

the following pleasant letter, has, by this time, "struck oil," and that he will be present, "clothed in the comeliness and vigor of connubial foliage," at the next Howe gathering.

TITUSVILLE, Pa., Aug. 23, 1871.

Col. FRANK E. HOWE, *Chairman*:

I beg leave to present my sincere regrets that the only male representative of the Howe family in the commercial capital of the oil region should be unable to participate in your happy reunion in Harmony Grove.

Howe it so happens may be easily explained. The only branch of the family tree that has extended itself to this locality, cannot put forth its *leaves*. It has neither bud nor blossoms, but stands a six-foot sapling of twenty-four summers, its tendrils of springing affection retarded by summer drouth. When the coming dews shall refresh it, and it shall be clothed in the comeliness and vigor of connubial foliage, putting forth twigs, boughs, and branches in emulation of its revered ancestry, its loftiest ambition will be gratified in transporting its trunk and limbs to every succeeding reunion of that celebrated and ubiquitous *Howe*-sehold, which yet no man hath numbered. I remain yours respectfully,

WM. PARKER HOWE.

It was very gratifying to the Committee to receive the ensuing letter and its contents, evincing the liberality of the undersigned, as well as the interest manifested in the reunion:

LOWELL, Sept. 2, 1871.

ELIAS HOWE, Esq., 103 Court St., Boston:

DEAR SIR,—While enjoying the interesting exercises at the grand "reunion" on Thursday, the opportunity for me, and those who were with me, to contribute any funds to the treasury, passed by unheeded till it was too late.

I now enclose a check for twenty-three dollars, which I beg you to accept and appropriate towards paying the expenses of the first "Grand Howe Gathering."

Yours respectfully,

EDWARD B. HOWE.

Mrs. Sally Howe, \$5.; Mrs. Clara W. Harwood, \$3.; E. B. Howe, \$10.; Miss Aurelia L. Howe, \$1.; Miss Laura F. Howe, \$1.; Miss Martha W. Howe, \$1.

The following letter, from a member of the family in the far South-west, well expresses the interest which the Howes entertain for each other, and the records of their ancestry:

VICKSBURG, Miss., Sept. 14, 1871.

ELIAS HOWE, Esq.,

103 Court Street, Boston:

DEAR SIR,—I deeply regret my inability to be present at the Family Gathering, 31st ult. It was a very happy thought originating said reunion, and doubtless many things were seen, many words said, and agreeable persons collected together that will render the 31st of August, 1871, memorable in the annals of "The Howe Family." I know myself to be a lineal descendant of John Howe, of Marlborough, in the tenth generation. My father was Rev. Bezalcel Howe, and his father was named Timothy. Thus

far memory. The records of our family are with my oldest brother, B. F. Howe, Esq., of New York. I have lived in this place for the last thirty-three years; yet my love for family name and fame is as intense as ever, and the purity of my descent has ever been my pride.

I should be pleased to be furnished with any memorial of the occasion referred to that may be gotten up by the managers, or any medal that may be struck off commemorative of it, and with "The Genealogical Register" that is contemplated, or intended to be published. Any, or all of these sent by express, C. O. D., will be attended to.

Living at such a distance as I do, I have not been able to procure even a newspaper containing a full account of "The Gathering." Enclosed I send 50 cents to purchase for me such papers as you can procure for me, containing such proceedings.

Any other information you can give me on these points will be greatly appreciated, and will oblige

Your obedient servant,

R. D. HOWE.

The following letter exhibits the interest taken in the festival, and the generosity and liberality of all members of the Howe family throughout the country:

AXRON, Sept. 23, 1871.

ELIAS HOWE, Esq.:

DEAR SIR,—Will you be kind enough to inform me if the proceedings of the "Howe Gathering" at Framingham will be published in any other form than that already furnished by the newspapers?

If such is the case I would like a few copies, and also to become a subscriber to any fund necessary to defray any expense of that kind that has, or may, accrue.

I should have been present at the meeting, but was taken sick at Hartford, on my way there, and could not attend.

I do not know of any of our branch of the Howe family to have been present.

My great-grandfather was an early settler in St. Mary's County, Md. I can give a partial history of some of his descendants when it is necessary.

My father, Richard Howe (aged 72), would like very much to find out if any descendants are living of his uncles Richard and Joseph, who emigrated to Kentucky between the years 1800 and 1806, from Maryland.

Yours truly,

C. R. HOWE.

A vast number of letters has been received, and still they continue to come, in relation to the "Gathering." They contain, in many instances, genealogical information, which will prove of invaluable service to those engaged in preparing the "Register of the Howe Family." Several of them trace the descent back to the original settlers. One of them is from a descendant of Mrs. Jemima Howe, who was, with her children, taken captive by the Indians at Hinsdale, N. H., in 1755. All of them express a lively interest in the Howe Family Gathering. They form of themselves a valuable "Howe Library."