

ye never forfeit it by a tame and infamous submission to the yoke of slavery and lawless despotism!

“Remember, O my friends! the laws, the rights,
The generous plan of power delivered down,
From age to age, by your renowned forefathers,
So dearly bought, the price of so much blood:
Oh! let it never perish in your hands,
But piously transmit it to your children.
Do thou, great Liberty! inspire our souls,
And make our lives in thy possession happy,
Or our death glorious in thy just defence.”

An interesting conversation ensued relating to the battle of Lexington, in which Messrs. Washburn, Sibley, Paige, Ellis, R. Frothingham, jun., Adams, Savage, and Sabine participated.

On motion of Mr. LIVERMORE, it was unanimously *Voted*, That the Standing Committee have full authority to publish such a selection from the recent Proceedings of the Society as they may deem to be of general interest.

MAY MEETING.

The Society held its stated monthly meeting on Thursday, May 13, at twelve o'clock, m., at their rooms in Tremont Street, Boston; the President, Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

The Librarian announced donations from the Chicago Historical Society; the Maryland Historical Society; the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; Samuel A. Green, M.D.; L. A. Huguet Latour, Esq.; B. P. Johnson, Esq.; William Menzies, Esq.; William H. Polk,

Esq.; B. R. Winthrop, Esq.; and from Messrs. R. Frothingham, jun., Sibley, Warren, and Winthrop, of the Society.

The Corresponding Secretary read a letter from Lord Lyndhurst, accepting his election as an Honorary Member of the Society.

The Cabinet-keeper presented a cannon-ball, which was dug up near the "Clark House," in Lexington, Mass.; a gift to the Society from James Shipley, Esq.; for which the thanks of the Society were voted to the donor.

The President read a letter from Mr. Longfellow, inviting the members of the Society to meet at his house in Cambridge, the head-quarters of Washington, on the seventeenth day of June next, — the anniversary of the day of the battle of Bunker Hill. Whereupon, the President was requested to acknowledge the civility of Mr. Longfellow, and accept the invitation.

Mr. WARREN presented to the Society the Letter-book of Governor Belcher, when Governor of New Jersey in the years 1752 and 1754.

JOSIAH G. HOLLAND, M.D., of Springfield, and the Rev. CHARLES BROOKS, of Medford, were elected Resident Members; and RICHARD HILDRETH, Esq., of New York, and Rev. A. P. PEABODY, D.D., of Portsmouth, N.H., Corresponding Members, of the Society.

Mr. DEANE, from the Standing Committee, made a statement of the estimated cost of publishing the new catalogue of the Society's library, and also laid before the meeting specimens of the first page, in different type, with a view to obtaining from the members an

expression of their preference as to the style which should be selected.

Mr. CLIFFORD, after a few earnest and appropriate remarks with reference to the value of a printed catalogue and the importance of its early publication, presented to the meeting a subscription-paper, which had already received the signatures of several of the members of the Society, the terms of which are as follows: —

“ With a view to secure the earliest publication of the catalogue of the library, as now proposed for the press, the undersigned agree to pay, on or before the first day of January next, the sums set against their names, respectively; for which they are to be credited, and allowed to take such volumes of the Society’s publications as they may desire, within one year from this time, at the prices charged to members.

“ Boston, May 13, 1858.”

Mr. SAVAGE read an interesting and characteristic letter from S. A. Otis to James Otis the elder, with a view of correcting what Mr. Savage considered to be a misconception — notwithstanding the general prevalence of the opinion — regarding the cause of the loss of the mental faculties of the great patriot, James Otis. The letter contained evidence of the existence of a tendency to insanity in the younger Otis, which manifested itself at an early period of his life. Mr. Savage regarded this testimony as sufficient to refute the received notion, that the violence inflicted upon him in State Street was the occasion of the sad mental eclipse under which he suffered towards the close of his life.