

STATE OF NEW YORK
LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY
BUFFALO, N.Y., MAY 28, 2015, A.D.

I Hereby Certify, that at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 28th day of May 2015, A.D. a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

WHEREAS, Elbert Hubbard was born on June 19, 1856 in Bloomington, Illinois, and;

WHEREAS, Elbert Hubbard gained notoriety as an American writer, publisher, artist, and philosophe, who founded the Roycroft artisan community in East Aurora, New York in 1895, and;

WHEREAS, Elbert Hubbard, along with his wife, Alice, boarded the RMS Lusitania in New York City on May 1, 1915, along with 1,263 passengers and 694 crew members, for the ship's 202nd transatlantic voyage, and;

WHEREAS, on May 7th the Lusitania was nearing the end of her crossing, and was scheduled to dock at the Prince's Landing Stage in her home port of Liverpool later that afternoon, and;

WHEREAS, the Lusitania was running parallel to the south coast of Ireland, and was roughly 11 miles off the Old Head of Kinsale when the liner crossed in front of a German U-boat, and;

WHEREAS, the commanding officer of the U-boat gave the order to fire one torpedo, which struck Lusitania on the starboard bow, just beneath the wheelhouse, and moments later, a second explosion erupted from within Lusitania's hull where the torpedo had struck, and the ship began to flounder in a much more rapid procession, with a prominent list to starboard, and;

WHEREAS, almost immediately, the crew scrambled to launch the lifeboats but the conditions of the sinking made their usage extremely difficult, and in some cases impossible due to the ship's severe list, and only six out of 48 lifeboats were launched successfully, and;

WHEREAS, eighteen minutes after the torpedo struck, the bow hit the seabed while the stern was still above the surface, and in a manner similar to the sinking of Titanic three years earlier, the stern rose into the air and slid beneath the waves, and;

WHEREAS of the 1,959 passengers and crew aboard Lusitania at the time of the sinking, 1,198 lost their lives that afternoon off the coast of Ireland in the Celtic Sea.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this legislative body pause in its deliberations on the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the RMS Lusitania to honor the memories of Elbert & Alice Hubbard and their fellow passengers and crew that lost their lives on the fateful afternoon of Mary 7, 1915.