

**SEMI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
OF THE CITY OF BUFFALO: ADDRESS
OF THE HON. E.C. SPRAGUE BEFORE
THE BUFFALO HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
JULY 3, 1882**

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Semi-centennial Celebration of the City of Buffalo: Address of the Hon. E.C. Sprague Before the Buffalo Historical Society, July 3, 1882 by Various

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VARIOUS

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The Port of Buffalo, on Lake Erie, in 1855.
From a Steel Engraving in the "Port Folio" of that year.

Ann. p. 16.

Buffalo Historical Society.

1832. * * 1882.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

OF THE

CITY OF BUFFALO.

Eben barleton

Address of the Hon. E. C. SPRAGUE

BEFORE THE BUFFALO HISTORICAL SOCIETY, JULY 3, 1882.

CELEBRATION OF JULY 4th,

IN CONNECTION WITH LAYING OF CORNER STONE OF

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' MONUMENT.

PUBLISHED UNDER DIRECTION OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE

BUFFALO HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

1882

PREFATORY NOTE.

The interest awakened by the celebration of our city's Semi-Centennial, has elicited a large amount of interesting and valuable historical information which we hope to see placed in convenient form for preservation. In preparing these pages the committee in charge have felt that they could not do better than to reproduce the account of the exercises of the Third of July, substantially, as published in the Buffalo Morning Express, and of the celebration of the Fourth of July, from the Buffalo Daily Commercial Advertiser.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

Portrait, Hon. Dr. EBENEZER JOHNSON,

First Mayor, 1832.

Portrait, Hon. GROVER CLEVELAND,

Mayor, 1882.

Port of Buffalo, 1815.

Circular of Invitation with view of City and County Hall
and

Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument.



The Great Am. Co. Buffalo, N.Y.

EBENEZER JOHNSON,

First Mayor of Buffalo 1832.



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1832

1882

At a meeting of the Board of Managers of the Buffalo Historical Society, held on the 14th day of March, 1882, at the rooms of the Society, the subject of the celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the city was considered, which resulted in the adoption of the following resolution :

RESOLVED : That the President appoint a committee of five, to make arrangements for a proper observance by this Society of the fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the city of Buffalo, which will occur April 20, 1882.

WHEREUPON, the President named Wm. H. Newman, Rev. A. T. Chester, William C. Bryant, Wm. Dana Fobes, and Thomas B. French, as such committee.

Subsequently, the Common Council of the city appointed a committee of its members, and of citizens for the purpose of arranging for the anniversary, and also for the celebration of the ensuing national jubilee, and a meeting of the committees was held, at which the subject was considered. The following report of the action of the several committees was made to the Board of Managers of the Historical Society, April 16, 1882. William C. Bryant, from the semi-centennial committee, reported that a joint meeting of the Common Council committee, the Citizen's committee and the committee of the Society had been held, and after consulting together it was deemed expedient to postpone the celebration of the event until the 4th of July next, and ask time for further action.

Afterwards it was arranged by the several committees, that the celebration of the anniversary of the incorporation of the city, should be conducted under the auspices of the Buffalo Historical Society, and that the exercises should be held at St. James Hall in the evening of the 3d day of July, and that the commemorative proceedings upon the 4th of July should