

## Temperance Lodge Letter to Mrs. Paterson

Author: Unknown

Date: August 25th, 1940

Source: Mr. and Mrs. Collins F. Kindred collection

Smithville, Missouri  
August 25th, 1940

Dear Mrs. Paterson:

As a slight token of our esteem for you; and one whose memory is enshrined in the hearts of all his brethren, we present you this boquet [sic] of American Beauties as a symbol of the love and affection in which he was held by every member of our Lodge.

May their pure and untarnished beauty be an ever present reminder of his unblemished purity of life and rectitude of conduct; an ever present argument of his noble deeds, higher thoughts, and purere [sic] action.

And when at last your weary feet shall have reached the end of their toilsome journey, and from your nerveless grasp shall fall forever the working tools of life; may the record of your life be as pure and spotless as these fair emblems.

He gave much of his time to us in devotion to our cause. We owe to you a grateful acknowledgement for his social companionship and service, and mingle our love for him with yours, his near and dear companion.

When future generations of Free Masons shall come to survey the character of Brother Paterson they will find it rising like a huge mountain above the undulation plain of humanity, and they must lift their eyes high toward heaven to catch it's [sic] summit. He possessed every virtue of the great without their vices. He was a foe without a hate; a friend without treachery. He was a private citizen without wrong, a neighbor without hypocrisy [sic] and a man without guile. He was gentle as a woman in life, and modest and pure as a virgin in thought.

Please accept this boquet [sic] of sweet forget-me-nots as a slight token of our love and esteem for our distinguished brother, whose memory continues to radiate Masonic light, in the Lodge he loved so well.

Fraternally,  
Temperance Lodge No. 438