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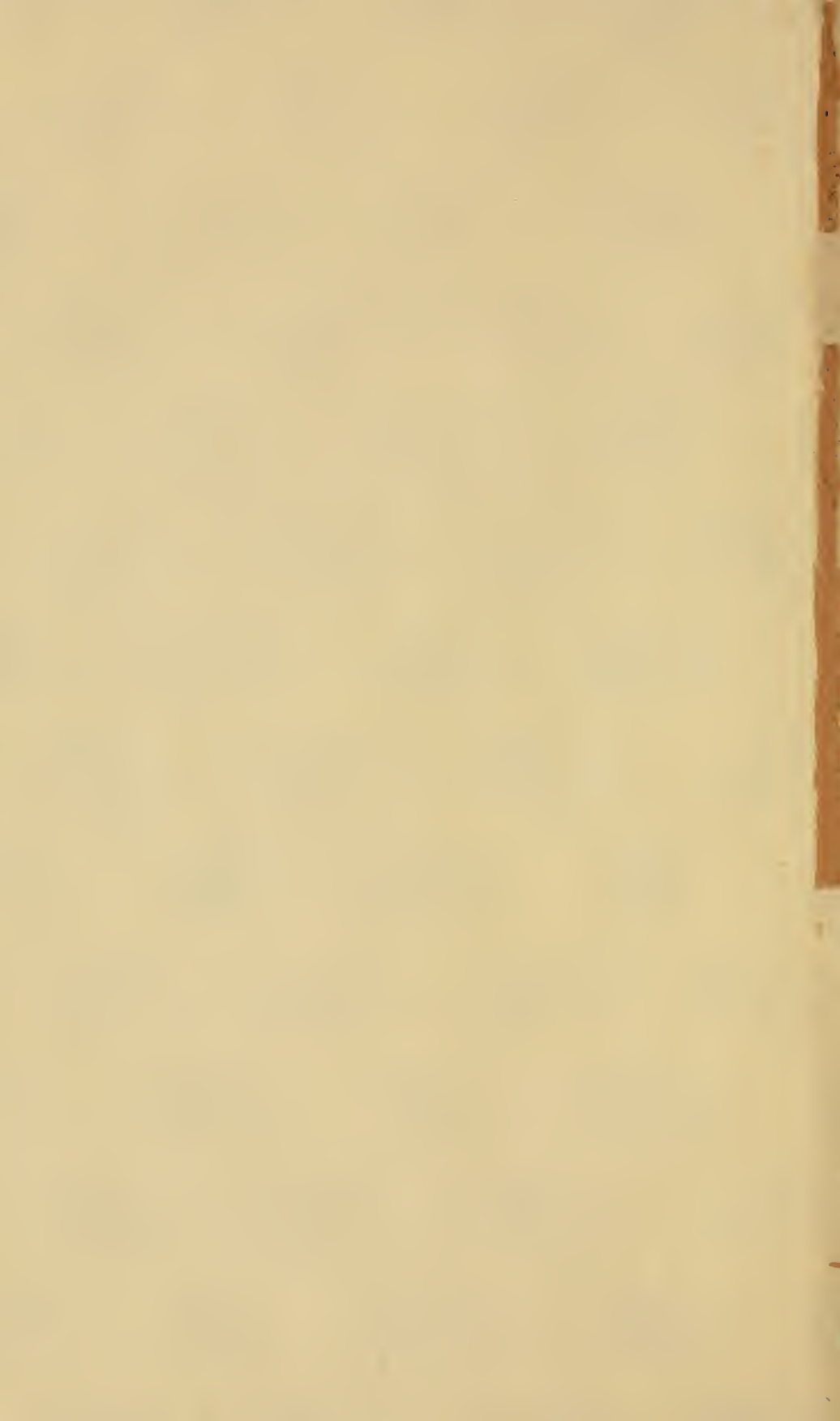


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To Mrs. Emily A. Hall





Providence, City Council

1882.]

CITY DOCUMENT.

[No. 22.]

DEDICATION

OF THE

FRENCH MONUMENT

BY THE

CITY OF PROVIDENCE, R. I.

COMPRISING

THE HISTORICAL RECORD, ORATION, ADDRESSES, PRAYERS, ODE,
AND ORDER OF EXERCISES,

JULY 4, 1882,

WITH PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEWS.



PROVIDENCE:

PROVIDENCE PRESS COMPANY, PRINTERS TO THE CITY.

1882.

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THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE.

JOINT RESOLUTIONS BY THE CITY COUNCIL.

No. 354. Resolutions thanking the Rev. Frederic Denison for the Oration delivered at the Dedication of the French Monument, July 4, 1882.

[Approved September 14, 1882.]

RESOLVED, That the city council hereby tender their thanks to the Rev. Frederic Denison for the oration delivered by him at the dedication of the French Monument, on the Fourth of July, 1882.

RESOLVED, That the committee of arrangements for the said Fourth of July celebration, Messrs. Benjamin E. Kinsley, Chairman, John McWilliams, John W. Briggs and Gilbert F. Robbins, are hereby instructed to request a copy of said oration, and cause the same, together with the order of exercises on that day, to be printed for the use of the city council, and that the expense thereof be charged to the appropriation for printing.

Witness:

HENRY V. A. JOSLIN, CITY CLERK.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CITY OF PROVIDENCE,
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, CITY HALL, }
September 25, 1882.

REV. FREDERIC DENISON:

DEAR SIR:—I am directed by the Joint Special Committee on the Fourth of July celebration, to request that you will furnish me for publication a copy of the very able oration delivered by you at the dedication of the French Monument.

As the city council have directed that the order of exercises be published together with the oration, I shall be pleased to see you personally in regard to the matter, that I may avail myself of such suggestions as you may choose to make.

Very respectfully yours,

HENRY V. A. JOSLIN, CITY CLERK.

REPLY.

HENRY V. A. JOSLIN, ESQ., CLERK OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE, R. I.:

DEAR SIR:—Having received, under your hand, the resolution of thanks from the city council of Providence, R. I., for the oration delivered by me, at their appointment, on the occasion of the dedication of the French Monument, July 4, 1882, followed by a request for a copy of the oration for publication; and also having received, in accordance with the resolution, a request, under your hand, from the Joint Special Committee of the City Council on the dedication referred to, for a copy of said oration; I hereby gratefully acknowledge the receipt of the two communications, and gladly comply with the requests by furnishing the said oration, trusting that the publication of the dedicatory exercises may further promote and perpetuate the priceless international friendship that inspired the erection of the Monument, and that will forever be dear to the hearts of the people of Rhode Island.

Very respectfully yours,

FREDERIC DENISON.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., October 4, 1882.

I.

HISTORICAL RECORD.

DURING the Revolution, the troops of France sent to our aid reached Rhode Island in the summer of 1780, and at the close of the active operations of the war, left the State late in 1782. During the different visits and encampments of these troops in Providence, about one hundred soldiers fell by disease. The most of these were inhumed near the south entrance of the North Burying Ground, then the only public cemetery in the town. The spot containing these allies became hallowed ground.

The movement to secure a memorial over the graves of these French soldiers was begun by the Rev. Frederic Denison, in August, 1881. After careful search, involving the examination of records and the testimony of aged men who knew well the actors in the Revolution, he was enabled to fix upon the exact spot containing the graves of these allies, hitherto unmarked by stones. On exhumation he found the bones. One full skeleton was taken out, for a time, for examination, to dispel all doubts, and for the inspection of the French Delegation that visited our country on the occasion of the Yorktown Centennial.

By request, the authorities of Providence laid out this ground and caused it to be permanently graded. The pro-

jector of the memorial then drew his plan—a unique one—of a ledger monument of granite, and solicited through the columns of the *Providence Journal* and by personal appeal, the funds necessary to carry out his design. The foundation of the monument was put in, and the broad base-stone was laid when the French Delegation to the Yorktown Centennial, by invitation, visited Rhode Island, and with most touching ceremonies of address, song, floral decoration and prayer, recognized the begun work. The ceremony occurred November 1, 1881. The French officers decorated the stone with a floral cross made of bouquets taken from their breasts. A full account of this service may be found in the *Providence Journal* for November 2, 1881. A beautiful cut of this tender scene was executed by Mrs. Frank Leslie for her illustrated paper.

The heroic ode pronounced on this deeply interesting, international occasion by a French scholar, Prof. Jean E. Guilbert, as it won much applause from the French Delegation and all others, is worthy of preservation.

O D E.

BY PROF. JEAN E. GUILBERT.

AUX SOLDATS,

FRANÇAIS INHUMÉS AU CIMETIÈRE DU NORD.

Quels sont les morts aimés qu' un peu de terre nue
Seule couvrait, hier, dans ce séjour de paix ?
Pas un nom ; pas un bois ; mais chacun les salue.
Et dit ; sous ce gazon, sont LES SOLDATS FRANÇAIS.

C'est que l'on se souvient que là furent des braves ;
C'est que l'aïeul l' a dit à ses petits neveux.
D'aussi grands souvenirs sont de nobles épaves
Qu' un peuple sait garder, sans monuments pompeux.

Soldat français ! ici, ce mot est symbolique.
Au milieu des écueils, par le temps respecté,
Ce mot, depuis cent ans, à travers l' Amérique
Veut dire délivrance, amour et liberté.

Le peuple, au lendemain des sanglantes batailles,
 Sur le sillon fauché profondément gémit.
 Il n'y voit qu' un signal de longues funérailles.
 De larmes, de douleurs; il frissonne; il mandit.

Mais, vous, soldats venus des confins de la France,
 Venus pour délivrer, et non pour conquérir,
 Vous, dont les bras amis apportaient l'espérance,
 Il ne pût, après vous, qu' admirer et bénir.

L' histoire dit la route, en ces grands jours, suivie
 Par le peuple et par vous, comment, dans les combats,
 Où votre sang coula, se mêlant à sa vie,
 Se virent affranchis les premiers treize états.

Braves, mais plus heureux que tant de capitaines,
 Vos coups, au lieu d' horreur, d' épouvante et de deuil,
 Rendaient un peuple à lui, faisaient tomber des chaînes.
 Ce fut là votre gloire; et c' est là notre orgueil.

Au passant, qui, voyant cette pierre Scellée,
 Voudra savoir, demain, ou des noms ou des faits,
 Montrant, avec respect, le simple mausolée,
 Là, redira chacun, sont les soldats français.

Ces mots diront assez; ces mots disent l' histoire
 Du splendide réveil d' un grand peuple naissant,
 Réveil, inserit en or au temple de mémoire,
 Peuple, à la fois heureux, libre et reconnaissant.

Dormez en paix; soldats, sur cette terre amie,
 Sur ce sol où l'on pût appeler un vainqueur,
 Un soldoit comme vous; Péré de la patrie,
 Où le nom de soldat veut dire fondateur.

It will be suitable to add the hymn composed for the occasion by the projector of the movement, and which was rendered both in English and in French.

HYMN.

BY REV. FREDERIC DENISON, A. M.

<p>Father of men, and right, Our thanks are unto Thee; We stand, with joy, in Thy great might, And sing of liberty.</p> <p>Above these graves we stand In thankful memory Of those who from an allied land Died in fidelity.</p> <p>From that loved sister-shore We grateful hail to-day The sons of noble sires of yore, And deeds of tribute pay.</p> <p>Preserve these lands, O God, In ties of brotherhood, As they were one, on fields once trod, When freely poured their blood.</p> <p>And bring the age of peace To earth, by Thy full grace, When human wrongs and strife shall cease. And love shall rule our race.</p>	<p>Père du droit suprême, Et de l'humanité, Daigne accueillir, ô Grâce même, Nos chants de liberté.</p> <p>Devant ce mausolée, Nous redisons merci Aux fils de l'ancienne alliée, Qui reposent ici.</p> <p>Sœur à jamais chérie, Nous payons, en ce jour, A la noble chevalerie, Notre tribut d'amour.</p> <p>Fais, Dieu, que cette terre Soit pour nous, en tout temps, Comme aux sanglants jours de la guerre, Elle fut dans nos champs.</p> <p>Dans ta puissante grâce Ouvre l'ère de paix, Différents, torts, que tout s'efface, Règne, amour, à jamais!</p>
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The memorial is of the best quality of Westerly granite, and was executed by the Smith Granite Company, of West-erly, through their agent, Mr. Frank F. Tingley, of Providence. It is a double-based ledger monument weighing about eight tons. On its top is sculptured, in relief, a French shield with the French national coat-of-arms. On the east-ern side, in relief, is the legend:—

“LA GRATITUDE DE RHODE ISLAND.”

On the western side, in like relief, is the legend:—

“OUR ALLIES IN THE REVOLUTION.”

On the south is cut, full size, in relievo, a Revolutionary

cartridge-box inscribed with the date "1782." This indicates that the most of the soldiers were infantrymen.

On the north, in a raised and polished panel, are the following inscriptions :—

"TRIBUTE OF THE PEOPLE.
DECORATED BY THE
FRENCH DELEGATION
NOV. 1, 1881.
DEDICATED BY THE
CITIZENS OF PROVIDENCE
JULY 4, 1882."

The whole is a very finished piece of work and produces a clear and pleasing effect. The projector of the monument laid less stress upon magnitude than upon the expression of ideas; not quantity, but quality was his aim; not momentary effect, but suggestiveness and durability.

The mover, who had thus far acted wholly upon his own promptings, though heartily seconded by the citizens, having completed his work, assisted only by Mr. Henry R. Davis, who served as Treasurer of the donated and expended funds, now called together the donors and requested them to make arrangements for the public dedication of the monument. The donors appointed for this purpose a committee consisting of Gen. Horatio Rogers, Gen. Elisha H. Rhodes, Rev. Frederic Denison, Mr. Sidney S. Rider, and Mr. Florent A. Heller, to which was afterwards added Col. Joseph H. Kendrick. This committee proceeded in their task and arranged a general programme of exercises, and fixed upon organizations, parties and persons to be invited to render aid. This arrangement in main will be found in the order of exercises that was executed.

At this stage of proceedings the authorities of the city of Providence generously and patriotically came to the relief of the committee of the donors and offered to bear the labor and the expense of the dedicatory services.

The offer was gratefully received, and all the citizens were highly pleased with the arrangement. The City Council made an adequate appropriation for the object, and appointed a joint special committee to co-operate with the committee of the donors in completing and executing the necessary plans for the dedication. The joint special committee consisted of Aldermen John W. Briggs and Gilbert F. Robbins, and Councilmen Henry J. Hall, Benjamin E. Kinsley and John McWilliams, in consultation with His Honor, the Mayor, William S. Hayward. In all these steps particularly efficient service was rendered by Gen. Horatio Rogers. In obedience to the general and earnest desire of the people choice was made of July 4, 1882, as the day for the dedicatory services. The organizations, parties and persons invited to participate in the patriotic and international celebration promptly and gladly responded. In due time and manner, the invited organizations and persons of official rank, in full uniform and insignia, in obedience to issued orders, appeared to aid in the celebration, and all the city was alive with patriotic interest. Many guests and friends came from neighboring cities and States to witness the dedicatory ceremonies. The celebration felicitously expressed the gratitude and patriotism of our whole country; and its moral elements of international brotherhood were deeply felt. The Gardes Lafayette, invited from the city of New York, with the Consul-General and other French guests, arrived by steamer in the morning and were received by the First Light Infantry Regiment, that acted as their escort for the day. All officials and speakers for the day met at the City Hall, from which they took carriages for the procession.

II.

THE PROCESSION.

The inaugurate feature of the celebration was the military parade. At the appointed hour for the formation of the procession the streets along the route of march were densely lined with waiting people. Promptly with the striking of the hour of nine, the Chief Marshal, Gen. Elisha H. Rhodes, gave the signal, and the column swung out gracefully from South Water street, where it had formed, into Market square and Westminster street, and took the ordered route of march through Westminster, High, Stewart, Broad, Weybosset, Market square, North Main, Waterman and Benefit streets to the North Burying Ground, where stands the monument. The Gardes Lafayette, from New York, attracted particular attention, as did also all French officers and visitors. The order of procession was as follows :

Mounted Police, Capt. Jeremiah F. Costine.
Chief Marshal, Gen. Elisha H. Rhodes.

Aids:

Lt.-Col. Philip S. Chase, Major William J. Bradford,
Captain Thomas W. Manchester.

Orderlies.

Boston City Band, 25 pieces, J. B. Claus, Leader.

First Light Infantry Regiment, Lieut.-Col. J. H. Kendrick, commanding.

Staff :

Adjutant, Samuel T. Douglas;
Quartermaster, William H. Teel;
Paymaster, T. F. Fessenden;
Chaplain, S. H. Webb;

THE PROCESSION.

- Surgeon, George A. Brug;
 Inspector, George W. Cady;
 Ex-Surgeon, Dr. George W. Porter;
 Capt. C. Henry Alexander, honorary.
 Light Infantry Drum Corps, J. Dickerson, Drum Major.
 Company D, Captain Edwin Draper.
 Company C, Captain William H. Thornton.
 Company B, Captain F. A. Peabody.
 Company A, Captain Benjamin L. Hall.
 Eighth Regiment, New York, Drum Corps, George W. Hill, Drum Major.
 Daughter of the Regiment, Barrer. Leonie.
 Gardes Lafayette, New York, Major Joseph Weill, commanding,
 accompanied by the following guests:
 Lieut.-Colonel Schilling, of the Eighth Regiment, New York;
 M. C. Galliot, President of the Gardes Lafayette;
 Alderman Levy, of New York;
 Prof. Cohn, of Columbia College, and correspondent of the *Republique
 Francaise*;
 M. L. A. Risse, Supt. of Streets, of the Twenty-fourth Ward, New York;
 M. Le Bent, President of the Asile Francais;
 M. Louis Mercier, of the *Courier des Etats Unis*;
 Sergeant Muret, of the Church Street Police Station, and Messrs. Bertrand,
 Bourguard, Protin, Rautowitz, Jacobs and Machefert.
 First Lieutenant of Gardes Lafayette, Celestin Cossin.
 Second Lieutenant, Leon Goden.
 Surgeon, Dr. De Latour.
 French Colony of Providence,
 President, Charles S. Vigneron,
 Secretary, Joseph Pichot;
 President A. A. Cyr, of the St. Jean Baptiste Society.
 First Light Infantry Veteran Association,
 Col. William W. Brown, commanding.
 Providence Brigade Band, 25 pieces, J. J. L. Smith, Leader; Drum Major,
 William H. Goffe.
 Company D, Fifth Battalion of Infantry, Captain John McElroy.
 Company B, Fifth Battalion of Infantry, Captain William McPherson.
 Detachment F. L. I. Drum Corps.
 Fourth Battalion of Infantry, Captain Thomas Brinn.
 Company B, Lieut. James K. Polk.
 Company A, Captain Wm. H. Beckett.
 Fourth Battalion Cadets, Captain Cubit.
 Battery A, Light Artillery, Captain Peck.
 Company B, First Battalion of Cavalry, Capt. R. C. Brown, commanding.
 Carriages containing the Committee of Arrangements of the City Council,
 H. J. Hall, B. F. Kinsley, J. McWilliams, J. W. Briggs, G. F.
 Robbins, and D. F. Hayden, Secretary.
 President of the Day, Hon. Thomas A. Doyle.
 Orator, Rev. Frederic Denison.
 Chaplain, Rt. Rev. Bishop Clark.
 French Consul General, M. A. Le Faivre.
 Vice Consul, Maurice Truy.

Chancellor M. Valdejo, of the Consulate.
 Committee of Donors to French Memorial.
 His Honor the Mayor, W. S. Hayward.
 President of the Board of Aldermen, H. R. Barker.
 City Clerk, H. V. A. Joslin, and City Sergeant, E. S. Rhodes.
 Members of the Board of Aldermen.
 President of the Common Council, J. C. B. Woods.
 Members of the Common Council.
 Officers of the Rhode Island Historical Society, and officers of the United
 States Army and Navy, including Capt. William Badger
 and Col. Zenas R. Bliss, U. S. A.

Great delight was expressed by the citizens in the order and beauty of the procession, the equal of which, in these respects, had not before been seen, as it embraced the five arms of the public service, and represented three nationalities. Banners and mottoes, some in English and some in French, were tastefully arranged along the line of march. In a particular manner the entrance to the North Burying Ground was decorated with flags and French mottoes by the kindness of the French Colony of Providence.

The grounds were decorated by Mr. R. J. Payne. At the north end of the monument was a century plant, indicating the lapse of a hundred years since the burials took place which it commemorated. A large American flag rested upon the monument as a veil. On the right of the monument stood a beautiful American standard flag, and on the left an equally beautiful French flag of the same size. These flags were given by the State of Rhode Island, and will be placed by the monument on every Fourth of July. About thirty feet north of the monument was erected the grand stand, upon which the exercises were held, with floor about twenty by thirty feet, roofed with canvas, and filled with settees for the officers, dignitaries and guests. The American and French flags were intertwined in front of the speaker's platform. A space of about half an acre surrounding this and the monument was enclosed by ropes, which were surrounded at an early hour by a goodly number of citizens inspecting the preparations.

The great mass of citizen spectators came to the grounds

with the military procession, which arrived at the main entrance about half-past 10 o'clock. The line formed in close column, by division, on the plat of greensward on the south side of the monument. In front were the First Light Infantry, Veteran Infantry, and other military bodies. The cavalry formed on the left of the line, on Tomb avenue, on the west side of the grounds, and the artillery on the same avenue, farther to the north. On the greensward plat, at the left of the monument, were stationed the City Band, of Boston, who furnished the instrumental music. On the east side of the monument the Gardes Lafayette, of New York city, and the French Colony of Providence, took their positions. The former of these organizations comprises what remains of the Fifty-fifth New York regiment, made up of Frenchmen who did splendid service in the Federal army for the suppression of the rebellion. Their name at that time was the Gardes Lafayette. Since the war, when the State of New York reconstructed her militia laws, this body, lacking the requisite number of men to keep up its regimental standard, was merged in the Eighth regiment, but allowed to retain its battalion organization. It is now the First battalion of the Eighth regiment of New York militia. They are organized after the pattern of the *Chasseurs à pieds* of the French army. On their standard is inscribed the names of the battles in which Lafayette participated in the American Revolution. They were accompanied by a *vivandière*, and by a certain number of orphans, belonging to the regiment, for whose bringing up and education they are responsible. The French delegation, or French Colony, of Providence, is an organization of Frenchmen residing here, who warmly participated in these exercises out of affection for their fatherland.

III.

THE DEDICATION.

On coming to a halt, the military stacked arms and assumed the attitude of listeners. The Chairman of the City Council Committee of Arrangements then introduced ex-Mayor Doyle as Acting President of the Day, the President, General Horatio Rogers, being confined at home by sickness. President Doyle, then stepping forward, gave the word, "*Let the monument be unveiled.*" As the flag which had covered the structure was deftly withdrawn by two men of the signal corps of the State militia, the band played the Marseilles hymn, and at a signal given by the Chief Marshal, a salute of twenty-one guns to the French flag was fired by the battery. All those occupying the grand stand remained standing and uncovered during that part of the ceremony. This national salute to the French flag deeply moved all hearts. No eyes were dry.

The President then introduced the Rt. Rev. Bishop of the Diocese of Rhode Island, and Chaplain of the Day.

PRAYER.

BY REV. THOMAS M. CLARK, D.D.

O God, who art the blessed and only Potentate, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, the Almighty Ruler of Nations, we adore and magnify Thy glorious name for all the great things that Thou hast done for us. We render Thee thanks for the goodly heritage which Thou hast given us; for the civil and religious privileges which we enjoy; and for the multiplied manifestations of Thy favor toward us. Grant that we may show forth our thankfulness to Thee for these Thy mercies by living in reverence for Thy Almighty power

and dominion, in humble reliance upon Thy bounty and goodness, and in holy obedience to Thy righteous laws. Preserve to our country the blessings of peace. Restore them to the countries deprived of them, and secure them to all the nations of the earth. May the Kingdom of the Prince of Peace come, and reigning in the hearts and lives of men, unite them in holy fellowship, that so their only strife may be who shall show forth with the most humble and holy fervor the praises of Him who hath loved them and made them Kings and Priests unto God.

We implore Thy blessing upon all in legislative, judicial and executive authority, that they may have grace and wisdom so to discharge their duties as most effectually to promote Thy glory, the interests of true religion and virtue, and the peace, good order and welfare of the State and nation.

We would remember this day with devout gratitude the aid which we received in our great struggle for independence from our friends in foreign lands, and cherish with solemn reverence the memory of those who died upon our shores, and whose bodies rest in our soil. Be thou present with us, O God of nations, in the commemorative services of this occasion. Standing here, as we do, between the living and the dead, surrounded by the remains of many of our own countrymen who more recently fell in defending the integrity of the republic, and also of those who a century ago passed away from earth in a strange land, may we now resolve so to fight the good fight of faith, and endurance, and self-control, as to secure to us when we are summoned hence, the crown of victory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The President then introduced the orator of the day.

ORATION.

BY REV. FREDERIC DENISON, A. M.

MR. PRESIDENT, REPRESENTATIVES OF FRANCE, AND FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN :

To-day we commemorate great principles, great compacts, great sacrifices, and great blessings from God. For a hundred years the battle-flags of the Revolution have been furled. But the actors in that great scene, like the deeds which they performed, like the Declaration of truths pronounced from Independence Hall, July 4, 1776, can never die. Our fathers and their allies, animated by love for man's inalienable rights, girded and guided by the Father of nations, battled and triumphed for mankind. Their achievements we celebrate. Their graves are altars of freedom.

There is a continuity of life in the human family. No man liveth to himself. The actions of men, particularly if self-denying, are transmitted to all following time. Gideon and Leonidas live in the patriot heart-throbs of to-day. Our Revolutionary sires, with their French coadjutors, by their principles and their valor, inaugurated a new epoch in history, and shaped the life of our continent. We have entered into a great inheritance that they won for us. If the dove of peace now expands her heavenly wings over all our wide land, it is because the commissioned eagle of bat-

tle has vanquished our enemies. The eagle has a mission no less than the dove.

On this national anniversary, consecrated to great associations, to the high resolves, the struggles and heroisms of our forefathers and their associates—the air yet pulsing in our quickened ears with the old guns of Lexington, Rhode Island, New York, Trenton, Cowpens and Yorktown—we gratefully come to perform above these warrior-graves a service of piety and patriotism, a service due to valor, to international love and faith, to noble brotherhood, and to convictions of duty that led to martyrdom. We stand on sacred ground, and breathe a sacred air. Our country's heroic age is recalled. The soldiers of the Revolution are before us.

With peculiar satisfaction and pride of heart Rhode Island, in behalf of our country, now takes upon her bosom, as a prized gem, this memorial of the Revolution, and this souvenir of her personal fellowship with chivalrous France—a new and peculiar monument in our country. But Rhode Island, from the day when her What Cheer Rock was trodden by an exile, has been accustomed to new and peculiar things.

This epic in granite—unique, symbolic, unambitious, substantial, suggestive—is, as we meant it to be, a rendering of the sentiments both of our State and our nation, and a tribute to our noble ally and her gallant army, that, in knightly spirit, came to our country's aid in her hour of deep need, and battled heroically under our immortal Washington, by the side of our dauntless fathers, to rescue us from the grasp of tyranny and to give us a name and a place among the nations of the earth. It is devoted to the memory of about

one hundred braves—equal to a company of the army—who, in their war-blankets as winding sheets, sleep peacefully beneath and around it; men marshalled under Rochambeau and Lafayette, men who marched to gory fields through the length of our embattled land, men who fought in the last and crowning battle for our independence, men who, after their weary return march from the field of victory, while encamped on yonder height—the dear old French camp—and while sharing, with their honored officers, the hospitality of Providence, and looking longingly toward the vine-clad hills of their native land, were cut down by fell disease and here laid, by tearful comrades, in the soldier's last bivouac—the grave. To them and to their country we owe the record and the tribute we here thankfully, tenderly, tearfully pay.

In any and every great struggle for freedom and right, the men who go out from kindred and home to fields of battle, ready to do and die for mankind, are worthy of honor and perpetual remembrance. Such devotion, such martyrdom, shall be held sacred while the sacrifice of Calvary shall touch human souls. Do any call this sentiment? Be it so. Without sentiment, without gratitude, we are clods; but with these, we are allied to angels and to God; they are badges of nobility and immortality.

No common bonds of amity and affection unite the bosoms of France and Rhode Island. Here, in this colony, the first to declare her independence of Great Britain, on the shores of the Narragansett, the lilies and the stars were first lifted in alliance. We gave France strong "anchor" in our hearts, and she gave us fresh "hope." In the unity of each flag was found the same trinity of colors—red, white and blue—

the trinity borrowed of heaven. In devoted fellowship these banners waved, in march and battle, on mountain and on main, till the foiled and beaten lion retreated to his trans-Atlantic lair.

But for the magnanimous intervention of France, the day of our independence had been seriously, if not fatally delayed. While the alliance was secured by the diplomacy of Dean, Franklin and Lafayette, it was no less the heart-pulse of the people of France—their homage to liberty, their chivalrous endorsement of our claim to nationality. The vow of succor was sealed with blood. The loss of France in 1781, in the actions of the Capes and Yorktown, was five hundred and three men, while the American loss was just one hundred, and the British loss was eight hundred and eighty-nine.

Would that time and the temper of a summer sky allowed us here to recite in full the part taken by the French—the moral and material support they rendered in the long and exhausting Revolutionary conflict. That grateful task we must leave to our historians, and especially to him (Stuart F. Weld, A. B., Hyde Park, Mass.,) blessed with French blood, who, having lately made the subject a special study, has prepared a scholarly paper on the campaign of 1781, which ought to be given to the public. It must suffice us, in this service, to simply endeavor to express our hearts.

The blood of French Huguenots is in our veins. The blood of French soldiers has moistened our land. Providence and Newport are redolent with the memories of French soldiery. French officers and men fought gallantly under the stars and stripes in our civil war. By an officer of the Regular Army of France (Gen. Alfred N. Duffié), the

sabre-armed sons of Rhode Island were splendidly led to battle at Cedar Mountain, Kelly's Ford and Middleburg. The Republic of France, not forgetting the spirit she caught from our Revolution, has lately bestowed upon our republic a lofty, inspiring statue of Liberty to stand forever as Freedom's Pharos, at the ocean gate of the entreport of America. Nor shall our country ever lack Gardes Lafayette like the gallant battalion here before us to-day—a band thrice welcome as a guard of honor on this patriotic international occasion.

In preserving the memory of valiant men and benefactors, men who have made sacrifices for us—the shadow of whose heroic lives fall upon our own—we not only discharge a bounden duty, we also exalt and dignify ourselves and our kind. Never may we be insensible to the noble past, whose children we are. The images of the worthy dead should never be absent from us. Thank Heaven! the generous, the just, the true, the brave, the self-denying in human action are immortal. By our diviner instincts they are shrined in the sanctuaries of our hearts.

The liberties for which these soldiers fought, and in the winning of which they died—liberties now the heritage and boon of more than fifty millions of people—plead for the memory of the martyrs. They put their lives into the foundation of our temple of freedom—a temple that is and ever shall be, a sanctuary and asylum for the oppressed of all lands. By such graves as these our country is hallowed. The feet of pilgrim-patriots, and all lovers of liberty, shall devoutly visit this ground.

Memorials, statues and monuments of the defenders of human rights, greatly augment both the intellectual and

moral welfare of a people; they are more than gold; they indicate our spiritual ornaments—wealth of thought, of feeling, of motive, of aspiration, of manly ideals—the forces that inspire and uplift our natures. Over them hover the angels of humanity—letters, history, poetry, music, eloquence, art and patriotism. They breathe into us holy emulations and incite to sublime moral efforts.

“Blest be the art that can immortalize,
The art that baffles time’s tyrannic claim.”

Happy the land that has pure historic memorials and quickening national celebrations. Without them, a people is but a horde, like the nomadic pagans once wandering these hills—the land a heath, a desert—no springs of water in it, no luminaries in its intellectual sky.

A nation is a growth, like an oak on a hill, to battle with storms and tempests. To have a strong constitutional trunk and firm-fibred branches, with sprays and twigs and foliage and annual blooms and fruit, it must needs have its roots great and small, many and strong. As in the tree, these roots, reaching far out and deep down into the earth, grappling around the rocks and feeding on stored richness of soil, are all invisible, but supply sap, vitality and power to the visible that breathes the air and drinks the sunlight; so in the nation, the invisible historic, conservative elements, taking hold of a heroic and rich past, give strength, stability and fruitfulness to the visible, the unseen being equal in magnitude, as in vitality, to the visible. Experience is our storehouse of practical wisdom.

Our national roots reach back to “Magna Charta” and the Gallic hills. Our liberties are the product of centuries. Our nation has met the tempest blasts of kingcraft

and oppression, and grandly survived them. Justly now we have our national celebrations. Wisely now we are building our monuments. Nationality and manhood are inspired by Bunker Hill, Groton Heights, and Mount Vernon. Rhode Island is reinspired by the statues of Williams and Perry, and the monument of granite and bronze adorning the heart of Providence, bearing warrior forms and martyr rolls. Soon we hope to gaze on the ennobling image of Burnside. These memorials enrich our little State, setting her in the sacred gallery of history, holding her forth on a background of noble deeds and throwing around her a halo of inspirations. While souls look out of eyes, give us monuments.

Divine Providence graciously ordained that these graves of our allies should be in proximity to the training field of our ancestors, the old Campus Martius of Providence; also in death's calm cantonment with yonder heroes of the Revolution; and nigh to yonder monument and graves where rest our brothers who fell in our country's last desperate struggle with oppression. The earlier and the later heroes are here encamped in congenial and perpetual fame. The nationality that France aided our fathers in achieving, has been preserved and defended at whatever cost of treasure and of blood. Let the martyrs have holy sepulture together.

The hand of fellowship, regretfully unclasped when the French troops left our shores in 1782, is reclasped to-day with tearful gratitude. To our sister Republic we now give this fresh pledge, this "bond in stone," that she shall ever be held dear in our memories and dear on the pages of our history. In all our hearts, as on this memorial, shall be read "La Gratitude De Rhode Island." Here the Lilies,

sculptured in the choicest material that God has put into the bosom of our State, shall evermore be watched over by the stars of our banner by day, and the stars of heaven by night. The land of Williams, Hopkins, Greene, Olney and Perry here decrees and guarantees to the home of Lafayette, D'Estaing, DeTernay, Rochambeau and DeGrasse that brotherhood, valor, chivalry and martyrdom for freedom, shall not pass unhonored and unsung. Till these compassing hills shall perish, France and the United States, once shoulder to shoulder in high achievements to advance the empire of freedom, shall continue to live in affectionate historic fellowship.

Providentially, this memorial has a two-fold consecration. Its wreathed foundation stone, sentinelled then as now by the flags of the two nations, was gracefully and devoutly decorated with a floral cross from the breasts of the distinguished representatives of France, when, returning from the Yorktown Centennial, they were the welcome guests of our glad State. That characteristic manifestation of affection and noble sentiment, on their own and their country's behalf, has already given the Memorial a sweet fragrance in our patriot annals.

And now, while bells and cannon, over all our land, speak our national jubilation, and all bosoms beat the music of our joy; on this historic day; by the generous action of the city of Providence and her officials; by the élite military forces of our city, and the officers and soldiers of our last war; by the French Colony of Providence, and French officials in our land; and by this vast concourse of patriotic citizens;—our hearts expressed in the salute of arms, the rendering of national hymns, the twenty-one guns of salute

to the French flag, and the voice of prayer, gratitude and benediction ;—by all these, and more than can be expressed, we pay our tender ritual and sacred service of final dedication ; thus honoring and celebrating the ties of brotherhood and affection, born in war, but perfected in peace, that for a hundred years have united the chivalrous nation of the Gallic hills and the grateful republic of America.

In this spirit, with these sentiments, in this gladness, this Memorial stands consecrated ; to the memory of the ancient alliance of France and the United States ; to the memory of the valiant men who rest beneath and around it ; to the deeds of the Revolution that shaped the destiny of America ; to the recollections of our illustrious guests who decorated its foundation ; to the priceless principles of nationality, and of the brotherhood of nations, of which it speaks.

Finally, with thanks to God, we commit the Memorial to the guardianship of the generations succeeding us in the enjoyment of the liberties for which our brave fathers and their knightly allies gave their blood ; adding the hope that, while our weak words may die, the voice of our twenty-one guns to the French flag—as our nation's heart-throbs—may be borne by benignant winds across the seas to the polite and generous people whom we here tearfully remember ; and that, in our own land, these guns of salute, may go sounding down the line of coming years, to be repeated with greater gratitude and emphasis by our children's children, in the brighter year of Christian light and grace, 1982.

Ye braves of 1782, whose funeral drums are once more heard, rest in peace and in honor.

Various passages of the oration elicited most hearty manifestations of delight.

The band then played with effect, "Keller's American Hymn," all bosoms beating the time.

Following this a select choir of men's voices, under the direction of Prof. Eugene Henri, gave a very touching musical rendering of the following Latin prayer for the two republics of France and America, followed by the Gloria Patri:

THE CHANTED PRAYER.

Domine, salvas fac Columbiæ et Galliæ Republicas, easque redde securas et prosperas.

Gloria Patri, Gloria Filio, Gloria et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.

The presentation of the monument to the City of Providence, through His Honor Mayor W. S. Hayward, was then made by the President of the Day, Hon. T. A. Doyle, on behalf of the donors.

ADDRESS.

BY HON. THOMAS A. DOYLE.

MR. MAYOR:—A single duty remains in connection with the ceremonies of this occasion, the performance of which was entrusted to a citizen of distinguished ability (Gen. Horatio Rogers), whose past services to the city, the state and to the nation, and whose great interest in the work now completed and in these services, pointed him out as eminently qualified for the task; but the condition of his health would not permit his attendance here to-day, and it has, therefore, devolved upon me to stand in his place, and in behalf of the donors, and speaking in their name, to present

to the city of Providence, through you, sir, its chosen representative and head, this memorial, which has been erected to the memory of the soldiers of France who died while the French army was encamped in this vicinity during the war of the Revolution, and whose remains were buried in this ancient cemetery.

The work has been constructed by the contributions of citizens of Rhode Island and beyond its borders, and it therefore stands as the work of the people, and not of the municipality, nor of the state nor the nation. In its simplicity it is intended to symbolize the simplicity of the government which our fathers established, and in which they were so ably assisted by the government of France. The material of which it is composed is designed to represent the enduring principles upon which the government was founded, which, it is hoped, may ever remain as unchangeable as the rock from which this granite was quarried. And in requesting the government of the municipality to dedicate this memorial, the donors wished to signify that our government is of the people, by the people and for the people. And through you, we now ask that the government will accept and care for and preserve this monument so long as the government itself shall endure.

Mr. Mayor :—In behalf of all the contributors, I now present this monument to the city of Providence, in grateful remembrance of the work done by the army of France in our behalf. And let me express the hope that the alliance then formed between the two nations, and which has remained unbroken, may continue through the latest generations, and the flags of the two Republics ever float side by side as lovingly as they now float over this memorial.

Mr. Mayor, the work assigned me is done. But I should be unjust to this occasion if I did not here and now place on record and bear testimony to the untiring devotion and indefatigable zeal of the citizen to whom we are chiefly indebted for the successful accomplishment of the memorial this day dedicated, and in the name of all the contributors I thank the Rev. Frederic Denison, orator of the day, for all the labor he has so willingly and cheerfully performed.

The audience gave clear demonstration of their approval of the address.

His Honor, the Mayor of Providence, accepted the memorial in behalf of the city, as follows :

ADDRESS.

BY HON. WILLIAM S. HAYWARD.

MR. PRESIDENT AND FELLOW-CITIZENS :—It is with great satisfaction that, as the representative of the city of Providence, I to-day accept this monument to the memory of those whose sympathy, whose abilities and whose wealth were proffered to our infant republic in its hour of greatest need.

To-day we set the keystone to the arch of gratitude and national friendship which, amid all the changes of time, will render the name of France sacred to every patriotic American heart.

The spot is well chosen. Here rest the ashes of many, with whose lives and history the names and deeds of the heroes, to whom this tribute is erected in the city of their

children, are so closely connected. Their presence gave added luster to the early history of our State.

I congratulate those citizens whose patriotism has thus symbolized that affection and true appreciation which for more than a century the people of this State and of the United States have ever cherished toward our sister republic, and especially that gentleman, the orator of the day, whose enthusiasm and patriotic admiration for our French allies have, more than aught else, been instrumental in securing and adorning this stone, which, simple, but beautiful, modest and unpretentious, may teach to those who, in future years, will visit this spot a lesson of unselfish devotion, sympathy for the oppressed, and an undying love of liberty.

Using the words of her distinguished Minister, who recently visited this spot, let us "remember France was our first, our oldest and our best friend." On this one hundred and sixth anniversary of American independence, the achievement of which, without her assistance, would have long been delayed, the city is to be congratulated that her citizens can unite in paying a just tribute of love and respect to the memory of the noble dead, who died that our nation might be born, whose efforts opened to the world a land where "liberty and equality" are the inheritance of all, and established a "fraternity" of interest and mutual affection, which should never cease, between the two great republics of the earth.

Let me pledge to the donors of this memorial its faithful and perpetual care by the city, and express the thanks and high appreciation felt by all true citizens for those who by their wisdom and liberality adorn and embellish our city and thus educate her inhabitants.

The Mayor's address was received with demonstrations of applause, after which the band played "The Star Spangled Banner" in full spirit.

The President then introduced the Consul-General of the French government at New York, who spoke with felicity and deep feeling as follows :

ADDRESS.

BY CONSUL-GENERAL MONSIEUR A. LE FAIVRE.

After a ceremony so touching, the feelings which vibrate in our hearts do not need any expression. But I consider it my duty, in my official capacity as a representative of France, to thank you Americans for the honors you have just rendered to our countrymen, who, coming from France with Rochambeau, died in the camp on a bed of agony instead of the field of battle. These gallant men regretted, without doubt, in breathing their last sigh, not being able to shed their blood for the great cause which they longed to defend. Is there for the soldier a more cruel deception than the obscure death which takes from him the crown of glory, and the exaltation of struggle, and the applause of nations?

But your gratitude sought them in this obscure burying-ground, in order to restore to them a place in the pantheon of history. It is a thought eminently noble and generous, worthy of a nation who a short while ago invited the descendants of Lafayette and Rochambeau to the Yorktown centennial.

Here we find before us names less celebrated, notwithstanding many of the soldiers who died at the camp in Providence had gloriously figured in our struggles in the eight-

eenth century, for they were the *élite* of our land and naval forces, whom France had ordered to give their assistance for the emancipation of the new world. The most famous among these veterans was the Knight d'Arsac de Ternay, the commander of the fleet, and director of the maritime expedition. The Knight of Ternay had distinguished himself by his glorious deeds in the naval war between France and England. He conquered the island of Newfoundland in 1762, and had been Governor five years of the Isle de France (Mauritius) and Bourbon Island, and from the beginning of the war of the American colonies with Great Britain he had manifested an extreme ardor in persuading the royal government to declare itself in favor of the United States. Having the command of the fleet, composed of eight men-of-war and thirty transports, he avoided with great skill an encounter with the English forces, and landed safely the French army in sight of Newport on the 8th of July, 1780. This warrior had then contributed very largely to the success of the expedition when death overtook him on the 1st of December of the same year and deprived him of the glory of taking part side by side with Count de Grasse, Rochambeau and Lafayette in the decisive success of Yorktown. The honors which you render to him to-day restore to him his legitimate place by the side of his glorious companions in arms, and will gladden his manes beyond the tomb.

Gentlemen :—It is with a deep emotion that France will receive the recital of this solemnity. Already, by the centennial celebration of Yorktown, she can admire the nobleness and grandeur which the United States has exhibited in showing its gratitude; and sympathetic greetings

were answered from all parts of France to this fraternal demonstration.

To-day tears of tenderness will flow amongst us on account of this delicate and touching homage rendered to these soldiers who here fell at the close of the war. Such actions, emanating from popular inspiration, do more for the alliance of nations than all the efforts of diplomacy and official treaties.

Citizens of Providence, Rhode Island :—Your splendid manifestations will tighten the bonds of friendship which have for a century united the American and French nations, which to-day have become the two most powerful Republics in the world. On the tombstone, raised by your hands, these two nations, these two sister Republics join hands to-day across the Atlantic Ocean.

The speaker was often heartily cheered by the delighted assembly.

The following was spoken on behalf of the French Colony of Providence :

ADDRESS.

BY MONSIEUR LOUIS COUILLARD, JR.

MR. PRESIDENT AND CITIZENS OF RHODE ISLAND :—The French Colony of Providence, deeply moved by the erection of this Memorial and the touching exercises of this day, cannot repress the utterance of the sentiments and feelings that they know would be expressed by the republic and people of France if could they here speak. We, in our name and in the name of France, thank you Americans, you who remember the alliance formed with their fathers in the great

struggle of the Revolution ; we thank you that you remember her great officers ; we thank you that you remember her brave soldiers, and especially those who lie here among your fathers and the martyrs of the rebellion. This memorial of your regard will touch the sensibilities of France and revive the days of old. We are happy and proud to say that the French people are now practicing sentiments of patriotism, of liberty and of nationality, for which your and our forefathers fought together a hundred years ago. Those sentiments will be brilliantly and strongly expressed in a few months by the statue of Liberty recently offered by France to America, to be placed in your greatest seaport to show the light of freedom to all foreign nations. Now you have still further brought France under a new obligation to cherish the fellowship she has already felt for you. This monument is now yours and hers. It is a pledge of unity of sentiment and unity of heart. The people of Rhode Island will ever be kindly remembered by France.

This address was warmly applauded, as it deserved.

The band then played "Hail Columbia."

The vast concourse was then highly pleased in listening to an ode in the French tongue :

ODE.

BY PROF. JEAN E. GUILBERT.

Bronze, à la voix tonnante, aux foudroyants éclairs,
Cloches des temples saints, aux sublimes volés,
Que chantent, aujourd'hui, vos grandes voix mêlées,
Dont les échos frappent les airs.

Peuple, en foule accouru dans tes habits de fête,
Ediles, magistrats, soldats aux vaillants coeurs,
Pourquoi tout cet éclat, à qui tous ces honneurs ?
Célébrez-vous quelque conquête ?

Ministres des autels, choeurs sacrés, chants pieux,
 Mêlés aux fiers accents des fanfares guerrières
 Brise, dont les courants font flotter les bannières,
 Quelle fête chantent les cieus ?

Ce sont de vrais amis, qui, d'un vieux peuple frère,
 En peusant s'honorer, honorent les héros
 Et, près du champ d'honneur, dans le champ du repos,
 Ont fait, pour eux, un sanctuaire.

C'est jour de souvenir, et de fraternité
 Jour a jamais sacré, jour de reconnaissance,
 Sous les drapeau unis d'Amérique et de France,
 On te célèbre, oh ! Liberté !

[TRANSLATION.]

Thunderbolts of the roaring cannon,
 Joyous bells of the holy churches,
 What is the song of your mighty voices,
 Whose echoes strike the air ?

People in crowds run in gala dress,
 Officers, magistrates, soldiers with brave hearts,
 Why all this show ?
 To whom all these honors ?
 Do you celebrate some conquest ?

Ministers of the altars, sacred choirs, holy songs
 Mingle their proud notes
 With the warlike trumpets ;
 Gentle breezes fanning the floating banners,
 What festival sings the heavens ?

These are true friends who, in thinking to honor themselves,
 Honor the heroes of a brotherly nation ;
 And near the battle fields,
 And the holy resting place,
 Have made for them a sanctuary.

Day of memory and brotherly love ;
 Day ever sacred : day of gratitude ;
 Under the united flags of America and France,
 We celebrate thee, O Liberty !

The dedicatory services at the cemetery closed with the
 benediction by Bishop Clark.

IV.

FINAL EXERCISES.

With evidently deep feeling, all of the large assembly studied the monument in its rich symbolism, and with one voice expressed peculiar satisfaction in the memorial itself and in the dedicatory utterances, as a just interpretation of the heart of Rhode Island.

The military and civic procession was re-formed in line and marched from the grounds through North Main street.

Mayor Hayward appropriately and gracefully reviewed the procession on Steeple street.

Great credit was awarded to Gen. Elisha H. Rhodes, Chief Marshal, for the promptness, exactness and grace with which everything pertaining to the procession and its movements was carried out.

The procession, in main, was dismissed at Market Square, when the Gardes Lafayette and the city's guests moved to the First Light Infantry Armory on South Main street.

At the Armory, the Infantry, their guests from abroad, and the Veteran Infantry Association, filed into the spacious hall, the band playing an appropriate patriotic air, and prepared to share the excellent collation furnished by order of the city. At the proper moment, Lieut.-Col. Joseph H. Kendrick, standing in the centre of the hall, which had been elaborately and tastefully decorated by Mr. J. Harry Welch, called to order, and then turning to the commandant of the Gardes Lafayette and the other French guests, spoke as follows :

ADDRESS.

BY LIEUT.-COL. JOSEPH H. KENDRICK.

MAJOR WEILL, GENTLEMEN OF THE GARDES LAFAYETTE, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC :

It gives me great pleasure, in behalf of the First Light Infantry Regiment, to welcome you here upon this occasion to participate with us in doing honor to the memory of the valiant Frenchmen who gave their lives to a country having no claim upon their services. We welcome you as the representatives of France, who gave us her treasure and her brave men in the hour of our greatest need, and who helped our forefathers to establish our right to become a nation. Not until we forget the darkness which surrounded the eight years' war of our Revolution; not until we forget the sacrifices of the heroic men and women of our country, shall we cease to honor the name of Lafayette and the other brave men from over the sea, who drew their swords in defence of American liberty. The Republics of France and America have shown to the world that the grandest, the strongest and the best governments are those which rest upon the intelligence and patriotism of the people.

Major Weill happily responded by expressing his gratification, and that of his command, in the abounding hospitality which had been received from Providence, and his hearty concurrence in the sentiments which had been uttered throughout the day.

After the collation had been shared, many of the guests were shown around the city and differently entertained. In the morning they were entertained by the First Light In-

fantry at the order of the city. Finally they were escorted to Fox Point to take steamer on their return to New York. Here, mounting the hurricane deck of the boat, that was beautifully trimmed with flags, they sang several stirring songs. Adieus were at last spoken amid shouts of heartiest cheer.

Visitors from abroad, with all the citizens of Rhode Island, expressed peculiar satisfaction with the monument and with the dedicatory services.

Photographic views of the monument, from two sides, secured prior to the dedication, through the liberality of the monumental artist, Mr. Frank F. Tingley, were given to some of the distinguished visitors.

As a very pleasing and not unimportant part of the history of the monument, we here give a letter received by the Rev. F. Denison in response to one sent by him to France :

LETTER OF GEN. BOULANGER.

MINISTÈRE DE LA GUERRE. 1^{RE} DIRECTION. (INFANTERIE.) }
 CABINET DU GÉNÉRAL DIRECTEUR. }
 PARIS, FRANCE, Jeudi 7 Septembre. }

CHER MONSIEUR : Combien j'ai regretté de n'avoir pu répondre immédiatement à votre lettre, si bonne, si noble ! Un assez long voyage hors de France et mes occupations incessantes au ministère de la guerre m'en ont seules empêché.

Mais aujourd'hui je remplis un devoir bien cher à mon cœur en venant vous remercier de vos deux belles photographies, cette représentation si parfaite du monument élevé à la France et à l'éternelle alliance des deux Républiques sœurs m'a vivement touché. J'en ai eu les larmes aux yeux, et certes, rien ne pouvait m'être plus agréable et me rappeler d'une façon plus douce l'admirable séjour que j'ai fait l'année dernière dans votre beau pays.

Ce que vous avez fait Monsieur, tout le monde français

ou américain doit vous en féliciter. Et c'est en semant des idées comme les vôtres que nous arriverons à consolider, je dirai plus, à cimenter d'une manière indestructible l'amitié qui doit exister entre deux peuples si bien faits pour s'entendre et pour s'allier en vue de la civilisation.

Merci donc Monsieur, en mon nom, au nom de l'armée française, au nom de la France entière.

Vous me dites que vous ne nous avez pas oubliés ; quant à nous, nous nous souviendrons toujours de l'accueil que nous avons reçu dans tous les Etats-Unis, et en particulier dans le Rhode Island, avec les sentiments de la reconnaissance la plus douce et la plus cordiale.

Veillez, Monsieur, m'écrire de nouveau et soyez assuré de ma bien dévouée et bien affectueuse considération.

GENERAL BOULANGER.

P. S. Mille bonnes amitiés à tous nos amis du Rhode Island.

Mr. Frederic Denison, 28 South Court street,
Providence, Rhode Island.

United States of America.

[Translation.]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, FIRST DIRECTION ; INFANTRY. }
OFFICE OF GENERAL DIRECTOR, }
PARIS, FRANCE, 7th September, 1882. }

DEAR SIR: How much I regret not to have answered immediately your so good and noble letter ; but a quite long voyage out of France and my incessant engagements in the War Department, have been my only impediment.

To-day, however, I discharge the duty, dear to my heart, of thanking you for the two handsome photographs that represent so perfectly the monument erected to France and the ceaseless alliance of the two sister republics, and that touch my sensibilities. I have tears in my eyes ; and cer-

tainly nothing could be more agreeable to me, or remind me in a more pleasing manner of my delightful visit last year to your beautiful land.

For what you have done, sir, all the people, French and American, will felicitate you. It is by disseminating such ideas as yours that we shall consolidate—I will say more—shall cement in an indestructible manner, the friendship which must exist between two peoples so well constituted to understand each other, and to be allied for the promotion of civilization.

Thanks then, sir, in my name, in the name of the French army, and in the name of all France.

You tell me you have not forgotten us. On our part, we will remember always the greeting we received throughout the United States, and in particular in Rhode Island, with sentiments the most sweet and the most cordial.

You will oblige me, sir, by writing to me again; and I pray you to be assured of my very devoted and very affectionate consideration.

GENERAL BOULANGER.

P. S. A thousand true amities to all our friends of Rhode Island.

Mr. Frederic Denison, 28 South Court street,
 Providence, Rhode Island.
 United States of America.

NOTE. A full account of the origin of the French Memorial, with all the steps taken in its construction, the decoration of its base by the French Delegation, in 1881, and its completion and dedication in 1882, with the names of all the subscribers, their subscriptions, and the bills of cost, prepared by the Rev. F. Denison, at the request of the donors, may be found in the keeping of the Rhode Island Historical Society. For the full story of "Our French Allies" in the Revolution we may mention that a thorough work, under that title, prepared by the Rev. Edwin M. Stone, a well-known historical scholar, of Providence, will soon be from the press in this city. With its invaluable particulars, it contains important maps and illustrations.

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