New Orleans Daily Crescent.

THE CLAY STATUE INAUGURATION.

ENTIRE TURNOUT OF THE POPULATION.

TREMENDOUS PROCESSION!

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS.

[illegible] SCENES ON CANAL STREET.

THE UNVEILING OF THE STATUE.

MR. HUNT'S ORATION.

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[Republished from our Edition of Friday, 13th inst.]

The inauguration of the Clay Statue, yesterday, was blessed by fine though rather warm weather, and was remarkable as offering by far the greatest public spectacle ever witnessed in this city. The only previous event at all to be likened to it was Gen. Taylor's triumphal entry on his return from Mexico, some fourteen years ago; and that was a display far behind the one offered yesterday.

Flags to the Breeze.

The rising sun found all the bunting in the city out on the river flaunting merrily in the breeze. Not a flag anywhere, big or little, that was not hung out; the foreign Consuls, and all other owners of foreign flags, vieing with the Americans in hanging their banners on the outward walls. On the levee the sight was magnificent. The five or six miles of steamers and ships all had their colors out, and formed a sort of rainbow flounce for the city, on the river side.

Suspension of Business.

There never was a day in New Orleans when the suspension of business was so total. The Levee, and Fulton, and New Levee, and Tchoupitoulas, and Magazine streets, were quiet and deserted, even more than on the Sabbath; whilst the great shopping thoroughfares were equally so. No places remained open, anywhere, save the coffee-houses, little groceries, confectioneries, and fruit and cigar shops. We never, on any occasion, witnessed such a perfectly total suspension of business; no legal holiday, Sabbath, or any other occasion that we can remember, ever put such a hush on the roar and the rush of commerce.

Turnout of the People.

The weather being bright and altogether favorable, the turnout was universal. Not only the men and boys, but the ladies and the little ones, all in gayest attire, tripped along the hundreds of streets, formed tides on the principal avenues, and aggregated into billows as they neared Canal street, which was the grand vortex of the day.

The Sights on Canal street.

The Statue of Clay, enveloped in the national colors, was the cynosure; situated in the center of a broad intersection, from which it could (and can) be seen from north, south, east and west; a happy situation for the Statue of the "Great Commoner."

Facing the Statue, from the east, on Canal street, was the grand platform of the day; a splendid affair, half a square in length, rising as it receded, in order to give the occupants of its multitudinous benches and chairs a fair chance to see. This platform was entirely surrounded by marbled canvas drapery, reaching to the ground; and was likewise surrounded by fifteen or twenty tall masts, each mast supporting an American shield with a stack of flags spread out, and a streamer and gilt ball at the top, and all these masts connected by festoons of the richest and heaviest evergreen. On the front stood a tall double-columned arch of the Moresque style, on which was emblazoned the name, "Henry Clay," whilst American flags were disposed about it in such a way as to aid the arch in sheltering from the sun the orator's stand beneath it. The whole appearance of this arrangement was magnificent; far, very far, ahead of anything of the kind ever before gotten up in New Orleans.

The Multitudes

Of spectators that gorged Canal street and every other street above and below it, were altogether tremendous. The street and banquettes were mostly monopolized by the sterner sex; the broad balconies, verandahs and windows, on both sides of the street, for squares, as well as on the other streets, were flush with ladies and children; looking, in their gay and varied dresses, like so many huge bouquets, fresh gathered from the gardens of Paradise and clustered together by some Titanic hand.

The Grand Assembling

Of the Military, Masons, Firemen, Benevolent Societies, and other organizations, was of course the agitation on and off Canal street, long before the procession was formed. All turned out in great strength; such an assemblage was never before witnessed in this city. The particulars of all this will be best given in our account of

The Procession.

An artillery salute was the signal for starting. The long lines of societies which filled the streets to unknown distances, fell in, one by one, according to their places in the programme. After Col. Walton, the Grand Marshal, and his aids, started down Royal street, considerably more than an hour elapsed ere the last end of the procession got off.

The Military

Followed the Grand Marshal and his Staff, and were out in great strength. Major-General Lewis and Staff led; next came the Louisiana Legion, under Brigadier-General Palfrey, including the Orleans Battalion Foot Rifles, and other down-town companies, and the Artillerists from Donaldsonville; then came the First Brigade, under Brigadier-General Tracy, including the Washington Artillery, Continental Guards, City Guards, Louisiana Grays; the Mississippi Rifles, from Jackson, and the Cadets, from Mobile. All this was merely the military escort to the grand procession of the day.

The First Grand Division

led off with a long line of carriages, in which were seated the Clay Monumental Committee, the Jackson Monumental Committee, and other gentlemen identified with enterprises in honor of the illustrious dead. Then came the

Free Masons

in a degree of strength and splendor never before seen here. A long cavalcade of the Knights Templars, gorgeously appareled in frocks and mantles of white, bearing the scarlet cross of the order, black cockades with white and black plumes, yellow top boots, drawn swords, all on white horses, and their cross on every saddle-cloth, were at the head. After these were the various Lodges and Degrees of Masonry in their rich regalia, from Entered Apprentice to Royal Arch, Knight Kadosh, and Thirty-third Degree. The Knights Kadosh were a splendid feature in their dress of richly embroidered black velvet and cockades; and the length and strength of the Masonic turnout was an astonishment to everybody. After the Masons, followed a line of carriages, containing the orator of the day, Wm. H. Hunt, Esq., the Mayor of the city, Aldermen, city and State officers, Representatives, Army and Navy officers, Government officers, and the gray-haired

Veterans of Chalmette,

With their tattered flag, riddled by British bullets, and eaten by time. After all these (a very long line) came the Shipping Agents and Ship Masters, with the celebrated full-rigged fourteen ton

Ship West Wind,

braced on a truck drawn by six horses; manned by a merry crew of four men and ten boys, and four miniature cannon over her bows, firing salutes on the way. This was a very great sensation; thousands seeing the little ship for the first time, and admiring it and its crew accordingly. Marshal, C. W. Pussay; Captain, S. P. Johnson; First Lieutenant, A. Freitas; Midshipman, W. Smith; Boatswain, John Rogers; Gunner, W. Davis; Second and Third Gunners, W. Parry and John Brown; Quartermaster, Peter Mackay; Seamen, Peter Brewer, Joseph Pierce, Joseph Fall, W. Law, W. Weiss, W. Shepherdson, and W. Forester. The crew had to do some quick and tall climbing, at various points, to keep the masts from raking the flags and banners which hung across the streets. As the ship came up Camp street, the flags of the three newspaper offices hung straight down. The sailors commenced climbing, to pass the flags over the masts; but just as they got to the spot, a gust of wind raised the Picayune flag to a horizontal flow; the Crescent flag followed suit, but one corner of it sunk just low enough to kiss, coquettishly, the gilt ball on the top of the mainmast; and the Delta flag also raised itself, and gave the little ship a free passage. After the ship passed, the flags drooped down again. The singularity of the thing was remarked by all who were in sight of it. The flags, accidentally, offered a happy illustration of genuine newspaper courtesy.

Another line of carriages followed the little ship; in these were Protestant and Catholic clergymen, and other gentlemen whom we had not time to make out; and after these, a handsome body of professional medical gentlemen, lately graduated.

The Fire Department

led the second grand division. It was a powerful and most splendid turnout; astonishing everybody, in view of the immensity of the other turnouts, to which so many of the firemen belonged.

The Algiers and Milneburg companies were in the line; every city company turned out except one, which we think was No. 22; and many of the companies were out in as great force as on their own and exclusive fourth of March parade. From an elevation on Camp street, we took in at a glance some six or eight squares of firemen, walking four abreast, in a straight column, and in close ranks; the shirts, red, white and blue, designated the different companies in the undulating column; we never before saw the firemen to such advantage; it was a splendid sight. After the firemen came

The Printing Press,

On a covered car, with stand, cases, printers at work sticking type, and others at a press striking off little neat sheets, and scattering them broadcast to the crowds as they passed. The subject of the print was a handsome ode to Henry Clay, by "Nettie McI." The

German Draymen's Society,

In their neat regalia, came next; a very large body of stout-looking men. Other societies followed, of which we did not get the names. The Benevolent Association of the

Sons of Louisiana

led the third grand division, having with them the Young Men's Benevolent Association; a large and splendid turnout, comprising the best of the creole population. These were followed by a very notable feature, in the

Young Men's Christian Association,

escorting the Confederation of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and the British Provinces; a long line of fine-looking men, mostly young, who evidently felt that they had not come to New Orleans for nothing. Mr. Robert Gribble was the Grand Marshal; his aids were Dr. H. S. Forwood, and Messrs. A. G. Bakewell, R. D. Gribble, and R. G. Latting. Walker Smith, Esq., President of the Confederation, appeared in his proper place. This body attracted much attention, throughout the whole long march. The

Sons of Temperance

were out, strong and handsome, with their banners and regalia. The

B. B. of G. Y. M.,

Louisiana Wigwams Nos. 1 and 2, were out in a force which surprised the masses not familiar with that order. The

Scotch Rite Masons

next came in great force, the different lodges and degrees wearing the richest of regalias, and forming a brilliant section of the procession, three or four squares in length. The

Screwmen's Benevolent Association

Was immense; the largest single body in the procession; four abreast, close ranks, for more than two squares; their blue scarfs, black hats and coats, and white linen pants, giving them, as a whole, a most imposing appearance.

We Have not Room

To tell all about the other societies that followed. A just description of yesterday's pageant would fill our whole paper, to the exclusion of everything else. The New Lusitanos Society was out in great strength, and made a most beautiful and elegant display. The Spanish Benevolent Association, the Hebrew Association and others, were handsomely represented in the apparently interminable procession. The German Mechanics' Society was out in tremendous force; as a body, coming up Camp street, they offered a splendid appearance.

The boys of the Rev. Father J. Moynihan's school on Dryades street, under charge of some of the clergy, and the boys of several of the Fourth District public schools, under charge of Mr. Parham, the Superintendent, made a show which surprised and pleased everbody. The graduates and students of Dolbear's Commercial College, a large body of fine looking young men and boys, brought up the rear of the procession.

The reader will just consider that the banners, flags, ornaments, bands of music, etc., dispersed throughout the immense procession, included nearly everything of that kind in the city and surrounding country. The procession, dense as it was, men walking four abreast, was nearly four miles long; had it been spread out like ordinary processions, the city would not have been long enough to contain it.

The head of the procession returned from the down-town circuit, and was far up-town, before the tail of the procession had budged from Canal street. It was a turnout altogether gigantic, magnificent, unprecedented in this city. We must now come to Canal street and the

Inauguration Ceremonies.

For an hour's time the multitudinous procession was occupied in coiling its long length into Canal street, the Masonic fraternity occupying ground near the Statute, the military forming in a line enclosing the Statue at one end and resting on the speaker's stand at the other and keeping open the elliptic area of ground between stand and Statue, which faced toward the former. Other companies, societies, orders and associations as they filed into the wide street ranged themselves as near as possible to the central scene, and, with the general crowd, densely packed a vast area of space. Every window on both sides the street was blocked up with eager gazers, who swarmed and clustered on balcony and housetop. We heard it estimated that fifty thousand pairs of eyes were gazing when the Statue was revealed and the beams of a New Orleans sun first bathed it in a baptism of light. A more benignant sky could not have smiled upon its christening. We think the above estimate of the number present was not over the mark. The scene was most animating and interesting—indeed, it might be termed magnificent and impressive—with its various features of uniformed and regalia'd companies, associations and orders, its vast throng of lookers-on on all sides, its waving flags and banners, the beautifully decorated stand, and in the midst of all, the Statue, its colossal outlines barely showing through its gorgeous drapery. The beauty of New Orleans was sufficiently represented by an innumerable and brilliant array of ladies wherever there was room for them to locate in sight of the Statue.

Unveiling the Statue.

Amid the thunders of artillery and the stormy music of scores of bands, the striped and starry drapery fell from the muffled form of the Statue, and unveiled its magnificent proportions—the signal for the wildest enthusiasm among the vast multitude, while sky-rending and continuous shouts from tens of thousands of throats hailed the imposing effigy of the loved and honored statesman. The effect was absolutely electrical when the Statue was first exposed, and everybody seemed insane with excitement.

When the applaudatory clamor had subsided, Mayor Stith stepped forward and requested the Grand Marshal to announce three cheers for Joel T. Hart, Esq., the Sculptor, who, with Judge T. G. Hunt, flanked one side of the Orator's desk, and his Honor and Col. Robert J. Ward the other. They were given with deafening emphasis, Mr. Hart rising and bowing acknowledgment to the salute.

The Dedication.

When the assemblage again became hushed and still, the high officers of the Masonic fraternity, standing on the pediment base of the Statue, dedicated the work with the solemn and mysterious ceremonies of the Order. This was a most interesting and imposing feature of the occasion.

The Ode.

The Committee of Arrangements having changed the programme somewhat from its published form, Mr. Overall declined reciting his promised ode.

The Oration.

Grand Marshal Walton announced the Orator of the day, and Wm. H. Hunt, Esq., arose and delivered the beautiful and eloquent oration which we give below. As the sonorous and powerful voice of the speaker enunciated the flowing periods which told the patriotic virtues and achievements, the private worth and public noble-doing of the subject of eulogy, we saw the cheeks of many an old Clay Whig wet with tears, called forth by the fond remembrances of Harry of the West, which the glowing words of the orator had conjured back to mind.

The oration was a triumphantly brilliant effort, and altogether worthy the grandeur of the occasion—the cap-sheaf and splendid climax which crowned with becoming success and luster the various events of the inauguration. Though the position of many of the myriad of auditors was very uncomfortable, and a fiery sun played upon the great majority, the oration was listened to with breathless interest by all who could get within hearing distance. Rapturous applause frequently broke in upon the speaker, for the enthusiasm was irrepressible:

In the year 1852, a number of public-spirited and patriotic citizens, desirous of manifesting their veneration for the character and public services of Henry Clay, formed themselves into a society, named the "Clay Monumental Association of New Orleans." Their object, as their name indicates, was to erect in this city a suitable monument to the illustrious man whose memory they designed to honor.

They determined to erect a bronze statue of Mr. Clay, and they fixed upon this spot for its location, with the permission of the city authorities.

On the 12th of April, 1856, the corner-stone of the pedestal was laid with becoming solemnities. The work of making the statue was entrusted to Mr. Joel T. Hart, of Kentucky. The Association displayed their good judgment in committing this important work to a native sculptor, whose distinguished reputation in the world of Art gave an earnest of its admirable execution; and who, born by the side of the illustrious patriot, and having early learned to contemplate his greatness, would bring to the performance of his grateful task a genius glowing with the enthusiasm of unbounded personal admiration.

Equally judicious has been the selection of this site for the statue. In the most frequented thoroughfare of our city—in the very heart of the metropolis, overlooking the Mississippi, the great avenue of our internal commerce, and one of the strongest natural bonds of the Union—it stands conspicuous; a noble and permanent ornament of New Orleans, and a fit monument of the gratitude and veneration of a free people!

And now that this patriotic undertaking is crowned with completion, we have assembled to-day, beneath the open heavens, to celebrate with appropriate ceremonies the gratifying event. The city has assumed its garb of holiday; the artisan has laid aside his work; the stores and places of business are forsaken; the courts and public offices are closed. The large attendance here of the military in glittering uniforms, and of the civic societies in tasteful decorations; the throng of citizens of all classes and occupations, who crowd the ample area where we stand; the groups that fill the surrounding balconies and windows and housetops; the presence on this platform of the highest dignitaries of the State and city, and of the numerous distinguished visitors from other communities, who have come among us, combine to lend unusual consequence to the occasion, and to invest it with a splendid interest.

In the name of the Association whose organ I am, to you, fellow-citizens of Louisiana, and of other portions of our glorious Union, and to others who manifest by their presence a generous sympathy in our proceedings, I extend a hearty, free and American welcome.

The custom of perpetuating the memory of illustrious men by statues or paintings is derived from the remotest antiquity. The ancients were wont thus to typify their gods in order to inspire their youth with sentiments of religious piety; whilst the images of their great captains, their kings and rulers, their sages and statesmen, served constantly to impress upon the people salutary lessons of emulation, patriotism and virtue.

In modern times, throughout the civilized world, this custom still prevails. In Europe every polished nation abounds in monuments to its illustrious heroes. In our own country we have not been unmindful of the advantages to posterity thus conferred, and of our duty to our own feelings; and in most of our larger towns monuments and statues have been erected to the memory of our distinguished men.

It is the instinct of virtue to do honor to Genius and Patriotism. To do so by the enduring means of the Fine Arts is to illustrate the progress and proficiency of our age in those accomplishments which evince the highest degree of culture and refinement in a nation.

The desire of posthumous fame is a powerful incentive to public virtue. So uncertain are popular favor and power at all times, so much alloyed by envy hatred, malice and all uncharitableness, that a wise man looks rather to posterity than the present for his reward and the realization of his golden dreams of glory. In doing honor to the dead, the living are but discharging a pious duty; and it is by a beautiful and unselfish intuition that a virtuous and patriotic people is led to feel a proud pleasure in such holy offices.

Prompted by these feelings, we are here to-day to dedicate this statue—the statue of Henry Clay! Behold his life-like image stands before you! No royal robes adorn his person; no crown, no sceptre, no badges of ancestral glory. No sword is by his side to tell of battles fought and won; no baton to indicate the pomp and power of authority. A plain man, in the simple garments of a citizen; his image challenges not our admiration through the adventitious aids of rank or the tinsel ornaments of military glory. But he stands before us as we knew him—as we loved and honored him. The embodiment of the Genius, of the wisdom, of the eloquence, of the courage, of the public virtue, of the self-sacrifice, of the patriotism which filled the measure of his country's glory, and made his name and fame immortal.

Henry Clay was born in Hanover county, Virginia, on the 12th day of April, 1777. His parents were very poor, and when he was of tender years his father died. This event left him dependent entirely on his own resources, and he thus early set forth upon the thorny path of life, leaning on no friendly arm, but unaided and unsupported, to achieve the great destiny that awaited him in the future. Having enjoyed slender educational advantages—advantages very far inferior to those now within the reach of every child in this community—we find him at fourteen years of age, and with only three years' schooling, employed in a drug-store in Richmond. This situation he soon left, to act as a scribe in the office of the Clerk of the Court of Chancery. Here he contracted the acquaintance, and was enabled to enjoy the instructive conversation of many of the ripest lawyers and ablest minds of Virginia—a rare advantage, and wont to be undervalued by youth, but which he had the good sense fully to appreciate and improve.

He seized eagerly and gratefully the outstretched hand that sought to guide his youthful footsteps through the darkness with which circumstances had enveloped them.

On becoming licensed to the practice of the law, his ambitious and adventurous spirit led him to remove to Kentucky; and before he arrived at the age of majority he commenced his professional career in that State.

Obscurity and indigence did not dismay his lion heart, but seemed rather to quicken his powers into action, and to strengthen in him the indomitable spirit of self-reliance for which he was ever remarkable. His diligence, his fidelity, his ability and eloquence achieved for him immediate success, and he rose at once to the highest rank at a bar where there were many lawyers of merit and eminence.

This high professional reputation he maintained throughout his life. I will not weary you by referring to the various important causes in which he participated, although many of them involve high questions of constitutional law and personal rights, which would, doubtless, interest you; but as a member of that noble profession, I feel a pride in pointing to him and in claiming that it was from the study of the enlightened and philosophical principles of the science of the law, he drew those elevated, enlarged and catholic views of constitutional government, of public and personal rights, and that love of regulated liberty on which the pillars of his greatness rest.

Mr. Clay soon left the exclusive practice of his profession, to engage in the more extended duties of political life. Elected to the Legislature of Kentucky in 1803, he may be considered to have then enlisted himself in the service of his country. In 1806 he was elected to the Senate of the United States for an unexpired term, and was again elected to that body in 1809, to fill another vacancy. His national career seems thus strangely to have commenced at a point of distinction where the glory of the most successful of our public men usually culminates.

Returned to the House of Representatives in Congress, at the expiration of his Senatorial term, in 1811, he first entered that body. His fame had preceded him. In the graphic language of Mr. Randolph: "his first step was from the door of the House to the Speaker's chair."

Through successive Congresses he continued to fill this distinguished and conspicuous position for about thirteen years. His impartiality and fairness—the dignity and courtesy of his demeanor—the justice, readiness and correctness which marked his decisions of questions of order, won for him the respect and applause of even political opponents. To have filled this exalted station for so long a period was of itself a distinction such as has occurred in the history of no other public man in this country.

But Mr. Clay did not content himself simply with the duty of presiding over the deliberations of the House. He participated largely in its business. Whenever a measure of moment arose during his Speakership, he left the chair to take a part in its discussion. His labors thus were most arduous and incessant; and it is believed that during this time he exercised an influence over the House such as no statesman ever wielded before or since.

From this theater of his glory he was called to act as one of the commissioners of the United States in negotiating a treaty in 1814 and 1815, and subsequently to accept the post of Secretary of State during the administration of Mr. Adams. In 1831 he was elected to the Senate of the United States, and continued a member of that body until 1842, when he resigned his seat and retired to private life. In 1848 he was, however, called from his retirement to occupy again, and for the fifth time, a seat in the Senate; and he continued a member of that august body up to the time of his death in June, 1852.

It is not my object, nor would it be becoming in me on an occasion like this, to enter upon the discussion of those measures of public policy which he advocated during his long life. "I am not here to rake off the warm ashes from the embers of controversies which have spent their fury, and are dying away, or to fan the fires of those which still burn." But it is proper to bring before your minds some of his leading measures and views, which, sometimes shaping the course of our national policy and sometimes opposing it, illustrate his character as a statesman.

Mr. Clay has been called "the Father of the policy of internal improvements by the General Government." As far back as 1807 his opinions on this important subject were foreshadowed in the Senate, in his speech on the Potomac Bridge bill. It is true that this policy had been previously recommended by Mr. Jefferson. Mr. Madison also recurred to the subject with approbation. But when, under the advocacy of Mr. Clay in 1816, it was proposed to set aside for internal improvements a fund, to be paid into the National Treasury by the Bank of the United States, then rechartered, President Madison vetoed the bill upon the ground of its unconstitutionality. President Monroe, his successor, in his first annual message, in anticipation of renewed legislation on the subject, took occasion to pronounce his clear opinion that Congress did not possess the power under the Constitution.

Against the authority of these distinguished statesmen, Mr. Clay stood forth the leading advocate of the power. A resolution introduced into the House declaring that Congress possessed the power to construct military roads, post-roads and canals, called forth from him a speech of masterly ability and eloquence. The argument of Mr. Madison had been, that the Constitution should be amended so as to confer this power upon Congress. But Mr. Clay pressed the resolution, considering that if the House decided against the power, it was gone—gone forever—unless restored by a constitutional amendment, which he showed it was impracticable to seek or expect. Mainly through his exertions the resolution passed the House by a handsome majority, and the power of Congress over the subject was for the first time emphatically declared.

Doubts among statesmen may still exist as to the correctness of Mr. Clay's views upon this subject. Yet important works of public improvement have been since undertaken and completed by the Government, and to him more than to any other statesman of his era, is the country indebted for the permanent benefits they have conferred. The traveler upon our noblest national highway, the great Cumberland Road, sees in the striking monument which has been erected to his genius, and which bears his name inscribed upon its shaft, a just tribute of gratitude to the enlightened patriotism of the Father of Internal Improvements. Nor will I be considered as trenching on forbidden ground when I cite as a corallary from the principles of constitutional interpretation he advocated, the recent recommendation to Congress by President Buchanan that the General Government should lend its patronage and aid to the construction of a great national railway to the shores of the Pacific.

In April, 1810, Mr. Clay delivered his first speech in Congress in favor of the policy of protecting and encouraging domestic manufactures. Of this policy, familiarly known as the American system, he continued, throughout his entire life, the steadfast and devoted friend. Mr. Benton referred to him as its "founder." It aimed to effect the entire independence of our country of all foreign nations as it respects our essential wants. The system proposed that, "whilst imposts should be mainly, and under modifications might safely, be relied on as a fit and convenient source of public revenue, the duties on foreign fabrics should be so adjusted and arranged as to afford a gradual but adequate protection to American industry; thus lessening our dependence on foreign nations, by securing a certain and ultimately a cheaper and better supply of our own wants from our own abundant resources."

In the advocacy of this comprehensive and truly national policy, Mr. Clay, at different periods, encountered the strenuous opposition of the greatest intellects of the country. At one epoch Mr. Webster, whose views upon the subject subsequently underwent a change, opposed it with all the masterly power of his gigantic mind; whilst the whole energies of the disciplined logic of Mr. Calhoun, in his later days, sought to break it down. In the discussion of no subject during his life has Mr. Clay displayed more splendid or more varied powers of oratory—more vigor and profundity of argument—a greater extent of information and a more admirable patriotism.

Sustained by the watchfulness of its great founder, the principle of protection involved in the system, modified according to the increasing strength of our manufactures and the demands of the National Treasury, withstood the assaults of its opponents, and is still to a certain extent, the policy of the country. Its beneficent influences have been shown in the development of our national enterprise, in the encouragement of the mechanic arts, in opening and multiplying diversified avenues of labor, in swelling the tide of industrial immigration to our shores, in securing at home the vast profits resulting from a conversion of raw materials into manufactured articles, and in the creation of new ties of interest binding more closely together the different portions of the Union.

In 1832, propositions being introduced into the Senate in regard to fixing the price and the transfer of the public lands, it was moved to refer them to the Committee on Manufactures, of which Mr. Clay was a member. In spite of the incongruity of the subject with those legitimately falling within the province of that committee, and notwithstanding earnest the entreaties of Mr. Clay and his remonstrances against a course so extraordinary, the motion prevailed.

"The design was," said he, "to place in my hands a many edged instrument, which I could not touch without being wounded." It was supposed that, in view of the approaching Presidential election, and actuated by motives of personal advancement, he would be tempted to advocate the demands of the new States to the public domain, in hopes of their favor, and would so incur the displeasure of the old; or, that by a course of silence and inaction, he might seek to avoid all responsibility in the matter. How fallacious were these expectations! The patriotic statesman at once applied himself to the duty thus ungraciously imposed upon him, and soon reported to the Senate a bill containing features so eminently just and based upon such sound policy, that it passed the very Senate which had hoped to embarrass its author. The measure was subsequently concurred in by the House of Representative by the unusually large vote of 96 over 40. It was defeated by the veto of the Executive; but through its means and the wise course of Mr. Clay upon the subject, many plans for the plunder of the public lands, were then and afterwards frustated, and in 1841 many of the important features of this bill became a law. I cite this history not merely as displaying the wisdom of Mr. Clay, and the resources of his great intellect, and the influence he exerted in the councils of the nation, but as illustrating his fearlessness of all personal consequences in the faithful discharge of public duty.

To the consideration of the subject of the national currency Mr. Clay, throughout his life, devoted his enlarged and practical mind. In 1811, acting under the convictions of his judgment as to the unconstitutionality of a Bank of the United States, and in accordance with the instructions of the Kentucky Legislature, he voted and spoke against the recharter of that institution. But in 1816, whilst Speaker of the House, upon a report introduced by Mr. Calhoun, proposing the recharter of the Bank, pursuant to the recommendation of President Madison, Mr. Clay came down from the chair to the floor to advocate the measure. This is the only instance of a change of views by Mr. Clay on any important measure of national policy during a public life of nearly half a century. The reasons which led to this change he frankly avowed. A heavy debt, the result of the late war, weighed like an incubus upon the country, and there was a general national financial embarrassment. The eyes of the whole people were turned to the Government in the reasonable expectation that the Legislature would devise some means of relief. Satisfied by experience and more mature reflection of the incorrectness of his first scruples as to the constitutionality of a Bank, and impressed with a full conviction of its absolute necessity, he did not hesitate to announce publicly his change of opinion, when he might have sheltered himself behind his Speaker's chair. He knew full well that his candor was liable to misconstruction—his motives open to animadversion and suspicion. It was like him to meet the responsibility face to face, with the courage of conscious rectitude.

When this subject again came before Congress in 1832, he advocated the recharter of the Bank. The measure failed, as is well known, through the veto of the President. The opposition in Congress to this veto, and to the subsequent removal of the deposits, and indeed to the administrat ons of Gen. Jackson and Mr. Van Buren, was open, determined and dauntless. Mr. Clay became on all occasions its courageous, skillful and acknowledged leader. Though thwarted in carrying through their measures, the opposition enjoyed the satisfaction of seeing them approved of by the people, in the memorable Presidential contest of 1840. The untimely death of Gen. Harrison prevented the realization of the expectations of his party. But the election of that distinguished patriot was no less a verdict of the people in favor of the policy which Mr. Clay had so long and consistently advocated before the country. Since that time, some of the measures of the great Whig party, of which he was the life and soul, have been laid aside or modified; but let any candid mind turn to the history of that party, and however much he may dissent from its tenets, he cannot but admit that its aims were patriotic and national, pure, comprehensive and republican.

Hitherto I have spoken only of some of those measures of domestic policy in which Mr. Clay bore a prominent part. I pass now to review briefly his course with reference to the foreign relations of our country.

It has been said by a distinguished statesman, whose name I take pride in mentioning—by Mr. Crittenden—that "to Mr. Clay belonged the statesman's portion of the glory of the last war with Great Britain;" and the concurrent testimony of his cotemporaries has assigned to him the honor of being its most prominent and effective advocate and supporter.

When, in 1812, President Madison sent a confidential communication to Congress, recommending an embargo upon vessels then in port for sixty days, the measure was strenuously opposed in the House. Mr. Clay, then Speaker of the House, stood forth its defender, assuming the bold ground that it was "to be viewed as the direct precursor to war." The measure was adopted, and was shortly followed by an open declaration of war with England.

Under the Berlin and Milan decrees of Napoleon, our ships and their cargoes had been seized and confiscated by the French. The British, by their orders in Council, continued during the same time to perpetrate like outrages upon our flag and property. These wrongs were justified by each nation upon the novel plea that they were also perpetrated with impunity by the other. Dissatisfied with our policy of neutrality, they despised our supposed weakness. At length France, yielding to our remonstrances, was induced to forego, so far as we were concerned, the hostilities perpetrated under her decrees. But the haughty and domineering spirit of England was reluctant to refrain from further aggressions upon us, and she continued for a year after to harrass our commerce, to violate our flag, to stop our ships upon the high seas—nay, even under the shadow of our own shores—and to impress into her hateful service American citizens. In a space of some two months and a half, twenty-seven merchant ships were taken by British cruisers and condemned as prizes by British Courts of Admiralty; and it was estimated that up to the time when war was declared, 7000 seamen had been impressed, in flagrant violation of our rights under the established principles of the Law of Nations.

Outrages such as these, the people of this country, mindful of their ancestral glories and instinctively imbued with the spirit of liberty and independence, could not long tolerate. To portray them in the strains of fiery indignation and impassioned eloquence which Mr. Clay employed, was at once to flush the cheeks and stir the heart of the nation. The patriotism of the people became kindled into a blaze. The powers of his oratory at this time seemed indeed wonderful. He spoke like one inspired: His words glowed with genius and patriotism. In one of his bursts of eloquence he enunciated a principle in relation to the right of impressment as claimed and exercised by Great Britain, which has stood and is now the acknowledged principle of the Law of Nations. Speaking of the certificates of protection to our seamen, authorized by the act of 1796, he said: "Sir, Government has done too much in granting these paper protections. I can never think of them without being shocked. They resemble the passes which the master gives to his negro slave: 'let the bearer Mungo, pass and repass without molestation.' What do they imply? That Great Britain has a right to seize all who are not provided with them. From their very nature, they must be liable to abuse on both sides. If Great Britain desires a mark by which she can know her subjects, let her give them an ear mark. *The colors that float from the mast heads of our ships should be the only credentials of our seamen.*"

During the war he wielded an influence almost absolute in the House—among such illustrious statesmen as Lowndes, Calhoun, Cheves, Peter B. Porter, and others. He showed the nation how to breast the storm; and was most active and zealous in devising and advocating plans to provide for our efficient armament.

Wherever the recruiting drum was heard, our youth pressed forward in crowds to answer its beat—going forth to war in vindication of our country's honor. Need I remind you, Mr. President, how, in your own and his beloved Kentucky, in the short space of a few weeks, your illustrious ancestors, the Johnsons, raised, equipped, and took the field at the head of a regiment of mounted men, a thousand strong, the flower and the strength of your noble State? Ask these frontiermen, who left their rural homes, what more than anything called them forth, and they will tell you it was the voice of Henry Clay that rang like a clarion through their native woods. Yes, sir, he was the war-genius of the Republic.

It was proper that a war which he had been instrumental in originating, Mr. Clay should be selected as one of the Commissioners to conclude, by negotiations of peace. Accordingly, on receiving such an appointment, he resigned the Speakership of the House of Representatives, to commence his career as a diplomatist. I am not permitted now to recall to you in detail the services he rendered in this new scene of public life. The treaty of Ghent is so closely identified with his name that to enumerate its advantages is to sound his praise. Yet I must not omit to mention that when it was proposed to concede to Great Britain a continued right to navigate the Mississippi river from its mouth to its source, he opposed it at the outset, and finally declared that he would affix his signature to no treaty which should make the contemplated concession.

In sight of that noble stream that bears upon its ample bosom the wealth of all the wide and fruitful West, it is proper that this statue should stand, to commemorate the incalculable blessings which his foresight and determination contributed so largely to secure for the exclusive benefit of his country.

But this was only one of the beneficial results flowing from the war. Our prowess had been tested; our sense of national honor had been vindicated; our arms were hung up bound with laurels; and we stood among the powers of the earth, a nation commanding respect, and ready and able to enforce it.

The claims of our Government against France, growing out of her aggressions upon our commerce, to which I have already alluded, afforded another opportunity for Mr. Clay to guide the foreign policy of the country. A treaty had been concluded with France, by which a pecuniary indemnity for her spoliations was to be paid to us in installments. The first payment not having been made according to the engagements of this treaty, General Jackson, in a message to Congress, in December, 1834, called attention to the fact, and in terms of characteristic boldness recommended measures sanctioning reprisals of French property in case the French Chambers should fail on next assembling, to provide for the prompt discharge of the obligation. The prospects of war seemed imminent. The public mind became filled with the gravest apprehension, and our commerce immediately felt its injurious influence. The French Government, taking umbrage at the tone of the President, forthwith recalled its Minister, and Mr. Livingston, the American Minister at Paris, had his passports tendered to him, in anticipation of the impending rupture between the two countries.

The whole subject was referred in the Senate of the United States to the Committee on Foreign Relations, at the head of which Mr. Clay was placed. Very soon after the reference, he presented a resolution, accompanied with a report to the Senate, full of wisdom, of patriotism and of justice. An unusually large number of copies of it were at once printed and circulated throughout the country. Its effect in calming the public mind was immediately felt, and our commercial interests began to revive. In a few days the resolution accompanying the report, was advocated by Mr. Clay in one of his most powerful, temperate and statesmanlike speeches. He sustained the President in the view that the fulfillment of the treaty should be insisted on at every hazard, but showed the inexpediency of hasty and hostile action. This resolution, slightly modified, received the unanimous approval of the Senate, and led to the prompt fulfillment of the treaty. Thus, by the wisdom and moderation of Mr. Clay's counsels, another foreign war was averted, and relations of amity were restored between our country and her former Revolutionary ally.

Another notable instance of the same wisdom in regard to our foreign affairs, is to be found in the course of Mr. Clay on the resolution introduced into the Senate in 1850 by Gen. Cass, instructing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to inquire into the expediency of suspending diplomatic intercourse with Austria. The enormities perpetrated by that Government upon the suffering people of Hungary, excited an universal sympathy for them, especially in this country, and led to the introduction of the resolution.

Mr. Clay, when appealed to by the distinguished Senator who offered it, to give to the measure the high sanction of his support, declined to do so. In a speech remarkable for its argumentative power, its wisdom and justice, he pointed out the dangerous tendency of the measure, and demonstrated that it involved the principle of assuming on the part of this Government a right to pass judgment on the conduct of foreign powers towards their own subjects—a right which, opening a new field of collision, terminating perhaps in war, would expose us to the reaction of foreign powers, who might, in turn, assume with equal propriety the right to judge of our conduct. Here again did the counsels of this great man, in a Senate opposed to him, preserve the principle of neutrality, which, inaugurated under the administration of the Father of his Country, has contributed more than any other principle of our foreign policy to preserve the peace and exemplify the sense of impartial justice of our country.

It was in the calm and matured expression of these counsels that his voice was last heard upon public affairs. I speak of the interview between him and Kossuth.

Kossuth had lately reached our shores. He came almost as the guest of the nation. Landed in New York, the excitable population of that city awarded him the honors of a Roman triumph. Sympathizing with the cause of his down-trodden country, they sought, in the attentions they showered upon him, to signalize their love of liberty. His addresses were listened to by thousands of hearers, and shouts of applause went up at them that seemed to ring throughout the whole circle of the land. The honor of a seat in the Senate-house of the Nation was voted to him, and his journey to the Capitol was an uninterrupted ovation. His speeches had, meantime, advocated not merely sympathy with his country, but had solicited material aid. Emboldened by the momentary effects of his brilliant eloquence, and flushed by the applauses of the people and the press, he essayed to overturn the established policy of our country, and presumed to hold up before us new lights by which we were to read the writings of our fathers, and to furnish us with strange interpretations of the cherished counsels of Washington.

Arrived at the seat of our National Government, and after receiving distinguished honors, he sought importunately and at last obtained an interview with Mr. Clay, whose life was fast ebbing away. He saw him.

The great statesman lay stretched upon his couch, suffering under the weight of years and disease. He thanked Kossuth for the honor of his visit. He told him of his love of liberty and of his sympathy for oppressed Hungary. But at the same time he added that he must protest against the policy of intervention which Kossuth had proposed. Kindling with his theme, he spoke with the eloquence of his noble nature. He pointed out the wisdom, the advantage, the justice and the patriotism of our uninterrupted neutrality, which had preserved us from being involved in the tangled web of European politics, thus conducing to our unprecedented prosperity, and effecting by example more for the cause of liberty throughout the world than arms could have achieved.

What a legacy of wisdom for posterity is there in these last counsels of the dying statesman—counsels unlooked for from one whose voice on earth was deemed silenced under the trials of disease. Thus have we beheld the evening sun, slowly sinking in the west beneath a veil of clouds, and seemingly at rest, suddenly burst forth again in the full glories of his golden splendor, to illumine the surrounding horizon in a blaze of light ere his broad disk disappeared behind the hills to his diurnal slumber.

This remarkable interview was soon made public. It challenged the deliberate consideration of reflecting minds, and aroused them to a just sense of patriotic duty. The spell which Kossuth's genius and oratory had woven was broken. The purpose of his further journeyings became vain; and before he left our shores for his native Europe, he had learned, through the wholesome yet kindly rebuke administered by the dying lips of Henry Clay, how little that man comprehends of the spirit and intelligence of the people of the United States who endeavors to lead them astray from the faith of the Fathers of the Republic.

Among all the important services of Mr. Clay, throughout his long and eventful career, there are none more conspicuous, or better entitling him to the lasting gratitude of his country, than his labors for the preservation of the Union. His patriotism was a love of his whole country. No narrow limits hemmed it in. His comprehensive mind, without losing sight of the geographical lines that separate upon the map the different States of the Union, considered these States as sections of a common country, one in history, one in origin, one in language, one in government, one in affection, and one in glory. His heart was wrapped up in the Nation. To disunite its component parts—to separate them into distinct nationalities—would have been to destroy his sublime patriotism.

It was this exalted patriotism which induced him, on every occasion where the permanency of the Union was involved, to stand forth its boldest, most earnest, and most effective champion.

When the question of the admission of Missouri occupied the public mind, which Mr. Jefferson declared "the most momentous that had ever threatened the Union"—every patriot in the land trembled for the fate of the country. The schemes of other statesmen had failed to furnish a remedy equal to the emergency, and disunion, like a black cloud, lowered upon the country.

Mr. Clay, coming into the councils of the nation in the midst of this gloom, brought with him wise measures of conciliation. At first his plans were rejected; but he persevered with a spirit undaunted. They at length prevailed, and peace and good-will were restored. The honor of saving the country was, on all sides, awarded to him, and his praises were on the lips of a grateful people. Mr. Benton called him "the pacificator of ten millions of freemen," and it is in speaking of this act that Mr. Crittenden has said it was "the greatest civil triumph ever achieved by mortal man."

The second occasion when Mr. Clay earned the title of the savior of his country, and again signalized his devotion to the Union, was in 1833, during the portentous times of nullification in South Carolina. The people of that chivalrous State had opposed, with the most settled determination, the tariff laws of the General Government. They had passed, in convention, an ordinance declaring these laws unconstitutional, null and void, and menacing resolute resistance to their enforcement in the State. The Legislature, on assembling, ratified this ordinance, and at once set about the effective organization of the militia, and the preparation of materials for war, with the avowed purpose of sustaining the attitude of the State by an appeal to arms.

On the 10th December, 1832, Gen. Jackson issued his celebrated proclamation, denouncing these measures as treasonable, and calling back the good people of the State to their allegiance. A few days after this, Governor Hayne issued a counter proclamation, in which he exhorted all citizens of South Carolina to stand by her in her position of peril. Civil war seemed inevitable. The well-known courage and inflexible will of Gen. Jackson left no hope that he would swerve from the course he had adopted, under a stern sense of duty; while the spirited and impetuous people of South Carolina were resolved upon resistance. This posture of affairs was contemplated throughout the country with anxiety and alarm, whilst in South Carolina herself the bitterest and most proscriptive enmity prevailed against those citizens who sustained the Government of the United States.

The earliest recollections of my infancy carry me back to those troubled times, which impressed themselves upon my wondering mind with a vividness that does indeed seem strange to me at this day. The deep and dangerous excitement of the whole community of Charleston; the preparations for armed resistance; the daily collisions between individuals whom opposite opinions alone made hostile; the nightly hisses and hurrahs of passing processions, and their solemn tramp along the pavements—filled my boyish imagination with vague portents of an unknown danger, which maturer years have shown me were not ill-founded.

It was in the midst of these troubles that the eyes of the nation turned to Mr. Clay, as the statesman whose hand was to pour oil upon the troubled waters. "There is," said Mr. Randolph, at that time his bitter foe—"there is one man, and one man only, who can save the Union—and that man is Henry Clay. I know he has the power—I believe he has the patriotism and firmness equal to the occasion."

The country was not disappointed. In spite of the probable alienation of political friends, and well knowing the obstructions in the pathway leading to a reconciliation of differences of opinion honestly entertained, Mr. Clay assumed once more the character of a peace maker. He introduced into the Senate his compromise tariff. It was at first reluctantly assented to by Mr. Calhoun. Finally, and in opposition to Mr. Webster's influence, it was passed. It also passed the House; and the nation was again quieted. The measure, while it provided for the gradual but decided reduction of duties on imports, still preserved the principle of protection to American industry and retained the standard of a home valuation. It pacified South Carolina and saved the country from the horrors of civil war.

The strains of eulogy in which my heart prompts me to speak of this patriotic and great achievement might be deemed extravagant. Let me then quote to you the language of a citizen who has filled the highest office in the Government, with reference to it: "In my deliberate opinion," said he, "there was but one man who could have arrested the then course of things—the tendency of nullification to dissolve the Union—and that man was Henry Clay. It rarely happens to the most gifted and talented and patriotic to record their names upon the page of history in characters indelible and enduring. But, if to have preserved the Constitution and the Union from total wreck constitute any ground for an immortal and undying name among men, then do I believe that he has won for himself that high renown. I speak what I do know, for I was an actor in the scenes of that perilous period."

From a retirement to private life, which he had believed was to continue uninterrupted for the rest of his days, in 1849 Mr. Clay was again called by the unanimous vote of the Kentucky Legislature. The annexation of Texas, as his prophetic vision had foreseen, had become the parent of measures of the most absorbing interest that pressed themselves upon the consideration of Congress. The admission of California into the Union—the settling of the boundaries of Texas—the providing of governments for the new Territories of Utah and New Mexico, brought with them complications of the slavery question and convulsed the country to its center. Above the discord of party and the bitterness of sectional controversy, the calm and comprehensive patriotism of Mr. Clay rose like a tower.

His masterly intellect conceived, in advance of all the statesmen of the day, a plan of conciliation and compromise. No sooner was it submitted to the Senate than it encountered from North and South a storm of opposition which threatened to bear it down. But Mr. Clay was not disheartened. His courage rather "mounted with occasion," and seemed to endue him with new strength to grapple with the difficulties that sprang up around him. Once more the Union was preserved, and the voice of the nation, with loud acclaim, proclaimed its saviour Henry Clay.

Thus do we behold him for the third time the confessed preserver of the Union. What living statesman can with justice lay claim to an equal service rendered to his country once?

Born in the midst of the revolution, Mr. Clay inherited the pure patriotism of those primeval times. He was in every sense an American. He loved his country with an ardor and devotion that enter not into the sluggish breast of the selfish and time-serving politician. Every pulsation of his heart beat for her honor, her glory and the perpetuity of her free institutions. In truth could he have said, in the language of Demosthenes: "From the beginning I chose an honest and straightforward course in politics—to support the honor, the power, the glory of my country—these to exalt, in these to have my being."

It was the disinterestedness of this patriotism which, in the perils of domestic discord, caused the nation to turn to him for counsel. He seemed to stand upon an eminence elevated above the fogs of party, and to survey with a calm and dispassionate eye a broader field than others could scan who gathered round him. Governed by the impulses of a magnanimous, benevolent and just nature, he could look with fairness and forbearance upon the excesses of party; and thus, by a spirit of just moderation, he became enabled to control them.

But whilst he thus loved his country, his heart was full of sympathy for the sacred cause of liberty throughout the universal world. He realized in its fullest force the sentiment that

> "Man is one;
> And he hath one great heart. It is thus we feel
> With a gigantic throb athwart the sea
> Each other's rights and wrongs; thus are we men."

And, actuated by a sympathy thus enlarged and sublime, he lifted his cheering voice aloft in behalf of struggling Greece, and in order to obtain the recognition of the independence of South America. Mr. Canning, in the House of Commons, boasted, with reference to South America, that here he had "called a new world into existence;" but the truth of history awards that distinguished honor not to him, but to Mr. Clay. Mr. Clay was the first statesman in the world to propose and procure the recognition of these South American States. And it is well known that but for our previous recognition of them, England would not, said Mr. Rush, have taken the subsequent step of acknowledging them.

Nature endowed Mr. Clay with no common powers. His intellectual faculties were of the highest order. There was no subject in Government so abstruse that his mind could not fathom its lowest depths. He entered upon the minutest details of the most intricate questions, showing the completeness of his mastery over them. His knowledge of the history of his own country and her Constitution and laws was most ample and accurate. His most profound arguments he possessed the rare faculty of making intelligible to the plainest understanding. His speeches are remarkable for analytical power, continuous and sustained argument, and a fiery and irresistible glow of eloquence which carried conviction to the minds of his hearers. Any one of his great efforts would have been enough to entitle him to the highest rank among statesmen and orators. In the mere logic chopping of the court-house, others may have excelled him; but in force and directness of reasoning, none among his cotemporaries was his superior.

His wisdom, his rapid perceptions of right and wrong, the frankness of his nature, his love of truth and honor, the absence in him of all mean arts, his purity of purpose, his unqualling courage, the ardor of his temperament, the warmth and earnestness of his emotions, invested him with an extraordinary power of command over men. What was said of John Hampden, by Clarendon, may well be applied to him: "He was, indeed, a wise man and of great parts, and possessed of the most absolute spirit of popularity, and the most absolute faculties to govern the people, of any man I ever saw." In private life, in the House of Representatives, in the Senate, and with the people, he was always a leader—"*primus inter illustres.*"

With these high qualities were combined extraordinary gifts of person, which the sculptor's plastic hand has admirably displayed in the splendid statue we have this day dedicated. He possessed a lofty mien, manners dignified and courteous, and a presence that was indeed august. The animation of his features, the expression of his gestures, the fiery flashes of his eye, the richness, power and flexibility of his unrivalled voice, which stamped him the greatest orator of his day, and made his eloquence God-like, no language can describe, no art can properly convey. As Fox said of Burke: "But you should have heard and seen the man." Indeed:

> "the elements
> So mix'd in him that Nature might stand up
> And say to all the world, *This was a man.*"

To Mr. Clay death had no terrors. "Sir," said he to a friend, a few days before he died, "I do not fear to die. I have faith, hope, and some confidence." Thus armed in the holy panoply of Christian Faith, he awaited unawed the hour when his soul should pass away.

Surely, surely to have done the State such service—so long, so zealously, so conspicuously; so to have lived and so to have died, constitute no common claims upon a country's gratitude.

And yet one question doubtless has presented itself to the mind of every one within the sound of my voice. It is this: Why did this noble and revered statesman and patriot never reach the highest honors of the Republic? Why was he never chosen President?

In this question, which after generations shall put more earnestly than you now ask it, I find his imperishable renown. In his own immortal sentiment I find its answer: I HAD RATHER BE RIGHT THAN BE PRESIDENT.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Clay Monumental Association—Our labors are drawn to a close. Our work has been performed under the smiles of Heaven, in the midst of the outpourings of the heart of this vast multitude of freemen. It has been blessed by Patriotism and Liberty, and consecrated by Religion. The Statue of Henry Clay stands here for all future time, dedicated by you Louisianians to your brethren of the Union and the lovers of liberty throughout the world.

Fellow-citizens of the United States—Behold the figure of Henry Clay. The orator of Liberty—the champion of the Union—the foremost man in his time in the love, the confidence and veneration of his countrymen. Young and old, men and women, look all upon his noble features. I see, as you do so, the memories of the past rushing upon your hearts—of his sublime sentiments—his self-sacrificing and magnanimous spirit—his long, faithful and invaluable services to the Republic.

Let his precepts and example sink deep into your hearts—let them feed the holy flame of liberty within your bosoms. Let them impress upon you the sacred lesson, that under God, the first duty of an American is to love his country and to uphold the Union and the Constitution—the very source and life of our American liberties.

THE CLAY STATUE INAUGURATION.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

[Republished from our Edition of Saturday, 14th inst.]

Want of space yesterday prevented us from mentioning many things connected with the previous day's Inauguration of the Clay Statue. We alluded but briefly to the Masonic ceremonies on the occasion; we now give the details:

The Masonic Ceremonies.

After the unveiling of the Statue, and after the jubilant crash and clangor of the bands, bells and cannon had ceased, the Grand Marshal, Captain Walton, announced that the Masonic ceremonies would take place. The Grand Master, J. Q. A. Fellows, then addressed the Clay Monumental Association as follows:

Mr. President and Members of the Clay Monumental Association:

The invitation of your Executive Committee, to the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, to assist in the ceremonies of the inauguration of this statue, the corner stone for the foundation of which was laid four years ago this day, has been cordially accepted by the fraternity, as you see evidenced in the numbers surrounding this monument.

By the suffrages of my brethren it has fallen to my lot this day to perform one of the most pleasing of my official duties—that of leading in the ceremonies of consecrating and dedicating this statue, erected to the memory of one of America's noblest citizens; a work of commemoration justly due to the virtues of the departed patriot and statesman, and equally creditable to the Association and this community. This duty is rendered more than usually agreeable to myself and those with whom I am here associated, by the fact that he whose worth and memory we thus perpetuate was a distinguished member of our fraternity, and forty years ago held the high and honorable station of Grand Master of Masons in Kentucky, his adopted State.

I will extend these remarks no further, lest I encroach upon the province of another, the orator of the day, but with the assistance of my associates in office will at once proceed to perform the Masonic ceremonies usual upon such an occasion and proper to the inauguration of this statue; and while these ceremonies are being performed, I enjoin strict and solemn silence in this assembly.

Freemasonry has ever taught, and chiefly teaches, the three great moral duties—to God, our neighbor and ourselves: To God, by holding His name in awe and veneration; viewing Him as the chief good, imploring His aid in all laudable pursuits and supplicating His protection on all well meant endeavors. Hence with us, the office of chaplain, to lead and assist us in our prayers and supplications to Him to whom we ever look for aid and support.

Brother Grand Chaplain, let us commence the ceremonies of this day, by devout prayer to the ever-living and true God.

The Rev. C. S. Hedges, Grand Chaplain, then offered the following prayer: