### JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE UNITED STATES CENTENNIAL COMMISSION AT PHILADELPHIA, 1872

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PROCEEDINGS

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UNITED STATES,

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PHILADELPHIA,

1872.

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#### PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED UNDER AND PURSUANT TO THE ACT OF CONGRESS APPROVED MARCH 3, 1871, ENTITLED

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Par 1055

"An Act to provide for colebrating the One Hundredth "Anniversary of American Independence, by holding an "International Exhibition of Arts, Manufactures, and "Products of the Soil and Mine, in the City of Philadel-"phia and State of Pennsylvania, in the year Eighteen "Hundred and Seventy-Six."

#### PHILADELPHIA, March 4, 1872.

In conformity with the Ordinance of the Select and Common Councils of the City of Philadelphia, approved by the Mayor of said City October 30, 1871, entitled "An Ordinance to provide for the first meeting and organization of the United States Centennial Commission, and to make an appropriation therefor," the Commissioners appointed by the President of the United States, upon the recommendation of the Governors of the soveral States and Territories, pursuant to the Act of Congress, approved March 3, 1871, held an informal meeting in Parlor C, of the Continental Hotel, in the City of Philadelphia, at  $10\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock, A. M., this day.

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Present,-Commissioners and Alternate Commissioners as follow :---JOSEPH R. HAWLEY, Commissioner of Connecticut. WILLIAM M. BYRD, Commissioner of Alabama. LEWIS WALN SMITH, Alternate Commissioner of Georgia. JAMES E. DEXTER, Commissioner of District of Columbia. JOHN L. CAMPBELL, Commissioner of Indiana. ROBERT LOWRY, Commissioner of Iowa. JOHN LYNCH, Commissioner of Lonisiana. OFORGE ALEX, BATCHELDER, Commissioner of Dakota. JOSHUA NYE, Commissioner of Maine. JAMES BIRNEY, Commissioner of Michigan. JOHN DUNBAR CREIGH, Commissioner of California. ORESTES CLEVELAND, Commissionor of New Jersey. CHARLES H. MARSHALL, Altornale Commissioner of New York. HENRY FROBASCO, Commissioner of Ohio. DANIEL J. MORRELL, Commissioner of Pennsylvania. GEORGE H. CORLISS, Commissioner of Rhode Island. WILLIAM F. PROSSER, Alternate Commissioner of Tennessee. WILLIAM HENRY PARSONS, Commissioner of Texas. JOHN H. WICKIZER, Commissioner of Utah. JOHN N. BAXTER, Commissioner of Vermont. WALTER W. WOOD, Commissioner of Virginia. ANDREW J. SWEENEY, Alternate Commissioner of West Virginia. DAVID ATWOOD, Commissioner of Wisconsin. ROBERT H. LAMBORN, Alternate Commissioner of Wyoming. HENRY S. MOODY, Commissioner of Nebraska. WILLIAM P. BLAKE, Alternate Commissioner of Connecticut. SOLOMON L. SPINK, Alternate Commissioner of Dakota. J. MARSHALL PAUL, Commissioner of Colorado. DAVID M. BOYD, JR., Alternate Commissioner of Indiana,

CENTENNIAL COMMISSION.

MR. MORRELL, of Pennsylvania,

Moved that Mr. Atwood, of Wisconsin, be appointed chairman pro tempore.

Which was agreed to.

MR. ATWOOD, of Wisconsin,

In accepting the position, said :---

GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMISSION:--The honor of having been selected to preside temporarily over the deliberations of this Commission has taken me by surprise, and I have no speech to make. I accept the honor, not as a personal compliment, but as a compliment to the great Northwest, which I in part represent. In this view, gentlemen, I thank you heartily for the honor you have done that section of our noble Union.

We have met for the transaction of business of great importance to the country. We are to make arrangements for celebrating the One Hundredth Anniversary of the signing of the Great Declaration of Independence, which proclaimed equal rights to all men. These arrangements should be made with special care. All sections of the country should be considered so that the utmost harmony throughout the nation shall prevail in regard to this, the greatest event of the century, and that the whole people may co-operate zealously for the success of the enterprise. To make it such an exhibition of the immense resources of this country as is desirable, will require wisdom, on our part, and much labor. I trust the result of our labor will be

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such as will redound to the honor and glory of our common country.

MR. JOHN L. CAMPBELL, of Indiana,

Moved that Mr. John N. Baxter, of Vermont, be appointed Socretary pro tempore.

Which was agreed to.

The authorities of the City of Philadelphia desiring to extend to the Commissioners a welcome, and having invited them to meet the Mayor, the Select and Common Councils, and representatives of corporate bodies of the City in INDE-PENDENCE HALL at  $11\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock,

The Commissioners adjourned and proceeded in a body to the Hall.

On entering the Hall,

MR. JOHN L. SHOEMAKER, Chairman of the Centennial Committee of the Councils of Philadelphia, stepped forward and addressed the Hon. William S. Stokley, Mayor of Philadelphia, as follows :---

MR. MAYOR :---As Chairman of the Centennial Committee of the Councils of the City of Philadelphia, I have the honor to present to you the distinguished gentlemen who compose the United States Centennial Commission, appointed under the Act of Congress, approved March 3, 1871, and who are assembled here upon the invitation of the authorities of the City of Philadelphia to enter upon the discharge of their important duties.

CENTENNIAL COMMISSION.

MAYOR STOKLEY, in welcoming the Commissioners to the City, spoke as follows :--

COMMISSIONERS OF THE CENTENNIAL INTERNATIONAL EX-POSITION.

GENTLEMEN :---It is my pleasant duty, in behalf of the corporate authorities of Philadelphia, to welcome you as The object which has brought guests of the City. you here commends itself to the earnest sympathies of our citizens; and, speaking for them as well as for myself, I cannot too strongly express our gratification that its furtherance has been committed to such able hands, selected by the highest authorities of the States and Territories you represent, and approved by the highest authority of the nation. You bring with you an assurance that your councils will be inspired by patriotism, and that your decisions will be marked by wisdom. And, gentlemen, looking to the great end you have been appointed to accomplish, how fitting is it that the inauguration of your labors should take place in this Hall! Here was born the mighty Republic whose growth and progress it will be your province to manifest to the world, through the agency of that grand International Exposition of Arts, Manufactures, and Products of the Soil and Mine,-the control and management of which have been confided to your care. Here still are preserved with pions zeal the memorials of that august assembly whose immortal declaration changed the political destinies of a continent, and in its consequences has developed, and is still developing, social and industrial results