

TRIBUTE TO LOTTIE L. KYIE, PAST GRAND MATRON  
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR OF NEW BRUNSWICK  
BY  
R. DONALD STEWART, PAST MOST WORTHY GRAND PATRON  
Saint John, N.B., June 13, 1962

Lottie L. Kyle was the Founder of the Order of the Eastern Star in New Brunswick. She was the first Worthy Matron of the first Chapter in the Atlantic Provinces, Victoria Chapter No.1, Woodstock; the first Worthy Matron of Frank H. Tingley Chapter No.5, Moncton; and the first Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star of New Brunswick.

She was born Charlotte Louise Barter at Avondale, Carleton County, New Brunswick, on October 13, 1873. Her parents, James A. Barter and Maria Trecia Orser, were both of United Empire Loyalist stock. The Barter ancestry was from England and the Orser ancestry from Holland. The Orser name was formerly Van Auslin. Later the Van was dropped and it became Auser, finally changing to Orser. William Orser, great grandfather of Lottie, received a grant of one thousand acres of land on the St. John River, where the Town of Hartland now stands, when he fled from the revolutionary troubles in New York state.

Lottie was the only girl born to her parents, and besides her they had ten sons. Three of the sons died in infancy, but the other seven grew to manhood and doted on their only sister.

Lottie was married to Daniel Woodworth Kyle at Avondale on November 22, 1894, and of the union were born three children, John, who lives in Montreal; Trecia, who lives in ~~Parsons~~ <sup>TRURO RIVERVIEW N.B.</sup>; and Donald, who lives in ~~Hopewell Cape~~ <sup>RIVERVIEW</sup>, N.B. All have been members of the Order of the Eastern Star. Trecia served as first secretary of Frank H. Tingley Chapter No.5, and represented her Chapter at the 17th Triennial Assembly of the General Grand Chapter held in Washington, D.C., at which time she was said to have been the youngest voting delegate who had ever attended a Triennial Assembly. Donald Kyle was recently Worthy Patron of Winston Churchill Chapter No.19, at Albert, N.B.

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D. Woodworth Kyle was an ardent Mason, and with such an example it was only natural that Sister Kyle should become interested in fraternal matters. When they were living in Woodstock, Sister Kyle journeyed to Houlton, Maine, and received the degrees of the Eastern Star in Fidelity Chapter No.32. Other Woodstock ladies did the same, and soon Sister Kyle became imbued with the idea of having a Chapter in Woodstock. She was encouraged by Sister Cora B. Putnam of Fidelity Chapter, who served as Worthy Grand Matron of Maine in the year 1909-1910, and with great vigor they embarked upon the project. A petition was despatched to the Most Worthy Grand Patron, Brother William H. Norris, of Manchester, Iowa, and he deputized Brother Albert H. Newhart, Past Grand Patron, Rockland, Maine, to organize the Chapter. On March 23, 1909, with Sister Kyle as first Worthy Matron, Victoria Chapter No.1, the sixth Chapter to be successfully established in Canada, came into being. Brother Kyle became the second Worthy Patron of the Chapter.

Later, after moving to Moncton, Sister Kyle carried her enthusiasm for the Order with her and was the means of getting another petition circulated which resulted in the formation of Frank H. Tingley Chapter No.5, and again Sister Kyle served as the first Worthy Matron.

Brother Philip A. Jerguson of Boston, while occupying the positions of Worthy Grand Sentinel and Right Worthy Associate Grand Patron of General Grand Chapter, having been duly deputized, and then as Most Worthy Grand Patron, did a great deal of work in creating new Chapters, visiting New Brunswick and Nova Scotia many times for the purpose. Finally when New Brunswick had gained eleven Chapters he proceeded to set up a Grand Chapter. There was no doubt as to who should be the first Worthy Grand Matron, and when the Grand Chapter was formed in Fredericton on November 5, 1930, Sister Kyle was installed into this high office.

The new position only served to inspire Sister Kyle to further efforts and she visited all of the Chapters and by her gentle manners and sweetness of character wielded a great influence for good. In 1931 a vacancy occurred on a Committee of General Grand Chapter and the Most Worthy Grand Matron appointed her as a substitute and in this capacity she attended the 20th Triennial Assembly in San Antonio, Texas, in November of that year.

Sister Kyle was a devoted member of the Methodist, later the United Church of Canada. She was of a very sympathetic nature, and always felt keenly for persons in sickness or adversity. On her Chapter visits she always sought out the members who were sick or otherwise afflicted.

Her husband predeceased her in August 1945, and her own death occurred at Moncton in January 1946. Her funeral was largely attended and there was an unusually large number of floral pieces. In response to a request which she had made many times, Brother R. Donald Stewart, who had served with her as Worthy Grand Patron, paid a tribute at the service. Her remains were placed in a vault and in the summer of 1946 were removed to the cemetery at Avondale, the place of her birth, and reverently interred there beside her husband.

" She followed the Star to a better land,  
When the voice of the Master called clear;  
She lovingly served here with heart and hand,  
And she answered the Call without fear. "

NEAR  
WOODSTOCK  
N.S.