

MONUMENT UNVEILED

MRS. W. S. COLLIER RIGHTFULLY PERFORMED THIS ACT.

Rev. M. R. Jamison Made a Wonderful Address—Day Was Cold and Damp But Large Crowd Witnessed the Ceremony.

The unveiling of the monument just erected in the Olathe cemetery to the memory of our soldier boys together with the dedication of same, was very appropriately observed Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock in front of the monument in the Olathe cemetery, the space for 186 graves and the monument having been donated to the cause by the City of Olathe.

Earl Collier Post, American Legion whose commander is E. J. Terrill, had the program in charge, the chairman of the committee being Major C. W. Jones, while Mr. Terrill and Mr. Pember acted with him.

Many preceded the regular parade, which was to leave the Armory at 2 o'clock. In the line of march were Olathe band, G. A. R. veterans in cars, disabled veterans in cars, Spanish War veterans, Earl Collier Post, American Legion, other legion posts of the county, Battery D, 161 F. A., Boy Scouts, ladies Auxilliary.

Although the day was exceedingly bad, being both damp and cold, the crowd was estimated at almost 1000.

The audience sang "America the Beautiful" and Rev. F. M. Ollis, the Chaplain of Earl Collier Post, offered prayer. Then followed a quartet number, William G. Shinn, Rev. Walter A. Smith, Roy Townley and Prof. Reist.

Miss Joyce Brown read "Flanders Field" while Major Jones read the ceremony which accompanied the unveiling of the monument, which was done by Mrs. W. S. Collier, mother of Earl Collier, for whom the Olathe post was named. It is still fresh in our minds that Earl was the first boy to be killed from Johnson county. Realizing what this meant to Mrs. Collier and to Mr. Collier, nearby, you may be sure that it was an impressive moment. There were other parents in the crowd and with all of this coupled together the impression will be deep and lasting.

The address of Rev. M. R. Jamison of the Covenant church, followed. He paid tribute in a wonderful talk to the service of the common soldier as represented by the figure of the Dough boy, mounted on the huge stone. We do not know when we have listened to a better talk on this subject.

The impressiveness of the occasion was made more realistic by the "salute to the dead", three cannon shots, fired by Battery D from a point of vantage nearby.

Mr. W. H. White, north of Olathe, a Spanish-American war veteran, was one of the color bearers and Stanley Maniak, a World War veteran, bore the post colors.

After the singing of "The Star Spangled Banner", Rev. Ollis dismissed with his benediction.

When the movement was inaugurated Mr. and Mrs. Collier fell in with it at once by donating \$500.00 to keep the plot in order.

It is a fine thing that Olathe city realized the heavy debt we owe those boys who sacrificed their all or were willing to—that this country might be made safe for democracy. Now, when we look at this soldier, this debt is recalled.