

MEMORIAL DAY 2016

DR. COLLINS THOMAS BEDFORD



Collins T Bedford

Collins T. Bedford, unnumbered page between pages 272 and 273. *Hazzard's History of Henry County, Indiana 1822-1906*, volume 1.

PROGRAM

POSTING OF COLORS

27th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Co. D, Sons of Veterans Reserve

OPENING AND GREETINGS

Camp Commander

OPENING PRAYER

Camp Chaplain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in Attendance

READING OF GENERAL ORDER NUMBER 11

Camp Commander

TRIBUTE TO DR. COLLINS THOMAS BEDFORD

LAYING OF WREATH & FLAGS

Camp and Auxiliary Members

BATTLE HYMN OF REPUBLIC

All in Attendance

“DECORATION DAY”

Camp Chaplain and Camp Member

RIFLE SALUTE – THREE VOLLEYS

27th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Co. D, Sons of Veterans Reserve

TAPS

Opening and Greetings

Camp Commander

Brothers of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and Friends:

We assemble once more to pay to our ancestors our tribute of love and respect and within these sacred bonds to pledge anew our dedication to their memory and principles for which they fought!

With bowed head, solemn tread, and voices hushed, we meet to remind our people of their duty to the soldiers and sailors who wore the blue; to the Flag for which they fought; to the country for which they died; and that it is for us to keep green the memories of their heroic service and unselfish sacrifice.

May we fully realize the sanctity of the place and hour; may our conduct give assurance of the sincerity of our purpose and our earnest appreciation of duties and responsibilities resting upon us as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

The Camp Chaplain will invoke the Divine Blessing.

Opening Prayer

Camp Chaplain

Let Us Pray,

Supreme Ruler of the Universe! God of battles and of peace! We thank you for this day and hour; for this blessed privilege of meeting here as sons of soldiers and sailors to do homage to a Nation's dead.

We thank Thee that in the day of trouble and the hour of danger Thou in Thy infinite wisdom raised up men who were ready to do battle, and if need be, to die that this country might be preserved. Grant us we beseech Thee, a continuance of Thy watchful care.

Grant Thy blessing upon these sacred ceremonies, consecrated as they are to be the memory of brave and loyal hearts who dared stand for the right and did not fear to bare their breasts to a storm of steel in defense of human liberty, a united country and the brotherhood of man.

Bless our country. Preserve its integrity. Prosper our Order. Make it, we pray Thee, an instrument in Thy hands of great good to our country and to Thee, and at last gather us with Thee in the Great Camp of Eternity. Hear and answer, we beseech Thee. Amen.

Pledge of Allegiance

All in Attendance

General Order No. 11

Headquarters of the Grand Army of the Republic

Washington, D.C., May 5, 1868

I. The 30th day of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form or ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.

We are organized, comrades, as our regulations tell us, for the purpose, among other things, "of preserving and strengthening those kind and fraternal feelings which have bound together the soldiers, sailors, and marines who united to suppress the late rebellion." What can aid more to assure this result than by cherishing tenderly the memory of our heroic dead, who made their breasts a barricade between our country and its foe? Their soldier lives were the reveille of freedom to a race in chains, and their death a tattoo of rebellious tyranny in arms. We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. All that the consecrated wealth and taste of the Nation can add to their adornment and security is but a fitting tribute to the memory of her slain defenders. Let no wanton foot tread rudely on such hallowed grounds. Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no vandalism of avarice or neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten, as a people, the cost of free and undivided republic.

If other eyes grow dull and other hands slack, and other hearts cold in the solemn trust, ours shall keep it well as long as the light and warmth of life remain in us.

Let us, then, at the time appointed, gather around their sacred remains and garland the passionless mounds above them with choicest flowers of springtime; let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved from dishonor; let us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us as sacred charges upon the Nation's gratitude,—the soldier's and sailor's widow and orphan.

II. It is the purpose of the Commander-in-Chief to inaugurate this observance with the hope it will be kept up from year to year, while a survivor of the war remains to honor the memory of his departed comrades. He earnestly desires the public press to call attention to this Order, and lend its friendly aid in bringing it to the notice of comrades in all parts of the country in time for simultaneous compliance therewith.

III. Department commanders will use every effort to make this order effective.

By command of: JOHN A. LOGAN, Commander-in-Chief.

N. P. CHIPMAN, Adjutant-General.

Tribute to Dr. Collins Thomas Bedford

A Brief Summary of Tribute Read by Sister Thompson

Collins Thomas Bedford

Born: October 7, 1840 at Springsboro, Ohio

Parents: Joseph and Amy (Collins) Bedford

Married: 1865 to Narina P. Fink

Four children: only Bertie B. was alive in 1875

Died: June 18, 1925 and lies buried in section 40, lot 289, grave 6 of Crown Hill Cemetery

Military Service: Collins and his brother William served together in the Eighth Indiana Infantry. Collins mustered in as a corporal and received an appointment as sergeant. He briefly served in Company H of the Sixty-ninth Indiana Infantry before reenlisting. He mustered out September 4, 1864.

Post war: Collins briefly learned to be a shoemaker. He attended the Physio-Medical School of Medicine of Indiana located in the former Trinity M.E. Church on the northwest corner of North and Alabama Streets (1873-1875). He practiced medicine in New Castle and Franklin for a few months. He became the Professor and Chair of Chemistry and Toxicology and later the Chair of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children at the medical school. In 1885, he started his own wholesale and retail drug business, the C.T. Bedford Drug House, at the corner of Indiana Avenue and Ohio Street and managed by his brother George. He lived at 2239 College Avenue (now the location of the Andover Apartments).

Memberships:

Board of Trustees for Medical School

Republican, served on the Indianapolis City Council

City Hospital Board

Robert's Park Methodist Episcopal Church (401 N. Delaware Street)

George H. Thomas G.A.R. Post 17

Union Veteran Legion

Royal Arcanum

In his honor: George Hazzard wrote: "He was in every way and in the best sense, a self-made man. As a citizen he is public spirited and helpful toward all public interest, for no man has the prosperity and welfare of the mass of his fellow citizens more nearly at heart than he."

(The majority of the text from this biography is from *Above Us or Around Us: The Men of the Bloody Eighth*, a book being written by Jennifer Thompson. My sources for this biography include: 1939 WPA Veterans' Grave Registration cards for Marion County. Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War – Ben Harrison Camp #356.; Find a Grave Memorial # 45869685. <http://www.findagrave.com/>. Hazzard, Henry. *Hazzard's History of Henry County, Indiana 1822-1906, Military Edition*, Vols. I and II. New Castle: George Hazzard, 1906.; Index to Muster Rolls (multiple reels for all Indiana soldiers) at Indiana State Archives.; Northcott, Dennis. *Indiana Civil War Veterans: Transcription of the Death Rolls of the Department of Indiana, Grand Army of the Republic, 1882-1948*. St. Louis: Dennis Northcott, 2005.; Soldiers & Sailors Database, National Park Service, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss>. Terrell, W. H. H. *Indiana in the War of the Rebellion: Report of the Adjutant General, Indiana*, vol. 4. Indianapolis: Samuel M. Douglass, State Printer, 1866.; "U.S., Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934." Ancestry.com.)

Laying of Wreaths and Flag

BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC

(First 2 Verses Only)

Music by William Steffe

Lyrics by Julia Ward Howe

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.

(Chorus)

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch fires of a hundred circling camps
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps;
His day is marching on.

(Chorus)

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His day is marching on.

Camp Chaplain:

It seems well we should leave Dr. Collins Thomas Bedford to rest in honor where over him will bend the arching sky, as it did in great love when he pitched his tent, or lay down, weary and footsore, by the way or on the battlefield for an hour's sleep. As he was then so he is still – in the hands of the Heavenly Father. Let us also then remember those honored dead who did not return to hearth and home, but lie in resting places known but to God:

Decoration Day on the Place by James Whitcomb Riley

<http://www.cowboypoetry.com/memorialday.htm#Decoration>

It's lonesome—sorto' lonesome,—it's a *Sund'y-day* to me,
It 'pears-like—more'n any day I nearly ever see!
Yit, with the Stars and Stripes above, a-flutterin' in the air,
On ev'ry Soldier's grave I'd love to lay a lilly thare.

They say, though, Decoration Days is ginerly observed
'Most ev'rywheres—espeshally by soldier-boys that's served.—
But me and Mother's never went—we seldom git away,—
In p'int o' fact, we're *allus* home on *Decoration Day*.

They say the old boys marches through the streets in colum's grand,
A'follerin' the old war-tunes they playin' on the band—
And citizuns all jinin' in—and little childern, too—
All marchin', under shelter of the old Red White and Blue.—

With roses! roses! roses!—ev'rybody in the town!—
And crowds o' little girls in white, jest fairly loaded down!—
Oh! don't The Boys know it, from theyr camp acrost the hill?—
Don't they see theyr com'ards comin' and the old flag wavin' still?

Oh! can't they hear the bugul and the rattle of the drum?—
Ain't they no way under heavens they can rickollect us some?
Ain't they no way we can coax 'em through the roses, jest to say
They know that ev'ry day on earth's theyr Decoration Day?

We've tried that—me and Mother,—whare Elias takes his rest,
In the orchurd—in his uniform, and hands acrost his brest,
And the flag he died fer, smilin' and a-rippin' in the breeze
Above his grave—and over that,—*the robin in the trees!*

And *yit* it's lonesome—lonesome!—It's a *Sund'y-day*, to *me*,
It 'pears-like—more'n any day I nearly ever see!—
Still, with the Stars and Stripes above, a-flutterin' in the air,
On ev'ry Soldier's grave I'd love to lay a lilly thare.

[A number of the Eighth Indiana soldiers were from Greenfield, the hometown of James Whitcomb Riley and several of the soldiers had a very special relationship with him. James delivered this poem at GAR gatherings. This poem is from his book *Neighborly Poems*, 1883.]

Rifle Salute – Three Volleys

27th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Co. D, Sons of Veterans Reserve

Taps

Camp Commander:

Our Memorial Day service and dedication is ended. In the name of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War I thank you, for your courtesy in permitting us, who are bound by special ties to them, to honor our dead.

“Taps are sounded – Lights are out – the Soldier sleeps.”

Ben Harrison Camp No. 356, Dept. of Indiana

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

2016 Camp Officers

Camp Commander: Mike Beck

Camp Senior Vice Commander: Jim Floyd

Camp Junior Vice Commander: Tim Beckman, PCC

Camp Secretary: Jerry Thompson

Camp Treasurer: Jerry Thompson

Camp Chaplain: Robert Winters

Camp Patriotic Instructor: Graham Morey

Camp Color Bearer: Andrew Kolb

Camp Guide: Andrew Kolb

Camp Council Member No. 1: Tim Beckman, PCC

Camp Council Member No. 2: Garry Walls, PCC

Camp Council Member No. 3: John Bowyer, PCC

Camp Eagle Scout Coordinator: John Bowyer, PCC

Camp Signals Officer: Tim Beckman, PCC

Camp Historian: Jerry Thompson

Camp Civil War Memorials Officer: Mike Beck, PCC

Camp Graves Registration Officer: Tim Beckman

Eliza E. George Auxiliary No. 356

Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

2016 Officers

President: Amy Bowyer

Trustee #1 /Past President: Carolyn Wiley

Trustee #2: Jo Lynn Oates

Trustee #3: Melissa Bowyer

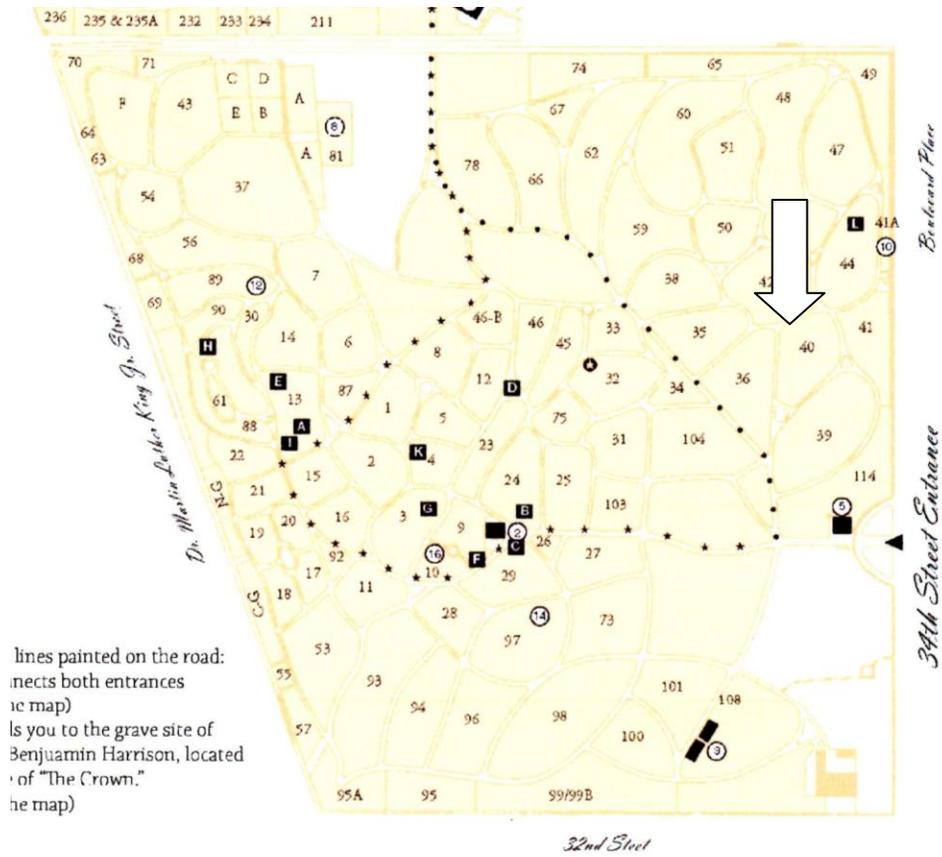
Secretary/Treasurer: Jennifer Thompson

Patriotic Instructor: Jo Lynn Oates

Chaplain: Carol Thomas

Inside Guard: Crystal Walcott

To find out more about the Ben Harrison Camp and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, please visit our camp web site at the following address: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~inbhsuv/>



Waiting Station is at # 5 at the 34th Street Entrance on the map



Location of his unmarked grave