

PROCEEDINGS.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY, OCTOBER 16, 1907, AT
THE HALL OF THE SOCIETY IN WORCESTER.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Rev.
EDWARD EVERETT HALE, D.D.

The following members were present:—

Edward E. Hale, Nathaniel Paine, Samuel A. Green,
William A. Smith, James F. Hunnewell, Edward H. Hall,
Charles C. Smith, Edmund M. Barton, Franklin B. Dexter,
Charles A. Chase, Samuel S. Green, Andrew McF. Davis,
Frederic W. Putnam, Daniel Merriman, Henry H. Edes,
Edward Channing, Granville S. Hall, Carroll D. Wright,
Henry A. Marsh, John Green, William DeL. Love, Ezra S.
Stearns, Leonard P. Kinnicutt, George H. Haynes, Charles
L. Nichols, William R. Livermore, Waldo Lincoln, George P.
Winship, Austin S. Garver, Samuel Utley, E. Harlow Russell,
Benjamin T. Hill, Edmund A. Engler, Alexander F. Cham-
berlain, William MacDonal, Clarence W. Bowen, Deloraine
P. Corey, Clarence S. Brigham, Lincoln N. Kinnicutt,
Franklin P. Rice, Caleb B. Tillinghast.

The by-laws being incorporated in full in the minutes
of the last meeting, it was voted to dispense with the reading
of the record.

Dr. HALE spoke as follows:

I have asked the Council and I ask the gentlemen of the
Society to-day to accept my resignation of the post of
President.

Mr. Barton tells me that it is sixty years since I was honored by election into the Society. My nomination was undoubtedly made by my near and dear friend, our librarian, Samuel Foster Haven, whose life work gave so much dignity to our association. I was living in Worcester, a young minister, with everything in life to learn; he honored me by his friendship and as the years went by there was scarcely a day in which I did not make one excuse and another for visiting our Library. With his guidance and counsel, it was an admirable school for any young man.

At to-day's meeting, our attention is called to those years of the middle of the century, by a letter from the trustees of an association formed to render fit honor to the memory of Elihu Burritt. He was a student in our library, who was always eager and proud to give it credit for the benefits which he had received from it. The younger generation of Americans hardly recollects as it should do the interest which attached to the work of this remarkable man. He early won the title of "the learned blacksmith," for he had that remarkable quickness in the acquisition of language, which is a special gift to some men,—which enabled him to use every prominent language in literature with more or less ease. When he was a workman at the forge in this town, he was made welcome in our Library and was using every day and night our lexicons and other authorities.

Mr. Burritt was well in advance in all the reforms of that day. His work was international and his plea for a "High Court of Nations," made at Brussels, at Paris, and at Frankfort in 1848-'49, and '50, has in our times assumed interest and importance which the world hardly anticipated then.¹

I am glad that we have an opportunity to commend to the people of New England the interesting historical memorial which his townsmen in New Britain are establishing.

It is a pleasure to try, at the last moment of official life, to discharge the duties which belong to an office so honorable as mine. Early in the summer, therefore, I addressed privately, five of our members whom I regarded as high

¹ See our Proceedings for October, 1841, for Burritt's own words.

authorities, and asked them to tell me, what for myself I knew I did not know, what had been the most valuable contributions to American history which have been published in the last two years.

I was imprudent enough at the same time, to ask our friends, Little & Brown, to give me a publisher's list of those historical books published in that time, which had proved themselves most important in the eyes of what used to be called "the trade." This was the honourable phrase by which the guild of publishers is called by Thomas Moore, and his contemporaries. The answer of these gentlemen, which I have with me, staggered me,—first in its revelations of my ignorance, and second, by the evident impossibility of presenting even an abridgment of it for your consideration now.

Dr. Herbert Putnam of the Library of Congress, had already given me a hint which made me look in the same direction. Since this month came in, I find in the accurate "Dial" of Chicago, the list of the books on history and biography which are to be published in the United States, between the first of October and the first of January next.

There are, alas, nearly 250 of *them*, alone. And the very convincing suggestion thus made has compelled me to resign my very simple plan of the beginning.

I shall ask the Committee of Publication if the curious list given me by Little & Brown has not sufficient value for the future to justify us in printing it. In such a list many of the most important are the work of distinguished associates of our own,—some of whom I am glad to welcome to-day. It is quite evident that while we have been busy in making history, our men of letters have not neglected the duty of studying the annals of the nation philosophically,—nor the other duty, of preserving and publishing in intelligible form, the details of what has happened and of what has transpired. "The several states," as one of my correspondents says, "display great zeal in hunting up and publishing materials for state history and local history. Young men are wonderfully alert and diligent in collecting materials and handling them critically."

Mr. Barton's report will show that we have added to our Library the most important books of these two years. With the enlargement of our permanent fund, we are able to go farther in such expense than we have hitherto done. And it is with a certain pride, that your president, in retiring from office, says, that in almost every detail of American history our own collections offer to careful students some opportunities which they cannot afford to lose.

Fortunately for the Society, in the earlier period of its existence, its friends secured from Congress a separate statute in our favor. This statute instructs all officers of the United States to send to the Library of the American Antiquarian Society a copy of every publication made by the national authorities. At the present time, when the scientific branches of the work of the nation are so extensive, this national gift is one of great value, and, in the single detail of political history, the last two years have given to us eight volumes of the lost records of the Continental Congress, which have been admirably edited by our coadjutor, Mr. Ford, to whose learning and skill our students have been so constantly indebted.

Dr. HALE then exhibited certain books taken from the Library, which he had caused to be placed upon the table before him. Among them was a copy of Downam's *Christian Warfare*, the one book from John Harvard's Library, which is said to have survived the conflagration of the College Library in 1764. Dr. HALE called attention to the excellent work performed in Washington, in the way of publishing historical documents, and especially alluded to the admirable work of our associate, Worthington C. Ford, in editing the *Records of the Continental Congress*.

The Report of the Council was then read by GRANVILLE STANLEY HALL, LL. D.

The Report of the Treasurer was submitted by NATHANIEL PAINE, A. M. After reading such portions of the financial

report as were necessary, Mr. PAINE read the following communication to the Society:—

At the time the present treasurer assumed the duties of this office in October, 1863, there were but four regular Funds, viz:

The Librarian's and General Fund established in 1831, first called "The Twelve Thousand Dollar Fund," amounting to ²	\$21,395.12
The Collection and Research Fund, first called "The Fund of Five Thousand Dollars," of	8,688.29
The Bookbinding Fund, established in 1858, amounting to	6,440.55
The Publishing Fund, established in 1858, amounting to	6,677.84
	<hr/>
The whole amounting to	\$43,201.80

In 1867 these funds had increased to \$60,534.29, at which time the Salisbury Building Fund of \$8,000 was founded.

In June, 1868 the funds were increased by a gift from Hon. Isaac Davis, (then the senior member of the Council) of \$500 and was called the Isaac Davis Fund. Later he added \$1,000 to the Fund and in April, 1891, it was increased \$5,000 by the gift of that amount from his son, Hon. Edward L. Davis, and has since been called "The Isaac and Edward L. Davis Book Fund."

In October of the same year a legacy of \$1,000 received from the estate of Hon. Levi Lincoln, established the Lincoln Legacy Fund.

It was not till 1879 that the number of Funds was again increased, at which time a legacy from Judge Thomas, of \$1,000 was received and became known as the Benjamin F. Thomas Local History Fund.

In 1880, the Publishing Fund was increased by a gift from Hon. Edward L. Davis of \$500.

The Tenney Fund was founded in March, 1881, by the bequest of Joseph A. Tenney of Worcester, of \$5,000.

²The Librarian's and General Fund was increased in 1899 by a gift of \$5,000 from Hon. Stephen Salisbury.

The same year the Alden Fund of \$1,000 was established by Ebenezer Alden, M. D., the income to be used for the benefit of the Library, especially in the preparation of catalogues.

In 1882, the Haven Fund was created by a legacy from Samuel F. Haven, LL. D., for many years the Librarian of the American Antiquarian Society, of \$1,000.

One hundred dollars was added to the Publishing Fund in 1883, by the gift of that sum from Rev. Robert C. Waterston of Boston.

The George Chandler Fund of \$500 was founded in 1884 by a gift from George Chandler, M. D., of Worcester, the income to be used "for procuring works in genealogy and kindred subjects."

In 1889, the Francis H. Dewey Fund was established by a legacy of \$2,000 from Hon. Francis H. Dewey, the income of which was to be used for the purchase of the biographies and writings of distinguished judges and lawyers.

In 1895, by a bequest of \$10,000 the George E. Ellis Fund was established, the income to be used for any object approved by the Society on the recommendation of the Council.

Rev. George E. Ellis, D. D., had been for several years the Secretary for Domestic Correspondence.

The John and Eliza Davis Fund was established in 1900, by gifts of \$1,000 each from John C. B. Davis of Washington, Horace Davis of San Francisco, and Andrew McF. Davis of Cambridge.

The Life Membership Fund of \$2,600 was founded by a vote of the Council in 1901, to carry all money received for life membership to that fund.

From the estate of our late president was received a legacy of the Salisbury mansion at Lincoln Square, in Worcester, and the income received from rents carried to a fund called the "Salisbury Mansion Fund," now amounts to \$409.83, after paying taxes on the real estate.

These seventeen Funds now amount to over \$150,000, or \$106,000 more than when your present treasurer assumed the duties of the office.

To this has been added the last year \$60,000, as a part of the legacy of \$200,000 left by our late president, Hon. Stephen Salisbury.

In April last, the sum of \$1,000 was received from Otis Norcross, executor of the will of Charles E. French, and carried to the Librarian's and General Fund. This legacy was paid to the Society under the provision of a codicil to the will of Mr. French, which was in these words: "I give to the American Antiquarian Society or Association of Worcester, one thousand dollars (\$1,000) also a small bundle containing burned wood and scraps from the original Old Miles Standish house, Duxbury, 1650, also a MS. Calendar (with signs of the Zodiac) of about the 14th Century, on vellum, rolled on a wooden handle."

The total of these eighteen funds is now nearly \$219,000 or about \$175,000 more than when I became your treasurer.

While the market value of our stocks and bonds, in common with those of all other societies, has largely declined during the past year, it is gratifying to note that the present market value is still about \$5,000 more than that at which they stand on the books of the Treasurer.

In retiring from this office, which by your kind indulgence he has held for forty-four years, the treasurer wishes to put on record his very high appreciation of the many courtesies and kindnesses he has received from the members of the Society. In all these years his labors in behalf of the Society have been lightened by your kind consideration, for which he renders most sincere and hearty thanks. While he gives up the duties, which he does with regret, he realizes that he is growing old and sees the necessity of some younger man taking charge of the financial affairs.

Dr. HALE: Gentlemen, it is the desire of the Society to reciprocate to the Treasurer our thanks for the service of a life-time. It is proposed that the thanks of the Society shall be formally expressed to Mr. Paine on this occasion, for the service which he has performed and the work that he has done for the Society. As many as are in favor will rise.

It is a unanimous vote.

Mr. Paine expressed his gratitude for this expression of the feelings of the Society.

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

The Report of the Committee on the Library with reference to arranging the manuscripts of the Society was then presented by Mr. FRANKLIN P. RICE:

Satisfactory progress has been made in the classifying and cataloguing of the manuscripts in the Society's collection since the beginning of this work by Dr. C. H. Lincoln last May. In a statement prepared at the request of the Library Committee, Dr. Lincoln reports that there are between twenty-five and thirty thousand manuscripts in the collection, but that this enumeration does not convey an adequate idea of its magnitude, as bound volumes and single sheets are given the same consideration. In the number stated, there are nearly one thousand volumes comprising sermons, diaries and letter-books. The strength of the collection is in manuscripts relating to the Colonial history of New England and particularly of Massachusetts. The large number and the character of these materials are an indication that considerable time—probably several years—will be required for their proper classification, but it is a work which the Society cannot afford to neglect or postpone, as the results will prove of inestimable value, and will amply justify the necessary labor and expense.

A general examination of the collection has been made which has brought to light many unsuspected treasures. More than a dozen groups have already been classified, and group cards made for six collections. Individual calendar cards have been prepared for three groups, and two collections have been catalogued. It is the intention to begin the printing of a series of calendars of certain groups of manuscripts, the first of which, the Sir William Johnson Papers, comprising about seventy-five letters and docu-

ments, will appear in connection with the Proceedings of this meeting, and there will also be printed specimens of group and individual cards to illustrate the method which will be pursued in the cataloguing of the general collection.

The Recording Secretary, in behalf of the Council, then submitted the following nominations for resident membership in the Society:

Charles McLean Andrews, Ph. D., of Baltimore, Md.
Clarence Monroe Burton, LL. B., of Detroit, Mich.
George Pierce Garrison, Ph. D., of Austin, Texas.
Thomas McAdory Owen, LL. D., of Montgomery, Ala.
Herbert Putnam, LL. D., of Washington, D. C.
James Schouler, LL. D., of Intervale, N. H.
Frederick Jackson Turner, Ph. D., of Madison, Wis.
Henry Ernest Woods, A. M., of Boston, Mass.

Rev. Austin S. Garver, A. M., and George P. Winship, A. M., were appointed a committee to collect ballots. All of the candidates above named were elected and the President announced their election.

While the balloting was going forward the President said:

Referring to what has already been said of Burr's Conspiracy—any person interested in that history will find more in the Texan and Mexican Archives than in ours. In our own Department of State, there is comparatively little of detail about Burr's plans. There is nothing in them, I may say about the murder of Philip Nolan, in Texas. But I found when I was studying his history in Texas, that the Spanish Government had agents in our cities, making reports monthly or quarterly, as to things of which our government knew or pretended to know nothing—and if any one wishes to study the matter, it is well for him to go to Mexico and look over their collections there. The Mexicans have kept these documents with great care for those who wish to see them.

The meeting then proceeded to elect officers of the Society for the ensuing year. Dr. Hale, in making the announcement that the Society would proceed to the election of a President, availed himself of the opportunity to say that he had unqualifiedly resigned and had so notified the Council.

SAMUEL S. GREEN, A. M., then nominated Mr. WALDO LINCOLN, A. B. of Worcester, for President of the Society. After expressing his regret that Dr. HALE was unwilling to serve us longer, he said, that in the selection of Mr. Lincoln a year ago for Second Vice-President, it had been foreseen, that Mr. Lincoln must practically become the executive head of the Society. Mr. Green pointed out that Mr. Lincoln was a prominent man in the City of Worcester, whose career had been conspicuously successful, yet who had found time to show his deep interest in the objects of the Society, not only by contributing to our Proceedings, but by personally supervising our affairs while Vice-President, to an extent which was gratefully appreciated by the Council. Mr. Green also called attention to the fact that Mr. Lincoln bore a name which for several generations had been prominent in city, state and national affairs, and feelingly expressed his appreciation of the personal qualifications which especially fitted Mr. Lincoln for the office.

The President appointed Henry H. Edes, A. M., and Colonel William R. Livermore, a committee to collect votes for a President of the Society. This committee having performed that service, reported that all the ballots cast were for Mr. Lincoln.

The announcement of Mr. LINCOLN'S election was greeted with prolonged applause, whereupon he spoke as follows:

Gentlemen:—

In thanking you for the high honor which you have conferred on me by electing me your President, I wish, first of all, to express my regret that Dr. Hale has been unwilling to continue to hold the office. His name as President adds a lustre to the Society which it is a pity

to dim by the election of anyone less well known than our beloved senior member. The arrangement made last year was agreeable to me and I would gladly have had it continue.

It will be my aim as your President to continue the policy developed during the past year and to improve on it as occasion may arise. The Society has large and important questions before it. The need for a new building, not only for the safety but for the storage of our collections, has become imperative, and it must probably be erected on a new site, as it is unlikely that we shall be allowed to fireproof or enlarge our present building. Our collections, which may well be limited in some lines, may equally well be extended in others. The facilities for consulting our collections should be increased and improved. Any local spirit, which may at times have seemed too dominant, should give way to a larger, broader view, which will make the Society American in more than name; and while our local membership must of necessity continue disproportionately large, that we may have men for administrative work, every leading historian and antiquarian in the United States should be on our rolls, appreciative of our collections, interested in our work and contributors to our Proceedings.

I trust that these views may not seem too ambitious and that I may have your coöperation in solving the questions involved in them.

At the conclusion of these remarks Mr. Lincoln requested Dr. HALE to retain the chair. Hon. Samuel A. Green, LL.D., James F. Hunnewell, A. M., and Clarence S. Brigham, A. B., were then appointed by the Chair a committee to report a list of candidates for the several offices in the Society which remained to be filled at this meeting.

This committee reported the following ticket:—

Vice-Presidents:

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

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

Council:

SAMUEL SWETT GREEN, A.M., of Worcester.
 CHARLES AUGUSTUS CHASE, A.M., of Worcester.
 EDWARD LIVINGSTON DAVIS, A.M., of Worcester.
 GRANVILLE STANLEY HALL, LL.D., of Worcester.
 WILLIAM BABCOCK WEEDEN, A.M., of Providence, Rhode
 Island.
 JAMES PHINNEY BAXTER, Litt.D., of Portland, Maine.
 CARROLL DAVIDSON WRIGHT, LL.D., of Worcester.
 EDMUND ARTHUR ENGLER, LL.D., of Worcester.
 ELIAS HARLOW RUSSELL of Worcester.
 SAMUEL UTLEY, LL.B., of Worcester.

Secretary for Foreign Correspondence:

FRANKLIN BOWDITCH DEXTER, Litt.D., of New Haven,
 Connecticut.

Secretary for Domestic Correspondence:

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

Recording Secretary:

ANDREW MCFARLAND DAVIS, A.M., of Cambridge.

Treasurer:

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

Committee of Publication:

GEORGE HENRY HAYNES, Ph.D., of Worcester.
 FRANKLIN PIERCE RICE of Worcester.
 CALEB BENJAMIN TILLINGHAST, Litt.D., of Boston.
 DELORAINE PENDRE COREY of Malden.

Auditors:

BENJAMIN THOMAS HILL, A.B., of Worcester.
 HENRY ALEXANDER MARSH of Worcester.

On motion, the Society proceeded to ballot for officers with the result that all of the foregoing candidates were elected.

Dr. CARROLL D. WRIGHT:—

Mr. President: I trust you will pardon me if I ignore your office of President for a few moments?

Dr. HALE: Certainly.

Dr. WRIGHT: I have the honor of the invitation from the Council to express the feeling and sentiment of the American Antiquarian Society, and the nation at large, relative to our retiring President, Dr. Hale.

The Council, in its report, and the Librarian, have called attention to the fact that Dr. HALE has been a continuous member of this Society for sixty years. Dr. HALE settled in Worcester in 1846, when he was twenty-four years of age. The very next year, when he was twenty-five, and in October, sixty years ago, he was elected a member of the Antiquarian Society. I find in the records of the Society that this covers the longest period of membership of any man since its organization. He stands alone not only in this, but he stands alone and unique in all his traditions. I have tried to find a parallel of Dr. HALE's life and service. I have thought of the public men that have come and gone; of the great speakers, lecturers and statesmen; and so far as I can see, there is not a man, and there never has been a man in the United States that has addressed as many audiences or as many individuals as our honored and revered friend. Never, so far as I could find, has there been one single utterance of his that has not been in the interest of the very highest and most ideal humanities. He has always since his youth looked up and not down, outward and not inward, forward and not backward. No call has ever come to him to which he did not respond either by good advice, good words or by active interest in the enterprise. And even to-day, at eighty-five, he is sending his words broadcast; every week,—more than once a

week, you can read what he says,—and you find the old-time thought, the old-time character and sincerity in it all. Never a word that is not in the interest of humanity. Why, Dr. HALE once said,—if he is reported correctly, and I think he must be,— as I have known him,—that he could not be a successful novelist, because his heart would not allow him to kill off any of his characters.

Now, that is perfectly typical of the man. We are honoring him, eulogizing him here to-day because he is one of us,— but he belongs to the whole country and to the world, wherever the English language is spoken or wherever it is translated into other languages. Whatever he says commands attention. He is loved and revered without reference to theological tenets or denominational lines. Everybody loves Dr. HALE, and yet Dr. HALE is always fearless in expressing his views. Now, why do we all love him? Why does everybody, wherever you go, have an affectionate regard for that name? You might say that he is a national character because of this; but it is because of this that he is a national and an international character. Officially, now, he is a national character, but the Senate of the United States could not elevate Dr. HALE. Dr. HALE can elevate the Senate. Therefore, while officially he is a national character, he nationalizes the body not *to* which he prays, but *for* which he prays. The Senate cannot contaminate him,—and if he guides that honorable body in the highest ways of statesmanship, bringing to his prayers every morning, as he does, lessons that ought to sink deep into the hearts of men who are responsible for our welfare, I am sure that his closing days will be days of increased service along the very lines of his whole life.

We cannot pay him a higher tribute than to recognize him as this great national character. We cannot honor ourselves so sweetly, so deeply, as by honoring him as one of us. (*Applause.*)

Dr. HALE: I cannot thank Dr. Wright as I should for his kind words, I can only repeat to the friends who hear it, the advice which my mother gave to some girls who

came to ask her advice about the care of children. They have become a sort of motto of my life;—and I was rather pleased to find, the other day, that this was what the greater philosophy directs: “Let her do as well as she can every day.”

Mr. SAMUEL UTLEY made the following motion :

That in recognition of the long and honorable services of Mr. Nathaniel Paine as Treasurer of the Society for forty-four years, Article first of the By-Laws is hereby suspended so far as it fixes the number of the Councillors, and Mr. Paine is hereby elected Councillor for the ensuing year in addition to the number provided for in the By-Laws.

It appearing from the records that the Council had recommended the passage of the above motion, it was unanimously adopted.

The Recording Secretary in behalf of the Council, then presented the following resolutions, stating that the Council recommend their passage by the Society:

I. That Article VIII. of the By-Laws be amended by substituting for the word “annual” the word “any unexpired”.

II. That authority be given to the Council to erect a stack and to fire-proof the present building—the cost to be charged to the principal of any Fund which may be lawfully so used.

III. That in order to regulate the Collections of the Society, the Council is authorized from time to time to dispose of books and other printed matter by sale, exchange or gift as it judges best for the interests of the Society.

IV. That Mr. Waldo Lincoln be authorized to take such legal steps as are necessary to secure a modification of the Lincoln Legacy so that it can be applied to the general purposes of the Society.

After the reading of the resolutions as a whole each resolution was considered separately and was adopted.

A place had been reserved in the programme for Capt. Roald Amundsen, of Christiania, Norway, whose presence had been hoped for at this meeting. The President expressed regret at his absence and spoke of the entertaining character of his lectures.

Dr. HALE also said that he was reminded by the Librarian in his report, that Mr. Bryce, at present the British Ambassador in this country, was chosen a corresponding member of this Society twenty-five years ago. There had been some hopes of his presence to-day, he believed.

Mr. LINCOLN: I have heard from Mr. Bryce,—he regrets that he cannot take the time—it would cost him practically three days to attend the meeting, and he does not feel that he can spare this from his work.

EDWARD CHANNING, Ph. D., then made a communication on Col. Thomas Dongan.

ANDREW MCF. DAVIS, A. M., read a paper on "Was it Andros?"

CLARENCE W. BOWEN, Ph. D., then read a paper on "America's Interest in English Parish Registers."

CHARLES A. CHASE, A. M., then submitted a brief paper on "The Society's Land Titles."

Referring to a letter in the Librarian's report on the subject of "Dedimus Justices,"¹ Mr. Chase took issue with the writer, as follows:

In 1780 the General Court of Massachusetts created the office of commissioners to qualify public officers. Three gentlemen in this room hold this commission: Mr. William A. Smith, who stands eighth by seniority on our roll of members, and who received his commission from Governor Boutwell fifty-six years ago, Mr. Nathaniel Paine and myself, who have both held the commission for some thirty or forty years.

¹ *Infra*, page 320.

The statutes of Maine provide that the Governor, with the advice and consent of the council, may appoint in each county "persons" before whom the oaths required by the Constitution to qualify civil officers, may be taken and subscribed. The statute gives them no title, not even that of commissioner; they are simply "persons." Anybody who wished to find the statute of Maine corresponding to our own would look through the index in vain. He would find no reference under the head of "Commissioners" or even of "Persons." If he were told to look under the head of "Dedimus Justices" he would find the statute but would not find the name itself. The title must therefore be considered a nickname without any legal standing. The office is in no sense judicial; and while we can trace the origin of the word "dedimus" probably to old commissions we must consider the title as a misnomer. But I suppose that if one of our commissioners should have asked our associate Mr. Baxter, "What is a Dedimus Justice?", he would have received the reply which Macbeth gave to Donalbain: "You are, my Lord, and do not know it."

On motion the several communications and reports submitted to the meeting were referred to the Committee of Publication.

The meeting then dissolved.

ANDREW McF. DAVIS,

Recording Secretary.

After the meeting the members were entertained at luncheon by President Lincoln at his residence.

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