

**A MEMORIAL OF
ALEXANDER ANDERSON,
M.D., THE FIRST ENGRAVER
ON WOOD IN AMERICA**

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A Memorial of Alexander Anderson, M.D., the First Engraver on Wood in America by Benson J. Lossing

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BENSON J. LOSSING

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A

MEMORIAL

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OF

ALEXANDER ANDERSON, M.D.,

THE

First Engraver on Wood in America.

READ BEFORE THE NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY, OCT. 1, 1871

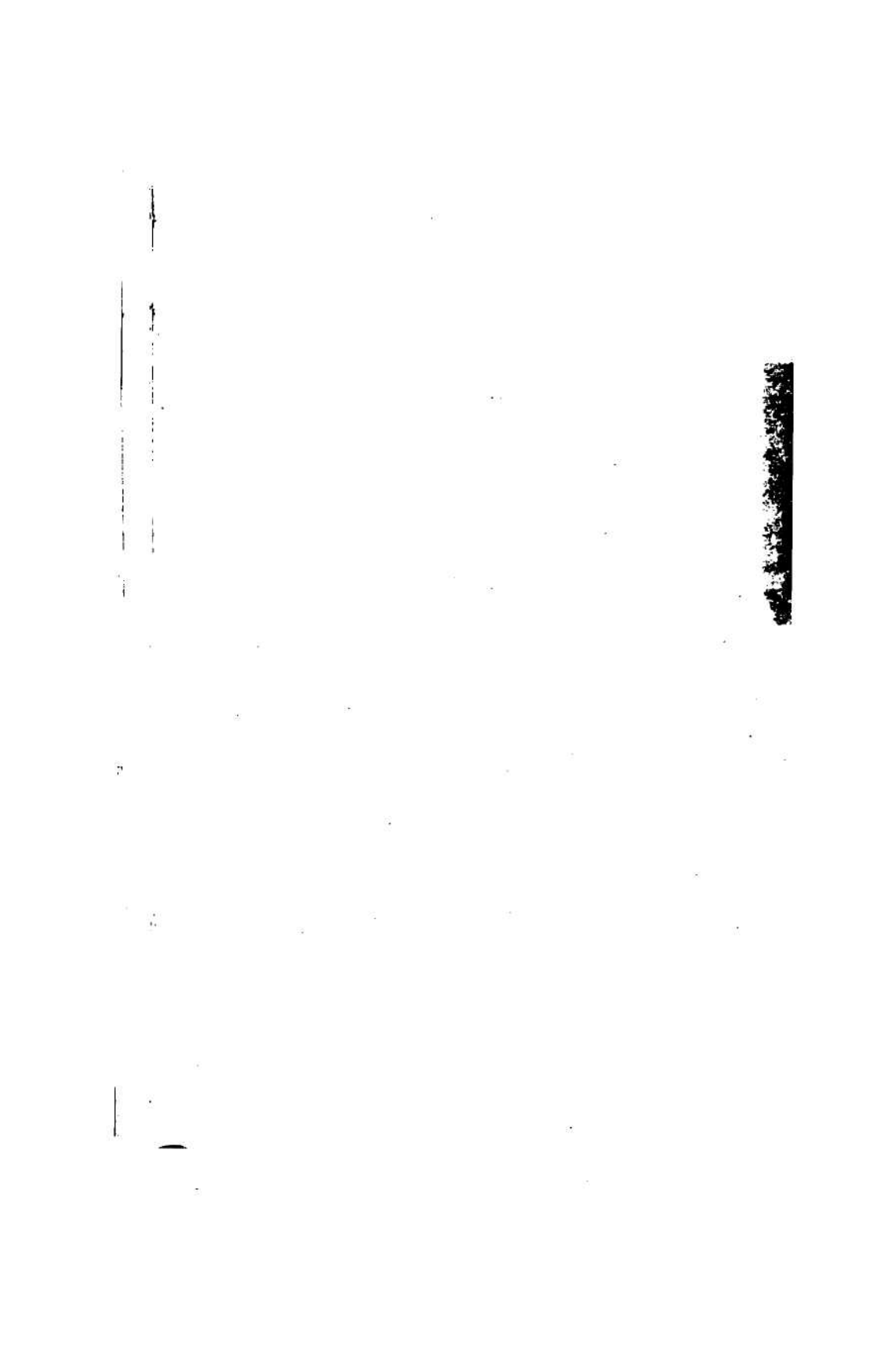
BY

BENSON J. LOSSING.

NEW YORK:

PRINTED FOR THE SUBSCRIBERS.

1872.



NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee, held at the Library,
on Tuesday evening, February 1, 1870,

"Mr. MOORE offered the following resolution which was
adopted:

"Resolved, That BENSON J. LOSSING, Esq., be requested to
prepare and read before the Society a paper on *The Life of the
late Dr. ALEXANDER ANDERSON, and the History of Wood
Engraving in this Country.*"

Extract from the Minutes.

GEORGE H. MOORE,
Secretary.

At a meeting of the New York Historical Society, held in its
Hall, on Tuesday evening, October 5th, 1870,

"Mr. BENSON J. LOSSING read the paper of the evening on
*The late Dr. ALEXANDER ANDERSON, the First Engraver on
Wood, in America, with a Brief History of the Art.*"

"On its conclusion, Mr. ERASTUS C. BENEDICT, after some
remarks, submitted the following resolution which was adopted:

"Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented to
Mr. LOSSING for his able and highly interesting paper read this
evening, and that a copy be requested for the archives of the
Society."

Extract from the Minutes.

ANDREW WARNER,
Recording Secretary.

11

P R E F A C E .

This Memoir was written, as the proceedings of the New York Historical Society, herewith printed, indicate, at the request of the Executive Committee of that society.

It was prepared with care from materials gathered from the Pioneer himself, from his daughter (Mrs. Lewis) and her son, and from and by other friends, to all of whom I offer thanks.

In a special manner I acknowledge my obligations to Evert A. Duyckinck, Esq., for the eminent assistance which he has given me from the beginning: in furnishing materials for the Memoir, such as notices of early New York booksellers and their publications; in procuring wood-cuts by Dr. Anderson to illustrate the work; and in other services essential to the success of the undertaking.

In behalf of the New York Historical Society I here acknowledge these obligations to the artists and others, mentioned in the Appendix, Number II, who have kindly contributed engravings for this memorial record.

B. J. L.

MEMOIR.

MR. PRESIDENT—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :

I come at the bidding of this Society to participate with you in the rendering of honor to the memory of a venerable associate, whom it was my privilege to love as a personal friend and fellow-craftsman for the space of thirty years.

The eulogist of the late Horace Binney, Jr., says :

“It is not often that the judgment of a man's life and character by the world agrees with that of his intimate friends. By the world, success in life is too often measured by results which strike most forcibly the popular imagination ; it means a large fortune, a brilliant professional reputation, opportunities eagerly sought and adroitly taken advantage of for gaining prominent public positions. To his friends, on the other hand, a man may be most endeared and best remembered by