

thanks was immediately passed to Mr. Faneuil, the work was commenced, and two years afterwards, "Mr. Samuel Ruggles, who was employed in building said house, waited on the select-men, by order of P. Faneuil, Esq., and delivered them the key of said house." A meeting was then held in the hall, and a motion was made that the thanks of the town be given to Peter Faneuil, Esq., for his generous benefaction of the Market-House to the town; and resolutions were drawn up and passed to that effect. A large committee of the first citizens waited on him, "and, in the name of the town, rendered their most hearty thanks for so bountiful a gift, with their prayers that this and other expressions of his bounty and charity might be abundantly recompensed with the divine blessing."

Another vote was then passed unanimously, "that, in testimony of the town's gratitude to Peter Faneuil, Esq., and to perpetuate his memory, the hall over the market-place be named Faneuil Hall, and at all times hereafter be called by that name." And as a further testimony of respect, it was voted "that Mr. Faneuil's picture be drawn at full length, at the expense of the town, and placed in the hall; and the select-men were charged with the commission, which was accordingly executed."

"The building was of brick, two stories in height, and measured one hundred feet by forty. It was esteemed one of the best pieces of workmanship, and an ornament to the town. The hall would contain one thousand persons; there were convenient apartments for the officers of the town, besides a room for the naval office, and a notary public."

Mr. Faneuil did not long live to enjoy the gratitude of his townsmen. He died suddenly, a year after the completion of the building. His funeral oration, delivered by Mr. John Lovell, Master of the Grammar School, was the first specimen of eloquence uttered in the "Cradle of Liberty." It was, in some of its sentiments, very unlike the orations which followed, and far from prophetic.

"What now remains," he concludes, "but my ardent wishes (in which I know you will all concur with me) that this hall may be ever sacred to the interests of truth, of justice, of *loyalty*, and honour. May no private views nor party broils ever enter within these walls; but may the same public spirit that glowed in the breast of the generous founder influence all your debates, that society may reap the benefit of them."

"May liberty always spread its joyful wings over this place—liberty, that opens men's hearts to beneficence, and gives the relish to those who enjoy the effects of it; and may *loyalty to a king, under whom we enjoy this liberty*, ever remain our character—a character always justly due to this land, and of which our enemies have in vain attempted to rob us."

The family of Faneuil had been more than fifty years in America, and had fled