

*The Evening Star*, Washington, D.C., Wednesday, March 30, 1921  
(RE: President Warren G. Harding message at Ezekiel's Arlington funeral)

## SCULPTOR-SOLDIER REINTERRED HERE

Sir Moses Ezekiel Buried With Military Honors in Arlington.

Military pomp and Masonic ceremonies combined to make noteworthy the interment in Arlington at 2 o'clock this afternoon of the late Sir Moses Ezekiel, sculptor, musician and soldier, who died in Rome in 1917, and who designed the Confederate monument, which stands in the national cemetery. This is said to mark the first occasion of the use of the memorial amphitheater in honor of a man who was not pre-eminently a soldier.

John W. Weeks, Secretary of War, delivered an address; the United States Marine Band furnished music while a guard of honor from the Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, Va., was on duty. Sir Moses was a cadet at this institution during the civil war and as such fought at New Market, Va., May 15, 1864, when the cadet corps, acting as reserves, suffered heavy casualties. This special guard, composed of W. H. Clarkson, H. D. Lee, A. J. Orme, G. McKellar, R. M. C. Pate, J. H. Sedwich, W. T. Wilson and L. Womeldorf, clad in ornate full dress uniform of cadet gray, lent an impressive touch.

### **President sends letter.**

A letter from the President of the United States was read by Mrs. Marion Butler, chairman of the special committee of the United Daughters of the Confederacy which, together with the Arlington Confederate Monument Association, arranged the ceremonies. In his letter the President characterized Ezekiel as "a great Virginian, a great artist, a great American and a great citizen of world fame."

"Ezekiel will be remembered," the President wrote, "as one who knew how to translate the glories of his own time and people into that language of art which is common to all peoples and all times. He served his state in the conflict that threatened to divide and that at last served to unify our country. He accepted the verdict of the civil war's arbitrament with all the fine generosity that has been characteristic of both the north and south; and the splendid product of his art, that here testifies to our nation's reunion, will stand from this day forth as guardian over his ashes."

### **Virginia His Inspiration.**

"Ezekiel was a native of Virginia and Virginia was always his first inspiration as it has been to so many of its devoted sons and daughters," Mr. Harding continued. "To that inspiration are due such of his sculptures as the Washington, the Jefferson, the Robert E. Lee and the noble group 'Virginia Mourning for Her Dead.' To it, likewise, we owe the monument before which you are today laying his dust for its eternal rest; a monument simply dedicated by the United Daughters of the Confederacy to 'Our Dead Heroes.'

"Every line and curve and expression carries the plea for a truly united nation that may be equal to the burdens of these exacting times. It speaks to us the ardent wish, the untiring purpose, to help make our people one people, secure in independence, dedicated to freedom, and ever ready to lend the hand of confident strength in aid of the oppressed and needy. Its long-drawn shadows of earliest morn and latest evening will always fall on sacred soil. The genius that produced, the love that gave, the devotion that will cherish it will forever be numbered among our ennobling possessions.

### **Recognition World Wide.**

"Ezekiel was able to find inspiration in the men and women and humanities of his own time, without going back to the outworn models of a pagan age. 'Provincial, enough to cling to these realities, he wrought them into works which compelled the recognition of the chief art schools and won the honors of nations and cities that boasted of being the homes of sculpture's best traditions. Crowned with these honors, he turned his thoughts to his own country, and as the final and finest product of his talents gave to us the monument that from this day will mark his resting place. It is the memorial of reunited America the testimony to the tradition of indissoluble union, the shrine to which are gathered today, and will gather through the years to come, those who would dedicate themselves to the ideal of unselfish, enlightened, upstanding Americanism as a force for our country's maintenance and all humanity's betterment."

Rabbi David Philipson of Cincinnati, in which city Sir Moses, although living mostly in Italy where he received his title, always maintained a studio, made a speech of tribute.

Washington Centennial Lodge, No. 14, F. A. A. M., Georgie D. Hoover master, officiated in the blue lodge rites at the grave. Flowers were provided by the Washington Daughters of the Confederacy, in memory of the late Col. Hilary A. Herbert, chairman of the executive committee of the Arlington Confederate Monument Association.

### **Memorial Services Tonight.**

Memorial services in honor of the late sculptor will be held at 8 o'clock at the Scottish Rite House of the Temple, 16th and S streets northwest, under the auspices of Washington Centennial Lodge, F. A. A. M.

Mrs. Marion Butler, vice president of the Arlington Confederate Memorial Association, will preside. Rabbi Abram Simon will deliver the invocation, George Fleming Moore, sovereign commander for the southern jurisdiction of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Masons and honorary grand commander of the Orient of Italy, will give a tribute to Sir Ezekiel as a man; Henry K. Bush-Brown will eulogize him as a sculptor; Col. Robert E. Lee, grandson of the leader of the Confederate armies, will characterize him as an American and a southerner, while Senator Vittorio Rolandi Ricci, the Italian ambassador, will complete the tributes to Sir Moses as an adopted son of Italy.

Mrs. Marietta Minnigerode Andrews, wife of the late Eliphalet F. Andrews, one of Sir Ezekiel's lifelong friends, will read a poem composed by herself, while Miss Charlotte Klein will sing Bonnett's "Caprice Heroique."