

*Scene 1894–1944.* Finally there was *Dear Jeffie*, an edition of letters written by Jeffries Wyman, an anatomy professor at Harvard, to his son in the 1860s.

Another engrossing side of George's intellectual life was his great interest in natural history. He developed a fine collection of books on botany and birds which justified his election to the premier book collectors' club in the world, the Grolier Club of New York. He was also a member of the Club of Odd Volumes in Boston.

For a number of years he worked on the life and art of natural history illustrator Isaac Sprague, a collateral ancestor of mine. I am happy to report that his final work on the subject is now in press, to be published by David R. Godine. George made many contributions to the literature of his avocations.

All these dry facts merely indicate a great energy. How he had time to do all he did while practicing psychiatry fulltime is a mystery. This list of facts gives no inkling of his delightful, enthusiastic personality. He was always gracious, eager to talk, and yet an accomplished listener. He will be greatly missed by his patients, his colleagues, his friends, and those at the libraries he has fostered. He was a most enthusiastic member of the American Antiquarian Society, to which he was elected in April 1976, and was always eager to cooperate with its work in any way possible.

Our sincerest sympathy goes to his lovely wife, Laura, and their three children, Elizabeth, Laura, and George Edmund III. The loss of so young a spouse and father is a real tragedy.

Gordon W. Jones

#### ALEXANDER ORR VIETOR

Alexander Orr Vietor, map curator and maritime historian, was born in New York City on November 13, 1913. He was a 1936 graduate of Yale and returned to his alma mater in

1940 as assistant to the director of the art gallery. He moved to the map department of the library in 1942. In 1944 he became curator of maps and served in that post until his retirement in 1978. During his tenure at Yale he is credited with having developed one of the world's greatest map collections. Among his acquisitions for Yale were the 1489 Martellus Map and one of the two Magellan globes of 1526.

The sea and its history also claimed Vietor's affection and scholarly attention. Maps and maritime history were the subjects of most of the small file of correspondence that he carried on with members of the staff of the American Antiquarian Society beginning in the early 1950s. He was elected to the Society's ranks at the October 1963 annual meeting. He was never an active member, although he did frequently answer the president's appeals for annual operating support. Vietor was active in bibliographical and historical organizations nearer to home. He was a member of the Grolier Club in New York. He also served on the boards of the New-York Historical Society and the Mystic Seaport Museum, and was an honorary director of the New Haven Colony Historical Society.

On March 9, 1981, Alexander Vietor died in New York City, where he had recently moved. His wife, the former Anne Glen Butler, survives him, as do his three daughters and three sons.

John B. Hench

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