

**CITY OF GLOUCESTER, MA
VETERAN MEMORIALS**

NAME: Liberty Statue

LOCATION: City Hall, Dale Avenue

CAMPAIGN: Civil War

TYPE: Granite & bronze monument

DATE DEDICTED: September 11, 1879

INSPRIPTION: "In memory of the soldiers and sailors of Gloucester who fought in the war of 1861-1865, for preservation of the Union. Erected by Post 45, G.A.R., 1879."

IN HONOR OF:

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS MONUMENT

CITY HALL

The Soldiers and Sailors Monument on the City Hall grounds was erected through the efforts of Col. Allen Post 45, G.A.R.

This memorial consists of a large granite and bronze monument with a finely hammered granite base, plinth, die and cornice, surmounted by a large size statue of Liberty in bronze. It bears the following inscription:

“In memory of the soldiers and sailors of Gloucester who fought in the war of 1861-1865, for the preservation of the Union. Erected by Post 45, G.A.R., 1879.”

This was dedicated with one of the most imposing processions and ceremonies that the town has ever witnessed, on September 11, 1879, the day being observed as a general holiday. The chief marshal of the procession was Col. B. F. Cook, and his aids were Eben Dale, James T. Seaver, Thomas Conant, Hervey Friend and Edward Dolliver. The procession was divided into two divisions, and included military companies and Grand Army posts from various parts of the state, guests, veteran soldiers and sailors, the department officers of the G.A.R., the fire department, William Ferson Royal Arch Chapter of Masons, officers of Washington Royal Arch Chapter, Tyrian Lodge, A.F. and A. M., Acacia Lodge, A.F. and A. M., the officers of the Grand Lodge A. F. and A. M., and numerous other organizations. Bands from Boston, Salem, Gloucester and Provincetown were present.

Capt. Fitz J. Babson opened the exercises with an account of the inception and completion of the project and, after an appropriate programme of music, the memorial was dedicated by the officers of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M., including prayer by the grand chaplain, testing of the structure by D. G. M., S. G. W., and J.G. W., the pouring of the corn wine and oil, and appropriate addresses by the different officials. A fine oration by the orator of the day, Rev. J. F. Lovering, of Watertown, followed, after which it was presented to the city by Hon Fitz J. Babson, and accepted, on behalf of the city, by Mayor Williams. The monument is erected in a conspicuous place, attracting the attention of all, in all probability, to stand for ages, till its hard Cape Ann granite and massive bronze shall crumble, an incentive to patriotism and loyalty to future generations.

From Pringle's History of Gloucester.

