George M. Phelps (Associate 1884)

Treasurer 1887-95

THE SECOND treasurer of the Institute was George May Phelps, who served continuously from the time of his first election to that office on May 17, 1887, until his death on April 11, 1895.

Mr. Phelps was born at Troy, N. Y., in 1843. He was educated in the public schools and high school of that city. From 1861 until his death he was continuously engaged in electrical interests, excepting for an interval of 5 years. He was first employed in the shop of the American Telegraph Company, of which his father was superintendent. He afterward served in the auditing department of the American Telegraph Company from 1863 to 1866. From 1871 to 1879, he was assistant to his father in the management of the factory of the Western Union Telegraph Company in New York City. In April 1879, the Western Union disposed of its manufacturing interests to the Western Electric Company, and Mr. Phelps was appointed superintendent of the factory by the latter organization, which position he held until In 1886, he joined December 1885. Franklin L. Pope, who was then president of the Institute, in conducting The Electrician and Electrical Engineer, at that time published monthly, acquiring a proprietary interest in that journal shortly



GEORGE M. PHELPS

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after. The title was subsequently changed to *The Electrical Engineer*, and, beginning in 1890, was issued weekly, with Mr.

Phelps as president.

Mr. Phelps was a charter member of the Institute and was elected as one of its managers on May 19, 1885. He served on the council in this capacity until his election as treasurer. He also had served on various standing and special committees, and had at all times given readily of his time and services to the interests of the Institute.

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