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ONE HUNDREDTH

Anniversary

OF THE

Declaration of Independence

AND

INDEPENDENCE SQUARE

In Philadelphia,

AS A

MONUMENT OF MEMORIALS

SACRED AND FOREVER.

PHILADELPHIA:

CO-OPERATIVE PRINTING CO., 30 AND 32 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET.

1872.

INDEX.

The Hall of Independence, - - -	<i>In Buildings.</i>
“ Hall of the Revolution, - - -	“
“ Hall of the Constitution, - - -	“
“ Hall of the Government, - - -	“
“ Hall of the Union, - - -	“
“ Rooms for all Business, - - -	“
“ Library and Reading Rooms, - - -	“
“ Independence Bell, - - -	“
“ Washington Carriage, - - -	“
“ Trees for Independence, - - -	<i>In the Square.</i>
“ Trees for Government, - - -	“
“ Trees for the Original States, - - -	<i>In Front.</i>
“ Lamps for the Original States, - - -	<i>In Square.</i>
“ Lamps for all the other States, - - -	<i>Around Square.</i>
“ Lamps, Historical, - - -	<i>In Front of Centre Building.</i>
“ Federal Arch of Thirteen Stones, - - -	<i>Walnut St. Entrance.</i>
“ The Waterman Monument, - - -	<i>Centre of the Square.</i>
“ The Twenty-Seven Statues, - - -	“ “
Fountains, Flowers, Evergreens, etc., as a Committee may direct.	

National Association for the whole work.

Diplomas of Membership to pay for it.

*To the Select and Common Councils
of the City of Philadelphia :*

GENTLEMEN: Allow me to present for your consideration a manuscript paper read before a meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, September 12, 1870, being a plan for making Independence Square and buildings as named therein a monument of memorials forever, to honor the Declaration of Independence, the patriots of the Revolution, the framers of our Constitution and Government, and the fathers of our country, accompanied with a plan for an association of a national character for carrying out the former and perpetuating it forever.

I have also drawn a pen-sketch for a diploma of membership to be made simply elegant, whereby hundreds of thousands of our fellow-countrymen will become members, which will, in a simple, efficient way, produce ample funds to do all that is named or needed in the most efficient and perfect manner, besides placing a fund at interest, the income of which will pay all subsequent annual expenses of every kind; so that no subscriptions will be required, nor an entrance fee be needed, nor will the cost be hardly felt by anybody. The people will do all, and the committees and directors of the association can promptly go on with business and meet all expense without delay.

Numerous families and individuals in Pennsylvania and other States, who have heard the outlines of this design, give it such approval as to warrant the belief that it will be promptly accepted and supported by all our people throughout all our States and Territories.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, and fellow-citizen,

JOSEPH LEEDS,

No. 1614 *Summer Street.*

PHILADELPHIA, *June 1, 1871.*

[Entered according to the Act of Congress, in the year 1870, by JOSEPH LEEDS,
in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.]

ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE,
And Independence Square, and the three Ancient Buildings
thereon, in Philadelphia,

AS A MONUMENT OF MEMORIALS SACRED AND FOREVER

Dedicated to the City and citizens of Philadelphia, to the State of Pennsylvania, to all the
inhabitants of all the country and to the cause of liberty, right, and duty, for all mankind.

The following, written by JOSEPH LEEDS, of Philadelphia, was,
by invitation, read by him before a meeting of the Historical
Society of Pennsylvania, September 12, 1870.

One hundred years will soon complete their rounds since the
Declaration of Independence was first read to the people, and its
meaning from Scripture, Leviticus xxv, 10, cast on its bell twenty-
three years previously, as if prophetic, was sounded, "Proclaim
liberty throughout all the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof."
The civil eloquence, the masterly writings, the patriotic voice
and the military thunders of that period, carried out that dec-
laration, breaking down the gates, bars and doors which opened
the broad fields of freedom to man and humanity, revealing to
our country and the world a Washington, who, with his com-
patriots, led on and fought under toils, trials and hardships, on
that long line, till the last battle finished the victory. But a
crowning victory followed, when that great and good man, be-
loved by the army, its officers, and the people, standing high in
authority, and invited to supremacy, promptly repelled the latter,
and without delay resigned the former, that the country might
rest, and rise in the united ability of a new nation.

For liberty and law, for freedom, industry and peace, for
education and Bible religion, and for moral greatness and gran-
deur, no event has taken place on earth, the advent of Christ
excepted, equal to the American Revolution, in itself and in its
results. By it the ensign of civil and religious liberty through
the ages hidden or obscurely seen was for the first time triumph-
antly unfurled, elevated and displayed among men. Under it

the best constituted government man has ever known was established, carried on, and is now in full success, and with it, thus far, is, and has been, the blessing of heaven, while on earth it is celebrated by the most prosperous country and people the world has ever seen. And if our goodness increased equally with our greatness, the future would realize more than human expectations ever looked for in every thing that can elevate and adorn the children of men, and render life on earth desirable and happy. If there is a place in the march of humanity which claims a lasting monument; if there is a field where patriotism deserves an immortal shrine; if there is a ground where civil and religious liberty should have an altar of light "burning and shining," it is where the American Revolution can be most vividly portrayed, and its grand results most clearly impressed on human memory.

Behold the monuments in our own and other lands; those lofty and expensive structures to commemorate great events, noble deeds and distinguished men; and with all their elaborate workmanship and immense cost, and stately appearance, what instruction do they give, excepting that each one tells the single purpose for which it was erected, and perhaps a grand view may be had from its summit, but nothing more, only the display of its well-wrought dimensions. The Bunker Hill Monument cost one hundred and fifty thousand dollars or more. In the prospect room near its top are two brass cannon, three-pounders, named Hancock and Adams, fastened to the wall. These were used through the revolutionary contest, and are looked on as our country's friends. They draw more attention, examination, sympathy, tenderness and interest, than the monument itself, with all its surroundings. For all the hill is covered with dwellings and streets, excepting a small oblong square on the summit, faced with stone, from the centre of which rises the monument, silently saying, "This is Bunker Hill." But the two cannon tell of patriots, contests, revolution, victory and freedom. The former is a symbol of loftiness, the latter of liberty.

The monument here proposed would probably cost less than some single monument now standing, but in moral value and influence on our people and all people who may visit it, or hear it, it would surpass all the great monuments known in the world. Relics, portraits, mementos, coins, engravings, photographs, monuments, &c., have ever been dear to the human heart, and sometimes to a nation's heart, and many such become so valuable that, if only one should be lost, almost any price would be paid for its restoration. Merely to illustrate this value, suppose the Independence bell and the two cannon spoken of could be sold in memento-pieces, more than four hundred thousand dollars would soon be the result, which clearly proves that the memorials intended for this monument would be invaluable. Could such an apparent impossibility as a sale of them take place twenty-five years hence, with proper previous notice over our country, they would bring millions of dollars. But nothing of the kind will ever be done, for they would belong to immortality.

The work here proposed would be a living monument, for it would live in the respect and affection of the people of all sects and all parties, parents and children, old and young, in our land, and all lands for all time. And whatever trouble, calamity, or extremity might ever come, it would be watched by every eye, would be sacred to every heart, and would be guarded by every hand. It would be replete with interest, instruction and information, showing, as far as practicable, who declared our Independence, who made it victorious, and who framed our Constitution, organized our Government, and put it in successful operation. And it would comprise a house and a household, in silent eloquence declaring these words from Scripture, "The glory of children are their fathers."

No children of any country ever had such a glory left to them as the American people. For industry, temperance, honesty, enterprise, intelligence and uprightness, courage and patriotism, and morals guarded by the sanctions of religion, our ancestors, in their times, stood preëminent, and with such character they were strong in right, to suppress wrong, firm in the spirit of independence, and decided to spend "millions in defence, but not a cent for tribute." Their wisdom is seen in their writings and State papers, in the constitution and forming of our government, in their forbearance under oppression united with respect for all lawful authority, and in the Declaration of Independence, that immortal document which has become a light for the nations, a lamp on the pathway of liberty.

Already the notes of preparation are being sounded to have the one hundredth anniversary of our National Independence, viz., July 4, 1876, celebrated in the best and happiest manner, and to make it so full of interest to thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands, who may then be in Philadelphia, besides her own people, so grand in music, meetings, eloquence, processions, festivals, and other appropriate observances, and so glorious for the best good of mankind, that its moral light will irradiate our land and all lands, and its voice be heard as a welcome herald to all people responsive to heaven's peerless anthem of "Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will toward men."

The patriotism of our city is enough and superabundant to adopt and carry out every patriotic measure to make that day a golden page in our history. To have all places for rational enjoyment open, to have eloquence and songs in our halls, grateful services in our places of worship, sociability and hospitality in all our dwellings, and if the monument of memorials here proposed should be added, and the ringing of the bell of Independence to greet the morn, noon and sunset of the day, truly all the people will anticipate its coming with delight, and every voice would be ready to speak of it in the words of the ancient Seer in "Israel," "Joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving and the voice of melody."

The people of Philadelphia doubtless will vote to have all public offices moved from Independence Square; also, let the

new Court House be taken away, and the two wings on the sides of the central building, called the State House row, leaving Independence Hall and all the central edifice to stand in its primitive style, excepting to make it fire-proof as far as practicable, and its internal arrangements so as to be convenient for the purpose here named; but externally to appear as it is to this and advancing generations, that all may see the architectural style of our fathers. The historical interest attached to the building on the corner of Sixth street requires its continuance, and for convenience and room that on the corner of Fifth street, besides which, both should be made alike in appearance. There is no doubt that all the buildings will be well occupied in carrying out this design.

Where Liberty and Union had their birth,
 Let full memorials rise and ever stand;
 A light to all the nations of the earth,
 A glory to our City, State, and Land.

Let an approved wall, surmounted with an iron fence or railing, surround the square below the buildings, with suitable gateways, and only as many paths as may be indispensable for public convenience. All else of the surface a grass green, excepting that occupied by trees. Let the wide fronts on Chestnut street be faced with handsome slabs of stone,* and near the curbstone a border of thirteen trees, named for the original thirteen States, the Keystone State in the centre, and each State to furnish its most enduring and beautiful tree, which, no doubt, each State would promptly do. On the east side of the Square, below the front buildings, have fifty-six trees, named for the fifty-six signers to the Declaration of Independence, each tree, perhaps, to be somewhat characteristic of the man it represents. As many trees on the west side as will represent, in like manner, the first Congress under the Constitution, including President Washington, his Cabinet, and the Chief Justice. Over the square and front, let such memorials be added as will comprise a beautiful simplicity and grandeur becoming our City, State, and Nation, and have the entire Square and buildings forever sacred to Independence, Liberty, and Union, with a law, sanctioned by the people of all parties and made irrevocable, that no political meeting or election of any kind whatever shall ever be allowed or held on the Square, the buildings, the front, or in or on any part or parts thereof, forever.

Let Independence Hall have full-length life-size portraits of each signer of the Declaration, in handsome frames, John Hancock at their head, the others around the walls. Under each, his own table, his Bible, his cane, if he used one, his musical instruments, if he used such, his favorite books, his diary, and any other appropriate mementos of the man and the time. The original draft of the Declaration of Independence, in a suitable frame; the table, now there, on which it was signed; the Han-

* Since this was written, the slabs of stone have been laid in front.

cock chair; other chairs, if they can be found, which other signers occupied; the pen or pens they used; also letters, manuscripts, and all other memorials connected with that great work and those great men. Let the room opposite Independence Hall be fitted up in corresponding style with the Hall, and take such memorials as the Hall cannot well receive, for, doubtless, both will be needed to display the portraits and all else to proper advantage; but always, in all time, have it clearly understood that the west room is only an aid to Independence Hall.

Let the front entrance through, with its ancient stairs, be as they are, excepting to paint them and make them neat throughout. Have the Independence Bell repaired by fusing a few pounds of like metal into the crack or breach, to blend perfectly with the metal of the bell, which will render it as it was originally, so as to give its original sound. It is said that this can be done. If so, and it is done, let it be hung on a proper frame, resting on rollers and placed in the entrance, protected by a wire screen, with its tongue replaced, so that on suitable occasions it could be rolled out on the Square and rung. Every Fourth of July and every Birthday of Washington, let it welcome the morn, noon, and sunset of the day. Thus, from generation to generation, will the same tones be heard by millions of listening ears and earnest hearts, more dear to all as years roll on, linking a past, a present, and a future in a continuous chain of song, associated with its original proclamation and the last words of a distinguished patriot, "Independence forever."

So will children be taught to know it, so will all understand it, and its tone will ever be recognized as the music of freedom and a response to the Declaration of Independence.

Also, in this entry, the carriage in which President Washington rode when residing in our city. It is now owned by a citizen of Philadelphia. Many travellers and others have visited it; on several public occasions it has attracted marked and profound attention and respect; large sums have been offered for it, and are still offered, but refused. The owner says he will give it and present it freely for the purpose here named, to be placed and preserved accordingly; and there is no doubt that numerous and very valuable memorials, held sacred and dear in many families, besides autographs, important letters, diaries, &c., would be given for this purpose if applied for by a person properly authorized to receive them.

Let the second story of the central building be a military hall of the revolution, showing, as far as practicable, the men and means which carried the Declaration of Independence to victory. Have a full-length, life-size portrait of General Washington, in military dress, at the head, his camp equipage and dress now in patent office, his table, sword, saddle, bridle, diaries, and other things of interest used or worn by him during the revolution; also, the commission he received to be commander-in-chief, his reply of acceptance, his letter repelling an inducement to supremacy, his letter of resignation of all authority after victory had

been obtained, and, after giving to his country eight years of devoted service freely, refusing pay; also, the manuscript of his farewell address, said to be in his own handwriting, with such other mementos as may be of interest in relation to that preëminent patriot and man. Around the walls full-length portraits of his chief officers, including the distinguished naval officers of that period, with similar memorials to each; also, pictures of all the important battles on land or sea, and the flags, arms, cannon, drums, fifes, trumpets, pouches, powder-horns, letters, diaries, &c., of importance and interest in the revolution, all classified and historically labelled, so as to be understood by every beholder.

Let thirteen lamps, six each side the centre path in the square, and one on the keystone of the arch hereinafter named, and twenty-three more around the square outside, near curbstone, represent the thirty-six States, and be so arranged that another can be added for every new State, each lamp to have the name of the State; also, seven historical lamps in front of the centre building, with names as follows, viz.:

Independence, Victory, Peace, Liberty, Union, Government, Prosperity.

These became important consecutive events in our history.

The convention that framed the Constitution met in May, 1787, in this State House, probably. General Washington was chosen, unanimously, its President. After four months labor and deliberation, of five to seven hours each day, (Sundays excepted, and ten days adjournment for committee to arrange business,) the Constitution was signed September 17, 1787, by all the forty-two members present but three, sent with a letter to Congress, and by that body to the States, and by the States it was ratified. Under it General Washington was unanimously chosen the first President of our country, in his 58th year of age, and was inaugurated in New York, April 30, 1789.

In the building on the corner of Sixth street, Congress met for about ten years after the adoption of the Constitution—the House in the first story, the Senate in second. The desk and chair of the speaker stood midway against the wall on Sixth street. General Washington was unanimously chosen President for a second term, and was inaugurated in the Senate chamber March 4, 1793. His successor, John Adams, was inaugurated in this Representative hall March 4, 1797.

Let this first story be made, as it was originally, a large hall for the best and most competent men from any and all the States to be invited at appointed times to give public lectures on the nature and tendencies of our government, on the duties of all persons in office, from lowest to highest, on the great importance of truth, integrity and right, on the dangers of corruption and wrong, on the principles and acts of our fathers, on the exalted character of Washington, to keep his example and counsels before the people, and adding such instruction and advice as will

strengthen correct principles and promote union, welfare and happiness among all.

And to make this hall the more interesting, there can be no doubt that each of the thirty-six States and each new State that may be added would present its coat of arms, mottoes, &c., in handsome frame, to be placed around the walls, and under each a picture of its capitol building and location, date of its admission to the Union, and any facts or events of general importance and interest to our country. Then let a beautiful chain, having a link for each State, pass directly over them and between each all around, hand joining hand, the one an emblem of union, the other of brotherhood; and at the desk or over it a picture of the capitol buildings of our nation, dates of erection, with some account of their rooms and their appropriate uses. In the second story, made one room as it was originally, have full-length, life-size portraits of the men of the first Congress, including President Washington and members of his cabinet, and the Chief Justice, with memorials and mementos as named for Independence Hall.

Let the second story of the building corner of Fifth street, made into one hall, have life-size portraits of the members of said convention, with memorials to each as heretofore mentioned for the others, and all other memorials of interest and importance pertaining to the same; and have the first story and basement arranged with rooms for business offices, records, &c.; also, as a residence for a gentleman of intelligence and ability, who may be chosen as chief officer for the whole, with a competent salary, and who, with a chosen committee, will see that neatness, order, propriety, and every other requisite shall prevail throughout the whole and every part thereof as nearly to perfection as may be possible.

Have two corridors of appropriate architecture run from second story of Fifth street to centre building, and thence to Sixth street building, that visitors may pass through all without going outside. Besides ample passage ways, these would give room for a library for all publications touching our country from 1760 to 1800, and reading rooms to seat a thousand persons.

In 1851-2 preliminary measures were taken in our city, originated by A. G. Waterman, Esq., to have a monument erected in Independence Square by the original thirteen States, the pedestal to have thirteen sides, with devices, &c., such as each State might direct, an entablature on which the whole Declaration of Independence should be cut in solid stone, and a tower surmounting all. This was brought to public notice, and a circular letter was sent to each of those States, all in the language of patriotism, to have the work done, and measures were taken to have it done. Subsequently Mr. Waterman died, and years have passed without further action. Let this noble design be embraced in the work here proposed; moreover, should this work be done, all would desire to have something in it to honor the memory of A. G. Waterman, a citizen of Philadelphia, and a patriotic and public-spirited man.

Place in front of this monument nine granite pedestals, supporting nine statues of the most fearless and prominent advocates of Independence, who, like pioneers, proclaimed it years before the declaration, from North, South and Middle States of the original thirteen, three each; directly in front of the monument a statue of Thomas Jefferson; on each side of it two others—Adams, Franklin, Sherman and Livingstone—making the committee of five who presented the Declaration to Congress, and in the rear thirteen statues, General Washington in the centre, and six each side of him of his chief revolutionary men from North, South and Middle States of the original thirteen, four each.

Pennsylvania is most appropriately the Keystone State. When the Declaration of Independence was being considered, each State was by its delegation in front of the Speaker's chair, on the right six, on the left six, with Pennsylvania in the centre like a keystone. The vote was taken by States, and a majority of delegates from a State carried that State; and to adopt the Declaration the States had to be unanimous.

On the first day of July, 1776, all the States excepting Delaware and Pennsylvania voted in the affirmative, the latter in the negative by a vote of 4 to 3.

On the 4th all the States but Pennsylvania voted in the affirmative, and so stood. Pennsylvania had but four delegates present. Two voted for and two against the Declaration. One was expected to come in who had been called out by friends and others, to urge him to vote in the negative.

Here was a momentous pause in a time when men's souls were tried to their very centre, the arch of union standing hazardous, with the keystone suspended over it by a tie vote, and all in deep anxiety looking for the one Pennsylvania member to come in by whose vote the great decision would be made. That man was John Morton. It is said that John Hancock, anxious for his arrival, instead of declaring the vote as it stood, occupied the time by speaking until he saw him enter the door. Here was a man, having adverse influences, outside and otherwise, urging and pressing on him with almost crushing weight to vote against the Declaration by scores of friends and others who viewed it as direct rebellion to British rule, and apprehended a failure that would end in dreadful punishment. Yet that noble patriot and man, with love of country in his heart rising above all, came in and took the responsibility of deciding the great question, not only for Pennsylvania, but as umpire for the whole country. John Morton voted. Simultaneously the Keystone was in its place, the arch was complete, the States were unanimous, the grand Declaration sprang into life, the fountain of freedom flowed, Independence, Liberty and Union stood baptized, and a nation was born.

Well might the spirit of the Huguenots, the Pilgrims, Puritans, and Penn, have lingered here to approve, rejoice, and say, "Let all this have a choice place in every American heart, to be seen in the brightest mirror of memory forever."

Let the Keystone be conspicuous by having a wide entrance to the centre of Independence Square on Walnut street, with a noble granite pillar each side, both supporting a beautiful arch of thirteen choice stones, each stone deeply cut both sides with the name of one of the original thirteen States, all properly arranged, with the Keystone for Pennsylvania. Doubtless, each of those States would furnish a stone according to dimensions given, and send it, wrought in the most perfect manner.

John Morton placed the Keystone in the arch of patriotism. He lived eight months afterwards. Before leaving the world, he said, "Tell my friends and others who censured me for my vote, that they will live to see the hour when they shall acknowledge it to have been the most glorious service I ever rendered to my country." His vote proved a victory; his last words a reality. If the work here proposed should be done, let some part of it honor the memory of John Morton.

In each department have a book to record list of the memorials, the names of donors of such as are given, date when given, place where given, when received, and such further account of each as may be essential and interesting. Also a book for each visitor to write therein his or her name, residence, &c., and have all records carefully preserved for all time.

Thus, in this one design, there would be represented, First, in the building at Fifth street, all rooms for a chief officer, business, and records, also the Constitutional Convention. Secondly, in the State House, the Declaration of Independence, the bell of Liberty, the Revolution, and Washington's carriage. Thirdly, in the building corner of Sixth street, the Congress and Executive under the Constitution, the thirty-six States, and room for patriotic lectures. Fourthly, in the corridors, the library and reading-rooms; and on the grounds, the trees, arch, and monument for the old thirteen States, and lamps for all the States, and trees for signers to Declaration and Constitution, and for Government under the Constitution, and seven historical lamps; also, the Waterman monument and twenty-seven statues.

As in the east appears the breaking morn,
And gilding light the scenes of earth adorn;
So Freedom's sun on eastern line arose,
To spread its glories wide to western close.

Begins the emblem on our Square, east side;
In grandeur see each step a moral stride;
Till on its west, the States presented stand,
Our country's chain, our Union, hand in hand.

And thus, in one great exhibition, our beloved country would be seen, especially in that all-important period from 1774 to 1799, when Washington, standing at the close of the eighteenth century and at the head of the nineteenth, the model man of the world, departed this life, leaving a character spread out before his country and all countries as pure and as beautiful as the golden skies in a clear autumnal sunset. Great in goodness, good in

greatness, with rising fame, still rising, and still to rise, as if lettered on the firmament with ascending stars.

Probably no work has ever been done on earth by man that can more appropriately meet the scriptural words, "God requireth that which is past," than the one here proposed to be done.

Its entire cost may reach five to seven hundred thousand dollars, and as much more for an income for yearly expenses. A small sum, compared with the wealth of our city, more so with that of our State, far more with that of our Nation. To illustrate its own financial or pecuniary value, just suppose, for a moment, an impossibility, viz.: That a company could own it, and, without any entrance fee, could receive all the additional value it would give to real estate around it, the benefits of all the increase of business it would bring to our city, the additional gains to our hotels, stores, &c., augmenting from year to year, and then its pecuniary worth at the end of twenty-five years, the company could pay one hundred per cent. yearly dividends, and at the termination of said time would have millions still to divide. All this would flow into the business and wealth of our citizens and city. But no pecuniary or speculative gains can be high enough to reach the exalted platform of this patriotic purpose, nor can its worth be told in dollars and cents. It would be a diadem to our country, adorned with richest jewels, a firmament of patriotism, illumined by the spreading radiance of the Sun of Liberty.

If the beauty, loveliness, grandeur, magnificence of the scenes of nature portrayed on canvas, tend to elevate and purify human thoughts; if the pictures and statues of the departed great and good are beheld with reverence; if mementos, emblems and memorials have in all ages been dear, telling of excellence that lived, and prompting to higher excellence; if the single and sometimes simplest gift of affection is held as priceless; and if all such (some of which are handmaids to religion) lead the minds of the children of men upward and onward in the atmosphere of truth, purity, freedom, philanthropy, patriotism, peace and charity, then what will be the influence of this monument of memorials, in winning the admiration, the love and the reverential regard of every beholder, and of all who may hear of it, in all civilized nations?

Its moral worth in words cannot be given,
Each heart can feel, and 'mid its scenes may say,
Sublime and solemn, like the stars of Heaven.
This ushered in the morn of Freedom's day.

Historical, genealogical, antiquarian and other societies, also libraries, records, travels, searches, &c., involving years of time and millions in cost, are all cheerfully supported for the one great purpose of knowing the past. Can any one of them, or even all, display an event so important, or any in so vivid a manner, as the work here proposed? For this, if carried out, will show the introduction of civil and religious liberty to man. The Reformation was like a few voices crying for it in a wilderness: the Huguenots, Pilgrims and Puritans were its pioneers; bold and

dauntless patriots like James Otis, Patrick Henry and others, opened its pathway; the Declaration of Independence unlocked its gates; the Revolution entered its field victoriously, our country is planting that field world-wide, and the harvest is freedom, order, peace, with human rights and duties for all mankind.

It would be a lasting honor to Philadelphia; it would more than substitute and supply all monuments that have been proposed; it would be a standing testimony that republics are not always ungrateful; it would give to children and youth a clear view of their country, their country's fathers, and the priceless value of liberty, government, order, safety and happiness; it would tend to unite all parties in selecting and choosing wise and good men for every official station; it would make our city more than ever respected and beloved by our country, and the increasing fame of our beloved Washington would be followed by the fame of Philadelphia, as having the most noble, interesting and instructive monument of patriotism mankind has ever known. It would tend to increase moral purity and goodness, to strengthen the union of our States, to augment the true greatness of our nation, and everybody would see it as the ark of human rights and duties, riding high above the reckless and miry undercurrents of deception, falsehood, corruption, injustice, oppression, and the whole catalogue of wrongs.

Well might a citizen of Philadelphia feel some degree of pride in taking his family, his friends, his guests to this place, where all could be entertained, be interested, be instructed, and in a day learn more of the American Revolution, of our fathers, and of the origin and formation of our government, than usually would be learned in years. Besides which, the impressions on every mind would be lasting, especially with the young. No museum would be more interesting, no other nation could have such a monument, and no city on earth but Philadelphia could possibly obtain such a treasure.

This will accord with Christianity, gratitude, and every trait of character that can purify, adorn and bless our people, our country and mankind. And it will be what no other country, age, place or people, has ever seen or known. Here on the most appropriate ground, in the most vivid, practical manner, will be seen the authors of our independence and the fathers of our coun-

NOTE.—Children and youth have inquiring minds, and early impressions are said to be most deep and lasting. If this design should be carried out, the children and youth of Philadelphia would, in their earliest years, be visiting it with their parents and teachers, and in it, and from it, would learn rapidly respecting our Independence, our Revolution, our Constitution, our government, our patriotic leaders, our States, our Union, our civil and religious liberty, our beloved Washington, our great country, and our means of prosperity and happiness, and to value such as blessings from Heaven, beyond all price.

No children in any other city in the world would or could have a school so interesting and so full of useful instruction.

The advantages to children, if there were nothing more, would warrant all the expense that can attend it.

try, who brought the rights and duties of man into life and action. And here, too, will be shown all the interesting memorials obtainable, used by them and for them, in their labors, trials, conflicts, triumphs and victory. Every sentiment of goodness a people can cherish invites us all to this work, that our children, and all in advancing generations, may see and know and learn something of the cost of liberty, government, country, security and home, and to value such as a treasure beyond price.

All here proposed needs only a beginning. Some one or more persons loving the work, competent for it, properly authorized to enter into it, to proceed quietly under instructions of an able committee, and find out and make sure of the real memorials desired that can be had, gather information, present to the original thirteen States the trees, arch and monument proposed to represent those States, keep a daily record of all that may be done, and report at appointed times to a committee of headquarters having an office in our city. Progress once made would rapidly invite progress, and once known, would kindle a popular enthusiasm in its favor. Wives, mothers and daughters would not be wanting to urge it onward, and such aid insures success. Its tendency would be to repress all party feeling, and unite all to sustain and perfect it. Nor would funds be wanted to do and complete it. And many memorials, now held too dear to part with, would, on its completion, be given to be recorded, placed and displayed in this sacred depository. Aged persons are now living who are happy to relate many things of great interest, seen or known by them in their youth, never published, but which pertain to this matter, and if secured now while such are living, may prove important and valuable.

Perhaps no time can be more favorable than now for this work. Every recent movement in relation to Independence Square favors it, no better thing can be done for our city, our country and mankind, and if commenced and directed by patriotic, judicious minds, it would in three years be ready for an appropriate dedication, unless that service should be postponed to the one hundredth anniversary of the Day of Independence.

Washington gave freely, without pay, eight years of his life in rendering his invaluable services to our country, and with his compatriots underwent labors, hazards, sacrifices, anxieties, toils, sufferings, severe trials, contests, privations, war, battles and blood-struggles, to carry out and establish those great principles of order, freedom and right, which have made us the most prosperous and favored nation on earth, under a government formed by them, which protects equally the nation, the State, the county, the town, the borough, the neighborhood, the family and the cradle. Let us now, in our peace and prosperity, evince our gratitude, and honor their character, principles and names, by this monument of memorials, that will command the respect, love and reverence of all men, and give to the world a lasting demonstration that we do and will honor the fathers who left such glory to their children. And in so doing, that we do not

forget the mothers and daughters who did their part in the great work.

For mothers, wives and sisters, steadfast, true,
 In spirit, for their country, were the van ;
 They cheered each patriot, for resolves anew,
 And hardships, toils and triumphs, shared with man.

With such a monument of memorials, Philadelphia would have a Mount Zion of patriotism, a temple beautified with the portraits of departed excellence, an altar adorned with priceless mementos and emblems, constituting a glory surpassing in many respects that of Solomon's, with no offering required but affection and reverence, no homage but gratitude to the Divine Giver of all good, to whom our fathers looked for wisdom, and no sacrifice, but love to God and man.

To contemplate all is inspiring; to behold its reality would bring the tribes from our thirty-six States, and others when added, and tribes from all nations, with the words of the ancient prophet verified, "Joy and gladness is found therein, thanksgiving and the voice of melody;" and all hearts vibrating with love for our country, Union, government, order, peace, prosperity, charity and happiness.

Throughout our land, and all lands, the tidings would run, to tell that the city of William Penn and of brotherly love has a shrine of patriotism by no other equalled; a monument of respect, veneration and reverence for their country's fathers, and their character and principles, that in moral grandeur links the past to the present, earth with heaven, and mortal with immortality; and over which the cherubim and seraphim of freedom might spread their wings and give it their approving voice.

Our people, our children, our descendants for all time, and from the south, north, east and west of our country, besides hundreds and thousands from all nations, would visit this fountain of freedom to be refreshed; this house of patriotism, to be introduced to our patriot fathers in portrait; this shrine of memorials, to behold in it the heart of a mighty nation; this monument to ancestral excellence, to see in it the gratitude of their descendants; this palladium of independence, government, peace and order, to behold it as a grand moral fortress to guard the rights of man; this ark of liberty, to see in it the choicest jewels of our land, and this moral light-house of our beloved country, to behold it as a guide for all nations to the field of true democratic-republican-federal government; and, finally, to view the whole in all its intrinsic and commanding importance, as well as in all its touching and tender influence, in its silent but unceasing eloquence; declaring this great and fundamental truth to all people, and which should be most deeply fixed in every heart, namely, that the Bible, the Sabbath, the school, and well-conducted press are, have been, and must be the light of our beloved land forever, the light approved by heaven, and blest for man.

This treasure is brought from the mines of the past,
 O coin it immortal, forever to last ;
 'Tis our fathers' great record, exalt it in light,
 And the children will keep it, untarnished and bright.

Thus, Independence Square and its three ancient buildings will be a permanent institution, showing the introduction of practical, civil, and religious liberty ; a government by, from, and for the people, and the great principles involved in both. The results therefrom, moral and material, will be vividly set forth and made manifest to the world by the grandest and most interesting centennial ever known on earth, for which our country, States and city are making preparation.

This design and plan has been made known to distinguished men of our city and nation, and to the people, more or less, of eleven different States in our Union, and by all approved, with the belief expressed, that diplomas of membership will be sold, sufficient to pay for all and provide for all subsequent expense. The diplomas will be large, full, and instructive.

When the corner-stone of the Bunker Hill Monument was laid, on the 17th day of June, 1825, La Fayette, then our nation's guest, was present, with thousands from various parts of our country, including many veterans who served in the Revolutionary war, some of whom were survivors of the battle of Bunker Hill, and among whom was a Rev. Mr. Thaxter, who was a chaplain in the army of the Revolution, and who, fifty years previously, officiated on the same hill. He led the multitude in prayer, and was followed by Daniel Webster, who gave his celebrated address, in which, when speaking of the monument, he used these poetic and prophetic words, descriptive of a scene to come of beauty and magnificence, viz. :

“ Let it rise, till it meets the sun in his coming,
 Let the earliest light of the morning gild it,
 And parting day linger and play on its summit.”

If Independence Square should have the monument of memorials here proposed, then we will borrow Mr. Webster's idea, and say : Let the children and youth of our land, in the bright morn of early life, greet it with the rising beams of joy and gladness ; let the ascending sun of manhood, its noon-tide and onward line of brightness, to life's declining day, encircle it and crown it with the radiance of moral beauty, tenderness, care, protection, and love ; and let the heart and intellect of age, made wise by experience, gild it with the pure and beautiful rays of lingering affection, and the calm, golden halo of a farewell blessing.

A Plan for carrying out the accompanying Design for making Independence Square and Buildings, as named therein, a monument of memorial forever. Submitted to the Philadelphia City Councils, June 1, 1871, by Joseph Leeds, residing at No. 1614 Summer street:

First. To form an association specially for the purpose, to be composed of gentlemen whose names and character will inspire perfect confidence with the people, and under whose auspices every thing will be done in such a manner that in every household the voice of approval will be heard, to which every heart will respond.

Second. To organize by having the President of the United States, and his successors in said office, ex-officio, the president of this association; the Governors of each State, and their successors in office, ex-officio, vice-presidents; Senators in Congress, and three distinguished men from each State, honorary members; thirteen directors for all business; secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer and such other officers as may be required.

Third. To have a commission of trust, and proper authorities petitioned to grant to said commission and successors "Independence Square and Buildings," for the purpose set forth in said design.

Fourth. To have suitable rooms for business, and for depositing all memorials, until the present buildings on Independence Square are vacated, the said grant obtained, and all things made ready for their reception.

Fifth. To engage honest, able, intelligent persons to visit the families having the mementos and memorials desired, state to them the object, procure such as far as practicable, and report all doings to the board of directors weekly.

Sixth. To make known to all the people throughout our land the design and purpose, that all may understand it, that it is to be for our entire country, and to benefit mankind.

Seventh. To appoint a suitable committee for such portraits, pictures, engravings, &c., as may be required; also the diploma of membership, of such elegance as will adorn any parlor or room in our nation, or the world.

Eighth. To consider and act on all other matters requisite to carry out the design.

If carried out, it will forever commemorate the practical introduction of civil and religious liberty on earth, the grandest declaration man ever made, the most important revolution for the world's welfare, the fathers of our beloved country, the birth of our nation, and the best constituted government in the world.

Besides which, it will be on a ground hallowed by patriotic associations; a monument such as no nation has known; such as will win all hearts; such as advancing generations will love, reverence, and keep sacred; such as will draw, for all coming time, increasing multitudes from our country and the world, to visit it, and such as no city or place can have in such perfection as Philadelphia, because Independence Square and Hall are *here*.

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