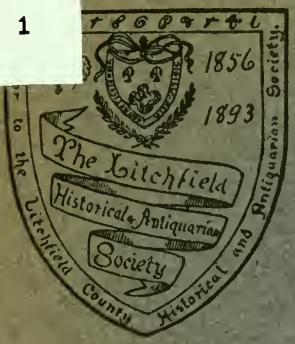

Semi-Centennial

1857—1907

NOYES MEMORIAL BUILDING

SEMI-CENTENNIAL

OF THE

LITCHFIELD

Historical and Antiquarian Society

ADDRESSES

AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW BUILDING

AND THE

Presentation by the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, of a window in memory of the Revolutionary Soldiers of Litchfield County.

JULY 5, 1908

LITCHFIELD

THE TUTTLE, MOREHOUSE & TAYLOR COMPANY.

Preface

THE Litchfield Historical and Antiquarian Society is the successor of a Society of earlier date. The original Society was the result of a meeting held in the old Mansion House, which stood where Phelps Block now stands. This meeting, held January 4, 1856, was called by a circular signed by several citizens of Litchfield and addressed to the different towns in the county. As the result of this meeting people came together on the thirtieth of January and organized the "Litchfield County Historical and Antiquarian Society." Occasional meetings were held for a few years and officers were elected, and then came a long period in which no meetings were held. The last meeting was held on the twenty-first of September, 1892, and a vote was then passed making over to any local Society, when established, the exhibits and property which the original Society had acquired.

On the third of August, 1893, a meeting was held in the Town Hall at which the present Society was organized. For a number of years the property inherited from the County Society, and that which the Society acquired, was housed in the building on South Street formerly used as a store by Mr. Silas N. Bronson. It was felt that this was a very unsafe place for keeping valuable relics. It was therefore a great relief when, through the generosity of Mr. John Arcut Vanderpoel, a room in the new fireproof Noyes Memorial Building, erected by him in pious memory of his grandmother, Mrs. William Curtis Noyes, was offered for our use. This building was finished and dedicated to the

use of the Wolcott and Litchfield Library Association, July 5, 1901.

The room given up to the use of the Historical Society was soon filled. Many valuable articles were either given or loaned by people glad to find a safe place in which to deposit articles which if lost or destroyed could not be replaced. Accordingly, Mrs. E. N. Vanderpoel, in loving memory of her son, added to the Noyes Memorial Building, affording thereby more room for book stacks, a room which is occupied by the Litchfield Scientific Association and a large room for the Historical Society. This addition was publicly dedicated to its uses on Friday, July 5, 1907. The occasion was made the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the Society and was made memorable by the presentation and unveiling of a stained glass window, given to the Society by the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Semi-Centennial of the Litchfield Historical and Antiquarian Society

FRIDAY, July 5, 1907, was a day that will long be held memorable by the Litchfield Historical Society, the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter, D. A. R., and the citizens of Litchfield generally. In the morning the Historical Society had exercises that were not only dedicatory of its beautiful new building, but were in the nature of a semi-centennial celebration of the Litchfield County Historical Society, of which it is the successor.

When the late John A. Vanderpoel gave our handsome library building as a memorial to his grandmother, Mrs. William Curtis Noyes, he had in mind the erection of an addition when the necessity arose. The rapid growth of the Historical Society and of the Scientific Association and the large number of collections of animals, birds, butterflies, insects, etc., secured by the latter, made imperative the erection of a suitable building where these collections could be housed and the two societies have their meetings. Mrs. Emily N. Vanderpoel, who had already been most generous in her benefactions, offered to erect the building needed as carrying out the original plan of her son and an addition to the Noyes Memorial Building.

The new home of the Historical Society adjoins the Noyes Memorial Building on the east and the style is the same, the architects of both buildings being Ross & McNeil of New York, the latter a Litchfield boy. The main room is large, handsomely but simply furnished, with a gallery, and at one end is the D. A. R. memorial window. It is an

ideal meeting and lecture room and fills a long felt Litchfield want. In the room below are the various collections of the Scientific Society and it can also be used for a banquet or meeting room, being complete in every detail.

The morning exercises were under the auspices of the Historical Society, and the room was filled, while the addresses were all extremely interesting. After the invocation by Rev. John Hutchins, the presiding officer, Rev. Storrs O. Seymour, D.D., President of the Historical Society, spoke as follows:

A half century is a small fraction of the world's long history. Yet it forms a very large part of any individual's life. Fifty years ago this Society was framed under the title of the Litchfield County Historical and Antiquarian Society. Of the men who formed its membership not one from Litchfield is still living, nor is any of those who are noted as the Committee of Correspondence from the other towns of the County, so far as I can learn.

In the original constitution of the Society the various objects of the Society are enumerated. It was to have in view the collection and preservation of such historical facts and data, biographical statistics, genealogical tables, record book, manuscripts, medallions, relics, etc., as may serve to throw light upon the history of the several towns and families in the County and the Indian tribes who formerly resided here, or to illustrate the lives and characters of such of the sons of the County as have been distinguished either at home or abroad.

Fifty years have passed away, and if any ask the question, how have we fulfilled the responsibility so clearly assumed half a century ago, what reply shall be made? Certainly, my friends, we can confidently assert that to a certain extent this responsibility has been met. Not so fully as we might wish. Not so fully as the framers of the constitu-

tion had hoped, but we certainly have been measurably successful, as much so perhaps as the circumstances would lead us to look for. Especially may this be said of the Society since its renewal about fifteen years ago. That this is so will be admitted, I think, by any one who examines the many valuable or interesting articles which form our collection. Many of these, some of them possibly the most valuable and not the least interesting, have been contributed or loaned within this period, while our membership has largely increased.

The framers of our Society had in view very distinctly one object to be attained, and that was to keep in mind the names of the men who, prominent in the history of our County, had given brightness to its deeds and brought honor to their home. The number of such names was large. They have been recorded on the scroll of fame. Their memory has been kept green, and to this result our Society has largely contributed. At the time of its organization it put upon record the names of thirteen United States senators who had been born in this County; the names of twenty-two members of Congress from the State of New York, who had been born here, as well as nine judges of the Supreme Court of New York, and at least fifteen judges of the higher courts of Connecticut, and other states. To this roll the half century now past has added many other bright stars; it will be the pleasant duty of our Society to keep in mind and to commend their virtues to the imitation of coming years. You will see, then, that valuable and interesting as is our collection of relics of the olden time, our Society has a purpose higher and more important than to offer a shelter to these reminders of the days that are past. A knowledge of the men who have lived here, and of the services which they have rendered to the town, the State, and the country, is indeed a valuable asset. To hold these men in high esteem for the noble acts which they have done,

necessarily reacts upon the character of those who know and admire them.

To keep their memory green and to hold them up as ideals worthy of imitation is a work which well deserves the earnest efforts of our Society. When this Society was started it hoped to gather here portraits of some of the notable men who were born in this County. In this direction no great progress has been made. How valuable a gallery might be formed, could we hang upon our walls the portraits of Oliver Wolcott, Tapping Reeve, Col. Benjamin Tallmadge and his son, Frederick A. Tallmadge! We have promise of one of Joseph Bellamy, the great preacher of his day, whose works, as another has said, "are sought for by the Christian scholar wherever the English language is spoken." It is easy to see how family feeling and a pride of ancestry keeps those and other portraits in the possession of their descendants, and probably few of them will come into our hands. Still the fact that here can be offered a secure shelter for them, and that every care would be taken to preserve them, and present them to the gaze of the people who honor and admire the character of the originals, may as time goes on induce some families to hang their pictures on our walls.

In an address delivered by the Hon. Gideon H. Hollister, when this Society completed its formation, are these words: "In order to induce the public to feel an interest in our efforts we ought as soon as possible to provide ourselves with suitable rooms. I hope the day is not far off when our means will enable us to erect a handsome fireproof building ample for * * * uses connected with the institution." To-day this hope stands fulfilled, not because the means of the Society were large enough to warrant the outlay but because in the mind and heart of one of our members there was the noble and generous purpose to prepare a fit temple in which may be sustained the high

ideals of our Society, where may be found a safe resting place for the collections which we have made.

This generous purpose has been nobly planned and executed, and its fulfillment enables us this day to celebrate our semi-centennial with exulting joy. As a Society we express to our generous benefactor our hearty thanks, and believing that her work will enable us to carry on and to perpetuate the objects for which we exist with greater assurance of success, we pledge ourselves to renewed efforts in this direction and express the hope that through many a happy year she may witness our prosperity, to which in times past and also to-day she has contributed so much.

At the close of Dr. Seymour's address, the Hon. George M. Woodruff spoke as follows on the "Organization of the Litchfield County Historical and Antiquarian Society":

For two centuries and more after the landings at Jamestown and Plymouth the settlers in this country were too much occupied in the making of history to give much time and attention to the recording of it. Connecticut had its full share in the making of that history, but beyond the keeping of Colonial, town and church records, little was done in the historical line. We have Trumbull's "History of Connecticut," the first volume of which was published in 1797, the second in 1816, and Barber's "Connecticut Historical Collections" in 1836. Locally there were the "Statistical Account of Several Towns in the County of Litchfield" by James Morris, published about 1814, Woodruff's "History of Litchfield" in 1845 and Kilbourne's in 1859. It was not till 1825 that Connecticut had a State Historical Society even in name. On the Fourth of July, 1822, the Rev. Thomas Robbins delivered an address before a number of military companies assembled at Hartford, and probably as a result of this address the General Assembly in

1825 incorporated thirty-one gentlemen as the Historical Society of Connecticut, of which Hon. John Trumbull was made President; Bishop Thomas C. Brownell, Vice President; Rev. Thomas Robbins, Corresponding Secretary, and Rev. George W. Doane, who was subsequently Bishop of New Jersey, Secretary of the Standing Committee. The Society held several meetings, but languished till 1839, when a new impetus seems to have been received from the centennial celebration at New Haven the previous year. The fine library room in the Atheneum at Hartford, completed in 1843 and the selection the next year of the Rev. Thomas Robbins as Librarian, made the Society the successful institution it has since become.

The publication of Woodruff's history in 1845 turned the thoughts of our own people in the direction of historical research, and the Marsh and Buel picnic the next year, of which Dr. Seymour gave you an account last fall, quickened this interest, which the Litchfield County centennial, celebrated here in 1851, made more general. This interest took form in the issuing of a circular dated January 4, 1856, signed by Seth P. Beers, William Beebe, Geo. C. Woodruff, G. H. Hollister and P. K. Kilbourne of Litchfield, John Boyd of Winchester and Chas. F. Sedgwick of Sharon, calling a meeting to be held on the thirtieth of January at the old Mansion House for the purpose of organizing a County Historical and Antiquarian Society. This meeting was duly held and Hon. Seth P. Beers was made chairman and Payne Kenyon Kilbourne secretary, who read, as he expressed it, "a few suggestions" which were so pertinent and interesting that I will give them at some length.

He said: "Of the benefits and advantages of the Connecticut Historical Society I need not speak. It has done and is doing much to foster and carry out the laudable designs contemplated by its founders. But it is equally and perhaps necessarily true that its exerts very little influence beyond

the limits of Hartford County, within which it is located. Indeed, its existence is scarcely felt at all in this part of the State, except by those who have occasion to visit Hartford for the purpose of consulting its noble library, for which it is indebted to Dr. Robbins, a native and at present a resident of this County.

"To obviate in some degree the want thus indicated it is proposed to establish a County Historical and Antiquarian Society, with the view of awakening an historical interest in the minds of the people in this corner of the State, and through the medium of records, books, lectures, correspondence and such other ways and means as may from time to time be devised, bring the advantages derivable from such an association more immediately within the reach of us all. Probably all those of our number who have had anything to do in the way of gathering historical and genealogical facts and statistics, have felt a regret that the work has not been sooner begun. Our County and all the towns composing it are still in their infancy; and yet many important facts are lost to us and the world for want of a timely chronicler. Our aged people, whose memory goes back almost to the time when this entire region was a wilderness, one by one are leaving us; and with them are being buried stores of information which such a Society as the one contemplated would have preserved from oblivion. A thorough systematic effort, even now, may secure for all time to come, much that will otherwise be irrevocably lost. Now we may lay the foundations of a more complete and perfect history than any people of antiquity could ever claim for themselves; and the generations who may hereafter find their homes on these hills and in these valleys will not have cause to lament that the history of their County is lost in tradition and fable. It should be our purpose to gather up and preserve not only the history of our towns and other corporations, but also that of individuals and families. The

subject of genealogies is so nearly allied to that of history, that it may fairly be considered in the formation of our Society. It may also be within our province to collect such facts as may be accessible relative to the aboriginal inhabitants of this County. Our venerable friend who has so recently taken his departure from our midst (Dr. Abel Catlin) had a distinct recollection of the time when the Indians from a distance were accustomed to make their periodical visits to Litchfield for the purpose of fishing in our waters and hunting in our forests. And it is not improbable that there are aged people now living, especially in the northern and newer portions of our County, who can give information concerning the tribes or remnants of tribes who were living within our borders sixty or seventy years ago. Relics of that almost forgotten race have in years past often been turned up by the spade and ploughshare. Their arrows, mortars, pestles, hatchets and rude specimens of statuary have been found in our soil, but for want of some general depository, many of them have been scattered and ultimately lost. Could they be gathered together in one place they would form an interesting cabinet and throw much light on the manners and customs of a people of whom they may be called the sole remaining representatives. Should it not be one of our aims to form a nucleus for these interesting relics of a race who preceded us on our native soil?"

The Hon. John Boyd of Winchester, who subsequently published "The Annals of Winchester," followed with some remarks. He said "he had long felt the need of some efficient local organization, similar in its designs to that suggested in the call which had brought us together. This feeling in his case had been increased by the late 'Centennial Celebration' in the County." He argued that the subject of genealogy was becoming more and more important or, at least, that the interest in it was yearly

becoming deeper and more general in the community. People who a few years since had never thought of the subject are beginning to ask who their fathers were, where they lived and where and when they died. He said there were many interesting facts and statistics in regard to the origin and progress of different branches of manufacture, which might be collected and preserved by means of this association. He once asked Colonel Harris (whose father was a pioneer in the scythe business in this region) concerning the origin of that business in the family; he replied, "My father bought a negro in Litchfield who learned him the trade."

After further remarks by Rev. H. L. Vaill, Stephen Deming, Rev. Benjamin L. Swan and others it was unanimously voted, "That it is expedient at this time to organize a Litchfield County Historical and Antiquarian Society," and at a subsequent meeting the Society was duly organized and a constitution adopted. Of the thirteen gentlemen then appointed to office, none survive.

A number of meetings of the Society were held. As indicative of the general interest in the subject it may be noted that on the occasion of the meeting at which the introductory address was delivered by the Hon. Gideon H. Hollister, the Superior Court then in session, Hon. Origen S. Seymour, Judge, adjourned, to enable the Society to hold its meeting in the court room.

At the May session of the General Assembly, 1856, the Society was duly incorporated. Addresses and sketches upon various subjects were read before the Society, including "Sketches of the Unpublished History of Sharon and its Vicinity," by General Charles F. Sedgwick; a report upon the "Disputed Question of the Birthplace of General Ethan Allen and Hon. Ephraim Kirby," by Payne Kenyon Kilbourne; and "The Steady Habits of Litchfield County in the Olden Time," by Rev. D. L. Parmelee. All these

addresses and reports were, as appears from the records, to be lodged in the archives of the Society "for reference and preservation," but I have not been able to find any of them.

On the twelfth day of July, 1859, Mr. Kilbourne, who had been the most efficient member of the Society, and its secretary, died and at the next annual meeting on September 19, 1860, so few members were present that the meeting was adjourned till the third of October and then again till the tenth, when the former officers were all reëlected, but nothing further was done.

For more than thiry years this was the only meeting of the Society, but it had acquired an interesting collection of antiquities and curiosities and a small but valuable collection of books and pamphlets, and after your local Society was organized, the Litchfield County Historical and Antiquarian Society, at a meeting on the twenty-first of September, 1892, upon motion of the late Judge Edward W. Seymour, voted, "That when a local Antiquarian or Historical Society shall be established in Litchfield and shall have proper accommodations to store the exhibits and property of this Society, such property and exhibits shall be made over to such local Society." This transfer was duly made and Mr. Ransom and myself alone remain of the former members of the County Society.

The next speaker, Rev. Samuel Hart, D.D., Professor at the Berkeley Divinity School, Middletown, and President of the Connecticut Historical Society, said:

First of all, Mr. President, let me speak a word of congratulation, both official and personal, on this most pleasant occasion. If any public institution should be well housed, it is an historical society; if any historical society is well housed, it is yours. My special topic for this morning is, "Types of Colonial Settlements in Connecticut":

The Colonies of New England have had from the first very much in common. Not only have they, in great part, the same physical features, but they were settled by substantially the same people, with substantially the same ideas, and for substantially the same ultimate purposes; and their growth has been under not very dissimilar conditions.

But no sooner do we note the points of resemblance among the settlements which made up the Colonies of Massachusetts and Connecticut, than our attention is called to points of difference. There were two original settlements in what is now Massachusetts, which were after a time united by the possession of a royal charter; and in the present limits of Connecticut there were also two original Colonies, besides the military post at the mouth of the great river, and one of these was absorbed by the other under the operation of a charter which the latter secured from the King. The earlier of the two Colonies or settlements in Massachusetts had its beginning with a company of Independents or Separatists from the Church of England—Pilgrims we call them—who had come out from that Church as from Babylon, had fled to Holland, and thence had sought a home in the new world. They came without any color of authority from the State, though they afterwards obtained a patent from the Council for New England. As Independents, and as an entirely new government, they held to no connection between Church and State; and no religious test was ever required among them as a condition of exercising the franchise or of holding even the highest office.

The other Massachusetts Colony, that of Massachusetts Bay, dating at Salem from 1629 and at Boston from 1630, was a settlement of Puritans, that is to say, of men who held that they were members of the Church of England by law established, but of that Church as reformed or in process of reformation from serious errors both of doctrine and of practice.

This Colony had a charter, upon which they engrafted provisions for the maintenance and carying out of the principles which they deemed necessary for the perpetuity of a government such as they wished to establish; and when they had made their settlements and had matters practically in their own hands, they provided that no one should thereafter be admitted to take any part in public affairs unless he were a member of their ecclesiastical organization. It was the latter of these two Colonies that became the stronger, very largely no doubt by reason of the advantages of its position, but still more by reason of the stern resolution and the unmistakable ability of its leading men for more than one generation. There was a long struggle to retain the old charter; and when it was declared forfeited and the Bay was made a royal Colony under a new charter, the earlier, Independent, and more liberal settlement of Plymouth, which had but a feeble existence for some seventy years, was incorporated into the later, Puritan, close corporation of Massachusetts. The latter, however, in the process lost a large part of its closeness and rigidity; for the new charter, dating after the revolution in England, forbade the application of religious tests for citizenship. In outward form Salem conquered, but in principle Plymouth was rather the victor.

The settlers of the river towns which were included in the original Colony of Connecticut came from Massachusetts, the few Plymouth men who reached Windsor in 1633 having made no permanent settlement. They were an offshoot of the Bay, bringing with them a constituted civil authority, and being one Colony from the first, though they settled in three communities. The constitution which they soon established was not a confederation or an entirely new establishment of government; it was rather such adjustment of former conditions as seemed wise to them when they found themselves, or made themselves, quite independent of

their mother colony. There was never a religious test in the Colony of Connecticut, except for the one proviso that the governor must be a member of the church.

Our other Colony, that of New Haven, was more Massachusetts-like than Massachusetts itself. Mr. Davenport and his colleagues expected to establish at the fair haven which they discovered setting back from the Sound, if not the millennial kingdom, yet a true theocracy; and certainly none but a member of the church could be allowed to have anything to do with what might be thought the secular side of the affairs of such a state.

Thus the Colony on the river and the "confederation" on the Sound were organized on principles which differed, speaking generally, as did those of Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay. But here it was the Independent settlement—at least that organized on Independent or Separatist principles—that prevailed. Neither Connecticut nor New Haven had at first a charter, and exercised its government in its own way; and from the first Connecticut was the stronger; not so much on account of position or of mercantile advantages, as because of its form of government and the methods of its administration; and that too, although part of its towns before the time of union lay on the Thames and part beyond Milford, touching on the west another unit of the New Haven "confederation" in Stratford.

When the King "came to his own" again, Connecticut secured a charter for what was practically a free and independent government; and—what is pertinent to our present subject—the limits which the charter gave to the Colony were such that it was made to include all the New Haven towns. So then, as I was saying, while in Massachusetts the Puritan principles prevailed, in Connecticut it was the Independent principle which gained the ascendency. But there are "survivals" of each of these types to-day within the limits of our happily united commonwealth.

Now, I think that this difference of original type among the settlements now merged in the good State of Connecticut has a visible survival in the topographical plans adopted by the different companies of settlers. Those who came to the Connecticut Newtown from the Massachusetts Newtown, to Hartford on the great river from Cambridge near Boston, came that they might carry out their principles in a state which they desired to found. They came under their own leaders, with plans in part matured and in part ready to crystallize into form, glad to leave the brethren with whom they had not found themselves quite in accord, and the more glad that they were leaving them before they had come to an open breach. It was practically an independent settlement of those who were to found an independent state. We may see this intimated, I think, in the lay-out of the settlement—something practical, sufficient for the present, yet allowing the possibility of growth. At the crest of a ridge, the slope of which rose not very steeply from the river, and under the protection of another ridge running nearly at a right angle to it, they selected a plan for the center of their town, making room there for a building which should be meeting-house both for Lord's day and for week-day public assemblies and room also for a burial-place. Thence there led a street in a direction parallel to that of the general course of the river, and another which led to the river itself, and the town was laid out with its square and its two roads. From this simple plan it grew as need required or opportunity was afforded. The long road is now Main Street, and from it the land slopes both to the east and to the west; the other has become State Street, and it still leads to the principal landing on the river.

The plot of ground on which stood the first meeting-house and in which the first of Hartford's dead were laid to rest, has been encroached upon, but it still affords room for the City Hall (long the State House) and the postoffice.

The nature of the growth of Hartford can be seen by any one who studies its map or walks down Main Street; it was long without special order or method.

The development of each side of the settlement was determined by practical considerations; and how different these were on the east and on the west can be seen by the fact that there is no street crossing Main Street, and that in almost no case does a street that reaches it on one side find exact correspondence with a street on the other side. All testifies to a practical, or would-be practical, community, attempting to satisfy its needs as they arose and to have a place convenient to live in. We can see, I think, in the simple first outline, and then the irregular growth of Hartford, an embodiment of Mr. Hooker's idea of a new state, holding to simple principles and fitted to adapt itself to the needs of a practical people.

On the other hand, the theocratic purposes and mercantile character of the community found an expression in the plan of New Haven. As soon as the settlers began to build on the level ground, they marked a four-square city, like that described in the Revelation, of which the length and the breadth were equal. What is now called George Street was measured a half mile in length, and on it a square was constructed, the other boundaries being the present York, Grove and State streets. Then this square was divided into nine equal squares by two streets parallel to Grove Street and two at right angles to it; and the central square was reserved as common land for the meeting-house, the burial plot, whipping-post and other public uses.

There were other common lands outside of the great square; and to these, as well as to a landing-place on the harbor, irregular lanes or roads led; but the outline of the town itself was entirely symmetrical, and the symmetry of that part of New Haven has been well preserved. It has been practically impossible to encroach upon the central

public square; and the Green of the city, dignified by stately church edifices, and (may we say it?) by the removal of the State House, in unshorn proportions and surrounded by ancient mansions and modern structures for public uses and academic piles, testifies to the thoughts of those who laid it out. It embodies an idea of dignity and solidity and conscious completeness which is lacking elsewhere; it tells of a community with a lofty religious principle and a strong element of worldly respectability. One does not wonder that the people of New Haven objected to being incorporated into the slightly older and much more democratic colony to the north.

If from Hartford we look to its neighbor towns, parts of the same Colony, we find in Windsor and Wethersfield the same river road which in Hartford ran along the ridge, only here on level ground and widening out into a green, on either side of which the settlers built their homes, and from which their portions of land stretched on the one side to the river and on the other side to the hills. Guilford, a town of the New Haven "confederation," was a typical settlement of farmers, though in its theories closely allied with the community of well-to-do merchants and traders further west. It, too, had its central green, with houses all around it, but there were no other squares to protect their common, and fields for tilling and grazing must have come close to the homesteads of all the settlers.

Saybrook, which antedates New Haven by several years, and (perhaps) Hartford by a short time, was before all things else a military post. Lion Gardiner's first work there was to build a fort at a convenient spot to guard the mouth of the river, and the extremity of a point of land actually within the river's mouth was selected for that purpose. Then the neck of this point was protected by a stockade, and places were assigned for the residences of the "persons of quality" who were expected to arrive from England.

There is very little now to remind one of the original purpose and plan of this settlement, but it is of interest as being unique within the borders of the State. We are passing now from the quarter-millennial anniversaries of the oldest towns in our Colonies to the bi-centenaries of towns of the second generation, such towns as Newtown, with its broad extent of farming lands, and New Milford, with its opportunity of using the forces stored up in a river. These, and after them, settlements still further to the north and west, such as that in which we now stand, marked the frontier of those days, slowly but surely pushing on, taking possession and holding for men's use more and more of the soil, yet always watching against the dangers of the yet unconquered wilderness. These towns, too, show by their topography and the traces of their ancient plans the purpose of their settlers, how they held to the old custom of a broad common-like street, and how (perhaps unconsciously) they prepared for the comfort and delight and health of those who inhabit them in these later times. But on all this I may not dwell. It must suffice to have reminded you that in the early settlements of that which since the year 1662 has been the one Colony or State of Connecticut, we find different ideas differently maintained and expressing themselves in differing ways; and it would seem to be not uninstructive or unpleasant to note how these ideas have prevailed, have supplemented one another, and have been brought into harmony, as the years have passed on.

Dwight C. Kilbourn, Esq., the well-known historian of Litchfield, and Clerk of the Superior Court, spoke as follows:

Fifty years ago the founders of this Association did not know, nor could they have prophesied what changes in the mode of living, what achievements in knowledge, what victories of mind over matter would take place in this brief

half century that would furnish material for the purpose of this undertaking.

There were rumblings in the political sky, as there ever have been and ever will be, but the great Civil War was not even a cloud thereon.

Little did they dream, when placing these few Indian arrowheads and old sermons on those pine shelves in Seymour's new brick building, of such a beautiful building as this being erected to hold the precious mementoes of Litchfield's sons, who went forth upon the bloody field of battle to perpetuate this Nation in whose founding Oliver Wolcott, Roger Sherman, Benjamin Tallmadge and Elisha Sheldon were potent factors.

It gives me at this time peculiar pride to know that the memories of nearly four hundred Litchfield men of the rank and file, who when their government called them to its defense nobly responded, may be preserved in these rooms by some tangible objects connected with them while living. That while their mouldering ashes are marked with tablets of stone, and beautiful flowers are yearly placed over them, here we may find some article belonging to them personally while in service—swords, guns, clothing, letters and a thousand and one other mementoes that have been hallowed by them while living—and now, when these veterans are silent, as soon they all will be, our children and children's children can see and feel these personal trophies of their heroic ancestors.

I know I but voice the feelings of that once large number, now so small and rapidly diminishing, when I thank this Historical Society and the donor of these fine rooms for the opportunity of placing herein those memorabilia which we carried to the front, and are so much attached to as being a part of our marches, our battles and our daily lives, as a permanent record of Litchfield's valor and devotion to the Union.

The expression "The Sword of Bunker Hill" is only a type, though a pleasanter and higher sounding name which includes knives, forks, buttons, cups, letters and a host of articles identified and interwoven in the soldier's life. The phrase is more poetical but the sentiment is the same.

The time is fast approaching when that great struggle that placed more than half a million of brave men in patriots' graves will be but a dim page of history. It is so now to many of our children, and they only realize what it means when they see the gray-haired veteran tottering along and hear him tell the tales of strife. But as they pass through these rooms and gaze upon these emblems it will be a vivid illustration of the dangers we underwent, and will tell them the living story not only of those early days when bleeding feet of patriots stained the snows of Valley Forge, but of those later days when starvation was meted out to the men equally brave in the dreadful prison pens, and the assassin's bullet struck down the nation's President. Such are the lessons our Society has shown, is furnishing, and will continue to furnish, I trust, for all future generations.

The work so feebly done by our predecessors has now grown stronger and fuller. May its course be ever onward and lasting, and may those coming after us ever bless the loving and noble hand which has so well provided for us.

The closing address of the morning was by Dr. F. W. Peck, President of the Scientific Association, who spoke as follows:

In the summer of 1902 it was proposed to organize a Scientific Association, the principal intention being to have monthly meetings for the discussion of scientific subjects. During the second month of our existence as an Association a friend of the enterprise suggested that we begin to collect specimens for a museum of the natural history of Litchfield

County. In order to increase our interest he offered to pay the necessary expenses in having one specimen of each kind of bird or animal in the County properly mounted, provided we would secure the specimens. At that time the Association organized various sections to take up the collecting in the various branches of natural science. The principal sections in this line are zoölogy, botany, mineralogy, dendrology and entomology. In these lines a good beginning has been made. Little has been done in icthyology, but we hope soon to have a good representation in that line in our museum.

With the gathering of these specimens has come the problem of where they could be kept for safety and exhibition. We were advised that the only way of securing such room was to have a collection of such value as to make the room a necessity. Now, by the kindness of another friend, we are provided with a room well adapted for our purposes.

From the beginning the interest in the Association has been unexpectedly great. We thought to have a small Association for discussion of scientific subjects. At our last annual meeting the membership was reported at one hundred and sixty. For some reason not foreseen by the originators, the Association seems to have fitted into an unoccupied corner. Years ago the donor of this building had an ideal. She desired to see in Litchfield a building in which there should be, beside the library, a department for the preservation of historical relics, also one devoted to a museum of natural sciences. It is an experience that has seldom fallen to my lot to have an enterprise, started in such a small way with no expectation of great permanence, to have this enterprise developed by one friend into one of definite permanent value, and then to find that our existence had been anticipated in the plans of another.

At present our Association finds itself as having come into being almost by accident, developed into usefulness by one friend, housed and helped on our way by another.

It may be that the work of these Associations and the presence of this building may be details in some unsuspected plans that a kind Providence, who watches over the welfare of all men, may have for the future good of our own town of Litchfield.

Following Dr. Peck's address, Capt. Edgar B. Van Winkle, who is not only the Treasurer but a mainstay of the Historical Society and who was indefatigable in his efforts to make Friday's affair the success it was, read a number of letters of regret from distinguished people, including His Excellency, Rollin S. Woodruff, the Presidents of the New Hampshire and Rhode Island Historical Societies, Edmund Clarence Stedman, the poet-banker, and the venerable John Bigelow, ex-Minister to France. In the course of his letter Mr. STEDMAN said:

"Litchfield County and the breeze-swept walks, the elm-fringed Green, and the ancient homes of Litchfield town are endeared to me by many memories. I should love, but am unable, to hear the legends and associations so familiar to me in youth, rehearsed again upon the occasion to which you hospitably invite me.

"There was a time, now a century old, when our little State of Connecticut was foremost in the beginnings of American literature. Its poets and satirists represented our post-Revolutionary wit and imagination, and it was their wont often to refresh their souls and bodies in the 'mountain county' of their State. Law and statesmanship have no less radiated from old Litchfield—nor can I think of any other typical New England town from which they have been more effectively diffused throughout the land. Certainly no Association has a more rational 'excuse for being' than yours, which now enters so auspiciously upon a new half century."

We greatly regret that we have only time and space to give the following extracts from Mr. BIGELOW'S letter:

"I presume I am indebted to you for an invitation to attend the semi-centennial anniversary of the Litchfield Historical Society's birthday on the fifth of July next. I need hardly assign all the reasons why a young gentleman of my tender years, who in a few months will cross the ninety-first parallel of longevity, may be constrained to deny himself the pleasure he would have in accepting the invitation. That, however, is no reason why I should not allow myself to dwell for a few moments in my library upon another anniversary in which I helped to celebrate the centennial birthday of Litchfield County, and that too some years before your Historical Society had been brought to the birth. * * *

"I forget the orator of that anniversary, but I remember hearing with intense pleasure and interest a poem delivered by John Pierpont. * * *

"Litchfield has always been associated in my memory with two other circumstances of a very agreeable nature. First, that it was the country home of your father and his family, to whose office door I first affixed the words, 'John Bigelow, Attorney at Law.'

"And the other was that Litchfield was the seat of the only law school I believe in the country for nearly a hundred years. Had I known of the existence of such a school when I graduated from college, it is not very likely that I would have abandoned the profession for that of journalism, as I subsequently did."

Friday morning the men held forth, but after twelve o'clock they gave way to the women, for the afternoon exercises were under the auspices of Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter, D. A. R., and there was a large gathering

of "Daughters" from all over the State. These included regents and representatives from the following Chapters. Fanny Ledyard, Mystic; Sarah Ludlow, Seymour; Green Woods, Winsted; Dorothy Ripley, Southport; Ruth Hart and Susan Carrington, Meriden; Melicent Porter, Waterbury; Nathan Hale Memorial, East Haddam; Stamford; Ansonia; Katharine Gaylord, Bristol; Mary Clap Wooster, New Haven; Wadsworth, Middletown; Hannah Woodruff, Southington; Whiting Trumbull, Watertown; Judea, Washington and Torrington. Including the speakers, especially invited guests and others, the number who came from out of town for the exercises of the entire day was at least 150.

At one o'clock a most bountiful and delicious luncheon was given the speakers of the day and 150 out-of-town guests by the local Chapter at the Litchfield Club House. The large hall and the tables were most tastefully decorated with roses and laurel. The service was perfect and the viands so tempting that all the guests were most lavish in their praise of the generous hospitality of the members of Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter, the special committee in charge and its very efficient Chairman, Mrs. S. A. Willis.

At three o'clock came the exercises in the Historical Society's new building and the unveiling of the D. A. R. window. The Regent of the Chapter, Mrs. John L. Buel, presided and introduced the speakers in a very felicitous manner. The following young ladies, all members of the Chapter, acted as ushers: Miss Margaret Beckwith, Miss Carolyn Cowles, Miss Anna Doyle, Miss Bessie Kenny, Miss Gertrude Sanford and Miss Harriet Bulkley. Miss Edith Mason was page to the Regent.

After the invocation by Rev. John Hutchins, pastor of the Congregational church, and singing "God of Our Fathers, Whose Almighty Hand" by the audience, led by the Chapter chorus, the following programme was carried out:

In introducing Mrs. Kinney, State Regent of the D. A. R., whose subject was "The Mission of the Connecticut D. A. R.," Mrs. Buel spoke as follows:

To hold in sacred remembrance our patriot dead, the founders of our country, to educate the youth of to-day, both native and foreign born, in the rights, the privileges and the duties of American citizenship; to cherish and safeguard, as far as women can, the institutions of our American freedom bequeathed to us by our forefathers and foremothers,—these are the aims of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. In these patriotic purposes the Connecticut Daughters stand among the foremost. That this is so, is due to united, earnest effort under the leader whom it is an honor and a privilege to have with us to-day. Year after year, for thirteen consecutive years, 4,000 Connecticut Daughters have unanimously called her to the highest office in their gift, the State Regency of Connecticut. They have honored themselves in so doing, and they have honored the State. Under her distinguished leadership they have done historical, genealogical and educational work of lasting value to this and future generations. She it is who has awakened them to the mission underlying the aims of our Society—a mission which should be cherished in the hearts of every American man and woman of Revolutionary descent. To-day, when the local Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which I have the honor to represent, has fulfilled the mission that lay nearest to their hands, and has called this company together to pay grateful tribute to the memory of nearly 3,000 Litchfield County Revolutionary patriots, it is peculiarly fitting that she who is the fountain head of our energies should tell us more particularly of the mission of the Connecticut Daughters of which to-day's sacred duty forms a part. I have the privilege and the pleasure of presenting our loved and honored Regent of Connecticut, Mrs. Kinney.

Mrs. KINNEY spoke as follows:

From the standpoint of a State Regent, and presumably from that of every Daughter of the American Revolution within her jurisdiction, the mission of the great national organization which we have the honor to represent is not only apparent, but it is significant and illuminating as well.

Nevertheless, it may be that here and there a wayfaring sister or brother is unaware of the lines along which Daughters of the American Revolution are fulfilling their unwritten pledge to perpetuate the memory of the spirit of the men and women who achieved American independence, and in response to the request of the Regent of the entertaining Chapter I am happy to say a word or two, not only by way of emphasizing the fact that our organization has a definite mission to perform, but also to indicate the practical service which is being rendered to State and Nation by Daughters of the American Revolution.

The National Society D. A. R. is the largest patriotic-hereditary organization in the world. It has a membership of about 60,000, of which number something over 4,000 are credited to our own little commonwealth. Its membership may be found in every State and Territory of the Union—in the Hawaiian Islands—in the Philippine Islands—in England, France, Italy, Germany—and even in far-away India. In a very real sense the organization is a branch of the historical and educational department of the United States Government, since the charter which was granted by the Congress of the United States obliges us to report our work each year to that same legislative body, and this report is printed and distributed by order of Congress precisely as other government reports are printed and distributed. Whatever may be the ultimate destiny of the organization, the record of its historical, commemorative, patriotic and educational work has to-day, and for all time to come will have, a distinct and honorable place in the archives of the United States.

The growth of the organization in Connecticut has been phenomenal; the record of its achievements is equally surprising. From the first, the Connecticut D. A. R. have recognized the dignity and value of their mission, and have fulfilled its obligations in a thoughtful and conscientious manner.

They have not allowed the social side of Chapter life to take precedence of their self-imposed duties. They believe their mission to be a vital one, and that the objects and aims of the Society touch upon the eternal verities, since they concern the highest and best interests of "Home and Country." They believe that they are putting new life into the dry and crumbling bones of a dead and almost forgotten past, and that they are making history which should be a help and inspiration to generations to come.

There is another side to this question of which we hear little, but it is a side not to be forgotten when summing up the good which has resulted from the organization of this Society. I refer to the benefits accruing directly to the Daughters themselves from the *esprit de corps* which has been cultivated among us, from the spirit of comradeship and good-fellowship which exists among us to-day, and from the sweet and gracious friendships which have come to so many of us through the pleasant medium of happy Chapter life and Chapter work. These are among the helpful and healthful features of our organization and should be listed as one of our valuable, as well as valued, assets.

I am occasionally asked by the wayfaring sister or brother to whom I referred a moment or so ago, if Daughters of the American Revolution do anything except wave flags and glorify their ancestors. In other words, they wish to know if there are results to show for the time, energy and money we are putting into this movement.

The reply would necessarily occupy more time than the average listener is willing to give to any subject. Among

other things it would include a history in detail of the kind of commemorative work the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter has been doing. I refer to the fact that we have starred the State of Connecticut with wayside stones, tablets, memorial gateways, fountains, etc., nearly sixty such memorials to mark historic sites, or in memory of the heroes of the Revolution and what they represented. It would include the details of the restoration of many Colonial and Revolutionary burial places, and the saving to the commonwealth of much of its early history through the copying and preservation of fast fading and crumbling church and town records. It would include the story of our efforts to cultivate a spirit of patriotism which need not depend for its inspiration upon flag waving, fireworks and the booming of cannon.

It would include the *résumé* of a far-reaching movement for the intellectual and moral training of the destitute children of the State and Nation—children of both native and foreign birth. It would touch upon our effort for the social and political education of adult foreigners—all of which make for peace and righteousness and good citizenship. In addition to their purely historical and commemorative work, the D. A. R. have undertaken to grapple with certain hydra-headed sociological problems, and they are doing it with the same vigor and earnestness of purpose that was manifest in the methods of their forefathers. "Blood will tell"—and if any one thing is more obvious than another, it is that the blood of Daughters of the American Revolution has not been wholly depleted of its inherited proportion of iron and fire. I could easily fill the hours of this afternoon with merely brief mention of the achievements of the Connecticut Daughters only—but even then the real significance of these achievements would still remain untold. Judged by their fruits, I do not feel that I overstate, or in any way misrepresent the attitude of the Con-

necticut Daughters of the American Revolution, when I claim that in all their work for "Home and Country" they have been and are actuated by principles closely allied to those which influenced their forefathers and foremothers in Colonial and Revolutionary days; and if it were possible for them to do so, we believe those ancestors would set the seal of their approval upon the great patriotic movement which is even now attracting world-wide attention—a movement which is largely due to the women of our generation and which is sweeping like a tidal wave over our native land, rousing the masses and crystallizing patriotic sentiment and noble impulses into well-defined and forceful efforts to lift this dear land of ours up, and out of, and beyond the reach of the national and municipal degradation which sometimes threatens to overwhelm it, and to swing it far aloft and back again upon the high and broad tableland of political integrity upon which our forefathers founded this republic, and where they entered into solemn compact to give to the world a pure and honest government, of the people, by the people and for the people—and sealed this compact with their precious blood. The motto of our organization is "For Home and Country." The Society stands for ideals. It stands for a lofty standard of social, political and personal ethics. It stands for loyalty to the flag that floats over us, and for a country with a conscience. To save the warp and woof of the Nation's history as bequeathed to us by our ancestors, and to inculcate the principles of a Christian patriotism in the hearts of the people, is a part of our mission. To do our full share toward making the world a little brighter, a little better, and a good deal more patriotic than we sometimes have reason to believe it is, is also a part of our mission. But, after the manner of women, we must do our work in our own fashion. We may not go into the legislative halls on Capitol Hill in Washington and cast votes for this, that or the other helpful measure for the good of

mankind, but we may and are bringing strong educational and moral influences to bear upon our dangerously large foreign population, with the hope of making good American citizens and worthy patriots out of possible foes, who may, even now, be shielding themselves in the folds of Old Glory while they strike at the laws of the land, and attempt to belittle the value and strength of a nation's loyalty to its flag. We may not go into the pulpit and preach our creeds to a little coterie of men and women whose beliefs are the same as our own, but we may, and do, carve our sermons upon stone, or mould in bronze our bits of local history, and set them up by the wayside where they may be read by men and women of all creeds or no creed at all; or we may follow the example of the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter and in noble symbolic form and splendid color give outward expression to the faith that is in us, that our ancestors represented the highest type of manhood, that the principles for which they fought were the foundation stones for the highest and best form of self-government, and that their sacrifice embodied the acme of human suffering, of heroism, of personal effacement, for the sake of what, to them, was a sacred cause.

Were the men whose memory the Daughters of the American Revolution are honoring to-day actuated by motives of personal aggrandizement when they turned their faces from home and loved ones and gave themselves over to the horrors of war? Not one of them. They may not have been conscious of it, but every one of them, even the humblest, was prompted to the step by his own sense of duty, by what seemed to him right and best for Home and Country, rather than by what might be pleasant or profitable for himself. Not in so many words did they say it, but in their lives and deaths there is ample proof of their eagerness to dare to do and to die for the cause of civil and religious liberty.

"Of what avail the plow or sail,
Or land or life,—if freedom fail?"

In placing this beautiful and significant memorial to the memory of Litchfield County's Revolutionary Soldiers, the patriotic women of the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter have honored not only their ancestors, but themselves and the State of Connecticut as well. They have set up in this goodly place a fadeless vision, symbolizing the glory and beauty of faithful doing and noble self-sacrifice. This splendid page out of the history of our State should be, and will be, an object lesson to this and to future generations and a sufficient answer as well to those who stand outside the fold and wonder what the Daughters of the American Revolution have been and are doing.

I bring to you, Madam Regent, and to the Chapter which you have the honor to represent, the felicitations of Sister Chapters throughout the State, upon the completion of the historical and commemorative work which has engaged your attention for the past two years. We are proud of it, and of the Chapter which has so worthily discharged a share of the debt of gratitude which we all owe to those who fought to make us a nation.

After all, it is the women who give much of the tone and color to the sentiment of a people and through home and social influences wield a quiet but pervading force in public affairs. In devotion to the principles which actuated the makers of this mighty nation, in love of country, in loyalty to the flag, in wise and legitimate effort for municipal reform, in a vigorous stand for the preservation of American customs and the permanency of the American Sabbath, we may, if we will, be supreme.

If a patriotic and ethical renaissance should receive its impetus through our loyal efforts for Home and Country, then will Daughters of the American Revolution know that

they have not failed either in their duty to the past or their obligations to the future.

The next speaker, Miss Clara Lee Bowman, spoke on "Ideals of the National Society, D. A. R.," and was introduced as follows:

Among the twenty Vice Presidents-General of the National Society, D. A. R., Connecticut has several times been represented by one of her distinguished Daughters. To receive proof of the confidence of 50,000 women representing every State in the Union, is a distinction not to be despised.

Not the least honored among those who have held this high office in the gift of the National Society is she who is to speak to us to-day of its ideals of service to "Home and Country." In her person the National Society to-day pays tribute to the memory of our Revolutionary patriots of Litchfield County. It is fitting that not only Connecticut, through our loved State Regent, but that the National Society as well should share in this grateful commemoration of the patriotism of our Litchfield County men in their struggle for national independence. Therefore it is with great satisfaction that I present to you this very dear and honored guest amongst us—one who is loved in Connecticut and whose name is held in high esteem wherever it is spoken—Miss Clara Bowman, Vice President-General for Connecticut of the National Society, D. A. R.

Miss Bowman spoke as follows:

It gives me great pleasure to bring to you greetings and congratulations from the National Board of the Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Congratulations especially that the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter has

given to us such a perfect illustration of the aims and ideals of that Society, in this beautiful memorial which we all delight to honor, and in whose honor we are gathered together to-day.

Memory and reverence for the past, beauty and joy for the present, example and inspiration for the future—are they not all united in the varied colors, the symbolic figures, the grace and dignity of form and outline which combine to make this memorial window tell its story to the children of to-day, who are to be the citizens of the future? A story which will keep alive in the hearts of men the good name and great deeds of those heroes of old, who by serving their day and generation gave to us a nation, and to whom we owe a never to be forgotten debt of gratitude.

But for the efforts of this Chapter many of those 3,000 Revolutionary soldiers of Litchfield County would have slept in unmarked and forgotten graves. Now their monument beautifies and adorns their early home and their memory is kept green among us.

Sixteen years ago, when our Society was first started, a spirit of iconoclasm had swept over the land, vandalism was abroad, the tide of prosperity was gaining in strength every day and sweeping before it, not only old landmarks, but all sentiment regarding them. Old homesteads were being torn down, old records lost sight of, the priceless contents of grandmothers' attics with letters and journals of past generations were being turned over to the ubiquitous ragman; a flood of immigration threatened to submerge us; a generation had arisen who knew not Joseph and who were only concerned with the fleshpots of Egypt.

Then it was that our ancestral Societies were born. As has always been the case in the world's history, the need brought the man; this time it was both man and woman—for we yield precedence to the Sons of the American Revolution—and their example was closely followed by that small

body of earnest women in the city of Washington who in 1891 formed the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, with little idea of its far-reaching effects. To concentrate the pure stream of patriotism which is our natural birthright, "to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American independence, by the acquisition of historical spots and the erection of monuments, by the preservation of documents and relics and of the records of individual services of Revolutionary soldiers and patriots, and by the promotion of celebrations of all patriotic anniversaries."

These were the first ideals for which our Society was founded, but we have hitched our wagon to a star which rises higher and higher on our horizon. The spirit of our organization has flashed like a signal fire from State to State. Its members are hard at work in every State in the Union, in the islands of the sea and in foreign lands.

In our first ten years of action we strove to erect monuments on every hillside where the glory of history has set its mark. New England is dotted with our landmarks until it almost seems as if the supply of historical sites would become exhausted. The Western States envy us our many opportunities of service. It would take hours, instead of the few moments alloted me, to tell half the tale of the carrying out of our ideals. Connecticut alone has spent $125,000 in this work. We have reclaimed old cemeteries in many towns beside Hartford, and can but feel that in the line of erecting memorials our mission is almost accomplished. All this gratifies our sentiment of loyalty to the past, but of late years our conscience has been aroused to a sense of our active duty to the present.

This grand, splendidly organized body of earnest women is equipped and ready to enter into the great social problems that are facing our generation. 'Tis a case of *noblesse oblige,* and we could not escape from it if we would. Our

ideals have become flesh and blood,—they have assumed gigantic proportions. We see visions and dream dreams. with the great problem of immigration in view, patriotic education committees have been appointed by both National and State Societies. It is our dream that every State and Chapter shall have a hard-working committee to study and meet the needs of the foreigner in their midst, who has come to live among them as an American citizen. If each Chapter would enter into settlement work for their own locality, think what a transformation we might bring about for our own generation! Much is being done on those lines by Connecticut Daughters, as Mrs. Kinney has told us. Massachusetts, Ohio, Rhode Island, New Jersey and New York also have active committees at work.

Another line of service which appeals to us especially is the education of the descendants of Revolutionary soldiers, shut in for generations by the fastnesses of the great Smoky Mountains, until they are as far behind the life of to-day as if they were indeed in the generation of the War of Independence, when their fathers fought shoulder to shoulder with the best men and patriots any of us can boast in our ancestry.

It is another of our dreams that every Chapter in the country shall educate a mountain girl in some of the Southern colleges, that they may go out among their own people as our representatives. What better memorial can we erect than to build into the characters of these young people a sense of devotion to country and to home, and offer them to our generation as worthy citizens of the future?

With every decade, in fact with every year, new ideals rise before us. We are earnest women, anxious to do our share of the world's work and to leave our beloved country better than it might have been without our effort. We aspire to be vestal virgins of patriotism, loyalty and service.

If our ideals are far beyond our accomplishment, "if we have built castles in the air," our work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now let us put foundations under them.

In introducing Mr. Ellsworth, who spoke on "Litchfield County in the Revolution," Mrs. Buel said:

Four years ago the descendants of Connecticut's great patriot and statesman, Chief Justice Oliver Ellsworth, presented to the Connecticut Daughters of the American Revolution the homestead at Windsor of their illustrious ancestor, to have and to hold forever. The day of presentation was an eventful day for the Connecticut Daughters, and for the State as well. It gave us our Connecticut Mount Vernon. On that day, he whose name now honors our programme was the spokesman of those generous descendants whose deed of gift to the Connecticut D. A. R. was the first deed taken out on their patrimony since its conveyance to the first Ellsworth in 1665. It is superfluous to introduce to this audience one so well known in the ranks of historians and literary men as this descendant of Oliver and Abigail Wolcott Ellsworth, who is to speak to us to-day about our own County (which is also his County) in the Revolution. It is also superfluous to say that in the hearts of the Connecticut Daughters of the American Revolution the illustrious name he bears will ever hold a warm and conspicuous place. I have the very great honor to introduce Mr. William Webster Ellsworth of the Century Company.

Mr. Ellsworth, in response, spoke as follows:

Madam Regent, and you Chief Daughters of our State, Ladies and Gentlemen:—In the year 1774, eleven months before the first gun was fired at Lexington, the King's representative in the Province of Massachusetts Bay sailed

for England on a much needed vacation. The passage of the Boston Port Bill and other equally obnoxious acts had given Govenor Hutchinson some strenuous days. Immediately on his arrival in England he held a long conversation with King George regarding the rebellious colonists over sea. His Majesty, having sounded to its depths the perfidy of his Massachusetts subjects, passed on to Rhode Island, whose government, he learned, was "nearest to a democracy of all the colonies." "How is it with Connecticut? Are they much better?" asked the King. "The constitutions, sir, are the same," replied the Governor, "but Connecticut are a more cautious people; strive to make as little noise as may be, and have, in general, retained a good share of that virtue which is particularly necessary in such a form of government."

It was to the foolish and mistaken policy of this same King that the American Revolution was due. Lecky, the English historian, says of one of the acts of George III against the Americans, that it was as criminal as any of those that led Charles I to the scaffold. "His hiring German mercenaries to subdue the essentially English population beyond the Atlantic," says Lecky, "made reconciliation hopeless and the Declaration of Independence inevitable."

If the King could have looked forward for a little more than two years from the day of his interview with Governor Hutchinson, he would have seen the leaden statue of himself, which had been set up with great pomp and circumstance in the Bowling Green, in the city of New York, tipped from its pedestal by the Sons of Liberty and, later, borne in pieces to a little hill-town in northwestern Connecticut, where the ladies of the Wolcott family and their friends organized what might be called a bullet-bee, and from His Majesty's counterfeit presentment made up some 42,000 cartridges for use against His Majesty's soldiers.

That little town in Connecticut was the county seat of an energetic people, engaged as we are to-day in tilling the granite rocks of the Berkshires. It had been named from a cathedral city in the motherland. In the years just before the outbreak of the Revolution, Major André, whose death was one of the most grievous incidents of the war, was a frequent visitor to the English Lichfield. There lived Anna Seward, his friend and later eulogist, and in the literary circle of the town was Dr. Erasmus Darwin, author of "The Botanic Garden" and other works of prose and poetry, and grandfather of the great naturalist; there, too, lived Thomas Day, who wrote "Sanford and Merton"; and the Edgeworth family—Maria was then a little girl. There, with the Sewards, Honora Sneyd made her home—the girl with whom André fell in love and whose picture was the only one of his possessions he was able to retain at the time of his first capture by the Americans, and, in that capture, which occurred in the early months of the Revolution at Fort Chamblis on Lake Champlain, Litchfield County troops, on duty in the district, were undoubtedly concerned. André, in one of his letters home, referred to "the dear Lichfieldians," but it was not the people of our Litchfield he had in mind.

As there is some question how the letter "t" got into the American Litchfield when the English town of the same name is spelled without it, I may say, in passing, that a high authority in etymology—perhaps the highest in America—in response to an inquiry, tells me that in the seventeenth century, and doubtless in the beginning of the eighteenth, when our American Litchfield was founded, the name of the English town which, in earlier years, had been spelled in several different ways, was oftener written with a "t" than without it, and he assures me that this is more correct, according to the rules and analogies of English spelling, than its present form as now used in England.

I have been asked to speak of Litchfield County in the Revolution. Reading over the roster of those who fought in that great struggle for freedom is like reading the tax-lists of the towns to-day, and it would seem as if every woman whose family has lived in Litchfield County for a hundred and fifty years needs only to be alive to be eligible for membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution.

And what part did our County take in the contest? We find her represented in every campaign, in nearly every battle, and sons of Litchfield taking high honors throughout the war. She sent 3,000 men to share the privations of winter camps and the perils of the battlefield—about two-thirds of her male population between the ages of sixteen and fifty—and there were times when not a man or boy over fourteen years of age was left in some of her villages. No State sent more men than Connecticut in proportion to population—no State but Massachusetts sent more in actual numbers.

When the sound of the shot "heard round the world" reached Litchfield County, ninety men from New Hartford started at once to join "the embattled farmers" at Lexington and Concord. Norfolk sent a little band of twenty-four. Within a week General Gage found himself besieged in Boston by a motley army of 16,000 sturdy farmers gathered from all over New England. Benedict Arnold, commanding the best equipped company on the ground, the Governor's Foot Guard of New Haven, suggested the importance of capturing the forts at Ticonderoga and Crown Point. But his suggestion had been forestalled by another Connecticut man, and Ethan Allen, born on Litchfield Hill, was already marching toward Lake Champlain. His little company, which grew in members as it advanced, began with a nucleus of sixteen men, of whom four at least were from the same County as its leader, and when Arnold

arrived with a commission from the Cambridge Council of Safety he found Allen with a commission from the Legislature of Connecticut, and, what was more important, the men to fight. They refused to serve under any other commander, so Arnold was forced to take the position of a volunteer under Allen. This was the first of a long series of disappointments and thwarted ambitions which ended finally in the treason.

At Ticonderoga, on the tenth of May, 1775, "in the name of the great Jehovah and the Continental Congress," the first captured British battle-flag of the Revolution fell into the hands of a Litchfield County man. And entering the fort at Ethan Allen's side was Lieutenant Crampton, also a native of Litchfield. The next day Colonel Seth Warner of Roxbury, in the same County, took Crown Point.

The First Connecticut Regiment, one of whose companies was made up largely of Litchfield County men, was sent to the Lake Champlain region, where it assisted in the reduction of St. Johns and then went on to Montreal. The Fourth Connecticut Regiment, under Colonel Hinman of Woodbury, recruited in Litchfield County, helped to guard Ticonderoga and Crown Point and took part in all the work of that district from June to December, 1775. Later, the regiment of Colonel Charles Burrall of Canaan, its men all from Litchfield County, went still further north and reinforced the troops besieging Quebec under Wooster and Arnold. And here they must have met the Connecticut company which formed one of Arnold's brave body of 1,100 men who had pushed their way through the wilds of Maine, over craggy precipices and morasses, through drifts of snow and icy streams, eating their dogs and boiling their moccasins for sustenance. Among them, serving as a private soldier, was Aaron Burr, who was visiting in Litchfield on the outbreak of the Revolution.

For Litchfield County men had gone to the east as well as to the west and north; many of them fought at Bunker Hill with the troops of the Second and Third Connecticut Regiments, and it was from the army gathered around Boston, after Bunker Hill, that Arnold's expedition to Quebec was recruited. The Seventh Connecticut, with a Litchfield County company, took part in the siege of Boston and was in General Sullivan's Division on Winter Hill.

It was here that Washington's troubles over the short enlistments began. "It is not in the page of history," wrote Washington, "to furnish a case like ours; to maintain a post within musket-shot of the enemy without powder, and at the same time to disband an army and recruit another within that distance of twenty odd British regiments." The French and Indian wars had been conducted with Arcadian simplicity, and it had been customary to cease fighting in the winter and go home to feed the stock. And it was not an easy task to keep these liberty-loving youths in hand during the months of idle encampment.

Upon Howe's departure, the little American army was marched to New York. Six battalions were raised in Connecticut, among them two companies from Litchfield County, and these joined the forces on Manhattan Island which were awaiting the coming of Howe's army from Halifax.

In August, 1776, Howe landed with 25,000 well-trained soldiers. Then, in quick succession came the battles of Long Island, Harlem Heights and White Plains, and in November the attack on Fort Washington. To the defense of Fort Washington went thirty-six picked men from Litchfield, under the command of Captain Beebe, a Litchfield patriot who was in active service throughout the war. The garrison of the fort, under Colonel Magraw, was forced to capitulate. You know of the cruel massacre watched by Washington, in tears, from Fort Lee, across the Hudson,

and of the sufferings of the unfortunate prisoners. Crowded into the Sugar House in New York and in the prison-ships of the harbor, without water and for the first two days without food, sickness and death came upon them and few survived the ordeal. Only six of Captain Beebe's little band of thirty-six lived to breathe again the air of Litchfield Hill.

After the fall of Fort Washington and the capture of the flower of the American army, the remainder under Washington escaped across New Jersey and over beyond the Delaware. The British pursued, but rested at Princeton and Trenton, while Cornwallis and Howe returned to New York for their Christmas plum pudding. Then came the historic crossing of the Delaware—on Christmas night of 1776, in a blizzard of sleet and snow, with the river full of floating ice. Fiske considers this the most critical point in the career of the American leader, for the terms of service of the greater part of his men expired on New Year's Day, and had not the attack on Trenton been successful it would have been almost impossible again to fill the ranks. In the little army of only 4,000 men which Washington had with him were some from Litchfield County, and in that dark hour New England did her duty and sent all the troops she could raise to create a diversion in the neighborhood of New York. Judge Tapping Reeve, afterward the founder of Litchfield's famous law school, whose wife was Aaron Burr's only sister, was one of those who went from this County and served as an officer until the news of the victories of Trenton and Princeton brought assurance that Washington's army was safe for a time.

After a winter at Morristown, Washington moved southward and met the enemy at Brandywine Creek as they advanced from their landing at Chesapeake Bay toward the capital, Philadelphia. Defeat—and a fortnight later, at Germantown, again defeat. In vain did Major Tallmadge, for fifty years after the Revolution a resident of Litchfield,

endeavor to hold the Germantown road with his dragoons. In the darkness of a mist, two American columns mistook each other for the enemy and there was confusion which ended in retreat. Our men were in both these battles, and they were also well represented at Bennington and Saratoga, fought at the same time by the Northern Army and with greater success. Oliver Wolcott was at Saratoga with his militia, and Captain Seymour of Litchfield was present at the dinner given by the American officers to their captives when Burgoyne, called upon for a toast, gave out the graceful sentiment, "America and Great Britain against the world."

Among the troops at Valley Forge, whither Washington's army retired after the defeat at Germantown, ragged, half-starved, and with hastily made huts their only protection from the winter storms, were many men whose descendants are in this audience to-day. Major Tallmadge was stationed near, scouring the country between the outposts on the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers. In June, when the British moved toward New York, Washington caught them at Monmouth, and in that battle were several Connecticut regiments, among them many men from Litchfield County. After Monmouth, the most important battles of the Revolution were fought in the South, except for Stony Point, which the Fifth Connecticut, recruited in Fairfield and Litchfield Counties, helped to storm. Even in the Southern fields our County was represented, but most of the Connecticut regiments remained in the North, some of them protecting the coasts, others in camp at what was called "Connecticut Village," near West Point. It was there that the treason of Arnold occurred, Washington passing through Litchfield on his way from Hartford two days before he learned of the treachery of his trusted friend and general. At this time, too, came the mutiny among some of the Pennsylvanians, who suffered from lack of food and

decent clothing. Washington immediately sounded the officers of other troops as to what might be expected from the forces under them. General Parsons, commanding the Connecticut Division, wrote to his chief of various patriotic incidents that had come under his observation, saying: "I am convinced the fullest confidence may be placed in the Connecticut troops."

When Cornwallis was forced to retreat toward the north, after his engagement at Guilford Court House, North Carolina, he took a position at Yorktown. LaFayette had been sent by Washington against him and he held the British in check while the grand coup of the war was accomplished. The commander-in-chief, with his army from the Highlands of the Hudson, including several Connecticut regiments, was making a feint as if to attack New York; his enemy's weak position on the York peninsula developed—the French fleet was investing it on one side—and Washington, by a swift movement, marched southward, and, on the fourth anniversary of Burgoyne's surrender, our Litchfield County men heard the British bands play "The World Turned Upside Down," as the army of Cornwallis laid down its arms.

Thus, briefly, I have tried to sketch the part which our troops bore in the Revolution—the work of individuals will be more fully treated in an address which is to follow. But I have said enough, perhaps, to thrill with pride the hearts of those who are descended from these patriot sires, and more than enough to give the stranger within our gates the impression that the War of the Revolution was fought and won by Litchfield County heroes. This is an era of peace—we hope for it, we pray for peace throughout the world, but if ever there was a righteous war it was the War of the American Revolution. We were colonists, we had no representation in the councils of the nation that ruled us, we were made the victims of odious laws and taxes, we were

struggling for a principle—the equal rights of man, announced in the Declaration of Colonial Rights, reiterated in the Declaration of Independence, recognized in the constitutions of all our States. Many of the best men of the mother country were convinced that our cause was just. Even the great Pitt withdrew his eldest son from the army that he might not be compelled to take up arms against those who were defending the common liberties of England.

Let me quote what Abraham Lincoln once said of the Revolution. It was in a speech made at Trenton, N. J., on his way to the inaugural. There on the banks of the Delaware, he referred to the famous crossing, to the hardships of the soldiers and to the victory of the great commander as he had read of it in Weems' "Life of Washington." "I recollect," he said, "thinking then, boy even though I was, that there must have been something more than common that these men struggled for. I am exceedingly anxious that that thing—that something even more than national independence; that something that held out a great promise to all the people of the world for all time to come—I am exceedingly anxious that this Union, the Constitution, and the liberties of the people shall be perpetuated in accordance with the original idea for which that struggle was made. And I shall be most happy indeed if I shall be a humble instrument in the hands of the Almighty and of this His almost chosen people for perpetuating the object of that great struggle."

And he it was—Abraham Lincoln—a hundred years after the Revolution and in the midst of a still mightier conflict, he it was who struck off the shackles of the slave and carried to its full fruition the doctrine of the equal rights of mankind, for which our Litchfield County fathers fought, inheriting their love of liberty from those who cut their way through the primeval wilderness to found in freedom the Colonies of Connecticut.

In presenting Mr. Wolcott, Mrs. Buel said:

Just outside of this window stands a tree planted by the hands of Oliver Wolcott, one of thirteen set out by him in honor of the thirteen struggling Colonies of the Revolution, and each bearing the name of a Colony. All are gone save only this and one comrade—old "Connecticut"—on South Street. But more immortal than ever these mighty trees lives amongst us the memory of the man who planted them. Oliver Wolcott, general, governor and signer of the Declaration of Independence, stands foremost on our honor-roll of Litchfield patriots, and we are fortunate in having with us to-day one of his lineal descendants, a son of the late Governor Roger Wolcott of Massachusetts. He brings fitting tribute to our Revolutionary heroes, not only in his own behalf, but also in behalf of all the descendants of Litchfield County patriots and other donors who have generously assisted this Chapter in erecting this memorial in their honor. Connecticut rejoices in the possession of two noted Olivers,—Oliver Wolcott and Oliver Ellsworth—neither of whom would we give for any other country's Roland, and it is a memorable fact that this occasion is made distinguished by the presence here of descendants of both. The patriots of Litchfield County, to whose self-sacrificing services this window pays undying tribute, could not have worthier eulogist than him whom I now have the honor of introducing—Mr. Roger Wolcott, of Boston.

Mr. Wolcott, in responding, said:

Madam Regent, hereditary neighbors:—It is a pleasure, indeed, to be in Litchfield for my first visit to the home of three generations of my ancestors, and it is a privilege that I shall not soon forget to be allowed to say a few words to you on this most interesting occasion.

Connecticut played a leading part in the American Revolution. Her Colonial history is a story of self-restraint,

notably different from that of her more impatient northern neighbor. Massachusetts had her Stamp Act riot and her Boston massacre; Connecticut had her bloodless preservation of the charter and the secret debate in her Assembly on the right of Parliament to tax the American Colonies, a debate so secret that only the tradition thereof has come down to us. The men of Connecticut had always gone their way quietly, biding their time—but none the less surely winning in the end; and when the time came for an open revolt against the oppressions of the mother-country, Connecticut showed that no other State could send more of her sons to the front, and none could do more to keep the Continental Army supplied with food and the munitions of war. Massachusetts kindled the Revolution, Connecticut kept the Revolution aflame.

In the stirring deeds of the struggle, no County and no town had a larger share than Litchfield. Settled a scant sixty years before the Declaration of Independence, the town was still the home of pioneers. Only within their generation had the Indians ceased to be a haunting terror at their very thresholds. About 1750 the homesick Mrs. Davies wrote to a friend in England, "There is nothing here to associate with but Presbyterians and wolves," and bears and the fierce catamount menaced themselves and their cattle as late as the Revolution. All traffic was by horseback until 1750, when the first wheeled wagon arrived in town, and it was during the war that the imprisoned Royal Mayor of New York first had a pleasure-carriage brought to Litchfield. And perhaps more terrifying to the modern mind than any of these things was the Puritan Sabbath. The service was in two parts, a morning session with a sermon often hours long, scarcely enlivened by the doleful psalmody of the day, and another session in the afternoon, with a short interim for dinner between the two. Trying as this was in the sultry days of summer, it must have been

nothing else but torment in the icy cold of winter, for not until long after the Revolution did any Litchfield meeting-house possess a stove. The winter cold was for some mitigated by the "Sabbath-day house" close by, a house built for those who came from a distance and who wished to send forward a servant to start a blazing fire, in whose welcome glow the family might eat their dinner between services and warm themselves before the bleak ride home. The men and women who lived in Litchfield in 1775 must needs be of dauntless fiber, and so they proved themselves in the Revolution.

In 1774 Oliver Wolcott, as chairman of a Litchfield town-meeting, drew up resolutions on the Boston Port Bill, and a committee was at once formed to take up subscriptions for the assistance of the stricken town. In the same year a Committee of Inspection was appointed "to observe the conduct of all persons," and to publish the names of Tories so that the community might be warned against them. In January of 1776 Captain Bezaleel Beebe was ordered to raise a company of militia. When the news was known, recruits poured in, some coming to his house at a run, for fear the ranks should be full before their arrival. In six days it was armed and equipped and on its way to the defense of New York. In July Oliver Wolcott signed the Declaration of Independence at Philadelphia, and in August he was appointed a Brigadier General to command the regiment of Connecticut militia which were to be hurried to the defense of New York. After the British occupation of New York the next month, Litchfield at once jumped to a new prominence, being an important depot of supplies, directly on the line of overland communication between New England and the other States. At the age of nineteen, Oliver Wolcott, Jr., became a Quartermaster, with the tedious task of collecting and forwarding supplies for the army. Committees were formed for the purchase of horses,

clothing and equipment, for the inspection of provisions and the examination of army surgeons. Bounties were voted to the Litchfield soldiers and relief given to their families and themselves, when they tottered home, broken by sickness and wounds and the inhuman brutalities of the British prisons. In 1777 Litchfield sent to the front ninety-two soldiers as her share of four battalions from the State. When the infamous Tryon descended with his Tories on the American stores at Danbury, Litchfield sent to meet him her last fourteen men capable of bearing arms, among them Oliver Wolcott, Jr., then seventeen years old, and Paul Peck. This veteran hunter, seventy-five years old, ensconced himself behind a stone wall, whence he fired upon the retreating marauders. At every shot of his great flint-lock a man dropped, until his little fortress was rushed and his brains were beaten out by the exasperated enemy with his own clubbed musket. During the first two years of the Revolution, many British prisoners of war were detained at Litchfield, of whom the most important were William Franklin, an illegitimate son of Benjamin Franklin and Royal Governor of New Jersey, and David Matthews, the Mayor of New York. The following years of the war were hard ones for the patriots. The women and the boys of Litchfield were sore put to it to harvest their crops and to keep their households supplied with the necessities of life. Every blanket not in use was sent to the army, and shirts, lint and bandages were made in every house. The taxes grew heavier as the war dragged on, being in 1780 at the rate of one shilling in the pound. Two years later the town in its need of money reversed the ancient Scriptural phrase and visited the sins of the children upon the fathers, for three inhabitants of Litchfield were "assessed on examination agreeable to law for each a son gone to the enemy," although after a hearing one of them was released from his assessment. To add to their hardships smallpox broke out, brought home

by some of the returning soldiers, and a number of the people took it, although the epidemic subsided without proving fatal in any case. In the spring of 1780 George Washington wrote from Newburgh to Governor Trumbull of Connecticut, asking him for supplies for his starving army. By this time the States were well-nigh exhausted of all that must be had to support troops in the field, and Washington's appeal to "Brother Jonathan" was almost a last resort. As on every occasion, he did not appeal in vain. Trumbull promptly replied, stating that a wagon-train of supplies from Hartford and Litchfield would be at Newburgh on a certain day at a certain time. When Washington at the appointed time and place saw the wagons of Connecticut slowly winding into view, he exclaimed, "No other man than Governor Trumbull could have procured them, and no other State than Connecticut would have furnished them."

But enough of Revolutionary Litchfield at home. Let us turn to the deeds of her men on the firing-line, where we find that hardly an important battle of the war was fought, north or south, that some son of Litchfield was not there in an important place. In 1775 it was Ethan Allen, a native of Litchfield, who obtained the surrender of Ticonderoga. Crown Point fell to Seth Warner, born in the neighboring town of Roxbury. Ephraim Kirby and other Litchfield men fought at Bunker Hill, while Captain Archibald McNiel and Sergeant Bezaleel Beebe were at the capture of Montreal under the ill-fated Montgomery. In the autumn of 1776, Bezaleel Beebe, now a Captain commanding a company of thirty-six picked men from Litchfield County, was part of the garrison of Fort Washington, near New York, when it was attacked by the British and surrendered after a brave defense. The enlisted men were imprisoned in the notorious Sugar House and prison shops. Huddled together like rats in a trap, fed on scanty rations of wormy bread and stale pork, with brackish water for their only drink, one

by one they succumbed to dysentery and the smallpox, and but six survived their imprisonment of less than two months. At Bennington the Americans were falling back when Seth Warner arrived and saved the day. At Brandywine and Germantown were Kirby, Tallmadge and Lieutenant James Morris, who, at Germantown, led one of the attacking columns and later guarded the rear. Colonel Kirby was left for dead on the field at Germantown, but was later discovered and revived. At Saratoga Oliver Wolcott commanded a brigade, and Captain Moses Seymour headed a troop of cavalry, while Major Benjamin Tallmadge commanded a detachment of Sheldon's famous dragoons on outpost duty during the terrible winter at Valley Forge. Kirby and Tallmadge helped turn the tide of victory at Monmouth, and Morris was again chosen to lead an attacking column in Alexander Hamilton's "forlorn hope" at Yorktown. When the unfortunate André was captured, it was Major Tallmadge whose keen eye penetrated his disguise and to whom André later admitted his identity. During the few days which followed a lively friendship was formed between the two, and when the time came for the Englishman to die, he walked to the gallows escorted by Major Tallmadge, who there received his affectionate farewell.

But my time is nearly gone and this brief recital must suffice. I have named only a few of the deeds by which immortality has come to those whom we are proud to claim as our forefathers. Nothing we can say, no window we can dedicate, can add to the fame of the patriot soldiers of the Revolution, but also let us not forget their wives and daughters, whose ungrudging performance of the tedious household duties, day by day and year by year, made possible the achievements, often far from home, of every man in Litchfield capable of bearing arms. One hundred years before the Revolution, after the Great Swamp Fight in King Philip's War, the General Assembly of Connecticut spread

MEMORIAL WINDOW PRESENTED BY
MARY FLOYD TALLMADGE CHAPTER, D. A. R.

on its record these words: "There died many brave officers and soldiers, whose memory is blessed, and whose death redeemed our lives. The bitter cold, the tarled swamp, the tedious march, the strong fort, the numerous and stubborn enemy they contended with, for their God, king and country, be their trophies over death. Our mourners, all over the colony, witness for our men that they were not unfaithful in that day."

The men of the Revolution were worthy of their forbears—let us strive to be equally worthy of them both.

Just before unveiling the window, Mrs. Buel made the following address of unveiling and presentation:

Mr. President and Members of the Litchfield Historical Society:—It is my privilege to-day to be the bearer of greetings to your Society from the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of your organization. As the Chapter's official representative, I congratulate you warmly upon this happy event, upon the acquisition of this beautiful new building through the patriotic generosity of one whose name graces the membership rolls of both our Societies, and upon the era of continued energy and usefulness which opens before you. But as a Chapter, we feel especially privileged in being more intimately associated with your semi-centennial than as a mere bearer of greetings. Our greetings are accompanied by a gift, and this gift which we bring to you to-day in memory of those Revolutionary patriots whose lives and deeds are our common heritage and glory, will, we hope, be ever a bond of fellowship and sympathy between the two Societies—a golden wedding gift, as it were, which may prove the token of true union in a common cause. Our aims are identical, or, at the least, supplementary the one to the other. You seek to preserve

the relics and records of Litchfield's past; we also strive for this, and add thereto the stimulation of our too often lukewarm patriotism, the veneration of our country's heroes, the love of our American ideals of life and government. Macaulay has well said that a "people which takes no pride in the achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered by remote descendants." We are proud of the achievements of Litchfield County men in our fight for freedom. We have just heard the tale well told of their devotion and their patriotism, and we esteem it an honor to ourselves to come to you to-day with this tribute to their memory written, not in cold and lifeless marble, but in the warm and living colors of that art which we associate the most closely with our religion—the art of the stained-glass worker who has glorified with his creations the great cathedrals of the past. We have to-day fulfilled a sacred duty—unwritten, but none the less binding—made to ourselves soon after our organization nearly eight years ago. It was then that the Chapter undertook to collect from all sources, and rescue from oblivion, the names of Litchfield's Revolutionary soldiers. It was then that Miss Josephine Richards, chairman of the committee in charge, began that painstaking work which resulted in the cataloguing of nearly 450 names from the town of Litchfield alone. The work was enlarged to comprise the whole County in our Revolutionary rolls; we enlisted the help of other County Chapters, whom I take this opportunity to thank for their hearty coöperation and valuable aid in compiling these records; our lists swelled to nearly 3,000 names, a veritable army; and all the time, hidden away in our hearts, was the thought—a memorial must sometime, somewhere, be erected to these men who made the fame of Litchfield County in the Revolution. Two years ago the opportunity came. This building was given to your Society. It was to have a large north window of Colonial proportions and design. At the

meeting of your Society in August, 1905, when the plans of this building were submitted by the large-hearted donor, it occurred to the speaker that the Chapter might be permitted to place a stained glass window there as a memorial to these men whom the two Societies would thus be united in honoring. The idea was heartily endorsed by the Chapter and resulted forthwith in the proposal which you did us the honor to accept. The gift was pledged, but how to redeem the pledge? Our thoughts turned naturally to the descendants of the patriots, and to the ever generous public, who might like an opportunity to share in this work; if not, another way would be found. But the descendants and the public responded royally to the call. Not only from Litchfield but from all over the country and even from abroad came help and cheering words of sympathy and encouragement from the descendants of our Litchfield County men; many descendants likewise of Revolutionary soldiers not from Litchfield County shared in the work; the Litchfield public gave its ever ready patronage to Chapter entertainments and many another patriotic donor helped to swell the fund. I purposely give you this detailed account of our work because one of the most important and pleasurable of my duties to-day is to make grateful acknowledgment, in the Chapter's name, of the generous assistance of all these donors, without whose help this memorial could not have materialized as soon as it did, within one year and a quarter of its conception. But although we give you the window to-day, the entire memorial plan is not quite finished, nor in the nature of the case can it be finished for some time to come. The names and records of the soldiers are still to be recorded in permanent and dignified form. Nearly 3,000 names cannot be placed on a window nor on any tablet; they will be given to you, as soon as the list is practically complete, enrolled in a volume worthy of their fame; and the Chapter's pledge to

record memorial gifts to the window fund made by descendants in special memory of their own Revolutionary ancestors will be redeemed in full, and these two memorial records will be placed here in your care as soon as the material can be made ready for the engrosser. This material is still increasing by the addition of soldiers' names and the names of donors who wish to record their ancestors in the memorial book, and so it was not possible to have the book ready for to-day. The manuscript lists of the soldiers will be on exhibition in the reading room after the ceremonies.

The Chapter has now reached the supreme moment in this its labor of love and patriotism. In unveiling this monument to the founders of our country and presenting it to you, we for the first time do public honor to those whose names we have ever held enshrined in our heart of hearts.

To the Revolutionary patriots of Litchfield County be forever given the tribute of a loving thought, a quickened heartbeat, a responsive thrill of love like theirs for the "Home and Country" they helped to give us. May this window not only commemorate their devotion and sacrifices; may it also inspire present and future generations to evince the same loyalty to their ideals, the same self-forgetting love for our country and our flag, and all that we Americans stand for in the evolution of mankind.

And now, Mr. President, in the name of the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, I unveil and present this window to your Society, and I commit to your care the sacred trust of holding in everlasting remembrance the Litchfield County patriots of the Revolution.

Mrs. Buel then drew to one side the large American flag which veiled the window.

After the unveiling, Dr. Seymour, President of the Historical Society, accepted the window, as follows:

Madame Regent:—Allow me to express to you, the official representative of the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, the grateful thanks of the Litchfield Historical Society for the suggestive and beautiful window which you have just unveiled and presented to us. We recognize very clearly the intrinsic value of this memorial as a work of art, and rejoice in the beauty which it adds to this hall, into the possession of which we have so fortunately come through the generous forethought of the donor. In itself this window is beautiful, but in two separate ways it has a beauty and a value over and above its own. For in the first place we see in this window the working out of a spirit in your organization worthy of the highest commendation; viz., a determination, early formed as you tell us, to put into permanent form a commemoration of the men to whose patriotism and bravery we owe our independence, so nobly achieved in the days and in the spirit of '76. As you have already said, the deeds of those men are worthy of remembrance and commemoration. The sufferings and privations of those men, their fidelity to the call of duty and their brave deeds will never be lost sight of so long as our country shall be pervaded and ruled by a love of liberty and an earnest devotion to duty. Therefore your determination to weave an unfading wreath with which to decorate their memory honors your Association and gives value to the way in which you have wrought out your plan in this window now presented.

Again, this window has value to us Litchfielders in that through your efforts so many have been led to contribute to its cost. This act on their part is sure to awaken a new interest in and to build up a stronger regard for the men and the principles which it is intended to commemorate. So, also, I think it will give to the contributors a fresh hold upon Litchfield as a center, attracting their love and drawing them back from time to time to this home of their

ancestors. This also will be good for us and for them. In accepting this gift from the D. A. R. I express the hope, a hope which I venture to think will be realized, that the present members of the Historical Society and those who in later times will succeed and follow us will ever find in it a pertinent reminder of the duty of a patriotic love for country, a love which will not suffer us nor them to be satisfied and silent when evils exist which ought to be remedied. We of the present day may not be called upon to bear arms for our country's defence, but there are dangers which come not from outward foes but from foes within the State. Let it be our earnest purpose as it is our sacred duty to see that the republic takes no harm.

Madame, we thank you and your associates and all whose aid has made this window possible. The Historical Society is your debtor and it will certainly pay the debt in the only way possible; viz., by its gratitude fully felt and expressed, and its promise to prove a careful guardian of the gift.

In introducing the last speaker Mrs. Buel said:

When we stand before a beautiful work of art and are stirred by the thoughts it inspires, our minds naturally turn to the artist. We ask, who is the creator of the thing of beauty? whose spirit conceived, whose hand executed it? And so to-day we want to see and to hear from him who has expressed in glowing form and color this embodied Spirit of the Revolution.

For the past year and a half it has been my privilege to know the creator of the window. Our intercourse in the common object which we had at heart has been and will ever be to me a pleasant memory. As a pleasure shared is ever a pleasure doubled, I begged him to complete the significance of this occasion by being present with us to-day, thereby giving the Chapter and the public of Litchfield the long-

desired opportunity to express in person their appreciation of his work. It is, therefore, with most sincere pleasure that I introduce our artist, Mr. Crowninshield.

We are extremely sorry not to be able to round out the story of the speeches of Friday with a verbatim report of Mr. Crowinshield's remarks, but he spoke extemporaneously and we have been unable to persuade him to write out for us what he said. He made an eloquent and stirring appeal for the best and noblest in art, in literature, in the lives of individuals and of nations. He said he believed in democracy and had no use for those people who said that a monarchial form of government was much better. To use his own expression, such people were his "despair." He believed in the D. A. R. because they were democratic, in the best and highest sense of that term. Turning to Mrs. Kinney, who had reported the membership of the organization as being 60,000, he said, "Madame, you should be especially proud of being the mother of 60,000 patriotic daughters." Mr. Crowninshield also paid a magnificent tribute to women and the very important part they had always taken in the history of the world and declared that those nations were the most enlightened and doing the most for mankind where the high character and ennobling influence of womanhood were especially emphasized.

After the singing of "America" and the benediction by Rev. Storrs O. Seymour, D.D., the building was thrown open to the inspection of the general public, hundreds not being able to attend the exercises because of the limited capacity of the room. Tea was very delightfully served by the ladies of the Historical Society, in the museum of the Scientific Association, and this marked the formal closing of a day memorable even in the history of Litchfield and one which was filled only with enjoyment and profit from first to last.

The memorial window is at the north end of the Historical Society's building. In shape it is of Colonial design with a large central panel and a smaller one on each side. The figure, which represents the martial spirit of '76, is that of a winged youth with a drawn, short sword in his right hand, while in his left, uplifted, he holds a branch of laurel. He is clothed in mail, with greaves and sandals, while a flame-colored toga-like garment partially envelops him. The coloring is especially rich and beautiful and a member of the local Chapter has very graphically written as follows: "The artist has caught the colors of the early morning light, the pinks and the reds of sunrise, for the draperies and in the far background rise hills which one can easily feel are the Litchfield Hills. At the right of the window stand some white birches and massed back of the central figure are flowering shrubs almost matching the laurel in their coloring."

Forming a halo over the head of the figure are the words "Pro Patria," while underneath the window is the following inscription, with the insignia of the D. A. R. in the center:

In Memory of the Revolutionary Patriots of Litchfield County

Presented to the

Litchfield Historical Society

by the

Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter

of the

Daughters of the American Revolution

1776–1907

The members of Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter, D. A. R., are greatly pleased with the window and especially gratified with the close attention given the entire work, by the artist, Frederic Crowninshield. Mr. Crowninshield is

the President of the Federation of Arts of New York and recognized as one of the leading men in his line in America. He designed a number of windows that have been much admired in Emmanuel Church, Boston, and is in great demand as a designer of memorial windows. He is extremely versatile and has just published a very pretty book of poems and is now doing more as a painter in oils than a designer of windows. While in Litchfield Mr. Crowninshield was the guest of Dr. and Mrs. John L. Buel.

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