

In early life he was a member of several Boston clubs, from which he afterwards withdrew, and later he belonged for a time to the Calumet Club of Winchester. He was a member of the Church of the Epiphany in Winchester, and sang in the choir there for twenty years, having an excellent bass voice.

Mr. Punchard married, 2 October 1883, Julia Arabelle Walker, daughter of Dr. Charles Henry and Juliana Perkins (Morse) Walker, who survives him, together with one daughter, Emma, who was married, 10 November 1909, to Alfred De Shon Radley, A.B. (University of Chicago, 1903), LL.B. (Harvard, 1908), formerly of Peoria, Ill., but now of Winchester.

MARY KINGSBURY TALCOTT of Hartford, Conn., a resident member since 1904, was born at Hartford 3 November 1847, the daughter of Russell Goodrich and Mary (Seymour) Talcott, and died at Hartford 17 November 1917. She traced her descent from John¹ Talcott of Cambridge, Mass., 1632, through Capt. Samuel,² Lieut. Benjamin,³ Col. Elizur,⁴ George,⁵ Russell,⁶ and Russell Goodrich,⁷ her father. She was also connected with many other leading Connecticut families.

She was educated in private schools and at the Hartford Female Seminary. All her life was passed in Hartford, and was given to study, reading, and gaining a wide knowledge of the old families of Connecticut and their ancestral lines. She wrote many articles about the town and city of Hartford, and was one of the contributors to the "Memorial History of Hartford County," edited by the late Dr. J. Hammond Trumbull and published in 1886. She also edited two volumes of Talcott Papers in the *Connecticut Historical Society's Collections*, vols. 4 and 5. She had been for many years a valued contributor to the pages of the REGISTER, and sent to it for publication from time to time not only brief genealogies but also copies of the records of many Connecticut churches which had been secured by the Connecticut Society of Colonial Dames, of which she was registrar and genealogist. She was also registrar of the Ruth Wyllys Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, deputy governor of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Connecticut, governor for Connecticut of the Order of Descendants of Colonial Governors, and a member of various Hartford clubs. In genealogical circles she was recognized as one of the foremost genealogists in Connecticut.

JOHN DOWST of Manchester, N. H., a resident member since 1900, was born at Allenstown, N. H., 12 January 1848, the son of Henry and Hannah Fowler (Davis) Dowst, and died at Manchester 22 November 1917. He was descended from Samuel Dowse of Portsmouth, N. H., or its neighborhood, who married, 1 March 1688/9, Sarah Berry of New Castle, N. H. Mr. Dowst's ancestors were among the early settlers of Rye and Hampton, N. H. In 1785 his great-great-grandfather, Ozem Dowst, and his great-grandfather, John Dowst, with his grandfather, Henry Dowst, then only one year old, moved to Epsom, N. H., and in 1790 his great-grandfather, John

Dowst, bought a farm in Allenstown which is still the homestead of the family. The house which he then built became in 1814 the ell of one of the mansions of those days, which was built by his son Henry, who married Abigail Brown, a descendant of John Brown, who was in Hampton in 1638.

John Dowst was educated in the common schools and at Pembroke Academy, Pembroke, N. H. Forty-two years ago he took up his residence in Manchester, which was thenceforth his home. He associated himself with his brother, the late Frank Dowst, and with Hon. Natt Head, at one time Governor of New Hampshire, in forming the Head & Dowst Company, of which he became treasurer. This company was one of the leading firms of contractors and builders in northern New England, and enjoyed a reputation for reliability and energy that was unsurpassed.

Mr. Dowst was a recognized authority in matters of southern New Hampshire history and genealogy, and many were the seekers for information on those subjects who came to him for information and found him ready to respond to every request, oftentimes putting himself to great inconvenience to obtain facts in which he had no personal interest. For twenty-five years he gathered historical facts relating to Allenstown from many sources, such as the State records, papers of private families, and interviews with old inhabitants. He prepared historical sketches of the old Christian Church of the town and of his own family. His notes are probably the best records of town affairs in existence. For many years he was identified with the Manchester Historical Association as one of its officers, and was a trustee of the New Hampshire Historical Society, a director of the Unitarian Society, and a member of the Derryfield Club. He was in his political affiliations a Democrat of the old school, but he was never known to be otherwise than tolerant of the opinions of others. His aspirations were ever along the line of good and worthy citizenship. "A serious business man, an earnest reader and student, Mr. Dowst yet possessed a wholesome sense of humor which made his companionship doubly enjoyable."

He married, 17 August 1873, Alma Leonora Olmstead, who died 22 March 1900, daughter of Alonson and Adelia (Ewings) Olmstead. A daughter, Ella Mabel Dowst, two brothers, Henry Dowst of Manchester and George Dowst of Allenstown, and two sisters, Mrs. Abram L. Ricker of Short Falls, N. H., and Annette L. Dowst of Allenstown, survive him.

IDA ELOISE McELWAIN of Brookline, Mass., a resident member since 1913, was born at Charlestown, Mass., 2 January 1870, the daughter of John Allen and Susan (Gilbert) McElwain, and died at Brookline 23 November 1917. She was descended from James¹ McElwain, originally from Argyllshire, Scotland, through Timothy,² John Allen,³ William,⁴ and John Allen,⁵ her father. Her mother was a descendant of Cotton Mather.

She was educated in the public schools of Boston, and after attending the Girls' High School continued her studies at Mrs. Quincy A. Shaw's private school. She taught for some time in the public