
Festal Decorations, No. 2

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& White. There are traces of at least the influence in style from Messrs. Tiffany & Co. in the room, and there are very many choice and beautiful items of decorative fancy about worthy of notice and preservation.

FESTAL DECORATIONS, No. 2.

BY W. L. D. O'GRADY.

SUGGESTIONS FOR DECORATION DAY.

AS the years roll on, and the veterans of the late unpleasantness diminish in numbers, it is manifest that the present ways of celebrating Decoration Day must ere long be abandoned. The processions of Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic will grow smaller and smaller as age and infirmities creep on the survivors, and they cannot continue the long marches to the cemeteries or

of flowers, which now undergo a very ephemeral existence. Almshouses might be erected in the vicinity for G. A. R. guardians of the graves, who would serve as guides to visitors at all times to the well-kept resting places of our fallen warriors, and represent in a measure the Invalides of France or the Chelsea and Greenwich Pensioners of England.

The scenes at the grand meeting places might be made most impressive and beautiful, and need not begin too early to keep away any but the most feeble veterans; while the exercises need not last too long to let the happy old boys retire well pleased in good season to their homes.

And it is time, in order to perpetuate the Grand Army, to consolidate the Sons of Veterans, and such organizations, and extend them as members of the Junior Grand Army of the Republic, including and amalgamating them and their sons' sons, for all time, with the parent posts of their sires. Instead, then, of the Posts dying out in a poverty stricken fashion, like the unhappy rem-

It is in BLENDING types of reality in imaginative combinations that the highest artistic results are attained. Decoration comes in to impress us with more than the form—with the beauty of the details. The happy union of a classical spirit with an idealized execution is the great requirement for emphasizing design. The attention now generally paid to rendering the treatment of design in accord with the material saves from much false work, and besides affords fuller play for ornamental features. Furniture has gained in general beauty and in accessories of decoration by its massiveness being determined by the limits set by sound construction and intended purpose. In glass, for instance, lumpy ornaments and deep incisions are avoided. The overloading of articles with ornamental details has ceased to be regarded as augmenting their attraction, what is looked for being mainly the ideal expression of beauty—resulting in features of a distinctive individual character.

We now witness, to the advantage of art, a



TENTH (K) COMPANY ROOM.

endure the early rising and excitement of this latest of our National holidays. Parading in hired carriages is expensive and not very imposing, especially with the tail end of the show, comprising wagon loads of flower-pots. It is time to substitute new ideas to prevent a melancholy "petering out" of Memorial Day.

A beginning might be made by doing away with long processions—the most sturdy of the veterans being taken to the cemeteries in the private carriages, fours-in-hand, landaus, &c., of patriotic and wealthy citizens—but concentrating the bulk of the ceremonies by holding great open-air Lodges of Sorrow.

In New York, for instance, Union Square might be turned into a superb Temple of Honor, as could be Prospect Park Plaza in Brooklyn, with a Pavilion in the shape of a five-pointed star, properly adorned with the symbols of the G. A. R., and almost buried in flags and flowers, as the center of attraction. Similar five-pointed star temples, filled in with glass, should be established at the cemeteries for the permanent preservation of the gifts

of the Veterans of the War of 1812, this perpetual influx of new blood, carrying on the traditions of their fathers, who fought to preserve the Union, will strengthen them, and comparative wealth and accumulated trophies will be their portion.

Among the most significant and cherished regalia might be bronze eagles and five-pointed stars, after the model of the Standards of the Legionaries of Rome in her palmy days. They would be unique and could be costly. The "Young Guard" might be charged from the first with their custody.

Massed before the speaker's stand, at the command, "Eagles to the Front," each Decoration Day, they would form a magnificent and soul-stirring feature of a superb "function." And at the Lodges of Sorrow a gorgeous catafalque on wheels might be introduced, with special reference to the casualties of each year.

The disposition is growing to honor our dying brave, and I have indicated how this may well be done in a somewhat more effective fashion than seems as yet to have been suggested by anyone else.

more lavish use of vivid and intense colors, which, besides their effect in imparting an appearance of richness and splendor, are a source of intensely pleasurable sensations. Brilliant colors are confessedly of difficult management, as with edged tools caution is required in their use; but if kept under the control of a correct, rigid, and watchful taste, they may be still more freely employed.

It is in fancifully modifying types of reality and blending them in suggestive combinations that the highest triumphs of decoration are obtained. At the same time whatever enrichments are introduced should be subservient to essential forms. It has been well said: "He is not an artist who adds anything for mere decoration irrespective of its bearing on the main purpose of its harmony with all its adjuncts."

WHAT are called love cups or flagons, are now seen made of elephants' tusks, with smooth ivory handles. They are of unique design, more of a novelty or curiosity than a "thing of beauty, which is a joy for ever."