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DORCHESTER HEIGHTS  
MONUMENT MEMORIAL





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**A R E C O R D**

OF THE

DEDICATION OF THE MONUMENT

ON

DORCHESTER HEIGHTS, SOUTH BOSTON

*BUILT BY THE COMMONWEALTH*

as a **MEMORIAL** of the

EVACUATION OF BOSTON, MARCH 17, 1776

BY THE BRITISH TROOPS



*March 17, 1902*



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## INTRODUCTION



THE desire of many patriotic citizens to commemorate by a suitable memorial the evacuation of the city of Boston on March 17, 1776, found substantial recognition on June 14, 1898, in a resolve of the General Court of Massachusetts, providing for an appropriation of the sum of "twenty-five thousand dollars to be expended under the direction of the Governor and Council for the erection of a monument on Dorchester Heights, in the city of Boston, to commemorate the construction on said Heights, by General George Washington and his little army, of a redoubt, which caused the British troops under the command of General Howe to evacuate Boston."

In compliance with the provisions of this resolve, the Governor appointed a committee of the Executive Council to consider the best method of obtaining a satisfactory and artistic monument, and this committee, on May 10, 1899, recom-

## DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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mended that designs be obtained through a limited competition. After a careful consideration of the eight sets of designs submitted in competition, that of Messrs. Peabody and Stearns, architects, of Boston, was accepted.

This design called for a structure in style which fittingly reproduced the general form and proportions of the Colonial Meeting House steeple, and it was accordingly so constructed.

The monument is built of white marble. A plain shaft about sixty feet high rises from the platform at the summit of the hill, relieved only by a small balcony on each of the four sides. Above the main shaft the walls recede, forming a platform surrounded by a balustrade. This platform commands an unequalled view of Boston, its harbor and the surrounding country. A second square shaft appears above the balustrade, and the whole is crowned by an octagonal lantern. The main shaft is eighteen feet four inches square, and the extreme height of the monument from the platform to the tip of the vane is about one hundred and fifteen feet.

The entrance to the tower is on the east side.

## DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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On the west side is a marble panel, with an inscription in gilded letters, prepared by Charles W. Eliot, LL. D., President of Harvard University.

The monument was unveiled with impressive ceremonies on March 17, 1902. The exercises held during the afternoon included a parade through the principal streets of South Boston, followed by an address at the monument by His Excellency Governor Winthrop Murray Crane, and the unveiling of the tablet. The oration by United States Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, together with the other formal ceremonies, were held in the assembly hall of the South Boston High School building.









ON THESE HEIGHTS  
DURING THE NIGHT OF MARCH 4 1776  
THE AMERICAN TROOPS BESIEGING BOSTON  
BUILT TWO REDOUBTS  
WHICH MADE THE HARBOR AND TOWN  
UNTENABLE BY THE BRITISH FLEET AND GARRISON  
ON MARCH 17 THE BRITISH FLEET  
CARRYING 11000 EFFECTIVE MEN  
AND 1000 REFUGEES  
DROPPED DOWN TO NANTASKET ROADS  
AND THENCEFORTH  
BOSTON WAS FREE  
A STRONG BRITISH FORCE  
HAD BEEN EXPELLED  
FROM ONE OF THE UNITED AMERICAN COLONIES





# RESOLVES

OF THE

GENERAL COURT

# DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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[CHAPTER 113]

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-EIGHT

### RESOLVE

TO PROVIDE FOR THE ERECTION OF A MONUMENT  
ON DORCHESTER HEIGHTS

RESOLVED, That there be allowed and paid out of the treasury of the Commonwealth a sum not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars, to be expended under the direction of the governor and council for the erection of a monument on Dorchester Heights, in the city of Boston, to commemorate the construction on said heights by General George Washington and his little army, of a redoubt, which caused the British troops under the command of General Howe to evacuate Boston: provided, however, that no part of said sum shall be expended until the city of Boston shall have provided, without expense to the Commonwealth, a site satisfactory to the governor and council, for the erection of said monument, and shall have agreed to keep said site open and accessible to the public, under such reasonable regulations as may be necessary to protect said monument from injury, and until said city shall also have agreed to keep at its own expense said site and said monument, after its erection, in proper condition and repair.

House of Representatives, June 13, 1898.

Passed. JOHN L. BATES, *Speaker*.

In Senate, June 14, 1898.

Passed. GEORGE E. SMITH, *President*.

June 14, 1898.

Approved.

ROGER WOLCOTT.

Office of the Secretary.

Boston, Nov. 26, 1902.

A true copy.

Witness the Great Seal of the Commonwealth.

WILLIAM M. OLIN,

*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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[CHAPTER 97]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND ONE

RESOLVE

TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE MONUMENT ON DORCHESTER HEIGHTS

RESOLVED, That there be allowed and paid out of the treasury of the Commonwealth a sum not exceeding eight thousand dollars, to be expended under the direction of the governor and council in completing the monument on Dorchester Heights in the city of Boston commemorating the construction in that place by General Washington and his army of a redoubt which caused the British troops under the command of General Howe to evacuate Boston on the seventeenth day of March, seventeen hundred and seventy-six.

House of Representatives, June 6, 1901.

Passed. JAMES J. MYERS, *Speaker*.

In Senate, June 7, 1901.

Passed. RUFUS A. SOULE, *President*.

June 10, 1901.

Approved.

W. MURRAY CRANE.

Office of the Secretary.

Boston, Nov. 26, 1902.

A true copy.

Witness the Great Seal of the Commonwealth,

WILLIAM M. OLIN,

*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

# DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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[CHAPTER 15]

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND TWO

### RESOLVE

TO PROVIDE FOR AN APPROPRIATION FOR DEDICATING  
THE MONUMENT ON DORCHESTER HEIGHTS IN THE  
CITY OF BOSTON

**R**ESOLVED, That the sum of five thousand dollars be allowed and paid out of the treasury of the Commonwealth, to be expended under the direction of the governor and council in paying the cost of dedicating, on Evacuation Day, the seventeenth day of March, in the year nineteen hundred and two, the monument on Dorchester Heights in the city of Boston which has been erected in memory of the evacuation of Boston by the British troops.

House of Representatives, March 5, 1902.

Passed. JAMES J. MYERS, *Speaker*.

In Senate, March 5, 1902.

Passed. RUFUS A. SOULE, *President*.

March 5, 1902.

Approved.

W. MURRAY CRANE.

Office of the Secretary.

Boston, Nov. 26, 1902.

A true copy.

Witness the Great Seal of the Commonwealth.

WILLIAM M. OLIN,

*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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[CHAPTER 185]

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND TWO

**A N A C T**

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR DEDICATING THE  
MONUMENT ON DORCHESTER HEIGHTS IN THE CITY  
OF BOSTON

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—*

SECTION 1. The sum of five thousand dollars is hereby appropriated, to be paid out of the treasury of the Commonwealth, and to be expended under the direction of the governor and council for the payment of expenses in connection with dedicating, on Evacuation Day, the seventeenth of March of the present year, the monument on Dorchester Heights in the city of Boston.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

House of Representatives, March 12, 1902.

Passed to be enacted. JAMES J. MYERS, *Speaker*.

In Senate, March 13, 1902.

Passed to be enacted. RUFUS A. SOULE, *President*.

March 14, 1902.

Approved.

W. MURRAY CRANE.

Office of the Secretary.

Boston, Nov. 26, 1902.

A true copy.

Witness the Great Seal of the Commonwealth.

WILLIAM M. OLIN,

*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

# DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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[CHAPTER 88]

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND TWO

### RESOLVE

TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE MONUMENT  
OF DORCHESTER HEIGHTS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

**R**ESOLVED, That there be allowed and paid out of the treasury of the Commonwealth a sum not exceeding three thousand dollars, to be expended under the direction of the governor and council in completing the monument on Dorchester Heights in the city of Boston, commemorating the construction in that place by General Washington and his army of a redoubt which caused the British troops under the command of General Howe to evacuate Boston on the seventeenth day of March, seventeen hundred and seventy-six.

House of Representatives, May 1, 1902.

Passed. JAMES J. MYERS, *Speaker*.

In Senate, May 5, 1902.

Passed. RUFUS A. SOULE, *President*.

May 6, 1902.

Approved.

W. MURRAY CRANE.

Office of the Secretary.

Boston, Nov. 26, 1902.

A true copy.

Witness the Great Seal of the Commonwealth.

WILLIAM M. OLIN,

*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

# THE PROCESSION



**A**T noon, on March 17, 1902, the Chief Marshal and his staff formed the head of the procession at Broadway Extension, and a few minutes after one o'clock it was directed to move. The route of the parade was through West and East Broadway, along Q Street, East Fourth Street, L Street, East Fifth Street, K Street, East Eighth Street, I Street, East Fourth Street to G Street. When the procession reached that portion of G Street near Thomas Park, the Chief Marshal and his staff, the Marine Corps, 9th Regiment, Naval Battalion, 1st Corps of Cadets, and the carriages containing the Governor and guests, proceeded a short distance on the north side of the park. Here the Governor and his guests alighted and ascended the slope to the summit of the Heights, whereon the monument is erected. The bands of the 9th Regiment, Naval Brigade, and the 1st Corps of Cadets, took their positions around the monument, consolidating under the leadership of S. S. Lurvey of the 9th Regiment

## DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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band, and played "The Star Spangled Banner". Immediately afterwards Governor Crane addressed the assemblage, and the tablet on the marble structure, which was covered with American flags, was unveiled amid the strains of "America."

### THE ESCORT

Mounted police in charge of Sergeant Stone.

#### CHARLESTOWN MARINE BAND

Two companies of marines, escorting the chief marshal, Capt. Dion C. Williams commanding.

#### CHIEF MARSHAL

Lieut.-Col. William H. Devine, 2d brigade, M. V. M.

#### CHIEF OF STAFF

Capt. William J. Casey, adjutant 9th infantry, M. V. M.

#### STAFF

Lieut.-Col. George H. Benyon, Governor's staff; Lieut.-Col. E. E. Locke, assistant adjutant-general, 2d brigade; Maj. George F. H. Murray, L. S. W. V.; Maj. Joseph J. Kelley, 9th regiment infantry, M. V. M.; Maj. John J. Sullivan, 9th regiment; Maj. H. P. Ballard, 2d brigade staff; Maj. John P. Lombard, surgeon, 9th regiment; Capt. John H. Dunn, 9th regiment; Capt. Frank K. Neal, National Lancers, M. V. M.; Capt. James A. Gallivan, 2d brigade staff; Capt. Hugh Bancroft, 2d brigade staff; Capt. Walter C. Wardwell, 2d brigade staff; Capt. Roland H. Sherman, 2d brigade staff; Capt. Thomas F. Clark, L. S. W. V.; Lieut. George Proctor, National Lancers, M. V. M.; Lieut. Daniel J. Murphy, 9th regiment infantry; Lieut. Thomas J. Tute, Ancient and Honorable Artillery; Lieut. Alfred Mudge, 1st battalion cavalry, M. V. M.; Col. James Sullivan, Union Veterans' Union; Capt. John Mahoney, Post 2, G. A. R.; Dr. William H. Ruddiek, G. A. R.; Sergt. Thomas W. Flood, Ancient and Honorable Artillery; Sergt. Albert L. Wyman, non-commissioned staff, 2d brigade; Sergt. George H. Nee, Medal of Honor Legion; Sergt. John Farley, Dahlgren Post 2, G. A. R.



# DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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## NINTH REGIMENT BAND

9th regiment infantry, six companies, Lieut.-Col. Lawrence J. Logan commanding.

### STAFF

- 1st Lieut. B. F. Flanigan, adjutant; Capt. J. J. Dunn; Capt. J. E. McGourty, assistant surgeon; 1st Lieut. John P. Kane, paymaster; 1st Lieut. Joseph J. Foley; Lieut. T. J. Sullivan; 2d Lieut. Edward L. Logan.
- Company A — Capt. George M. Rogers, 1st Lieut. T. J. Sullivan, 2d Lieut. Edward L. Logan.
- Company B — Capt. James F. Walsh, 1st Lieut. J. J. Hickey, 2d Lieut. James H. Guthrie.
- Company C — Capt. Thomas F. Quinlan, 1st Lieut. M. E. Bowten, 2d Lieut. M. L. King.
- Company E — Capt. J. J. Barry, 1st Lieut. D. P. Sullivan, 2d Lieut. C. J. Murphy.
- Company H — Capt. J. J. Hayes, 1st Lieut. P. H. Sullivan, 2d Lieut. Thomas P. Clark.
- Company I — Capt. J. A. Cully, 1st Lieut. John F. Delaney, 2d Lieut. John F. McInnes.

## NAVAL BRIGADE BAND

Battalion naval brigade, Lieut.-Com. James H. Dillaway, Jr., commanding.

### STAFF

- Lieut. J. Thayer Lincoln, adjutant; Lieut. James Marshall, paymaster; Lieut. Dennis F. Sughrue, assistant surgeon; Lieut. D. G. Eldredge, assistant surgeon; Lieut. T. R. Armstrong, engineer; Ensign Thomas S. Prouty, assistant paymaster; Lieut. A. A. Bittues.
- Company C — Lieut. Charles H. Parker, chief of company; Lieut. Louis E. Felton, Ensign William A. Lewis.
- Company A — Lieut. Daniel H. Sughrue, chief of company; Ensign Bradford H. Pierce.
- Company B — Lieut. Daniel M. Goodrich, chief of company; Lieut. Frederic H. French, Ensign Dudley M. Pray.

## BOSTON CADET BAND

1st corps of cadets (escorting the commander-in-chief). Lieut.-Col. T. F. Edmonds commanding; Maj. Thomas Talbot.

# DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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## STAFF

- 1st Lieut. W. B. Stearns, adjutant; 1st Lieut. Alfred J. Rowan, quartermaster; Maj. Charles M. Green, surgeon; 1st Lieut. David Cheever, assistant surgeon; 1st Lieut. J. Parker Bremer, paymaster; 1st Lieut. W. A. Hayes, I. R. P.
- Company A—Capt. Frank L. Joy, 1st Lieut. Charles E. Loud, 2d Lieut. John Lavallo.
- Company B—Capt. F. Elliot Cabot, 1st Lieut. C. H. Cole, Jr., 2d Lieut. Frank E. Phinney.
- Company C—Capt. John A. Blanchard, 1st Lieut. Jesse E. Stearns, 2d Lieut. F. A. Stearns.
- Company D—Capt. Charles D. Rollins, 1st Lieut. W. S. Dinsmore, 2d Lieut. Holton B. Perkins.
- Governor W. Murray Crane, Lieutenant-Governor John L. Bates, Mayor Patrick A. Collins, Admiral W. S. Schley and other guests in carriages, including the state and city committees and the officers of the South Boston Citizens' Association.
- Light battery A—Capt. Samuel D. Parker, commanding; 1st Lieut. Harry S. Blake, 1st Lieut. William Amory, 2d, 2d Lieut. C. S. Dole.

## ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS

- Company A—Capt. John S. Black, Lieut. John A. Steele, Lieut. M. J. Redding, 1st Sergt. J. V. Fitzgerald.
- Company B—Lieut. A. G. Robertson, Lieut. J. A. Lally, 1st Sergt. John Curley.
- Company C—Capt. Henry Mercer, Lieut. Frank Sheedy, Lieut. J. F. Sterritt, 1st Sergt. M. V. Callahan.

## ST. AUGUSTINE'S BAND

- Washington Post 32, G. A. R., Commander John Mahoney.  
Dahlgren Post 2, G. A. R., Commander William H. Whitney.

## KEARSARGE NAVAL VETERAN BAND

- Gettysburg command, Union Veterans' Union, Thomas Hogan, colonel.  
Maj. M. J. O'Connor camp, L. S. W. V., Maj. George F. H. Murray, state commander-in-chief of Legion of Spanish War Veterans commanding.  
The carriages containing the guests and members of the city, State and Citizens' Association committees were as follows:—  
First carriage—Governor W. Murray Crane, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge and Adjutant General Samuel Dalton.

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Second carriage — Lieutenant Governor John L. Bates, the Rev. Dr. William F. Warren, Councillor Henry D. Yerxa and Surgeon General Robert S. Blood.

Third carriage — Admiral W. S. Schley, Mayor Patrick A. Collins, Congressman Henry F. Naphen and Inspector General Wm. H. Brigham.

Fourth carriage — Congressman Joseph A. Conry, Major Patterson and General Henry S. Dewey.

Fifth carriage — Councillors Jeremiah J. McNamara and Arthur A. Maxwell, Secretary of State William M. Olin and Col. James White, I. G. R. P.

Sixth carriage — Councillor David I. Robinson, Treasurer E. S. Bradford, Private Secretary John B. Smith, Col. William C. Capelle.

Seventh carriage — Attorney General Herbert Parker, Executive Secretary Edward F. Hamlin, Col. Arthur Denny, assistant inspector general, Executive Stenographer, Francis Hurtubis, Jr.

Eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth carriages contained the following-named persons: — Major Charles G. Davis, President Rufus A. Soule, senators M. J. Sullivan, John K. Berry and W. T. A. Fitzgerald, Speaker James J. Myers, representatives Edward B. Callender, William S. McNary, Arthur P. Russell, David W. Creed, Edward L. Logan, William J. Sullivan, Charles M. Draper, Arthur E. Newcomb, Charles E. Stearns and Samuel Roads, Jr.; Doorkeeper David T. Remington of the Senate and Assistant Doorkeeper Thomas F. Pedrick of the House; Messengers Francis Steele, Sidney Holmes, Charles H. Johnson, Edward C. Cook and James P. Clair.

Fourteenth carriage — Chairman James Doyle of the Board of Aldermen, President Arthur W. Dolan of the Common Council, City Messenger Edward J. Leary.

The next carriages contained members of the city government committee: — aldermen Charles H. Stattery, Michael W. Norris; councilmen William P. Hickey, Patrick J. Shields, Hugh W. Young, John J. Teevans, Andrew L. O'Toole, Robert Ware, Richard Walsh, John Lane, Edward F. McGrady and Frank Linehan.

Following these were two carriages containing the Citizens' Committee: — Edward P. Barry, chairman, John H. Means, president, Edward J. Powers, secretary, David L. White, treasurer.

In one of the barouches which joined in the procession were Dr. John Sullivan and his brother, Edward Sullivan, great grandsons of Maj.-Gen. John Sullivan, of Revolutionary fame, who commanded the New Hampshire contingent under Gen. Washington at the siege of Boston.





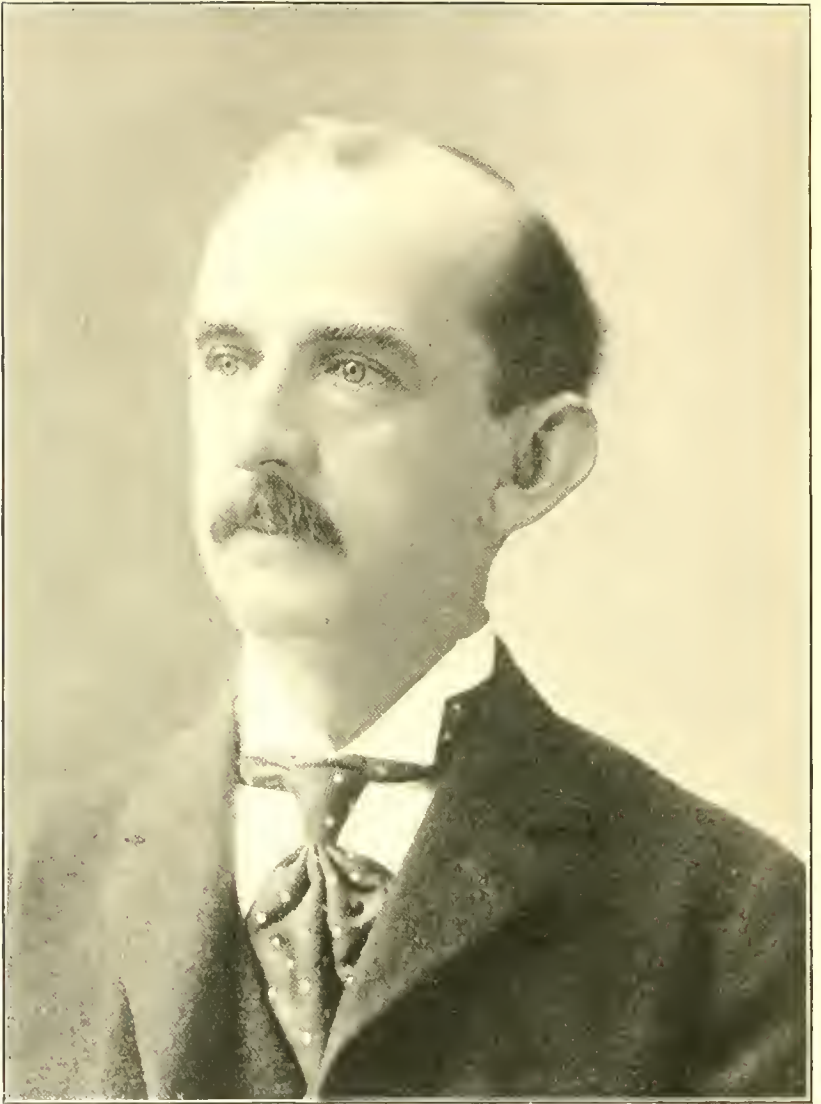
# CEREMONIES

INCIDENT TO THE UNVEILING OF THE

DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MONUMENT









# A D D R E S S

BY HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR CRANE



**ONE** hundred and twenty-six years ago to-day, American patriots, under the leadership of George Washington, erected fortifications on these heights, which resulted in the British troops, under the command of General Howe, evacuating the town of Boston.

From that day to this the soil of Massachusetts has not been pressed by the foot of a foreign foe. In grateful memory of the brave men who by resistance to tyranny and by successful revolution established the Republic, and to the end that the noble deeds done here may not be forgotten, the Commonwealth has erected this monument, which I now have the privilege to unveil.





# PUBLIC EXERCISES

IN THE

SOUTH BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL

DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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P R O G R A M

PRESIDING OFFICER - HIS EXCELLENCY W. MURRAY CRANE

**OVERTURE** "Mignon" *Thomas*

ORCHESTRA  
MR. EMIL MOLLENHAUER, CONDUCTOR

**PRAYER** REV. WILLIAM F. WARREN, D.D., LL.D.

**RESPONSE** "Almighty Father" *Herbert*

QUARTET  
MRS. ALICE BATES RICE  
MR. CLARENCE SHIRLEY  
MISS ADAH CAMPBELL HUSSEY  
MR. ARTHUR BERESFORD

**ORCHESTRA** "Narcissus" *Nevin*

**SOLO Soprano** "The Star-Spangled Banner" *Francis Scott Key*

MRS. ALICE BATES RICE

**ORATION** BON. HENRY CABOT LODGE

**SELECTION** "The Victor's Return" *Mendelssohn*

QUARTET

**HYMN** "America" *Rev. S. F. Smith, D.D.*

ALL ARE REQUESTED TO RISE AND JOIN IN SINGING THE HYMN

My country! 'tis of thee,  
Sweet land of liberty,  
Of thee I sing:  
Land where my fathers died!  
Land of the pilgrims' pride!  
From ev'ry mountain side  
Let freedom ring!

Let music swell the breeze,  
And ring from all the trees  
Sweet freedom's song:  
Let mortal tongues awake;  
Let all that breathe partake;  
Let rocks their silence break,  
The sound prolong.

My native country, thee,  
Land of the noble, free,  
Thy name I love:  
I love thy rocks and rills,  
Thy woods and templed hills:  
My heart with rapture thrills  
Like that above.

Our fathers' God! to Thee,  
Author of Liberty,  
To Thee we sing:  
Long may our land be bright  
With freedom's holy light;  
Protect us by Thy might,  
Great God, our King!

**ORCHESTRA** "American Airs"

FINALE



# PRAYER

OF THE

REV. WILLIAM F. WARREN, D.D., LL.D.



# P R A Y E R

BY REV. WILLIAM F. WARREN, D.D., LL.D.

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**I**T is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

For this hour we give thee thanks. With exultant hearts have we gathered upon one of the altar-heights of this land, dedicated by thee to liberty. We thank thee for the vision of faith thou gavest unto our fathers ere yet thy delivering hand was seen. We thank thee for the heroism and fortitude and patience with which through long years they struggled for the realization of that vision. Into the fruit of their struggles we, and millions of our fellow-men, have entered. We desire that the victorious help thou broughtest to those fathers be not forgotten by our children. Reverently have we builded our memorial, reverently we dedicate it to thee. To the remotest generation may it stand, witnessing to thy never-failing care. To the men of all coming time may it bring its silent solemn summons to gratitude and trust.

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Be pleased to bless the magistrates and people of our Commonwealth and of its loved metropolis. May righteous laws and wise administration perpetuate all good that we inherit. May we never forget that except the Lord keep the city the watchman waketh but in vain.

We further implore thy blessing upon the whole sisterhood of states that share with us the fruit of the victory we here and now commemorate. Be thou the guide and helper of our President, and of all who make and execute our laws. Be thou the protector, the custodian, the commander-in-chief of our army and of our navy. May righteousness exalt the nation, that we may be that happy people whose God is the Lord.

Thou hast taught us to pray also for our enemies. Gladly would we linger to do it; but thou hast graciously turned our ancient enemies into friends. The cannon that thundered against our homes and liberties now thunder salutes of honor and good-will to the banner of the Stars and Stripes. Glory be to thee for long-established international amity. Bless thou our Motherland. May peace be within her walls and prosperity within her palaces. For our brethren and companions' sakes we will now say, Peace be within her.



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All this we humbly ask through Him who taught us when we pray to say: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.











# ADDRESS

OF THE

HON. HENRY CABOT LODGE



# A D D R E S S

BY HON. HENRY CABOT LODGE



**A**MONG the old churches of Boston which have fallen before the march of trade was that which stood in Brattle Street, from which it took its name. Plain externally in form and outline, the interior of the old church had all the dignity and simplicity characteristic of the school of Wren. The grace of a day that was dead, the faint perfume of the 18th century hung about the stately columns and the high-backed pews, whose occupants were obliged to gaze upwards in order to see their minister, raised high above their heads in the great mahogany pulpit, the gift, I believe, of John Hancock. To this old church, which I wish might have been spared and preserved, my childish steps were early directed, in order that I might learn my catechism in the Sunday School and beneath the shadows of the Doric columns join in the simple services and be imbued with the gentle liberality of Unitarianism. It was not, however, I am sorry to say, either catechism or

## DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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doctrine or sermon which impressed me most deeply when I was first taken to Brattle Street Church, but a certain lump of iron planted conspicuously in the side of the square tower. That bit of iron was obviously a cannon ball, and my boyish imagination was much excited when I was told that it had been fired into the town by Washington and had then found its present resting place. It did not disturb me at all that the ball was neatly set in the brick wall, just half in and half out. It was a genuine cannon ball, fired in war, and that was enough for me. But in this way the first historical event of which I became conscious was driven into my mind by the old cannon ball, just as it had itself been driven into the tower's side, if we can only believe the cherished tradition of my early days, by some of Washington's hardly acquired powder. The historical event which thus came out of the past and made itself real to me I need hardly say to you was the one we commemorate to-day, the successful occupation of Dorchester Heights by the American Army, which led to the immediate evacuation of the town by the British forces. Suspicion of skillful mason work in the position occupied by the old cannon ball of Brattle Street invaded my mind as I grew older and disturbed the happy faith of



## DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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childhood, but the fact of which the ball was the representative and symbol loomed ever larger and clearer on my mental vision.

I came to understand why an American Army had fired on an American town and that this rather gruesome messenger from friends outside really put an end to the miseries which Boston had long endured for the sake of freedom and independence. Then, as my horizon widened with years of study devoted to the history of my country, I came to know that the batteries on Dorchester Heights or in Cambridge which had succeeded in reaching with their shot my old church tower were parts of a great whole, that they were the instruments and causes of a result which closed the first of our Revolutionary War, and that they formed a strong link in the chain of events then forging and destined as it lengthened to involve the civilized world and to change as the years passed by the political outlook of all civilized mankind.

What was the message then of those Dorchester guns, trained by Washington against the devoted three-hilled town? Briefly, I shall try to tell you. It is an old story, but one that does not suffer by being told over and over again, and I know that you will forgive me if I should repeat myself here

## DORCHESTER HEIGHTS MEMORIAL

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to-day, for I have told this tale at least twice in books which I have been unwise enough to write, in total disregard of Job's profound reflection touching books and men.

The message of the Dorchester batteries to those who with their own eyes saw the black mouths and with their own ears heard the first roar of the guns was plain enough. It said to the British army that those guns must be silenced or the town given up. Failing to silence them, as we all know, they abandoned the town and Lord Howe sailed away to Nova Scotia taking with him the British soldiers and the Boston Tories.

The message of Dorchester Heights to those distant from the scene and to future generations mingles with the deeper voices of that memorable time when the world was entering upon new conceptions of political rights and when the old system of privilege was beginning to quiver to its base. It is of this larger aspect of the event which we commemorate to-day that I wish to speak to you in the brief time allotted to me. If it is possible I should like to bring out clearly into light and meaning the exact place which the military movement that culminated here occupies in the events of that great period.

The fight at Concord Bridge, the first shot in

the Revolution, the first drumbeat in the march of the coming democracy had broken on a somewhat slumberous world in April, 1775. In June came the famous attempt to drive the British from Boston by taking a position in Charlestown which would make their occupation of the town untenable. The result was the Battle of Bunker Hill, great slaughter among the soldiers of the Crown and a technical British victory more disastrous to England than any battle she had ever lost. To Washington, spurring on his way to take command of the army, came the news of the fight. "Did the militia fight?" was his one pregnant question. When told how they had fought, he said, "Then the liberties of the country are safe," and rode on. Give him men who would fight and he would do the rest. You can hear across the vanished years the tones of the crucial question and the note of confidence in the words he utters as he rides away.

Yes, the material very raw, but very good and sound, was all there gathered about Boston, and now was added to it the great commander, and out of the combination was to come an army, and in due time results very necessary to the American cause at that moment. But the attainment of those results was a heavy work, taxing

to the utmost the strong will, the steady patience and the great talents of the commander-in-chief. Old levies went away, the ranks were perilously thinned, and new levies had to be brought in and molded into an organized, disciplined force. Powder gave out, and with this fatal secret locked in his heart Washington had to maintain his bold front and seek fresh supplies of this one essential thing in every direction by sea and land. Then as he drew his lines ever closer he was met by the seemingly invincible obstacle that there were not sufficient guns fit for siege work. So Henry Knox went up through the snow to Ticonderoga and brought thence on sledges the guns of the captured fortress. Thus as winter drew to an end, in one way or another, the General had done his work. His army was drilled and organized, powder and siege artillery had been procured, the instrument he had so painfully and patiently fashioned was ready to his hand, and impatience to grasp the result for which he had labored so long began to take possession of him.

Soon after his arrival at Cambridge he had proposed to assault the town and was held back by a council of war. Then came the trials of winter and now he was ready again. In February he proposed to cross on the ice and attack, and once

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more the council of war, true to the traditions of their kind, withstood him. But this time he was fully ready, this time he meant to fight, council or no council, in one way, if not in another. He proposed with all the force of his strong nature to have the town, with the British or without them, and to take it then and there. If he could not cross the ice and storm Boston he would go thither by land.

Washington had been slowly strengthening and advancing his works all through the winter. Now he determined upon a decisive stroke, and on the evening of March 4, under cover of a heavy bombardment, he moved forward, took possession of Dorchester Heights and began to throw up redoubts. All night the work went on. The troops who did it came from the Cape and from Essex, from Middlesex and the western counties, and from all over New England. In the early days of the past summer their personal independence, their indifference to discipline and their careless ways had moved Washington to anger more than once. But now he had learned to know them, while they had come to a great faith in him, and so they worked now with all the energy, quickness and intelligence of their race. Rufus Putnam, destined to lasting fame as one of

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the pioneers and founders of Ohio, devised the "chandeliers", as they were called, from which the breastworks were constructed. Everyone did his best, and these fishermen and farmers of New England, now soldiers in the American army, toiled on with strong and willing arms through the dark hours of the chill March night, while up and down the lines rode Washington, encouraging the men and urging on the work. I like to think of that scene, of the dim hidden lights flaring fitfully in the gusty wind, of the men piling up the earth and digging out the trenches with the darkness hanging over them, the roar of the covering guns sounding in their ears, and along the lines the stately figure of the great leader passing by, the joy of coming battle stirring strongly in his heart.

Morning dawned, and the works were visible to Boston. Great stir then among the British. Those works must be destroyed, or they must abandon the town. Preparations were hastily made for an attack on the following day. The morrow came and there was a gale so that they could not cross the bay; the next day it rained heavily. The next day it was too late, for during all those days and nights the American soldiers had worked on and the Commander-in-Chief had continued to ride up and down the lines to such

purpose that his redoubts were no longer open to direct assault. Then the Ticonderoga guns opened on Boston, and the enemy opened a parley through the selectmen. Howe promised to evacuate if not attacked, but if attacked said that he would burn the town. Washington assented. Howe delayed, and Washington, being no lover of delays or hesitations, advanced his works. The hint was taken, and on March 17, amid much disorder and pillage, eleven thousand British troops, with about as many hundred Americans, went on board the fleet, while Washington and his army marched in at the other end of the town, worn and broken by the siege, and with small-pox, the dread disease of that century, threatening those of the inhabitants who still remained.

The siege was over. The British lingered for a few days near the entrance to the harbor, closely watched by Washington, and then sailed away for Halifax. In a purely military way a very remarkable victory had been achieved, something well worth the consideration of a ministry in distant London, not over-addicted to sustained thought. I might give much space and many words to this victory, but I shall not, for I cannot improve upon Washington's own terse and simple statement: "To maintain" he said, "a post within

musket shot of the enemy for six months together without powder, and at the same time to disband one army and recruit another within that distance of twenty odd British regiments is more, probably, than was ever attempted." He might have added that during considerable portions of that period he had held the British shut up in Boston with a less force than their own. The siege of Boston and its results are among the events of the war which prove Washington's great military talents as well as his power in the command of men in a very high degree. My purpose, however, today, is not to discuss the genius of Washington as a soldier and leader of men, but to try to place in their true light the relations of this victory won by Washington and his New England army to the other events of a memorable time. Judged in connection with the outcome of the Revolutionary War, which resulted in the independence of the Thirteen States, the evacuation of Boston, compelled as it was by the establishment of our batteries upon Dorchester Heights, was of far-reaching importance. It ranks with Trenton and Saratoga, with King's Mountain and Greene's campaign, with Yorktown and the destruction of British commerce by American privateers, as one of the decisive achievements in our struggle against



England. There is not the same brilliancy about it that there is about some of the battles of the Revolution, because we finally regained the town without actual conflict. It did not reach so far into the future as Clark's bold march into the Illinois country, which carried our boundaries to the Mississippi. And yet it may be doubted if any single event had more general effect on the course of the war than the expulsion of the British from the New England capital. With the departure of Lord Howe's fleet, the British went finally out of New England. Except for the fight at Bennington, which was an incident of the campaign directed against New York, and of the temporary occupation of Newport, which hardly rose above the level of a raid, New England after the 17th of March, 1776, was entirely free from the enemy. It must be remembered that at that period the New England States had the largest and most compact population of all the colonies. Their people were nearly all white. They were practically free from the burden of slaves, who added numbers to the Southern population, but nothing to the fighting strength. There was very little division of sentiment among the New Englanders. Like Virginia, and unlike the Carolinas and the Middle States, New England had few

loyalists, so few in fact that they were utterly unable to raise the standard of civil war, as was done in the South and in New York. The freedom of the New England States, therefore, from the enemy and from any domestic dangers, left them at liberty to furnish troops to the Continental Army, and from New England the Army of Washington, which represented the cause of the entire country, and in some dark hours carried alone the fate and fortune of the Revolution, was largely recruited. Had those states been exposed to the same perils and dissensions as the Carolinas and New York, or had their capital city remained in the hands of the enemy, this would have been impossible, and the largest white population in the Colonies would have been shut off from the American cause, as a large and steady source of supply for the rank and file of the Continental Army. The enormous importance of New England in this aspect of the American cause was clearly perceived by the British, who devoted some of their most energetic efforts to cutting off New England, after they had lost it, from the rest of the country, by getting possession of the line of the Hudson. It was to prevent this that Washington fought the dreary campaign which succeeded the retreat from the city of New York.

It was with this purpose in view that Burgoyne descended from the North, only to meet with ruin at Saratoga. One of the last attempts of the enemy was in the same direction, when they endeavored to get possession of West Point through the treason of Arnold. To keep the most populous portion of the Colonies free to render service with money and men to the common cause of all the colonies, therefore, was a military object of the very first importance, and this was achieved by Washington when he drove the British from Boston on the 17th of March.

This, in itself, is enough to justify the erection of a monument at this spot, for it was here on Dorchester Heights that the deed was done which so powerfully contributed to the success of the American Revolution. But this is merely the immediate historical aspect of the victory which those batteries on Dorchester Heights achieved. An event which was among those that decided the outcome of the American Revolution has a much larger significance than that which was merely military and contemporary, for the American Revolution was the beginning of that series of vast changes which have made the world as we know it now. The social and political commonplaces of to-day were the daring aspirations, the untried

hopes, the gleaming visions of the closing years of the eighteenth century. The American Revolution, which began at Lexington and Concord and ended at Yorktown, was the first step in the great movement which swept away privileges, made democracy a reality, and converted the doctrine that all civilized governments ultimately derive their power from the whole body of the community from a dream to a maxim. The establishment of this new principle was destined to convulse the world. Passing from America to France it there altered the face of Europe and filled the world with war. Checked at Waterloo, the movement took up its march again in 1830, when the Bourbon monarchy was destroyed in France and the Reform Bill was passed in England, and culminated again in 1848 in revolutionary uprisings, which, whether successful or unsuccessful at the moment, none the less forced on still further the fundamental change in politics and in society which had begun so long ago on Lexington Common and at Concord Bridge. The people of the Thirteen Colonies for the first time demonstrated to the world that a new force had arisen, the force of a people in arms, fighting not for a dynasty nor to gratify a king's ambition, but for themselves. It was this new force which enabled revolutionary France to

fling back the old fashioned armies of banded Europe in hopeless defeat. Therefore, the American Revolution was a very great event, not only to ourselves, but in the history of mankind, and it is well for us to mark every stage of its progress with monuments and to learn its history in all details.

But there was another meaning quite as deep, quite as important to the future, in the American Revolution as the fact that it was the beginning of a great democratic movement. It is usual to date the passing away of the Middle Ages and the rise of what we call modern history from two great events, the reformation of religion, begun by Luther, and the discovery of America. Undoubtedly that discovery of the new world finally changed to the very foundations all the conditions, political, social and economic, which existed at the time when Columbus started on his great voyage, but many years were to elapse, and Columbus, and the Cabots, and Magellan were to be many years in their graves before the world-wide effects of what they had done were to become operative. Very slowly indeed did the new world come into the possession of the people of Western Europe. Very slowly did the settlements made by Europe in America rise into commer-

cial importance, or gather wealth and population enough to make them considered as a factor in the world's affairs. Spain looked upon her colonies as little more than mines from which the precious metals were to be drawn. The English colonies on the Atlantic coast of North America struggled slowly upwards, little heeded by the mother country, and little known except by the merchants who traded with them. But all the time they were gathering strength, and at last, through the ignorance of certain little ministerial minds, ill-fitted to manage a great empire, they were driven forward into independence. The people rose up in the Thirteen Colonies and fought their own battle, and won it. But they won a great deal more than independence—they won the opportunity to make a great nation. If they had remained colonies of England they would have been as insignificant in the world's affairs as her other colonies are to-day, but when they ceased to be a part of the British empire they entered upon the path which alone could lead them to a greatness of their own, destined to affect the world's economy more profoundly than anything which had happened in modern times. The people who thus set themselves free from England had added to their predominant English

stock kindred people from Germany and Holland, from Scotland and from Ireland, as well as Huguenots from France, but all belonged essentially to a ruling and governing race. The men who had settled on the Atlantic shores of North America were the men of adventure, men who were ready to take their lives and fortunes in their hands and go forth into the wilderness. Set free from the bonds which held them to the British Empire, it would have been as impossible to confine that people so bred and nurtured within the limits of their own original states, as it would have been to have stayed the waters of the Mississippi on their way to the ocean. Even in the throes of the Revolution they had pushed their way to the Great River, and the children of men who had taken possession of a new continent could not rest until they had conquered it all. Only one great danger really hung over them, and that was that they might divide among themselves. In the slow process of years that hour of peril came. The result was the consolidation of the United States, the greatest single event, if judged by its world wide meaning, of the nineteenth century, surpassing even in meaning and importance the consolidation of Germany which followed a few years later. Once that consolidation was effected

and the scars which it had left effaced, the onward march which had begun under George Rogers Clark was again taken up. From the Atlantic to the Pacific the continent was subdued to the uses of the people who had entered in and possessed it, and then with that great work done the United States strode into the world arena strong with all the gathered strength of its hundred years of growth and labor. New problems meet us now under the new conditions, and we must face them as those who have gone before faced the trials of their own time. In the process of evolution we have seen the nation grow and expand, we have watched the foreign flags departing one after another from the American Hemisphere and have seen our own rise in the Orient, in the West Indies and in distant islands of the Pacific. What the future has in store for us no one can tell. That it is to be a great future no one doubts. To the soldiers working in the Dorchester trenches, to the great commander riding along the toiling lines, the future was veiled in darkness as black as the March night which hung coldly over them. Yet they worked on doing the best that was in them, with faith only that they would conquer the present and that the future would repay. That future has now come and we their children turn



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to them in gratitude and honor their memories. Here on this spot we raise a monument which shall serve as a beacon light to guide future generations to one of the memorable scenes of our history. And here under its shadow we can rear a still better monument to the men of the Revolution by the resolve that we too will toil even as they did, in darkness and in light, with victory over the present, with deep faith in the future and with abiding loyalty to our beloved country ever dominant in our hearts, ever master of our lives.















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