

Timothy Woodbridge, grandfather of Anson G. Phelps, was the son of Rev. John Woodbridge, of Stanton, Wilts, who came to New England with his uncle, Rev. Thomas Parker, and married in 1639, Mercy, daughter of Thomas Dudley, Governor of Massachusetts.

In the "Ancestry of General Grant" Anson G. Phelps is referred to as follows:

"His commercial life in New York was identified with the history of the city for half a century. He was the founder* of the well-known firm of Phelps, Dodge & Co., and his mercantile career was one of remarkable prosperity. He was, however, especially distinguished in his day and generation as a devout Christian and philanthropist. He was a devoted member of Dr. Spring's Church, of which he was for many years an elder. The Colonization Society and many other charitable institutions owed much of their prosperity to his benevolence and watchful energy." * * *

Mrs. Sigourney has written a memorial poem, descriptive of the character of Mr. Anson G. Phelps, from which the following lines are taken:

"The cares of commerce and the rush of wealth
Swept not away his meekness, nor the time
To cultivate all household charities,
Nor the answering conscientious zeal
To consecrate a portion of his gains
To man's relief and the Redeemer's cause.
* * * Oh Praise the Lord
For the example of his holy life
And for its blessed close."

In the History of Simsbury, Anson G. Phelps is referred to "as distinguished alike for wealth, and liberality in the promotion of all charitable objects."

In the will of Anson G. Phelps, after providing liberally for his "beloved wife Olivia," his children and various relatives, comes the following clause:

"I give and bequeath to each of my grandchildren, living at my decease, the sum of five thousand dollars, to be paid to them as they severally attain the age of twenty-one years. This latter bequest I direct to be accompanied by my executors with this injunction: that each of my said grandchildren shall consider the said bequest as a sacred deposit committed to their trust to be invested by each grandchild, and the income to be derived therefrom to be devoted to the spread of the gospel, and to promote

* Also of the town in Connecticut named for him, Ansonia.