

librarians actively engaged in library work whose career was recognized by being made an honorary member of the American Library Association. His death was a severe loss to his profession and to his many friends. He will be remembered with respect and affection as a leader, a warm but dignified man, and a great librarian.

K. D. M.

EDWARD PIERCE HAMILTON

Edward Pierce Hamilton was born in Newtonville, Massachusetts, on February 25, 1897, son of Bishop Franklin Elmer Ellsworth and Mary Mackie (Pierce) Hamilton. Graduating from Milton Academy he enrolled at Harvard College in the Class of 1918, came under the influence of Frederick Jackson Turner, and took his degree in course. During the First World War he served in the Field Artillery, first as a private and then in France as a lieutenant. Once out of uniform he went to the Engineering School for a couple of years and then started work as a hydraulic engineer in Boston and in Lowell. In 1924 he married Lenora Bemis. When hard times came for him in the Depression he went from engineering to investment management, keeping up his status in the Army Reserve, writing technical and historical articles, and fishing and hunting all over New England. He was also interested in banding birds and in working in his machine shop in the cellar. These and a dose of town politics in Milton kept him busy until the Second World War when in July 1941 he was called into the Army from the Reserves where he had worked his way up to lieutenant colonel. During the War he spent much time in Europe and was promoted to colonel.

Back from the War where he earned the Legion of Merit, Croix de Guerre, and other decorations, he returned to investment management and his hobbies which had been expanded to include 'ship model reconstruction of 1776 Lake Champlain warships.' In the mid-fifties he 'quit the investment business'

and went off to become director of Fort Ticonderoga 'thus translating an avocation of history into a vocation,' and putting his engineering lore to good use. He spent half the year there and the other half in Boston doing research.

In the early fifties Hamilton was an active correspondent with this Society on a variety of his interests including his history of Milton then in the works and his continuing interest in the reconstruction of old mills—grist, saw, and fulling. He was active in the restorations at Williamsburg, Cooperstown, and Old Sturbridge Village.

In 1957 his history of Milton was published, and at the October meeting of this Society that year Hamilton was elected to membership and the next year he read a paper at our annual meeting on 'Robert Hewes and the Frenchmen. A Case of Treason?' From then until 1969 he never missed an April meeting in Boston and often made it to our Worcester meetings. In 1961 he gave another paper, this one on Parkman, Casgrain, and de Bougainville. He was a generous donor to our annual appeals and recently to our Development Fund.

Among his memberships were the Massachusetts Historical Society where he was Cabinet Keeper and a constant reader winters of the Parkman material, the Club of Odd Volumes, Colonial Society, and others. Among his publications were *Lake Champlain and the Upper Hudson Valley* in 1959; a major work, *The French and Indian Wars*, published in 1962; a small study of the *Village Mill in Early New England* in 1964, and he edited the American journals of de Bougainville. He also in this period had published *Fort Ticonderoga*.

On May 22, 1972, at seventy-five years of age and after a very long illness, Edward Pierce Hamilton died at his home in Milton where his services were held at the academy chapel. His wife had died sixteen years ago. He is survived by a daughter, a sister, and three grandchildren. He is missed by his friends and colleagues. Many of them might recall how much a paragraph in his Milton book tells about his view

toward history, 'a somewhat informal method of presentation. History may be written in a stately and ponderous style, and then few but the scholar will read it. If one can keep on a more informal plane, bring in a little fun where possible, and yet adhere to the solid truth at all times, history will be much pleasanter to read. It is with that approach that I have tried to write, and I have done my best to make this book as painless to read as possible.'

J. E. M.

ALDEN PORTER JOHNSON

The death of Alden Johnson removes from the ranks of the American Antiquarian Society one of our closest friends and most influential members.

Alden Porter Johnson was born in Worcester on March 24, 1914, to Charles Warren Johnson and his wife, Ruby May Allen. Alden graduated with honors from Choate School in 1933. While there he learned to row, a sport which captivated his interest ever after. After Choate, he went with the Class of 1937 to Princeton University but ill health forced his withdrawal during his senior year. Still, he had participated in the 1936 Diamond Sculls at the Henley-Royal Regatta. Twenty-eight years later his son, Peter, entered the same event.

Alden Johnson entered the machine-tool business after he left Princeton. From 1938 until 1942 he sold products of the Norton Company, one of the founders of which was Alden's grandfather, Professor George I. Alden. In 1942 Johnson became associated with Browning Tool and Supply Company of Indianapolis, an arrangement which persisted only two years. Then, he established and presided over Johnson-DeVou, Inc., a tool supply house in Worcester. During these and the next few years, Alden was an avid race car enthusiast.

In 1949 Alden Johnson began anew by purchasing *The Barre Gazette*, a weekly newspaper, and its publishing company in Barre, Massachusetts. This was a crucial event and

Copyright of Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society is the property of American Antiquarian Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.