

elapsed before he attended a meeting or visited our library. However, at the meeting of October, 1949, he spoke on the "Story of Clipper Ship Sailing Cards," and his paper was published in the *Proceedings*. During the last decade of his life he was one of our most voluminous correspondents. Otherwise, he was much more active in the Massachusetts Historical Society, which he served as treasurer for several years before his sudden death at his home in Westwood on July 10, 1955. His collection of prints went to two of his sons, Allan Forbes, Jr., of London, and James Murray Forbes of Cambridge, Massachusetts. C. K. S.

STEPHEN WILLARD PHILLIPS

Stephen W. Phillips, a son of Stephen Henry and Margaret (Duncan) Phillips, was born at Honolulu on January 9, 1873. His ancestors had been active in the opening of the Pacific trade, and his father was at one time Attorney General of Hawaii. He was educated at the Salem High School, Harvard College, and Harvard Law School, graduating from the last in 1898. His record as a student was excellent. On June 15, 1899, he married Anna Pingree Wheatland.

Mr. Phillips was briefly a member of the Boston law firm of Putnam and Putnam, but he soon set up for himself, specializing in estate management. For more than fifty years he commuted daily on the Boston and Maine between his Salem home and his Boston office. He always, he said, took "great pleasure" in his work as an investor, maintaining that it was an art which called for hard and continuous labor.

In 1903-04 Mr. Phillips served on the Salem Common Council, and in 1905-06 he was a member of the General Court. However, he did not enjoy political life, but turned rather to the management of the funds of many social and

religious organizations, such as the Boys Club and of the Unitarian church of which he was a member. From his youth greatly interested in antiquities, he was active in the Essex Institute for most of his life, and its President during his final decade. He was also sometime Master of the Salem Marine Society, Honorary Curator of Polynesian Collection of the Peabody Museum in Salem, President of the Club of Odd Volumes, and a member of the councils of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts and of the Massachusetts Historical Society. In 1930 he was elected to the American Antiquarian Society, before which in October, 1936, he read a paper on "The Mutiny on the Ship Globe." In 1943 he was elected to the Council of the Society on which he served faithfully, being one of its most loyal and generous members. He rarely missed a meeting, and was deeply interested in everything which the Society did.

In the various historical societies in which Mr. Phillips was active, he was a terror to the young Ph.D.'s who had not had the opportunity to become intimately acquainted with him. He called himself a firm Republican, but he was really the last of the Federalists, and a great admirer of Timothy Pickering. To him, "That Man" meant Thomas Jefferson; he had no word for FDR. In his opinion, nothing of historical significance had occurred in the area between the Charles River and Hawaii. Although he regarded himself as a book collector, and did gather a good library, he lacked the usual collector's acquisitiveness and passion for condition. Instead, he studied the books which he gathered, and essayed them critically. He criticized even bibliographies soundly, not quibbling about details. Often when we professionals nominated one of our own number for membership in some society, he would scorch the nomination with a blast of detailed knowledge of the candidate's works and field of specialization which shamed us, his friends and colleagues.

He scorned Ph.D. scholarship as pedantic professionalism, the product of seven years of vocational education which lacked the graces of culture.

When Mr. Phillips told a young Doctor of Philosophy that he had no use for Ph.D.'s, he expected an equally frank expression of opinion in return. He was always ready to accept correction by a professional speaking in his own field, and he was always lavish in his praise of good historical writing. The greatest pleasure of advanced years, he said, was the fun of discussing "some unimportant point of history with one of your cronies who holds an entirely different view on the subject which you regard as erroneous." He quickly and completely forgave professional slights and insults which in most men would have rankled for years. Gentle in his social manner, he was always apologetic if he thought that he had caused anyone any inconvenience. We who knew him well loved him, but our sadness at his death, which occurred on July 6, 1955, is tempered by the fact that he so keenly felt that he had outlived his own times and generation. He is survived by a son, Stephen Phillips of Salem.

C. K. S.

HERBERT PUTNAM

Herbert Putnam was born in New York City on September 20, 1861, a son of George Palmer and Victorine (Haven) Putnam. The father was the founder of the publishing house of G. P. Putnam. Herbert was prepared for college by J. H. Morse of New York, and was graduated at Harvard in 1883. For a year he attended law lectures at Columbia, but in the fall of 1884 he went west to take charge of the library of the Minneapolis Athenaeum. On October 5, 1886, he married Charlotte Elizabeth Munroe of Cambridge, and the next year he went to England to buy books for the Athenaeum.

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