

**ADDRESSES OF JOHN ROMEYN  
BRODHEAD, ESQ., AND HIS  
EXCELLENCY, GOV. HORATIO  
SEYMOUR, DELIVERED BEFORE THE  
CLINTON HALL ASSOCIATION AND  
MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

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Addresses of John Romeyn Brodhead, Esq., and His Excellency, Gov. Horatio Seymour,  
Delivered before the Clinton hall association and mercantile library association by John  
Romeyn Brodhead

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**JOHN ROMEYN BRODHEAD**

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ADDRESSES  
OF  
JOHN ROMEYN BRODHEAD, Esq.,  
AND  
His Excellency, Gov. HORATIO SEYMOUR,  
DELIVERED BEFORE THE  
CLINTON HALL ASSOCIATION,



AND  
MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,  
AT THEIR  
CELEBRATION, COMMEMORATIVE OF THE REMOVAL OF  
THE LIBRARY TO ASTOR PLACE,  
HELD IN THE CHURCH OF THE PURITANS, UNION SQUARE, ON THE  
EVENING OF 5TH JUNE, 1854.

WITH REPORTS THEN SUBMITTED.

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1854.

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## CLINTON HALL ASSOCIATION.

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1854.

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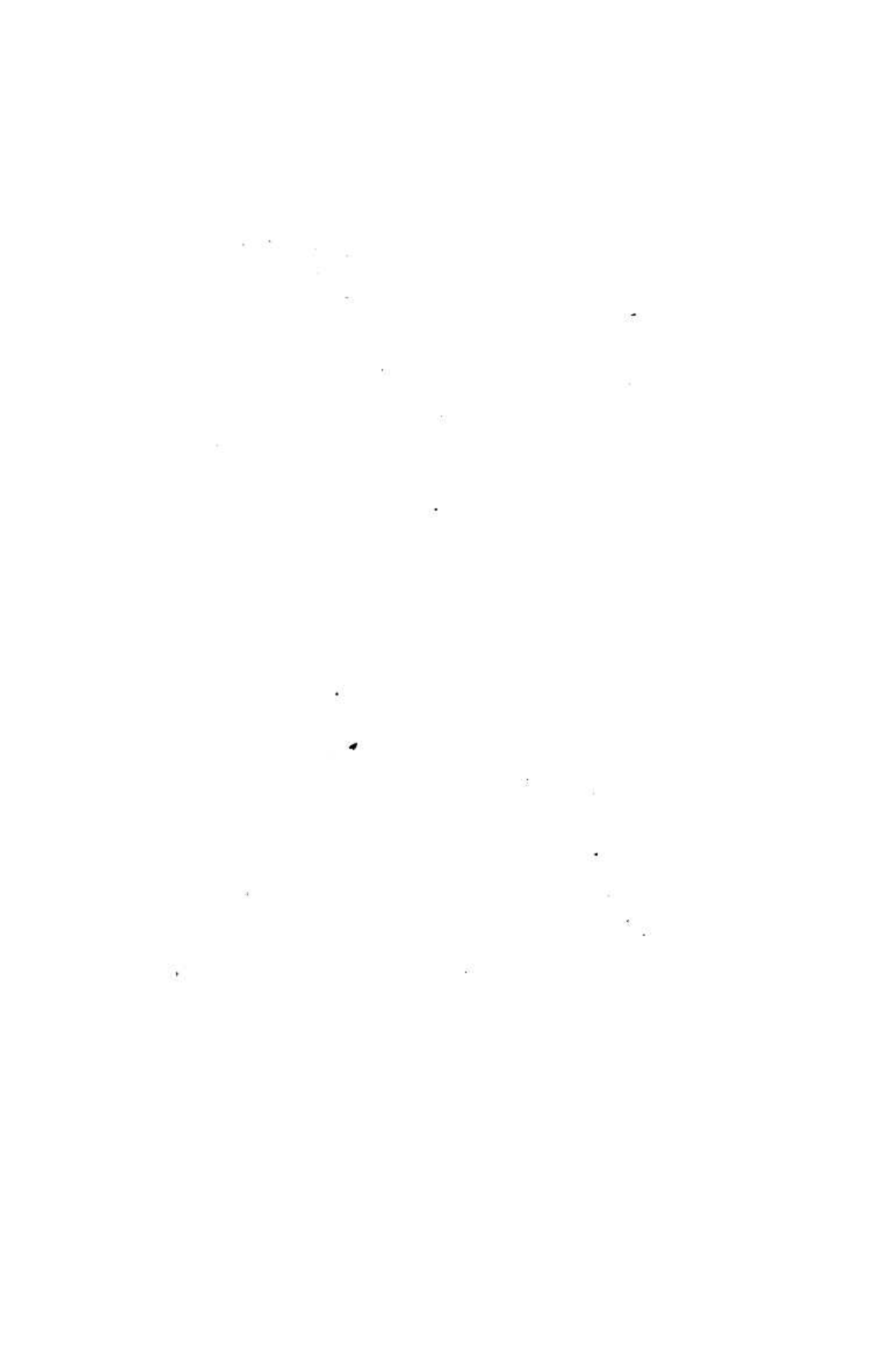
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CLINTON HALL, 22d May, 1854.

JOHN ROMEYN BRODHEAD, Esq., *Naval Officer of the Port.*

SIR :

The Clinton Hall and Mercantile Library Association of this city, being about to commemorate the removal of their Library, to its new quarters, in Astor Place, by some literary ceremonies to take place on the evening of the 8th prox., are very desirous of obtaining your services, in the delivery of an address before them, on that occasion.

The Governor of our State has kindly consented to be present, and as he will treat of the general aim and influence of our Institutions, it is our earnest wish that their past history may receive from your able hand a lasting shape. Feeling that your literary position in our State, and official connection with the commercial interests of our city, clearly point them to you, as the one, from whom to seek such a service, they will indulge the hope that the pressure of your engagements may not prevent a compliance with their request.

With great respect, I remain your ob't serv't

CHAS. E. MILNOR,

*Secretary C. H. Association.*

NEW-YORK, 23d May, 1854.

SIR :

I have received your note of yesterday, conveying the desire of the Clinton Hall and Mercantile Library Associations, that I should take a part in the ceremonies, at the Inauguration of their new building, on the evening of the 8th June.

Feeling a very deep interest in your noble institutions, I cannot decline their flattering invitation; and begging you to accept my acknowledgment of the handsome terms in which you have made your wishes known,

I remain, sincerely yours,

JOHN ROMEYN BRODHEAD.

CHAS. E. MILNOR, Esq., }  
*Sec'y C. H. Association.* }

CLINTON HALL, 12th June, 1854.

JOHN ROMEYN BRODHEAD, Esq., *New-York.*

SIR:

In conformity with resolutions passed at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Clinton Hall Association, held this day, I beg to tender you their sincere thanks, for the very valuable and disinterested service rendered this institution by you, in the delivery of the interesting paper, prepared by you, for the inaugural ceremonies, had at the Church of the Puritans, on the evening of the 8th June.

I desire, further, to present their earnest request, that you will furnish them with a copy of the same, as it is their wish to publish it, in connection with the remarks of Gov. Seymour, on that occasion, in pamphlet form.

With respect, I remain, your ob't serv't.

CHAS. E. MILNOR,  
*Secretary C. H. Association.*

NEW-YORK, 15th June, 1854,

SIR:

I acknowledge, with great pleasure, your communication of the 12th instant, in behalf of the Trustees of the Clinton Hall Association, and place the manuscript of my address, herewith sent, at your disposal.

I remain, sir, with great regard, sincerely yours,

JOHN ROMEYN BRODHEAD.

CHAS. E. MILNOR, Esq.,  
*Sec'y Clinton H. Association.* }

## ADDRESS

OF

**John Romeyn Brodhead, Esq.,**

NAVAL OFFICER OF THE PORT.

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“Promote commerce, \* \* \* \* whereby the Mannhattans  
“ must prosper—her population increase—her trade and  
“ navigation flourish. For when these once become per-  
“ manently established—when the ships of New Netherland  
“ ride on every part of the ocean—then numbers now look-  
“ ing to that coast with eager eyes will be allured to em-  
“ bark for your island.”

Such was the advice and prophecy which the mercantile directors of the Dutch West India Company addressed from Amsterdam to their Provincial officers here, in the winter of 1652.

At that time,—now a little over two centuries ago—New Amsterdam was about to become an incorporated city. Its population was, perhaps, eight hundred souls. For more than forty years the island of Manhattan had been the point to which the sagacity of Holland merchants had directed their trans-atlantic enterprise. Their country had always been commercial. The legend on their earliest coins predicted their way to be “on the sea, and their paths in many waters.” The “*Great River of the Mountains*,” which Hudson had explored for them in 1609, was soon awakened from the lethargy of uncivilized nature, and its far-flowing stream