

N. S. Keith

(Associate 1884, Member 1894)

Secretary 1884-85

THE FIRST secretary of the Institute was Doctor Nathaniel Shepard Keith, one of the most active of the small group of individuals who founded the Institute. Doctor Keith served as secretary during 1884 and 1885. It was he who circulated the "call" for the first meeting of what was to be the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Doctor Keith was born at Boston, Mass., July 14, 1838. He was educated as a chemist in his father's chemical laboratory in New York City, and maintained practice as an electrometallurgical engineer the larger part of his life. The early years of his life were spent as a mining and metallurgical engineer in Colorado. For many years following 1870, he was engaged in electrical work as an investigator, inventor, writer, and electrical engineer. For some time following 1885 he was engaged in the manufacture and installation of electric light and power apparatus in San Francisco. He was at one time secretary-treasurer of the American Venture and Mines Corporation. For many years preceding his death, January 27, 1925, Doctor Keith had been in business in Philadelphia as a consulting engineer.

During the first 2 years of the Institute's history Doctor Keith was a member of the editorial staff of the *Electrical World*, along with C. O. Mailloux and T. C. Martin, both of whom subsequently became presidents of the Institute. Doctor Keith was one of the conferees of the Electrical Conference in Philadelphia, in 1884, and a judge of the Philadelphia Electrical Exhibition in that year.

MAY 1934 EE

T. C. MARTIN

