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PRESENTATION EXERCISES

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*The Unveiling of a Tablet to the  
Boys of Maganetaewan District  
who took part in the  
World War*

1914-1918



1914

PRO-HONORE



1913

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# MACANITAWANS ANSWER TO CANADA'S CALL

## HONOR ROLL

1. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	11. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	21. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans
2. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	12. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	22. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans
3. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	13. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	23. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans
4. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	14. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	24. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans
5. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	15. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	25. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans
6. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	16. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	26. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans
7. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	17. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	27. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans
8. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	18. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	28. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans
9. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	19. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	29. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans
10. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	20. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	30. Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans

### WIVES OF THE SUPREME SACRIFICE

Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans
Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans
Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans	Mrs. J. J. Macanitawans

ARRIVED FROM THE LATE MRS. THOMAS S. COLEMAN  
1919



PRESENTATION EXERCISES

*Unveiling of a Tablet*  
to the  
*Boys of Maganetawan District*  
*who took part in the*  
*World War*  
*1914-1918*

*Chronicle* by  
*Mrs. J. H. Stevenson*  
*of Nashville, Tenn.*

\* GREAT PATRIOTIC MEETING AT \*  
MAGANETAWAN ONTARIO SCHOOLHOUSE  
AUGUST TWELFTH, NINE TEN-NINETEEN





## PRESENTATION EXERCISES

AT UNVEILING OF A TABLET TO MAGANETAWAN WAR HEROES

**W**HEN the folks living in the district between Burks Falls and Ahmic Harbor trooped to Maganetawan on August 12th, 1919, to join in celebrating the Civic Holiday of that village, they came with lively anticipation of an enjoyable time, for the big posters had promised many attractions. But the reality far exceeded anyone's expectations, and the day will never be forgotten by those fortunate enough to be present. The Public School was the centre of interest, and by two o'clock the building was packed to its capacity, and late comers had to content themselves with seeing and hearing what they could at doors or windows.

Dr. J. S. Freeborn, whose long and intimate knowledge of the people of the district made him the best possible Chairman, presided over the meeting, and introduced each speaker with a few happily chosen words.

Dr. J. H. Stevenson, of Nashville, Tennessee, opened the meeting with prayer; and then came the event of the day—the unveiling of a magnificent bronze tablet, affixed to the wall of the school-house, and bearing on its imperishable surface the Honor Roll of sixty young men who answered Canada's call and were privileged to return to their native land, and of eleven others who made the supreme sacrifice. This beautiful tablet—a real work of art—bears the inscription "A Tribute from the late Mrs. Thomas S. Cullen," and a most vivid and speaking likeness of Mrs. Cullen, beautifully framed, hangs alongside the tablet. Most

appropriately, a sister of the late Mrs. Cullen—Mrs. Frederick W. Sprague of Chicago—was the person chosen to draw aside the flag which veiled the tablet, and thoughts which lay too deep for tears gave to the moment a deep impressiveness and solemnity. Just before this ceremony Dr. Freeborn read the deed of gift by which Dr. Cullen transferred the tablet to the school trustees and their successors in perpetuity. It was as follows:

MY DEAR DR. FREEBORN:

Soon after January 1st each year our thoughts instinctively turn in pleasant anticipation to our summer sojourn on Ahmic Lake and to the meeting of old Maganetawan friends. In March of this year Mrs. Sprague and I were one evening sitting in my Baltimore home discussing the war, and the splendid response Maganetawan district made when Canada called her sons to the colors. We also vividly remembered how interested Mrs. Cullen had always been in the people of Maganetawan and in their welfare and the whole-souled manner in which she had taken hold of the Red Cross projects on Ahmic Lake, aiming to advance as far as possible the splendid work done by the Women's Institute in Maganetawan. Mrs. Sprague and I both felt that the magnificent spirit shown by the Maganetawan boys should in some manner be permanently recognized and we then and there came to the conclusion that a tablet should be erected in the schoolhouse.

This tablet has now been completed and the unveiling is to take place on August 12th. I am going to ask you to be good enough to convey this tablet in trust to the Trustees of the Maganetawan school. They and their successors after them will be the permanent custodians of this tablet for the citizens of Maganetawan to whom it belongs.

To you, Dr. Freeborn, I wish to express my warmest thanks for the time and care you have given in the ferreting out of every name that should be included in the list and for the valuable suggestions you have given.

My thanks are also due to Mr. J. Arthur Limerick, of Baltimore, for the simple and dignified tablet he has made for us.

Please convey to the people of Maganetawan and of the surrounding country my deep appreciation of the uniform kindness, courtesy and friendship that they have ever extended to Mrs. Cullen and to me during our many visits to our Ojibway camp on Ahmic Lake.

Faithfully yours,

Maganetawan, Ont., August 1st, 1919.

THOMAS S. CULLEN.

Mr. William McLachlan, replying for the trustees, accepted Dr. Cullen's beautiful gift with expressions of deep gratitude, and promised that it should always be held by himself and associates as a sacred trust in memory of the sainted lady who inspired the gift.

At this point the Chairman announced that Dr. Howard Kelly, of Baltimore, had something to say which could not fail to be of deep interest to all present.

DR. KELLY: "I am proud of the fact that, having come to Lake Ahmic twenty-eight years ago, I may fairly claim the distinction of being one of the oldest summer residents, though my friend Dr. Cullen is no new comer, having fourteen good years to his credit. To all of us the months spent up here are the best part of the year, and out of this affection for the beautiful neighborhood there has been a natural up-springing of a very real interest in all affecting the welfare of the people in the district. And of no one was this fact truer than of Mrs. Cullen. Many, many times she talked with me regarding what could be done of permanent value for the community, and frequently a library was mentioned. But that lack is already on the way to be remedied, since many books have been sent in by friends and more will undoubtedly follow as the years go by. And so one day I went out among the friends on the lake who had known of Mrs. Cullen's solicitude for the common good, and, with very little trouble, there was raised the sum of \$600.00. This fund is to be known as The Emma Jones Beckwith Cullen Fund in memory of Mrs. Cullen. With it will be purchased a bond. This bond will be in the guardianship of a self-perpetuating Board of Trustees, namely, Chancellor Kirkland of Nashville, Tenn., F. F. Lloyd of Pittsburgh, Pa., Dr. James S. Freeborn of Maganetawan, Dr. Howard A. Kelly of Baltimore, Md., and the President of the Woman's Institute of Maganetawan *ex-officio*. The interest, however, amounting to over \$25.00 yearly, will be under the sole control

of the Women's Institute of Maganetawan, and may be used by them for any purpose which will conduce to the uplift or entertainment of the community, especially during the winter months."

A very hearty vote of thanks was tendered Dr. Kelly and the summer residents of the neighborhood for this generous gift which holds so many possibilities for the future.

The next item was the presentation by the Repatriation Committee of a gold locket, suitably engraved, to each returned soldier. The lockets, while appropriately simple, are indeed beautiful, and should be treasured souvenirs to the proud owners all their lives.

As each man came forward for his locket he was greeted with loud cheers, and the whole incident was a very pleasant one.

Mr. Snuggs, speaking on behalf of the boys, referred to the line on the tablet which says they fought for "Honor and Justice," and said that, while doing them full honor on a day like the present, we should never forget that justice was equally important. The returned soldier, especially if maimed or wounded, needed more than fine words, for we should remember that "fine words butter no parsnips." Praise and flag waving were all very well but should be supplemented by something more substantial.

Following this, Dr. Freeborn, by request, gave a brief synopsis of the history and glorious achievements of the Maganetawan boys, and truly 'twas an inspiring record.

DR. FREEBORN: "Before proceeding to give you a brief account of the honors won, and casualties sustained by the boys of Maganetawan District, I am requested to acknowledge on their behalf their deep sense of gratitude for the honor bestowed upon them by Dr. Cullen's generous gift of this magnificent and beautiful tablet erected and dedicated to those who have returned, as well as a lasting memorial to those who shall return no more. I am sure, friends, that the supporters of this public school will and do appreciate the gift and more especially so on account of the



broad-minded view of the donor in placing it where all classes and creeds may look upon it, and in doing so catch a glimpse of a beautiful portrait of a lovely woman, Mrs. Cullen, whose generous spirit prompted the gift—and to you, sir, permit me to state that we all deeply sympathize with you in your loss of a beloved partner, one in the highest sense endowed with the most generous impulses for the benefit of her fellow-creatures. Taken away in the midst of great activities, we all indeed, feel her loss. As words are but poor reflectors of facts, I shall simply state that we all thank you heartily and sincerely for this beautiful tribute to those we hold dear.

“In reference to the sacrifices made on behalf of human freedom by our lads, I might state that fifty-one per cent. of those who reached the firing line were killed or wounded—two were cited for conspicuous bravery on the field, and after being twice wounded were decorated by the King at Buckingham Palace with the Military Cross, and advanced in rank. About twenty others of different ranks received promotion on the field for services well rendered in various ways, for King and Country. A record we have every reason to feel proud of when we consider the numbers. In Canada today we only recognize two classes, one who went forward at their country’s call, and the other who were compelled to remain behind but with the lads in spirit and support. To those who mourn permit me to say, they won the victory, glorious achievements and imperishable records. The scrap of paper became sanctified parchment—your sons died not in vain.”

The Chairman next introduced Chancellor J. H. Kirkland, of Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, who said in part:

“This is indeed a notable day, a great day in the history of this community. We stand in the presence of the men who have returned victorious from the front, and we feel near us the spirits

of those other heroes who fell in the defence of liberty on the plains of Flanders. For all time their names shall stand together—since all equally answered their country's call—on the beautiful tablet of enduring bronze we have just seen unveiled. Verily, 'to live in hearts we leave behind is not to die.'

"And there is a peculiar fitness in the fact that Mrs. Cullen's name is linked with theirs—that the tablet which is a tribute to them serves, like the alabaster box of old, as a memorial of her. She was a woman of singular directness of purpose, of sincere and noble character, of broad vision, and of most practical benevolence. Many here will remember her ceaseless and self-denying efforts in behalf of the local Red Cross work, but all may not know that her last vacation in her beloved Canadian Cottage was greatly shortened by her instant response to the imperative call of duty—a plea for her return to the Red Cross organization in the city of Baltimore.

"On this tablet you may read the names of eleven gallant boys who came not back; of her may we not also say, she 'came not back.'

"Within a year we have seen the close of a war which has thrown its black shadow over five years of the world's life—a war vaster, more awful, a thousand time more desolating, than any other in history. It was a war begun half a century ago in essential plan, it was a war deliberately entered upon by Germany with the intention of dominating the rest of the world, as is clearly shown by their avowed slogan: 'World power, or downfall.'

"There have been other conflicts waged for world-power. Alexander the Great, the Roman Empire, Napoleon—all these had the ambition for universal domination. They all failed; Germany failed; and so shall fail every attempt at world-domination.

"There have been many arguments brought forward, on this side or that, as to *who won the war*. The answer is, the same man

who wins every war—the *common soldier*. And, in large measure, these are the men whom we are honoring today, whose names form the bulk of yonder Honor Roll. And their toil, their courage, their wounds and sacrifices will not have been in vain if they herald the dawn of a new world, a new brotherhood of mankind. Then indeed shall we be able to say to our children: 'I saw the powers of darkness put to flight. I saw the morning break.'

Rev. Dr. Kelso, of Pittsburgh, Pa., referred to having been in Canada in August, 1914, and said: "I was deeply impressed by the manner in which Canada immediately sprang to the side of her Mother Country and turned to face their common foe. And to learn how full and complete was Maganetawan's answer to that challenge, one has but to glance at the names immortalized on the tablet on this schoolroom wall. And in years to come, when the war as a topic has vanished from the daily papers, and has become a part of history to be studied, in those days will succeeding generations of Maganetawan's children glance at that illustrious scroll, find there new inspiration for their task, and, turning back to the dull pages of their text-book, will find them illumined with a light reflected thence. Two thousand years ago men flung the taunt at Jesus: 'He saved others, himself he cannot save.' May we not, without irreverence, say of these eleven heroes who made the supreme sacrifice: 'they saved us; themselves they could not save.' Can you not hear them say, 'To you from falling hands we throw the torch.' May it indeed be ours to 'hold it high'—that torch of freedom whose flame they died to keep alive!"

Dr. J. H. Stevenson, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, was the next speaker, being introduced as a Canadian who had wandered across the border, but who at least returned to his native land in summer time.

DR. STEVENSON: "This is indeed a significant day, a day when we find ourselves in the presence of men who have faced death

many times, in a hundred dreadful forms; we feel unworthy of them as we think of it all. We are also in the presence of the dead. Their graves may be in France or Flanders, marked by a cross, or by a maple seedling, emblem of their country, but the influence of their spirit is with us today. And in this dual presence we are conscious of three emotions—*gratitude, pride and home.*

“First, we are grateful for those who have come back. Can any forget the hours of fear, suspense, and dread imaginings; the hours when the postman’s knock was a menace, and the sight of a telegram or a casualty list sickened the very soul! That is past now, and oh with what joy we look into the faces of the returned boy! Then we are grateful for the escape of our land from the iron heel and the rattling sabre of the heartless barbarians who had planned to crush and to exploit the nations. *Canada is free*, as she has always been—as she always *shall be* if only her citizens uphold and preserve, and pass on as a sacred trust, that liberty these men have purchased at a price so great.

“Secondly, we are proud of our kinship with the men who went from our hearts and homes. We knew they would play the game, but even our belief and pride never soared to the height of their great achievements. Passchendaele, Ypres, Vimy Ridge, the Somme—what a glorious roll-call is indissolubly linked with our Canadian boys! Nor must we forget to express pride in the manifold service performed by the people of Canada. Almost universally they worked with untiring zeal and energy at any and every task the times demanded, striving always for high ideals and justice. Not alone was loyalty to England the mainspring of activity, but behind it all was a deep and strong conviction that if righteousness and freedom were not to perish from the earth, if the world were not to slip back into barbarism, then it behooved every man and woman to put forth every atom of their strength and ability. And in all justice a very high place indeed among these workers must be given to the devoted women of Magane-

tawan, who through more than four dark years never faltered in their task of sending help and comfort to those at the front.

“These made the supreme sacrifice’ so run the carven words above the last eleven names in the long list. What earthly pride can equal that which we feel in these? But the word of consolation—that falters on the lips.

“They made a song for Canada  
Shall ring the world around;  
Though hearts may grieve, yet Canada  
Forevermore is crowned.  
And these green fields of Canada  
Henceforth are sacred ground.’

“Lastly, we feel *hope for the future*. There is here a great opportunity for a great nation, and we turn to the task of upbuilding the greater Canada for which these our sons and brothers fought and died.

“O Canada wilt thou deny the prayer of those who dared to die, and let true greatness pass thee by?’”

Joseph Edgar, M. P. P., being called to the platform, made a few brief remarks expressive of his deep interest in the occasion, and of his pleasure at meeting the returned men.

Lieutenant-Colonel Arthurs, M. P. O. C. 162nd Regiment, was greeted with applause, which was renewed as he spoke of his early days in Maganetawan school house which gave him a claim to be called a true son of the district. He had the breathless attention of the audience throughout his eloquent speech, for he told them at first hand of the glorious deeds of the boys—especially his boys, and stirred thereby the patriotic pride of every Canadian present. He recalled to them how the war had found Canada an utterly unprepared and peaceful nation, and that, in spite of that, in six weeks time 30,000 men, fully armed and equipped, were on their way to England, their transports forming

the largest armada that ever crossed any ocean. And he dwelt on the high esteem the Canadian soldier won for himself through his fighting qualities and his dependability, and the heavy casualty lists that give sad proof of his courage. Colonel Arthurs' voice shook with emotion as he spoke of the times when he had stood watching the burial of one of his boys. Nor did he neglect to praise the home folks, telling his hearers that in the last year of the war sixty per cent. of the shells were being produced in Canada. As to giving, he said, the province of Ontario stands first in all the British Empire, having given to Red Cross and Patriotic funds the stupendous total of \$90,000,000!

After the distribution to the soldiers and their friends of three hundred beautiful souvenir photos of the tablet the National Anthem was heartily sung, and this most notable meeting came to an end. But the end of its influence—to that no bounds can be set. We are too near August 12th, 1919, to see it truly, but when viewed down the perspective of history it will be seen that on that day no slight impetus was given to international good feeling. On that day there was unveiled in a Canadian school house a tablet which is at once a tribute and a memorial to seventy-one Canadian men, and an American woman; on that day an American citizen announced a gift of \$600.00 mainly from American friends, to be used for the uplift and improvement of a Canadian village; on that day four out of the six speakers on a Canadian patriotic program were from "across the border!" Truly that man is dull of vision who does not see in all this a small but significant ripple in that tide which is bearing the two great English-speaking peoples of the world out into the ocean of complete understanding, an understanding which guarantees the future safety of the world.



*A Glimpse of the Massachusetts Seminary.*