

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A
CONVENTION OF LITERARY AND
SCIENTIFIC GENTLEMEN, HELD IN THE
COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE
CITY OF NEW YORK, OCTOBER, 1830**

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OCTOBER, 1850.

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, ss.

Be it Remembered, That on the 25d day of November, A. D. 1890, in the 55th year of the Independence of the United States of America, JOHN DELAFIELD, of the said District, hath deposited in this office the title of a book the right whereof he claims as author in the words following to wit:

"Journal of the proceedings of a Convention of Literary and Scientific gentlemen, held in the Common Council Chamber, of the city of New York, October 1890.

In conformity to the Act of Congress of the United States, entitled "An Act for the encouragement of Learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts, and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the time therein mentioned." And also to an Act, entitled "An Act, supplementary to an Act, entitled an Act for the encouragement of Learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts, and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the time therein mentioned, and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving, and etching historical and other prints."

FRED. J. BETTS,

Clerk of the Southern District of New York.

WILLIAM CROSBY

PREFACE.

IN the month of September last, the friends of the University of the city of New York, believing it to be desirable, and that it would prove highly gratifying to all who felt an interest in the important subject of education—that a meeting should be convened, of literary and scientific men of our country, to confer on the general interests of letters and liberal education, and to interchange opinions on these most interesting topics :—they appointed a committee with powers, to invite as far as practicable, the attendance of such individuals, on behalf of the University.

The committee appointed, was composed of the Rev. James M. Mathews, the Rev. Jonathan M. Wainwright, the Hon. Albert Gallatin, and John Delafield, Esq.

This committee issued the following Circular, addressed to the heads of colleges, and to such

gentlemen as it was supposed could without much inconvenience, attend the Convention from a distance.

New York, 25th September, 1830.

SIR,

The establishment of a University in the city of New York, has for some time occupied the attention of our citizens, and an amount of means is now pledged to the object, which will place the Institution at its commencement, on a liberal foundation.

In contemplating the various plans, by which the University, as well as other seminaries of learning in our country, might best promote their common cause, it has been thought, that a meeting of literary and scientific gentlemen, to confer on the general interests of letters and liberal education, would be attended with happy results.

Impressed with the belief that our literary men, and literary institutions, have been too much insulated, it is urged that more frequent intercourse and comparison of views, would be a source of high gratification to all, and a benefit to those interested in the welfare of science and literature.

With this view the undersigned have been appointed a committee, on behalf of the University in this city, to invite such a meeting, to be held in New York, on the 20th of October next.

We are happy to state that some of our distinguished scholars, who have spent several years in the universities of Europe, will be present on the occasion, and give the result of their observations on the systems of education now pursued at home and abroad.

It is requested that you will favor the meeting with your presence, and with such views as you may be pleased to lay before it.

We have the honor to be,

Respectfully, yours,

J. M. MATHEWS,

J. M. WAINWRIGHT,

ALBERT GALLATIN,

JOHN DELAFIELD,

} *Committee.*

The Honorable the Corporation of the city, granted the use of the common council chamber for holding the Convention: generously adding the privilege of occupying the Rotunda or new

court room, if either would better suit the wishes of the committee.

On the day appointed, about one hundred members took their seats, and an abstract of the proceedings of the Convention are given in the following Journal.

The addresses read on the occasion, are embodied in the Journal, and the communications presented are given as an appendix.

J. DELAFIELD, *Secretary.*