

PROCEEDINGS.

ANNUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 21, 1904, AT THE HALL OF THE
SOCIETY IN WORCESTER.

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

The following members were present:

Edward E. Hale, Nathaniel Paine, Stephen Salisbury,
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,
William B. Weeden, Henry H. Edes, George E. Francis,
A. George Bullock, William E. Foster, Charles P. Bowditch,
Charles F. Adams, Francis H. Dewey, Calvin Stebbins,
Henry A. Marsh, John Green, Leonard P. Kinnicutt,
George H. Haynes, Charles L. Nichols, Waldo Lincoln,
George P. Winship, Austin S. Garver, Abbott L. Rotch,
Samuel Utley, James W. Brooks, Edward H. Gilbert,
E. Harlow Russell, Benjamin T. Hill, Williston Walker,
Edmund A. Engler, Alexander F. Chamberlain, Edward
G. Bourne, Clarence W. Bowen.

The report of the Council, which had been prepared by
Rev. Dr. EDWARD E. HALE and NATHANIEL PAINE, A.M.,
was read by Mr. PAINE.

SAMUEL UTLEY, Esq., read biographies of Horace Gray
and Frederick Temple, and presented biographies of several
other deceased members.

Rev. WILLISTON WALKER, D.D., of New Haven, presented a memoir of Egbert Coffin Smyth, D.D.

Dr. HALE said:—

“We all meet under the same sense of sorrow that we shall not welcome our Vice-President. The tribute to his worth and memory through the whole country has been a noble illustration of the gratitude of a great nation for the life of a great chief. Members of the Council, at a special meeting on the third of October, have attempted so far as in such a meeting we could do, to express our sense of his loss to us in the affairs of this association. No member of the association was more loyal to it, and as the period for the semi-annual meetings occurred he was always occupied with one or another subject which he would bring before us with personal pleasure and satisfaction. How wide was the range of his interests! It might be a question of constitutional law which we were to discuss,—it might be an anecdote of an English parsonage. It is impossible for us not to feel at every moment of our meeting that the dearest of friends and the wisest of advisers will not meet with us again.

“I had the pleasure of talking yesterday with Rev. Dr. Lombard, of Byfield, who has charge of the publishing of the proceedings of the Bi-Centennial at Sutton, where Mr. Hoar made his last formal address of any character. I believe he spoke here later, but this was the last of his great historical addresses. Dr. Lombard told me an interesting story. He was talking with Mr. Hoar about this address at Sutton, and Mr. Hoar said to him, ‘My boy, I shall deliver that address. The doctors have told me not to come here, but I will deliver the address, if I die tomorrow.’ And he did deliver the address. He called Mr. Lombard ‘my boy’ because he was a son of one of Mr. Hoar’s old friends.”

The Treasurer's report was read by NATHANIEL PAINE, A.M.

The Librarian's report was read by Mr. EDMUND M. BARTON.

The report of the Council was accepted and referred to the Committee of Publication.

A committee appointed to collect ballots for President, reported that thirty-four ballots were cast, all in favor of Hon. STEPHEN SALISBURY.

Dr. SAMUEL A. GREEN, from a committee appointed to recommend a list of names for the other officers of the Society, reported the following list:—

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.
Hon. EDWARD LIVINGSTON DAVIS, A.M., of Worcester.
GRANVILLE STANLEY HALL, LL.D., of Worcester.
WILLIAM BABCOCK WEEDEN, A.M., of Providence, Rhode Island.
Hon. JAMES PHINNEY BAXTER, A.M., of Portland, Maine.
CARROLL DAVIDSON WRIGHT, LL.D., of Worcester.
EDMUND ARTHUR ENGLER, LL.D., of Worcester.
ANDREW MCFARLAND DAVIS, A.M., of Cambridge.
Prof. E. 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:

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

Treasurer:

NATHANIEL PAINE, A.M., of Worcester.

Committee of Publication:

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

NATHANIEL PAINE, A.M., of Worcester.

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

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

Auditors:

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

BENJAMIN THOMAS HILL, A.B., of Worcester.

The RECORDING SECRETARY was instructed by unanimous vote to cast a ballot for the officers nominated by the report.

The ballot was so cast and reported.

The RECORDING SECRETARY, in behalf of the Council, recommended for active membership:—

Francis Henry Lee, of Salem.

Daniel Berkley Updike, of Boston.

And for foreign membership,

David Casares, A.B., of Merida, Yucatan.

The first two gentlemen were duly elected by ballot, and the last by uplifted hands.

REV. CALVIN STEBBINS, of Framingham, read a paper on, "The Development of Democratic Ideas in the Puritan Army."

Dr. HALE said: "Mr President, I will take this opportunity to ask a favor of the gentlemen here, to communicate to me any words of Algonquian origin which linger in their locality. I asked this question a few years ago, and our friend Dr. Green, who knows everything, has favored me with two or three. I think I have none from other quarters, although plenty of people sent me Iroquois and other words. Dr. Green gave me 'torshent,'¹ which may be familiar to people here, and also 'chipmunk,' which he thinks is Algonquian. Then there are 'moccasin,' 'wigwam' and 'papoose.' We have n't much more than forty of those words now, and it seems to me curious that more should not have dropped into the New England vocabulary."

Dr. CHAMBERLAIN: "The Indian words which have leaked into our modern language are many of them in Trumbull's dictionary. I have myself listed all the Algonquian words in the 'Journal of American Folk-Lore' for 1901, I think, literary and popular, and both together they amount to about one hundred and fifty, of which half might be called popular, that is, might have been or are now in daily use. The others are literary words, or words that have been turned into literary uses. I think the numbers possibly are greater than that. Of course, they are not all recorded in Trumbull's dictionary, as that is intended for another purpose, but one finds the origin of a good many of them there.

"Mr President, I would like to announce for the benefit of the Society, that a friend of mine and myself are about to edit the Book of Proverbs as it is contained in Eliot's

¹ Also written toshent and toshence.

Indian Bible. It has been a long-thought-of work. My colleague is Mr. William Wallace Tooker, of Sag Harbor, L. I., one of the most eminent Indian scholars of today, and together we have at last, after much study and investigation of the subject, decided to publish an edition of the Book of Proverbs, with a vocabulary,—that is, treating it much as we would a French text-book, say for high school uses, bringing it before scholars in the United States and all over the world. I am glad, as a member of this Society, to announce first to my associates that the work which we have contemplated for some years is now well under way.”

Dr. HALE: “Let me express at once, Mr. President, our gratitude for this announcement, which is so very satisfactory. It fulfils our wish for such a publication.”

CLARENCE W. BOWEN, Ph.D., of New York city, spoke as follows:—

Mr. PRESIDENT and fellow members of the American Antiquarian Society:—

A portrait of George Washington, painted by the Quaker artist Joseph Wright, having come into my possession more than fifteen years ago, I was interested in learning more of the work of the artist, and found in this country six different portraits. The portrait of Washington which Joseph Wright painted for the military gallery of the Count de Solms in Europe, I was unable to find, but I was brought into correspondence with Dr. Newell Sill Jenkins, an American gentleman living in Dresden, who told me of the discovery of papers relating to the Revolutionary War, in the castle of a Bavarian nobleman. I corresponded direct with Berthold Kalbfuss of Munich, who forwarded to me a translation of a portion of the manuscripts, which proved to be the journal of campaigns in America during the years 1780, 1781, 1782 and 1783, kept by Ludwig, Baron von Closen, aide to Count de Rochambeau. The original papers are written in French and

were deposited in the archives of the family Von Closen at the Castle Gern near Eggenfelden in Bavaria. The present possessor of the entail is Baron Hector von Closen Günderrode. I gave an account of the discovery of the manuscripts and read selections from the translation of the journal before the American Historical Association at its annual meeting held in Washington on December 28, 1889, and subsequently read the same paper before the New York Historical Society and the Long Island Historical Society, but was unable to get possession of the original papers. Several years ago I made another attempt to secure access to the original manuscripts; and through the untiring efforts of James H. Worman, United States Consul-General at Munich, I received from Europe in July of 1903 not only Baron von Closen's two-volume manuscript journal, but a number of unpublished papers of the period of the Revolutionary War which are of great historical value, and in addition, portraits and sketches which the Baron made while in America. The journal consists of two large volumes of two hundred pages each, closely written in French. The manuscripts are one hundred and six in number.

Little is known of John Christopher Lewis, Baron von Closen, to whom we are indebted for gathering while in America one hundred and twenty years ago, such valuable historical material. He was born August 14, 1755, and in his early years entered the French military service, as an uncle of his who had attained the rank of a general in France had done before him. In 1780 Von Closen was captain in the regiment Royal Deux-Ponts, which came to America under Count de Rochambeau. On the arrival of the French in Rhode Island, Von Closen was appointed by Rochambeau one of his aides. In his capacity as aide Von Closen had the opportunity of travelling through the country and of meeting gentlemen of distinction, like John Langdon in New Hampshire, John Hancock in Massachusetts, Jonathan Trumbull in Connecticut, and Thomas Jefferson in Virginia. Washington, Lafayette, De Grasse, and all the officers of the American and French armies he also had frequent opportunities of meeting. He visited General Washington at Newburgh and Mrs. Washington at Mount Vernon. During the Yorktown campaign Baron

von Closen took letters from Washington to Count de Grasse, which contained the intelligence that Admiral Digby had just arrived in New York with a reinforcement of six ships of the line. Prior to the Yorktown capitulation Von Closen was brought into close personal contact with Washington, Lafayette, Rochambeau and De Grasse, conferences with whom he describes minutely in his journal. Von Closen was the only Bavarian, with the exception of a brother of King Maximilian, who received the American Order of the Cincinnati. On returning to Europe he became quartermaster-general, chamberlain and knight of the French Orders for Merit and of the Legion of Honor. In 1811, when Von Closen was fifty-six years old, he was sub-prefect of the Rhine and Moselle under General Dumas, Councillor of State, and his fellow aide-de-camp in 1781. Von Closen died August 9, 1830, at the age of seventy-five years. It might be added that in 1840 Von Closen's son was chamberlain of His Majesty the King of Bavaria.

After an examination of the Von Closen papers I forwarded the same to the Librarian of Congress, who sent them to St. Louis for exhibition at the World's Fair. They are now in the Government Building. If it is necessary to return these papers to the family in Europe I hope first to obtain permission to have a copy made of all the Von Closen papers, in order that students of history in America may have access to them.

Dr. Bowen closed by reading several extracts from the journal.

SAMUEL SWETT GREEN, A.M., of Worcester spoke as follows:

Mr. PRESIDENT and gentlemen:—

I hold in my hand a letter which Elihu Burritt wrote to me a number of years ago. I thought it might be well to have it printed in our Proceedings, on account of the interest in the cause of peace awakened by the International Peace Congress recently held in Boston and because of the interest felt by members of this Society in Mr. Burritt on account of the large use which he made of our library when a resident of Worcester.

He came to this place from New Britain, Connecticut, soon after the business depression of 1837. Born in 1819, he was the son of a farmer and early learned the trade of blacksmith. Fond of study, he took mathematics, with the idea of becoming a surveyor, and early acquired some knowledge of the Greek, Latin and French languages.

He opened a grocery store in New Britain, but failed. Going to Boston, in the hope of getting employment as a blacksmith, he did not succeed. Then he came to Worcester, where he found employment as a blacksmith, and spent his leisure time in the rooms of this library to gratify his taste for the study of languages.

Mr. Burrirt believed he had an aptitude for mathematics and that his interest in languages was acquired; although his reputation as a student has generally rested upon his greater or less knowledge of languages. I have seen it stated that he had a considerable acquaintance with thirty-two languages.

While he was here he studied languages of Europe and Asia. I have had placed on the table before me some of the very books which he used largely while he studied in this library. His room was in a block owned by the father of our President, directly across from this building, on Main street, and very near to the old building of the Society on Summer street, where he studied. Mr. Burrirt speaks in his autobiography of having translated here "all the Icelandic Sagas relating to the discovery of North America; also the epistles written by the Samaritans of Nablous to Savants of Oxford." The sagas which he used are at my side; perhaps, however, the most interesting thing which he mentions as having found here is a Celto-Breton dictionary and grammar. This book also is here, on the table. He studied in this volume and soon determined to write a letter in the Celto-Breton language to the Royal Antiquarian Society of France. He did so, and a few months after received at his anvil a package in which was a large volume, bearing the seal of that society, containing a copy of his letter in Celto-Breton and an introduction from a scholar, in which it was stated that the letter was correctly composed.

It was in this town, early in the forties, that Mr. Burrirt's interest in reform began. He became convinced,

soon after the time when he was making translations in the old hall of this Society, that there was other and more important work for him to do, and need that a live word should be said in behalf of several reformatory measures. He now gave his time and energies to philanthropic efforts, and very soon became especially interested in the cause of human brotherhood and universal peace among nations. He established in this town a paper known as the "Christian Citizen," devoted to the anti-slavery cause, peace, temperance, self-cultivation, etc., which was published here for several years. During the first three years of his absence in Europe, he conducted this paper by the aid, largely, of Mr. Thomas Drew. He sent many communications to it from abroad.

The letter which I have here relates to an incident in the history of the work which Mr. Burritt did in behalf of peace. Dr. Hale, Dr. Green and others here will remember the excitement there was in this country in the political campaign of 1844; my memory does not go quite far enough back to recall the incidents of that contest, but I do remember the joy there was on the face of my mother's father when he came home to his house in Dedham and said that Clay was elected President, and the gloom which overspread his countenance when he appeared again, not many hours after, and said that New York had gone for Polk, and the democratic candidate was elected. You will remember that the two great issues in the campaign were the question of the annexation of Texas and the demands which should be made by the United States upon Great Britain for territory in Oregon. The cry of the democratic party was, "Fifty-four forty, or fight!"

In the early part of the year 1846 there was very great danger that Great Britain and the United States would go to war on the question of the Oregon boundary, and at that time international friendly letters were sent from different towns in England to different towns in the United States, urging us to work in behalf of peace between the two countries. Those letters were sent to Mr. Burritt, and he saw that they were forwarded to the places to which they were addressed, and some of them he carried himself. The letter which I hold speaks of what he did in advancing the cause urged in these communications. I will ask

the Secretary to read it in a moment. Replies were made to the British letters. Mr. Burritt carried some of these across the Atlantic himself; among others the reply from Worcester, Massachusetts, to Worcester, England.

He went to England in May, 1846, in the same steamer that carried the news of the settlement of the Oregon question. The dominant party had concluded that the country's interests in Texas would suffer if it persisted in demanding the boundary which it had contended for between Oregon and British territory, and Mr. Buchanan, then Secretary of State, had joined in a treaty that the line should be forty-nine degrees north latitude, a conclusion which was satisfactory to both parties in interest. Some of the addresses which Mr. Burritt carried abroad were presented at public meetings in the towns to which the communications were addressed, among others the address between the two Worcesters. When Mr. Burritt went to England he intended to stay only three months, but he found that there was a great work to be done there in behalf of the cause of peace, and remained abroad three years. Returning he came to Worcester for a little while, but soon took up his residence in New Britain, the place of his birth.

It is unnecessary to speak of the great work which Mr. Burritt did in behalf of the cause of peace; to remind you how he went from one end of England to the other; or to dwell on his great use of the press, in printing leaflets to distribute all over civilized Europe and in this country. I need not mention the great work he did in getting up the International Peace Conferences in Brussels, Paris, Berlin and, in the year of the great exhibition of 1851, in Exeter Hall in the city of London. Mr. Burritt's interest in international penny postage was awakened and inspired by a desire to bring nations together; by means of cheap postage to further the brotherhood of man, and cause peoples to understand and appreciate each other through communicating often with one another.

Mr. Burritt had our own country close to his heart during the twenty-five years that he was doing his great work in Europe in behalf of peace; and when there seemed danger of the Civil War here, which afterwards came to us, on account of the negro question, he, first from Lon-

don, and afterwards in person, in this country, for several years, conducted a journal in Philadelphia in behalf of compensated emàncipation, and tried to stir up the people by addresses and by getting up a great convention at Cleveland, so as to prevent war by securing fair treatment for the Southern slaveholders in getting rid of the great curse of slavery. It was a grievous disappointment to Mr. Burritt when the John Brown raid occurred, and to his mind made war inevitable.

In 1863 he went again to England, not with an idea, however, of continuing the arduous labors that he had engaged in, but to meet his old friends again. There he got back into his old way of literary pursuits. He had felt that he had no right to pursue literary recreations while he could attend to the great reforms which he advocated, but having done his life's work in philanthropy, he felt at liberty, in declining years, to return to his old studies. He made a trip on foot from London to "John o' Groat's," and another from London to Land's End and back. He was appointed consular agent of the United States in Birmingham in 1865, and was able to do the work that that position required and at the same time a great deal of literary work. Among other things which he did, he continued the study of different languages, a pursuit which had so much interested him in his early days in New Britain and especially in the hall of this Society.

Coming home again in 1870, Mr. Burritt spent the remainder of his life in New Britain, where he died in March, 1879. It was with enthusiastic delight that, while there in his quiet home, Mr. Burritt witnessed the preparations for the Tribunal of Arbitration at Geneva, and saw means adopted for the peaceful settlement of the disputes caused by the depredations of the rebel steamer "Alabama." He had reason to regard this movement as largely the fruit of his labors, and it roused him at once to join with others in working for the establishment throughout the world, of new measures and institutions for the further advancement of the cause of peace.

We hear comparatively little about Mr. Burritt during the last days of his life. We owe him a debt of profound gratitude for the immense work which he performed in promoting peace and goodwill among men.

The letter follows:—

New Britain, Ct., April 16/74.

SAMUEL S. GREEN, Esq.

My dear sir:

I am very happy to hear that the dear Worcester of my love and pride, where my public life was born, is going to revive the pleasant communion and fellowship with the old Worcester of Mother England with which I was somewhat connected nearly 30 years ago. During the Oregon Controversy in 1846, when it was assuming a serious aspect, Joseph Crossfield, a Quaker of Manchester, originated a kind of direct interchange of sentiments on the subject between English and American towns through Friendly International Addresses. A great number of these addresses were sent from various towns in England and Scotland to our principal cities. These were all sent to me, or my care, and I had them printed on slips, and posted to several hundred newspapers scattered over the Union. One of these was from Edinburgh to Washington, bearing the names of Dr. Chalmers and the first men of that city. I took this on to Washington myself, and among others showed it to John C. Calhoun, who was deeply interested in it. At the same time I took with me an Address signed by 1600 ladies of the City of Exeter, England, to the ladies of Philadelphia, who sent a response to it, signed I believe by over 3000 of their number. When I went to England in 1846 I took with me this response, and also that of our Worcester to the mother Worcester in England. Both were presented at public meetings convened for the purpose, and excited the liveliest interest. I have copied out of the "Christian Citizen" volume for 1846 both communications of the two Worcesters, which will show you the spirit which they breathed and inspired. I do not know what has become of the original Address from Old Worcester. It ought to have been preserved in the archives of the city. I do not know if you have a copy of my last book, "Ten Minute Talks on all sorts of Topics," in your library. I have described this Friendly International Address movement in my Autobiography.

Hoping these facts will suffice for your object

I am Yours Truly,

(Signed) ELIHU BURRITT

Judge SAMUEL UTLEY, Biographer of the Society, said:

A list of twenty-three deceased members has been placed in my hands, and I have prepared notices of twelve, and have arranged for the preparation by other members of the Society of ten more, leaving one deceased member of whom I have not been able to secure sufficient data to enable me to prepare a notice.

It will be observed that the notices that I have prepared, as well as those that are prepared by other members, are generally much shorter than has been the custom. I

should not deem it proper to make so wide a departure from the custom of the Society on my own motion, but it has been done on the suggestion of the President of the Society, on the ground that the scope of the Society is such, that a brief tribute is all that is desirable, and we hope in this way to be able to call upon members to prepare such tributes without its being a burden upon any one.

Of course the relation of the subject of the memoirs to the Society is a main factor in deciding how long the notice should be, and whenever it is thought desirable to have an extended notice we hope to be able to secure some member who is well qualified in the special line necessary to do the very best work.

I think that you will all be glad to hear that Dr. HALE has kindly consented to prepare the tribute to the late Senator Hoar.

Dr. HALE: I should like to ask if anybody can tell me when the Puritan custom of turning the face to the wall in prayer came in. In my own experience as a boy, in my grandfather's house in West Hampton, when morning prayers were announced, men, women and children stood up and faced the wall, turning their back to whoever was conducting the service. That was always the custom at my father's house in family prayers. He turned to the wall and everybody turned to the wall. It never occurred to me as a Puritan custom until a few days ago one of the chaplains in the House of Commons in England had the goodness to send me a picture of the House of Commons in prayer, and to my surprise I found that all the members present had turned their faces to the wall, turning their backs on the officiating clergyman. Now is that a relic of Puritan customs; or where does it come from? Certainly it is not observed in the English Universities at all. But in the House of Commons it seems every-

body turns his back to the officiating officer. Will any gentleman who recollects the older customs of family prayers in New England let us know if he knows anything about this matter?

Mr. CHASE: I would say that that practice continued at the meetings of the Society of Friends up to a recent period.

All the papers and communications were referred to the Committee of Publication, and the meeting was dissolved.

The members in attendance afterwards lunched with President SALISBURY, at his residence.

CHARLES A. CHASE,
Recording Secretary.

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