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DEDICATION OF THE STATUE

OF



DANIEL WEBSTER,

JUNE 17, 1886.



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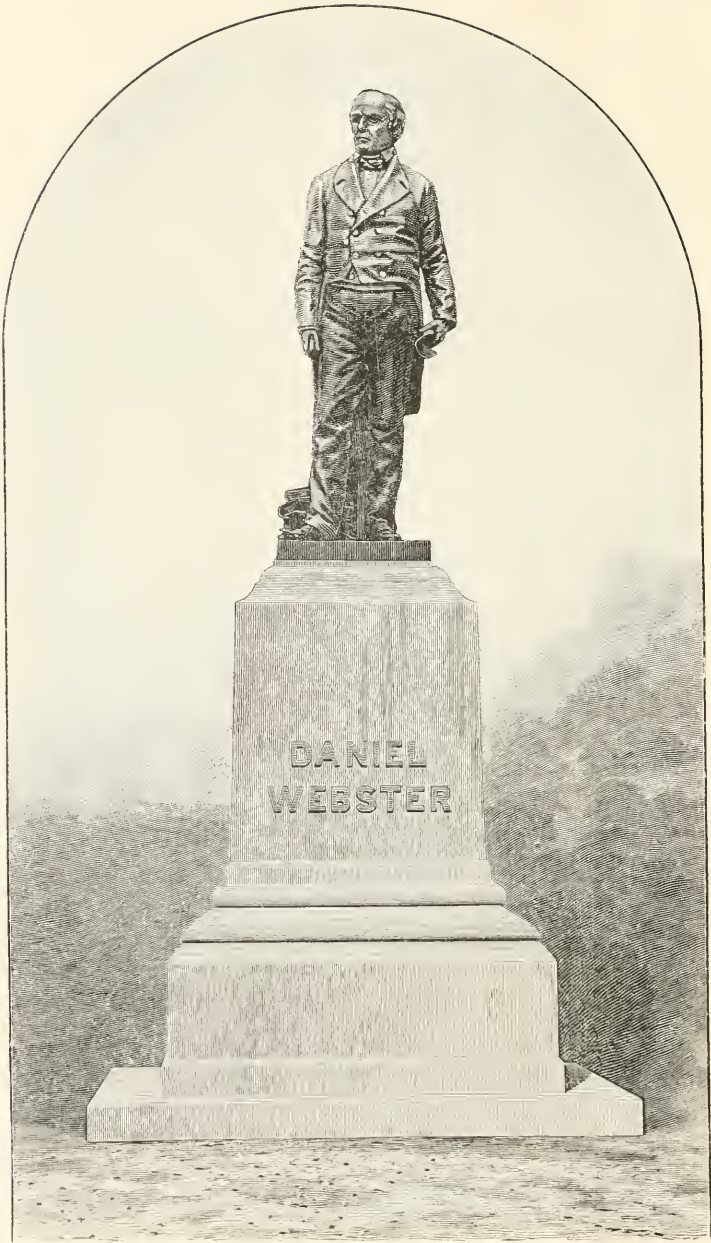
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OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

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AT THE

DEDICATION OF THE STATUE

OF

DANIEL WEBSTER

AT

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE,

On the 17th day of June,

1886.

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PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL.

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MANCHESTER:

JOHN B. CLARKE, PUBLIC PRINTER.

1886.

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## State of New Hampshire.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER,  
CONCORD, June 10, 1886.

*Ordered.* That the secretary of state be authorized to employ a stenographer to report the official proceedings to take place at the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, on the 17th instant, and to procure the publication of three thousand copies of said report.

Attest:

A. B. THOMPSON,  
*Secretary of State.*



## PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS.

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### THE WEBSTER STATUE AND ITS HISTORY.

BY B. W. BALL.

WE have as a nation reached a period of commemoration of our historic men. Although our national existence involves but a single century, still that century in connection with the colonial period has been illustrated by a long list of memorable Americans. The capitol at Washington and the various state capitols are being transformed into valhallas for commemorative purposes. These edifices and their preeincts, together with the city parks of our great cities, are the appropriate sites for the erection of memorial statues of the illustrious dead, and for this purpose they are being rapidly utilized, Central Park, New York, conspicuously so. The nation is now amply able, by reason of its wealth and its multitude of artists and persons of fine æsthetic culture, to fitly honor its grèat men departed. As has been said, brief as has been our national existence we have plenty of subjects for the commemorative sculptor and artist in stone, bronze, or pigments. All the periods of American history, from that of discovery and exploration down to the present time, have abounded in such subjects. Prim-

itive Greece, in city and country both, was literally populous with statues in stone and bronze of its famous men. Primitive Athens, in particular, was full of carven forms

“ that mocked the eternal dead  
In marble immortality.”

No objects are so impressive as the statues of great men, and none exert so salutary and potent an influence on the younger generations. In all the metropolitan cities of Europe the traveler is confronted by memorial statues of the great men whose words and deeds have been a part of his education; and already in our chief American cities the eye is attracted by the carven semblances of the most famous men of this new world republic. Central Park, New York, as the pleasure-ground of that polyglot, many-nationed metropolis, is appropriately enough hospitable to the memorial statues of the great men of all countries, whether European or American.

“ In that free Pantheon of sun and air,”

as Bayard Taylor calls it, a statue of the world-poet, Shakespeare, who, by the way, belongs to this American division of the great English-speaking world as much as he does to the home branch of our race, was dedicated in 1872.

“ There in his right he stands !  
No breadth of earth-dividing seas can bar  
The breeze of morning or the morning star  
From visiting our lands.”

What Shakespeare was in the domain of poetry and the imagination, that was Webster in the field of statesmanship.

Thus much by way of general remark on the subject of permanent memorials of historic men.

The centennial anniversary of the birth of Webster, which occurred January 18, 1882, was generally celebrated throughout the country. The Webster legend, so to speak, was everywhere revived. After an interval of thirty most eventful years, full of change, the country seemed again to have fallen under the spell of Webster's genius. The younger generation, to whom he was purely a historic character, had an opportunity to listen to eloquent speakers who had lived in Webster's day, and who could testify of their own personal knowledge to his marvelous influence and power. Webster clubs and Webster historical societies, which had been organized to keep his memory fresh, everywhere caused the occasion to be fitly celebrated by public meetings and memorial addresses. The Webster Club at Concord, N. H., observed the centennial anniversary of Webster's nativity by a public meeting at White's Opera House. The orator of the occasion was Col. John H. George. His address was noteworthy among the numerous addresses which were delivered, because it called the attention of the people of New Hampshire to the fact that the native state of Webster was without a single memorial statue of her greatest son.

The following is the passage in Col. George's address which, by eloquently pointing out the above deficiency, was the initial step in the history of the erection of the Webster statue, now so conspicuous an object in the state-house grounds of his native state: "There is a bronze statue of Webster," said Col. George, "by Pow-

ers, which was lost at sea. It lies at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean, somewhere in the vicinity of the telegraphic cable, as we are told. A duplicate of it is standing in the state-house grounds in Boston. Of this lost statue Hawthorne remarks in his 'Italian Notes': 'There is an expression of quiet, solid, massive strength in the whole figure; a deep, pervading energy which any exaggeration of gesture would lessen and lower. He looks like a pillar of state. The face is very grand, very Webster, stern and awful, because he is in the act of meeting a crisis, yet with the warmth of a great heart glowing through it. Happy is Webster to have been so truly and adequately sculptured. Happy the sculptor in such a subject, with which no idealization of a demi-god could have supplied him. Perhaps the statue at the bottom of the sea will be cast up in some future age, when the present race of man is forgotten, and, if so, that far posterity will look up to us as a grander race than we find ourselves.' Apropos of this extract, we are reminded that the state of Webster's nativity lacks to this day a monumental statue of her greatest son. It is a lack that should no longer be permitted to disgrace us. While Boston and New York have erected on most conspicuous sites colossal bronze statues to the memory of Webster as among the worthiest of great Americans, to stand carved or cast in enduring material for the inspection of posterity, this his native state has erected no monument illustrative of her appreciation of the services of her ablest son in the cause of constitutional liberty. There should be a monumental statue here at the state capital, and also at his birthplace, where his form would most

appropriately stand, sweeping with its gaze the broad intervals which he loved so well, and so often frequented for rest and recreation during his arduous career as a public man. His sublime form would be the most appropriate *genius loci* of our sublime local scenery."

It was these eloquent words which, falling under the eye of Mr. Cheney, determined him to carry into effect a purpose which he had long entertained of presenting to his native state a statue of her greatest citizen, whom Mr. Cheney not only admired in common with the rest of his countrymen as a great statesman, but whom he also loved as a personal friend who had interested himself in his own welfare as a business man. The commission to execute the statue was at first given to the well-known Boston sculptor, the late Martin Milmore, but he died before the completion of his model. His brother Joseph was employed to finish the work, but he too was prevented by death from putting the finishing touch to the model. Thus the business of carrying into effect Mr. Cheney's plan had to be commenced *de novo*. Meantime, to secure the final consummation of his plan, and prevent its failure in any contingency, Mr. Cheney placed its execution in the hands of three trustees, viz., Hon. George W. Nesmith, John M. Hill, Esq., and Col. John H. George, by the following deed of trust: —

WHEREAS, It is now and long has been the desire and intention of the undersigned, Benjamin Pierce Cheney, formerly of Hillsborough, in the county of Hillsborough and state of New Hampshire, and now of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and commonwealth of Massachusetts, to procure a bronze statue of Daniel Webster, and, with the permission of the state, to erect the same upon a fitting pedestal with permanent granite foundations, in the state-house yard in Concord, New Hampshire; and

WHEREAS, Unexpected delays have occurred in carrying such intention into effect, and it is the wish of said Cheney to provide against the defeat of said intention by any contingency incident to the uncertainty of life or otherwise; and

WHEREAS, A contract has been negotiated with Thomas Ball, who is now in Europe, for furnishing said statue for the sum of \$8,000, with the cost of transportation added, to be completed, if practicable, as early as November, 1885;

Now, for the purpose of carrying the intention aforesaid into full effect, this contract between said Cheney, party of the first part, and George W. Nesmith, of Franklin, and John M. Hill and John H. George, both of Concord, and all in the county of Merrimack in the state of New Hampshire, parties of the second part, witnesseth:

The first party, in consideration of the agreements of the second parties, herein contained, will, as soon as shall be practicable, procure and place in the hands of the second parties a bronze statue of Daniel Webster, which shall be placed upon a suitable pedestal, resting on a permanent granite foundation, in the yard of the state house in said Concord, and said statue is never to be removed from said location. After it shall be completed and erected as aforesaid, it shall be presented by said second parties to the state of Webster's birth, to the care and custody of which state it shall thus be forever committed, with such ceremonies as shall seem best adapted to perpetuate the memory and honor the patriotism of New Hampshire's greatest son and our country's foremost statesman. If there shall be any failure to carry into effect and complete all of the above agreements and intentions before the decease of said first party, it is directed and agreed that the same may then be carried into full effect and completed by said parties of the second part, at the expense of the first party or his estate.

In case of the death or incapacity of any of the trustees herein named, before the completion of said statue and its erection, and the conveyance to the state as aforesaid, the surviving trustees or trustee may carry into effect this agreement; or they may, if they prefer, appoint some suitable person or persons to fill the vacancy or vacancies thus occurring, who, with such surviving trustees or trustee, may perform the agreements of the second parties herein contained. And said second parties, in consideration of the aforesaid agreements of the first party, accept the trust above specified, and on the procurement of said statue by said first party, or by his estate, and its delivery with said pedestal and said foundation to said second parties, will cause the same to be erected as above provided, and will convey the same, when so erected, to the state of New Hamp-



shire, in accordance with the desire and intention of the first party, as above set forth.

In witness whereof said parties have hereto interchangeably set their hands and seals this 13th day of February, 1885.

At this point, the eminent American sculptor, Thomas Ball, who was at the time a resident of Florence, Italy, was commissioned by eable to model the statue, being governed as to its proportions and characteristics by the statue of Franklin in City Hall yard, Boston. The statue was to be completed and ready for shipment in season for its dedication on January 18 of the current year, which was the anniversary of Webster's birth. But finally the dedication of it was postponed to the seventeenth of June, the anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill, with which Webster had forever linked his name by his Bunker Hill Monument addresses. The statue was cast in Munich, so famous for its exquisite bronze castings. It was regarded as so perfect a work of art, that it was placed on exhibition in the Bavarian capital by general request. The Jovine proportions of Webster's head and form of course made the statue of him the cynosure of an admiring public gaze, as well as its exquisite workmanship. There was only one other statue in Germany at the time equally noteworthy, on account of its imposing and magnificent proportions and aspect, viz., that of the poet Goethe, at Frankfurt-on-the-Main, who had the same commanding virile beauty which characterized Webster. He, too, like Webster, struck all beholders with a thrill of admiration by his personal grandeur, so much so, that the first Napoleon on seeing him exclaimed, "You are a man!"

The figure is eight feet in height and weighs two thousand pounds: it stands upon a light bronze base, the dimensions of which are thirty-two by thirty inches. Webster is arrayed in an old-style dress suit. His ample coat is closed around him by the two central buttons. It has broad lapels, and its large and rolling collar discloses a plain shirt bosom. The bottom of the vest is seen below the coat, and the trousers are full and flowing. The neck is dressed with a stock, with a broad, turned-down collar. The arms are at the sides, the thumb and index finger of the right hand being opened, with the remaining fingers partially closed. The left hand holds a manuscript partly opened. The head represents Webster in his closing years, and the features are said by those who knew him to be extremely lifelike and correct. The pose is massive and commanding, and is pronounced as unexceptionable. The head is slightly turned to the right, the face is smooth, and the expression is of the highest intellectual character. In the rear of the right leg is an irregular pile of books surmounted by manuscript.

The pedestal was cut from the finest of Concord granite by the Granite Railway Company of this city; Henry E. Sheldon is agent, and Joseph H. Pearce superintendent. The plans for the pedestal were drawn by John A. Fox, the well-known Boston architect, and the work was executed under his direction. The base is a single stone about nine feet square, weighing eleven tons, and showing cut work of some six inches above ground. The plinth is six and one half feet square, four feet high, and weighs thirteen tons. It has beveled edges and a series of finely cut moldings. The die is four and one quarter

feet square and five and one quarter feet high, and tapering toward the top. On the front are the words, cut in polished letters : —

DANIEL  
WEBSTER

On the other sides are panels of fine government bronze of a light shade. On the north one the coat-of-arms of New Hampshire and the legend,

BORN  
AT SALISBURY, NEW HAMPSHIRE,  
JANUARY 18, 1782.

On the south tablet is the coat-of-arms of the state of Massachusetts and the inscription,

DIED AT  
MARSHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS,  
OCTOBER 24, 1852.

On the west side is the following : —

PRESENTED BY  
BENJAMIN PIERCE CHENEY  
TO THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,  
JANUARY 18, 1886.

The whole height of the base and statue is seventeen and one eighth feet, and the total cost was \$12,000.

The legislature, by the following resolves, authorized the governor and council to select the site for the statue : —

A JOINT RESOLUTION GRANTING A TRACT OF LAND FOR THE LOCATION OF A MONUMENT OF DANIEL WEBSTER.

*Be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened :*

SECTION 1. That there be granted and set apart forever a tract of land not exceeding two rods square, in some convenient part of the state-house yard in Concord, to be selected by the governor and council, suitable for the permanent erection of a bronze monument of Daniel Webster, to be donated and furnished by Benjamin Pierce Cheney, Esq., of Boston.

SECT. 2. That the custody and future protective care of said monument shall be assumed and forever hereafter remain and be vested in the governor and council of this state for the time being, or in a board of trustees of their appointment.

[Approved August 8, 1883.]

On February 11, 1886, the governor and council passed the following:—

*Voted*, That in accordance with chapter 125, laws of 1883, the plan of the location of the Webster statue submitted to the board to-day be and is hereby approved; and that a committee consisting of the governor and Councilor Kimball be appointed to prepare the site for the reception of the statue, and that the plan of the same be deposited in the office of the secretary of state.

The legislature at its last session made provision for the reception and dedication of the statue. On July 8, General Gilman Marston, of Exeter, offered in the house a joint resolution providing for the appointment of a joint committee of the senate and house of representatives, with authority to make arrangements for the reception and dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, presented to the state by Benjamin Pierce Cheney. August 28, the house judiciary committee reported the resolution, which was passed under a suspension of the rules, and subsequently the same day was passed by the senate.

The following is the resolution:—

JOINT RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO THE RECEPTION AND DEDICATION  
OF THE STATUE OF DANIEL WEBSTER.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

That a joint committee, consisting of five members of the house, of which the speaker shall be one, and such as the senate may join, be appointed with authority to make proper arrangements for the

reception and dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, to be presented to the state of New Hampshire by Benjamin Pierce Cheney, and that the necessary expenses authorized by said committee be audited and approved by the governor and council, and paid from the state treasury.

- [Approved August 28, 1885.]

The same day the speaker announced the special committee on the part of the house as follows: Messrs. Marston of Exeter, Hutchins of Laconia, McDuffee of Rochester, Aldrich of Littleton, and Stone of Andover; and the senate appointed on their part Senators Pike, Kent, Chamberlain, Bingham, and Hinds. The location of the statue was fixed by the governor and council.

# THE DEDICATION EXERCISES.

## THE PROCESSION.

THE procession moved up Main street about half past twelve o'clock, and returned one hour later. The streets along which it passed were lined with people, and the fine appearance made by the National Guard, the Amoskeag Veterans, and the Manchester Cadets, called forth hearty applause. General Ayling's efficiency as chief marshal aided in making the parade a fine success, and his staff ably seconded his efforts. The brigade returned to camp after the line of march was ended, and the Manchester companies repaired to Phenix Hall, where they dined. The line of march and the organizations and guests were as follows:—

### LINE OF MARCH.

Up Main street to Penacook street; countermarch on Main street to Washington street; through Washington street to State street; down State street to Thorndike street; through Thorndike street to Main street; up Main street to the state-house park.

### OFFICERS.

General A. D. Ayling, Concord, chief marshal.

Colonel Solon A. Carter, Concord, chief of staff.

*Aides.* — Gen. John W. Sturtevant, Keene; Gen. Marshall C. Wentworth, Jackson; Gen. George H. Calley, Plymouth; Col. Converse J. Smith, Major Hiram F. Gerrish, James H. French, Arthur C. Stewart, Concord; Gen. Solon A. Wilkinson, Keene:

Gen. Gilman B. Johnson, Col. Rufus P. Staniels, Concord; Col. Frank G. Clarke, Peterborough; Howard L. Porter, Dr. F. A. Stillings, John B. Gilman, Everett W. Willard, William F. Thayer, James Minot, William F. Challis, William M. Mason, Edward P. Comins, Concord.

#### FIRST BRIGADE N. H. NATIONAL GUARD.

Brig. Gen. Daniel M. White, Peterborough, commanding; Lieut. Col. George W. Gould, Manchester, assistant adjutant-general; Major Frank W. Russell, Plymouth, assistant inspector-general; Major William H. Cheever, Nashua, inspector of rifle practice; Lieut. Col. George Cook, Concord, medical director; Major Daniel B. Donovan, Concord, judge-advocate; Capt. Louis C. Merrill, Manchester, quartermaster; Capt. Willis D. Thompson, Concord, commissary; Capt. Richard M. Scammon, Exeter, Capt. Daniel H. Gienty, Concord, aides-de-camp.

#### NON-COMMISSIONED STAFF.

Harley B. Roby, Concord, brigade sergeant-major; Charles A. Hall, Concord, brigade quartermaster-sergeant; George M. Davis, Manchester, brigade hospital steward; John T. Fiske, Concord, brigade color-sergeant; Henry A. Brown, Penacook, brigade bugler.

#### THIRD REGIMENT.

Third Regiment Band, of Concord.

#### FIELD AND STAFF.

Col. J. N. Patterson, Concord; Lieut. Col. True Sanborn, Jr., Chichester; Maj. Nathan H. Randlett, Lebanon.  
Fred S. Hall, Rumney, adjutant; Harry B. Cilley, Concord, quartermaster; George R. Leavitt, Laconia, paymaster; Irving A. Watson, Concord, surgeon; Frank T. Moffett, Littleton, assistant surgeon; Daniel C. Roberts, Concord, chaplain.

#### HONORARY STAFF.

Col. J. E. Pecker, Concord; Col. F. C. Churchill, Lebanon; Col. George H. Stowell, Claremont; Col. D. C. Jewell, Suncook; Col. C. H. Greenleaf, Franconia; Col. W. S. Pillsbury, Derry; Col. O. P. Patten, Kingston; Col. W. H. Stinson, Dunbarton; Major C. F. Hildreth, Suncook; Col. C. J. Smith, Concord; Col. F. E. Kaley, Milford.

## NON-COMMISSIONED STAFF.

Robert H. Rolfe, Concord, sergeant-major; William O. Stevens, Franklin Falls, quartermaster-sergeant; Arthur M. Dodge, Tilton, commissary-sergeant; J. Henry Story, Laconia, hospital steward; James F. Clark, Concord, drum major; Henry G. Blaisdell, Concord, bandmaster; Arthur F. Nevers, Concord, deputy bandmaster.

## LINE OFFICERS.

Company A, New London: William A. Messer, captain; Willard Reed, first lieutenant; Baxter Gay, second lieutenant.  
 Company F, Littleton: John T. Simpson, captain; Frank C. Williams, first lieutenant; Henry E. Bartlett, second lieutenant.  
 Company C, Concord: Edward H. Dixon, captain; Charles P. Hadley, first lieutenant; John E. Gove, second lieutenant.  
 Company D, Pittsfield: William A. Yeaton, captain; Walter Langmaid, first lieutenant; Forest F. Hill, second lieutenant.  
 Company G, Lebanon: Charles H. Clough, captain; Eugene S. Downes, first lieutenant; George A. Freeto, second lieutenant.  
 Company K, Wolfeborough: Joseph Lewando, captain; Charles L. Horne, first lieutenant.  
 Company E, Plymouth: George H. Colby, captain; Erastus B. Dearborn, first lieutenant; Henry S. Arris, second lieutenant.  
 Company H, Franklin Falls: George N. Cheever, captain; Amos S. Ripley, first lieutenant; Hollis K. Smith, second lieutenant.

## FIRST REGIMENT.

First Regiment Band, of Manchester.

## FIELD AND STAFF.

Col. John B. Hall, Manchester; Lieut. Col. G. M. L. Lane, Manchester; Maj. Patrick A. Devine, Manchester.  
 John Gannon, Jr., Manchester, adjutant; William G. Mason, Manchester, quartermaster; Hervey M. Bennett, Manchester, paymaster; William M. Parsons, Manchester, surgeon; James Sullivan, Manchester, assistant surgeon.

## NON-COMMISSIONED STAFF.

Louis Stevens, Manchester, sergeant-major; A. E. J. Hurd, Manchester, hospital steward; Bart. Gannon, Manchester, commissary-sergeant; H. D. Gordon, Manchester, bandmaster; F. H. Pike, Manchester, drum major.



## LINE OFFICERS.

- Company A, Dover: G. H. Demeritt, captain; M. J. Galligan, first lieutenant; J. H. Ingraham, second lieutenant.
- Company E, Manchester: F. W. McAllister, captain; O. I. Ellsworth, first lieutenant; F. W. Tebbetts, second lieutenant.
- Company B, Manchester: D. F. Shea, captain; E. P. Bagley, first lieutenant; J. F. Gleason, second lieutenant.
- Company D, Exeter: A. F. Cooper, captain; G. E. Warren, first lieutenant; A. N. Dow, second lieutenant.
- Company F, Derry: R. W. Pillsbury, captain; J. E. Webster, first lieutenant; J. E. Fitzgerald, second lieutenant.
- Company H, Great Falls: J. Mack, captain; William J. Andrews, first lieutenant; C. W. Willey, second lieutenant.
- Company C, Goffstown: L. S. Bidwell, captain; S. H. Balch, first lieutenant; G. E. Whitney, second lieutenant.
- Company K, Manchester: J. H. Wales, Jr., captain; P. H. O'Malley, first lieutenant; A. F. Eaton, second lieutenant.

## Drum Corps.

## HIGH SCHOOL CADETS OF MANCHESTER.

George L. Fox, captain; Minot O. Simons, first lieutenant; Lewis Crockett, second lieutenant.

Manchester War Veterans Drum Corps.

## SECOND REGIMENT.

Second Regiment Band, of Nashua.

## FIELD AND STAFF.

Col. Elbridge J. Copp, Nashua; Lieut. Col. Albert W. Metcalf, Keene; Maj. Jason E. Tolles, Nashua.

William E. Spaulding, Nashua, adjutant; George P. Kimball, Nashua, quartermaster; Ashton W. Rounsevel, Newport, paymaster; George W. Flagg, Keene, surgeon; William H. Nute, Farmington, assistant surgeon; George W. Grover, Nashua, chaplain.

## NON-COMMISSIONED STAFF.

Charles E. Faxon, Nashua, sergeant-major; Edward M. Hunter, Newport, quartermaster-sergeant; Charles A. Roby, Nashua, commissary-sergeant; Charles G. Farrar, Keene, hospital steward; Frank E. Jackman, Nashua, drum major; Dana P. Barker, Hillsborough, color-sergeant; Willard A. Cummings, Nashua, bandmaster.

## LINE OFFICERS.

- Company C, Winchester: Amos Lawrence, captain; Charles D. Seaver, first lieutenant; Henry C. Tenney, second lieutenant.
- Company I, Nashua: Edwin H. Parmenter, captain; Eugene H. Saunders, first lieutenant; Willis H. Goodspeed, second lieutenant.
- Company F, Farmington: Eugene W. Emerson, captain; Charles H. Pitman, first lieutenant; Charles W. Leighton, second lieutenant.
- Company E, Rochester: Isaac D. Piercy, captain; Fred L. Chesley, first lieutenant; Horatio L. Cate, second lieutenant.
- Company D, Newport: Fred W. Cheney, captain; Ira Stowell, first lieutenant; Bela Nettleton, second lieutenant.
- Company K, Hillsborough: Henry P. Whitaker, captain; Leander Emery, first lieutenant; Loren E. Nichols, second lieutenant.
- Company H, Keene: Jerry P. Wellman, captain; Frank Chapman, first lieutenant; Elbridge A. Shaw, second lieutenant.
- Company G, Keene: Francis O. Nims, captain; Edward P. Kimball, first lieutenant; Charles W. Starkey, second lieutenant.

## ARTILLERY.

- First Battery, of Manchester, Capt. S. S. Piper commanding. Senior first lieutenant, Edward H. Currier; junior first lieutenant, Silas R. Wallace; second lieutenant, John A. Barker.

## CAVALRY.

- Company A, of Peterborough: Ervin H. Smith, captain; Charles B. Davis, first lieutenant; James E. Saunders, second lieutenant.

## OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, AND GUESTS.

Highland Band, of Lake Village.

## AMOSKEAG VETERANS OF MANCHESTER.

- Lewis Simons, major; John B. Abbott, adjutant; Alfred G. Fairbanks, quartermaster; Charles L. Harmon, paymaster; Dr. Emil Custer, surgeon; Dr. George D. Towne, assistant surgeon; Rev. C. W. Heizer, chaplain; Henry Robinson, judge-advocate; Ira A. Moore, quartermaster-sergeant; George E. Hall, sergeant-major; Dr. H. C. Canney, Edward L. Kimball, standard-bearers.
- Company A: E. F. Trow, captain; A. T. Pierce, first lieutenant; B. F. Clark, second lieutenant.
- Company B: Moses Wadleigh, captain; David Wadsworth, first lieutenant; George A. Leighton, second lieutenant.
- Company C: Captain Hiram Forsaith in command.

## MANCHESTER CADETS.

F. L. Downs, captain; G. N. Burpee, first lieutenant; E. T. Knowlton, second lieutenant.

## THE STAFF OF GOVERNOR CURRIER.

Maj. Gen. Augustus D. Ayling, Concord, adjutant-general; Brig. Gen. Elbert Wheeler, Nashua, inspector-general; Brig. Gen. Charles Williams, Manchester, quartermaster-general; Brig. Gen. George W. Pierce, Winchester, surgeon-general; Brig. Gen. Philip Carpenter, Lancaster, judge-advocate-general; Brig. Gen. Frank T. Brown, Whitefield, commissary-general; Col. Frank E. Kaley, Milford, Col. Hiram H. Dow, Conway, Col. George G. Davis, Marlborough, Col. Alfred A. Collins, Danville, aides-de-camp.

## GOV. CURRIER AND GUESTS OF THE STATE IN CARRIAGES.

Gov. Moody Currier, of Manchester; Hon. George W. Nesmith, of Franklin; B. P. Cheuey, Esq., of Boston; Rev. Samuel C. Bartlett, D. D., of Hanover.

Gen. Gilman Marston, of Exeter, chairman of the legislative committee; Gov. George D. Robinson, of Chicopee, Mass.; Hon. John A. Bingham, of Ohio, ex-minister to Japan.

Adjt. Gen. Dalton, Lieut. Gen. A. T. Holt, and Col. Whipple, of Gov. Robinson's staff.

Col. Rockwell, Col. Currier, and Col. Stearns, of Gov. Robinson's staff.

Gov. Daniel B. Hill, of New York; W. G. Rice, the governor's private secretary; Hon. Robert A. Maxwell, superintendent of the insurance department of New York; Hon. Frank Jones, of Portsmouth.

Hon. Harry Bingham, of Littleton, of the legislative committee; Hon. John Wentworth, of Chicago, Hon. William E. Chandler, of Concord.

Hon. Chester Pike, of Cornish, of the legislative committee; Gov. Samuel E. Pingree, of Hartford, Vt., Gov. Frederick A. Robie, of Gorham, Me., Lieut. Gov. Oliver Ames, of North Easton, Mass.

Hon. Edgar Aldrich, of Littleton, of the legislative committee; Charles C. Coffin, Esq., of Boston, Hon. Charles Levi Woodbury, of Boston, Judge T. P. Redfield, of the Vermont supreme court.

Hon. Henry O. Kent, of Lancaster, naval officer of the port of Boston; Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, of Boston, ex-Gov. Alexander H. Rice, of Boston.

- George W. Stone, Esq., of Andover, of the legislative committee; Hon. George B. Loring, of Boston, Hon. George A. Bruce, of Somerville, Mass., B. F. Ayer, Esq., of Chicago.
- Hon. W. H. W. Hinds, of Milford, of the legislative committee; Hon. Mellen Chamberlain, of Boston; Hon. A. E. Pillsbury, president of the Massachusetts senate; Hon. J. Q. A. Brackett, speaker of the Massachusetts house of representatives.
- Hon. William H. Chamberlain, of Keene, of the legislative committee; Judge Daniel Clark, of Manchester, Hon. Frank Haven, of Boston.
- Hon. John M. Hill, of Concord, one of the trustees of the statue; John A. Fox, of Boston, architect of the pedestal; Gilman Cheney and son, of Montreal, brother of the donor of the statue.
- Ex-U. S. Senator Edward H. Rollins, of Concord; Gen. E. G. Graham, United States Army; Hon. J. G. Blake, M. D., of Boston.
- Ex-U. S. Senator James W. Patterson, of Hanover, Hon. Charles Theodore Russell, of Boston, Hon. Roland G. Usher, of Concord, Mass., Hon. A. R. Brown, of Boston.
- Hon. George A. Marden, of Lowell, Mass.; Hon. Peter Butler, assistant U. S. treasurer at Boston; Hon. E. A. Kingsbury, of the Massachusetts house of representatives.
- Hon. E. J. Sherman, attorney-general of Massachusetts; Hon. Daniel S. Richardson, of Lowell, Hon. Isaac Bradford, of Boston, Rev. T. B. Lambert, D. D., chaplain United States Navy.
- Hon. Edgar H. Woodman, mayor of Concord; Hon. Hugh O'Brien, mayor of Boston; Hon. Frank Burns, mayor of Somerville, Mass.; Hon. Peter B. Olney, of Boston.
- Judge Edward Bennett, of Boston, W. C. Shepard, of North Scituate, Mass., Hon. N. S. Wheeler, of Boston; Hon. Stephen M. Allen, of Boston, of the Webster Historical Society of Boston.
- Hon. Henry B. Pierce, secretary of state of Massachusetts; Hon. A. A. Folsom, of Boston, superintendent of the Boston & Providence Railroad; Nathaniel W. Ladd, Esq., of Boston, secretary of the Webster Historical Society; Rev. William C. Winslow, historiographer of that society.
- Hon. G. H. Burleigh, of Boston, N. Stafford, of Boston, Hon. Edwin Tuck, of Lowell; Hon. Luther R. Marsh, president of the New York park commission and Webster's New York law partner; Hon. Edwin T. Thomas, of Boston.
- Ex-Gov. Berry, of Bristol, and ex-Govs. Frederick Smyth, James A. Weston, and Person C. Cheney, of Manchester.
- Ex-Govs. Benjamin F. Prescott, of Epping, and Samuel W. Hale, of Keene, ex-U. S. Senator Bainbridge Wadleigh.

Hon. W. H. H. Allen, of Claremont, Hon. Isaac W. Smith, of Manchester, Hon. Lewis W. Clark, of Manchester, and Hon. A. P. Carpenter, of Concord, judges of the supreme court.

Hon. Isaac N. Blodgett, of Franklin, and Hon. George A. Bingham, of Littleton, judges of the supreme court; Hon. Jonathan E. Sargent, of Concord, and Hon. Jeremiah Smith, of Dover, ex-judges of the supreme court.

Hon. William L. Foster, of Concord, Hon. Charles R. Morrison, of Manchester, Hon. Charles W. Woodman, of Dover, and Hon. William S. Ladd, of Lancaster, ex-judges of the supreme court.

Ex-Congressmen Daniel Marey, of Portsmouth, Ellery A. Hibbard, of Laconia, James F. Briggs, of Manchester, Joshua G. Hall, of Dover.

Congressman Martin A. Haynes, of Lake Village; ex-Congressmen Aaron F. Stevens, of Nashua, Samuel N. Bell, of Manchester, Mason W. Tappan, of Bradford.

Ex-Congressmen Ossian Ray and Jacob Benton, of Lancaster: Hon. John G. Sinclair, of Orlando, Fla., Hon. Frank A. McKean, of Nashua.

Col. Martin V. B. Edgerly, of Manchester, Hon. Charles W. Talpey, of Farmington, Hon. Mortier L. Morrison, of Peterborough, Hon. Peter Upton, of Jaffrey, Hon. John W. Jewell, of Strafford, members of Gov. Currier's council.

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## THE UNVEILING.

THE Manchester Cadets marched up the entrance path, followed by the Highland Band and Amoskeag Veterans, and formed on either side of the walk. To the strains of "Hail to the Chief" the procession marched through the ranks, led by Governor Currier, who was followed by the orator of the day and distinguished guests. They were greeted with applause and cheers by the audience, which by this time filled the grand stand, the state-house park, and adjoining streets as far as could be seen from the speakers' stand.

At two o'clock P. M. the assembly was called to order

by Gen. Gilman Marston, chairman of the legislative committee, who announced the following

OFFICERS OF THE DAY.

*President.* — Hon. George W. Nesmith, of Franklin.

*Vice-Presidents.* — Gen. Gilman Marston, of Exeter, and Hon. Harry Bingham, of Littleton.

*Secretaries.* — Hon. Henry O. Kent, of Lancaster, and George W. Stone, Esq., of Andover.

General Marston then requested all present to observe silence while prayer was being offered.

Prayer by Rt. Rev. William W. Niles, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese of New Hampshire : —

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Almighty God, who in the former time leddest our fathers forth into a wealthy place, and didst set their feet in a large room, give thy grace, we humbly beseech thee, to us, their children, that we may always approve ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Defend our liberties, preserve our unity. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogancy, and from every evil way. Incline the hearts of employers and of those whom they employ to mutual forbearance, fairness, and good will. Fashion into one happy people the multitudes brought hither, of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those whom we intrust in thy name with the authority of governance, to the end that there be peace at home, and that we keep our place among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity temper our self-confidence with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble suffer not our trust in thee to fail.

In particular we invoke thine especial blessing upon this state in which we dwell, and upon the people thereof, with the civil authorities and upon all those likewise who have gone forth from these their

homes. Imbue us with a spirit of loyalty and of love. Give unto us high aims and a generous mind, that we may seek ever the best things, and may study the common weal. To the college of this state, and to all schools of good learning among us, grant thine especial blessing. Deepen in all our hearts a loving interest in their work. Do thou, O our God, and our fathers' God, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, strengthen these schools of sound learning. And establish them, and build them up, and make their usefulness to be increased to many generations. Help thou the helpless. Strengthen with thy Spirit those who labor for the sick, for the orphans, and the poor; and grant to every work of mercy an even course. Reward thou those who have done or designed us good; and accept our united thanksgiving for the devising of him whose thought has given us the gathering of this day. Stir up everywhere the wills of thy faithful people, that they may plenteously bring forth the fruit of good works, to the beautifying of this state, and for the welfare of the people, for the brightening of their lives and the lightening of their toil.

And all praise shall be rendered unto thee, the Father of us all, in Jesus Christ thy Son. For the kingdom is thine, and thine is the power, and thine is the glory. And now in humble and devout commemoration of the great gifts and the great work of the man whose name has brought us hither, and who now rests from his labors, we commit ourselves unto thy gracious care and protection and guidance for this day. The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us. The Lord lift up his countenance upon us and give us peace, both now and evermore. Amen.

Judge Nesmith was then introduced as friend and long-time companion of Daniel Webster. He was received with long-continued applause, and spoke as follows:—

PRESIDENT NESMITH'S ADDRESS.

*Fellow Citizens.*—I thank a kind Providence who has permitted us to participate in the ceremonies of this interesting occasion. Such ability and strength as I have I tender to your service. Believing that I shall not be able to encounter the fatigue incident to my office for the whole day, I shall ask to be relieved at the proper hour.

I bid a hearty and most cordial welcome to this great assemblage of people, gathered not only from the native and adopted states of

Daniel Webster, but from all parts of our Union. My present exhortation to all here is, that in order to hear much and see more, you must now exercise much patience, long-suffering, and brotherly kindness towards each other, and thus be able to preserve good order. Our accommodations may not be all you desire, because of your great numbers.

Permit me at the outset to say, that one of our first duties will be discharged when this elegant statue of Mr. Webster now standing before us shall be unveiled, and exposed to the public view. Nearly thirty-four years have elapsed since the death of Mr. Webster. Death has thinned the ranks of those who used to listen to his voice in the public assemblies or counsels of our nation, or had opportunity to enjoy with him the friendly, social intercourse of private life. I first saw him in Hanover, in 1819, but first took him by the hand in 1825, when introduced by his brother Ezekiel. It was soon after that my more intimate relations commenced. Still I am happy to be able to state that there are those present, and among them our orator, who have had the means and opportunity of knowing the character of Mr. Webster, the early struggles of his life which he encountered and overcame, his steady but rapid progress to high eminence and honest fame. These men, we trust, will have the opportunity and the disposition to instruct us on this occasion.

I indulge the belief with great confidence that we now have before us such a resemblance in bronze of the great original man when living, as may justly be pronounced more perfect in design, execution, and artistic skill than any other statue heretofore produced by that eminent artist, Thomas Ball, and seldom exceeded by any other artist. The pedestal on which the statue stands has been largely planned and finished under the critical eye of Mr. John A. Fox, of Boston. Much credit is due to his executive ability, correct taste, and sound judgment.

The legislature of this state freely granted land sufficient for the location of the monument in this state-house park, imposing upon the governor and his councilors the duty of designating the precise spot where it should be located. This duty has been discharged by the governor and council.

Now I rejoice that the time has arrived when our worthy friend and your benefactor, Benjamin Pierce Cheney, of Boston, a native of New Hampshire, will unveil this beautiful statue, and expose it to the public view, and then in due form present it with its appendages to the state of New Hampshire. I rejoice that his life has been so prolonged as to enable him to perform this service so honorable to him, so acceptable to this state, and that he has had the



opportunity and means to execute his purpose, long since entertained, to erect a monument here, destined to perpetuate the name and fame of Daniel Webster far down into the future ages.

Monuments become valuable when they are well earned and well deserved, either by distinguished and meritorious services, or by the successful achievement of victory in some of the great struggles encountered in human life. Has Daniel Webster ever earned this monument? It is the written opinion of ex-President John Adams that Daniel Webster had earned a monument more enduring than brass by producing his celebrated oration delivered at Plymouth, Mass., on the 20th of December, 1820. When Mr. Webster had presented a copy of that oration to Mr. Adams in December, 1821, Mr. Adams returned to him a very flattering and complimentary letter, in which he expressed his thanks for that great production, and in enthusiastic terms alleged that it ought to be read at the end of every year forever, and then in the triumphant language of Horace he exclaims, "*Exegisti monumentum vix perennius,*" "Thou hast erected a monument more durable than brass." The language of Chancellor Kent of New York was alike complimentary. (See Curtis's Biography, Vol. I., p. 194.)

So when ancient Greece was at the zenith of her glory in arts and arms, and Phidias and Praxiteles and others were hewing out their monuments in honor of their own distinguished men, and when the eminent dramatist Euripides requested one for himself, the reply came, "O Euripides! Thou dost not need a monument, but the monument needs thy name."

So in either case, we now require the monument, whether it be erected to commemorate the famous deeds of a great man, or whether such deeds are required to make the monument famous.

The statue was then unveiled by Miss Annie, daughter of Col. John H. George, and was greeted with cheers by the immense throng. It was then presented to the state by B. P. Cheney, Esq., who spoke as follows:—

MR. CHENEY'S ADDRESS.

*Your Excellency*,—I am happy at the fulfillment of an intention which I have long cherished, of presenting to my native state a statue of Daniel Webster. I trust that it may be received by you, in behalf of the people whose political rights are intrusted to your care, as an appropriate tribute to the memory of a son of New Hampshire.

who as a patriot was unexcelled, and as an orator and statesman was without a peer.

I now deliver to your Excellency the conveyance of the statue to the state, executed by the trustees having the matter in charge.

He then delivered the following deed to Gov. Currier:—

THE DEED TO THE STATE.

By virtue of a deed of trust, a copy of which is hereto annexed,\* executed by and between Benjamin Pierce Cheney and the trustees therein named, dated February 13, 1885, the undersigned, as such trustees, hereby convey to the state of New Hampshire the bronze statue of Daniel Webster this day dedicated in the state-house grounds, in Concord, subject to all the provisions of said deed of trust.

(Signed)

GEORGE W. NESMITH,  
JOHN M. HILL,  
JOHN H. GEORGE.

Witness: BENJAMIN PIERCE CHENEY.

Dated Concord, N. H., June 17, 1886.

In behalf of the state, Gov. Currier replied as follows :

GOV. CURRIER'S ADDRESS OF ACCEPTANCE.

*Mr. President and Fellow Citizens,*—On this anniversary of the first great battle of the American Revolution, we meet to dedicate this beautiful statue to the memory of New Hampshire's greatest and most distinguished son, the peerless orator, the unrivaled statesman, the great expounder of our national constitution. Nations have erected monuments of stone and of brass to represent the material forms of their gods and their heroes; they have dedicated statues to the memory of their statesmen and their patriots; but such lifeless effigies can add little to the fame and renown of Daniel Webster. They may preserve to coming generations the outward lineaments which genius and intellect impressed upon his living countenance, but that greatness of soul, that divine energy within, which lives and thinks and acts, cannot be imparted to lifeless stone and bronze; it can never perish; it lives on; it will exist in the life of the future; it will be enshrined in eloquence and song to inspire the great and the good in all lands and in all times.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Trustees, as the official repre-

\* See page 9.

sentative of our state I accept this memorial statue, representing the outward form and features of one whom we have always been proud to call our own, one whom our people have ever been delighted to honor, one whose eloquence and statesmanship have given fame and glory to our state. This wonderful creation of art now stands unveiled before us, so noble, so majestic, so lifelike, that these iron limbs almost seem to move, these brazen lips to utter forth such words of fire and patriotism as courts and senates have listened to with wonder and admiration. And now, Mr. President, in the name of all the people of New Hampshire, I wish to thank the generous donor for this great and noble gift to our state, to our nation, and to the world.

Honored and distinguished Sir, your own great success in life illustrates the grand possibilities that lie open before the young men of our state and nation; your generosity is already known to fame; your great benefaction to our venerable institution of learning has rendered your name blessed among all our people; this renewed liberality will be received by them with a gratitude and thankfulness which no words can express. We have accepted from your hands this heroic image of our great statesman, and here, in his own native state, and in yours, too, sir, beneath the shadow of our capitol, on a foundation of granite, have placed it as an enduring memorial of the man whose living form and features you and we wish to perpetuate. On this monument, inscribed in letters of bronze, your name, associated with the great name of Daniel Webster, will go down to posterity honored and revered.

Mr. President, the great nations and empires of antiquity have passed away; their cities and temples have disappeared from the earth and been forgotten; and should the day ever come when these walls of our capitol shall fall asunder, when this granite foundation shall crumble into dust, and this brazen statue, worn away by the wasting elements, shall fall to the earth and disappear, we may hope and believe that the fame and renown of Daniel Webster will still be remembered and held sacred by the world.

Before Governor Carrier had concluded, the rain, which had been threatening, began to fall, and hundreds left the grounds to seek protection. Notwithstanding the rain, Dr. Bartlett was introduced, and delivered the oration of the day, sheltered by an umbrella held by one of the special policemen.

## ORATION OF SAMUEL COLCORD BARTLETT, D. D., LL. D.

*Mr. President and Fellow Citizens,* — Daniel Webster comes home to-day to the heart of his native state. A loyal son of this commonwealth, distinguished already by his noble benefaction to its chief literary institution, presents to his fellow citizens this lasting and admirable memorial of the most illustrious graduate of that college, and the greatest of the sons of New Hampshire. All honor to the man who, having by his own indefatigable toil and skill acquired the means, has also had the mind to appreciate and the heart to commemorate thus the mighty dead. The thanks of every native and every resident of the state are due to-day to Benjamin Pierce Cheney.

And while we thank the giver, we are here to receive the gift. We have come, some indeed from neighboring commonwealths and distant points, but chiefly from the state of Webster's nativity, — from its legislative halls and offices of state, its literary institutions, its professional employments, its business affairs, the mill, the shop, the farm, and the home, from the banks of the Piscataqua, the Merrimack, and the Connecticut, the borders of its lakes, and the shadows of its great mountains, to do honor once more to an imperishable memory. For though his death was lamented in whole volumes of eulogies from the most eloquent divines and the ablest statesmen in all parts of the Union, though such men as Cass, and Seward, and Preston, and Everett, and Winthrop, and Evarts, and Choate, and Bayard have brought their exhaustive tributes to his greatness, we feel that there yet remains something for us to do and to say.

For here we stand in the very center of his earlier sphere of life and labor, the home of his birth, his growth, and his maturity. On every side are the places which will be forever associated with his name and history. A few miles to the north of us still waves the old elm that swung near his cradle, and still sparkles the water of the well that quenched the thirst of his childhood's sports and of his manhood's pilgrimages. Not far from thence, northwesterly, rises the high hill, with faint traces of a church — "Searle's Hill" or "Meeting-house Hill," — up which he was borne by his stalwart father in the first year of his life, for baptism. A few miles beyond, in Andover, is the place where, in the last year of his life, he wept and prayed with old John Colby. In the opposite direction, down by the Merrimack, lies the "Elms Farm" of his boyhood's and his manhood's love; where at the age of eight he first read the constitution, printed on a cotton handkerchief; where were held the counselings and the strugglings for his and his brother's education; whence

he set forth for college with his books and clothing slung on horseback; whither he returned to begin the study of law; where he composed, sitting on a rock, one of his first public orations, and wrote, half a century later, the famous Hulsemann letter; whither he sent his humorous epistles to John Taylor; where, in his maturity and fame, he was wont to welcome his friends of both parties and of every degree; and where he diffused around him till his death all the genial kindnesses of a neighborly, a friendly, and a benevolent heart. Back again, among the hills of Salisbury, in sight of old Kearsarge, is the church in which, at the age of twenty-five, he stood alone before the congregation to profess his Christian faith, and where in later years I saw him sit a reverent worshiper, joining the sacred song with his burly voice, — hard by the spot where a vision of loveliness first dawned upon his sight, and just across the way from the house in which his lot was united with that of the Grace Fletcher, whose name, to the end of his days, he “could not write without tears.” Not quite half way from that place to this is the mansion of Dr. Wood, where he learned in part his first Latin and all his first Greek. Still nearer is the plain of Boscawen, on which he opened his office for the practice of the law: and in the tower of its academy swings the bell that still sounds forth the generosity of his prime. In the adjoining town of Hopkinton his father heard his first argument in court, and was satisfied. Two hours away, as we now travel it, to the northwest of us, is the college that molded his young titanic powers, whose diploma, whatever others may foolishly repeat, he did not tear in pieces, but gracefully accepted, — a college that throughout his life he loved and cherished. Not quite so far away, southeasterly, is the fitting school at which he felt the kind influence of the polished Buckminster. A little beyond is the home for years of his early manhood, where he matched his strength with that prince of lawyers, Jeremiah Mason, and from which he was first sent to the councils of the nation. The place of our assembling to-day once knew him well. During his early practice of the law, his face was a familiar sight upon these streets, and the old mansion of the Kents received him long and often as a guest. He has listened to the debates in this legislative hall: and in the former North church, the old Phenix hall, and a great pavilion on School-street common — all passed away — his voice has been heard by the citizens of Concord.

It was not until the early prime of his manhood, the mature age of thirty-four, that he left the scenes so incorporated with his earlier history and so embedded in his latest recollections, to become the master spirit of a sister state, the stalwart champion of New Eng-

land, a leader in the Republic, and a power in the world. He was in the opening fullness of his strength. He had laid down the principles of public policy that governed his life. He had measured his strength with the keenest of legal intellects. He had been heard in the Supreme Court of the United States. He had made his mark in Congress by the breadth and clearness of his views, the mingled firmness and temperance of his positions, and the forensic power with which he maintained them. The great Chief-Justice Marshall had foretold that "he would become one of the first statesmen in America, and perhaps the very first."

Trained thus in every motion and toughened in every fiber of his intellect, he stepped forth upon the great arena "like a strong man to run a race." He was made and molded for victory. His very physique was the organ and symbol of an intellectual athlete. What a statue he was in repose. In speech, what an incarnation of kindled thought and ponderous power. Though his townsman by birth, I saw him but three times in my life, but the vision can never pass away: once on the highway, as he rode home from the Dartmouth Commencement with his brother Ezekiel by his side, and they seemed "*duo fulmina belli*"; again in the little church from which his membership was never removed, as I looked timidly from the pulpit upon his face in the pew, and he looked up so kindly and listened so attentively to the youthful preacher; and once more when on the slope of Bunker Hill thirty thousand of us listened to his words, and he seemed like the finished granite shaft that rose above us all. Three times only, but a life-long memory. That powerful frame, clad, when he spoke, in continental colors, that massive head, those deep flashing eyes, that penetrating voice that could ring out like a trumpet or strike like a cannon ball, are never to be forgotten. In his young manhood he was to Judge Richard Fletcher "the most majestic form and the noblest countenance on which he had ever looked": and, after his death, to Theodore Parker, "the grandest figure in Christendom since Charlemagne." Thorwaldsen, the sculptor, thought his bust in a studio was not that of a living man, but of an ancient Jupiter. Thomas Carlyle, that prince of carpers, saw him once at a breakfast, and wrote of him, "He is a magnificent specimen. As a logic fencer, advocate, or parliamentary Hercules, one would incline to back him at first sight against all the extant world. That tanned complexion, that amorphous, crag-like face, the dull black eyes under the precipice of brows, like dull anthracite furnaces, waiting only to be *blown*, the mastiff mouth accurately closed, — I have not traced so much silent Berserker rage, that I remember of, in any other man."

Corresponding to this noble completeness of physical manhood was the rounded greatness of his intellect and character. It was a fullness that filled many spheres. Wherever he moved there was momentum in the motion; wherever he stood, he stood intrenched and strong. Farming or fishing, in sport or in soberness, writing social letters or state papers, arguing the law, questioning a witness, or addressing a jury, — in the senate, on the platform, in the home circle, in conflict, in friendship or in love, there was the same fullness of outflow, and the same fullness of reserve.

A generation has elapsed since his death. Political and personal animosities have passed to the tomb. The smoke and dust of conflict have cleared away. As we now look back upon the scene of half a century ago, brilliant with great names at the bar, on the bench, in the cabinet and the forum, as we gaze on those struggles and often battles of the giants, there stands out on that arena no figure more colossal than Daniel Webster; and as the very greatness of his services would render it impossible adequately to portray them on this occasion, so does their conspicuousness render it unnecessary. The place he holds in the annals of the first half of this century is no longer a question for argument; it is a verdict of history. It is therefore my function to-day not to make that argument, but to report that verdict.

It was as a lawyer that he first rose rapidly to eminence. His skill in extracting the truth from a witness was singular, and sometimes, as with Bramble and Goodrich, almost magical. His power of grasping a case by its strong points was equaled only by his ability to array the law in their support, the clearness of his presentation to the court, and the impressiveness of his address to the jury. He seemed like some great commander, throwing out his scouts and skirmish lines, seizing the strongholds, training his great batteries, pushing forward the heavy battalions, and then hurling his cavalry upon the center of the foe. Many of his arguments, as in the case of Dartmouth College, of Gibbons *vs.* Ogden, and of the United States against McCulloch, will live on in the records of the courts; others, as in the trial of the Knapps, and the testing of the Girard will, will live on in the hearts of the people. Matched in the courts against Mason, Dexter, Choate, Emmet, Wirt, Binney, Clay, Pinkney, Livingston, it was among such antagonists that he won his laurels. Chief-Justice Marshall listened deferentially to his opinions, and sometimes incorporated them almost verbally in his decisions. It was Charles O'Connor who said: "At any time within a quarter of a century preceding his departure from among us, had it been inquired at any place inhabited by civilized men, who was the

greatest lawyer in America, his name would have been the ready response." It was William H. Seward who declared in the senate of the United States: "Whatever else concerning him has been controverted by anybody, the fifty thousand lawyers of the United States, interested to deny his pretensions, conceded to him an unapproachable supremacy at the bar." Not so much the supremacy of technical legal lore,—in which, no doubt, others may have equaled or excelled him,—as in that mastery of the underlying legal principles, which enabled him to find and to wield at will all the resources of the law that bore upon his point, and which made him more than a mere lawyer,—a profound jurist and a powerful advocate. For it is Rufus Choate who affirms: "I shall submit it to the judgment of the universal American bar, if a carefully prepared opinion of Mr. Webster on any question of law whatever in the whole range of jurisprudence would not be accepted everywhere as of the most commanding authority, and as the highest evidence of legal truth. I submit it to the same judgment if, for many years before his death, they would not rather have chosen to intrust the maintenance and enforcement of any important proposition of law whatsoever, before any legal tribunal of character whatever, to his best exertion of his faculties, than to any other ability which the whole wealth of the profession could supply." And the same acute observer and masterly critic said of him: "He spoke with consummate ability to the bench, and yet exactly as, according to every canon of taste and ethics, the bench ought to be addressed." It was William M. Evarts who, with his eye upon the "history of the country," said of him: "I am quite sure that there is not, in the general judgment of the profession, nor in the conforming opinion of his countrymen, any lawyer that in the magnitude of his causes, in the greatness of their public character, in the immensity of their influence upon the fortunes of the country, or in the authority which his manner of forensic eloquence produced in courts and over courts, can be placed in the same rank with Mr. Webster."

Such testimonies, from such sources, with such sweep of inclusion, leave nothing to add and nothing to subtract. It is light reflected from the great lights of the law upon the chief luminary of their profession. Another able counselor, accustomed to practice by his side, Charles G. Loring, bore this additional testimony: "He could not argue a bad cause comparatively well." If this be true, it is the highest testimony to his lucid mind and honest purpose, that could not and would not put light for darkness and darkness for light. It was indeed the high, open, and manly ground taken by Mr. Webster which, from the outset, impressed the ablest of his autago-



nists and associates. Calhoun pronounced him the fairest man he ever met to state the position of his opponents; and so high an authority as Chief-Justice Joel Parker has recorded to his honor as a lawyer: "He met the case fairly; he resorted to no tricks to make the worse appear the better reason." It was his crowning merit, too, that while he argued cases, he also settled principles.

Side by side with his growing legal reputation blossomed out his power and fame as an orator. From the date of his Plymouth discourse in 1820, his rank was settled. It called forth the calm but exhaustive admiration of such a man as Chancellor Kent for "its reflections, its sentiments, its morals, its patriotism, its eloquence, its imagination, and its style." It evoked the enthusiastic outburst of stout old John Adams, that "five hundred years hence it will be read with as much admiration as it was heard;" and for a generation it was declaimed in almost every public school in the land. After the lapse of a quarter of a century from his death, no less an orator than Winthrop affirmed that "certainly from the date of that discourse he stood second as an orator to no one who spoke the English language." Indeed, the chief reviler over his new-made grave could say: "Since the great Athenians, Demosthenes and Pericles, who ever thundered out such spoken eloquence as his?" His first Bunker Hill oration, his eulogy on Adams and Jefferson, his crushing reply to Hayne, his jury argument on the murder of Joseph White, stand out with equal prominence as monuments of power, and a great multitude of other remarkable speeches gather round them, covering almost every possible variety and combination of conditions. For more than a generation his voice was heard at public ceremonies, conventions, and mass meetings, in the Senate, at the bar, at dinners and receptions, in political excitements, on his journeyings, before select audiences, to the inner circles of friends and neighbors. And if it be true that a great occasion was required to rouse him to the fullest exertion of his powers, it is also true that he never fell below, wandered from, nor failed to dignify, the occasion. Whether he addressed the ladies of Richmond, the young men of Albany, the sons of New Hampshire in Boston, the Dartmouth alumni in Washington, the brokers in Wall street, his Democratic opponents at his home in Franklin, the court, the Senate, or the jury, spoke at a Pilgrim festival, a cattle fair, the opening of a railway, or the laying of a corner-stone, gave an historical address, a eulogy on Mason, Story, or Calhoun, it was alike pertinent, manly, and true.

The singular breadth and fertility of his mind appeared in the unflinching variety of his utterances. He never repeated himself. I

remember how in the political struggle of 1844, when Webster, Choate, Ashmun, and others were addressing the people far and near on the issues of the pending election, Mr. Webster's many speeches were alone reported in full, and the reason rendered me at the time was, because they alone could bear it. Mr. Everett has in like manner called attention to the series of speeches made by him on a trip over the Erie Railway. Not counting mere snatches of remarks here and there, eleven extemporaneous speeches were made on that journey, as he was called from the cars to the platform. "Every one of them," said Mr. Everett after a careful perusal, "was singularly adapted to the place and occasion. Every one of those eleven speeches would have added greatly to the reputation of any other man in the United States; made as they were without preparation, they impressed me more than anything else with his extraordinary capacity." Indeed, when we pass in review all the qualities of his oratory, — his fullness, depth, and clearness, his readiness and adaptation, his iron logic and his splendid rhetoric, his lofty imagination, his converging thought and his plastic style, his grand presence and magnetic impression, when we consider the wide range of his efforts, and the effects, immediate and lasting, which he produced, — I am almost ready to ask whether, when estimated in the grand total, the annals of oratory certainly furnish a greater name than Webster.

Of later but not less solid growth, was Mr. Webster's fame as a statesman and diplomatist. His views of national policy were early matured, and with the minor modifications to which a wise and expanding mind must ever hold itself open, he maintained them consistently to the end. It was inevitable that he should stand allied to one of the two great political organizations, which, from the nature of government and the two broad divergent theories as to its function, whether fostering or merely permissive, will always exist in a republic. It would be but fair to judge him from that standpoint in public affairs which he deliberately chose. But happily the time has come when we can rise to a plane above the line of party divisions, and test him by his adhesion to the constitution, the laws, and entire welfare of his country, and to the sound and righteous principles on which that government was founded. He believed, as we all believe, that whatever may have been its theoretical or practical human defects, the world has seen no such government as ours, and were it once broken in pieces, no such government would take its place, and that with its downfall the great hopes of the world would be clouded over. To the watchful guardianship of the vast and precious interests thus garnered up in this federal government, he gave, in the house, the senate, and the cabinet, thirty-three years

of assiduous, self-sacrificing toil, and a patriotism hampered by no sectional or party ties, but as broad as the nation's boundaries and as high as her destinies.

Of the vast and complex variety of measures which during that protracted period felt his hand, enlisted his pen, and evoked his voice, I cannot even speak by enumeration. Mr. Choate, after some pages of outline, breaks off by declaring that it "demands a volume." They include the functions of the government itself, from center to circumference, its boundaries and its territory, its resources, finances, commerce, improvements, its internal and foreign relations, in peace and war, on the land and on the sea. In all these multifarious and complicated affairs he stood forth for a generation a leading spirit, a guiding and often a controlling power, shaping the destiny of the whole country. During that long period, no measure that concerned the honor, integrity, or prosperity of the nation, escaped his vigilance or his influence. Some of those services were conspicuous enough to arrest the eyes of the nation and the world. When in his reply to Hayne he strangled the doctrine of nullification, it is the testimony of the southern Bayard and the northern Winthrop, that he deferred the bloody conflict thirty years. And when the conflict came, the long echoes of that speech were the reverberating call that summoned and cheered the friends of the Union to the rescue; its solid principles, the impregnable rock on which a million soldiers stood, and fought, and won. In the celebrated Washington treaty, by his wisdom, firmness, legal knowledge, reasoning power, diplomatic tact and personal ascendancy, he calmed the excited passions of the two foremost nations, and averted the imminent danger of a fratricidal and ruinous war. He did it only by remaining in the cabinet of President Tyler for the good of his country, but against the warnings of political friends. No other man in America could have wafted that momentous treaty over all the rocks and shoals and breakers at home and abroad; and posterity, I think, has already accorded him its unanimous and admiring vote. So sometimes did the judgment of contemporaries. Thus when in that bold and masterly dispatch to Hülsemann he courteously rebuked the insolence of the Austrian chargé and left not a shred of his argument, when he demolished the claim of the Austrian cabinet to treat the American envoy as a spy, and met their menace with the information that such a course would have roused, if need be, the whole military and naval force of a republic "whose power," said he, "is spread over a region, one of the richest and most fertile on the globe, and of an extent in comparison with which the possessions of the House of Hapsburg are but as a patch on the surface of

the earth," the heart of the whole American people beat with him in sympathetic admiration.

Not the least shining aspect of his statesmanship and diplomacy was the readiness with which, in the discharge of duty, he overleaped party lines, sustained what he deemed the right measures of political opponents, aided in the election of his rivals and inferiors, and followed what he avowed to be his duty, though it cost him hosts of life-long friends. "It was not in his nature," well says Mr. Blaine, "to be a partisan chief." And so in a critical time of Jackson's administration he came to his rescue on the "force bill," and "Old Hickory" in person expressed his gratitude. Vice-President Johnson had to thank him for "a magnanimity and courtesy above the times." Though urged to the contrary, he took the stump for his constant competitor, Clay, — a favor, alas, ill requited by Mr. Clay at the close of his life. He turned the tide of northern votes in behalf of General Taylor, though at first the nomination had seemed to him "not fit to be made." To one candidate of his party he refused his support, because, while "himself well enough" and "of good principles," he was sure to be "the tool" of other men; and he predicted the signal defeat which awaited the candidate. How generously he could speak of the high qualities of Clay, Calhoun, and Pierce, and how promptly he could clasp hands once more with Benton after years of estrangement. How completely his letter of apology won the heart of Senator Dickinson, who "perused and reperused the beautiful note." How frankly he met the friendly overtures of his life-long, keen antagonist, our Governor Hill, and welcomed him at his house in Franklin. And though there were some sharp passages at arms during his long career, how magnanimously was every stinging word struck out from his published works.

No more conspicuous instance could be furnished of freedom from all trammels but his own sense of duty, than his noted speech on the 7th of March, 1850, on the Compromise. It was deliberately done. Weeks beforehand, in the evening interview sought by Mr. Clay, he had declared his purpose to take his stand, "no matter what might befall himself at the North." He took it. It cost him more than any other act of his life, — estrangement of friends, loss of popularity, bitter taunts and revilings, the refusal once of old Fanenil Hall, and unfavorable judgments to the present day. Occurring at the close of a long and honored life, the scene is pathetic and almost tragic. Now that the excitements are gone and the issues are dead, it is time to appeal to the sober second thought of posterity. Whether judged by his own record and his avowed standard of duty, or by the standard freely conceded by the nation to other illustrious men, his great

memory should now be cleared from that odium. We can now see that his whole past career brought him where he stood that day. With every utterance of his public life he was committed to the preservation of the constitution and the Union; and on that day he proclaimed, "I speak to-day for the preservation of the Union." He had always held slavery to be a "great moral, social, and political evil;" he deliberately reiterated the opinion on that seventh of March. He had argued and voted steadily against the extension of slavery, and he most emphatically declared on that day, "Wherever there is a foot of land to be prevented from becoming slave territory, I am ready to assert the principle of the exclusion of slavery. I have been pledged to it again and again, and I will redeem those pledges." He declared that in those sections where slavery existed under the solemn pledges of the constitution, those pledges, once made, could not be broken. So he had always declared, and so had the whole nation. He confessed himself unable — and who was not? — to propose measures for the extinction of slavery, but willing to appropriate two hundred millions of the public money to colonize colored people who were or should be made free. No human eye could then discern a possible remedy for the central evil, except in the quiet penetration of the Gospel, which, as Mr. Webster then said, "went to the first fountain of all the social and political relations of the human race." For though the remedy did suddenly appear in the form of civil convulsion, that convulsion came, not by the wisdom of the wise, but by the fury of the madman and folly of the fool; the cost of one man's life for every four men's freedom was a price that neither God nor man could justify. That the convulsion did not become a general massacre and extermination at the South, was due to the wisdom of the negro and the wisdom of God.

Did Mr. Webster on that day maintain the duty of rendition of fugitive slaves? So he had always done: for so it was written in the constitution, and he was bound to do it, as he wrote to the citizens of Newburyport, "by his oath of office." Nay, he boldly said before the senate and before the world, "I put it to all the sober and sound minds of the North, as a question of morals and a question of conscience." Secession, revolution, was the only escape, and that was a bottomless pit into which neither he nor we were prepared to leap. Was he willing to forego extending the Wilmot Proviso to the new territories of California and New Mexico? It was, he said, because nature had rendered it needless, and he would not add a useless irritant to the heated passions of the South. History vindicated his judgment. Slavery gained no firm foothold in that territory. And still more remarkable was his vindication when, eleven

years later, the very men who reproached him for this act, the radical men of Congress, — Sumner, Wade, Seward, Chandler, Lovejoy, Stevens, the Washburns, — did the very same thing for the same considerations; they consented to organize the territories of Colorado, Dakota, and Nevada without a word on the Wilmot Proviso, and without a word of explanation. “It is seldom,” says Mr. Blaine, “that history so exactly repeats itself; in both cases the acts were altogether honorable, the motives altogether patriotic.” “But,” Mr. Blaine pointedly adds, “these Republicans should at least have offered and recorded their apology for their animadversions upon Mr. Webster.” He builded better than his censors knew, but he builded as *he* knew. Those eleven years that he gained to the Union were of inestimable value for the final conflict. Did he speak disapprovingly of the doings of Abolition societies, while conceding to “thousands of their members” the praise of being “honest and good men,” and “not imputing gross motives to their leaders”? There lay before his mind the resolutions adopted in Ohio, and reaffirmed in Faneuil Hall, advocating a “dissolution of the Union,” the resolvers avowing themselves “enemies of the Union, the constitution, and the government of the United States.” Did not such utterances deserve rebuke? But Mr. Webster also rebuked the violent utterances of southern men, and even arraigned a senator then upon the floor, for words of “offense” and “injustice” to the North.

Many were disappointed, and I was among them, that his words were not more severe. — denunciatory, — toward the South and its principles. But we can now see that this would have been to defeat his whole aim in speaking, and to precipitate the catastrophe which he strove to avert. He then clearly knew, what the North did not know, the imminent danger of secession; and “peaceable secession,” said he, with prophetic solemnity, “is an utter impossibility.” “Sir,” said he on that day, “I see as plainly as I see the sun in the heavens, what disruption must produce. I see it must produce war, and such war as I will not describe.” How dreadfully was his prophecy fulfilled, — by a wreck of life and health and morals, of family and social happiness, of individual and national wealth, on a more terrific scale than the world had seen since the desolations of the first Napoleon. To avert that awful calamity he stood forth on that day; and he may righteously demand to be judged by his own life and life-long principles, by his keen foresight and lofty purpose.

See, too, how different has been the fate of Webster and of Lincoln. Till a dozen years after Mr. Webster’s death, and till within three years of his own death, Mr. Lincoln occupied precisely Webster’s position, only even more pronounced. He had even acted as

attorney for the reclamation of five slaves escaped from Kentucky. Only three years before Mr. Webster's speech, Lincoln had introduced into Congress a fugitive-slave law for the District of Columbia. Twelve years after that seventh of March he had published to the world this well-known statement: "I would save the Union. I would save it in the shortest way under the constitution . . . the Union as it was. My paramount object is to save the Union, and not either to save or destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing any slave, I would do it. If I could do it by freeing all the slaves, I would do it. If I could do it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would also do that." It was only after the hardest education, and when compelled by the necessities of war, that he took his final stand. But while Lincoln is justly canonized, Webster has been as unjustly anathematized. Let the last cloud pass away from over the fame of a majestic character. Let us see him as he was, bound by all his history, his principles, and his prophecies, and able to say as did Luther: "Here I stand; I cannot do otherwise." And let us not fail to see how, with his inborn hatred of slavery itself, when once the bonds of the constitution were finally broken by the emergencies of war, he would have said, in more commanding tones than he said of the slave-trade thirty years before, "It is not fit that the land bear the shame longer;" and with a zeal like that with which his honored father fought for liberty at Bunker Hill and Bennington, he would have cheered on every stroke for universal freedom against the rampant slave power, from Bull Run to Appomattox.

Such, imperfectly sketched, was Webster, the jurist and advocate, the orator, the statesman and diplomatist. But more than all and the basis of all, was the grandeur and fullness of the man, in his intellect, his sympathies, his affections. He had faults, and they have been exaggerated. I am here neither to arraign nor defend them. His make was large. Though not technically a scholar, he was much more in his mastery of the highest results of scholarship, and in his broad range of knowledge and thought. In his speeches, his papers, his letters, to whomsoever and for whatsoever, from the great themes of state down to the details of farm life, there is the same singular fertility of matter, strength, and brightness. His private conversation and social life were equally exuberant of wisdom, reminiscence, anecdote, and humor. No man met him casually or permanently but felt his power. He could not move unknown.

Mr. Webster's sympathies were as broad as his intellect. Beneath a dignified and often cold exterior he had a great warm heart. He could be on friendly terms with political opponents. He seemed to

“love all things, both great and small.” He was fond of nature, of outdoor recreations, and of the whole animal world. The great Secretary of State would bring the eggs from his barn in his wife’s work-basket. He loved to feed his fine cattle with his own hand, and in the last few days of his life he gathered them to his door to look once more on their friendly faces. Quail, rabbit, and squirrel were safe on his lands. He would gaze on the sun rising over the sea; he shouted and sung with the exhilaration. “I know the morning,” said he, “I am acquainted with it, and I love it. I love it, fresh and sweet as it is,—a daily new creation, breaking forth and calling all that have life and breath and being to new adoration, new enjoyments, and new gratitude.” He often expressed his delight in the scenery of his native state,—“its hills and vales,” its “beautiful elms and maples,” its “little trickling brooks,” heard “in the still night”: the “most beautiful spectacle of the autumn forests;” “the low and deep murmuring of those forests, the fogs and mists rising and spreading, and clasping the breasts of the mountains whose heads were still high and bright in the skies;” its “skies all-healthful, and its mountains surpassingly grand and sublime.” How fondly he appreciated the attractions of Marshfield, while he yet could write from Elms Farm, the home of his childhood, “After all, this is the sweetest place in the world.” For, after describing all its surroundings, when he looked out of the east windows over the rich plains of the Merrimack,—“At the east end of it,” said he, “I see plain, marble gravestones designating the places where repose my father, my mother, my brother Joseph, and my sisters. Dear, dear kindred blood, how I love you all.” His attachments were strong and lasting. He affectionately remembered his college classmates and the schoolmasters of his boyhood. Not a few of his humbler early associates were objects of his benefactions. He purchased and freed the slaves Monica and Henry. His old neighbors loved and clung to him, and he clung to them; and there are few more touching letters than his reply to his New Hampshire neighbors in 1850, in which he tells them, “I could pour out my heart in tenderness of feeling for the affectionate letter which comes from you. It comes from home; it comes from those whom I have known, or who have known me from my birth. It is like the love of a family circle; its influences fall on a heart like the dew of Hermon.” Friends of his maturer years were bound to him by the strongest of ties, and Webster and Choate were like David and Jonathan. How intense were his family affections. The fond memory of father and mother followed him to the last. The premature death of his brother in the court house here left a wound in his heart, thirty



years later still "fresh and bleeding." And how crushing was the grief as wife and children, one by one, were taken from his sight.

I should do Mr. Webster's greatness the greatest injustice, did I close this discourse without an acknowledgment of his noble and unflinching stand for principle, morality, and Christianity. Where in all his recorded utterances is there a sentence or a word that on this account we could wish erased? What prominent politician or statesman, from Washington to the present day, has uttered himself so openly and so powerfully in the maintenance of true religion? His argument on the Girard will was circulated by the clergy. He read and revered the Bible, and knew large portions of it by heart. He honored the sacred day, closing his gates to visitors, and being found in the house of worship. He began his family life at Portsmouth with family prayers conducted by himself, and after interruptions resumed the practice at Marshfield. Through life he was wont to ask a blessing at his table. "Religion," said he to the supreme court of Massachusetts in his eulogy on Mason, "religion is a necessary and indispensable element in any great human character. There is no living without it. Religion is the tie that connects man with his Maker and holds him to his throne. If that tie be sundered, all broken, he floats away, a worthless atom in the universe, its proper attractions all gone, its destiny thwarted, and its whole future nothing but darkness, desolation, and death." In answer to the blunt question of John Colby, "Are you a Christian?" he replied: "I hope that I am a Christian; I profess to be a Christian. But while I say that, I wish to add, — and I say it with shame and confusion of face, — that I am not such a Christian as I wish to be." Almost the last words of the last night of his life were words of prayer. His tomb bears the inscription, prepared by himself, beginning: "Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief."

This was the man whom we commemorate to-day. The living recollection of his majestic presence will soon have passed away, but so long as English literature shall last, the work that he did will stand embalmed in the works that he left. Time is vindicating his contemporary fame. And when the distant historian shall pass in review the illustrious men of the nation between Washington and Lincoln, what figure among them all will loom up so clear and grand upon the vision of posterity? He was one whom the presidency of these United States could hardly have honored, but who could have honored the presidency. It is as well that he did not. No title is so great as the name DANIEL WEBSTER.

Fellow citizens, Mr. Webster was pre-eminently a New Hampshire man. Born upon its soil, and for the first four and thirty years

a constant resident of its territory, he was molded by its influences; and even its physical features seemed stamped upon his soul. The dark, unbroken sweep of its primeval forests well symbolized the vast resources of his capacious intellect; its marvelously varied surface of grove and meadow, hill and dale, was a fit emblem of the many-sidedness of his ways; its June verdure is not brighter than the freshness of his whole nature to the last; its bubbling springs and trickling rills are not more playful than the genial humor of his private life, nor its still lakes more profound than the depth of his affections; its granite cliffs reappear in the massive solidity of his character; its mountain heights in the towering ascendancy of his powers; while its rushing rivers, swollen by the melting snows of spring, alone can represent the tide of his eloquence.

“The boundless prairies learned his name,  
 His words the mountain echoes knew;  
 The northern breezes swept his fame  
 From icy lake to warm bayou.

In toil he lived; in peace he died;  
 When life's full cycle was complete,  
 Put off his robes of power and pride,  
 And laid them at his Master's feet.

His rest is by the storm-swept waves  
 Whom life's wild tempests roughly tried,  
 Whose heart was like the streaming caves  
 Of ocean throbbing at his side.”

Here stands his statue. Here let it stand through the generations to come, in this center and heart of the commonwealth, by the Main street of her capital and the door of her state house. The quiet flow of daily life, the bustle of business, and the public parade shall pass before him in silent review. The stranger shall pause and gaze on that imperial brow. Children shall here ask and be told his name and fame. The men of New Hampshire shall point with pride to the greatest of their fellow citizens. Legislators and officers of state, as they pass to their work, shall be greeted by the sight of one who wove so strong the bonds of the Union and the constitution, and guarded so well the priceless blessings they enfold. And as long as her fountains shall gush, her lakes shall gleam, her rivers run, and her mountains rise, shall the memory of Webster be fresh in his native state.

## SPEECH OF GOVERNOR ROBINSON, OF MASSACHUSETTS.

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*—Massachusetts delights to be present here with you to-day and to participate in these most interesting and impressive ceremonies. Happily, no human eye can discern a line that marks a separation between the two states whose people to-day join in joyful recognition of the consummate ability, marvelous achievement, and unquestioning loyalty in the man who stood in the foremost rank of the greatest of lawyers, orators, and statesmen the world ever saw. With one common spirit Massachusetts and New Hampshire unite to hail with exultant pride and unquestioning enthusiasm the accomplishment of a work that shall perpetuate in enduring bronze the name, and the form, and the fame of Daniel Webster. To the place of his nativity and to the home of his later years, his career of honor and power is a rich heritage and brings grand inspiration for the highest and greatest that human mind can master. But two states could not confine the greatness of his power when in his activity and vigor of life, and no more now can the same two states hold in exclusive title his distinctive renown wrought in his public life and work. Co-extensive with the grand Union which was the fond ideal of his dearest hopes, enduring as the nationality which inspired him to his noblest efforts, his name and fame are in the keeping of all the people of the land and command the admiration of the civilized world. Here he raised his eyes again to his native hills; here he breathed anew the fresh air of heaven amid scenes endeared to him by the association of his young days and hallowed by the tender affections of home and kindred; here he turned in contemplation of the humble beginning of his illustrious, forceful life; here he renewed in memory the conflicts that were crowned with his earlier triumphs and developed in him that intellectual strength and clearness that made him the irresistible champion in the arena of debate.

Eminently fitting it is that in this memorable place, in the capital city of his native state, here before the halls of assembly, where free people meet to enact their will into just and salutary laws that develop and perpetuate their liberties, this memorial shall stand for all coming time to tell of his devotion to the constitution of the fathers.

The traveler in all the years to come, the youth of the generations in the centuries of the future, will pause here in contemplation, and, with uncovered heads, will pay the abundant tribute of respect to a grand hero in life whose heart thrilled with pride when he declared: "I was born an American, I live an American, and I shall die an American."

But a far grander monument, not reared with human hands, stands to testify of his public work and services. It rests on every inch of soil in this great republic of the United States of America. It is the shrine of union and liberty consecrated by the sacrifices of the fathers, sustained and defended by his abilities and power, and sanctified anew in the heroism and blood of the sons who periled all, that liberty should survive and the Union endure. When the great life was ebbing out, when death entered the shades at Marshfield, the glazing eye turned upon states discordant but not then belligerent. It looked upon a land not then drenched with fraternal blood, but upon a land over which the subdued and baffled spirit of nullification was threatening to reappear in the accursed demon form of secession and disunion. The great spirit passed on forever to the vale beyond; and the mortal eye closed at last upon earthly scenes. The hush of death was followed by the clangor of battle. War came, — long, terrible, costly, and bloody; but the bow of peace appeared not again resplendent in the heavens until the sovereignty of the national government was everywhere acknowledged, and liberty and union became in very fact one and inseparable in America forever.

SPEECH OF GOVERNOR HILL, OF NEW YORK.

*Mr. Chairman, and Your Excellency the Governor,* — Most exacting official engagements during the past thirty days have occupied my entire time. I have had no opportunity, except a few moments which I took on my way hither, to think of what I should say at this time.

It is needless for me to tell you that I am pleased to be present on this interesting occasion. I have come from the capital of the Empire State to testify by my presence, rather than by any word that I may express, the interest which the people of my state feel in the name and fame of Daniel Webster. Though born upon the soil of your state he did not belong to you alone. Your sister states join with his native state in claiming some share of the honor and glory which his achievements and services reflected upon the whole country. His fame is the renown of America. His life and character add luster to the free institutions of our land. It may be safely asserted that among all the great men who have been developed under our democratic form of government, he was one of the greatest, if not the greatest. No student can peruse his works without being impressed with the superiority of his eminent ability. Endowed by nature with extraordinary powers, uncommonly gifted,

he was a born leader among men. Whether as a statesman, orator, or jurist, he had no rivals worthy of the name. Always a profound thinker, he exhausted every subject he discussed, and this is the distinguishing feature of all his productions and efforts. No subject was ever so deep that he did not fathom it; no litigation so intricate that he did not comprehend it; no just cause so weak that did not have in him a powerful champion and friend. No public man in all our history has succeeded better in rendering memorable the great speeches of his life, and impressing their importance and splendor upon his countrymen. What schoolboy in this broad land who has not declaimed to applauding audiences one of the immortal orations of Daniel Webster? Who is so ignorant or obscure in this great country of ours who does not know the author of the ever living words, "Liberty and union, now and forever, one and inseparable"?

Mr. Webster was unquestionably the great popular orator of his time. None could surpass him upon the stump and before the people. About the year 1850, I believe it was, he made a tour through the principal cities of New York, and addressed the multitudes who flocked from all the surrounding country. From that day down to the present time there is pointed out to the stranger in those cities the spot where he delivered his speeches, the occasion being regarded as the great event of the time, and the particular places where he stood a matter of peculiar interest. Upon that balcony, or in this park, or in such a hall, or in yonder church, is the place where Daniel Webster spoke in 1850, is the information which is sounded in your ears by the old residents of those cities who delight to recall the important circumstance.

It was in defense of our form of government, of the constitution, and the Union, that Mr. Webster achieved his greatest triumphs as a statesman and orator. There have been great orators in the world's history, but I venture the assertion that none have surpassed his wonderful achievements. They gave him imperishable and everlasting fame.

It was not left for us alone, however, to fully appreciate his patriotic services in behalf of our imperiled constitution. Our fathers before us on every proper occasion testified their admiration for his heroic and brilliant efforts. There was a public dinner given to Mr. Webster at Albany, N. Y., on May 28, 1851, by the citizens of that hospitable city, which was presided over by a distinguished citizen of my state, Hon. John C. Spencer, who in proposing a toast and in speaking of Mr. Webster's defense of the constitution appropriately said: "How poor and insignificant are all our efforts to express our appreciation of such a character and of such services. They

have sunk deep into our hearts : they will sink deeper into the hearts of unborn millions who are to people this vast continent ; and when he and we sleep with our fathers, his name will reverberate from the Atlantic to the Pacific as the defender of the constitution of his country." He then proposed the following beautiful sentiment : "The constitution of the United States and Daniel Webster, inseparable now, and inseparable in the records of time and eternity." Mr. Webster replied to this compliment in his usual eloquent manner, and in concluding his speech proposed in return the following courteous and appropriate sentiment : "The young men of Albany, the young men of this generation and of the succeeding generations, may they live forever, but may the constitution and the Union outlive them all."

I have gladly journeyed to your capital to take part in these ceremonies, and I can assure you that no state takes a deeper or more affectionate interest in any honors which can be paid to your distinguished statesman than the state of New York. New Hampshire and New York have much in common. They both actively engaged in the great struggle for independence, and each made glorious revolutionary history. Our citizens have many business relations with the people of your state. Both loyally sustained the Union cause in the war of the rebellion. I recollect the fact that New Hampshire was the birthplace of one of my distinguished predecessors, he who uttered the famous sentiment, who issued the familiar order, "If any man attempt to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot." Your state may well be proud of being the birthplace of both Daniel Webster and Gen. John A. Dix. I am also reminded that every block of granite of which the magnificent capitol of the state of New York is constructed, comes from the quarries of New England. It is to be feared that New Yorkers are sometimes too apt to imagine that their state overshadows in importance the other portions of the country. A trip through your beautiful and prosperous state will dissipate that illusion.

In other countries the great commercial metropolis of New York city seems to be confounded with New York state and the whole country. At a public dinner given to Mr. Webster at Buffalo, N. Y., in 1851, he himself alluded to this subject, speaking as follows : "The commercial character so far pervades the minds of commercial men all over the world that there are many men who are very respectable and intelligent who do not seem to know there is anything in the United States but New York. When I was in England it was asked of me if I did not come from New York. I told them that my wife came from New York, and that was something. Well,

gentlemen, I had the honor one day to be invited to a state dinner by the lord mayor of London. He was a portly and dignified gentleman. He had a big wig on his head all powdered, and ribboned down behind, and I had the honor of sitting between him and the lord mayoress. There were three hundred guests, and all the luxuries and gorgeousness of the lord mayor's dinner. Soon after the cloth was removed his lordship thought proper to take notice of his American guest. He seemed not to know exactly who I was. He knew I was a senator, but he seemed to have little idea of any place in the United States but New York. He arose: 'Gentlemen,' said he, 'I give you the health of Mr. Webster, a member of the upper senate of New York.' Mr. Webster was, of course, greatly surprised as well as amused at the blunder of his English host, which thus summarily reduced him from the high and exalted position of a senator of the United States to that of a senator in the legislature of a single state. I can assure you, however, that New York would have been proud to have had Mr. Webster her senator in either her upper or lower senate, or in any other branch of her legislature.

I must not detain you longer. I came to listen rather than to speak. I realize too well that elaborate eulogy cannot add anything to the greatness or distinction of the man whose statue you unveil to-day. We have none of us forgotten the magnificent oration of Edward Everett on Webster, delivered about thirty years ago upon a somewhat similar occasion. He has left nothing for any one to say in regard to Webster in this generation. It is the most brilliant production of this age in the line of oratory, and will answer for all the future.

In conclusion, permit me to suggest that while the pure and generous motives which prompted the erection of this statue are to be heartily commended, it was not needed to prevent the name of Daniel Webster from being forgotten by posterity. Neither marble, nor granite, nor bronze, nor iron, nor brass, is necessary to perpetuate his fame. It may be well said of him,

"Art to his fame no aid hath lent,  
His country is his monument."

SPEECH OF GOVERNOR FREDERICK ROBIE, OF MAINE.

*My Friends,*—I thank you very much for this pleasant introduction and cordial greeting. I am aware that it is not personal in its character, but is largely due to the fact that I am here to-day to represent the state of Maine; and I am glad to be here, and equally glad to join in these interesting exercises. I bring with me the

kind wishes and good will of all our people, and the congratulations of the state for what you have done in honor of that great man, Daniel Webster. I have not the honor of being a son of New Hampshire, but on reflection find that I can claim to be a grandson. My father loved New Hampshire very much, which sentiment is appreciated by me. My father was born in Candia, N. H., in 1782, the very year that gave birth to that great man, Daniel Webster, and he was his friend, his political friend, and his great admirer. I recollect very well my earliest impressions of Daniel Webster, which were made by looking at his portrait, a steel engraving, which my father for fifty years had hanging in his library. It remains there to-day, my present home, and brings back many pleasant memories; and I am glad to notice here in this beautiful city, under the shadows of your churches and schoolhouses and in front of your capitol, that there stands for the observation and inspiration of the great public an enduring life-like statue of Daniel Webster. Michael Angelo once made a wonderful statue of Moses for one of the great cathedrals in Rome, and when he had finished it, it was so complete and life-like that he walked up to it and said: "Speak, or I will break you into a thousand pieces." There was undoubtedly a satisfactory response, for that statue has endured for centuries, and even now speaks in favor of the man who made it. With a becoming relationship to the statue of the great lawgiver of earliest times, this statue of Daniel Webster is dedicated to-day. It will speak to coming generations in language which we cannot understand with the ear because it is silent, but it still speaks. It speaks of the majesty of the divine decalogue and the principles of Christian religion which were his guide; it speaks for the union of this great nation, one and inseparable, for which he was a godlike advocate; it speaks for the sovereignty of the people, liberty, and constitutional law; it is a representative of the public benevolence and progressive civilization of New England, and it speaks for that. It will stand beneath the smiles of heaven in a cathedral whose boundaries are the horizon, as the proud representative of the greatest man of this period. The statue of the Egyptian Memnon is said to have emitted musical sounds when first visited by the morning sun, which the imagination of the listener was allowed to interpret. This statue must be superior in influence and effect to these ancient traditions, for from early morning to the shade of evening it will continually speak to the people of New Hampshire, to the people of Maine, to the people of this great nation, and the people of the civilized world, of the principles which he advocated, and of which he was the great and acknowledged exponent.



## SPEECH OF GOVERNOR PINGREE, OF VERMONT.

*Mr. President and Fellow Citizens,* — It needed not the invitation of your executive committee, sir, to induce the state of Vermont to be represented here on an occasion of this character and concerning the memory of this great man, Mr. Webster. Grateful as all her people would ever be to be represented by their executive head on an occasion devoted to the memory of such a man, nevertheless, independently of my official trust or the performance of any official duty, as a son of New Hampshire, as a native of the town of Salisbury, as one who attended school in the same district that Mr. Webster attended, as one who attended and afterward taught in that town at the same academy where Mr. Webster attended and taught, as one of the New Hampshire men who pursued his steps through their beloved college at Dartmouth, that has been so eloquently represented here to-day in the person of our orator who has addressed us on this occasion, I come from and for my adopted state to add my words to yours touching this man of genius and of greatness who belonged to both states alike. For, Mr. President and gentlemen, in representing my adopted state and speaking for her, as well as in my individual love for the name and the history and the memory of Daniel Webster, I may say that Vermont, the Green Mountain State — the New Hampshire grants, — claims Daniel Webster by birthright as much as the state of New Hampshire can claim him. At the time his eyes first saw light up there in the old town of Salisbury, the state that I represent was a part of your state which we all represent to-day. She, Vermont, the first-born state of this American Union, comes to-day feeling honored that she may unite with New Hampshire, the last state that made the American Union, do honor to the memory of that illustrious statesman and to the deeds of the greatest man in oratory, as has been stated here, that has ever lived in any country or at any time. And speaking for myself and many of my native and my adopted state, I can affirm that they have drawn their true inspiration of country love — that patriotic devotion that was so sorely needed in days not long past — from those grand speeches left us by Mr. Webster more than from all the other literature our school days furnished.

From those majestic appeals for the integrity and perpetuity of the Union, which the man whom this statue represents has left upon the pages of American history, the men of your generation and mine, Mr. President, have drawn more of that patriotism and character which insured our salvation as a united people than from all the rest of the great orations of our land and time. I know not how, — in-

deed. I fear it were not possible that this noble land of ours should stand to-day, having so successfully withstood all the assaults that were brought to bear against her, had it not been that the young men of our boyhood days and later had imbibed from those great orations the grand political sentiment that the unity of these states and the liberties of this people must stand or fall together, and one could not exist without the other.

That one outpouring of unstudied and resistless eloquence where he deplored the scene of a broken Union, or brightened at the sight of a prosperous and united country, which Webster left so appealingly to the men of his time as well as to the unborn generations, to stand now and forever by the integrity of the Union, has, to my apprehension, already done more than the sayings of any other man towards inspiring "our young men fit for war" to save the government in her struggle against the power of secession. And that same inspiration will reach forward from that speech through the corridors of time, infusing patriots and marshaling soldiers ever ready at their country's need in the wars for freedom and for the rights of men.

SPEECH OF HON. JOHN A. BINGHAM, OF OHIO.

By the favor of his Excellency it is my high privilege to participate in the ceremonies of this day. I am not here for personal display, but merely to bear witness to the men of this commonwealth of the deep gratitude which I feel and cherish for the memory of the man with whose name and fame I was made familiar in my childhood, youth, and manhood, and who by his great public services commanded my admiration and became an idol of my affection.

New Hampshire honors herself by honoring her most illustrious son. Now that Daniel Webster has put off this mortal and has put on immortality, it is eminently fitting that the state of his nativity should at the porch of her capitol perpetuate in enduring bronze his majestic form and features. Those who saw and heard this man of large discourse, this matchless statesman, jurist, and orator, in the greatness of his strength, felt, and the words involuntarily pressed upon their lips for utterance, "How noble in reason, how infinite in faculties." This life-like statue of Webster is for posterity. He needs it not. The dead only are the immortals of our race. They alone receive the crown of an endless life. Those who saw and heard Webster saw and heard the man of their times who had taken all knowledge for his province, and lived laborious days that he might do faithfully and well his whole duty to his God, his country, and his race.

To found and perpetuate our American nationality with its constitution of free government deriving its powers from the consent of the people, and established in order to secure liberty to all and justice to all by the combined power of all, may well be reckoned as one of the greatest of human achievements.

The men of the Revolution, under the guidance of Washington, first of Americans and foremost of men, who by his example gave new "ardor to virtue, and new confidence to truth," founded our republic and drafted its constitution. These men whom God taught to build for glory and for beauty, and who formulated the fabric of American empire with its centralized power and decentralized administration, thereby made us a nation organized by the perpetual union of thirteen separate and independent states united into one, and to be further enlarged by the addition of such new states as might thereafter be formed within the national domain, subject to and restricted by the constitution of the United States, the fundamental law of the republic. This complex system of civil polity was a new and untried experiment, the like of which had never before been read or heard of in human story. When Washington had finished his work, standing upon the isthmus between two eternities, and in his own words, was soon "to be consigned to the mansions of rest," he addressed to his countrymen then in life, and to the millions of his countrymen who might come after him, his farewell words, wherein he advised them that the "unity of government, which constitutes us one people, is the main pillar in the edifice of our real independence"; that pains would be taken and artifices employed to weaken in their minds the conviction of this truth, that our constitution, "perfectly free in its principles till changed by the explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all"; and, finally, that "in proportion as the structure of government gives force to public opinion, it is essential that public opinion be enlightened." As public opinion under a free representative government is mightier than armies, it is indispensable that it be enlightened.

When Washington died, happily for our country Webster lived, and soon thereafter took his place in the national service. At that time and after, designing, ambitious men, careless of their country's welfare and of the interests of mankind, aggressively began the work of disunion by disseminating among the people the theory that there was no American nationality; that what was called the constitution of the United States was in fact not a constitution, but a league, a compact, a confederation merely between the several states thereof; that each state retained its separate sovereignty and inde-

pendence; that the government of the United States was but the agent of the states, and was created by the states, and subject at any time to be abrogated by the several states, and the separate action of all or any one of said states. Of the falsity of this theory, and the peril and disaster which must result from it if accepted by the people and carried into effect, it was New Hampshire's great son who warned and instructed the people as no other man of his day did or could warn or instruct them. With the prescience of a seer Webster saw clearly and foretold what must come of this theory if acted upon by one or more of the states of the Union. More than any man of his day he was the educator of the people on all the questions involved touching the powers of the national government and the reserved powers of the states. In the great debates in the senate in 1830-33, he gave utterance to his thoughts in defense of the supremacy of the constitution and in exposition of the constitution, which fell upon the nation's mind like a prophet's words, and found their way into the hearts of the people, and convinced them that the people of all the states and all the territories of the Union were a nation, were one people, with one government, one country, and one destiny; that the constitution of the United States was established and ordained by the people thereof, and not by the states; that it is what it is declared on its face to be, the constitution of the United States of America, — not a league or compact, but the constitution, the fundamental and supreme law of the land, sacredly obligatory upon every state and territory, and upon the people of every state and territory in the Union; that no state had color of authority to secede from the Union, or to nullify the constitution or any law of the United States, or to pass any statute or ordinance in conflict with the nation's constitution and laws. Webster clearly comprehended the righteousness there is in right understanding, and therefore exerted his great powers to educate the whole people and possess them of the right understanding of their national constitution and of their duties and obligations thereunder. In the performance of this service he did more than any other American citizen since Washington to form and enlighten the public opinion of the United States in regard to their constitution and government, to the nation's rights thereunder, and to the duties, rights, and obligations of the citizens of the United States.

Mr. Webster, in his masterly and conclusive argument in reply to Mr. Calhoun, the chiefest and ablest of the advocates of the theory of state sovereignty and the alleged right of states severally to secede from the Union and nullify the constitution and laws of the nation, demonstrated as clearly as it is possible for human reason to demon-

strate any proposition within the compass of the human understanding, that the constitution of the United States is a national, fundamental law, ordained by the people of the United States, essential to the nation's life, and is the supreme law of the land, anything in the constitution and laws of any state to the contrary notwithstanding. Among other weighty words, he said what the people have since affirmed and made good, that in the constitution it is the people who speak, and not the states; that the maintenance of the constitution does not depend on the plighted faith of the states as states to support it; but that it relies on individual duty and individual obligation; . . . that if the friends of nullification should give practical effect to their opinions, they would prove themselves the most skillful architects of ruin, the most effectual extinguishers of high-raised expectations, the greatest blasters of human hopes that any age has produced. "The people," said he, "will stand fast by the constitution and by those who defend it. . . . I shall exert every faculty I possess in aiding to prevent the constitution from being nullified, destroyed, or impaired, and even should I see it fall, I will still, with a voice feeble, perhaps, but earnest as ever issued from human lips, call on the people to come to the rescue."

Webster's prayer was, that in his expiring moments he might not see a land rent with civil feuds and drenched in fraternal blood, or look upon the broken and dishonored fragments of a once glorious Union. His prayer was granted; he passed to his rest before that fearful conflict burst upon the country, when our sun went down at mid-noon, and night and storm and thick darkness fell upon the nation, and the land was rent with civil feuds, and the foundations of the republic rocked beneath the earthquake shock of battle. In that supreme moment of peril to the nation, its constitution, and laws, the people, not unmindful of Webster's words that the people would stand by their constitution and that he called upon them to come to its rescue, did come in their might to its rescue.

"They came as the winds come when forests are rended,  
They came as the waves come when navies are stranded."

The loyal, faithful people made a sublime sacrifice in defense of the nation, its constitution and laws; more than three hundred thousand of them gave up their lives in the fierce conflict that their country might live, and by their virtue, their valor, and their self-sacrifice they made their death beautiful. They conquered a peace for their country; they vindicated the nation's rights and maintained the supremacy of the nation's constitution and laws. It was a vic-

tory for the whole country, for liberty, for justice, and for humanity. Webster, by his never-to-be-forgotten instructions and thoughts, as clearly contributed to this victory of the people as did Grant, the hero of the century, by his sword. The constitution, re-formed and maintained, is still supreme over all the land. It embodies the democracy of the New Testament, — liberty, fraternity, and equality. The Union stands undivided and unbroken, more firmly established than at any time in our history. The republic stands secure, known and honored throughout the earth, numbering sixty millions of freemen, and covering the continent from ocean to ocean. It looks out on Europe from its eastern and on Asia from its western shore. May the republic, saved by suffering and sacrifice and martyrdom, be perpetual.

ODE TO DANIEL WEBSTER, BY WILLIAM C. SHEPPARD, OF NORTH SCITUATE, MASS., A NATIVE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

O fair New Hampshire's noblest son,  
 The mighty, glorious, and great,  
 Most cherished of thy native state,  
 The immortal and the godlike one !

To thee we rear the modest token  
 Of love and gratitude and praise,  
 And offer speech and song and lays,  
 But speak and sing in accents broken.

We praise thee for thy strong right arm,  
 On which the nation leaned secure ;  
 Thy heart, so tender, fond, and pure,  
 That loved her with a love so warm ;

And for thy tongue so eloquent  
 And full of sweetest melody,  
 Whose tones rang out from sea to sea,  
 Enrapturing a continent.

Thy hand Columbia's lyre swept o'er,  
 And made all jarring notes agree ;  
 Awoke the strains of liberty  
 And unity forevermore.

What though thy body 's by the sea,  
 Beneath the Pilgrims' hallowed hill?  
 Thou ever livest, livest still,  
 Enshrined in grateful memory!

Within thine arms the nation lies;  
 Thy mighty heart-throbs yet she feels:  
 And still the same thy music peals  
 Throughout the land, along the skies!

Descend, ascend, ye cherubim,  
 Upon the ladder of his glory,  
 And bear aloft to God the story,  
 Our thanksgiving for the gift of him —

Him! him! Columbia's greatest son,  
 The mighty, glorious, and grand,  
 Most cherished of his native land, —  
 The godlike and immortal one!

After the reading of the ode by its author, the Handel Society of Dartmouth College sang "*Integer Vitæ*" very beautifully.

INTEGER VITÆ.

"Integer vitæ scelerisque purus  
 Non eget Mauris jaculis, neque arcu,  
 Nec venenatis gravida sagittis,  
 Fusce, Phætra;

Sive per Syrtes iter æstuosas,  
 Sive facturus per inhospitalem  
 Caucasum, vel quæ loca fabulosus  
 Lambit Hydaspes.

Namque me silva lupus in Sabina,  
 Dum meam canto Lalagen, et ultra  
 Terminum curis vagor expeditis  
 Fugit inermem;

Quale portentum neque militaris  
Daunias latis alit æsculetis,  
Nec Jubbæ tellus generat, leonum  
Arida nutrix.

Pone me, pigris ubi nulla campis  
Arbor æstiva recreatur aura,  
Quod latus mundi nebulae malusque  
Juppiter urget;

Pone sub curru nimium propinqui  
Solis, in terra domibus negata:  
Dulce ridentem Lalagen amabo,  
Dulce loquentem."

— *Horace, Book I., Ode 22.*

MEMBERS OF THE HANDEL SOCIETY WHO SANG AT THE WEBSTER  
MONUMENT UNVEILING.

'86 *Seniors.*

R. G. Brown,	E. S. Hill,	W. Sampson,
A. H. Chase,	E. J. Hatch,	H. W. Thurston,
K. H. Goodwin,	W. P. Kelley,	F. T. Vaughan.
A. H. Hale,	E. P. Pitman,	

'87 *Juniors.*

F. P. Brackett,	F. A. Howland,	A. J. Thomas,
G. W. Glass,	W. D. Quint,	F. J. Urquhart.
E. B. Hale,	J. C. Simpson,	

'88 *Sophomores.*

F. H. Chase,	R. N. Fairbanks.
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'89 *Freshmen.*

J. I. Buck,	C. B. Curtis,	L. H. Ingham,
F. L. Bugbee,	E. B. Davis,	E. L. Williamson.
A. Chase, Jr.,	W. P. Hale,	



## ADDENDA.

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At the conclusion of the exercises in state-house park, the guests of the state were escorted to the Eagle Hotel, where a banquet was served. His Excellency Governor Moody Currier presided, and grace was said by President Samuel C. Bartlett. There were no speeches at this time.

During the day Hon. George W. Nesmith received the following greeting, by telegraph, from the Bunker Hill Monument Association, through its president :

BOSTON, June 17, 1886.

HON. GEORGE W. NESMITH, *President, Concord, N. H.* :—

The Bunker Hill Monument Association, assembled at its annual meeting upon the one hundred and eleventh anniversary of the battle, congratulates the people of New Hampshire upon the erection and dedication of a statue of Daniel Webster this day at the capital of their state.

Holding in grateful remembrance his services on its own behalf, the Association cordially unites in every honor to the memory of this illustrious citizen, statesman, and patriot.

CHAS. DEVENS, *President.*

The reply of Mr. Nesmith was as follows :

CONCORD, N. H., June 17, 1886.

THE HON. CHARLES DEVENS, *Pres't Bunker Hill Monument Association, Boston, Mass.* :—

New Hampshire receives with gratification the congratulatory despatch from your Association. Mr. Webster's fame, though broad as the Union, is specially identified with the glory of his native state, and with the glory of the state of his adoption. It will live as long as the morning light shall gild the monumental shaft which his eloquence twice consecrated, or as the light of parting day shall linger and play upon its summit.

GEO. W. NESMITH, *President.*

## MEETING OF DARTMOUTH COLLEGE ALUMNI.

At a fully attended meeting of the Dartmouth College alumni of Concord, May 10, 1886, at which Hon. J. Everett Sargent, class of 1840, presided, the subject of holding a reunion of the alumni, in connection with the dedication exercises, was considered, and a committee of arrangements was appointed as follows: Henry J. Crippen, class of 1861; Frank S. Streeter, Esq., class of 1874; Henry M. French, M. D., class of 1876; John P. George, Esq., class of 1878; Edward N. Pearson, class of 1881. The committee subsequently organized by choosing Frank S. Streeter chairman, and Henry J. Crippen treasurer.

SKETCH OF BENJAMIN PIERCE CHENEY.







*J. P. Oliver.*

## BENJAMIN PIERCE CHENEY.

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“ Honor and shame from no condition rise ; —  
Act well your part, there all the honor lies.”

BENJAMIN PIERCE CHENEY, to whose munificence his native state of New Hampshire is indebted for the possession of a statue of Daniel Webster, equal if not superior as a work of art to any similar memorial of her great statesman, traces his lineage back to Tristram Cheney, who was born in Roxbury, Mass., in 1720, and who after several removals finally died at Barnet, Vt., in 1815, at the age of ninety-five years.

The subject of this sketch was the eldest of eight children, and was born August 12, 1815, in the town of Hillsborough, N. H. His father, Jesse Cheney, was by trade and occupation a blacksmith, and became embarrassed in his circumstances as the result of being surety for a neighbor on an official bond. The maiden name of his mother was Alice Steele. His parents were married November 25, 1813. His father was born in the town of Antrim, N. H., October 3, 1788, and died in the city of Manchester, N. H., June 22, 1863. His mother was born in Antrim, N. H., August 12, 1791, and died at Manchester, July 28, 1849. Mr. Cheney was named in

honor of his father's neighbor, Gov. Benjamin Pierce, father of President Franklin Pierce.

The early part of the current century was a primitive period in the history of the Granite State. New Hampshire was then almost purely an agricultural community. The railroad was not, nor the electric telegraph. The cotton mill was unknown in her borders. The state was largely a rural district, but her inland towns were as a whole quite as populous then as now. Gov. Pierce presented his young namesake with three cosset sheep for his name. Such a gift was specially appropriate in a pastoral community.

The embarrassed circumstances of his father made it necessary for the boy to exert himself for his own and the family's support. At the early age of ten years he was employed in his father's shop: then in a tavern in Francestown, N. H.: and later in a store in the same town. But indoor life proving destructive to his health, he purchased his time from his father, and commencing at the age of sixteen he drove the stage from Keene to Nashua and Exeter, driving fifty miles a day without the loss of a trip for six consecutive years. Among the passengers in his stage-coach was Daniel Webster, who saw in Mr. Cheney "the promise and potency" of the highly successful, energetic, and public-spirited business man and citizen which he ultimately became. Mr. Webster took so much interest in young Cheney that upon his going into the express business he wrote out and presented to him, in his own handwriting, the laws relating to common carriers. Mr. Cheney always held his illustrious friend in grateful remembrance, and finally deter-



mined to give to his native state a statue of him, which purpose and intention were so happily fulfilled on the seventeenth day of June of the current year (1886).

While Mr. Cheney was engaged as a stage-driver the Boston & Lowell Railroad was opened. This was one of the initial railroads, and helped to inaugurate the railroad system of the country. In 1842 railroads were extended to Concord, N. H. Then it was that Mr. Cheney embarked upon this recently opened railroad line in the express business, of which he was the principal pioneer and founder, and which under his direction and management has been expanded from a merely local into a continental business.

The various express companies inaugurated and managed by Mr. Cheney, commencing with the local express between Boston and Concord, N. H., and subsequently extending over this route to Canada and the West, have now been consolidated with the American Express Company, of which Mr. Cheney is still one of the executive officers. It is in connection with these enterprises that his name is most familiar to the business men of New England, but he has been specially prominent throughout the country in the inauguration and management of the Overland Mail, Wells & Fargo's Express, the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, Northern Pacific, Mexican Central, and Vermont Central railroads, and he is to-day a director in nearly all of these corporations, as well as of the Northern (N. H.) Railroad. Mr. Cheney's career embraces the commencement and development of the railroad system in this country. It extends back to the days of the old stage-coach and the freight wagon.

During his active life the California gold mines were discovered, and the electric telegraph was invented. He has been connected with and taken advantage of many of the wonderful improvements which characterize the world of to-day. He has lived in an age of wonderful opportunities, and has availed himself of them. Beside his gift of the Webster statue and of fifty thousand dollars to Dartmouth College, he has manifested in many ways privately a beneficence even more honorable to him as a man than any instances of his public munificence.

Mr. Cheney was married June 6, 1865, to Elizabeth S., daughter of Asahel Clapp, a former well-known merchant of Concord, N. H. Three daughters and two sons are the fruits of this marriage. Mr. Cheney has a large and elegant farm in Wellesley, Mass., where he and his devoted wife make their happy summer home specially attractive in dispensing a free and constant hospitality. His private and public acts of liberality have endeared him to hosts of friends, and no man, either in his native state or the state of his adoption, can boast of more general rejoicing at his prosperity, or a more sincere desire that a long and happy life may be vouchsafed to him.

PROCEEDINGS OF DARTMOUTH ALUMNI.



## PROCEEDINGS OF DARTMOUTH ALUMNI.

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THE gathering of the graduates of Dartmouth College exceeded in every respect anything in the history of the college. The alumni headquarters were established in the Representatives' Hall, where, during the day, between three hundred and four hundred names were enrolled. The oldest class represented was 1832, and from that date to the present it was stated that only one class failed to have a representative. At four o'clock the graduates formed in procession in the western portion of the state-house park, under the marshalship of Albert S. Batchelor, of Littleton, of 1872. The roll of classes was called, and the oldest alumnus was given the head of the column. He was followed by those of succeeding dates, the line being closed by nearly a hundred undergraduates who came from Hanover in a special train. As the procession passed down State and up Pleasant street on its way to the rink, where the meeting was to be held, sharp lookout was kept to discover any alumnus who happened not to be in the line. When any such was seen many lusty voices would call for him, and the ranks would be opened to receive him. In the rink, tables extended throughout the floor, with an official one at right angles at the head. In the galleries were a large number of

spectators, personal friends of the graduates. At the head of the table sat Hon. Walbridge A. Field, of Boston, the president of the meeting. On his right was the chaplain, Rev. E. O. Jameson, of 1855, of Millis, Mass., and next the orator, Hon. Mellen Chamberlain, of 1844, of Boston. On the left of the president was the toastmaster, Hon. George A. Marden, of 1861, of Lowell. When Mr. Field rose to call the meeting to order it was evident that he was deeply impressed by the number and character of the large assembly.

Grace was said by Rev. E. O. Jameson, after which an hour was devoted to the dinner. After cigars had been lighted, Judge Field introduced the orator, Mr. Chamberlain, who on rising was greeted with earnest applause.

#### JUDGE CHAMBERLAIN'S ORATION.

I am sure, Mr. President, that the alumni of Dartmouth College desire, first of all, to express to his Excellency the Governor, and to the honorable council of the state of New Hampshire, their grateful sense of the privilege of participating in the dedication of a statue of Daniel Webster on his native soil; and to add that they regard the selection of the president of the college for the part which he has performed in these interesting ceremonies with distinguished success, as a manifestation of good will by the state to the college which is appreciated by all its friends.

The relations of the college to the state are peculiar. As a corporation it is older than the state; for the charter of the college, which is still the basis and measure of its rights, and irrevocable except for cause, came from George the Third when New Hampshire was a royal province, without charter, and governed under the king's commission, which was revocable at his pleasure.

To-day we witness an extraordinary proceeding. The state accepts as a gift from an estimable and loyal citizen, and with the according voices of thousands of other citizens also loyal, sets up in a conspicuous place before the most august symbol of its authority, a statue of Daniel Webster, to whom more than to any other man is due that construction of the constitution of the United States which

overthrew a legislative act of the sovereign state of New Hampshire, reversed the solemn decision of its highest judicial tribunal, and erected within its jurisdiction an *imperium in imperio* which will endure as long as the constitution endures.

And it is well; for the state and the college have been mutually helpful. The state has been the benefactor of the college; and if not munificent when compared with more opulent states, yet liberal in a degree honorable to a government which derived its revenues from a people without profitable industries until the stimulus of foreign capital had aroused the slumbering giant of the Merrimack, and whose agricultural interests rapidly declined when canals and railroads opened the markets of the East to the disastrous competition of the more fertile West.

But now a new era has begun. Necessity has developed a new industry. Thrift and the near approach of hunger have stimulated the conversion of pure air and mountain scenery into merchantable commodities, happily indispensable to the sweltering corn-growers and pork-packers of the malarial prairies. A retributive corner has been made, — reasonably permanent, if we may rely upon the providentially slow growth of mountains, and remunerative, we hope, “beyond the dreams of avarice.” These inspiring facts open a vista. In the distance the college is seen reveling in opulence.

If the state has been liberal according to her means, the college has recognized her reciprocal obligations, and met them with promptitude and efficiency. Erase from the state’s roll of honor, of which she is justly proud, the names of those sons of Dartmouth who have gained distinction in science, in jurisprudence, and in public affairs, and the place of New Hampshire would be less conspicuous than it now is among her sister states. Give back to unlettered drudgery those undistinguished sons of Dartmouth who with minds quickened by liberal studies have followed their professions on hillsides, or in sequestered valleys, — narrow, but necessary fields of labor, — and there would be a manifest decline of intelligence, good judgment, and moral sense in those communities.

I do not purpose to dwell on those special relations of Daniel Webster to the college, to which I have adverted; but in the general relations of debt and credit between the college and the people of the state, Daniel Webster was included. Born remote from the centers of civilization and culture, and without the means of access to them, there was danger, and in his case, from temperament, special danger, lest he would grow up in obscurity, and add one more to the large number of richly endowed but imperfectly educated men of which New Hampshire was full, who gave to the wilderness

powers which might have made them conspicuous on any theater of action. More than most men of anything like his intellectual force, Daniel Webster needed the stimulus of education and the prospect of a career. This needed help was just what the college gave. She opened the mine, she laid bare the ore, — abundant, massive, pure, — and set it free, as currency bearing the royal stamp of genius, to enrich the wisdom of the people and the English speech of the world. This was his chief debt to the college.

Apart from Webster's natural endowments, no one was more "heinously unprovided," as he said, with education or pecuniary means "to break into college." Luckily, it was not far to seek; otherwise he might never have found it. But he sought it and entered. When there, unlike Bacon and Milton at English Cambridge, he made no complaint of the education it afforded. It was the best he was prepared to receive, and both parties were satisfied. She gave him all she had to give, and with all her requirements he cheerfully complied. Both were young together, both were poor, and both struggling to gain a foothold on bare creation. It is idle, but we may guess if we will, how much and in what respects Webster might have been greater, had he, after the preparatory training of such schools as Eton or Winchester, been educated at Oxford or Cambridge, with their splendid libraries, their exact scholarship, their impressive antiquity, and the stimulating influence of the long lines of their illustrious graduates.

Such were the relations to the college of Daniel Webster as an undergraduate. He was greatly in her debt. But there came a time when all this was changed, — an hour when her need was sore and pressing, and his help was seasonable and adequate; an hour when he repaid the unforgettten debt of his youth; when he secured immortality for her, and laid the foundations of his own.

But, gentlemen, I must not forget even in this presence that there are other claims than ours to Daniel Webster. He was a son of New Hampshire, and he was the foremost man of his country. Of all the great Americans of this century, perhaps of any century, he was the most genuinely and thoroughly American; of all, most undoubtedly a product of our soil, climate, institutions, and modes of life. He owed much to the state of his birth, but he owed nothing to any other state. He owed much to his New Hampshire ancestors; but to them, and to them alone, was he indebted for his rich inheritance. In him there was no intermixture of nationalities; no crossing of plebeian with patrician blood. His pedigree was of New Hampshire, and as pure as the air he breathed. Unlike Morris, Galatin, and Hamilton, he was born on our soil. His forefathers were



also born on it, unlike the ancestors of some of those who in Revolutionary days rendered illustrious services to the country. For a hundred and fifty years they had lived in New Hampshire. Into them had entered the cold blasts from the polar circle, and the fierce heats which seemed to have strayed from the tropics. Every drop of their blood, every fiber of their flesh, every bone and sinew, had become Americanized. For five generations, not from the safe retreats of garrisoned settlements, but on the skirmish line of civilization, they had waged strenuous war with barbarism, and changed the wilderness into habitable abodes of men.

To all these transforming influences Daniel Webster was fortunately heir. We of New Hampshire think that he was also fortunate in the place of his birth. The glory of a state, sir, is in its men; — not in its broad acres; not in its fertile soil; not in its rich mines; but in its men. That is a great state which produces great men, and virile were the loins that begat the Websters, the Starks, the Langdons, the Bartletts, the Smiths, the Bells, the Pierces, the Woodburys, the Casses, the — but I need a day for the rest.

Without doubt Daniel Webster was fortunate in the place of his birth, — in sight of the majestic mountains; not far from the beautiful river: the mountains in their grandeur, the type of his character; the river in its reserved strength, no unfit emblem of his life. In this pure air, full of light reflected from the purple hills, — himself made thoughtful by the nearness of dark forests and the sound of distant waterfalls, feeding his imagination with traditions of Rogers, Putnam, and Stark, the old French war rangers, and of Cilley, Scammell, and Poor, his father's compatriots in arms during the war of the Revolution, — Daniel Webster gathered his scanty education, a genuine son of New Hampshire. Here he was born. Here he "mewed his mighty youth." Here he clothed himself with glorious manhood. He owed little to other forms of civilization. His mind, his character, and his personality, his thoughts, and his style of their expression were of New Hampshire. His latest political and constitutional principles bore the impress of his earliest. When he left his native state he was a complete man. He gained little or nothing that was essential by association with communities more cultured than those he left behind him. These were of the sea; those were of the mountains. Not always in accord with the dominant political party of his native state, he was more nearly so than with the extreme Federalists of New England.

Thus was he born, so was he reared, and such he remained, — a true and loyal son of New Hampshire. She claims him as her own. With all his great qualities she claims him; she claims him with all

his faults. He had faults, but she forgave them in that hour when he defended the constitution; she forgot them—forgot them all and forever—when she beheld the Union made one and inseparable by the inspiration of his prevailing eloquence.

Her son, this complete man, bone of her bone and flesh of her flesh, she gave to the country. Few states ever had such a son to offer. Fortunate the country which receives such a gift. Costly as it was, it was given without reserve and for all the ages. New Hampshire is neither able nor desirous to recall it. She cannot reclaim his wisdom embedded in the constitution. She would not unloose the golden cord of patriotism with which he bound the states in perpetual union.

More than threescore years and ten have passed since Daniel Webster, in the prime of his manhood and in the fullness of his great powers, went forth from New Hampshire to the service of his country. What those services were is known of all men. To-day he returns. Once more his foot is on his native soil, in sight of the majestic mountains he loved so well, not far from the river on whose banks he was born. Shouts from the hillsides, answering shouts from the valleys, welcome his return. Sir, I cannot think him dead. Not in the flesh, indeed, does he stand before us. No longer do those dark eyes flash upon us their inward light, and the voice which once rang like a trumpet is now silent. Yet, in a sense more true than his own pathetic words, he still lives. To-day we have erected a statue of Daniel Webster, — of Daniel Webster dead. Webster dead! Who closed the eyes of that great intelligence? Who saw the train go forth bearing that majestic soul to the tomb? Who wrapped in cerements and closed the marble doors on those thoughts that breathed and those words that burned?

Alas! in the blindness of our grief we thought that it was so, and spake of him as of one that was dead; but time and great events, and men's second thoughts and more charitable judgments, and loving hearts that quicken at the sound of his name, — all proclaim him living. Yet we have erected a statue of Daniel Webster; and it is well; for monuments to great actions, and statues of men truly great are not dead things, nor are they to the dead, but to the living. The deeds they emblazon are immortal deeds, not transitory; deeds which light the centuries, not the hours, in their pathway to glorious actions. They illustrate what they teach; they are what they commemorate. If yonder statue is not Daniel Webster in the flesh, it is Daniel Webster transfigured with the immortality of genius; with passionate patriotism which never grows cold; with love of home and kindred which feels no touch of earthly years; with

“ truths that wake  
To perish never.”

And through the years that are to come, to all who may enter yonder legislative hall, and to the long procession of men who shall walk these streets, those lips will still have language, will still defend the constitution, will still inspire sentiments of nationality. Nor can I think that it ever will be otherwise: for the inspiration of great endeavor is its immortality: the potency of great achievement is its indestructibility. The past assures the future. The discourses at Plymouth Rock and at Bunker Hill were not for an hour; nor was the Great Reply. In the days of their utterance they were resplendent, unprecedented eloquence; but they spake truest when they became wisdom to Lincoln and valor to Grant: they rang loudest when heard along the front of battle, and inspired deeds of immortal heroism on a hundred fields. No: the statue is not to the dead orator but to the living who speaks to us, and will speak to those who come after us, as he spake to those, his associates, the venerable men happily with us to-day, who

“ followed him, honored him,  
Lived in his mild and magnificent eye,  
Learned his great language, caught his clear accents,  
Made him their pattern to live and to die.”

The sentiments were as follows: —

*Dartmouth College:*

Cradled by the river-side  
Where the Indian schoolboy played,  
In New Hampshire's untrod wilds,  
Far from busy haunts of trade;  
Dowered scant with worldly goods,  
Reared in humble penury,  
Struggling through long years of toil,  
Rich and powerful ne'er to be.

But to-day still toiling on  
Rich become, though not in pelf,  
Powerful, too, in best of sense —  
Rich and strong in sons and self;  
Glorious always is her work,

Glorious now as glorious then,  
Product of her fostering care  
Strong and self-reliant men.

As to-day we gather here  
Webster's statue to unveil,  
Not alone *his* fame we crown,  
Hers, as well, our plaudits hail.  
She to him was mother true,  
He to her was more than son ;  
But for both far less the fame  
We her other boys had won.

If her monument is sought,  
Let the poet's answer be  
Given the seeker : Search no more,  
It is here, — “ *Circumspice.* ”

Responded to by President Bartlett.

*The State of New Hampshire* : Famous for her scenery, her granite,  
and her men, but chiefly known as being the seat of Dartmouth  
College.

Response by Hon. B. F. Prescott, of Epping.

*The Press.*

W. E. Barrett, editor of the *Boston Advertiser*, was called on, but as he had left to take the train, E. C. Carrigan responded.

*Eloquence as described by him who spake as seldom man has spoken* :  
“ The high purpose, the prime resolve, speaking from the tongue,  
beaming from the eye, and urging the whole man onward, right  
onward to his purpose, — this, this is eloquence, or rather it is  
something nobler and higher than all eloquence, it is action.”

Hon. J. W. Patterson, who was introduced as the Pericles of Dartmouth's later years, responded.

RESPONSE BY HON. J. W. PATTERSON.

*Brother Alumni*,—One should have the genius and felicity of Pericles to respond suitably to the introduction with which the too partial kindness of our chairman has embarrassed me, but now such poor gifts as I have are paralyzed by the force and cordiality of your fraternal greeting. This magnificent gathering of the sons of Dartmouth represents the learning, experience, and wisdom of all professions and interests of the republic, and not to be profoundly moved by such an unstinted and spontaneous expression of its confidence and regard, one must be something more or less than human. Such unsolicited honors are the compensations of life, and from my heart, gentlemen, I reciprocate the warmth and sincerity of your reception.

Reverting to the theme to which you called me up, we must confess that in times past our college has been accused of sacrificing the accessories of oratory to the more solid and disciplinary studies of a collegiate curriculum. The limited resources of the institution in its earlier history doubtless restricted somewhat its provisions for special and ornamental branches. Chairs devoted exclusively to studies relating immediately to the art of public speaking could not be sustained by a depleted treasury without trenching upon the mathematics, the classics, physics, psychology, and other masculine departments in which Dartmouth has always been strong. Fortunately the necessity for such limitations has passed away, and to-day the college stands equipped for all the modern courses of study.

But has the cause of a true and manly eloquence ever really suffered by defects in the work of our Alma Mater? I appeal to the record. Inspect the roll of American orators. Are the names of her sons less conspicuous or relatively less numerous than those of other and more wealthy institutions? In purity, strength, impressiveness, and simple grandeur, the eloquence of that supreme statesman and lawyer whose statue we have this day inaugurated stands unrivaled at home and unsurpassed in the forensic or patriotic literature of other lands, in ancient or modern times. There, too, is the peerless Choate, Webster's Homer, who made even the sulking of our Achilles a personal glory. Where in court or senate has the fullness of his learning, the splendor of his diction, or the quickness and subtlety of his perceptions been surpassed since the days of Erskine and Burke? In his speeches, thought, like waves of the sea, rolls in upon us in endless succession, bearing an oriental wealth of illustration and glowing with the heat of an intense and lofty passion. Time would fail us to recall the graduates of our college who in leg-

islative halls, in courts, in pulpits, in popular assemblies, and in every arena of public service have influenced society with the power and fascinations of impressive speech.

True eloquence is infinitely more and greater than felicity of style and the witchery of voice. It demands that strong and definite grasp of principles, that quickness and clearness of apprehension, that strength and tenacity of conviction, which come only with the discipline of thought, and this is the fruitage of those severer studies which from the first have characterized the work of our college. We weary of empty declamation, however deftly worded or artfully modulated, and turn with disgust from simulated emotion.

“Life is real, life is earnest.”

and our public utterances, if they would secure a sympathetic response from the popular heart, must reach the vital problems of the time, must deal with events and policies that affect the conditions and the welfare of society. The graces of rhetoric add to the effectiveness of speech, but the prime essential of high oratory is strong masculine thought that solves the practical questions of social and public life. The collegiate training that imparts mental power and discipline does most for the eloquence that moves the masses in this utilitarian age. A chastened imagination and a cultured taste will give to language the graces and beauties of high scholarship, and are important factors in the art of oratory, but its essential element is strong, sensible, and sustained thinking.

Great orators, like great poets, are born, not made. No school can claim the paternity of eloquence. Like the radiance of the diamond, it springs from intrinsic qualities that are the work of nature. But the school, like the lapidary, gives an added beauty and effectiveness to gifts that are divine. Special endowments of intellect and temperament must be disciplined and habituated to the concentration and proper blending of their forces, or they will fail of their highest possibilities of achievement. The supreme masters of the forensic art are often dull and disappointing in formal discourses and occasional addresses. Thought refuses to flow and the sensibilities to awaken to indifferent themes. The mental powers expand and the passions kindle with the grandeur of the issue. When liberty is struck down, or the rights of states are in peril, when nations rock with revolution, or popular industries perish, when the social organism is assailed or immortal destinies are at stake, then utterance becomes historic and sublime. The soul rises to the magnitude of the interests involved, and thought, learning, passion, all come

to the aid of the creative faculty, and lift into the literature of the world forms of eloquence that can never die.

Absolute intellectual and moral honesty is the indispensable inspiration to all enduring speech. We cannot impart to trains of thought and spoken sentiment not grounded in personal conviction that strength of emotion which is the genius of true eloquence. We cannot convince others of the truth of what we do not ourselves believe. Nature rebels against an untruth and reveals the affectation of dishonest declamation. An intuitive apprehension reads the language of the heart and discounts the words of him who plays a part. Expression, if possible, should be original and accurate, simple and learned, and radiant with the golden light of a chastened fancy; but whatever else it may have, if it is not honest, sensible, and profound, it will be ephemeral.

Words may be beautiful, may be artistically woven into language and fall like nectar from the lip, but if not embalmed in the aspirations of the popular heart, if not expressive of ideas and principles that take hold of the real, permanent, and solemn interests of mankind, they will rarely take their place among the great orations whose eloquence lives in various tongues and thrills through the ages.

We do not claim for our venerable and venerated mother extraordinary pre-eminence to other institutions; but in this family reunion we should be unjust to her memory if we did not assert for her sons a foremost place among the orators of the republic who have won for themselves an undying fame. Wherever the rights of men were to be asserted, wherever the principles of government were to be expounded and its authority maintained, wherever the majesty of law was to be exalted, the intellectual and social interests of society advanced, or the claims of revelation pressed upon the conscience, the voices of our brothers, living or dead, have been heard and heeded amid the strife. No logic has been more potential, no pathos more moving, and no wisdom more heeded than theirs in the great crises of our national and social life. It has been my good fortune to listen to many of the great orators of this generation, but among them all there have been none that surpassed and few that equaled some of the sons of "Old Dartmouth." We have a right to be proud of our Alma Mater and her children. Nor is the line exhausted. The past is prophetic of the future. The bounty of Providence has not exhausted its best gifts. In the roll-call of our second centennial there will be names, now unknown to fame, as honored and illustrious as any that the past has placed among the immortals. To-day we hail our orators yet

to be. Listen to the Macedonian cry, young men, and press to the front. There is a great work and a splendid future before you. Remember it is

“Better to stem with heart and hand  
The roaring tide of life, than lie  
Unmindful, on the flowery strand,  
Of God’s occasions drifting by.”

*Dartmouth Lawyers*: Hooker spoke of “Law, whose seat is the bosom of God, whose voice is the harmony of the world.” That is the kind of law the Dartmouth graduates practice.

RESPONSE BY COL. JOHN H. GEORGE.

My first duty is to welcome to New Hampshire’s capital these sons of New Hampshire’s college, and this I do most cordially. One and all I bid you welcome to participation in the most appropriate ceremonies in honor of Dartmouth’s greatest son. As I listened to the admirable address of my friend and classmate, Hon. Mellen Chamberlain, on this occasion, my thoughts were carried back to the summer of 1840, when he and I had just finished our preparatory studies at the old academy on yonder hill. On commencement week of that year we journeyed, with my father’s horse and wagon, across the country to visit Hanover for the first time, and be subjected to the examination for admission to the college. Professor Sanborn, — who came nearer than any other man I ever knew to being an encyclopedia of general knowledge, — I remember, examined me in Latin; Professor Crosby, whose love of the classics surpassed the “love of woman,” estimated my Greek; and Professor Young, Sr., whose death left a marked vacancy in the ranks of scientific men, subjected me to some investigation, the particulars of which I have now forgotten. I remember only the general fact that we were, without conditions, admitted as freshmen to the college which had graduated Webster and Choate, and that we were several sizes larger when we returned to our homes at the end of the week than we were when we left Concord at its beginning. Dr. Lord, who to an unsurpassed degree combined the full courage of his convictions with vigor, tact, and marvelous ability, and whose memory is specially dear to the sons of Dartmouth, was the college president. Professors Haddock, Sanborn, Chase, Brown, Crosby, Young, with tutors Joseph Bartlett and Brown, became our active teachers. All are gone. I believe no one then connected with the college in any official capacity now remains to tell the tale of college reminiscences.



But changed as all is in the college and its immediate surroundings, there are no changes more marked than those involved in the means and methods of reaching Hanover from all directions, and especially in the roadside accommodations. In 1840 the stages usually left Concord for Hanover at four o'clock A. M., but at the beginning of the college term, when crowded with students, they started as early as two o'clock in the morning. With the highways double-rutted by the heavily loaded eight and ten horse teams, it took full twelve hours of hard driving, "*a-straddle the ruts,*" and harder riding, to make the journey from Concord to Dartmouth College. This tiresome ride was relieved every few miles by the stoppage of the stage at a country tavern, a post-office, or a hill so steep as to require the unloading of the coach. Few of the Dartmouth graduates, before the construction of the Northern Railroad, can fail to remember the old Johnson tavern at Fisherville; the West and Ambrose inns of Boscawen Plain; Choate's hill, up which the horses drew with difficulty the empty coaches, and on top of which stood the horse-shifting station; the Smith and Webster stands at "South road" and "Center road" in the town of Webster's birth; the more dignified "hotels" at Mousam and West Andover, and the magician's home at the Potter place; the station where the stage horses were changed in Wilmot; the old Stickney tavern in Springfield; the pretentious "Willis House" at Enfield Center, which was subsequently moved to White River Junction when the railroad was opened there; the Lafayette Hotel at Lebanon; and finally the "Lower Tavern" and Dartmouth Hotel at Hanover.

A year ago I attended commencement with my friend, the generous contributor to the funds of the college as well as the liberal donor of the statue this day so fitly dedicated, traveling with my carriage over the old stage road for the first time for more than forty years. I found the broad, double-rutted turnpike narrowed in places almost to a bridle path; and of the old hostleries, but two or three remained. The rest have either disappeared or been put to other uses; and the Dartmouth boys who frequented them in their frolics or their journeys to and from college, so far as they survive, have grown gray in the activities of life.

I have often thought that these rough and tough old highways and tougher taverns had much to do with strengthening both the physical and mental powers of the old-time collegians. Dartmouth lawyers all traveled these highways; they all ate and drank and frolicked at these country inns.

Show me any institution which can match the lawyer list of Dartmouth College in native ability, in legal acquirements, in keenness

of perception, in energetic action, in forensic eloquence, or in logical power. At home or abroad, where can it be equaled? Among her dead she points to Daniel Webster, Ezekiel Webster, Rufus Choate, Samuel Sumner Wilde, Levi Woodbury, Ichabod Bartlett, Salmon Portland Chase, Richard Fletcher, Joseph Bell, Ether Shepley, Isaac Fletcher Redfield, Samuel Bell, Joel Parker, Harry Hibbard, George Foster Shepley, William Henry Bartlett, and Ira Perley. Among her living sons are Doe, Field, Brigham, Ross, and their associates upon the New England bench; Marston, Ranney, Minot, Ayer, Bingham, Parker, Ladd, Bruce, Rollins, and a multitude of others, who adorn the bench or grace the bar of the different states. It can, without exaggeration and with good reason, I think, be said, that Dartmouth graduates have had their full share of success in all the learned professions, but in no calling has their prominence been more marked than in the practice of the law. May the integrity, industry, energy, pluck, and learning which have hitherto characterized the lawyers of Dartmouth, continue to characterize her graduates, and the old college in the future, as in the past, will continue justly proud of her sons.

The following Dartmouth graduates (with dates of graduation) have held important judicial positions:—

- Sylvester Gilbert, 1775, justice county court, Conn.  
 John Samuel Sherburne, 1776, justice United States district court, N. H.  
 Elijah Brigham, 1778, justice court common pleas, Mass.  
 Jedediah Parker Buckingham, 1779, justice county court, Vt.  
 Calvin Goddard, 1786, justice supreme court, Conn.  
 Ebenezer Brown, 1787, justice county court, Vt.  
 Samuel Sumner Wilde, 1789, justice supreme court, Mass.  
 Martin Chittenden, 1789, justice county court, Vt.  
 Moulton Morey, 1789, justice county court, Vt.  
 Richard Clair Everett, 1790, justice court of common pleas, N. H.  
 Asa Lyon, 1790, justice county court, Vt.  
 Samuel Porter, 1790, justice county court, Vt.  
 Dudley Chase, 1791, chief-justice supreme court, Vt.  
 William H. Woodward, 1792, chief-justice court of common pleas, N. H.  
 Samuel Bell, 1793, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Isaac Hall Tiffany, 1793, justice court of common pleas, N. Y.  
 Joshua Darling, 1794, justice court of common pleas, N. H.  
 Daniel Meserve Durell, 1794, chief-justice court of common pleas, N. H.

- William Howe, 1794, justice county court, Vt.  
 Thomas Heald, 1794, justice supreme court, Ala.  
 Nicholas Baylies, 1794, justice supreme court, Vt.  
 Judah Dana, 1795, justice court of common pleas, Me.  
 Heman Allen, 1795, justice county court, Vt.  
 Nicholas Emery, 1795, justice supreme court, Me.  
 William Bradley, 1796, justice county court, N. Y.  
 Parker Noyes,\* 1796, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 William Wilson, 1797, justice court of common pleas, Ohio.  
 Phineas White, 1797, justice county court, Vt.  
 Joseph Locke, 1797, chief justice court of common pleas, Mass.  
 John Cox Morris, 1798, justice county court, N. Y.  
 Samuel Swift, 1798, justice court of common pleas, Vt.  
 Elisha Hotchkiss, 1801, justice county court, Vt.  
 Aaron Loveland, 1801, justice county court, Vt.  
 Sanford Kingsbury, 1801, justice court of common pleas, Me.  
 Nathan Weston, 1803, chief-justice supreme court, Me.  
 Calvin Selden, 1803, justice county court, Me.  
 Israel P. Richardson, 1804, justice county court, Vt.  
 Denison Smith, 1805, justice county court, Vt.; state's attorney.  
 David Cummins, 1806, justice court of common pleas, Mass.  
 Matthew Harvey, 1806, justice United States district court, N. H.  
 Richard Fletcher, 1806, justice supreme court, Mass.  
 Albion Keith Parris, 1806, justice supreme court, Me.  
 Timothy Farrar, 1807, justice court of common pleas, N. H.  
 Levi Woodbury, 1809, justice United States supreme court.  
 Daniel Wells, 1810, chief-justice court of common pleas, Mass.  
 Seth Cogswell Baldwin, 1810, justice court of common pleas, N. Y.  
 Joel Parker, 1811, chief-justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Ether Shepley, 1811, chief-justice supreme court, Me.  
 David Pierce, 1811, justice county court, Vt.  
 Daniel Breck, 1812, justice supreme court, Ky.  
 Isaac McConihe, 1812, justice county court, N. Y.  
 Jonathan Kittredge, 1813, chief-justice court of common pleas, N. H.  
 David Campbell Smith, 1813, justice court of common pleas, Ohio.  
 Daniel M. Christie,\* 1815, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Charles Frederick Gove, 1817, justice court of common pleas, N. H.  
 Leonard Wilcox, 1817, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 John Dwight Willard, 1819, justice court of common pleas, N. Y.  
 George Washington Nesmith, 1820, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Nathaniel Gookin Upham, 1820, justice supreme court, N. H.

\*Appointed, but did not accept.

- Ira Perley, 1822, chief-justice supreme court, N. H.  
 John Chamberlain, 1823, justice county court, Ill.  
 Jonas Cutting, 1823, justice supreme court, Me.  
 Benjamin West Bonney, 1824, justice supreme court, N. Y.  
 Abel Underwood, 1824, justice circuit court, Vt.  
 Robert Reed Heath, 1825, justice supreme court, N. C.  
 Isaac Fletcher Redfield, 1825, chief-justice supreme court, Vt.  
 Andrew Salter Woods, 1825, chief-justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Charles Milton Emerson, 1826, justice district court, La.  
 Salmon Portland Chase, 1826, chief-justice supreme court, United States.  
 William Gustavus Woodward, 1828, justice supreme court, Iowa.  
 Ira Allen Eastman, 1829, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Charles William Woodman, 1829, justice court of common pleas, N. H.  
 David Aiken, 1830, justice court of common pleas, Mass.  
 Gouverneur Morris, 1830, justice circuit court, Mich.  
 Peabody Atkinson Morse, 1830, justice supreme court, Cal.  
 John Barron Niles, 1830, justice circuit court, Ind.  
 Asa Fowler, 1833, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Samuel Locke Sawyer, 1833, justice circuit court, Mo.  
 Jacob Gale, 1833, justice circuit court, Ill.  
 Samuel L. Sawyer, 1833, justice circuit court, Mo.  
 Daniel Clark, 1834, justice United States district court, N. H.  
 Harry Hibbard,\* 1835, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Timothy Parker Redfield, 1836, justice supreme court, Vt.  
 Josiah Minot, 1837, justice court of common pleas, N. H.  
 Horace Mower, 1837, justice supreme court, New Mexico.  
 George Foster Shepley, 1837, justice first circuit court United States (Me., N. H., Mass., and R. I.).  
 Frank Emerson, 1838, justice court of common pleas, Ind.  
 Charles Augustus Harper, 1838, justice supreme court, Ark.  
 James Barrett, 1838, justice supreme court, Vt.  
 Jason Downer, 1838, justice supreme court, Wis.  
 Jonathan Everett Sargent, 1840, chief-justice supreme court, N. H.  
 William Ballard Smith, 1840, justice circuit court, Ind.  
 Lincoln Flagg Brigham, 1842, chief-justice superior court, Mass.  
 Stephen Gordon Nash, 1842, justice superior court, Mass.  
 John Sewall Sanborn, 1842, justice court of Queen's Bench, Canada.  
 Milton Wason, 1842, justice county court, Cal.  
 Thomas William Freelon, 1843, justice superior court, Cal.

\* Appointed, but did not accept.

- Joshua James Guppy, 1843, justice county court, Wis.  
 Levi Benjamin Taft, 1843, justice circuit court, Mich.  
 Mellen Chamberlain, 1844, chief-justice municipal court, Boston,  
 Mass.  
 John Noble Goodwin, 1844, chief-justice supreme court, Ar. Ter.  
 Harvey Jewell, 1844, justice court Alabama claims, United States.  
 Benjamin Franklin Dennison, 1845, chief-justice supreme court,  
 Wash. Ter.  
 Sylvanus Converse Huntington, 1845, justice court of common pleas,  
 N. Y.  
 Isaac William Smith, 1846, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Joseph Mills Cavis, 1846, justice district court, Cal.  
 Edward Jenner Warren, 1846, justice circuit court, N. C.  
 William Henry Bartlett, 1847, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Alpha Child May, 1847, justice circuit court, Wis.  
 Austin Adams, 1848, chief-justice supreme court, Iowa.  
 Oliver Miller, 1848, justice court of appeals, Md.  
 Charles Humphrey Moor, 1848, justice county court, Ky.  
 Charles Doe, 1849, chief-justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Marquis DeLafayette Lane, 1849, justice superior court, Me.  
 Clinton Warrington Stanley, 1849, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Lewis Whitehouse Clark, 1850, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Edward Towle Brooks, 1850, justice supreme court, Canada.  
 Jonathan Ross, 1851, justice supreme court, Vt.  
 Edward Jessup Wood, 1853, justice court of common pleas, Ind.  
 Henry Wilder Allen, 1854, justice court of common pleas, N. Y.  
 William Callahan Robinson, 1854, justice supreme court, Conn.  
 Henry Wilder Allen, 1854, justice supreme court, N. Y.  
 William Henry Harrison Allen, 1855, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Walbridge Abner Field, 1855, justice supreme court, Mass.  
 William Spencer Ladd, 1855, justice supreme court, N. H.  
 Henry Whipple Perkins, 1855, justice county court, Iowa.  
 Greenleaf Clark, 1855, justice supreme court, Minn.  
 Azro Dyer, 1856, justice superior court, Ind.  
 Caleb Blodgett, 1856, justice superior court, Mass.  
 Elijah Francis Dewing, 1856, justice district court, La.  
 William John Galbraith, 1857, justice United States district court,  
 Mont. Ter.  
 Benjamin Hinman Steele, 1857, justice supreme court, Vt.  
 John Cushman Hale, 1857, justice court of common pleas, Ohio.  
 Wheelock Graves Veazey, 1859, justice supreme court, Vt.  
 Roger Sherman Greene, 1859, chief-justice supreme court, Wash.  
 Ter.

Daniel Ashley Dickinson, 1860, justice supreme court, Minn.  
 Daniel Gustavus Rollins, 1860, surrogate, New York city.  
 Nathaniel Holmes Clement, 1863, justice city court, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 John Sanborn Connor, 1865, justice court of common pleas, Ohio.  
 Horace Russell, 1865, justice superior court, N. Y.

At the close of Col. George's response, Judge Chamberlain arose and said he had omitted in his oration an important portion, and read from manuscript as follows:

"The gift of the statue is to the state; and while it is neither fitting nor necessary that the sons of Dartmouth should add to the acknowledgment of the donor's munificence of his Excellency the Governor, we cannot forget that Benjamin Pierce Cheney was one of the largest and most timely benefactors of the college. And may I not add a word in anticipation of more formal recognition of the fact, that the idea of erecting a statue of Daniel Webster on New Hampshire soil originated with the eminent citizen identified for the past thirty years with the political history of the state, and always a true friend of the college, whose masterly discourse on Daniel Webster first suggested, and whose labors have efficiently promoted, the grateful act this day consummated. I hardly need say that I refer to Col. John H. George."

*The Dartmouth Alumni:* Artemas Ward's military company was made up wholly of brigadier-generals. In like manner the alumni of Dartmouth are all Fellows — *Pro auctoritate mihi commissa*, "*Hi Juvencus*" *sunt* good fellows.

Hon. John Wentworth was expected to respond, but as he had left the building Hon. David Cross, of Manchester, responded.

*Dartmouth and Loyalty.*

Response by Capt. Henry B. Atherton, of Nashua.

*The Modern Militia.*

Gen. Philip Carpenter, of New York city.

At this point Judge Field, for a committee of the Boston Alumni Association, outlined the report which would be made to the annual meeting of the Alumni Association at Hanover the following week. It contemplated the election of an advisory board of fifteen alumni to act with the trustees; the secretary and treasurer to be resident in Hanover and elected annually. The duties of the board, it was proposed, should be to attend the college examinations, examine the financial affairs of the college, revise the courses of study, etc. Hon. David Cross in his response said the plan struck him favorably. Capt. Atherton alluded to the brave deeds of Dartmouth men in the rebellion. The closing toast by Gen. Philip Carpenter was in a humorous vein, and brought to an end the very pleasant exercises. The singing by the Handel Society of Dartmouth College was much enjoyed, and the several college airs were liberally applauded. The following resolutions were offered by E. C. Carrigan, and adopted:—

*Resolved*, That this association approve of the report of the progress of the general committee of alumni through its chairman, Judge Field, and said committee be respectfully requested to report in print at a meeting of the alumni next week.

*Resolved*, That the hearty thanks of this association be tendered the executive committee of Concord alumni for their invaluable services to old Dartmouth in organizing this gathering of graduates and classmates, a convention historic for its associations, with dedicatory exercises of the day, and the greatest in the history of the college.





APPENDIX.



## LETTERS.

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WE append the following appreciative letters, from the President of the United States and other distinguished invited guests, in reply to official invitations:—

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
WASHINGTON, June 12, 1886.

HON. MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire* :

*Dear Sir*,—I regret that pressing official duties will not permit me to be present at the exercises attending the unveiling of the statue of Daniel Webster at Concord, on Thursday next.

Every occasion which does honor to this illustrious statesman is of extraordinary interest to all American citizens, since our pride in his career and achievements is not in the least limited by partisan influences or by any sentiment less than national.

It would be well if in the capital of every state there stood a statue such as Concord boasts, which should not only perpetuate the memory of a man, but which should also keep alive through coming generations the love and veneration of the American people for true American greatness.

Yours very truly,

GROVER CLEVELAND.

FROM EX-PRESIDENT RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.

FREMONT, O., May 15, 1886.

HON. MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire*,

HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee* :

*Gentlemen*,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your

valued invitation to be present at the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, on the 17th of next month.

New Hampshire is to be congratulated on her patriotic purpose worthily to honor the memory of her most illustrious son. She has many titles to the regard of her sister states, none better than the fact that she gave to the whole country Daniel Webster.

I regret that my engagements do not permit me to accept your invitation.

Sincerely,

R. B. HAYES.

FROM SAMUEL J. TILDEN.

GREYSTONE, YONKERS, N. Y.,

June 16, 1886.

HON. MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire*.

HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee* :

*Gentlemen*,—I have the honor to receive your invitation to participate in the exercises of the day as the guest of the state of New Hampshire, on Thursday, the 17th of June, at the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, at the capital. Cordially agreeing with the people of New Hampshire in their admiration of the illustrious orator and statesman to whose memory this homage is to be rendered, and several of whose great speeches it was my good fortune to hear, I regret that the condition of my health will not allow me to be present on so interesting an occasion.

S. J. TILDEN.

FROM ROBERT C. WINTHROP.

BOSTON, June 1, 1886.

HIS EXCELLENCY MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire*,

HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee* :

*Gentlemen*,—Absence from home for a month past must be my apology for not having sooner acknowledged your kind and complimentary invitation of May 11.

It would afford me peculiar pleasure and pride to be present, as a guest of New Hampshire, at the reception of the statue of Daniel Webster. It was my good fortune to assist at the unveiling of a similar statue, by the same artist, in the Central Park of New York, in 1876; and more recently I have united with the Marshfield Club in celebrating the centennial anniversary of Webster's birthday. I could add nothing to what I said on those occasions, and should be

in danger of weakening by repetition the testimony I am always glad to hear to the surpassing powers of one with whom I was so long associated; but engagements, from which I cannot escape, unite with the infirmities of age in constraining me to deny myself the privilege of being at Concord on the 17th inst., and I can only offer you my best thanks for your obliging invitation.

Believe me, with the highest respect,

Very faithfully yours,

ROBERT C. WINTHROP.

FROM BENJAMIN F. BUTLER.

CONTINENTAL HOTEL, PHILADELPHIA.

June 15, 1886.

MAJOR-GENERAL GILMAN MARSTON:

*My dear Marston*, — I pray you grieve with me. You, I know, will fully appreciate how I am distressed when I write you I cannot be in Concord at the unveiling of the statue of the foremost lawyer of Massachusetts, as well as the foremost lawyer of the country. My age enables me to look back and remember that long ago I was with Webster, nay, that I feebly aided in a cause in the trial of which he was engaged, and in that cause he uttered a sentence which was an aphorism in reply to his opposing counsel, Choate, who claimed that his woman client had only been engaged in innocent freedom. “Freedom,” replied Webster, “is a very good political but a very bad female word.” This trial took place before the Hon. Richard Fletcher, associate justice of the supreme court of Massachusetts. Judge Fletcher was a New Hampshire lawyer of the same town with Webster; and I have the privilege of remembering another Massachusetts lawyer, born and educated in New Hampshire, Jeremiah Mason, whom Mr. Webster believed to be the best lawyer in the United States, for it is said he answered to a friend who asked him who was the best of the Country: “Of course I should say,” said Webster, “Chief-Justice John Marshall; but if you should take me by the throat and back me up into the corner, and say, ‘Now, Webster, on your honor, who is the best lawyer in the United States?’ I should have to answer, ‘Jeremiah Mason.’”

I intended at the dinner, — for on such occasions there always is a dinner, — to propose as a toast, the three greatest lawyers of Massachusetts, — Mason, Webster, and Fletcher, all of New Hampshire; and my toast would be correct in any event, because if any doubted concerning any one of them, the other two would be so great as to

overshadow any other three, and I should be sustained as was a bright nephew of mine, now deceased, who, when asked who were the three greatest liars in the United States, replied, "Eli Perkins is one," and gave a name, which I shall not, as the other two.

My dear General, with such an appreciation of such a leader at the bar, and in the forum of the United States, to whose name and fame New Hampshire, if not entitled to a greater, is to an equal share with Massachusetts, when he is to be honored by his native state, and I, born in the same state, because of that distinction have been invited by its authorities to be present at what may not be inappropriately termed the solemn festivities of dedicating a statue to his memory, find myself unable to attend, you can realize my grief. I am here to close a cause in argument to a jury to-morrow, to whom it will be submitted the day following. The case has been on hearing some three weeks, and you, my lawyer soldier friend, know that it is as impossible for a lawyer to desert his client's case as it is for a soldier to desert his post in the hour of battle. I can express my sorrow by no stronger word than, I cannot come.

I am very truly your friend,

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

FROM G. R. NUTTER.

HARVARD COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.,

May 18, 1886.

HON. G. MARSTON, *Chairman of Committee* :

*Dear Sir*,—President Eliot regrets that his engagements will not permit him to accept the polite invitation to attend the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster.

Your obedient servant,

G. R. NUTTER,

*President's Secretary.*

FROM MARSHALL P. WILDER.

DORCHESTER, MASS., June 8, 1886.

HON. GEORGE W. NESMITH, JOHN M. HILL, JOHN H. GEORGE,  
*Legislative Committee* :

*Gentlemen*,—I accept with pleasure your invitation to the unveiling of the Webster statue. If life and strength hold out, I shall be present to participate with the sons of New Hampshire in the cere-

monies of that auspicious occasion; but with the weight of fourscore and eight winters on my head, I feel I am a minute man, and liable to be summoned over to the better land, where perhaps I may meet again him whose worth and greatness will be remembered not only on the day of your celebration but by the generations that are to follow us through coming time. But should life or health fail me ere that day shall arrive, I desire here to record that it was my privilege to be well acquainted with Mr. Webster for a long course of years. I knew him both in public and private life, from the day when he first spoke on Bunker's Heights to the day of his death. I knew him at the capital of the nation, in Faneuil Hall, and in other places on great occasions. I knew him as the farmer of Marshfield, and in various relations of life. As a great apostle of the American Union, the expounder and defender of its constitution, Mr. Webster stands forth as the foremost figure in the history of our government, high above all around him. To him we are more indebted than to any other man for the advocacy of those great principles of liberty and union which nerved the arms of the North in the great rebellion, and gave to us the reunion and prosperity which our nation now enjoys. New England has had no such other son, America no more illustrious citizen.

But admired and almost adored as Mr. Webster was, no man was ever more misunderstood and misrepresented, in regard to his 7th of March speech in 1850; but history is a great corrector of human affairs, and will set this right at last; and there are very few now living who do not see in that memorable document the same unswerving patriotism, loyalty, and integrity which were the controlling principles of his life. The works of Mr. Webster are among the most valuable which our nation has produced. "No other set of volumes contains more wisdom, patriotism, or eloquence; and the more we read them the more will they be admired. The light of his gigantic intellect was not like the blaze of the meteor, which leaves darkness more intense, but like the glorious sun, shining in all its effulgence around us, and lighting up the way to honor, glory, and immortality." These are the words that I uttered on a former occasion, and were they my last I could find no better, and from which I have nothing to take back.

As ever, yours,

MARSHALL P. WILDER.

1798-1886.

FROM JAMES W. BRADBURY.

AUGUSTA, ME., June 9, 1886.

YOUR EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR CURRIER,

HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee :*

*Gentlemen,*—I have had the honor to receive your kind invitation to be present at Concord, on the 17th of June, at the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, presented by Mr. Cheney to the state of New Hampshire, and to participate in the exercises as guest of the state. I appreciate and thank you for the honor.

While I regret my inability to be present, I cannot permit the occasion to pass without expressing my pleasure to know that such a testimonial of appreciation of the great orator of the age is to find visible expression in his native state. It is a signal honor to New Hampshire to have been the birthplace of the man who for intellectual power and commanding eloquence stands foremost amongst the illustrious public men our country has produced.

When at Washington a few years ago I visited the capitol to look upon the statues of the distinguished men that adorn the old representatives' hall of that building, but I found none of Webster. No statue of the great "defender of the constitution" in the capitol of the Union, the theater of his grandest efforts! As Massachusetts, the home of most of his active life and honored by his services, has hitherto waived the privilege of placing his statue there, will not his native state seize the opportunity of securing such distinction for herself?

It was my good fortune to be associated with Mr. Webster during the trying crisis through which our country passed in 1850. While my political affiliations have never been with him, I take pleasure in bearing testimony to his unselfish patriotism and ardent devotion to the Union. It was no unworthy motive, no selfish ambition, that led him to brave the censure of friends he esteemed when he made his celebrated 7th of March speech in the senate, and gave his hearty support to the compromise measures for the settlement of the questions that were agitating the country. His course was dictated by patriotism. He believed there was danger to the Union, and that the compromise provided a way of adjustment compatible with the honor of both sections of the country. He saw that the excitement was intense throughout the South. They claimed that the Wilmot Proviso in the pending bills for the organization of the territories wronged them out of their equal interest in the common property of



all the states by excluding them from moving there with their household as constituted. This mode of reasoning, however specious, took hold of the southern mind, already deeply excited by the denunciations to which they had been exposed on the subject of slavery. They declared they would not submit to inequality, and avowed their determination to withdraw from the Union if the proviso should be forced upon them. It was obvious that the time was more favorable for success in the attempt than could ever occur again. The North was increasing more rapidly than the South, and the inequality was augmented every year. The northwestern states were linked to the South by commercial interests by the Mississippi River as the great channel of commerce. The great West was not then united with the East by the railroad system that now makes their business connection. The South could never again find so plausible a pretext for alleged wrongs. They might never again be united, and a settlement might avert a war or end all future attempts.

It was under these circumstances that Mr. Webster united with the conservatives in the support of the compromise. This and all measures of compromise were opposed by members who occupied extreme positions from the North and the South. The idea of danger was utterly disbelieved by a large body of Mr. Webster's friends in the North. They deemed the thought of any attempt of secession preposterous, and scouted the threat of it as mere gaseonade.

Subsequent events have thrown such light upon the subject as will enable us to determine whether Mr. Webster, or the friends that supposed he was influenced by groundless fears, were right in the estimate of danger.

Ten years afterwards, when the relative strength of the North was much greater, — when the South was divided, and four of their states took sides with the North, — when the Northwest had become connected by railroads with the Atlantic, and no longer depended on the Mississippi as her sole channel of commerce, and when the South could only allege against the government as a pretext for grievances the fact that the president and vice-president (whom they by their action had contributed to elect) were both citizens of northern states, they made the attempt to withdraw from the Union; and they were so thoroughly in the belief of their right under the constitution to do so, and in their determination to succeed, that it took the united strength of the North with their Southern allies, and years of war such as the world has seldom if ever seen, whether we regard the number of men engaged or the valor with which they fought, to preserve our glorious Union entire.

*Esto perpetua.* How fortunate for the North, and the South also,

and for the hope of republican institutions throughout the world, that the struggle was not precipitated in 1850.

Thus it is that the statesmanship and patriotism of Webster are vindicated by subsequent events.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully,  
Yours, etc.,

JAMES W. BRADBURY.

FROM LEON ABBETT.

TRENTON, N. J., May 18, 1886.

HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman* :

*Dear Sir*, — Your kind invitation to be present at the New Hampshire state capital on June 17 next, to attend the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, is at hand.

I should be pleased to attend, but state engagements will prevent.

Yours respectfully,

LEON ABBETT.

FROM ROBERT C. SCHENCK.

WASHINGTON, June 12, 1886.

HIS EXCELLENCY MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire*,

HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee* :

*Gentlemen*, — I must beg you to pardon me for not making earlier answer to your letter asking me to participate, as a guest of your state, in the exercises of the day on the occasion of the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, at Concord, on the 17th of this month. The invitation is one which, on every account, I regard as a great and special honor, and if it were possible I should take great pleasure, I assure you, in availing myself of the opportunity to be present and take part in so interesting a ceremony; but I am compelled, reluctantly and regretfully, to decline. I have been hoping that it might be convenient for me to so anticipate and arrange a summer visit I am intending to make this season to the coast of Maine, as to allow of my being at Concord at the date indicated, but my engagements here will not permit me to get away soon enough for that, and my age and the condition of my health will hardly admit of my making two such journeys.

Excuse me for these personal explanations. I give them only because I would not be thought to miss, willingly or lightly, a chance

to show my veneration of the memory of Webster, and my cherished appreciation of his greatness. New Hampshire may well be proud of the distinction of having given birth to such a man!

In one period of my public service — from 1843 to 1851 — it was my good fortune to see much of Mr. Webster. There were circumstances which brought me, during a portion of that time, into as close association and intimacy with him as, perhaps, was compatible with our difference of age and position. As a statesman, a senator, a great constitutional lawyer, to be admired and revered, towering among his compeers, he certainly lost by nearness of view nothing of his majestic stature.

Thanking you again, gentlemen, for the honor of your invitation and the proffer of New Hampshire hospitality, I am,

Very respectfully and sincerely,  
Your obedient servant,

ROBERT C. SCHENCK.

FROM E. M. STEARNS.

BOSTON, June 2, 1886.

HON. G. MARSTON, *Concord, N. H.* :

I thank you for your kind invitation to participate in the dedication of the statue of Mr. Webster. It would afford me the greatest pleasure to be present, especially under the hospitable terms of your letter. I should deem it a great honor to be the guest of the state which Mr. Webster loved so much, and which was so proud of him. My earliest political fealty and devotion was given to Mr. Webster, and although a babe in all political lore and experiences, I was enrolled among the "Silver Grey Whigs" and followed his fortunes while he lived; and upon his death, it seemed to me that the country was left without guide and support, and must stagger as best it could with its head buried and gone.

I fear it will be impossible for me to be present, as professional engagements here and at my home so crowd upon me in the busy month of June that escape seems out of the question.

Accept my thanks for your remembrance of me upon this interesting occasion, and my regrets that I cannot avail myself of your kindness.

Yours very truly,

E. M. STEARNS.

FROM WILLIAM PATERSON.

PERTH AMBOY, N. J., June 9, 1886.

GEORGE W. NESMITH, JOHN M. HILL, JOHN H. GEORGE, *Trustees  
Webster Statue, Concord, N. H.:*

*Gentlemen,* — Judicial engagements will prevent my acceptance of the invitation with which I am honored by you, to attend the dedication of a bronze statue of Daniel Webster at the state capital of New Hampshire, on Thursday of next week. I regret my inability to participate in the exercises of the occasion and assist in paying tribute to the memory of that illustrious citizen of your little commonwealth, whose fame as a statesman will be written forever on the page of American history.

I shall not attempt to dwell upon the life and character, the services and the worth of one so exalted in reputation and distinguished among men. Those superior and commanding qualities by which a long public career was illustrated and finished in immortal glory will be portrayed most fitly by the president of the academical institution so highly honored by his enrollment among the number of her sons. As an alumnus of a sister college, the walls of which bear marks of the struggle that gave a continent to freedom, and but few, if any, of whose young tribes were faithless in the patriotic cause, I should esteem it a rare privilege to unite with the alumni of Dartmouth in honoring him who always stood in civic strife a foremost champion of the rights of all the states and all their people. But few are living who can recollect with me the crown of glory laid upon his head, when more than half a century ago he stood forth, peerless of all his peers, as the grand defender of constitutional liberty and union; and keeping steadily in view the price at which that liberty was bought, and the perpetuity of the Federal Union, which he professed as his great aim, it was most meet that the closing effort of his life was to maintain inviolate the sacred compact which he ever kept and ever strove to make secure and safe.

Very respectfully yours,

WILLIAM PATERSON.

FROM CHARLES F. ADAMS, JR.

BOSTON, May 28, 1886.

HON. GILMAN MARSTON :

*My Dear Sir,*—I have to thank you for the invitation sent me some days since to attend the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, presented to the state of New Hampshire by Mr. Cheney, upon the 17th of June. While it would afford me the greatest possible pleasure to participate in this occasion, my engagements are such as will preclude my so doing.

Regretting extremely that this should be the case,

I remain, etc.,

CHARLES F. ADAMS, JR.

FROM REBECCA MILLER.

TEMPLE, June 11, 1886.

TO GOVERNOR MOODY CURRIER AND GENERAL G. MARSTON :

*Dear Sirs,*—I cannot imagine any thing which would give me more pleasure than to avail myself of the honor of your invitation to be present at the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, so generously presented to the state by Mr. Cheney, but the present infirm state of my health forbids my going.

Mr. Webster had no more sincere admirer than his contemporary and friend, General Miller, or grandson of whom Col. E. H. Ropes, of New Jersey, will be in Concord on the 17th.

Very respectfully,

REBECCA MILLER.

FROM HORACE FAIRBANKS.

St. JOHNSBURY, Vt., June 14, 1886.

HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee :*

*My dear Sir,*—In reply to your kind invitation to be present at the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, on the 17th instant, would say that till now I had expected to have that pleasure, but regret to say that I shall be unavoidably prevented from being present.

Thanking you for your courtesy, I am

Yours very truly,

HORACE FAIRBANKS.

FROM SAMUEL J. RANDALL.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 31, 1886.

MESSRS. GEORGE W. NESMITH, JOHN M. HILL, AND JOHN H. GEORGE, *Committee of Invitation* :

*Dear Sirs,* — I acknowledge your kind invitation for the 17th proximo. It would afford me real gratification to witness the ceremonies of unveiling the statue of Daniel Webster at your state capital, but I fear my public duties will not allow me to absent myself from this city at that time.

Daniel Webster was a great man, and the memory of his splendid career is enough to enrich not only one state but the whole Union, whose noblest advocate he was. He was essentially a teacher, and his works are full of lessons of wisdom, which those who would preserve our free government will do well to cherish. And one of the ways of doing so is to keep his memory green in the land he loved and honored. I shall join heartily with you in the spirit of the occasion.

Thanking you for your courtesy, I am

Very truly yours,

SAMUEL J. RANDALL.

FROM JOHN LOWELL.

3 PEMBERTON SQUARE,  
BOSTON, June 10, 1886.

HON. GILMAN MARSTON :

*My dear Sir,* — I was much gratified to receive, through your hands, the invitation of the state to attend the exercises at Concord, on the 17th. I should be much pleased to testify, by my presence, an appreciation of Mr. Cheney's munificent gift, as well as the admiration and respect that we all feel, and which our posterity will feel, for the great defender of the Union, whose words did more than any other influence to consolidate the opinion of the North, and to render the victory of union over secession possible. It unfortunately happens that an engagement of long standing which calls me away will prevent my joining with you on that day.

Yours very truly,

JOHN LOWELL.

FROM HENRY B. HARRISON.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
HARTFORD, CONN., June 10, 1886.TO HIS EXCELLENCY, *the Governor of New Hampshire :*

*Sir,*—I beg you to accept my apology for having failed to answer hitherto your communication inviting me to be present at the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, in Concord, on the 17th of this month. I have waited in the hope that I might be able to accept your courteous invitation, which I find now that I must, with great regret, ask leave to decline.

Very respectfully,

HENRY B. HARRISON.

FROM WILLIAM CLAFLIN.

BOSTON, June 14, 1886.

HON. JOHN H. GEORGE :

*My dear Sir,*—It is with sincere regret that I am obliged, on account of the state of my health, to decline the invitation of your committee to be present at the unveiling of the statue of Daniel Webster.

Please accept my thanks for your kind remembrance.

With great respect, I am

Yours truly,

WILLIAM CLAFLIN.

FROM ST. JULIAN FILLETTE.

UNITED STATES SENATE,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 10, 1886.GEORGE W. NESMITH, ESQ., JOHN M. HILL, ESQ., JOHN H. GEORGE,  
ESQ., *Committee :*

*Gentlemen,*—Senator Hampton has been called to South Carolina by illness in his family, but before leaving he requested me to say to you that it would give him great pleasure to be present at the unveiling of the Webster statue if his public duties would permit. This, he is sorry to say, is not the case, therefore he must decline your polite invitation. I am

Very truly yours,

ST. JULIAN FILLETTE.

FROM CORTLANDT PARKER.

NEWARK, N. J., June 4, 1886.

GEORGE W. NESMITH, ESQ., JOHN M. HILL, ESQ., AND JOHN H. GEORGE, ESQ., *Trustees, etc.* :

*Gentlemen*, — I acknowledge with thanks the compliment of your request that I should be present at the unveiling and dedication of the bronze statue of Daniel Webster, at Concord, on the 17th of June instant. It would give me great satisfaction to be able to accept this invitation.

New Hampshire is right in doing honor to the memory of this great man, intellectually not surpassed, if equaled, by any other of the great men of our republic. Nor, especially as his exposition of the constitution has been settled by arbitration of arms, as well as by legal adjudication, has the time yet arrived when it has ceased to be necessary to remember his views, and to seek to impress them upon succeeding generations.

Monuments preach, and the monument of Webster preaches not only nationality, but also those true views of state rights — only second to nationality — and through the maintenance of which alone will our peculiar nationality be enabled securely to spread and flourish.

New Hampshire and Dartmouth gave much to the world when they ushered forth Daniel Webster, and the gratitude of the whole country is due to them for the deed.

Regretting my inability to join with the distinguished men who will be present on this interesting occasion, I remain

Yours very respectfully,

CORTLANDT PARKER.

FROM CHARLES DEVENS.

BOSTON, May 6, 1886.

G. W. NESMITH, ESQ., AND OTHERS, *Committee* :

*Gentlemen*, — I am very much honored by an invitation to attend the dedication of the statue of Mr. Webster, and regret that the day assigned compels me to decline it. As president of the Bunker Hill Monument Association I am necessarily obliged to attend its meeting on that day.

With thanks for your kindness, I am

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES DEVENS.



FROM E. F. STONE.

WASHINGTON, May 17, 1886.

HON. GILMAN MARSTON :

*Dear General,* — I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt of an invitation to be present at the services of the 17th of June next, in dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, the illustrious son of New Hampshire, and sincerely regret that my duties here will make it impossible for me to attend.

Yours truly,

E. F. STONE.

FROM LEOPOLD MORSE.

BOSTON, May 29, 1886.

MR. G. MARSTON, *Chairman, Concord, N. H. :*

Mr. Leopold Morse returns thanks for the honor conferred by your kind invitation of 11th instant, to attend the dedication of the statue of the immortal Webster, and regrets exceedingly that absence in Europe will prevent his acceptance.

FROM ANDREW H. YOUNG.

COLUMBUS BARRACKS, OHIO, June 14, 1886.

HON. GEORGE W. NESMITH, HON. JOHN M. HILL, AND JOHN H. GEORGE, ESQ. :

*Gentlemen,* — Your favor of May 1 inviting me to attend at the unveiling and dedication of a statue of Daniel Webster, at Concord, on the 17th instant, was duly received. I have delayed answering it until to-day, hoping and expecting that I should be able to be present and participate in the ceremonies, but I regret to find that my public duties will prevent.

In common with all New Hampshire men, I regard Webster as the greatest American, and his memory deserving of all homage from his native state.

Thanking you for the invitation, I am, gentlemen,

Very respectfully,

ANDREW H. YOUNG.

FROM S. W. MARSTON.

BOSTON, June 12, 1886.

HON. GILMAN MARSTON:

*My dear Gilman*,—Thanks for your invitation for the 17th instant. I think no one has lived in my day for whom I had a greater veneration than for Mr. Webster, and I had the pleasure of seeing him a good deal during the many years of my residence at the Revere House; and Mr. Cheney, the donor of the statue, is also an old friend. But a prior engagement to attend the marriage of a daughter of a dear friend at Pittsfield, on that day, will prevent my acceptance.

With sincere regrets,

Affectionately yours,

S. W. MARSTON.

FROM WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

NEWTON, MASS., June 11, 1886.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire*:

*Sir*,—Your favor inviting me to be present at Concord on Thursday next, as a guest of the state, to participate in the ceremonies attending the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, has been gratefully received. I regret that I cannot attend and enjoy the pleasure of joining in the exercises of the day. You will please to accept my thanks for the honor of your kind invitation.

Your very obedient servant,

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

FROM T. W. BONAPARTE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 13, 1886.

G. MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee*:

*Sir*,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the invitation to assist at the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, on Thursday, June 17. I regret exceedingly that previous engagements will prevent William Bonaparte and me from being present on that occasion.

With many thanks for having thought of us, I remain

Respectfully yours,

T. W. BONAPARTE.

FROM EDWARD MCPHERSON.

1701 MASSACHUSETTS AVE.,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 3, 1886.

GEN. GILMAN MARSTON:

*My dear Marston*,—I have your kind invitation for the 17th instant, and would gladly accept if I could be absent. That is out of the question, and I can only thank you for thinking of me.

With high regard,

Very truly yours,

EDWARD MCPHERSON.

FROM FREDERICK A. JOHNSON.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 26, 1886.HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman*:

*Dear Sir*,—Please accept my thanks for your kind invitation to be present at the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, on the 17th of June next, and my regrets that my duties here will prevent my acceptance of the same.

Yours respectfully,

FREDERICK A. JOHNSON.

FROM EDWARD TUCK.

NEW YORK, May 27, 1886.

GEN. GILMAN MARSTON:

*My dear Sir*,—Since my return to New York I have received from Exeter an official invitation to the Webster celebration at Concord, evidently addressed to me by you. I beg to thank you most sincerely for your kindness in thinking of me, and the compliment of the invitation, which I highly appreciate. As Mrs. Tuck and I shall be moving to Newport at about the time of the celebration, I doubt if I shall be able to be present; but should I be there, I shall hope to have an opportunity to thank you in person for your courtesy. At all events, I shall call upon you on my next visit to Exeter.

I am, dear sir,

Yours very truly,

EDWARD TUCK.

FROM C. A. BOUTELLE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 30, 1886.

HON. GILMAN MARSTON:

*My dear Gen. Marston,*—Your polite favor of the 28th is at hand, and I blame myself for causing you so much trouble of writing.

I have no doubt the occasion will be most interesting, and if I should be in New England at the time, I certainly should make an effort to visit your beautiful city of Concord on that day. I fear I shall be kept here, however.

Very truly yours,

C. A. BOUTELLE.

FROM W. R. MORRISON.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 16, 1886.HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee*:

*Dear Sir,*—I write to acknowledge your kind invitation to participate in the exercises of the coming dedication at your state capitol, and to express my regrets at not being able to accept.

Respectfully yours,

W. R. MORRISON.

FROM G. C. BURROWS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 21, 1886.HIS EXCELLENCY, *Governor of State*:

*Dear Sir,*—In reply to yours of the 11th instant, I regret to say that my duties here will prevent me from accepting your kind invitation.

Yours,

G. C. BURROWS.

FROM SAMUEL DIBBLE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
WASHINGTON, June 8, 1886.HIS EXCELLENCY MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire*:

*Sir,*—Permit me to acknowledge, with thanks, your courteous invitation to me to be present at the dedication of the statue of Daniel

Webster, at Concord, on the 17th instant. I had hoped to accept your proffered hospitality, and, as a South Carolinian, to join my fellow-countrymen of New Hampshire in doing honor to the memory of the great New England statesman, whose career belongs not simply to state or section, but to the entire country; but the emergencies attendant on the closing weeks of the session will prevent my attendance, and I can only send my regrets, begging that you will accept also the assurance of my respectful consideration.

Very truly yours,

SAMUEL DIBBLE.

FROM WILLIAM WALTER PHELPS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U S.,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 27, 1886.

To G. MARSTON, Esq., *Chairman of Legislative Committee* :

*Dear Sir*,—I thank you for your kind invitation to participate in the exercises of presenting a statue of Daniel Webster to your state, and regret that my public duties here will prevent my being present.

Truly yours,

WILLIAM WALTER PHELPS.

FROM SAMUEL N. GREEN.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY,  
30 TREMONT ST., BOSTON, June 14, 1886.

HON. G. MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee* :

*Sir*,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your polite invitation to be present at the dedication of the Webster statue, on the 17th, but a previous engagement for that day will prevent my acceptance.

Very respectfully,

SAMUEL N. GREEN.

FROM PETER B. OLNEY.

120 BROADWAY,  
NEW YORK, June 14, 1886.

HIS EXCELLENCY MOODY CURRIER, *Governor*,

HON. G. MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee* :

*Sirs*,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the invitation to be present at the unveiling of the statue of Daniel Webster, at Concord,

on the 17th instant. I hope to have the honor and pleasure of attending as one of her guests on this occasion, when the state of New Hampshire pays fitting tribute to the memory of her great son.

I am, dear sirs,

Very truly yours,

PETER B. OLNEY.

FROM CHARLES F. MANDERSON.

UNITED STATES SENATE,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 11, 1886.

MESSRS. GEORGE W. NESMITH, JOHN M. HILL, AND JOHN H. GEORGE. *Trustees for the procurement and erection of a statue of Daniel Webster, at Concord, N. H. :*

*Gentlemen,*—Your note of invitation, dated May 1, 1886, to be present at the unveiling and dedication of the proposed statue to Daniel Webster, at Concord, N. H., on the 17th proximo, was received. I regret exceedingly that public business will prevent my attendance, but trust the day may be auspicious, and the participants sufficiently numerous and representative in character to fully attest the esteem in which the eminent statesman and patriot was held while living, and his memory and good deeds cherished when dead. Thanking you for the courtesy of your kind invitation, I remain,

Very respectfully,

CHARLES F. MANDERSON.

FROM JOHN LITTLE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 11, 1886.

HON. MOODY CURRIER, *Governor, Concord, N. H. :*

*Dear Sir,*—Your kind invitation to be present, June 17, at the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, the most gifted of American statesmen and orators, was duly received. Answer has been delayed with the hope of being able to accept the invitation. I now see that public duties here will prevent. Thanking you for the honor, I am

Very respectfully, etc.,

JOHN LITTLE.

FROM DARWIN E. WARE.

BOSTON, June 14, 1886.

MESSRS. GEORGE W. NESMITH, JOHN M. HILL, AND JOHN H. GEORGE, *Trustees* :

*Gentlemen*, — I desire to acknowledge the honor of your request to be present at the ceremonies for the dedication of a bronze statue of Daniel Webster, at Concord, N. H., on the 17th of this month, and regret that other engagements on that day oblige me to forego the great pleasure which I should have in accepting your kind invitation and taking part in an occasion so deeply interesting.

Very truly yours,

DARWIN E. WARE.

FROM A. L. SOULE.

5 FAIRFIELD ST.

HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman* :

*Dear Sir*, — I regret that the state of my health makes it impossible for me to accept your kind invitation to be present at the unveiling of a statue of Daniel Webster, at Concord, N. H., on the 17th instant.

Yours truly,

A. L. SOULE.

FROM C. A. BOUTELLE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 19, 1886.

HON. GILMAN MARSTON :

*My dear General Marston*, — Your pleasant letter of the 17th received, and I am obliged for the cordial invitation. Of course you understood that my purpose in sending back the former card was solely humorous. Quite a number of the invitations received here were evidently intended for different governors, and probably became mixed in mailing.

I need not assure you that I appreciate the courtesy, and should greatly enjoy visiting Concord at the time of the dedication, but regret that I shall be unable to leave here at that time.

Sincerely yours,

C. A. BOUTELLE.

FROM CAUSTEN BROWNE.

82 WATER ST.,  
BOSTON, June 12, 1886.HON. G. MARSTON, *Concord, N. H.* :

*Dear Sir*,—I have to acknowledge, with sincere thanks, your invitation to participate, as the guest of the state, in the exercises attending the dedication of the Webster statue, on the 17th, but am obliged to deny myself the pleasure of being present.

Very truly yours,

CAUSTEN BROWNE.

FROM E. T. BURLEY.

LAWRENCE, June 15, 1886.

COL. JOHN H. GEORGE :

*Dear Sir*,—I regret to say that I find myself unable to avail myself of your kind invitation to visit Concord on the 17th instant. Thanking you for the invitation, I remain

Yours truly,

E. T. BURLEY.

FROM T. L. CLINGMAN.

WASHINGTON CITY, June 15, 1886.

HON. MOODY CURRIER :

*Honored Sir*,—Your favor inviting me to be present, as a guest of your state, on the occasion of the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, was received some weeks ago. I did not make an earlier reply because I was in hopes that I might be able to be present. I now regret to be obliged to decline on account of business engagements. This is to me a cause of much regret, as Mr. Webster and I were on terms of great intimacy for many years during the latter part of his life.

His remarkable strength and breadth of intellect, his public spirit and patriotism, his freedom from selfishness and intrigues for his personal advancement, and the grandeur and elevation of his thoughts and emotions, gave him a position surpassed by no man of his day. I am much gratified to know that his native state has taken proper steps to show her appreciation of his great qualities and public services.

With sentiments of the highest respect, I am

Very sincerely yours,

T. L. CLINGMAN.



FROM CHARLES P. THOMPSON.

\* GLOUCESTER, MASS., June 14, 1886.

HON. MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire,*HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee:*

*Dear Sirs,* — Your invitation to participate at Concord, on the 17th of June, 1886, in the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster presented to the state of New Hampshire by Benjamin Pierce Cheney, has been received, and I deeply regret that I am compelled to say that I cannot be with you on that most interesting occasion. A statue at the capital of his native state is certainly a most appropriate expression of her appreciation of his character, principles, and services. The commonwealth of his adoption has long since given practical expression of her judgment of the appropriateness of such a memorial. It will be a constant instructor of the people in the duty of patriotic devotion to the Union, the constitution, and liberty regulated by law. Love of country was his inspiration. And he devoted all his great powers to the promotion of the prosperity and glory of his country. While his memory is venerated we may confidently cherish the hope that the objects of his patriotic and self-sacrificing labors will be cherished and defended.

Again expressing my regret that I shall not be able to participate in the exercises of the dedication, I am

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

CHARLES P. THOMPSON.

FROM AARON F. STEVENS.

NASHUA, N. H., June 15, 1886.

HON. MOODY CURRIER, *Governor,*HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee:*

*Gentlemen,* — I have delayed my answer to your kind invitation to be present, as a guest of the state, at the dedication of the Webster statue on the 17th instant, intending to avail myself of the pleasure of its acceptance if not prevented by ill health. It is with the sincerest regret that I am compelled to absent myself from this most interesting ceremonial. No true citizen of New Hampshire can fail to appreciate the noble gift which our state has accepted, or to covet the honor of being present at its dedication. It is, indeed, a memorial to the greatest citizen of New Hampshire, to the foremost lawyer and statesman of his generation. Let us trust that this majestic

form will stand an enduring tribute to the unrivaled genius of her greatest son — the orator and statesman whose eloquence turned back the tide of nullification, exploded the heresy of secession, and implanted in the hearts of his intelligent countrymen for all future time the true nature of our government, and the character and value of our national Union.

I am with sincere respect, your obedient servant,

AARON F. STEVENS.

FROM LYMAN TRUMBULL.

CHICAGO, ILL., June 15, 1886.

GOVERNOR MOODY CURRIER :

*Dear Sir,* — It would give me pleasure to participate in the exercises attendant on the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, if circumstances would admit of my attendance.

As a great lawyer, statesman, and orator, he was not only foremost among the men of his day and generation, but he has left for the imitation and admiration of mankind works which they will study as models for generations to come. It is well that the features of such a man should be preserved in marble and metals, but no monument will be as enduring as the thoughts which sprang from his giant intellect, which are preserved in the annals of his country's history, and have spread through the civilized world.

Yours very truly,

LYMAN TRUMBULL.

FROM CHARLES DEVENS.

BOSTON, May 28, 1886.

HON. MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire,*

HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman Legislative Committee :*

*Gentlemen,* — I am much honored by the invitation to join, as a guest of the state of New Hampshire, in the dedication of a statue to her illustrious son, Daniel Webster, and regret that my engagements as president of the Bunker Hill Monument Association, to which Mr. Webster himself rendered such splendid service, compel me to decline it.

I am quite sure that the association at its meeting on the 17th will not fail to render its tribute to his memory.

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES DEVENS.

FROM GEORGE S. BOUTWELL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 19, 1886.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR MOODY CURRIER :

*Sir*,—I have had the honor to receive your invitation to attend the dedication of a statue of Daniel Webster, at the capitol of the state of New Hampshire, the 17th day of June next. The arrangements that I have made and the obligations of business resting upon me will prevent me from attending the ceremonies. This I regret, as there is no one of the statesmen of a former generation to whom the country is more largely indebted than to Mr. Webster.

Very truly,

Your most obedient servant,

GEORGE S. BOUTWELL.

FROM THE GOVERNOR OF FLORIDA.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,

TALLAHASSEE, FLA., May 15, 1886.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire* :

*Governor*,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your courteous invitation to be present, as a guest of your state, to participate in an honor to the distinguished memory of one who, as time rolls on, is more and more generally recognized as the grandest intellectual production of our country. With assurances of my sincere regret that my official duties will not permit me to avail myself of your courtesy, I have the honor to be, with high esteem,

Your obedient servant,

E. A. PERRY,

*Governor of Florida.*

FROM JAMES H. JOHNSON.

BATH, N. H., June 1, 1886.

*Governor of New Hampshire* :

*Dear Sir*,—Your invitation to attend the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, at Concord, June 17, as guest of the state, gives me much pleasure, and I deeply regret that the infirmities of age will prevent me from accepting it.

I was present at the laying of the corner-stone of Bunker Hill

Monument, and heard Daniel Webster's famous speech in which he said: "Let it rise! let it rise! let it rise, till it meets the sun in its coming, and let the earliest light of the morning gild it, and departing day linger and play upon its summit." I knew him well the four years I was a member of the house, and heard him speak in the senate many times, and always with a thrill of pleasure and delight in the thought that we were from the same state, and had a pride in its granite hills. He was the greatest man I ever met, and I rejoice that Mr. Benjamin Pierce Cheney has presented his statue to the state, thus connecting his own worthy name with one whom New Hampshire cherishes as her most intellectual and talented son.

I offer my sincere thanks to the state for the compliment of the invitation.

Most respectfully yours,

JAMES H. JOHNSON.

FROM B. M. CUTCHEON, M. C.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 26, 1886.

HON. MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire* :

*Dear Sir,*—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to participate in the exercises connected with the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, at the state capitol, June 17, 1886. It would give me the greatest gratification to be able to be present on that most interesting occasion, in my own native county, but my official duties here will forbid me that privilege. With thanks for the invitation, I am

Very truly yours,

B. M. CUTCHEON, M. C.

FROM C. C. COMSTOCK.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 26, 1886.

TO THE HON. MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire* :

*Dear Sir,*—Please accept my thanks for your kind invitation to attend the dedication of the statue of the world-renowned statesman, Daniel Webster, at Concord, on the 17th of June next. I should be more than pleased to again visit my native state on that occasion were it possible for me to do so. Although for the last thirty-three

years my adopted home has been in the great and now wealthy state of Michigan, I have with gratitude ever been mindful of the lessons of industry and economy taught me in the dear old granite state, and I remain, dear sir,

Most truly your obedient servant,

C. C. COMSTOCK.

FROM JOHN H. REAGAN.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 26, 1886.

HON. MOODY CURRIER,

HON. G. MARSTON:

Your circular letter of May 11, inviting me to be present at the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, at the state capitol, at Concord, Thursday, June 17, 1886, is just received. My duties here will deny me the pleasure of being present and participating in the ceremonies connected with the dedication of the statue in honor of Mr. Webster. His great learning, his great ability, and great patriotism, and the veneration in which his virtues are held by the whole American people, make it eminently fit that his native state should commemorate his life, his services, and his worth by the erection of a statue, and I would gladly participate in the ceremonies of its inauguration if my duties here were of a nature that I could abandon them for the time being.

Yours very respectfully,

JOHN H. REAGAN.

FROM J. R. DOOLITTLE.

ROYAL INSURANCE BUILDING,  
CHICAGO, June 1, 1886.

*To the Governor, and Chairman of the Legislative Committee of the State of New Hampshire:*

*Gentlemen,*—Your invitation to be present at the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, at the capitol, in Concord, on the 17th of June instant, and to participate in the exercises of that day, as a guest of the state, is duly received. I would dearly love to accept it, but I am constrained to decline. It would, indeed, be an honor and a joy to be there, and to stand among those who, in looking upon

the statue of the great son of New Hampshire, will call to mind those words, never more dear to every true American heart than now, which in a great crisis came from the depths of his soul, fifty years ago: "Liberty and union, now and forever, one and inseparable!" That utterance, that inspiration, sustained by President Jackson, the great son of South Carolina, crushed out the first attempt at disunion in 1832; that same idea, in which alone the great republic lives and moves and has its being, triumphed in the great civil war. It triumphed not only because it is true, — and what is true is from God, — but because that idea rules the hearts and lives of the American people, and always will. In that idea alone we conquered. To that idea the South surrendered. On that idea peace has come, and the Union under the constitution has been re-established at last; a Union in which every state and every citizen has equal rights, under the constitution and laws. All honor to the great senator.

Respectfully yours,

J. R. DOOLITTLE.

FROM SAMUEL J. RANDALL.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 31, 1886.

HIS EXCELLENCY MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire*,  
HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee*:

*Dear Sirs,* — I acknowledge the honor of your invitation to participate, as guest of the state, in the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster presented by Benjamin Pierce Cheney, at the state capitol, June 17 next. While it will be impossible for me at that time to absent myself from my public duties, and while I regret my inability to accept your courteous invitation, I shall gladly join in the spirit of the occasion. We have had many great men, but as an orator Webster remains peerless; as a statesman he overcame by his wonderful exposition all assailants of the principles of our free government, and in nothing was he greater than in the noble fidelity with which he maintained his faith to the last moment of his life. His memory is deeply cherished, as it ought to be, in every corner of the land.

With personal esteem, I am

Very truly yours,

SAMUEL J. RANDALL.

FROM G. G. VEST.

UNITED STATES SENATE,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 14, 1886.

GOVERNOR MOODY CURRIER :

*Dear Sir,* — Your very kind invitation of the 11th instant, inviting me to participate in the exercises attending the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, on June the 17th next, has been received. I desire to return my thanks, and to express my regret that other engagements of an imperative nature will prevent my accepting your invitation.

I especially regret to be compelled to so write, for the reason that nothing would give me greater pleasure than to evidence in the most public manner my great admiration for the public character of Mr. Webster, and my appreciation of his great services to our common country. His reputation as a statesman and lawyer will last so long as our country exists.

Very truly, etc.,

G. G. VEST.

FROM W. C. WHITNEY.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 14, 1886.TO HIS EXCELLENCY MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire* :

*Sir,* — Your kind invitation to participate in the exercises of the day, as a guest of the state of New Hampshire, on the occasion of the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster, at Concord, on Thursday, June 17, 1886, has been received. It would give me pleasure to be present, but my engagements are such as will not permit.

I trust that the ceremonies may in every way be worthy of the illustrious statesman whom you so appropriately remember.

With many thanks, I have the honor to be

Very truly yours,

W. C. WHITNEY.

FROM ABRAM S. HEWITT.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 13, 1886.

HIS EXCELLENCY MOODY CURRIER, *Governor of New Hampshire*,  
HON. GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee*,  
*Concord, N. H.* :

*Gentlemen,* — I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to be present at the state capitol, in Concord, on Thursday,

the 17th of June next, and to participate in the exercises attendant upon the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster. If it were in my power to leave Washington at the date indicated, I should certainly come to New Hampshire in order to manifest the profound admiration which I entertain for the unrivaled abilities of the most distinguished son of New Hampshire, whose services cannot be held in too much honor by the citizens of our common country. The longer I live the more profound is my appreciation of the wonderful intellect and the broad statesmanship of the great expounder of the constitution. If I could be sure that his teachings would always be heeded by his countrymen, I should have absolute confidence in the perpetuity of our free institutions. I can only commend the study of his work and his career to the rising generation, in the hope that they will profit by his great example.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

ABRAM S. HEWITT.

FROM GEORGE F. RICHARDSON.

LOWELL, THURSDAY, June 10, 1886.

GENERAL GILMAN MARSTON, *Chairman of Legislative Committee* :

*Dear Sir,* — I have received, and accept with great pleasure, your polite invitation to be present at the dedication of a statue of New Hampshire's greatest son.

Remembering well the profound impression which Daniel Webster's mere presence once made upon my youthful mind, I feel assured that his "counterfeit presentment" will lead others to a study of the life and character of him, who, as a statesman and a lawyer, occupied for so many years the very first rank in American history, and whose published speeches, whether delivered in the forum or at the bar, are to-day not only models of the purest English, but abound in periods of the sublimest eloquence.

Your state will gratefully cherish the memory of another son, who has generously caused this statue to be erected as an ornament to its capital and a lesson to its people.

I have the honor to subscribe myself,

Very respectfully yours,

GEORGE F. RICHARDSON.



## ORIGINAL DEED OF THE WEBSTER HOME.

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The following is a copy of the original deed of the home farm upon which Daniel Webster was born, framed and presented to Benjamin P. Cheney, Esq., by Fred F. Hassam, June 17, 1886 :

Know all men by these Presents that we Benjamin Huntoon & John Collins of Salisbury in the County of Hillsborough & State of New Hampshire being a committee of the Proprietors of Salisbury Late Stevenstown For and in Consideration of the sum of Forty Eight Pounds Lawful money to us in hand for the use of Said Proprietors before the Delivery hereof well and truly Paid by Ebenezer Webster of Salisbury in the County and State aforesaid Gentlemen the Receipt whereof we Do hereby acknowledge have Given Granted bargained and Sold and Do in our Capacity as a Committee Give Grant bargain Sell aliene enfeeoff convey and Confirm unto him the said Ebenezer Webster his heirs and assigns forever a Certain Peace or Parsel of Land Lying in the township of Salisbury aforesaid Containing about twenty acres more or Less (viz) beginning at the Southwesterly Corner bound of the Intervale Lott Number Eighty that was Laid out to the Right of Sam'l Solly and Clement March then Running westerly perelal with the Southerly side line of Said Lot till it Strikes the Easterly Side line of the 100 acre Lot No 1 originally Phillip Call.s then Northerly on Said Line to the North-easterly Corner bound, of Said 100 acre Lot then Easterly till it Strikes the Southwesterly Corner of the 60 acre Lot No 1 originally Said Phillip Call.s then Southeasterly on the Southerly Side Line of said 60 acre Lot till it Comes to the North westerly Corner bounds of the Intervale Lot No. 75 originally Laid out to the Right of Joshua Webster jr then Southerly to the bounds first mentioned: To have and to hold the above Granted and bargained Premises together









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