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# AN ADDRESS

DELIVERED BEFORE THE

New England Agricultural Society,

ON

HAMPDEN PARK, SPRINGFIELD, MASS.,

SEPTEMBER 9, 1864.

By JOHN A. ANDREW,

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

BOSTON:

WRIGHT & POTTER, PRINTERS, No. 4 SPRING LANE.

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SALEM, September 10, 1864.

SIR,—I am instructed, by a vote of the New England Agricultural Society, to express the thanks of the members for the eloquent and appropriate Address delivered by you at Springfield on the 9th inst., and to request a copy for publication.

I have the honor to be,  
Respectfully, your ob't servant,

GEO. B. LORING,  
*President New England Agricultural Society.*

His Excellency JOHN A. ANDREW,  
Governor of Massachusetts, Boston.

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

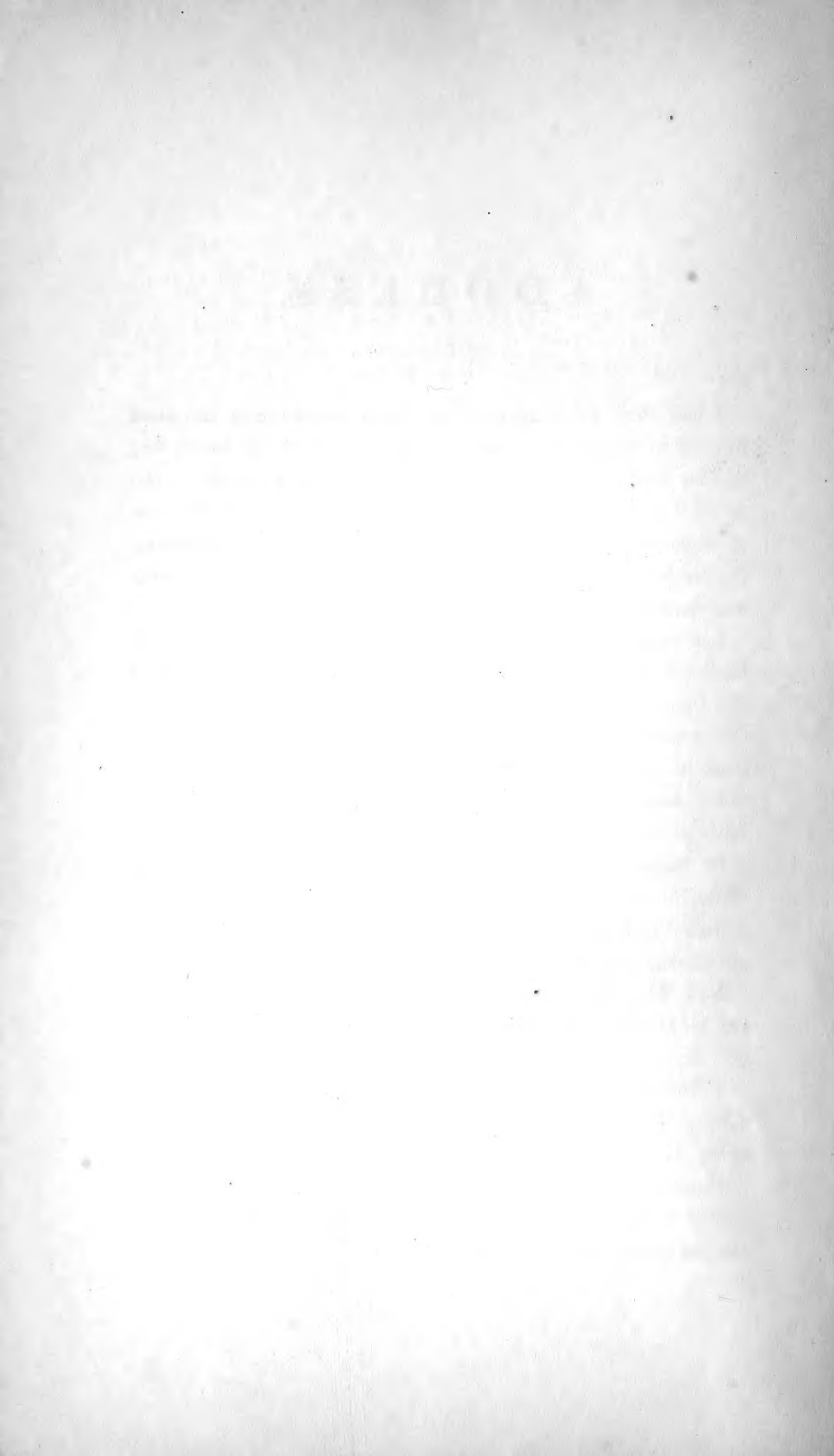
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, BOSTON, }  
September 13, 1864. }

To Dr. GEORGE B. LORING, *President of the New England Agricultural Society:*

SIR,—A copy of the Address delivered at the request of your Society, on the occasion of its exhibition on Hampden Park, in Springfield, last week, is placed in your hands for publication, in respectful deference to the request communicated to me by your note of the 10th instant, and with sincere appreciation of the indulgent manner with which the members of the Society were pleased to receive this effort in their service.

I have the honor to be,  
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. ANDREW.



## A D D R E S S .

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I hail this becoming and beneficent gathering of the most intelligent yeomanry of New England. Here we touch her mother earth, while we join our friendly hands together, in the spirit of a fresh dedication of our powers and hopes to the task of deepening the foundations of her solid fame, of widening the circle of her gracious influence, and brightening the sparkling diadem of her peaceful grandeur.

Let us remember for a moment the external picture of New England, as she presents herself to the eye of the economist and the thoughtful agriculturist. Comprising the six States or Commonwealths of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, her area covers something more than 65,038 square miles, or nearly forty-two millions of acres of surface.

Of these acres, Maine possesses 20,330,240, of which only 5,700,755 acres are reckoned by the census of 1860 as land included in farms; while, again, of that number, but 2,677,215 are classed with "improved lands."

New Hampshire contains 5,939,200 acres; her farms including 3,744,630 acres; while her improved lands are but 2,367,039 acres.

Vermont contains an area of 6,535,680 acres, of which 4,160,839 are reckoned as land in farms, but of which quantity, again, but 2,758,443 acres are returned as under improvement.

Massachusetts covers a surface of 4,992,000 acres, of which 3,338,724 are included in farms, while but 2,155,512 acres are classed among improved lands.

Rhode Island possesses 519,698 acres of farms out of her 835,840 acres of area, but of these acres, 329,884 only are reckoned as improved lands.

Connecticut has 2,991,360 acres, with farms to the extent of 2,504,265, but her improved lands are stated at 1,830,808 acres.

Thus, of the whole area of New England, only 12,118,901 acres, or a little more than three-tenths of her surface, have yet been brought within the category of improved lands. With a population of 3,135,293 persons on a soil reputed to be sterile, in a climate often styled unkind, New England had, in 1860, accumulated an aggregate of wealth, invested in her lands, railroads, mills, ships, and the varied products of ingenuity and taste which indicate the industry and wealth of a highly cultivated and favored people, amounting in value to not less than two thousand millions of dollars. While she has contributed, according to the latest census, 560,336 of the sons and daughters native to her soil, to swell the populations of other Commonwealths outside of New England; and has invested of her earnings, as she has scattered her children, in every State, on every waterfall, and in every mart, and mine, and enterprise of industry. Were her population to the square mile equal, throughout, to that of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,—whose soil, as a whole, is the least fertile of the six States,—she would rise to the number of ten and a quarter millions of souls, which, with a corresponding increase of wealth, would present an aggregate of real and personal values equal to more than seven thousand millions of dollars. When we remember that the increase of wealth has constantly far outrun the growth of population, we have before us the prospect of a numerical strength and economic thrift, as the reward of our intelligent pursuit of industry, capable of an expansion not yet to be measured, which foretells for New England a proud and powerful place in the history of our national future.



The diversity of the pursuits to which her people are devoted is not only manifold but universal, including all the varieties of industrial enterprise, extending in all the directions of human action and human thought. Possessing all the features and peculiarities, over a large portion of her domain, of a rural life, her people are not only farmers or husbandmen; but they lead the rest of the country in the perils of the seas as fishermen and whale-hunters; they furnish seamen to the navy and the mercantile marine in large disproportion to their numerical, masculine strength; plant on all their waterfalls manufactories of cotton and wool; establish in every village the shops of artisans of every handicraft; build ships all along our coast; fabricate arms of all kinds and calibres, heavy ordnance and iron-clad vessels of war; and make jewelry and instruments of music, as well as anchors, steam-engines, hats and shoes. They raise tobacco in the Valley of the Connecticut and in other genial soils; as well as Indian corn, vegetables, hay and forage, all over New England. Not only ice and granite, but even sugar becomes a part of her production and is a profitable source of gain as well as comfort or luxury. She has rendered the railway a domestic institution, so that the steam car visits nearly every hamlet and every considerable town. The music of its whistle no longer frightens the farmer's horse, nor does the proximity of the thundering locomotive, raging and sighing under its weighty burden, and with the pressure of its fiery spirit, disturb the equanimity of the anxious matron, careful for the safety of her child.

The needle-woman, by the domestic hearth, or in the shops where labor associates with capital, aided by the sewing machine—one of the last, best gifts of mechanical invention to women if not to men,—the weaver, by the side of her carpet-loom, which seems to *think*, as well as work, and which almost talks; the shoemaker pegging a boot at a blow; the laborer who fills his gravel car by two strokes of a steam shovel, and

upsets it by a turn of his hand; the husbandman who mows, and rakes his hay, and reaps, and threshes, and measures out his golden grain by the agencies of cunning mechanisms, almost without fatigue, are only a few of the thousand illustrations of how the human will, and the immortal intelligence of the human intellect, bridging over the gulf which lies between the boundaries of *matter* and *mind*, are vindicating the divinely-given mastership of man over all the things which God hath made on earth. Nay, more than that; for the things invisible and impalpable, existing as hidden forces in the vast abyss of Nature—caloric, and steam, and electricity, and magnetism, and light itself; the mysteries of sciences so wonderful and august that they seem to tread celestial spheres and to sweep the mind, bewildered by the contemplation, far off beyond the domain of knowledge, or of reason,—these, all these, tamed and allured to human uses, are familiar spirits by whose means a thousand daily miracles are wrought, without amazement to the beholder, and with little consciousness of our own how nearly we are brought to the contemplation of the very thoughts of Deity. Those winged horses harnessed to the plough, the loom, the travelling car, carrying burdens, crushing ores, hammering granite and iron, or weaving delicate tissues for ornament or luxury; or flashing intelligence by invisible magic, are daily augmenting in number and power—though they had long since added mechanical forces to the industrial strength of our New England, equivalent to that of many millions of men.

Besides all this, there are the peculiar advantages of neighborhood or contiguity, derived from compactness and from convenience of transportation, whether found on the shores of the sea, in the flow of rivers, or in artificial highways. Her long, continuous sea-coast line, with its many harbors, stretches from Calais all around to the Hudson. Her rivers, although generally not navigable far inland,—such as the Penobscot, the

Kennebec, the Merrimac, the Connecticut, the Blackstone, and a hundred minor streams—but still beautiful diversifications of the landscape, have all contributed beyond human estimate to her development. They have floated the hemlocks, oaks and pines from interior forests to the sea. They turned the mill and ground the corn for our fathers in the early humility of their worldly fortunes. The rill tinkling down its rocky declivity, or an Androscoggin roaring along precipitous descents, has alike summoned or allured laborers and capitalists to settle along its banks, where, in happy union with the flowing waters, they have created wealth, builded cities, and piled up acquisitions from every source of Ingenuity and Art.

And what variety of landscape is yours? If winter is rugged and severe, it is yet bracing and grand. Can a people become monotonous and sluggish in their thought, who must toil betimes to shelter themselves from its power, but who are yet encouraged and warmed by the tropical heat of our mid-summer weather, and are charmed by the soft temperatures of our verdant Junes, and our rich and golden Octobers? Can a people become indifferent to the influences of Beauty discerned and felt, either in the sweet repose of Nature, or in her sublimer glories, to whom are familiar the landscape of Lake George, of Champlain, of the Moosehead; the valleys of the Deerfield, the Connecticut, the Housatonic; the White Mountains, piled in rugged variety of projecting rocks from fertile levels up into eternal heights of snow; the rich allurements of the Green Mountains, the delicious surprises of Berkshire; the great and sphynx-like Capes, and the boundless, soundless, mysterious Ocean, which they strive to penetrate; whose inward ear has heard the wind-harp of the forests, the music of the waterfalls and the bass of the Everlasting Sea whose tides beat time in the ceaseless anthem of Creation?

I do not intend, even in a characteristic assemblage of her own people, to laud or magnify New England. I would put

far away the least temptation to exalt ourselves, or to overestimate anything which pertains to the communities which this Society in a measure represents. The thought which overshadows and controls all others, is that which suggests the character and the measure of the responsibility of New England to the whole, and to every part, of that great and common country, of which to-day her six Commonwealths are geographically but a fragment. Meeting together in your capacity of New England men and of New England yeomanry, the more intense, discriminating and intelligent your filial love, the more devoted and unconditional will be the affectionate patriotism with which you must regard that National Union, that grand but menaced Nationality, of which these States are constituents. From the domestic hearth-stone, from the fireside worship of home, the child ascends, led by parental hands to the grander temple where priests and elders wave their censers and offer sacrifice. Thus may we ourselves at this more domestic altar receive strength and inspiration which will be our encouragement and our instruction when we ascend our National Zion, to unite with all the tribes of our American Israel.

I have not failed to perceive nor to exult in the thought of the boundless possibilities of grandeur, and beneficent power, which pertain to the future of our America. I do not forget that when the National jurisdiction over all our States and territories shall resume its unquestioned sway, and our National career shall begin anew, the accelerated increase of wealth and of population in their necessary distribution and diffusion will, year by year, constantly diminish the relative material strength of these North-eastern States. The broad lands, the deep soils, the cheap farms, the coal mines, the gold fields, the virgin forests, the oil wells, the cotton plant and the sugar-cane of the West and of the South, of the Gulf and of the Pacific Coast, cannot fail in their attractions. The swelling tide of immigrant populations will flow across these Atlantic borders

to those alluring homes and seats of industry. Along with many better men will come the greedy adventurers, some of them ignorant, some of them sordid, unblessed by filial love or patriotic sentiment, to seize the opportunities of golden fortune. The wild chase for gain, the allurements of nature herself, the temptations of that fevered life which distinguishes the youth of society in fertile and fruitful States, containing within themselves of necessity a certain measure of social and public danger, suggest to us in advance, the duty and the destiny of New England.

She is to be in the long and transcendent future of the Republic, the great conserving influence among the States. For nearly two centuries and a half, already, have her people kept the vestal fire of personal and public Liberty brightly burning in her little town democracies. Obedient to order, and practising industry, as well as loving individual freedom, they have acquired at last an instinct which discriminates between license and Liberty, between the passion of the hour, and the solemn adjudications of law. They possess the traditions of Liberty, they inherit ideas of Government, they bear about in their blood and in their bones, the unconscious tendencies of race, which rise almost to the dignity of recollections, and which are more emphatic and more permanent than opinions. By the toil of more than seven generations they have acquired and hold in free tenure, their titles and their possessions. The dignity of the freehold, the sacredness of the family, the solemnity of religious obligation, the importance of developing the intellect by education, the rightful authority of government, the rightfulness of property fairly earned or inherited, as flowing from the inalienable self-ownership of man and the rights of human nature; the freedom of worship, the idea of human duty, expanded and enforced by the consciousness of an immortal destiny, are alike deeply

embedded in the traditions and convictions of the immense and controlling majority of our people.

If there is aught which men deem radicalism, or fear as dangerous speculation in our theology or our politics, I call mankind to bear witness that there is no child so humble that he may not be taught in all the learning of the schools, no citizen so poor that he may not aspire to any of the rewards of merit or honorable exertion, not one so weak as to fall below the equal protection of equal laws, nor one so lofty as to challenge their restraints; no church or bishop able to impose creed or ritual on the unconvinced conscience; no peaceful, pious worship which is unprotected by the State. Thus Liberty stands, and the Law supports Liberty; popular education lends intelligence to Law, and gives order to Liberty, while Religion unfettered by human arbitration between the soul of man and the throne of the Infinite, is left free to impress the individual conscience with all the sanctions of its supreme behests, and of its celestial teachings.

Your past history is a record of many great lives and great actions; of men—to our way of thinking now oftentimes found narrow and even obstinate, but yet heroic and sincere; of generations worthy to bear along and hand down the precious seeds from which have sprung the ideas and institutions that give dignity and welfare to a nation.

Agriculturists! yeomen of New England! be faithful to her ideas, to her history, her institutions and her character. Behold and adorn your Sparta! Reclaim and cultivate the untilled lands which still comprise more than two-thirds the area of the six New England States. Deepen and widen the foundations of your seminaries and schools of learning. Encourage genius as well as industry. Invite hither, and hold here, the profound thinkers, the patient students of Nature, those tireless watchers who wait upon the stars, or weigh the dust upon an insect's wing. Discard and discourage alike the

prejudices of ignorance, and the conceits of learning. Remember that, even to-day, there is no man so wise that he understands the law which regulates the relation of any fertilizer to any crop; that few have ever observed the mystery of that wonderful influence of the first impregnation of the dam upon the future offspring of whatever sire; that the origin and contagion of the cattle disease or pleuro-pneumonia, remain hitherto without adequate scientific exploration; that the practical farmers and men of science all combined understand as little the destructive potato-rot, which concerns the economy of every farm and every household, as the Aborigines who first descried the Mayflower understood of the poems of Homer or the philosophy of Aristotle. Not undervaluing the past achievements of science, remember how infinite the extent and variety of the conquests which yet remain to her. Let me exhort you also to bear in mind, that the great discoverers of knowledge are like prophets, appearing but seldom, and on great occasions; that all genius is an intellectual century-plant, and that he who would make the time great, and the people noble, must not confound the mere distribution of commonplace facts, elementary or traditional knowledge, with those conquests and acquisitions which flow from patient and original explorations.

I congratulate all ingenious cultivators of the soil on the newly awakening interest in the establishment of Colleges and Professorships for the pursuit and the teaching of those branches of learning and science adapted to the promotion of Agriculture and the useful arts. It might satisfy the devout lover of truth to rejoice in these opportunities for the diffusion of knowledge. It is even enough reward for all the pains they cost, leaving out of sight the more practical and solid advantages they will impart to the coming generations, to enjoy with Bacon the contemplation of the delights of learning, when in the exultation of his mighty faith, he exclaims —

“It taketh away or mitigateth fear of death or adverse fortune; which is one of the greatest impediments of virtue and imperfections of manners. For if a man’s mind be deeply seasoned with the consideration of the mortality and corruptible nature of things he will easily concur with Epictetus, who went forth one day and saw a woman weeping for her pitcher of earth that was broken, and went forth the next day and saw a woman weeping for her son that was dead; and thereupon said, yesterday I saw a brittle thing broken, to-day, human mortality.” \* \* \* \* \*

“Happy the man who doth the causes know  
Of all that is; serene he stands, above  
All fears; above the inexorable Fate,  
And that insatiate gulph that roars below.”

“It were too long to go over the particular remedies which learning doth minister to all the diseases of the mind; sometimes purging the ill humours, sometimes opening the obstructions, sometimes helping digestion, sometimes increasing appetite, sometimes healing the wounds and exulcerations thereof, and the like. For the unlearned man knows not what it is to descend into himself, or to call himself to account, nor the pleasure of feeling himself each day a better man than he was the day before. The good parts he hath he will learn to shew to the full and use them dexterously, but not much to increase them; the faults he hath he will learn how to hide and colour them, but not much to amend them; like an ill mower, that mows on still and never whets his scythe; whereas with the learned man it fares otherwise, that he doth ever intermix the correction and amendment of his mind with the use and employment thereof.”

The uses and the influence of true learning, the power which flows from its sincere cultivation, are so great and enduring, that were it a task, and not all a delight, I would not cease to urge and advocate, in this presence, the duty which is imposed on a people possessing the opportunities of our own. To all peoples, to all sections, as to each individual man, are open their separate careers. They can forfeit their places; but they



can scarcely exchange them. You of New England may forget that you are of the stock that produced Jonathan Edwards, but you cannot make the cotton plant flourish in New Hampshire. You may turn your backs in jealousy or disdain, on Bowdoin and Dartmouth, and Harvard and Brown and Yale. You may set the village sexton above Cleaveland or Silliman or Agassiz. But when you have declined the sceptre of knowledge, you have not made the Merrimac or the Connecticut navigable, like the Ohio, the Missouri, the Mississippi, or the Cumberland. You will win no glory by any narrow competition, nor by returning one railing word for another. Your greatness must be found hereafter where it has been found hitherto, in the highest development and cultivation of the faculties of *men*. Let thoughtless politicians propose to leave out New England in the cold, if they choose. I think the world will keep a warm place for her while Vermont leads the hemispheres in the intelligence and success of her sheep-breeding, while Alvan Clark makes a telescopic object glass, which is the marvel of astronomers, while the new Museum of Zoölogy at Cambridge exceeds in the variety and extent of many important classes of specimens, the more renowned museums of London and Paris. Of what account will be the sneers at Massachusetts of those "who hold it heresy to think," so long as one man's labor in Massachusetts is found by the census to be as productive of real wealth as the labor of five men in South Carolina, while the annual earnings of her industry exceed the annual earnings *per capita* of any other community in the world? Schools, colleges, books, the free press, the culture of the individual everywhere, the policy of attracting, encouraging and developing all the great qualities of the Head and Heart,—in a word, the production and diffusion of *Ideas*,—in these shall rest forever the secret of your strength to maintain your true position. I implore you to unite and not divide, in your policy. Whenever you can create a great school, or find a great professor,

unite to strengthen the school and to make sure of the man. Our system of diffusing knowledge through the local schools, our plan of distributing elementary instruction, are things of which we are sure. But your district schools will themselves go to seed, your knowledge will become bigoted and mean, unless you remember that the encouragement of these higher institutions from which they are fed, and where their teachers are themselves taught, is as needful as the creation of the head of water above the dam is to the spindle's point.

I beg to exhort you, then, to put faith in Ideas; in the orderly arrangement of knowledge; in the power to search out the hidden things of nature; in the practical application of the highest and largest truth to the wants and affairs of man's daily life. Lead off—representative Farmers of New England—and let this dear, old, rocky homestead of thought and of Liberty, remain for countless ages the fountain and light of generous culture, of Science, Learning and Art. Your influence will tell then, with beneficent and forever-expanding power, on the destiny of the nation. You will live—the true conservatives of the civil state and of social life—“exempted from the wrongs of time and capable of perpetual renovation.”

I am sure, gentlemen, that it cannot be unbecoming, nor out of place, in this assembly of representative men, whether of the industry or the dignity of the New England States, to appeal to the lofty desires of a worthy and truly aspiring ambition. You would not permit me to suggest a selfish policy. You would not be patient with a narrow or merely sectional aim. Nor can I content myself with imagining a future which does not include the uses and the glories of that cultivation of intellectual and moral life, which is the sure foundation of National Immortality. I read but recently, with full heart and eyes suffused, the glowing tribute of a modern philosophic writer\* to the services

\* William Archer Butler, Professor of Moral Philosophy, Trinity College, Dublin. (Lectures on the History of Ancient Philosophy, Vol. I. p. 258.)

rendered by ancient Greece, by cultivation of Letters and Art, to the happiness and welfare of all mankind. Let me repeat to you the language of his eulogy and, as you listen, let every patriot heart ask of itself, whether any fame can be so proud as that which recognizes the debt of nations and of ages to the culture and the intellect of a people, centuries after the end of their career. More than that: when the suggestion of Marathon shall bring to mind our own struggle for National existence, inquire of History whether a nation has ever been suffered to fall and die, so long as that principle was preserved and cherished in its own conscious life, which was the essential principle of its beauty and its power.

“I well remember,” he says, “in early boyhood being laughingly asked my opinion of the relative importance of Marathon and Waterloo; and to me, to whom everything later than Greece and Rome was, at that time, a cipher in historical calculation, but one answer was possible. I doubt if I should now remodel my verdict. What was the day of Marathon as an element in the history of man? Was it the brilliant struggle of some mountain tribe against the wild ravages of some ancient Zenghis or Timour? Gentlemen, it was the cause of the world which was perilled that day. The destinies of ages hung tremblingly upon every blow of these gallant men of Attica. When, as the old historian tells us, the soldier, covered with the dust of that immortal field, rushed into the Athenian assembly with his *Χαίρετε! Χαίρομεν!* [Rejoice! we all rejoice!] and fell dead of his wounds as he gasped the words, he spoke a message to which the civilization of ages was to be the echo or the answer. Had the despot of Western Asia been as successful as his Turkish copyist, two thousand years later; had he gained his footing in Greece at that hour, and flooded with his slaves the soil in which were deposited the seeds of the world’s advancement, the civilization of Europe had been adjourned for centuries; Homer and the early lightnings of the Lyric Muse would have been perhaps irrecoverably lost; no age of Pericles would have placed Athens where she is in your hearts; her borrowed light would never have

taught Romans to think and feel as well as act; and the spirit would not have existed which, evoked from its sepulchre in codex and palimpsest, was, in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, once more incarnated in modern form, and became the vivifying principle of the literature of Italy, France, Germany and England."

Moved by the inspiration of a theme so noble, an example so illustrious; mindful of the audience before me; not disturbed by the presence of this grand display of material substances, (which might seem to put away or postpone a thought belonging so much to the imagination, as well as to the reason,) I appeal to you, in the very capacity in which you are associated, to encourage by the influence of your Society, a culture of the intellect, here in New England, which shall be Athenian, universal.

I believe that he would greatly underrate the New England mind and character who should suspect these views and aspirations of over-shooting either the occasion or the people. I am sure that they must reach the judgment and command the sympathy of the most practical as well as the most ideal. And I am sure that we shall see the hill-sides and waste lands of New England green with vines, white with harvests, or crowned by herds and flocks, when—and never until then—beauty and use, under the guidance of progressive science, tempered by careful experience, shall raise our agricultural life above the low estate of drudgery or accident, to the dignity and attraction of an art. Then, when the toil of farming shall be universally relieved and ennobled by those lofty incitements which stimulate the intellect and awaken the soul, the farmer's land will increase in value, and rural employment will command the devotion of men and women who will both borrow and lend adornment in the pursuit. In order to a more profound love for rural affairs and industry, men need a more profound *knowledge*—a knowledge which the mind itself will feel in the

invigoration of its powers and in the awakening of its curiosity. In order to a better and more prosperous rural and farming life, we must have that life itself intrinsically richer and more free.

We know that since the Board of Agriculture was established in England under the auspices of William Pitt in 1793, and since the scientific labors of Sir Humphrey Davy in the direction of agricultural chemistry which that Board promoted, the face of England has changed as if by a charm.

Improvements in husbandry have multiplied the quantity and value of her agricultural products many fold. A hundred acres which used to produce an annual average of forty tons, will now produce more than fourteen times forty tons of food for cattle and material for fertilization.

The progress made in the thrift of farming, the development of the capacity of soils, in the productiveness of labor and capital devoted to agriculture at home, is manifest, even to observation as superficial as my own, and by the comparison of points of time not more than thirty years apart. But if you compare the facts as they were seen in England, for example, where science and skill have been most assiduously invoked by the owners and cultivators of the land, with the corresponding facts of to-day, taking the last century or century and a half as a field for comparison, and with what "miraculous organ" does the voice of science speak her vindication! The cultivation of the best grasses, the introduction of their choice varieties, the culture and perfecting of roots and vegetables adapted to the use of domestic animals, may be said to have re-created the island. The ox, the horse, the sheep, are scarcely the same animals they were in the time of William and Mary, when the average weight in gross of the neat cattle sold in Smithfield market did not exceed three hundred and seventy pounds each, and of sheep did not exceed twenty-eight pounds each, against an average weight of similar animals now

produced in England, and sold in the same markets, equal to eight hundred pounds for neat cattle and eighty pounds each for sheep. The value of improvements in the mere implements used as the machinery and tools of agriculture, which improvements are themselves illustrations of the application of science to practical farming, is beyond human calculation. The single operation of ploughing, as it is affected by modern improvements in the plough, is one of those which will occur to all farmers as having received within the memory of the middle-aged agriculturist a conspicuous amelioration. The saving in the expense of teams in this country occasioned by those improvements within the last twenty-five years, has been estimated at not less than \$10,000,000 annually, with an additional annual saving equal to \$1,000,000 in the cost of ploughs, while the better quality of the work done tells directly on the productiveness of the crops to the amount of many millions of dollars more.

The tendency of young men to seek other than rural employments is partially balanced already by the tendency of their fathers to return to them. And why may we not hope to see the time when the attractions of better methods of culture and a higher agricultural art, shall win the best, most capable and aspiring of our youth to the country and the farm against the allurements of traffic and the town?

The welfare of the poorest tiller of the soil, and that of the richest, are alike concerned in the progress and development of the agricultural art. Comfort and beauty wait alike for both. I am sure that no man will feel otherwise than grateful to his richer neighbor who pours out upon the ground a generous expenditure of his wealth in experimental farming or in ornamental culture. For the experiment is tried for mankind as well as for himself, and the landscape made more picturesque by his taste, smiles as well for the cottager as for him.

*Gentlemen of the New England Agricultural Society :*

It is due to your Association that I should not close these remarks without rendering my respectful acknowledgment of the honor, great but not earned by any merit of my own, of standing to-day in this place and of speaking as in some sense your organ. I accept it as a recognition of the paternal care extended by the Commonwealth, through the agency of its Board of Agriculture and of its fostering legislation, to kindred societies and to the great interest of Husbandry, and as an earnest of that constant and loyal good will which I trust may continue forever between the Government and the cultivators of that Art which is the parent of every other. I congratulate you, Mr. President, and your worthy associates, on the triumphant success which has attended this inauguration of your institution. It is a success won by your fidelity and intelligent zeal. I trust I may not seem to pass the boundaries of my place on this platform, if in these words of valediction, I assume to speak your acknowledgments, as well as those of the people of Massachusetts, for the illustration and interest imparted to the occasion, and for the honor it enjoys in the presence and coöperation of those who represent our sister States. May the golden chain forever brighten and strengthen which binds these sister Commonwealths in the accord of affectionate unity. May a like intelligence, freedom and happiness visit the homes and possess the hearts of the whole people of every section and every community; so that every home shall exult, ere long, in the sheltering and victorious power of a government whose symbol shall be the flag of our fathers; the secret of whose strength shall be found in a cordial and intelligent Union, on the foundation of Impartial Liberty as the common inheritance of Human Nature.

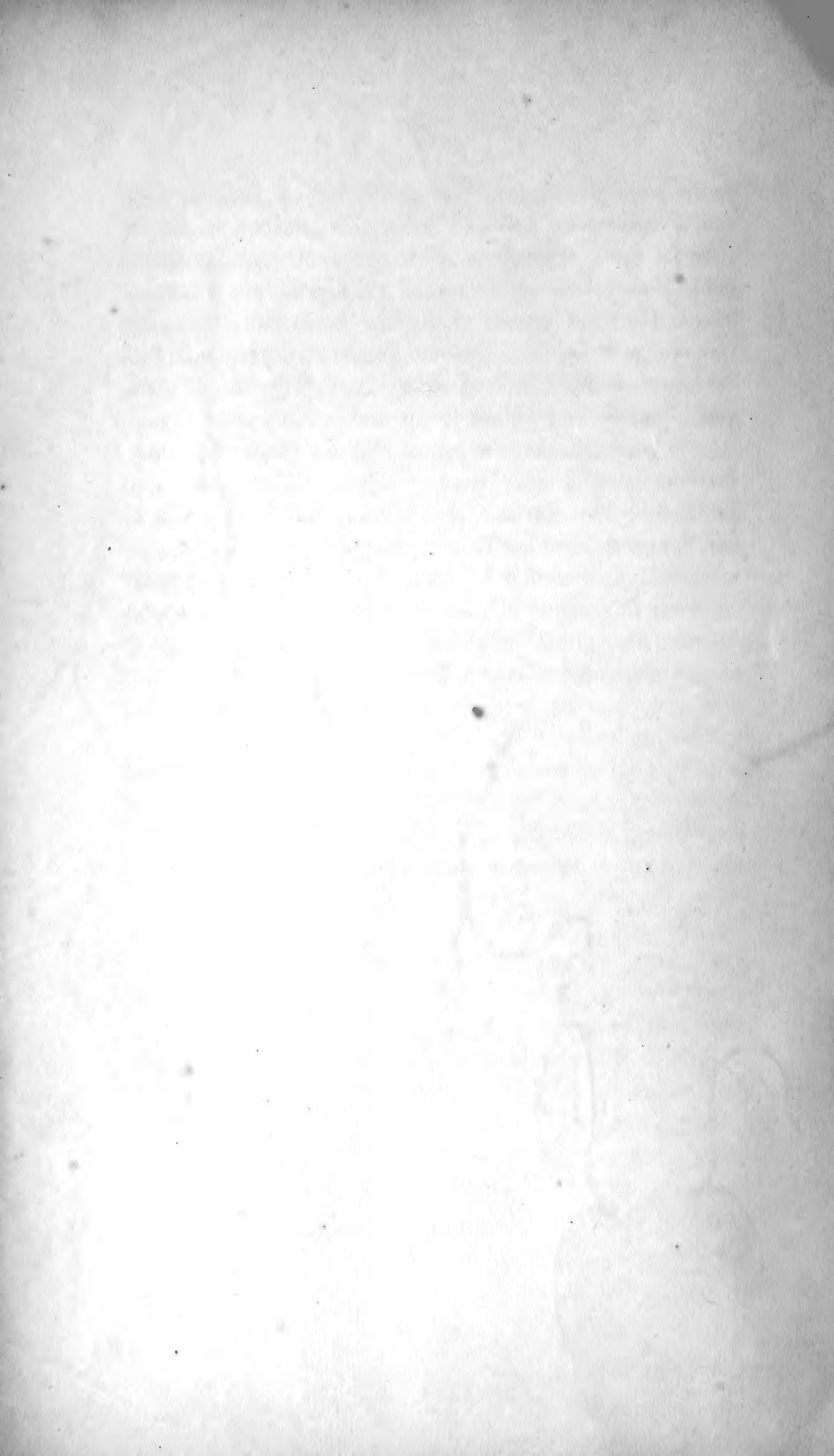
In behalf of such a Union, and such a Government, a People like those of New England will continue in the future as they have done in the past, by the methods of Peace and in the

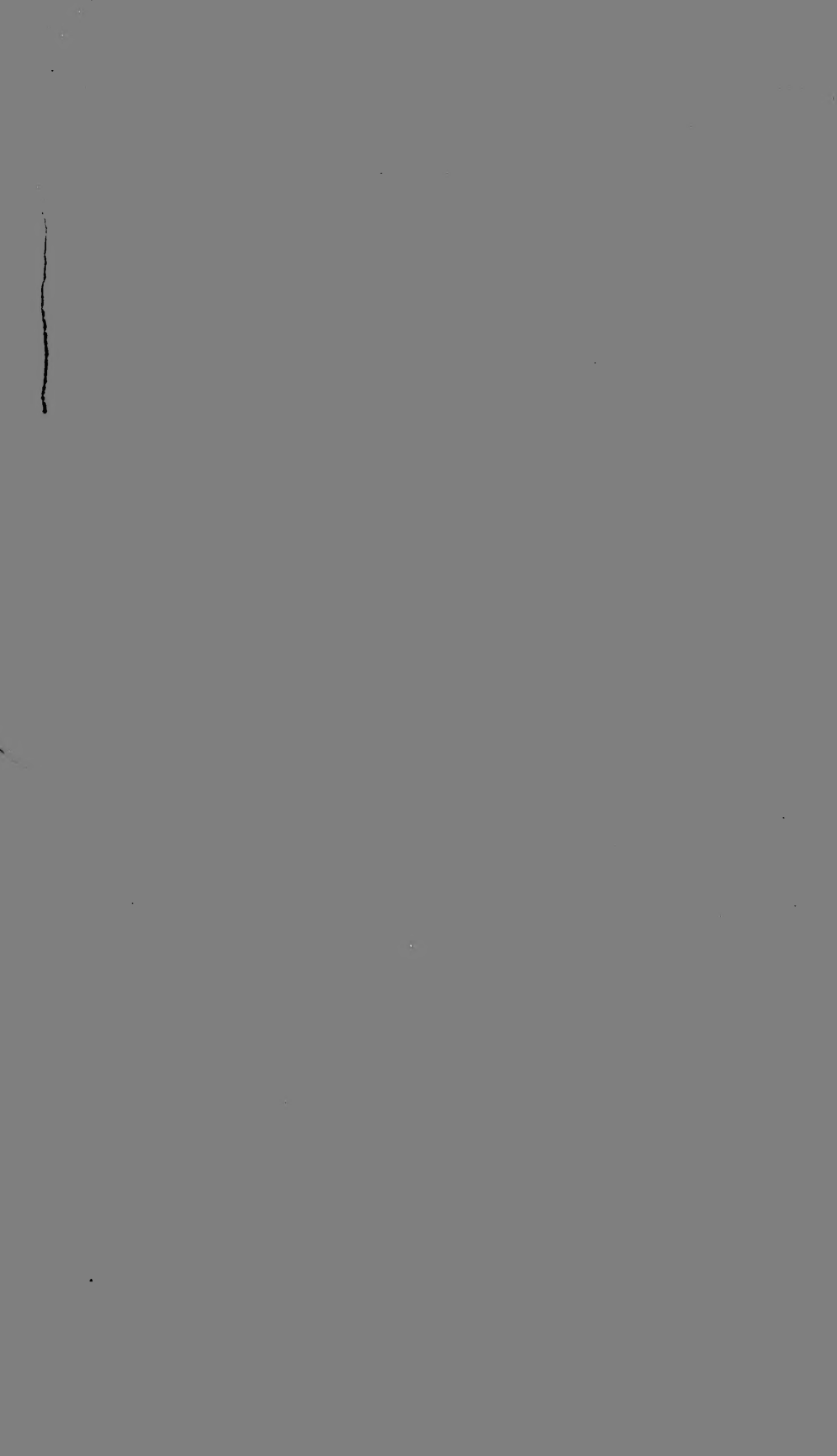
shock of Arms, to struggle against every foe, unconscious of dismay and despising temptation. For the preservation of our Nationality, they have, like their brethren in other sections, accepted the dread appeal to arms. For the sake of maintaining Government and Order and public Liberty, the loyal men of the Union have not shunned the arbitrament of War. Lovers of Peace and haters of discord, we of New England are slow to draw the blade, but we are slower still to yield to the infamy which must blast a coward's name, or to that infirmity of purpose which grows tired of a grand and momentous Duty because it tasks our manhood or our faith. To protect the printing press, the plough, the anchor, the loom, the cradle, the fireside and the altar, the rights of Labor, the earnings of Industry, the security and the peace of Home, if it must be, we can wield the sword, nor return it hastily to its wonted scabbard. For the brand of War becomes then the sacred emblem of every Duty and every Hope.

“The sword!—a name of dread; yet when  
 Upon the freeman's thigh 'tis bound,  
 While for his altar and his hearth,  
 While for the land that gave him birth,  
 The war-drums roll, the trumpets sound,  
 How sacred is it then!  
 Whenever for the Truth and Right  
 It flashes in the van of fight,—  
 Whether in some wild mountain-pass,  
 As that where fell Leonidas,—  
 Or on some sterile plain, and stern,  
 A Marston or a Bannockburn,  
 Or 'mid fierce crags and bursting rills,  
 The Switzer's Alps, gray Tyrol's hills,—  
 Or, as when sunk the Armada's pride,  
 It gleams above the stormy tide,—  
 Still, still, whene'er the battle-word  
 Is Liberty, when men do stand  
 For justice and their native land,  
 Then Heaven bless the sword!”









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