

OBITUARIES

HAMPTON LAWRENCE CARSON

Hampton Lawrence Carson was born at Philadelphia, February 21, 1852, and died at the home of his son, Joseph Carson in Bryn Mawr, July 18, 1929. He was the son of Dr. Joseph B. Carson, professor of materia medica for twenty-five years in the University of Pennsylvania, and of Mary Hollingsworth. He was married April 14, 1880, to Anna Lea Baker, by whom he was survived, with two sons and two daughters.

He received the degree of A.B. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1871; he received his M.A. and his LL.B. degrees in 1874. After admission to the bar, he became a member of the legal firm of Redding, Jones and Carson. He was professor of law at the University of Pennsylvania from 1896 to 1901, and from 1903 to 1907 served as attorney-general of the State.

Mr. Carson was the recipient of many honors during his long life. He was given the honorary degree of LL.D. by Lafayette College in 1896, Western University of Pennsylvania in 1904, and the University of Pennsylvania in 1906. He was president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association in 1905; chancellor of the Law Association of Philadelphia in 1910-1913; president of the American Bar Association in 1919-1921; and a member of the commission to revise the Constitution of the State in 1920. In 1921 he was elected president of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, which position he occupied until his death. To this office he brought his large knowledge of the history of Pennsylvania which with his eloquence as a public

speaker made him a most forceful presiding officer at the meetings of the Society. One of the most important literary contributions to the Society will be his history of its first hundred years, which he had practically completed a few weeks before his death.

His legal and historical researches resulted in the production of many volumes which are of recognized value. His more important works were "The History of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Promulgation of the Constitution of the United States," 1889, and "The History of the Supreme Court of the United States," 1902. In his work as an historian he acquired an invaluable collection of books, prints and portraits. His collection of engraved portraits of Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, Lafayette and other notable figures in American history was one of the most complete ever formed in this country and its disposal at auction in 1904 has long remained a standard for the value of American engravings.

Mr. Carson was elected a member of this Society in 1924. He presented at the April, 1927 meeting a paper entitled "The Common Origin of the Middle Colonies," a contribution rather notable in that it was delivered orally, over half an hour in length and filled with an array of facts and dates, without hesitation or a single change of wording or reference to any notes. Mr. Carson was deeply interested in the welfare of the Society, and frequently contributed to its funds, being especially anxious to see the collections completed by the purchase of necessary volumes.

M. R. R.

JOHN WHITTEMORE FARWELL

John Whittemore Farwell of Boston, who was elected a member of this Society in April, 1915, was born at Waltham, April 17, 1843 and died in Boston, October 7, 1929. He was the son of Nathaniel Whittemore and Eliza (Fletcher) Farwell and eighth in

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