

and is survived by his wife LaJean, daughters Judith Fennema, Jean Lavelle, Sally Dahlquist, and sons Thomas and James. We remember Dick Anderson as a quiet, energetic, intense man who found ways of helping many libraries and institutions of learning.

John Parker

### LOUISA DRESSER CAMPBELL

Louisa Dresser Campbell (Mrs. Donald W. Campbell) died in Worcester on September 15, 1989, at the age of eighty-one. Elected to membership in the Society in April 1964, she was an active participant in the affairs of the Society, attending meetings faithfully and responding positively to the appeals for funds until ill health limited her mobility. Mrs. Campbell was the third woman elected to membership in the Society. No stranger to Antiquarian Hall, she had used the resources of the library for over thirty years prior to her election. She noted in her letter of acceptance to Clarence Brigham, with whom she shared an interest in American prints, 'My great respect and warm affection for the Society are only equalled by my feeling of indebtedness to it for all the help I have received through the years. I deeply appreciate the privilege of becoming a member.' Her warmth and affection for the Society extended to her dealings with the staff, and we all looked forward to her visits.

Her talents as a scholar were quickly tapped by the Society. Just a year after her election, she presented the address at the annual meeting, which was published a year later in the *Proceedings* as 'The Background of Colonial American Portraiture.' At the time in the late 1960s when the Society was first striving to make its collections better known, Mrs. Campbell generously wrote an article on the highlights of the portrait collection for *Antiques Magazine*.

Born in Worcester, the daughter of Frank F. and Josephine

Lincoln Dresser, Mrs. Campbell graduated from Vassar College in 1929. After additional studies in art history at the Fogg Art Museum of Harvard University, she joined the staff of the Worcester Art Museum as an associate in the department of decorative arts in 1932. She also studied at the Courtauld Institute of the University of London and at Clark University. She became curator of decorative arts at the museum in 1942 and served for three years as acting director during World War II, the first woman to hold that post. She served as curator of the collection from 1949 until her retirement in 1972. In recent years she lived in a nursing home, but she retained her interest in her friends, her family, the museum, and the community.

Although responsible for all the collections of the museum, Mrs. Campbell's special interest was early American painting. One of her great achievements was the acquisition of two seventeenth-century paintings, portraits of the Freake family. Among her publications was *XVIIth Century Painting in New England*, a study marked by careful scholarship that spawned research and exhibitions by other scholars. In 1974, almost forty years after its publication, that work was lauded for establishing a 'new standard of acceptable scholarship.' Her other publications focused on artists who were active in New England in the eighteenth century, including Christian Gullagher, Edward Savage, John Singleton Copley, John Smibert, Jeremiah Theus, and John Johnston. She also wrote the catalogue for an exhibition, *Early New England Printmakers*, a joint endeavor of the museum and the Society. Her final project at the museum was the editing of the *Catalogue of European Paintings in the Collection of the Worcester Art Museum*, published in 1974.

Among other honors that Mrs. Campbell received was a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship in 1956, which allowed her to research the British origins of American colonial painting. The Worcester Art Museum honored her in 1981 by dedicating a volume of its *Journal* to her, and in 1984 the museum named one of its galleries of American paintings the Louise Dresser Campbell Gallery. As the descendant of eminent Worcester citizens, it is no

surprise that she served the organizations of the city faithfully. She was instrumental in preserving the Salisbury Mansion, now operated by the Worcester Historical Museum. She was a member of the First Unitarian Church, the Salisbury Mansion Associates, the Higgins Armory Museum. She was also a founder of the Worcester Center for Crafts and served the Bancroft School as a trustee. In 1960 she was selected as woman of the year by the Worcester Business and Professional Woman's Club. She also served for several years on the advisory committee on acquisitions for the Amherst College Museum and as president of the Massachusetts Association of Arts and Handicrafts.

Donald W. Campbell, whom she married in 1971, died in 1978. She leaves two sisters, Rose L. Dresser and Frances M. Herron, both of Worcester. She will be fondly remembered by all who knew her for her warmth as a friend, a beloved family member, and a diligent scholar.

Georgia B. Barnhill

Copyright of Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society is the property of American Antiquarian Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.