

**THE PAINE FESTIVAL:
CELEBRATION OF THE 119TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH-
DAY OF THOMAS PAINE AT
CINCINNATI, JANUARY 29, 1856**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649267590

The Paine Festival: Celebration of the 119th Anniversary of the Birth-day of Thomas Paine at Cincinnati, January 29, 1856 by Various

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

VARIOUS

**THE PAINE FESTIVAL:
CELEBRATION OF THE 119TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH-
DAY OF THOMAS PAINE AT
CINCINNATI, JANUARY 29, 1856**

The Paine Festival.

LRR

7

2.50
1856

C E L E B R A T I O N

OF THE

119TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH-DAY

OF

THOMAS PAINE,

AT

CINCINNATI,

JANUARY 29, 1856.

PUBLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RESOLUTIONS,
BY THE COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS:

CINCINNATI:
VALENTINE NICHOLSON & CO.
1856.

PRICE, 10 CENTS.

JC178
V2 C55

INTRODUCTION.

THE COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS, for the celebration of the 119th anniversary of the Birth-day of THOMAS PAINE, the Author-Hero of the Revolution, congratulate the liberal and enlightened portion of their fellow-citizens on the success which has attended this effort to do justice to a great man's memory.

The Invitation of the Committee to the Political and Religious friends of THOMAS PAINE, to join in celebrating his Birth-day, met with a noble response. We were cheered by harmonious feelings and liberal contributions. Men of liberal sentiments, though widely separated in their opinions on political, social, and religious questions, joined heartily in a great ovation to the memory of an Honest Man, who, fearlessly and conscientiously did a noble work for Humanity.

The result was, one of the largest and most enthusiastic celebrations ever known in our city. It was ushered in with the firing of artillery, from the hills which overlook Cincinnati, and from the neighboring city of Newport, on the Kentucky bank of the Ohio river.

The meeting, which enjoyed and applauded the Oration, Addresses, and Music, was, probably, the largest that ever assembled on such an occasion. GREENWOOD HALL, the great hall of the Ohio Mechanics' Institute, was densely

iii

M342010

filled, and hundreds could not obtain admission; although two other celebrations were in progress at the same hour in the vicinity—that at the Turners' Hall, where the addresses were in the German language; and one in the neighboring city of Newport, Kentucky.

The Committee have much pleasure in presenting to the public, in a permanent form, this record of a public event, which, they trust, marks the dawn of a new era of Intelligence in the appreciation of Worth, and of Courage, and Liberality in the expression of our obligations to PUBLIC BENEFACTORS.

It may be proper to say that, in extending invitations to the speakers, no restriction was made, and no pledge required. Each was left to the free, conscientious performance of his individual duty, and is alone responsible for the sentiments advanced. The spirit of the occasion was one of Freedom and Toleration.

The Committee would express their thanks to all who have in any way contributed to the Great Moral Triumph, which has been achieved in this Celebration; and would encourage the friends of Free Thought to renewed exertions.

THE
P A I N E F E S T I V A L .

THE music of the United States' Military Band, from the Government Barracks at Newport, Ky., welcomed an overflowing audience of ladies and gentlemen to GREENWOOD HALL, which was appropriately decorated for the occasion.

ISAAC E. HEDGES, Esq., on taking the Chair, as President of the Festival, addressed the assembly as follows:

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

I have been unexpectedly called upon to preside on this occasion; but while I acknowledge my inability to fill the chair with the fitness the occasion demands, yet I am not disposed to decline the duties and responsibilities of such a position.

I congratulate you my fellow-citizens, of every clime and nation, that a day has dawned upon us, when we can assemble in such vast numbers, to commemorate the noble sentiments of one, who stood out in bold relief before the foes of Human Rights, whether they were Kings, Potentates, or Priests. We meet, not to worship men, but great principles. We are not idolators, or man-worshippers; but we bow humbly, and reverence great truths and holy principles, wherever they are found.

I have no sacrifices to make. They have long since been offered. The natural tendency of my mind has long since led me to look beyond the boundaries of sectarianism, and the popular creeds of the

day; and having early read the "RIGHTS OF MAN," by the IMMORTAL PAINE, I learned to consider it my duty and my privilege to embrace the truth wherever my reason found it,—and fearlessly proclaim it, whether it was in harmony with, or in opposition to, orthodoxy.

Let us ever cherish the generous spirit that inspired our Great Champion of Human Rights, whose very soul could not be confined to a single state or country, but leaped over oceans to find new fields for its philanthropic emotions. Let us ever prove faithful to the trust, secured to our possession by his untiring zeal in the cause of our own glorious country, that the "CRISIS" that once tried men's souls may never again recur.

May the Sun of Liberty, whose dawn was heralded in the morn of the American Revolution by THOMAS PAINE, continue its onward march, until it shall arrive at a fixed and eternal meridian!

MUSIC.—NATIONAL AIRS, BY THE BAND.

ORATION.

BY T. L. NICHOLS, M.D.

MR. PRESIDENT—LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—I have accepted with pleasure and with pride, the honorable position your committee has assigned me. It might have been entrusted to one better able to do justice to the demands of this occasion ; but the honor could not have been conferred upon any one who would appreciate it more highly, or who could feel more anxiety to perform worthily the sacred duty of rescuing from the darkness of ignorance, the blight of bigotry, and the calumnies of creed-bound sectarians, the fame of a man, who has done more than to “fill the measure of his country’s glory ;” one who has been a hero and a martyr in the cause of civil and religious liberty throughout the world.

I respond cordially, therefore, to the summons to address you on this occasion, and to the sentiments expressed in the preamble and resolutions, inviting you to join in this celebration ; and I, a stranger here, congratulate you upon the liberality, freedom, and justice, which have prompted your noble response to that invitation.

I congratulate Cincinnati, Queen City of the West, that she has the mind and heart, the manly courage and nobility of soul, to render this tribute of justice to one of the great unappreciated heroes of humanity. I congratulate the Great West upon the spirit of freedom that breathes over her prairies, and flows onward with her

rivers. I congratulate the country that embosoms this glorious home of plenty and of liberty. I congratulate the universal humanity that there is an America, and a Great West, and a queenly city here, and a people, so free, so intelligent, so generous and heroic, as thus to celebrate this anniversary, to vindicate the truth of history, and help to right the wrongs of half a century.

It is right, that the examples of courage, genius and philanthropy in the past, should be held in remembrance for the emulation and gratitude of the present and the future.

It is true, and it is a part of my duty to make it manifest to all who hear me, that the life and writings of THOMAS PAINE prove him to have been a hero, a philosopher, and a philanthropist, and worthy of our admiration and gratitude.

It is true, as will abundantly appear, that his eminent and unequalled services, in the cause of American Independence, and of Civil and Religious Liberty, entitle him especially to the honor and gratitude of every American; and it was, therefore, rightly and nobly resolved to celebrate, here and now, the 119th Anniversary of the Birth-day of the Author-Hero of the Revolution—the vindicator of the rights of man, and the champion of Civil and Religious Liberty, THOMAS PAINE; whose COMMON SENSE awoke the American people to the Declaration of Independence; whose CRISIS, in the times that tried men's souls, gave vigor to our arms; who asserted and defended the Principles of Republican Liberty in both hemispheres; who was the uncompromising foe of all despotisms, and the unwavering friend of Freedom and Humanity.

Most heartily do I respond to this appeal; most cheerfully will I present to you all that is needed to sustain it—the simple facts of the Life of that HONEST MAN, whose birth upon our planet was a blessing to humanity, and rendered illustrious and memorable THE DAY WE CELEBRATE.

THOMAS PAINE, son of an English Quaker, was born at Thetford, England, January 29, 1737. A man of the people, he received only the common rudiments of an English education, and at the age of thirteen was taken from school to assist his father, in his trade of staymaker.