

**SPEECHES DELIVERED IN THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 19, 1888, ON THE
PRESENTATION BY THE BY THE
STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS TO THE NATIONAL
GOVERNMENT OF PORTRAITS OF EX-
SPEAKERS SEDGWICK, VARNUM, AND BANKS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649280162

Speeches Delivered in the House of Representatives January 19, 1888, on the Presentation by the by the State of Massachusetts to the National Government of portraits of Ex-Speakers Sedgwick, Varnum, and Banks by Various

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

VARIOUS

**SPEECHES DELIVERED IN THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 19, 1888, ON THE
PRESENTATION BY THE BY THE
STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS TO THE NATIONAL
GOVERNMENT OF PORTRAITS OF EX-
SPEAKERS SEDGWICK, VARNUM, AND BANKS**

Sedgwick (Innocent)
Varnum (Joseph Bradis)
Banks (Nathaniel Pratt)

SPEECHES

DELIVERED IN THE

U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 19, 1888.

ON THE

PRESENTATION BY THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS
TO THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

OF

PORTRAITS

OF

EX-SPEAKERS SEDGWICK, VARNUM, AND BANKS.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE,
1888.

PORTRAITS OF EX-SPEAKERS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Thursday, January 19, 1888.

* * * * *
The SPEAKER *pro tempore*. The hour of three having arrived, the special order will be read by the Clerk.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That Thursday, January 19, at 3 o'clock p. m., be set apart for the presentation to the House of Representatives of portraits of ex-Speakers Sedgwick, Varnum, and Banks by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and that upon that occasion the Committee of the Executive Council of that State be admitted to the floor.

Address of Mr. LONG, of Massachusetts.

Mr. SPEAKER: Several years ago, when I was in official position in Massachusetts, Hon. George B. Loring, then a member of this body from that State, wrote me urging the propriety of its furnishing suitable oil paintings of the Speakers it had given to this House. No action was taken in the matter at that time. But the consummation was not far off. When my colleague, Mr. Rockwell, entered the Forty-eighth Congress he sought, at first in vain, among the pictures of the ex-Speakers of the House for one bear-

ing the name of Theodore Sedgwick, who was Speaker in the Sixth Congress and whose home was in that part of Massachusetts which Mr. Rockwell now represents. After persistent inquiry he ascertained that one of the then unnamed pictures hanging in the adjoining lobby was the object of his search. He was aided in his investigation by Mr. Clark, the Architect of the Capitol, who two years later, as a result of a conversation between them, addressed to him the following letter:

ARCHITECT'S OFFICE, U. S. CAPITOL,
Washington, D. C., February 16, 1886.

DEAR SIR: As relates to the portraits of the Massachusetts Speakers of the United States House of Representatives, I have the honor to state that the portrait of Speaker Winthrop, recently presented by certain citizens of Massachusetts, is a work of art worthy of the place it holds and the person it represents. That of Speaker Banks, though an oil painting, is on paper and in a decaying condition. Those of Sedgwick and Varnum are crayon drawings, quite beneath criticism.

I can not but entertain the hope that your great State will follow the example of the State of Connecticut, and have painted, by artists of repute, portraits of its Speakers, Sedgwick, Varnum, and Banks, to grace this national collection.

Very respectfully, yours,

EDWARD CLARK,
Architect United States Capitol.

HON. F. W. ROCKWELL,
House of Representatives.

The following memorial to the authorities of Massachusetts was the next step:

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 16, 1886.*

The undersigned, Representatives from the State of Massachusetts in the Forty-ninth Congress, respectfully represent that in the collection of the portraits of the Speakers of the House of Repre-

sentatives of the United States, those of Speakers Sedgwick, Varnum, and Banks are unworthy of the place they hold, one being in a perishing condition and the others crayon drawings indifferently executed. They therefore earnestly pray that measures will be taken by the authorities of the State which they have the honor to represent in Congress to have furnished for this national collection at the Capitol portraits of Speakers Sedgwick, Varnum, and Banks, to be painted by artists of repute, as in the case of Speaker Winthrop.

R. T. DAVIS.
JOHN D. LONG.
A. A. RANNEY.
PATRICK A. COLLINS.
E. D. HAYDEN.
H. B. LOVERING.
E. F. STONE.
CHAS. H. ALLEN.
FREDERICK D. FLY.
W. W. RICE.
WM. WHITING.
FRANCIS W. ROCKWELL.

We have had no recent opportunity of examining the portraits of the distinguished gentlemen referred to. Fully confiding, however, in the judgment of the delegation in the House of Representatives as to the pictures referred to, we concur in their desire.

H. L. DAWES.
GEO. F. HOAR.

This letter and memorial were presented to the Governor of Massachusetts, who transmitted both to the Senate and House of Representatives of that Commonwealth, recommending the subject to their favorable consideration and action. The Massachusetts Legislature promptly responded by passing the following resolve, which was approved April 1, 1886:

Resolved, That the Governor and Council be, and they are hereby, authorized and requested to have furnished for the National Capitol

at Washington, D. C., worthy portraits of Speakers Sedgwick, Varnum, and Banks, the same to be painted by some artist or artists of skill and repute, and to correspond in merit with that of Speaker Winthrop, already in the collection.

Under the authority of this resolve the Governor and Council employed Edgar Parker, of Boston, to paint a portrait of Theodore Sedgwick from an original by Stuart in the possession of the Sedgwick family, in Stockbridge, Massachusetts.

They purchased of a great grandson of the Speaker of the Tenth and Eleventh Congresses a portrait of Joseph Bradley Varnum. It is a copy painted by Charles Loring Elliott more than thirty years ago. The original was done by an artist whose name is not ascertained. The copy was intended, when made, for the National Capitol, but the original intention seems to have been abandoned.

They employed R. W. Vonnoh, of Boston, to paint a portrait of the Speaker of the Thirty-fourth Congress, Nathaniel Prentiss Banks, from life, representing him, however, as of the age at which he was Speaker.

The artists have finished their work. The portraits are here, having been brought to Washington under the charge of Messrs. Bourne, Johnson, and Locke, a Committee of the Executive Council of Massachusetts, appointed by Governor Ames to present them to the National Government, and now, by the courtesy of the House, present on its floor.

Speaking for them and for the ancient Commonwealth whose gift they bring, I present to the National House of Representatives these "worthy portraits" of Speakers Sedgwick, Varnum, and Banks. With the painting of Winthrop, already here, they are speakers still for the State and for the Union to which the men whose faces they picture ren-

dered high and honorable service. I trust that other States, following the example of this day, will array beside these portraits worthy portraits of their own distinguished sons who have held the same office, and who deserve, as Massachusetts thought hers deserved, more permanent and artistic memorials than those which have hitherto hung upon the adjoining walls.

It is fitting, Mr. Speaker, that I leave to my colleagues, who represent the several districts in which lived the Speakers whom Massachusetts has given to the chair you occupy, the appreciative words which this occasion demands in their behalf; but I can not forbear to add in a single sentence that their fame and service are limited to no district in that historic Commonwealth, but are all hers, associated with her common glory; hers, not as she stands alone, but as she stands and has stood and will stand as a part of that Union which, under her construction of its Constitution, has been tried and not found wanting in power to preserve its own integrity, to establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity; hers, too, prond mother as she has been of so many other statesmen, soldiers, scholars, orators, poets, and patriots who have loved, honored, and served their country.

Could you, sir, like Virgil's hero, cross the stream and walk the Elysian fields, as at some time you will—may it be late alike with you and with him whose place, by reason of his illness, you occupy this day—you would see them there—Sam Adams and John; Otis and Quincy and Hancock; Warren, his patriot blood spouting hot from his

gaping wound; the swart, mighty brow of Webster, bent over the open pages of the Constitution; the nervous figure of Choate; the graceful pose of Everett; Longfellow, dreaming of the banks of the Charles; Garrison and Wilson; Emerson and Sumner; and Phillips, calm in his merciless scorn of injustice, walking arm and arm with the fiery Andrew, no Greek or Trojan helmets on their heads, but in their hands the broken shackles of a slave and the olive branches of the restored peace and union of their country. Only shadows; only pictures, such as these we bring to-day—mute, but forever eloquent. [Applause.]

Address of Mr. ROCKWELL, of Massachusetts.

MR. SPEAKER: In the Fiftieth Congress we recall the eminent public service of a gentleman who was in the First Congress.

Theodore Sedgwick won a high position in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in the councils of the Federal party, and in Congress. A man of integrity, fidelity, and capacity, he leads a line of well-equipped Western Massachusetts men who have been honored, not alone by merited promotion at home, but who have been intrusted in the Congress of the United States with the high duty of framing, shaping, defending, maintaining the dignity, power, and humanity of a beloved country.

When he entered the First Congress he brought talent and experience. Educated at Yale, entering the Massachusetts bar (April, 1766) when scarce twenty, we find him at thirty an aid to General Thomas in the expedition to Canada (1776) and afterward procuring supplies for the