

Those of us who knew him had constant cause to value not only the breadth and penetration of his scholarship and his wide intellectual outlook, but also his companionable qualities, for there was no pleasanter or more profitable way to become familiar with the monuments of a region, either in England or on the Continent, than to visit them in Alfred Clapham's company.

He died on 26 October 1950 at the age of 67. It is greatly to be regretted that after his retirement, failing health prevented him from visiting this country, for his penetrating mind would have been of great value in appraising the Colonial architecture of New England, and he would have been a delightful addition to the meetings of this Society.

W. M. W.

OGDEN CODMAN

Ogden Codman died at the age of 88 at his home at Château de Grégy, Brie-Comte-Robert, Seine et Marne, France, on January 8, 1951. He was born at Boston, January 19, 1863, the son of Ogden and Sarah Fletcher (Bradlee) Codman. His family went abroad to live in 1874, and he received his early schooling in France and Germany. In 1882 he returned to America and entered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the class of 1887. He studied architecture and in 1891 established himself as an architect at 100 Chestnut Street. About two years later he removed to New York, where he continued in his profession, being especially interested in French château architecture, both for house design and for interior decoration. He designed many houses including the Martha Codman houses at Washington and at Newport, the Mrs. William H. Williams house "Villa Rosa" in Newport, the Bayard Thayer house in Boston, and the Oliver Ames house in Beverly. He aided his friend, Richard Morris Hunt, in 1895, in designing some

of the beautiful panelled rooms in the Vanderbilt house at Newport, "The Breakers."

In 1897 he collaborated with Edith Wharton in writing an imposing volume, *The Decoration of Houses*, emphasizing the French tradition and practice. Mrs. Wharton, in her *Backward Glance*, tells entertainingly of their struggles in writing the book and getting it published. His cousin, Stephen R. H. Codman, was also an architect, of the firm of Codman & Despradelle.

Mr. Codman was married on October 8, 1904, to Leila Howard (Griswold) Webb, widow of H. Walter Webb. She died in New York, January 21, 1910. He left a brother, Thomas N. Codman, and a sister, Dorothy S. F. M. Codman.

Ogden Codman went to France soon after the first World War, there to live for the rest of his life. He bought the Château de Grégy about 1925. In 1929 he built a magnificent villa at Villefranche-sur-Mer on the Riviera, which he called "La Leopolda." It was a striking re-creation of an eighteenth century structure, but he did not live in it for any length of time, returning to Grégy.

He was always a diligent student of Boston history and architecture, and it is unfortunate that some of the fund of information which he possessed could not have been preserved in print. When the late George Francis Dow, some twenty years ago, was indexing early Boston newspapers, Mr. Codman engaged him to list deaths in all of the eighteenth-century newspapers, following this by making similar indexes through 1825, and even later the deaths and marriages in the New York *Commercial Advertiser* from 1800 to 1832. He had a total of over 45,000 such records, arranged for ready reference. The Director of this Society began to correspond with him in 1935 and helped him considerably in his researches. In May, 1940, Mr. Codman wrote "I may find it practicable to bequeath to your

Society what I have collected from the New England papers." But the second World War much disturbed his life, as his house was occupied by German officers, and he was compelled to retire for a short time to the south of France. He was elected a member of the Society in 1937 and was a friendly correspondent. C. S. B.

CHARLES ELIOT GOODSPEED

Charles Eliot Goodspeed was born at Cotuit, Massachusetts, on May 2, 1867, a son of Elliot Freeman and Abbie Ellen (Dane) Goodspeed. The family had lived on Cape Cod since the first settlement, but Charles' parents moved to Newton, where he was sent to the Mason Grammar School. Leaving school at the age of fourteen, he became an office boy for Ward and Gay, Boston stationers. In 1881 he went to work for The Whitman and Barnes Manufacturing Company, of Syracuse, New York, and Akron, Ohio. While in their employ he traveled over New England and the eastern parts of Canada selling farm machinery. No more unlikely traveling salesman could have been found, for Charles Goodspeed never smoked or drank, was gentle in speech and manner, and when away from home preferably spent his time in bookstores. In financial matters, as well as everything else, he set for himself moral standards far beyond the demands of plain honesty. Yet in spite of these handicaps he was a highly successful business man. People who worked with him assert that he would have gone to the head of any business in which he engaged, and that had he remained in industry he would have become a national figure in that field.

Mr. Goodspeed had become assistant manager of the New York office of Whitman and Barnes when the depression of 1898 turned him out of his job. Investing \$600

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