

Dow. Though he had no children of his own, his stepchildren and grandchildren were as his own to him, and he passed a happy old age in their company.

By HENRY WINCHESTER CUNNINGHAM, A.B., of Boston, Mass.

WILLIAM GARDNER SPEAR of Pembroke, Mass., a resident member since 1896, was born at Weymouth, Mass., 26 October 1852, the son of Lowell Quincy and Eleanor (Kennedy) Spear, and died at Framingham, Mass., 31 January 1916. He traced his lineage from George¹ Spear of Braintree, Mass., through Samuel,² John,³ Seth,⁴ Lemuel,⁵ and Lowell Quincy,⁶ his father.

He was educated in the public schools of Weymouth and Quincy, Mass., and in Brooklyn, N. Y.

He made his home at Quincy in the seventies, and lived there until 1903, when he moved to Pembroke, where he had bought an old farm on North River. There he lived until a few weeks before his death.

From 1875 to 1890 he was engaged in various enterprises that took him over much of the eastern and southern parts of the United States. In 1892-93 he interested Mr. Charles Francis Adams and others in forming the Quincy Historical Society, a work which was accomplished in the autumn of 1893. He became the librarian of the Society, a position which he held until his removal to Pembroke. He superintended the restoration of the old Adams House, which was given to the Society by Mr. Adams and is now its headquarters.

Mr. Spear early evinced a deep interest in town and family history, although he by no means confined his researches to those fields of investigation. He devoted the last thirty years of his life to seeking after truth along historical, genealogical, and antiquarian lines, and he shared the knowledge thus gained with many who resorted to him for information. An intimate friend speaks of him as a staunch and loyal friend and as one whom all who really knew loved.

He married, in 1903, Annah Goodridge of Quincy, who survives him.

MRS. LUCY ANN (LANE) NORCROSS of Boston, made a life member by vote of the Council and Society in 1912, was born on Poplar Street, Boston, 13 October 1816, the daughter of George and Sarah Merritt (Homer) Lane, and died at 9 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, 13 February 1916, aged 99 years, 4 months. She traced her descent from John¹ Lane through John Merrifield² Lane and her father, George³ Lane, and from John Homer through her mother as well as through her father's mother, Mary (Homer) Lane, — all of Boston.

She was educated at Miss Hastings's school and the Bowdoin School. She was a life member of the American Unitarian Association and of the Bostonian Society, and a member of and a contributor to numerous charitable and educational societies. By her will she left \$100,000 in public bequests, after the termination of certain life estates.

She was married at 10 Allen Street, Boston, 9 December 1835, by Rev. Samuel Barrett of the Twelfth Congregational Church (Unitarian), to her cousin, Otis Norcross, son of Otis and Mary Cuning-

ham (Homer) Norcross, a leading merchant of Boston, whose successor in business is The Jones, McDuffee & Stratton Company. Mr. Norcross was mayor of Boston in 1867, and was also a life member and a benefactor of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. He died 5 September 1882, and a memoir of him was published in the REGISTER, vol. 37, pp. 208-209. Of Mrs. Norcross's eight children, three survive her: Laura (Norcross) Marrs, widow of Kingsmill Marrs, Otis Norcross, and Grenville Howland Norcross.

LIEUT.-COL. FRANCIS SNOW HESSELTINE, A.M., of Newtonville, Mass., a resident member since 1910, was born at Bangor, Me., 10 December 1833, the son of Peter Heald and Sarah Hamlin (Snow) Hesselstine, and died at Newtonville 17 February 1916. He traced his descent from Robert¹ Hesselstine of Rowley and Bradford, Mass., through Abraham,² Jonathan,³ Nathan,⁴ Follansbee,⁵ and Peter Heald,⁶ his father. He was a descendant on his mother's side of Nicholas Snow, who came to Plymouth in the *Ann* in 1623 and married Constance Hopkins, who came over with her father, Stephen Hopkins, in the *Mayflower* in 1620.

At the outbreak of the Civil War he was a student at Waterville College (now Colby College), Waterville, Me., and enlisted in April 1861, serving three years and four months. He aroused the enthusiasm of the students, and, raising a company of volunteers, was chosen captain of Company G, Third Maine Infantry (Col. Oliver Otis Howard's regiment). He was in the First Battle of Bull Run and received honorable mention for his services there. On recommendation of General Howard he was promoted to be major and afterwards lieutenant-colonel of the Thirtieth Maine Regiment, and was sent to the Department of the Gulf. One of his most remarkable achievements occurred 29 December 1863, at Matagorda Bay, on the Texas coast, where, with one hundred men, he successfully repulsed and escaped from a brigade of Confederate cavalry. For his bravery in this exploit Congress in 1865 awarded to Colonel Hesselstine the Congressional Medal. From Waterville College he received the degrees of A.B. (1863) and A.M. (1866), and was elected to membership in the Phi Beta Kappa Society.

In 1865 he was admitted to the bar at Augusta, Me., and from 1865 to 1870 practised his profession in Savannah, Ga. In the latter year he returned to the North and settled in Melrose, Mass., where he continued to reside until a few months before his death. He had a law office in Boston, and for many years was corporation counsel for the city of Melrose. Occasionally he contributed stories to popular magazines.

He married first, 2 October 1853, Carrie M. Curtis of Bucksport, Me., who died 11 June 1856; secondly, at Waterville, 7 November 1861, Mrs. Rebecca Melinda (Stark) Crosby, a widow, who died at Melrose in 1893; and thirdly, 21 February 1900, Caroline Georgie McNutt, daughter of John Johnson and Margaret (Hall) McNutt, who survives him, together with three children by his second wife: Norman Francis, Gertrude Rebecca, and Marion Elizabeth. A child by his first wife died in infancy.