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1895

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Committee on Erection of Society's Building.

JOHN OTT,
HENRY COALTER CABELL,
ROBERT A. BROCK.



Executive Committee.

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BOLIVAR CHRISTIAN.

THE VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TO

VIRGINIANS AND FRIENDS OF VIRGINIA.

VIRGINIA is the oldest of the American commonwealths, and the history of all of them is, more or less, connected with hers. Her bearing has been honorable, and her children brave. The work was undertaken by this Society to gather up and preserve the memorials of her career, and this it has endeavored faithfully to perform. The lodgment for its large and most valuable collection of original material was lost through the calamities of war, and it has not since been able to provide another that was either safe or properly accessible to the public. The rearrangement of our general economy in Virginia, made necessary by the issues of the war, has been slow, and is yet very far from being complete. Disasters, through flood and unpropitious seasons, have kept our people poor, and, giving due weight to this condition of things, the Society has felt reluctant to press its sore needs in this behalf. In the meantime, not only has our collection been liable to destruction, but much most precious material, lodged in old country seats, (which the Society, properly circumstanced, could have commanded) has passed away. Despite the trouble that has fallen to the general lot in Virginia, there are those, born on her soil, and living under her protection, to whom fortune has been kind; to such and to all interested in her welfare, wherever located, we earnestly appeal. We feel that we cannot, in justice to the trust we hold, longer delay the work of providing a fire-proof building, sufficiently ample in proportions to accommodate the material now in hand, and what the future may commit to our custody.

One of the sites selected for this building is that part of the Capitol square now forming the southern portion of the Governor's grounds. It is at once a handsome and most appropriate location for the purpose. In the petition for the grant of its use to the Society the Governor will gladly join, and as the object sought is the preservation of the Commonwealth's history, the Legislature will probably respond favorably to the request. Inasmuch as Virginia was founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and named in her honor, the building will be in the style of architecture then prevailing in England. At the present cost of materials and labor, it can be erected for \$50,000. With more our ability for usefulness would be commensurately enhanced; but this we do not press.

A definite project is thus presented, and the good offices of every lover of the Old Dominion, looking to its successful accomplishment, are most earnestly invoked.

Upon the walls of this building will be displayed the portraits of those who have made our annals illustrious, and within its precincts will be gathered the memorials of their greatness; nor will there be forgotten a proper representation of the archeology, geology, and mineralogy of the State. It is unnecessary for us to say to any man, moved at all by the memory of our past, that to no other shrine could our children repair with more absolute profit, and not our children alone, but every one bound to Virginia, by interest or affection, throughout this and the mother country.

We cannot be indifferent to our past if we would stand with credit in the future.

The gifts, in this behalf, will be sent to Mr. ROBERT T. BROOKE, Treasurer of the VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Richmond, Va., who will forward the proper acknowledgment.

JOHN OTT,
HENRY COALTER CABELL, } *Committee.*
ROBERT A. BROCK,

RICHMOND, VA., September 2, 1878.



THE VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 25 N. 10th Street, Richmond, Va.
 Telephone No. 1-5311

THE VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 VIRGINIANS AND FRIENDS OF VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA is the oldest of the American Commonwealths and the first of all to claim a place of distinction with her. Her bearing has been honorable and her children brave. The most who undertake to do her justice gather up and preserve the memorials of her career, and this it has endeavored (with a certain degree of success) to do in a large and most valuable collection of original material which has passed through the hands of generations and is now in the hands of the Society. It is the object of the Society to preserve this material in a building of its own, and to make it available to the public. The Society has been fortunate in securing the cooperation of the Virginia people in every way, and they have shown a readiness to contribute to the work of the Society. It is the object of the Society to preserve this material in a building of its own, and to make it available to the public. The Society has been fortunate in securing the cooperation of the Virginia people in every way, and they have shown a readiness to contribute to the work of the Society.

One of the sites selected for this building is that part of the Capitol grounds now situated on the north side of the Capitol. It is an excellent site and most appropriate for the purpose. In the construction of the building the Society will gladly join, and as the object of the building is to preserve the material of the Virginia people, the Legislature will probably respond favorably to the request. In an address given at the opening of the building in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and named in her honor, the building will be in the city of Richmond, Virginia, waiting to be erected. At the present cost of \$1,000,000 and it can be erected for \$500,000. With your cooperation and financial aid, it can be erected for \$500,000. With your cooperation and financial aid, it can be erected for \$500,000.

A historic project is thus presented, and the good offices of every lover of the Old Dominion, looking to its successful accomplishment, are most earnestly invited.

Upon the walls of this building will be displayed the portraits of those who have made a name for themselves and within its precincts will be gathered the memorials of their lives. It is the object of the Society to preserve this material in a building of its own, and to make it available to the public. The Society has been fortunate in securing the cooperation of the Virginia people in every way, and they have shown a readiness to contribute to the work of the Society.


The plan of the building is in the hands of the architect, and will be ready for construction in the near future. The Society has been fortunate in securing the cooperation of the Virginia people in every way, and they have shown a readiness to contribute to the work of the Society.

1865 OFF.
 BUREAU OF THE VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 25 N. 10th Street, Richmond, Va.

Richmond, Va., will be forwarded by express on application.

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