WILLIAM STANLEY



William Stanley (A'87, M'98, F'13)

Edison Medalist 1912

/ILLIAM STANLEY was very prominent among the electrical inventors and engineers who made possible longdistance light and power transmission; his inventions on the transformer and early work in the development of the a-c system contributed greatly to the advancement of the electrical art. During the earlier period of his career he was responsible for several incandescent lamp inventions, while in the employ of the United States Electric Company (1879-81) and the Swan Electric Company (1882-83). From 1883 to 1884 he experimented on storage batteries and other apparatus in a private laboratory at Englewood, N. J. He then became associated with the Westinghouse organization, and installed and equipped an incandescent lamp factory at Swissvale, Pa. In 1885, when because of illness he removed from Pittsburgh to Great Barrington, Mass., he set up a plant incorporating his ideas on long-distance light and power transmission, which distributed to the town 500 volts through transformers connected in multiple. The Westinghouse Company then took over the manufacturing details and installed the Stanley apparatus at Niagara Falls. In 1890 Mr. Stanley organized the Stanley Electric Manufacturing Company, which made the first of a long series of installations of the multiphase transmission system in 1894 at Housatonic, Mass., operating at 2,000 volts. In 1898 he organized the Stanley Instrument Company. He also carried on an extensive consulting practice, until his death on May 14, 1916. He served the Institute on the Edison medal committee, from 1914 to 1916. He was born November 22, 1858, in Brooklyn, N. Y.