

**DEACON HAMMOND.**

One year ago today, Deacon C. G. Hammond died suddenly in the depot in Chicago on his way home from his office. With the particulars of that sad event the public is familiar. Today his family, the Baptist church, and the community appreciate as they could not then the loss they sustained in his death. With the sadness of the family loss it is not ours to meddle.

The church had but one Deacon Hammond and when he died there was no man to take his place. Dea. Hammond's checks made good many deficits; whose have made them up since his hand palsied? He was a man who combined in a rare degree, sound judgment, Christian charity and loyalty to the truth. He could be firm without being obstinate, loyal without any stubbornness, and he never set up that his will was absolute, right and must prevail. He, and such as he, never wrecked a church, and this church can never truly charge any disaster which may overtake it to Deacon C. Granville Hammond. His death at any time would have been a great loss; coming when it did, it was practically irreparable.

The community felt, perhaps unconsciously, that "good had gone out" of it, and returned not. As

powers for good the lives of righteous men abide as living forces long after they are dead; it was so with him. But powerful as is his influence among us today, it has not the aggressive momentum of his earnest, genial Christian character and life here among us. There is more than an empty chair in the home; there is an empty pew, a depleted treasury and a living personal spiritual force gone.

**REMINISCENCES.**

In the report of the school for the winter term ending April 9, 1875, Mary Middleton ranked 5 in first and second grades, and for the fourteen weeks had no tardy marks, and her average deportment was up to 98. Kittie Hall, Bertha and Della Baker, with Mary Steers and Willie Dooley were in the same school, and a lot we never heard of. In the third and fourth grades were Harleigh Gillette, Annie Hammond, Hattie Dennison, Mary and Thomas Dooley, Willie Cummings and Freddie Inman, with Ortons, Leslies, Fields, etc. Gillette and Hammond ranked respectively 7 and 10. Dr. Dean, the dentist, who built the Bingham house, was leaving for a home in Florida. There was also trouble because the old Hights Hall, the Military Academy was being turned away from educational work into a

hotel. Cashier Sanger, of the Central Bank, Chicago, had just come here to live and the town was elated; E. P. Harris furnished abstract titles; Harry Obee took contracts for stone mason work of all kinds; Capt. G. W. Schroeder's fine brick house on Central avenue was for sale; R. G. Evans was getting rich selling "family groceries, dry goods, notions," as also was James McDonald, who added paregoric and pills; H. D. Knox was selling pure ice; H. R. Green operated the Central hotel, when Frank was small; Dunn's news store was being fitted up for a post office, while Cummings & Durkee were getting the "old stand" ready for occupancy as a drug store; and finally, Mr. Cushman's residence was being finished by Mr. Middleton.

If you think of writing to President McKinley for a small gratuity to help pay your taxes or get a new suit of clothes, our advice is "Don't." He has begging letters asking for \$20,000 a day right along. As his salary is only \$50,000 a year, it will take only two and one-half days' begging to use it all up. So you stand no chance at all.

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