

Governor Roger Wolcott (1902), and Henry Cabot Lodge (1925). Although he was chaplain of the Society of Colonial Wars in Massachusetts for over thirty years, he was not particularly active in such organizations for obvious reasons. Only occasionally could he attend the meetings of the Massachusetts Historical Society, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and this Society. He did, however, remember our interests and from time to time offered us books which came within our fields.

Bishop Lawrence's services to society were recognized by no less than fourteen honorary doctorates of which two came from Harvard. In his later years he took less pride in these distinctions than in that of having over a score of grandchildren. His wife, Julia Cunningham of Boston, to whom he was married on May 19, 1874, died on September 6, 1927. Sixteen months previously he had laid down the office and title of Bishop of Massachusetts, and in 1931 he retired from the Harvard Corporation; but in the decade and a half which remained to him, his influence was probably greater than ever. He died on November 6, 1941, survived by five married daughters and by two sons, William Appleton and Frederic Cunningham Lawrence. C. K. S.

### WILBUR MACEY STONE

Wilbur Macey Stone, one of the leading collectors of children's books in the country, died at his home in East Orange, New Jersey, December 21, 1941. He was born in Winona, Minnesota, November 30, 1862, the son of the Reverend George Marvin and Abbie Barnum (Seeley) Stone. As a youth he lived in Hartford, Connecticut, where his

father held a pastorate at the Asylum Avenue Baptist Church for twenty-nine years. Following a course of study at Stevens Institute, he opened an office in New York as a patent attorney and mechanical engineer. He held many patents for improvements in manufacturing machinery. After residing for a short time in Brooklyn, he moved to East Orange in 1911. On September 11, 1889, he married Lillian L. Newton, of Hartford, who died in 1936. He was survived by two sons, Kenneth N. Stone and Malcolm N. Stone, and a daughter, Mrs. Dudley G. Summers.

Since his youth Mr. Stone collected rare books. Christopher Morley, in his *Haunted Bookshop* calls Mr. Stone "a passionate pilgrim among old bookshops," and it was Mr. Stone who drew the map used as end-papers for the volume for the 1920 edition of this book. His primary interest was in early juveniles—the rare and ephemeral little books so read and thumbed by children of a century or more ago that comparatively few have survived to the present day. But Mr. Stone began searching the bookshops before the days of high prices and soon built up one of the finest private collections in the country. Although his collection numbered less than 1500 volumes, it was strong in the period before 1810, and with almost none issued after 1860. His special fields were eighteenth century juveniles, such as the *History of Little Goody Two Shoes*, supposedly written by Oliver Goldsmith, of which he had seventy editions; Dr. Watts' *Divine Songs for Children*, of which he owned probably the largest collection in the world with 241 editions; and such interesting rarities as early primers and metamorphoses. A feature of his collection was the binding, all executed and lettered by himself. Another specialty was his collection of miniature books, which was especially strong in the early American field. Still another hobby with him were children's toys, of which he had a varied and interesting collection.

Mr. Stone's ability as a draughtsman and his love of books drew him into the field of bookplate designing. Between 1896 and 1938 he designed over sixty bookplates, including seven for his own books, and all distinguished for artistic design and imaginative quality. Margaret Ely Webb, in the 1935 *Year Book* of the American Society of Bookplate Collectors and Designers, wrote an entertaining article on his bookplates, followed by a checklist of his designs. He also wrote seven brochures on bookplates and as many magazines articles on the subject—all listed in Miss Webb's article.

His other literary contributions, as would be expected, were in the field of children's books—largely compiled from his own collections. Among these were *The Divine and Moral Songs of Isaac Watts* (1918), *A Snuff-boxful of Bibles* (1926), *Four Centuries of Children's Books* (1928), *The Thumb Bible of John Taylor* (1928), *A Showing of Paper Dolls and other Cut-out Toys* (1931), and *The Gigantick Histories of Thomas Boreman* (1933). His writings in so many fields of children's literature made him the most widely versed authority on the subject.

Mr. Stone was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1931. To its *Proceedings* he contributed two papers—"The Holy Bible in Verse" in 1935, and "The History of Little Goody Two-shoes" in 1940. He was an almost constant attendant at its meetings, and his tall straight form, with his pointed beard, white hair, and flowing tie, made him a figure to be remembered. He was a frequent donor to the Library, presented to us some of the rare eighteenth century juveniles in his collection, and in his will left to the Society his important collection of Watts' *Divine Songs for Children*. His death was a loss to the book-collecting world.

C. S. B.

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