

**FUNERAL CEREMONIES AND MEMORIAL
SERVICES ON THE OCCASION OF THE
DEATH OF HON. JOHN P. HALE OF DOVER,
N. H.; A DISCOURSE COMMEMORATIVE
OF THE CHARACTER AND CAREER OF
HON. JOHN PARKER HALE**

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Funeral Ceremonies and Memorial Services on the Occasion of the Death of Hon. John P. Hale of Dover, N. H.; A Discourse Commemorative of the Character and career of Hon. John Parker Hale by Thomas W. Brown & George B. Spalding

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THOMAS W. BROWN & GEORGE B. SPALDING

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“FUNERAL CEREMONIES”

AND

MEMORIAL SERVICES

ON THE OCCASION OF THE DEATH OF

Patrick

Hon. John P. Hale

OF DOVER, N. H.,

LATE U. S. SENATOR AND MINISTER TO SPAIN.

DIED NOV. 19, 1873, AGED 67 YEARS.



FUNERAL ADDRESS, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1873.

MEMORIAL SERMON, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1873.

BY

Rev. T. W. Brown

REV. THOMAS W. BROWN,

PASTOR OF THE FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF CHRISTIANS, OF DOVER, N. H.



at

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of Boston.
(Oct. 1874)



DOVER, N. H., Nov. 24, 1873.

REV. THOMAS W. BROWN.

Dear Sir: At the earnest request of the family and a large number of friends of the late Hon. John P. Hale, the funeral services over whose remains took place on Saturday, the 22d inst., we most respectfully ask the publication in pamphlet form, of the memorial sermon delivered by you on Sunday, the 23d inst., at the Unitarian Church in this city, of which he was a member.

Yours very truly,

JOSEPH L. JACKSON,
HENRY SAYWARD,
JOHN C. STUART,

Wardens of the First Unitarian Society of Christians, of Dover, N. H.

DOVER, N. H., Nov. 24, 1873.

Messrs. JOSEPH L. JACKSON, HENRY SAYWARD, and JOHN C. STUART, Wardens of the First Unitarian Society of Christians, of Dover, N. H.

DEAR FRIENDS: The request which your note of this date conveys to me, is so coincident with one which had previously come to me from Mr. Hale's immediate family, that I cannot do otherwise than yield to your request and theirs. I therefore submit the manuscript to your disposal, and am

Yours truly,

THOMAS W. BROWN.



FUNERAL CEREMONIES.

The death of Hon. John P. Hale, the distinguished and eloquent champion of liberty, took place Wednesday evening, November 19th, after more than three years of serious illness and suffering. The record of his life is full of honor and heroism, and his noble services in behalf of the oppressed will never be forgotten, but will illumine the pages of American history with glorious lustre.

The City of Dover made appropriate and sincere observation of the sad funeral occasion, Saturday, November 22d. Business was generally suspended, and large numbers of people from surrounding places, and many from various sections of New England, were present. An almost Sabbath stillness reigned in the stricken city. Bunting draped in mourning was displayed at half mast, and at various places, and the bells tolled their solemn requiem as the ceremonies were in progress.

At 1:30 P. M. family prayers were held at the late residence of the deceased, on Pleasant Street, and the remains were then taken to the Unitarian Church on Locust Street, Rev. Thomas W. Brown, pastor. The church was filled with sorrowing people, long before the services began, including many distinguished persons from this and other States. The pulpit was draped in black and bore a floral tribute. At the foot of the casket was a cross of white roses with trailing smilax; at the head a very large crown of the same surmounted by a floral cross, and encircling the plate a beautiful wreath. The plate was inscribed, "John Parker Hale, aged 67 years."

The services were deeply impressive, and were conducted by Rev. Thomas W. Brown, pastor, assisted by Rev. John Parkman, of Boston, in former years pastor of the church and a personal friend of the deceased. The opening service was a chant by the choir, followed by selections from the Scriptures.

Rev. Mr. Brown then delivered the funeral address, referring in an appropriate manner to the greatness of soul, the thrilling eloquence, the championship of the rights of the oppressed, the deep religious character of the deceased statesman, and closing with the words:

"And now he rests; his greatness and his sweetness
No more shall seem at strife;
And death has moulded into calm completeness
The statue of his life."

Rev. John Parkman then gave some touching reminiscences of his acquaintance with the deceased, thirty years ago, showing the lofty character and nobility of soul of Mr. Hale, and referred to his firm religious faith.

The closing services were prayer by the pastor and a hymn sung by the choir. The remains were then taken in solemn procession to Pine Hill Cemetery, which spot the deceased loved to visit and view the beautiful scenery it affords.

The committal service was there performed by Rev. Thomas R. Lambert, D. D., of Charlestown, Mass., of St. John's (Episcopal) Church, a brother-in-law of the deceased.

The pall bearers were Hon. E. A. Straw (Governor), Hon. Walker Harriman, Judge Daniel Clark, Gen. Gilman Marston, Hon. George G. Fogg, Hon. Mason W. Tappan, Hon. E. H. Rollins, Hon. James Pike, Hon. Charles H. Horton (Mayor), Hon. John H. White, Hon. Oliver Wyatt and Benjamin Barnes, Esq.

MEMORIAL SERVICES.

At the Unitarian Church, Sunday morning, Nov. 23d, memorial services were held in honor of the late Hon. John P. Hale. The attendance was very large, including friends from all denominations.

The usual services were given, the selections by the pastor and choir being appropriate and with especial reference to the occasion.

SERMON.

Revelation, 2:10. "FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH."

While yet the solemn hush and hallowing of the service of yesterday still rests upon mind and heart, and the terrible burden of our so recent loss as a church and people still weighs heavily upon our spirits, I can do nothing more appropriate, I think, than to take up at this time for further consideration, the life of the honored friend whom we yesterday laid away in the repose of the grave. And if the tribute I thus bring to his cherished memory seems in anywise inadequate—as well it may, since it has been prepared in a few hours only—I can only say in apology, that it has this merit, at least, if no other: that it is the affectionate and cordial offering, of a heart that has learned to love and

honor our departed friend the more, from the personal intercourse of the past few years.

Of what may be regarded as the principal incidents in his life, I shall make no very extended mention. Born in the neighboring town of Rochester, in the year 1806, he was prepared for college in another town of our State, not very far distant, and in that most excellent of training institutions for youth, Phillips' Exeter Academy. Thence he passed to Bowdoin College in Maine; where he had as fellow-students and classmates, some who have since risen to distinction. Choosing, as he subsequently did, the law for his profession, he prepared himself for the bar in our own city, and was admitted in 1830. His practice here soon became very considerable, and his success very marked. But it was in another and a higher walk of success—to which the practice of the law indeed often proves an introduction—that Mr. Hale was destined to gain his highest and most enduring laurels. Entering, at first, the Legislature of our State, in 1832, he subsequently served for a few years as United States Attorney for the District of New Hampshire; and in 1843 was elected to the popular branch of the National Congress. There he served for a single term of two years, when his political change of views—made, as none of us can doubt, from the highest and most conscientious of motives; made, indeed, when he was to stand almost alone if he adopted the change—cost him, as he must have known it would do, his re-election. Still desirous, however, to serve the State in any way in which he might do so, he was made a member and afterwards elected presiding officer, of the New Hampshire House of Representatives. But his talents were too great and his country's need of him in her highest councils too pressing, to admit of his continuing long in these less distinguished positions. He was therefore sent, in 1846, to the United States Senate; in which body he served with increasing distinction and enlarging influence and power, for nearly

seventeen years. Upon his retirement from that body in 1865, he was appointed to represent our nation at the court of Spain; and it was from this latter mission that he was received in 1869—and upon his retirement from office—with such glad and generous welcome, by the citizens of a community, which is now called to deplore his removal from it by death.

I have thus passed, in rapid review, over some of the principal events of his life; and in so doing, perhaps, have seemed to you to give little else but a list of dates, and a catalogue of the mere offices which he filled. But *into* the time thus covered, how vast an amount is there compressed, of high devotion to duty; of noble self-sacrifice for the right; of moral heroism; and manly consecration to principle above all things else! Turning, since his death, over the pages of a book in which some account is given of the famous discussion into which he entered, in Concord, in this State, with one who since preceded him by some years, into the other life, I find this splendid outburst of genuine and grand heart-eloquence: “I expected to be called ambitious; to have my name cast out as evil; to be traduced, and misrepresented. I have not been disappointed. But if things have come to this condition, that conscience and a sacred regard for truth and duty, are to be publicly held up to ridicule, and scouted at without rebuke, as has just been done here, it matters little whether we are annexed to Texas, or Texas to us.” And then he goes on to add, in letters which deserve to be written in gold: “I may be permitted to say, that the measure of my ambition will be full, if my earthly career shall be finished and my bones be laid beneath the soil of New Hampshire; and when my wife and children shall repair to my grave, to drop the tear of affection to my memory, they may read on my tombstone, ‘He who lies beneath, surrendered office, and place and power, rather than bow down and worship slavery.’”