

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

in 1924. He retired from business in 1929 and devoted himself to the musical and historical interests which had always taken a great deal of his time. For years he served as president of the Cecilia Society and of the People's Choral Union of Boston, faithfully attending the Sunday afternoon rehearsals. To these eager amateurs he was both guide and oracle. He published numerous articles and three books, *The History and Development of the American Cabinet Organ* (Boston, 1900), *The Modern Artistic Pianoforte* (Boston, 1901), and *Opera Stories* (Boston, 1910, and five later editions). On occasion he also turned his hand to the writing of hymn tunes, with nothing like the spectacular success of his grandfather. He traveled widely in Europe and America and was a popular lecturer.

Mr. Mason was a thorough student of the history of American hymnology and naturally interested in our unexcelled collection. As a result of these contacts he was elected to the Society in 1941. To it he presented some of his grandfather's rarest publications, and annually he made a generous gift to the book funds to enable us to develop the collection. Sometimes his usual assumption that the librarian knew the contents of every book in the building was embarrassing, but it must be admitted that his bibliographical queries were wonderfully clear and detailed. He was something of a precisionist, and in his manner he had all of the dignity and formality of a gentleman of his generation; but he was also warm, friendly, and appreciative almost to the point of effusiveness. During his last months he was confined to his bed, but he continued to write brisk letters and to call attention to his good fortune in being still able to read. His wife, Estelle Hart Kimball of Boston, to whom he was married on June 8, 1907, died in 1940. They are survived by two children, Helen Hart Endicott of North Andover and Henry Lowell Mason, Jr., of Boston. C. K. S.

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