

Taken from The Educator September 1943

Frank W. Martin (1875-1943)

America Loses Prominent Engrosser

It is with great regret that we announce the death of Frank W. Martin on July 16, 1943 in Boston, Mass. He was born in Ashland, Maine, in 1875. After graduating from the local high school, he attended Ricker Classical Institute; Portland, Maine, Business College; Zanerian Art College, Columbus, Ohio; New York School of Water Color. While Mr. Martin spent the greater part of his life doing penmanship and engrossing, for a time he taught in the Gray's Business College, Portland, Maine; Salem, Mass. Commercial School; Rockland, Maine, Commercial College; Troy, New York, Business College and- the Lynn, Mass., branch of the Burdette College. He also supervised writing in the public schools of Nahant and Winthrop, Mass., for two years.

Mr. Martin was proprietor of the Martin Diploma Company, and was one of the finest engrossers in this country. He did work for many prominent people, a number of Presidents of the United States and he also did work for the Vatican and Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany

He was genial, friendly, skilled and industrious. He was very liberal with his contributions to the penmanship profession. Many of his fine specimens of engrossing appeared in The Educator.

To his widow and son, we extend our heartfelt sympathy. He was still in his prime and his death is a very severe blow to the penmanship and engrossing profession.

E. L. Brown on Martin

F. W. Martin was a native of Ashland, a small town in northern Maine, where he was born 68 years ago. He was employed by Howard & Brown as an assistant in the business department of their school, also in the engrossing department 40 years ago. He took a special course in engrossing under my instruction, specializing in engraver's script. - Mr. Martin managed our Boston studio of engrossing and diplomas at one time. Later we turned the Boston branch over to him, and it was continued to the time of his death under the name Martin Diploma Company. He taught penmanship and commercial branches in a business college in Troy, New York, before he decided to make engrossing his life work.

A genial personality, and skillful penman, an ambitious and a hard worker, he built up a very successful engrossing business. When quite a young man he came under the influence of the Zanerian, where he laid the foundation for his penmanship career, like thousands of others.

"Frank" as I knew him was a kindly and sympathetic man, and I shall never forget the time when I was passing through a hospital experience, he appealed through The Educator to my friends in the profession to send me a card of cheer

and hope. I was much gratified with the generous response and prize the letters received very highly. and have always been most grateful to him for his kindly and thoughtful gesture.

When in Boston I loafed at the Martin studio more or less, and lunched with him. Last February I saw him each week at the Rotary club and he appeared to be enjoying his usual good health. Naturally his passing came as a great shock to me. He will be missed by a wide circle of friends and business associates and personally all I can say is this, I've lost a good friend.