

all who knew her. After her sudden and tragic death in the fire which consumed the Cleveland Clinic, two groups of her friends organized themselves and established two funds in her memory, one to be known as the Miriam Kerruish Stage Fund and to be used in some permanent way for the benefit of the Woman's Hospital of Cleveland, and the other to be called the Miriam Kerruish Stage Foundation the income of which is to be expended for scholarships for worthy students in the Shaker Heights high school. Dr. Stage's religious affiliation was with the Protestant Episcopal church. She was a Democrat in political faith. She was married at Cleveland, O., Aug. 27, 1903, to Charles Willard Stage, a Cleveland lawyer, and they had four children: Charles Willard Stage, Jr., William Sheldon Kerruish Stage, Miriam Kerruish Stage, and Edward Whitney Stage. She died in Cleveland, May 15, 1929.

**STONE, Andrew J.**, coal operator, was born in Richmond, Va., Oct. 22, 1840, son of Thomas and Mary (Bumpus) Stone, and a descendant of William Stone (q.v.), who came from England to Northampton county, Va., in 1649, and was proprietary governor of Maryland until 1653. He was educated in public and private schools of his native city, and of Fairmont, W. Va., whither his parents had removed in 1855. Mr. Stone began his career in 1860 in the employ of Francis H. Pierpont and James O. Watson, the former was governor of West Virginia, and both outstanding pioneers in the development of the coal industry in the state. Later he became private secretary to Mr. Watson, and in this capacity soon gained recognition as an authority on coal mining, including the highly specialized processes for handling bituminous coal, and the organization and conduct of this great industry. The experience thus acquired enabled him to discharge the duties of the responsible positions, which he afterward occupied, as representative of large and important interests. In all such connections he displayed unusual executive capacity, and a keen business sense, which marked him as the forceful and commanding personality that he was. But, through it all, his kindly and tolerant manner was the leading trait which endeared him to employees and associates alike. Mr. Stone was a Mason of the 33rd degree, and a member of the Osiris Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He was worshipful master of the Fairmont Lodge in 1883; grand high priest of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia in 1884, and eminent commander in 1885, and deputy grand commander of the Crusade Commandery, Knights Templars in 1887. His prominent activity in the affairs of the Republican party in his state led to his service as chairman of the state committee during 1884-88, and he was a delegate to the Progressive Republican national convention in 1912. For many years, also, he was a member of the Fairmont city council; was city recorder during 1869-70, and was elected mayor in 1894, and again in 1896. In early life he was a member of the Methodist Protestant church, but having become a Baptist, he was a founder and trustee of the First Church of Fairmont. Always he derived the greatest pleasure and recreation from floriculture, particularly the breeding and cultivation of rare roses, and his private rose garden was famous as one of the show-places of Fairmont.

Mr. Stone was married, Feb. 11, 1868, to Columbia Frances, daughter of Frederick Burdette of Pruntytown, W. Va. Their seven children were Susan Broadus and Frederick Thomas (both deceased); Martha, wife of Thomas M. Gathright; Florence, wife of Edgar Waddell; Mary Ferguson, wife of James A. Fickinger; Ida Broadus, wife of Samuel H. Diemer, and Elizabeth H. Stone. He died in Fairmont, W. Va., Feb. 14, 1926.

**FICKINGER, James Albert**, engineer, was born at Kingsville, Ashtabula co., Ohio, Jan. 31, 1853, son of Jacob and Susan (Butt) Fickinger. He was educated in the academy of his native town, where also he pursued a special course in engineering. For six years (1872-78) he was principal of the high school at North Kingsville, and, meantime, in 1874 was appointed county surveyor of Ashtabula county, serving for two terms of three years. For a time, also, he was leader of a party engaged in surveying for construction of the Denver & Rio Grande railroad in Arizona and New Mexico, and in 1880 joined the engineering corps of the New York, Chicago & St. Louis ("Nickel Plate") railroad, with which he continued for several years. Later in his career he was engaged in important railroad survey and construction work in West Virginia, particularly as chief engineer of construction with the West Virginia & Pittsburgh railroad, between Clarksburg and Weston, W. Va., and with the Ohio River railroad, from Wheeling to Kenova, W. Va., in connection with which he built the great cantilever bridge over the Kanawha river at Point Pleasant, a conspicuous engineering achievement. In these connections, so closely associated with the upbuilding and prosperity of West Virginia and Ohio, he figured importantly in the many large development projects of the late Sen. Johnson N. Camden (q.v.), and for many years acted as his confidential adviser. His great capacity for organization and direction in the construction of the Ohio River railroad won him the affectionate title of "colonel," by which he was known during the remainder of his life. In addition to other services, he acted as president of the West Virginia & Pittsburgh and the Monongahela railroad companies, also of the Gauley Lumber Co., at Camden-on-Gauley, W. Va., and in 1901 accepted the offices of vice-president and general manager of the Camden Inter-State Electric Railway System, centering in Huntington, W. Va. This system, which ran lines to Ashland, Central City, Kenova, and other points, was at the time much disorganized, but through Col. Fickinger's sound policies and untiring efforts it was reestablished, and was conducted at a good profit, until sold by Senator Camden to a syndicate of financiers. Thereafter, he resided at Fairmont, W. Va., devoting his attention principally to directing the operations of the Monongah Coal Co., of which he was president, and developing other interests of Senator Camden, in West Virginia and Kentucky. Col. Fickinger was a man of broad vision and keen business sense, progressive and public-spirited, and, because of his high character and noble personal qualities, was justly endeared to a wide circle of friends and associates. Politically he was a Republican, and he was a member of the Presbyterian church. He was thrice married: first, in August, 1877, to Ida Ross, daughter of William Carr of Kingsville; second, in February, 1884, to Mary E.,