

TO REMEMBER SONS OF DIXIE

Monument to Be Unveiled at Confederate Rest.

BY LOCAL GRAND ARMY POST.

Pathetic Story of Exiles From Southland—Died at Camp Randall While Prisoners of War.

Madison is to witness a ceremony of unusual interest Friday.

A monument to the confederate dead buried at Forest Hill is to be unveiled and the exercises will be carried out under the direction of men once arrayed in deadly conflict against them. Lucius Fairchild post, G. A. R., will have charge and the exercises will be held at 6:30, this hour being selected that the public may have opportunity to attend. All ex-soldiers, members of the Relief Corps and Sons of Veterans are requested to meet at the entrance to the cemetery at 6 p. m. where a procession will be formed and a march made to Confederate Rest, led by the post drum corps.

The Program.

The following program will be observed.

Song. (by request of the Daughters of the Confederacy)—How Firm a Foundation, Ye Saints of the Lord—Led by Mrs. E. C. DeMoe.

Prayer by chaplain of the post.
Music.

Reading of letters from the governor of Alabama and the Society of Daughters of the Confederacy and address by Commander McKay.

Unveiling of monument by Major Hugh Lewis and Major F. W. Oakley.

Solo. "The Blue and the Gray" (original) by Comrade M. J. Rawson.
Singing—America!

Taps by bugler.

Should the day be stormy the exercises will take place at the same hour and in the same order on Saturday, June 16.

Intended For All.

The monument to be unveiled will bear the names of all the dead it is intended to commemorate. It was prepared by Abbott of Madison, and cost \$450. The funds were raised by the Daughters of the Confederacy who will also erect monuments at other places in the north where southern dead are buried.

The story of the confederate dead at Forest Hill in whose memory a monument is to be unveiled Friday is one of pathetic and romantic interest. These sons of the southland sleep the farthest north of any confederate dead but though they rest far from friends and kindred, they have received their share of attention and floral tributes on memorial day. They lie in a charming spot. The high and airy Forest Hill cemetery overlooks the city of Madison itself and Lakes Mendota and Monona. The fragrant breath of the summer clover is wafted to them from the green fields around, while in the rear near at hand is a grove of wildwood, where sings the mocking bird and sports the chipmunk. The noise and distractions of the city disturbs not their rest. A more sweet and peaceful place could hardly be asked by an exile.

Story is Pathetic.

The troops here buried formed a contingent of confederate soldiers captured at Island No. 10, and were removed to the far north in the spring of 1862. They comprised many of the First Alabama, the flower of the old aristocracy of that state, with some from Louisiana, Arkansas and a few other southern states. Sickness due

to removal to a colder climate resulted in a high mortality among them. Between April 2 and July 3, 1862, 139 southern soldiers died as prisoners of war at Camp Randall in Madison, the present football and athletic field of the university of Wisconsin. The resting place of these soldiers known as Confederate Rest, is a pretty little plat of ground and around it centers a most touching story of a southern woman's love and devotion.

Mrs. Waterman's Devotion.

For thirty years Mrs. Alice Whiting Waterman of Baton Rouge, La., devoted her time and fortune to beautifying and decorating the graves of her "boys," as she affectionately called them.

Mrs. Waterman lived at Baton Rouge until she was ten years old. She then went with her family to New York city where she was later married to Charles Waterman, but was soon left a widow. She passed a number of years in the east and then came to Chicago where she was for eleven years matron of the Briggs House. She served in a similar capacity in the Newhall House at Milwaukee. She first came to Madison

In 1868 and spent the closing years of her life at the home of Major F. W. Oakley.

Loyalty of Mrs. Waterman.

Mrs. Waterman's work was one of singular loyalty and devotion. When she came here in 1868 and learned that her countrymen were lying in graves neglected and almost forgotten among strangers of the north she resolved to do what she could to beautify their resting place.

First in Potter's Field.

The plot was in the potter's field, and she was given permission to take charge of it and restore it to what she felt was its proper condition. She heaped up neat mounds over each grave, planted trees in the plot and an evergreen hedge along the east and south sides, cleared away the weeds, trimmed the grass, erected head boards on each grave and had the whole surrounded by a white, board fence. The head boards were appropriately inscribed with the names of the dead, their company and regiment as well as the date of the death. These head boards she had replaced three different times. When the board fence began to decay she had it replaced by a granite coping which cost \$300, and practically consumed the last of her fortune.

She suffered various reverses of fortune in business ventures but never lost her motherly sweetness, nor the loving interest in caring for the graves of her "boys." Each memorial day found her remembering the graves of the confederate soldiers with handsome floral tributes.

Madison Men Take Up Cause.

Former Governor Lucius Fairchild, who shortly before his death, was national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, as well as other union veterans of Madison, tendered Mrs. Waterman much assistance in her noble work. Governor Fairchild was the first executive of the state to place with his own hands a floral tribute on a grave in "Confederate Rest."

Mrs. Waterman died at Madison Sept. 13, 1897, and at her own request was buried in a corner of the confederate enclosure. After her death Major F. W. Oakley, clerk of the federal court for the western district of Wisconsin and a gallant union soldier, has been caring for the "rest" and has done what he could to get some confederate organization interested in it. Just before the out-

break of the Spanish American war the Confederate Veterans association with headquarters at Washington, D. C., decided to solicit funds for the erection of a suitable monument at the "rest" but the movement was allowed to languish. After the death of Mrs. Waterman, Captain Hugh M. Lewis, company A, second Wisconsin infantry, Iron brigade, Army of the Potomac, appeared before the Washington post, or camp, as it is called, of the Confederate Veterans association, and called attention to the fact that something should be done for the care and preservation of "Confederate Rest" here. He paid a glowing tribute to the life and work of Mrs. Waterman. Captain Lewis is a well-known Wisconsin veteran and is now serving as a doorkeeper in the house of representatives at Washington. Stimulated by this address the Washington Confederate Veterans' association decided to collect funds and erect a suitable monument on the "Rest."

The outbreak of the war with Spain, however, prevented the plan being carried out, but finally the Daughters of the Confederacy have carried it to a successful issue.

GOVERNMENT WILL MARK GRAVES OF CONFEDERATE DEAD AT FOREST HILL

— SJ 5-20-1909

Judge E. W. Keyes has received a circular and poster announcing that the war department will erect marble headstones over the graves of confederate soldiers lying at rest in Forest Hill cemetery. The headstones, each one of which measures 39 by 12 inches, being four inches thick, will be hauled from the Illinois depot to the cemetery by Madison drawmen and sealed proposals for this work will be received by William C. Oates in the office of the commissioner for marking graves of confederates dead at 410 Lemon building, Washington, D. C., up to noon, May 27.

The headstones will be shipped the latter part of May or in the early part of June, and deliveries are to be made at the cemetery as soon as the car arrives. Each headstone will weigh about 200 pounds.

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