

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

THE past six months have been marked by quiet prosperity. Large receipts of historical material, the publication of valuable papers and a fair use of our treasures, may be named as the chief points of interest in our Society-life during that period.

It is sometimes asked whether ours is a public or a private library. To this question your librarian has felt at liberty to reply that it may be called with at least a certain degree of propriety, a private library for the public good. The rules and regulations adopted by the Council and the Library Committee for the government of the library, are, as the Society's by-laws require, such as are "most conducive to the preservation and highest utility of the same." To this end, Section 1, under "Use of library" provides that "Members of the Society only are entitled to enter and remain in alcoves unattended, but for specific purposes, other persons may enter the alcoves when accompanied by the Librarian or Assistant, for the purpose of obtaining and consulting books, but shall not be allowed to remain in the alcoves unless authorized by a member of the Council." Section 2 provides that "Any person who desires to use books in the Library may be furnished with volumes for consultation upon application to the Librarian and Assistants." In the Society's earlier days its librarian was, to some extent at least, a law unto himself. I desire to testify after ten years trial, that the by-laws and rules adopted in the month following the death of the distinguished scholar and librarian who preceded me, have given aid and comfort to his successor. It is hoped that there may be a wide-spread

knowledge of the freedom of our treasure-house to members, as well as of the privileges granted to all others.

The Society's "Order of Performances" for only two years is known to have been preserved, and each is believed to be unique. A copy of the one used at the third anniversary celebration, on Monday, October 23, 1815, was reproduced in the librarian's report of October, 1890, and the other, which was distributed seventy-five years ago at the Stone Chapel in Boston, on the fourth anniversary, is now in like manner reproduced:—

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

ORDER OF PERFORMANCES

AT THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

AT THE STONE CHAPEL, ON WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 23, 1816.

- I. Voluntary, on the Organ.
 II. Prayer.
 III. Hymn.

- IV. ADDRESS by the Rev. WM. BENTLEY.
 V. Hymn.
 VI. Benediction.

HYMN I.

LET children hear the mighty deeds,
 Which GOD performed of old;
 Which in our younger years we saw,
 And which our fathers told.

He bids us make his glories known,
 His works of power and grace;
 And we'll convey his wonders down
 Through every rising race.

Our lips shall tell them to our sons,
 And they again to theirs;
 That generations yet unborn,
 May teach them to their heirs.

Thus shall they learn in GOD alone
 Their hope securely stands:
 That they may ne'er forget his works,
 But practice his commands.

HYMN II.

God of Eternity! from Thee
 Did infant Time its being draw;
 Moments and days, and months and years,
 Revolve by thy unvaried law.

Silent and slow they glide away;—
 Steady and strong the current flows;
 'Till lost in that unmeasur'd sea
 From which its being first arose.

The thoughtless sons of Adam's race
 Upon the rapid stream are borne,
 To that unseen, eternal home,
 From which no travellers return.

Great Source of Wisdom! teach our hearts
 To know the price of every hour;
 That Time may bear us on to joys,
 Beyond its measure and its power.

DOORS OPENED AT 3 O'CLOCK FOR THE ADMITTANCE OF LADIES.

The address delivered on the latter occasion by the Reverend William Bentley was found among the manuscripts bequeathed to the Society in 1875, by his nephew, Mr. William Bentley Fowle, and printed in a limited edition, the same year. Copies may be obtained of the librarian.

Recent applications to be allowed to deposit geological specimens in our cabinet have been reminders of a passage in Mr. William Lincoln's Council Report of May 29, 1839, in which he mentions "An extensive collection of foreign and native minerals and of shells, many of them of singular beauty and high scientific value, but not peculiarly appropriate to the objects of the Institution." It is the transfer of this and similar material which is referred to in the accompanying letter. Mention was made of this transfer in a former report of the librarian, as establishing an important precedent. It seems well to submit this communication of more than thirty-seven years ago and thus indicate another of the important steps which the Society has taken through its leaders, in the cause of education. Following is the letter:—

"Worcester, *May 30, 1854.*

To the Trustees of the American Antiquarian Society.

GENTLEMEN :

A number of gentlemen interested in the study of Natural History have recently organized a Society for the promotion of that study here. They have availed themselves of the charter of the Library Association, and are at present organized as a department of that Institution. They have already taken measures to establish a cabinet and have appointed their officers. It has been suggested that the Antiquarian Society will be willing to surrender to this new Society the charge of the collections of the old Worcester Natural History Society. I am directed therefore to make an application to your Board, on behalf of the new Society to ask if those collections can be transferred to us. A provision in our Constitution directs that in case of the failure of any special organization for the study of

Natural History, our collections shall be deposited with you.

Very respectfully, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

EDWARD E. HALE.

Chairman of the
Natural History Department
of the Young Men's Library Association.

It is a pleasure to be able to add that after living under various names, the Society, by an Act approved March 6, 1884, became the Worcester Natural History Society, that it has occupied the Edwin Conant homestead, recently bequeathed to it, that our President is one of its chief patrons and that members of our Council and Society have always been influential in the management of its affairs. One of its founders, Col. Thomas Wentworth Higginson, in our Proceedings of April 28, 1886, spoke of it as "a sort of offshoot of the American Antiquarian Society"; and if this be so your librarian will surely be excused for briefly calling your attention to so vigorous and so promising an offspring. I will also take the liberty of preserving in our Proceedings the following important facts relating to the period under consideration, from Mr. Nathaniel Paine's paper read before the Natural History Society, November 22, 1890, which were found in the newspapers of the period after the foregoing paragraphs were penned. Referring to the Worcester Lyceum and Library Association he said:—

"Perhaps the most important epoch in our history was in the spring of 1854. There were at that time quite a number of ladies and gentlemen of the Association who were more or less interested in the subject of natural history, and it was proposed to encourage this interest by means of the Library Association organization. The matter was brought before the Association at its annual meeting in April of that year, and was received with much favor, and in May, Rev. Edward E. Hale presented to the directors a plan for the organization of a natural history department of the Association. The manager of the new department, Mr. Hale, invited Prof. Louis Agassiz, the eminent naturalist, to visit

Worcester and advise them as to the best course to be pursued in starting the new department. October 24, 1854, Prof. Agassiz came to Worcester, and with the officers of the new department examined the collections of the Worcester Lyceum of Natural History, a society founded many years before [1825] and whose collections were deposited in the rooms of the American Antiquarian Society. By the consent of Levi Lincoln, Stephen Salisbury, Isaac Davis, Dr. John Green, Frederick W. Paine and a few other gentlemen, the survivors of the old Society, this collection was transferred to the new department and became the nucleus of the present fine cabinet of this Society."

Your librarian has received a communication to which he desires to call your attention. It contains the following paragraphs: "The *New England Magazine* for February, 1891, has a long story on Charlestown—murder of Capt. John Russell, 1755, reproduced in the local paper, and based on good historical authority. It is *out* on Charlestown. Russell is Codman, and dates and names are altered, etc. The jail at Worcester is described as a loathsome hole, in a granite quarry, overcrowded with criminals. Is there any truth in this part of the story? The tone of the article is to make matters look worse than they were—and they were bad enough at the best." The paper, which is by Mr. John Codman 2d, is entitled "A Story of Old Charlestown," and the reply to that portion of it which relates to the Worcester Jail may well be treated under two heads, viz.: the charge, and the answer thereto. And first as to the charge, which recites that—

"The day after the examination, the prisoners, Mark, Phyllis, Robin and others, clogged and chained, were transported by stage to the jail at Worcester,—for owing to the war and the turbulence of the times, those nearer Boston were overcrowded. This den, one of the worst in the country, was in an old worked-out granite quarry. Robin, as the only white man of the gang, first descended the ladder the length of the shaft which led to the caverns underground, where criminals of all grades were indiscriminately mingled: poor debtors, forgers from the pillory or the

whipping-post, counterfeiters with the letter "C" stamped on their foreheads, or with ears cropped, women who wore the scarlet letter, many whose arms were fresh from the branding-iron, murderers, and the perpetrators of the most heinous crimes. By the feeble light which penetrated the shaft Robin saw a crowd of repulsive, scarcely human faces waiting for him at the foot of the ladder, while their cries and ribald laughter and the blows of the keepers urged his descent. Manacled and powerless he fell from the ladder into the midst of the creatures who awaited him. They sprang upon him like bloodhounds, tore his clothes from his body, struck him, spat upon him. This only ceased when Robin, half senseless, was thrown into a blanket and tossed again and again from the muddy floor to the stone roof, striking each time with such force that but for the exhaustion of his tormentors they would have killed him. With money stolen from his clothes, they bought rum from their keepers, and a fiendish revel began, in the course of which their insensible victim was forgotten. In this place, Robin and his fellow-prisoners passed many months, each night confined in a little pen of wood, their feet fastened to iron bars and necks chained to rings in beams above them. Water oozed from the roof and trickled down upon them; masses of earth were constantly falling off. In the dampness and filth, what remnants of clothing were vouchsafed them grew mouldy, and their limbs became stiff with rheumatism. Vermin swarmed upon them, and not a ray of light reached their cells; they were without a window, a chimney, or even a hole in the wall."

A brief answer to the foregoing will be drawn from Mr. William Lincoln's *History of Worcester*, in which it is said of the jail of the period referred to, that it "stood on land of Stephen Salisbury, Esq., east of the south extremity of Lincoln street." The jail itself is minutely described as follows:—

"In 1753, a new gaol was built a few rods south of the former prison, 38 feet long, 28 feet wide, with 7 posts. The south end was studded with joist six inches square set five inches apart and filled between with stone and mortar. The top, sides and floor were covered inside and out with

oak plank fastened with a profuse use of iron spikes, and doors, windows and partitions were heavily grated."

Justice to the city in which we are met as well as to the second librarian of this Society who was the Historian *par excellence* of Worcester, with a desire to promote historical accuracy, have led your present librarian to deny the correctness of Mr. Codman's highly-colored picture of prison-life in Worcester in the year 1755. It could with more propriety be called an intensified representation of all the American prison miseries—so vividly described by McMaster—with others known before the era of prison reform, added thereunto.

During the six months immediately preceding October 15, 1891, we received gifts from two hundred and sixty-six sources, viz. : from forty-four members, one hundred and thirteen persons not members, and one hundred and nine societies and institutions; nine hundred and thirty-six books, fifty-one hundred and sixty pamphlets, one hundred and seventy-eight files of unbound newspapers, two framed and twenty-four unframed engravings, three framed and eleven unframed photographs, eleven maps, three manuscripts and one copper coin. By exchange, one hundred and thirty-nine books and twenty-one pamphlets; and from the bindery eighty-four volumes of newspapers, making a total of ten hundred and seventy-five books, fifty-one hundred and eighty-one pamphlets, eighty-four bound and one hundred and seventy-eight unbound volumes of newspapers, etc.

I note a few facts of interest in connection with the appended list of Givers and Gifts. Of the forty-four members therein, thirty—including nearly every member of the Council—have contributed works of their own. Vice-President Hoar's gift includes two photographs taken at Santo Domingo, May 22, 1891, one of which is marked "Casket containing the remains of Christopher Columbus (upper one the ashes)" and the other "End view of the Casket containing the remains of Christopher Columbus."

With Mr. Charles A. Chase's gift is a Confederate pass with the oath of allegiance, both of which are worthy of reproduction as fragments of history. Following are the pass and the oath which is upon the reverse thereof:—

“CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA,
WAR DEPARTMENT.

Richmond, *Sept. 25, 1862.*

Permission is granted
to visit *Augusta, Ga.* upon honor
not to communicate in writing or verbally, for publication, any
fact ascertained, which, if known to the enemy, might be inju-
rious to the Confederate States of America. (Subject to the
discretion of the military authorities.)

Manuel O'Neal

E. Griswold,

PROVOST MARSHAL.

I *Manuel O'Neal*, do
solemnly swear or affirm, that I will bear true faith and yield
obedience to the Confederate States of America, and that I will
serve them honestly and faithfully against their enemies.

Manuel O'Neal.

Richmond, *Sept. 25, 1862.*”

For the addition of five thousand dollars to what is now known as the Isaac and Edward L. Davis book fund, perhaps no one can be more grateful than your librarian. It has given him fresh courage in his special effort to secure the chief authorities mentioned in Bandelier's "Notes on the Bibliography of Yucatan and Central America," so many of which are already in our Davis Spanish-American alcove. Hon. John D. Washburn, United States Minister to Switzerland, in forwarding Dr. Carl Hilty's recent work on the Swiss Constitution speaks of it as "a very valuable contribution to the history of that most interesting country." Dr. George Chandler's gifts include those brought by his own hand, purchases by the fund which he has so wisely established, and some of the latest and best printed results of genealogical research secured by exchange for his faithful record

of the "Chandler Family." His worthy example, especially in presenting the remainder of the second edition of his great work for the upbuilding of our department of family history, may well be imitated by his associates and others. It has been thought wise to add to the Haven alcove Mr. Hubert Howe Bancroft's narrative portion of his historical series relating to the western half of North America. It has been truly said of the author that "Had he been the typical scholar and man of letters he would probably not have undertaken the task he did undertake." Mr. Bancroft has presented the Harper Brothers' reprint of his thirty-ninth and last volume, which is entitled "Literary Industries: a Memoir," it being a personal and minute account of the methods pursued in the thirty years required for the preparation and execution of his work. It is quite possible that the meeting of the American Library Association in San Francisco, the present month, may directly or indirectly suggest the future home of the Bancroft Library of fifty thousand closely related volumes. While the Pacific coast might well lay claim to it, a more central location would on some accounts seem more desirable. The last gift of the Hon. Hamilton B. Staples was his first contribution to our Proceedings, viz.: "A Day at Mount Vernon in 1797." It may be said of its author that he showed his love for this Society by answering all the calls which it made upon him. Since the judge's decease, we have received from Mrs. Staples a copy of his "Origin of the Names of the States of the Union," to fill an order given by a leader of the Massachusetts Bar, who said, "I wish it, also, as a souvenir of one whose courtesy both on the bench and in private life I shall always recall with most affectionate feelings." Mr. J. Fletcher Williams, our only Minnesota member, has from time to time purchased for us new histories relating to that State. His latest gift is the Memorial History of St. Paul, recently published, which contains his exhaustive history of the Press, with a short biographical sketch of the author.

Grateful mention should be made of the large contribution from the libraries of the late John Quincy Adams, sixth President of the United States, and of his son, the late Hon. Charles Francis Adams. This material from the Adams family has been selected under their direction by Mr. Theodore F. Dwight, a member of this Society. The Reverend Narcisse Cyr has added value to his gift of various photographs of foreign persons and places, by sending a descriptive letter relating thereto. Mrs. George F. Hoar and Mrs. William W. Rice have made a large deposit of books, pamphlets and newspapers received from their father, the late Mr. Henry W. Miller, of Worcester; and one of a similar character has been made by the heirs of Mrs. Francis H. Kinnicutt. Amos R. Thomas, M.D., in presenting a copy of his "Descendants of William Thomas, of Hardwick, Mass." says "Claiming kinship with the illustrious founder of your Society, Isaiah Thomas, LL.D., it is with special interest that I offer this volume for a place on the shelves of your library." We have received from the library of our late associate, Charles O. Thompson, Ph.D., after a second personal conference with Mrs. Thompson, four cases of books and pamphlets, chiefly educational. The family of Dr. Thompson have been anxious to carry out his expressed wishes so far as possible. To this end his valuable collection relating to Dartmouth College, his *Alma Mater*, is included in the gift. A most valuable accession is the first report of the Massachusetts Library Commissioners, prepared by its chairman, Mr. C. B. Tillinghast, State Librarian. If the doctrine, *Qui facit per alium facit per se*, still prevails, we may, perhaps, justly speak of it as *our* first year's work, for Mr. Samuel S. Green, of our Council, and our associate, Hon. Henry S. Nourse are members of this most excellent Board. In a number of the Transactions of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec just received, is the following, which is reprinted both in the spirit of reciprocity and as a note of warning: "Lost or

Removed from the Library of the Quebec Literary and Historical Society, Morrin College Building, St. Stanislaus Hill, two volumes of the Quebec Herald, 1788 to 1790. Size, $10\frac{1}{4}$ in. x $8\frac{1}{4}$ in. x $\frac{7}{8}$ in. thick; without covers, for the person who removed them left the covers behind. These missing volumes, or any information relating thereto, will be thankfully received by the Custodian of the Library, or F. C. Würtele, Librarian."

We have received from Mr. Henry H. Edes, a member of the revision committee, the Rolls of Membership in the New England Historic Genealogical Society, recently printed. The committee have been reminded, doubtless, of the Introduction addressed "To the Christian Reader" in Mr. Henry Stevens's "Catalogue of my English Library"—published in 1853—in which he says "If you are troubled with a pride of accuracy and would have it completely taken out of you, print a catalogue." This observation applies, though possibly not with equal force, to catalogues of both persons and things. There appears to be at present no uniformity whatever in the preparation of membership lists, and perhaps it is not important that there should be. In the year 1876, Mr. Stevens—already cited—dedicated his Photo-Bibliography "To the Librarian of the Future whose Bibliography is to be as Exact and Uniform as his Spelling." It would seem to be as safe to predict uniformity in the membership rolls of the future as in the department mentioned. But however that may be, such carefully prepared works as this to which your attention has been called, are labor-saving helps which can be fully appreciated only by those who have frequent occasion to use them. I might add that your librarian has given considerable time to the verification and correction of the Genealogical Society lists, so far as they relate to past and present members of this Society, and that in this effort light was received as well as given. It is interesting to note that the discrepancy of a single day in the date of decease as recorded in the earlier

newspapers, is sometimes accounted for by the fact that "died last night" really means after midnight, *i. e.*, this morning, and "last Thursday night" may also mean after midnight and therefore more exactly Friday morning, thus confusing the later chronicler who desires strict accuracy in dates. Additions and corrections to our List of Members January 1, 1890, will always be entered in our interleaved copy and thus be ready for the next printed issue.

Our third librarian gave to this Society a golden text when he said "I will not eulogize a man dead or alive at the expense of truth." Your present librarian notes with genuine regret the death of Mr. F. W. Christern, for many years our New York agent for foreign purchases. It has been truthfully said by one who evidently knew him, that "He was most genial and most respected; blest with obligingness which was inexhaustible."

Our collection of portraits has in late years answered many questions, not only for the historical writer and illustrator but for the historical painter and sculptor as well. When Mr. J. Q. A. Ward was about to begin work upon his statue of The Puritan now in Central Park, New York, he sketched the dress of Gov. John Winthrop, as represented in our oil portrait. He was also much interested in drawing the details of the Continental costume as shown in our portrait of Col. John May, painted by Gullager during the war of the Revolution. With regard to the latter he said that while he could readily examine General Washington's costume so carefully preserved under glass, it was much more important for his purpose to be able to see this officer in his uniform and to know that the presentment upon the canvas is original and real. Facts regarding this interesting but not widely known character, who served his country both as non-commissioned and commissioned officer during the war of the Revolution and subsequently, may be found in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* of January, 1873; in Mr. Nathaniel Paine's "Portraits and

Busts in Public Buildings at Worcester, Mass., in 1876"; and in a *Genealogy of the Descendants of John May*, published in 1878; and therefore need not here be repeated. As, however, the authors do not agree as to the date of the Colonel's decease, it seems best to fix it by contemporary history and at the same time to add a few minor facts not therein mentioned. For this purpose I quote from the *Weekly Messenger*, Boston, Friday, July 17, 1812, as follows: "Yesterday morning suddenly, John May, Esq., Æt. 63 years. His funeral will proceed from his late mansion in Fish Street at 5 o'clock this afternoon, when the relations and friends are invited to attend without further notice." Also, from the *Centinel*, Boston, Saturday, July 18, 1812, the following: "In this town on Thursday morning of a paralysis, John May, Esq., Æt. 63. By the death of Col. May the town is deprived of a judicious and faithful officer and the public of an active, useful and benevolent citizen: to his family the loss is irreparable. His funeral took place yesterday, attended by the Selectmen, Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company," &c., &c. Thus it would appear that Col. May died Thursday, July 16, and not July 13, as given by two of the authorities named.

Our portrait of Rev. Aaron Bancroft, D.D., has been copied by Mr. Edwin T. Billings by order of his son, lately deceased, and placed in Channing Memorial Hall, Boston. And here I may be allowed to make a correction or perhaps better, to report a decision as to the name of the painter of this beautiful portrait. It has several times been attributed in print to Chester Harding but was undoubtedly the work of Mr. Alvan Fisher, an artist who lived in Boston in 1827-28, and possibly later. Light upon the subject has been obtained from the following sources: Mr. Billings writes, "My impression is that the original portrait was painted by Chester Harding, but as he had imitators it may have been painted by Mr. Fisher." This first impression was held by others, but the evidence seems to be strongly

against it. Mr. Haven says in his Librarian's report October 21, 1863: "Mrs. Davis has also deposited the fine portrait of her father, the late Rev. Dr. Aaron Bancroft, painted (by Fisher) at the request of some of his friends." Our associate, Hon. J. C. Bancroft Davis, in a letter to the librarian, confirms this view. He says, "Mr. Haven was right, Fisher was the name of the artist who painted the portrait of my grandfather. My recollection is that he was from Boston. I was a very young child when the picture was painted about 1827, 8 or 9, but I remember it very well, though I cannot say now what Mr. Fisher's Christian name was, nor quite certainly whether he was from Boston."¹ That Fisher was the artist would seem to be a fixed fact. Mr. William Dunlap, in his *History of the Rise and Progress of the Arts of Design in the United States*, calls him "that excellent artist and estimable man." Mr. Samuel L. Gerry, in his illustrated paper on the old artists of Boston, which appeared in the February number of the *New England Magazine* of the current year, referring to his companions, says, "About this time, say 1833, the four walls of the Harding gallery were covered by a joint exhibition of four artists, viz.: Chester Harding, Alvan Fisher, Thomas Doughty and Francis Alexander." He further observes that Fisher "sought the White Hills and was often with Doughty and Harding an *habitué* of Thompson's little tavern at North Conway," adding that "those pioneers of the mountains were about half artist and half trout fishermen." It is apparent that such works of art as have been herein referred to are useful in other ways and for other purposes than as mere object lessons. Their great value for reproduction alone, and thus their protection from absolute loss by fire or otherwise, can hardly be over-estimated. We are encouraged to hope that the valuable

¹ It is probable that the date is 1832-3 as the reverse of the canvas is marked, apparently by the artist,—"A. Bancroft, Æt. 77," and his birthday was November 10, 1755.

portrait gallery now collecting under this roof will be amply provided for in that spacious, well-lighted and fire-proof library building of the future. Perhaps the surest way of adding to such a collection of portraits, and being ready for special opportunities, would be the establishment of an art fund for that purpose. And here the fact is once more noted that we still greatly desire an oil portrait of Hon. Edward Everett, our president from 1841 to 1853, that our set of deceased presiding officers may be made complete. The Society's early interest in the securing of portraits is indicated by the following paragraphs from Librarian Christopher C. Baldwin's diary, dated Greenfield, September 16, 1833: "I must not omit to mention what I saw in Judge Newcomb's parlor. It was a full-length likeness of General Warren, by Copley, in the most perfect preservation; and also that of his lady, by the same artist. I cannot describe the pleasure I had in looking at them. As a portrait the likeness of the General was much the better. I could not get them for the Library of the Antiquarian Society though I projected several schemes to that end." We may well wonder what became of the coveted treasures.¹ In this connection it may be added that the same diary, of date June 1, 1834, also preserves the following facts of special interest to this Society, viz.: "William Bentley Fowle, Esq., gave me this information in relation to the painting of Saint John which hangs in the Library. Some sailors from his uncle's Parish in Salem were at Leghorn at the time Bonaparte was transferring the paintings and statuary from Italy to Paris. As those articles were brought to Leghorn in their passage to Paris, these Salem sailors were required to render some assistance relating to them, and as they did not understand French, could only understand by signs what was doing. When they found out that the whole of the paintings and statuary had been stolen, one of them cried out

¹ These portraits, which were for a time on exhibition in the Corcoran Art Gallery in Washington, were afterward in the possession of the late Dr. Buckminster Brown of Boston.— See *Memorial History of Boston*, III., 60-63.

‘Parson Bentley must have some of them’ and thereupon seized this Saint John, brought it to Salem and gave it to him, and at his decease, he bequeathed it to the Antiquarian Society.”

Information is desired as to the name of the artist who modelled our wonderfully life-like medallion of Governor James Sullivan. Possibly both the art and the name of the artist are lost, but it is known that a Polish exile of family and education who was befriended by Levi Lincoln, senior, when Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts under Governor Sullivan in 1807 and 1808, produced this medallion of the Governor, and one of the Lieutenant-Governor now owned by Mrs. John W. Wetherell, of Worcester. It is also known that similar work was done by C. Rauschner in 1810, two years after the death of Governor Sullivan, but our late associate, Mr. Thomas C. Amory, in his *Life of Sullivan*, makes no mention of the likeness. Such work is “worthy to be had in remembrance” and the name of the worker may well be earnestly sought that we may honor it. I have placed the medallion upon the office table and with it a small but interesting collection of silhouettes, photographs and engraved heads, for identification. A like desire for information leads me to ask for light as to Mr. Talcott, a peripatetic artist who sometime after 1836 painted our curious, full-length portrait of Mr. Robert Bailey Thomas, of Farmer’s Almanack fame. It may interest members to know that this portrait has been photographed for reproduction in number 100 of the Almanack, it being that for the year 1892, and that the Hon. Samuel A. Green, M.D., has prepared a brief sketch of Mr. Thomas to accompany it.¹ Again, our first printed list of givers and gifts which was published with a communication from the President, October 24, 1814, and is headed “Articles

¹ Another likeness of Mr. Thomas may be found in the issues of 1837 and 1838, and a “Concise Memoir”—autobiographical—in those of 1833 to 1837 inclusive, and 1839.

Presented to the Society since October, 1813," contains the following exasperating entry: "Portrait of Charles Paxton, Esq., Painted by Copley—By a Lady." This fine portrait which hangs alongside our north staircase is, with hardly a shadow of doubt, a Copley, but whence did it come to us? Neither the "Book of Donations" nor the correspondence of the period helps us in our search.

It is just three-score years and ten since the Committee to report on the state of the library — Rejoice Newton and Samuel Jennison — said, "Thus far the Society has proceeded under favorable auspices. It remains for its members, by their exertions, to justify the confidence inspired by its early promise. While these are continued we may reasonably flatter ourselves that it will reflect honour on its founders, prove an object of publick utility and vindicate its claim to publick patronage." To which I may be allowed to add that we need not apologize for our past and that the signs are full of hope for our future.

Respectfully submitted.

EDMUND M. BARTON,

Librarian.

Givers and Gifts.

FROM MEMBERS.

- ADAMS, MR. HENRY, Washington, D. C.—His “Historical Essays.”
- BANCROFT, MR. HUBERT H., San Francisco, Cal.—His “Literary Industries: a Memoir.”
- BARTON, MR. EDMUND M., Worcester.—“St. Andrew’s Cross”; and “St. John’s Echo,” in continuation.
- BARTON, WM. SUMNER, Esq., Worcester.—Three books; and seventy-five pamphlets.
- BELL, HON. CHARLES H., Exeter, N. H.—His “New Hampshire at Bunker Hill.”
- BRINTON, DANIEL G., M.D., Philadelphia, Pa.—One pamphlet.
- CHANDLER, GEORGE, M.D., Worcester.—“Genealogy of the Ames Family”; three books; and twenty pamphlets.
- CHASE, CHARLES A., Esq., Worcester.—Five books; one hundred and sixty-nine miscellaneous pamphlets; eight lithographs; one manuscript; and one photograph.
- CLARKE, MR. ROBERT, Cincinnati, Ohio.—The “Twentieth and Twenty-first Reunions of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland”; and Green’s “Spanish Conspiracy.”
- DAVIS, ANDREW MCF., S.B., Cambridge.—Ten books; and two hundred and twenty-one pamphlets.
- DAVIS, HON. EDWARD L., Worcester.—Two books; and ninety-one pamphlets.
- DAVIS, HON. HORACE, *President*, San Francisco, Cal.—His “Biennial Report of the University of California.”
- DEXTER, Prof. FRANKLIN B., New Haven, Conn.—Davis’s “Four Rocks, with Walks and Drives about New Haven” and “Yale University Obituary Record, 1890-91.”
- EDES, MR. HENRY H., Charlestown.—“Rolls of Membership of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society, 1844-1890”; and two pamphlets.
- FOSTER, MR. WILLIAM E.—Two pamphlets.
- GAGE, THOMAS H., M.D., Worcester.—His Address at the Jubilee

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