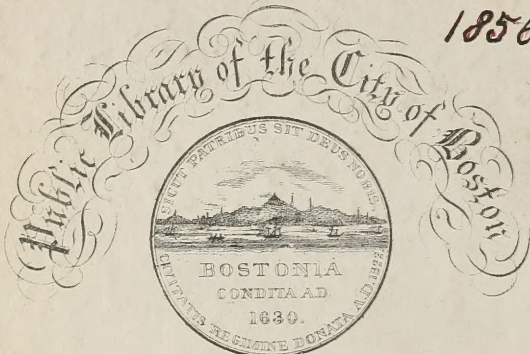


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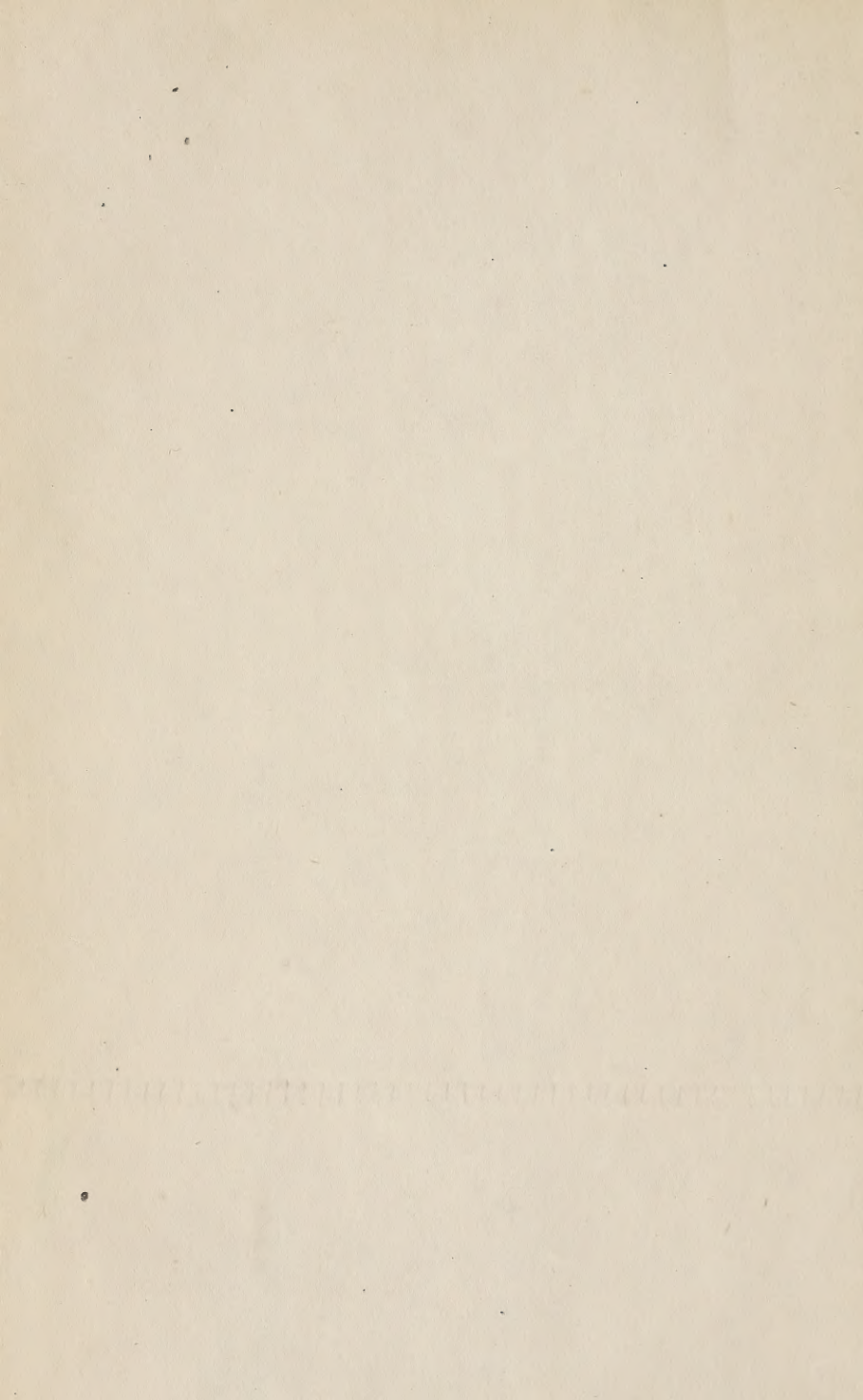
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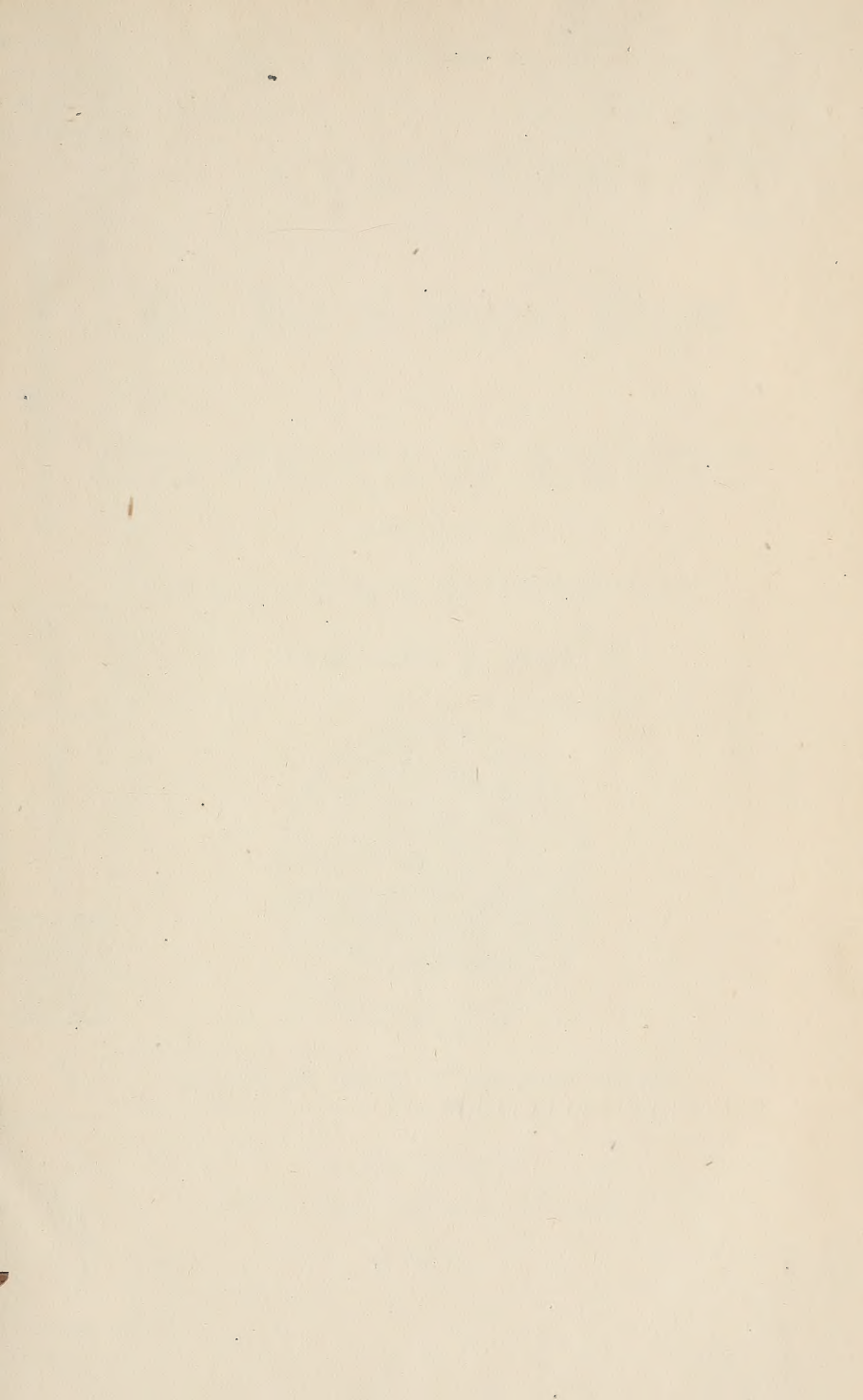
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REMARKS

OF THE

HON. JOHN S. SLEEPER, MAYOR,

BEFORE THE

Board of Aldermen,

DECEMBER 29, 1856.



ROXBURY :

NORFOLK COUNTY JOURNAL PRESS.

1856.

CITY OF ROXBURY.

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN, Dec. 29, 1856.

Ordered to be printed.

JOSEPH W. TUCKER, *City Clerk.*

City of Roxbury.



IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN, Dec. 29, 1856.

ALDERMAN CURTIS offered the following resolution, which was passed unanimously:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Board be tendered to his Honor the MAYOR, for the able, impartial and satisfactory manner in which he has discharged the arduous duties of his office during the past year.

JOSEPH W. TUCKER, *City Clerk*.

His Honor the MAYOR responded to the resolution as follows:

GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN, —

It is hardly necessary for me to say that the vote you have just passed is truly grateful to my feelings; and the more so, as I am willing to believe it is not a mere formal expression of complimentary sentiments, but the genuine dictate of kind and generous hearts.

When, by the partiality of my fellow-citizens, I was elevated to the honorable position I now occupy, I determined to be influenced by no party feelings or local prejudices; to act independently and honestly, with an eye to the interests of the whole community. And where I have fallen short of the expectations or wishes of my fellow-citizens, it has not been owing to the absence of an eager wish, on my part, to perform my various and responsible duties faithfully; improve every section of the city; add

to the convenience and comfort of the inhabitants; cause the laws to be respected and obeyed; and so far as might be consistent with the means at the disposition of the government and a just regard to economy, render the good City of Roxbury a desirable residence for good citizens.

In carrying out all public measures, with a view to these objects, I cheerfully acknowledge my obligations to you, Gentlemen, and also to all the members of the City Council, and all the officers of the government. Although on various subjects differences of opinion have been manifested, and animated discussions have occurred in both branches, which are always requisite for a full understanding of any subject of importance, yet it will be admitted by all, that while our city has enjoyed in a singular degree the blessings of peace and good order, no previous City Government has existed, where, among the members, union of action, kind feelings towards each other, and an unselfish desire to promote general prosperity, have prevailed to a greater extent than during the year which is about to close.

It is hardly necessary for me at this time to review the different measures which have been adopted by the government during the past twelve months. Many of the public improvements are such that all are able to judge of their expediency; and while it has been impossible, owing to unexpected circumstances, to comply with the reasonable wishes of some, various objects have been accomplished, and much work performed, of a character which may be but little known to the public, but which, it is evident to those who have ordered or directed those undertakings, will be for the interest of the city.

The office which I have filled the past year, is one of labor and responsibility. Conscious of my inexperience in municipal matters, and distrusting my own ability, and judgment, and fitness for the office in which I was unexpectedly, and against my wishes, placed by my fellow-citizens, I have confidently and successfully relied upon

your wisdom and advice in all matters that required deliberate and judicious action. And knowing the course I have pursued, and the reasons by which I have been influenced, you, at least, will not misapprehend my acts or misinterpret my motives.

Cheered by your encouragement, and aided by your counsels, my duties, although important, and somewhat onerous, have not been unpleasant. Indeed I have derived much gratification from exercising my official power and influence in seeking to remedy public evils which have borne upon individuals; in watching over the interests of the city, and laboring for the general benefit of my fellow-citizens.

Gentlemen, we are about to separate. We shall not all meet together again at this Board. And allow me to take this occasion to thank you cordially, and from my heart, for the confidence you have reposed in me, the support you have given me, and the kindness you have manifested towards me, the past year: and to repeat my acknowledgements for the friendly manner in which you have expressed your feelings by the vote you have just adopted.

And now, Gentlemen, allow me to close this acknowledgment of your kindness, by wishing you during the remainder of your lives — wherever your lot may be cast — whether burdened by the cares of office — surrounded by the bustle of business, or courting a happy retirement in the bosoms of your families, all the blessings which a kind Providence can bestow on the most favored mortals.



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No book is to be lent out of the household of the borrower.

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