

OBITUARIES

CHARLES EDWARD BANKS

Charles Edward Banks died while on a visit to Hartford, Conn., October 21, 1931. He was born at Portland, Me., July 6, 1854, the son of Edward Prince and Ellen (Soule) Banks and descended from at least seven lines of Mayflower ancestry. He was graduated from Dartmouth Medical School in 1878 and soon entered the Government Medical service. He was appointed assistant surgeon in the public health service in 1880 and was thereafter located at many different sections of the country—at San Francisco, Portland, Ore., Washington, Boston, Portland, Me., and Vineyard Haven. During the World War he was assistant surgeon-general, with the rank of colonel. He was also personal physician to President Taft. He was married July 15, 1880, to Florence M. Root, daughter of the Rev. N. W. T. Root, and had one son and two daughters.

Colonel Banks had a wide reputation as an antiquarian and student of the beginnings of New England history. During the number of years that he was stationed at Vineyard Haven, he became interested in the history of the island, which resulted in an elaborate and painstaking work in three volumes, "The History of Martha's Vineyard," 1911-1925, constituting one of the most thorough of New England local histories. He then took up the study of the English ancestries of early New Englanders, turning out in rapid succession "The English Ancestry and Homes of the Pilgrim Fathers," 1929; "The Winthrop Fleet of 1630," 1930; "The Planters of the Commonwealth, a Study of the

Emigrants and Emigration of Colonial Times," 1930; and "Able Men of Suffolk, 1638," 1931. His last work was his "History of York, Maine," of which volume I was published in 1931, commemorating the history of the town where his Banks ancestors had settled in 1640.

Colonel Banks was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1927 and contributed to its Proceedings a valuable paper—"New Documents Relating to the Popham Expedition." He left a vast collection of manuscript material relating to English ancestries, chiefly copies of seventeenth century English records and transcripts of English subsidy rolls, which collection may be permanently placed in the library of the New England Historic Genealogical Society.

C. S. B.

WILLIAM KEENEY BIXBY

William Keeney Bixby died at St. Louis, October 29, 1931. He was born at Adrian, Mich., January 2, 1857, the son of Alonzo Foster and Emma Louisa (Keeney) Bixby, and grandson of David Bixby who emigrated to the West from Leicester, Mass. After graduation from the Adrian High School, he filled various positions with railroads until in 1885 he became associated with the Missouri Car and Foundry Company of St. Louis. From purchasing agent he successively held different offices until he finally became president of the American Car and Foundry Company. He retired from active business in 1905, although later he served as president of the Laeclde Gas Light Company and as receiver for the Wabash Railroad Company. He married, June 13, 1881, Lillian Tuttle, daughter of Sidney Tuttle of San Antonio, Texas, and had seven children, six of whom survived him.

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