

Of most importance to this society was his splendid *History of American Magazines, 1741-1905*. The first volume, covering the years 1741 to 1850, was published by D. Appleton & Company in 1930. Volumes two and three, 1850-1885, were published in 1938 by Harvard University Press and were awarded the 1939 Pulitzer Prize for history. Volume four, 1885-1905, was also a Harvard book, issued in 1957. I understand that some twenty sketches of individual periodicals were completed before his death for the next volume of the series.

In recognition of his scholarship, Dr. Mott was elected to membership in this society in October, 1941. He attended two meetings and at the latter one he addressed the members on the subject of "The Magazine Revolution and Popular Ideas in the Nineties." Simpson College, Boston University, Temple University, and Marquette University all awarded him honorary degrees.

In 1910 Dr. Mott married Vera H. Ingram who preceded him in death on September 13, 1964. Their daughter, Mrs. Waldo R. Wedel, of Washington survives and has indicated to us that books from her father's library dealing with the history of American journalism will be placed here in his memory.

M. A. McC.

### HERMANN PORTER RICCIUS

Hermann Riccius was born in Millbury, Massachusetts, a son of Gustav A. and Ida (Barton) Riccius, who moved to Worcester in 1895. There Hermann graduated from English High School in 1900 and immediately became an office boy in a woolen mill. He had become its manager when in 1910 it was incorporated into the George E. Duffy Manufacturing Company, of which he was secretary and assistant treasurer when he retired in 1960.

Mr. Riccius was one of those gentle and modest men who quietly do the essential work of making local institutions run. He was, for example, a lay reader in the Protestant Episcopal Church, a trustee of the Worcester Art Museum, and, particularly, for many years clerk and member of the Board of Government of the Worcester County Musical Association, in whose choruses he sang. He had the more time for such good works in that he never married, but lived with his sister, Miss Saidee Riccius, who had inherited the mass of the Clara Barton manuscripts, and devoted much of her time to the arrangement, utilization, and disposition of them. It was in this connection that Hermann became interested in the American Antiquarian Society, to which he was elected in 1954. He served faithfully on the essential local committees, and from year to year he used to take advantage of what he used to call "Uncle Sam's big discount on contributions." He was in his eighties but in good health when at luncheon one day he remarked on the good sense of his contemporaries who dropped dead without annoying preliminaries; a few days later, on February 11, 1965, he slipped quietly away. He left a sister and a brother in Mount Vernon, Maine, and a will which will in time bring a substantial bequest to the Society. May I record for those who at some future time look back to see who Hermann Riccius was, that he was a wise and charming gentleman, beloved by those who came to know him. C. K. S.

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