

Worcester members, other than college professors, ought to bear the expense of maintaining the Society. He set an example by his own very generous contributions to the Art Museum. After the death of Mrs. Bullock, the former Florence Armsby McClellan, in 1947, he began a measured relinquishment of his responsibility, but his interests remained quick until his sudden death on October 12, 1962. C. K. S.

JAMES WILLIAM FOSTER

James W. Foster, Director of the Maryland Historical Society, was born in Fauquier County, Virginia, on August 10, 1890, a son of James Robert and Frances B. (Robinson) Foster. He was educated at the Episcopal High School in Alexandria, and at the University of Virginia, where he took his B.A. in 1912 and his M.A. in 1913. His first job was that of a reporter on the *Baltimore News*, which he left to enter the Officers' Training School and to see service in France as a captain in the 58th Coast Artillery.

Back in Baltimore, Foster returned to the *News*, where he served as circulation manager and later in the advertising department. He left this to join an advertising firm, and then, in 1925, an investment securities house. In 1931 he quit business to join the staff of the Enoch Pratt Free Library, where he wrote articles on Maryland history, lectured, and cultivated potential donors of historical material. After seven years of this experience, he became associate head of the Maryland Room of the Enoch Pratt, and editor of the *Maryland Historical Magazine*.

When the directorship of the Maryland Historical Society fell vacant in 1942, some of the leading public figures of the State thought that Foster was the ideal man for the place, and he was appointed to it. He found the Society in the first stages of a shift from the status of a passive receiver of curios to that of a dynamic and forth-putting public service

institution. He did wonders in building up the membership, the museum, and the manuscript collection, while he cultivated the interest of school children and found time for historical research and writing of his own. When he took over the directorship he found a brisk exchange underway between the Historical Society, which was discarding non-Maryland material, and the American Antiquarian Society, which was then acquiring large numbers of duplicate newspapers. He quickly saw that both libraries would be greatly enriched by exchange, and never during the years that it ran did he stop to strike a balance or to ask a price unless he was acting for a donor. Our researches and his were parallel, so the bibliographical correspondence between us was tremendous. In 1945 he was elected to the American Antiquarian Society, and at its meeting of October, 1954, he read a paper on "Fielding Lucas, Jr., Early 19th Century Publisher of Fine Books and Maps," which was later published in our *Proceedings*.

When Foster this year completed plans for an additional library building to house the Manuscript Division, he felt that he could at last leave to other people the serving of scholars and the wooing of school children, and could get on with his own pet project, a biography of George Calvert. So, having in February announced his retirement as of August, he died suddenly on April 30, 1962. He leaves his widow, the former Dorothy Madison Brown, and two children, Ellen F., a librarian in Philadelphia, and James, Jr., director of the Santa Barbara Art Museum.

C. K. S.

JAMES ALTON JAMES

Dean James was born at Hazel Green, Grant County, Wisconsin, on September 17, 1864, the son of John R. and Mary J. James. He received academic degrees from Platteville State Normal School, 1884, the University of Wiscon-

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