

OBITUARY.

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he received from Columbia College the degree of Doctor of Laws. He was Vice-President of the International Congress of Instructors of the Deaf, held in Milan, Italy, in 1880, and in 1882 was President of the Conference of American Schools for the Deaf. He was the first President of the Washington Heights Century Club, and also a member of the Yale Alumni Association of New York.

By his classmates he is remembered as a gentleman of genial disposition, pure life, enthusiastic devotion to worthy ends and of scholarly habits. These won for him the esteem and affection of all his associates and fitted him for the accomplishment of important service,—service which gained for him a cherished place in the memories of many, many lives made richer by his life. One of his earliest, latest and most valued friends was his classmate Edward Olmstead, to whose memory the loving tribute published in the last issue of the ALUMNI WEEKLY he contributed.

As a public speaker, Dr. Peet was happy in expression. He was distinguished for his ability to use spoken languages and signs at the same time, thus being able to address an audience of deaf and hearing people simultaneously. His last appearance at the institution was as the guest of Dr. Currier at the annual celebration of his birthday, on Dec. 4, and his last address to the deaf was on the occasion of the celebration of "Gallaudet Day," on Dec. 10.

Funeral services were held in the chapel of the New York Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, 163d st. and Western Boulevard, Friday afternoon, Dec. 30, 1898.

REV. WILLIAM KIRTLAND DOUGLAS, '51.

Rev. William Kirtland Douglas died at Francisville, La., on Monday, Dec. 26, aged 69 years.

Mr. Douglas was born in New Haven, Conn., May 29, 1829, and graduated from Yale in the Class of Fifty-One. After graduation he remained in New Haven teaching, and reading law for a short time, but afterwards removed to Hartford. In 1857 he went to Waterproof, La., and in the same year was married to Miss Sarah L. Tucker. Three years later he accepted the Presidency of Jefferson College, near Natchez, Miss. He soon resigned from this position to establish a training school for candidates for the ministry at Dry Grove, Miss. The location of the school was not a fortunate one, for an epidemic of yellow fever wiped out the entire mission. In the same disaster Mr. Douglas lost his wife. Since that time Mr. Douglas has held pastorates in New Orleans and Bayou Sara.

THE LATE EDWARD G. MASON, '60.

Funeral services for the late Edward G. Mason, Yale '60, of Chicago, were held on Tuesday, December 20th, 1898, at the house on Ellis Avenue. Rev. Joseph H. Twichell, Yale '59, conducted the services. His short address at the time is reproduced elsewhere in this issue of the WEEKLY.

The pall bearers were eight of Mr. Mason's sons: Henry E. Mason, Yale '89; Edward H. Mason, Yale '92; Roswell B. Mason, Yale '95; Julian S. Mason, Yale '98; Huntington Mason, Yale '99; Maurice Mason, Yale 1901; Norman Mason, Yale 1902 and Lawrence Mason. The interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery.

A few of the main facts in Mr. Mason's life were given in the last issue of the paper. It has been possible, in the meantime, to collect some further material concerning him. It seems by all means desirable to make the history as nearly complete as possible.

Mr. Mason was born August 23d, 1839, at Bridgeport, Conn., the son of Roswell B. Mason. He received his preparatory schooling at the East Windsor Hill Academy near Hartford. After that he went to Chicago with his father and worked under him for a short time in the construction of the Illinois Central Railroad, of which Mr. Mason had charge. He then came to Yale and graduated in the Class of Sixty. Here he was a member of Phi

Beta Kappa and a Junior Exhibition speaker; he took a Townsend premium in Senior year, being tied for the DeForest on the first ballot with Luther Jones, who subsequently received it. He was also a member of the Junior Society, Psi Upsilon and of the Senior Society of Scroll and Key. He received the degree of M.A. from Yale in 1863 and LL.D. from Knox College in 1895.

Mr. Mason returned to Chicago after graduation and studied law with H. G. Miller, who afterwards married his sister. Afterwards he was associated with John Maddocks, with whom he later formed a partnership under the firm name of Maddocks & Mason.

Mr. Mason was abroad at the time of the Chicago fire, his father being then Mayor of that city. He raced for the steamer at Liverpool and received a message from his father, thrown him from the shore after the boat had started, which announced that all the members of the family were safe. On his return he formed the firm of Mason Brothers, with Henry B. Mason, '70 and Alfred B. Mason, '71. The latter withdrew to conduct the railroad construction business. In recent years Mr. Mason's eldest son, Henry E. Mason, has been a member of the firm. Mr. Mason gave special attention to real estate law and represented a number of eastern insurance companies.

On Dec. 25, 1867, Mr. Mason married Miss Julia M. Starkweather, daughter of Charles Starkweather of Chicago. They had thirteen children—Henry E., Edward H., Roswell B., Julian S., Huntington, Maurice, Norman, Ethel M., Edith H., Lawrence, Marjorie H., George C. and Frederick O.

From the time of the fire, the family lived, until a year or two ago, at the corner of 12th street and Michigan avenue, but recently sold this place and moved to No. 4623 Ellis avenue.

Mr. Mason's services in the Yale Corporation since 1891, have already been spoken of in the WEEKLY. Of his work in his own city in furthering historical, literary and other interests, an article in the Chicago *Times-Herald* speaks as follows:

"The Historical Society had been founded in 1859, and had an endowment which made its growth very rapid, but the loss of its building and all of its records at the time of the fire of 1871 made its members despondent, and little was done for the society until Mr. Mason took active hold. The fine building in Dearborn avenue was erected only as the result of his long-continued work in interesting Chicagoans and in raising money, but that was only a small part of what he did. To the collection of material and to the building up of the library he gave a great part of his time. Trip after trip was made by him to old settlements in various parts of the State. He hunted the ground over, rescued all the documents and treasures bearing on early history that he could, and brought them together where they could be preserved for the future.

"This work was, however, only one side of the broad historical interest which all through life gave Mr. Mason perhaps his chief delight. It was the practical side, and over against it was always the work of the scholar proper. Mr. Mason utilized much of the material he gathered for monographs and books on various phases of the history of early Illinois. He never wrote without knowing well the ground of which he was telling from personal inspection. Many were the trips he made for the purpose of making himself more accurate in details, and he had at the same time the insight that made him a true historian. Some of his writings were "The March of the Spaniards Across Illinois," "Old Fort Chartres," "Illinois in the Eighteenth Century," "Kaskaskia and Its Parish Records," "The Story of James Willing—an Episode in the Revolution," and papers on La Salle and the first settlers of Chicago. He also edited the work, "Early Chicago and Illinois," published by the Chicago Historical Society.

"Great as was his contribution to the culture of Chicago in this way, it was only one of his many activities directed to a similar result. As president and prominent member of the Chicago Literary Club, he was the foremost spirit in that organization for many years. Some of his friends can remember how in earlier days he used to go with the greatest regularity every Monday evening to attend the meetings, and how he was always intent on devising some new methods to improve the quality of

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"Law Journal" Contents.

The December issue of the *Yale Law Journal* contains the following articles: "Corporations under the Bankruptcy Act of 1898." H. Campbell Black; "The Causes and Results of Our Recent War with Spain from a Legal Standpoint," Judge Elmer B. Adams, of the United States Supreme Court of Missouri; "The Beginnings of Civil Service Reform," S. W. Kellogg, '46, of Waterbury; "The Status of Cuba," Professor T. S. Woolsey, '72, of the Yale Law School; and the usual departments.

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