

M.L. 5580.184.01
Med 5580.152.8
Dup

Dub

ADDRESSES

DELIVERED AT THE

LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE,

OF THE

BROOKLYN CITY HOSPITAL,

BY THE

REV. F. A. FARLEY, D. D.

AND

REV. S. H. COX, D. D.

JUNE 11, 1851.

BROOKLYN:

E. B. SPOONER, PRINTER, FRANKLIN BUILDINGS, ORANGE-STREET, NEAR FULTON.

1851

ADDRESSES

DELIVERED AT THE

LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE,

OF THE

BROOKLYN CITY HOSPITAL,

BY THE

REV. F. A. FARLEY, D. D.

AND

REV. S. H. COX, D. D.

—————
JUNE 11, 1851.
—————

BROOKLYN:

E. D. SPENCER, PRINTER, FRANKLIN BUILDINGS, ORANGE-STREET, NEAR FULTON.

1851

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY
FROM
THE BEQUEST OF
EVERT JANSEN WENDELL
1818

The Ceremonies were conducted as follows:

A PRAYER BY THE REV. MR. HODGE.
AN ADDRESS BY THE REV. F. A. FARLEY.
THE LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE,
BY AUGUSTUS GRAHAM, ESQ.

The liberal Founder of the Institution. In this stone was deposited a leaden box, containing as follows:

THIS BOX CONTAINS

- 1st. A superb Pocket Bible, presented by A. M. Merwin, Esq.
- 2d. The Brooklyn Directory, presented by Messrs. Hearnes.
- 3d. The last Report of the Directors of the Hospital.
- 4th. Report of the Brooklyn Tract Society, presented by the Rev. J. M. Rolland.
- 5th. Several Coins presented by Captain David Farley.
- 6th. Newspapers—Brooklyn Evening Star, Advertiser, Eagle, Freeman, The Union Ark; (a Temperance paper,) also the New-York Courier and Enquirer, and Journal of Commerce.
- 7th. A Lithographic View of the Building.
- 8th. A paper containing the autographs of the Founder, Officers and Directors; also the names of the Building Committee, Architect and Contractors.

BUILDING COMMITTEE,

Dr. John Haslett, Chairman; John B. Graham, Isaac H. Frothingham, George Hastings and Charles E. Bill.

Architect—John J. Glover.

Contractors—Solomon Conklin, Mason; Frederick Glover, Carpenter, and George Hall, Painter.

AFTER WHICH,

AN ADDRESS BY THE REV. F. VINTON,

CONCLUDING WITH AN

ADDRESS BY THE REV. DR. S. H. COX,

WHO CONCLUDED THE SERVICES WITH A PRAYER AND THE
BENEDICTION.

The following note explains why the Address of the Rev. Dr. Vinton, does not appear in print:—

BROOKLYN, *June 13, 1851.*

Mr. JOHN HASLETT, Chairman—

MY DEAR SIR:

THE Address which I pronounced at the laying of the Corner Stone of the Brooklyn City Hospital, was not written, but extemporaneous; and accordingly, I am not able to comply with the flattering request for a copy of it, which you have done me the honor to prefer.

With great respect, I remain, dear Sir,

Your friend and obedient servant,

FRANCIS VINTON.

REV. DR. FARLEY'S ADDRESS.

— o —

MR. PRESIDENT—LADIES AND GENTLEMEN—FELLOW CITIZENS;

We have come up here to congratulate one another upon an occasion of deepest interest to the benevolent heart. The corner stone of an edifice to be devoted to a most blessed charity—a thing, allow me to say, too long deferred—is now to be laid. It certainly is very remarkable, that in a city as large and rapidly growing as this, such an Institution has not long ago existed, on a permanent foundation, and well endowed. The continual construction of dwellings, other buildings, and public works, with various manufacturing and labor-saving operations, is daily exposing large numbers of laborers and artisans to the risks of severe and appalling casualty. Among, I will not say the vagrant and shiftless, but the industrious and deserving poor, the class which can rub along amid the straits of poverty with comparative comfort and ease while in health, there are multitudes, who, by the coming on of sickness, which deprives them at once of their daily earnings, find all those means and appliances cut off, which not only do so much to lessen the sufferings of disease, but to *facilitate* and *insure* its cure. Then, besides, consider;—here is a family of that class. There are several children. The father, by his regular occupation is able ordinarily to provide for his family: while the mother is obliged to be constantly at home to watch over her offspring, and do the housework; or, perhaps, she is able to glean a few hours from the day in which to eke out the scanty provision, which her husband at times by all he can earn can make. Suppose, now, that he is suddenly and utterly disabled by some Hague street casualty, or some acute disease, or what may be worse than either, some terrible organic disease. How instantly are that family made beggars! nay, it may be almost hopelessly! The mother has now the added care of being the father's nurse; and so her ability to aid in providing for the family is taken away, or at least diminished. And for him, so poor is the best provision which his home can make for him, so few and wretched are the accommoda-

tions and apparatus of his sick room, that medicinal skill and kindness are too often baffled and prove vain ; or else so slowly avail, that when he leaves that sick room, he finds himself burdened in his feeble though convalescent state by what seems to him a host of crushing obligations. But on the other hand, are the doors of the Hospital open to him when first injured or taken ill, with all the wise and provident appliances of such an Institution well conducted—well ventilated rooms—comfortable beds and bedding—kind and apt nurses—and skilful medical treatment and care—not only would the patient himself be in the position most promising for cure, but his wife would be left to serve her family, and be the more sure, from the very fact that her circumstances were all known and appreciated, of the most considerate and efficient aid.

I rest the claims, therefore, of such an Institution, upon its efficiency as a great public charity. It takes to itself a distinct but ever present department of human suffering—that which includes the vast catalogue of diseases and bodily casualties. It opens to those who are called to endure them, a place where everything is arranged according to all that experience and science and skill and the most considerate kindness can suggest—where the necessary retirement and quiet can be had in neat, well aired and well warmed apartments—where the most accomplished of the medical profession are always at hand—where patient, trained, and careful nurses are provided—where wholesome and appropriate diet, the best medicines, the most correct regimen, are prescribed and provided—where, indeed, the strictest attention is habitually given to everything which is likely to promote the present comfort and the permanent cure of the sick or wounded sufferer. This one object is proposed in all its arrangements. Now, if constant, and as I have said exclusive attention, backed by every advantage and aid of the nicest internal economy throughout, and the watchfulness and care of the best tried professional science and skill, can in any case avail for the end proposed, surely they must here. All the conditions of efficiency are met. Labor, time, care, skill, money, are not thrown away. Any amount of either which is demanded, is not only at hand, but, under conditions most likely to avail. The amelioration of human suffering both to the patient himself, and to those most closely allied to or dependent upon him, is secured to the highest degree of which the individual case admits. The chances of cure are immensely increased, and the risks of the ailment or injury proving fatal, proportionably diminished.

But, again, I rest the claims of such an Institution upon its economy. It is now universally agreed that the poor can, not only with the

greatest success, but with the greatest economy at the same time, be treated for any serious ailment or casualty, at a well ordered Hospital, than in their often wretched and comfortless hovels: and even leaving, as before, the abject and most destitute class of the poor, that the same is true even of those who when sound and well in body, are in the comparison able to and in fact do live comfortably at home. A poor man's time is emphatically his money. The more rapid and thorough his recovery when sick or disabled, the better certainly for him,—and if he have one, for his family. That which aids him to save or command the greatest portion of his time for industrious occupation, and thus the better to watch over and provide for his family, is the truest kindness to him and to them. So, too, as regards the community. When the poor man is disabled or sick, not only are his resources cut off, but if he is to be treated at home, the whole family of necessity become at once a charge on individual or public benevolence; whereas, were he removed to the Hospital, the family could much more easily provide for themselves, or more conveniently be provided for by others. Looking at this subject, with reference to the individual, or his family, or the charitably disposed, or the public, every way the Hospital may lay claim to the patronage of the community, on the score of economy.

So may it on the score of the most disinterested benevolence, of which it becomes one of the best manifestations. The largest part of all who take the oversight and care of such an Institution, give their services. The husbanding and application of its resources—the supervision of its various departments, and the watch and ward over those who are engaged in carrying on its internal and daily routine—the correction of its defects, and the adoption of improvements in its general or special conduct and management, all devolves upon those, who not only are often the largest contributors to its support, but who perform all these duties gratuitously. Members of the medical profession of the highest reputation both in medicine and surgery, permit themselves to be called freely into its service without fee, that they may serve the cause of humanity, not only by applying what they already know and have at command for the relief of human maladies, but by advancing their own professional knowledge and that of their pupils; faithfully studying the phases of disease as presented in the different wards of the Institution; and bringing to bear upon the various cases, at times of a novel and difficult type, the resources of the best medical science and the most perfect surgical art.

But of all public benevolent Institutions, the Hospital may, in addition to all else, claim the support of the religious community, as being

peculiarly Christian. Such an institution for the sick and wounded, was wholly unknown among the ancient and most refined nations of the world. Amid all the glorious architecture of Athens, no building was consecrated to the reception and cure of the sick or the injured. Those who had suffered in the public service, were feasted together in the Prytaneum; but if sick, were unprovided for. Lycurgus made the Spartans eat together in public, but made no provision or asylum for the sick. While Rome was mistress of the world, while her victorious eagles were borne in triumph over every land, and she was glutted with wealth drawn from every part of her vast empire, the poor, and the disabled through disease or casualty, were utterly disregarded, as to any public means of comfort or relief. Hospitals sprang up with the growth of Christianity. The earliest accounts of any thing of the sort, date back to the close of the fourth century, when a pious Roman matron, with the characteristic benevolence of the sex, established an asylum for the poor and the sick. The Emperor Julian surnamed the Apostate, who flourished about the middle of the fourth century, was even then accustomed to attribute the rapid spread of Christianity itself, in great measure to the establishment of its benevolent institutions; nay, he proposed in his efforts to restore Paganism which had been deposed by his uncle Constantine, the first imperial convert to the religion of the Cross, to imitate the Christians in this respect. From that period Hospitals for the sick poor, were multiplied in all Christian countries; and under the sway of the Romish Church, became intimately connected with its monastic institutions. The devoted labors of the Sisters of Charity, to this day continued, will ever be of immortal remembrance; sacrificing, as has been in countless numbers the case, wealth, rank, youth, beauty, to the care and relief of human wretchedness under its most revolting forms. We know, indeed, that this connexion with the monastic institution, led to great abuses in the middle and dark ages, when immense and inalienable funds were wrested through a mistaken piety, from the superstitious and the dying. Still the Hospital, though introduced into some countries which are unchristianized, has been what it ought, *only* in Christendom; for the plague-hospital of Alexandria in Egypt, or that for the insane at Cairo, presents to the mind an object of contemplation, almost too shocking to be credited. In our own country, where they are of course fewer in number comparatively speaking, and on a smaller scale, than in Europe, they are, I believe, as a general rule exceedingly well managed. We read of the more than thirty Hospitals of various kinds in each of the cities of London and Paris, and in which more than 15,000 beds are made up, and more than

a million of dollars in each city annually expended in their support; with almost amazement; and yet, except in times of great public commotion or difficulty, they also are well conducted. As a Christian institution, then,—as the natural and legitimate offspring of that holy and benevolent religion which the Son of God brought into this world—the Hospital for the sick and those disabled and severely injured by casualty, has strong and peculiar claims on the patronage and support of a Christian community.

It is, perhaps, scarcely necessary for me to say that I have little or no faith in any of those plans so captivating to some ardent minds, and which are espoused so warmly by most sincerely benevolent persons, which look to the utter extirpation of poverty. Higher authority than man's has declared, "the poor ye shall always have with you." It was the declaration of him who came to comfort and relieve and bless the poor, and it accords with what I believe to be a part of God's constitution of things. Nothing else is it than the positive ordination of the Almighty, the sovereign will and pleasure of the Supreme Moral Governor of the Universe, that "the poor shall never cease out of the land." He has ordained, that in all ages and in every community of human beings there shall be a class, who shall live and constantly appeal through their wants as well as sorrows, their narrow and straitened circumstances of outward condition as well as by their anxieties and perplexities, to the warm and tender sympathies, the generous compassion and charities, of their more favored fellow men. Thus, as the Saviour said, "wheresoever ye will, ye may do good." Poverty, therefore, is one of the great and inevitable conditions of humanity. Providence has not made it the province, and therefore has not put it in the power of man, to remove it if he would. But, and here is the great practical lesson which its existence and prevalence in the world is designed to teach us—it is a condition, which the wisdom and benevolence of man, by prudent legislation, by kind and considerate associated effort and action, and especially by the beneficent influence and spirit of Christianity, entering into, conspiring with, guiding all these, may and should efficiently and always ameliorate and relieve.

Are any disposed to ask me, on what grounds I believe that poverty will never cease to be a condition of humanity on earth, I will briefly answer—that it is only in this respect like other varieties of human condition in the present world. So long as there remain original diversities in the tempers, dispositions and faculties of men—so long as some improve, and others abuse the means and opportunities which they possess—so long as those vicissitudes in human life continue to occur,

inevitable, utterly beyond and independent of human control, by which under the Divine Providence prosperity and adversity are ever alternating not only with communities, but families and individuals—so long as war and peace, or the sudden and unexpected termination of the one or the other state, happens to nations—so long as there may come famines even for a single year, such as has been very recently in unhappy Ireland, or a revolution like that of France, by which the condition of whole families for generations was changed—so long as these and a thousand other causes, more or less powerful in themselves, local or temporary, may at any time arise—so long will poverty exist in due measure upon the earth. Suppose some marvellous change to take place, by which an universal equality of professions and means should be established,—it would last scarcely a day. The lazy, the vicious, the shiftless, the extravagant, the improvident, would soon be found again among the dependent ;—and but a short period would elapse, before alms-houses, poor-laws, hospitals, asylums of all kinds, would be demanded and established.

This great fact, that no people are to be exempted from poverty as one of the conditions of humanity, derives illustration from the Jewish annals. There we see in the very earliest periods of the national history, under a constitution of government established and among a people specially guided by the Almighty, this condition recognised and provided for. Indeed, no features of the Jewish legislation are more beautiful or more wise, than those which relate to it. The most tender and considerate regard for those who have “waxen poor,” appears everywhere. “If thy brother be waxen poor and fallen in decay with thee, then thou shalt relieve him ; yea, though he be a stranger or a sojourner, that he may live with thee.” I have already had occasion to quote its declaration—“The poor shall never cease out of the land ;” but it adds to that immediately—“therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in the land.” God became the guardian of the poor man’s *hovel*. How tenderly and delicately is it said—“When thou dost lend thy brother anything, *thou shalt not go into his house to fetch his pledge!*” The insolent or the rapacious must not enter *there*, nor charity herself intrude abruptly. Some “little monument of better days” might be there, some cherished relic of affection or of friendship, which no wealth could purchase or replace, which no pressure of want therefore, should force the poor man to resign. It was enough that the eye of the stranger, or even of the kind neighbor whose aid was asked, might aggravate the suffering or mortification of the family, were it

allowed to gaze on all the humbling circumstances of their condition. Therefore, still further adds the law, "Thou shalt *stand abroad* ; and the man to whom thou dost lend, shall *bring out the pledge abroad* unto thee. And if the man be poor, thou shalt not *sleep* with his pledge ; in any case thou shalt deliver him again the pledge *when the sun goeth down.*" Thus was it with the ancient people of God.

Among the ancient heathen nations, those even most refined and civilized, the poor as before stated were uniformly neglected. There was everything in the whole genius of Paganism, nay, of every form of idolatry, hostile to benevolence. In its very essence, despite of some of the fanciful and beautiful fictions of its mythology, it was cruel and stern. The finer sympathies of our nature were buried beneath the licentiousness which it either permitted or encouraged ; and the poor were passed by or despised. Before Jesus Christ appeared on earth, nothing like the systematized, efficient charities, so characteristic of Christendom, was known. The poor were specially regarded by the Great Master of Christians ; and no man, no community, professing to follow Him, can consistently or with impunity fail to follow Him in that.

I trace, then, to the incoming and influence of Christianity, the asylums, and homes, and hospitals of modern days, for the insane, the blind, the deaf mutes, the discharged convict, the "friendless ;" for the orphan, the helpless aged, the sick and wounded and maimed. I find the founders, benefactors, patrons of these institutions, to have been with very few and rare exceptions those, who in other ways also have done honor to the Gospel. It is the spirit of Christian Benevolence, which has demanded the permanent establishment and support of this Hospital in our own city. Time, full time is it, that the work were done. Look out from these heights where the breezes which fan us to day, seem to say how gladly they will come to breathe through the halls and apartments of the edifice here begun, to cool the fevered brows and re-invigorate the languid frames of the sufferers who may occupy them,—look out, Mr. President, upon the fair city which lies at your feet, lifting its towers and spires amid the sunlight, and enstamped with wealth, comfort, prosperity, all along its great thoroughfares. Go down, and with some benevolent stranger who desires to know what great things have here been done for the public good, explore the city throughout. What will you show him, Sir ? Religion symbolized and honored by your seventy churches, including some of the most beautiful and costly of the land. Popular education—by your more than dozen public school-houses, most of them of the best and most commodious arrangement and size. Justice—by her marble temple at your very

centre, and her statue lifted to its summit. The public horror at crime, —by yon castellated and frowning jail. Your military and fire departments, would I could add Police, on a scale of completeness and efficiency, equal at least proportionably, to those of our sister cities.— But—your PUBLIC CHARITIES—what and where are they? You may tell him of your Society for ameliorating the condition of the Poor,—excellent, admirable in its place,—doing what it does, well,—but not nearly as well sustained as it ought to be:—of your Orphan Asylums, Protestant and Roman Catholic,—giving shelter and protection to a few of that most forlorn class of the young:—of your Dispensary,—holding a most precarious existence, between a stinted private beneficence on the one hand, and a reluctant public indulgence on the other:—of your—what next, Sir? I believe you will have to stop here with this enumeration of your public charities. No, I forget. There are the various benevolent associations of ladies in our Churches, whose good deeds need no blazoning, but which are done with all the warm-heartedness and generosity of woman. And, Sir, one other. On a “frame house, twenty-five by thirty-seven, two stories and attic,” on Hudson Avenue, you may point out a sign, bearing,—I have the authority of your Vice-President for it, Sir—“the magnificent words BROOKLYN CITY HOSPITAL!” Since 1846, that humble building, the property of the Institution, has been the site and the capacity of so noble a charity among us! Yet it has done good. I speak from personal observation, and I know it has done good. During the last year alone, let our fellow citizens remember, ninety-five patients have been treated there; of whom “thirty three have been entirely on the charity of the Hospital,” while the remaining sixty two “have paid less than one third of the current expenses.”

But a better day dawns. The 4th of July, 1848, was signalled by a most liberal endowment of \$25,000, in view of the permanent establishment of the Hospital. Nobody knows better than yourself, Mr. President, from whom it came. It came from one*, who had already laid this community, and especially its youth in this and every succeeding age, under weightiest obligations, by his no less liberal endowment of the Brooklyn Institute. We rejoice, to-day, that the Trustees of the Hospital have been so far met in their appeal to our fellow-citizens to fulfil the wise conditions on which the endowment of it was made, that the building is commenced. The means for completing the centre of the adopted plan is secured. When shall the wings be added? I am

* The President—AUGUSTUS GRAHAM, Esq.

authorised to say, that the same generous benefactor of the institution to whom I have referred, offers another thousand dollars towards the erection of one of them. That is good;—who will respond to it? In great public Hospitals, special wards are established by the munificence of the benevolent, and bear their names;—who will do likewise for our Hospital? I do not doubt that all will be done, Mr. President, that you, or I, or any of us who have the interests of the institution at heart, can desire. As the structure rises on its foundations, the eyes and the hearts of the charitably disposed will be more and more turned towards it with blessing and bounty. When its walls have taken to their embrace and care those for whose immediate benefit they shall have been reared, and the pressing need and beneficent results of its charity shall have thus become manifest to all, the streams of a large and full benevolence will flow into its treasury, and extend and complete, and carry on ages after we have all passed away, the work thus begun. Our venerable friend, whose noble benefaction has effectually placed the Institution upon a solid basis—the gentlemen who are not only most faithfully serving its interests in their official capacity as its Trustees, but who made the first response to his liberality by a subscription among themselves of more than twelve thousand dollars—the contributors one and all to its funds—the flourishing community around us, may all rest assured that there is no going back in this work; that it will be finished from the corner-stone to the roof-tree. This Institution, most beneficent, most Christian, will become one of the stable and blessed charities of our beautiful city; testifying that this community is not unmindful of its obligations to its less favored members, as alike children of God and objects of Christ's great salvation.

The story of its beneficence, however, to the thousands who are to share it, and the full measure of honor to its projectors and benefactors, of necessity belongs, and may well be left, to the far future. Let it rise, then! With no doubts—with no misgivings—but with devout hopes and earnest prayers, and the confidence which God intends should accompany and crown every benevolent and Christian enterprise.

REV. DR. COX'S ADDRESS.

— o —

MR. PRESIDENT—

Called on the moment, to say a few words in connection with these public solemnities, which we all congratulate and enjoy, I would not refuse, as to me it seems that this eleventh of June, 1851, will be justly memorable, in the history of our young, progressive, and beautiful city.

The allusion of the eloquent gentleman, who has just retired from this platform, directly to another, yet indirectly and obliquely to myself, about the *quasi* rival or repugnant interests of the Hospital and the Observatory, in their simultaneous infancy as our own civic and social enterprises, was received by me, as I know it was sloped by him, in perfectly good part and in kind good humor. But there is nothing rivalrous, nothing antagonistic between them; and though we take no siderial observation, with that great philosophic tube, while the sun in our horizon eclipses all inferior lights, with the incomparable effulgence of his own, yet even in the day time, as now before me, amid this terrestrial constellation of the patrons of both, I am an observer and a computer of the beaming evidence that the friends of the two are mainly the same persons. Science and humanity and religion are all kindred and harmonious. So every where are the works and the words of God. Christianity favors them all; and they all agree in their tendency and scope, to elevate and improve the civilization, the character, the social state, and the noblest hopes of men. The GRAHAMS are not the least among the substantial favorers of our Observatory; and our own HEBARD, who has crossed the ocean perhaps more than two hundred times, with a practical and a prosperous navigation, knows too well how much that noble science of the waters, is indebted to that nobler science of the stars, either to disparage the claims of Astronomy, or to refuse a codicil to his last will and testament, in favor of the Observatory; having anticipated so generously the valid wants and the certain hopes of the Hospital. If however our gallant Captain should less entertain this friendly suggestion, I can easily provide him with a

better one—to become his own executor in the case, and aid us forthwith to erect, in granite strength, that massive structure, that adamantine pyramidal shaft, on the summit of which our grand refractor telescope shall traverse steadily the heavens; and by day at least, if not by night, be seen afar on the ocean, at once greeting and greeted as well with patriotic plaudits as with the voice of ocean's mighty waves, by American mariners and American masters, mercantile and martial, homeward or outward bound, with their freighted argosies of commerce or their floating castles of national defence; and in every case interpreting our own EXCELSIOR, with just complacency and ennobling gratification, as they see another splendid monument of its appropriate illustration, importing that heaven and earth are uniting and united in the preservation of our Country's UNION, and in the demonstration of her permanent dignity and glory among the nations of the earth. If this vision is soon realized, Brooklyn must do her duty—and so must New-York, assisting proportionably in the furtherance of an interest so catholic, so common, so allied to the science of the world and the advantage of our own born and unborn posterity. But let us come down——to the Hospital.

I agree, Mr. President, with those, who regard our public commitment, this day, to finish the excellent enterprise now so prosperously begun, as a proper erasure from the escutcheon of our city, of that attributed dishonor—that one so prosperous, so enlightened, and so wealthy, as Brooklyn, should have no fitting HOSPITAL, for those afflicted fellow creatures, who need the ministries and the mercies of such a humane and so worthy an Institution. The opprobrium will exist no more. And yet there is one thought, that often occurs to me here, which I may mention, if not in excuse or in vindication of our tardiness or inertness in this movement, yet in palliation certainly of the charge, urged sometimes rather atrociously against us, that Brooklyn has no Hospital—or next to none! We have been developed, slowly at first, from New-York; with whom we were much identified, whose noble Hospitals, Alms-Houses, Dispensaries, and means of kindness for the maimed and the aged and the sick, have been at once their honor and ours; more of our citizens helping them effectually, than were found to need or use their provided charities. *Palnam qui meruit ferat*——

Give both their due of honor and of song;
Let each be right—nor wish the other wrong.

Brooklyn is now of age. She can run as well as walk alone; and though not unfilial in her memories, she has set up for herself; is

thriving and prosperous, if not mature. May she ever emulate New-York—only in her virtues and her benefactions ! This I would say with emphasis ; and could my voice command the proper audience, so large and so distant, I would send its utterances sonorous, on the wings of the wind, across the East River, as a tribute from the city of churches to the city of steeples—and say, O venerable mother ! teach us only good, and we will follow your example.

How elevated and salubrious the position which our Hospital is at once to occupy and adorn ! The scenery of old FORT GREEN, of martial recollections and revolutionary celebrity, rises upward on its eastern boundary, and seems to rejoice in healing, rather in making, the wounds of men : while its form is changing from the uses of war, to those of peace ; clothed in *green*, but now a *Park*, rather than a *Fort* ; and bearing as WASHINGTON PARK, his peerless name, who was signalized in peace as well as war, and honored MOUNT VERNON as its Philosophic Sage, long after he had served his country as the leader of its armies, and the First President under its constitution. Yes ! nobly shall this structure rise, on this site of conspicuity, beauty, and historic inspirations ; and though quite vicinal to that ominous structure* on the north, which from its large and comfortable appearance, as well as its imposing architecture, as the strong hold of our municipal justice, the wits have called BROOKLYN CASTLE, yet will there be resulting no disparagement and no offence, either in the contrast of its uses or the proximity of its location. The public good, in such a world of sin and misery as ours, alike demands them both ; and all these creations of various utility in the midst of us, are monumental of the public spirit of our citizens, of the reign of civilization and the proper humanities of life, and of the wisdom, at once unselfish and practical, which we trust, will continue ever to characterize and advance us, among the first-class cities of our great and wonderful and ever-united nation. The public Institutions of any people, ancient or modern, are a good criterion of their place, as low or as high, in the scale of greatness and goodness. May ours ever speak well, and still better and better, for us and our children !

Hence it is, Mr. President, that I sincerely thank you, as do all our citizens, who know anything of the concerns or the prospects of Brooklyn, for your zeal, your determinate perseverance, and your princely contributions, in this worthy cause. If you and your honored coadjutors have not done all, which, for the time, might be expected or desired

* The City Prison.

ed in this behalf, you have done exemplarily much for us all, for coming ages, and for your country, for which, from us certainly, you are entitled to nocensure, but to praise only. Go FORWARD with the work ; and may God, our Savior, himself be, not more the Inspirer of such beneficence, than its Lord Patron, its Benefactor and FAVORER, in all times of its future career of philanthropic usefulness and expansive good.

Nor might I fail to mention a class of your devoted helpers, those sons or brothers of Hippocrates and Galen, those masters of the healing art, who have so high and so professional a relation to this scene. As the scientific practitioners of their noble calling, above all quackery and squalid artifice ; as the counsellors of our health, the companions of our families, the attendants of our chambers of sickness, and the ministers of mercy around our beds of death, their elevated usefulness associates them, in my mind, with Luke the beloved physician ; with the names of Sydenham, Boerhave, Harvey, Jenner, and Good, and a thousand others, in our father-lands ; and with those also of our own Rush, Wilson, Godman, and a thousand others, of kindred excellence in our own country. When honorably and well occupied in their humane and virtuous profession, I regard them as the friends and the princes of the species, and worthy of more recognition and esteem than they sometimes, and in some places, I will not say in Brooklyn, are wonted to receive. I have been often a witness, and am much a believer, of the good they do, the offices of kindness they perform, especially to the poor in their afflictions, which are not requited, or even known, by human observers : and I rejoice on their account, that the very existence of this Hospital, especially when its body is finished and its wings are grown, will be an honor and a facility to their professional success, as well as a standing appeal to their compassion and their service, which I am sure they will not fail to answer liberally and promptly in their characteristic way. I say again, Physicians of our city, a noble corps, we owe you much ! May the Great Physician of the bodies and the souls of men, be your friend, and you all his friends, that at *the resurrection of the just* we may all rejoice together, where there is no disease, and no malady, physical or moral, to reduce or stain the glory of the new creation, in that world of perfection only and of blessedness eternal.

But I cannot do equal justice, Mr. President, to all your coadjutors, in persons or in classes, whom I see representative and represented around us. I may allude to many an honorable counselor learned in the law, whose services professional and personal are, I am sure, at

your call, prompt and cordial, standing near you and always "harnessed in order serviceable;" the magistrates of the city, our civic fathers, who are expected to do more and more for an enterprise in which all their constituents are so deeply interested; and the ministers of religion, of various names, however coincident in sentiment and one in the kingdom, who all breathe their prayers to heaven and wield their influence on earth, to favor and help your cause. It is indeed the cause, as it is the Hospital, of our city.

This corner-stone is now laid with with appropriate religious services! May the top-stone thereof *be brought forth with shoutings, crying, Grace, Grace unto it.* I am glad that the public sentiment of this Christian city, requires and appreciates these solemnities of religion; acting on the glorious principle of that divine order and promise—*In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.* His word is good and trust-worthy forever. May He be our Keeper, our Helper, our Portion—and so the Grand Patron of our city of churches. The benediction of God Almighty, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost, rest on this Hospital, on all its friends and helpers, on all its future interests and inmates, forever! and to His own name be the glory! Amen.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| Anthony Edward, Arnold Daniel H, | A. Ayres Daniel, Adams James C, | Achillies & Vietor. |
| Beacar Noel J, Bill Charles E Bulkeley William F, Benson Arthur W, Barnes Henry W, Bucklin Thomas P, Bartow Edgar J, Bullard John, Blackburn Robbins C, Boiceau Samson, | B. Beers Nathaniel T, Bowne Samuel, Brice John, Brice Israel B, Bach Robert, Burtis Oliver D, Bailey William, Blagrove Charles J, M D, Blake Hamlin, Bach John C, | Blatchford J Wicks, Battell Joseph, Balen Peter, Barstow Louisa B, Barssow Fanny R, Barstow Mary E, Brewer Elizabeth, Blunt Edmund, Blunt John. |
| Carter Mrs A K, Cary Wm H, Collins George, Cornell Peter C, Cornell Whitehead J, Cornell Mrs Sarah, Cornell John Hicks, Clafin Horace B, Corning Hanson R, Clark Chester, | C. Clark Henry L, Chapman Henry T, Cook Thomas, Carlisle Nathaniel D, Cullen Henry J, M D, Crosby Seth, Cooper Daniel, Cooper William B, Chew Thomas I, Carter Lawson, | Coope David, Corson John W, M D. Conklin Solomon, Carpenter Thomas, Cummings Thomas W, Coleman Mrs Eliza R, Coleman Louisa A, Coleman Chester, Coleman Augustus G, Coggeshall George. |
| Dunham Edward W, Duckwitz George F, Davenport John H, Duyckinck Whitehead C, | D. Duyckinck Edward, Duyckinck Richard, Dugan William T, Davis Benjamin W, | Davies Robert J, Douglass Andrew E, De Forest William W, De Forest James G. |
| Edwards Alfred, Edwards Alfred L, | E. Edwards Zachariah Lewis, Edwards Sophia M, | Edwards Sophia M L, Engle Samuel. |
| Freeland James, Frothingham Isaac H, Field Richard, | F. Field Charles M, Field Aaron, | Flanders Benjamin, Forbes Ann. |
| Graham Augustus, Graham John B, Ginoux Claudius, | G. Granniss George B, Gascoigne James B, | Gordon Oliver H, Greenwood John. |
| Huntington David, Haviland Daniel, Hastings George, Howard Joseph, Harper Joseph W, Hale Josiah L, Halsey John, Junr, Haviland Robert B, | H. Haviland James C, Hildreth John T, Heeney Cornelius, Hyde Harry, Hopkins Lucius, Hurlbut Henry A, Herriman William S, | Hicks Edgar, Hunt Thomas, Hazlett John, M D, Husted Seymour L, Hyde Isaac, Junr, Hill Lawrence, Howe Fisher. |
| Jagger John, Jackson Maria. | J. Johnson Samuel E, | Jackson Cornelia, |

K.

Kimball Moses.

L.

Leavitt Sheldon,
Low Seth,
Low Abial A,
Lanman David T,

Leigh Charles C,
Lewis Ezra,
Luqueer Nicholas,
Lamar G B,

Lewis Mrs S N,
Large Alfred,
Lottimer William,

M.

Manning Richard H,
Morning G D,
March Thomas,
Marquand Henry G,
Marquand Frederick,
Morse Nathan B,
Matthews Azel D,

Mali Hypolite,
Morgan Wm A,
Messenger Thomas,
Messenger Harvey,
Martin John T,
Mellen William H,

Mellen Helen S,
Merritt George
Merritt John J,
Morrison Thomas A,
McMary Joseph,
McDonald William.

N.

Nichols Robert.

O.

Olcott Charles M,

O'Hara Peter.

P.

Pettit Robert,
Pettit Joseph,
Pierrepoint Mrs H B,
Pierrepoint Miss,
Pierrepoint Henry E,
Puffer George L,

Peck James W,
Perkins Dennis,
Pares Francis,
Peet Frederick T,
Packer William S,
Prentice John H,

Peters Christian A,
Peters Mrs Christiana,
Pope Anna Sophia,
Pope Mary Susan,
Pope Henry Wilson,
Pope Nathaniel.

R.

Riker John C,
Ruggles Henry,

Rodman Robert W,

Robbins Amos,

S.

Sheldon Henry,
Stebbins David M,
Sherwell Robert,
Shapter James S,
Spencer William,
Stilwell Sylvanus B,
Smith Gerrett,
Smith James W,
Smith Caleb,
Smith Jesse C,

Smith Cyrus P,
Smith Ira,
Smith Samuel,
Spelman Jesse B,
Sheldon James,
Sheldon James O,
Storm Isaac A,
Speir Robert,
Stryker Francis B,
Skillman John,

Schenck John,
Stranahan James S T,
Sloan Samuel
Sanger C P,
Sanger George S,
Sanger Charles F,
Sanger Edward P,
Sanford Rollin,
Sneden John,
Suydam Henry, Jun.

T.

Tatham Charles B,
Thurston Frederick G,
Thomas Luke W,
Taylor Charles J,

Townsend George A,
Todd Richard J,
Talmage Thomas G,
Thomae George F,

Trask Alanson
Trask Asa G,
Terry John T,

V.

Victor Theodore,

Victor F & Achilles,

Van Brunt Nicholas R,

W.

Wood, Samuel S,
Whittlesey Elisha,
White William A,
White M Alexander,
White A William, Jun.

White Alfred T,
White Catharine T,
White Frances E,
Webster Hosea,
Wyckoff John N,

Wiley George S,
Wiley John S,
Whitehouse Edward,
White Henry,

Y.

Young Henry,

Yelverton John P,

