

Memoir of Hon. Stephen Salisbury, LL.D. Reprinted, Worcester, 1885. 8°. pp. 58. Of his public addresses five were printed by him: An Address, July 4, 1876, at Lancaster, Mass. 8°. pp. 58; Remarks of John D. Washburn and Reply of Francis W. Bird in Mass. House of Representatives, May 16, 1878. 8°. pp. 10; Memorial Address at Lancaster, Mass., May 29, 1880. Worcester, 1880. 8°. pp. 15; One-and-twenty years from Sumter, an Oration before Francis Washburn Post, No. 92, G. A. R., at Brighton, June 4, 1882. Worcester, 1882. 8°. pp. 29; Poem at the one hundredth anniversary of the Worcester Fire Society, January 21, 1893. Worcester, 1893. 8°. pp. 8. These compositions give us some evidence of his varied talents, his taste in historical studies, and his lofty ideals respecting the duties of the citizen; and I think we may see in their literary style, and especially in that of the addresses with their exuberance of illustration and rhetorical phrase, something of the man himself. His extraordinary gifts of memory stood in the way of his acquiring in early life the habit of persistent industry, which might have made him a profound scholar or a famous lawyer.

H. S. N.

WILLIAM WIRT HENRY. On the fifth day of December, 1900, died in the city of Richmond, Va., William Wirt Henry, grandson of the orator and statesman, Patrick Henry. He was born February 14th, 1831, at "Red Hill," Charlotte Co., Va. Mr. Henry was the eldest son of John and Elvira Bruce Henry, and his father was the youngest son of Patrick Henry and his second wife Dorothea Spottswood Dandridge. His mother, Elvira Bruce, was the granddaughter of Col. William Cabell, of "Union Hill," Amherst Co., Va.

Mr. Henry graduated as Master of Arts at the University of Virginia, in 1850. Three years later he commenced the practice of law in Charlotte, and was for some years Commonwealth's Attorney for that county. Before the war he was a member of the Whig party, and was opposed to secession till the alternative of the coercion of South Carolina was presented. After the ordinance of secession he was one of the first to volunteer for service, and en-

listed in an artillery company, commanded by Capt. Charles Bruce.

In 1873 he came to Richmond, and in 1877 he was elected to the House of Delegates, and two years later to a seat in the State Senate. In both of these bodies he was a distinguished member.

At the bar Mr. Henry stood among the very first lawyers of Virginia. He was counsel in a great many important cases in the State and Federal Courts, and received a lucrative income from his profession.

But great as his political services undoubtedly were, and universally conceded as was his political ability, the work he performed in the literary world raised even more lasting monuments to his genius and attainments. The large number of historical and religious works which he left behind him, exhibit the united results of his large experience in political and legal affairs, and his extensive studies in the domestic and economic history of Virginia and the United States. He was an all round scholar, and his conversation drew upon a treasure-house of anecdote and information.

It was the good fortune of the writer to know Mr. Henry, during a period of twenty years, and he had therefore ample opportunities to compare him with other distinguished men in Virginia. He has no hesitation in saying, that while there may have been some more eminent along particular lines, none stood on so high a plane of general ability and accomplishments as Mr. Henry. The most famous of his literary works is his "Life and Letters of Patrick Henry," published in three large volumes. It is difficult to say to which of the two, Patrick Henry or his grandson William Wirt Henry, the book is a greater monument. It established the title of the author as one of the first American scholars and historians, and it gave to the public for the first time a true idea of the colossal proportions of Patrick Henry as a lawyer, statesman and orator. His literary qualities were recognized by both Washington and Lee University and William and Mary College; both of which conferred upon Mr. Henry the honorary degree of LL.D. He was for some time president of the Virginia Historical Society, president of the American Historical Association, president of the Vir-

ginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, chairman of the advisory board of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, president of the Richmond City Bar Association, president of the State Bar Association, president of the Scotch-Irish Society of Virginia, and member of the Board of Trustees of Hampden-Sidney College, member of the Mass. Historical Society, the Long Island Historical Society, the Southern Historical Society, American Antiquarian Society, the Bible Society of Virginia, the Scotch-Irish Society of America, and the Board of Trustees of the Peabody Fund.

Mr. Henry was commissioner from Virginia at the centennial celebration of the formation of the United States Constitution. As a representative of the American Historical Association he attended in 1898 the Congress of History at The Hague.

He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and took great interest in all matters relating to its welfare.

In 1854 Mr. Henry married Lucy Gray Marshall, daughter of Col. Gray P. Marshall, of Charlotte Co., Va. He left four children surviving him. The deceased was in his seventieth year, and enjoyed good health till the spring before his death. In expectation of improving his health he spent a portion of the summer following at the White Sulphur Springs. Though he was not permanently benefited, Mr. Henry resumed his duties at the law office of Henry and Williams, in which he was senior partner. Early in November, however, his health became such as to confine him to the house, and thereafter he declined steadily. His death was attributed to heart failure.

He was widely known throughout the United States, and his death was deeply regretted by his numerous friends and acquaintances, who admired him for the rich treasures of his mind and heart.

L. G. TYLER.

THE VERY REV. MICHAEL CHARLES O'BRIEN, who had been a member of our Society since its October meeting in 1900, died at his home in Bangor, Maine, November 11, 1901. During his short period of membership he had not attended the Society's meetings or contributed to

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