

**DEDICATION OF THE CONVERSE
MEMORIAL BUILDING.
EXERCISES AT THE METHODIST
EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MALDEN,
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1885**

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Dedication of the Converse Memorial Building. Exercises at the Methodist Episcopal Church,
Malden, Thursday, October 1, 1885 by Various

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VARIOUS

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CONVERSE MEMORIAL BUILDING.

Malden Public Library.

©

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OF THE

CONVERSE MEMORIAL BUILDING.

Exercises

AT THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

MALDEN,

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1886.

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1886.

PRELIMINARY.

TO HIS HONOR THE MAYOR, AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF MALDEN:

Gentlemen,—For some years we have had in mind the erection in Malden of a memorial to our son, Frank E. Converse.

The establishment of a public library through the bequest of Mr. John Gardner, its rapid growth, and consequent inconvenient location, pointed to a way in which the memorial could take shape and also be of utility to the public.

We therefore desire, through you, to present to the city of Malden, to be held in trust forever by it, or by a corporation duly authorized, the lot of land next to the Baptist Church on Salem Street, and the edifice thereon now in process of construction and soon to be completed, to be known as the Converse Memorial Building, for the free use of the city as a place of deposit for the library and works of art.

We shall be obliged if you will at your convenience take such action as you deem proper on this notice.

Yours respectfully,

E. S. CONVERSE.
MARY D. CONVERSE.

MALDEN, MASS., April 20, 1885.

DEDICATORY EXERCISES.

ORGAN PRELUDE *Battiste.*

OBADIAH B. BROWN, ORGANIST, OF MALDEN.

INVOCATION.

REV. JOSEPH H. MANSFIELD, OF MALDEN.

O God, our Father, we come to thee for thy guidance and blessing in the services of this important hour. Thou art the source of all our help, and we acknowledge our dependence upon thee. Wilt thou give us strength in all our weakness, and wisdom in all our ignorance, and help in all our responsibilities?

We would thank thee for thy remembrance of us in the past; for all the good things that have come to us from thy bountiful hand. Thou art the Giver of all our good, the Giver of every good and perfect gift.

We invoke thy special benediction upon our brother and his wife, whose munificent gift has brought us together at this hour. Give them comfort in all their sorrows, and help and reward them in all their good works. May Heaven's richest favors crown their lives. Let thy blessing rest upon our fair city. Bless our schools and churches and every institution dear to us. Remember our citizens assembled here at this hour, and the greater number not here save in spirit. May temperance and virtue prevail among us, and every good work be carried forward to completest success. May we love righteousness, and hate evil.

Grant thy blessing upon our Mayor, and upon our entire city government, Remember our governor and the Commonwealth, and give direction in all our national affairs. Again we ask thy blessing upon the exercises of this hour. We would honor thee in all our doings and thoughts. Wilt thou guide us by thy counsels while we live, and afterwards receive us to glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour? Amen.

SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS.

REV. JOSHUA W. WELLMAN, D. D., OF MALDEN.

Wise men lay up knowledge.

Give instruction to a wise man and he will be yet wiser. Teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.

Every prudent man worketh with knowledge, but a fool spreadeth out folly.

Take fast hold of instruction, let her not go; keep her, for she is thy life.

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.

For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver; and the gain thereof than fine gold.

She is more precious than rubies. And none of the things thou canst desire are to be compared unto her.

Length of days is in her right hand. In her left are riches and honor.

Her ways are ways of pleasantness. And all her paths are peace.

She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her; and happy is every one that retaineth her.

The Lord by wisdom founded the earth.

By understanding He established the heavens.

By his knowledge the depths were broken up, and the skies drop down dew.

Get wisdom, get understanding. Forget her not, neither decline from the words of my mouth.

Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee. Love her, and she shall keep thee.

Wisdom is the principal thing, therefore get wisdom.

Yea, with all that thou hast gotten, get understanding.

Exalt her, and she shall promote thee.

Wisdom hath builded her house. She hath hewn out her seven pillars. Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither.

As for him that is void of understanding, she said to him :

Come, eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mingled.

Leave off, ye simple ones, and live ; and walk in the way of understanding.

Through wisdom is our house builded. And by understanding is it established.

And by knowledge are the chambers filled, with all precious and pleasant riches.

THESE STONES SHALL BE FOR A MEMORIAL.

And Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and he entered, as his custom was, into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Isaiah. And he opened the book, and found the place where it was written :

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.

Because he hath anointed me to preach good tidings to the poor.

He hath sent me to proclaim release to the captives,

And recovering of sight to the blind.

To set at liberty them that are bruised.

To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.

And he closed the book, and gave it to the attendant, and sat down.

Till I come, give heed to reading. If any man thinketh that he knoweth anything, he knoweth not yet as he ought to know.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by his good life, his works in meekness of wisdom. The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruit. As it is written:

He hath scattered abroad, he hath given to the poor; His righteousness abideth forever.

And He that supplieth seed to the sower and bread for food, shall supply and multiply your seed for sowing, and increase the fruits of your righteousness: ye being enriched in everything unto all liberality, which worketh through us thanksgiving to God.

And the elders of the Jews, when they came to Jesus, besought him earnestly, saying, He is worthy that thou shouldest do this for him, for he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.

God loveth a cheerful giver.

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, shall they give into your bosom.

"PRAISE THE LORD" *Marsh.*

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