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Frederick Sieg Memorial

The dedication of the memorial to our beloved founder took place on September 5, 1926, at Placerville. Upon the arrival of the special train from San Francisco, the visiting members and Grand Officers marched from the railroad depot to the Odd Fellows Hall, where preliminary arrangements were made. The line of march was then formed with Grand Chapter Commander Joseph Enos as Grand Marshal, and Past Noble Grand Arch G. H. Bertram as adjutant. Headed by Brother Payson's band with the Chapter members following, after which came the members of the Groves, then the ladies of the Circles, including the Grand Officers, and concluding with the officers of the Grand Grove in robes, the column wended its way to one end of the town and then countermarched to the other end, the site of the monument. After the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner" by Grand Arch Druidess Dell Eden, accompanied by Captain Payson's band, Architect John A. Porporato in a few words turned over the completed monument to Past Noble Grand Arch A. H. Williams, chairman of the Monument Committee, acting as master of ceremonies. In turn the chairman of the committee delivered the monument to Noble Grand Arch John M. Perata with the assistance of the Misses Eleanor Tagtmeir and Marian Dillinger, who unveiled the monument, while the "Double Quartette" of San Francisco Morgarten Grove No.3 sang, "See, See, the Flames Arise," as the Druidic flame was lighted at the top of the memorial shaft. Following came the formal dedication in accordance with Druidic custom by Noble Grand Arch Perata, with Deputy Grand Arch R. O. Maino, Grand Marshal A. J. Camous, Grand Trustee George Desenfant and Grand Secretary C. A. Guglielmoni acting as Heralds. A selection by the band and the singing of "Brothers You Are Welcome Here," by the "Double Quartette" being interspersed. In concluding his address, the Noble Grand Arch presented the monument to his honor, Albert Simon, Mayor of Placerville, who responded with a splendid speech of acceptance. After the stirring strains of "I Love You California," by the band, Past Noble Grand Arch Herbert H. Ordway delivered in a characteristic and eloquent manner an address on "Druidism," touching upon the work and life of the founder, and in concluding presented to Architect Porporato, who had designed and superintended the building of the memorial, a beautiful set of silverware, as a slight token of appreciation from the Grand Grove for his valuable services. Following the rendition of the "Druid's Prayer" by the band, Past Arch H. Albert George delivered an excellent oration on "Fraternalism," taking the plate of Brother Charles G. Johnson, state treasurer, who could not be present on account of sickness. After another selection by the band, Brother H. E. Dillinger of California Grove No. 1, expressed the appreciation of the members of the Grove and of the citizens of Placerville in being honored with the placing of the monument in their city. All joined in singing "America," with the band accompanying, after which the "Double Quartette" sang the closing ode, and the ceremony of dedication was completed.