In Memoriam

THOMAS SOVEREIGN GATES

The announcement of the death of Thomas Sovereign Gates proclaimed to the city of Philadelphia the loss of the one who has been truly called its First Citizen.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Mr. Gates studied law, entered the banking world, gained wealth as a member of the firm of J. P. Morgan and Company and assumed responsibility in many large corporations. His interests, however, were never circumscribed by business concerns. He was a devout churchman. He served on countless boards and councils. He was president first of the University of Pennsylvania and then of the American Philosophical Society. Latterly, he had been giving much time to the difficult task of organizing UNESCO and making it an effective force for world peace. His concerns embraced the welfare of mankind.

Rarely has Philadelphia enjoyed the unselfish services of one of its citizens in so many different activities. Scarcely an organization of wide civic appeal but knew his interest and his generosity. The Historical Society of Pennsylvania is but one of more than a score of cultural institutions which profited by his association and which are now truly bereaved by his passing.

Dr. Gates became a member of this Society on December 27, 1920, was elected to its council in 1933, and became a vice-president in 1943. His chief service to the organization was his tour of duty as chairman of the nominating committee for six years, 1938-1944; during this period his wide knowledge of the citizens of Philadelphia gave his counsel special importance. We are likewise in his debt for a valuable gift of books.

The Council of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania in sorrow adopts this memorial, spreads it upon its minutes, and sends a copy to Mrs. Gates and Thomas S. Gates, Jr., together with an expression of its deepest sympathy.

ROY F. NICHOLS