

nel, and medical director. For twenty years he was connected with Harvard University as instructor in industrial medicine and as clinical professor.

Dr. Clark was much interested in art, especially in the educational side, and served as a trustee of the Worcester Art Museum from 1925 until his death. He was a member of several Worcester social organizations, taking especial interest in the meetings of the Worcester Fire Society and the St. Wulstan Society. He was a vestryman of All Saints Episcopal Church for many years.

Dr. Clark was married, June 23, 1906, to Elizabeth H. Pratt, by whom he was survived, with two children. His sudden death was a loss to the community and his many friends.

C. S. B.

DONALD MCKAY FROST

The death of Donald McKay Frost on April 14, 1958, deprived this Society of one of the most useful members it has ever had. Indeed there have not been a half dozen men since 1812 who have done more than he to further our work. He was the ideal member in every way. He had read every book and tract on the old West and could quickly advise me as to the significance of the content as well as the financial value of almost every piece, but his modesty was such that he never offered unsolicited advice. His situation was such that he could build up one of the best collections of Western Americana and place it where he thought that it would be most useful to other collectors and scholars. His interests were by no means restricted to his own field. It was he who suggested that he give us the microfilm edition of the Adams Papers. Over the years his contributions to our collections and working funds have amounted to many,

many thousands of dollars, far more than anyone realizes, for he always asked me not to emphasize his gifts in my annual reports. He always undervalued his contributions and was deeply appreciative of the modest notice which they received.

Donald McKay Frost was born in Charleston, South Carolina, on May 31, 1877, a son of Edwin Parker Frost, a cotton merchant, and Mary (Coachman) McKay. He attended the Charleston High School and the College of Charleston, and then, in 1893, went to St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire, where he prepared for Harvard, from which he was graduated B.A. in 1899 and LL.B. in 1902. Returning to Charleston he took up the practice of the law and became a member of the firm of Smythe, Lee, and Frost. His interests were wide. He served as consul of Belgium to the Carolinas, a member of the General Assembly for several terms, a director of several textile mills, a member of the Board of Visitors of Clemson College, and a captain in the Washington Light Infantry of the National Guard. Socially he was an Elk, a Mason, and a member of all of the other organizations with which a Charleston gentleman would be expected to be associated.

The South Carolina climate eventually undermined Mr. Frost's health, and after spending the summer of 1912 at Ipswich, he established his home in Boston, where he resumed the practice of law, first with Currier, Young and Pillsbury, and then with Loring, Coolidge, Noble, and Boyd. In 1925 he withdrew from the latter firm and set up a private office so as to be in a better position to prevent his practice from interfering with his other activities. He was active in the Club of Odd Volumes, the Grolier Club, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Boston Athenaeum, the New England Conservatory of Music, and particularly in the Boston Opera Association. Summers were largely

spent in following, on foot and horseback, the trails of the explorers of the West. In the library of the lovely house which he acquired in Dover, Massachusetts, he built up a great collection of western narratives. He studied them for the historical information which they contained, and for that reason collected twenty-five cent magazine excerpts as well as thousand-dollar emigrants' guides. He had little interest in oddities or items with only association interest, but a surprising number of his copies had the author's autographs and were in superb condition. Fortunately for us he had a bibliographer's instinct to get every edition.

Mr. Frost's researches in the newspapers for light on General Ashley's expeditions brought him into contact with this Society, and for a decade our bibliographical correspondence with him was immense. He was elected to the Society in 1938, and to its Council the next year. In 1944 he read his paper entitled, with typical modesty, "Notes on General Ashley, the Overland Trail, and the South Pass," which in spite of a special edition promptly went out of print. Demand for it is still so strong that we have plans for a reprint.

When war-time fuel shortages compelled Mr. Frost to close his Dover house, he deposited the cream of his collection with us for safekeeping, and after the onset of an incapacitating illness in 1947, he gave us the rest of his library. Stripping it was a saddening task, but one which no librarian could ever forget. The collection included some 4000 pieces, of which we lacked 1775. It included almost every edition of every significant western narrative, choice maps beginning with the Arrowsmith of 1796, and supplementary material such as a watercolor sketchbook made by General Sir Henry Warre in western Canada in 1843-45. Overshadowed but of great value to us were folio sets of the Pacific voyages and similar reference material.

When this collection was combined with our previous holdings the duplicates were disposed of by a mail auction which brought in thousands of dollars which in turn were spent on Western Americana. During the decade of his confinement we ordered significant new books sent through his hands so that he could keep abreast of the new work in the field. In his will he left us \$10,000 with which to continue the collection.

In the years of my librarianship there have been no pleasanter contacts than those with Mr. Frost. He was a handsome and always charming man, impeccable in dress and manner, kindly and gentle, modest without being self-deprecating. Although his seat on the Council has been vacant for ten years, his passing brings a flood of pleasant memories.

On July 14, 1910, Mr. Frost married Mary Mitchell Ryerson. He is survived by two daughters; Mrs. J. Trenholm Hopkins of Charleston, South Carolina, and Mrs. Nathaniel T. Clark of Dover. C. K. S.

HENRY LOWELL MASON

A multitude of former amateur musicians of Boston noticed with affectionate nostalgia the death of Henry Lowell Mason on October 18, 1957. A grandson of Lowell Mason and a son of Henry and Helen Augusta (Palmer) Mason, he was born at Boston on August 14, 1864. From Phillips Exeter he went to Harvard, where he was graduated in 1888. He immediately entered the employ of the Mason & Hamlin Organ and Piano Company, which his father had founded in 1854, beginning in the factory and working his way through the departments, becoming Director in 1893, Chairman of the Board in 1906, and President

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