

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE DEATH OF CLERK JAMES W. KIMBALL.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 16, 1928.

The special committee appointed to attend the funeral of the late James W. Kimball, Clerk of the House, and to report resolutions, report as follows:—

The House of Representatives suffered a great loss in the death, on April 4, of its Clerk, James W. Kimball, who had served this body for more than forty-six years. He was a page for three years, beginning in 1882; a messenger for three years, beginning in 1885; assistant clerk for nine years, beginning in 1888; and Clerk for more than thirty-one years, beginning in 1897.

When assistant clerk, Mr. Kimball devoted himself assiduously to the study of parliamentary practice, mastered the details of legislative procedure, proved himself to be an even-tempered, painstaking and accommodating official, and so became a logical and the most acceptable candidate for the higher office.

As the years of his clerkship passed, his widened experience and increasing knowledge made him an authority on parliamentary procedure, so that he was consulted by persons coming from every part of the Commonwealth. When the first constitutional convention since 1853 convened here in the summer of 1917, he was elected its secretary, without opposition.

His genial temperament and gracious manner made friends of all who had dealings with him, and it is likely

that in even the smallest town in the Commonwealth there is a former member of this body who regards his passing as the loss of a friend.

We who were permitted to know Clerk Kimball during recent years hereby record our appreciation of the warmth of his comradeship and the sincerity of his friendship, our recognition of his faithful service, and our acknowledgment of our dependence upon his knowledge and experience in legislative matters.

We pay our tribute of praise to his worth to this House, to his character as a noble man, to his graciousness as a gentleman, to his faithfulness as a public servant.

To his bereaved family we extend our sympathy, and assure them that we share their grief.

Resolved, That this report be entered upon the records of the House, and that an engrossed copy thereof be sent to Mrs. Kimball.

JAMES D. BENTLEY,
For the Committee.

