

presenting volumes which he thought would be of value, and answering intelligently appeals for advice. The writer of this brief sketch will not readily forget an hour's visit to his office, when he gave wise counsel upon the building up of a national newspaper collection, and recounted his own early struggles in the newspaper business.

C. S. B.

ALBERT HENRY WHITIN

Albert Henry Whitin died in Paris, March 6, 1935. He was born in Whitinsville, Mass., June 22, 1853, the son of James Fletcher and Patience Howard (Saunders) Whitin. His father was one of the four brothers who founded important manufacturing industries in Whitinsville and Northbridge. He was educated in the schools of his native town. He never became affiliated with the manufacturing interests of his family, but from early life preferred the study of literature and art to business. Gradually he found that his interest in art required frequent trips to Europe, so that he finally took up his residence abroad, returning only occasionally to this country. He continued, however, to maintain his father's beautiful estate at Linwood, giving the house the appearance of being continuously occupied. In Europe he travelled in many countries, although he considered Paris his permanent home. Interested in art, literature and music, he made notable contacts with scholars and collectors; few knew the private galleries of England and France as well as he. As a student of early stained glass he was considered an authority.

Mr. Whitin was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1910. He always manifested an interest in the Society's work and in 1913 donated \$1000 to the Centennial Fund. In the period of twenty-five years ago, when New England members

paid an annual fee of \$5.00, Mr. Whitin invariably visited the Society on the occasion of his infrequent trips to this country and paid his dues in person. For an hour or more he would sit in the Librarian's office, talking about rare books and describing some of the interesting private art collections which he had visited abroad. One summer, just after the War, I met him in London, and through his letters of introduction, was enabled to visit some notable galleries and libraries.

Mr. Whitin's will, drawn in Paris in 1926, was one of the longest documents of its kind ever filed in the Worcester County Probate Court, consisting of a leather bound volume of 107 pages. In addition to bequests to relatives and institutions, the will included gifts to nearly two hundred friends, most of them living abroad and with whom he had become allied because of his interest in literature, in music and in art. To this Society he bequeathed the sum of \$10,000 and also made a further legacy if there happened to be a residue.

C. S. B.

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