

to be a man without a country. Thanks to an appeal to the President and to the firm stand of the State Department he was saved from the hands of the immigration authorities.

After this experience Mr. Sinclair was not inclined to trust his biography to the skill of posterity, so he deposited in the Library a full outline of his life and his work, containing data which certainly could not have been uncovered by any one else.

Mr. Sinclair is survived by his widow, the former Ada Bedard of Ottawa, to whom he was married at Calgary on July 8, 1913.

C. K. S.

JOSEPH ALLEN SKINNER

Joseph A. Skinner was born at Williamsburg, Massachusetts, on May 20, 1862, a son of William and Sarah E. (Allen) Skinner. He was prepared for college at private academies and was graduated at Yale with the degree of Ph.B. in 1883. This was the scientific course which he took in preparation for taking his place in the silk manufacturing business which his father, an English immigrant, had founded. He became in time treasurer of William Skinner and Sons of Holyoke, but he had many other business interests, such as the presidency of the Hadley Falls Trust Company and a directorship in the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company. For twenty years Mr. Skinner was superintendent of the Sunday school at Grace Church, and in later years he was a deacon of the Second Congregational Church. These and many other Holyoke institutions, particularly the hospital and the Y.M.C.A., benefited from his philanthropy. He gave more than half a million dollars to Mt. Holyoke College, which in 1925 awarded him an L.H.D. Among his more unusual philanthropies was the rebuilding

of the village of Hattonchatel, destroyed in the first World War.

New England history and antiquities were among Mr. Skinner's other interests. When the town of Prescott was about to be flooded by the Swift River project, he removed the old church and schoolhouse to South Hadley where he set them up as a museum housing his collections of antiques, curiosities, and materials relating to natural history and industrial history. He was active in preserving many other old buildings in the Holyoke region. Because of these activities he was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in April, 1928, but he was never particularly interested in our work.

Mr. Skinner married Martha C. Hubbard on June 29, 1887. He died after a few days illness at the Springfield Hospital on September 6, 1946. He is survived by one son, William, and by three daughters, Elizabeth Skinner of South Hadley, Mrs. Victor W. Logan of Rochester, New York, and Mrs. David U. Harris of Las Vegas, New Mexico.

C. K. 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.