

# Ο ΟΡΘΟΔΟΣΟΣ ΠΑΡΑΤΗΡΗΤΗΣ

## THE ORTHODOX OBSERVER

---



ΣΩΤΗΡΙΟΣ ΓΡΗΓ. ΤΑΒΟΥΛΑΡΗΣ (S. GREGORY TAYLOR) ὁ ἐκ Μαρμαρά Μέγας Εὐεργέτης, ἰδρυτὴς τοῦ S. GREGORY TAYLOR FOUNDATION καὶ τοῦ S. GREGORY TAYLOR MEMORIAL CENTER, εἰς μνήμην τοῦ ὁποίου εἶναι ἀφιερωμένον τὸ παρὸν τεύχος. (Βλ. σελ. 34)

S. GREGORY TAYLOR, Great Benefactor of Greek Orthodoxy, founder of the S. GREGORY TAYLOR SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION and the S. GREGORY TAYLOR MEMORIAL CENTER, to whose memory this issue of The Orthodox Observer is dedicated. (See pages 34 and 46)

ΠΡΟΝΟΙΑ, ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗΣ



ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗΣ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ

# "THE ORTHODOX OBSERVER"

The Official Periodical of the Greek Orthodox Church in America

Published Monthly by the Greek Archdiocese of North and South America  
10 East 79th Street, New York 21, N. Y.



ENGLISH SECTION



## S. GREGORY TAYLOR

(A Biographical Sketch)

The late S. Gregory Taylor, who was baptized Soterios Gregorios Tavoulares, was born on the Island of Proikonnos, Marmara, Greece, where his family was well known and where during the Turkish occupation, his grandfather Tavoulares was the ethnic leader of the Greek Community. Among the members of his family were the Most Reverend Metropolitan Sophronis and Nicholas Kyriakides, who was a member of the Patriarchal Council and the founder of a local Greek School that bears his name. Thus Gregory Taylor traditionally came by his deep religious feeling and his concern towards the Church of which he became a Great Benefactor.

After attending the local elementary school, Gregory Taylor went to the gymnasium, or high school, at Raides-tos, Thrace. He came to the United States in 1908 and worked industriously for several years, mainly in hotels. Within a few years he had become the manager of the Manger Hotel chain, where he was widely known and highly regarded. Even during his first years here he supported his Greek compatriots. At one time there were 500 Greek-American family men in his employ.

After he left the Manger Hotels, he founded in co-operation with American friends the Hotels Buckingham, Dixie, Montclair and St. Moritz. During the depression of 1929, good management and hard work enabled him to retain possession of the St. Moritz, which became a center of Hellenism in America and which was always pre- vaded with his own personality.

Gregory Taylor married Ioane Zographidis. In the year 1940, which began a period so fatal for Greece and almost all mankind, he was a founder and leader of the Greek War Relief and he placed his hotel at the disposal of refugees who left Greece and came to the United States. That was the time when the love and sacrifice of Greeks everywhere for their mother country was made

manifest, and foremost in the ranks of these true patriots was Gregory Taylor, who was keenly aware of the supreme sacrifices that Greece made in the cause of the freedom of mankind.

The many philanthropies and Christian deeds which characterized Gregory Taylor were motivated and sustained by his firm faith in the Greek Orthodox religion of his forefathers, and he revealed this sincere feeling by being a constant attender in our churches every Sunday. In 1935 he was elected a Trustee of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, New York City, and he pursued with zeal and enthusiasm the task of furthering his community and its institutions. He was instrumental also in the purchase of the present Archdiocese building, and he was the leader in the movement to unite the Greek Orthodox communities in America. He served faithfully for many years as a valuable member of the Archdiocesan (Mixed) Council.

Consistent with the convictions of the high ideals that guided his Christian spirit, he not only worked sincerely for the Church during his life-time, but upon his death he devoted his fortune to the sacred cause of the education of youths of Greek descent. Firmly believing that without a strong Greek Orthodoxy in America our younger generations could not fulfill their true destiny, he made special provisions in his bequest through the Gregory S. Taylor Scholarship Foundation for the training of young men in this country to become priests and theologians. For this vital accomplishment, he was named a Great Benefactor of our Church.

Gregory Taylor passed away in Florida on February 21, 1948, and his funeral services in the Holy Trinity Cathedral in New York City were officiated over by the present Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras I, who was then Archbishop of the Americas.

May the memory of Gregory S. Taylor be eternal.