



Charles Hamilton Sabin

1868-1933



Charles H. Sabin Pach Brothers Portrait Collection, PR-084, Collection of the New-York Historical Society

Born in Williamstown, Massachusetts, in 1868, Charles Hamilton Sabin was educated at the Greylock Institute, graduating in 1885. Family finances did not allow for college, so Charles went to work as a flour salesman in Albany, New York. In 1887, Sabin began his career in banking as a baseball “ringer” for Albany, NY’s National Commercial Bank. The team, lacking a pitcher, hired Sabin on the eve of an important game. He won the game and stayed in banking for the rest of his life. Within ten years, he came to New York as President of the National Copper Bank, which merged with the Mechanics and Metals National Bank. He joined Guaranty Trust as a Vice President in 1910, later becoming President. After six years as President, Sabin was elected Chairman of the Board, and his brother-in-law, William C. Potter, was elected President. Sabin received an honorary degree from Williams College, making him a member of the class of 1915



Mr. & Mrs. Charles H. Sabin Courtesy Pauline S. Willis

1916 marked Sabin’s divorce from Mabel Whitney after 19 years and one son, Charles Hamilton Sabin Jr. On December 28, 1916, he married Pauline Morton Smith. During their marriage, Charles and Pauline built Bayberry Land, their country estate and maintained 2 other residences: an apartment in New York City at the exclusive 1 Sutton Place South, and a 1,961-acre plantation, The Oaks, in Goose Creek, South Carolina.

CHAS. H. SABIN WEDS MRS. PAULINE SMITH

Marriage of Banker and Paul Morton's Daughter Takes Place in Bedminster, N. J.

BOTH HAVE BEEN DIVORCED

Head of Guaranty Trust Company and His Bride, with 40 Guests, Make Trip in Special Train.

Charles H. Sabin, President of the Guaranty Trust Company, and Mrs. Pauline Morton Smith, younger daughter of the late Paul Morton, Secretary of the Navy under President Roosevelt for one year and at one time President of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, were married at noon yesterday in the Reformed Church at Bedminster, N. J. The Rev. Charles E. Malloy, the pastor, performed the ceremony, in the presence of about forty relatives and friends, who had arrived in a special train at Bedminster, N. J., at 11:40 A. M., and had been rushed to motors to Bedminster, about four miles from Bedminster. After the wedding the party again went by motor back to the train, which returned to New York at once.

Like his wife, Pauline, Mr. Sabin was vehemently opposed to prohibition, and served as treasurer of the Association Against the Prohibitions Amendment. Unlike his wife, Mr. Sabin was a Democrat who actively supported Alfred E. Smith and Franklin D. Roosevelt. In 1831 he headed the Democratic Victory Campaign in New York.

Charles H. Sabin died at Bayberry Land on October 11, 1933, of cerebral hemorrhage after about six months of illness. He was 65 years old. Described by his close friend William Potter, “(Charles Sabin) had a peculiar and abiding faith in his fellow men, and ap-



Bayberry Land Manor photo by Marylou Stewart

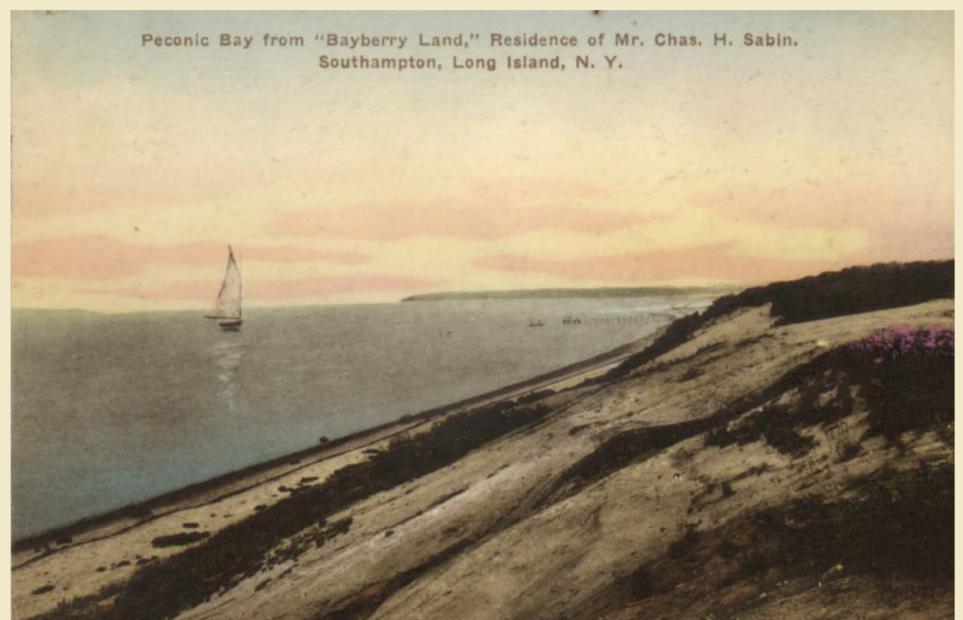
proached every problem with an open mind and a desire to be helpful and constructive.” Although Pauline Sabin would remarry, “Charlie” was the love of her life.

She purchased a pair of sarcophagi in Southampton Cemetery, and had his inscribed with a quote from Kipling’s Barrack Room Ballads:

*E'en as he trod that day to God
So Walked he from his birth*

In simpleness and gentleness and honor and clean mirth

Pauline Morton Smith Sabin Davis joined Charlie in Southampton Cemetery in 1955.



Peconic Bay from "Bayberry Land," Residence of Mr. Chas. H. Sabin, Southampton, Long Island, N. Y.