

JOHN JAY'S BIRTHDAY DINNER.

ENTERTAINED BY MANY FRIENDS AT THE
CLOSE OF HIS SEVENTIETH YEAR.

The Hon. John Jay was 70 years old Thursday. He spent a quiet birthday with his family at Katonah. Last night the event was celebrated in a fashion less domestic, but thoroughly enjoyable, at the Union League Club, where 100 friends, who would have honored any assembly, were his hosts at a birthday dinner. The event brought together men whose names recall the shining days when Mr. Jay's career was at the height of activity. As a fit setting to the memories naturally incited in such a company, Signor Camovita adorned the tables with miniature flags, statues of Liberty, and other loyal designs. At each plate, on entering the dining hall, the company found a souvenir in book form bound with red, white, and blue ribbons. On the outer cover was an engraved portrait of Mr. Jay. Within the successive pages held the letter of invitation, the names of the signers, Mr. Jay's letter of acceptance, the menu, and several blank lined pages for autographs.

At no time was the dinner intended to be in any way restrained by formalities. The speeches partook of the spirit of this purpose. Joseph H. Choate, who presided, said nothing at this stage of the evening, as may be supposed, to make any one ill at ease, and when Mr. Jay rose to respond he had the best of reasons for wishing that this anniversary might become perpetual. Bishop Potter was in congenial mood, as were Senator Evarts, Jackson S. Schultz, Thomas C. Acton, George William Curtis, William Allen Butler, and others who spoke. Sigourney W. Fay and Charles Butler, as the committee in charge of the celebration, were generally congratulated for the success which their arrangements had secured.

The compliment of a birthday dinner was tendered to Mr. Jay June 1 in a letter asking him to name an evening when it would be convenient for him to meet his friends for that purpose. Among the signers to the letter were Joseph H. Choate, Le Grand B. Cannon, J. J. Astor, Thomas Hillhouse, George Jones, Chauncey M. Depew, Dorman B. Eaton, Whitelaw Reid, Augustine Smith, William M. Evarts, C. R. Agnew, James C. Carter, Jackson S. Schultz, Thomas C. Acton, B. H. Bristow, Cornelius N. Bliss, F. D. Tappen, William Dowd, John A. Stewart, George Bliss, Albon P. Man, W. E. Dodge, John L. Cadwalader, Noah Davis, Levi P. Morton, Jesse Seligman, Salem H. Wales, Elihu Root, Charles A. Peabody, D. F. Appleton, Daniel G. Rollins, F. A. Potts, J. M. Requa, Walter Howe, Henry E. Howland, Alexander McL. Agnew, Samuel P. Avery, Francis H. Leggett, Henry H. Bridgman, Henry Clews, Horace White, William Walter Phelps, William Allen Butler, Charles S. Smith, Vincenzo Botta, George F. Baker, James Otis, George G. Haven, Charles C. Beaman, Granville P. Hawes, Richard P. Herrick, Birdseye Blakeman, William D. Sloane, Edward F. Brown, J. D. Vermilye, William H. Webb, M. W. Cooper, Horace Porter, Benjamin Brewster, Thomas L. James, Luther R. Marsh, Edward H. Ammidown, W. H. Draper, Isaac H. Bailey, J. M. Bundy, Locke W. Winchester, and Brayton Ives.

Invitations were sent specially to Bishops Potter and Cox, George William Curtis, the Rev. Lea Luquer, the Rev. William S. Rainsford, Dr. John Henry Hobart, E. Randolph Robinson, William H. Schieffelin, William Jay, and Henry G. Chapman. Mr. Jay in an appreciative note appointed last evening for the dinner. It need hardly be said that none of the hosts or guests who could possibly attend failed to take part in the celebration, and that it passed off to the delight of all.