

MEMORIAL OF JAMES GREENFIELD MANCHESTER

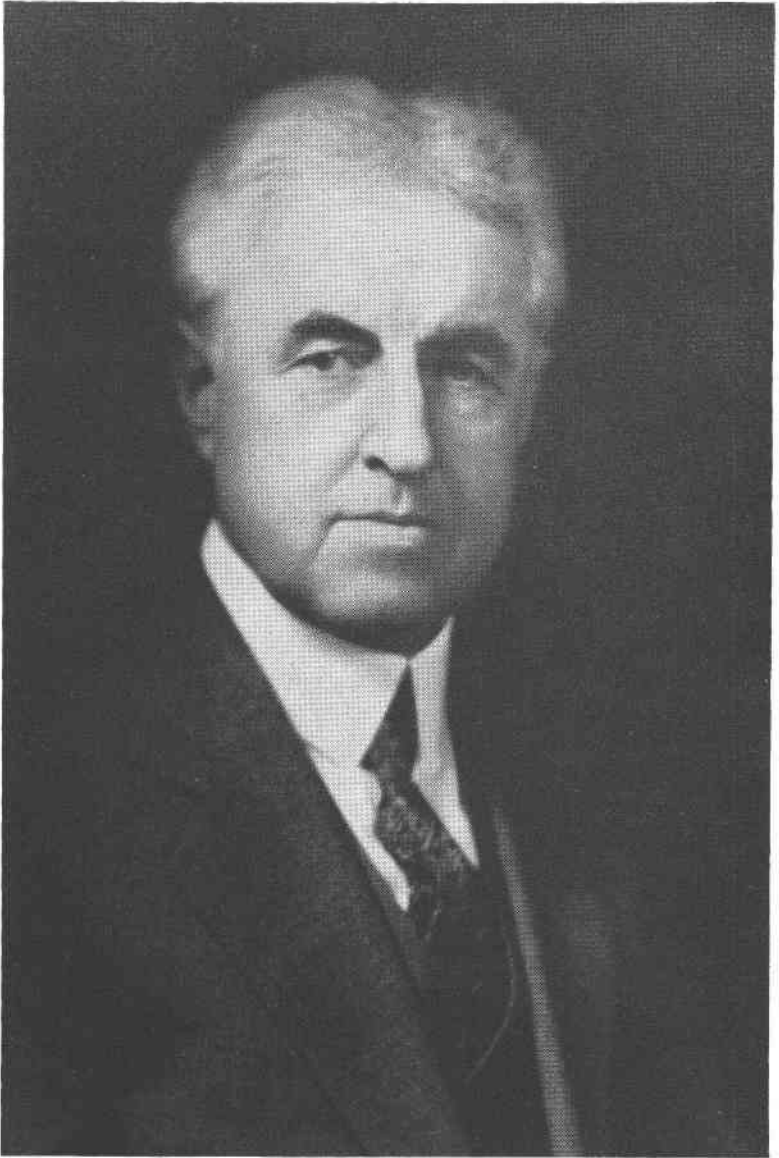
GILMAN S. STANTON,
New York City.

James G. Manchester, born in Fall River, Massachusetts, on September 20, 1871, was a man whose love of fine mineral specimens found expression in a lifetime of devoted service to his fellow collectors and enthusiasts. He was not of those favored few who, born to wealth, could expand his interests without thought of cost, but one of the many who through continuous effort achieved success not only in his career of business, but in his mineralogical avocation as well. As a young man, he studied typing and stenography, in which he became so proficient that his beautiful and intricate patterns and designs created by means of typewritten characters won for him at the Columbian Exposition in 1893 the award of best in the United States. At the request of his close friend, Reverend Percy S. Grant, Rector of the Church of the Ascension in New York City, he moved there to act as treasurer of the church. Soon thereafter he became Assistant Treasurer of the New York Mutual Life Insurance Company, and later the Assistant Manager of their Real Estate Division, which he efficiently organized and systematized.

Having adopted mineralogy as his hobby, he rapidly became an enthusiastic and vigorous collector with an unerring eye for good specimens and an indefatigable zeal for extracting them. His appreciation of fine minerals did not degenerate into mere acquisitiveness, and he was constantly and generously bestowing choice specimens and collections upon his fortunate friends and associates. A superb collection in specially designed cases was presented to the city of Fall River, where it is exhibited in the public library. Another was contributed to the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. To young people who displayed an active interest in mineralogy he gave representative species, as well as entire suites of specimens obtained at his own expense. Many eastern mineralogical museums contain choice material labeled "Gift of J. G. Manchester." His continuing advocacy of the pleasures of mineral collecting and study resulted in many lectures and well-illustrated demonstrations before clubs and high school and Boy Scout groups.

He became president of the New York Mineralogical Club, succeeding George F. Kunz, and in that capacity he was instrumental in securing many notable speakers for the Club, partly at his personal expense. Through his generosity, the organization was able to publish his careful compilation, "The Minerals of New York City and Its Environs."

Upon retirement, he spent most of his winters in St. Petersburg,



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Florida, where he interested himself in the Ballast Point locality at Tampa, famous for specimens of corals replaced by chalcedony. These he had photographed in color and cut into cabochons. The article describing these unusual chalcedony pseudomorphs after coral, published in *Rocks and Minerals* proved so popular that many additional reprints were prepared to supply the public demand. The cost of the preparation of this article as well as the reprints was borne by Mr. Manchester. He was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Mineralogical Society of America, a member of the Rocks and Minerals Association, and a life member of the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society.

By his first wife, Florence Pilkington, born July 12, 1873, died Oct. 23, 1919, he had a son James G. Manchester, Jr., born March 19, 1896, died April 4, 1943, who in turn is survived by a son, James G. Manchester III, born March 18, 1943. His second marriage was to Mrs. Clara A. Ehmer on June 14, 1923, who survives him. Mr. Manchester died on June 28, 1948, at Southampton, Long Island, at the age of seventy-six. He was a man of kindly generosity and hospitality, capable of communication to others his love of beautiful minerals.

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