

**RECOLLECTIONS OF MR.  
JAMES LENOX OF  
NEW YORK AND THE  
FORMATION OF HIS LIBRARY**

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Recollections of Mr. James Lenox of New York and the formation of his library by Henry Stevens

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**HENRY STEVENS**

**RECOLLECTIONS OF MR.  
JAMES LENOX OF  
NEW YORK AND THE  
FORMATION OF HIS LIBRARY**



A nation's Books are her vouchers; her  
Libraries are her monuments. *H. S.*



Yours faithfully  
Henry Stevens  
of Vermont

RECOLLECTIONS OF  
MR JAMES LENOX  
OF NEW YORK  
AND THE FORMATION  
OF HIS LIBRARY



By HENRY STEVENS of Vermont

Bibliographer and Lover of Books Fellow of the  
Society of Antiquaries of Old England and Corresponding  
Member of the American Antiquarian Society of New England of the  
Massachusetts Historical Society and of the New England Genealogical  
Society Life Member of the British Association for the Advancement  
of Science Fellow of the British Archaeological Association  
and the Zoological Society of London Black Balled Athlete  
Club of London also Patriarch of Skull & Bones of Yale  
and Member of the Historical Societies of Vermont  
New York Wisconsin Maryland &c &c BA  
and MA of Yale College as well as  
Citizen of Norwansquis  
et cetera



LONDON

HENRY STEVENS & SON 115 ST MARTIN'S LANE

Over against the Church of St Martin in the Fields

MDCCLXXXVI



Z989  
L558

LIBRARY  
SCHOOL

Gift of John T. Hoyle →  
E. S. Holden

TO THE READER.

Who faulteth not, lieth not; who mendeth  
faults is commended: The Printer hath faulted  
a little: it may be the author oversighted more.  
Thy paine (Reader) is the least; then erre not  
thou must by misconstruing or sharpe censuring;  
least thou be more uncharitable, then either of  
them hath been heedlesse: God attend and guide  
vs all.—*Robartes on Tythes* 4<sup>o</sup> Camb. 1673.

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## FOR AULD LANG SYNE

THESE pages are inscribed with pleasant Recollections of more than forty-five years to my old and valued friend  
DOCTOR GEORGE H. MOORE

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE LENOX LIBRARY.

PETER FORCE that Eminent Antiquarian of the American Archives brought us together in 1840, and the influence of kindred tastes and pursuits soon wrought an open friendship that has stood the test of years.

In the whirligig of time our orbits have touched but occasionally, yet always with interest, until now he is in charge of many thousands of the rare books that passed through my hands as told in this volume.

LONG MAY HE HAVE CHARGE OF THEM.



Libraries are an index of a nation's, as well as an individual's, wealth, taste, and character. *II, S.*



## EXPLANATORY.

**I**N the spring of 1883, while the Council in London of the Library Association of the United Kingdom were discussing their programme for their Annual Meeting at Liverpool to be held in the fall, I in an unguarded moment told 'the boys,' that they might enter me for a Paper of Recollections of Mr James Lenox or Sir Antonio Panizzi. Our nimble Secretary made a note of it, and accordingly in the first draft——

The foregoing fragment and the Dedication to Dr George H. Moore, were the last lines my father wrote, only a day or two before his lamented decease. The effort of  
writing