

**THE CHARACTER OF
WASHINGTON.
AN ADDRESS**

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The character of Washington. An address by George Frisbie Hoar

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GEORGE FRISBIE HOAR

**THE CHARACTER OF
WASHINGTON.
AN ADDRESS**

The Character of Washington.

AN ADDRESS BY

SENATOR GEORGE FRISBIE HOAR,

BEING HIS LAST PUBLIC UTTERANCE,

WITH OTHER SPEECHES,

DELIVERED JUNE 17TH, 1904. PUBLISHED FROM THE STENOGRAPHIC

NOTES OF MISS M. LOUISE JACKSON.

BOSTON:
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY,
1904.

The City of Worcester, having accepted from the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the gift of a number of engraved copies of the Stuart portrait of Washington, to be placed in all the principal public school buildings of the city, at the suggestion of the School Committee exercises were held, and the presentation took place, on the afternoon of Friday, June 17th, 1904, at the English High School Hall.

Senator George Frisbie Hoar, a member of the Society, was present, and, although by reason of the condition of his health, not originally assigned to speak, made a brief address in response to the request of the chairman which proved to be one of his most interesting, eloquent and delightful,—and which, alas! was the last public utterance of that eminent man.

The historian of the Society being charged with the duty of recording such events, had arranged for a stenographic report of the entire proceedings which the Society now publishes as a memorial to its distinguished member. Senator Hoar spoke upon the character of Washington, a subject which he was abundantly qualified to discuss, without the impediment of a manuscript, or the least indication of any abatement of his extraordinary powers. His apt wit, discriminating analysis, just characterization, fund of anecdote and grace of diction were never more in evidence. The brief speeches which had preceded served but as a setting to his,—a sparkling gem of oratory, worthy of any place or any treasury. As he said in closing, the occasion was one of the most beautiful and successful he had ever known.

At the conclusion, how few of his auditors realized that his last public utterance had been made; that the eloquent lips would all too soon be silent; but what more fitting subject could have been chosen for the last words of any American orator than his theme, "The Character of Washington."

EBEN FRANCIS THOMPSON.

WORCESTER, MASS., October 18, 1904.

EXERCISES ON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESEN-
TATION OF COPIES OF THE STUART
PORTRAIT OF GEORGE
WASHINGTON.

As a result of the acceptance by the City of Worcester of the offer of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution to present framed copies of the Stuart portrait of Washington for all the principal public school buildings of Worcester, Committees of Arrangements and Reception were appointed as follows :

On the part of the School Committee :

CHARLES R. JOHNSON, Esq., *Chairman*,
REV. VINCENT E. TOMLINSON, DR. LOUIS P. DE GRANDPRE,
WILLIAM H. COOK, Esq., DR. FRANCIS A. UNDERWOOD,
HOMER P. LEWIS, Esq., JOSEPH BEALS, Esq.

On the part of the Sons of the Revolution :

HON. STEPHEN SALISBURY, *Chairman*,
SAMUEL S. GREEN, Esq., HON. WILLIAM T. FORBES,
EBEN F. THOMPSON, Esq., J. RUSSEL MARBLE, Esq.,
GEORGE B. INCHEB, Esq., HON. DANIEL KENT,
GEN. FRED W. WELLINGTON, JOHN H. COBB, Esq.,
FRANK A. LELAND, Esq.

On June 17th, at 2.30 P. M., the following gentlemen met in the office of his Honor the Mayor, Walter H. Blodget, as a reception committee :

HIS HONOR THE MAYOR, WALTER H. BLODGET,
CHARLES R. JOHNSON, Esq., Chairman of School Committee,
REV. VINCENT E. TOMLINSON,
WILLIAM H. COOK, Esq., and
DR. LOUIS P. DE GRANDPRE, of the School Committee,
HON. STEPHEN SALISBURY,
HON. WILLIAM T. FORBES,
J. RUSSEL MARBLE, Esq.,
HON. DANIEL KENT,
EBEN F. THOMPSON, Esq.,
JOHN H. COBS, Esq.,
GEN. FRED W. WELLINGTON,
FRANK A. LELAND, Esq.,
HOMER P. LEWIS, Esq., Superintendent of Worcester Public
Schools,
JOSEPH BEALS, Esq., Secretary of the School Committee.

The Committee took carriages and repaired to the station, and upon the arrival of the train received Richard Henry Winslow Dwight, President of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Walter Gilman Page, Registrar of the General Society, Rev. Edward Hunting Rudd, Chaplain of the State Society, and Harry Young, Esq., of the Board of Managers.

The Committee and guests drove to the English High School Hall, where they were joined by United States Senator, the Hon. George Frisbie Hoar, a life member of the Society, the Hon. Henry A. Marsh, and the Rev. John J. Putnam, a member of the Society and himself the son of a Revolutionary soldier. All of the above named gentlemen occupied seats upon the platform.

The exercises, beginning at 3.30 P. M., were in accordance with the following programme, and the addresses were as follows:

Programme.

"Grand American Fantasia," *Bendix.*
HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA.

INTRODUCTION by the Presiding Officer,
CHARLES R. JOHNSON, *Chairman of the School Committee.*

ADDRESS OF WELCOME by His Honor,
WALTER H. BLODGET, *Mayor.*

RESPONSE in behalf of the Sons of the Revolution,
RICHARD HENRY WINSLOW DWIGHT, *President.*

CORNET SOLO, "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp," . . . *Rollinson.*
EDWARD S. MCGRATH.

PRESENTATION OF PORTRAITS,
EBEN FRANCIS THOMPSON.

RESPONSES IN ACCEPTANCE,
REV. VINCENT E. TOMLINSON,
SUPT. HOMER P. LEWIS,
DR. LOUIS P. DE GRANDPRE.

THE ART OF STUART,
WALTER GILMAN PAGE, *Registrar of the General Society.*

THE CHARACTER OF WASHINGTON,
Address by Senator GEORGE FRISBIE HOAR.

"The American Patrol," *Meacham.*
HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA.

MR. JOHNSON:

Ladies and Gentlemen:—We are met on this historic day, the one hundred and twenty-ninth anniversary of Bunker Hill, to publicly receive and properly acknowledge the valuable gift to the City of Worcester from the Society of the Sons of the Revolution. This beautiful gift is an engraving in commemoration of him who was called, "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen;" of whom it was said by his distinguished Virginian eulogist, "He sleeps beneath the shade of the everlasting laurel, which stretches its mighty branches athwart the lapse of ages;" but of whom it may be said, as did Tacitus of Agricola,—In the affections of his people he lives and will live forever.

The official representatives of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution are here present,—and to them and to all a welcome will now be extended by his Honor the Mayor.

I have the pleasure of introducing to you Walter H. Blodget, Mayor of Worcester.

MAYOR BLODGET:

Mr. Chairman, Honored Guests, Sons of the Revolution, Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls,—for I see there are quite a good many boys and girls here to-day, and I only wish that there were more here. In behalf of the City of Worcester I extend to you a most cordial and hearty welcome to our city. We are glad to have you come here; and we are glad to welcome you coming, as you do, on such a noble errand.

The work which this organization is doing at present is certainly a work which is very commendable. Not only do