

TO THE CONFEDERATE DEAD

Veterans of Both Armies Unite in Dedication of the Monument at Mount Hope Cemetery.

AN ORATION BY W. L. WILSON

The Shaft Erected by Charles Broadway Rouss to His Dead Comrades Is Formally Accepted—Three Graves Already in the Plot.

The monument to the Confederate dead, built by Charles Broadway Rouss in Mount Hope Cemetery, was formally presented to the New York Camp of Confederate Veterans yesterday.

It was determined by the camp two years ago to build a monument in honor of the dead members of the camp and through them of the Confederate dead generally. Mr. Rouss was a private of Mosby's cavalry and is a member of the camp. He was one of the first men approached for a subscription, and promptly asked the privilege of building the monument to his former comrades at his own expense. His request was granted, the Mount Hope Cemetery Company offered the site and a suitable plot, and the offer was gratefully accepted.

The monument was built by Taynter Brothers, who made a liberal voluntary contribution in the shape of extra work and a beautiful quality of stone. It is 60 feet high and stands on a base 10 feet square. The pedestal is 9 feet high. The whole is of New England granite. On one square there is inscribed in raised brass letters: "Sacred to the memory of the Heroic Dead of the Confederate Veteran Camp of New York." The opposite side bears the verse, also in letters of raised brass:

Fold up the banners! Smelt the guns!
Love rules, her gentler purpose runs.
A mighty mother turns in tears
The pages of her battle years,
Lamenting all her fallen sons.

Trains on the New York and Putnam Road yesterday carried a large number of people to the station near the cemetery. At 2 o'clock in the afternoon a procession was formed, headed by Herbert's Twenty-second Regiment Band. The posts and delegations from the Grand Army of the Republic and other organizations of former Federal soldiers had the place of honor. Among them were the Farragut Association of Naval Veterans, 50 strong, Capt. P. L. Flynn; the Naval Cadets, 20 strong, Capt. Repello; Judson Kilpatrick Post, No. 143, G. A. R., of New York, Commander Robert Muir; Alexander Hamilton Post, Commander Reddy; Sumner Post, No. 24; Winfield Scott Hancock Post of Hightstown, N. J.; Barry Post, No. 27, of Rahway, N. J.; Lafayette Post, No. 144, New York; Noah L. Farnham Post, New York; the Veteran Zouaves of Elizabeth, N. J., Gen. J. Madison Drake commanding; Middleton Post, No. 500, G. A. R., Brooklyn; the Old Guard, New York, represented by Lieut. Clements, Capt. F. A. Allen, Sergt. George Homans, and Sergt. Major James Hamel.

The Confederate Veterans' camp was under command of Commander Col. A. G. Dickinson, and turned out nearly 100 strong. Many members of the Southern Society, led by ex-Gov. Hugh S. Thompson, the President, were also in line, as were a number of members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

The Daughters of the Confederacy attended in full force. Besides the local branch, delegations from Charleston, S. C.; Richmond, Va.; Baltimore, Md.; Nashville, Tenn., and other cities, were present. One of the visitors was Miss Capers, daughter of Bishop and Gen. Capers of South Carolina.

During the march from the station, the band played a medley of Confederate and Union airs.

Three Graves Beneath the Shaft.

A stand had been built on the slope of the hill just below the monument and the three graves already at its base. These graves were frequently referred to by the speakers during the exercises. They are those of Capt. W. W. Tayleure of the Petersburg (Va.) Rifles, Gen. Thomas Jordan, and William E. Florance of the Washington Artillery, New Orleans. All have died since the building of the monument was begun.

The stand was decorated with red, white, and blue, and the flags carried in the procession, a beautiful silk United States flag and the emblematic flag of the Confederate Veterans, were placed upon it. Charles Broadway Rouss had a special place on the stand, and was the recipient of constant attention. Chairs had been placed below the stand, and were occupied by hundreds of women. The other three sides of the square surrounding it were formed by the Confederate and Union veterans and the Southern Society.

Commander A. G. Dickinson called the assemblage to order and introduced the Rev. Dr. Stephen H. Grauberry, Chaplain of the Confederate Veterans' Post, who offered prayer.

The band played and the choir sang "Nearer, My God, to Thee."

William S. Keiley, who had been chosen by Mr. Rouss to present the monument in his behalf, was then introduced, and after briefly reciting the history of the gift, formally offered it to the veterans. It was already consecrated, he said, by the broad and kindly charity and comradeship that bestowed it and by the honored graves beneath its shadow, doubly consecrated by the presence of those once called "the enemy," now known by the sweet name of brothers, more than doubly consecrated by the presence of the women whose constancy and devotion are unchangeable.

Commander Wilkinson accepted the gift in behalf of the camp. He spoke especially to the Union veterans, expressing in warm and earnest words the appreciation by the Southern people and soldiers of generosity and kindness of their former foes, dedicating the monument as a memorial, a pledge, and an expression of unending peace, union, and fraternity among Americans.

Address by W. L. Wilson.

Former Postmaster General W. L. Wilson reached the stand just before Commander Wilkinson finished. When he was introduced he was received with much applause. He said that thirty-two years ago he and Mr. Rouss, privates in the same company, had laid aside their equipments and started by separating paths in what then seemed even a harder struggle with an uncertain future. He alluded pathetically to Mr. Rouss's blindness, which deprived him of the pleasure of seeing the noble memorial to his comrades, which his beneficence had erected. The monument, he said, built in New York and dedicated jointly by wearers of the blue and gray, was the fulfillment of the last prophecy and cherished hope of Gen. Grant. The only rivalry in the future will be generous emulation in the performance of the duties of citizenship of a common country.

As the dead of the Confederate armies died with their faces to the front, so the living who have been true to the dead have lived with their faces to the front, meeting not servilely but with hearty and ungrudging faithfulness the duties of society and country. Mr. Wilson's oration was delivered between almost continual outbursts of applause.

Gen. John C. Underwood of Nashville, Tenn., also spoke. The ceremonies closed with the decoration of the monument and the graves by the Federal and Confederate veterans and women and children, the bugles sounding "taps."