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IS IT REALLY A GRAVE?

The Rev. A.S. Gardiner prefaced his 1889 monument dedication speech by passing out a list of the 22 things buried under the monument along with Quick's remains, which he had personally dug up. These include a Bible; a book on Tom Quick by his descendant and monument funding source William Bross; Rev. Gardiner's own book on Quick; the text of a speech given by Gardiner to a historical association; copies of 10 different local newspapers; the August 1889 issue of National Temperance Advocate magazine; a catalog from the company that built the monument; a medallion showing George Washington's inauguration as first president of the United States; a metal badge showing a young Washington cutting down a cherry tree with the words, 'I cannot tell a lie, I cut it with my hatchet'; the law passed by Milford Borough Council authorizing the monument; and a long list of local politicians, merchants, lawyers, physicians and ministers. Quick's remains, which were put in a glass jar, were graphically detailed by Gardiner in his speech. "In that jar will be found the phalanx of the hand, a part of the fibula of the leg and a section of the skull overhanging the socket of the eye. In addition to these will be found fragments of the coffin, and also large, rusty, wrought-iron nails," Gardiner told the crowd. Gardiner suggested that one day the items under the monument might be dug up. "They are all such as will interest posterity, should this foundation at some distant period be explored. But that which will awaken the deepest interest will be the glass jar which contains all that remained of the body of Tom Quick, after a burial of ninety-three years."

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