

OUR DEAD.

THE SORROW IN WHEELING Fittingly Expressed by a Public Demonstration

At the Academy of Music this Afternoon.

A Very General Observance of the Day

By the Suspension of Public and Private Business.

While the People Gather with Solemn Faces.

To Join in the General Voice of Lamentation.

Eloquent Remarks and Beautiful Poetic Tribute.

The Grand Army Veterans Honor Their Old Commander.



for the loss of General Grant. The public demonstration took the form of a mass meeting at Charley Shay's Academy of Music, which in its character was eminently fitted to the occasion.

The stage was profusely but tastefully decorated and draped with the National colors and with sombre black. Across the front broad black festoons, looped with rosettes, hid the footlights, while in the rear, small flags, twisted with crests were tastefully grouped.

The Opera House band just before the meeting was called to order playing in a beautifully solemn manner a dirge, the lyrics of which were a fitting opening for a programme of so pleasing, albeit melancholy, character.

Mayor Grubb called the meeting to order and introduced Rev. Dr. J. T. McClure, pastor of the U. P. Church, who opened the exercises with prayer. His invocation was extensive, appropriate, fervent and impressive.

Dr. McClure's prayer was as follows: Almighty God, we acknowledge thee as the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. Help us to come humbly before the throne of Thy sovereign grace, and clothe us with the righteousness of Christ our Saviour.

Several new and striking decorations, not heretofore noticed, have been displayed in various parts of town. At an early hour this morning a large number of citizens draped their business houses and private residences with black crepe.

The ceremony of placing a vacant chair in a prominent position was then gone through with. The altar was draped with black crepe, and the most impressive ceremonial was followed by the singing of "The Vacant Chair" by a male quartette composed of Messrs. Charles T. Reed, Alvin W. Donnell, Joseph Hall and William Shabb.

Hon. G. W. Atkinson made the formal address opening the exercises. He was listened to with the closest attention, and frequently applauded his remarks, while the heartiest approbation was expressed at intervals from beginning to end of the beautiful brief tribute he paid to the dead Commander. Mr. Atkinson said:

When a king is de throne'd the people rejoice, but when a patriot dies the nation weeps. To-day, our countrymen hang their heads in sadness, because death has riven the tallest cedar that has thus far grown in the forest of American patriots.

General Grant stood out in life the chief of Americans; and now that he is dead, the Southland as well as the North, if it were possible to reach his bier, would bury him beneath a wilderness of flowers. Simple-hearted, unpretentious, retiring, but conscientious, self-poised, heroic, he won the confidence of his countrymen.

with courage and invincible endurance. His entire public life taught us as a nation what is not in him. How many and how dismal were the failures in the early part of our civil war? How true it came that the great elevation and moment of his life shall be that Sherman was ridiculed as a madman. Sherman was unknown, Grant was pleading at Springfield for a colonial commission.

When Freedom, fostered in our western world, the new world, to which our fathers came, was sold to the highest bidder, Grant was the first to stand up and say, "No!"

Our country's father, by his name revealed, while still one soul holds fast to the free, while still one soul holds fast to the free, while still one soul holds fast to the free, while still one soul holds fast to the free.

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Not all men are equal to great emergencies. No circumstances can develop in a man what is not in him. How many and how dismal were the failures in the early part of our civil war? How true it came that the great elevation and moment of his life shall be that Sherman was ridiculed as a madman.

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sweet simplicity of whom the entire community is justly proud, sang with touching sweetness and simplicity that old but surpassingly lovely air of Handel's "Arioso Ever Bright and Fair." Her bird-like, pure soprano never more thrillingly charmed and entranced an audience.

Mr. William Leighton, Jr., was then introduced, and read with thrilling effect an original poem written expressly for the occasion.

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