

**EULOGIUM ON THE LIFE AND  
CHARACTER OF THE LATE HON. JOSEPH  
REED INGERSOLL,  
PRESIDENT OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
OF PENNSYLVANIA, DELIVERED SEPT. 28,  
1869**

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Eulogium on the Life and Character of the Late Hon. Joseph Reed Ingersoll, President of the historical Society of Pennsylvania, Delivered Sept. 28, 1869 by David Paul Brown

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**DAVID PAUL BROWN**

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EULOGIUM

ON THE

LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF THE LATE

HON. JOSEPH REED INGERSOLL,

PRESIDENT OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

BY

DAVID PAUL BROWN.

Delivered Sept. 28, 1869.

AT THE HALL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

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Published in Pursuance of a Resolution of the Society.

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## NOTE.

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THE Historical Society of Pennsylvania, desirous to honor the memory of its late President, HON. JOSEPH REED INGERSOLL, adopted a resolution inviting David Paul Brown, Esq., to deliver an address commemorative of his life and character.

Mr. BROWN, having accepted the duty to which he was thus invited, delivered the following Eulogium in the Hall of the University of Pennsylvania, on the evening of the 28th of September, 1869.

The Hall was filled with a large audience, composed of eminent citizens of Philadelphia.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
PHILADELPHIA, March 24, 1869.

MY DEAR SIR,

At a meeting of the Executive Council of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, held on the 22d inst., a resolution was adopted inviting you to deliver before the Society, a eulogium upon the life and character of our late President, Hon. Joseph R. Ingersoll.

In communicating this resolution to you, I express the earnest hope and desire of the Society that it may suit your views and convenience to comply with this request.

The time for its delivery is left entirely to your option and convenience.

With the highest respect,

I have the honor to be

Your friend and obedient servant,

JAMES ROSS SNOWDEN,

*Chairman Executive Council.*

DAVID PAUL BROWN, Esq., Philadelphia.

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No. 1113 GIRARD STREET,  
PHILADELPHIA, March 26, 1869.

To JAMES ROSS SNOWDEN, Esq.,

*Corresponding Secretary of Historical Society of Pennsylvania.*

MY DEAR SIR,

I have received your letter in behalf of the Historical Society announcing my appointment to deliver a eulogy upon the life and character of the Honorable Joseph Reed Ingersoll, the late President of the Society, and also expressing a hope that I might comply with their request. In answer to this invitation, allow me to say, that I can refuse nothing that is intended to do honor to the memory of my departed and lamented FRIEND, and that the only hesitation I feel in assuming this grateful task, arises from the consciousness of my inadequacy to do justice to the exalted merits of the subject. Diffidence, however, upon such an occasion, must give place to sympathetic duty, and I therefore not only willingly, but gratefully accept the appointment.

With great regard,

Very truly yours,

DAVID PAUL BROWN.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
PHILADELPHIA, October 6, 1869.

TO DAVID PAUL BROWN, Esq.

MY DEAR SIR,

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and the large and intelligent audience present, listened with the liveliest satisfaction and gratification to your eloquent eulogium on the life and character of Mr. Ingersoll.

At the close of the exercises, the resolutions were adopted which I have the honor herewith to send you, and in doing so I beg to express the hope that you will comply with the request therein presented.

The publication of such an address is, in many respects, greatly to be desired; more especially as examples of lives and characters, such as was exhibited in the career of our late President, so happily and appropriately delineated by you, are proper studies for the imitations of our people, and for the elevation of the moral and intellectual condition of our country.

I am, dear sir, with the highest respect,

Your friend and obedient servant,

JAMES ROSS SNOWDEN,

*Corresponding Secretary His. So. of Penna.*

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PHILADELPHIA, October 6, 1869.

TO HON. JAMES ROSS SNOWDEN,

*Corresponding Secretary of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.*

DEAR SIR,

I have just received your kind letter in behalf of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, requesting a copy of the eulogy pronounced by me upon the life and character of the Hon. Joseph Reed Ingersoll, the late President of the Society, and my *life-long* friend. The eulogy is entirely at your service, accompanied, however, with the sincere regret that it is not more worthy of the subject, and of the distinguished audience before which it was delivered.

Accept my thanks for the Society, and for yourself my lasting and affectionate regard.

DAVID PAUL BROWN.



# INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

BY

JOHN WILLIAM WALLACE, ESQ.,

PRESIDENT OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—

WE are assembled this evening in pursuance of an invitation from the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. As there must be many persons in this large assembly who are not members of that association, I may take leave, perhaps, to state that the Society was founded in the year 1824, and that its object is the collection, preservation, arrangement, and publication of such historical things as contribute to the truth of history and add to the dignity and honor of our city, State and nation. Although the corporation has never been in any way publicly endowed, it has now existed for nearly half a century, and has become, in fact, a stable institution of the State. Indeed, it has so increased, of late, in capacities of usefulness, that it not long since issued a circular giving to its members information of some particulars of its condition. From this, corrected up to the present day,

we learn that it has a library of historical works, numbering about 17,000 books, and of pamphlets full 80,000. In the department of pamphlets, indeed, which embraces the invaluable collection recently bequeathed to us by our fellow-member, Mr. G. W. Fahnestock, the Society is singularly rich. It possesses also a considerable museum, constantly augmenting by gifts, in which are preserved many curious relics of Washington, Penn, and others, illustrious in our civic and social annals; and a gallery of portraits embracing many of our revolutionary officers, and of our early governors and statesmen and men of letters. We have a fund now amounting to \$16,000 for the publication of manuscripts, and by means of this four large and elegant volumes have been already printed. The president here exhibited one of these handsome works, remarking upon the interesting value of its contents. The publication of another is now completed. We have, too, a building fund now amounting to \$12,000, and which interest and contributions are increasing. It is the hope of the Society before many years to be able to erect an edifice worthy of the city in which its treasures may be conveniently arranged and properly exhibited, and where they may be beyond the ordinary risks of fire. In the mean time, its hall is in the upper floor of the Athenæum Building in Sixth Street. Should any of you, not members of the Society, feel disposed to visit it, in behalf of the body I cordially invite you to do so. Our worthy and courteous librarian, the Rev. Dr.

Shrigley, will be happy, I am sure, to welcome any of you and to show to you whatever among our treasures it may most interest you to see.

To proceed to the more immediate subject which engages us this evening :—

The Society is assembled to-night, and has done itself the honor to invite hither those of you who are not of its members, in order to commemorate the virtues and services of its late President, the Honorable **JOSEPH REED INGERSOLL**, a gentleman who, born on this soil, and living for more than eighty years among this people, touched this community at so many points—professionally as a much admired advocate at our bar—politically, as a representative from this city in Congress, and afterwards as the representative of the nation abroad—in the religious aspect, as a frequent participant in the councils of the church of which he was a member—and socially, and in civic relations, as a hospitable and liberally minded gentleman, open and of access easy to all—that there can be but few present, I should suppose, if of mature years at all, who had not some acquaintance with him, either through the pleasure of personal intercourse, or by his good fame and his good deeds ; and none who, having known him, will not readily understand why the Historical Society, of which he was long the President and benefactor, should now, on his death, desire to pay to his memory a mark of its respect.

Scarcely less known in this community than was Mr. Ingersoll himself is the gentleman to whom we