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W. Bourke Cockran

Memorial Addresses

DELIVERED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN MEMORY OF

W. BOURKE COCKRAN

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM NEW YORK

Sixty-Eighth Congress

MAY 4, 1924

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
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W. Bourke Cockran

Proceedings in the House of Representatives

THURSDAY, *March 1, 1923.*

The Chaplain, Rev. James Shera Montgomery, D. D., offered the following prayer:

The Lord who gives us life replete with blessings, give us hearts replete with gratitude and inspire them with Thy spirit. Be gentle with us in our sins; teach us the beauty of the upper way. May Thy wisdom be adapted to our weakness, Thy knowledge to our ignorance, and Thy mercy to our needs. Impress us that the greatest rewards of good and useful living are not in external things, but in joy and in peace by the way.

Solemn, silent moment; a pillar has fallen. Again the silver cord is loosed, the golden bowl is broken. The pitcher and the wheel are shattered. O help us in our infirmities and claim us as Thine own. Bring to the sick and sorrowing a release from pain, and unto all the hurts of the heart may our answer be, "God is good." Amen.

Mr. RIORDAN. Mr. Speaker, it becomes my painful duty to report to the House the death of my colleague, Hon. W. BOURKE COCKRAN, Representative from the State of New York.

At this late hour of the day and at this late day of the session there is only opportunity now to offer this resolution of adjournment. At the first suitable opportunity I shall ask for occasion for the House to pay tribute to his memory. I offer

the following resolution which I send to the Clerk's desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York offers a resolution which the Clerk will report.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. W. BOURKE COCKRAN, Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That a committee of 20 Members of the House, with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions, and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair appoints the following committee to attend the funeral: Mr. Riordan, Mr. Mott, Mr. Carew, Mr. Siegel, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Kline of New York, Mr. London, Mr. Griffin, Mr. Mead, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Dale, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Fish, Mr. Linthicum, Mr. Fairchild, Mr. Sabath, Mr. Connally of Texas, Mr. Ten Eyck, Mr. Chandler of New York, and Mr. Jones of Texas.

The Clerk will report the additional resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect this House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 45 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned, under the order previously made, until to-morrow, Friday, March 2, 1923, at 11 o'clock a. m.

FRIDAY, *March 2, 1923.*

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Craven, its Chief Clerk, announced that the Senate had passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. W. BOURKE COCKRAN, late a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That a committee of six Senators be appointed by the Vice President to join the committee appointed by the House of Representatives to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative the Senate do now adjourn.

Mr. BURTON. Mr. Speaker, under the direction of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, I ask unanimous consent to present for reading and insertion in the Record of a resolution adopted this morning by that committee upon the death of the Hon. WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Ohio asks unanimous consent to present a resolution adopted by the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the death of the Hon. WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN. Is there objection?

There was no objection.

Mr. BURTON read the following:

The members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs have heard with the deepest sorrow of the sudden death of Hon. WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN.

His association with the committee has left a lasting impression because of his remarkable knowledge of general history and his keen discernment of international policies and relations; coupled with an exalted sense of public duty and untiring industry, worthy of the highest standards of legislative activity and of statesmanship.

His geniality and helpfulness were so constantly manifested that each member of the committee mourns his death as a personal loss.

For 40 years he maintained an unsurpassed position among orators of the English-speaking tongue. His eloquence and readiness in debate on manifold occasions, both in the Old World and the New, have given him a distinctive place among the public speakers of our time.

The eminence of his public service has made his name an inspiration and a permanent heritage for the country which he loved so well.

With a profound appreciation of their own loss, and that of his constituency and the Nation, the members of the committee, by formal resolution unanimously adopt this memorial and convey to the bereaved wife of Mr. COCKRAN their most heartfelt sympathy.

WEDNESDAY, *December 5, 1923.*

Mr. CAREW: Mr. Speaker, it is my melancholy duty to announce to this House that since the elections of 1922, at which this House was elected, three distinguished citizens of the State of New York, who were then chosen for membership in this House, have passed away. In the last year or so death has stricken many a shining mark in this country of ours. We all recall the sadness

with which we heard that on the 1st day of last March, after a speech upon this floor, which was marked with all the eloquence and learning, the grace, philosophy, and statesmanship that characterized everything he did, that the Hon. WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN, a Member from the State of New York, a few hours later at his home was stricken and before morning died. Then again on April 28 last a distinguished Representative of the State of New York, a veteran in this Chamber, who, although Congress was not in session, was nevertheless here engaged in the performance of the many duties that came to him, the Hon. Daniel J. Riordan, while in his office in the House Office Building, was stricken and later in the night died.

Then again, later in the summer, on September 7 last, another Member who had been here before, the Hon. James V. Ganly, from the State of New York, met with sudden death at his home.

These bereavements of ours have mellowed the spirit of partisanship which otherwise might actuate us. We bow our heads with the grief of the country in our own personal bereavement, which in these instances came so closely home to so many of us.

I offer these resolutions, Mr. Speaker, and ask for their adoption. At some future time I shall ask the House to set apart some appropriate occasion when suitable tribute may be paid to the distinguished services and memory of these most well-beloved friends of ours.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the resolutions.

The Clerk read (H. Res. 13) as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN, a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. LONGWORTH. Mr. Speaker, as a further mark of respect to the memory of our deceased colleagues, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; and accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 40 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned until to-morrow, Thursday, December 6, 1923, at 12 o'clock noon.

FRIDAY, *April 11, 1924.*

Mr. CAREW. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that on Sunday, May 4, 1924, at 3 o'clock p. m., the House may assemble to hold memorial exercises in honor of the late WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN, Daniel J. Riordan, Luther W. Mott, and James V. Ganly, all Members elected to this House and who have since died.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from New York asks unanimous consent that there may be a session of the House on Sunday, May 4, 1924, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of holding memorial exercises on the deceased Members named. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

SUNDAY, *May 4, 1924.*

The House met at 3 o'clock p. m., and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore, Hon. James S. Parker, of New York.

Rev. M. J. Riordan, pastor of St. Martin's Church, Washington, D. C., offered the following prayer:

Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice; let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. If Thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee, that Thou mayest be feared. I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in His word do I hope. My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning. Let Israel hope in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will read the special order for to-day.

The Clerk read as follows:

On motion of Mr. Carew, by unanimous consent—

Ordered, That Sunday, May 4, 1924, at 3 o'clock p. m., be set apart for addresses on the life, character, and public services of Hon. W. BOURKE COCKRAN, Hon. Daniel J. Riordan, Hon. Luther W. Mott, and Hon. James V. Ganly, late Members of the House from the State of New York.

Mr. CAREW. Mr. Speaker, I offer the following resolutions.

The Clerk read (H. Res. 283) as follows:

Resolved, That the business of the House be now suspended, that opportunity may be given for tributes

to the memory of Hon. W. BOURKE COCKRAN, Hon. Daniel J. Riordan, Hon. Luther W. Mott, and Hon. James V. Ganly, late Members of the House from the State of New York.

Resolved, That Members be granted leave to extend their remarks on the life, character, and public services of the late Representatives.

Resolved, That, as a particular mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and in recognition of his distinguished public career, the House, at the conclusion of these exercises, shall stand adjourned.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

Resolved, That the Clerk send copies of these resolutions to the families of the deceased.

The resolutions were agreed to.

Address by Speaker Gillett

Of Massachusetts

Mr. SPEAKER: I was here during the entire service of Mr. Mott, Mr. Riordan, and Mr. Ganley. I knew them all well and had a warm regard and esteem for each of them and mourned the sad and untimely end of their service here. With Mr. COCKRAN my acquaintance was much longer and more intimate. When I first came to Congress 31 years ago I found him already here with an established reputation as an orator. Although a young man in his thirties, his name was famous throughout the country, and though he had only been in Congress four years he was recognized as one of the formidable debaters and as one of the speakers whom his party put forward on gala days, and was a member of the important Committee on Ways and Means, which at that time consisted of only 17 members and was just beginning the consideration of the famous Wilson tariff bill.

The first time I ever heard Mr. COCKRAN was at the extra session of that Congress which President Cleveland called for the consideration of the silver question, and he made a great impression upon me, not only by his oratorical powers but by the philosophical way in which he sought to probe to the bottom of the subject and develop its fundamental principles.

A few years later Mr. COCKRAN and I were both members of a party which visited the Philippine

Islands and in that way I came to know him intimately. He was a most agreeable and delightful companion, good tempered, considerate, entertaining, and showing those same powers of brilliant and epigrammatic speech which characterized him on the platform. Indeed, I sometimes thought that, perhaps unconsciously, he was always rehearsing in private for his public appearances, and was constantly schooling himself in forms of phrase as well as in argument and logic for public discussions. It became a habit with him to talk forensically and brilliantly. And yet, while his conversation was sparkling and argumentative, it was not so studied as to be affected or disagreeable, but indicated a mind ever on the alert and disciplining itself. He must have had a tremendous energy of temperament to be willing or able to always appear at his best and never require the relaxation which comes from careless utterance. To me that was one of his strongest characteristics, a prodigious and unfailing energy which made him always interesting, stimulating, and effective.

As an orator he was one of the best whom it has been my fortune to hear. He had a fine and powerful voice, an impressive presence, with a leonine head, great vigor and even vehemence of gesture, a consummate skill in arranging and developing his subject, a wealth of vocabulary, and an unfailing supply of wit and epigram, so that his speeches were entertaining and delightful as an exhibition, as well as powerful as arguments. Both his intellect and wit were extraordinarily quick

and at his command, and the man who interrupted him nearly always suffered for his boldness. He was one of the brightest ornaments of this House. Whenever he spoke he was sure of a large audience, for those who disagreed with his opinions enjoyed the brilliancy and wit with which they were expressed.

As a friend and companion he was delightful, warm-hearted, and loyal and generous, always sociable and responsive, one of those rare men blessed with the qualities of both heart and intellect which make men both love and admire them.

Address by Representative Cullen

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER: Putting our thoughts in language that will properly express our feelings toward departed friends is, indeed, a hard task. To pay fitting tribute to four statesmen like WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN, Daniel J. Riordan, Luther W. Mott, and James Vincent Ganly is doubly hard, because their passing is a loss not only to their families and friends but is a loss to the entire Empire State and to the Nation.

I personally deeply mourn the passing away of Daniel J. Riordan, W. BOURKE COCKRAN, Luther W. Mott, and James Vincent Ganly, all of whom typified the highest ideals and the very noblest and best American manhood and statesmanship. And thus I bid farewell to beloved friends and colleagues and leave them to the rest that they have so nobly earned, the rest which is the portion of the just till they are called to the dawn of the eternal day.

Address by Representative Fish

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER:

None knew him but to love him, nor named him but to praise.

The life story of WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN is synonymous with the growth and industrial development of the United States since reconstruction days, and more especially with that of New York City. Born in Sligo, Ireland, February 28, 1854, he emigrated at 14 years of age. His phenomenal climb up the ladder to great distinction purely on his own efforts is an inspiration to hold out to immigrants and native born alike as emphasizing that recognition of individual ability and reward which merit obtains under our laws and form of government.

At his death WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN was acknowledged as one of the greatest orators in America, or, as a matter of fact, anywhere in the world. His massive head and sturdy physique gave added strength to his deep and resonant voice. He was skilled in all the arts of oratory and could speak in thunder tones of denunciation or in the quiet and easy flow of a conversationalist. He was never at loss for the right words to convey a particular shade of meaning, and had an extraordinary memory of all he had read or seen. He could speak fluently on most subjects with little

preparation, and curiously enough this characteristic was a detriment to his reputation as an orator and as a leader of thought and molder of public opinion, for the reason that his friends took advantage of his good nature to persuade him to speak for their bills and often bolster up poor causes. It is expected of an orator so distinguished as Mr. COCKRAN that whenever he opens his lips pearls of wisdom will come forth, and frequently, through lack of preparation or a weak cause, he would disappoint his admirers.

He was without a rival as a public speaker. His varied and brilliant accomplishments, copious diction, marvelous memory, magnificent rhetoric, gracious presence, dazzling humor, glorious voice, and Irish brogue made him the complete embodiment of an orator such as has not been seen in Congress since the days of Webster, Clay, or Calhoun. There is no man who has lived in our generation who had more knowledge of the history of the world and none who saw more with the eyes of the prophet or the vision of the seer. He was not troubled with what the world was thinking to-day, but anticipated with clearness and vision the future of to-day's politics. He predicted events with almost uncanny or superhuman divination. He was unafraid either to form his own views on important political issues or to maintain them, even to the extent of leaving the Democratic Party in 1896 because of his advocacy of the gold standard. Time has proved that he was right and his party was wrong; but because he openly supported McKinley he has been charged with

being inconsistent politically, a charge that refutes itself, as he showed the courage of his convictions by upholding a great political and economic principle. He demonstrated his independence in politics again when he followed his intimate friend Theodore Roosevelt into the Progressive camp and ran a hopeless race for Congress from the Long Island district where his summer home was located, although he polled a few hundred more votes than the Republican candidate. He was impelled to join the Progressive movement partly out of friendship for Theodore Roosevelt and partly out of sheer admiration for the principles in the Progressive covenant with the people. From the beginning of his career to the very end WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN was a progressive in political thought.

He was a tribune of the people in behalf of human rights, and a ready champion of the oppressed of all nations, including his own much cherished but not always appreciative kinsmen in Ireland.

He was not only endowed with great intellectual and mental powers but to his last day he was blessed with remarkable physical strength and vigor far beyond that of a man of his years. I had the good fortune of knowing Mr. COCKRAN well before I came to Congress and my admiration and devotion increased as I was drawn into closer contact with him. We served on the same committee, that of Foreign Affairs, and he often helped me with legislation I was interested in, especially in having my resolution reported favoring the

establishment of a homeland for the Jewish people in Palestine.

He enjoyed exercise and liked to walk up from the Capitol to the Metropolitan Club after Congress had adjourned for the day, so invariably twice a week we would take this 2-mile walk. It was no leisurely stroll, as Mr. COCKRAN always acted as pacemaker and set a good gait. On the surface, my friendship with Mr. COCKRAN was that of a younger man for an older, although he flattered me by treating me as his equal, in reality it was that of a disciple or student for his master. It was a treat for the gods to walk along with Mr. COCKRAN and listen to him discuss historical, political, or religious questions. I doubt if there ever was a more charming conversationalist. I am quite sure that there is no layman in the Roman Catholic Church and few priests who have such detailed knowledge of early church history.

I believe he could name all the Popes chronologically and explain to the smallest details the issues involved at the great church conferences of medieval days. I always marveled that one human brain could retain such a vast amount of information. He was pious to a degree, and attended mass regularly. Sincere in his religious devotions, he was never intolerant of others, and was always ready to discuss religious questions openly and with real breadth of vision. His beautiful and charming wife, daughter of Henry Clay Ide, the former Governor General of the Philippines, to whom he was devoted, remained a Protestant, and to his dying day both worshiped after their own

manner, and both respected each other's religious views. Deeply religious in thought and action, always kindly, courteous, and considerate of others, and with never a harsh word for his employees, two of whom, his secretary and his chauffeur, had been with him more than a score of years, he was the personification of a Christian gentleman.

He was stricken in his own house at Washington, February 28, 1923, after celebrating his sixty-ninth birthday. There was never a Christian better prepared to meet his Maker and enter into the gates of heaven.

With the exception of Theodore Roosevelt I have never known a more gifted character, or one endowed with such vigorous physical and mental qualities. He was one of the few great public servants that New York City has developed since reconstruction, and as years go by and his speeches are studied his fame will increase. In my opinion he was one of the greatest Americans of our generation, but not fully understood or appreciated.

His funeral services were held at New York City, attended by all the dignitaries of his church and by a vast throng of friends and admirers. He had eight pallbearers, two of whom, former Congressman Daniel J. Riordan and former Congressman Thomas F. Smith, have since died, and among those on the congressional delegation attending the funeral, Luther W. Mott, the dean of the Republican Representatives from New York has passed to the great beyond.

Let us remember that, whatever is the destiny of the Republic, we must die. Let us reflect how vain are the personal strifes and partisan contests in which we daily engage in view of the great account which we may so soon be called to render.

The memory of BOURKE COCKRAN will always be among the cherished treasures of the House of Representatives and in the hearts of all the Members who served with him. He was one of the few veteran statesmen left in the Halls of Congress. He touched nothing which he did not adorn. His noble acts survive him. Of him it is just to say that "all the ends he aimed at were his country's, his God's, and truth's." Those of us who knew him well admired, respected, and loved him for what he was and not for his oratory or for all his fame. Of such as him we may say with the poet—

> The dead are like the stars by day,
> Withdrawn from mortal eye;
> But not extinct—they hold their way
> In glory through the sky.

Address by Representative O'Connor

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER: Within a few months, about a year ago, the great State of New York suffered the loss of four of its Representatives in Congress, the Hon. Daniel Joseph Riordan, the Hon. Luther Wright Mott, the Hon. WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN, and the Hon. James Vincent Ganly.

The time allotted to me would not permit anything like an adequate eulogy of all of those distinguished sons of the Empire State.

I shall, therefore, confine my remarks to that illustrious gentleman who preceded me as a Representative in Congress of the sixteenth congressional district of the State of New York—the Hon. WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN.

BOURKE COCKRAN! What memories that name conjures in our minds!

It is my privilege to-day, solely because chance has honored me by election in his stead from the congressional district which he so ably and eloquently represented, to participate in these services to his memory.

How inadequately I take his place and how unfittingly can I render appropriate expression on this occasion no one is more conscious than I. To call myself his successor would be gross vanity. He was my predecessor. No living man could succeed him, could take his place in this greatest of public forums.

Student, scholar, orator, statesman, man. Other characterizations have been and may still be applied to him.

It has been given to few men to hold a forefront place on the public stage as long as he. Whether he loved the all-penetrating calcium of public life might well be questioned, because his biography demonstrates that time and again he sought to retire to the quietude of private life only to be called again into the public service for which he was so exceptionally adapted.

Student, scholar—no college or university tutored him. He was self-instructed. Privation and laborious concentration and determination were his stimuli. Those who knew him best—and it was only my privilege to know him intimately of recent years—will lay emphasis upon his faculties as a student and a scholar. Many there are who believe that as a conversationalist he reached his greatest heights. He was a veritable storehouse of history and the world's development and progress in science, in art, in economics, in literature. He was a linguist who had encircled the globe and absorbed the thoughts and aspirations of all peoples. He was the antithesis of a provincial. He detested physical or mental confinement.

Statesman! How begrudgingly does history give space to the achievements of the man in public life. The sculptor, the artist, the scientist, the litterateur leaves tangible, age-resisting evidence of his accomplishment. How few statesmen live in the memory of the next generation! To this unfair treatment by posterity the gentleman whose

memory we all honor will stand out as an exception.

Orator! The word itself does not do him justice. God's endowments are many. BOURKE COCKRAN was singled out for especial preferment at the hands of the Creator. In human form he lacked nothing to cause his personality to immediately impress itself upon all within his presence. Half close our eyes and we can see him now on the public platform or in the rostrum of this House—his fine physique, his classic head, his abundant hair, the fascination of his eyes—leaning back against this desk, inviting debate that he might submerge it with the power of his repartee.

With a voice which is given to few men, BOURKE COCKRAN will long live in memory as a master orator. In the power of expression, no contemporary was his superior, few his peer.

His voice, now stilled, had resounded around the world. It had stirred multitudes. Listen! Do you hear it? The melody of Beethoven—the cadence of a cathedral organ—the sweet perfume of the rose in the flowers of his speech.

Gesture was his natural movement. Every movement of his body synchronized in perfect harmony with his voice. Those arms—those hands falling so gracefully and so expressively against his sturdy thighs.

Man! Is not this the consummation of all human attributes? With unbounded faith in his convictions, with inimitable power of voice and expression, he offended no man but welded his acquaintance into a great bond of friendship.

Class or caste, party or race or creed did not confine those friends. The closest held opposite views on all or most of those subjects which so often set men off against one another. BOURKE COCKRAN was bigger than any dispute.

He was a fighter—a champion in the arena of politics, of thought, of human affairs. But he knew how to wage his battles cleanly and fairly, so that his encounters and his victories left no sting.

Memories are the sweetest consolations of life. Without them existence would mean but the present transient moment. One year has passed since this great man, after 70 years of service, passed into the great beyond—passed as he had lived, a devout Christian. We exult in the memory of him. We treasure our recollection of him. We are sad because he was taken from us, but we fervently thank God for having given him to us.

Address by Representative Mead

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER: W. BOURKE COCKRAN was one of the most picturesque and striking and at the same time one of the most lovable characters in the public life of our time. His magnificent physical appearance and his superb intellectual accomplishments made him a fascinating and interesting personality. Always courteous and manly in debate, he commanded the respect and admiration of all, even those who may have differed with him on great public questions. History will record him among the greatest and most effective orators of his day and generation.

Of a deep religious nature, Representative COCKRAN's private life was at once an example and an inspiration to all who enjoyed the privilege of his acquaintance and friendship. He lived as one in constant preparation for the everlasting life. He worked as one who would live forever. His earthly remains are no more, but his great spirit still lives in the minds and hearts of the legion of friends who are better men and women because they knew him.

Address by Representative Rainey

Of Illinois

Mr. SPEAKER: It has not happened within my experience that in one service we have honored the memories of four Members of this body who came from the same State. I knew them all, but I knew best COCKRAN and Riordan. Their careers were strangely parallel in this life. They came both from the same racial stock. Their ancestors for many generations had lived in the same section of this world. They had been submitted to the same oppressions of government, and from long lines of ancestors they both inherited their theories of freedom. They both belonged to that governing organization which usually controls the affairs of the greatest city in the world. They both belonged to the same party, they were both devoted to the same ideals, and they both entertained the same ideas. They were both Members of this body at the same time; they both left their impress upon the legislation of the last 20 years. But in what a different way.

They were both courteous and quiet gentlemen. Riordan in his forceful, quiet way assisted in organizing those elements of his party here which were able to effect legislative changes. He possessed in a superlative degree those elements of human sympathy which made friends of all who knew him best. Of him it can be truly said that if everyone indebted to him for a kindly act should

this afternoon drop a flower on his grave he would rest to-night beneath a wilderness of flowers.

COCKRAN did not possess the same methods of accomplishing things. He depended for his force and influence in public life upon his ability as an orator, and among all the orators this country has produced in the last 100 years there are none of them greater than COCKRAN.

How many times has this great auditorium echoed to his eloquence. How many times have men on both sides of this Chamber been convinced by his arguments. Painting, sculpture, oratory—the greatest of these is oratory. The painter with his brush and his colors transfers his ideas of beauty and his ideals to canvas and you can take it with you and live with it and it grows on you as the hours and the days and the weeks pass, and finally you understand what he means. The sculptor chisels in marble his ideas and his ideals and you can look at it day after day, and finally understand all that he means when with his art he transfers to the cold marble the ideals for which he stood. But the orator must convey his impressions instantly to the brain of man. He appeals directly to the intellect of those who listen to him, and the impression he makes must always be an instantaneous impression. The orator develops instantly an approval and an enthusiasm greater than painter or sculptor can hope to accomplish. His triumph is the greatest of all.

I remember BOURKE COCKRAN as he stood on one occasion in this middle aisle down near the door delivering an address. He was interrupted from

that side of the Chamber by one of the most accomplished debaters in the House, one of the most tactful orators on that side. He was questioned as to his belief and his affiliations in 1896 when the party to which be belonged divided on the issue of silver. He was asked why he left his party on this issue, and the reply came in convincing terms—that the issue for which he then stood appealed to him. Then there came a statement from the leader on that side of the Chamber to the effect that he understood that "it was profitable" for COCKRAN to make the speeches that he did.

That story had been told before throughout the country, and throughout the country there were men who believed it. Then there came the reply of COCKRAN. I can see him now as he left his position toward the rear of this aisle and marched with great strides down to the well of the House where I now stand, holding his clenched fist aloft and shouting out at each step he took, "False! False! False!"; and that was all there was to his denial. But no man who heard it that day ever again believed that story. Then I heard him on another occasion, standing where I stand now, define a gentleman. He described a man in New York City in lowly occupation, a hod carrier, whose ideas of service were so fine, whose methods of meeting his fellow workmen were so courteous, that he was always addressed by men with whom he worked and by his superiors as "Mr." In spite of his lowly occupation, they all by this tribute agreed that he possessed the qualities which constitute a gentleman. I knew Riordan and

COCKRAN best. My contacts with both of them were many. In their death I experienced a strong sense of personal loss.

I like to think of life as a journey over a broad highway. We start out in the morning traveling over a road watered with last night's rains, and the journey is always upward. There are those who branch out from the main traveled highway and go along into untraveled paths on either side. These are the pioneers; and finally, if they are successful in what they undertake, the highway of life broadens out and takes in also the paths over which they have traveled.

A better and a wider highway is made for those who follow. As we go along there are places where the green ferns grow; we ought to linger there, and Riordan and COCKRAN knew how to do that. As we travel along there are meadows where dreams come true, and Riordan and COCKRAN found them many times, and so have you. As we travel along there are fields where the four-leaf clovers grow; they are the prizes of this life, and Riordan and COCKRAN found them many times. As we journey along always upward there comes always the call of the crest, and when we reach it there is another ascent and another crest and another call, and so the travel is always upward until there comes a call at the last crest, and it comes always from the uttermost places that lie at the back of the sun. Some hear it early in life, some late in life when they have had much of service back of them, as Riordan and COCKRAN had, but it comes sooner or later to all. It is the

great adventure of this life. It has come to both of my friends. It came to them at the same time. They both at the same time slipped their anchors and sailed away over the unknown seas to an unknown shore, where at anchor lie the craft of those of their friends who have gone ahead of them.

Over their graves may the snows of winter lie light; over their graves may the winds of winter blow low; over their graves may the birds throughout the long summer days sing always their sweetest songs. Good night, kind friends, good night!

Address by Representative Fairchild

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER: To-day with me is a day of real mourning, as we are assembled here in memorial services for four of our colleagues who have gone to the great beyond. Those among us who knew Daniel J. Riordan the more intimately will speak of his splendid qualifications that endeared him to the memory of all who knew him. My closer acquaintance with my colleague and party associate, Luther W. Mott; with my committee associate on the Foreign Affairs Committee, my lovable friend WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN; and my deep-seated regard for my three times opponent and good friend, James Vincent Ganly, leads me in reference to them to express in a few words my feeling of personal loss. To each and all of the loved ones in homes made desolate our hearts go out in deepest sympathy.

The whole world knows of the great brain, the mighty intellect of WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN. The world knows something of his great heart. It will always be a personal gratification to me that during the last Congress he and I served together on the same committee. It gave me an opportunity to know him the more intimately. I became more and more impressed with his brilliant intellect, but the closer acquaintance also gave me a more intimate realization of his great heart and love for humanity, which outshines, in the memory of those who knew him best, all of his other illustrious attributes.

Address by Representative Lindsay

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER: BOURKE COCKRAN is gone. That splendid figure will grace our councils no more. The noble voice that pleased the ear no less than it convinced the mind is stilled forever. To hear BOURKE COCKRAN was to enjoy his great gift. The skill and charm of the orator were his indeed, but always was that gift expended with sincerity of belief in the matter under consideration. As a Member of Congress he lent distinction to the House of Representatives and rendered valuable service to his constituents and his State. New York City in particular admired him as her own, but BOURKE COCKRAN was known throughout the country for his devoted service to the cause which he espoused. This House pays deserved tribute publicly to his memory and unknown thousands mourn his passing.

Born in Ireland on February 28, 1854, he came to this country at the age of 17 and immediately gave himself without stint to his new allegiance. Like that brave patriot, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, who signed the Declaration of Independence, BOURKE COCKRAN, born in Ireland, received his education in Ireland and in France. On arrival in the United States he became a teacher in a private academy and subsequently became principal of a public school in Westchester County, N. Y. Like many of our great statesmen, he studied law while

teaching school, and was admitted to the bar in 1876, a brief five years after he landed on these shores of opportunity. Six years later, in 1882, he was appointed counsel to the sheriff of New York City, indicating his activities in public affairs and his aptitude for a public career. He served two terms as counsel to the sheriff and then was elected a Member of the House of Representatives in the Fiftieth Congress. His long record thereafter is too well known to need recounting. It is neither necessary nor desirable that I recount his many accomplishments, for this was a modest man.

Contemporary history records his contribution to society. Man is a frail vessel, and his allotted span is brief. His highest duty is to leave things a little better than he found them.

Measured by this standard, BOURKE COCKRAN lived a long and fruitful life. Into his 70 years he crowded the experiences of greatly changing times. During the seven decades in which he lived tremendous things have occurred. And always the voice of our friend was lifted in behalf of progress and understanding.

Though BOURKE COCKRAN has left us, his words remain to remind us of our trust and our duty. The memory of his faith, his loyalty to the things in which he believed, abide with us forever.

Address by Representative Crowther

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE: I shall be very brief at this time. If there is one thing to be gained or to be developed from these memorial exercises, so many of which we have been compelled within a brief time to hold, it is the inspiration gained from the record of the distinguished Members who have passed to the great beyond. It was not my privilege to know the Hon. BOURKE COCKRAN intimately.

I hope that at some time the House in its wisdom will see fit to make these memorial services an annual affair, that we may mourn or rejoice, as my colleague, Mr. Madden, said he came to rejoice—and I agree with him that it is no day of mourning—that we may come here to rejoice that we knew them, served with them, and appreciated their accomplishments.

I had the temerity to differ with the political philosophy of that great orator on that side, the late lamented W. BOURKE COCKRAN, but I never permitted my prejudices to interfere with the enjoyment of his cultured, scholastic expressions. So I hope that some day the House in its wisdom will make these services an annual affair that we may have an orator of the day, the well of the House filled with beautiful palms and banks of

flowers, the Clerk of the House reading the roll of the honored dead, with galleries well filled with the friends and loved ones of those who have taken the long journey, and thus pay a real tribute to those illustrious men, those resourceful, masterly, able men that devote years of their lives to the public service. Of course, the end of it all is the grave. The Arabs have a saying that, "Death is a camel that kneels before every man's tent," and sooner or later comes the white messenger, and none may say him nay. We must all take that great journey.

The men with whom we associate in our daily labors sometimes forget during the life period to say the kind things and do the helpful things that will make life better and happier for men with whom we journey down the road.

You know the opportunity to do that is so often just at our elbows that we neglect it, and we think that way off yonder, somewhere, somewhere in the future, there will be the opportunity to do the things we have forgotten to do while our brother, our neighbor, and colleague walked down with us on the daily journey of life. Our duty lies here, our opportunity to express kindness, to do the kindly thing, to do the helpful thing is here on this greensward and not way over yonder somewhere, where we are always going to do it to-morrow. To-morrow is 3,000,000 miles northeast of nowhere, and that is the reason we never accomplish anything that we are going to do to-morrow. Now is

the time. If I can express my thoughts, I will do so in these few closing lines:

A parish priest of great austerity
  Climbed high in his church steeple
That he might be near to God
  And bring God's word down to his people.

So on sermon script he daily wrote
  What he thought came from heaven
And dropped it down on his people's heads
  Two times each day in seven.

In His time God cried. "Come down and die,"
  And the priest from out the steeple
Cried, "Where art Thou, Lord?"
  And the Lord replied, "Down here, among the people."

Address by Representative O'Brien

Of New Jersey

Mr. SPEAKER: "The good that men do lives after them." If we may paraphrase this sentiment of the Bard of Avon, we may apply it with emphasis to him whom we memoralize to-day.

It would be a trite statement to say that a great man has passed from amongst us. The word "great" at times has little or no particular meaning; it is often misused; sometimes it is a victim of indiscrimination; but when we recall the words and accomplishments of BOURKE COCKRAN, when we consider the story of his life, his ability, his devotion to principle, his loyalty to the land of his adoption, the one word "great" must appropriately be applied to his career. There is no question but what he helped to make this world a better place in which to live by reason of his existence here, and it can not be gainsaid that his life redounded to the benefit of humanity in general and to his own community in particular.

While we assemble here to do him honor, indirectly we do honor to ourselves, because upon us is reflected by association the glory that is attached to his day and generation. The life of BOURKE COCKRAN is so interwoven with the fabric of our country that the success of one adds to the renown of the other.

When he came here no blaring of trumpets or martial music announced his approach. He came,

the scion of a sturdy, vigorous race, with the greatest assets that a man can possess, a healthy mind in a healthy body; and after becoming imbued with the spirit of citizenship, a determination to do his share in perpetuating American principles and American institutions. At that time our country was emerging from the long struggle of internal strife, and from that period his personal achievements kept pace with the progress and growth of our Republic.

Endowed with great natural physical attributes and a mind such as is the fortune of few men to possess, we find him engaged as a dispenser of knowledge to the young, as a student himself, and as a lawyer. With every favorable requisite it was only natural that the people of that day should find him proclaiming and advocating those political principles which he espoused as a matter of conviction and which were an inspiration to those who came within the magic spell of his eloquence.

Much has been said and written about his ability as an orator. For ages to come his will be the standard by which men of similar genius will be judged. In all the history of the world no man has surpassed and but few have equaled him. From ancient times we learn of the fame of Demosthenes by reason of his speech on The Crown. Cicero's name endures because of his denunciation of Catiline. Edmund Burke survives through his speech on the Impeachment of Warren Hastings. The reputation of our own Daniel Webster is secure because of his Reply to

Hayne. BOURKE COCKRAN will live because of the uniform perfection of his speeches in knowledge of his subject, o'ermastering logic, dominant personality, and the power of delivery that thrilled his auditors.

As an orator in his day he stood in solitary grandeur, like some snowcapped lofty mountain peak overlooking the valley.

It may be said that nothing became him more fittingly in life than the circumstance of his leaving it. We can well recall how at the close of that winter's day after a typical perfervid display of oratory he retired to his seat with the plaudits of his colleagues resounding throughout this Chamber and how within a few hours word came that BOURKE COCKRAN was dead. Unwittingly he had drawn more heavily on his physical reserve than he knew and nature could no longer withstand the strain which could easily have been borne at an earlier day. It may be said of him, for his country he lived, for his country he died, and that to it he gave the last full measure of devotion.

But his reputation is not limited to his ability as an orator. He was a fully rounded man. He was the result of that system of education which may be defined as the development of all the faculties so as to produce the perfect man, as far as anything human may be called perfect. He detested to an exceptional degree sham and hypocrisy. He was a broad-minded man and treated with respect the opinions of those who disagreed with him. His voice was always raised against tyranny, either physical or political. Though placing the welfare

of this country above every other material consideration, it was but natural that he should retain a deep affection for the land of his birth, and no son of Erin ever strove more earnestly that Emmet's Epitaph might be written. He was a kindly, affable, courteous, and approachable man, always willing to contribute from his vast storehouse of knowledge to the enlightenment or benefit of a friend or colleague. His benefactions were many, but made without display or ostentation. His disposition was a most cheerful one, for, despite the terrible upheaval of the set order of things due to the Great War, he believed that relatively this world was the best that could be fashioned by a Deity for man's use and enjoyment.

His personal tastes were many and varied. Athletic activities appealed to him as did a painting, a song, a piece of sculpture, or a tapestry. His home life was the gauge by which the Nation's domestic bliss and faithfulness might be measured. His daily life was a sermon as powerful as any ever preached from a pulpit. If there be, and we most potently believe there is, a state of eternal happiness to which the souls of the just wing their flight, we may take the assurance unalloyed with presumption that BOURKE COCKRAN now enjoys that blessedness that comes as a reward of duty faithfully performed.

We repeat, a great one has passed from amongst us and with one acclaim we say—

> He was a man, take him for all in all,
> We shall not look upon his like again.

Address by Representative Cole

of Iowa

Mr. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE: My time on this memorial program is brief and my part is a minor one. Others who knew him better and longer than I did must write his biography and bestow the eulogies that we owe to our distinguished dead. I am here simply to pay a tribute and to express an appreciation of one whom we all admired and loved, W. BOURKE COCKRAN, orator and statesman.

It was my privilege to serve with him for a short time on the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives. It is in the committee rooms rather than on the floor that we learn to know each other intimately. There we gather as around a family table to express our views and to harmonize our differences so far as we can in the service of the Nation.

In our committee room we were always conscious of the power of the personality of Mr. COCKRAN. His manners were charming and his speech was illuminating. Well read in all things that pertained to foreign affairs and widely traveled, he spoke as one having authority—the authority of knowledge adorned in the grace of fluent words summoned with precision and used with effectiveness out of the vast vocabulary which he had at his command.

He knew the great capitals of the world from intimate observations. He had read their traditions and their histories. He knew the policies and the politics of the nations they served. He might have been a world diplomat or a world historian.

But it was as an orator that Mr. COCKRAN was supreme. As such he leaped into national fame in a historic party crisis. The orator, like the soldier, is always the product of some crisis in which he is able to assert his powers and his leadership. As an orator he often used finesse, the skill of the reasoner, and the dexterity of one accustomed to persuade others, but more often he poured out through his words in irresistible torrents his own overwhelming personality. The tremendous volume of his words was almost bewildering. He piled word on word and sentence on sentence like Pelion on Ossa in the poet's figure of speech until he reached his climax, holding his auditors spellbound.

He often reminded one of Edmund Burke and of Lord Macaulay, those lofty masters of English grandiloquence. Upon the conclusion of one of his speeches I recalled those masters. He at once admitted their influence upon himself, adding the observation that while style was always something innate, it was still susceptible of culture. In that brief conversation I learned how deeply and how widely read he was, and how susceptible to all erudite and artistic influences. But to all his preparedness he gave the spontaneity of his own abounding personality.

W. BOURKE COCKRAN

My first contact with Mr. COCKRAN dates back to 1896, at a time when he had broken with his party on a great financial issue. He passed through Iowa, where I was then the associate editor of the most potential newspaper; giving voice to his most profound convictions. I interviewed him personally, and I sat spellbound under his oratory—and the spell of that eloquence remained with me through the last speech which I heard him deliver in the House of Representatives on the eve of his sad and sudden death.

It is well and fitting that we remember the dead and that we pay to them these tributes. We who are among the living need the dead more than those who are among the dead need us. We can not help them so much as they can help us. Their example can ennoble our lives and their recorded and remembered thoughts can make us wiser.

Education and civilization are not wrought out of the thoughts that each generation can think for itself or out of the things that each generation can do for itself. Oh, no; they are the accretions and the accumulations of all the thoughts and all the deeds that remain to us from all the generations which have preceded us. If we did not have the heritage of the dead, we would be like children wandering and wondering in a beautiful garden whose vast and varied resources we could neither comprehend nor use.

It is what the dead have left us that makes us rich and wise and useful and good in this world, and therefore it is well that we bow our heads in their invisible presence and pay our tributes to them as to our benefactors.

Address by Representative Frear

Of Wisconsin

Mr. SPEAKER: We speak a common language here to-day. The sounds of debate and of party strife are stilled as we pause to commemorate in feeble words the lives and records of those who were with us yesterday.

The problem of life is never more hard to understand than by those privileged to participate, however humbly, in the activities of this great legislative body and who witness the constant dropping off of the changing pilots without notice, while the ship of state moves on her even course.

The good which men do lives after them, never more certainly than under the dome of the Nation's Capitol. However much we may differ politically or fundamentally in individual methods or in our belief or reasoning, we soon learn here the value of mutual counsel and helpful advice. So, too, we soon recognize the high standards and legislative ideals of our colleagues and the influence of those who in past history have made this Hall famous. Every arch, every niche, every great window that admits the God-given light from above has echoed and reechoed with the voices of America's great statesmen who once stood where we stand to-day—voices now stilled—of those who have joined the innumerable throng.

Few, if any there be, of men long in public place of this generation whose knowledge of history,

persuasive eloquence, strength of expression, and broad statesmanship surpassed these recognized talents found in BOURKE COCKRAN.

It was a privilege to know him and to counsel with him. Words of warning from his lips have been sounded again and again in this Hall during recent years, warnings that the fundamental rights and parliamentary privileges, dear to popular government and necessary to wise legislation, should not be infringed upon or forgotten. This House must function legislatively, he declared repeatedly on this floor. Our self-respect as legislators and the safety of constitutional government must not depart from the standards set by our forefathers if we would retain the privileges and rights placed by them in our hands.

To BOURKE COCKRAN more than to any other one man I am personally indebted for advice that found fruition in a liberalization of rules and change in practices invoked by a majority of the House that ever occurs when parliamentary principles are encroached upon. COCKRAN demanded constructive laws should be here framed that would reflect the will of the people under the same wise, liberal procedure that governs every other great parliamentary body in the world. His plea for the supremacy of the legislative body over the encroachments of its own agencies and his championship of the widest and fullest rights of debate will be long remembered. With these sound principles of democratic government he was in sympathy and his powerful influence was devoted to its strict maintenance.

No other testimonial to broad statesmanlike comprehension of fundamentals of government will overshadow recognition of this service given to the country by BOURKE COCKRAN, and it is a tribute to his memory that every man might well hope to deserve in some small degree for his own.

It knows no creed, no politics, no partisanship, but is founded on a deep love of country and of firmly fixed ideals that COCKRAN possessed.

In these brief, halting words of appreciation for our distinguished colleague whose memory we this day honor I believe I express the common judgment of all who knew him.

The world goes on without marked incident whether we stay or go, and in that is a lesson for all of us that the greatest reward for service, if reward is deserved, comes from the right use of talents, however small or great, talents given us by the Creator. That is the brief tribute I am privileged to offer to the memory of our deceased colleague who in this Hall represented his constituents of the great Empire State faithfully and the people of this country so long and well.

Address by Representative Dickstein

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN: The death of Hon. BOURKE COCKRAN has been a great loss to this House, to his party, and to the American people. The name of BOURKE COCKRAN has sounded in the ears of the American public for many years. I personally became acquainted with the distinguished statesman about 10 years ago and had occasion to be with him at various functions, both politically and socially. During all of my personal acquaintance with him I had every admiration for his ability, his position on public questions, his manner of delivery, and his presentation of debates, which were of the highest thought and study of the subjects. Listening to him just once would convince and impress any fair-minded American of his sincerity of the subject he was discussing and of his great desire to do the right thing for the people of this glorious country. He has proven that in the many debates on the floor of this House time after time. Though I was not a Member of Congress when BOURKE COCKRAN served in this body, I followed his career through the usual channels, and my opinion, respect, and admiration strengthened as time went on. I admired him as a man, as a statesman, and as an orator. His sudden and untimely death was a great shock to the State of New York and, no doubt, to every Member

of this House who then served with him. A few days before his death he delivered a speech on the floor of this House which could be put in manuscript and you would enjoy his delivery and picture BOURKE COCKRAN just by reading his address. The country has lost a great man, and the people of the State he represented will always remember the man of the hour, the man of the people, the real American, BOURKE COCKRAN.

Address by Representative Weller

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER: It becomes my sad duty to record a personal word to the Members of this House upon the life and services of that distinguished statesman who came to Congress from the State of New York and who dedicated his life to the upbuilding and perpetuation of American institutions—the late WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN.

When Mr. COCKRAN was called to his great reward he represented a district in the heart of the city of New York consisting of all types and classes of people, the rich and the humble. His energies and attentions were directed in expounding and protecting the cause of pure democracy. He cherished the safeguards and the rights of the people. His work in Congress made us think of him as one of the noble senators of ancient Rome, conservative, thoughtful, and persuasive in debate.

WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN was born in Sligo, Ireland. In his youth he was taken to France and there received his early education, coming to the United States when he was 17 years of age. His tall commanding height, his large leonine-shaped head, his classical features, his nimble athletic walk gave him a commanding figure, which, coupled with a deep resonant voice and an accent that savored of "Old Erin," it seemed as though nature had particularly endowed him.

Admitted to the New York bar in 1876, Mr. COCKRAN took a prominent part in the court work of our State and Nation. In court he was a skillful advocate with an interesting personality and disclosed an intimate knowledge of his cause. Whether in court or on the political rostrum or in discussing a question of economy or political science, he exhibited so unusual a knowledge of the subject under discussion as to command the attention of all and was soon recognized as an orator of unique equipment and distinction. To those who heard him it was a rare treat; logical always with a gentleness which was almost feminine, yet when moved to establish his point in the minds of his hearers he exhibited an intellectual strength that was dynamic; he was almost compelling.

Always religious and seeking divine consolation, he attended while living in Washington a modest little church near his home. It is told by one of his friends that Mr. COCKRAN almost every day retired to this little church for prayer and meditation. On one occasion, in the absence of an assistant at the altar performing ministerial duties, the pastor called for a volunteer to assist him. Mr. COCKRAN responded and took his place within the altar rail and assisted the pastor in the services. Apparently he was happy in the belief that his life was so prepared that the required duties of the occasion were not strange to him and that he was able to satisfactorily assist in the conduct of the services. Later it was learned that a suitable endowment for the church had been established.

His religious training and habits had prepared and prompted him to take his position satisfactorily within the altar rail.

At political conventions and gatherings Mr. COCKRAN was watched and heard by all admiringly. He was frequently referred to as the mouthpiece of the Democracy of the State of New York. His strategy in these gatherings and the commanding influence of his oratory made him a conspicuous figure. His advice on the policy of his party was frequently sought.

Mr. COCKRAN served seven terms as a Representative in Congress, truly a wonderful conclusion to a great life. His record has been inspiring, his friendships many, and our memory of him will always be dear and precious.

I am taking the liberty of appending to the Record a memorial of Mr. COCKRAN delivered by the Hon. Martin T. Manton, judge of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, before the New York County Lawyers' Association; also a memorial compiled and delivered by Robert J. Fox, Esq., formerly Mr. COCKRAN's law associate, and the Hon. Daniel F. Cohalan, which was delivered at a meeting of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick on May 7, 1923:

MEMORIAL OF WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN

[By Martin T. Manton]

Death has stilled the most eloquent voice in America. When, on March 1, 1923, this announcement came, it gave me the profoundest sorrow to realize that those ties of personal affection and respect which united me to W. BOURKE COCKRAN were severed. This sorrow, I know, is shared by

his brethren at the bar to whom he was so strongly and devotedly attached, and it will be shared by all Americans, as they fully realize that this country will be for the future deprived of the benefits which would have come from a continued public service at the bar and in the Halls of Congress.

Mr. COCKRAN was born in County Sligo, Ireland, on February 28, 1854, and came to the United States when 17 years of age. His earlier education was had in schools of Ireland and later in France. When, in 1871, he came to what was destined to be his land of opportunity, he worked for a short time in a clerical position, and then assumed the duties of a private tutor. He became an instructor and later a principal in a public school at Tuckahoe, Westchester County, N. Y. It was while so employed that he studied law. Thus, he prepared in the university of necessity, taking advantage of a friend's offer—Judge Abram R. Tappan—who had taken a fancy to the young and promising Irish gentleman and accorded him access to his law library. Thus encouraged, he embraced the opportunity and studied industriously at night while employed during the day. In 1876 he was admitted to the bar and commenced his professional career in Mount Vernon, N. Y. Shortly thereafter he moved to New York City, and it was not long before his natural talents and industry gave such promise that he became conspicuous with the bench and bar. He was educated in the old-fashioned school of classical studies and his oratory bore the impress of that training. He soon took high rank in his profession; that rank he never lost, but his services in his profession became overshadowed because of his standing as a foremost orator in our national life.

The splendor of his voice as a public debater obscured, to some extent, the real and solid talent and achievements underlying his genius that made for a great legal luminary. In the spotlight of politics he was ever in the public gaze. To public service, to the law, and to his church he looked at all questions of any debatable character as worthy of

detailed and full preparation—he briefed them all before he argued. He rarely spoke unprepared, but always had the appearance of speaking extemporaneously. He had the faculty of hiding the labor of preparation with perfect art.

A certain optimism was always the foundation upon which he planted every effort to convince. He never made an effort that he himself did not believe in. He was an acute lawyer; he was always a student. A scholar who never forgot his classics in anything he spoke or wrote.

His build and gracious carriage were unusual, unique, and picturesque; his leonine head, his heavy features, his broad shoulders, and swelling chest. As an advocate, nature had given him a tremendous advantage over other lawyers—he had a magnificent organ of a voice whose attractiveness was increased by the touch of a sweet Erin accent, not always discerned, but most captivating and persuasive. The compelling secret of his success in argument was in his strength and power. In the court room he was a conqueror in any interruption of his opponent. His repartee had all the persuasion a great mind could mobilize. He could charm his most hostile adversary.

He was a man of great determination and perfect courage, but he was so gentle and unselfish that all who knew him loved him. No one in want of legal aid ever knocked at his door looking for assistance in vain. He little thought of fees or lawyers' rewards. He but loved the opportunity, fraught with serious responsibility, to help the poor litigant. Often he tided one who needed legal assistance over that period when all hope seemed gone. His devotion to his professional duty won back ambition for the disheartened, and his victory brought back faith in the justice of mankind. He cherished the opportunity to send on a poor litigant a victor to new accomplishments.

Whether discussing law or facts before a court or jury, he was clear, brilliant, logical, and convincing. When

you opposed him, you felt his power but appreciated his courtesy and perfect fairness. When associated with him, there was a sense of relief that his part would be splendidly sustained.

He could see further into the future than any man of his time. How interesting it was to find time unfold, in actual happenings, Mr. COCKRAN's predictions. Particularly was his prophecy of future political occurrences truly stated. He was a Member of Congress for seven terms. Each time he brought to that service an equipment that seemed to be superior to his last term of service, but constant application at his banquet of learning made it possible to improve. Many lawyers have entered the bodies of Congress, but few ever brought more of the lawyer's worth than Mr. COCKRAN. He had all the fire, all the directness, all the terseness, all the qualities of simplicity of form and straightness of thought which have made for the greatest statesmen from the time of Daniel Webster or Henry Clay. What he said in speeches will live in glittering phrase and golden words—the spoken sentence that stirs the soul and flutters the heart.

His life always was most religious. He found unbounded consolation in the teachings of the Catholic Church. His eloquent exposition of Catholic doctrine on many occasions were public expressions of the true moral man he was. He was very anxious to proclaim himself a simple Catholic man. He was in the practice of his religious belief a fervent man, ever devoted to its teachings. He was charitable, and his charity knew no limits. His acts went so often unmentioned.

The lessons afforded by the life of this great lawyer and American, whose loss the New York County Lawyers' Association deplores, exemplifies a character of dependency and constitutes an incentive calling upon all lawyers to dedicate their lives to a higher and more complete fulfillment of duty. It is also true that a right contemplation of his life and its results will serve in some measure to assuage the feeling of sorrow begotten by his death.

It was given to him to almost reach the allotted span of mortal existence, and during his fruitful career to faithfully serve his country, to win the affection of all who knew him, and to afford an elevating and noble example of duty well and faithfully performed. Contemplating his life, its simplicity, its courage, its devotion to duty, its love of country, the faith that comes to us for service to country and to God, the highest reward of man will be ours.

May I in this my humble effort add this word to help lay the foundation in the permanent records of this association of a monument to his memory, which shall continue to speak of his great moral and mental qualities and his courageous and conscientious discharge of professional duty long after we ourselves shall have gone.

[Compiled and delivered at a meeting of Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, by Robert J. Fox, Esq., and Judge Daniel F. Cohalan, May 7, 1923]

That WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN was one of the most remarkable and outstanding Americans of his day and generation will be admitted by all impartial commentators.

That he bulked large in the public eye; that he made a strong and it may be an enduring impression upon the history of his times; that his death brought sorrow to large and divergent groups whose sympathies or views rarely are affected by the same event must be granted. This should cause us carefully to review his career and study his qualities in order to discover what it was that set him apart from other men and made of him a figure at once unique, attractive, and picturesque.

It is difficult while still we labor under the sense of personal loss to appraise fairly the qualities or to estimate justly the character of a departed friend.

We are too apt at such a time to permit our emotions to color our judgment and to sway our verdict.

Lord Bacon says that narrative biography requires knowledge of important facts, and veracity and impartiality in recording them.

It is hard to restrain the ardor of friendship in writing of so widely gifted and attractive a man, but a just appreciation should stand upon a foundation of understatement.

It was Macaulay who said that if one stopped under a doorway for a moment with Edmund Burke to escape a shower he would be impressed with the certainty that he had met a great man. That was true of BOURKE COCKRAN.

His charm of manner, his musical voice, his unexcelled diction, his multifarious knowledge, his leonine head and massive body made him a personality at once outstanding, remarkable, and striking.

He was essentially a product of the times in which he lived and moved and had his being.

Born in Sligo about the middle of the last century, of a family in good circumstances and position, he was early intended for the church, and received in his native land at the hands of the great teaching order of the Irish Christian Brothers a splendid grounding in the fundamentals of education and a thorough training in the art of assimilating as well as acquiring that learning for which in later years he became so conspicuous.

Later in France he added to his stores of knowledge and acquired with the French tongue a fondness for its literature which gave him a mastery of the history of the Continent—both classical and profane—that shed distinction upon him throughout all his after years.

Presently he decided that his vocation was rather for the world than for the cloister, and we find him in his young manhood turning his face to the West, to the land which had opened the door of opportunity and eminence to so many of his countrymen. Here he hewed out for himself a career which has had few parallels among his contemporaries. Men of great talents largely form themselves. By the untrammeled exertion of their own powers rather than by the aid of patrons or fictious circumstances they break through the barriers of power or the obstacles of fate and make for themselves a position which they owe to native ability and urelenting toil.

So it was with COCKRAN. In his young manhood, after reaching our shores, he may have spent with lavish hand some of the talent and energy with which nature had so prodigally endowed him. But he never lost sight of the goal for which he steered, and the passing years brought him onward and upward in the regard and affection and esteem of his countrymen.

His studies were regular, his contacts with his fellow men constant, and all his varied experiences tended to invigorate, enrich, and expand his thoughts. His vigorous and penetrating mind, always at work, gained for him an immense extent and variety of knowledge. But he had the learning of a philosopher rather than a pedant, and to that learning he added the manners of a gentleman. His company was sought by the fashionable of the world, for he was a wit with a subtle sense of humor and a keen knowledge of proportion. He had an inexhaustible fund of discourse, with constant cheerfulness and high spirits, and that great art of good breeding which made his company pleased with themselves as well as with him. He avoided, either in speech or conversation, the reputation of being a joker or farceur, and pointed often to the fate of several of his brilliant rivals whose genuine talents could not sustain them as against the name of being masters of humor. BOURKE COCKRAN was a many-sided man, and one who might have won distinction and rank in any one of several callings.

He was well read, a great conversationalist, a linguist, a trained and experienced lawyer, a successful man of business and of affairs. But it will be as an orator—ranking among the great orators not alone of his own but of all ages—that his name will live and his fame be secure. So great was his power and so exalted his talent in this direction that his other distinctions must be classed as episodes in his career, and no language which is restrained and deliberate can fairly give an estimate of the influence he exercised and the passion he aroused in multitudes when he fulminated against a great wrong, advocated a great cause, or exhorted upon behalf of a great principle.

One well might have thought in listening to him that he was transported to the Roman Senate in its best days. In his higher flights of oratory his stately periods reminded his hearers of the traditions of Burke and Sheridan, of Fox and Chatham in the British Parliament; of Curran and Flood, of Grattan and Plunkett in the old Parliament of his native land; or of the storied eloquence of Clay and Webster and Calhoun in our own Senate.

Verily in listening to him one would well believe that the age of oratory had not departed, and it is an interesting speculation as in how far the best traditions of the past may be revived when the occasion again shall call forth the passion and eloquence of men gifted like him.

This short memorial would not justify any attempt to tell in detail the story of his triumphs in the field in which he stood without a superior.

Suffice it to say that for nearly two score years no great cause has been discussed in our country upon which he did not shed the luster of his talents, the spell of his elouence, and the music of his voice. He was a strong partisan, but he never permitted his loyalty to his party to interfere with his duty to his country. He was an aggressive advocate, but he always tried to be fair to an opponent even when dealing his most telling blows. He believed intensely in his own side of an argument, but he was tolerant of opposition, and ever ready to applaud in an adversary that ability and character which bespeak conviction and denote sincerity. He was a lover of liberty, whose passion it was to see it preserved in our country and extended to his native land. He has gone to his reward, after having fought the good fight. May we not say in closing, as men who knew him intimately, who admired his extraordinary talents and his unrivaled attainments, and who took notice of his failings—for from them, in common with all men, he was not exempt—that the great, outstanding quality in his make-up was his intense and everpresent belief in the God of his fathers.

W. BOURKE COCKRAN

BOURKE COCKRAN was gifted and blessed above most of the men of his day and generation, but above all in that simple, childlike faith which was fostered at the knees of his mother and which survived and grew with all the triumphs of his great career, and carried him onward into the next world with the fervor of a martyr and the certainty of one who knows.

May the Lord deal with him as with one who has gained the palm, and may his place in the world beyond the grave be even higher and more glorious than that which he won for himself among men.

DANIEL F. COHALAN,
MARTIN T. MANTON,
ROBERT J. FOX,
Committee.

Address by Representative Little

Of Kansas

Mr. SPEAKER: Eight years in the American House of Representatives is the greatest education our country now affords to an American citizen. Those of us who saw the sunrise of our lives from the doors of a junior western school, now become a great university, had a glimpse of the world that came when we were young and everything was new to us. We unrolled the ancient books of life and read in shining letters the history and philosophy of the world when it was worth reading—

When all the world was young, lad,
And all the trees were green,
When all the geese were swans, lad,
And every lass a queen.

Those who assembled around the altars of Harvard and Yale and those famous American schools enjoyed all the advantages that come with the development of American history and American citizenship. Others who trod the halls of Oxford or drank beer on the tables of Heidelberg or Vienna or Paris got a glimpse of everything in Europe worth while. In the Mosque of Elhazar, at Cairo, those of us who love mankind saw the youth of the whole Mohammedan world on exhibition at its studies and drank deep of the mysteries of that ancient abode of learning. Some have improved their resources and polished their

attainments by weeks in Japan, or China, among the places where the world was born. They sipped of the wisdom of Confucius and learned with astonishment of the 300-year-old statecraft and poetry of Ieavasu.

When we came here we knew that there were kings before Agamemnon and generals from whom Cæsar and Alexander learned the art of war. By the time that the average man came to this Hall he was on reasonably familiar terms with the characters and capacities of the great millionaire princes who so dominate the public and private life of this country. He may have known the youth of his native land showing its best on the field of battle for his country on the other side of the world. He may perhaps have lived in the palaces of the most ancient country of the Mediterranean East and spent many hours at the foot of the Sphinx, still keeping her own counsel. At any rate, he had known men in all walks of life and in all measures of victory and defeat. But never until he came here and received the diploma of several years' experience among his colleagues could he possibly have sounded all the depths that are now in the souls and hearts of his countrymen, sent to represent them here with all the powers of this mighty Republic. However provincial his feeling may have been, however narrow his views, he learned here the higher values of human nature, a broader and more generous understanding and comprehension of its attributes, and a kindlier sympathy with all its

ambitions. Here I finally learned the absolute truth of a little verse my mother taught me:

> In men whom men condemn as ill
> I see so much of goodness still,
> In men whom men pronounce divine
> I see so much of sin and blot,
> I hesitate to draw the line
> Between the two where God has not.

When we assemble in this Hall to pay tribute to the memories of our departed colleagues we fully realize the responsibilities and duties that bring us here and the value of their association and services. On this day all are equal. Millionaire and mendicant, sultan and slave, sage and simple, all march to the same music through that grim and ghostly cordon beyond which we may well all meet when the sun goes down.

When I came here, for example, Tammany Hall was a harsh word, and its denizens were subjects of my very stern suspicion. I saw at the head of the great appropriations of this country a man whose outstanding characteristic was absolute integrity and who came here from that great political headquarters. To my astonishment I found that in the very prime of his political career and the very summit of his political mastery of the wealth of the Republic he abandoned an assured seat in this House to go home and make a living for his family and start them in life. Moved by a sudden but matured and very natural impulse, I went to John J. Fitzgerald and apologized to him

for my early misconception of him and told him that his departure was a very distinct and important loss to this country, and that I was proud to have been the colleague of so brilliant, so able, and so honest a gentleman.

This day death takes a heavy toll of our colleagues of Tammany Hall and of its environment and friends. It writes on the wall this day the name of BOURKE COCKRAN, the greatest orator of the House; of Luther Mott, who leaves to posterity a record of faithful industry and loyal adherence to the great causes of woman suffrage and prohibition, which stamps his as a name long to be remembered in the councils of the upper State of New York; of Daniel Riordan, who was an honest gentleman, kind and courteous, and at all times actuated by the motive of service to his constituency; and of James V. Ganly, who departed this life at the very time when he gave evidence of a most useful and promising public career, who labored zealously in discharging his duties, and in the short time that he was here gained the respect of his fellow Members.

We may well doubt whether on any one day in our career in this House any of us shall see fate snatch so brilliant a page from our books of membership. Except one or two great names, most of them pass off unwept, unhonored, and unsung among the constituents who sent us here from the West, but they all carry with them the profound respect and affection of the colleagues with whom they are best acquainted in this House. We know that they all have at home this day in the great

metropolitan city vast audiences which assemble to pay due and well-deserved respect to their memories. We know that this night in the great New York City there will be many sad hearts and many sorrowful homes where they are held in loving and gracious memory, to which they are well entitled. We will spread on the record of this Congress forever these feeble testimonies to their high character, their sound patriotism, and their many talents, so that the young men and the young women of this country for the next century may find the record and from it broaden their respect for their own great country of which we are all a part.

Address by Representative Griffin

Of New York

Mr. SPEAKER: During the past year there has hardly been a month in which we have not been called upon to pay solemn tribute to the memory of some Member of our House who has been summoned to enter the mysterious portals of eternity.

Since the Sixty-eighth Congress has begun its career 16 of our Members have answered the imperative summons. Four times has the Herald of Death addressed that summons to the delegation from the Empire State.

First, WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN, the scholar and finished orator, who in eloquent periods so often reverberating within this Chamber pictured the past, presaged the future, and drew from the bounteous stores of his mighty brain wise counsels for the present.

Then Daniel J. Riordan, that incomparable man, whose personality, without the meretricious aid of empty pretense, wielded so powerful an influence upon his colleagues throughout the long period of his legislative service.

The summons then came to Luther Wright Mott, the refined and delicate scholar, courtly yet sincere, whose service of seven terms at great personal sacrifice was a credit to his fidelity, an honor to his constituency, and a boon to his country.

Lastly, James Vincent Ganly answered the imperious call. His death came as a bolt from a clear

sky and grieved intensely all who knew and loved him. The very circumstances of the fatal accident which marked him for sacrifice were profoundly and significantly indicative of his generous, kindly nature.

* * * * *

It can not be said of him that his eloquence shook the battlements of fame. He made no adventures into novel spheres. He resorted to no showy expedients to attract the crowd or attain ephemeral distinction. His life was simple, his aims modest. He sought only to be kind, to be just, to be true; and he loved his fellow men.

In accordance with the order heretofore made and as a further mark of respect (at 5 o'clock and 50 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned until tomorrow, Monday, May 5, 1924, at 12 o'clock noon.

Proceedings
in the
United States Senate

Proceedings in the United States Senate

THURSDAY, *March 1, 1923.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Overhue, its enrolling clerk, communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. W. BOURKE COCKRAN, late a Representative from the State of New York, and transmitted the resolutions of the House thereon.

Mr. WADSWORTH. I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate resolutions which have been sent to the Senate by the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Reed of Pennsylvania). The Chair lays before the Senate resolutions from the House of Representatives, which will be read.

The reading clerk read the resolutions as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. W. BOURKE COCKRAN, a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved further, That a committee of 20 Members of the House, with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved further, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions, and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved further, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved further, That as a further mark of respect this House do now adjourn.

Mr. WADSWORTH. Mr. President, I offer the following resolutions and ask for their adoption:

The resolutions (S. Res. 464) were read, considered by unanimous consent, and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. W. BOURKE COCKRAN, late a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That a committee of six Senators be appointed by the Vice President to join the committee appointed by the House of Representatives to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Mr. WADSWORTH. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative, I move that the Senate do now adjourn.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 10 o'clock p. m.) the Senate adjourned, the adjournment being under the order previously entered, until to-morrow, Friday, March 2, 1923, at 11 o'clock a. m.

FRIDAY, *March 2, 1923.*

The Vice President appointed Mr. Wadsworth, Mr. Calder, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Watson, Mr. Walsh of Montana, and Mr. Walsh of Massachusetts as the committee on the part of the Senate to attend the funeral of the late Representative W. BOURKE COCKRAN under the resolution (S. Res. 464) unanimously adopted by the Senate on yesterday.

MONDAY, *May 5, 1924.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Haltigan, one of its clerks, communicated to the Senate the resolutions (H. Res. 283) of the House adopted as a tribute to the memory of Hon. W. BOURKE COCKRAN, Hon. Daniel J. Riordan, Hon. Luther W. Mott, and Hon. James V. Ganly, late Representatives from the State of New York.