

E. H. Kent, President, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, greeted the brethren, welcomed, and bade them Godspeed in their laudable undertaking. Bro. D. D. Smith performed the same duty for the plot owners. R. W. Brother Dickey responding to both greetings in an impressive and dignified manner. The following hymn, composed for the occasion by Mr. R. H. Fenton, and inscribed to Rockland Lodge, 728, was beautifully rendered by the choir of Rockland, under the leadership of W. Bro. John E. Flagler:—

Oh, Spirit of the Truth,  
Thou Mighty One,  
To Thee we humbly bow  
In unison;  
To Thee our voices raise  
In syllables of praise,  
Thou who dost guide our ways  
Till Heaven is won.

'Neath Thine all-seeing eye,  
This day we stand  
United in our Faith,  
Linked heart and hand;  
Bound with fraternal ties,  
Which through our lives comprise  
A safeguard 'neath the skies,  
On sea or land.

We gather once again  
In memory here,  
Where 'neath the spring turf  
Lies friendship dear;  
Bright floral gems in bloom  
We plant above the tomb  
Of those, who, from the gloom  
Shall re-appear.

Thus with our solemn rites  
We come to-day.  
Amidst the symbols green,  
Of early May—  
Midst tokens of the land  
Which liveth close at hand,  
Just o'er the golden strand,  
Not far away.

After prayer by the Chaplain—Bro. Seaman—Brother, the Rev. Elbert Clement addressed the brethren, and a large concourse of people who had assembled to witness the ceremony, in eloquent terms of praise for the Order, and the principles it inculcates. Wor. Bro. General Jas. H. Blauvelt then divided the brethren into three parties, and the grave of every Mason was visited, and a pot of flowers planted over his remains. We were assigned to the party who went an easterly course, and here let me say that a sprig of evergreen had been planted at the head of each grave to “mark the spot” and to enable the brethren to find it. The first grave visited was that of Bro. Senator Jas. W. Booth. R.W. Bro. Ehlers removed the earth, planted the flowers, and spoke as follows:

“Brethren:—’Neath this sod rests the mortal remains of James W. Booth.