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Hiram Carleton

The Lewis Publishing Co

Vermont History
111

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
VERMONT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR THE YEARS
1909-1910



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5

Officers and Members
of the
Vermont Historical Society

1

OFFICERS
OF THE
Vermont Historical Society
FOR THE YEARS 1910-1911

President.

WILLIAM W. STICKNEY, Ludlow.

Vice-Presidents.

JOSEPH A. DE BOER, Montpelier.

HORACE W. BAILEY, Newbury.

JOHN E. GOODRICH, Burlington.

Recording Secretary.

EDWARD D. FIELD, Montpelier.

Corresponding Secretaries.

EDWARD M. GODDARD, Montpelier.

CHARLES S. FORBES, St. Albans.

Treasurer.

HENRY F. FIELD, Rutland.

Librarian.

EDWARD M. GODDARD, Montpelier.

Crators.

EZRA BRAINERD, Addison County.

HALL P. McCULLOUGH, Bennington County.

HENRY FAIRBANKS, Caledonia County.

JOHN E. GOODRICH, Chittenden County.

PORTER H. DALE, Essex County.
 FRANK L. GREENE, Franklin County.
 NELSON W. FISK, Grand Isle County.
 CARROLL S. PAGE, Lamoille County.
 DR. GEORGE DAVENPORT, Orange County.
 F. W. BALDWIN, Orleans County.
 FRANK C. PARTRIDGE, Rutland County.
 GEORGE L. BLANCHARD, Washington County.
 LYMAN S. HAYES, Windham County.
 GILBERT A. DAVIS, Windsor County.
 GUY W. BAILEY, Secretary of State,
 HORACE F. GRAHAM, Auditor of Accounts, } *ex-officio.*
 GEORGE W. WING, State Librarian,

STANDING COMMITTEES.

ON LIBRARY.

JOSEPH A. DE BOER, Montpelier.
 HALL P. McCULLOUGH, North Bennington.
 EDWARD M. GODDARD, Montpelier.

ON PRINTING.

FRANK L. GREENE, St. Albans.
 CARROLL S. PAGE, Hyde Park.
 FREDERICK W. BALDWIN, Barton.

ON FINANCE.

HORACE W. BAILEY, Newbury.
 EDWARD M. GODDARD, Montpelier.
 CARROLL S. PAGE, Hyde Park.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Charles E. Allen Burlington, Vt.
 Heman W. Allen Burlington, Vt.
 Martin Fletcher Allen Ferrisburg, Vt.
 George Pomeroy Anderson, Editorial Rooms, Boston Globe,
 Boston, Mass.

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Wallace Gale Andrews | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Guy W. Bailey | Essex Junction, Vt. |
| Horace Ward Bailey | Newbury, Vt. |
| Frederick W. Baldwin | Barton, Vt. |
| Henry L. Ballou | Chester, Vt. |
| Elmer Barnum | Shoreham, Vt. |
| John L. Barstow | Shelburne, Vt. |
| Wyman S. Bascomb | Fort Edward, N. Y. |
| James K. Batchelder | Arlington, Vt. |
| Edward Louis Bates | Bennington, Vt. |
| George Beckett | Williamstown, Vt. |
| William A. Beebe | Morrisville, Vt. |
| Robert Dewey Benedict, 363 Adelphi Street | Brooklyn, N. Y. |
| Josiah Henry Benton, Jr., Ames Bldg. | Boston, Mass. |
| Arthur Brown Bisbee, | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Harry Alonzo Black | Newport, Vt. |
| Fred Blanchard | Montpelier, Vt. |
| George Lawrence Blanchard | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Herbert H. Blanchard | Springfield, Vt. |
| Charles H. Bradley, P. O. Box 1486 | Boston, Mass. |
| Ezra Brainerd | Middlebury, Vt. |
| John Bliss Brainerd, 419 Boylston Street | Boston, Mass. |
| George Briggs | Montpelier, Vt. |
| William A. Briggs | Montpelier, Vt. |
| James W. Brock | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Timothy G. Bronson | Hardwick, Vt. |
| John Vail Brooks | Montpelier, Vt. |
| George B. Brown | Burlington, Vt. |
| Henry T. Brown | Ludlow, Vt. |
| Dan Deming Burditt | Pittsford, Vt. |
| Franklin George Butterfield | Derby, Vt. |
| Henry Otis Carpenter | Rutland, Vt. |
| Charles A. Catlin, 133 Hope Street | Providence, R. I. |
| Albert B. Chandler | Randolph, Vt. |
| Thomas Charles Cheney | Morrisville, Vt. |
| Byron Nathaniel Clark | Burlington, Vt. |
| Edward R. Clark | Castleton, Vt. |

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Henry O. Clark | Orange, N. J. |
| Isaiah R. Clark, 54 Devonshire St., (Norfolk House, Roxbury Mass.) | Boston, Mass. |
| Osman Dewey Clark | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Edith E. Clarke | Burlington, Vt. |
| James C. Colgate | Bennington Center, Vt. |
| Edward D. Collins | Middlebury, Vt. |
| John M. Comstock | Chelsea, Vt. |
| Kate Morris Cone | Hartford, Vt. |
| Walter H. Crockett | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Lewis Bartlett Cross | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Addison Edward Cudworth | So. Londonderry, Vt. |
| Henry T. Cushman | No. Bennington, Vt. |
| Harry M. Cutler | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Porter H. Dale | Brighton, Vt. |
| Charles Kimball Darling, 294 Washington Street, 879 Beacon St., | Boston, Mass. |
| Hale Knight Darling | Chelsea, Vt. |
| George Davenport | E. Randolph, Vt. |
| Gilbert A. Davis | Windsor, Vt. |
| Edward Aaron Davis | Bethel, Vt. |
| Henry C. Day | Bennington, Vt. |
| Thomas Jefferson Deavitt | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Edward Harrington Deavitt | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Joseph Arend De Boer | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Franklin H. Dewart | Burlington, Vt. |
| Davis Rich Dewey, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, | Boston, Mass. |
| *William T. Dewey | Montpelier, Vt. |
| William Paul Dillingham | Waterbury, Vt. |
| George M. Dimond, 66 Globe Building, Boston, Mass., | Bedford, Mass. |
| Charles Downer | Sharon, Vt. |
| Alexander Dunnett | St. Johnsbury, Vt. |
| Walter A. Dutton | Hardwick, Vt. |

*Deceased.

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| William Arba Ellis | Northfield, Vt. |
| James Borden Estee | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Jacob Gray Estey | Brattleboro, Vt. |
| Rev. Edward T. Fairbanks | St. Johnsbury, Vt. |
| Rev. Henry Fairbanks | St. Johnsbury, Vt. |
| Arthur Daggett Farwell | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Edward Davenport Field | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Fred Tarbell Field, Room 225, State House..... | Boston, Mass. |
| Fred Griswold Field | Springfield, Vt. |
| Henry Francis Field | Rutland, Vt. |
| Benjamin Franklin Fifield | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Rev. E. S. Fiske | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Nelson Wilber Fisk | Isle La Motte, Vt. |
| Frederick G. Fleetwood | Morrisville, Vt. |
| Clarke C. Fitts | Brattleboro, Vt. |
| Allen M. Fletcher | Cavendish, Vt. |
| Charles Spooner Forbes | St. Albans, Vt. |
| Eugene N. Foss, 34 Oliver Street | Boston, Mass. |
| *David J. Foster | Burlington, Vt. |
| Herbert S. Foster | No. Calais, Vt. |
| Seth Newton Gage | Weathersfield, Vt. |
| Benjamin Gates | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Walter Benton Gates | Burlington, Vt. |
| William W. Gay, 205 West 106th Street | New York City |
| Mary E. Giddings | Hubbardton, Vt. |
| James Meacham Gifford, 319 West 102d Street, and 58 Pine St., New York City. | |
| Edward M. Goddard | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Jonas Eli Goodenough | Montpelier, Vt. |
| John Ellsworth Goodrich | Burlington, Vt. |
| George H. Gorham | Bellows Falls, Vt. |
| John Warren Gordon | Barre, Vt. |
| Frank Keeler Goss | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Horace French Graham | Craftsbury, Vt. |
| Frank Lester Greene | St. Albans, Vt. |
| Matthew Hale, 60 State Street | Boston, Mass. |

*Deceased.

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Matt Bushnell Jones, 111 Parker Street, Newton Center, Mass., | |
| Walter Edwin Jones | Waitsfield, Vt. |
| Harlan Wesley Kemp | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Dorman B. E. Kent | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Ira Rich Kent, Youth's Companion Bldg., Columbus Avenue, | |
| | Boston, Mass. |
| Wade Keyes, 1040½ Tremont Bldg., 73 Tremont Street, | |
| | Boston, Mass. |
| Fred T. Kidder, M. D. | Woodstock, Vt. |
| Harvey P. Kingsley | Rutland, Vt. |
| Earle S. Kinsley | Rutland, Vt. |
| Fred Leslie Laird | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Philip R. Leavenworth | Castleton, Vt. |
| Charles Sumner Lord, P. O. Address, Winooski, Vt., | |
| | Colchester, Vt. |
| Zophar M. Mansur | Newport, Vt. |
| James L. Martin | Brattleboro, Vt. |
| Charles Duane Mather | Montpelier, Vt. |
| O. D. Mathewson | Barre, Vt. |
| Hall Park McCullough | No. Bennington, Vt. |
| John G. McCullough | No. Bennington, Vt. |
| John Abner Mead | Rutland, Vt. |
| Bert Emery Merriam | Rockingham, Vt. |
| Olin Merrill | Enosburgh, Vt. |
| John H. Mimms | St. Albans, Vt. |
| Charles H. Morrill | Randolph, Vt. |
| Clarence E. Moulton | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Sherman R. Moulton | Burlington, Vt. |
| Theodore H. Munroe, 57 Beacon Street | Hartford, Conn. |
| Loveland Munson | Manchester, Vt. |
| Robert Noble | Burlington, Vt. |
| Clayton Nelson North | Shoreham, Vt. |
| *Edwin A. Nutt | Montpelier, Vt. |

*Deceased.

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Andrew B. Oatman | Bennington, Vt. |
| Arthur G. Osgood | Randolph, Vt. |
| Carroll S. Page | Hyde Park, Vt. |
| Amos E. Parlin | Barton Landing, Vt. |
| Frank C. Partridge | Proctor, Vt. |
| Frederick Salmon Pease | Burlington, Vt. |
| Mary Everett Pease | Burlington, Vt. |
| Theodore Safford Peck | Burlington, Vt. |
| Cassius Peck | Burlington, Vt. |
| Hamilton Sullivan Peck | Burlington, Vt. |
| Rev. Charles Huntington Pennoyer | Springfield, Vt. |
| George Henry Perkins | Burlington, Vt. |
| Walter E. Perkins | Pomfret, Vt. |
| Frederick S. Platt | Rutland, Vt. |
| Frank Plumley | Northfield, Vt. |
| Max Leon Powell | Burlington, Vt. |
| Thomas Reed Powell, 70 Williams Street | Burlington, Vt. |
| George McClellan Powers | Morrisville, Vt. |
| Horace Henry Powers | Morrisville, Vt. |
| *Fletcher D. Proctor | Proctor, Vt. |
| Charles A. Prouty | Newport, Vt. |
| George H. Prouty | Newport, Vt. |
| George K. Putnam | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Ralph Wright Putnam, P. O., Putnamville | Middlesex, Vt. |
| Frederick Barnard Richards | Glens Falls, N. Y. |
| Robert Roberts | Burlington, Vt. |
| Arthur L. Robinson | Malden, Mass. |
| Edward Mortimer Roscoe | Springfield, Vt. |
| John W. Rowell | Randolph, Vt. |
| Homer Charles Royce | St. Albans, Vt. |
| Harold G. Rugg | Proctorsville, Vt. |
| William W. Russell | White River Junction, Vt. |
| John G. Sargent | Ludlow, Vt. |
| Olin Scott | Bennington, Vt. |
| John H. Senter | Montpelier, Vt. |

*Deceased.

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Henry Bigelow Shaw | Burlington, Vt. |
| William A. Shaw | Northfield, Vt. |
| Nelson Lewis Sheldon, 108-11 Niles Bldg..... | Boston, Mass. |
| Andrew J. Sibley | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Elmer E. Silver | Boston, Mass. |
| Leighton P. Slack | St. Johnsbury, Vt. |
| Melville Earle Smilie | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Charles S. Slocum | Morrisville, Vt. |
| Charles Plymton Smith | Burlington, Vt. |
| Clarence L. Smith | Burlington, Vt. |
| Edward Curtis Smith | St. Albans, Vt. |
| Frank N. Smith | Waterbury, Vt. |
| John L. Southwick | Burlington, Vt. |
| Martha E. Spafford | Rutland, Vt. |
| Rev. George Burley Spaulding | Syracuse, N. Y. |
| Wendell Phillips Stafford | Washington, D. C. |
| Zed S. Stanton | Roxbury, Vt. |
| W. D. Stewart | Bakersfield, Vt. |
| William B. C. Stickney | Bethel, Vt. |
| William Wallace Stickney | Ludlow, Vt. |
| Arthur F. Stone | St. Johnsbury, Vt. |
| Mason Sereno Stone | Montpelier, Vt. |
| George Oren Stratton | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Rev. Benjamin Swift | Woodstock, Vt. |
| Charles P. Tarbell | So. Royalton, Vt. |
| James P. Taylor | Saxtons River, Vt. |
| W. H. Taylor | Hardwick, Vt. |
| William Napoleon Theriault | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Isaac Thomas | Rutland, Vt. |
| John M. Thomas | Middlebury, Vt. |
| Charles Miner Thompson, 161 Brattle Street, care Youth's Com- panion, Boston | Cambridge, Mass. |
| Henry Crain Tinkham | Burlington, Vt. |
| Harriet Belle Towne, 100 No. Willard Street..... | Burlington, Vt. |
| Mary Louise Tracy | Johnson, Vt. |
| Albert Tuttle | Fair Haven, Vt. |
| Egbert Clayton Tuttle | Rutland, Vt. |

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| William Van Patten | Burlington, Vt. |
| Martin S. Vilas | Burlington, Vt. |
| Horatio Loomis Wait, 110 La Salle Street..... | Chicago, Ill. |
| Herschel N. Waite | Johnson, Vt. |
| J. L. Walbridge | Concord, Vt. |
| Roberts Walker, 115 Broadway | New York City. |
| Alfred Edwin Watson | Hartford, Vt. |
| Charles Douglas Watson | St. Albans, Vt. |
| William Seward Webb | Shelburne, Vt. |
| Frank Richardson Wells | Burlington, Vt. |
| James R. Wheeler, 433 West 117th Street..... | New York City. |
| Charles Warren Whitcomb | Cavendish, Vt. |
| Harrie C. White | No. Bennington, Vt. |
| Albert M. Whitelaw | Ryegate, Vt. |
| Oscar Livingston Whitelaw | St. Louis, Mo. |
| Robert Henry Whitelaw | St. Louis, Mo. |
| LaFayette Wilbur | Jericho, Vt. |
| Frank J. Wilder, Algonquin Block.... | Saratoga Springs, N. Y. |
| George Washington Wing | Montpelier, Vt. |
| Gustavus L. Winship | Fairlee, Vt. |
| Urban A. Woodbury | Burlington, Vt. |
| George M. Wright, 280 Broadway | New York City. |
| James Edward Wright, D. D. | Montpelier, Vt. |

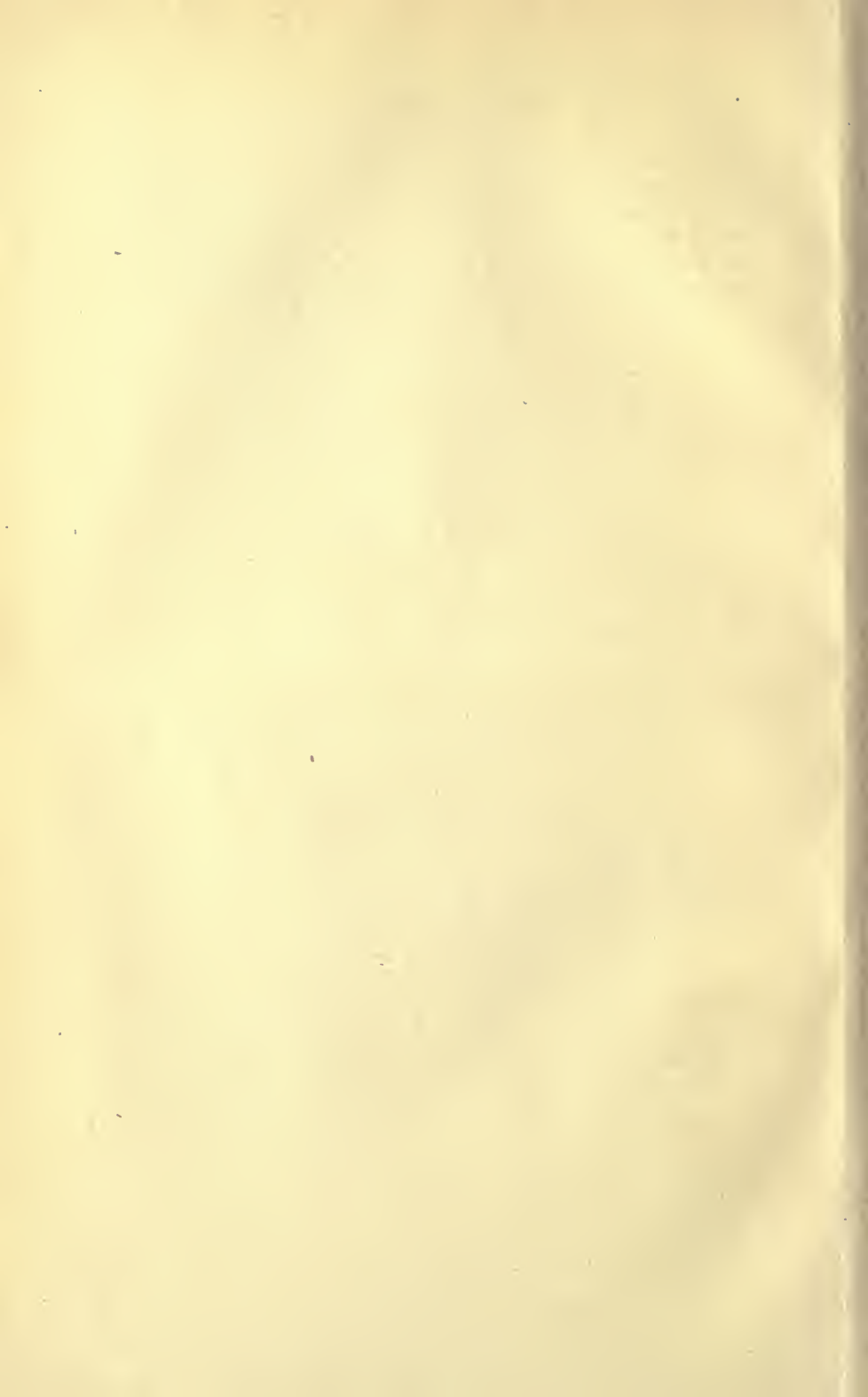
CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Everett C. Benton | Boston, Mass. |
| George F. Bixby | Plattsburg, N. Y. |
| *Albert Clarke | 77 Bedford St., Boston, Mass. |
| Herbert W. Denio | University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill. |
| W. O. Hart | 134 Carondelet St., New Orleans, La. |
| Edward R. Houghton | Riverside Press, Cambridge, Mass. |
| David Sherwood Kellogg, M. D. | Plattsburg, N. Y. |
| George Dana Lord | Hanover, N. H. |
| Rev. Edwin Sawyer Walker | Springfield, Ill. |
| Rev. William Copley Winslow, D. D., 525 Beacon St., Boston, Mass. | |

*Deceased.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

- John W. BurgessNew York City
Charles Edgar Clark, Rear Admiral U. S. N.Philadelphia, Pa.
Charles Hial DarlingBurlington, Vt.
George Dewey, Admiral U. S. N.Washington, D. C.
John W. Simpson25 Broad St., New York City.



A report of the meetings of the
Vermont Historical Society
for the years 1909 and 1910



VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROCEEDINGS.

SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

OCTOBER 19, 1909.

Pursuant to printed notice the Vermont Historical Society held its seventy-first annual meeting in its rooms in the State Capitol on Tuesday, October 19, 1909, at two o'clock in the afternoon.

The following members were in attendance: W. W. Stickney, J. A. DeBoer, F. A. Howland, W. H. Crockett, E. M. Goddard, G. L. Blanchard, G. W. Wing, E. A. Nutt, J. W. Gordon, S. R. Moulton, G. M. Hogan, J. K. Batchelder and E. D. Field.

President Stickney called the meeting to order. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary and on motion approved.

The report of the treasurer, Henry F. Field, was read and on motion approved. It showed a balance from last account of \$394.27, receipts of \$297.94 and disbursements of \$219.60, leaving a balance on hand October 18, 1909, of \$472.61. The treasurer's account of the Dewey Monument Fund in the hands of the Society as trustee showed a balance on November 10, 1908, of \$2,718.92, received from interest during the year \$109.82 and balance in bank on October 18, 1909, \$2,828.74.

The report of the librarian, Edward M. Goddard, was read and approved. It showed accessions during the year

of 206 books and pamphlets, bringing the whole number accessioned to date to 5784. Among the additions to the Society's collections, during the year he mentioned:

"Proprietors' Records of the Town of Fairlee, Vermont," a volume of 240 pages containing valuable historical data and land records of the town. This manuscript was presented by Mr. Gustavus Loomis Winship.

Two volumes of manuscript records of the "Vermont General Convention of Ministers 1795 to 1855"—loaned to the Society by the General Convention of Congregational Ministers at the suggestion of the Rev. W. C. Clark.

A manuscript commission issued to Simeon Dewey by Governor Tichenor, appointing him Captain, dated 1799. Presented by Col. Osman Dewey Clark.

A bronze medal bearing the portrait of Daniel Webster. Presented by Mr. John G. Norton.

A medal fac-simile of the one given to Commodore Thomas McDonough by Congress in recognition of his great victory on Lake Champlain. Presented by Dr. Charles P. Thayer.

A portrait of Governor George Herbert Prouty, to complete the Society's collection of portraits of the Governors of the State.

A portrait of the late Hon. George Grenville Benedict, of Burlington, president of the Society from 1896 until his death, April 8, 1907. Presented by Mrs. Benedict.

Mr. Goddard called the Society's attention to an error in the title of the last printed proceedings. The title reads "Proceedings for 1908-09" when it should have read 1907-08. He reported the general condition of the library and cabinet as quite satisfactory.

President Stickney made a verbal report for the Board of Managers, in which he referred to the successful appeal to the last legislature for an increase in the annual appropriation from \$100 to \$500. This money will be used each year in purchasing rare volumes and in binding books and pamphlets already belonging to the Society. This increased appropriation will enable the Society to extend its library in a small way by direct purchase of material. Heretofore it was entirely dependent upon gifts and what could be secured through exchange. He reported an increase in membership during the last decade from 114 to 249. He also read the names of members who have deceased since the last meeting and said arrangements would be made for the presentation of their biographical sketches to the next annual meeting. The list follows: Active members, Hon. John L. Bacon, of Hartford; Robert O. Bascom, of Fort Edward, N. Y., Secretary of the New York Historical Society; Ex-Governor Charles J. Bell, of Walden; Hon. Hiram Carleton, of Montpelier, a former president of the Society; Robert H. Hutchins, of New York City; the Rt. Rev. John Stephen Michaud, of Burlington, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Vermont; Henry L. Sheldon, of Middlebury; Corresponding members, James Turner Phelps, of Boston, Mass.; James H. Canfield, of New York City, librarian of Columbia University.

The Committee appointed a year ago to consider the matter of providing more shelf room for the Society, composed of Messrs. F. W. Baldwin, J. A. DeBoer and W. B. C. Stickney, reported through Mr. Baldwin no progress and the committee was continued without change for another year.

On motion of Mr. DeBoer the Board of Managers was instructed to take under consideration the establishment of the office of State Historian, or some similar office and the securing of aid for the same from the next legislature.

The following gentlemen were unanimously elected to active membership:

| <i>Name.</i> | <i>Residence.</i> | <i>Proposed by.</i> |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Charles P. Tarbell, | Royalton, Vt., | W. W. Stickney. |
| Harrie C. White, | N. Bennington, Vt., | H. P. McCullough. |
| James C. Colgate, | Bennington Ctr., Vt., | H. P. McCullough. |
| Percy H. Jennings, | N. Bennington, Vt., | H. P. McCullough. |
| Theo. H. Munroe, | Hartford, Conn., | W. W. Stickney. |
| Frank J. Wilder, | Saratoga Springs, N. Y. | E. D. Field. |
| Andrew B. Oatman, | Bennington, Vt., | E. D. Field. |
| Rev. I. Jennings, | Bennington, Vt., | E. M. Goddard. |
| Wm. W. Russell, | Hartford, Vt., | E. M. Goddard. |
| Ira Rich Kent, | Boston, Mass., | G. P. Anderson. |
| Geo. M. Dimond, | Bedford, Mass., | G. P. Anderson. |
| Chas. A. Catlin, | Providence, R. I., | G. P. Anderson. |
| Fred T. Field, | Boston, Mass., | G. P. Anderson. |
| Tracy E. Hazen, | New York, N. Y., | E. M. Goddard. |
| Henry Holt, | Montpelier, Vt., | E. D. Field. |
| J. K. Batchelder, | Arlington, Vt., | W. W. Stickney. |
| Martin S. Vilas, | Burlington, Vt., | W. H. Crockett. |

On motion of Mr. Gordon the secretary was unanimously instructed to cast a ballot for the re-election of the old list of officers, excepting the offices of Curator for Washington and Windham Counties, which were vacant. The ballot was cast and the following officers declared elected to serve for the ensuing year:

President, William W. Stickney, Ludlow.

Vice-Presidents, Joseph A. De Boer, Montpelier.

Horace W. Bailey, Newbury.

John E. Goodrich, Burlington.

Recording Secretary, Edward D. Field, Montpelier.

Corresponding Secretaries, Edw. M. Goddard, Montpelier; Chas. S. Forbes, St. Albans.

Treasurer, Henry F. Field, Rutland.

Librarian, Edward M. Goddard, Montpelier.

Curators, Ezra Brainerd, Addison County.

Hall Park McCullough, Bennington County.

Henry Fairbanks, Caledonia County.

John E. Goodrich, Chittenden County.

Porter H. Dale, Essex County.

Frank L. Greene, Franklin County.

Nelson Wilbur Fisk, Grand Isle County.

Carroll S. Page, Lamoille County.

George Davenport, Orange County.

Frederick W. Baldwin, Orleans County.

Frank C. Partridge, Rutland County.

Bert Emery Merriam, Windham County.

Gilbert A. Davis, Windsor County.

Ex-Officio.

Guy W. Bailey, Secretary of State.

Horace F. Graham, Auditor of Accounts.

George W. Wing, State Librarian.

The vacancies were filled by the election of George L. Blanchard, of Montpelier, as Curator from Washington County and of Lyman S. Hayes, of Bellows Falls, as Curator from Windham County.

The amendment to Sec. 5 of Chapter II of the By-Laws, proposed one year ago by Mr. J. W. Gordon, so as to permit members to take from the rooms of the Society for temporary use such books as might be duplicated if lost or destroyed, was withdrawn by the proposer without objection.

The committee on finance was instructed, by a unanimous vote, to cooperate with the treasurer in taking ac-

tive steps to collect arrearages in dues from members of the Society.

Letters were read by the Secretary from Dr. John B. Brainerd, of Boston; Hall Park McCullough, of North Bennington; F. W. Baldwin, of Barton, and the Hon. W. C. Hart, of New Orleans, La. Dr. Brainerd suggested that the neglected field of collecting Vermont epitaphs from tombstones in our old cemeteries should have some attention by the Society and active steps be taken to preserve these old records of deaths before the evidence had all crumbled to decay. The suggestion was favorably commented upon but no action taken.

President Stickney announced the following committee appointments for the year ensuing:

On Library: Jos. A. De Boer, John E. Goodrich, Edward M. Goddard.

On Printing: Frank L. Greene, Horace W. Bailey, Frederick W. Baldwin.

On Finance: Edward D. Field, Edward M. Goddard, Horace W. Bailey.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p. m.

A true record.

Attest:

EDWARD D. FIELD,
Recording Secretary.

SPECIAL MEETING, APRIL 12, 1910.

A special meeting of the Society was held at Montpelier Tuesday morning, April 12, 1910.

President Stickney called the meeting to order.

Members present: W. W. Stickney, J. A. De Boer,

F. A. Howland, E. M. Goddard, George Briggs, J. B. Estee and E. D. Field.

On motion of Mr. De Boer it was voted to loan the Society's portrait of Senator Justin S. Morrill for use in connection with the memorial exercises to be held in Bethany Congregational Church, Montpelier, Vermont, on the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of that distinguished statesman, April 14, 1910.

Mr. James E. Davidson, an electrical engineer and President of the Consolidated Lighting Company of Montpelier, appeared before the meeting and communicated to it the desire of the National Electrical Association to honor, in some substantial way, the memory of Thomas Davenport, inventor of the electric motor. He reported that the Association would defray the expense but wished the Society to cooperate in the selection of the form the memorial should take, where it should be placed and the date and program of dedicatory exercises.

On motion it was voted to authorize President Stickney to go to New York, at the Society's expense, to confer with Mr. T. Commerford Martin of the Electrical Association, preparatory to calling a meeting of the Society or the Board of Managers to take definite action in the matter.

Attest:

EDWARD D. FIELD,
Recording Secretary.

ANNUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 18, 1910.

Pursuant to printed notice the Vermont Historical Society held its seventy-second annual meeting in its rooms in the State Capitol at two o'clock, Tuesday afternoon, October 18, 1910.

The meeting was called to order by President William W. Stickney of Ludlow and the opening prayer was given by Rev. John M. Thomas, the President of Middlebury College.

The following members were present: W. W. Stickney, Jos. A. De Boer, W. H. Crockett, Dr. H. D. Holton, E. H. Deavitt, C. D. Mather, W. A. Dutton, J. L. Barstow, Frank J. Wilder, W. G. Andrews, G. W. Wing, E. A. Nutt, H. F. Field, E. M. Goddard and E. D. Field.

The minutes of the meetings of October 19, 1909, and April 12, 1910, were read by the Secretary and on motion approved.

The report of the Treasurer was presented by H. F. Field and on motion accepted, adopted and ordered recorded. (See Appendix "A.").

The report of the Librarian was presented by E. M. Goddard and on motion accepted and adopted. (See Appendix "B.").

President Stickney made a verbal report for the Board of Managers, in which he referred to the increase in membership in two years from 230 to 256 and to the fact that there were 20 applications in hand for action at the present meeting. He referred to the tablet which had been erected to the memory of Thomas Davenport, the inventor of the electric motor, at Forestdale, near Brandon in this state, by the allied electrical associations and advised the

Society that the electrical associations would like to have it accept a deed to the land on which the memorial was erected and title to the tablet itself. He said that the exercises in connection with the dedication of the tablet were very fitting and impressive, that he had secured copies of the addresses delivered and that, in his opinion, they should be included in the next printed proceedings of the Society.

He announced the following list of deceased members whose death had not been previously reported at any regular meeting of the Society and stated that biographical sketches of them would appear in the next printed proceedings of the Society: Robert M. Colburn, Springfield, Vermont; Robert O. Bascom, Fort Edward, New York; Bradley B. Smalley, Burlington, Vermont; John Heman Converse, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Edgar O. Silver, New York City; General William H. Gilmore, Fairlee, Vermont; Daniel W. Robinson, Burlington, Vermont.

In relation to the customary public meeting of the Society, President Stickney announced that it would probably be held on the evening of November 10th, with Matt B. Jones, Esq., of Newton, Mass., as the speaker, who would take for the title of his address "The Making of a Hill Town." President Taft had during the summer accepted an invitation to deliver an address before the Society during the present session of the Legislature but later was obliged to cancel the engagement.

The special committee which has during the past year had under consideration the ways and means for providing additional shelf and cabinet room for the Society reported that in their opinion the best solution of the problem was

for the state to erect a suitable building, apart from and outside of the State House, for the Supreme Court and State Library and allow the Society the use of the present quarters of the Supreme Court. In their opinion these rooms would make very convenient quarters for the Society for years to come and the present quarters of the Supreme Court and Library are very inadequate. The committee was composed of F. W. Baldwin of Barton, Joseph A. De Boer of Montpelier and W. B. C. Stickney of Bethel. Their report was on motion adopted. The discussion on the committee's report was participated in by Dr. H. D. Holton, Hon. J. L. Barstow, Rev. John M. Thomas and Frank J. Wilder, all of whom expressed themselves as very much in favor of the committee's recommendation and urged that the matter be not allowed to drop without further action. On motion of the Reverend Mr. Thomas the Society voted to continue the old committee for one year and instructed them to cooperate with the State Library Commissioners and the representatives of the Supreme Court in an effort to secure action toward the erection of the building described.

The following were proposed and unanimously elected as active members of the Society:

| <i>Name.</i> | <i>Residence.</i> | <i>Recommended by.</i> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Matthew Hale, | Boston, Mass., | G. P. Anderson. |
| Wyman S. Bascom, | Fort Edward, N. Y., | the Secretary. |
| Charles H. Slocum, | Morrisville, Vt., | Carroll S. Page. |
| Geo. McC. Powers, | Morrisville, Vt., | Carroll S. Page. |
| Charles H. Hall, | Springfield, Mass., | H. P. McCullough. |
| Philip B. Jennings, | Bennington Ctr., Vt., | H. P. McCullough. |
| Arthur J. Holden, | Bennington, Vt., | H. P. McCullough. |
| Wm. B. Jennings, | Bennington Ctr., Vt., | H. P. McCullough. |
| Edward L. Bates, | Bennington, Vt., | H. P. McCullough. |
| Thomas R. Powell, | Burlington, Vt., | Frank J. Wilder. |
| Rev. H. L. Ballou, | Chester, Vt., | Edward M. Goddard. |
| Charles P. Smith, | Burlington, Vt., | Fred A. Howland. |
| Kate Morris Cone, | Hartford, Vt., | the Secretary. |
| James P. Taylor, | Saxtons River, Vt., | Gilbert A. Davis. |
| Egbert C. Tuttle, | Rutland, Vt., | W. W. Stickney. |
| Harvey R. Kingsley, | Rutland, Vt., | W. W. Stickney. |
| Byron N. Clark, | Burlington, Vt., | Frank J. Wilder. |
| Timothy G. Branson, | Hardwick, Vt., | Walter A. Dutton. |
| Seth Newton Gage, | Weathersfield, Vt., | Walter A. Dutton. |
| Max Leon Powell, | Burlington, Vt., | Walter A. Dutton. |

Mr. Deavitt moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a ballot for the re-election of the old board of officers. This method of election was objected to by the Secretary and the motion was withdrawn by the proposer without objection. He then substituted a motion that a nominating committee of three be appointed and it was so voted. President Stickney appointed as such committee Messrs. Barstow, Deavitt and Mather. Mr. Deavitt in behalf of the committee presented the following list of officers to serve for the year ensuing:

President, William W. Stickney, Ludlow.

Vice-Presidents, Joseph A. De Boer, Montpelier.

Horace W. Bailey, Newbury.

John E. Goodrich, Burlington.

Recording Secretary, Edward D. Field, Montpelier.

Corresponding Secretaries, Edward M. Goddard, Montpelier; Charles S. Forbes, St. Albans.

Treasurer, William T. Dewey, Montpelier.

Librarian, Edward M. Goddard, Montpelier.

Curators, Ezra Brainerd, Addison County.

Hall Park McCullough, Bennington County.

Henry Fairbanks, Caledonia County.

John E. Goodrich, Chittenden County.

Porter H. Dale, Essex County.

Frank L. Greene, Franklin County.

Nelson Wilbur Fisk, Grand Isle County.

Carroll S. Page, Lamoille County.

Dr. George Davenport, Orange County.

F. W. Baldwin, Orleans County.

Frank C. Partridge, Rutland County.

George L. Blanchard, Washington County.

Lyman S. Hayes, Windham County.

Gilbert A. Davis, Windsor County.

Ex-Officio.

Guy W. Bailey, Secretary of State.

Horace F. Graham, Auditor of Accounts.

George W. Wing, State Librarian.

Mr. Deavitt then moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a ballot for the entire list and it was so voted. The ballot was cast and the above named officers were declared duly elected to serve for the year ensuing.

Mr. F. J. Wilder of Saratoga Springs presented to the Society a large old-fashioned lock which was formerly on the old jail in Bennington, Vermont. On motion of Dr. Holton the Society voted its thanks to Mr. Wilder for the gift.

On motion of Henry F. Field the President was authorized to accept in behalf of the Society the deed to the land on which the Davenport tablet was erected and title to the tablet itself and to express the deep thanks of the Society to the allied electrical associations for their gift and for this fitting honor to the man who is now acknowledged to have been the inventor of the electric motor.

On motion by the Secretary it was voted to include the addresses delivered at the Davenport dedicatory exercises in the next proceedings of the Society.

The Secretary read correspondence from the granddaughters of Aaron Leland, Lieutenant-Governor of the State of Vermont from 1822 to 1827, who expressed a desire to present to the Society an oil painting of Mr. Leland. It was moved and voted that the Secretary be instructed to inform Mrs. E. S. Milendy and Mrs. L. R. Wardner of Chicago, the granddaughters of Mr. Leland, that the Society will gratefully accept this gift and will appreciate very much having the portrait of so noble a man to add to its collection.

He also read correspondence from Mrs. Julia A. Jackson, a niece of the late Hon. John A. Conant of Brandon, relative to the possible presentation to the Society of an oil painting of Mr. Conant. The Secretary was instructed to inform Mrs. Jackson that it is the sincere wish of the members of the Society present at the annual meeting that her purpose be consummated and the portrait received by the Society.

The following resignations from membership in the Society were reported: Walter E. Ranger of Providence,

R. I., and M. M. Parker of Washington, D. C. On motion they were accepted.

The Committee on Printing was instructed to secure, if possible, the regular appropriation from the Legislature for printing the proceedings of the Society for the year 1909-1910.

President Stickney announced the following committee appointments:

On Library: Jos. A. De Boer, H. P. McCullough, E. M. Goddard.

On Printing: F. L. Greene, Carroll S. Page, F. W. Baldwin.

On Finance: W. T. Dewey, H. W. Bailey, E. D. Field.

On motion of Mr. Goddard it was voted to include in the next printed proceedings of the Society the bibliography of the publications of the Historical Society prepared by Mr. Hall P. McCullough.

The meeting adjourned on motion of Mr. Goddard, to meet at 2 p. m., November 10, 1910.

Attest: EDWARD D. FIELD,
Secretary.

ADJOURNED MEETING, NOVEMBER 10, 1910.

Pursuant to adjournment the Vermont Historical Society met in its rooms in the State Capitol at two o'clock, Thursday afternoon, November 10, 1910.

The meeting was called to order by President William W. Stickney of Ludlow.

The minutes of the meeting of October 18, 1910, were read by the Secretary, and on motion approved.

A letter was received from William T. Dewey of Montpelier declining to accept the office of Treasurer of the Society to which he was elected at the October meeting. His declination was accepted and on motion of Mr. Goddard, Hon. Henry F. Field of Rutland was re-elected as Treasurer of the Society for the year ensuing. Mr. Field had previously been communicated with and very kindly consented under the circumstances to continue the Treasurer's work for another year.

President Stickney announced that, in order to comply with the by-laws of the Society, it would be necessary to revise the Committee on Finance. He appointed as a new committee, Messrs. Horace W. Bailey, of Newbury, Edward M. Goddard, of Montpelier and Carroll S. Page, of Hyde Park.

The following named gentlemen were elected active members of the Society: Phil Sheridan Howes, Montpelier; Andrew Jackson Sibley, Montpelier; Fred G. Field, Springfield; Henry B. Shaw, Burlington and F. H. Dewart, Burlington.

On motion of the Secretary, the Society voted to purchase from Mr. Edward M. Goddard the balance of the edition of the reprint of the first pamphlet issued by the Society. This pamphlet was first issued in 1846 and contained the proceedings of the first meeting of the Society in October 1840, an address by Prof. James Davie Butler on "Deficiencies in Our History" and "The Song of the Vermonters."

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Society correspondence with Miss Julia A. Jackson, of Brandon, in relation to an oil painting of her uncle, the late Hon.

John A. Conant, a widely known railroad pioneer. This painting has been loaned to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, of New York City, but Miss Jackson desired to have it passed to the Society on her death or at her volition during her lifetime. On motion of Mr. Goddard, the Secretary was instructed to inform Miss Jackson that the society would gratefully accept the portrait at any time she sees fit to present it.

A suggestion was made by Mr. F. J. Wilder that a public meeting be held during the coming year at some place outside of Montpelier, Bennington being named as the best place. The matter was referred to the Board of Managers with authority to act if deemed advisable.

On motion the meeting adjourned to meet at 7.30 o'clock in the hall of the House of Representatives for the public exercises of this Society.

Attest:

EDWARD D. FIELD,
Recording Secretary.

VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

PUBLIC EXERCISES, NOVEMBER 10, 1910.

The Society met at 7.30 o'clock in the hall of the House of Representatives as provided in the motion of adjournment.

The meeting was called to order by President Stickney and prayer was offered by Rev. Alvin W. Ford, Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

President Stickney, in his introductory remarks, reviewed the work of the Society during the past two years

and called to attention the urgent need of more room for the Society's library and collections. He also made report of the exercises at the unveiling of the Thomas Davenport Memorial at Brandon.

Following his remarks he introduced Matt Bushnell Jones, Esq., of Newton, Mass., who gave a very scholarly address on "The Making of a Hill Town." At the close of Mr. Jones' paper the following resolution was proposed by Mr. F. A. Howland and unanimously adopted by a viva voce vote of the Society:

Resolved: That the Vermont Historical Society hereby tenders to Matt Bushnell Jones, Esq., its sincere thanks for his able and interesting historical address on "The Making of a Hill Town" and requests him to furnish a copy of the same for publication in the Proceedings of the Society.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Attest:

EDWARD D. FIELD,
Recording Secretary.

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT.

Members of the Vermont Historical Society, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Since the last public meeting of the Society two years ago, our membership has increased from 230 to 281. If the membership were doubled in the near future, we would be able to do more efficient service with increased interest in the work. During the last two years the library has shown a material growth. The accessions have numbered 422, some of which are pamphlets, but by far the greater part are bound volumes. The greatest need of the Society at present is more space for the collections and more shelf room for the books. Much of our collection is inaccessible owing to the crowded condition of the quarters we occupy.

The conservation of the State's history and the preservation of related documents are of vital importance to the whole State, in which every citizen has an interest. The title to the property of the Society, if ever the organization ceases to exist, rests in the State itself.

The legislature of 1884 provided the State House Annex for the uses of the State Library, the Supreme Court, "and the collection and library of the Vermont Historical Society." This building is no longer of sufficient capacity to accommodate more than one of the three objects for which it was constructed. In 1908, the matter of securing more commodious quarters was taken up by the Society. A committee was appointed to consider the subject and they

have made some progress. At their instigation the legislature of that year passed an act for investigating the need of additional buildings for the use of the State.

But the committee provided for by the act, although an exceedingly strong one, seems to have accomplished nothing, and it appears that they have never been called together. We believe that it is not too much to ask of the present legislature that it do something practical along the line of meeting the urgent need for a building at the Capitol for the administration of justice and the State Law Library. Then the use of the Annex could be more effectually devoted to the purposes of the Historical Society.

It became my pleasant duty, as president of the Society, to attend in September last at Brandon the exercises connected with the unveiling of a marble monument, with a bronze tablet, in memory of Thomas Davenport, the inventor of the electric motor.

The memorial was erected by the Allied Electrical Association of America, and presented to this Society for its care and keeping. It is located in the little hamlet of Forstdale, three miles from Brandon village, where seventy years ago Davenport labored as a blacksmith.

The public exercises were held on September 28th, when a company of some five hundred people gathered to do honor to the once humble but now famous inventor. Charles E. Parker of Vergennes, president of the Vermont Electrical Association, presided. The presentation address was made by A. J. Campbell of New London, Conn., President of the New England section of the National Electric Light Association, and the memorial was accepted on behalf of the Vermont Historical Society by your President.

The chief address of the occasion was made by Mr. T. Commerford Martin of New York city, Secretary of the National Light Association, who, in a manner delightfully free from technical expressions, traced the life and scientific research of Davenport from his birth in Williamstown in 1802, to his early death at the age of forty-nine years.

The Society has voted to publish in the next volume of its Proceedings all the addresses delivered at Forestdale, so that a very full account of Davenport's life and work will be accessible to every member of this Society.

Your attention is now invited to the address of the occasion by Matt Bushnell Jones, Esq., of Newton Center, Massachusetts, on the "Making of a Hill Town."

The Making of a Hill Town

An Address by
Matt Bushnell Jones, Esq.
of Newton Center, Mass.

Delivered before the Vermont Historical
Society on November 10, 1910, in the Hall
of the House of Representatives,
Montpelier, Vermont

THE MAKING OF A HILL TOWN.

AN ADDRESS BY MATT BUSHNELL JONES, ESQ., OF NEWTON
CENTER, MASS.

Cradled against the heart of the Green Mountains, in a beautiful basin shut in by lofty peaks, except where the narrow thread of a little river winds its way in and out again, lies the town whose making has been chosen as the subject of this paper. There is little, if anything, in its humble history to distinguish it from a hundred other towns in our New England states. It is not old, even in that comparative sense in which America speaks of age, for Washington was gathering up the reins of government of the new republic when, in the summer of 1789, a man of fifty-three years, with his children and his sons' children, sought out this fertile spot and made his pitch in the midst of a wilderness unbroken for many miles by any human habitation. But its making is so far typical of the foundation upon which our nation rests that its consideration may not be out of place upon an occasion like this.

Until the year named, no white person had lived within its borders, nor had it been the home of aboriginal tribes. Its solitudes were broken only by the fleeting presence of men bent on war.

Perhaps no portion of the American Continent has seen more of strife or played a more important part in the

strategy of war than the valleys of Lake Champlain and Lake George. Here, from the earliest days, was the chosen battle ground of Algonquin warriors and their hated rivals from the Long House of the Iroquois. Here passed the latter bent upon destruction of the feeble French settlements along the St. Lawrence, and here the Jesuit fathers suffered torture. Here during sixty years of conflict between France and England for supremacy on the northern continent, war parties came upon their cruel errands to New England hamlets, returning hither with their wretched captives; and here were fought the fiercest conflicts of the final struggle between those mighty rivals. Here the flower of European soldiery marched to defeat against the blue-frocked farmers of New England; and crumbling battlements, like the shingle on the shore, mark the high tide of England's power over the western world. For more than two centuries from the time when Champlain's arquebus first awoke the echoes near the future site of Ticonderoga, the valley which now bears his name was debated ground, and between it and the New England frontier on the Connecticut, war parties of both sides passed to and fro.

Thus it came about that the territory of Vermont, fertile and beautiful though it was, presented no attractive abiding place for Indian encampments or for the English pioneer, and not until the close of the French War was it fairly opened up for settlement. Beginning in 1763, there came an influx of settlers; but it was not until the assertion of independence and the establishment of an independent government had in some measure quieted land

titles that the tide of emigration from Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Connecticut turned toward Vermont.

And what manner of man was this first settler? Let us pause a moment to consider, for he typifies the best of those sturdy characters who founded this fair commonwealth.

He was a native of Massachusetts, and his father kept a tavern on the Boston-Albany highway, where soldiers in the French wars were wont to linger as they journeyed to and fro. We picture him as a lad lying of a winter evening before the great fireplace in the living room, while in the dim light of the flames the father and his guests, with mugs of steaming flip in hand, related tales of warfare, suffering and heroism that sent the youngster shivering to his attic bed.

Truly environment played large part in his development, for his active career began in 1755, when, as a boy of eighteen, he marched under Shirley on the ill-starred expedition to reduce Niagara. Through the long winter at Oswego he saw more than half his comrades die of hunger and of cold, and in the spring he, with the survivors, was a victim of the superior generalship of Montcalm. Compelled by his Indian captors to run the gauntlet, and rescued from them by a French woman who hid him under a cask in her cellar, he was finally sent to France a prisoner of war, but in sight of its very shores the transport on which he sailed was captured by a British man-of-war and he was brought back to his native land. He was with Amherst at Louisbourg in 1758, and after the fall of that fortress returned with those troops which the commander led to

reinforce Abercrombie at Lake George, where, until the close of the war, he served as ensign in a company of Robert Rogers' Rangers, and in that matchless corps of frontier fighters bore his full share of hard and perilous experience in conflict with the Indians and Frenchmen. He participated in the terrible suffering of the expedition that crushed the St. Francis Indians, and, after the fall of Montreal, his company, with one other, was detailed to take possession of Detroit and other outposts in the western wilderness. From Detroit he was sent in command of only twenty men to bring in the French garrisons from the territory around the southern end of Lake Michigan, a service that was successfully performed in dead of winter, but at the cost of intense suffering.

At the age of twenty-five he was a veteran of forty skirmishes and battles, but had received no harm.

The war ended he married, and, with his girl wife, pushed out to the frontier town of Windsor, Vermont, to make himself a home. Here he promptly allied himself with the Green Mountain Boys, taking a leading part in their struggle on the east side of the mountains.

Upon the outbreak of the Revolution he became captain of the first company of Hoisington's Rangers, and during the Bennington campaign was made a major in Samuel Herrick's regiment, leading the detachment that in September, 1777, cut Burgoyne's lines of communication at Ticonderoga. Two years later he was chosen a member of the Vermont Board of War, and so continued until the close of the Revolution. During the dark years of 1780-1781 he was in command of forces on the northern frontier of the state, and in 1783, with rank of colonel, he commanded

the little regiment raised at Governor Chittenden's request to enforce Vermont authority among the New York sympathizers in the southeasterly portion of the state.

For seven years he was the sheriff of his county, an office that was then little less than military, and in 1786, aided by a company of militia from his own regiment, he dispersed the mobs that had gathered to resist the action of the courts in Windsor County, but at the cost of wounds that incapacitated him for many weeks.

He sat as sole delegate from Windsor in the convention that adopted a constitution for the new state of Vermont, and represented his town for several years in the General Assembly then created. He had just resigned the highest military office in the gift of his state that he might free himself for his fresh struggle with the wilderness, and ranked high among the founders of the little republic that was still knocking ineffectually at the doors of the Union. He was withal a Christian gentleman, with virtues proven by the test of harsh experience—a pioneer of the type that has throughout our history made the words of William Stoughton, spoken in 1688, still ring true: "God sifted a whole nation that he might send choice grain into the wilderness."

And now he turned his back upon the certainty of an honorable old age spent in such comfort as the times could afford, and pushed out into the primeval forest to clear up farms for himself and his children in a township that had been granted to him and his associates some years earlier.

Here gathered around him old neighbors and companions-in-arms, an upright, God-fearing people, who builded well the foundations of the little municipality. For

more than a generation he lived among them, the father of the town, the leader in every sense, honored by all who knew him, until at the ripe age of eighty-six he was gathered to his fathers, and slept upon the little hillock where his strong arms had rolled up his first rude cabin.

The town settled rapidly. The land was fertile and the men who came early persuaded their relatives and friends to join them; in fact nearly the entire population, prior to the year 1800, came from two communities, and afforded but another illustration of the far-reaching effect of kinship and neighborhood upon migratory movements.

The life was hard. Long hours of toil for every member of the family were the rule. Food and raiment were scarce, and must be produced in most part upon the farm. Such necessities as iron, steel, salt, tea, spices, New England rum and cloth for the occasional best gown were procured by barter for the ordinary products of the farm, and for pearl ash and potash, which sold for four to five dollars per hundred weight. One scarcely realizes how exclusively trade was barter in those early days without turning the pages of the newspapers of the period.

One merchant says in a typical advertisement:

"I will sell groceries for good clear salts of lye, ashes, beef cattle, butter, cheese (or even good bank bills)."

Another says: "The subscriber wishes to purchase a few thousand bushels of potatoes, for which he will give in exchange a quart of gin per bushel, or twenty-five cents in English goods."

Even the editor encourages business with this summer item: "Good butter will be received at this office in payment for newspapers, books, advertisements, etc.," and in

December he announces: "Cold news! Those who have agreed to pay bark at this office for papers are notified that the first snow has come," while in the spring the poor man, surfeited with produce, says: "Potatoes for sale. Enquire of the printer."

But after all, barter had its advantages in view of the uncertain state of the currency, which is well illustrated by the following notice issued by an early Vermont merchant: "Vermont bills and specie taken at par, Boston and other outlandish bills at a discount as the parties can agree."

And so men chopped and burned and ploughed and harvested; the women spun and knit, and wove; and the boys and girls bore their full share in the general life of hardship.

Of the professions it may be said that pettifoggers, using the word in its old and honorable sense, flourished, and all neighborly disputes were litigated. The musty corners of an ancient town clerk's office will yield old writs almost by the bushel, bearing testimony to heated quarrels before the local justice and his jury. Indeed, no change in country life is more marked than the great decrease in petty litigation after the middle of the last century; but a glance at the fee bills of the period leads one to surmise that the legal luminaries found refuge from penury only in the length of the docket. For example; in 1812, the fixed fee of an attorney for drawing a writ and declaration upon a promissory note was seventeen cents, while the sheriff's fee for serving process by reading was six cents.

In much the same position were the country doctors, who farmed as well as physicked, often leaving plough in furrow and riding many weary miles to minister with a woman's tenderness to some poor sufferer. And then, even

as now, he had to meet the competition of the proprietary medicine, flaunting its claims flamboyantly throughout the land. Does not the following from an early Vermont newspaper have a familiar sound?

"Dr. Kittredge's true and Genuine Bone Ointment. The above medicine has from long experience been found to be a safe, salutary and efficacious remedy in fractured and dislocated bones, sprains, bruises, stiffness of the joints, contractions of the tendons, piles, salt rheum, inflammations, burns, etc."

For five years after its settlement our township had no political organization, but in March, 1794, the first settler, who held a commission as justice of the peace, called the first town meeting to consider the following articles of business :

1. To choose a Moderator.
2. To choose a Town Clerk.
3. To choose Selectmen and other town officers.
4. To see if the town will suffer their swine to run at large.
5. To act on any other business they shall think proper to be done.

Under the last article the voters chose a committee to "Lay out a Meeting House Spout and other Public Yard."

Thus did the Church tread upon the heels of the State.

Another early piece of business was to provide for leasing out the public lands which, in accordance with the charter of the town, had been set apart for the support of churches, colleges and schools, and you are all acquainted with the quaint habendum of these leases: "To have and to hold unto him, the said A. B., his heirs, executors and ad-

ministrators, from the first day of January, 1799, so long as wood shall grow or water run."

Of public works the earliest form, of course, was highways, which were surveyed and laid out at the earliest opportunity. We, not unnaturally, think of them as well established landmarks, but when one finds an official survey a century old "beginning near the south corner of Thomas Green's Cornfield," he wonders how our modern Highway Commissioner establishes the boundaries of an ancient way. The construction of roads of course made bridges necessary, and it is of interest to note that in this work the master builder could command a wage of one dollar a day, while ordinary workmen received sixty-six cents and boarded themselves, and this at a time when corn and wheat were taken in payment of taxes at fifty cents and eighty-three cents per bushel respectively.

These roads were poor, and unruly mountain streams played frequent havoc with the frail bridges, but such as they were they furnished outlet to the world beyond the hills, and freight teams laden with the surplus produce of the farms sought the big market two hundred miles away, returning with West India goods and manufactures.

Until the Act of February, 1784, Vermont had no official postal facilities. That act created post-offices at Bennington, Rutland, Brattleborough, Windsor and Newbury, and granted to the post riders a monopoly on their respective routes, providing also for a subsidy of two pence per mile (increased to three pence per mile on the Bennington-Brattleborough route) in addition to all postage collected. At the same time the principle of governmental regulation of public service monopolies seems to have been recognized by

a requirement that the post riders should keep an accurate account of their "profits and emoluments," and exhibit the same to the Governor and Council whenever requested so to do.

With only slight extensions these were the postal facilities of the state at the date of its admission into the Union, nor were they much improved for several years thereafter. Indeed our hill town had no facilities whatever for nearly thirty years after its settlement, although mail could be sent and received by traveling some twenty miles to the shire town which was visited by the weekly stage from Burlington to Windsor.

Next a goodly tract of land was purchased for a common, on one side of which a burying-ground was marked out, ploughed and levelled. Here also the pound was built "of sound logs, 30 feet square, and seven feet high, with a sufficient door," as the vote recites. In this connection our modern method of conducting large affairs was employed, for the contract for constructing this enclosure was put up forthwith at vendue, and bid in at the price of six dollars. In fact vendue was at that time a favorite method of settling most public contracts, and not infrequently public office that carried compensation, as, for example, the collectorship of taxes, was put up at auction, the lowest bidder being chosen to the office.

Politics, both state and national, played a far larger part in the early life of our country towns than they do to-day. The reason is not far to seek. Life moved at a moderate pace, interests were less diversified, the press devoted its energies almost exclusively to a presentation of political news and comment, and succeeded in a manner that will bear comparison with modern journalism.

It is probably safe to assert that the average man thought more deeply upon questions of government and acted with a keener insight into underlying principles than does the average citizen today, and the vitalizing influence of this intelligent interest in matters political during the formative years of our national government can scarcely be overestimated; but on the other hand, party feeling ran too high and was too venomous, political enmities were far too numerous and bitter; there was less independent voting, and standards of political honesty were far lower than they are today.

After the State the Church, and not much behind or far separated from it. We have already noted that the first town meeting made provision for the meeting-house. The second voted "to raise 12 pounds in wheat to pay for preaching," and a committee was appointed to procure a preacher, but no settled minister could then be had, and for several years the only preaching was supplied by some itinerant preacher or missionary.

Nor was there any church edifice for more than a decade. Annually some dwelling, or more frequently some barn "as nigh the center as possible," was chosen as the place of meeting, for our forefathers were great sticklers for geographical equality. Annually, also, the struggle was renewed to fix the site and provide the means for building a meeting-house, until the hill faction prevailed over the valley party and fixed upon the common as the center.

A building committee was chosen, which soon reported a plan for construction, and recommended that subscriptions be paid one-fourth in lumber, one-fourth in neat cat-

tle, and one-fourth in wheat—concluding with the words: "It is our opinion that the business cannot be prosecuted with success unless one-fourth of the pay be made in cash for the purpose of procuring nails, glass and rum for the raising."

Meanwhile a church was gathered, and a settled minister procured in the person of a graduate of Harvard College, who labored for some years upon a salary of \$166.-67 per year, raised by a tax upon the grand list of the society members, and paid one-half in money, and one-half in wheat, rye, Indian corn, flax, butter, cheese, beef and pork. To him the selectmen deeded the farm that had been reserved by the charter for the first settled minister, and when the youthful members of the parish made a bee to aid the dominie in clearing up his land, the good man journeyed several miles to procure a liberal supply of New England rum for their refreshment.

Soon, however, came a man of sterner mould to minister to this people. Accustomed to privation as needs must be, careless of dress, often uncouth in manner, compelled to till a farm and teach the district school in order to eke out the scanty salary, he nevertheless stood out a born leader, a profound thinker, a high priest in the temple of his God. His monument is one of Christian character wrought among his people. He has been dead these many years, but even now the people of the little town speak with reverence of that early pastor.

It is doubtful if the broader views and changed activities of the Christian Church can be more forcibly brought home to one than by glancing at the records of our churches of a hundred years ago, when articles of prac-

tice stood side by side with confession of faith and covenant, and church discipline in large measure filled the place of a court of law. Perhaps a few examples may serve to elaborate the thought.

In 1798 a committee of the church (Congregational) was chosen to "discourse" with Brother H. concerning an "uneasiness" which, it appears, consisted of "uniting in Baptist preaching"; indeed a council of neighboring churches was called to consider the erring brother's case, but after mature deliberation he was excused on the ground that there was no other than Baptist preaching in the town at the time.

A year later Brother C. complains of Brother J. that his property and character had been injured by false testimony given by the latter before a civil court. The finding was that Brother C's character had received no injury, but that Brother J. in giving his evidence "did not appear to be guarded and cautious as the solemnness of the oath and the honor or religion required"; and it was thereupon ordered that he make an acknowledgment of his sin before the congregation. Brother J. promptly asked for a re-hearing, and this being granted, he pleaded that the church had failed, before placing him on trial, to take the scriptural steps set out in the eighteenth chapter of Matthew, and was in consequence itself in the wrong. This demurrer having been decided in favor of the defendant, the church made a public retraction, and besought his forgiveness. Brother J's advantage was only temporary, however, for within four days the spiritual steps had been duly taken, he was again placed on trial, and promptly found guilty of having "colored his evidence in a civil court, and of having lost

his temper when cross-questioned." He was thereupon ordered to make a public confession, which he did in a truly handsome manner, admitting his wrong, and begging forgiveness of his brethren and his God.

In 1809 we find the following: "Whereas there appears to be reason to fear that our sister, Mrs. G., is in danger of a snare by an attendance on the preaching of Methodists; voted that it is the duty of this church to look into the subject and give our sister that warning and counsel in the case as the Gospel may warrant." But alas! the wanderer proved obdurate, and was a few years later excommunicated for these sins. How little had a century and a half removed us from the spirit of Governor Dudley's quatrain!

"Let men of God in courts and churches watch
O'er such as do a Toleration hatch,
Lest that ill egg bring forth a cockatrice
To poison all in heresy and vice."

After the State the Church; after the Church the schools. It is but fitting, therefore, that, within a year after the organization of a church, the first school district in our town came into being, and that provision was made for a school to be kept in a convenient kitchen, the expense to be defrayed by an assessment on the district list, with the exception that "those who send to school this ensuing winter shall provide the wood according to their number of scholars."

The record also says: "It was put to vote to see if the district would hire Mr. S. Smith to keep school and engage him 10 bushels of wheat, and passed in the negative."

Mr. Smith had evidently presumed too far. Other good men and true stood ready to teach the district school

without exacting such excessive pay, and the meeting therefore voted "To hire Mr. S. Smith to keep school if he can be obtained without engaging him grain; otherwise to hire Stephen Pierce."

The school established, provision was at once made for a schoolhouse. As was almost universally the case, its location was determined by the geographical centre of the district and the worthlessness of the ground on which it stood, exposed to the scorching sun of summer and the bleak winds of winter. Indeed the tendency of those early days to seek mere geographical convenience and the consequent multiplication of districts and small schools without reference to efficiency or economy in their management still persists, and is a crying evil in our hill towns today.

Compare the cost of any of our modern buildings with the appropriation order for this first schoolhouse in the town:

"VOTED: To build a schoolhouse 24 feet x 18 feet, with 9 foot posts, and to raise the sum of \$16.66 in cash and \$30 in lumber, at the rate of \$6 per thousand for spruce boards, \$5 per thousand for hemlock boards, \$6 per thousand for slit work, one penny per foot for square timber, one penny for each three feet of timber suitable for rafters and sleepers, and \$2 for shingles."

Cheap in construction and forbidding in external aspect, our schoolhouse was even worse within. In front, near the entrance, stood the teacher's desk, and near at hand the fire-place, in which smouldered the green wood just dragged from the nearby forest. Around three sides of the room ran a rude shelf or desk, and two rows of backless benches, one for the larger scholars, the other for

the little tots. There was no ventilation, and doubtless some here present have vivid recollections of the unsatisfactory working of the primitive heating plant, for these conditions prevailed without much variation until the middle of the last century, not only in Vermont, but throughout New England.

At first only a winter term of school was maintained; this commonly commenced immediately after Thanksgiving, and continued until the money on hand had been expended—a period that seldom if ever exceeded three months. After a few years a summer term, usually called a “woman’s school” was provided, and attended by the girls and the smaller boys.

Constant pressure from men with small families to be released from taxation usually resulted in a compromise. Funds for salaries were raised by a tax on the list, and other expenses were assessed according to the number of pupils in each family. The law of barter of course compelled the teacher to board around, although the custom was not universal, and occasionally the job of boarding the teacher was put up at vendue and knocked off to the lowest bidder at a price varying from $66\frac{2}{3}$ cents to 75 cents a week.

A few teachers of this period stand out by reason of their preeminent ability, but the average was low, as might be anticipated from the wages paid. The salary of a female teacher seldom exceeded a dollar a week, and was often less, while the male teachers, employed to handle the winter school, did not average more than ten or twelve dollars a month. Indeed, as late as 1850, five dollars a month was common pay for female teachers, and the average monthly

compensation of male teachers throughout the state was less than fourteen dollars.

And in what branches were these teachers called upon to give instruction? Each district determined its curriculum, and the following is a fair sample: "Voted: That the committee be instructed to procure a teacher capable of teaching reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar and geography, provided such a one can be procured for any other pay than money."

Text books existed in unending variety, for the caprice of successive teachers and the profit of book-sellers wholly governed their selection. These books are interesting today as a source of amusement, for crude wood cuts, fables, quaint sayings, and bits of information and advice fill their pages. As a general rule there were few text books suited to beginners, the transition from the alphabet to elaborate and stately composition being far too rapid. Nor were the lessons always clothed in language that would today be thought proper for the budding mind, as, for example:

"Joan is a nasty girl."

"Greedy gluttons buy many dinty bits for their ungodly guts."

"Children drink brimstone and milk for the itch."

But on the other hand note the following from Noah Webster's spelling-book:

"A good child will not lie, swear, nor steal. He will be good at home, and ask to read his book: when he gets up he will wash his hands and face clean; he will comb his hair and make haste to school; he will not play by the way as bad boys do."

Few of our twentieth century pupils are acquainted with the rule of three, tear and trett, single and double fellowship, barter, and allegation medial—terms that were in common use in the arithmetics of a century ago. Some here present doubtless started their table of long measure with: "Three barley corns make one inch"; but how many are familiar with the rule of dry measure that, "Two quarts make one pottle; two bushels make one strike; two strikes make one coom; two cooms make one quarter; four quarters make one chaldron; five quarters make one wey; two weys make one last."

One notes also the marked attempt in these early arithmetics to propound dry problems in an interesting manner, and even to reflect the customs of the time, as witness:

"Divide $4\frac{1}{2}$ gals. of brandy equally among 144 soldiers."

"What length of cord will fit to tie a cow's tail, the other end fixed in the ground, to let her have the liberty of eating an acre of grass and no more, supposing the cow and the tail to be five yards and one-half?"

"When hens are nine shillings a dozen, what will be the price of six eggs at two cents for three eggs?"

"John made three marks on one leaf of his book, and six on another; how many marks did he make?"

"His teacher punished him for soiling the book by giving him four blows on one hand and five on the other; how many blows did he strike?"

"Seven boys laughed at him on one side of the house when he was punished, and two on the other; how many boys laughed?"

A glance at the geographies of the period cannot fail to emphasize what exploration and development have accomplished in a century, even in our own country.

Here is a description of the then newly acquired territory of Louisiana :

“This territory is bounded east by the River Mississippi; south by the State of Louisiana; west by some of the Spanish dominions and regions unknown.”

Of British America or New Britain, so-called, which included the vast Canadian territory lying east of the Rocky Mountains and north of the present Province of Quebec, it was said: “This extensive country is bounded on the east by Hudson’s Bay, and the Atlantick Ocean; south by the River St. Lawrence, and Canada; west by parts unknown; and north by the polar regions”; while the following is an interesting commentary upon the state of our great coal industry: “In some parts of our country stone coal is used for fuel. It is dug from the earth, and is cheaper, and some think, better than wood.”

And yet these schools with their over-crowded and ill-ventilated rooms, their crude text books, and their utter lack of equipment, by sheer persistence did a work in the fundamentals of a sound education that cannot fail to command the admiration of our modern educators.

But time serves no longer. The various activities of the little town are now established, and it is prepared to run its peaceful course. There is but one word more that I would leave with you.

The hill town has played well its part in the grand history of our nation. Its rugged acres have nurtured thousands of good men and women whose handiwork may now

be seen in this and other states. Before it was itself firmly established, its sons and daughters were pushing westward to newly opened lands, and since that time the never ending stream of emigration has pursued the vanishing frontier that like the rainbow's pot of gold kept ever just ahead. And now its population dwindles, its homes are falling into ruins, its farms are returning to the forest, and the cry goes up that it is a decayed and dying member.

My friends, it is not so. Those bush-grown acres were often never meant to till; those ruins are replaced by better homes; that dwindling population produces more, is better fed and educated, has wider interests, and lives a saner, happier life than ever did its forebears.

Let it not be assumed that the hill town has no future. There is no longer a frontier; the fleeting will-o-the-wisp of cheap land to the westward no longer dances before our eyes; and no longer will the virgin soil of the prairies yield up its hundred-fold without return. Here, at the threshold of the markets, is the opportunity of the future, and men will not fail to grasp it.

The tide ebbs but to flow again, and he, whose eye can see the coming greatness of our nation, by the same token knows that the fertile acres of the hills and valleys of Vermont must play an ever growing part in its economy.

Nor is this all. The hill town is still a mother of men—Green Mountain Men—and in the years to come, as in the past, the moiling millions in our smoke-grimed cities will look for clear eyed, straight thinking leaders to her everlasting hills.

NECROLOGY

JOHN L. BACON.

John L. Bacon was born in Chelsea, June 18, 1862. He was educated in the common schools and in St. Johnsbury Academy. He began his business career in 1883 as cashier of the First National Bank of Chelsea. Upon the organization of the National Bank of White River Junction he was elected cashier and held the place until his death. In 1884 and 1885 he was treasurer of Orange county. He was treasurer of the town of Hartford from 1891 to 1898. In 1892 he served as representative in the Legislature, serving on the committees on banking and insurance. In 1898 he was elected state treasurer and served in that capacity until 1906. He represented Hartford in the Legislature of 1908, serving as chairman of the appropriations committee. He was a trustee of St. Johnsbury Academy and treasurer of the Ottaquechee Woolen Co. He died April 27, 1909.

ROBERT O. BASCOM.

Robert O. Bascom was born in Orwell, Vt., Nov. 18, 1855. He was educated in the public schools and at Fort Edward Collegiate Institute. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1883. He built up a large practice and in 1905 Governor Higgins appointed him District Attorney for Washington county to fill a vacancy. He was reelected that fall and elected again in 1908 for a term of three years. He was a prominent Republican and had

been chairman of the county committee of his county. He was one of the incorporators of the New York State Historical Association and in 1903 was made its secretary. His knowledge of historical matters was profound, and he had contributed valuable monographs to the proceedings of the association. He was one of the charter members of the Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution. He was noted as a collector of relics and curios and had travelled extensively throughout the United States and Mexico. He died at his home in Fort Edward, N. Y., May 19, 1909.

EX-GOV. CHARLES J. BELL.

Charles J. Bell was born in Walden, March 16, 1845. He was educated in the common schools and at the age of 17 enlisted in 1862 as a private in the Fifteenth Vermont Infantry. He reenlisted in Company C, First Vermont Cavalry and was made a corporal. He engaged in farming on his discharge from the army and followed that calling successfully all his life. In 1882 he represented Walden in the Legislature. He served in the Senate of 1894, was railroad commissioner 1895-96; member of the Board of Agriculture 1897-1904 and the secretary for six years; and cattle commissioner 1898-1902. He was elected Governor of Vermont in 1904, serving until 1906. When the Vermont State Grange was organized in 1872 he was elected treasurer and held the position until he was elected master in 1894. He was a member of the national executive committee for several years. He died suddenly on a train in New York City, Sept. 25, 1909.

JAMES H. CANFIELD.

James H. Canfield was born in Delaware, Ohio, March 18, 1847. He was graduated from Williams College in 1868 and for the next three years was engaged in railroad building in Iowa and Minnesota. In 1872 he was admitted to the Michigan bar and practiced law at St. Joseph, Mich., 1872-77. He was superintendent of schools at St. Joseph, and becoming interested in educational work was called to the University of Kansas in 1877 as professor of history and English literature, which position he held until 1891. He was chancellor of the University of Nebraska, 1891-95, and president of the Ohio State University, 1895-99. From 1899 to his death, March 29, 1909, he was librarian of Columbia University. He received the honorary degree of Litt. D. from the University of Oxford. He was a member of many learned societies and was the author of several books, including a History of Kansas.

HIRAM CARLETON.

Hiram Carleton was born in Barre, Vermont, August 28, 1838. He gained his early education in the public schools of his native town and was fitted for college in the Barre Academy. After graduating from the University of Vermont, in 1860, he was principal of the Hinesburgh, Vermont, Academy. Subsequently he became instructor and principal of the Academy at Keeseville, New York.

He studied law with E. E. French of Barre, Vermont, and was admitted to the Bar in 1865. For ten years he practiced in Waitsfield, Vermont, during which time he

represented that town in the State Legislature. In the session of 1870 he was chairman of the committee on education when the town system of schools was adopted. In 1870-72 he was State's Attorney for Washington county. In 1876 he removed to Montpelier, Vermont, and in 1883 he was appointed, by Governor J. L. Barstow, Judge of Probate of the District of Washington, and held that office, by successive elections of both political parties, for twenty-five years and until his death at Montpelier, Vermont, February 24, 1909.

Judge Carleton was a member of the Vermont Historical Society, of which he was for ten years treasurer, and for six years president. From 1883 till his death he was treasurer of the Vermont Bar Association. He was a member of the Vermont Society, Sons of the American Revolution, and at the time of his death he was the historian and a member of the obituary committee.

ROBERT M. COLBURN.

Robert M. Colburn was born in Springfield, Vt., Dec. 6, 1844. He was educated in the common schools, at Kimball Union Academy, Meriden, N. H., and at Andover, Mass. He was a farmer and held several town offices. He represented Springfield in the Legislature of 1880 and served on the committee on agriculture. He was one of the directors of the First National Bank and one of the trustees of the Springfield Public Library. He was much interested in historical research and in all matters pertaining to education. He died July 11, 1904.

JOHN H. CONVERSE.

John Heman Converse died on May 3, 1910. He was born in Burlington, Vt., Dec. 2, 1840, being the eldest son of the Rev. J. K. Converse. He received his early education in the public schools of Burlington, and was graduated, with honors, from the University of Vermont, in the class of 1861. Thrown upon his own resources in early life, he manifested from boyhood great interest in telegraphy, stenography and railroads. After his graduation he entered the office of the Burlington Daily Times and soon became its business manager. Three years later he removed to Chicago, Ill., to accept the position of confidential clerk to Dr. E. H. Williams, then superintendent of the Galena division of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. When Dr. Williams was made the general superintendent of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company he placed Mr. Converse in charge of the railroad office at Altoona, Pa. In 1870 Dr. Williams became a member of the firm of Burnham, Parry, Williams & Co. proprietors of the Baldwin Locomotive Works at Philadelphia, Pa. Mr. Converse accompanied him to that city, and three years later, he was a member of the firm. The extraordinary business capacity manifested by him was recognized by repeated promotions until 1909, when the firm was changed to a corporation and Mr. Converse was elected its president and held that responsible position at the time of his death. With the accumulation of wealth Mr. Converse became known not only for his exceptional aptitude in the conduct of financial affairs, but also as a patron of music and art as well as a generous contributor to social, educational and religious enterprises.

He was a member of many civil and patriotic societies and clubs. Among these were the Vermont Society of Colonial Wars, of which he was Governor in 1908, the American Philosophical Society; the American Academy of Political and Social Science; the Franklin Institute; the Historical Societies of Pennsylvania and Vermont; the Geographical Society of Philadelphia; the Pennsylvania Society Sons of the Revolution; the Union League; Contemporary; University; the Manufacturers and Engineers Clubs of Philadelphia; the New England Society of Pennsylvania, of which he was president; the Citizens Permanent Relief Committee and Christian League of Philadelphia; and, during the Spanish War, he was president of the National Relief Commission. In 1883-85 he was vice-president of the Philadelphia Music Festival Committee. Since 1901 a director of the Philadelphia Orchestra Association. For many years he was director and vice-president of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and one of the advisory committee of the Union League Art Club; president of the Philadelphia Parkway and Fairmount Park Art Association, and a member of the Board of Public Education. He was trustee of the Presbyterian Hospital and of the Y. M. C. A. of Philadelphia. For twenty-five years until his death he was an active and valued trustee of the University of Vermont.

In his religious denomination, (Presbyterian) he was, in 1901, the Vice-Moderator of the General Assembly and for many years the president of its board of trustees, chairman of its evangelistic committee and the World's Evangelistic committee, so that this church came to regard him as "prince of laymen, not only in his liberality in

financing its several enterprises, but also for the personal service he gave to it and to its institutions."

GEN. W. H. GILMORE.

William H. Gilmore was born in Fairlee, Oct. 17, 1839. He was educated in the common schools, in the academies of Thetford and Barre and in Newbury Seminary. In December, 1861, he enlisted in Company D, Eight Vermont Volunteers and a little later was made quartermaster sergeant. From the close of the war until 1901 he resided on the home farm at Fairlee. For more than thirty-nine years he was town treasurer. He was a member of the Legislature from Fairlee in 1878 and in 1882 he was elected a senator from Orange county. He was a member of Governor Barstow's staff, and in July, 1883, took a prominent part in suppressing the riots at the Ely copper mines. In 1886 he was elected quartermaster-general and in 1900 the duties of adjutant-general were added, which position he held until his death, April 18, 1910.

DR. J. HENRY JACKSON.

J. Henry Jackson was born in Brome, Que., April 19, 1844. He removed to Barre, Vt., while a boy and was graduated from Barre Academy in 1862 and from the medical department of the University of Vermont in 1865. He began the practice of medicine in Stockholm, N. Y., but returned to Barre in 1870, where he resided thereafter. He had a large practice. In 1882 he was chosen professor of physiology in the University of Vermont and held the position until his death. He was one of the incorporators

of the Barre City Hospital and its president; one of the incorporators and for several years president of the Barre Water Company, and for several years president of the Barre Savings Bank and vice-president of the National Bank of Barre. He was superintendent of the Barre schools, 1881-82, and for many years treasurer and a trustee of Barre Academy. He represented Barre in the Legislature of 1878, was elected mayor of Barre in 1903, was one of the delegates-at-large to the Democratic National Convention of 1892, and was Democratic candidate for governor in 1896. He died Sept. 13, 1907.

REV. A. N. LEWIS.

Alonzo N. Lewis was born in New Britain, Conn., Sept. 3, 1831. He was educated in public and private schools and was graduated from Yale University in 1852. He was principal of Litchfield Academy, New Hartford High School, taught in the North Carolina Institute for Deaf, Dumb and Blind, was principal and superintendent of schools at Waterbury, Conn., and principal of Parker Academy. He was admitted to the bar in 1857. In 1866 he was ordained an Episcopal clergyman and was rector of Christ Church, Bethlehem, Church of the Messiah, Dexter, Me., St. James' Church, New Haven, Conn., Holy Trinity Church, Westport, and Christ Church, Montpelier, Vt. He died Sept. 12, 1907.

HAMDEN W. McINTYRE.

Hamden W. McIntyre was born at Randolph Centre, Sept. 28, 1834. He was educated in the common schools and at the Orange County grammar school. At the age

of 20 he went to Augusta, Me., where he worked five or six years in the manufacture of reeds for organs. In March, 1865, he enlisted in Company I, First New York Veteran Cavalry, and served until the close of the Civil War. In 1871 he went to Alaska and for ten years was in the employ of the Alaska Commercial Company. He then went to California, where for several years he was in charge of large wine and brandy cellars in Napa valley. Later he superintended the vineyards and wine making on the estate of the late Leland Stanford, at Vina, Cal. In 1894 he returned to Randolph. He was engaged in the electro-plating business and with his brother organized and managed the Randolph telephone exchange. In 1900 he represented Randolph in the Legislature. He died Sept. 19, 1909.

JOHN H. MERRIFIELD.

John H. Merrifield was born in Newfane, June 12, 1847. He was educated in the common schools and at Springfield Wesleyan Seminary. He was engrossing clerk in the Legislatures of 1874 and 1878, second assistant clerk of the House in 1882 and 1888, first assistant clerk in 1890, and clerk in 1892 and 1894. He was a member of the House in 1878, 1880, 1902 and 1904, being speaker the last two terms. He was a member of the Senate in 1896. In 1897 he was appointed county clerk for Windham county. He died Dec. 29, 1906.

RT. REV. JOHN S. MICHAUD.

John Stephen Michaud, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, was born at Burlington Nov. 24,

1843, where he attended the parochial and commercial schools. His father having died when the lad was young, early employment was necessary and he worked in the Burlington lumber mills from the age of 12 until he was 21. In September, 1865, he went to Montreal College to resume his studies, going later to Holy Cross College, at Worcester, Mass., where he was graduated with high honors in 1870. He continued his studies at St. Joseph's Theological Seminary, Troy, N. Y., and June 7, 1873, he was elevated to the priesthood. His first parish was Newport, and the neighboring missions of Albany, Barton and Lowell, and churches were provided for each of these towns. In May, 1879, he was recalled to Burlington to have charge of the construction of St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum which he completed in 1883. At Winooski he constructed a pastoral residence while in charge of the parish. In the fall of 1885 he assumed charge of the parish at Bennington and erected one of the finest churches in northern New England. Father Michaud was made coadjutor bishop April 4, 1892, and became bishop upon the death of Bishop DeGoesbriand. He was very successful in this important office and the church grew and prospered under his administration. In the fall of 1908 he was taken ill and made a pilgrimage to Lourdes, France, hoping to be benefited, but his improvement was not permanent and he died in a New York hospital Dec. 22, 1908, while on his way home.

JAMES T. PHELPS.

James T. Phelps was born at Chittenden, Vt., May 24, 1845, and died in Brookline, Mass., Dec. 8, 1908. He was educated in the public schools, and at 13 years of age en-

tered the employ of the National Life Insurance Co. For many years he was the Massachusetts representative of the company, and at the time of his death he was a director and vice-president of the company. He was president of the Boston Life Underwriters' Association, 1887-88.

REDFIELD PROCTOR.

Redfield Proctor, who died in Washington, March 4, 1908, was born in Proctorsville, Vermont, June 1, 1831. He was graduated from Dartmouth College in 1851, taking his Master's Degree three years later. Studying law at the Albany Law School he was admitted to the Bar in 1859. Until his enlistment in the Third Vermont Regiment in June, 1861, he practiced with his cousin, Hon. Isaac F. Redfield, at Boston, Mass. As an army officer he was brave, efficient and honest, and deserved promotion followed; first a Lieutenant, then an appointment on the staff of Gen. "Baldy" Smith, in Sept., 1861, then Major of the Fifth Vermont Regiment and last as Colonel of the Fifteenth Regiment in Sept., 1862. After he was mustered out of service in August, 1863, he resumed his law practice with Judge W. G. Veazey until 1869, when he entered upon a more active business life as manager of the Sutherland Falls Marble Co., near Rutland. In 1880 the Vermont Marble Co. with Col. Proctor as president, was organized. This company eventually became, under his efficient management, the largest industry in the State and the largest marble concern in the world.

Col. Proctor's public career began with his election as selectman of Rutland in 1866. The year following he represented that town in the State Legislature. In 1874 he

was elected State Senator. His valuable services and prominence in the Assembly resulted in his nomination and election as Lieutenant-Governor in 1876, and Governor in 1878. In all of these public positions his foresight and ability for constructive legislation were especially recognized and approved. In March, 1889, Gov. Proctor was called to the cabinet of President Harrison as Secretary of War. The responsible duties of this office he discharged with signal ability. On Dec. 7, 1891, he resigned from the cabinet to accept the appointment, by Gov. Page, of U. S. Senator to fill the unexpired term of Senator George F. Edmunds, who had retired. In October, 1892, he was elected to the same position for the remainder of the term ending March 4, 1893, and for the full term ending March 4, 1899. In 1898 he was re-elected for the full term ending March 4, 1905, and again re-elected for the term ending March 4, 1911. Senator Proctor was a member of the Vermont Historical Society and was one of the charter members of the Vermont Society, Sons of the American Revolution and its president for one year.

DANIEL W. ROBINSON.

Daniel Webster Robinson, who died at Burlington, Dec. 24, 1909, was born in Nashua, N. H., October 13, 1843. His early education was obtained in the public schools of his native town, and he was graduated from a Commercial College in Boston, Mass. He then entered the office of Pierce and McQuestion, lumber dealers in Nashua, and continued with their successors, Messrs. Cross and Tolles. Removing to Burlington, Vt., he entered the employ of Lawrence Barnes & Co., of which firm

he became a member in 1878. In 1897, when the Burlington business of this company was sold to the Robinson, Edwards Lumber Co., incorporated, Mr. Robinson was elected its president and so continued until his death.

From 1886 to 1904 he was a director and vice-president of the Howard National Bank of Burlington. When the Burlington Trust Co. was organized in 1883, Mr. Robinson was elected a director and for the last ten years of his life he was its vice-president. In 1893 he received the appointment of commissioner from Vermont to the World's Columbian Exposition. He was a member and for two years the Governor of the Vermont Society of Colonial Wars, in right of descent from William Hack, of Taunton, Mass., and from William Robinson of Dorchester, Mass., a member of Ancient and Honorable Artillery of Boston, Mass., in 1643, and when he died he held office of Deputy Governor of the General Society. He was one of the earliest members of the Vermont Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He was president of this society in 1895-96. He was a member of the Vermont Historical Society, of the National Geographic Society, of the Algonquin Club of Burlington, of which he was president in 1897, and of other fraternal and social societies and clubs.

HENRY L. SHELDON.

Henry L. Sheldon was born in Middlebury, Vt., Aug. 15th, 1821, and died in Middlebury, Feb. 28, 1907. From 1841 to 1850 Mr. Sheldon was in business in Vergennes and Middlebury. From 1850 to 1853 he was mail-agent on the Rutland and Burlington railroad when he accepted

a position in the post-office at Middlebury. Resigning in 1856 he removed to Nebraska and was postmaster for a time in Oteo. Returning to Vermont he was station-agent at Middlebury until 1862. He held the office of town clerk of Middlebury for twenty-five years. Becoming early interested in antiquarian work he gathered a large and valuable collection which he eventually placed in the control of the corporation known as "The Sheldon Art Museum and Historical Society" to be permanently continued under the management of a board of trustees. A devout member of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church for over sixty years, for more than one-half of which period he was the church organist, he was for many years a member of its vestry and parish treasurer. He was a member of the Vermont Historical Society and of the Vermont Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

EDGAR O. SILVER.

Edgar O. Silver was born in Bloomfield, Vt., April 17, 1860, and grew up as a farmer's boy. He fitted for college at Waterville, Me., and was graduated from Brown University. He was employed for two years by the publishing house of D. Appleton & Co., and then for a year was associated with H. E. Holt, author of a series of music books for school use. In 1886 he established the firm of Silver, Rogers & Co., which was succeeded in 1888 by the firm of Silver, Burdett & Co. In 1892 it was made a corporation and Mr. Silver became president of this great publishing house. He was a trustee of Brown University, Providence, R. I., of Roger Williams University, Nashville, Tenn., of Derby Academy, Derby, Vt., chairman of

the board of trustees of Shaw University, Raleigh, N. C., president of the American Institute of Applied Music, New York, president of the board of corporators of Peddie Institute, Hightstown, N. J., member of the executive board of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, president of the New Jersey Baptist Social Union, director of the Century Bank, New York, and a member of the New York Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Silver died at East Orange, N. J., Nov. 18, 1909, and burial was at Derby, Vt., where he owned a fine farm.

BRADLEY B. SMALLEY.

Bradley Barlow Smalley was born in Jericho, Vermont, Nov. 26, 1835. His father, Hon. D. A. Smalley, an eminent lawyer and Judge of the United States District Court of Vermont for twenty years, removed to Burlington, Vermont, in 1839, and in the schools and academy of that town Colonel Smalley received his early education. He was admitted to the bar in 1863, but was never an active practitioner. He held the office of clerk of the United States District and Circuit Courts from 1861 to July, 1885, and of United States Commissioner from 1861 to 1896, discharging his official duties with faithfulness and ability which characterized all of his public work. He was a member of the Vermont Legislature in 1874 and 1878, and held several of the municipal offices of his city. An active and influential member of the Democratic party, he was for many years prominent in its State and National councils, as well as in its Presidential campaigns from 1876 to 1892, being delegate to its National Conventions in 1872, '76, '80, and '84. He held the office of United States Collector of

Customs from 1885 to 1889, and from 1893 to 1897. He was a director of the Central Vermont Railroad Company to the time of its re-organization, the Rutland Railroad Company, and of the Southeastern system of railroads. At various times he was president of the Montpelier & White River Railroad Company; the Ogdensburgh and Lake Champlain Railroad Company; and the Montreal and Province Railroad Company. He was one of the commissioners from Vermont to the World's Columbian Exposition. For many years he was first director and then president of the Burlington Trust Company and was connected prominently with many of the leading commercial industries of Burlington. Colonel Smalley was one of the charter members of the Algonquin Club of Burlington; of the Society of Colonial Wars and of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion. He was also a member of the Vermont Society, Sons of the American Revolution, and of the Vermont Historical Society. He died at Burlington, Vermont, Nov. 6, 1909.

CHARLES A. SMITH.

Charles Albert Smith was born November 6, 1848, in Waitsfield, Vermont. At the time of his death, which occurred June 19, 1908, he was a resident of the city of Barre, Vermont. His ancestors were among the first settlers of Connecticut. A father and three sons of a fourth and fifth generation later came to Vermont and helped to settle the town of Brookfield, Vermont. After spending his early life in Waitsfield, he entered Barre Academy under Dr. Jacob S. Spaulding, graduating from that in-

stitution in 1870. He entered the University of Vermont, class of 1874, but was unable on account of ill health to complete his course. Returning to Barre, he entered upon a business career which became his life work. Mr. Smith was a trustee of Barre Academy and the clerk of the board. He was prominent in the movement to organize the graded school system in Barre, and a member of the committee which designed and erected the Spaulding School building. He served several terms on the board of assessors of the city of Barre and was long a member of the Barre Congregational Church, for which he served as clerk, as treasurer, as a member of the executive committee and as superintendent of the Sunday School. For many years he was treasurer of the Vermont Bible Society, and was also a member of the Vermont Historical Society and the Vermont Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

FREDERICK E. SMITH.

Frederick Elijah Smith was born in Northfield, Vt., June 11, 1830, and died at Montpelier, Vt., Feb. 24, 1907. Educated at the public schools he was graduated from Newbury Seminary and at once engaged in the drug business at Northfield, Vt., until 1848, when he removed to Montpelier. For eight years, previous to Aug. 1861, he conducted a successful drug business in Montpelier when he was appointed by Gov. Fairbanks to take charge of the supplies, etc., of the camp of the 6th Vt. Vols. The same year he was sent to the Army of the Potomac to make settlements with the Vermont Regiments and while thus engaged he was made Regimental Quartermaster of the 8th

Vt. Vols. In Sept. 1862 he was appointed to the staff of Brig.-Gen. Weitzel, as Brigade Commissary and served two years when he resigned from the service and returned to Montpelier in May, 1865. The following year he removed to New York City and engaged in mercantile business. Returning to Montpelier in 1872 he became interested in manufactures. He was elected a director of the Vermont Mutual Fire Insurance Co. and subsequently its vice-president and president. In 1891 he resigned on account of ill health. In 1895 he was again elected president of the company and continued in that office until his death. He held many offices of trust in several corporations, was State senator, trustee of Norwich University, of the Soldiers' Home, and of the schools of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont, and for many years he was a member of the standing committee of the Diocese and warden of Christ Episcopal Church at Montpelier. He was a member of the Vermont Society, Sons of the American Revolution and of the Vermont Historical Society.

EDWARD WELLS.

Edward Wells was born in Waterbury, Vt., Oct. 30, 1835, and died in Miami, Fla., Feb. 19, 1907. After receiving a public school education and graduating from the Bakersfield Academy, he at once entered upon a clerkship in Montpelier, Vt. At the end of three years he returned to Waterbury and was employed in his father's wholesale flour store. In 1850 he went to Kansas, but finding his health seriously affected by the climate he returned to his former position in Waterbury. In Sept. 1861 he enlisted in the 5th Vt. Vols. On account of his superior qualifica-

tions he was detailed as clerk in the Quartermaster's Department, and there remained until his discharge in 1864. Returning home he was, for four years, principal clerk in the State Treasurer's office at Montpelier, when he decided to remove to Burlington, Vt., and enter the employ of Henry & Co., wholesale manufacturers and dealers in drugs. On the establishment of the firm of Wells, Richardson & Co. in the same business, he became the head partner and on the incorporation of the company, in 1882, he was elected its president and held that office until his death. He was president of the Burlington Trust Co., and of the Home for Aged Women; vice-president of the Burlington Safe Deposit Co. and of the Burlington Cotton Mills and trustee of the Fletcher Free Library Fund. From 1890 to 1892 he was city representative in the Vermont Legislature. He was a member of the Vermont Historical Society and the Vermont Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

HENRY A. WILLARD.

Henry A. Willard was born in Westminster, Vt., May 14, 1822. He was educated in the common schools and at Walpole (N. H.)' Academy. At the age of 16 he began work in a store at Bellows Falls. Later he secured employment in Chase's Hotel at Brattleboro. From there he went to Troy, N. Y., where he secured a position as steward on a Hudson river steamboat. Becoming acquainted with the owner of the City Hotel at Washington Mr. Willard purchased the property in 1847 and changed the name to the Willard Hotel. In 1853 his brother Joseph was taken into partnership and in a few years it became the

leading hotel of the city. When Abraham Lincoln came to Washington to be inaugurated in 1861 he put up at Willard's Hotel. During the Civil War he was a loyal supporter of the Union cause. He retired from active hotel management in 1861. President Grant appointed him vice-president of the Washington Board of Public Works. He was president of the Columbia Street Railroad Company from 1873 to 1889, and was one of the organizers of the Columbia Fire Insurance Company. In 1867 he organized the National Savings Bank and became its first president. For many years he was vice-president of the National Metropolitan Bank, was a director of the American Security and Trust Company, vice-president of the Garfield Memorial Hospital, a member of the Washington Monument Society, the Washington Association of Vermonters and many other organizations. He died at the summer home of his son in Walpole, N. H., Dec. 4, 1909.

Proceedings
at the
Unveiling of the Memorial Tablet
In Memory of
Thomas Davenport
At Forestdale in Brandon
September 28, 1910





THOMAS DAVENPORT



The Ninth Annual Meeting of the Vermont Electrical Association was in session at Brandon on September 28, 1910, in conjunction with the New England section of the National Electric Light Association. The two bodies, associated with the Vermont Historical Society, had planned an observance of Davenport Day at this time to commemorate the inventor and the invention of the electric motor. A tablet of bronze on a marble block had been placed at Forestdale in Brandon, where Davenport's early work was done. The tablet bore the following inscription:

**IN MEMORY OF
THOMAS DAVENPORT
1802-1851**

**THE INVENTOR OF THE
ELECTRIC MOTOR**

**NEAR THIS SPOT STOOD THE
BUILDING WHERE HE DEVELOPED
HIS INVENTION**

**THIS TABLET IS PLACED HERE BY
ALLIED ELECTRICAL ASSOCIATIONS
OF AMERICA IN RECOGNITION OF THE
GREAT SERVICE RENDERED MANKIND
BY THE INVENTION, TO THE DEVELOP-
MENT OF WHICH HE DEVOTED
HIS LIFE**

ERECTED SEPTEMBER 28, 1910

Mr. Charles E. Parker of Vergennes, President of the Vermont Electrical Association, occupied the chair, and the tablet was unveiled with appropriate exercises.

PROGRAM.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1910.

Afternoon: Unveiling of the Davenport tablet at Forestdale by Mrs. A. J. Campbell and Miss Frances Davenport.

Prayer by the Rev. W. G. Davenport of Washington, D. C.

Presentation of tablet by Mr. A. J. Campbell of New London, Connecticut, President of the New England Section of the National Electric Light Association.

Acceptance by Ex-Governor Stickney on behalf of the Vermont Historical Society.

Address by Mr. T. Commerford Martin of New York, Secretary of the National Electric Light Association.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL'S PRESENTATION.

Mr. President:—

History—American history, of the most stirring kind was made in these your Green Mountains. The story of the great fight for a principle, and the tales of personal encounters and daring exploits must thrill generations to come, as they have thrilled Americans, from the days of the Green Mountain Boys to the present.

But we are making history today, that is just as far reaching in its effects although less stirring and exciting. We are building up a great social and industrial democracy, we are daily making greater and greater use of the forces

of nature, and are extending their benefits and conveniences for the common use of all men, and are slowly, step by step, through the arts of peace rather than of war, bringing about that equality of men for which our forefathers fought and upon which our republic is founded. It is therefore altogether fitting that in this place, and amid these mountains, which are the scene of so many brave deeds, the man, Thomas Davenport, whose memory we honor today, should have lived and wrought, and by his inventive genius have helped in the history making of the present generation. For a man whose invention has aided in the creation of this industrial democracy and has helped compel any of the forces of nature to work for the benefit of mankind, has contributed just as truly to history, as those brave men who risked their lives for their own independence and that of their country.

It is proper, therefore, that we should honor this man, and preserve his memory, and to that end this stone and tablet have been erected jointly by the Vermont Electrical Association, the Vermont Historical Society, and the New England Section of the National Electric Light Association. We, of the electric interests, have perhaps profited more directly and appreciate more fully, what this man did, but to your society falls the pleasant and inspiring task of seeing that honor is given where it is due. To you, Sir, as President of the Vermont Historical Society, I will deliver this deed, which will place in your charge that stone and tablet erected to the memory of Thomas Davenport, knowing that you will take care of them with the same pains that you devote to the preservation of the monuments erected to commemorate the Green Mountain Boys and their brave exploits.

But you will do more than this. As the monuments and relics that are in your charge are but the outward and remaining visible tokens of an indomitable spirit that fought for the right and for independence, so this stone and this tablet but serve to tell us of a mind that conceived and a spirit that persevered. And it is the memory of these that I really place in your charge, knowing that you will devote to its preservation the same zeal and the same pride that you show in keeping alive the spirit that animated the men who pioneered and fought and died in this, your beloved state of Vermont.

EX-GOVERNOR STICKNEY'S ACCEPTANCE.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:—

Vermont, although small in area and rugged with hills, has a history rich in achievement both in war and in peace. The Vermont Historical Society has for its object the collection and conservation of the State's history. In the seventy years or more of its existence, the society has done much to rescue from oblivion for the use of future generations records, traditions, and mementoes bearing upon the lives of her early settlers, her writers, her statesmen, and her soldiers.

But men deserving of honor are found in every walk of life. To-day it is the pleasant duty of the society, through its representatives to join with you in honoring the memory of Thomas Davenport, the inventor of the electric motor.

His name is no longer confined within State limits, his fame has become world-wide. The recognition of his genius has been tardy, but this generation is beginning

to appreciate the greatness of his achievement, and to acknowledge the permanent worth of his service. For his inventions have resulted in awakening a sleeping giant by making application of a motive power which seems destined to revolutionize the methods of propelling machinery and to increase the facilities of transportation. His work in many ways has contributed to the benefit and uplift of humanity at large. Not the least of his legacy to mankind is the force of his example. A man pinched by poverty and with limited facilities for experiment, but with undaunted courage, with singleness of purpose and with enduring tenacity, he succeeded in compelling nature to reveal to him her secrets.

Now in the name and on behalf of the Vermont Historical Society, I accept the tablet here dedicated to the memory of Thomas Davenport. May this memorial so fittingly given be secure in our care and keeping in all the future. Let it stand here in all the days of the years to come, telling the story of the Williamstown blacksmith, who turned obstacles into opportunities. Let it point the moral that he only is great who serves his fellowmen.

The address of the occasion was then delivered by T. Commerford Martin as follows:

SECRETARY MARTIN'S ADDRESS.

Ladies and Gentlemen:—

A nation that spends as much every year for electricity as for daily bread may well entertain sentiments of reverence towards its pioneers in the electrical arts. That part of our country which has given birth to some of the most notable of these pioneers may also well exhibit special pride in the fact, and signalize it in appropriate manner. It is indeed remarkable that New England has to her credit a wonderful list of electrical worthies, and through them has forever set, deep and imperishable, a stamp on American invention and industry as distinctive and unmistakable as the imprint of her poets in literature and her statesmen in politics. No other geographic division blends these merits in equal degree with New England. To Massachusetts as natives of Boston we owe Benjamin Franklin, who snatched the lightning from the clouds; and Morse, who as father of the telegraph, made the lightnings talk. To her also we owe Cyrus Field, the great creator of submarine cables and his brilliant nephew, the electric dynamo and railway pioneer, Stephen D. Field, both natives of Stockbridge. From North Adams also came Frank Julian Sprague, to whom more than any other man is due our pre-eminence in the art and industry of electric traction on railroads and of electric elevators in buildings. To the Wallace family of Ansonia, Connecticut, we are indebted for the development of our electrical wires and cables, and for the production of our first lighting dynamos and arc

lamps. From Boscawen in New Hampshire, came Moses Gerrish, farmer, inventor and founder of the modern fire alarm system and original discoverer of the modern self-exciting dynamo principle so fundamental in all our work. And while neither Edison or Bell was a native New Englander, it was in Boston that Edison made and patented his first invention and in Boston that Bell gave to the world the telephone and the art of electrical speech transmission. At Lynn for a quarter of a century, also, Elihu Thomson has been producing with lavish genius one beautiful invention after another in electric light, power, heat and measurement.

Only yesterday I received a letter from Randolph, Vermont, from Mr. A. B. Chandler, President of the Postal Telegraph system, informing me that he is a native of this state. This veteran has been the successful organizer of the only competing telegraph system that ever survived in the United States; while he and Charles Tinker, another Vermonter, and one of the chiefs of the Western Union system, were President Lincoln's confidential telegraphers at the White House during the whole Civil War. There were four such men, and it is singular to say the least that two of them should have been Green Mountain Boys.

This is surely a noble record of illustrious names and rich achievements well distributed among sister states; but my special duty and honor today is to add thereto with emphasis, in this region where he lived and dreamed and suffered and wrought, the name of Thomas Davenport of Brandon, Vermont, the first American patentee and builder of the electric motor; the first man in all time to apply electric power to the operation of railways; the

first man in the world to hitch together those two tremendous forces, electricity and the printing press. Seen from the industrial standpoint it is significant that his patent if in force to-day, would embrace every one of the millions of electric motors now in service in the United States, whose royalties would constitute an income equal to anything enjoyed by Rockefeller or Carnegie. That we have escaped such a gigantic monopoly is something on which we, and perhaps even the descendants of Davenport, are to be congratulated; but it would have been a merciful dispensation if the bitter bread of struggle and disaster eaten all the years of his short life by this extraordinary genius, this prophetic village blacksmith, could have been sweetened with the merest modicum of the vast wealth that his glowing conceptions have helped to create for the benefit of us all.

Thomas Davenport was born at Williamstown, Orange County, Vermont, a descendant in direct line of the Davenport family conspicuous in the early annals of the New Haven Colony. He was eighth in a family of eleven, and it may not be an impertinence to suggest that neither New England nor Vermont is likely to breed more like him until it resumes the good old habit of such large families, not merely to enjoy these fair hills and pastures but to go out and conquer the world at large. Thomas was only ten when his father died, only fourteen when he was apprenticed to the blacksmith trade. A farmer's son in those days had to depend for education on the little red school house. To-day, perhaps, a Vermont farm boy is lucky if he finds the little red school house in existence nearby. All the formal education that Davenport got was for six weeks a year, for a briefly indefinite number of years, in

a common district school house in a remote mountain town. But he did get hold of some fragmentary portions of a scientific book, and as he blew the bellows, so with it he fed and fanned the fires of his intellect. Meantime he lived at Forestdale, then a center for a little iron industry, the blast furnace being located there doubtless because of the availability of charcoal. He was a slender, thoughtful lad, and never appears to have been in very robust health. The whole drift of his thought is indicated by the fact of having made the acquaintance of another clever young fellow named Orange A. Smalley, wagon builder and wheelwright, he formed the ambitious plan of going from place to place to deliver experimental scientific lectures. The question of apparatus came up, and very naturally with the discussion came the wonderful "galvanic magnet" of Joseph Henry in operation at the Penfield Iron Works at Crown Point, only twenty miles away, for sifting magnetic iron ore. This magnet it was rumored, would hold up a blacksmith's anvil, like Mahomet's Coffin between heaven and earth, and Davenport determined to see it and get one. During the intervening years the peripatetic lecture scheme seems to have been wholly abandoned, a reason being found in his settlement at Brandon in 1823 as an independent working blacksmith and his marriage in 1827 to Emily Goss, of that town, a beautiful girl of seventeen, granddaughter of the famous American traveler and explorer, Jonathan Carver. Under such stimulus he worked hard at his trade, prospered and built himself a brick house. He was altogether in a fair way to accumulate a comfortable property, for he was intelligent, sober, upright, diligent; but electro-magnetism was his undoing. We

might almost call it "malicious electro-magnetism." Going to the Penfield works in 1833 with \$18 to buy iron for his business, he spent the money there instead in buying an electro-magnet and batteries. The iron was needed at the shop, but how much more he needed that magnet! We must even yet extend our retrospective sympathy to the Vermonters with wagons and buggies at his door then awaiting treatment. But shall we pity Davenport putting behind him material welfare for the sake of a wild fancy? As he handled the primitive little equipment "like a flash" he says "the thought occurred to me that here was an available power which was within the reach of man." Yes it was there, and his was the superb divination of genius to detect it. He was like another Saul hunting down his father's asses and finding a kingdom. Again, I ask, shall we pity him, or shall we not regard him as another of those who have come out of great tribulation to attain lofty ideals?—another of the Immortals selected in some mysterious way to be the leaders of the race, the fire bringers?

Certainly from the materialistic point of view, that magnet was a curse, like those legendary possessions inflicting injury upon their fatuous owners. Never again was Davenport to know peace of mind. Never again were his family to enjoy a home of comfort. Indeed they were called upon to share his sacrifices. It was supposed, in those days that wire needed silk for insulation. His brave young wife took her silk wedding gown, cut it into narrow strips, and with them were wound the coils of the second motor which in October, 1835, he showed in successful operation upon the judges' bench in the courtroom at Troy, New York. Wifely devotion could hardly go much farther. We are told that when Palissy, the famous French

potter, was close upon the discovery of his beautiful enamel, he used up the furniture of his home and tore down the very woodwork lining the walls to feed the fires of his kiln. Madame Palissy protested and remonstrated, and it is not to be urged against her that she was unreasonable. But while our respectful sympathy goes forth to Madame Palissy our admiring love is won by Mrs. Davenport. Later on Davenport learned that silk was not so essential but that cotton wound wire would do. Thus the simple machinery used to cover the wire in our grandmothers' poke bonnets and crinolines was equally serviceable in the electrical arts. There has always been a close and curious relationship between electricity and "the Sex," and it is largely through such work as that of Davenport that womankind are being emancipated from all manner of domestic toil. All electrical apparatus is peculiarly susceptible to female manipulation, and it is not merely because it has to do with conversation that the telephone service is to-day almost entirely carried on by women.

Of course the inventor had friends in all his struggles, though many of them, including his shrewd and kindly father-in-law, urged him to quit and settle down to the commonplaces of life. Others like the talented Smalley worked with him awhile, and then drew off. One of his strongest supporters was Ransom Cook, a furniture manufacturer of Saratoga Springs, who gave Davenport for some years the aid of his purse, and the assistance of his unusual mechanical ability. From Professor Turner, of Middlebury College; from President Eaton of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; from General Van Rensselaer, of Troy; from Professor Henry, of Princeton; he received generous and substantial help, all of them appreciating that this shy

untutored genius had made one of the greatest advances in physics and mechanics. Everywhere he got good advice and compliments, but such work required more than anything else the backing of real money. Going sanguinely to Washington in 1835 to secure a patent on his first motor—he had already built about a dozen—he was obliged to return home penniless, his errand unaccomplished, like Mark Twain's politician who drove to the National Capital in a four-in-hand to get his appointment and then after months of weary waiting slunk away on foot—without it. Time and again we find Davenport playing the part of a showman, glad to pick up a few casual dollars in that way; but at no time getting out of financial difficulties or planting his feet firmly on the rock of commercial success. It must have been heartbreaking, and some of his letters show how the iron entered his soul. But his work never ceased, his interest never flagged, amid all vicissitudes. He remained an inventor to the end of his brief life in 1851, only 49 years of age, in the retirement of an invalid on a small farm at Salisbury, Vermont. The very year of his death he was engaged on some beautiful and successful experiments directed to producing and sustaining the vibration of piano strings by electro-magnetism, being again a pioneer in the application of electricity to music. He was also engaged throughout his life in the invention and improvement of primary batteries, devising various types of plates and solutions.

And now for a brief glance at what Davenport actually did, a review of the reasons that warrant the erection of this memorial. There is always the danger of claiming too much for an inventor of the pioneer type; there is always the temptation to read into his record that

which belongs only to later years when an art has been perfected by a multitude of men and by the courageous venturing of capital on perilous enterprises. When Davenport came on the scene, Faraday and Henry had already done their great work; and the principles of both the electric generator and the electric motor had been clearly perceived and enunciated. Yet there were no real motors before Davenport's time, and had the dynamo then been known his work would have been carried to instant fruition. Davenport and others much later than he failed of the goal because they had no ready source of cheap current, and because the double function of the motor, its reversibility, so that if operated by exterior power it would generate current, was unknown. It is at least twenty times as costly to use up zinc in a battery as to get the same equivalent electrical energy from coal driving a steam engine connected to a dynamo. In Davenport's day they had not learned to convert either the energy of steam or that of the waterfalls into electric current; and thus all the electrical arts lingered and languished, except telegraphy. The reason is simple. Beginning at the same time as Davenport, and deriving it would seem, both suggestion and inspiration from his apparatus, Morse was able to make practical the art of communicating intelligence because it took such a small amount of energy to transmit signals by dots and dashes, over a wire. But when Davenport told the great Joseph Henry that he proposed to build his motors up to one horse power, the cautious philosopher warned him to "go slow," and hinted that electricity could not compete with steam. In Europe, Jacobi like Davenport, as early as 1834, had obtained rotary motion from electro-magnets, and in 1838, at the expense of Emperor Nicholas he pro-

pelled a boat on the Neva with his motor energized from batteries. Here again the demonstration failed and ceased for lack of an economical source of current. There is close rivalry as to dates between the physician in Russia and the blacksmith in Vermont, but both at least encountered the same fatal obstacle, the lack of cheap current. So far, moreover, electricity has made no triumphal entry into navigation, but at a time when his native State had not a single mile of steam railroad, Davenport built his little model of an electric road and asserted that that was the best way to do it. Had he been able to harness up any one of the adjacent water powers, he could have proved the truth of his assertion. That, however, was left for our day, when electricity has demonstrated its superiority, in every sense, for electric traction.

In July, 1834, Davenport had built his first motor with two stationary electro-magnets and two revolving, the changes of polarity in the two sets causing attraction and repulsion, with consequent rotation, thus, as he says, "producing a constant revolution of the wheel." We have not advanced a bit since that hour nor can we, for as Davenport wrote at the time of securing his patent the principle of his invention "was the production of rotary motion by repeated changes of magnetic poles." If anyone can improve on the method or the description of it he is entitled to a high place in history. That patent, granted February 25, 1837, first of its kind in America, was broad as a Papal Bull, and embodied this claim: "The discovery here claimed and desired to be secured by letters patent consists in applying magnetic and electro-magnetic power, as a moving principle for machinery in the manner above described, or in any other substantially the same in

principle." Writing of Davenport's work fifty years later, in 1891, Franklin L. Pope, the leading electrical patent expert and litterateur of his day said: "If this patent which expired in February, 1851, were in force to-day, it is not too much to say that upon a fair judicial construction of its claim, ever successful electric motor now running would be embraced within its scope."

The crude motor of 1834 was soon followed up by an improved form in 1835 and by many others as the years went by. The motor of 1835 is interesting as being the earliest known instance of the application of the modern commutator. An elastic contact-spring or brush pressed against metallic segments fixed upon a revolving shaft, so that the shifting polarity of the magnets was maintained as current was received from the battery. In 1836 and 1837 motors and models were built illustrative of electric railway work, and the motor was shown to the public running on a miniature circular track 24 inches in diameter. The battery was not carried by the car but was placed on a tray at the center of the circle and contact was made through mercury cups. This device embodied therefore, remotely but inevitably, the idea of a central station source of supply. Later inventors still carried their batteries on the car, just as a storage battery car does to-day. Moreover the motor field magnets and those of the armature were connected in parallel, so that at that early date we have a shunt wound motor, each core being wound twice with 24 convolutions of No. 16 wire connected in parallel. Another striking fact was that as the model itself showed, the circular track was used as the return circuit, just as every trolley car uses it to-day. In 1836 his motor model filed at the Patent Office in Washington was destroyed by fire as well as

7,000 other models; just as another Davenport motor at the Rensselaer Institute, Troy, was destroyed in 1862 by fire. This kind of fatality pursued much of his work. In 1893, the present speaker exhibited at the Chicago Columbian Exposition one of these Davenport railways where it received an award. Its exhibit was requested for the American section of the Paris Exhibition of 1900, and it was shipped early in that year with the Government exhibits on the steamer "Pauillac." Violent storms swept the Atlantic, and the steamer has never been seen since. In like manner disappeared the first dynamo ever placed on a ship. Mr. Edison equipped the Arctic exploring ship "Jeannette" with a little dynamo arranged so that if necessary it could be driven by manual power "to help keep the men warm." The illfated "Jeannette" like the "Pauillac" now lies in ocean depths awaiting some cataclysm thousands of years hence, when men may see again these relics of their remote ancestors, preserved in the museum of Eternity.

Nothing daunted by fire, Davenport made a third trip to Washington in 1837 and secured his memorable patent, first of a long line in which the inventive genius of our people has shone forth so strikingly. During the same year, Davenport and his friend Cook established themselves in New York with a laboratory and shop, and gave exhibitions of their apparatus to crowds of visitors, including Morse, already busy on his telegraph, and Page, who 14 years later operated a battery driven locomotive of 12 horse power on the Washington and Baltimore Railroad. In March, 1837, the partners, to raise funds for their work, organized the Electro-Magnetic Association with its stock divided into shares. So far as can be ascertained this was

the first electric stock company in America, first of several thousands now representing a total capitalization of ten billions of dollars in bonds and stock and earning gross over \$1,200,000,000 annually. The manager of the financial transactions of the partners was not, however, particularly honest, and it required a chancery suit to secure an accounting, as he turned in only \$1,700 out of \$12,000 received. This disgusted Cook and led to his withdrawal from the enterprise. As a piece of misfortune the incident was matched later about 1840 when a gentleman in Ohio proposed to join Davenport and gave him \$3,000 in Ohio bank notes for an interest. Davenport had spent just \$10 when he learned that the bank had broken, and that the money was worth nothing.

Davenport was not only the first man to drive a printing press by electric motor but he was the editor and publisher of the first electrical journal in the world. In 1839 he gives details with regard to the operation of a rotary printing press with a motor weighing less than 100 pounds. In January, 1840, he began in New York City the publication of a journal which he called *The Electro-Magnet and Mechanical Intelligencer*, which was not only devoted to electricity but was printed by electrical energy. There is evidence that a second number was issued, but it is doubtful if the periodical ran to a third number for on January 28 he wrote to his brother in Brandon about the difficulties inflicted on him by impecuniosity. He had done all the editorial work himself, and found that it would cost \$10 per week to secure editorial articles. There was no advertising, "and I have no way to get a few dollars except by the prospect of getting subscribers." The paper seems to have gone prematurely to its death, but only a

few months later, on July 4th, Davenport came out with another journal which he called *The Magnet*. This had a real live editor, salary unknown, but it does not appear to have had any longer life than its predecessor. Both were tiny little quarto sheets, but they were the first of their kind in America, probably first in the world, and made Davenport the father of electrical journalism. Copies of both journals are preserved in the offices of the National Electric Light Association. As an electrical editor of thirty years' standing, the speaker is proud to greet the village blacksmith as a fellow craftsman and proud again to assist in this tribute to the first of his profession in America. It is interesting to note that Davenport also employed various motors to drive his printing press of the solenoid type, or "axial magnet" in which reciprocating motion was obtained by the attraction and repulsion of a core within a hollow electro-magnet. While the principle was not altogether new with Davenport, his caveat filed in 1838 with the United States Patent Office is believed to be the earliest proposal to employ the principle for industrial purposes.

These are the bare outlines of a fascinating record, on which one would love to linger. It must be added, however, as an item of interest that it was proposed to develop Davenport's invention in England and that he actually took out an English patent. This may or may not have been the first American invention or "Yankee notion" patented abroad; but it was beyond any doubt the first electrical one, again first of a long series. It is really extraordinary how many things Davenport was the first American to do. They may not have been done on the grand scale, but it is not magnitude that counts. What

does count, however crude, is the conception, the idea, the execution of the idea in practice. In all this we shall find Davenport's record astounding and unimpeachable.

These then are in brief the reasons why we electricians honor Davenport and revere his memory. These are the reasons why his native state and his country should be proud of him. These are the reasons why struggling against adversity, dying in poverty, and long obscured by forgetfulness, this modest, simple son of Vermont stands forth as conspicuous as one of her granite mountains among the immortals who for the benefit of their fellow-men have tamed and utilized the lightnings of the Almighty.



APPENDIX



HENRY F. FIELD, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

| 1910. | Dr. | Cr. |
|---------------|--|----------|
| Oct. 18 | To Balance from last report | \$472.61 |
| | To Membership dues collected for 1903 | 2.00 |
| | To Membership dues collected for 1906 | 4.00 |
| | To membership dues collected for 1907 | 4.00 |
| | To Membership dues collected for 1909 | 30.00 |
| | To Membership dues in advance for 1910 | 8.00 |
| | To Annual dues additional for 1909.. | 71.00 |
| | To Annual dues collected for 1910 to date | 41.00 |
| | To Arrears of annual dues for previous years | 44.00 |
| | To Interest from Montpelier Savings Bank & Trust Co. | 13.57 |
| Oct. 27, 1909 | By paid Edw'd D. Field, Secy., bill postage | \$ 7.26 |
| Dec. 10 | By paid Argus & Patriot Co., bill notices for annual meeting | 4.25 |
| Dec. 23 | By paid E. M. Goddard, Librarian, 3 months' salary | 25.00 |
| April 1, 1910 | By paid D. W. Edson, bill letter heads &c., for Secretary..... | 2.75 |
| April 6 | By paid E. M. Goddard, Librarian, 3 months' salary | 25.00 |
| July 20 | By paid E. M. Goddard, Librarian, 3 months' salary | 25.00 |
| Oct. 12 | By paid E. M. Goddard, Librarian, 3 months' salary | 25.00 |
| Oct. 18 | By Balance in Treasurer's hands... | 575.92 |

\$690.18 \$690.18

The Treasurer also reports as follows as to the Admiral Dewey Monument Fund in the custody of the Society:

| | | |
|---------------|---|--------------------------|
| Oct. 18, 1910 | Balance on hand as last reported. | \$2,828.74 |
| | Interest rec. from Montpelier Savings Bank & Trust Co.. | 107.05 |
| | Present balance in Treasurer's hands | 2,935.79 |
| | | \$2,935.79 \$2,935.79 |

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE VERMONT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OCT. 1, 1910.

October 1, 1910.

To the President and Members of the Vermont Historical Society:

I have the honor to submit to you my report as Librarian and Cabinet Keeper of the Vermont Historical Society for the year ending October 1st, 1910.

The additions made to the library consist of one hundred and sixty-nine volumes and forty-seven pamphlets, a total of two hundred and sixteen.

During the year the sum of \$402.49 has been expended for the purchase of books and orders for that amount have been paid by the Auditor of Accounts under authority of No. 9 of the Acts of 1908.

The additions to the library by purchase have been entirely of books relating to New England history and genealogy and many important items have been placed on the shelves. Orders for other books have been given and during the next year it is hoped that our collection of New England town histories will be largely increased.

The appropriation made in 1908 by the General Assembly has made it possible for the librarian to secure some of the many books that are needed to make the library useful to those who care to consult it.

The appropriation made for cataloguing in 1906 has been used with the exception of \$23.62 and the main collection of the Society is now fully catalogued. There is however a large mass of material that ought at least to be listed in a rough form. This matter is now all sorted and ready for final disposition but no further work can

be done on it until more room is provided for its proper shelving and care.

The librarian during the year has at his own expense reprinted the first pamphlet issued by the Society. This pamphlet contains the proceedings of the first meeting of the Society in October, 1840, and the address by Prof. James Davie Butler on "Deficiencies in Our History" and "The Song of the Vermonters." The pamphlet was first issued in 1846. The reprint is the first of a series which it is proposed to issue if sufficient encouragement is given to the project. The edition was limited to 300 copies. The book-plate for the Society has been secured. It is a good representation of the Daye Press. The design is pleasing and well executed.

I must again call your attention to the absolute necessity of additional room and facilities for the work of the Society. If all of the members of the Society would take an active part in the work of collecting and looking out for material bearing on the history of the State I am sure it would be the means of bringing to our collection much matter that would be useful to the student of Vermont history. We need active and energetic members and in no way can the library and its collections be built up to a high standard so easily as through a live and active membership.



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