

the Class of 1906 at Harvard, where he received his B.A. in 1907. The next few years he spent in learning the paper business in the various mills of the Hollingsworth and Whitney Company and the Hollingsworth and Vose Company. In 1911 he became treasurer, and in 1921, president, of the latter. He married Reubenia McCormick of Baltimore on March 27, 1920. They made their home at 191 Marlboro Street, Boston, and spent their summers at York Harbor, Maine.

Mr. Hollingsworth inherited from his father, one of the outstanding American collectors of his own day, a fine collection of books and prints to which he added by discriminating collecting. From his active interest in this subject came membership in the Grolier Club and the Club of Odd Volumes. It also brought him to us with inquiries about the engravers of prints in his collection, which was particularly rich in examples of the works of Peter Pelham, Paul Revere, Amos Doolittle, and Edward Savage. He was elected to membership in this Society in April, 1935, and, although he was never active in its affairs, he carried on a long bibliographical correspondence with us.

Mr. Hollingsworth died on December 10, 1942, after a short illness. He is survived by his wife, by a daughter, Miss Caroline Cole Hollingsworth, and by two sons, Mark Hollingsworth and Valentine Hollingsworth. C. K. S.

### NORMAN MORRISON ISHAM

Norman Morrison Isham, nationally known as an authority in the field of early American architecture, died at his home in Wickford, January 1, 1943. He was born at Hartford, Connecticut, November 12, 1864, the son of Dr. Henry and Frances Elizabeth (Smyth) Isham. After a preparatory course at Mowry & Goff's School in Providence, he entered

Brown University, was graduated in 1886 with the degree of A.B., and in 1890 received the degree of A.M. Immediately upon graduation he entered the office of Stone, Carpenter & Willson, leading architects of Providence, and in 1892 opened his own office. He was instructor in architecture at Brown University from 1894 to 1898, and in later life, from 1912 almost to the time of his death, was connected with the architectural department of the Rhode Island School of Design. In 1895 he married Elizabeth Barbour Ormsbee of Providence.

Mr. Isham was a pioneer in the study of early American architecture, particularly of the southern New England field. As early as 1895 he published, with Albert F. Brown, a work on *Early Rhode Island Houses*. This volume gave sketches and detailed drawings of seventeenth-century Rhode Island houses, and also included much on the history of colonial architecture. It soon became a classic in its field and established Mr. Isham's reputation as an accurate and able investigator. Again with Mr. Brown he produced in 1900 a similar volume on *Early Connecticut Houses*. A volume on Massachusetts houses was projected but never finished. Then, for the remainder of his busy lifetime he was constantly called upon to advise regarding the restoration of early and famous houses, and to displace tradition by authentic and established facts. The Gilbert Stuart birthplace in North Kingstown, the old Colony House and Trinity Church in Newport, the Bishop Berkeley estate of Whitehall in Middletown, the Bull Garrison house foundations in South Kingstown, the Clement Weaver house in Warwick, the Stephen Hopkins house in Providence, University Hall at Brown University, and the Thomas Clemence house in Manton were only a few of the Rhode Island structures which he studied and restored. When the American Wing was constructed by the Metropolitan Museum in New York,

he was a consultant in charge of the reconstruction and installation of many of the colonial rooms, and delivered a paper on seventeenth-century architecture at the time of the opening of the Wing in November, 1924. When the Worcester Art Museum in 1921 was laying plans for the restoration of the old Salisbury Mansion, he was authorized to make a report upon the original construction of the house. This report, one of the most elaborate that he ever made, is in the archives of the Museum, accompanied by a series of colored drawings showing the interiors of the reconstructed rooms, and testifying that Mr. Isham was an artist as well as a craftsman. An abstract of the report was published in *Old-Time New England* for January, 1930.

Mr. Isham's other published works were *The Homeric Palace*, 1898; *The Meeting House of the First Baptist Church in Providence*, 1925; and *Trinity Church in Newport*, 1936. Also for the Walpole Society he wrote *Early American Houses*, 1928, a most valuable treatise with measured drawings and photographs; *In Praise of Antiquaries*, 1931; and *A Glossary of Colonial Architectural Terms*, 1939. He was a fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of many architectural societies. He highly valued his membership in the Walpole Society, to which he was elected in 1911, a year after its foundation. Many reminiscences of the social side of his character remain with the members of that Society, who valued his quaint charm and his scholarly observations.

Mr. Isham was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1933, and although declining health prevented his attendance at meetings, he was a frequent donor to the Library and a valued correspondent. He was always ready to share with investigators the vast accumulation of information which his ability in research and his retentive memory had allowed him to possess. He left much un-

published material at his house in Wickford, and a nearly completed book on John Holden Greene, architect of many notable Providence buildings. It is to be hoped that his literary executors will arrange for the publication of some of this highly valuable material, the fruits of a lifetime of collecting and compiling. It is true that in such publication the style which pervaded all of Mr. Isham's writing would be lost, for he had a way of telling his narrative which made him a part of the centuries about which he wrote, but at least much of the accumulation of his knowledge would be preserved for posterity.

C. S. B.

### WILLIAM VAIL KELLEN

William Vail Kellen, vice-president of the Society and a member since 1925, died in Boston, December 20, 1942. He was born at Truro, Massachusetts, July 3, 1852, the son of the Reverend William and Rosetta (Meservey) Kellen. Entering Brown University he was graduated with the degree of A.B. in 1872, followed by the degree of A.M. in 1875. During the time that he was studying for his master's degree, he taught at the University Grammar School in Providence. He received the degree of LL.B. at Boston University Law School in 1876 and was admitted to the bar. He soon became interested in legal publication and in 1882 edited an edition of Parsons on Contracts. In 1888 he was appointed reporter of decisions of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts and held this position until 1892. He again entered the field of publication by compiling in 1886 an *Index-digest to the Reports of Cases decided by the Supreme Judicial Court*, covering the years 1761 to 1884, which was followed in conjunction with other authors by supplements in 1899 and 1913, covering the reports to 1912.

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