

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

loss to himself; the shipment arrived in good condition. He had known of the ravages made in the West Indies by yellow fever, and realized that if ice had been available, much of the tragedy could have been averted. In 1812 he was granted by Great Britain a monopoly of the ice trade with her colonies in the West Indies, and later received the same concession from Spain. From 1817 to 1820 he extended the trade to Charleston, Savannah and New Orleans. At the request of the British and American merchants in Calcutta, Mr. Tudor undertook to export ice to that port, which trade paid well for thirty years. It meant that through his remarkable audacity and determination in sending such perishable freight across the equator, with pine sawdust as the best insulator, Boston was able to hold the key to the rich commerce between Calcutta and the United States. The growth of the exportation of ice increased steadily until about 1870, and after that date decreased quite rapidly. Mr. Charles H. Minot, father of Joseph Grafton Minot, had been connected with the business in Frederic Tudor's time and after the latter's death in 1864, managed it for the benefit of his widow and six children. The advent of ice making by machinery ruined in a short time the great natural ice business built up by Frederic Tudor, and it was unfortunate that the Tudor Company did not purchase the various mechanical patents for ice making which revolutionized the industry. And so the great Tudor Company gradually vanished as an important business, although the name remained on its office doors well into the first quarter of the twentieth century. In September 1923 the assets of the Tudor firm were purchased by the Globe Newspaper Company, which has continued the Tudor Company as a subsidiary.

Mr. Minot was much interested in the Industrial School for Crippled and Deformed Children, of which he became President and Treasurer. He was governor of the Massachusetts Society of Colonial Wars, a

director of the Bostonian Society, and a member of the Massachusetts Historical Society. He was particularly interested in the genealogy of the Minot family, and during his various visits abroad, gathered in England important documentary material on the family. He published in 1897 "A Genealogical Record of the Minot Family in America and England," which is a valuable compilation on the several branches of the Minot family. He paid occasional visits to this Society, the last time in 1930, when he was especially interested in the John Winthrop portraits. In his correspondence with us, he gave helpful suggestions regarding historical material.

On June 10, 1890, Mr. Minot married, at Ryde, Isle of Wight, England, Honora Elizabeth Temple, daughter of Thomas Lindall Winthrop of London and Boston, who was a member of the American Antiquarian Society from 1890 to 1920, and great-granddaughter of Thomas Lindall Winthrop, elected to membership in 1813, and President of the Society from 1831 until his death in 1841. Mrs. Minot is a direct descendant, in the ninth generation, of Governor John Winthrop. She survives her husband, as does also a son, Grafton Winthrop Minot of New York and France.

D. E. S.

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.