

Orin Tubbs, of Kalamazoo, suffered a painful accident Saturday while working at the machine for welding steel at the Enamelled Tank works. He caught the end of the first three fingers on his right hand in the machine and crushed them so badly that he was taken to the hospital and the ends of his two fingers removed just below the finger nail and the other at the first joint. The machine at which he was working is said to have been out of order and fell before it should catching his fingers. He is getting along nicely but will be obliged to lay off for some time on account of its being his right hand.

Saturday was a gala day for the members of both organizations of the Grand Army of the Republic, Edward Dwight Post No. 163, and the Woman's Relief Corps, No. 167, as their home was completed and ready for the dedication exercises which are necessary to be held in all organizations ere the societies can regularly meet in the rooms. Owing to the fact that many citizens of Vermontville had contributed liberally to the building of the new home in addition to the \$800.00 bequest left by Mrs. Clara A. Vaughn which was to be used in erecting a monument of some kind to the memory of the veterans, and of her brother, John Schrodler, a resident of Vermontville, the post was able to complete the building as possible. The exercises were held in the new building and the post members were escorted to the new home, which the members have taken so much pride in preparing. After assembling in the hall which was packed to its fullest capacity by the members of the organizations and citizens, the president of the veterans, Chas. A. Anderson, extended a welcome to all and in a few well chosen words spoke of the work by the members of the post in securing their home and of the pride the entire citizenship of Vermontville took in their families.

The exercises were conducted two o'clock by the Vermontville Band in front of the building, and after the post members marched to the new home, the Vermontville Band escorted the Woman's Relief Corps to the new home, which the members have taken so much pride in preparing. After assembling in the hall which was packed to its fullest capacity by the members of the organizations and citizens, the president of the veterans, Chas. A. Anderson, extended a welcome to all and in a few well chosen words spoke of the work by the members of the post in securing their home and of the pride the entire citizenship of Vermontville took in their families.

Commander David M. Purchis then accepted the building in behalf of the post and proceeded to carry out the completion of the fine building which meant so much to the veterans and dedication ceremonies according to the beautiful ritualistic work as laid down by the Grand Army for such occasions. It was with hearts filled with pride and beating with joy that the veterans went through the beautiful ceremonies and in the movements made by them there was still the remnants of the fires of youth as they grasped their guns and saluted and carried out the commands of their officers. Every one present realized and that too with a pang of sorrow that it would be but a few short years ere the last of the old guard would have been called to respond to the last roll call. Indeed, it was noticeable at this meeting that the color-bearer, John Schrodler, who for so many years had marched proudly bearing the banner of the post

at the head of the organization whenever it appeared in public, was missing, and many were the comments made upon this absent feature of their gatherings.

After the ritualistic ceremonies had been completed, the commander introduced the speaker of the day who delivered a masterly address suitable to the event. Several selections were also rendered by the band which was enjoyed by all. The meeting was then dismissed and all repaired to the old post room where a bounteous chicken pie supper was served by the ladies, and there it was that the old soldiers demonstrated they had not forgotten how to tackle a large problem which they could solve, and the entire evening soon caught the spirit and force of this most interesting and gratifying portion of the day's events. As a result the ladies netted \$41.25 from the supper which will go towards the paying for the building.

The work of securing the fine home for the old soldiers and their families has taken considerable time and effort, but the erection of the building will be of much more importance and value to this community than if the money left by the will of Mrs. Vaughn had been used in erecting a monument. As it is it will be a lasting memento and the property is so fixed that after the veterans and their families have passed away and there is no longer need of a post room, it will go to the township which holds it in trust and the income from the building is to be used in paying the expenses of maintaining Memorial Day exercises and customs.

1044

The work of erecting the building has been in the hands of a building committee consisting of Dr. C. S. Snell, Chas. A. Fuller and David M. Purchis, and to these gentlemen much credit is due as they have worked early and late to bring about the com-

pletion of a home which all would be proud of. The trustees of the building are C. A. Hallenbeck, C. A. Fuller and Dr. C. S. Snell. Commander Purchis has spent much time in the looking after the work while his adjutant, C. A. Hallenbeck, has ably assisted him and every member of the committee having the project in charge, have also spent many hours upon the plans as how best to accomplish the completion of their building.

The cost of the second story, which is 70 feet in length and 26 feet wide, is \$1,600, and besides the \$800.00 left by Mrs. Vaughn for a memorial purpose, the balance of the money needed has not been raised. It is hoped by the citizens of Vermontville for the purpose of completing the building that would be erected in the community. The post will have the property paid for practically with the exception of about \$200.00 which will be cared for as the Grand Army will rent of them and the money saved by the post will soon pay the balance.

The following letter was received from Mr. and Mrs. Chas. B. Lamb, of Charlotte, in response to an invitation from Commander Purchis to be present as representatives of the Soldiers' family and participate in the exercises.