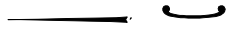


Spring Luncheon, Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Academic Emeritus Senator's Report



Obituaries

I choked up when I first saw the Reading Room of the Boston Public Library.
I felt the working of individuals to create a common wealth,
For the common good of all of us together,
United for learning and wisdom that lifts the individual,
If they just go in and read in the reading room.
In some quest for a personal holy grail, we lift ourselves from animal,
Special talents honed to enlarge and raise community higher,
Enriching through many fields of thought in diverse ways,
To appreciate the great among us,
To include in community the least among us,
So that all may rise.

The noble library lions welcome us up the stairs and, lest we forget,
None can be free unless all are free.
We see the names of great battles of a horrible war,
Antietam, Appomattox Court House, and on and on, where thousands
Died for ideas, for union, for freedom, for liberty.

For our liberty, that we might use this freedom
To gain wisdom, to serve community, to harness our energy
Against the animal pull of money greed, of compulsion to use