

OBITUARIES

ANDREW MCFARLAND DAVIS

There can have been few of our members who have had greater inherited interest in our Society than our late associate Andrew McFarland Davis. His father, Governor Davis, was for thirty years, Councillor, Vice-President and President; on the distaff side, his grandfather, Dr. Bancroft, was a charter member (1812) and a Councillor or Vice-President for nearly twenty years, while his uncle, George Bancroft, was long a Vice-President and his elder brother, John Chandler Bancroft Davis, was one of our members. At the time of his death, Mr. Davis's name stood third in point of seniority on the roll of our membership.

Born in Worcester on the thirtieth of December, 1833, Andrew McFarland Davis was the son of Governor John and Eliza (Bancroft) Davis. His earliest inclination was toward a naval career. Being appointed Midshipman, he cruised more than once in the Mediterranean and other foreign waters, but the service at that time was at a low ebb, and finding that promotion would be slow, and that the life was not all that his youthful fancy had painted it, he resigned, and turning his thoughts in the direction of science, entered the Lawrence Scientific School, from which he graduated in 1854. He soon identified himself with railway affairs, especially with the Erie Road, bringing out the first freight schedule ever used in the United States. He was also employed in civil engineering in the South and Middle West, but after a short time, decided to study law, and was admitted to both the New York and Massachusetts Bars. Opportunity offering for him to enter into partnership with his brother, Horace, in the rapidly increasing business enterprises of California, he betook himself to San Francisco, where he identified himself with the best

interests of the city, serving on the School Committee and becoming President of the Board of Education.

About 1890, Mr. Davis returned to his native State and settled permanently in Cambridge. For a few years he was Vice-President of the Prudential Fire Insurance Company of New York, with offices in Boston, but thereafter retired wholly from active business.

Fuller leisure enabled him to devote himself to the antiquarian and historical pursuits which, although a man of uncommon catholicity of taste, were, after all, dearest to his heart. He was a frequent contributor to the Proceedings of our Society, as is shown by the following List:

Journey of Moncacht-Apé	1883
The Colony of Nox	1887
The First Scholarship at Harvard	1887
The Cambridge Press	1888
Site of the First College Building at Cambridge	1888
Early College Buildings at Cambridge	1890
The Lady Mowson Scholarship	1893
Law of Adultery and Punishments	1895
Legislation with the Land Bank of 1740	1896
The General Court and Land Bank Litigants	1897
Benjamin Apthorp Gould	1897
Massachusetts Bay Currency	1899
Andros's Proclamation Money	1900
The Fund at Boston in New England	1903
Emergent Treasury-Supply in Massachusetts	1905
Was it Andros?	1907
The Shays Rebellion	1911

He also wrote several papers for the Narrative and Critical History of America, the Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society and the Publications of The Colonial Society of Massachusetts. In 1903, he published "The Confiscation of John Chandler's Estate," and printed several papers connected with Harvard College in addition to volumes on Massachusetts Currency and Banking and similar subjects.

Mr. Davis married Henrietta Parker Whitney and was survived by two sons and two daughters.

In 1893, he received the honorary degree of Master of Arts from Harvard in recognition of his historical achievement and in 1895, he was elected to honorary membership in the Harvard Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, a noteworthy fact in connection with the latter honor being that his maternal grandfather, Dr. Bancroft (H. C. 1778) was one of the earliest members of the same chapter, in which also were enrolled Mr. Davis's brother, Horace, (H. C. 1849), his sons, Bancroft Gherardi (1885) and Horace Andrew (1891) and his grandson, Hallowell Davis (1918), while his father (Yale 1812) was a member of the Yale Chapter.

The limits of this sketch give us little space to speak of Mr. Davis's character. In addition to his intellectual gifts he possessed business sagacity and acumen; and his father certainly bequeathed to him the qualities which endued the Governor with the well-known sobriquet of "Honest John." He was a most generous giver and the principles, the sterling integrity, the high aims and ideals which we of New England love to feel are peculiarly exemplified in her descendants, were in him strikingly apparent.

Mr. Davis died in Cambridge on the twenty-ninth of March, 1920. To him indeed was granted the "liberty to that only which is good, just and honest."

H. H. E.

RICHARD WARD GREENE

Richard Ward Greene, the son of Charles Collins Greene and Nieves Carmen Haviland Greene, was born at Timaya, Chile, South America, December 5, 1861, and died at the hospital at Nassau, Bahama Islands, March 7, 1920, after only a few days illness. He was a descendant of the distinguished Greene family of Rhode Island, of which the pioneer was Dr. John Greene, a native of England, who came to Massachusetts about 1635 and afterward followed Roger Williams to Providence, R. I. General Nathanael

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