

Eulogies on Prof. James G. Percival

In Executive Committee, May 6th, 1856, Hon. D. J. Powers presiding, E. A. Calkins, Esq., rose and said:

MR. PRESIDENT:—I have been requested to announce in such terms as I may deem appropriate, the painful intelligence of the death of James Gates Percival—a name which should be preserved in the memorials of this Society, and an event to which is due the most solemn forms of private and public grief. In his mature age, in the ripeness of his fame, with his honors thick upon him, a noble man—one of an imperial race, has gone to his long home, and his last account. Terms more eloquent than I can command, should celebrate the sad departure which no returning follows, of one so gifted and so good as he. No common words or stinted measures of sorrow should mark the dissolution of that gentle soul from the form it animated.

Dr. Percival died last Thursday, May 2d, at 2 o'clock in the morning. He was born in Kensington, Conn., Sep. 15th, 1795. He was the second of three sons—his father was Dr. James Percival, a physician of the place.* He entered Yale

*In conversations with Dr. Percival, I learned that his family were related to the renowned English Statesman, Spencer Percival; and that the American branch first settled in Marblehead, Mass. Dr. Percival told me, that on one occasion when he was traveling in Western New York, he stopped at a country inn, and without knowing the name of the landlord, instantly recognized in his features a Percival, and upon inquiring found that he was a descendant from the Marblehead family of that name.