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# The National Dorothea Dix Memorial Association

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The National

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Dorothea Dix

Memorial

Association



Dorothea Lynde Dix was born at Hampden, Maine, April 4, 1802. She was educated at the home of her grandmother in Boston; here, even when a child, by establishing a school in the barn chamber for the poor, neglected children, she began her life work of love and sacrifice. To the improvement of methods for the treatment of the insane and to the alleviation of suffering she devoted her early womanhood. At the breaking out of the Civil War, though nearly sixty years of age, she entered Washington with the wounded soldiers from Baltimore as a volunteer nurse. Her services were accepted by Secretary Cameron, who appointed her superintendent of the women nurses. Without waiting for the government, in its distracted state, Miss Dix provided her own means of operation by laying upon her country's altar not only herself but her fortune. At her own expense she hired two houses in Washington, to be used as headquarters for nurses and convalescent soldiers as well as for depositories of supplies, for which she was constantly appealing to the people. During the four long years of the war she took not a day's furlough, even remaining at the Capital eighteen months afterward, that she might fulfill the promises made to her dying soldiers, in behalf of their mothers, wives and children; and when others had failed in the enterprise, she collected \$8,000 and superintended the building of a monument to the memory of the nation's heroes sleeping at Fortress Monroe.

Inasmuch as Miss Dix builded for others, not for herself, and in order that her deeds of self-sacrifice and love may not fade from the nation's memory, the National Dorothea Dix Memorial Association was organized at Hampden, April 15, 1899. Though it is incorporated under the laws of Maine, it is national in its scope. The Association now owns the tract of land on the banks of the Penobscot River including the birth-place of Miss Dix. July 4, 1899, by the erection of a liberty pole, with fitting ceremony, the riverside farm, now a wild pasture land, was dedicated the Dorothea Dix Park. Here the flag Miss Dix loved and honored has since floated to her memory.

It is the design of the National Dorothea Dix Memorial Association to appropriately decorate the park and to erect a monument to the memory of Miss Dix.

The society would have the monument represent the free-will offering, not of a few generous contributors alone, but of the many—the widow's mite and the penny of the child. Miss Dix worked for humanity and do not all in turn owe her a debt of gratitude.

By the payment of one dollar any person may become a life member of the National Dorothea Dix Association; by the payment of twenty-five dollars an honorary member. Societies, clubs, schools and other organizations may become life members by the payment of two dollars; honorary members by the payment of twenty-five dollars. There are no annual dues.

The names of all members, individuals or societies, are to be written upon an Honor Roll which is to be kept among the archives of the association and a copy of the same placed under the monument. The name of any child or adult contributing five cents toward the funds of the society will be written upon the Honor Roll.

Membership fees or other contributions may be sent to the treasurer, Mrs. Jane H. Spofford, Hampden Corner, or to the president, Mrs. Helen Coffin Beedy, 208 Essex St., Bangor, Maine.

You are most cordially invited to aid in the enterprise by becoming a member of the association.



## TRUSTEES.

### THE NATIONAL DOROTHEA DIX MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION.

Mrs. Jane H. Spofford,	Mrs. Helen Coffin Beedy,
Mrs. Louisa M. Reed,	Mrs. Hannibal Hamlin,
Mrs. Ada C. Patten,	Mrs. Alice M. Hodgdon,
Mrs. Annie C. Burleigh,	Mrs. Helen A. Harriman,
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