

**ADDRESS AND POEM AT THE
DEDICATION OF THE
HALLOWELL LIBRARY: MARCH 9,
1880, WITH HISTORICAL SKETCH**

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Address and Poem at the Dedication of the Hallowell Library: March 9, 1880, with historical sketch by Hubbard Free Library

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HALLOWELL LIBRARY: MARCH 9,
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ADDRESS AND POEM
AT THE
DEDICATION
OF THE
Marie
HALLOWELL LIBRARY,

MARCH 9, 1880,

WITH HISTORICAL SKETCH.

Forsitan et haec olim meminisse juvabit.

PORTLAND:
HOYT, FOGG & DONHAM.
193 Middle Street.

1880

~~THE~~

B 8444.3.5

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY

1887, Aug. 1.

Gift of

Rev. Edward Abbott,

of Cambridge.

B. THURSTON & CO., PRINTERS, PORTLAND.

HISTORICAL SKETCH.

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THE desire for a library has been part of the growth of Hallowell. Quite early in its history, a gentleman—never in the town, but connected with one of “the Hook” families—offered his private collection as the basis for one. The times were hardly ripe, however, and no response being made, the books were scattered in other directions. Another attempt to accomplish this desirable object is also known to have been made, but the details of it are not now to be traced. Years after, the “Young Men’s Society”—a literary and debating club—purchased a small and well-selected library; but when their association died out, it lay useless until added to the present collection.

In 1841 the subject was once more agi-

tated by public-spirited citizens, among whom Rev. Jonathan Cole, Dr. Amos Nourse, and Mr. T. B. Brooks were prominent. After considerable discussion, the matter so far took shape that a paper was circulated for subscriptions to shares in such a library, at twenty dollars per share if paid down, or twenty-five if paid in five annual installments.

Forty-three names having been obtained, a meeting was held at the town hall on Monday, the third day of January, 1842; at which it was decided to go forward, and certain persons selected who were authorized "to purchase books, report a code of by-laws, and take such measures as they may think necessary for further organization under statute or otherwise."

At a meeting called under warrant on the fifth of February following, the nine proprietors present organized according to the provisions of chapter eighty-four of the Revised Statutes, into a society, "under the name of the Proprietors of the Social Library