

PROCEEDINGS.

ANNUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 30, 1901, 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 minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Secretary, CHARLES A. CHASE.

The following members were present :

Edward E. Hale, George F. Hoar, Nathaniel Paine, Stephen Salisbury, Samuel A. Green, Elijah B. Stoddard, Edward L. Davis, James F. Hunnewell, Egbert C. Smyth, Charles C. Smith, Thomas H. Gage, Edmund M. Barton, Franklin B. Dexter, Charles A. Chase, Samuel S. Green, Henry W. Haynes, J. Evarts Greene, Henry S. Nourse, Daniel Merriman, William B. Weeden, Reuben Colton, Henry H. Edes, George E. Francis, G. Stanley Hall, John McK. Merriam, William E. Foster, Charles Francis Adams, Francis H. Dewey, Calvin Stebbins, Henry A. Marsh, Ezra S. Stearns, William T. Forbes, Leonard P. Kinnicutt, George H. Haynes, Charles L. Nichols, Waldo Lincoln, John Noble, Austin S. Garver, Samuel Utley, James W. Brooks, James F. Rhodes, E. Harlow Russell, Benjamin T. Hill, Henry F. Jenks.

The report of the Council was read by Vice-President HOAR.

In introducing a paper upon the Life and Character of Charles Allen, Senator HOAR said :—

I am to read a paper as part of the report of the Council upon a subject very dear to my memory and to my heart.

There are one or two things which perhaps I may allude to before I come to the main part of the history. He was a member of the Legislature in 1839, and the committee reported that there was no choice of Governor, so the choice would go into the Legislature where Mr. Everett, the whig candidate, was sure to be elected. But some clerk whom Mr. Allen had employed came to him and said in great secrecy that he had discovered an error in the count, which elected Mr. Morton by one majority. Mr. Allen was a very zealous man, in favor of his own opinions, but he disclosed the fact to the House, and Governor Morton was declared elected.

He was called upon to preside at a case in the midst of the slavery conflict. A fugitive slave concealed himself on board a vessel in New Orleans and came to Massachusetts, and off near Scituate he was discovered, and made his escape over the side of the ship and got nearly to the shore. He was pursued by the master of the vessel, overtaken, and carried back to New Orleans. The master on his next arrival here was indicted for kidnapping. Charles Allen presided over the court, and everybody thought that we had got one man whom we could make an example of, but the judge held that the place where the slave was seized was outside the body of the county, and that the indictment would not lie, and discharged the man.

The report of the Treasurer, NATHANIEL PAINE, A.M., was presented in print.

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

Voted, that the report of the Council be referred to the Committee of Publication.

The Society voted to adopt the suggestion of the Council that a Biographer be appointed whose duty shall be to prepare or procure suitable biographical notices of deceased members.

Messrs. JOHN NOBLE and BENJAMIN T. HILL, appointed a committee to collect ballots for the election of President, reported a unanimous vote for the re-election of Hon. STEPHEN SALISBURY.

It was announced by the President, that Dr. THOMAS C. MENDENHALL had resigned as a member of the Council, and that WILLIAM A. SMITH, Esq., after seventeen years of service, had resigned as Auditor.

A committee of three, consisting of Messrs. SAMUEL A. GREEN, JAMES W. BROOKS and EZRA S. STEARNS, was appointed to nominate a list of the other officers. The Committee reported as follows :

Vice-Presidents :

Hon. GEORGE FRISBIE HOAR, LL.D., of Worcester.
Rev. EDWARD EVERETT HALE, D.D., of Roxbury.

Council :

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.

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

HON. HENRY STEDMAN NOURSE, A.M., of Lancaster.

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.

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.

Finance Committee:

HON. STEPHEN SALISBURY, A.M., of Worcester.

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

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

Library Committee:

HON. STEPHEN SALISBURY, A.M., of Worcester.

NATHANIEL PAINE, A.M., of Worcester.

The report of the committee was accepted, and the foregoing officers were elected by ballot.

The following gentlemen, recommended by the Council, were elected members :—

- Leslie Stephen, Litt.D., of London, England.
- Prof. Arthur Herbert Church, D.Sc., of Shelsley, Kew Gardens, England.
- Rev. Thomas Franklin Waters, A.B., of Ipswich.
- Albert Matthews, A.B., of Boston.
- Edmund Arthur Engler, Ph.D., of Worcester.
- Prof. George Lyman Kittredge, LL.D., of Cambridge.
- Samuel Walker McCall, LL.D., of Winchester.

Dr. EDWARD EVERETT HALE spoke of the bi-centennial celebration at Yale University. He said :

The occasion passed off magnificently, and was conducted with a great spirit of enthusiasm. The city of New Haven and the State of Connecticut gave themselves up to it with perfect unanimity. The illuminations and decorations were in great profusion. I would like to say a word of Judge Brewer's address, for whom I have the greatest respect and admiration; he has been in the Supreme Court, and took great interest in the arbitration movement, and of course his reputation as a jurist is well known, but I did not know he was an orator. The whole occasion was admirable, and I would be glad if some record of it could go into our report. I was honored by being one of the delegates to represent this Society there, and the welcome and hospitality with which we were received are beyond all praise.

I do not like to sit down without thanking Vice-President HOAR for the admirable historical paper he has read this morning, and I hope he may print every syllable of it. It is true that the generation before our own is the one of which we know the least. He will remember that in those times I differed from him in many matters, but I have lived to see that every word he has said of Judge Allen's

position can be justified through and through by the history of the times. I am sure it is such papers that give interest to our meetings, and I hope to persuade gentlemen to bring as many papers of history as they possibly can. I am chairman of the Committee of Publication, and it has been my fortunate position to communicate with the government at Washington in regard to the printing of the Algonquin Dictionary. Dr. HALE spoke of John Eliot's Bible in the Algonquin language, and of the usefulness of Dr. Trumbull's Dictionary in connection with the study of this Bible.

A medal to commemorate the Yale Bi-centennial Celebration was presented to the Society by the University through Prof. DEXTER.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, LL.D., read a paper on "The Confederacy and The Transvaal: A People's Obligation to Robert E. Lee."

A testimonial to the life, character and writings of the late historian, John Fiske, LL.D., of Cambridge, was presented by Mr. SAMUEL S. GREEN.

Prof. E. HARLOW RUSSELL read a paper by our associate, JOHN BELLOWS, A.M., of Gloucester, England, entitled "The England of the Time of the War of Independence."

A paper from Prof. FREDERIC W. PUTNAM on "The Progress of Archaeology and Ethnology" was read by Rev. AUSTIN S. GARVER.

Prof. GEORGE H. HAYNES read an account of the Tantiusque Lead Mine at Sturbridge, Mass., in the 17th century, and John Winthrop, Jr.'s part in the development of the mine.

A copy of a letter from Increase Mather to Joseph Parsons, dated 1705, was read by Mr. J. EVARTS GREENE, as follows :—

Mr. PARSONS.

You cannot but know that talebearing is an abominable Evill. Pro: 6. 19. & 20. 19. Lev: 19. 16. And that slandering is so, Especially for a Man that ventures to take the word of God into his mouth. Psalm. 50. 16, 19, 20. These Evills I doubt you have been very guilty of. Your Carying a tale (and things false with it) to Mr. Pemberton Concerning Something which I said of him, whereby to Cause discord, was a vile thing in You. You pretend a great respect to the Ministers in the North to them, but at Mr. Pemberton's table, you Could unworthily reflect on them, at which Mrs. Pemberton was troubled & desired you to forbear such reflections. When I spoke to you of this, you said that it was in the way of a flout, that she did so. In this you have wronged Her. She, I know, has too great a respect for Mee & for my Son too, than to flout at Either of us. The things which you told me of Mr. Cutler, He utterly denies, and I am satisfied that you have slandered him.

You told me that at the Colledge, Mr. Whiting of Windham, with the principall schollars (and among others you mentioned Mr. Corwin, which I was amazed at) that they sat up all night drinking of Punch & playing at Cards. I beleive you have greivously slandered them. I have also been informed that you have reported another horrid scandall of the said Mr. Whiting. And I hear that you have slandered the Fellows of the Colledge to Mr. Stoddard. The Lord Humble you & pardon you.

Your Condition is the more Lamentable in that 'tis to be feared that you are Habituated to this Course. I hear that the people of Lebanon have made Complaints of this nature Concerning you & that some in Malden found you in falshoods, which made them Averse from you. I had a great while Such Charity for you as to think you did not devise Slanders. But I lately understand that some of my Neighbours are sensible of your falseness, so that 'tis high time for me to tell you of these things; & I wish I had done it sooner. Considering Lev. 19. 17, I have

thought it my duty plainly & faithfully to advise you of them particularly. I pray the Lord to give you an heart seriously to repent of them; otherwise you have Cause to fear y^t y^e Scripture will be fullfilled. Numb: 32, 23. I am your well wishing friend.

May 3, 1711.

I. MATHER.

To Mr. Joseph Parsons.

Mr. HENRY H. EDES furnished a biography of ROBERT NOXON TOPPAN, which concluded the exercises.

Before adjournment, the members accepted the invitation of the President to lunch at his house.

Dissolved.

CHARLES A. CHASE,

Recording Secretary.

NOTE. A second paper on the Society's Land Titles, received since the meeting, is published with this number of the Proceedings.

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