REPORT OF THE EXERCISES AT THE DEDICATION OF THE STATUE OF EBENEZER KNIGHT DEXTER PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE. JULY 29, 1894

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HENRY C. CLARK

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Henry C. Claro.

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REPORT OF THE EXERCISES

AT THE

Dedication of the Statue

OF

EBENEZER KNIGHT DEXTER

PRESENTED TO THE

CITY OF PROVIDENCE

BY

HENRY C. CLARK, Esq.

JUNE 29, 1894.

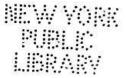
The Providence Press:

SNOW & FARNHAM, CITY PRINTERS

15 Custom House Street.

1894.

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RESOLUTION TO PRINT 500 COPIES OF THE REPORT OF THE DEDICATORY EXERCISES OF THE STATUE OF EBENEZER KNIGHT DEXTER.

[Approved December 4, 1804.]

RESOLVED, That the joint special committee appointed by resolution No. 401, series of 1893, and Nos. 21 and 384, series of 1894, be and said committee is hereby authorized and directed to have printed for the use of the City Council five hundred copies of the report of the dedicatory exercises of the statue of Ebenezer Knight Dexter on June 29, 1894, the expense thereof to be charged to the appropriation for printing.

REPORT.

On June 13th, 1893, Henry C. Clark, Esq., presented to the Board of Aldermen the following communication, viz.:

PROVIDENCE, R. I., June 13, 1893.

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council of Providence:

Gentlemen: If you will expend Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000 00) in improving the "Dexter Training Field," I will give, to be placed upon the ground, a bronze statue of Columbus to be cast by the Gorham M'f'g Co.

Accepting the offer will tend to beautify the city, honor the discoverer of America, the memory of Ebenezer Knight Dexter, encourage home talent, and recognize those who have given our city a world-wide notice by the manufacture of their wares.

Yours respectfully,

H. C. CLARK.

This communication was referred on the same day to a joint special committee, consisting of Aldermen Myron H. Fuller, Henry B. Winship and Charles E. Harris, and Councilmen George L. Vose, Wm. P. Vaughan and Augustine Giblin, with instructions "to confer with the Commissioners of the Dexter Donation relative thereto and to report thereon."

This committee immediately organized by the selection of Alderman Myron H. Fuller as chairman, and D. F. Hayden as secretary. After holding a conference with Mr. Clark, that gentleman submitted the following proposition to the committee, viz.:

PROVIDENCE, July 6, 1893.

To Myron H. Fuller, Esq., Chairman of the Joint Special Committee of the City Council:

I desire through you to state to your committee and to the City Council that I have decided since my communication of June 13, 1893, offering to place a statue of Columbus on Dexter Training Field that it would be more appropriate to have a statue of the "benefactor and friend of the unfortunate," Ebenezer Knight Dexter, placed upon the Training Field that he gave to the city. In recognition therefore of Mr. Dexter's memory I hereby agree to place a bronze statue of Ebenezer Knight Dexter, to be cast by the Gorham M'f'g Company, on Dexter Training Field, instead of a statue of Columbus, provided the city will furnish a suitable pedestal for said statue, and also expend the sum of \$3,000 for the improvement of said Training Field.

H. C. CLARK.

Upon the receipt of this generous proposal the committee reported on July 20, 1893, to the City Council as follows, viz.:

REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE RELATIVE TO THE GIFT OF H. C. CLARK TO DEXTER TRAINING FIELD.

TO THE HONORABLE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE:

The joint special committee appointed by resolution No. 401, current series, upon the communication of Henry C. Clark relative to the gift of a statue of Columbus to be placed on Dexter Training Field, and "to confer with the commissioners of the Dexter Donation relative thereto and to report thereon," respectfully report:

That they have considered the matter and have conferred with the commissioners of the Dexter Donation and with Mr. Henry C. Clark, whose generous proposition has evoked universal commendation from our citizens. At a meeting of your committee, held on July 5th, 1893, Mr. Clark expressed a desire to substitute a statue of Ebenezer Knight Dexter, the "benefactor and friend of the unfortunate" for that of Columbus, a suggestion that elicited the hearty approval of your committee—for if any statue is to be placed upon Dexter Training Field it should be one of the great philanthropist who, not only gave this tract of land to the city, but who, also, as a token of his strong attachment to his native town, and