

**AN ORATION, DELIVERED AT
LEXINGTON ON THE DEDICATION OF THE
TOWN AND MEMORIAL HALL, APRIL 19,
1871, BEING THE 96TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE BATTLE OF LEXINGTON**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649366743

An Oration, Delivered at Lexington on the Dedication of the Town and Memorial Hall, April 19, 1871, being the 96th anniversary of the battle of Lexington by George B. Loring

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Cover @ 2017

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GEORGE B. LORING

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LEXINGTON ON THE DEDICATION OF THE
TOWN AND MEMORIAL HALL, APRIL 19,
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THE BATTLE OF LEXINGTON**

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

DEDICATION

OF THE

Town and Memorial Hall,

LEXINGTON,

APRIL 19, 1871.

AN
ORATION,

DELIVERED AT LEXINGTON ON THE

Dedication of the Town and Memorial Hall,

APRIL 19, 1871,

BEING THE

96TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF LEXINGTON.

BY DR. GEORGE B. ^{Bailey}LORING.

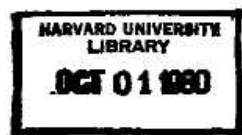
WITH THE PROCEEDINGS AND A HISTORICAL
APPENDIX.

BOSTON:
PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON,
1871.

571

Ms. A. 9. 2. 10. 5

1871, Aug. 15.
Gift of
Samuel A. Green, M.D.
of Boston.
(Ms. A. 9. 2. 10. 5)



To the Memory of

SAMUEL ADAMS, WHO INSPIRED,

AND

JOHN A. ANDREW, WHO SUSTAINED,

the heroism and devotion to freedom and humanity, which have given

Massachusetts her great name, I reverently dedicate this

Memorial of the valor of Lexington in the

two great American Wars.

ORATION.

FELLOW-CITIZENS:

NINETY-SIX years ago to-day the town of Lexington became immortal in history. The story is a familiar one. It has been recorded by the careful and patient annalist; illumined by the poet; exalted by the orator; repeated with holy zeal at the fireside; passed from tongue to tongue along all the admiring lands; and received as an inspiration by all the sons of men toiling and hoping to be free. And what a wonderful story it is! There had been great wars, and great protests;—great wars for freedom and independent nationality, great protests against tyranny and oppression. There had been great efforts, and great failures;—great efforts to establish popular government, and great failures in organizing republican states. For the diffusion of Christian light, and the freedom of Christian thought, man had risen to the sublimest heights of heroism; and, betrayed too often, had been left in the darkness of despair. The history of popular resistance was not encouraging; the history of popular effort was not in all things admirable. The clouds which gathered around aspiring