

1899 Grave Dedication

Crawfordsville Review, Crawfordsville, 3 June 1899

MEMORIAL SERVICE. THE GRAVES OF THE DEAD DECORATED WITH BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS.

Services Held at Each Cemetery— The Parade—Address of Dr. Runyan at Music Hall. This is Memorial day and our people generally observed it as a holiday. The day dawned auspiciously and the streets were filled with persons bearing flowers to the court house, where the committees from the G. A. R post and W. R. C. assisted by the patriotic ladies of the city bound the beautiful flowers into fragrant garlands to be deposited on the graves of the dead soldiers in the various cemeteries of the city. Services of a religious and patriotic character were held at the cemeteries just before the decoration of the graves by the committees. This is a new feature of Decoration day which is beautiful and appropriate and worthy of general adoption. The services at Oak Hill were conducted by Rev. Wallace Tharp, of the Christian church at the Masonic by the Rev. E. B. Thompson at the Odd Fellows by Rev. T. D. Fyfee, at the Old Town by Rev. Henry L. Nave at Calvary by Rev. Father Dempsey. All the various services were appropriate and beautiful, and at their close the flag was planted on the grave of each soldier and a wreath of flowers about it. It was a general decoration of graves, and but few in any of the cemeteries failed to show some memento placed there by loving hands. At 1:45 the procession formed in front of the G. A. R hall. The old soldiers in front led by the band. They were followed by the soldiers of the Spanish-American war and the various civic organizations of the city. The line of march to Music Hall was lined with people. The order of exercises at Music Hall was as follows Music Band Salute to the Dead Post Taps Music—"Stars and Stripes" Joseph Bartholomew Prayer Rev. Wallace Tharp Music—"The Homeward Bound Soldier" Miss Edna Dice Address—"Debt to an Heroic Dead"... .Rev. A. Wallace Runyan Music—"A Land of Heroes" .Charles McClamrock Reading Lincoln's Gettysburg Speech George F. Harney Music—"Tenting on the Old Camp Ground is E a an a Benediction Rev. D. A. Bonner At the close of the exercises at Music Hall the audience was allowed to pass out, while the comrades kept their seats. The return march was as follows: Right in front, south to Pike, east to Water, north to Main, west to Washington, south to Pike, where all organizations taking part were dismissed by their commanders. - transcribed by Kim H **