

**AN ACCOUNT OF THE CELEBRATION
BY THE TOWN OF LINCOLN,
MASSTTS, APRIL 23RD, 1904, OF THE
150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS
INCORPORATION, 1754-1904**

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An Account of the Celebration by the Town of Lincoln, Masstts, April 23rd, 1904, of the 150th Anniversary of Its Incorporation, 1754-1904 by Various

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By THE TOWN of
LINCOLN, MASS^{ts}
April 23rd, 1904, of the
150th Anniversary of its
INCORPORATION

1754 - 1904



LINCOLN, MASS^{ts}
PRINTED FOR THE TOWN
1905

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FOREWORD

At a town meeting held July 11, 1903, the attention of the town was called to the fact that the following year would complete a century and a half of the town's corporate existence. The following resolution was unanimously passed: "Resolved, That it is appropriate that the town take some notice of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of its incorporation next year. Therefore, Voted, That the Selectmen and the Committee on Claims be a committee to consider the matter and report to the town at some future meeting some plan for the proper observance of the day."

At the annual town meeting held March 7, 1904, it was voted, "That the whole subject be left to a committee consisting of the Selectmen and the Committee on Claims and C. Lee Todd, Walter W. Johnson and Harry Russ." The sum of five hundred dollars was appropriated for the use of the committee.

The celebration, an account of which follows, is of great importance to the town in many ways. So far as the records show or memory serves, the town has never before celebrated its natal day. The effort has been made in connection with this occasion to preserve and put in permanent form what has come down

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to us of record and tradition connected with the history of the town ; and it is desired to make the printing of the records, vital statistics, and other original matter of value now in the town's possession relating to the first century of its existence a part of the celebration of this one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the town's incorporation, and steps to this end have already been taken. The roll of the men of Lincoln who have served their country as soldiers has also been included in this volume.

The committee having in charge the arrangements for the observance of this anniversary have sought to make the exercises of interest and value not only to those who took part in them, but also to subsequent generations through having the proceedings printed. The illustrations that have been included in this volume have been chosen with a view to representing the Lincoln of the past as well as of the present, though all of the houses whose pictures are here given are standing to-day.

The celebration began at daybreak with the ringing of the church bell and the firing of cannon. The day could not have been more propitious, for the sun rose clear and, though there was no rye waving in the fields as by tradition it was on the memorable 19th of April, 1775, the fields were green and the maples and elms were in blossom. The village street was gay with streamers of lavender and white, and "Old Glory" floated above the trees on the Common. The day brought back many of Lincoln's sons

FOREWORD

and daughters, and afforded opportunity for the exchange of friendly greetings. The approach of the Governor was heralded by the ringing of the bell and the firing of cannon. Before the appointed hour arrived the church was filled with townspeople and others from neighboring towns, and as the Governor and the others who were to take part in the exercises of the afternoon entered, the audience rose and stood until they were seated on the platform. The program given herewith was then carried out as arranged.

For the Banquet and the dancing the interior of the Town Hall had been festooned with long strips of bunting, lavender, white, and yellow, the colonial colors, with groups of Japanese lanterns. A colored sketch of a Puritan man and maiden placed in front of the gallery recalled the aspect of our ancestors of 1754. A long table was spread upon the platform, at which were seated the Toastmaster, his Excellency Governor Bates, the orator of the day, members of the boards of selectmen of Lincoln, Lexington, Concord, and Weston, and others who were to speak. The entire floor was occupied by long tables made bright with roses, carnations, and green vines. Two hundred and forty-three persons sat down to the Banquet. A band of music placed in the gallery played at intervals during the supper. A mark of special distinction in the form of a blue ribbon badge was conferred upon all persons who were descendants of families living in Lincoln when the town was in-

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corporated, and formed a conspicuous feature of the celebration.

At the close of the after-dinner speaking the hall was made ready for dancing; the band moved to the platform; the gallery filled with onlookers; and soon the floor was taken possession of by the young people, who made the most of the time that was left until the hour of midnight and the entrance of the Sabbath brought the festivities of the day to a close.

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