

**FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE
MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE
CITY OF NEW YORK, AT THE ACADEMY OF
MUSIC,
NOV. 9TH, 1870. AND THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION OF THE EX-OFFICERS' UNION,
AT DELMONICO'S, NOV. 10TH, 1870, PP. 1-75**

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MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK

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FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.

THE Fiftieth Anniversary of the organization of the Mercantile Library Association of the City of New-York, was celebrated in the Academy of Music, on the evening of Wednesday, November 9th, 1870. A very large and brilliant audience was in attendance. The President of the Association, Mr. M. C. D. Borden, occupied the chair; Wilson G. Hunt, Esq., David Dudley Field, Esq., Hon. A. Oakey Hall, William Cullen Bryant, Esq., Hon. Wm. E. Dodge, Cyrus W. Field, Esq., Rev. H. C. Potter, D.D., Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, D.D., Edmund Coffin, Esq., Thomas H. Faile, Esq., Hon. John Cochrane, and many other prominent gentlemen occupied seats upon the stage. The music was furnished by Grafulla's Seventh Regiment Band. The exercises were opened with prayer by Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, D.D.; and the President then delivered the following

OPENING ADDRESS:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

In a little room in Wall Street, just fifty years ago to-night, there met together a small company of men, identified as merchants' clerks. Assembled at the call of a single gentleman, without any well-defined plan and with no conception of an enterprise that should outlive themselves, this little body of clerks, then and there, gave form to a project which appears to-day as the most extensive and most useful existing institution of its kind. On the 12th of February