

**CATALOGUE OF THE
PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE
CITY OF CHARLESTOWN**

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Catalogue of the Public Library of the City of Charlestown by Charlestown Public Library

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CHARLESTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY

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CITY OF CHARLESTOWN**

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CITY OF CHARLESTOWN.



CHARLESTOWN:
PRINTED BY CALEB RAND.
1862.

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1863, Dec. 2.

Gift of

Wm. East Sumner,

(Feb. 6, 1836)

CITY OF CHARLESTOWN.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty.

AN ORDINANCE

TO ESTABLISH A PUBLIC LIBRARY IN THE CITY OF CHARLESTOWN.

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Charlestown as follows:

SECTION 1. A Public Library is hereby established in the City of Charlestown, under the provisions of the Act of 1851, chap. 305.

SECTION 2. There shall be chosen during the month of May or June in the current year, and annually in the month of January thereafter, by concurrent vote of the two branches of the City Council, one member of the Board of Aldermen, three members of the Common Council, one from each ward, and five citizens at large, to constitute a Board of Trustees for the Public Library, who shall hold their offices until others are chosen in their places, and any vacancy in said Board shall be filled by the City Council as aforesaid. The office of Trustee shall be honorary, and no member of the Board shall receive any compensation for his services.

SECTION 3. The persons so chosen shall meet and organize themselves into a Board by the choice of one of their number as President, and they may make such rules and regulations for their own government, and in relation to subordinate officers by them appointed, as they may deem expedient.

SECTION 4. The said Trustees shall have the general care and control of the Public Library, and of the expenditure of all moneys appropriated therefor; they may make such rules and regulations in relation to the same, and may appoint a Librarian, and such subordinate officers, as they may consider necessary and expedient,

define their duties, and may fix their compensation, provided that the total expenditure for the same shall not exceed the sum appropriated therefor by the City Council: but the provisions mentioned in this and the preceding sections shall at all times be subject to any limitations or restrictions by the City Council.

SECTION 5. The said Trustees, on or before the fifteenth day of November annually, shall present to the City Council a report containing a statement of the condition of the Library, the number of books that have been added during the past year, with an account of all receipts and expenditures, together with such information or suggestions as they may deem important.

SECTION 6. No payment of money shall be made on account of the Library, except by order of the Board, and in pursuance of a warrant signed by the President.

SECTION 7. A letter of acknowledgment, signed by the President and countersigned by the Librarian, shall be promptly returned to each person making a donation to the Library.

SECTION 8. In prescribing the regulations relative to the care and use of the books, it shall be the duty of the Trustees to adopt such measures as shall extend the benefits of the institution as widely as practicable throughout the community.

IN COMMON COUNCIL, June 4, 1860.

Passed to be ordained, and sent up for concurrence.

WARREN RAND, President pro tem.

IN BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDEEMEN, }
 June 5, 1860.

Passed to be ordained in concurrence.

JAMES DANA, Mayor.

OFFICERS
OF THE
CHARLESTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY,
1862.

Trustees.

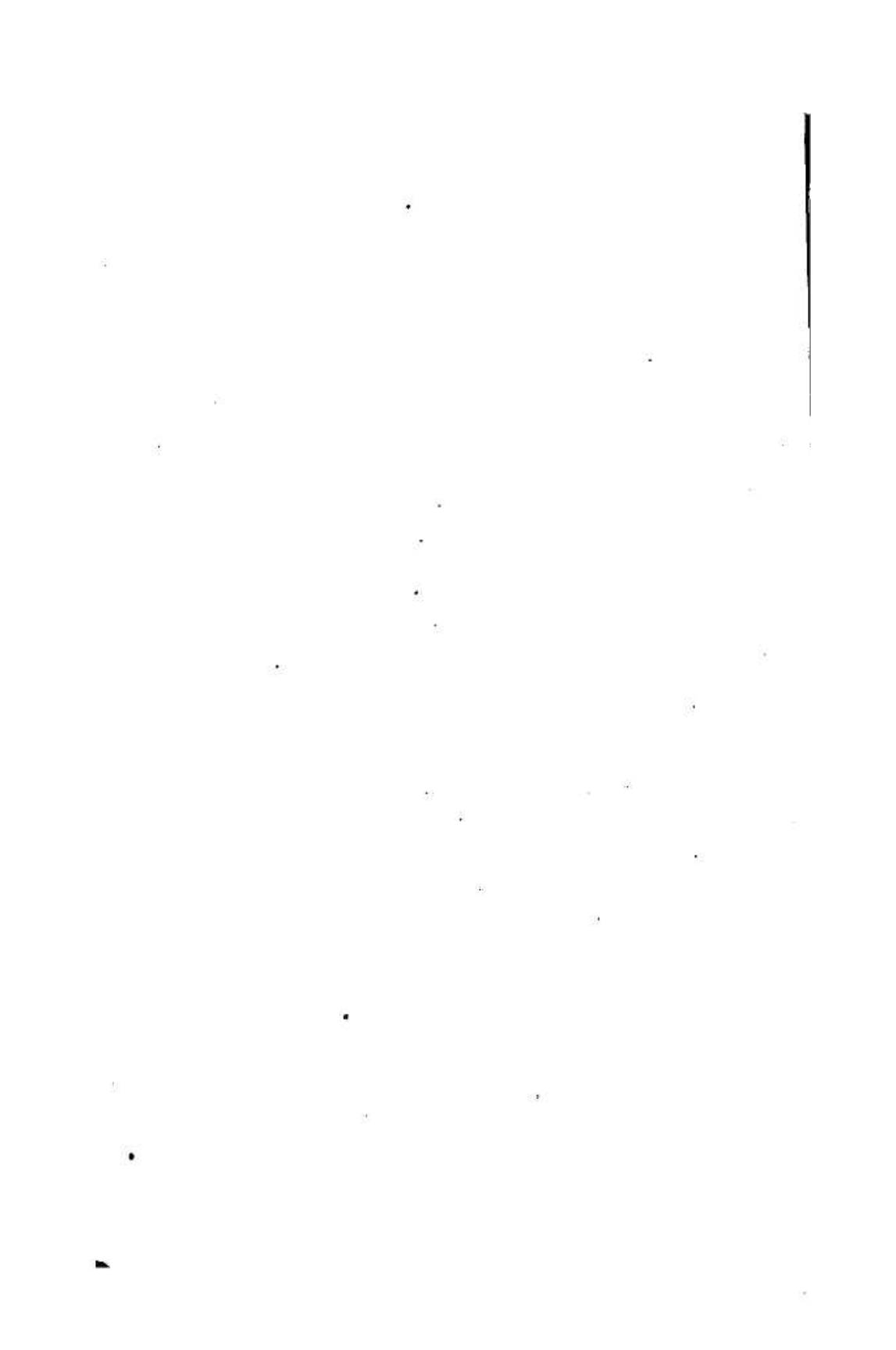
TIMOTHY T. SAWYER,
GEORGE HYDE,
JAMES F. HUNNEWELL,
EUGENE L. NORTON,

RICHARD FROTHINGHAM,
FRANCIS W. HURD,
JOHN N. DEVEREAUX,
FRANCIS CHILDS,

MOSES B. SEWALL.

Librarian.

GEORGE S. POOLE.



P R E F A C E .

THOUGH Charlestown has had the benefit of reading rooms, lyceums, the libraries connected with the public schools and the churches, and formerly the Union Library, yet it has had no public institution combining the advantages of an Athenæum.

The act of the Legislature of 1851 invited towns and cities to multiply public libraries; and the annual address of the Mayor, in 1853, urged the establishment of an institution in the city that might combine the Public Library, Reading Room, Museum and Lectures. It was remarked that such an institution—an Athenæum—“might be a general favorite; where wealth might see a worthy object on which to bestow its favors; where citizens might resort for intellectual gratification or improvement; where the sons of Charlestown might delight to bring, from other lands, objects of interest or of curiosity; and where, last, but not least, the stranger might be invited to behold, at the base of Bunker Hill, memorials of the times which the great monument commemorates. Such an institution would be a perennial source of pleasure and benefit—a perpetual benediction to our citizens.”

The petition of James Hunnewell and seventy others, dated January 20, 1853, was presented to the City Council, praying for the establishment of a Public Library. In addition, Mr. Hunnewell, in a letter to the Mayor, dated January 24, 1853, made the liberal tender of fifteen hundred dollars in aid of founding a Public Library, an Athenæum, or by whatever other name such an institution might be called. Hon. G. Washington Warren also tendered the sum of five hundred dollars, to be paid whenever the City Council should set apart the lower story of the High School building for a Public Library; others, however, remonstrated against such a location.