service of ours.

Where Casualties Occurred.

"Meanwhile a squadron of the 18th Hussars and a mounted company of the Dublin Fusiliers were creeping around on the enemy's left flank, while another squadron of the Hussars and a mounted company of the King's Royal Rifles deployed to the right flank, at the cornfields.

"The artillery continued to play on Smith's Hill with a range of nearly 3,000 yards. Under its cover the Dublin Fusiliers and the King's Royal Rifles pressed forward. It was in the execution of this maneuver that the casualties to our infantry occurred, several men being killed or wounded.

"The firing now eased off on our side, and only a solitary shot was returned now and then. Gen. Symons, taking advantage of this lull, rode forward with his staff in front of the guns, taking cover at the rear of the plantation, near the base of the hill. All this time our infantry, in extended formation, had gradually pressed forward, watching the Boers from the rear of the artillery and massing on the extreme left of the hill.

"I saw three shells in quick succession cut some to pieces and drive others away. The Boer fire was becoming hot, but the first battalion of the King's Royal Rifles and the Irish Fusiliers, led respectively by Col. Gunning and Col. Carlton, continued to mount the hill. Gradually they extended along the ridge, and at 10 o'clock, after four and a half hours of artillery firing to screen them, they managed to reach a wall running parallel with the ridge, about 600 yards from the summit.

"This position was gained under cover of some magnificent shooting by our artillerymen, who placed shells at points where the Boers were massed with amazing accuracy, compelling them to retire. But not for long. On again the determined enemy would come, only to be beaten back again by the excellent shooting of the 13th and 69th Batteries, under Maj. Dawkins and Maj. King.

Boers' Determined Defense.

"At 11:45 a.m. the firing had almost ceased, and our infantry were over the wall in a twinkling and rushing toward the plateau at the base of the top or secondary ridge. The defense made by the Boers was most determined, the enemy again and again pouring a long fusillade fire into the British ranks, which was hotly returned in well-directed volleys by the slowly advancing Dublin Fusiliers and King's Royal Rifles.

"A large body of Boers, driven from Smith's Hill, took refuge in a cattle kraal. Intending to cross fire. The 13th Battery opened fire, however, and poured in such a hail of bullets as caused them speedily to shift the position.

"Thus far the enemy have displayed undoubted courage, perhaps unequaled by the best European troops. They had stood up to our scattering artillery fire with the greatest determination, and then, on Talana ridge, standing clearly out on the sky line, they still appeared unbeaten and defiant. The battle had now raged six and a half hours, when the 69th Battery was ordered to limber up and advance. The battery galloped into a new position in splendid form, and was in action at the front in a moment.

"So effective was the apparent result of this close range firing that the 13th Battery was at once ordered up, and after two rounds from each battery perfect silence reigned over the enemy's front, broken only by the whirring of the Maxims, served by the Dublin Fusiliers, who had secured an excellent position to the right. During a momentary cessation the Boers had taken up a position on a hill to the right of the road leading to Malma colliery, but the 13th Battery soon opened fire on them and compelled them to retire.

"Meanwhile the two infantry battalions continued to climb the hill, and at 1:30 p.m., after eight hours of desperate fighting, the position was carried, the Boers having precipitately evacuated the hill. Thus, what had commenced with a battle at Dundee, ended in a glorious victory for British arms at what must be known as the battle of Talana Hill.

"Just as the King's Royal Rifles and the Dublin Fusiliers gained the hilltop, the mounted infantry could be seen working around the left flank of the Boer position and actually getting in their rear, without any attempt on the part of the enemy to check the movement, while the bulk of the mounted volunteers, well hidden in the plantation to the right, were ready to fall upon the retreating enemy in that direction when the moment came.

Infantry's Gallant Charge.

"Finally our batteries ceased their murderous fire, and the infantry charged up the rocky heights, still separating them from the enemy, and reached the summits of both peaks of Smith's Hill and of the Neck between without a check or halt.

"It was gallant work on both sides, and scores of men fell within a distance of a couple of hundred yards, but the situation soon became too hot for the Boers, who broke and fled for their horses, which they had left at the foot of the hills on the northeast. There, however, they were received with a fusillade from the Hussars, who had captured or stampeded all the horses.

"The enemy swerved in their line of retreat. Some surrendered there and then; others made for Hatting Sprult, while some moved toward Landman's Drift.

"All who fled were closely pursued by our cavalry and a field battery.

"It seems pretty clear that when the main fight was drawing to a close, part at least of the Dannhauser contingent under Commandant Erasmus, came upon the ground, as well as a detachment from a Free State contingent, which had made a forced march from the south.

"The chief portion of the Free State troops, however, remained, it appears, in a strong position at Biggarsberg, whence it will be necessary to dislodge them, if they should wait for our attack, which, in the circumstances, is not thought probable.

"All the Hussar squadrons, except one, have returned, and the whereabouts of that one is known, so that there is no cause for anxiety. Severe punishment has been inflicted upon the retreating Boers."

Capt. Blake With the Boers.

The dispatches from South Africa have made several references to an American army officer named Blake, who is serving with the Boers against the British, and who is credited with having once resided in Detroit.

Blake is a graduate of West Point from Missouri. He was a dashing cavalry officer, and while stationed in a western fort he became acquainted with a wealthy young society woman of Omaha. They were married and Blake resigned his commission to return to that city with her. This was the first known of him there.

In 1895 Blake left Omaha, announcing that he was going to Africa upon an extended hunting trip. Divorce proceedings followed, and the unhappy knot was untied. Blake has been heard from several times—first as a hunter, then as a civil and mining engineer, and now as a soldier again. It is said that over a trivial incident he took a deep-rooted dislike to Cecil Rhodes, and this is the cause of his enlistment with the Boers.

Victoria's Heart Bleeds.

A London dispatch says: The secretary of state for war, the Marquis of Lansdowne, has received the following message from the queen, dated today as Balmoral Castle:

"My heart bleeds for these dreadful losses again today. It is a great success; but, I fear, very dearly bought. Would you convey my warmest and heartfelt sympathy with the near relatives of the fallen and wounded, and my admiration of the conduct of those they have lost?"

Boer Death List at Mafeking.

A message received at Cape Town from Col. Baden-Powell, in command of Mafeking, dated October 15, says that fifty-three Boers were killed and a large number wounded in the encounter with his force. It is believed that the explosion of dynamite at Mafeking, so cleverly arranged by Col. Baden-Powell, resulted in very large loss to the Boers, so that it is quite probable that Gen. Cronje will not resume the attack, and will perhaps retire altogether.

It is reported that the British at Mafeking fired from the grand stand on the race track upon Boer patrols who were guarding the water works. The burghers replied, but the patrols evacuated.

RECAPTURE OF ELANDSLAAGTE.

Boers Forced to Abandon Strong Position With Heavy Loss.

The British war office yesterday afternoon published the following dispatch to the secretary of state for war, the Marquis of Lansdowne, from the general commanding in Natal, Sir George Stewart White, regarding the engagement yesterday at Elandslaagte, between Glencoe and Ladysmith, when the British, under General French, routed the Transvaal forces under General Jan H. M. Koch, second in command in the Transvaal army, who was himself wounded and captured and has since died:

"White, commander in Natal, to the secretary of state for war. Filed Ladysmith, October 22, 10:30 a.m.: In the action at Elandslaagte yesterday the troops engaged were the following: Cavalry, 5th Lancers, a squadron of the 5th Dragoon Guards, the Imperial Light Horse and two squadrons of Natal carbineers; artillery, 21st Field Battery, 42d Field Battery and the Natal Field Battery; infantry, the Devonshire Regiment, half a battalion of the Gordon Highlanders and the Manchester Regiment. The whole force was under General French, with Colonel Ian Hamilton commanding the infantry.

"I was present in person from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., but did not assume direction of the fight, which was left in the hands of General French. Although desultory fighting took place earlier in the day, while reinforcements sent out later on ascertaining the enemy's strength, were arriving from Ladysmith, the real action did not begin until 3:30 p.m. At that hour the Boers held a position of very exceptional strength, consisting of a rock hill about a mile and a half east of Elandslaagte station. About 3:30 p.m. our guns took a position on a ridge 4,100 yards from the Boers, whose guns at once opened fire. This fire was generally well directed, but somewhat high. Contrary to previous experiences their shells burst well.

"The Imperial Light Horse moved toward the left of the enemy's position, and two squadrons of the 5th Lancers toward his right. During the artillery duel mounted Boers pushed out from their left and engaged the Imperial Light Horse. In a few minutes the enemy's guns ceased firing, and our artillery was turned on the mounted Boers who opposed the Imperial Light Horse. The latter at once fell back. After the artillery preparations our infantry advanced to the attack, supported by our guns in the second position. The Devonshires held the enemy in front while the Manchester Regiment and the Gordon Highlanders turned his left flank.

"The Boer guns, although frequently silenced, invariably opened fire again on the slightest opportunity, and were served with great courage. After severe fighting our infantry carried the position. At 6:30 p.m. this was accomplished, the enemy standing his ground to the last with courage and tenacity. The 5th Lancers and a squadron of the 5th Dragoon Guards charged three times through the retreating Boers in the dark, doing considerable execution.

"We captured the Boer camp, with tents, wagons, horses and also two guns. The Boer losses were very considerable, including a number of wounded and unwounded prisoners. Among the former are General Jan. H. M. Koch and Piet Joubert, nephew of Commanding General Joubert. One goods train, with supplies for Glencoe camp, and nine English prisoners were recovered. Our loss, I regret to say, was heavy. It is roughly computed at 150 killed and wounded.

"The collection of the wounded over a large area in the dark and the arrangements for sending them in have thus far occupied our time and attention. A full list will go to you later.

"Our wounded and those of the enemy are now arriving by trains. Besides Boers, we have many Hollanders, Germans and prisoners of mixed nationalities. The behavior of our troops and of the colonial forces was admirable."

ASTOR SELLS BIG BLOCK OF STOCK.

Thirty Thousand Shares in Chicago Northwestern Transferred.

The New York Herald says: William Waldorf Astor has disposed of another big block of stock which is of the character that is generally handed down by estates.

According to reports that are current in Wall street this stock consists of 30,000 shares of Chicago and Northwestern preferred, the market price of which is more than $200 a share, and which nowadays is seldom dealt in on the stock exchange. The sale is said to have been made on private contract, as is often the case with such large blocks of investment shares.

None of Mr. Astor's representatives would talk about the matter, and the fact might not have become known at this time had not Mr. Astor drawn the money. As it was, the transaction amounts to a considerable figure in sterling exchange. If the stock was disposed of for $200 a share, it would mean a deal of $6,000,000.

Collis P. Huntington was the last large purchaser of real estate from William Waldorf Astor before Mr. Astor renounced his American citizenship. The strip of land, 10x125, in 5th avenue, at 57th street, was sold to Mr. Huntington for $54,620 in last January. Mr. Astor purchased the property from the Bonner estate about a year ago. Mr. Astor acquired the title to property on the east side of 5th avenue, between 32d and 33d streets, and a neighboring plot in 32d street, for a consideration of $220,000, in February.

As a result of his long dispute with the department of taxes over the assessed valuation of his personal property and real estate, Mr. Astor renounced his American citizenship and became a British subject in last July.

MEMORY OF DEAD COMRADES

Service Under the Auspices of Garfield Post, No. 7, G. A. R.

Addresses and Music Appropriate to the Occasion—An Original Poem—Other Features.

A memorial service, the first in almost four years, by James A. Garfield Post, No. 7, G. A. R., was held by that organization last evening at the First Congregational Church, corner of 10th and G streets northwest. The galleries and the great organ were profusely decorated with large United States flags and bunting, while smaller flags were placed on the electric fixtures on the main floor. Since the previous memorial service December 15, 1895, twenty-three comrades have passed away. Their names and the year of the death of each are: James Southers, who died in 1895; Samuel Brunswick, Robert F. Joyce, Geo. H. Knapp, Morris Cohen, Francis G. Saxton and George J. P. Wood, 1896; H. R. Lucas, George W. Leonard, Patrick G. Hallinan, John N. Salkeld, E. L. Dawson, Charles Harele, Charles H. Fischer and Charles Freirick, 1897; William A. Scott, James Mulholland and Christian Casper, 1898, and during the present year Joseph Allen, Daniel E. Knapp, James Coggins, Henry Krender and L. A. Littlefield.

Those occupying seats on the platform during the service of last evening were these officers of the post: William M. Setton, commander; R. V. Kenny, senior vice commander; Edgar Hallenbeck, junior vice commander; A. H. Bradford, chaplain; J. R. Calver, surgeon; Fred H. Smith, adjutant; J. H. Jochun, quartermaster; Israel Swoyze, officer of the day, and Lewis Kettler, officer of the guard. In addition were Colonel Calvin Farnsworth, commander of the Department of the Potomac, G. A. R., and Rev. Dr. S. M. Newman, pastor of the church, who took part in the services.

The service was begun with a voluntary on the organ by Prof. J. W. Bischoff, following which Prof. Bischoff played "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground." When the strains of the organ ceased the choir, with instrumental accompaniment, sang an anthem entitled, "Come Unto Me and I Will Give You Rest."

The Scripture reading was by Dr. Newman, who said the selections read were chosen by the chaplain of the post. Dr. Newman also offered the invocation. He referred to the fact that those for whom the service was held had rendered their country great aid at a critical time, and he thanked God that in every emergency of that kind men came forward, willing, if it be necessary, to sacrifice their lives for the sake of the nation.

Mrs. J. W. Bischoff then sang a solo, "The Rest of the Brave," which was written by Dr. Calver.

The choir and the audience sang two verses of the hymn, "There is a Land of Pure Delight," after which Rev. Mr. Bradford, the chaplain of the post, took charge of the exercises.

Commander's Address.

The principal address was by Commander Sefton, who said:

"On the 15th of December, 1895, Garfield Post, No. 7, Grand Army of the Republic, held a memorial service in this church, and since that time the reaper of death has claimed twenty of our comrades. It is now permitted us, by Divine providence, to again meet in this sacred place and hold another memorial service in grateful and devout commemoration of these departed comrades, who in life were united to their surviving comrades in the bonds of fraternity, charity and loyalty, and until the Grand Army of the Republic shall be regathered above.

"We saw them as they thronged at the summons to duty around the unfurled banners of the republic. We heard the glad music of their march. We gazed upon the glistening steel and the waving banners as they fluttered away from our straining sight, and with throbbing heart, quickened pulse, quivering lips and tearful eye we commended them to the guardian care of our Great Creator.

"Through four years of alternate success and disaster and weary toil they bravely bore the banners of our unity and power. Many who went from us in the pride and manhood of life died on the battlefield and were laid to rest in the crowded and shallow trenches of the field made immortal by their constancy and valor. Many, maimed by shot and shell, returned to their homes. Others, wasted by disease, died under southern skies. The field of Gettysburg, that immortal field where our troops rolled back the advancing legions of the confederacy, broke its power and blasted its hopes forever, paved the way for their surrender at Appomattox.

"The confederate soldiers fought bravely and stubbornly every inch of ground, and their heroic efforts were worthy of a better cause. They were Americans, too, and foemen worthy of our steel. The guiding hand of providence was with us in all our undertakings. Lincoln was at the helm of state. Grant, Sherman, Thomas, McClellan and Hancock at the head of our armies, and Farragut and Porter of our navy. But with all their strategy and science, military and naval, they could not have succeeded had it not been for the prowess of the American soldiers—the men behind the guns.

Tribute to Woman.

"To the American woman we cannot pay too high a tribute for the part she performed during our late civil war. Pause one moment and think of the mother who offered her fair-haired boy in the bloom of youth, and the wife who sent forth the husband of her love and hope, to defend their country from destruction. To all the women of our dear land who encouraged and cheered our men in the field we should pay homage.

"Ladies and gentlemen, and comrades, to us old soldiers it is a glorious sight to see our country united and prosperous as it is at present, and I have no doubt that every living soldier of the late confederacy cherishes the flag of our country which unites us all, as evidenced by the troops in the field in the Philippines and the West Indies from every state in the Union."

The List Read.

Adjutant Smith read a brief history of each of the deceased comrades whose names are given in the foregoing. A bugler stationed in the front part of the church sounded taps, following which Chaplain Bradford offered prayer, the surviving members of Garfield Post and the members of their own families and those who had been bereaved standing during that period at his request.

The choir of the church sang a selection and Dr. Calver, surgeon of the post, read an original poem written for the occasion. Chaplain Bradford made an address founded on the incident in the life of Queen Esther which led up to the hanging of Haman. After relating some of the scenes in the life of Esther he took up the subject of the results of the civil war and said no nation in the world has made such progress during the same period as has the United States during the last thirty-eight years.

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