

May 30 Recalls Years When Randall Sheltered Troops

Famous Camp, One of State's
Most Historic Spots, Visited

How Madison Honored Heroes Ten Years Ago

MADISON TO HONOR
HEROES ON TUESDAY



Picture of Memorial day parade of 1912 as it passed down Pinckney street towards Mifflin. At the head of the procession is seen the university regiment which in former years always took part in Memorial day parades. At the north corner of Capitol park is a post which was a remnant of the old iron fence which used to enclose the park.

Famous Camp, One of State's Most Historic Spots, Visited By Boys in Blue Every Year

First Soldiers Assembled In May 1861, Many Of Whom Were Discharged There; Confederate Prisoners Quartered Here In 1862

BY HENRY NOLL

MEMORIAL DAY, May 30, brings back to the minds of Madison pioneer residents the eventful days of 1861 when the young men of Wisconsin assembled at Camp Randall in response to the call to arms of President Abraham Lincoln to free the black race from slavery in the south.

Camp Randall is one of the most historic spots in Wisconsin, because of the congregating of troops there during the Civil war, because it has served as a state and county fair grounds, and because hundreds of thrilling gridiron battles, baseball games, and track meets have been fought on those grounds.

It is indeed fitting for the old boys in blue to travel to this sacred ground each Memorial day to pay tribute to the men who sacrificed their lives for the preservation of the union and to bring back memories, fond and pathetic, of the days of the bitter five-year conflict.

Memorial Days More General

A thing which is the most pleasing thing to the old comrades is the fact that Memorial day exercises are becoming more and more general throughout the United States, particularly since the World war. The American legion and its auxiliaries and other patriotic organizations are taking a keen interest in the observance of the day and are aiding the boys of 1861 in every possible way

FIRST MEMORIAL DAY PROCLAMATION

General John A. Logan
Headquarters Grand Army of
the Republic

Washington, D. C., May 5, 1868.

I. The 30th day of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and those bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.

to instill in the minds of both young and old the importance of proper observance of the day.

In earlier days Memorial day exercises were held at Forest Hill, considered by the veterans the most proper place by reason of the fact that there are buried on this sacred ground hundreds of union soldiers and 135 confederate soldiers. Near the union soldiers' rest there was erected each year a platform on which were held the Memorial day programs. Owing to the great distance to Forest Hill it was decided some years ago to change the place of holding exercises to Camp Randall.

The graves of the heroes buried in Forest Hill and also those of the southern soldiers, however, have not been neglected on Memorial days. It has been the custom for many years for school children and adults to bring flowers either on the morning of Memorial day or on the day before to the rotunda in the capitol. Children were picked from each school to decorate the graves with these flowers on the morning of Memorial day. The custom is still in existence and this year everyone in the city will be given an opportunity to contribute flowers. Flowers are deposited on the grave of each union soldier not in the rest but over the entire cemetery, Forest Hill, Holy and Calvary. The graves in Confederate rest also are not forgotten. Little flags are placed at the grave of each Union soldier.

Assembled, Discharged There

The first troops to assemble in Camp Randall in May, 1861, were members of the Second Wisconsin regiment. From the beginning to the close of the war there were soldiers in this camp. The majority of those who went from Camp Randall and who were not killed or died from sickness, were discharged on these historic grounds at the close of the war.

In 1862 a delegation of southern soldiers was brought from Island No. 10, Mississippi, to Camp Randall as prisoners. Many of them belonged to the First Alabama regiment. One hundred and thirty-six died from diseases which they had contracted dur-

We are organized comrades, as our regulations tell us, for the purpose, among other things, "of preserving and strengthening those kind and fraternal feelings which have bound together the soldiers, sailors and marines who united to suppress the late rebellion." What can aid more to assure this result than by cherishing tenderly the memory of our heroic dead, who made their breasts a barricade between our country and its foes? Their soldier lives were the reveille of freedom to a race in chains, and their deaths a tattoo of rebellious tyranny in arms. We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. All that the consecrated wealth and taste of the nation can add to their adornment and security is but a fitting tribute to the memory of her slain defenders. Let no wanton foot tread rudely on such hallowed grounds. Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no vandalism of avarice or neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic.

If other eyes grow dull and other hands slack, and other hearts cold in the solemn trust, ours shall keep it well as long as the light and warmth of life remains to us.

Let us, then, at the time appointed, gather around their sacred remains and garland the passionless mounds above them with the choicest flowers of springtime; let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved from dishonor; let us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us, a sacred charge upon the nation's gratitude—the soldier's and sailor's widow and orphan.

II. It is the purpose of the commander-in-chief to inaugurate this observance with the hope that it will be kept up from

ing the war. One hundred and five of the dead were natives of Alabama. These boys were not friendless.

There lived here a southern woman, Mrs. Alice Whiting Waterman, who had made her home in the north for some time and who died in Madison in 1897. This woman, who was a

daughter of the Confederacy, took a personal interest in Confederate rest. In 1866 there was erected in the rest a monument containing a tribute to her father and the names of all soldiers buried in the plot. Boards placed at each grave began to rot in early days and an appeal to the governor of Alabama resulted in stone markers with the names of the dead inscribed being sent here.

Prisoners Treated Kindly

Mrs. Waterman was aided in her work of caring for Confederate rest by Lucius Fairchild, former Wisconsin governor, Fred Phillips, Capt. Hugh Lewis, all one-armed veterans, and by many others. The G. A. R. post held services at the dedication of the monument in Confederate rest and Martha Lewis, a daughter of Captain Lewis, unveiled the stone.

Madison people treated the south-

ern prisoners kindly, Mrs. James Bennett and Dr. Jane Wilson took to the Wilson home, West Doty and South Carroll streets, a Confederate who was ill and homesick. They did all they could for him but he finally died.

Mrs. Waterman always referred to the southern soldiers as her "boys" and it was her wish that she be buried in Confederate rest. She lived for some 16 years with Major and

year to year, while a survivor of the war remains to honor the memory of his departed comrades. He earnestly desires the public press to call attention to this order, and lend its friendly aid in bringing it to the notice of comrades in all parts of the country in time for simultaneous compliance therewith.

III. Department commanders will use very effort to make this order effective.

By command of
JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commander-in-Chief.
N. P. CHIPMAN,
Adjutant-General.

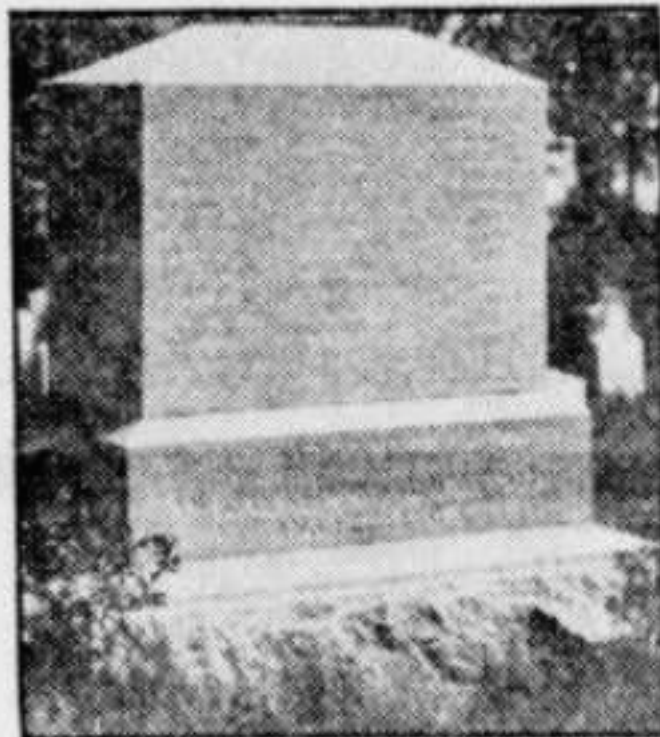


Photo for Journal by A. M. Vinje

This monument was erected in Confederate Rest in memory of Alice Whiting Waterman and her "boys." On the stone appears this inscription: "Erected in loving memory by the Daughters of the Confederacy to Mrs. Alice Whiting Waterman and her 'boys'".

Mrs. F. W. Oakley on North Carroll street and her funeral also was held from the Oakley home. Her wish was granted and she is resting at the head of Confederate rest. On the pretty little monument at her grave is found this inscription: "Baton Rouge, La., October 18, 1820, Madison, Wis., Sept., 13, 1897."

184 Buried In Union Rest

On the monument erected in the rest are found these words:

"Erected in loving memory by the Daughters of the Confederacy to Mrs. Alice Whiting Waterman and her 'boys'"

One hundred and eighty-four heroes are buried in Union Soldiers' Rest. Many of them died in hospitals here. There was a hospital at Camp Randall

and Mrs. Louis P. Harvey, widow of the war governor, was instrumental in the establishment of the Harvey hospital, later known as a Lutheran Orphans' home, and which stood on the Lake Monona side of the 900 block on Spaight street.

After the death of her husband, who was drowned in the Mississippi while carrying supplies to Union soldiers, Mrs. Harvey became engaged in establishing hospitals for soldiers. Through her efforts the Harvey hospital was opened here. It also was used later as a soldiers' home. Later the state took it over and operated it as a hospital for old soldiers until 1883.

U. S. Contributes To Upkeep

Confederate Rest is being maintained by Forest Hill cemetery commissioners. The federal government contributes \$60 a year for the upkeep of Union Rest. Some years ago a large flag pole was erected near the center of Union rest.



Photo for Journal by A. M. Vinje

This marker appears at the head of the grave of Mrs. Alice Whiting Waterman, whose wish that she be buried with her "boys" was carried out. She was buried in 1897 to the left of the entrance to Confederate Rest. The marker contains this inscription: "Baton Rouge, La., Oct. 18, 1820. Madison, Wis., Sept. 13, 1897."

There lived here a southern woman, Mrs. Alice Whiting Waterman, who had made her home in the north for some time and who died in Madison in 1897. This woman, who was a Daughter of the Confederacy, took a personal interest in Confederate rest. In 1896 there was erected in the rest a monument containing a tribute to Mrs. Waterman and the names of all soldiers buried in the plot. Boards placed at each grave began to rot in early days and an appeal to the governor of Alabama resulted in stone markers with the names of the dead inscribed being sent here.

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