

PROCEEDINGS.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY, OCTOBER 18, 1911, AT
THE HALL OF THE SOCIETY IN WORCESTER.

The annual meeting of the Society was called to order by President LINCOLN in the new building, at 10.30 o'clock, on Wednesday morning, October 18, 1911.

The members present were:

James Bryce, Edward H. Thompson, Nathaniel Paine, Samuel A. Green, Edward L. Davis, Edward H. Hall, Edmund M. Barton, Franklin B. Dexter, Samuel S. Green, Andrew McF. Davis, Frederic W. Putnam, Daniel Merriman, William B. Weeden, Reuben Colton, Henry H. Edes, Edward Channing, George E. Francis, James P. Baxter, A. George Bullock, William E. Foster, Charles Francis Adams, Francis H. Dewey, Calvin Stebbins, Henry A. Marsh, William DeL. Love, William T. Forbes, George H. Haynes, Arthur Lord, William R. Livermore, Waldo Lincoln, Edward S. Morse, George P. Winship, Austin S. Garver, William Lawrence, A. Lawrence Rotch, Samuel Utley, Benjamin T. Hill, Albert Matthews, Alexander F. Chamberlain, William MacDonald, Clarence W. Bowen, Clarence S. Brigham, Frederick L. Gay, Lincoln N. Kinnicutt, Franklin P. Rice, Worthington C. Ford, George L. Burr, William C. Lane, Julius H. Tuttle, Wilfred H. Munro, Justin H. Smith, Henry W. Cunningham, Frank F. Dresser, Albert B. Hart, Shepherd Knapp, George F. Dow, Homer Gage, Henry A. Parker, John S. Bassett.

The Secretary read the call for the meeting.

The records of the April meeting, as printed in the Proceedings and distributed to the members, were ordered approved without reading.

The Report of the Council, which was prepared by Andrew McFarland Davis, and the Reports of the Treasurer and of the Librarian, were read and referred to the Committee of Publication.

Messrs. Cunningham, Rotch and Garver were appointed a committee to collect and count the ballots for President of the Society. All the members present having voted, the committee reported the election of WALDO LINCOLN.

President LINCOLN, in thanking the members for his election to a fourth term, said:

The Society begins its hundreth year with this beautiful, convenient, and thoroughly fireproof building, a building worthy of the splendid collection of Americana which has been accumulating for a century through the wisdom of our founder, the enthusiasm of our members and the industry and foresight of successive librarians. If the late sale of the Hoe library is a criterion, it will be hardly an exaggeration to place the value of the collections in this building at from one and a half to two million dollars—a value which seems to justify the large sum which has been expended for its safe keeping. I had hoped that at this meeting I might be able to report large additions to our endowment, the necessity for which becomes the more apparent as the increase of facilities shows what the Society might accomplish did means permit.

Do you gentlemen realize that there is no Society just like this in this country? No! not in the Americas! The whole western hemisphere is its field in its chosen specialties, its collections are unequalled and it offers the use of all its treasures freely to the historian and the student. The Society is too distinguished, its library and its work too important to be allowed to languish for lack of funds. Worcester has done its share. Time and money have been given freely by its citizens and this beautiful building, like its two predecessors and the greater portion of its valuable contents, are due to

the generosity and devotion of the Worcester members. Is it unreasonable now to ask others to take up a portion of the burden? Or is there any reason why the Society may not appeal as confidently to the philanthropist as any educational institution in the land? I trust, gentlemen, that you will not allow the centennial of this splendid Society to pass without placing it on a substantial financial basis to the end that its second century of existence may find it at the head of the great historical Societies, not only in America, but in the world.

Messrs. S. A. Green, Dow and Lane were appointed a committee to nominate the other officers of the Society. The committee reported the following list of officers, and a ballot having been cast, they were declared elected.

Vice-Presidents:

SAMUEL ABBOTT GREEN, LL.D., of Boston, Mass.
ANDREW MCFARLAND DAVIS, A.M., of Cambridge,
Mass.

Councillors:

NATHANIEL PAINE, A.M., of Worcester, Mass.
SAMUEL SWETT GREEN, A.M., of Worcester, Mass.
EDWARD LIVINGSTON DAVIS, A.M., of Worcester,
Mass.
GRANVILLE STANLEY HALL, LL.D., of Worcester, Mass.
WILLIAM BABCOCK WEEDEN, A.M., of Providence, R.I.
JAMES PHINNEY BAXTER, LITT.D., of Portland, Me.
SAMUEL UTLEY, LL.B., of Worcester, Mass.
ARTHUR PRENTICE RUGG, LL.D., of Worcester, Mass.
CHARLES GRENFILL WASHBURN, A.B., of Worcester,
Mass.
CHARLES LEMUEL NICHOLS, M.D., of Worcester, Mass.

Secretary for Foreign Correspondence:

FRANKLIN BOWDITCH DEXTER, LITT.D., of New
Haven, Conn.

Secretary for Domestic Correspondence:

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

Recording Secretary:

GEORGE PARKER WINSHIP, A.M., of Providence, R. I.

Treasurer:

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

Committee of Publication:

FRANKLIN PIERCE RICE, of Worcester, Mass.
GEORGE HENRY HAYNES, PH.D., of Worcester, Mass.
CHARLES LEMUEL NICHOLS, M.D., of Worcester, Mass.
JULIUS HERBERT TUTTLE, of Dedham, Mass.

Auditors:

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

The President, after announcing that the committee appointed on the celebration of the Centennial would report in April, stated that the meeting would proceed to the reading of the papers announced on the program.

GEORGE L. BURR, LL.D., of Cornell University, read a paper called "The Place of New England in the History of Witchcraft."

The President stated that the next paper on the program was "The Ruins of Tiahuanaco, Bolivia," contributed by Adolph F. Bandelier, of New York City, but that since Mr. Bandelier was unable to be present, the paper would be read by title only and would be printed in full in the Proceedings. Mr. Winship referred appreciatively to Mr. Bandelier's work, and expressed the regret of the Society that the writer of the paper was unable to attend the meeting.

The President remarked that the Honorable James Bryce, British Ambassador to the United States and one of the foreign members of the Society, had visited Tiahuanaco, and might say a few words regarding those wonderful ruins.

Mr. BRYCE addressed the Society as follows:

Mr. President and gentlemen:—

Though I cannot well say much about the ruins of Tiahuanaco, as you have not had the advantage of hearing the paper of Mr. Bandelier, I am grateful to you, Mr. President, for calling upon me to speak to-day because you give me an opportunity of thanking the members of the Society for the great honour which they conferred on me sometime ago in electing me to be one of its foreign members. I appreciated that honour very heartily at the time and I appreciate it even more fully now when I have had the advantage of learning more about the work of your Society and its antiquity and the long line of distinguished men who have been its members. Let me congratulate you sincerely upon your coming into occupation of this admirable building, which is in so many respects a model of what the home of an historical society and its library should be. Its plan and proportions somewhat remind me of two of the famous buildings which make the glory of the ancient city of Ravenna. In some respects it recalls the Tomb of Galla Placidia in that city, and in some the noble church of San Vitale, although of course its internal decorations are entirely different. Let me wish for this building and this Society as long a history as that Tomb and that Church have enjoyed and let us hope that the city of Worcester will never decline, like Ravenna, into a state in which it has little to live upon except its memories.

As regards Tiahuanaco I will only venture to say this, that having paid a visit to it just a year ago, I was greatly struck by the evidence it furnishes of the immense antiquity of a semi-civilization in the great central plateau of the Andes. It is an extraordinary place in respect to the space that its ruins cover and the proof it supplies of the vast labour expended on constructing its edifices. Everything points to the existence of a race which possessed great skill in the cutting and polishing of the hardest stone, and which was able to form large and impressive plans of architectural design. One is struck by the fact that these buildings must have long antedated the great so-called Inca civilization of Cuzco; and one is inclined to conclude that there had been successive monarchies dominant in the central plateau of Bolivia and Peru before the times to which the early Peruvian traditions carry us back.

Did time permit I should have been very much tempted to have referred to the extremely interesting paper of Mr. Burr to which we have listened with so much pleasure. The phe-

nomena of witchcraft to which he referred find not a few parallels among the Indian tribes of South America where the medicine man or wizard still flourishes and carries on his gainful profession no longer in the terror of being either hanged, drowned or burned. The last conversation that I ever had with the greatest American historian of this generation, the late Mr. Henry C. Lea, was upon the subject of the book he was then writing upon witchcraft, and although he had not gone very far in the actual writing of the book, he had accumulated a mass of material bearing on this curious subject, much of which may, I hope, be utilized by his literary executors for the benefit of historical students.

Let me thank you again, Mr. President, for your kindness in permitting me to express my thanks to the Society and assure you that English historical students have been following, and will continue to follow, with the liveliest interest the work which you and other historical societies are doing in this country. We hope and trust that when any of you desire to follow out researches in England you will give us—and I will speak in particular for the historical section of the British Academy—the opportunity of meeting you and of rendering any assistance we can to you in the prosecution of your enquiries. It is a pleasure to feel that we are all labouring together in hearty co-operation, Americans and Englishmen, in the pursuit of historic truth, as in many other fields.

WILLIAM MACDONALD, of Brown University, then read a paper on "Some Bibliographical Desiderata in American History."

The President announced that after the program had been arranged and it was found that Mr. Bandelier could not be present at the meeting, he had asked one of the foreign members of the Society, Mr. Edward H. Thompson, of Merida, Yucatan, to address the Society; that Mr. Thompson had prepared a paper on "A Kindlier Light on Early Spanish Rule in America," but, since the time of the meeting had expired, the paper would be read by title only and printed in the Proceedings.

The President then read the following communication from Mr. Thompson, presenting to the Society a rare collection of photographic reproductions of the Chichen-Itza ruins of Yucatan:

*To the President of the American Antiquarian Society,
Worcester, Mass.,*

DEAR SIR:—

I take great pleasure in offering for acceptance by the Society, if it so desires, the first prints of the photographic series that I am now commencing to publish.

The present series, as the description that accompanies the prints indicates, has as its subject the ruined group of Chichen-Itza, the oldest and largest center on the Peninsula of Yucatan of that mysterious building race, now called the Maya. It also includes male and female types of the present Maya natives, probably the descendants of those ancient builders.

These prints are made on special platinum paper, and are therefore as permanent as science can make them at present. The coloring has been carefully and faithfully done by a well known water-color artist of Boston.

As fast as others are published, the first perfect prints will be forwarded to the Society.

Very truly yours,

EDWARD H. THOMPSON.

October 17, 1911.

It was voted to refer the various papers to the Committee of Publication.

The meeting then dissolved.

GEORGE PARKER WINSHIP,

Recording Secretary.

After the meeting, the members of the Society were entertained at luncheon by the President, at his house on Elm street.

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