

American Antiquarian Society, including "Archæological Research in Yucatan," 1886, "Explorations in Yucatan," 1887, "The Ancient Structures of Yucatan," 1892, "Yucatan at the Time of its Discovery," 1892, "Ancient Tombs of Palenque," 1895, "A Page of American History," 1905, "Kindlier Light on Early Spanish Rule in America," 1911, "Some Early American Pioneers," 1917, and "A Maya Legend in the Making," 1931.

He was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1887 and was a constant donor to its collections. The monumental reproduction of the facade of the Labna Temple, given by him in 1887 and so long a feature of the old Antiquarian building at Lincoln Square, was deposited with the Peabody Museum at Cambridge in 1908, when the remains of the Society's museum were placed with other institutions. He also presented to the Library many photographs of the results of his explorations, and especially a fine series of prints of the ruins of Chichen Itza, colored by hand. Mr. Thompson was married in 1883 to Henrietta T. Hamblin of West Falmouth, Mass., by whom he was survived with five children. He was always interested in the activities of this Society and loyal to the memory of his friend and patron, the late Stephen Salisbury.

C. S. B.

### LYON GARDINER TYLER

Lyon Gardiner Tyler died at his home in Charles City County, Va., February 12, 1935. He was born in August 1853, the son of John and Julia (Gardiner) Tyler. His father was tenth president of the United States, 1841-1845, and married Julia Gardiner of

New York toward the end of his presidential term. Upon his retirement from the presidency, he resided at an estate on the James River, which he had purchased and named "Sherwood Forest," and was sixty-three years old when Lyon was born. In 1861, believing that although secession was inadvisable, coercion was indefensible, President Tyler threw his influence toward having Virginia pass the ordinance of secession, but he lived scarcely a year afterwards, dying in January 1862. His widow went home to Staten Island in 1863, and some of her children stayed on there until well after the close of the war. Therefore the son, later to be one of the staunchest historical defenders of the Southern cause, received his early impressions of the war from an atmosphere that was distinctly northern.

Southern ties, however, were stronger than Northern surroundings, and he sought his education in the South. Attending the University of Virginia, he was graduated with the degrees of A.B. in 1875 and A.M. in 1876. In 1877 he was elected professor of belles-lettres in the College of William and Mary, then almost wrecked by the war and struggling to keep itself alive. The following year he became principal of a school at Memphis. In 1882 he returned to Richmond, to practice law, engage in historical researches and aid in reorganizing the Virginia Mechanics' Institute. In 1887, as a member of the state legislature he secured the passage of a bill appropriating \$10,000 for the support of William and Mary College, which had been virtually suspended for several years. In 1888 he was chosen president of the College and there he remained for thirty-one years, until his retirement in 1919. Scholar, historian and executive, he brought prestige and progress to the institution and laid the foundations of an even greater growth for a college which has become one of the most interesting in the land. After his retirement as "president emeritus," he pursued historical studies at his home in Charles City County for the remainder of his life. He married in 1878 Annie Baker Tucker, daughter

of St. George Tucker, who died in 1921; and in 1923 Sue Ruffin, daughter of John A. Ruffin.

As a historian Dr. Tyler achieved notable and lasting distinction. His "Letters and Times of the Tylers," 1884, not only immortalized a famous family, but threw light upon the history of Virginia from the Revolution to the Civil War. Of his other works, "The Cradle of the Republic: Jamestown and James River," 1900; "England in America," published in 1904 as one of the volumes in the American Nation Series; and "Williamsburg, the Old Colonial Capital," 1907, were sizable volumes of much historical value. His greatest contributions to Virginia history were the two magazines which he published and edited for so many years, the "William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine," 1892-1919, and "Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine," 1919-1935, important depositories of facts, monographs and documents concerning Virginia, the true value of which has even more prominently been brought out by Dr. E. G. Swem's recent "Virginia Historical Index."

Dr. Tyler was honored with membership in many historical organizations. He received the degree of LL.D. from Trinity College in 1895, University of Pittsburgh in 1911, Brown University in 1914 and William and Mary College in 1919. He was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1912. At the Boston meeting in April 1930 he read a paper on "New England's Contributions to Virginia." When the Society was forming its collection of books from presidential libraries, Dr. Tyler's widow, Sue Ruffin Tyler, sent to the Library a volume from President John Tyler's library, with the interesting inscription in Dr. Tyler's hand that this "was one of the few books from his library preserved from the ravages of the Northern Troops at his residence, Sherwood Forest, Charles City County, Virginia." As Mrs. Tyler said in her letter of presentation, the volume was given to the American Antiquarian Society "in honor

of Dr. Tyler and his friendship with those liberal minded and hearted Massachusetts historians."

C. S. B.

### LEONARD WHEELER

Leonard Wheeler died at his home in Worcester, October 2, 1935, at the advanced age of ninety years. He was born at Lincoln, Mass., August 31, 1845, the son of Abel and Charlotte (Bemis) Wheeler. Prepared for college at Phillips Exeter Academy, he was graduated from Harvard with the degree of A.B. in 1866, and from Harvard Medical School with the degree of M.D. in 1870. After graduate studies in Vienna and Breslau, he came to Worcester in 1872 as superintendent of the City Hospital, established the previous year and then in the old Abijah Bigelow house on Front Street. Here he remained for two years and then took up private practice in Worcester, which he pursued until his gradual retirement in late life. He was visiting physician at various Worcester hospitals for twenty years and trustee of Memorial Hospital from 1900 until his death. He was the oldest physician in the city, always highly respected and bearing an honorable reputation in private as well as in professional life. On November 29, 1897 he married Elizabeth Bancroft Cheever, daughter of Rev. Henry T. Cheever, by whom he was survived, with four children.

Dr. Wheeler was vice-president of the Massachusetts Medical Society in 1906-07, and a former president of the Worcester District Medical Society. He was prominently allied with Worcester social organizations—the last living charter member of the St. Wulstan Society, and one of the few surviving founders of

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.