

Second Congregational Society in Dorchester, where he had been married a little less than five years before. It is seldom that we have seen an assembly so large, and with such evident marks of grief, as was there gathered to pay the last tokens of love and honor to this brave soldier, this genial friend, this upright and patriotic man.

JAMES SEWALL REED was born in Milton, Mass., April 3, 1832. Of his early life, his schoolboy-days, you know probably as much as I can tell you. My personal knowledge of him relates more to his California life; though, as a child, I remember having a mortal dread of him, as I always saw him with a *gun* in his hand. He was naturally of an impulsive, ardent, enthusiastic character; and in 1849, during the rage of the "gold fever," became much interested in California. With him, to think was to do; and he became so desirous to try his fortune in that distant land, that his parents reluctantly gave their consent, though he was a boy but little more than seventeen years old. An extract from his journal says, "On the 30th of October, 1849, we set sail from Boston in the good ship 'Argonaut,' bound to San Francisco; making up our minds for a 'life on the ocean-wave.'" Here, at the outset, he shows himself possessed of the characteristics of a good traveller; being always cheerful, making the best of every event, never discouraged, and always finding something pleasant amid the darkest scenes. They sailed round Cape Horn, and made a quick and prosperous voyage; going on shore at Valparaiso, eighty-nine days out from Boston. On the 13th of March, 1850, they dropped anchor in the Bay of San Francisco. Here commenced his first experience of "camp-life:" for, on landing, he pitched his tent, and commenced house-keeping; washing, cooking, &c., for himself. He immediately found plenty of work; and, that he might lose no time, he commenced building a flat-bont for river-travel. Finishing this, he next tried his hand at painting; at which he continued for some weeks. His brother having arrived in California, as soon as they could get ready, they started for the mines. They worked at mining, and were quite successful, some six or eight months; when, thinking their claim entirely worked out,