

DOROTHY LAWSON HAWKINS

1891 - 1938

The Faculty of Vassar College records its sorrow and sense of loss through the death on August 17, 1938 of Dorothy Lawson Hawkins, Assistant Librarian since 1928. Miss Hawkins brought with her to Vassar sound training in library science, experience in the administration of the library of the University of Delaware, strong interest in methods of scholarly research, a keen mind, remarkable energy, and a gay and friendly spirit. All these she gave with zeal to the service of this college. Quickly Vassar received a place in her affection and loyalty side by side with her Alma Mater, Smith College.

In carrying on the order work of the Vassar Library through a decade when its collection was increased by nearly 62,000 volumes, Miss Hawkins strove unceasingly to develop a system for handling the enormous amount of detail involved with speed, economy and precision. In reference work she exercised the greatest ingenuity and perseverance and students who consulted her received not only expert guidance but also something of her enthusiasm for bibliographical research,

To the many student assistants who worked under her direction she gave excellent training and her ability as a teacher brought to her last spring an invitation to join the faculty of the summer session of Columbia University School of Library Service which ill health prevented her from accepting.

Research on early printing in Delaware, first undertaken during graduate work at Columbia University, was continued through the years here, and a part of the material collected was used in her monograph "James Adams: the First Printer of Delaware", which appeared in the Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America in 1934.

Interest in all phases of library service led to active work in state and national library associations.

DOROTHY LAWSON HAWKINS (Continued)

Miss Hawkins was a devoted friend and leaves many memories of timely help generously given in the college and in the community.

Florence McCaleb

Helen Elizabeth Davis

X - 32