

As He Is Known, Being Brief Sketches of Contemporary Members of the Architectural Profession.



J. HARLESTON PARKER

HARLESTON PARKER was born in Boston in November, 1872. A graduate of Harvard in the class of 1893, he studied architecture for two years at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Then came a year in the office of Winslow & Wetherell, a year in Italy, and two years in Paris, where he studied at the École des Beaux Arts in the Atelier Laloux.

In the spring of 1899 he returned to Boston, and the partnership of Parker & Thomas was formed, with offices in Boston and Baltimore—an association which lasted until 1907, when the firm name was changed to Parker, Thomas & Rice.

In fifteen years of spirited and successful practice, Mr. Parker's varied enthusiasms and effective vitality have found a natural outlet. No one of our time has better appreciated the universal nature of the demands on the profession, and no one has proved himself better qualified satisfactorily to answer more of these varied calls. His commercial structures are paying investments; his clubs breathe comfort and dignity, and his private houses are worthy frames for cultivated and successful lives.

Mr. Parker's zeal for his clients' interests does not end with the signing of the contract, but from that moment seems to take on renewed vigor. Indeed, long after one of his buildings has been accepted by the owner, his vigilance and invention remain at the service of the client, with a wealth of fertile suggestion and experienced discrimination.

No account of Mr. Parker's personality can be complete which does not call attention to his peculiar talents as a draftsman. With him objective visualization has been developed to a state of rare precision. In his Harvard days, his sketches in the Lamoon were filled with amazingly lifelike representations of his contemporaries, and this happy faculty is still a source of exquisite delight to his friends. In the preparation of rapid perspective sketches for clients and subordinates, this ability is of real service, and many puzzling difficulties have been quickly solved by a quick transition to the third dimension, with its resulting clear, analytical viewpoint.

The superficial student of the Renaissance is amazed at the multiple activities of the great artists of that epoch; but a maturer examination convinces one that the artist of every time has never concerned himself with merely one side of life. — E. S. D.



WILLIAM B. ITTNER

WILLIAM B. ITTNER was born in St. Louis, September 4, 1864. He acquired his education in the public schools of his native city and was graduated from the Manual Training School, which is a department of Washington University, in 1884. His architectural studies were pursued at Cornell University, from which he was graduated in 1887. He engaged in the practice of his chosen profession in the following year and very successfully demonstrated his ability as a designer with a facility for expressing the refinement and charm which are characteristic of his work in many buildings of a domestic, as well as commercial character. A deep student, a painstaking investigator, and a resourceful designer, the happy opportunity came to him through his selection as Commissioner of School Buildings for the Board of Education of St. Louis in 1897 to bring into full play all these latent attributes. The result has not only placed its deep impress on the city of St. Louis, the happy possessor of these model buildings, but his influence and the high standard which he has set in the planning and designing of educational buildings has made him an eminent authority abroad, as well as throughout the length and breadth of his own country. As an architect he has made his field of activity particularly and peculiarly his own. As a man, he has commanded and received the respect and sincere liking of his fellow-citizens and co-workers in the profession.

Mr. Ittner is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and has been president of the St. Louis Chapter. His standing among his fellows is further indicated by the fact that he has been president of the St. Louis Architectural Club and of the Architectural League of America, and his popularity among the alumni of his Alma Mater, as attested by his elevation to the presidency of the Cornell Club. The dearest distinction and highest honor in Mr. Ittner's eyes must ever be his possession of the first medal awarded to him by the St. Louis Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for his conspicuously meritorious work in his chosen field. No tribute could better evidence his acknowledged supremacy in that field, coupled with an appreciation of all that makes the life of man worth living, than this spontaneous expression of appreciation of these qualities by men with whom he has worked for so many years shoulder to shoulder.

— J. L. M.