

OBITUARIES.

HENRY ERNEST WOODS

Henry Ernest Woods died suddenly of heart trouble at the Hotel Weldon in Greenfield, Mass., October 11, 1919, while on the performance of his duties as State Commissioner of Public Records. He was born in Boston, June 5, 1857, the son of Henry Thayer and Ellen (Thayer) Woods and descended on both sides from a long line of New England ancestors. He was educated at the old Chauncy Hall School in Boston, but was prevented from continuing his studies at Harvard by ill health and trouble with his eyes, and instead, travelled for a year or two in England, on the Continent, and in North Africa, and from then till the last ten years of his life was a traveller in this, and other countries.

After a few years in Mercantile life, he devoted himself to genealogical and historical investigation of New England people and places, and to editorial work along these lines. He was a prominent member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, and from 1901 to 1907 was Editor of the *Register* and the other publications of that Society. He was prominent in the movement for publishing the Vital Records of the Massachusetts towns and edited many of these volumes. In 1907, he was appointed by the Governor, State Commissioner of Public Records, and performed a notable service in this office. He was made a member of this Society in 1907. In 1903, Bowdoin College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Master of Arts. He was clever with his pencil, being at one time a contributor to *Life*, and was well posted in the

science of heraldry. His chief literary work was editorial, though he published an excellent genealogy of the Woods Family and many shorter genealogical sketches, and was ever ready to put his time and talents at the disposal of friends in genealogical, historical or heraldic investigations. He never married, but made his home in Boston with an invalid mother until her death. Later he lived on Newbury Street, making his home at the near-by St. Botolph Club.

H. W. C.

WILLIAM ROSCOE LIVERMORE

William Roscoe Livermore, son of George and Elizabeth. (Cunningham) Livermore, was born in Cambridge, January 11, 1843, and died at the Army Hospital in New York City from heart failure, September 28, 1919. He was fitted for college at the Cambridge High School and entered Harvard College in 1860, but left at the end of his freshman year to attend the Military Academy at West Point, from which he was graduated in 1865, as second lieutenant of engineers. He rose by successive promotions to become colonel, which appointment he received in 1904, and was retired from service on June 11, 1907, after forty-two years of varied activities in connection with army engineering work. May 10, 1917, he returned to active duty and was assigned to special duty with the Chief of United States Engineers. After retirement in 1907, he lived in Boston, but removed to Washington after the declaration of war with Germany. He was author, in 1882, of "The American Kriegspiel," a game for practising the art of war on a typographical map, and, in 1884, of "Manoeuvres for Infantry", which reached a second edition. After his retirement he devoted his time to writing on military and historical subjects, publishing the "Story of the Civil War—Vicksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg", and

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