

sister Emma, several gifts to employees of long and faithful service, and the entire residue to the Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

A. G. W.

GEORGE GREGERSON WOLKINS

George Wolkins was born on May 2, 1878, in the Clarendon Hills section of what is now Hyde Park, Boston. He was the son of Friedrich Ludwig Heinrich Volkens, who was born in Bremerhaven in 1835, and settled in Boston in 1856, when he assumed the Anglicized name of an uncle, whose daughter, Sophia M. Wolkins, he married. George was named for an uncle of his mother who appeared in Salem about 1800 as the adopted son of a shipmaster named Gregerson. He was graduated from Boston English High School in 1896, when he went to work as an office boy with Haddock, Shonk, and Company of Boston. In 1903 he entered the wholesale coal house of Hanson and Parker, of 50 Congress Street, where he worked as a salesman until 1922, when he became manager. Upon the dissolution of the firm in 1943 he became special sales representative of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. He retired from business in 1946.

From his childhood George Wolkins was fascinated by history. When still a very young man he gave illustrated lectures at the Old South Historical Society and contributed essays to its publications. Such activities, and some tennis, took all of his leisure time until 1917, when he married Lyra Dale Trueblood, a Quaker and an active participant in the peace movement, a trustee of the Moses Brown School and of other activities of the Society of Friends, and the author of many pamphlets and articles. She shared his interest in history and his temperament. Mr. Wolkins was brought up in the Episcopal church, but he had the simple firmness which is so often found among the Quakers. He found them congenial, and became an active member of the Society of Friends.

Mr. Wolkins' standards of historical research were as strict as his standards of personal conduct, with the result that, although he contributed a number of articles to the publications of societies, he wrote no major volumes of history. His great contribution was of an administrative nature. For fifteen years he was treasurer of the Massachusetts Historical Society, spending a portion of every week performing even the clerical chores of the office at a saving to the society, it turned out, of thousands of dollars a year. He was as well a faithful servant of the Old South Historical Society and of the Prince Society, and a member of the Club of Odd Volumes and of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts.

Our friendship with George Wolkins dates from June, 1895, when Clarence Brigham met him in an interscholastic tennis match. His connection with our Society goes back to the day when he purchased some of our publications for the reference library which he built up in his home in Newton Highlands so that he might do research when public libraries were closed. He was elected to membership in April, 1934, and was a faithful attendant and a generous friend. The article on Edward Winslow which appeared in the last number of the *Proceedings* was the last product of his pen. After an evening spent, as was his custom, in reading to his wife, he died suddenly in his sleep on March 2.

C. K. S.

HARRY ANDREW WRIGHT

Harry Andrew Wright was born in Springfield, Massachusetts, on June 30, 1872, a son of Andrew J. and Mary J. (Case) Wright. In 1897 he married Florence M. Carr of Springfield, and made his home in that city. After a brief period in the insurance business he manufactured corsets, and then turned to the developing and patenting of various mechanical devices. As a youth in his teens he printed an

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