

OBITUARIES

ALLEN CLAPP THOMAS

The death of Allen Clapp Thomas, which occurred on December 15, 1920, has removed one whose life has been intimately bound up with the life and development of Haverford College. Born in Baltimore on December 26, 1846, he entered Haverford at the age of fifteen and graduated at the head of his class four years later. His residence at the College during the Civil War brought him in direct contact with those questions of war and peace which were so near his heart as a man of Quaker principles.

In 1878 he returned to the College as Business Manager with the title of Prefect and at the same time was made Professor of Rhetoric, Political Science and History, serving in these capacities until 1885. After a year of study in Europe he returned in 1886 to devote himself more specifically to the Department of History and the expanding duties of Librarian, though he also continued to teach Political Science until 1893.

His wide knowledge of books, not only in his own field, but also in general literature, made him a valuable advisor of the students in their general reading and a helpful counsellor to any one doing research work. He has further rendered a very important service to the College as Curator of Quaker Literature and History, though that title was never conferred upon him. The greatest monument he could have is the Library of the College which under his hands grew from a few hundred books to one of the best college libraries in the United States.

He was a successful author and has a number of important books to his credit. His secondary-school

history of the United States has become a widely recognized and authoritative text book and has sold over a million copies. When Hebrew Societies wished to give an interpretative history of America to the Hebrews arriving in large numbers, they obtained permission of Professor Thomas to get out a special edition of his history in Yiddish for free circulation and distribution by them. His *Elementary History of the United States and of Pennsylvania* and his *History of England* were equally successful in their respective fields.

In the Quaker field he was the foremost authority in America, possessed of extensive knowledge of Quaker biography, history, faith and practice. He was recorded a minister of the Gospel in 1899, and both before and since that date he took an important part in the Meeting which is so closely affiliated with the College.

He was one of the few surviving founders of the American Historical Association and of the American Church History Society. As a result of his many trips to Europe he gathered a large circle of warm friends with whom he kept up a voluminous correspondence thus forming a strong link in the bridge of friendship across the Atlantic.

He is survived by an unmarried daughter, Miriam Thomas, and a son, Edward Thomas (married to Margaret Loring Dike of Boston) a patent attorney now residing in New York City. There also survive him two married brothers, John C. Thomas and Charles Y. Thomas, residing in Baltimore, Md., and Mrs. Isaac Braithwaite, a sister, residing in Kendal, England.

E. T.

THOMAS LINDALL WINTHROP

Thomas Lindall Winthrop died at his residence in Boston on December 6, 1920. He was born in Boston on August 16, 1835, the son of Grenville Temple and

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