

## Wyoming County's Famous Sons and Daughters

[excerpt]

by Harry S. Douglass

### VINCENT EATON TOMLINSON

Into the home of the Rev. DeWitt Clinton Tomlinson, then pastor of the Universalist church in Perry, a son was born on March 20, 1862. This son, Dr. Vincent Eaton Tomlinson, is today one of the outstanding clergymen of Massachusetts.

The Tomlinsons of Connecticut, from which Mr. Tomlinson is descended, came over to the New Haven Colony and early made their home in Derby, Connecticut. His father was born in Orleans County, New York, after the grandparent, Vincent Tomlinson, had come with others into the Western New York wilderness early in the nineteenth century. A cousin of the Rev. DeWitt was George Tomlinson, a prominent citizen of Perry in the last century.

Rev. Tomlinson received his Doctor of Divinity degree from Tufts [Tufts] College. His ministry, beginning in 1884, has included pastorates in Little [NY], Hudson [NY], and at the First Universalist Church of Worcester, Massachusetts. Coming to the latter city in 1900 he is sometimes referred to as "The Dean of the Worcester Clergy" since he is the longest settled pastor in the city, Protestant or Catholic. Dr. Tomlinson is actively interested in all civic policies and movements for the up-building of Worcester.

Among the many posts to which he has been elected are: president, Massachusetts Universalist Convention, 1912 to 1913, and trustee for over thirty years; chaplain, Little Falls Light Infantry, 1895 to 1900; member and chairman, Worcester School Commission; President, Board of Managers, Worcester Fresh Air Fund; Trustee, Universalist General Convention, 1917 to 1925; member, Board of Alderman and President of the Board, Worcester, 1917; member and president of the Worcester Public Library Board; president, Public Education board, for three years; member, executive committee, Worcester Welfare Federation; Life Trustee, Tufts College; Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Masons of Massachusetts, 1927; trustee, Universalist Publishing House and on the National Board of Lectureship.

Dr. Tomlinson and his family are just completing an eight months' tour around the world, scheduled to return about May 1st.

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