

“Cave Hill Cemetery, Louisville, Kentucky”

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(An unrelated article is also included in the scans of the above article entitled:
“The Temple of Ramses” on the bottom of the second page.)



Secretary and Treasurer's Office,
and Director's Room.

Waiting Rooms.

ENTRANCE TO CAVE HILL CEMETERY, LOUISVILLE, KY.

Cave Hill Cemetery, Louisville, Ky.

That Louisville has one of the most beautiful cemeteries in the United States has long been conceded, says one of the local papers. It is gratifying, therefore, to know that it will always remain a place of beauty. Cave Hill Cemetery Company owns two hundred and sixty acres, one hundred and sixty of which have yet to be graded and prepared for cemetery lots. One-tenth of the proceeds from the sale of lots is paid over monthly to the Cave Hill Investment Company, an institution chartered by the Legislature. It is the duty of this Company to receive and invest the funds until all the ground now owned by the Cave Hill Cemetery Company is sold. After this income from the cemetery company ceases, the investment company is to use its income from the fund invested year after year to protect and take care of the cemetery for all time to come. When the income from the cemetery ceases it is probable that there will be a fund of \$200,000. The yearly income from this fund is to be appropriated as above specified; hence there is every reason to believe that Cave Hill Cemetery will always be a place of beauty.

The population of this city of the dead is over 30,000. It has six miles of macadamized carriage drives, ten miles of sodded alleyways, and between sixteen and twenty thousand square feet of granitoid and asphalt walk. There is one large lake in the cemetery and two or three smaller ones. The large lake is fed by a natural spring. The numerous valleys or natural basins in Cave Hill extend over 10,000 square feet of earth. Within

the last three years the company has made twenty-five catch-basins and four large abutments, requiring one hundred and fifty perches of stone in their construction. In addition to these improvements 6,300 feet of cast iron waterpipe have been laid, and in the fall of 1891 and the spring of 1892 over two hundred and ten lots, averaging over seven hundred square feet each, have been graded and completed. This necessitated the moving of more than 25,000 cubic yards of earth. Over four acres of sod have been used on the new lots and graves.

More than fifteen hundred trees and shrubs of various kinds have been planted within the last two years, and these trees and shrubs include almost every variety adapted to this climate. A commendable feature in connection with this tree planting is the attachment of zinc tags, containing both the common and botanical name of every plant so put out. Nearly three miles of barbed wire fence has recently been put up.

Just beyond the lake is the superintendent's new office. It is one of the most complete and ornate buildings of its kind in the United States. It is built entirely of Bedford stone and is perfectly fireproof. The floors of the circular veranda are of stone, the seats are of birch, with mahogany trimmings. The veranda is supported by twelve stone pillars, between which are circular arches, and it is enclosed by an open iron railing. The floors of the waiting rooms and office are of polished oak. The tile fireplaces are of French pink and blue. Above the birch mantel in the ladies' waiting room is a handsome stained glass window. The portcochere, or

(photo caption) Entrance to Cave Hill Cemetery, Louisville, KY. Secretary and Treasurer's Office and Director's Room and Waiting Rooms.

carriage drive, at the side, has a granitoid pavement, and the whole overlooks the lake. The entire cost of this building was between thirteen and fourteen thousand dollars.

There has recently been placed in the tower of the entrance lodge a new clock with a bell weighing 20,000 pounds.

The United States Government owns several acres in Cave Hill. This ground is subject to the same rules and regulations that govern other lots. It is used as a national cemetery.

The total number of Federal soldiers interred is nearly 5,000, and near by are 225 Confederates buried in the lots purchased by private individuals. One of the most beautiful portions of the cemetery is devoted to the soldier dead.

On the summit of one of the hills is the reservation for all city officials and firemen who wish to be buried there. The reservation is 100 feet square. Cave Hill cemetery is carefully kept and the selection of trees and plants has been such that it is at all times attractive to the eye.



SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE AND WAITING ROOMS, CAVE HILL CEMETERY.

The Temples of Rameses.

Rather more than three thousand years ago Rameses II. took in hand a mountain at Nubia, and hewed out of the living rock two vast temples. One is never surprised at anything Rameses did. He pervades the entire Nile, and dominates everything. Take all the thirty-four dynasties, and practically, Rameses is first, and the rest nowhere. If you come across anything colossal in the way of building, anything overwhelming in design and successful in execution, you may be quite safe in putting it down to Rameses. He reigned over sixty years, begat one hundred and seventy children, and lived to be nearly one hundred years old. And now he lies in his case at the Ghizeh Museum, the haughty old face frowning beneath its glass cover. But of all the great things he did, the temples at Abou Simbel are the greatest. The larger of the two he dedicated to the god of gods Amen, and secondarily to his own glory; and the smaller to the goddess Hathor and to his wife Nefertari. It is rare to find either in tomb or temple the record of conjugal love, but this smaller temple makes it clear that Rameses had a tender side to him. Half a foot deep on the front of the temple he cut an inscription setting forth that he, "Rameses, the Strong in Truth, made this divine abode for his royal wife Nefertari, whom he loves;" and the queen herself, tenderly responsive, carves in undying words that she, "his royal wife, who loves him, built for him this abode in the mountain of pure waters." The better to study these temples, and to see the engineering work in progress entered upon to save them from impending ruin, I slept two nights, says a writer in Pall Mall Gazette, in the sand in this veritable house of love. Here the four gigantic colossi sat, hands on knees, and gazed across the desert sands.

Three thousand years have told upon the cliffs above the temple. The statues themselves would have defied time, but the native rock has yielded to sun and sand. In the rock itself there is a treacherous vein of clay, and the sand has at last eaten away the clay, and the fissures have gradually widened. A report was furnished to the Irrigation Department at Cairo, setting forth that the great temple was in imminent peril, and that a block of stone weighing two hundred and seventy tons was likely to fall and smash the only one complete statue out of the four. One of the embarrassing facts connected with the present Egyptian administration is that nothing can be done without the consent of half a dozen dominions and powers. Rameses himself would have told off a thousand slaves, and carted away the entire hill-top in a few weeks—he never allowed himself to be encumbered with red tape;—but under existing circumstances Rameses had to wait some months with the big block of stone impending over his head. Then the surveyor sent a still more urgent report, and ultimately Captain Johnson, R. E., and twelve English soldiers were sent up to Abou Simbel in save Rameses. They found no less than three rocks to a dangerous condition; one measuring thirty-four feet by twelve was taken in hand at once and broken up into small pieces; another of twenty-five tons was similarly dealt with; and then the biggest of all, weighing about two hundred and seventy tons, was tackled. No explosives of any kind could be used, as the two northernmost colossi are out of their equilibrium, and the least vibration might topple them over; so five stout iron cables were placed round the big block, and then it was broken up into small pieces and thrown down into the sand. Rameses may now sit in peace and watch the dawn break over the desert for another three thousand years.