

125 YEARS AGO JUNE 1897

WALLACE HOUSE

Opening Exercises Held on Thursday

Numerous Revolutionary Relics Now in the Various Rooms

June 24, 1897 Unionist Gazette , p 1



Wallace House in 1907

The stormy skies greatly interfered with the opening exercises at the Wallace House on Thursday afternoon, but the rain stopped long enough for the program to be carried out on the lawn, as had been planned. ... A number of the D.A.R. from other places were here, besides many visitors from this vicinity. The collation provided by the ladies realized a nice sum, which will be used to fit up the house.

The exercises opened with a prayer by Rev. H. B. Wright, rector of St. John's. The band played "America," the audience singing the hymn, led by Prosecutor Nelson Y. Dungan.

A beautiful flag was presented to the society by Rev. Theodore Shafer, of Millstone, on behalf of the following councils of Jr. O. U. A. M. (*Jr. Order of United American Mechanics, a patriotic fraternal organization*): Ivanhoe of Somerville; Hiawatha of Millstone; Wide Awakes of Neshanic; and Pioneer of Bound Brook. ... Rev. Mr. Shafer spoke eloquently of the flag, and what it meant. President Stevens accepted it...then handed it to representatives of the councils who raised it to the top of the pole ... while the band played the "Star Spangled Banner." ...

President Stevens made an able address in response to the statements of General Stockton... He went over the whole history of the Wallace house, and mentioned all historical references to it as Washington's headquarters ...

After some more patriotic music by the band, Rev. Dr. George S. Mott of Newark delivered an address on the "History of the Flag." ... "The stars and stripes represent the development and maturity of certain principles... formed in brave hearts...as they wrestled with new ideas...and because those doctrines became an ensign to the nations, they passed through the ordeal of battle. That bunting is embroidered with tears and blood."

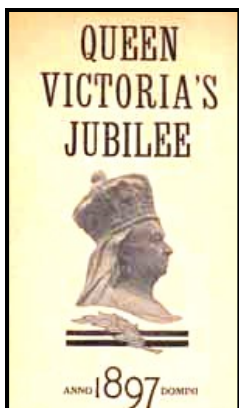
...[M]any valuable pieces of furniture and Revolutionary relics have been [donated and] placed in the rooms, and more are constantly being added. On Tuesday the General Frelinghuysen Chapter met at the house to look them over.... In the halls is a settee from the Washington headquarters at Peekskill, N. Y. used by Washington and Lafayette, the gift of James T. Birdsall. Also, a wooden chair 150 years old from the Jared Hill Farm, Bolton, Tolland county, Connecticut, and a mahogany, marble top table, presented by the M. E. Church of Bound Brook. The old fashioned piano, or spinnet, in the front room, was presented by Miss Anna Dayton, of Princeton. ... By far the largest number of relics are in the Washington Room, furnished by the General Frelinghuysen Chapter. This room is greatly admired with its delft paper and appropriate hangings.

(Ed. note: the list of relics donated to the Wallace House fills two full columns, more than can be printed here.)

QUEEN VICTORIA'S REIGN

Discourse by Rev. Dr. Read Upon Her Sixtieth Anniversary

High Standard Set for Her People June 24, 1897 Unionist Gazette , p 1



On Sunday evening at the Second Reformed Church, Rev. Dr. Read, the pastor, preached a discourse upon "the Sixtieth Anniversary of Queen Victoria's Reign." ... in view of the jubilee exercises which are being held in England this week. He took as his text 1 Chron. 29: 12 — "Both Riches and Honor Come to Thee and Thou Reignest Over All; and in Thy Hand is Power and Might; and in Thy Hand it is to make great and give Strength unto All."... Dr. Read congratulated [Queen Victoria's] people that she had been to them a noble example, a wise sovereign, that she had been spared to them for so many years, and that they had made such remarkable progress in all the elements of Christian civilization under her beneficent sway. ... Victoria's reign had not been less signalized by moral and social reform... She had been a model of virtuous womanhood,... a loving and faithful wife...and devoted mother... [and] there had been a great development in the passionate regard for children during the Queen's reign....

[Ed. Note: Queen Elizabeth II is celebrating her Platinum Jubilee in 2022, surpassing Queen Victoria.]

100 YEARS AGO PORTABLE MUSIC *Courier-News, June 2, 1922, p 2*

Sonora Portable, \$50 ~ An Essential Part of the Music Lover's Luggage

If you have the "music habit"—and everybody has it these days—you need never be without your favorite jazz, fox-trot, or operas, no matter how far from home! Sonora Portable brings them.... [It] plays all makes and sizes of disc records, carries 18 of them in its own case, and weighs only 16 pounds. Dimensions: 14 1/2" x 14 1/2" x 9". Calf skin case is leather-lined...

