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THE SUCCESSFUL AMERICAN.

(ILLUSTRATED.)

A MAGAZINE

DEVOTED TO THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF, AND CONTAINING BIOGRAPHICAL AND
CHARACTER SKETCHES, TOGETHER WITH PORTRAITS
OF REPRESENTATIVE

“SUCCESSFUL AMERICANS.”



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JULIAN KENNEDY.

OF PITTSBURGH, PA.—RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST MECHANICAL ENGINEERS.—WAS A FAMOUS ATHLETE AT YALE, AND ONE OF THE VICTORIOUS UNIVERSITY CREW.

IN the engineering world to-day, in spite of all our progress in this especially prolific field, new problems are ever arising in a host, the complexity of which calls for the highest standard of ability. Fortunate are we Americans, therefore, in the possession of men to solve these problems, like the subject of this sketch, who stands in the foremost rank of his profession.

Julian Kennedy was born in Poland Township, Mahoning County, Ohio, March 15, 1852. His parents were Thomas Walker Kennedy and Margaret Truesdale. His father was the son of James and Sarah Reid Kennedy, of Coitsville Township, Mahoning County, Ohio. The elder Kennedy's early days were devoted to the pursuit of farming and teaching school in the winter time. He was also a carpenter and builder, and later became a designer and constructor of blast furnaces. He built the furnace of the Struthers Iron Company in 1869, and for several years was the managing partner of that organization. Great improvements were made by him in the art of operating blast furnaces, he being the first to regulate the amount of blast supplied to the furnace by volume, instead of by pressure, the practice in vogue up to the period he began to operate blast furnaces. Thomas Walker Kennedy died June 4, 1896.

Mr. Kennedy's mother, who was born July 3, 1824, is still living. She is the daughter of Hugh and Rachel Walker Truesdale, of Poland, Mahoning County, Ohio, Mr. Truesdale being a farmer of that place. His paternal grandparents were John and Hannah Robinson Truesdale, who came from Pennsylvania to Ohio. His mother's grandparents were Gabriel and Rachel Lowry Walker.

Mr. Kennedy's early education was obtained in the common schools of his native place and Poland Union Seminary, the scene of President McKinley's early studies. Mr. Kennedy graduated from that institution when he was seventeen, and was employed as a draughtsman in the construction of the blast furnace of the Struthers Iron Company, on the completion of which he ran blowing engines and other steam machinery for a year, and also served a year in the capacity of shipping clerk.

In 1872 he entered the Sheffield Scientific

School of Yale College, graduating in 1875. He took a course in civil engineering until the end of the junior year, after which, by special permission of the faculty, he was allowed to change to the course in chemistry, and, by working overtime, made up two years' work in this course during his last year. After graduating he became an instructor in physics, and remained in the school in that capacity during 1875 and 1876, taking, at the same time, a post-graduate course in chemistry of iron and steel, together with a special course in higher mathematics and astronomy. During this time he also had charge of the physical laboratory, and gave a course of illustrated lectures on physics to the students of several seminaries in New Haven. He also lectured in the mechanics course given in the lecture room of the Scientific School.

During his college career Mr. Kennedy was a member of the University Crew, from 1873, when Yale won, at Springfield, Mass., there being thirteen colleges entered in the race, up to 1876. In the latter year he rowed in the first eight-oared race against Harvard, also at Springfield. In 1875 he won the Inter-Collegiate Championship for Single Sculls at Saratoga Lake, as well as rowing in a great number of other races, and was winner in fourteen out of eighteen important races. Mr. Kennedy was stroke of the Yale Four-Oared Crew at the Centennial Regatta in 1876, when the Inter-Collegiate Championship was won by that University, and in the same year won the pair-oared race at Greenwood Lake, New York, in company with James Riley of Saratoga, defeating Eustis and Downs of the Atalanta Rowing Club, New York, and Smith and Eldred of the Argonaut Club, of the same place. In the same regatta he also won the amateur single scull race.

In 1876-1877 he was Superintendent of blast furnaces of the Briar Hill Iron Company, at Youngstown, Ohio. In 1877-1878 he was Superintendent of the Struthers blast furnace, of the Struthers Iron Company, at Struthers, Ohio; in 1878-1879 Superintendent of the Morse Bridge Works, Youngstown, Ohio; from 1879 to 1883 Superintendent of blast furnaces of the Edgar Thompson Steel Works Braddock, Pa.; Superintendent of the Lucy Furnaces, Pittsburgh, 1883-

1885, and General Superintendent of Carnegie, Phipps & Co. from 1885 to 1888, with headquarters at Homestead.

In all of these works Mr. Kennedy had charge of both construction and operation, and all the time that he was connected with either the Edgar Thompson or the Lucy furnaces, they held the world's record for output of pig iron. In 1888 he became chief engineer of the Latrobe Steel Works, at Latrobe, and had charge of the construction of their works, and, in 1890, while continuing to be their chief engineer, opened an office in Pittsburgh, since which time he has been conducting a general consulting and contracting engineering business. In this capacity he has been connected as consulting engineer with nearly every important steel works in the United States, and has also done a great deal of engineering work in England, Germany, Austria and Russia.

In his professional career Mr. Kennedy has taken out a large number

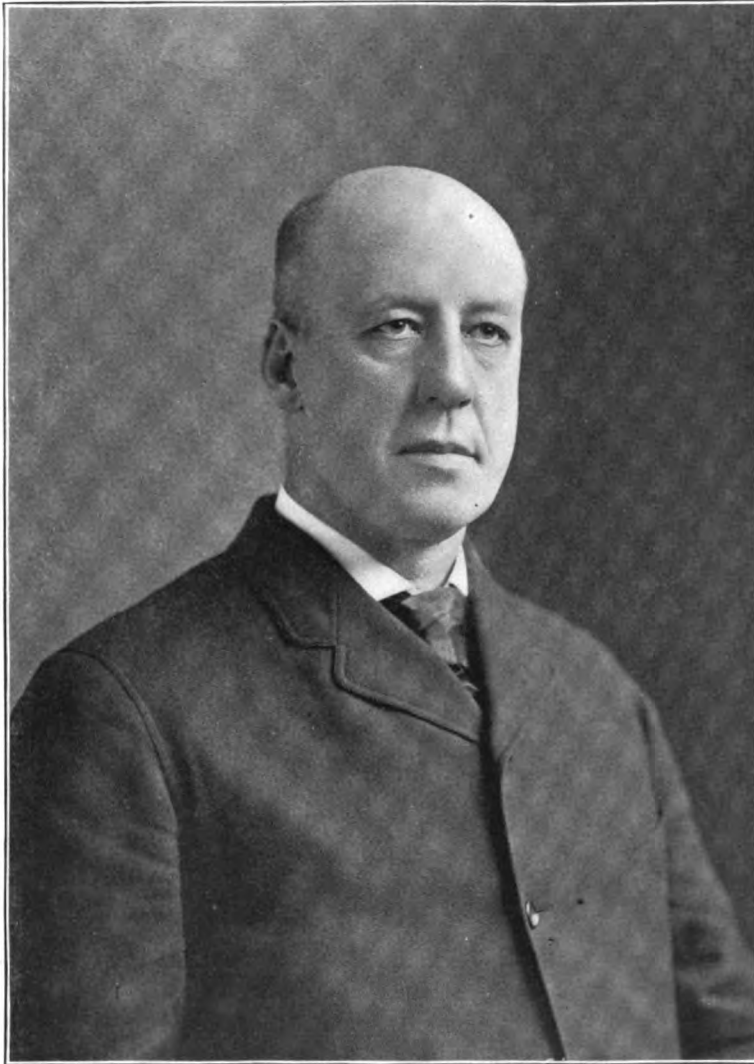
of patents which are in successful use, nearly all being in connection with the manufacture of iron and steel, and has frequently acted as expert in important patent litigations. Prominent among Mr. Kennedy's inventions might be enumerated his improvements on hot blast stoves, blast furnace filling devices, and improvements in blowing engines, reversing engines, blooming mills and

manipulators, which have all gone into use very largely in many works. He has also patented special machinery for hammering and rolling locomotive tires, which is in use at the Latrobe Steel Works.

During his college days Mr. Kennedy was a member of the Connecticut Academy of Sciences. He is now a member of the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania, American Institute of Mining Engineers, and the British Iron and Steel Institute. He is a member of the Duquesne Club of Pittsburgh, and the First United Presbyterian Church of that city.

Mr. Kennedy was married in 1878 to Miss Jennie E. Breneman, of Poland Township, Mahoning County, Ohio. Her father was Joseph Breneman of that place. Five children were born to them: Lucy B., Joseph Walker, Julian, Jr., Eliza and Thomas Walker.

On June 27th of this year Mr. Kennedy received the honorary degree from Yale of Master



JULIAN KENNEDY,
of Pittsburgh, Pa., recognized as one of the World's Greatest
Photo. by Patton, Pittsburgh. Mechanical Engineers.

of Arts, an honor which he values very highly.

The close of the century marks the greatest progress the mechanical world ever achieved in man's history, the greater part of which has taken place in the United States. Mr. Kennedy occupies, therefore, a position of extraordinary honor, that of the foremost in his profession, and Pittsburgh must feel honored in owning him as a citizen.