A TESTIMONIAL OF GRATITUDE AND AFFECTION TO HENRY CLAY. THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE WHIGS OF PHILADELPHIA ASSEMBLED IN TOWN MEETING ON THE 19TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 1844

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A testimonial of gratitude and affection to Henry Clay. The proceedings of the Whigs of Philadelphia assembled in town meeting on the 19th day of December, 1844 by Various .

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A

TESTIMONIAL

OF

GRATITUDE AND AFFECTION

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HENRY CLAY.

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE WHIGS OF PHILADELPHIA
ASSEMBLED IN TOWN MEETING ON THE 19TH DAY OF
DECEMBER, 1844.

PHILADELPHIA:

PUBLISHED FOR THE TRUSTEES

BY CAREY AND HART.

1845.

AT a meeting of the friends of Henry Clay of the City and County of Philadelphia, held at the County Court House on Wednesday evening, December 19, 1844, in pursuance of the call of the National Clay Club,

On motion of Gideon Scull, Esq., the following officers were unanimously elected:

PRESIDENT, HON, JOHN SERGEANT.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

FIRST DISTRICT.

Joseph G. Clarkson, Peter Williamson, Jacob B. Lancaster.

SECOND DISTRICT.

John Struthers, John P. Wetherell, Robert Howell.

THIRD DISTRICT.

JOHN D. NINESTEEL, JAMES VINYARD, BELA BADGER.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

CHARLES W. CHURCHMAN, JAMES KEEN, THOMAS ALLIBONE.

SECRETARIES.

OLIVER BROOKS, ISAAC R. DAVIS, GEORGE WOELPPER, LEVI B. COATES. The objects of the meeting were stated by the President. The following preamble and resolutions were moved by Charles Gibbons, Esq., and seconded by Joseph R. Chandler, Esq., to wit:

In the elections that have lately been held under the constitution of our country, more than a million and a quarter of Freemen bore their testimony to the exalted patriotism of Henry Clay, and manifested a just appreciation of his ability and purity as a statesman and his private worth as a citizen, by uniting their efforts in his behalf for the office of President of the United States. And we do solemnly declare it as our belief, that a majority of Whig Electors for President and Vice President have received a majority of the legal votes of the country, and that Henry Clay was, and continues to be, the choice of the American people for Chief Magistrate of the Union.

Under a deep sense of the injustice that has been done to Mr. CLAY, and gratefully impressed with the value of the services which he has rendered to this Nation, during his career as a statesman of more than forty years—

By sustaining American Labour and Industry above that of all other nations:

By his zealous support of a system of Internal Improvements, to facilitate the development of the wealth and resources of the country: By his eloquent advocacy of the great cause of civil and religious liberty throughout the world:

By his pure American feeling, manifested in all his public acts, and whenever the honour or the flag of the Nation has been insulted, or the rights of those who seek protection under it, have been invaded:

By his successful efforts to preserve our domestic tranquillity, and strengthen the ties of our National Union:

By his uniform and fearless resistance of all encroachments upon our constitution, and the concentration of power in the hands of the Executive, dangerous to our liberties:

And by his philanthropy, his patriotism, and the brilliant example which his long public career furnishes to posterity, of a great statesman, without fear and without reproach:

For these noble and patriotic services, for his uniform devotion to Whig principles, the excrtions and sacrifices he has so long made for their maintenance, and the honour he has conferred upon the Whig party by his eminent abilities and worth, we feel an ardent desire to bear a public testimony of affectionate respect and gratitude, which we believe to be felt, also, by every Whig in the United States. Therefore,

 Resolved, That the Whigs of the City and County of Philadelphia be invited to assemble at their usual places of meeting, in their respective wards and townships, on Monday evening next, at 7½ o'clock, for the purpose of appointing committees to receive the subscriptions of our Whig brethren, to a fund to be appropriated to this object, as may hereafter be determined.

- 2. Resolved, That the list of subscribers be carefully preserved, and that hereafter the whole of the names be collected in a book, without specifying the amounts subscribed, to be hereafter presented to Mr. Clay.
- 3. Resolved, That the officers of this meeting be, and they are hereby authorized to appoint seven Trustees to take charge of the fund, and appropriate it in such manner as in their judgment may best effect the object of the donors; the said trustees being hereby authorized to concur and co-operate with citizens appointed for the like purposes in other parts of this State, and of the United States and Territories.
- 4. Resolved, That the several Ward and Township Committees be requested to pay over the sums collected by them, to such person or persons as may be duly authorized by the said Trustees to receive the same.
- 5. Resolved, That we bear in grateful remembrance the encouragement that we have from time to time received from the ladies of Philadelphia, and other parts of the United States, in

our support of Whig principles, and that we respectfully invite them to participate in the offering now proposed to the greatest of living statesmen—the first in the hearts and confidence of his countrymen.

6. Resolved, That we adopt the sentiment expressed by Mr. Clay in his late address to the Kentucky electors, that "The Whigs are deliberately convinced of the truth and wisdom of the principles and measures which they have espoused. That we will persevere in contending for them; and that, adhering to our separate and distinct organization, we will treat all who have the good of the country in view, with respect and sympathy, and invite their co-operation in securing the patriotic objects which it is our aim and purpose to accomplish."

The Resolutions and Preamble were unanimously adopted, and the meeting then adjourned. JOHN SERGEANT, President.

OLIVER BROOKS,
ISAAC R. DAVIS,
GEORGE WOELPPER,
LEVI B. COATES,

On the same evening the officers of the meeting met in pursuance of the Third Resolution, and appointed the following named gentlemen

TRUSTEES OF THE FUND.

DAVID S. BROWN,
HENRY WHITE,
CHARLES GIBBONS,
WILLIAM REYNOLDS,
ABM. J. LEWIS,
CHARLES W. CHURCHMAN,
JOHN E. KEEN.

JOHN SERGEANT, President.

OLIVER BROOKS,
ISAAC R. DAVIS,
GEORGE WOELPPER,
LEVI B. COATES,

The following names of Contributors have been collected by the Trustees, and are now published agreeably to the provisions of the Second Resolution.