

SENATE....No. 55.

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**Commonwealth of Massachusetts.**

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IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Jan. 14, 1845.

*Ordered*, That so much of the Secretary's communication of the 8th inst. (printed document, House of Representatives, No. 7,) as relates to the Archives of the Commonwealth and to Books received in the Secretary's Office, be referred to the Committee on the Library.

Sent up for concurrence.

C. W. STOREY, JR., *Clerk.*

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IN SENATE, Jan. 15, 1845.

Concurred.

CHAS. CALHOUN, *Clerk.*

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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IN SENATE, Feb. 19, 1845.

The Joint Standing Committee on the Library, to whom was referred so much of the Secretary's communication, of the 8th of January last, as relates to the Archives of the Commonwealth, have considered the same, and

### REPORT :

That, in regard to the paragraph which refers to an application made on behalf of the Antiquarian Society, for leave to copy the first volume of the Massachusetts Colony Records, with a view to publication, the Committee perceive no objection to the granting such application, neither do they deem any further authority to the Secretary necessary, to enable him to act upon it, than he now has.

In regard to that paragraph which relates to the preservation of the Archives of the Commonwealth, your Committee are gratified to have it to remark, that the undertaking, long since commenced, to put the papers into a convenient and durable form, is now nearly executed. Probably no State in the Union has more to boast of in this respect. The collection is now thoroughly arranged, down to the year 1780, being the period of the adoption of an independent form of government, in Massachusetts. A considerable part of the papers, down to 1783, the date of the treaty of peace, have also been arranged. The whole are comprised, thus far, in about two hundred and forty-nine volumes. There yet remains to be done what would make about thirty volumes more, down to the year of the

adoption of the Constitution of the United States, from which date the papers are in good order. In view of the approaching termination of this work, your Committee deem it unnecessary to recommend so large an appropriation for this year as has been heretofore made. They see no necessity to burden the treasury in one year, with a charge which may, without inconvenience, be spread over two or three. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolve.

With respect to the other suggestions made by the Secretary, your Committee have given to them a due degree of consideration, and they conclude that it is not expedient to take any action thereon at this time.

By order,

C. F. ADAMS, *Chairman.*

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts.**

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In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-five.

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**RESOLVE**

Relating to the Public Archives.

*Resolved*, That the sum of five hundred dollars is hereby appropriated, to be expended by the Secretary of the Commonwealth, under the direction of His Excellency the Governor, in providing for completing the arrangement of the papers and documents in the public archives of the Commonwealth, and that a warrant be drawn accordingly.