

himself a member of the Cambridge board charged with the management of the sinking funds.

He was a fine example of the old New England type of self-made man, helping to support his mother when he was hardly ten years of age, and starting in business on his own account when only twenty-one. He had a clear head for all financial matters, and he exercised a lasting and beneficial influence on many of the affairs of the city which he loved and served.

He married first, 9 January 1858, Annie G. Scribner, who died in 1865; and secondly, in 1866, Elizabeth Scribner, who died in 1913. A son, Herbert M. Allen, a daughter, Annie Allen, and two grandchildren survive him.

By HERBERT M. ALLEN of Cambridge, Mass.

JOHN HOWARD BURDAKIN of Dedham, Mass., a resident member since 1881, was born at Cambridge, Mass., 3 November 1840, the son of John Clark and Catharine Eliza (Nutting) Burdakin, and died at Dedham 14 October 1916. He was a grandson of Joseph Burdakin and a great-grandson of James Burdakin.

His early years were spent in Cambridge, and in the public schools of that city and in a private school in Boston he received his education. At the age of seventeen years he entered the office of William V. Thompson, a conveyancer of Boston, where he remained for three years. Then, for more than a year, he was a clerk in the Middlesex Registry of Deeds at East Cambridge. On 31 May 1862 he enlisted as a private in Company I, Twenty-second Infantry, New York National Guard; and when his term of service, most of which was spent at Harper's Ferry and at Bolivar Heights, Va., had expired, he was mustered out in New York on 5 September 1863.

After the close of the war he became a clerk in the Norfolk Registry of Deeds, and early in 1873 was appointed assistant register there. At the close of that year, Mr. Ford having declined a re-election as register of deeds, Mr. Burdakin was elected as his successor, and entered upon the duties of the office on 7 January 1874. From that time he rendered conspicuous service to the county, receiving the constant support of both political parties and the full confidence of the voters. The new registry building owes its inception, its completion, and its fine appointments to his tactful foresight and wisdom.

His one absorbing interest outside his chosen work was in the Dedham Historical Society, to whose membership he was elected, together with the late Don Gleason Hill, in 1880. The headquarters of the Society and its small library were then in the county commissioners' office in the Court House. The two young men gave their unstinted and undivided support to that society, in which Mr. Burdakin served as librarian from 1885 and as curator from 1886.

Mr. Burdakin was long connected with the Dedham Institution for Savings, having been a trustee from 12 May 1885, a member of the Committee of Investment from 9 May 1908, and vice-president from 11 May 1912. To this bank he brought his valuable knowledge of estates in Dedham and its vicinity, an excellent judgment, and the exceptional training of his vocation, not to mention those admirable

traits of character which so warmly endeared him to his fellow members. A man of quiet demeanor, but of good capacity for executive work, he found congenial interests in the duties he so cheerfully performed, and became an important factor in promoting the highest welfare of the bank.

Charles W. Carroll Post No. 144, G.A.R., of Dedham, received his loyal support, his charter membership dating from 28 July 1871, and he was elected its adjutant in 1882 and 1883 and its sergeant major in 1884 and 1885. He served as a member of the School Committee of Dedham from 1889 to 1890 and as a trustee of the Dedham Public Library from 1896 to 1911. He belonged also to the Fisher Ames Club, the Norfolk Republican Club, the Dedham Boat Club, and other organizations.

His sterling qualities of character not only shone among a wide acquaintance, but were an inspiring influence in his private life, his home and the First Church receiving the best he had to give.

He married, 18 November 1874, Ella Louise Smith, daughter of Nathaniel and Mary Elizabeth (Phillips) Smith, who survives him, together with two children, Leslie Richard of Allston, Mass., and Lillian, a pupil at Radcliffe College, Cambridge.

Cf. Memorial presented at a Meeting of the Trustees of the Dedham Institution of Savings, 11 May 1917.

FREDERICK JAMES HAMILTON MERRILL, PH.D., of Los Angeles, Cal., a life member since 1898, was born in New York City 30 April 1861, the son of Hamilton Wilcox and Louisa (Kauffmann) Merrill, and died at Los Angeles 29 November 1916. He was a descendant of Nathaniel<sup>1</sup> Merrill, an early settler at Newbury, Mass., through John,<sup>2</sup> Daniel,<sup>3</sup> Israel,<sup>4</sup> Jared,<sup>5</sup> Asa,<sup>6</sup> and Hamilton Wilcox,<sup>7</sup> his father. His mother, who was born in New York City 14 March 1820, was the daughter of Christian Heinrich and Sophia (Copous) Kauffmann, the former a native of Stuttgart, Württemberg, and the latter a native of London, England.

He received his education at the Charlier Institute and at the School of Mines, Columbia University, where he received the degree of Ph.B. in 1885 and that of Ph.D. in 1890.

Dr. Merrill was a distinguished geologist, and rendered great practical service in his profession, holding for many years official positions first in the State of New Jersey and later in the State of New York. After 1904 he was engaged in private practice as a mining geologist, and since 1913 he had been field assistant of the California State Mining Bureau. He was the director of the scientific exhibit of the State of New York at the Chicago Exposition in 1893, at the Buffalo Exposition in 1901, and at the St. Louis Exposition in 1904. He was a member of many scientific and professional societies, and was the author of numerous scientific publications.

He married, 1 September 1887, Winifred Edgerton of New York, daughter of Emmet and Clara (Cooper) Edgerton, and was the father of four children, Louise Edgerton, Hamilton, Winifred, and Edgerton.

Cf. Who's Who in America, 1916-1917, p. 1683.