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**JAMES P. MACHEN (ca.1831/1832-aft.1910) COMMONPLACE BOOK**

Includes: Handwritten copy of "The Elements of Geometry" [p. 1-14, (19-34), 96-100]; Gummere's "Surveying" [p. 101-(185)]; Recollections of Centreville, Virginia, written 1910; Poems; List of boys at Benjamin HALLOWELL's School in Alexandria, Virginia, 1850-1851.

**JAMES P. MACHEN (ca.1831/1832-aft.1910)**

James P. MACHEN was born ca. 1831-1832 in Washington, D. C., the son of Lewis H. MACHEN, chief clerk of the United States Senate, and Caroline WEBSTER. [1880 Census, Fairfax Co., VA, National Archives and Records Service, T-9, Roll 1364, p. 241, Household 198, Family 200; "Lewis H. MACHEN," Lyon G. Tyler, ed., *Men of Mark in Virginia*, Vol. 2 (Washington, D.C.: Men of Mark Publ.Co., 1907), p. 264. L[ewis] H. MACHEN, age 8 [born ca. 1872] is listed as son of James P. MACHEN in the census record.]

MACHEN attended Benjamin HALLOWELL's Boarding School in Alexandria, Virginia, ca. 1847-1851. [James P. Machen, "Commonplace Book," n.p., MS1254, Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg, VA.]

James P. MACHEN married Georgia Dent CHICHESTER ca. 1867, and was a farmer in Fairfax County, Virginia. [1870 Census, Fairfax Co., VA, National Archives and Records Service, M-593, Roll 1645, p. 238, Household 41, Family 41. Date of marriage is based on age of child, Caroline, born ca. 1867.]

James P. MACHEN was county surveyor of Fairfax County from 1886 until 1894. [Beth Mitchell, *Beginning at a White Oak...* (Fairfax, VA: Fairfax Co. Admin. Services, 1977), p. 297.]

MACHEN began writing his recollections of the town of Centreville, Fairfax County, in 1910. [Machen, "Commonplace Book," p. 37.] Nothing further is known.