

Window," in "memory of those soldiers who gave their lives for their country," in the new Baptist Church on Franklin Street, at the Highlands, in 1895.

Several efforts have been made by our citizens, at different times, looking towards the erection of a Monument, Memorial Hall, Tablets in the Town Hall, or in some other way recognize the war record of our "Boys in Blue." One was March 1, 1886, when Dr. Julius S. Clark offered a series of resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

No further action was taken by the town at this time.

Again in 1896, a committee of fifteen from the U. S. Grant Post 4, G. A. R., was appointed to take into consideration the erection of a Memorial Hall. This committee asked for the cooperation of all the Churches, Masons, Odd Fellows, and other societies. These bodies appointed committees to represent them, and a number of meetings and consultations took place in the G. A. R. Hall. It was then thought that a site for such a hall on the old Village Cemetery land, then disused, might be voted by the Town. When it was found that the school-house building committee had pre-empted the whole lot for the High School structure, all further effort ceased.

It is hoped that the day will come when something more will be done to honor our soldiers and sailors, and their services.

This sentence was written in 1899. May 6, 1901, a communication to the Board of Aldermen was received from His Honor, Mayor Larrabee, enclosing a letter from the U. S. Grant Post 4, G. A. R., relative to a proposed soldiers' and sailors' monument to be erected on the "Soldiers' Lot" in Wyoming Cemetery, suggesting that a committee from the Board of Aldermen be appointed to meet a committee of the Post, and the Cemetery Committee, to take the matter into

<i>rose Memorial: The Annals of Melrose, County of Middlesex, Massachusetts, during the Great Rebellion of 1861-65, to furnish a copy to every inhabitant of this town who served as a soldier or sailor in the Rebellion, now living, and a copy to the family of each of said soldiers and sailors as have deceased; also for twenty-five additional copies for the town, any of which may be</i>	given to public libraries at the discretion of the Selectmen."
<i>And on motion of Hon. Daniel W. Gooch, it was voted that the following inscription be embossed in gilt letters on the cover of each copy thus given:</i>	Presented to—(name of soldier or sailor)—by the Town of Melrose, in recognition of his services during the Great Rebellion of 1861-3.

consideration and report. Favorable action was taken, and President Robinson appointed the following committee: Aldermen Marshall, Page, Goss, Day and Barton. The members of the other committees were as follows: George P. Marsh, Alfred Hocking and Frank T. Palmer of the Post, and John P. Deering, Oscar F. Frost and L. Henry Kunhardt, Cemetery Committee. Through the kindness of Hon. John D. Long, Secretary of the Navy, aided by Representative Ernest W. Roberts, the Post succeeded in obtaining from the United States Government, the permanent loan of three thirty-pound Parrott guns, and twelve twelve-inch shells.

With this material a handsome design for a monument, with granite base, was submitted to and adopted by the united committees at a meeting held May 14, and by a unanimous vote, the Aldermanic Committee was requested to report to the Board of Aldermen, a recommendation that the design be adopted, and an appropriation of \$750 be asked for, with which to prepare a suitable foundation on said "Soldiers' Lot," and that the monument be erected thereon. This committee reported to the Board of Aldermen, and at a meeting held June 3, 1901, this sum of \$750 was unanimously appropriated, by the following vote:

That for the purpose of commemorating the deeds of valor and self sacrifice of those who so unselfishly gave their lives or rendered loyal service for their country in the dark days of the Rebellion, it is hereby ordered that a monument, substantially in accordance with a plan numbered 1, as submitted by U. S. Grant Post No. 4, G. A. R., be erected on the Soldiers' Lot in Wyoming Cemetery, and that the sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750) be and is hereby appropriated to pay for the cost and the erection of said monument, and for grading the lot thereof; the work to be done under the direction of His Honor the Mayor.

Ordered further that in order to provide for the foregoing appropriation the City Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to borrow the sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750) and issue the note or notes of the City therefor, payable within one year from date of issue, with interest not exceeding four (4) per cent. per annum.

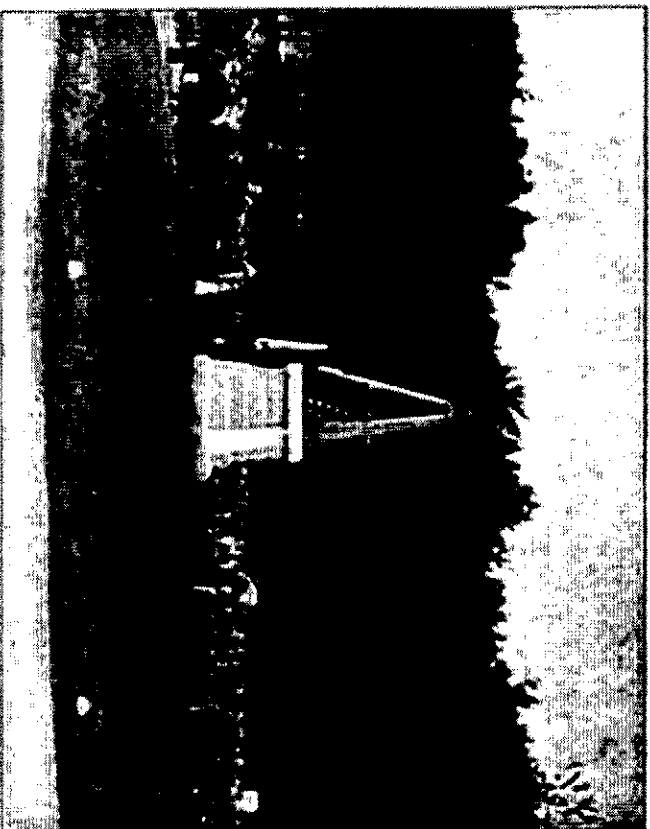
This design as adopted was made by Virgil W. Fuller, upon the basis of a \$550 appropriation. When he learned that the amount appropriated was \$750, he submitted a new and more elaborate design, which was the one finally adopted at a meeting of the various committees, with His Honor, Mayor

MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS.

268

Larrabee, in his office, August 7, 1901. Under his direction, bids were solicited, the contract awarded to Joss Brothers Company of Quincy, the lowest bidder, and the monument erected.

The base is of Quincy granite, and bears the date of the Great Rebellion, "1861-65." There is no other inscription.



SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

The three Parrott Rifles, which form so unique a part of the monument, have a history closely connected with the war; one being in use on the U. S. S. "Sophronia," in the Potomac flotilla, one on the U. S. S. "Juka," and one on the U. S. S. "Trefoil." They weigh respectively 3,510, 3,500 and 3,490 pounds; a total of 10,450 pounds. An account of the dedicatory services is given under "Old Home Week" observances.