

*At a Meeting of the Trustees
of the Astor Library, held at the Library
Building on the second day of December
1859, the following resolutions were unani-
mously adopted.*

*Resolved. That we deplore the loss which the
Astor Library, has sustained in the death
of Washington Irving, the first Pre-
sident of the Board of Trustees, the cho-
sen friend of the Founder of the Library,
and first named by him, in the original
act of donation as a Trustee; a selection
fully justified by the admirable qualities
of Mr. Irving --*

*Resolved That we record our sense of his excel-
lence, both moral and intellectual, mani-
fested in the singular beauty and purity,
not only of his numerous and varied works
of fact and fiction, but of his daily life.
His generous and kindly love of letters
and of human nature; his rare and gen-
ial humor; his exquisite appreciation
of the beautiful and the noble, whether
in conduct or in art; the matchless delicacy
and grace of his intellect, adorned by the
greatest modesty of deportment; his breadth
and acuteness of observation, commingled
with overflowing freshness and tenderness
of feeling; the felicity of his diction, so
pure and transparent; his reverent regard
for all that was valuable in English his-
tory and literature, and his still more ear-
nest devotion to all that was precious in
his native land; his enlightened patriotism
and wide philanthropy, alive not only to
the interests and the honor of his united*

County, but to the Sacred rights of humanity;
and his liberality of Sentiment and freedom
from prejudice, ever prompting him to en-
courage and foster merit of every kind, won
for him universal admiration and love. His
intimate knowledge and thorough apprecia-
tion of the views of the Founder of the
Library, rendered him the best exponent
of the beneficent and catholic spirit of
the Institution, over which he so long and
so honorably presided. —

Resolved That the Trustees after so many years
of personal and kindly intercourse with their
lamented friend and associate, will ever
cherish his memory with fond and affectionate
regard; and they cordially unite in the gen-
eral and widespread expression of the whole
Community, which deploras his death, as a
loss to the Nation and the Age, to which
he belonged. —

Resolved That these resolutions be signed by the
Trustees, and transmitted to the family of
M^r. Irving.

Lawrence S. Stearns
Mayor City of New York

W. B. Astor

J. Cassin Brewster

Daniel Lord



John A. Dix

Jos. G. Cogswell

A. Williams

Samuel B. Ruggles

J. J. Astor Jr

Thomas House Taylor, D.D.