

**THE  
HEROIC PORTRAIT STATUE  
OF  
MAJOR GENERAL  
PHILIP SCHUYLER**

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**PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF ALBANY  
BY GEORGE C. HAWLEY  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF HIS WIFE  
THEODORA M. HAWLEY**

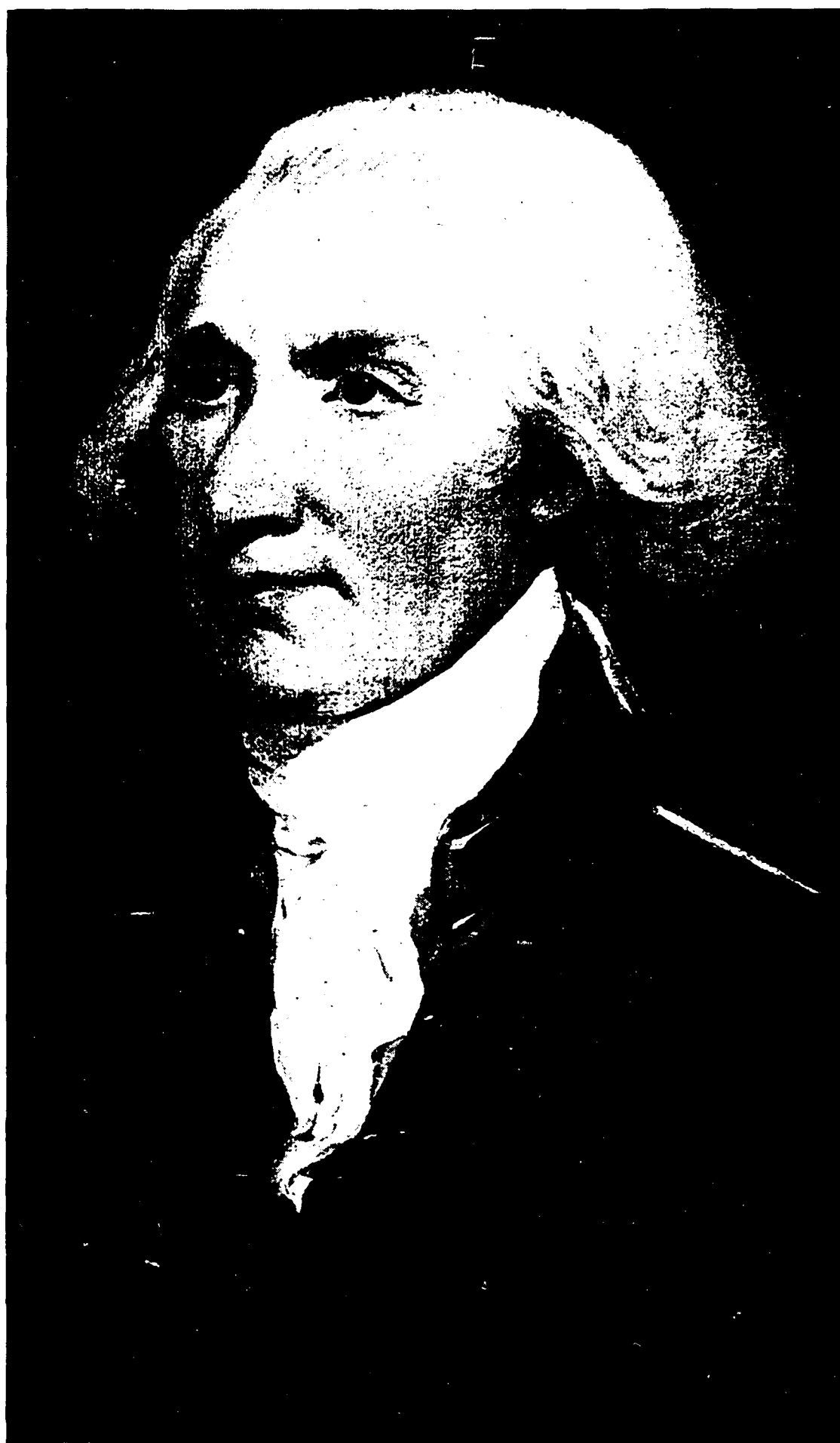
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**Printed For Private Distribution  
ALBANY  
1925**



**MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER**







**THEODORA M. HAWLEY**



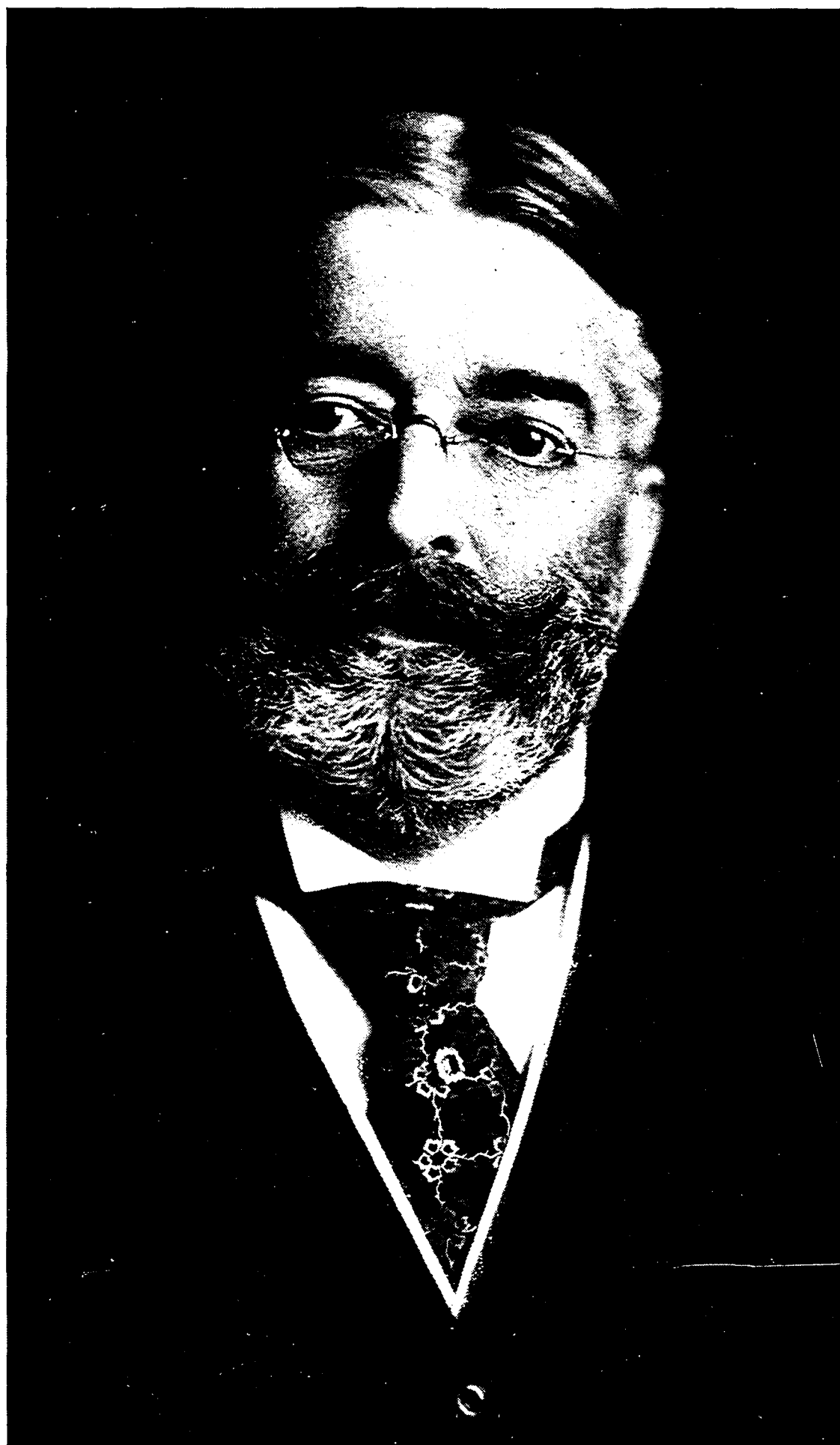






**GEORGE C. HAWLEY**







## THE MONUMENT









# INSCRIPTION ON MONUMENT

PRESENTED IN LOVING MEMORY OF HIS  
WIFE, THEODORA M. HAWLEY, TO THE  
CITY OF ALBANY BY GEORGE C. HAWLEY

Citizens' Committee

Hon. William S. Hackett, Mayor    Hon. William E. Woollard

Frank B. Graves

Dr. Arthur W. Elting

MCMXXV



## HISTORY OF THE MONUMENT

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On October 12, 1922, Theodora Millard Hawley, the wife of George Clement Hawley, died at her residence in the City of Albany, N. Y.

Mrs. Hawley was descended, on both her paternal and maternal sides, from families who have been identified with Albany for many years. Her father was Theodore M. Amsdell, a prosperous Albany merchant, of the generation that has just passed. Her marriage, March 23, 1892, to George Clement Hawley, was an occasion of note. There were no children of the marriage, a circumstance, perhaps, which had its influence in intensifying the close communion in which she and her husband lived.

Mrs. Hawley was endowed, by inheritance from a long line of capable ancestors, with great natural ability and, by educa-

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tion, with culture and refinement. She cared little for the ordinary ceremonies of formal society. She shared with her husband a passionate fondness for flowers, and their conservatories, for many years, have afforded delight to themselves and pleasure to the citizens of Albany. She shared with him also a vivid interest in all that concerned the welfare of the City of Albany and its citizens. It was her broad and tender sympathies, not less than his, that dictated the generous philanthropies with which their names are associated in the minds of the citizens of Albany. No worthy cause launched in the City of Albany, within the last generation, has been without their generous assistance and many gifts, princely in their bountifulness, have been made to those philanthropies which promised most for the well being of the present and future citizens of Albany.

The death of Mrs. Hawley followed shortly after her husband's retirement

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from active business. Since his retirement, and particularly since the death of his wife, Mr. Hawley has employed his leisure in philanthropic activities, and his wealth in large benefactions, many of which he has made in memory of his wife.

In November, 1923, Mr. Hawley, an ardent student of the American Revolution, conceived the plan of perpetuating the memory of his beloved wife, of signaling his desire to beautify the City of Albany and of honoring the name of a native Albanian who was one of the creators of this Republic, by erecting a portrait statue of heroic size of Major General Philip Schuyler. With characteristic energy he immediately retained J. Massey Rhind, the famous sculptor, to execute the commission, and then sent to the Mayor of the City of Albany the following communication:

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November 19, 1923.

Hon. William S. Hackett, Mayor of the  
City of Albany:

My dear Mr. Mayor:

It will be agreed by all that the changes in recent years, made necessary by the rapid growth of our city, have greatly added to its beauty and attractiveness, and to those whose intelligent efforts contributed thereto, I feel we owe a debt of gratitude.

Its notable buildings, beautiful parks, fine thoroughfares, its location at the navigable head of the beautiful Hudson, and position as capital of the Empire State, continue to attract an ever increasing flow of visitors from every direction, affording economic advantages very helpful to our prosperity and growth.

In recent years thoughtful citizens have, from time to time, directed public attention to the absence, in sufficient number, of suitable monuments for which the arrangement and beauty of our public buildings afford unusual locations and settings. Such monuments would not only



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add further to the adornment of our city, but would provide the best means of commemorating the lives and times of distinguished citizens and the important events with which our local history is so replete.

For a long time I have been cognizant of this need, and as the initiative seems to be somewhat dependent upon individual action I have determined, after giving the matter careful study, to co-operate with the city in supplying a part of this need.

The triangular plot in front of the City Hall seems to me to be the ideal setting for a monument to some distinguished native Albanian as it is peculiarly fitting that that masterpiece of architectural beauty should form the background for a monument to a native Albanian rather than a personage who, however celebrated, is not by birth intimately connected with our city.

I have accordingly resolved, if the necessary consent and co-operation of the city be given, to present our city, for erection on the above site, with an heroic bronze portrait statue of that most dis-

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tinguished native Albanian, patriot and statesman of Revolutionary times,

Major General Philip Schuyler.

The life of General Schuyler needs no eulogy and though our past is rich with historic characters and events, I feel that no greater patriot, eminent statesman, or nobler citizen is to be found in the pages of our history.

He was the friend of Washington, who often sought his counsel. Beginning with the French and Indian War, General Schuyler rendered distinguished service as a soldier in all the wars which harassed the colonists, his most important service being rendered at the Battle of Saratoga, designated as one of the fifteen decisive battles of the world by the noted English historian, Sir Edward Creasy.

At the early age of twenty-eight, General Schuyler was sent to England to settle the colonists' claims, and later he acted as a Boundary Commissioner to determine the lines between New York and Massachusetts, and afterwards helped settle the New Hampshire boundary.

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He was a member of the Colonial Assembly, a delegate to the Continental Congress, a member of the Senate of the State of New York, and of the Senate of the United States. As a citizen he was always active in public affairs and actively promoted the building of the Erie Canal, which later made New York State the nation's greatest transportation highway.

His devotion to his country in the hour of her greatest need is worthy of emulation by the youth of the land, and none will deny his right to the highest place in the hearts of his countrymen.

It will be the first monument erected solely to the memory of this distinguished Albanian, and I feel that Albany can, with the utmost propriety, be the first to exercise the privilege of perpetuating his memory in this manner.

Tentatively, and, of course, dependent upon the adoption and approval of the plan by the honorable members of our Common Council, and of your Honor, I have already engaged the services of Mr. J. Massey Rhind, of New York, one of the world's greatest sculptors. Mr. Rhind

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has already given the subject and location thorough study and approval, and is ready to immediately begin the construction of a model.

The fact that Mr. Rhind is committed to perform the task and has approved the subject and location, provides the needed assurance that the monument will be artistically correct and beautiful from every viewpoint.

I am hopeful that acceptance of my offer will be an incentive to a movement to adorn our city with monuments commemorating the lives of distinguished men and the important events in which our city's history is so rich.

Having given the plan the necessary study, as I have already stated, I venture to suggest, as undertakings of this character necessarily consume considerable time, that prompt action be taken regarding this offer, that I may be enabled to close a contract for the work without delay.

I also venture to suggest the wisdom of the immediate appointment by you of an executive committee fully empowered to attend to all details of arrangement from

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the beginning until the unveiling, including the appointment of necessary subcommittees, and in order to obtain the necessary promptness of action, I further suggest that the executive committee be limited in number, and that your Honor, as Mayor of our City, shall be one.

It is my intention that the monument shall be a memorial to the memory of that noble woman, my deceased wife, Theodora Millard Hawley.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Geo. C. Hawley.

This letter the Mayor submitted to the Common Council on November 19, 1923, with the following communication:

November 19, 1923.

To the Honorable, President and Members of the Common Council of the City of Albany:

It is with exceedingly great pleasure that I have the honor of transmitting herewith a communication from Mr.

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George C. Hawley, one of Albany's most generous and loyal citizens, containing an offer to present our municipality with an heroic bronze portrait statue to be placed on the plot in front of our City Hall, of that distinguished native Albanian, statesman and soldier of Revolutionary times,

Major General Philip Schuyler.

The reasons for the designation of General Schuyler as the personage to be so honored, and the selection of the superb location, are fully set forth in the communication, and with which I fully agree.

It is altogether fitting that our city should commemorate in the proposed manner the memory of this great man.

This generous gift is further ennobled by the donor's expression of the hope that it may be the beginning of a movement to further adorn our already beautiful city with additional monuments commemorating the lives of its distinguished citizens and important events of the past.

Sufficient study has already been given the subject to warrant our following the

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suggestion for prompt action, and I recommend its immediate acceptance and passage of the necessary ordinance.

I have the honor to remain,

Your obedient servant,

Wm. S. Hackett,

Mayor.

The Common Council promptly accepted the gift by passing the following ordinance:

An Ordinance Accepting a Statue of General Philip Schuyler Presented to the City of Albany by Mr. George C. Hawley, and Authorizing Its Erection on the Plot of Ground in Front of the City Hall.

The City of Albany, in Common Council convened, ordains as follows:

Section 1. The City of Albany accepts the gift of Mr. George C. Hawley, as a memorial to the memory of Theodora Millard Hawley, of a bronze portrait statue of heroic proportions of the distinguished Albanian, Major General Philip Schuyler.

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§ 2. The statue shall be erected on the triangular plot of ground on Eagle Street in front of the City Hall, and the Commissioner of Public Works is hereby directed to co-operate with the committee having in charge the erection thereof.

§ 3. The Mayor of the City of Albany is hereby authorized to appoint a committee to consist of three citizens, one of whom shall be the Mayor, which committee shall have full charge of the selection and erection of the said statue, and may appoint such sub-committees as in its judgment shall be deemed expedient.

§ 4. This ordinance shall take effect immediately.

The Common Council then passed the following resolution thanking Mr. Hawley for his munificent gift:

Whereas, Mr. George C. Hawley of Albany, has presented to the City a heroic bronze portrait statue of that most distinguished Albanian, Soldier and Statesman of Revolutionary times, Major General Philip Schuyler, and



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Whereas, This very appropriate gift is made with the hope that it may be an incentive for the movement to further adorn our city with monuments commemorating the lives of its distinguished citizens, and

Whereas, Said gift has been duly accepted by the City of Albany, in Common Council convened; be it

Resolved, That the following memorial be and the same hereby is adopted:

The Mayor and the Common Council of the City of Albany being desirous of recognizing this magnificent contribution on the part of one of its public-spirited citizens, express to

Mr. George C. Hawley

their appreciation of the generous gift to the City of the heroic bronze portrait statue of that most distinguished Albanian,

Major General Philip Schuyler.

As a mark of commendation of this act we have ordered that this expression on the part of the city government of Al-

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bany be duly engrossed and signed by the Mayor and President of the Common Council, attested by the City Clerk, sealed with the City Seal and delivered to Mr. Hawley.

The Mayor immediately appointed Frank B. Graves, the Hon. William E. Woollard and Dr. Arthur W. Elting, together with himself, as members of the monument committee, and advised the Common Council of the appointment in the following letter:

November 20, 1923.

To the Honorable, President and Members of the Common Council of the City of Albany:

Pursuant to the provisions of the ordinance passed by your honorable body on the 19th and approved this 20th day of November, 1923, accepting from Mr. George C. Hawley an heroic bronze portrait statue of General Philip Schuyler, and which ordinance authorized and directed me to appoint an executive com-

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mittee to be composed of three members and designating me as Chairman thereof, to have full charge of all the details concerning the erection and unveiling of the statue, I beg to advise you that I have designated and appointed Frank B. Graves, Hon. William E. Woollard and Dr. Arthur W. Elting, as members of said committee.

I beg to further advise you that my judgment in the selection of these gentlemen is in complete accord with that of Mr. Hawley, the generous donor of the gift.

I have the honor to remain,

Your obedient servant,

Wm. S. Hackett, Mayor.

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Hopkins' Atlas of City of Albany, 1876  
Current Map of City of Albany  
Current Directory of City of Albany  
Current Albany Newspapers  
Photographs of Theodora Millard Hawley  
Photographs of George Clement Hawley  
Photographs of Hawley residence, Albany, N. Y.  
Photograph of Mausoleum of Mr. and Mrs. George  
Clement Hawley, Rural Cemetery, Albany,  
N. Y.  
Memorabilia of Hawley and Amsdell Families  
Photographs and life sketches of members of  
Monument Committee, viz.:  
Dr. Arthur W. Elting  
Frank B. Graves, Esq.  
Hon. William S. Hackett, Mayor of City of  
Albany, and  
Hon. William E. Woollard  
Bag containing current and obsolete United  
States coins  
Envelope containing current and obsolete United  
States paper currency  
Copy of this dedicatory volume.

# AN APPRECIATION OF MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER

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Born to the purple, the liberty of the meanest was as dear to him as his own.

Of the landed aristocracy and connected by blood and marriage with the wealthiest families in the Colonies, he risked life, lands and position that his country might have freedom.

Too noble of heart and too single of purpose to resent injustice when the display of resentment would weaken his country's cause, his conduct in adversity stamps him as a truly great man.

Wise in the council, gallant in the field, able in war and efficient in peace, he is Albany's most famous native son.



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Address of CHARLES H. JOHNSON at the unveiling of the Philip Schuyler Monument, Albany, New York, June 14, 1925

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Today is given to us the inestimable privilege to unveil and dedicate a monument which shall stand here an object of admiration and inspiration for many generations. Its artistic beauty will bring delight and esthetic satisfaction and the story of its subject will inspire loyalty and love of country. Structures for commercial, domestic or official purposes are often comparatively short lived. New needs, deterioration or environmental changes require replacement. Monuments, however, endure undisturbed by the vicissitudes of time and fortune. In the days to come many architectural changes will take place about us, changed economic customs will affect the life of the

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people but uninfluenced by these changes, this work of art will throughout the procession of the years teach its lessons of beauty and honor to the constantly renewing stream of mankind.

The practice of erecting statues to the memory of individuals who have given outstanding service to their community or who have made some valuable contribution to the welfare of humanity goes back many centuries. We have a visual memory of the Roman Emperors because of the sculptural likenesses which have come down to us through the ages, and many are famous who would now be forgotten were it not for the existence of noble statues which immortalize them. Books and historical documents are of interest or accessible to but few persons. The spoken word of instruction is soon crowded from memory. Even comparatively recent history grow vague and hazy in its outlines amazingly soon. But the monument in the public place is a constant teacher of



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the multitude. Proclaiming ideals of patriotism and service, it knits together succeeding generations of people. Instead of being cut off from the past, those who stand before it and contemplate its significance, are brought into communion with the spirit of the ages that are gone and of the spirit of the prominent and predominant personalities of those ages.

There is an unusually happy combination of circumstances connected with this occasion. In selecting a site for a statue or public monument, it is not sufficient to consider the memorial alone. Of almost equal importance is the relation of neighboring buildings to the monument itself, the observance of distances, and the angle from which the statue is viewed. There are many instances where the artistic effect of a beautiful monument has been weakened by an obscure or inappropriate site.

The site selected for this monument is particularly fortunate and fitting. It is the most conspicuous in the State of New

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York. On this, the Capitol Hill of the Empire State of the Union, stand the buildings devoted to civic administration, the promotion of justice, the education of youth, legislation and government. It is eminently fitting that here in this broad and open square, surrounded by these beautiful and significant structures, shall stand the memorial to a citizen of this State and city whose life was devoted to the promulgation of the ideals and principles symbolized by the buildings about him. Here will his sculptured effigy stand by the side of the broad highway which leads from the river he loved into the country of the Mohawks and the forests of the Adirondacks. With every foot of this road he was acquainted and along it he had often been in danger when contending for the safety of his city or for the liberty of his country. Not for this man's memorial the isolation or seclusion of a museum to which a few lovers of art or history might occasionally repair to

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look upon it, but the thronged thoroughfare where the rapid, moving tide of human affairs of which he was so energetic a part in his own day, shall flow about his feet. Millions from all parts of the world shall pass along this road and have their attention arrested by his form, silent but eloquent in its reminder of the duties of manhood and the obligations of citizenship. To the ends of the earth shall the picture of this figure be carried and in far distant countries shall be told the story of Albany's beautiful memorial to her noble son. Thus shall come the immortalization of this man's spirit in the hearts and lives of widely scattered and succeeding generations.

There is also an equally fitting circumstance connected with the source of the gift. George C. Hawley, through whose generosity this noble tribute to Albany's distinguished son is made possible, is, like him, a native of Albany and the beloved one in whose name and memory the gift

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is made was a devoted and loyal daughter of our city. This monument is an appreciation, a token of respect and admiration from a loyal Albanian of the twentieth century to a loyal Albanian of the eighteenth century. Each a representative of the day and generation of which they were a part, they clasp hands across the dividing years and the hand laid in benediction upon them is that of a woman. The name of Theodora Millard Hawley, the wife, homemaker, and companion, will be forever associated with this memorial. By this association womanhood honors manhood, tenderness pays tribute to strength, the sweet and gentle representative of the home lauds the fearless protector and defender of its safety. In this union of memories, the memorial of the man in memory of the woman, is the ideal and fitting human combination, for in life this virile, masterly man had the tenderness and compassion of a woman and this woman combined with her sweet femi-

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nine personality, the masculine virtues of courage and endurance.

Fortunate also was the selection of him who should decide the imperishable form in which this memorial should be moulded. With years of training, with a high and divinely given gift of appreciation and insight into things beautiful, the sculptor, J. Massey Rhind, has given from his soul the figure we dedicate this day. It will bring gladness to the hearts of those who understand and to those who can not fully understand the beauty of its symbolism and detail, there shall come nevertheless a consciousness that they stand in the presence of a masterpiece of the sculptor's art. It epitomizes the Grecian ideal of monumental form which always portrayed the characteristics of dignity, thoughtfulness and self-control. Alert, energetic, the face showing enthusiasm and culture, its form radiating strength and determination, this figure in its Continental garb, while representative

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truly of the man and period, is also a real and permanent contribution to the art life of today. As the subject which it memorializes contributed to the fame of Albany in the past, this masterly representation of him will bring honor to our city in the future.

But especially is this occasion fortunate in the selection of the individual to be honored. A city may be beautified and enriched by memorials to men not of its nativity whose contributions to humanity have helped it generally. But it is well for a community to give atmosphere and local color to its own history by honoring those connected with its own development. Albany throughout its many years has been the birthplace and home of many who have become great in the affairs of life. It has given to the state and nation sons and daughters, worthy and well qualified leaders in numerous fields of human activities and of them it is justly proud. But as a fitting representative of the finest

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manhood of the critical and formative period of our national history, of sterling and unalloyed citizenship in peace and war, of unselfishness, valor and brilliant achievement, none could be more appropriate for immortalization in bronze than Philip Schuyler.

Born in Albany, November 11, 1733, he came of a line famed throughout the entire colony of New York for their fearlessness and daring in battle and for their honesty and fair play in dealing with the native Indians. The name of Schuyler meant to the Indians "kindness and fair play." His mother was Cornelia Van Cortlandt, a woman of remarkably fine character and much esteemed by all who knew her. His father was Johannes Schuyler, Jr., Indian Commissioner and Mayor of Albany. His grandfather Johannes was a fighter who won distinction in attack against the French and Indians; his uncle Philip was killed in battle with them while bravely resisting a de-

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mand to surrender, and his great uncle Peter Schuyler was famous for his successful, humane and just dealing with the Indians in an age when few men conceived themselves bound to deal fairly with them.

Before 1750 there were six Mayors of Albany bearing the name of Schuyler and the original Dutch house of the family remained on the corner of State and Pearl Streets until recent years.

The Albany of Philip Schuyler's day was far different from the Albany which today gratefully accepts this memorial. It was then next in importance in our State to the city of New York and sixth in rank in the country. The prosperity of its merchants was the envy of far larger places. It did not have a rival on the river. Then the principal streets ran parallel to the river, were wide, unpaved and in many months of the year heavy with mud. In 1784 there were about 70 shops in town clustered principally along Pearl Street. Its houses in Dutch Gothic style always



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had the gable end facing the street. This end was of yellow Holland brick and in the middle of the brick gable was the door with a stoop flanked on each side by seats where in the long summer evenings the whole family gathered. Quite a different Pearl Street from today.

If the streets were without sidewalks and dirty, the inside of the houses was clean to a fault. It was said that one drop of ink in a house would breed a riot. Scouring with soap and sand was the only "continuous performance" which interested the housewives of Albany in the eighteenth century when Philip Schuyler was its leading citizen. The eastern bank of the river from Albany to New York was dotted by the handsome residences of as earnest, and fine looking and happy a class as probably any country has ever known. Beyond the city to the North and West was an almost unknown wilderness. Where now hundreds of thousands dwell in beautiful villages, where annually mil-

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lions come to view the majestic scenery of the valleys, mountains, forests and rivers there was a country known only to trappers. In the Mohawk Valley where the automobile now swiftly purrs along its way, the jealousy and the savagery of the Six Nations made any attempt to enter or remain in that country fraught with danger.

It was in this environment that Philip Schuyler exemplified the strenuous life long before that phrase had become famous. When the difficult and meagre means of travel are considered it is almost marvelous how this man accomplished so many things and covered so much territory in his activities. It took four days for a sloop to make the trip to or from New York City to Albany. All land transportation was either on foot, on horseback or by horse-drawn carriages. But Philip Schuyler was woodsman as well as a man of large affairs. He knew this section of the country thoroughly—

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“ The grey silences of the waters,  
The silence of the stars,  
The trailing of wind,  
The waters before him,  
The mountains behind.”

When Bradstreet started from Albany to take Fort Frontenac, it was Philip Schuyler, the skilled boat builder, who pushed ahead with a large party of carpenters and boatmen. In three weeks after arriving at the charred and desolate ruins of Oswego he had built a sloop which was capable of carrying the cannon of the expedition to Frontenac. The value of this quick and efficient work is extolled by the historians. Schuyler's versatility equalled his strenuousness. He was an expert boat builder, a courageous and skillful soldier whether it was in fighting hand to hand and man to man in the forests with desperate savages or in planning campaigns. His thoroughness and varied ability was exhibited when his friend Colonel Bradstreet requested him to go to England to settle his public ac-

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counts. Schuyler was only twenty-eight years old but being an excellent mathematician he began at once the study of navigation and soon after the trip had begun, the captain dying, he was requested by the passengers and crew to assume command. His ship was captured by the French, but his knowledge of that language and his diplomacy assisted him in retrieving the situation and he brought his ship and all hands safely to its destination. Constantly on the alert for new ideas, he utilized this visit to Europe to study the raising of products which America had to import. As a result he was soon after his return cultivating hemp and flax on his property in Saratoga County. With a rare vision of future needs and possibilities he saw the need of inland water transportation and because of his enthusiasm and labor for this cause he has been called the father of the canal systems of the United States.

His organizing and executive ability

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was seen in his establishment of the Northern Army of the Revolution. In these days of vast wealth and efficient transportation methods, equipping an army for battle is a huge task. Schuyler, however, had to train, equip, feed and move an army of men who knew nothing of military discipline, and it had to be done for a cause supported by very limited financial resources, and it had to be accomplished in the face of every kind of natural hardship and obstacles which an undeveloped and almost uncivilized territory could produce. He had to cope with recruits that would not obey their superiors, crowded barracks without any sanitary precautions, homesickness and disease everywhere prevalent, lack of funds to secure absolutely essential equipment, food, clothing, or ammunition, and roads often impassible and every means of transportation uncertain. Many times he had to advance large sums of his own money and use his own credit to secure the necessities for his

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officers and men. Through all this welter of disorder, poverty and inefficiency, Philip Schuyler fought his way with the same dogged persistence and disregard for difficulties that he had shown when he traversed the forests in pursuit of the Indians. His command of the French language enabled him to write letters in French when official proclamations in that language were necessary. He used his influence with the Indians to keep them neutral in the war for freedom of the colonies, he was the adviser of Robert Morris when the latter took charge of the Continental finances, he was the able legislator in the national and state legislatures, and from youth to old age he fully exemplified the versatile and strenuous life.

That his tireless services and unusual ability were recognized by his fellow townsmen is shown by the affection and confidence they reposed in him. An eye witness describes a scene that took place here in Albany on the Sunday when the

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news came that blood had been shed at Lexington. After church was dismissed all gathered about Philip Schuyler. "He was the oracle of our neighborhood. We looked up to him with a feeling of respect and affection. His popularity was unbounded, his views on all subjects were considered sound and his anticipations almost prophetic." When the Provincial Assembly of New York was requested by the Continental Congress to name a Major General to organize and lead the forces of the new nation in the approaching struggle it announced the qualifications for the office in the following language: "Courage, prudence, readiness in expedients, clear perception, sound judgment and great attention, these are a few of the natural qualities which appear to be proper. To these should be added an extensive acquaintance with the sciences, particularly the various branches of mathematical knowledge, long practice in the military art and above all a knowledge of man-

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kind.” The unanimous choice of Philip Schuyler to fill the position requiring those qualifications, is an indication of the esteem in which he was even then held.

Not only did his fellow townsmen and his State admire him, but the great leader of the American cause, George Washington, repeatedly expressed his admiration and approval of the ability and services of his Northern General. Their relations were more than official. A real deep friendship and affection knit together these two men whose lives and history had much in common. We see Schuyler riding with Washington in June, 1775, out of the streets of Philadelphia on which occasion, when about twenty miles from the city, they received word of the battle of Bunker Hill. A great deal of correspondence, both personal and official, passed between them. In a letter written to Schuyler in 1784 from Mount Vernon, Washington says: “In recollecting the vicissitudes of fortune we have exper-



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ience and the difficulties we have surmounted, I shall always call to mind the great assistance I have frequently received from you both in your public and private character." When the war was over and Washington became the first President of the Republic and when his enemies often attacked him in the most scurrilous manner, Philip Schuyler was always a constant, loyal and strong supporter of Washington and his policies.

It is a part of life's tragedy that no man can occupy exalted positions or be a person of accomplishment and action without incurring the envy, jealousy and hatred of inferior men. Philip Schuyler was no exception. Falsehood and unjust accusations were hurled at him by those who wished to supplant him. After a long and persistent attempt his foes succeeded in displacing him temporarily. But here when merit was powerless for the time, the finer qualities of real manhood shone forth in Philip Schuyler with re-

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markable luster. “Many men have put life and property in jeopardy for their country’s sake, but few men holding high commands have borne calumny from the people and unjust treatment from the government as Schuyler did, without being soured, without vindictive feeling, without any diminution of public spirit. This test of character, so nobly met, touches the highest note of patriotism.” His loyalty, in glorious contrast to that of Arnold, never abated and even while his foes temporarily triumphed, his services during that period were so valuable to the Revolutionary cause that he was called the “Eye of the Northern Department.” It is in such experiences that true greatness reveals itself, for the severe tests of life reveal character—

“He who thus can conquer his own spirit is greater than he who conquers a city.”

This fine display of a noble spirit was no temporary pose to meet a situation.

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Throughout his whole life we find in Philip Schuyler a splendid blending of fearlessness and courage with courtesy and kindness. When he became of age he waived the right of primogeniture entitling him to all the real property belonging to his father and made an equal division of the estate with his brothers and sister. John Fiske says of him—"A noble unselfishness always characterized him."

As a youth he was described as "tall with a florid complexion, a benevolent cast of features, a fine, manly deportment, and distinguished for great kindness of manner." His attitude toward a vanquished foe after battle is illustrative of his character. While a young man fighting in the French and Indian War one of the Canadians too severely wounded to escape with his companions remained and a boatman was about to dispatch him when Schuyler saved his life. When soon afterward the point was to be abandoned only one bateau was left. It was scarcely large

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enough to carry Schuyler and his little band of followers. The wounded Canadian begged to be taken in but was refused. "Then throw me into the river," he cried, "and do not leave me here to perish with hunger and thirst." The heart of Schuyler was touched by the poor fellow's appeals and handing his weapons and coat to a companion in arms he bore the wounded man to the water and swam with him across the deep channel and placed him in the hands of a surgeon. The soldier survived and nineteen years afterwards when Schuyler, at the head of the Northern Army of the Revolution sent a proclamation to Canada, that soldier enlisted under the banner of Ethan Allen that he might see and thank the preserver of his life. He went to Schuyler's tent and kissed the General's hand in token of his gratitude. This was no single or isolated instance. Schuyler's kindness to Baron Dieskau and his aid de camp, both wounded in battle and prisoners of war

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which brought forth from these men words of gratitude and richest praise, was another of many incidents that revealed the kind heart of the strong man. He believed what Emerson said in later years—

“Life is not so short but that there is always time for courtesy.”

As an individual Schuyler was conspicuous for his integrity, his kindliness of heart and manner, his generosity, his affability, his courtliness and his unfailing hospitality. In this latter he was wonderfully assisted by his wife. She was handsome, silent, strong, exerting a great influence in her family circle, graceful in movement, with a gentle and winning manner and low, soft voice. Her devotion to her husband was absolute, as was his to her. She never failed him in time of need. She would hasten over the almost impassable roads to his bedside when he was stricken with illness. For this is the remarkable aspect of this man, that his many and varied activities, requiring constant travel,

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exertion and expenditure of strength, were performed in spite of much illness. Throughout his life he was subject to attacks of sickness and had to work and fight despite them.

When on a certain occasion during the anxious and dangerous days someone remonstrated with Mrs. Schuyler for some of the risks she had taken for the sake of her husband, she replied: "The General's wife must not be afraid." Many are the incidents which illustrate the courage, the hospitality and the unselfish service of Mrs. Schuyler. To their delightful home, said to be one of the finest examples of American Georgian to be found anywhere in the country, which still remains as an honored shrine in our city, came the great and distinguished personalities of the new nation. Here Alexander Hamilton won and married Elizabeth, the daughter. From the storms of opposition or persecution, the dangers of battle, the perplexities of his many important and exacting

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duties, Philip Schuyler always found a refuge in his home and comfort in his wife. Catherine Van Rensselaer, "Sweet Kitty Van R.," as he called her in his youth, walked by his side forty-eight years and sustained him in the cloudy and sunny hours. When she passed away he referred sadly to the severity of his trial, but gratefully to the nearly half century of mutual evidences of affection and of friendship which increased as they advanced in life.

The great trees of the forest sink their roots far below the surface and because of the depth of their roots, the winds and droughts do not affect them. So great natures have usually found their strength and inspiration in the deeper truths of human existence. Philip Schuyler probably found the source of strength throughout his active and often stormy life in the sublime faith he had in his Maker. With all his ability and power he had a simple faith in God. On the

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death of his son-in-law, Alexander Hamilton, whom he loved as his own flesh, he wrote —

“Under the pressure of this most severe calamity, let us seek consolation from that source where it can only be truly found, in humble resignation to the will of heaven.”

In a letter to his son he urges — “Let the rule of your conduct be the precepts contained in Holy Writ, to which I hope you will have frequent recourse.”

As citizens of the Republic we are profoundly impressed by his unfailing faith in the justice and righteousness of the cause of liberty. Here he never swerved. Often situations arose which might have shaken the hope and confidence of other men of the wealth and ability of Schuyler and led them to refuse to make further sacrifices for the freedom of the colonies. He, however, never allowed anything to affect in the slightest degree his devotion to what he considered to be the best in-



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terests of his country. While a member of the Provincial Assembly the boldest of the patriotic utterances and resolutions were drafted by him and he was always to be found with the patriotic minority supporting the cause of the colonies. From the beginning of the dissensions with the mother country, Schuyler ranged himself definitely and distinctly on the American side and early quoted the lines of Sempronius:

“Heavens! Can a Roman senate long  
debate  
Which of the two to choose, slavery or  
death?  
No! Let us arise at once.”

In a letter written after the Battle of Lexington he utters these sentiments —

“Much as I love peace, much as I love my own domestic happiness and repose and desire to see my country enjoy the blessings flowing from undisturbed industry, I would rather see all these scattered to the winds for a time and the sword of desolation go over the land,

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than to recede one line from the just and righteous position we have taken as free-born subjects of Great Britain.”

The whole spirit of his life and labors may be found in that ringing announcement, which was made when the break with Great Britain was imminent and when the colonists of wealth and eminence were anxiously considering their future course,—

“I care not what others may do. As for me and my house we will serve our country.”

These words sum up the character and life of Philip Schuyler. Whether in the heat of battle, at the head of fighting forces, directing and securing shipment of supplies, a Senator in the State Legislature or a member of the United States Senate, of which he was a first member from his native State, settling Indian disputes, or defining State boundaries, developing natural resources, in peace and in war, service to his country was ever and always

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the dominating purpose. He was one of those who

“Poured their clearest youth and bravest treasure at truth’s behest.”

This brings us to consider finally another fortunate circumstance connected with this occasion, namely the day. It is the 148th anniversary of the adoption of that emblem, so beautiful and abundant about us today, which represents before the world Philip Schuyler’s country. What could be more fitting than to dedicate this fine monument to this truly devoted American on the anniversary of the birth of the symbol of the liberties he strove so mightily and effectively to create and maintain. How little we realize the cost of the liberties that are ours! Those who inherit should know the price.

All that we possess of national privilege and opportunity cost the energies, the sufferings and even the lives of many men. They were sown in blood and tears.

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This is, indeed, a day of dedication. Not only of this monument, but of ourselves to the flag and the country it represents. Our prayer should be that the mantle of men like Philip Schuyler should be ours and that a double portion of their spirit may fall upon us.

This statue shall stand here long after all of us who have taken part in its unveiling shall have passed from this earthly life. By the generosity of our devoted fellow citizen, the figure of this, a real American patriot, shall be impressed upon the minds of generations yet unborn who shall pause here to consider who he was and what he did —

“Immortal more than bronze, in bronze  
he stands  
Through all our tumult unperturbed.”

As we now transmit this monument to posterity, shall we not also transmit the Schuyler spirit? If our nation shall continue a blessing to mankind, that spirit must permeate it. From Schuyler and

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his patriotic successors we have received the torch, be ours to lift it high and then pass it on undimmed that by its light those who come after us may build the better and the finer State.

Stand here, then, thou beautiful creation of the artist's skillful hand, the generous memorial of a loving heart to a departed comrade, the tribute of the descendants of American soldiers to an American soldier, stand here through the winter's snows and the summer's heat, through storm and sunshine, light and darkness and proclaim to all who pass by the dignity and courage of American manhood, the beauty and sacrifice and loyalty to country, the value and permanency of American ideals, and the everlasting strength which comes from faith in God.

