September 8, 1843.
AUTOGRAPHS OF

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Edward Theodore Cushing.
April 6, 1869.
Memorial Services
MEMORIAL SERVICES

At Plymouth Church, Chicago, memorial services were held on Wednesday evening, April 14th, 1909. Personal remarks were made by Mr. James R. Chapman, Mrs. Joseph A. Milburn, Dr. Julius C. Armstrong, Mrs. B. F. Nourse and Dr. James H. Stowell.

Outside the home circle, many of us find our best and most faithful friends within the church. Here we meet as members of a family, not only to exchange greetings, but to share each other’s burdens, to give freely of our love and sympathy, and to unite in many kinds of work for the alleviation of suffering and the betterment of mankind.

This room in which we have gathered tonight has sacred memories and associations. As I look back over twenty-five years I recall many sweet and beautiful spirits who have been associated with this church who have gone to their rest; indeed, there are more members of Plymouth “over yonder” than there are remaining with us tonight. It has been a privilege to know them, and I am sure we should altogether miss the meaning of this memorial service if we should let sadness take possession of our hearts while we think of our friend.
I have known Mr. Cushing for many years, but not intimately. To me he has always appeared serious minded, bearing in his presence a reserve through which I have been able only at times to get glimpses of the man. I therefore am not qualified to speak of those intimate virtues which he possessed, and which won for him the respect and love of those who knew him best. My acquaintance with him has been exclusively in connection with the work and welfare of Plymouth Church, whose loyal friend he has been, as you all know, for many years. He possessed many virtues. I shall speak of but one, a homely one, not mentioned in Holy Scriptures, nevertheless, most admirable—the virtue of consistency. I should call him a consistent Christian gentleman.

Years ago he made, with his confession of faith, certain promises to this church, and he has kept them faithfully. Alas! How many of us neglect them! If we were so faithless in our dealings with our fellows, would we not lose their regard?

Mr. Cushing has not only never failed Plymouth Church in times of financial emergency, but he has been a most consistent member in every way. He was always in his place on the Sabbath day, at the prayer service, coming from a long distance, often in most inclement weather, an usher for many years, which required his presence at the church at an early hour, and a frequent visitor at the Sabbath School. Plymouth was dear to his heart, and I wish to hold him before you tonight as an example of a consistent churchman. Death has taken him from our midst, but—"We are all guests in God's great house, the Universe, and death is but His page to show us to the chamber where we sleep. What though the bed be dust, to wake is sure."

J. R. C.

Though I have not known Mr. Cushing as long as many of you here, yet I should like to add my tribute to one so faithful and so true. Often have I sat beside him in the prayer meeting, and always found him cheerful, kind and courteous. I have listened to his earnest prayers and felt their sincerity. I have sung from the same hymn book, and always knew I would hear a pleasant word, and not one of complaint, when the service was over.

One day soon after I came here, Mr. Cushing told me of a friend on the North Side.
who wished to see me. "Go soon," he said, "we may not have her with us long." She is still here, though nearly ninety years old, and often I thank him for telling me of her wish to see me.

In social, in family, and in church life, I found Mr. Cushing always thoughtful, earnest, kind and courteous. We shall all miss him, and especially in these rooms.

L. McD. M.

In the death of Mr. Edward Theodore Cushing we have lost a true and helpful friend and brother.

I shall always prize his kindness and thoughtfulness for me personally. His friendship was most precious. I recall with profound thankfulness our delightful interviews as we took our noonday luncheons together and conferred over the interests of the Kingdom which we were toiling to advance.

His death in the midst of his usefulness is a great loss to all our benevolent work. He became a director of our Chicago City Missionary Society in 1895 and served continually until ill health compelled him to resign in 1907. He served with great faithfulness on the most important committees, and was the society's efficient president for two years. The society's treasury was enriched, by his generous donations in property and cash, $21,950.00. The society, of which he was a prominent and most devoted member, and the dependent churches under the society's care, owe him a lasting debt of gratitude.

Nor did he confine his benefactions to one worthy cause. He was a director for two years, and until his death the president, of the Ministerial Relief Association of Illinois, a society whose object it is to care for indigent ministers and the needy families of those whose death has left them dependent.

He was interested also in the National Missionary cause of our denomination. All of these organizations had a place in his large-hearted benefactions. Others will speak of his great usefulness to his home church, of which he was an exceedingly important and able office bearer.

May his mantle fall speedily upon other shoulders, that the causes that he loved may not suffer, and that the Kingdom of God may prevail to the ends of the earth.

J. C. A.
I esteem it a privilege to add my tribute of love to the memory of Mr. E. T. Cushing, who has always been such a bright example of a true Christian. He was noble, generous and true. Full of zeal for the Master. His bright example has ever been an inspiration to me. We are missing him in every department of Plymouth Church. But though the clouds may sometimes hover over us, as a church, we shall always feel the sunshine of his smile.

Mrs. B. F. N.

Edward Theodore Cushing belonged to the type of Christian of the generation now passing, strong in his convictions of right and wrong, consistent in his life, and faithful in his devotion to home and church.

I have known Mr. Cushing about thirty years. He was one of the loyal guards of Plymouth Church, and a few days before his final leave-taking, as he held my hands, he spoke feelingly of his love for the church and her people; and he deeply appreciated the many expressions of love sent him from members of Plymouth.

We who met him so often in the councils of the church know with what fidelity he lived up to his convictions and his ideal of a Christian. We know how he went about doing good, weekly visiting the aged, the sick and needy ones in and out of the church. We know with what a lavish hand he gave to every good cause. His lamp was always trimmed and burning, never without oil. He was faithful to the end.

We of Plymouth Church who knew and loved Mr. Cushing must take up the work where he, at the Master’s bidding, laid it down, and with a like spirit of devotion and earnestness carry it forward, knowing that in due time we shall enter into the joy of the Lord.

J. H. S.
Resolutions of Condolence
ARCHITECTURAL IRON LEAGUE

In Memoriam

Whereas, It has pleased the Divine Ruler of the Universe to take from our midst our well beloved fellow member and friend, Mr. Edward T. Cushing, on Tuesday, April the sixth;

Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the members of the Architectural Iron League at a special meeting held April eighth, nineteen hundred and nine, take this opportunity to express their deep sympathy to his family in their great bereavement, and to show their high affection and respect for his sterling character; and it is further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the records of the Architectural Iron League, and a copy also be engrossed and sent to the family of the deceased.

A. E. COLEMAN,

LOUIS VIERLING,

President.

Secretary.

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THE CONGREGATIONAL CLUB OF CHICAGO

I have the honor to advise you that the following memorial was unanimously adopted at a meeting of the Chicago Congregational Club held April 19, 1909:

It is proper the Chicago Congregational Club should record its loss in the passing of another and earnest member, Edward Theodore Cushing.

Born in Chicago in 1845, of parents whose strong religious convictions moulded his early life, strengthened his youth, and laid the foundation for the mature man, whose earnest, straightforward, positive Christian character we all admired, Mr. Cushing belonged to that class of Christians now passing. He was strong in his convictions of right and wrong, beautifully consistent in his life, and faithful in his devotion to home and church. He visited the poor and needy, the sick and sorrowing ones, and ministered to their wants. For twenty years he was a member of the Chicago City Missionary Society, and for two years its president. He gave to the society, during his connection with it, $25,000.00. He was president of the Illinois Ministerial Relief Association at the time of his death. For fifty-one years he was a member of Plymouth Church, and for many years one of its deacons, and always a generous contributor.

His lamp was always trimmed and burning, never without oil, and when the Master called, he was ready, “faithful unto the end.”

A. F. ALLEN,
Secretary.
THE MINISTERIAL RELIEF ASSOCIATION

Resolved, That by the death of Mr. Edward Theodore Cushing, the Ministerial Relief Association of Illinois has lost a very devoted and helpful president and director. The care of the aged and crippled ministers and their destitute families found a warm advocate and true friend in our departed brother. He was always ready to do anything in his power to alleviate the sufferings and provide for the wants of the veterans in the ministry, whose labors in small out-of-the-way parishes had brought such meager support that nothing could be laid aside for old age or a “rainy day.”

His death is a serious loss to all our denominational interests. We shall miss him in our conferences as we meet to plan for those who are dependent upon this society for a part of their living expenses, and we shall miss him as we gather to help other benevolent causes.

We hereby tender to his afflicted wife and daughter our sincere sympathy. We commend them to the care of our covenant keeping God whose love and mercy extend to all His children.

HENRY M. WALKER,
Secretary.

STOCK YARDS DAY NURSERY ASSOCIATION

Mrs. E. T. Cushing:

Dear Friend: At a meeting of the Stock Yards Day Nursery Association, held Friday, May 7th, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, God in His wisdom has called our beloved patron and associate member, Mr. E. T. Cushing, to enter the higher life, be it

Resolved, That in his being taken from our midst, this association has lost one of its earliest and most earnest supporters.

Resolved, That we extend to his wife and daughter our most earnest and heartfelt sympathy in this time of great sorrow and bereavement, and may our Heavenly Father comfort and sustain them.

Resolved, That these resolutions be placed on file and a copy sent to his family.

Very respectfully,

FRANCES D. KELLOGG,
Corresponding Secretary.
LADIES' AID SOCIETY OF REYNOLDS CHURCH

My Dear Mrs. Cushing,

It has only been a few days since I wrote a little note of cheer and comfort to Mr. Cushing, and we had so hoped he might be given back to us again in his health. But God in His own way has taken him away.

The ladies of the Aid Society wish again to express their deep love and sympathy to you. My dear Mrs. Cushing, I wish that I might say some little word to lessen the burden you have.

All I can do is to let you know we are thinking of you and that we shall continue to keep your name before Him. In this our hearts and in our lives it has made us all better to have known him and his quiet, pleasing way.

Again believe us,
Most sincere friends,

WILLIAM T. CUSHING,
Secretary.

Letters of Condolence
LADIES' AID SOCIETY OF PLYMOUTH
CHURCH

My Dear Mrs. Cushing:

It has only been a few days since I wrote a little note of cheer and comfort to Mr. Cushing, and we had so hoped he might be given back to us again in his health, but God in His own way has taken him away.

The ladies of the Aid Society wish again to express their deep love and sympathy to you.

My dear Mrs. Cushing, I wish that I might say some little word to lessen the burden you bear. All I can do is to let you know we are thinking of you, and would love to help you.

Mr. Cushing was a dear friend to us all and it has made us all better to have known him and his quiet, pleasing way.

Again believe us,

Most sincere friends,

CORA B. CUBBINS,
Secretary.
THE KENWOOD CLUB

Dear Mrs. Cushing:

I have been authorized by the Board of Directors of the Kenwood Club to convey in their behalf expression of their deep regret and sincere sympathy in the death of your husband, one of the club's highly esteemed and oldest members. My personal participation in this message you already are aware of. I have myself in late years repeatedly felt the benefit of association with his strong and rugged character, and was probably better acquainted than most people with the great kindness of heart which was one of his conspicuous attributes. His nobility of character was beyond question. The loss of such a man cannot be confined to local circles, being, on the other hand, bounded only by the limits of his wide acquaintanceship. He has left behind him a good name and good works, which nothing can efface.

Respectfully and most sincerely,

ROBERT McDOUGAL,
President.
Dear Mrs. Cushing:

I have been authorized by the Board of Directors of the Harvard Club to convey to you the messages of their opinion of your services to the club, highly esteemed and valued members. My personal participation in this message you already are aware of. I have found in two years of service the highest consideration with the highest esteem for your services, and the greatest respect for your character. You have been a valuable member of the Harvard Club, which was one of the most successful enterprises.

The quality of character was unimpeachable. The best of your a vast range in conduct to conduct, leading to the way of our life and its achievements. He has left behind him a good name and good works, which nothing can efface.

Respectfully and most sincerely,

[Signature]

Personal Reminiscences
My first acquaintance with my Cousin Edward was in the winter of 1854. He was then nine years of age. The chief characteristics in his makeup at that time were substantially the same as in the later years of his life. Loyalty to his friends was perhaps his leading trait, and he always had the courage of his convictions; money, favors, never could swerve him a jot from his idea of a principle. He was faithful in the most minute detail to any trust imposed upon him, onerous as it might be.

His first experience in business was unusually severe, and although but a child in years at the time, he was true and manly, and showed the kind of mettle calculated to make him win his way in the world.

In his youth he was generous to a fault, and when he grew to manhood the tender devotion and affection shown in the care of his mother was most touching. During all the ten years she was with us he never failed to write her twice each week.

I was so closely associated with him that I have often remarked that he was more like a brother than a cousin, and I loved him for his many ennobling qualities of mind and heart.

CHARLES S. CUSHING.
II.

I made Mr. Cushing’s acquaintance in Plymouth Church and Sunday School when he was a lad of fourteen.

Within the next three or four years I was an inmate of his father’s family for six months. The friendship then formed has continued unbroken through the years—and in looking back over them, I realize how truly in his case the boy was father to the man.

As was said at his funeral, “People always knew where to find Mr. Cushing.” That was true of him in manhood, and just as true in boyhood and youth. After he was old enough to make up his mind what was right and wrong—what he believed to be right, that he adhered to, no matter what others might think.

My first clear memory of him was in Sunday School, where as assistant librarian he was always at his post, painstaking and obliging.

Uniting with the church young, he seemed to realize more than some do, that it meant not only privilege—but duty and obligation as well. He was not there to be carried along.

A regular attendant upon church and prayer meeting, the habit thus formed lasted through life.

It was not only a duty but a pleasure for him to give of his income to every good cause, so far as he could.

It was not very long after he went to work for himself, and while his salary was but six hundred dollars a year, that a meeting was called to raise money for the purchase of a lot for a new church building. After several had spoken and made their pledges, he very modestly said, “I will give fifty dollars.” I never shall forget the look on his father’s face as he said, “I was so glad to hear Edward say what he did in that meeting.” He felt, as we all did, that it was a good deal for him to give, as he was already a contributor to the various benevolences of the church.

Then in the home his filial and fraternal love was strong and true, and his memory of his dead mother an abiding influence. He said to me once, with regard to a certain amusement, “I wonder if my mother could speak to me from Heaven, what she would say about it.” That thought kept him upon the safe side of the question.
His sister once told me of the indignation, as he told her of a neighbor's son who had asked him to join him in an excursion through some of the dark places of this city, that they might see for themselves its wickedness. I can imagine the fine scorn with which the proposal was rejected, though I have forgotten the words in which it was expressed.

His love for children was always marked. I remember his bringing his little year-old niece three miles in a slow going horse car to give her an outing. I wondered how many young men of his age would have taken the time and risked the chance of her getting frightened and crying. I said something of the kind, and he smiled, and said, he didn't think she would cry, but if she did, he thought other people could stand it if he and the baby could.

What a true and loyal friend he always was. How kind and helpful if one was in trouble, and so sure to help in the best way many of us knew — and I believe that he finds true Heaven's beatitude,

"The old delight of doing good."

E. V. R.
His sister once told me of the fatigues, as he told her of a neighbor's son who had taken him in an excursion through some of the dark places of this city, that they might not fall into bad ways. I still imagine the fine room with which the people were received, though I have forgotten the worth in which it was expected.

His love for children was always moving; I remember his bringing his little girl-on-old two three miles in a slow gait home not to give for an outing. I wonder how many young ones of his age would have taken the time and trouble of her getting brightened and singing. I wish something of the kind, and by section, and tell, but I don't think she would say too if she did. I thought other people could do it if he and the baby could.

When a true and loyal friend is doing, you know and feel it. I was very pleased if one was in trouble, and we can not help the year after year of an increasing number of that sort, true friends.
THE ADVANCE, CHICAGO

Mr. Edward Theodore Cushing died at his residence on the South Side of Chicago on Tuesday, April 6, after an illness of two months. Mr. Cushing was born in the heart of the older part of Chicago in 1845. He became a Christian early in life and has been a power for good in all the movements of our Congregational fellowship for more than two score years. He was a member of Plymouth Church, a deacon and chairman of its Board of Trustees. For more than a score of years he was an honored and very valuable director of the Chicago City Missionary Society, and for two years its president. At the time of his death he was the president of the Illinois Ministerial Relief Association. To both of these organizations he rendered by his counsel and generous gifts exceedingly valuable help. He was interested in all the larger activities of our denomination. Mr. Cushing’s name was a synonym for upright and honorable dealing in his business. It can be said of him as was said of his great Master, “He went about doing good.” His death takes out of our Congregational circles an exceedingly useful and devoted Christian layman. He leaves a widow and daughter to mourn his death.
Edward Theodore Cushing, 63 years old, died at his residence, 4820 Greenwood Avenue, Tuesday, after an illness of two months. He was born in 1845 on the corner of Wabash Avenue and Adams Street in the house at that time owned and occupied by his father, and has resided in Chicago all his life. His home in Kenwood he built in 1884, where he has since resided. His father's family came from Thetford, Vermont, and his mother's family from Hebron, Conn.

Mr. Cushing was a deacon in the Plymouth Congregational Church and an active worker in the Chicago City Missionary Society. He was also a member of the Union League and Kenwood Clubs.

Mr. Cushing had been secretary and treasurer of the Dearborn Foundry Company since its incorporation, in 1883.

He is survived by his wife and one daughter.

Funeral services will be held at his late residence, 4820 Greenwood Avenue, Friday afternoon at two o'clock. Interment will be at Oakwoods.