

PROCEEDINGS.

ANNUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 24, 1900, AT THE HALL OF THE
SOCIETY IN WORCESTER.

THE meeting was called to order at 10:30 A. M. by the
President, Hon. STEPHEN SALISBURY. The following
members were present :

Edward E. Hale, George F. Hoar, Nathaniel Paine,
Stephen Salisbury, Samuel A. Green, Elijah B. Stoddard,
Edward L. Davis, William A. Smith, James F. Hunnewell,
Charles C. Smith, Thomas H. Gage, Edmund M. Barton,
Franklin B. Dexter, Charles A. Chase, Samuel S. Green,
J. Evarts Greene, Henry S. Nourse, William B. Weeden,
Daniel Merriman, Reuben Colton, Henry H. Edes, Edward
Channing, George E. Francis, Frank P. Goulding, G.
Stanley Hall, John McK. Merriam, William E. Foster,
J. Franklin Jameson, Charles P. Bowditch, Francis H.
Dewey, Henry A. Marsh, Wm. DeLoss Love, William
T. Forbes, Edwin A. Grosvenor, Leonard P. Kinnicutt,
George H. Haynes, Charles L. Nichols, Waldo Lincoln,
John Noble, George P. Winship, George B. Adams, Austin
S. Garver, Samuel Utley.

The report of the Council was read by Hon. SAMUEL
A. GREEN, of Boston, in connection with which Dr. Green
presented a paper upon "The Boston Massacre."

A sketch of the Life of Rev. Dr. Cyrus Hamlin was
read by Rev. DANIEL MERRIMAN, D.D.

In connection with the paper, Mr. SAMUEL S. GREEN said:—

Dr. Merriman has referred to the Hamlin mixture. I would like to say a word about this. As he has stated, Dr. Hamlin received the receipt for making it from Worcester. It was a prescription of Dr. John Green, who was a Councillor in this Society. It was given to him, as I have always understood, and as Dr. Hamlin says in one of his books, not by Dr. Green's brother, but by Alfred Dwight Foster,¹ who was for ten years a Councillor and for three years treasurer of this Society. Mr. Foster was a benefactor and a connection by marriage of Mr. Hamlin, and one of the latter's sons, who is now a professor in Columbia University, is named Alfred Dwight Foster Hamlin. Dr. Hamlin used this mixture largely in the incipient stages of cholera in Turkey in 1848 and 1855, and, as he says in a book published by him, in thousands of cases in 1865.² My friend, the late Edward Griffin Porter, our lamented associate, informed me that the mixture is to be had at all the barber shops in Turkey. The constituents of the compound are, as stated by Dr. Merriman, equal parts of laudanum, spirits of camphor and tincture of rhubarb. It is an interesting fact that such a medicine should have gone out, as it did, from this town, and been of such wide-spread and immense use in Turkey. Dr. Green told me how the medicine occurred to him. He was visiting the wife of the late Frederick W. Paine, who was a well-known member of this Society, and finding that in the remedy which he generally used for dysentery, there was an ingredient which did not agree with Mrs. Paine's constitution, had a happy thought that this combination, which is now so widely used, would serve the desired purpose in the case of his patient; trying it with perfect success on that occasion, he used it a great deal afterwards.

¹ Among the Turks, p. 312. ² *Ibid.*, pp. 307, 308.

Many of the older families in Worcester still use this medicine. It is prepared in two ways; in the way which Dr. Merriman has mentioned, and for lighter cases with paregoric as a substitute for laudanum. Dr. Hamlin told me that he had tried in vain to have the credit of the prescription given to Dr. Green; but the name of "Hamlin's mixture" originally used, has in spite of Dr. Hamlin's efforts been continued, and is still used in Turkey wherever the specific is employed.

Rev. EDWARD EVERETT HALE, D.D., read a notice of the life of Samuel Jennison, late of Boston.

A sketch of the life of John Nicholas Brown, of Providence, was read by GEORGE PARKER WINSHIP.

A biographical notice by FRANCIS BLAKE, of John Elbridge Hudson, of Boston, was read by the Recording Secretary.

Mr. SAMUEL S. GREEN, of Worcester, added a few remarks to the paper:

Notwithstanding Mr. Hudson's successful career as a lawyer, and notwithstanding his mastery of the details of the great business with which he was connected, and the power he showed in managing its affairs, I have the best reasons for saying that his heart was in study. Up to the very last of his life, every Sunday was spent by him in study. Nothing, I presume, has been left to show the results of his investigations. He made numerous memoranda on slips of paper, but I anticipate it will be found that nothing has been left in such a form that it can be printed. Nevertheless, it is true that his heart was in study, and that successful as he was in other walks in life, he still clung to the end of his life to the tastes which he had in the beginning. I have reason to believe that he even studied law, not so much because of the real interest

which he had in it, as to secure the means which could enable him to devote time to studies in which he was more interested.

The annual report of the Treasurer was presented by NATHANIEL PAINE, A.M. An important item in the report was the announcement that a new fund had been formed by John Chandler Bancroft Davis, of Washington, Horace Davis, of San Francisco, and Andrew McFarland Davis, of Cambridge,—a fund of \$3,000, the principal of which is to be held intact, and the income to be applied to the purchase of literature relating to the Civil War of 1861—1865.

The report of the Librarian was read by Mr. EDMUND M. BARTON.

The report of the Council being now before the Society, it was voted that it be referred to the Committee of Publication.

On a ballot for President, all the votes were given for Hon. STEPHEN SALISBURY.

Dr. SAMUEL A. GREEN, Mr. CHARLES P. BOWDITCH, and Mr. JAMES F. HUNNEWELL were appointed a committee to nominate the remaining officers. On their report a ballot was taken resulting in the election of the following gentlemen :

Vice-Presidents :

Hon. GEORGE FRISBIE HOAR, LL.D., of Worcester.

Rev. EDWARD EVERETT HALE, D.D., of Boston.

Secretary for Foreign Correspondence :

FRANKLIN BOWDITCH DEXTER, M.A., of New Haven, Connecticut.

Secretary for Domestic Correspondence:

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, LL.D., of Lincoln.

Recording Secretary:

CHARLES AUGUSTUS CHASE, A.M., of Worcester.

Treasurer:

NATHANIEL PAINE, A.M., of Worcester.

Councillors:

HON. SAMUEL ABBOTT GREEN, LL.D., of Boston.

REV. EGBERT COFFIN SMYTH, D.D., of Andover.

SAMUEL SWETT GREEN, A.M., of Worcester.

HON. EDWARD LIVINGSTON DAVIS, A.M., of Worcester.

JEREMIAH EVARTS GREENE, B.A., of Worcester.

GRANVILLE STANLEY HALL, LL.D., of Worcester.

WILLIAM BABCOCK WEEDEN, A.M., of Providence,
Rhode Island.

HON. JOHN DAVIS WASHBURN, LL.B., of Worcester.

THOMAS CORWIN MENDENHALL, LL.D., of Worcester.

HON. JAMES PHINNEY BAXTER, A.M., of Portland,
Maine.

Committee of Publication:

REV. EDWARD E. HALE, D.D., of Boston.

NATHANIEL PAINE, A.M., of Worcester.

CHARLES A. CHASE, A.M., of Worcester.

CHARLES C. SMITH, A.M., of Boston.

Auditors:

WILLIAM A. SMITH, A.B., of Worcester.

A. GEORGE BULLOCK, A.M., of Worcester.

The Recording Secretary reported that there were seven vacancies in the list of members, and the Council suggested the following names of candidates :

James Willson Brooks, LL.B., of Petersham.
 Andrew Jackson George, M.A., of Brookline.
 Edward Hooker Gilbert, A.B., of Ware.
 James Ford Rhodes, LL.D., of Boston.
 Rev. Michael Charles O'Brien, of Bangor, Maine.
 Elias Harlow Russell, of Worcester.

All of these gentlemen were duly elected on separate ballots.

A paper, entitled "Student Customs," was read by Dr. G. STANLEY HALL.

Mr. HENRY H. EDES then said :—

The two communications which I am about to present were written by our associates, the Hon. HORACE DAVIS of San Francisco and Mr. ANDREW MCFARLAND DAVIS of Cambridge. Both papers were inspired by a letter, which I shall presently read, written by their grandmother, Mrs. Aaron Bancroft, to her daughter, Mrs. Donato Gherardi, the mother of Rear-Admiral Gherardi of the United States Navy. These papers were to have been presented by Mr. Andrew McFarland Davis, but, unexpectedly, he sailed for Europe on the tenth instant. Before his departure, Mr. Davis committed these documents to my hands with the request that I would read them at this meeting.¹

Mr. SAMUEL S. GREEN remarked :—

I do not rise a third time solely for the pleasure of hearing my own voice, but to discharge a duty which the Council placed upon me last evening of saying a few words

¹*Vide seq.* The interest in the occasion was enhanced by the fact that during the reading of these papers portraits of Dr. Aaron Bancroft, the Hon. George Bancroft, the Hon. John Davis and Judge John Chandler were within view of the members, whose attention was called to them.

in regard to a recent ceremony in honor of our late distinguished vice-president, George Bancroft, and his father and mother, Aaron and Lucretia (Chandler) Bancroft. There certainly can be no more fitting time to do this than after listening to the delightful letter from Lucretia (Chandler) Bancroft just read, and after hearing the statement by the treasurer that three of her grandsons have made a generous gift to this Society.

It had seemed for a long time very desirable that the birthplace of George Bancroft should be marked by some kind of a monument. Under the leadership of the local Society of Antiquity, members of several historical organizations in Worcester, among them a large number of members of our own Society, came together and made arrangements for securing a block of stone and placing a bronze tablet upon it. The ceremony accompanying the erection of that monument, and the dedication of the tablet, took place on the third of the present month, one hundred years exactly from the time when George Bancroft was born in the house the site of which we marked. After a prayer by our associate, Mr. Garver, who is the fourth minister of the Society founded by Aaron Bancroft, a somewhat elaborate address was made by Gen. James Grant Wilson, giving reminiscences of his life in connection with Bancroft. This will be printed in full, with an account of the other exercises, in the proceedings of the Society of Antiquity.

Naturally our own president, Mr. Salisbury, was selected to preside on the occasion. It was fitting that as president of this organization he should do so. It was fitting also that he should discharge that duty as being a son of a playmate and classmate of George Bancroft, our former president for so many years. The monument was presented to the City of Worcester by the presiding officer, and accepted by the mayor, Honorable Rufus B. Dodge.

It was expected that our distinguished vice-president,

Senator Hoar, would make an address on the occasion, and tell us of things he had learned through the close connection which he long had with George Bancroft, but another important duty called him to New York, and so we had to rely on other speakers. Rear-Admiral William T. Sampson and our associate, Andrew McFarland Davis, were guests of the Committee.

I think the most interesting incident of the whole occasion occurred when our venerable second vice-president, Dr. Hale, mounted upon the monument and gave to us from his own recollection, certain incidents in the life of George Bancroft, and an off-hand estimate of his great work, the History of the United States. He told us that when he was fourteen years old, his father brought into the sitting-room of his house where his mother and he were sitting, the young man, George Bancroft, who had just completed the first volume of his great History, his father saying to his wife, "I have brought Mr. Bancroft home; he has finished the first volume of his History, and wishes to consult us about printing it." Dr. Hale's remarks will appear in the Proceedings of the Society of Antiquity.

I will only add to what I have said that the marker is a roughly hewn stone taken from a quarry in Worcester. It is in the shape of a frustrum of a pyramid two and one-half feet square at its foundation, and rising two and one half feet from the ground, sloping very gently. It is placed just between the sidewalk and the curb in front of the lot where the old house stood, the second residence of Aaron Bancroft in Worcester, and the house in which George Bancroft was born. The inscription on the tablet is, "Twenty feet east of this stone stood the house in which George Bancroft, historian of America, son of Aaron and Lucretia (Chandler) Bancroft, was born Oct. 3, 1800. Placed by citizens of Worcester, Oct. 3, 1900." The question came to me as a member of the committee which procured the stone and tablet, whether the name of

George Bancroft should not be in larger letters than those of Aaron and Lucretia (Chandler) Bancroft. Remembering as we do in Worcester the gratitude which we owe to Aaron and Lucretia (Chandler) Bancroft for their great services to us the committee said "No," and directed that the lettering should be of the same size for all the three names, in order that we might equally commemorate the birthplace of George Bancroft, and the residence of his venerated father and mother, Aaron and Lucretia (Chandler) Bancroft.

The various papers being now before the Society, it was voted that they be accepted by the Society, with thanks to the writers and those who presented them, and that they be referred, together with the report of the Council, to the Committee of Publication.

Dr. HALE asked if any of the members had diaries or other memoranda of 1762, when the New England contingent stormed the Morro at Havana. He said :

The late Hon. Ellis Ames said that the weakest spot in American history was the taking of the Morro in 1762, and we may look in Bancroft and other histories and find no record of it. In the English histories all the credit is given to the English troops, and no mention is made that there were any New England troops present. Yet in one of the official accounts they are obliged to say that they were on the last gasp in their approaches on the Morro, when to the delight of everybody the Connecticut contingent arrived. On the 22nd of August their whole force stormed the Morro and took it, and it seems that the Connecticut contingent, which were the majority, must have joined in the attack. A bit of evidence seventy-five years old in the matter is in Mr. Everett's address at Concord. He was describing the uprising at Lexington, and he said :—

"The genius of America, on this morning of her eman-

ipation, had sounded her horn over the plains and upon the mountains, and the indignant yeomanry of the land, armed with the weapons which had done service in their fathers' hands, poured to the spot where this new and strange tragedy was acting. The old New England drums that had beat at Louisburg, at Quebec, at Martinique, at the Havana, were now sounding on all the roads to Concord. There were officers in the British line that knew the sound; — they had heard it in the deadly breach, beneath the black deep-throated engines of the French and Spanish castles, and they knew what followed when that sound went before."

These words allude distinctly to the Morro. It is a fine statement. It is a little provoking that our own historians should not so much as allude to it at all. The reason is that Quebec happened in 1761, and that makes a good place to close a chapter; then you begin at 1763 with the Stamp Act, and this attack on Morro is left entirely out. Dr. S. A. Green refers me to a journal of Francis Green, and I cannot help thinking if the Connecticut gentlemen would look up their own reminiscences, they might get a nice piece to the credit of New England soldiers.

Dr. HALE referred to the Committee of Publication a communication which he received a few days before the death of Mr. Cushing, telling of the discovery of the body of a French officer on the southern coast of France, showing that the officer had travelled from the mouth of the river across the whole continent.

Mr. J. EVARTS GREENE related an incident which happened while on a recent trip to Gettysburg. He said:

Two weeks ago I was one of a party who visited some of the battlefields, and while at Gettysburg, one of our party who was searching for bullets, which are still found there in large numbers, discovered an Indian arrow-head. On that tremendous field, on which the fate of a nation

hung, and where the relics of the weapons of civilized warfare are still found, to pick up among them the arrow-head of an Indian, shot perhaps in the chase or in war, had a peculiar association, which seemed to me interesting and romantic, and perhaps in the proper hands would be a theme for a poem.

Prof. JAMESON mentioned that in the 11th volume of the Proceedings of the Society, at page 513, there appears a notice of a subscription in 1793 on the part of certain people, that the State Capital might be moved to Worcester, and enquiring as to particulars of this movement, Mr. HOAR remarked :—

I think an Act for moving the State House to Worcester passed the House of Representatives in 1851. I am not quite sure that I ought to say it passed the House, but there was a vote in which that proposition had a majority, unless I am mistaken. It was a time of great political excitement. The Free Soil and Anti-Slavery movements were under way when Boston was the centre of the Whig power. I do not remember what the circumstances were, but there was in some form of voting a majority of the House, at one stage. I acquired some years ago a Connecticut magazine published in the year of the framing of the Constitution in 1787 and its submission to the State, and in that there is a letter from Massachusetts giving an account of the proposition to establish the seat of government at Concord, and the account indicates that it was quite likely to be accomplished in those times.

[See Note following this Report.]

WORCESTER, January 4th, 1793.

(Circular.)

SIR,

THE General Court, in June last, by an Order for the purpose, appointed a Committee to prepare plans of

a building, or buildings, with suitable accommodations for the Meetings of the Supreme Executive, and Legislature, and for the Offices of the Secretary and Treasurer of this Commonwealth, which building, or buildings, were to be placed or erected on land in Boston, or ELSEWHERE, and to be vested in the Commonwealth, as the sole property thereof. And as it is generally allowed that this town is, at least, one of the most eligible places in this Commonwealth for the permanent seat of Government, especially should the Province of Maine be separated from this State, and add another Star to the American Constellation—As numerous reasons point to the propriety, so it appears to be the general voice of the people, that the seat of Government should be inland, where our Legislature may, without the many interruptions, and other inconveniences attending their sitting in a larger commercial city, in quietness pursue more attentively the business of the State, and without undue influence, surrounded by a clear and wholesome air, attend to the "Rights of Man."—And as most of the States in the Union have long since found the benefit of having the places for the sittings of their Legislatures at a distance from their capital commercial cities; and other States, from long trial of the inconveniences of holding the Sessions of their Legislatures in such cities, have lately removed them therefrom—These considerations, added to the influence of the recommendation of many respectable gentlemen in various parts of the Commonwealth, have induced a number of the inhabitants of this place to set on foot a subscription, and in compliance to the tenor of the order of the General Court before mentioned, attempt to raise a sum, by that means, to erect the said building, or buildings, in this town. At a meeting, the last evening, of a number of gentlemen, suddenly called together, about £1300 was then subscribed, as you will see by the inclosed subscription paper. After which the subscribers were chosen a committee to promote the subscription; and were requested to write a Circular Letter for this purpose to our brethren in various parts of the County; agreeably thereto we now address you. Permit us to request that you will lend your immediate aid to the business, by promoting the subscription, and to return the sub-

scription paper to either of us in Worcester, on or before the 15th day of February next; as whatever proposal is made to the committee of the General Court, must be done at the next sitting of the said Court; previously to which it is necessary that we have a return from the several towns where subscriptions may be sent, in order that we may know the exact sum we can raise for the purpose beforementioned.

We are, Sir, with esteem and respect,

your very humble servants

ELIJAH DIX,
ISAIAH THOMAS,
SAMUEL FLAGG,
NATHANIEL PAINE,
DANIEL WALDO, jun.
JOHN CHAMBERLAIN,
PHINEAS JONES,
BENJAMIN HEYWOOD,
DAVID BIGELOW,
JOHN BARNARD.

P. S. We inclose a Copy of our subscription paper, as signed at our small meeting the last evening—it will doubtless be enlarged in this town to double the sum already subscribed. The sum we wish to obtain by subscription is 6000*l*.

To

WORCESTER, January 3d, 1793.

WE the subscribers severally agree, that we will pay the several sums affixed to our names, for the purpose of erecting sufficient and convenient buildings for the accommodation of the Supreme Executive, and Legislature, and for the offices of the Secretary and Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts: Provided there should be an act of the Legislature, making *Worcester* the Seat of Government, or Partially so.

ELIJAH DIX, - -	£150	WILLIAM GOULDING,	6
SAMUEL FLAGG, -	100	THOMAS SHEPPARD, -	5
ISAIAH THOMAS, -	150	SAMUEL WARDEN, -	5
C. & S. CHANDLER, -	150	SAMUEL JOHNSON, -	6
NATHANIEL PAINE, -	50	JACOB MILLER, - -	5
ditto in Land, - -	150	JOHN NOYES, - - -	5
GARDNER L. CHANDLER, 100		THEOPHILUS WHEELER,	12
JOHN STANTON, -	30	EPHRAIM MOWER, -	30
JOHN CHAMBERLAIN,	50	JOHN BARNARD, - -	36
PHINEHAS JONES, -	25	DAVID BIGELOW, - -	9
IGNATIUS GOULDING,	10	DANIEL WALDO, jun. -	50
SAMUEL BRAZER, -	9	BENJAMIN HEYWOOD,	20
DANIEL GOULDING, -	25	SAMUEL BROOKS, -	25
EBENEZER MOWER, -	6	NATHAN PATCH, - -	75
SAMUEL BRIDGE, -	5	NATHANIEL PATCH, -	9
LEONARD WORCESTER,	30	JOHN GREEN, Jun. -	10
THOMAS PAYSON, -	10	EZRA WALDO WELD, -	6
JOHN STOWERS, -	20	NATHANIEL COOLIDGE,	6
JEDEDIAH HEALEY, -	25	JOHN WHITE, - - -	6
ELIAS MANN, - - -	5	DANIEL HEYWOOD, -	36
ANDREW TUFTS, - -	5	JESSE CRAIGE, - - -	5
SIMEON DUNCAN, -	6	PHILIP AMMIDON, -	5

NOTE.

It will be remembered that the controlling reason why Worcester, rather than Boston, was selected as the home of this Society lay in the fact that at Worcester its treasures would be safer from destruction or pillage in case of war with a foreign foe. There can be no doubt that a similar reason existed in the minds of many citizens for establishing the State capital in the interior rather than upon the seaboard. And as it was desirable that the location should be central, for the convenience of members of the General Court and for all who might have business with the State, in a time before the age of steam, it was natural that the claim of Worcester as a suitable site should be put forward by its inhabitants.

The circular to which Prof. Jameson referred and the subscription paper, both of which are mentioned by Mr. Nathaniel Paine in his list of American Broad-sides in the Society's library, are printed herewith.

It would appear that the movement in favor of Worcester gained considerable headway, for the town in its corporate capacity took formal action in the matter. At a town meeting, held on Jan. 14, 1793, it was

Voted, That in case the General Court shall make a law making this Town the Seat of Government, the lot of land north of the Town Common that remains unsold be granted for the use of Government for the purpose of erecting a State House on.

The lot mentioned lay on the north side of Front street, and with the buildings thereon is now valued by the City Assessors at about one million dollars. C. A. C.

Dr. HALE mentioned a manuscript letter in the Franklin collection written by young Franklin, the son of Benjamin Franklin. It is dated about 1790, and is written to a French chemist asking if he will send him a friction match, that he might show it at a dinner party in Paris; the chemist answered that there were four friction matches in Paris, and that he would send him two.

The meeting was dissolved, and by invitation of President SALISBURY, the members present were entertained with a luncheon at his house.

CHARLES A. CHASE,

Recording Secretary.

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