ADDRESSES AT THE UNVEILING OF THE JOSEPH HENRY STATUE AT WASHINGTON, D.C., APRIL 19, 1883

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MORRISON REMICK WAITE & NOAH PORTER

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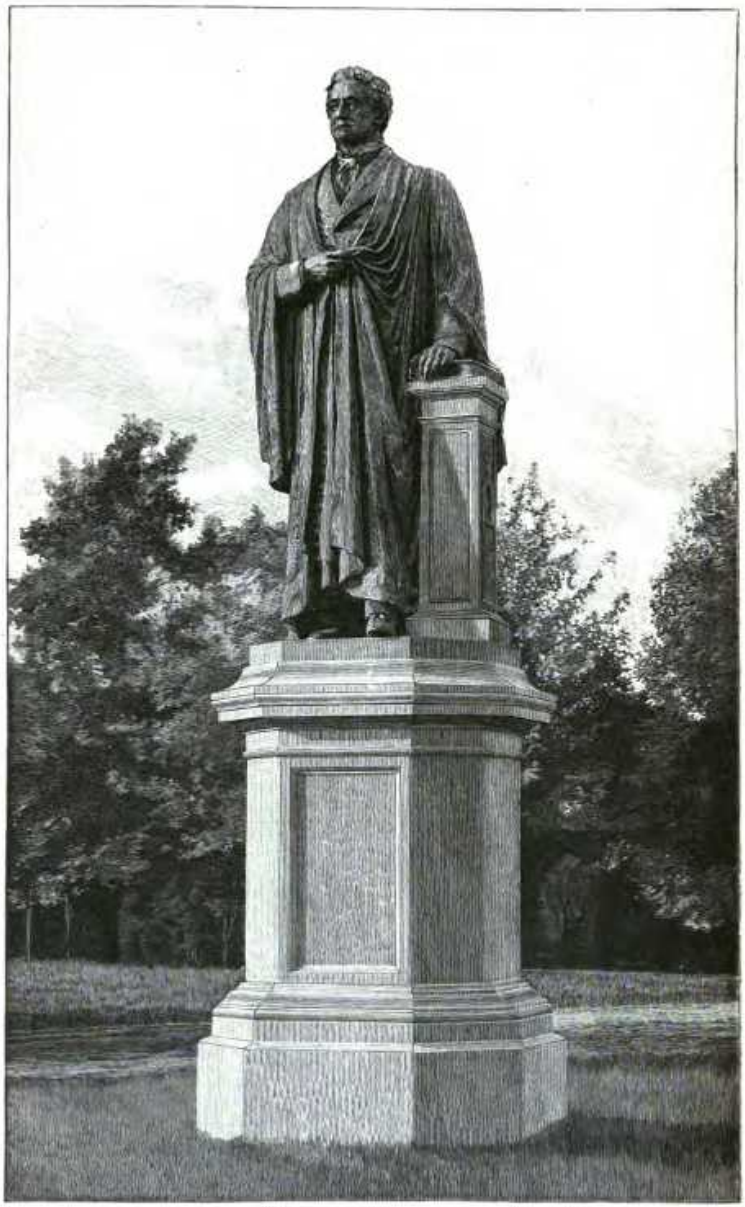

BRONZE STATUE OF JOSEPH HENRY.

ERECTED ON THE SMITHSONIAN GROUNDS BY AUTHORITY OF AN ACT OF CONGRESS APPROVED JUNE 1, 1880; AND UNVEILED APRIL 19, 1883.

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ADDRESSES

AT THE UNVEILING OF THE

JOSEPH HENRY STATUE,

AT

WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 19, 1883,

BY

Morrison Remich

CHIEF-JUSTICE WAITE,
CHANCELLOR OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

AND

NOAH PORTER, LL.D.,
PRESIDENT OF YALE COLLEGE.

FROM THE SMITHSONIAN REPORT FOR 1883.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1884.

Phys 42.5

1885 April 6,

Gift of

The Smithsonian Institution

REPORT ON THE HENRY STATUE.

To the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution:

GENTLEMEN: An act of Congress (No. 71), approved by the President June 1, 1880, authorized "the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to contract with W. W. Story, sculptor, for a statue in bronze of JOSEPH HENRY, late Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, to be erected upon the grounds of said Institution; and for this purpose, and for the entire expense of the foundation and pedestal of the monument, the sum of $15,000" was appropriated.

In accordance with the authority conferred in the above act, the Regents of the Institution executed a contract with Mr. Story on the 8th of December, 1880, for the statue. At Mr. Story's request a number of photographs of Professor Henry were sent to him to be used in preparing the model of the statue, and also a cast of the face and bust executed by Mr. Clark Mills, together with an academic gown similar to the one used by the professor when a member of the faculty of Princeton College. A contract was made with the Maine Red Granite Company and the Quincy Granite Polishing Works for a pedestal according to a design furnished by Mr. Story—the die of Red-Beach granite finely polished, octagonal in shape, 4 feet in diameter, 4 feet high, and the cap and bases of Quincy gray granite, fine-axed, the whole pedestal being 7 feet 3 inches in height. The statue itself is nine feet high.

Owing to certain imperfections found in the statue after it had been cast, it became necessary to reproduce it, and it was not until November, 1882, that it was actually completed and shipped from Rome. The statue was received in Washington in December, but, owing to the lateness of the season, it was decided to defer its erection until the following spring, and the date selected was the 19th of April, 1883, that being the time when the National Academy of Sciences (of which Professor Henry had been president at the time of his death) would hold its semi-annual meeting in Washington. For the site of the statue a triangular plot on the Smithsonian grounds, about 150 feet to the northwest of the building, was chosen by the Regents, and the selection met the full approval of Mr. Story, who visited Washington in the winter.

The Chancellor of the Institution was requested by the Regents to perform the ceremony of unveiling it.

Hon. Hiester Clymer was selected to deliver an address appropriate

to the occasion, but on account of ill health declined the appointment, and President Noah Porter, of Yale College, one of the Regents, was invited by the Executive Committee to perform the service.

Rev. Dr. John Maclean and Rev. A. A. Hodge, of Princeton, N. J., were invited to offer prayer on the occasion. By reason of ill health, however, Dr. Maclean was prevented from attending.

The direction of the executive details of the occasion were assigned by Professor Baird to Mr. William J. Rhees, the chief clerk.

By direction of the Board of Regents, the following letter was addressed by Professor Baird, Secretary of the Institution, to the Hon. Speaker of the House of Representatives, January 17, 1883:

"SIR: I have the honor to inform the House of Representatives that in accordance with the act of Congress of June 1, 1880, providing that the Regents of the institution be 'authorized to contract with W. W. Story, sculptor, for a bronze statue of Joseph Henry, late Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, to be erected in the grounds of said institution,' the statue has been executed and received in Washington, and that Thursday the 19th of April has been selected as the day for the public unveiling of the same.

"The Congress of the United States having ordered this statue and made the appropriation necessary therefor, the Board of Regents respectfully invite the Senate and House of Representatives to be present on the occasion of its formal presentation to the public.

"I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant."

A joint resolution was passed by Congress, February 24, 1883, accepting the invitation to attend the inauguration of the statue.

"No. 16. Joint resolution accepting the invitation of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to attend the inauguration of the statue of Joseph Henry.

"Whereas, in a communication from Spencer F. Baird, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, Congress was informed that in accordance with an act of June first, eighteen hundred and eighty, the bronze statue of Joseph Henry, late Secretary of the Smithsonion Institution, had been completed; and whereas, in the same communication, Congress was respectfully invited to be present on the occasion of its formal presentation to the public, upon Thursday the nineteenth of April next; Therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the said invitation be, and the same is hereby, accepted by the Senate and House of Representatives; and that the President of the Senate select seven members of that body, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives fifteen members of that body, to be present and represent the Congress of the United