
DIVISION IV

THE ROSE

EPISODE ONE

PRESIDENT LOOMIS AND THE CIVIL WAR, 1861

[From all sides, women and girls gather about the rock at the back of stage, looking off left as if expecting something. In the distance, intermittently, the roll of a drum is heard. Two small boys rush in from the right, across the back of the stage and disappear at left. Suddenly, keeping step to the music of the band, the College boys appear at upper left. As they come into sight, PRESIDENT LOOMIS and six of the FACULTY appear on the steps of Bentley Hall. The waiting women flutter their handkerchiefs. As the troops come nearer, they break into applause and even faint cheering. Four small boys are running ahead of the procession, now and then looking back, and frantically waving their hats. Just before the collegians reach center back, the women hurry down and form a double row from the roadway nearly to the stage, facing each other. As each line of the collegians passes the steps where PRESIDENT LOOMIS stands, they salute. The PRESIDENT and FACULTY respond. The collegians, halting, form in open order. Then the entire group, four lines of men and two of women, come down together at quick step. The women are fluttering their handkerchiefs. All are singing

CENTENARY PAGEANT

Oh! kind folks listen to my song,
It is no idle story,
It's all about a volunteer,
Who's goin' to fight for glory;
Now don't you think that I am right?
For I am nothing shorter.
And I belong to the Fire Zou, Zous,
And don't you think I oughter?
We're goin' down to Washington
To fight for Abraham's daughter.

Oh! should you ask me who she am,
Columbia is her name, sir;
She is the child of Abraham,
Or Uncle Sam, the same, sir.
Now if I fight, why ain't I right?
And don't you think I oughter?
The volunteers are a-pouring in
From ev'ry loyal quarter,
And I'm goin' 'long to Washington
To fight for Abraham's daughter.¹

As was the case historically, the students are not in uniform, but in grey or red shirts, ordinary trousers, and all sorts of hats. A few have guns, some have old knapsacks, nearly all have rolls of red or grey blankets, or quilts. A few carry bundles of clothes. As the song ends, the Captain quickly draws up his men in two lines on each side. Simultaneously, PRESIDENT LOOMIS and the FACULTY come down and stand at the upper side of the hollow square]

PRESIDENT LOOMIS. Members of Company I of the 39th Regiment of the 10th Reserve of Pennsylvania Volunteers, we have gathered here for some fitting farewell

¹The Raw Recruits, a well-known army of the Civil War period.

ALLEGHENY COLLEGE

exercises. Some of the young ladies of Meadville, ever thoughtful of your comfort, have prepared for you some gifts which shall help to alleviate the hardships of the march and the camp. Miss MacFarland.

[She steps forward, blushing and perturbed, holding in her hand two baskets]

MISS MACFARLAND. Gentlemen—students. Oh dear, I don't know what to call you—Soldier Boys! I am here as the chosen representative of the Young Ladies' Sewing League to hand you two gifts. The first, these *[She holds up one]* are Handy Betties. Each contains thread, needles, pins and scissors, everything that clumsy man least knows how to use, and most often goes for to mother or sister. These are given you so that when mothers and sisters are far away, you may not go in rags.

[She passes each basket to a young woman. These let two others take Betties from the baskets. Then all four pass down the line rapidly distributing them. There is applause from the recruits, but there are also amused looks.]

MISS MACFARLAND. *[While the distribution is going on, four other young women have stepped to the front with large packages they have taken from the baskets]* And these have been made to protect your poor necks from the broiling southern sun. They are to be worn, fitted over the military caps which will be given you when you reach Pittsburgh. They are called havelocks. When you wear them under southern skies, remember that with every stitch there was a kindly thought for you, and that the makers will not forget you—never, never. *[Unable to go on, she rushes into the arms of one of her friends nearby]*

[The havelocks are distributed. Some of them are put on to the great amusement of the boys and some of the spectators.]

CENTENARY PAGEANT

When the Captain calls "Attention," all the havelocks are taken off and stored in the rolls. There is a murmur of disappointment from some of the women]

PRESIDENT LOOMIS. Captain Ayre has asked me to state that, as I am to review the company as it leaves, the havelocks for which the troops are deeply grateful, may not, by military etiquette be worn at once.

And now we come to perhaps the most interesting part of our ceremony. The local branch of the United States Sanitary Commission has deputed two of its members to do you special honor. Miss Martha Ellis, a rising young poetess, who has hitherto hidden her light under a bushel, has written some lines for this occasion. These the members of the Sanitary Commission here assembled will sing to the air, "The Belle of the Mohawk Vale." Miss Ellis.

[Miss Ellis, simpering, steps to the front amid applause. The women sing]

O, sad is the vale where the Cussewago flows,
And sad are our hearts today;
The drum beats the roll and the calling bugle blows
For the boys who are marching away.

Dear Alleghe will be lonely on the hill,
And sweethearts will be lonely too;
For they're marching, marching, marching far away;
Farewell to the boys in blue.

O, faces so dear, we shall miss you when we stroll
Down these paths that you once made so gay;
Your mothers and loved ones are praying heart and soul
That no one is leaving for aye.

ALLEGHENY COLLEGE

Dear Alleghe may stay lonely on the hill,
And sweethearts may stay lonely too;
For they're marching, marching, marching far away;
Farewell to the boys in blue.

The men hum the second verse and refrain]

PRESIDENT LOOMIS. *[As they finish and the applause dies]*
Now, Miss Hattie Bain, of the Commission, has a message for you.

[Miss BAIN steps forward with the United States flag bearing on it the words "Semper Fidelis"]

MISS BAIN. *[Hesitatingly at first and then more firmly]*
Boys of Allegheny, I bring you this, the flag of your country, as a gift from those who have known and loved you, and who are thrilled by your patriotic response to your country's call. We entrust it to your hands—
[She passes it to the color sergeant, the men saluting]
Go where it leads. Never fail it. Carry it to victory.

[The band breaks into the "Star Spangled Banner." All sing it.]

As the song ends, PRESIDENT LOOMIS and the FACULTY pass quickly between the columns, saluted as they go. They take up a position at stage left]

PRESIDENT LOOMIS. Students of Allegheny, more than once have I been proud of the College I serve and of its students, but never so proud as this afternoon. In a few hours you embark here on the canal for Pittsburgh. There, in the great army camp, you will learn the manual of arms, you will be put into the costume of your country's Army, you will be hardened into trained soldiers. Your country has called, and you go to serve her. You go to prove that if Allegheny has placed ideals of

CENTENARY PAGEANT

service before you, you stand ready to serve. All over this country in these days, men from youth to middle life, are leaving homes they love and tasks they have found absorbing because of their honest love, their adoration even, for the country which has made possible their success. Patriotism, fine, deep, uplifting, is everywhere, and here today we are a part of the great uplift of this nation. I can compare it to nothing but the response of Isaiah, when, in the vision, the Lord said "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" and Isaiah answered, "Here am I, Lord, send me." This beautiful flag has just been placed in your care. The stars there symbolize the union of states for which you are prepared to give your utmost—even yourselves. Remember that flag has never yet gone down to ultimate defeat. To all that flag symbolizes, be faithful, each of you—always faithful—even unto death.

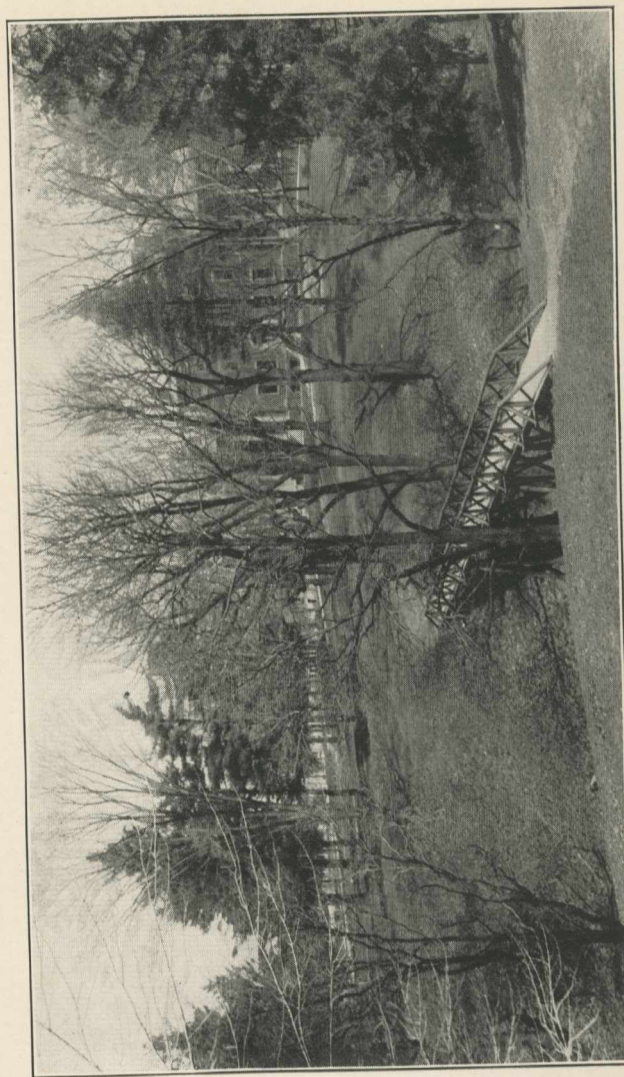
[He raises his hands in benediction. For a moment all stand hushed. There is sobbing from one or two of the women. Then, at a sharp order from the Captain, the men step down and pass the PRESIDENT, saluting as they go. The women and children, waving handkerchiefs, laughing, and applauding, some of them crying, follow them to the gate and so all disappear]

EPISODE TWO

FINALE

[Singing "Alma Mater Beatissima," the Senior Class enters four and four. As they move down stage they form the word "ALLEGHENY" first up and down stage and then across it. Just as they take up their final positions, Allegheny, a tall, female figure in blue and gold comes down between them from Bentley Hall. As she enters at the center door, Faith follows on her right and Hope on her left. As the three figures reach the lower step, they are joined from one side by Sacred Learning, and from the other by Learning Not Sacred. As they move forward, a group of figures in cap and gown, Her Faculty, follow her from Bentley. Coming well to the front, Allegheny waves her hand imperiously, and from the Senior Class steps forward Memory, who in turn summons History from the Class. History waves commandingly. In order the following groups come into sight]

- I. Washington, followed by the Meadville Blues and survivors of the Meadville Dragoons.
- II. Timothy Alden, leading the founders; Roger Alden, General Mead, John Reynolds, Samuel Lord, etc. From Sacred Learning, T. Alden takes a lighted torch, a second from Learning Not Sacred. Coming to the front, he places these in the hands of Allegheny, who passes them to Faith and Hope.
- III. The ladies of 1820 from the Scene of Bentley Hall.



THE CAMPUS FROM THE OBSERVATORY

CENTENARY PAGEANT

- IV. Survivors of the Meadville Greys, Saegertown Guards and the Cussewago Rifles. Women and children of the period follow these.
- V. Women of the Civil War Period.
- VI. Converts of missionaries from Allegheny. T. Alden heads this procession. He is followed by American Indians. Behind him comes President Ruter and Vice-President Simpson, followed by Texans and Mexicans, Negroes and East Indians.
- VII. When these are in position, a group in Confederate grey, Allegheny students who served the South in the Civil War, meet five volunteers in khaki of the Spanish War of '98, and gravely salute.

- VIII. Then, like a flying wedge, forty-five girls, representing the years of co-education at Allegheny College, enter and march to the front. Each is in the costume of her year.

History now bids the recent years since 1893 appear. They come from the Memory group to Allegheny bearing gifts, models of the buildings, etc., symbols of the great growth in recent years. This done, the figures march and countermarch to what has been the motif of the Pageant, the song, "Alone and Yet Not All Alone." Finishing this, they stand for an instant silent, and then break into the anthem specially written for the occasion, "The Wilderness Shall Blossom Like the Rose."

When this is done, the groups march off, till Allegheny is left on the steps of Bentley with the two Learnings, Faith, Hope, Memory and His-

ALLEGHENY COLLEGE

tory grouped about her. Taking the torches from Faith and Hope Allegheny hands them to the figures heading the line of Seniors. Singing, they pass out behind Bentley. Last of all, the allegorical figures disappear through the center door of Bentley—and the Pageant is done.

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