

74
C4 C4
Copy 1

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

DEDICATION

OF THE

Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument

BY THE

CITY COUNCIL OF CHARLESTOWN,

"

JUNE 17, 1872.

CHARLESTOWN:

PRINTED AT THE CHRONICLE OFFICE, 30 MAIN STREET.

1872.

City of Charleston.



97TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL.

DEDICATION OF THE

Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument,

IN WINTHROP SQUARE,

Monday, June 17th, 1872.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS:

GEORGE B. NEAL. JOSEPH SOUTHER, J. W. HILL,
JOSEPH DICKSON, F. E. DOWNER.

REMARKS BY HIS HONOR MAYOR KENT, ON
DELIVERING THE MONUMENT TO THE
CITY GOVERNMENT AND THE
CITIZENS.

UNVEILING THE MONUMENT.

MUSIC BY THE PIANO.

ADDRESS BY HON. RICHARD FROTHINGHAM.

KELLER'S AMERICAN HYMN.

Spreads our republic o'er Freedom's flag,
Leads us the pathways of Justice and Right;
Rivers of gold and iron flow from our hills,
Grain and wheat wave the arms of our might—
Hail! Great Ganges of Freedom and Right,
Hail! Great Ganges of Freedom and Right!

Plunges our ships on Freedom's sea,
We wish to sweep a free passage by the world,
Still a sea of peace when Freedom's Warfare is on,
Ever a sea of peace when Freedom's Warfare is on,
Hail! Great Ganges of Freedom and Right,
Hail! Great Ganges of Freedom and Right!

For the land and Freedom's flag,
Willing to die to Freedom's cause—
There is no other Freedom's power,
When Freedom's flag is on Freedom's flag—
Hail! Great Ganges of Freedom and Right,
Hail! Great Ganges of Freedom and Right!

Rising, ye proud eagles, rise up to the clouds,
Spread the wings of Freedom of this free western world,
From the land the Freedom's cause is on,
Shout the Freedom's cause is on Freedom's flag—
Hail! Great Ganges of Freedom and Right,
Hail! Great Ganges of Freedom and Right!

NATIONAL AIRS BY THE BAND.

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

DEDICATION

OF THE

Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument

BY THE

CITY COUNCIL OF CHARLESTOWN,
"

JUNE 17, 1872.

CHARLESTOWN:

PRINTED AT THE CHRONICLE OFFICE, 30 MAIN STREET,

1872.

Fine
CaC₄

81503

13

[From the Report of the Charlestown Chronicle of June 22, 1872.]

THE Seventeenth of June is a day ever glorious in the memories of the citizens of this city; and the ninety-seventh anniversary of the event, which occurred last Monday, was celebrated with all the old-time enthusiasm, while the additional feature of the day — the dedicating of a monument to the memory of the honored dead of the rebellion — lent additional interest to the occasion. The day opened clear and bright, and, as has been the custom from time immemorial, was welcomed by the clanging of bells and the firing of a national salute. As the day advanced, it grew warmer, and at high noon the heat was rather uncomfortable, especially to those who participated in the procession. Aside from this, the day was all that could be desired, and the programme prepared by the committee appointed by the City Council was carried out with great success.

THE CITY PROCESSION.

Soon after nine o'clock, the various organizations began to assemble and to take the positions assigned to them by the Chief Marshal, Colonel Walter Everett. They all reported with commendable promptness, and a very few minutes after ten o'clock the procession was started in the following order: —

FIRST DIVISION.

- Detachment of Police, under command of Captain Little.
Edmands' Band.
- Military Escort, under command of Senior-Captain S. R. Marple —
W. H. Doyle, Acting Adjutant.
- Charlestown City Guard, Co. H, Fifth Regiment, Lieut. George H.
Monroe — 30 men.
- Jackson Guards, Company G, Ninth Regiment, Capt. T. J. Harrington —
40 men.
- Charlestown Artillery, Co. D, Fifth Regiment, Capt. F. B. Bogan —
33 men.
- High School Battalion, Major F. J. Pope — Adjutant O. Smith. First
Company, Capt. E. C. Merritt — 40 men. Second Company,
Capt. G. F. O'Meara — 30 men.
Chelsea Brass Band.
- Prescott Light Guards, Capt. Wm. H. Roberts — 125 men.

SECOND DIVISION.

- Chief Marshal — Walter Everett.
Chief of Staff — Capt. Ezra J. Trull.

AIDS.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Major T. E. Ames, | Major J. Homer Edgerly. |
| Capt. O. H. P. Smith, | Col. Solomon Hovey, |
| Capt. S. A. Dalton, | Lieut. John T. Bolton, |
| Dr. E. J. Forster, | Dr. Geo. W. Herrick, |
| R. H. Parker, Esq., | T. T. Sawyer, jr., Esq., |
| P. O'Riordan, Esq., | Edwin Tufts, Esq., |
| J. H. Caldwell, Esq., | Charles Curtis, Esq., |
| John Burchmore, Esq., | E. A. Williston, Esq. |

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

Department Commander, Col. H. R. Sibley, Commanding Grand Army
of the Republic, with the following staff:

- R. B. Pierce, of Abington, Assistant-Adjutant-General.
Charles O. Welch, of Cambridge, Inspector.

AIDS.

George R. Kelso, of Charlestown.

Charles B. Fox, of Boston.

S. W. Wheeler, of Chelsea.

S. C. Warriner, of Springfield.

Charles H. Chase, of Salem.

C. G. Attwood, of Boston.

J. G. B. Adams, of Lynn.

Geo. H. Howard, of Cambridge.

Lynn Brass Band.

G. A. R., FIRST DIVISION.

Commanded by Department Junior Vice-Commander Gardner A. Churchill, with the following staff:

Gen. J. H. Barnes, Chief of Staff.

Capt. S. M. Weale, A. A. G.

Lieut. Lemuel Pope, U. S. N., Aid.

Comrade T. M. Wade, U. S. N., Aid.

Gen. Lander Post No. 5, of Lynn, George F. Ames, Commander —
175 men.

John A. Andrew Post No. 15, of Boston, William S. Frost, Acting
Commander — 45 men.

Joseph Hooker Post No. 23, of East Boston, Edw. Pearl, Commander —
50 men.

William H. Smart Post No. 30, of Cambridgeport, George S. Evans,
Commander — 125 men.

Washington Post No. 32, of South Boston, R. W. Kane, Commander —
60 men.

I. Burbank Post No. 33, of Woburn — 30 men.

American Brass Band, Boston.

Phil. H. Sheridan Post No. 34, of Salem, G. A. Andrews, Commander —
210 men.

G. A. R., SECOND DIVISION.

Commanded by Capt. George H. Long, with the following staff:

Department Mustering Officer, Geo. T. Childs.

Dr. Wm. L. Bond. Dr. J. G. Dearborn.
 Capt. G. F. Green. Col. Moses B. Lakeman, of Malden.
 Capt. D. W. Lee, of Chelsea. Capt. Wm Spalding.
 Capt. C. Caupbell, of Chelsea. Comrade J. M. Kirkland.

Johnston's Brass Band.

Theodore Winthrop Post No. 35, of Chelsea, W. H. Wilson, Commander — 50 men.

Charles Beck Post No. 56, of Old Cambridge, George H. Prior, Commander — 40 men.

P. S. Davis Post No. 57, of East Cambridge, C. A. Austin, Commander — 60 men.

Benj. Stone, jr. Post No. 68, of Dorchester, Wm. C. Clark, Acting Commander — 60 men.

Clark's Drum Corps.

Robert A. Bell Post No. 134, of Boston, E. G. Biddle, Commander — 35 men.

Montgomery Drum Corps.

Wm. Washburn, jr. Post No. 138, of Boston, Wm. Washburn, jr., Commander — 56 men.

Somerville Brass Band.

Willard C. Kingsley Post 139, of Somerville, H. E. Hill, Commander — 100 men.

O'Connor's Brass Band.

Abraham Lincoln Post 11, of Charlestown, A. J. Bailey, Commander — 175 men.

His Honor Mayor Kent, Martin Milmore, Rev. Addison Parker, and Mr. J. H. Hill, President of the Common Council.

Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements.

Committee of Arrangements and of Soldiers' Monument.

Board of Aldermen and City Clerk.

Members of the Common Council.

Other members of the City Government.

Ex-Mayors and ex-Members of the City Government.

Chief Engineer Delano.

Assistant Engineers Bartlett, Poor, Louer, and Clark.

Mystic Band of Medford.

City of Charlestown.



97TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL.

DEDICATION OF THE

Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument,

IN WINTHROP SQUARE,

Monday, June 17th, 1872.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

GEORGE B. NEAL. JOSEPH SOUTHER, J. W. HILL,
JOSEPH DICKSON, F. E. DOWNER.

Order of Exercises.

MUSIC BY EDMANDS' BAND.

PRAYER BY REV. ADDISON PARKER.

ODE

Composed for the occasion by A. E. Cutter, 1864, and sung by the Glee Club of the Public Schools, under the direction of M. J. Mason.

O nation great! thy peril come
Not from an outward foe—
But by an inward rankling wrong
That dared thy overthrow.

Hark! shot flies hissing at the flag,
Aimed by red treason's hand:
Comes brave response from Sumpter's guns
And war is in the land.

Traded in the dust that flag once loved
With traitor's gibe and fling,
Meanwhile o'er loyal homes it floats,
Out blessing the Spring.

Then come the tramp of armed men—
The bunch of gallant feet—
The varying battle-shocks of war—
Advances and retreats.

God's guiding hand at length is seen
Through the deep thickening gloom—
While broken chains, and shackles loosed
Proclaim rebellion's doom.

The narrow gains that brings sweet peace:
The flag counts no star lost
But O! the cuts, the pains, the deaths
Of Slavery's holocaust!

O nation great! made greater yet
By wrestling with thy wrong
O'er death is Freedom's hope—
Thy wrongs deeds her lot—

REMARKS BY HIS HONOR MAYOR KENT, ON
DELIVERING THE MONUMENT TO THE
CITY GOVERNMENT AND THE
CITIZENS.

UNVEILING THE MONUMENT.

MUSIC BY THE BAND.

ADDRESS BY HON. RICHARD FROTHINGHAM.

KELLER'S AMERICAN HYMN.

Speed our republic, O Father on high,
Lead us in pathways of justice and right;
Rule us as well as the ruled, ' One and all.'
Girdle with virtue the armor of might.
Hail! three times hail to our country and flag!

Fercest in battle for Freedom to stand,
We rush to arms when aroused by its call.
Still as of yore, when George Washington led
Thunders our war-cry— We conquer or fall:
Hail! three times hail to our country and flag!

Faithful and honest to friend and to foe,
Willing to die in humanity's cause—
Thus we defy all tyrannic powers,
While we contend for our Union and laws:
Hail! three times hail to our country and flag!

Rise up, proud eagle, rise up to the clouds,
Spread thy broad wings o'er this fair western world,
Fling from thy beak our dear banner of old—
Show that it still is for freedom unfurled:
Hail! three times hail to our country and flag!

NATIONAL AIRS BY THE BAND.

Hancock Hose Co. No. 1, 30 men. Foreman, Allan Stone.

Bunker Hill Hose Co. No. 2, 25 men. Foreman, W. Wyman.

Howard Steamer Co. No. 1, 30 men. Foreman, George Titus.

Bay State Band of Lynn.

Massachusetts Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1, 30 men. Foreman, Myers.

Washington Hose Co. No. 3, 20 men. Foreman, John Donovan.

Medford Cornet Band.

Franklin Hose Co. No. 4, 20 men. Foreman, Almeader.

N. P. Banks Army and Navy Veteran Union, No. 1, Brigadier-General W. W. Bullock commanding — 125 men.

Brainard's Band.

Bunker Hill Encampment No. 5, I. O. O. F., John P. Loring, Marshal — 75 men.

The procession moved over the following route :
Through City Square, Harvard, Washington, Union, Main, Sullivan Square, Bunker Hill, Elm, High, Monument Square, Mt. Vernon, Chelsea, Chestnut, Adams, Common, Winthrop, Warren, Monument Avenue, High, Winthrop to Winthrop Square, where it was dismissed.

DECORATIONS.

All along the route of the procession the national colors were displayed in every conceivable shape. City Square presented a handsome appearance from the decorations on every side. The enclosure was surrounded with flagstaffs from which floated the colors of the European nations, with the Stars and Stripes at frequent intervals. The City Hall was tastily trimmed with flags, bunting, and streamers, and over the main entrance was an ornamental arch with the inscription "Battle of Bunker Hill," in letters of gold, and on either side the date "1775."

Lines of flags were stretched across the different entrances to the square. The Monument Bank building was neatly decorated. From the Waverley House large handsome flags floated in the breeze. The headquarters of Post 11, corner of Main and Henley streets, presented a fine appearance from the profuseness and tastiness of the decorations. Streamers radiated across the entire front of the building, interspersed with festooning and signal flags, and stretched across the street was a line of flags.

Owing to the extreme heat, several brief halts were made, and the head of the procession reached Winthrop square about twelve o'clock. The escort was dismissed, and the members of the Grand Army entered the square and took seats which had been reserved for them under a large marquee. Another large tent covered the platform reserved for the speakers, singers, the City Government and invited guests, both arranged so as to face the Soldiers' Monument. The square was densely thronged, the streets around the square being also filled with spectators anxious to view the unveiling of the statue, even if not able to hear the addresses.

DEDICATION OF THE SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

The dedicatory exercises began shortly after twelve o'clock. Mayor Kent called the assemblage to order, and Rev. Addison Parker invoked the divine blessing.

The following ode, composed by Abram E. Cutter, of this city, was then sung by a choir of school children.

O nation great! thy peril came
 Not from an outward foe;
 But by an inward rankling wrong,
 That dared thy overthrow.

Hark! shot flies hissing at the flag,
 Aimed by red treason's hand:
 Comes brave response from Sumpter's guns,
 And war is in the land.

Trailed in the dust that flag once loved,
 With traitor's gibe and fling;
 Meanwhile o'er loyal homes it floats,
 Out-blossoming the spring.

Then come the tramp of armed men —
 The launch of gallant fleets,
 The varying battle-shocks of war —
 Advances and retreats.

God's guiding hand at length is seen
 Through the deep thickening gloom;
 While broken chains, and shackles loosed,
 Proclaim rebellion's doom.

The morrow comes that brings sweet peace;
 The flag counts no star lost —
 But, oh! the tears, the pangs, the deaths,
 Of Slavery's holocaust!

O nation great! made greater yet,
 By wrestling with thy wrong;
 Thy destiny is Freedom's hope; —
 Thy heroes' deeds her song.

PRESENTATION ADDRESS,

BY HIS HONOR,

W. M. H. KENT, Mayor.

GENTLEMEN OF THE CITY COUNCIL:

Soon after the close of the war in 1865, the subject of erecting a monument in honor of the men of Charlestown who participated in it began to be discussed. It was a theme of much interest in the government, and also among the people; and at least *one* public meeting was held in the old City Hall, at which various designs were submitted, and the propriety of initiating the work was freely discussed. No definite action was taken, however, until late in the year 1869, when the City Council appropriated the sum of \$20,000 for the erection of a monument, and authorized the appointment of a board of commissioners to make the necessary contracts therefor, locate the same, and supervise all details in relation to it. The commissioners promptly commenced the duties of the trust confided to them, and, after a full consideration of many designs and plans for a monument submitted to them, and having given careful attention to the material of which it should be composed, the board of 1870 concluded to contract with

Martin Milmore, of Boston, for the erection of a granite structure in conformity with plans and designs prepared by him. The board of commissioners, as provided for by the government, has consisted of five citizens, the Mayor and one Alderman, the President of the Common Council and two members thereof, — thus making the board consist of ten. The members from the citizens are Hon. Richard Frothingham, Hon. Francis Childs, Franklin A. Hall, Wm. L. Bond, and William Spalding, the last-named gentleman having been elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of George H. Long, tendered on account of his removal from the city. The five members from the government have varied, of course, as the different governments have changed, and the following gentlemen have served upon the commission: —

Mayors. — Eugene L. Norton and Wm. H. Kent.

Presidents of the Common Council. — Andrew J. Bailey, James Adams, jr., John B. Norton, Joseph W. Hill.

Aldermen. — William B. Long, Horatio Wellington, George B. Neal.

Councilmen. — Henry R. Sibley, Hartwell Mayers, Geo. R. Kelso, Geo. T. Childs, Wm. F. Bibrim.

I think it may be truly said, that every member of the board, from the beginning, has shown a deep interest in the matter, and a willingness to give all necessary time and attention to it. By the terms of contract with Mr. Milmore, the entire monument was to be completed by the 10th day of June, 1872. The work was in fact substantially completed a month earlier than this limit, as the last figure was placed on the pedestal on the ninth day of May. The cor-

ner-stone of the structure was laid quite informally in the presence of the commissioners, at 5 o'clock, P. M., on Tuesday, April 9, 1872. In a cavity of this stone is placed a copper box, hermetically sealed, and containing the following articles : —

Municipal Register of 1870 ; bound copy of City Documents of 1871 ; Mayor's Inaugural Address of 1872 ; Charlestown Directory of 1872 ; Frothingham's History of Charlestown ; Charlestown Chronicle and Advertiser of April 6, 1872 ; Boston Daily Advertiser, Journal, and Herald of April 9, 1872 ; parchment engrossed with the action of the City Council in reference to the monument ; names of the board of commissioners thereon for 1869, '70, '71, and '72 ; names of the City Council for 1871-72 ; names of the sculptor, contractors, and engineers of the work ; parchment furnished by Post No. 11 of the Grand Army of the Republic, engrossed with the names of the officers and members of the Post from its commencement, and one of the metallic badges of its organization ; set of tools for stone-working furnished by Messrs. J. F. & F. L. Gilman.

The granite of which the whole structure is composed is from the Hallowell quarries, in the State of Maine, and was furnished by Mr. J. R. Bodwell. The underground foundation is the work of Robert R. Wiley, and the pedestal that of J. F. & F. L. Gilman, all of this city. The consulting and supervising engineer of the whole was Mr. Samuel J. F. Thayer, of Boston.

And now, gentlemen, the commissioners are here to-day in the performance of the last official act pertaining to the trust you confided to them, — that of formally delivering to you the finished work. In doing this, they cannot withhold a proper word of ap-

preciation of the genius which conceived, and the skill and patience which for so many months has been exercised under the almost imperceptible operation of the chisel and mallet, in bringing the design at last into a characteristic and elegant completeness. Let the monument be unveiled.

The monument was, at the word, immediately divested of its drapery of flags by an ingenious arrangement previously prepared. Its appearance was hailed with prolonged cheering by the multitude, and by national airs from the band. After which His Honor resumed his remarks as follows:—

FELLOW CITIZENS: The duties of the commission being ended,—this structure having been delivered to the government,—it has in fact been delivered to *you*; for the government is but the representative of the people. To you it now belongs, with all the interesting associations connected with it. Like the books that have been written, the orations that have been spoken, the poems that have been composed, the memorial halls that have been erected, this monument now takes *its* place as a part of the history of the great events that called them all forth. As a work of art, as an object of beauty, it may well challenge admiration. But it has a more immediate, and higher and nobler purpose. The simple inscription upon its face tells us and all who come after us what that purpose is. I have no call to discuss the question sometimes raised as to the *expediency* of these testimonials. I may in your name truly declare to the world, that we erect and dedicate it in no spirit of sectional pride or vain glory, but as a

merited tribute to those of our sons who took up the sword, inspired by just and patriotic motives, and faith in a just and patriotic cause. Some of them — many of them, thank God! — are here to-day, testifying, by their presence, their interest in this service and their appreciation of this tribute to them. Many are sleeping their last sleep, and their eyes can never behold it. But whether living or dead, — here to-day to unite with us, sleeping in unknown graves in far Southern climes, resting in the blue depths of the ocean, upon whose bosom they bravely fought their last battle, — one and all, on this day of *all* days to *us*, glory and honor to them! to-day's service is *their* memorial service, and *this* is *their* monument! Near by rises the tall shaft that tells of the patriotic struggles and sufferings of the Fathers. Here, almost within its shadow, stands the less pretentious structure in honor of the patriotism of their descendants. *This* is the natural sequence of *that*. Side by side let them stand in all coming time, perpetual reminders of those who fought to *achieve* and those who fought to *preserve* Constitutional Liberty.

At the conclusion of the Mayor's Address, Hon. Richard Frothingham, the orator of the day, was introduced.

ADDRESS
OF
HON. RICHARD FROTHINGHAM.

MR. MAYOR AND FELLOW-CITIZENS:

The multitude who have left their avocations, and are giving themselves up to the recollections of the past, show that time is dealing with this anniversary in its character not merely as a preserver, but a magnifier. In this, it keeps in memory an event of no local class, of no ordinary importance. The band of citizen soldiers whose deeds on this soil give the day its significance, were, it is true, New-England men; but the New-England colonies were in the relation of union with the other colonies. This union was a growth, a development. It was written as by the finger of God in the American heart. This was a country. The deeds done here on our soil were done in behalf of the country; all are entitled to share the glory of them, and it is gratifying to see the disposition in other communities to observe this day as a national holiday. We are glad to see civic and military processions coming here from year to year, sometimes from distant States, to join us in the celebration. We are glad to see so many fine representations from other places here to-day. Welcome,

one and all, to the kindling associations of this Marathon of a common country. (Applause.)

How beautiful the spectacle on this lovely day of June, here and now. This happy population thronging the streets, free in the enjoyment of every municipal right; that beautiful procession in which were embodied the civic and the charitable activities of a community alive to the duty of providing for culture and for humanity, and that noble representation of the citizen soldiery, a type of the vast physical power that can come forth at the call of the law, and rally to sustain all that is dear and sacred in the republic. And all here is peaceful. All the sounds that we hear, and all the emblems that we see, are of peace, and such peace all over the nation, with ten thousand such happy municipalities, with a territory bounded by two oceans, and with no stain of human bondage remaining! (Applause.) Praises be to God! Peace is in our Jerusalem, and prosperity is in her palaces! Well may there be a jubilee of peace. Peace is our policy with all the earth. We ask as a nation nothing but what is right, while at the same time, with the vast physical power at our command, we submit to nothing that is wrong. (Loud applause.)

Ninety-seven years ago, nature presented here the same lovely aspect. Verdure was on our hills; propitious skies bent over them; the noonday sun sparkled on the same waters that now lave their base; but all else how changed! At this hour of the day, the community which then and there gathered were

on house-tops and steeples and hill-tops, and their hearts were wrung in very anguish at what might be the fate of kindred and friends who were about to engage in mortal combat. The only procession that was seen in our streets then was the few remaining inhabitants that were flying from the town and from the houses that were riddled by the balls of the enemy. There, on that green, stood the calm and determined band of Prescott and his companions; Joseph Warren was soon by his side. A little farther off was the gallant Knowlton, beginning the frail rail-fence breastworks. And then followed that scene of war, that baptism of fire and of blood, which has made the day memorable. Then were performed those deeds that will be remembered so long as valor and virtue shall be esteemed among mankind. In honor of such men stands that majestic shaft, — "silent like the grave, and yet melodious like the song of immortality from the lips of cherubim."

Here, under the shadow of that noble monument, as a fit offering to the day, we gather to dedicate another monument. The simple ceremonial of the unveiling, — the fervent supplication to Almighty God — the inspiring strains of the band — the sweet chorus of youthful voices — the response of this great assembly, — have done the real work of the occasion, by giving expression to the deep and all-pervading patriotic sentiment that is in the heart of the community. It only remains to connect this memorial in honor of the deeds of this generation

with that erected in honor of the founders of the republic.

As time rolls on, the American Revolution and its consequences are more and more studied by the school of liberal ideas the world over. Its thinkers pronounced it the greatest event in the history of mankind, and because it produced a result never before seen in history, that promises to be a lasting benefit to humanity. What was this result? What was this contribution? It was not the discovery of any new force or any new principle. The more closely the development of American society is studied in the colonial age, the more clearly will it appear that the inner spring of its progress was the Christian idea of man, — his native dignity, his equality, — and when institutions growing out of this idea had to be defended in the field, America rang with the grand thought, that its cause was the cause of human nature. "We claim brotherhood," says that remarkable pamphlet "Common Sense," "with every European Christian, and rejoice in the generosity of the sentiment;" and to-day, all there is good and great and hopeful in modern civilization and progress has its roots in Christianity. But Christianity was a divine gift to man, ages before the discovery of America. Nor did this originality consist in presenting the maxim that the people are the source of power, that government rests on their consent: or that representation and taxation must go together: or those grand ideas embodied as the soul of the nation in the Declaration

of Independence. These had all been proclaimed before — away back in the 10th and 15th centuries, in the States-General of France, in the Parliament of England, and, to say nothing more, embodied in the grand writings of Milton and Locke and Sidney.

Once more: as the learned look upon us, they think it nothing singular that these colonies should have formed the Union which they thought so marvellous. There had been Unions from the earliest ages; there had been successful struggles to throw off arbitrary power, — and so they saw nothing original or peculiar in this. The result pronounced original and wonderful was the triumph of peace. In the ten years that led to the Revolutionary War, there had been kept before the public mind the idea of forming an American Constitution, an American Commonwealth; and when the demand for independence, or a nation, became definite, there also were convictions of the necessity of forming a republican government. So that these great ideas were correlative in their growth. At length, when the war was over, there was ordained and established by the people a constitution for the United States, to ensure domestic tranquillity and secure the blessings of liberty. It was done in each State by its sovereignty. As the same sovereign power in each State had established local governments in the State, it established a government for these States in union, or the political unit of the United States, in order to meet their wants as one people and one country. Their creative acts, local and general, were not divisions

of sovereignty, but the simple exercise of sovereign power, limiting the people themselves, as well as their agents, in the discharge of political duties. Their result, the constitutions, were not ends, but means of preserving the public life and promoting the public good, and as such were sacredly obligatory on all. But they were valuable only as they contributed to this object, and when they proved inadequate to embody the living spirit, the people who created them in the same way could alter them. The sovereignty, though quiescent, remained intact, ready to exercise its power again when the progress of society should require changes in the organic law. This American production, this great republican government, was the original contribution of the American Revolution to mankind.

In the hands of the American race, — that which used to be called such before the Revolution, consisting of people from different lands, who came here to this asylum of liberty and constituted a new race, with new ideas, new aspirations, new hopes, a new public life, — how grandly did our republic take its place in the family of the nations! How population increased! How States multiplied! How enterprises sprung up all over the land! How civilization shot on towards the Pacific coast! The dream of Nathaniel Ames, the father of the renowned Fisher Ames, was more than realized. He was a maker of almanacs, and in the year 1758, he wrote two or three pages about the condition and prospects of America. He saw the great path

of progress, like the sun, from the east to the west, to these shores; and he saw the path of the gospel, like the sun, from the east to the west; and so he goes on to picture what will be when the immense resources of this country, to the Pacific Ocean, shall be developed. How some of the stones shall be quarried and made into monuments to commemorate those who were then endeavoring to save their country, — Washington was then on the stage, — and how others should be fashioned into forms of beauty and art. And after depicting the results of this progress, he says: "Oh, ye unborn inhabitants of America, when your eyes shall behold the sun after he has rolled the seasons round for two or three centuries more, you will know that in 1758, we dreamed of your times."

The adaptation of the republican government to the wants of the people excited the admiration of the liberal world. Perhaps of all the great men abroad who have measured us, and who are capable of appreciating us, none have been better qualified to pronounce a judgment on the relative value of governments than the late Lord Brougham. In an elaborate work published in eighteen hundred and fifty-three, he reviews all the governments which have been established since the world began, and dwells particularly on the government of the United States. He especially examines the method adopted to keep the local and national legislatures within the spheres of the powers allotted to them, and into the authority conferred on the local supreme courts, and on that august tribunal of the nation, — the Supreme

Court of the United States,—to declare acts violative of the organic law to be void; and he pronounces the “means devised the very greatest refinement of social probity to which any state of circumstances has given rise, or to which any age has given birth.”

These means proved adequate to meet the exigencies of every case of peace and war for seventy years, however violent might have been the party fury. When, early in this century, the cry of disunion was raised at the North, the word went through the press and from public meetings, that only the power that made the constitution could alter it; that it must stand unchanged until the voice of three fourths of the States should pronounce in favor of a change. When disunion appeared in the South, in the administration of President Jackson, he pronounced in his proclamation “disunion by armed force to be treason”; and he called on the people to maintain the Union. In responding to this call, Daniel Webster, in Faneuil Hall, uttered words that deserve to be treasured in every American heart: “When the standard of the Union is raised, and waves o’er my head,—the standard which Washington planted on the ramparts of the constitution,—God forbid that I should inquire whom the people have commissioned to bear it up. I only ask in what manner I can best discharge my duty in defending it.” (Applause.)

Agitations to dissolve the Union were kept up for thirty years. At length, in April, 1861, a combination for this purpose culminated in the act of war in the bombardment of Fort Sumpter. The intelligence

stirred the nation like an electric shock. Then arose the issue : Whether the great republican government, established by the toil and blood and labor of the men of the Revolution, should stand or fall.

President Lincoln, who will be revered through all time as the martyr president, true to his duty, issued his proclamation calling for seventy-five thousand of the militia of the several States, "to maintain the honor, the integrity, and the existence of our national Union, and the perpetuity of popular government." The uprising among twenty-two millions of the population to meet the call of the law was a revelation of the strength of the historic force born of the Revolution, of which some Americans, even, had no conception.

A requisition for troops, pursuant to this call of the president, came to this community through our great-hearted governor, John A. Andrew, of blessed memory. (Hearty applause.) The thrill in this community when the fifth regiment, including the two military companies of this city,—the Charlestown Artillery and the City Guards,—was ordered to the field, can never be forgotten. Their rolls bore the names of young men who were the pride of our city. They, not long before, had promptly obeyed a summons from the local authorities to suppress a mob, and in the spirit of patriotic duty, they as promptly answered the call to defend their country. "I," said one, "don't want to kill anybody; I don't want anybody to kill me; but I want to serve my country." Another, foreign born, said, with tears in

his eyes, "I hope this country is not to be broken up; it is the only country in which the poor man has his rights." (Applause.) This was the spirit in which the young men of these two companies enlisted in the service of the United States.

They were pioneers of other companies, composed of young men of like patriotic impulses, of like aims, which, during the four years, that seemed four ages in their passage, answered similar calls. Besides these, as recruits were demanded, there were enlistments in the navy as well as the army; so that Charlestown furnished 4,307 men for the war, which was a surplus of 111 over all demands. One hundred and twenty of these were commissioned officers. The amount expended by the city during the war was \$168,654. The amount paid for aid to soldiers' families, which was returned by the Commonwealth, was \$175,771.

By far the greater number of the four thousand who went from this place were born here, or were identified with our interests. They were solid young men, whose precious lives were dear to us all. They stood on many a battle-field under the renowned commanders. They were in the opening scene, under the veteran of two wars, General Scott; they were in the conflicts from the land of the Potomac to the valley of the Mississippi; they were under General Grant at the final surrender. They were in worse than the thick of the battle. They underwent the lingering torments of the brutalities of Southern prisons, and wherever they were, they proved worthy

to bear the name of Bunker Hill. (Loud applause.) Their merit was in standing, with their lives in their hands, in front, and defending the flag which Washington first unfurled; and God be praised that so many have returned and are here to-day to join with us in this commemoration!

Some, in the Providence of God, were borne home tenderly on their shields. It does not require length of days, or many deeds, to win immortality. A single act done in the right spirit, at the right time, and for a good cause, will secure it. An honored inhabitant, whose remains lie in yonder burial hill, had the great thought of devoting one half of his estate to found a college; and through all time, the name of John Harvard will be dear to the lovers of learning. I hold in my hand a roll of names of those who went out from this city and laid down their lives in the cause of their country, who were brought home and buried here. I have not time to read them. Others sleep in unknown graves; but these are not forgotten when their comrades strew flowers on the graves of those that are known. The remains of some, during the war, were consigned, with every mark of respect, to their last resting-place. Such were Henry Todd, Benjamin G. Blanchard, George S. Prebble, George Devreaux, Philip B. Holmes, Joseph P. Hubbell, Ansel P. Kellam, Luther V. Bell, N. C. Golbert, James O'Brien. And of those who died of lingering disease I cannot forbear to name the successive commanders of the City Guard, John T. Boyd and Caleb Drew. These were types of the beauty of our Israel,

of the varied excellence of character and nobility of nature, who died that our nation might live. The memory of such is as perennial as the spring, and as fragrant as its flowers.

It is simple justice to this community to say, that from the beginning to the close of these acts of solid loyalty to the country, it was as one substantial manifestation of interest. They forgot that in matters of politics they were ranged parties; that they worshipped at different altars. They were as one in sustaining the government.

Foremost in patriotism were the daughters of our city. The hardest trials to bear were those in the homes which the sailor and the soldier went forth to defend; and here were heroism and self-sacrifice, as the wife, the mother, and the sister encouraged and cheered the parting hour, and endured the painful suspense of the vacant chair. They entered at once upon the noble work of relief, and were the first in the loyal States to enter upon it systematically. They did not grow weary in it, and every new call found their hands ready for fresh labor. And so they cared for the families of the men in the field needing assistance, and they sent to the soldier at the front substantial comforts, which were so many perpetual reminders that loving eyes were following his perilous marches. This nerved his arm and strengthened his heart to meet the merciless storm of iron hail.

Special occasions elicited an expression of the deep feeling that pervaded the whole community which can never be forgotten. I select two for

illustrations. One was the demonstration when the two companies—the Artillery and the City Guard—departed for the war, when there was an escort of four thousand of the inhabitants, with General Joseph F. Boyd at their head, who had three sons in the City Guard. The other was the ovation given to the soldiers on their return from the war, when welcome, joy, respect, and gratitude were spoken in every form which ingenuity could devise, but most of all in the warm personal greetings of a patriotic community. This was not a transient feeling. It was deep. It was abiding. It was faithfully embodied by the successive city governments in their varied action. If any citizen has demurred at the appropriations from the city treasury to provide for the wants of the soldiers, or to meet the calls of the government, it has escaped my observation.

In testimony of the profound gratitude to the soldier and the sailor, we erect this monument. It stands in an ancient enclosure, as old as Charlestown, set apart by its founders to nurture one of the fundamental institutions of New-England,—the militia. It stands in the midst of temples of learning, in which the young are trained to the work of serving their country; of the altars of religion, where we are reminded of our dependence upon Almighty God for all we enjoy; and in the midst of our homes, where are always the nurseries of true patriotism. It is symbolic of the country which protects all that is sacred. One of the earliest references to such a symbol occurs in the newspapers at the period of the

stamp act. One hears a wail in the forest. It is America singing to her children.

“An heavenly dame,
 Her form was all divine;
 An azure mantle starred with gems
 Loose from her shoulders hung, —
 A golden harp shone in her hand.”

Her song then was inspired by the “horrid clank of chains.” The America of the symbol before us beams with the smile of beneficence and satisfaction. She holds in her hand the wreath she rejoicingly is about to place on the soldier and the sailor. They are at rest now, but they are on the lookout, — keen-eyed, eager. They stand for the men of Bunker Hill, who are ever ready to answer to the call of their country. In the presence of the gifted artist, Martin Milmore, I need not say more than that by the touch of genius he has produced a life-like group which plainly tells its story. (Loud applause.)

The monument bears a simple inscription: “In honor of the men of Charlestown, who in the war of 1861 fought for the preservation of the Union.” At the cost of an expenditure of blood and treasure of which history has no parallel, there is but one republic, with one constitution and one government under it; one country and one flag. The same sovereign power which ordained and established the constitution, has, by an amendment, prohibited slavery forever. This great republican government to-day stands stronger than ever, — stronger in the

affections of the people, stronger in the respect and admiration of the world. The great lesson of to-day — the lesson of the awful providence which we have seen — is, that whatever changes are to come in our government must be made under the law. Whoever, under whatever pretext, undertakes to make changes outside of the law, is an anarchist, and the only way to be true to liberty and true to social order is to put him down by physical force. (Applause.)

This monument is erected to those who have sought to preserve the Union. Young men, as you look upon that loftier monument, it tells the story of the heroism, the self-sacrifice, the treasure, and the blood required to establish the Union; and as you look at this monument to-day, it will tell you that whenever called upon again to rally to the standard of the law, a grateful community will bear you in remembrance. (Loud applause.)

The interesting exercises concluded with the singing of Keller's American Hymn, and music by Edmands' Band.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 014 013 487 9



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 014 013 487 9



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 014 013 487

Hollinger
pH 8.5