

A Splendid Address.

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a hardy and rough exterior, uncouth in personal accomplishment, yet imbued with the "new idea," they gave to those that came after their characteristics, the love of civil and social liberty, that strong determination of character, that Puritanical idea of goodness in all things, that especially emanates from this colonial settlement on American shores.

So when the Dorchester merchants planted their little colony in 1523 at Cape Ann, their failure can be found in the fact that they came without the "new idea," coming alone for profit, giving those directly descended their same characteristics and ideas, purposes and aims in life, that was the ruling spirit of the Dorchesteran, and it was not until John Endicott, in 1628, came to the rescue and gave to the settlement of Naunkeag the name Salem, signifying peace, determined that this colony should be something more than for the purposes of trade, and gave it the "new idea," reinforcing it with religious liberty, under the guiding influence of Roger Williams, aided by the Puritanical statesmanship of Henry Vane, the most heroic and enthusiastic lover of human liberty of the age in which he lived, possessing a wisdom and far-sightedness far in advance of his time, laboring for the perfection of a social and political organization in this new world, that gave birth to the great commonwealth of Massachusetts and the great and strong people that have since emanated therefrom. And so I might go on and illustrate that now apparent and undisputed fact, that when the "new idea" was once formed it was the early settler that planted it in the community to which he came, and as he was endowed with that idea, in that proportion was the community which he established thus endowed, and as was his strength, his ambition, his aims in life, so was the colony of which he was the founder.

"Think not, however, from what I say, that I for a moment believe that we have grown better and stronger than those that laid the foundation and drew the plans for this great social system of which we are members. Not so. It has only been left for us to do what experience and broader culture has prepared us for the doing; it has been only left for us to take up their burdens of citizenship, in the interest of humanity, working out our salvation, yet upon the lines of their dictation. They had the same thoughts and were troubled with the same questions that disturb the common good today; they were agitated by the same disturbing influences with which we contend, and yet at a time when greater courage and individual strength was required to meet these contentions, because they had not the comforting experience that the years have brought to us and the consolation that this republic is no longer an experiment, but the culmination of a successful and, as yet, an unequalled government.

"History but repeats itself, but only each time in the cycle of years the principle for which we contend grows broader for the betterment of a greater number of our fellowmen. But a short time ago, thoroughly imbued with the idea of individual liberty, the people of this young republic, whence scarce the echoes of civil strife had died away, and when the awful memories of the cruel

fate of war was still burning within the hearts of America's children, the messenger of love, singing 'peace on earth, good will toward man,' brought to them tidings that the people of another soil, the dark-skinned children of Cuba, who had inherited God's greatest gift to man, the right to live, and who had been endowed with the same rights and privileges of any other individual liberty, was denied their inheritance, through the tyranny of their fellow-being. The awful memories of the past could not deter the American people in their resolve that all men, not alone those living under the protecting folds of the stars and stripes, but the inhabitants of the islands of the sea, under the dominion of another government, should receive their inheritance, and protection in its enjoyment, should be guaranteed, even though force must be the power, that God's will should be done.

"You will remember that again we heard the muffled drum, the silvery sound of the bugle call, and the silent tread of America's soldiery, called from their peaceful avocations, unskilled in war, but unmindful of the perils that confronted them as they faced a foreign foe in the struggle for human liberty. These were the boys of those who preceded them in the struggle on their native land, that this union might survive, that men should be free and equal, and while one fought for his hearth and home, the other, with equal bravery, fought for that of others he knew not of; and while both contended for a principle, 'the new idea,' with a heroism that equalled the most chivalrous deeds of history's record, the one that stood for *universal liberty*, stood for the 'new idea' in the most magnificent conception of the age in which we live.

"It mattered not where duty called, these gallant boys were found, ten thousand miles away from home, across the turbulent waters of the great Pacific, beneath the burning sun of the orient, in the jungles and swamps of Luzon, the boys of the First Nebraska, with a gallantry and heroism that won the admiration of the civilized world, harkened to the whistle of the deadly Mauser, as they fought a foreign foe for principle's sake.

"It was here that the blood of Nebraska's sons crimsoned the sun-bleached sands of the Philippines; it was here that the gallant Stotsenburg, as he led these magnificent soldiers, that seemed almost a moment before, the peaceful and happy, contented boys, engaged only in the peaceful duties of American citizenship, into that heroic charge that made their names immortal, and wherein he laid down his life that the bodies of many of our faithful sons might not forever repose upon the distant banks of the Pasig river.

"It was here that history was made; it was here, for the first time in the history of nations, that the splendid spectacle was presented of a nation, younger by years than any nation of the world, fighting in deadly combat, that God's handiwork, wherever found, should be recognized as a being worthy of personal liberty. By these acts the pages of history were made more splendid, and by these boys the fame of the state of Nebraska was recorded in history in the struggle for the progress of humanity, that will live throughout all the ages yet to come.

"But did I say history repeats itself? In 1864 the boys of Nebraska were then engaged in history-making, struggling and contending for the same principle, perhaps in narrower extent, and it is

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