MEMOIR OF JOHN J. WEAVER.

The subject of this sketch was born in Philadelphia, on December 23, 1840, and received his education in the public schools of his native city, having been graduated from the Central High School in the class of 1860.

After several years of experience in commercial pursuits he became associated with Mr. J. S. Pennock, with whom he engaged in the plumbing business, under the firm name of Weaver & Pennock, a connection that was severed by his death on July 14, 1891, in his fifty-first year.

From the outset of his career, Mr. Weaver took a lively interest in every movement designed to extend educational advantages to young men, and he was conspicuously active and zealous in promoting the establishment of trades-schools and in planning and organizing the work of such schools in connection with several institutions and associations, with which he was prominently identified as a member and at times as an officer. To this good work, which with him was a labor of love, he devoted a large share of his time and services.

He was active in establishing the mechanical handiwork schools of the Spring Garden Institute in 1879 (said to have been the first manual training school, properly so-called, founded in the United States), and, to the success of this enterprise, which was due in great measure to his active interest therein as chairman of the committee, and to the large share of public attention it attracted, the subsequent formation of similar schools in connection with the public schools of the city and with Girard College may, we believe, not improperly, be ascribed.

Mr. Weaver was also instrumental in establishing the Trade-school for Plumbers, which was later merged in the trades-schools of the Master Builders' Exchange, of Philadelphia, in which institution he was prominent as an organizer and director.

Mr. Weaver became a member of the Franklin Institute in the year 1871, and from the first, exhibited a warm interest in its work. He was elected to the Board of Managers in 1880 and served acceptably in this capacity to the time of his death. One notable evidence of his activity, which, we believe, is destined to bear good fruit, is the fact that he introduced in the year 1887, a series of resolutions looking to the re-organization of the Institute, and the acquisition of another and larger building, with facilities for greatly increasing its capabilities for usefulness.

The outcome of this was the formation of a committee, of which he was an active member, that has devised some excellent plans, which, it is hoped will be realized at no distant day.

These are but a few of the many enterprises in which Mr. Weaver was actively interested, and which appear to be proper to notice in a memoir intended for the *Journal*.

It seems proper to refer also to his high appreciation of the duties of citizenship, and his warm interest in every movement designed to better the government of his native city.

The most notable traits of Mr. Weaver's character were the activity which he displayed in behalf of any cause in which his sympathies were enlisted; the zeal with which he advocated his views; and the courage with which he championed them in the face of opposition. His enthusiasm, however, was tempered with sound judgment, and was reinforced by a sturdy honesty of purpose, that never failed to command for him an attentive and respectful hearing, while his imperturbable good temper under defeat gained for him the hearty good-will of all who were his opponents in debate.

Mr. Weaver was a man of unusually robust physique, and his lamented death in the prime of his life and usefulness was a most unexpected event.

EDWIN J. HOUSTON,
STACY REEVES,
WM. H. WAHL.