

**Committee on Memorials.**

REV. HENRY FITCH JENKS, A.M., <i>Chairman</i> . . . . .	Canton.
REV. HENRY ALLEN HAZEN, D.D. . . . .	Auburndale.
FRANCIS EVERETT BLAKE . . . . .	Boston.
DON GLEASON HILL, LL.B. . . . .	Dedham.
CHARLES SEDGWICK RACKEMANN . . . . .	Milton.

**Committee to Assist the Historiographer.**

REV. SILVANUS HAYWARD, A.M., <i>Chairman</i> . . . . .	Southbridge.
REV. GEORGE MADISON BODGE, A.M. . . . .	Westwood.
REV. ANSON TITUS, A.B. . . . .	Somerville.
WILLIAM RICHARD CUTTER . . . . .	Woburn.
REV. WILLIAM SWEETZER HEYWOOD . . . . .	Boston.
REV. CHARLES HENRY POPE, A.B. . . . .	Cambridge.
REV. ROSWELL RANDALL HOES, A.M., U. S. N. . . . .	Boston.

**Committee on English Research.**

WILLIAM SUMNER APPLETON, A.M., <i>Chairman</i> . . . . .	Boston.
JOHN TYLER HASSAM, A.M. . . . .	Boston.
ROBERT CHARLES WINTHROP, JR., A.M. . . . .	Boston.
THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON, A.M., LL.D. . . . .	Cambridge.
JAMES JUNIUS GOODWIN . . . . .	New York.

**Committee on Heraldry.**

HENRY ERNEST WOOD, <i>Chairman</i> . . . . .	Boston.
FRANCIS APTHORP FOSTER . . . . .	Cambridge.
JAMES HENRY LEA . . . . .	Fairhaven.

**Committee on the Cabinet.**

MYLES STANDISH, A.M., M.D., <i>Chairman</i> . . . . .	Boston.
WILLIAM PRENTISS PARKER . . . . .	Boston.
CHARLES DARWIN ELLIOT . . . . .	Somerville.
MISS MARY CUMMINGS SAWYER . . . . .	Wellesley Hills.
MRS. IDA FARR MILLER . . . . .	Wakefield.

**Committee on Rolls of Membership.**

ALBERT HARRISON HOYT, A.M. . . . .	Boston.
------------------------------------	---------

relieve the Society from any financial anxiety upon its account. It is probable that the sum of \$15,000 would be sufficient. It is suggested that an appeal be made for subscriptions to a fund for this definite purpose.

The Committee has caused the proceedings and the obituaries of deceased members to be published and distributed in the usual form and manner.

---

THE Rev. William C. Winslow, D.D., LL.D., D.C.L., chairman of the COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS, reports that there are still lacking sufficient memoirs of members long deceased to form another volume in the series. He thinks that, with a few exceptions, efforts should now be directed only to securing such biographies where relatives or friends of the deceased will readily furnish them.

If the able Historiographer and his Committee will hereafter obtain memoirs or records of *all* members dying during a year to be reported on by him, will not the above suggestion meet with the approval of our Society? The most untiring efforts cannot secure records of all deceased members; nor a memorial sketch of quite a large number of those some time or long deceased.

---

Rev. Silvanus Hayward, A.M., Chairman, reports that the COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO ASSIST THE HISTORIOGRAPHER, acting under his direction, have prepared or are now preparing sketches of deceased members, as follows:—Rev. George M. Bodge, on Erastus Emmons Gay, and Frank Morton Ames; Rev. Anson Titus, on William Stevens Perry, and Lyman Willard Densmore; Mr. William R. Cutter, on Franklin Stiles Phelps; Rev. William S. Heywood, on Rev. Andrew Oliver; Rev. Charles H. Pope, on Philip Howes Sears; Rev. Charles L. Mitchell, on John Allister McAllister; and the Chairman, on William Ewart Gladstone.

---

Henry E. Woods, Chairman, reports that the COMMITTEE ON HERALDRY has but little to report except that the usurping of heraldic

distinctions in this country seems to be on the increase, and that the number of heraldic queries expands in proportion; but the following brief statement regarding the bearing of arms, prepared by request of the Council of the Society, will no doubt lessen queries in the future:

As there is no person and no institution in the United States with authority to regulate the use of coats of arms, your Committee discourages their display in any way or form.

Prior to the Revolution, as subjects of a government recognizing heraldry, certain of the inhabitants were entitled to bear coats of arms; but only such as were grantees of arms, or who could prove descent in the male line from an ancestor to whom arms were granted or confirmed by the Heralds.

Females did not regularly bear arms, but the daughter of an arms-bearing father could use the paternal coat in a lozenge. When she married, such arms did not descend to her children (except by special authority), unless she were an heiress marrying an armiger, and then only as a quartering of her husband's arms.

The mere fact that an individual possessed a painting of a coat of arms, used it upon plate, or as a bookplate or seal, or had it put upon his gravestone, is not proof that he had a right to it.

Proof of right must either be found in the Heralds' records or be established by authenticated pedigree direct from an armiger.

A coat of arms did not belong with a family name, but only to the particular family, bearing the name, to whose progenitor it had been granted or confirmed; and it was as purely individual a piece of property as a homestead. Hence it was as ridiculous to assume arms without being able to prove the right, as it would now be to make use of a representation of the Washington mansion at Mt. Vernon, and claim it as having been the original property of one's family, unless bearing the name of Washington and being of the line of those who owned it.

---

The COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, through William Tracy Eustis, its Chairman *pro tempore*, reports that all the bills due by the Society, duly approved, have been paid, the details of which will appear in the Treasurer's account.