

Society and fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Institution of Social Sciences.

W. L.

THOMAS CORWIN MENDENHALL

Thomas Corwin Mendenhall, a noted physicist, was born October 4, 1841, at Hanoverton, Ohio, and died March 22, 1924, at Ravenna, Ohio, where he had made his home after his return from Europe in 1912. He was son of Stephen and Mary (Thomas) Mendenhall and married, July 12, 1870, Susan Allen Marple of Columbus, Ohio, by whom he had a son, Charles Elwood Mendenhall, now professor of physics at the University of Wisconsin. Beyond a primary education in public schools, he was largely self educated, but he attained eminence in his profession and received the honorary degree of Ph.D. from Ohio State University in 1878, Sc.D. from Rose Polytechnic Institute in 1887, LL.D. from University of Michigan in 1887 and Western Reserve University in 1912. From 1873 to 1878, and again from 1881 to 1884, he was professor of physics and mechanics at Ohio State University, and from 1878 to 1881 professor of physics at the Imperial University of Japan at Tokio, and while there made important calculations as to the mass of the earth, which agreed with the results obtained by others using different methods. He was with the United States Signal Corps from 1884 to 1886, and then served for three years as President of Rose Polytechnic Institute until 1889, when he resigned to become Superintendent of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, which position he held until 1894. He was President of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute from 1894 until 1901, when he resigned on account of failing health. He passed the next ten years in Europe, returning to the United States in 1911 and living quietly in Ravenna until his death. While connected with the Coast and

Geodetic Survey he was a member of the United States Lighthouse Board; Superintendent of the Department of Weights and Measures; and a member of the Boundary Line Survey Commission, which established the boundary between Alaska and the Dominion of Canada. From 1896 to 1901 he was chairman of the Massachusetts Highway Commission.

He belonged to several scientific societies and was fellow of the American Society of Arts and Sciences, of which he was elected Secretary in 1876, Vice-President in 1882 and President in 1889. He was a member of the Massachusetts Historical Society and was elected to this Society in April, 1895, and served as member of the Council from the following October until 1901, when he resigned. He contributed a paper to the Proceedings in October, 1896 on "Twenty Unsettled Miles of the Northeast Boundary," and another in October, 1898 entitled "A Flag Episode." He also prepared the Report of the Council in October, 1896.

W. L.

WOODROW WILSON

Woodrow Wilson, son of Reverend Joseph R. and Jessie (Woodrow) Wilson, was born at Staunton, Va., December 28, 1856, and died February 3, 1924, at Washington, D. C. Both his mother and father were of Scotch-Irish ancestry. He passed a year at Davison College, N. C., and then entered Princeton University where he was graduated in 1879 with the degree of A. B., receiving the degree of A. M. in 1882. He studied law at the University of Virginia, and practiced his profession at Atlanta, Ga., 1882-3. He then took a post-graduate course at Johns Hopkins, where he received the degree of Ph.D. in 1886. He was given an honorary degree of LL.D. by Wake Forest, 1887; Tulane, 1898; Johns Hopkins, 1902; Rutgers, 1902; University of Pennsylvania, 1903; Brown, 1903; Harvard, 1907; Williams, 1908; Dartmouth, 1909; and

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.