

FRANK CUTTER DEERING

Frank Cutter Deering, financier and collector of Americana, died at his summer home in Saco, Maine, August 12, 1939. He was born in Saco, January 28, 1866, the son of Joseph Godfrey and Abby Josephine (Nealley) Deering. Educated in the Saco schools, he entered the office of the Joseph G. Deering Lumber Company, later succeeding his father in control of this firm. Although he spent his life in the lumber business, he served for many years as the president of the York National Bank, and interested himself in several civic organizations—the Dyer Library, the York Institute, the Laurel Hill Cemetery Association, and Thornton Academy, at which institution the Deering Scientific Laboratory was named for him. He never sought public office, but was induced to run for the Maine legislature and was elected a representative from Saco in 1897. He also served as city treasurer of Saco.

He married Annie Gray Wiggin, who died in 1895, and had two children—Joseph Godfrey Deering and Annie Katharine Deering. He married, secondly, Frances Chase, daughter of Martin Van Buren Chase of Augusta, who survived him with his two children.

Mr. Deering was deeply interested in Maine history and was an authority on local events in Saco and Biddeford. Gradually his interest in collecting the materials of history widened and he became one of the great collectors of early Americana. He owned most of the important source books on New England history, such as Levett's *Voyage*, Hubbard's *Narrative*, Mourt's *Relation* and Morton's *New England Memorial*, the excessively rare Harriot's *Virginia* and Rosier's *Virginia*, and a set of *Jesuit Relations*. He acquired many rare Western narratives, as well as scarce volumes in general Americana. One of the prominent features of his library was the almost complete collection which he gathered of Indian narratives and captivities, in which field his collection was un-

rivalled in the country. He took especial pride in fine bindings, and the book vault in his home at Saco was an inviting retreat for the scholar and historian. He was a member of the Club of Odd Volumes of Boston, and received the honorary degree of A.M. from Bates College in 1937.

He was elected to membership in the American Antiquarian Society in 1931, and was much interested in its Library. He made contributions to its funds, sent frequent gifts of books, and always maintained a friendly contact with its officers. Both the Director and the Librarian of this Society visited him several times at his home in Saco, and remember his cordiality and his courtesy as much as the treasures of his library.

C. S. B.

JOSEPH GRAFTON MINOT

Joseph Grafton Minot, a member of this Society since 1925, died at Santa Barbara, California, where he had made his home for the past seven years, on June 19, 1939. He was born in New York City, on January 13, 1858, the son of Charles Henry and Maria Josephine (Grafton) Minot. He was educated at private schools in Boston, attended Harvard Law School in 1878-1879, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1880. In 1881 he joined his father, who was manager of the Tudor Company of Boston, ice merchants, where he was Treasurer from 1885 to 1920, and in 1921 was made President of the Company.

The story of the famous Tudor ice industry formed one of the most romantic chapters in the maritime history of Massachusetts. In 1805 Frederic Tudor of Boston became the pioneer of the natural ice industry in the United States. He shipped on his own brig "Favorite" one hundred and thirty tons of ice to the island of Martinique, and although his venture was looked upon with ridicule, and resulted in financial

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