

2000

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Vol II

JANUARY, 1914

Number 1

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Published Monthly by

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Crescent and Mulberry Streets, Harrisburg, Pa.

The Octagon, Washington, D. C.

Committee on Publication

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In Memoriam

George Browne Post

DIED NOVEMBER 30, 1913

Admitted to the Institute in 1860; to Fellowship in 1864

The American Institute of Architects, in Convention assembled, has learned with profound regret of the death of its former President, George B. Post, who, fifty-three years ago, became a member of the American Institute of Architects.

From 1860 to the present time his constant attendance at the Board meetings and Conventions are recorded in the proceedings. He gave unstintingly of his time, forcibly impressing his views, which were broad and fine, upon the profession and the public. His principles and practice were conservative, sensible and truthful; his high ideals leading to good practice, sound construction, and effective design.

As a member, Secretary and President of the Institute, his efforts contributed to the advancement of the society and to its standing as a strictly professional body. He exerted himself zealously in the public service, striving for high standards of education, safety and construction, efficiency in planning, and justice in practice. During the past fifty years his influence upon the profession has been widespread, through the education and instruction of those men who have imbibed his ideals through his office, and through his untiring work in the Institute.

His influence was national in the effective and impressive way in which, during the last twenty years, he presented measures of value and importance to the profession, to the public, to members of the Senate and House of Representatives and to cabinet officers and to presidents of the United States.

Appreciation of his services to the profession and to the public is attested by many honors which have been conferred upon him.

He was a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters, a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Past-Secretary and Past-President of the American Institute of Architects, member of the American Section of the International Congress of Architects, Honorary Corresponding Member of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Chevalier of the Legion of Honor, France, and recipient of the highest honor in the gift of the American Institute of Architects—its gold medal.

Among the many notable structures designed

by him are the New York Produce Exchange, the New York Stock Exchange, the Equitable Building, New York, the Prudential Insurance Building, Newark, Liberal Arts Building, World's Columbian Exposition, the residence of Cornelius Vanderbilt in New York, and the College of the City of New York.

He volunteered for service in the Civil War, going out with the 22d Regiment, New York Volunteers, in which he served successfully as captain, major and colonel, and was officially commended for gallantry on the field of battle.

Outside of his work for the advancement of the fine arts, he was a man of broad culture, devoted friendship, lovable family relations, active as a citizen for the good of the community, and of broad, public service.

Resolution of the Convention

Whereas, In the death of George B. Post the Institute has lost one of its most commanding figures of the last generation,

Be it Resolved, That the American Institute of Architects, in Convention Assembled, hereby records its appreciation of those qualities and achievements which ennobled him and his profession, and be it further

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon its minutes, and that an engrossed copy be sent to his family.

Resolution of the Royal Institute of British Architects

9, Conduit Street
Hanover Square, London, W.
9th December, 1913.

TO THE SECRETARY,
The American Institute of Architects

At the last general meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects, it was our painful duty to announce to the assembled members the sad news of the decease of Mr. George Browne Post and Professor Charles Babcock. Both of these distinguished men were Honorary Corresponding Members of the Royal Institute, and their loss will be widely felt in this country.

At the motion of the President Mr. Reginald

IN MEMORIAM

Blomfield, the whole of the members present standing in their places, a resolution was passed, directing me to record on the minutes the sincere regret of the Royal Institute at the decease of these distinguished men, and to convey to the American Institute of Architects a message of sympathy and con-

dolence to the architectural profession in the United States.

I shall be extremely indebted to you if you will be good enough to lay this message before the Council of the American Institute of Architects.

IAN MAC ALISTER, Secretary.

Stephen C. Earle

DIED DECEMBER 12, 1913

Admitted to the Institute in 1874; to Fellowship in 1889

The Worcester Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, in special session called to take action upon the untimely death of its president, Stephen C. Earle, passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we, members of the Worcester Chapter of the American Institute of Architects wish to express our personal grief at the death of our friend and associate, Stephen C. Earle. His long and honorable career as an architect and as a citizen has spoken for itself, and merits the highest praise of the profession and of the community in which he lived and worked. As fellow architects

we shall always hold his work in greatest esteem and his personal influence in highest veneration. In his death we, as a body and as individuals, have suffered a loss beyond expression. He was our leader in all professional matters, and he was our friend in every personal association. Our loss is second only to that of those to whom he occupied a still more intimate family relationship.

Resolved, That this expression of our love and appreciation be spread upon the records and conveyed to his family, to whom we tender our most heartfelt sympathy.

CHARLES BABCOCK (Hon. Cor. Mem.)

DIED AUGUST 27, 1913

Charter Member of the Institute, 1857

ADRIANCE VAN BRUNT (F)

DIED NOVEMBER 12, 1913

Admitted to the Institute in 1873; to Fellowship in 1889

JAMES G. HILL (F)

DIED DECEMBER 19, 1913

Admitted to Fellowship in 1888

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In Memoriam

CHARLES BABCOCK

AT THE Forty-seventh Annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects, held December 2, 3, and 4, 1913, in the City of New Orleans, Mr. Cass Gilbert, (F), was appointed to draft resolutions in honor of Professor Charles Babcock. These resolutions, which were unanimously approved by the Convention, were as follows:

On August 27, 1913, Professor Babcock passed away, in his eighty-fifth year.

He was the sole survivor of that little group of men who met on February 23, 1857, as founders of the American Institute of Architects.

It is therefore fitting that the convention of the Institute should for a time lay aside the business of the day, to contemplate the merit of his life and work, and to record its appreciation of his distinguished services.

Professor Babcock began the practice of his profession at a period when architecture in this country (and in fact throughout the civilized world) was almost, if not quite, at its lowest ebb; when it was scarce credited as worthy to be considered among the Fine Arts; and when the Fine Arts were disregarded by government and people alike.

The conquest of a new continent and the political conditions of the time had turned the minds of men toward other lines of endeavor, and for a time the purely physical and material seemed to have utterly prevailed over the finer instincts and aspirations of our people.

Our centers of population were not yet knit into close relation by means of the telegraph and railroad. Groups of educated men did indeed exist, but they were not in close communication, as they are today.

The few architects of the time were not only misunderstood and unappreciated by the public, but were themselves so widely scattered and unacquainted that they entertained, for the most part, suspicions and fears of one another, which tended to accent professional rivalries rather than to allay them.

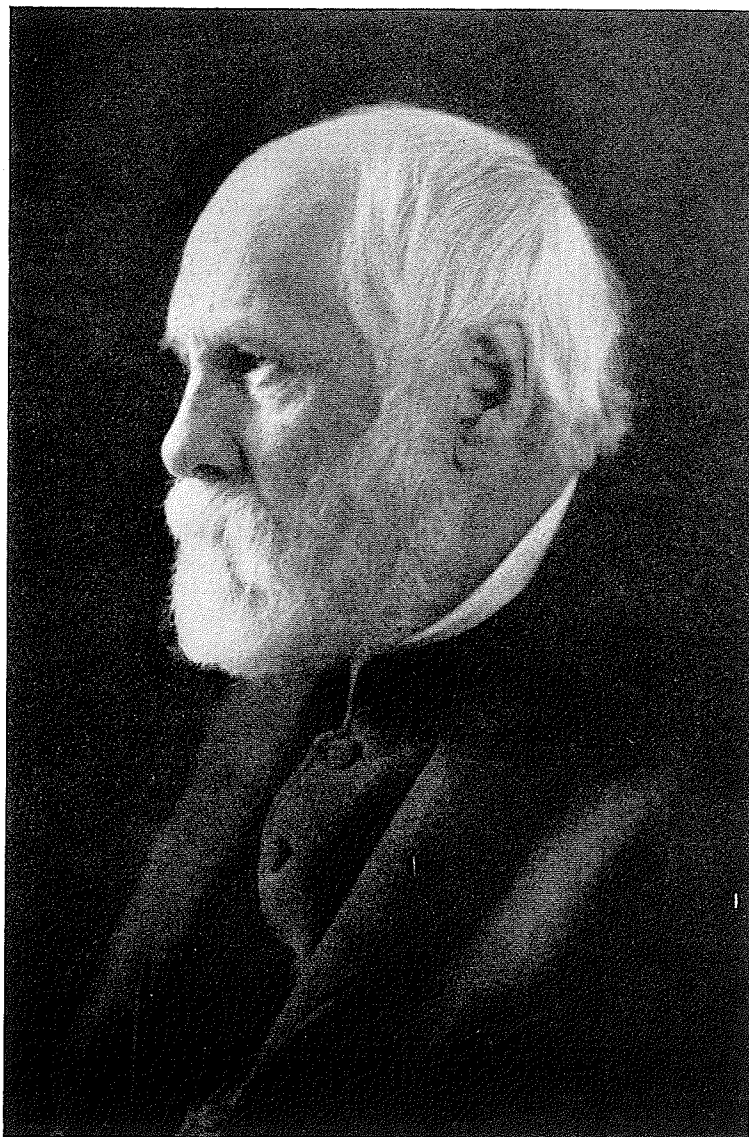
The ethical standards of the time had not been formulated, nor was there any common standard to which they could repair.

Ignored, or held in contempt for the most part by the public, and lacking confidence in one another, it was indeed a time when the architects, like the art they practised, had but little honor or recognition in the land.

A few of the more brilliant or more fortunate had perhaps attained an individual position of a purely personal sort, and were beginning to gather around them groups of adherents who thought and felt as they did.

Thus it was in the middle of the Nineteenth Century.

A historical note quoted by Professor Martin relating to the time will be of special interest to this body. It is as follows: "Appreciating the state into which their beloved art had fallen, a number of young men in New York City, after many consultations, determined to organize an association for the advancement of architecture. Their ideals were high. They were zealous and enthusiastic, and in love with their art. The following architects, Richard Upjohn, Edward Gardiner, H. W. Cleveland, Wray Mould, Leopold Eidlitz, Henry Dudley, Fred A. Peterson, Charles Babcock, Joseph C. Wells, Richard M. Hunt, John Welch, J. W. Priest, met to consider the propriety of organizing a



Sincerely Yours.
Chas. Babcock.

IN MEMORIAM

society of architects, on Monday, February 23, 1857."

Thus the American Institute of Architects was founded; its organization was effected in the following April, with eighteen additional names on the list.

"Of this group of thirty men," adds Professor Martin, "nearly every one became famous in later years; and I know of none more deserving of honor for distinguished services to his profession than our beloved Dean."

Professor Babcock was the last survivor of the twelve founders of the Institute, and his death marks the passing of a great period which must ever be of peculiar interest and value to American architects, for it illustrates how high ideals and confident endeavor can bring order out of chaos, confidence out of suspicion, and great accomplishment by reason of character and integrity.

He was an Honorary Member of the American Institute of Architects, Honorary Corresponding Member of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and Professor of Architecture at Cornell University. He was a graduate of Union College, holding a degree of Master of Arts; but it is not because of such honors as

may have been conferred upon him, but because of his personality, his attainments, his scholarship, his good taste, his sound judgment, his eminent services both as practitioner and as teacher, his sturdy character, and his loving, kindly spirit, we offer the following resolutions:

Whereas: Professor Charles Babcock, of Cornell University, departed this life August 27, 1913, and

Whereas: He was the last survivor of the Founders of the American Institute of Architects, and an Honorary Member of this body; and

Whereas: His long and distinguished services to our profession, both as a practitioner and a teacher, merit the highest appreciation and recognition of this body; be it

Resolved, That the American Institute of Architects in convention assembled does hereby record its grateful sense of obligation for a life well and honorably spent in the service of his art, its high appreciation of his great merit as a man and as a teacher, and its profound respect for one who has upheld its high ideals in all that pertains to the art and practice of architecture.

JOHN BELCHER, F.R.I.B.A.

DIED NOVEMBER 8, 1913

Honorary Corresponding Member, 1900