

Albert Gallatin Symposium

Harvard University

Loeb House and Harvard Faculty Club

20 Quincy Street - Cambridge, MA 02138

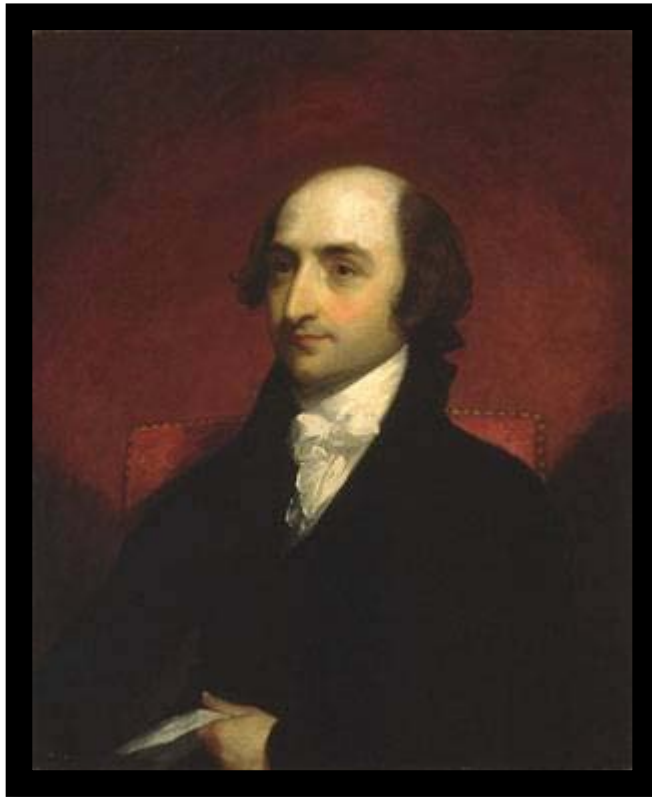
Friday, March 21st, 2014

Honorary Chairmen:

Ambassador Faith Whittlesey and Dr. h.c. Hansjörg Wyss

Full Day Conference from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm

By invitation only



Albert Gallatin (1761 – 1849)

Aged 42

Portrait by Gilbert Stuart

Mission:

The Albert Gallatin Symposium wants to celebrate the life of the great Swiss-American politician who stands in the pantheon of American historic giants alongside with Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson. We convene to commemorate his greatest diplomatic and political achievement in the upcoming bicentennial celebration of the Peace Treaty of Ghent in 1814, which granted the United States of America for the second time its independence. Reviewing Albert Gallatin's life and political career as the 'Swiss Founding Father' will demonstrate his contributions to the strong historic, political, cultural, and diplomatic bonds between Switzerland and the United States, the two sister republics. Albert Gallatin started out as an Instructor for French at Harvard College, as an innovative educator before he embarked on his multifaceted political and diplomatic career, a cosmopolitan man with old-world education and values joint by an international acumen. As a citizen of the world Albert Gallatin was a Renaissance man connected with the intellectual leaders of his time and gives inspiration and support to academics, students, civic leaders, financiers, and business leaders.

Abraham Alfonse Albert Gallatin was born in Geneva, Switzerland on January 29, 1761 and died in New York August 12, 1849. In 2011 we celebrated the 250th birthday of this Swiss-American 'Founding Father'. His greatest achievement was his role as a senior member in the United States delegation for the negotiation of the Peace Treaty of Ghent ending the war with Great Britain on December 24th, 1814 securing independence for the young nation. Albert Gallatin was an educator, linguist, politician, congressman, senator, diplomat, financier, longest-serving Secretary of the Treasury, diplomat, ethnologist, and a public servant. He organized the Louisiana Purchase for fifteen million dollar from Napoleon, financed the Lewis and Clark expedition, founded the second Bank of America, acted as a pan-European Minister-Ambassador in Paris, and was a cofounder of the New York University. Gallatin's first paid job in America was an appointment as an Instructor for French at Harvard College in 1782. A year later he received a certificate signed by the President of Harvard College who praised his excellent performance and integrity. From Boston Gallatin moved to Philadelphia and embarked on his political career.

This Symposium is planned to commemorate his legacy and honor, his fervent commitment to education and innovation, and to strengthen the bond

between two sister republics, the United States of America and Switzerland. We want to coordinate this plan to honor the life of Albert Gallatin, which involves the diplomatic representations of Switzerland in the United States, the Federal Government of Switzerland, Harvard University, Swissnex, the Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce, the American-Swiss Foundation, and Swiss and American corporations, citizens and sponsors for the execution of this project.

Invited speakers include Lawrence H. Summers, Ambassador Benedict von Tscharner, Fabienne Fatin, Donald Ingber, Jeffrey Flier, Micheline Calmy-Rey, Philippe Burin, Philipp Hildebrand, Eric Kandel, Jean-Claude Biver, Ambassador François Barras.

Please save the date.

Registration will begin at a later date.

By invitation only. More details to follow.

Organized by:

WOLFGANG KLIETMANN, M.D., Chairman of the Symposium

Harvard Medical School

Director of the Board, Boston Chapter Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce

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