

LINCOLN NEWTON KINNICUTT

Lincoln Newton Kinnicutt, son of Francis Harrison and Elizabeth Waldo (Parker) Kinnicutt, was born in Worcester, March 14, 1849, and died here, December 13, 1921. Educated in the public schools of his native city and in Europe, at the age of seventeen he entered the hardware store of his father and, on coming of age, became a member of the firm. Although a profitable and successful business, it did not appeal to him, and in a few years he sought a more congenial pursuit. In 1877 he entered the office of George T. Rice, banker, where he served a seven years' apprenticeship which stood him in good stead in later years. In 1884, he formed a partnership with Alexander DeWitt and under the name of Kinnicutt and DeWitt the new firm rose rapidly in favor and for many years conducted the largest banking and brokerage business in the county.

Mr. Kinnicutt was a director in a number of the banking institutions of Worcester, was for several years treasurer of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and treasurer of the Worcester Art Museum from its incorporation until his death. The financial prosperity of this important institution was largely due to the wisdom which Mr. Kinnicutt exercised in the management of its extensive interests. He was connected with and actively interested in a number of the benevolent and charitable organizations of Worcester in each of which his influence was strongly felt. He was a member of many clubs in Boston and Worcester and was largely responsible for the establishment of the Bohemian Club in this city, for the selection of its name and for the success of its annual "Christmas Revels."

Somewhat reserved in manner, Mr. Kinnicutt often gave the impression on the street of ignoring those whom he met, but this was due to preoccupation, not intent, and was never the case with children of whom

he was passionately fond, and who often lay in wait for him to secure the small gift which his pocket always contained. This fact reveals his true character, a lover of the young and helpless—both human and animal—and the book in which he gathered verses in praise of the animal he loved best—“Terry”—was entitled: “To my Dog and to your Dog.” His true life was led on his beloved farm “Woonasako” on the slopes of Asnebumskit, and on the border of that river of long ago which filled the valley now occupied by the city of Worcester. Here he lived and moved and had his being. He was no gentleman farmer, but a lover of nature. He covered the hills with white pine shoots; he knew where to find not merely the earliest but the most perfect wild flowers, and he loved to watch, in the Sanctuary which he established, the coming and going of the wild birds which knew by instinct that in that tract was safety. It was but a step from this love of nature to a study of the legends of bird and flower and tree and finally of that child of nature, the Indian, who haunted these regions in the years gone by.

This interest led to careful study and resulted in his writings on “Indian Place Names in Worcester County” “Indian Place Names in Plymouth County,” and “The Pilgrims of Plymouth and the Indians,” the last read before the Massachusetts Historical Society, April 19, 1920. His knowledge of nature was of great value in this study and his conservatism gave to his writings a distinct reputation and the stamp of authority. The work which he left unfinished was undertaken because he became convinced during these investigations that Sir Ferdinando Gorges played a more important part in the colonization of New England than he has been given credit for and had really instituted measures for bringing the Pilgrims of the Mayflower into his territory of Massachusetts. His arguments were sound and his array of facts convincing and the fact that he did not live to com-

plete this study is a distinct loss to our colonial history.

Mr. Kinnicutt was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in October 1906, and from that time until his death was an almost constant attendant at its meetings. Being especially interested in various phases of early New England history, he was a frequent visitor to the Library, and also a contributor of material to enrich its stores. The only paper which he read before the Society was "Historical Notes Relating to the Second Settlement of Worcester," delivered in October 1916. His most valuable gift to the Library was the original document, dated December 14, 1685, containing the petition to the General Court signed by the greater number, of inhabitants settled at Worcester. This document, which Mr. Kinnicutt procured in New York, was one of the most interesting known relating to the early history of Worcester, as it contained the autograph signatures of the founders and gave authentic proof of actual settlement at this early date. This document was printed as part of Mr. Kinnicutt's paper read before the Society.

Mr. Kinnicutt was married, October 10, 1878, to Edith Perley, daughter of Judge Perley, of Concord, N. H. He was survived by his widow and one son, Dr. Roger Kinnicutt.

C. L. N.

CALVIN STEBBINS

Calvin Stebbins, who died at Framingham, Mass., December 30, 1921, was born in South Wilbraham, now Hampden, April 22, 1837, the son of Calvin and Sarah Langdon Stebbins. He attended Phillips Exeter Academy and was graduated from Amherst College in 1862. This he followed with a three years' course at the Harvard Divinity School, but left in April 1865 to become an evangelist at the South Congregational Church in Boston, of which Edward

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