

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THE Council of the American Antiquarian Society present their report for the six months ending October 1, 1904, being the ninety-second year since the foundation of the Society.

It first becomes their sad duty to record the death of members of the Society since the semi-annual meeting in April. It is especially so at this time as they have to announce the death (on the morning of September 30), of Hon. GEORGE FRISBIE HOAR, our revered and faithful first Vice-President. His name was third on our list of members, in order of election, he having been connected with the Society for over fifty years. He had been a Vice-President since 1887, and for three years previously was President. A special meeting of the Council was held on the day of his funeral to take action on his death, at which time President SALISBURY presented a formal and appreciative memorial of our associate. All the members of the Council who were present spoke in eulogistic terms of Senator Hoar, expressing their esteem for him as a friend, a man and a statesman. The action of the Council was referred to the Committee of Publication, and it will appear in the next number of the "Proceedings." HENRY WALBRIDGE TAFT, A.M., of Pittsfield, who was elected a member of the Society in October, 1884, died at his home, September 22, 1904. Mr. Taft had never attended our meetings, but he manifested his interest, from time to time, by contributions of books and pamphlets. Notice of him will be prepared by our Biographer.

During the last six months neat labels have been affixed to the portraits on the walls in the entrance lobby and

in the office of the Librarian, which will undoubtedly be appreciated by the many visitors to our Hall.

It will be remembered that in 1883 "A Partial Index to the Proceedings" was prepared under the direction of Mr. Salisbury, and that at the same time a table of contents of the "Archæologia Americana" to that time was also made. It is now contemplated by the Council to have a table of contents prepared of the last fifteen volumes of the Proceedings, being from October, 1880, to and including October, 1903.

The annual reports of the Treasurer and Librarian are presented as a part of the report of the Council, and will give in detail the condition of the departments under their care, which renders it unnecessary for the committee to add anything more at this time.

Mention should be made however that Judge SAMUEL UTLEY, our Biographer, is having prepared appropriate notices of members who have died during the past few years, that have not heretofore appeared in our Proceedings.

George Douglas Campbell, 8th Duke of Argyll, was born on April 30, 1823, and died on April 23, 1900.

He had a long and distinguished career, during which he was twice Postmaster-General and three times Lord Privy Seal, and was also Secretary for India. He was author of many books dealing with an unusually wide variety of subjects, such as "Presbytery Examined," in which he defends Presbyterianism, and the "Reign of Law," an exceedingly able discussion of the Theistic View of Creation, "The New British Constitution and its Master Builders," and also of articles on geology, ornithology and zoölogy, and the theories of Henry George and of Darwin. He became a member of this Society in 1869.

He was of the famous family of Campbell, noted for many generations, the second Duke being sometimes held to have been in ability second only to Marlborough. The present Duke of Argyll, favorably known in this country as formerly Governor-General of Canada, married the Princess Louise, daughter of Queen Victoria.

A brief tribute to the late Duke may be found in Higginson's "English Statesmen," page 175.

Moses Coit Tyler, a member of this Society since 1879, was born in Griswold, Connecticut, Aug. 2nd, 1835, and died at Ithaca, N. Y., Dec. 28th, 1900. While he was an infant his family went West, settling in Detroit, Mich., where his youth was passed. In 1853 he entered the University of Michigan, but after a year he went to Yale College, where he graduated in 1857. From 1857 to 1859, he studied theology at Yale and Andover, and was then pastor of Congregational churches in Owego and Poughkeepsie, N. Y., till 1862 when his health failed.

After spending several years in Europe he became, in 1867, Professor of English Literature at the University of Michigan, where he remained, save for a short period of editorial work, until 1881, when he was called to the chair of American History at Cornell University, which was created for him and was the first of its kind in this country. This chair he held during life.

In 1878 he published a history of "American Literature, 1607-1765," which was followed in 1897 by his "Literary History of the American Revolution,"—which are his principal works, although he also published numerous other books, pamphlets and magazine articles of great value.

His "History of American Literature" is said to have been not only the first on the subject, but to have practically created the subject. His works are much commended for their thoroughness.

A notice of him by Prof. George L. Burr, of Cornell University, is published in the Proceedings of the American Historical Association for 1901, which suggests that a more elaborate memorial of him by the same author is to follow.

William Stubbs, Bishop of Oxford, was born in Knaresborough, England, June 21, 1825, was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, was elected to a fellowship in Trinity College, took holy orders in 1858, received the appointment of Professor of Modern History in Oxford in 1866, which he held until 1884 when he became Bishop of Chester, and from 1889 was Bishop of Oxford during

life. Many of his works treat of historical matters connected with the English Church. His "Constitutional History of England" is very able and of high authority.

He gave Oxford a new rank as a seat for historical research, which his successors, Freeman and Froude, well conserved.

A member of this Society since 1893, he died April 22, 1901.

A notice of him may be found in the Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society for June, 1901.

Edward Eggleston was born at Vevay, Indiana, on Dec. 10, 1837, and died on Sept. 3, 1902.

His father, who was a lawyer of Virginian ancestry, soon died, and by reason of delicate health the son was not able to secure a systematic education. For a time he was a Methodist circuit preacher, but soon became connected with newspapers in Chicago, and in 1870 took the position of editor of the *New York Independent*. Later he was pastor of an independent church in Brooklyn, N. Y., but after 1879 he devoted himself to literary work.

As a writer of fiction he dealt largely with Hoosier life. As an historian he wrote concerning certain aspects of American history; and he also delivered lectures at Chautauqua and similar places.

Appreciative notices of him and his work may be found in "Writers of Today," by Henry C. Vedder, and in "Authors at Home," edited by J. L. & J. B. Gilders.

His connection with this Society dates from 1893.

Horace Gray became a member of this Society in 1860. Born in Boston, March 24th, 1828, he was graduated at Harvard in 1845. As a partner with Judge E. R. Hoar, he practised law in Boston, and he was also the reporter of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts from 1854 to 1861. In 1864 he was appointed justice of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, being probably the youngest who has held that office. From 1873 to 1881 he was Chief Justice of that Court and then became Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, which office he held till his death. He had sat on the bench of Courts of Last Resort for thirty-eight years, an almost

unparalleled record, which it was his wish to round to full forty years, but this was denied him.

As a judge he early took his place among the ablest, and held that position through life. He had a taste for the historical aspect of the law, and wrote many opinions showing a vast array of learning. The bar of the United States Supreme Court on Dec. 13th, 1902, paid full tribute to his memory in proceedings published in the "United States Supreme Court Reports," vol. 187, page 25, and also in pamphlet form, as did the bar of the State of Massachusetts, in proceedings published in "Massachusetts Reports," vol. 182, page 613. The action of the Massachusetts Historical Society may be found in its second series of "Proceedings," vol. 16, and a memoir by our late associate, Hon. George F. Hoar, is in vol. 18.

He died on Sept. 15, 1902.

Joseph Williamson was born in Belfast, Maine, Oct. 5, 1828, and died there Dec. 4, 1902.

Mr. Williamson graduated from Bowdoin College in 1849, was admitted to the bar in 1852, and practised law in his native city during his life. In 1853 he was appointed Judge of the Police Court of Belfast, and on the expiration of his term of office was unanimously re-elected. He was also an alderman and for some years city solicitor.

With his father, he completed a continuous professional career of nearly ninety years on the same spot, with the same sign. As a lawyer he was careful and painstaking, thoroughly investigating whatever he had in hand, and the highest court of his state paid cordial tribute to the value of his legal arguments. In the days before specialization divided the professions into classes, the practice of law in a seaboard city covered law, equity and admiralty, so that the successful lawyer dealing with a wide variety of subjects came to know "something of everything" if not "everything of something." This was the life of Judge Williamson, his recreation being found in history and biography, in which he early showed an interest which he maintained till the last. In youth he prepared a history of Belfast, which later was expanded into a more comprehensive work, and just before death he completed a final volume, so that in it his youth and old age join hands.

He was a member of many historical, genealogical and similar societies, and for them he prepared numerous articles, the "History of Belfast," before mentioned, with his bibliography of Maine being the most important.

An appreciative memoir of him may be found in "The New England Historical and Genealogical Register," vol. 57, pages 3-5, from which this notice is taken.

He became a member of this Society in 1897.

Frederick Temple was the son of an army officer, and was born on Nov. 30, 1821, in Santa Maura, on one of the Ionian Islands. He graduated at Oxford in 1842, was tutor in his college for about six years, and then became successively principal of the Government Training School at Kneller Hall, Inspector of Schools, and Head Master at Rugby, holding the latter position for eleven years.

In 1860, he wrote an essay on the "Education of the World," published together with six others by different writers as "Essays and Reviews." These are said to have caused the greatest sensation of the nineteenth century in the English Church, though they would now be regarded as truisms. Dr. Temple was a warm supporter of Mr. Gladstone, and by him in 1869 was nominated to the Bishopric of Exeter, which caused a great commotion in clerical circles, but he was duly confirmed, holding this position till 1885, when he was made Bishop of London, and in 1896 was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury, thus becoming the highest subject in the realm. In this office he died on Dec. 23, 1902.

As an administrator Dr. Temple was unexcelled, and was noted for the strictest impartiality. While head master at Rugby an indignant boy said, "Temple is a beast, but he is a just beast," which the master said was one of the greatest compliments ever paid him. It has been said that he well represented the national conscience. He was a strong advocate of temperance, and insisted that conscience is the only judge of Holy Scriptures. As a wit he has had no equal among English churchmen since Sydney Smith. Dr. Temple should be held in grateful remembrance in this country, on account of his aid in restoring the Bradford History, the initiative in which

was taken by our late associate Senator Hoar, this Society joining with other similar societies and with the Governor of Massachusetts therein. In recognition of this act our Society elected him a member in 1897. A full account of the proceedings was published by the State of Massachusetts, with the "Bradford History," and by Senator Hoar in his "Reminiscences," vol. 2, page 234.

An excellent life of Dr. Temple by C. H. Dant has been recently published.

William Edward Hartpole Lecky was born at Newton Park, near Dublin, in Ireland, on March 26, 1838, and died on Oct. 23, 1903.

His father had married an English wife, and died while his son was young. Graduating at Trinity College, Dublin, the son studied divinity with reference to entering the Irish branch of the English Church, but literature and politics soon claimed his attention. In 1861 he published anonymously, his "Leaders of Public Opinion in Ireland," which was later issued under his own name. His "History of the Rise and Influence of Rationalism in Europe," published when he was twenty-seven years of age, and his "History of European Morals from Augustus to Charlemagne," appearing four years later, are very remarkable books for so young a man, and with his "History of England in the Eighteenth Century," constitute his principal literary works, though he was the author of many important essays and other articles, as well as a volume of poems.

In his "History of England," he gave a full account of the American troubles, as also of the difficulties between England and Ireland.

In 1896 he became member of Parliament for Dublin University, and he remained its representative until compelled by ill health to resign. In 1897 he was made Privy Councillor, and after the coronation, the king placed him among the twelve distinguished men who were the original members of the Order of Merit.

Full and critical notices of him may be found in the *London Times* of Oct. 24, 1903, and in "Warner's Library," vol. 22, page 8,929.

He became a member of this Society in 1891.

Christian Matthias Theodor Mommsen died on Nov. 1, 1903, having been a member of this Society since 1870.

He was born on Nov. 30, 1817, studied at Kiel from 1838 to 1843, and then travelled, while still pursuing his studies; and he was also an editor for a short time. In 1848 he was Professor of Law at Leipzig, but was removed for political reasons, and then for a time was Professor of Roman Law at Zurich, and after 1858 was Professor of Ancient History at Berlin. His first work was published when he was twenty-six years old, and a list of his writings, published in 1887, contains sixty printed pages. Of his works his "Roman History" is the most important. He is regarded as the greatest of modern German historians, and also has high rank as a jurist. Freeman called him the greatest scholar of our times. The policy of Bismarck was bitterly opposed by him.

As illustrating the change in historical methods, it is said, that he declined to speak on Gibbon, as the critical apparatus of the eighteenth century was so defective from the standpoint of the modern German historian he was afraid that he could not do Gibbon justice. The late Lord Acton said that Mommsen named Macaulay as the greatest historian the world has produced.

Notices of him may be found in *The Nation* of Nov. 12, 1903, *The Outlook*, Dec. 5, 1903, and in "Warner's Library," vol. 26, page 10,206.

Hermann Eduard von Holst was born in Russia, June 19, 1841, was educated at Heidelberg, and in 1866 settled in St. Petersburg.

While travelling in Germany in 1867 he published a pamphlet severely criticising the Russian government, and was forbidden to return; after which he spent several years in the city of New York engaged in literary work. In 1872 he became a professor in Strassburg University, and was called to the chair of Modern History at Freiburg in 1874. He visited this country, lectured at Johns Hopkins University, and in 1892 was placed at the head of the historical department of the University of Chicago, where he remained till his health failed in 1899, returning to Germany in 1900, where he died Jan. 20, 1904.

He stands in the first rank among the foreign literary men who have closely studied this country and its institutions. His "Constitutional and Political History of the United States" gives the anti-slavery view, without presenting such strong factors as the building of railroads, the increase of wealth and other material causes which have played such part in the development of the country. This work, his "Constitutional Law of the United States," his "Life of John C. Calhoun" and his "Life of John Brown" are his principal publications. A very intense man himself, he did not always find it easy to admire that quality in others.

Of the leaders of the French Revolution he approved chiefly of Mirabeau. He felt deep sorrow over the Spanish War and its consequences, as being detrimental to republican institutions.

A full notice of him may be found in "Warner's Library," vol. 19, page 7,496.

His connection with this Society dates from 1882.

Leslie Stephen, a member of this Society since 1901, died Feb. 22, 1904. He was born in London, Nov. 28, 1832, and was educated at King's College, London, and at Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

From 1864 to 1872 he was engaged in editorial pursuits, and then took charge of the "Dictionary of National Biography"; a highly important work, the first twenty-six volumes of which were published under his charge. He was the author of several books on miscellaneous subjects, as well as biographies of Pope, Swift, Johnson and Henry Fawcett, and he issued an edition of Fielding. For a time he held the Clark Lectureship on English Literature at Cambridge.

His first wife was a daughter of William M. Thackeray. As a critic he stood in the first line, impartial and of sound judgment. The "Atlantic Monthly" published a series of reminiscences by him, giving a graphic description of a publisher's trials with authors.

With John Bright and others he favored the Union cause in the Civil War, and came over here that he might understand the issue and the temper of the parties.

Henry Walbridge Taft was born on Nov. 13, 1818, and died in Pittsfield, Mass., Sept. 22, 1904.

After a short period of newspaper work he studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1841, practising in West Stockbridge till 1853, when he became Register of Probate and moved to Lenox, then the county seat. This office he held two years, and was then appointed Clerk of Courts for Berkshire County, holding this position till 1897, when on account of failing health he declined re-election.

He resided in Pittsfield after that city became the county seat, and in 1881 was elected president of the Third National Bank of Pittsfield, and was its head till death. He was a learned and able lawyer with a broad and analytical mind, had a very sunny disposition, and his long tenure of elective office shows the entire confidence reposed in him. He aided in preparing a new history of his native town of Sunderland, and was also the author of a short history of the early judges of Berkshire County, and gave occasional addresses on kindred topics.

In many ways he showed a friendly interest in this Society, of which he became a member in 1884.

John Wesley Powell was born March 24, 1834, and died Sept. 23, 1902, having been a member of this Society since 1898. He studied at Illinois and Wesleyan Universities and Wheaton and Oberlin Colleges, supporting himself by teaching.

He enlisted in the Civil War as a private and became Lieutenant-Colonel in the Second Illinois Artillery, and lost an arm at Shiloh, but soon returned to his duties. After the war he was a college professor for a short time, and in 1867 led an exploring party through the then unvisited Grand Canon of the Colorado river. Congress then ordered a survey of this river and the Rocky mountain region, under his leadership. During this expedition he developed a plan of irrigating that arid district, which was accepted by Congress after a long conflict.

In 1879 the U. S. Geological survey was organized as a part of the Department of the Interior, Mr. Powell being placed at the head of the new Bureau of Ethnology as a part of the Smithsonian Institution, and the next year he became the head of the survey also, holding this position till 1894. His reports are said to have been the

handsomest and most valuable productions of the government.

He was a member of many American and foreign scientific societies, and was also an associate editor of Johnson's "Universal Cyclopaedia." He stands as very near the first in the several lines of scientific work in which he engaged.

A good notice of him may be found in "Science," N. S., Vol. XVI., No. 411, page 782, which has also been published in pamphlet form.

Egbert Coffin Smyth was born in the college town of Brunswick, Maine, on August 24, 1829. His father, Professor William Smyth, D.D., long and conspicuously identified with Bowdoin College as the occupant of the chairs of mathematics and natural philosophy, had begun teaching in that college in 1823 and had entered upon the duties of a full professorship the year before the birth of his eldest son, the subject of this sketch. In 1827 the young professor had married Miss Harriet Porter Coffin, whose family name was preserved in the second Christian name given in baptism to their boy in 1829. The family in which that boy had his early training was one of scholarly habits, of strenuous thought upon the political and ethical questions so prominent in the three decades which preceded the Civil War, and of earnest and Christian character; and in this atmosphere of scholarship, high-minded ethical zeal, and sincere piety, the boy grew to young manhood. The son of a professor in a college town, it was natural that his education should begin early and that he should be ready for college at a time when most boys have not yet completed their preparation. His training, aside from that which came to him from the atmosphere and instruction of the home, was in the schools of Brunswick, and then for a year before his entrance on college, at Dummer Academy, a scholastic foundation dating from 1756, situated in the village of Byfield in Massachusetts, which always retained a warm place in his affection, and of which he was an interested and devoted Trustee from 1892 to his death. From the Academy he entered Bowdoin College and graduated just as he was reaching the age of nineteen, in 1848. Among his classmates he bore the reputation of a quiet, unpreten-

tious and modest man, of thorough and accurate scholarship. They noted his wide reading, especially in English literature, and his promise as a writer. Somewhat reserved and shy in making acquaintances, they found in him a true and warm-hearted friend, when once those barriers were penetrated, and a loyal and devoted companion in all their common interests. His scholarship was conspicuous, he being one of the four leaders of the class whose rank was considered practically equivalent.

Mr. Smyth's graduation from college was followed by a year of teaching in the school at Farmington, New Hampshire; but his abilities had already attracted the attention of the officers of Bowdoin; and, in 1849, he was called to a tutorship in his alma mater, an office which involved, at that time, wide and varied instruction of the undergraduates. But, meanwhile, his interest in the study of theology had developed; and on the completion of his term of office as instructor at Bowdoin, in 1851, he entered the Congregational Theological Seminary at Bangor, Maine, completing the course of instruction there in preparation for the Christian ministry two years later.

From these studies he was called, in 1854, to take up the work of a professorship of rhetoric at Bowdoin; but he had no intention of abandoning the ministerial profession. In connection with his duties as an instructor at the college he pursued the study of theology as a "resident licentiate" in Andover Seminary from 1854 to 1855. On July 22, 1856, he was ordained at Brunswick; but he did not enter on a pastorate. The same year he was transferred by the Trustees of his alma mater from the chair of rhetoric to the Collins professorship of natural and revealed religion,—an office which not only involved the instruction of students in Christian truth, but brought him into personal and almost pastoral relations to the whole student body. The post was one which had been occupied by men of power and of a high degree of personal magnetism,—its first incumbent having been Prof. Calvin E. Stowe, afterwards of the Faculty of Andover Theological Seminary, whose wife was to give the most widely read contribution to American literature that the period previous to the Civil War produced. Mr. Smyth's immediate predecessor in the professorship had been Rev. Dr.

Roswell Dwight Hitchcock, afterwards long prominently identified with Union Theological Seminary in New York. To succeed two men of such gifts and eminence was an extremely difficult task, and Prof. Smyth's shyness and reserve made the contrast all the more marked between him and his immediate predecessors. But his thoroughness of scholarship, his transparent honesty of purpose, and his character as a man, commanded the full respect of the students who came under his instruction; and it was with credit to himself and helpfulness to them that he discharged the duties of the professorship for the next six years.

On August 12, 1857, soon after entering on the duties of the chair just mentioned, Mr. Smyth married Miss Elizabeth Bradford Dwight, daughter of Rev. Dr. William Theodore Dwight of Portland, Maine, thus beginning a union of unusual mutual helpfulness, which was to last almost to the close of his life. Mrs. Smyth's death on February fourth of the present year preceded that of her husband by little more than two months. While a professor at Bangor, Mr. Smyth issued, in 1858, his first publication, entitled, "Three Discourses on the Religious History of Bowdoin College during the Administrations of Presidents McKen, Appleton, and Allen," in which he illustrated that interest alike in matters of history and of religion which was to fit him later for service as a teacher of Church history.

Though highly valued as a teacher in his own college, Professor Smyth desired to pursue the studies in theology and history to which he had long been devoted, under more favorable opportunities than the cares of a professorship permitted, and to fit himself for instruction of a more highly specialized character. Accordingly he laid down his office in 1862, and for the next year studied in Germany at Berlin and Halle. His repute as a rising scholar, led, however, in 1863, to a call to the Brown professorship of ecclesiastical history in Andover Theological Seminary, and to his acceptance of the office which he was to hold with conspicuous usefulness and honor to the end of his life, more than forty years later.

The early part of Prof. Smyth's long incumbency at Andover was relatively uneventful. His thorough scholar-

ship, his candor and his unaffected and sincere Christianity won him the confidence of his students, and his abilities, as well as his position, led him to increasing prominence in the concerns of the Congregational churches. His growing scholarly repute was recognized by the bestowment upon him of the degree of D.D., by Bowdoin College in 1866, and by Harvard University, twenty years later; and in 1902, by the further degree of LL.D., from his alma mater. From 1874 to 1877, he was an overseer of Bowdoin College, an office which he exchanged in the year last mentioned, for the trusteeship, which he continued to hold until his death. From 1870 till 1888, he was one of the Board of Trustees of Abbott Academy, the well-known institution for the instruction of young women, in Andover. His connection with Dummer Academy has already been mentioned. On April 27, 1870, he was chosen a member of this Society, and on October 21, 1880, became one of its Council, continuing in that office as long as he lived. His services are well known and held in grateful recollection by us all. His interest in the general progress of historical investigation in America led to his membership in the American Historical Association, and his attention to the history and genealogy of New England was honored by election as a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, on November 2, 1881, and of the Massachusetts Historical Society on December 14 of the following year. On October 7, 1875, he was chosen a member of that ancient Congregational Missionary Society, the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and began service in the same year as a member of the Prudential Committee which has immediate charge of the administration of its affairs. On that Committee he served for eleven years, until 1886; but his membership in the Board continued till the end of his life.

One evidence of his interest in historical studies may be seen in his publication, in connection with Rev. C. J. H. Ropes, of the translation of Uhlhorn's "Conflict of Christianity with Heathenism," in 1879. But, attracted as he was, always, to the investigation of the origins of Christianity, and its doctrinal development during the first three centuries, his knowledge of New England ecclesi-

astical story was even more profound, and he studied with the utmost painstaking, in especial, all that had to do with the life or contributions to theology of Jonathan Edwards, of whom his wife was a direct descendant, and whose manuscripts were, in considerable numbers, in his possession. No man had a more thorough comprehension of, and it may be added, a deeper spiritual sympathy with this greatest of New England theologians, than Prof. Smyth. It is to be regretted that no more extensive fruits of his studies regarding Edwards were presented to the world. But the introduction and appendix with which he added to the value of the manuscript of Edwards's "Observations Concerning the Scripture Economy of the Trinity and Covenant of Redemption," when he brought that treatise to light, and published it, in 1880; his papers on "Some Early Writings of Jonathan Edwards, A. D. 1714-1726," in the Proceedings of this Society for October, 1895, and "Jonathan Edwards's Idealism," in the American Journal of Theology for October, 1897; his address entitled, "Influence of Jonathan Edwards on the Spiritual Life of New England," delivered at the unveiling of the memorial erected in 1900 by the First Church in Northampton; and his study on the "Theology of Edwards," presented at the celebration of the two-hundredth anniversary of that theologian's birth, at Andover, on October 5, 1903,—all of which have fortunately been published,—are among the contributions of most permanent value to the understanding of the theological development of this chief among the ecclesiastical leaders of colonial New England.

Prof. Smyth' was essentially a man of peace, a modest and retiring scholar, but he was a man, also, of great tenacity and firmness of purpose and of determination to stand for what he conceived to be truth and duty, at whatever cost. It was his lot to be a principal figure in one of the most heated theological disputes of recent American religious history. The age in which we live has been one witnessing, to a degree equalled by no other since the Reformation, rapid and extensive changes in theological thought; and it was the fortune of Andover Seminary to be among the first of institutions connected with the more conservative of American religious denominations to feel those influences which have resulted so generally in

the modification of the theological conceptions prevailing half a century ago. That Prof. Smyth was himself above others a leader in that modified theology or sympathized to the full with alterations of view which approved themselves to some of his colleagues, it would be untrue to say. But he stood loyally in fellowship with his associates in the Faculty of the Theological Seminary of which he was an ornament, and he held, with positiveness of conviction, to the right of freedom in the investigation and expression of Christian truth. Feeling that the time called for fresh discussions of Christian theology and life, he joined, in 1884, with his colleagues, in founding and editing the "Andover Review," a publication of great value and significance for New England theology, the course of which, extending only a little over a decade, was all too short.

His connection with this theological journal brought to him the chief crisis of his professorial history. Its utterances were received with disfavor by the more conservative leaders of New England Congregationalism, and the result was that on June 23, 1886, formal complaint was made by four of the alumni of Andover Theological Seminary, against five of the professors of that institution, headed by Prof. Smyth, and all of them editors of the "Andover Review." As a result of this complaint, and under the peculiar constitution of Andover Seminary, the professors charged with unorthodoxy of opinion were brought to trial before the "Board of Visitors" of the Institution, and by the refusal of one of the three members of that Board to vote in the case of any of the accused save Prof. Smyth only, he was adjudged to have offended, and was removed from his professorship, though common, and undoubtedly correct, rumor, had it at the time that he was not the author of the articles against which most exception had been taken. Prof. Smyth, however, accepted to the full the editorial responsibility which he shared with his colleagues, and the result was that the case was appealed to the Supreme Court of Massachusetts,¹ before which it was argued by eminent counsel. By this judicial tribunal it was found that error had been committed by the Board of Visitors in their original trial, and the case was

¹ *Smyth v. Phillips Academy*, 157 Mass., 551.

returned to them for a new consideration. But meanwhile, the personnel of the Board of Visitors had been altered by death, and on reopening the hearing, on September 6, 1892, the Board of Visitors without adjudging Prof. Smyth acquitted of the charges brought against him, gave him a practical acquittal by dismissing the case as the most desirable conclusion of the controversy, in view of the antiquity of the complaint and the general nature of the circumstances of the situation. To Prof. Smyth this decision brought a complete cessation of all serious attack upon his theological position, or upon the right of freedom of utterance, which he had so vigorously defended for himself and for his colleagues.

Contemporaneously with this Andover discussion ran similar controversies in the American Board regarding missionary appointments, in which Prof. Smyth bore his full share as was his right as a corporate member of that missionary society, in defense of larger freedom; and it was with great gratification that he saw the end of the controversy result in the practical tolerance of his position,—a conclusion reached at the meeting of the Board, in 1893, which inaugurated its more modern policy.

Throughout these years of controversy, Prof. Smyth bore himself with firmness, conviction, patience and courage; and their general result must have been one in which he took much satisfaction. From their conclusion onward his life was peaceful and serenely undisturbed. Engaged in the duties of his professorship, as far as his strength permitted; interested in doctrinal questions, especially those pertaining to the early history of Christianity, to the person of Christ, and the doctrine of the Trinity; eagerly devoted to all that would illustrate the development of the religious growth of New England and to the thought of its leaders, especially of the eighteenth century,—he went on to a serene old age in his pleasant home on the hilltop at Andover, till in February, 1904, he was met by the great sorrow occasioned by the death of his wife, who had been his companion for nearly forty-seven years. His own strength had much abated; he was, nevertheless, engaged in research among the manuscripts of Jonathan Edwards, and full of plans of larger publications concerning the life of this favorite of his studies, when death overtook him, after a brief illness, on April 12, of this year.

A quiet, reserved, modest, unassuming gentleman, he will be greatly missed, nevertheless, from our companionship, and from all associations with which he was connected, for his sterling qualities of heart, his thorough scholarship, his kindness, and his manly Christian character.

A bibliography of his publications, for which the writer is largely indebted to the Rev. William L. Ropes of Andover, includes the following titles:—

“Three Discourses upon the Religious History of Bowdoin College during the Administrations of Presidents McKeen, Appleton and Allen,” Brunswick, Me., 1858, 80 pp.; “The Nature of Evangelical Faith,” *Bibliotheca Sacra*, vol. XVII, 1860, p. 494; “The Duty of Congregationalism to Itself,” an address before the Massachusetts General Conference, 1865, 12 pp.; “Our Country not Forsaken of God,” a sermon to the students of Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Me., 1866, 26 pp.; “Sketch of the Life and Ministry of William T. Dwight, D.D.,” Boston, 1869, 50 pp.; “From Lessing to Schleiermacher, or from Rationalism to Faith,” Boston Lectures, 1870; “Value of the Study of Church History in Ministerial Education,” Andover, 1874, 31 pp.; “Sermon at the Dedication of the New Chapel in Andover Theological Seminary,” Andover, 1876, 30 pp.; “Sketch of Rev. Seth Sweetser, D.D.,” (reprinted from *The Congregational Quarterly*), Boston, 1878, 27 pp.; “The Conflict of Christianity with Heathenism,” by Dr. Gerhard Uhlhorn, translated by Professor Smyth and Prof. C. J. H. Ropes, New York, 1879, 508 pp.; “Observations Concerning the Scripture Economy of the Trinity and Covenant of Redemption,” by Jonathan Edwards, edited, with introduction and appendix, by Professor Smyth, New York, 1880, 97 pp.; “The Change of the Sabbath to the Lord’s Day,” pp. 214–237 of “Sabbath Essays,” edited by Rev. Will C. Wood, Boston, 1880, VII., 440 pp.; “Recent Excavations in Ancient Christian Cemeteries,” Worcester, 1882, 30 pp.; “Address at the Funeral of Rev. Dr. John Lord Taylor,” Andover, 1884, 16 pp.; “Progressive Orthodoxy,” of which he was joint author with others, Boston, 1886, 258 pp.; “The Construction and First Occupancy of Fort Dummer, and a Conference with the Scatacook Indians Held There,” Boston, 1891, 23 pp.; “The French-Canadians in New

England," Worcester, 1891, 21 pp.; "The Divinity of Jesus Christ" (joint author), Boston, 1893, VIII., 233 pp.; "Some Early Writings of Jonathan Edwards, A. D. 1714-1726" (from "Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society"), Worcester, 1896, 39 pp.; "The Greek Liturgies," in *Christian Worship, Ten Lectures*, New York, 1897; "Jonathan Edwards's Idealism," in the *American Journal of Theology*, October, 1897; "The Prevalent View in the Early Church of the Purpose of the Death of Christ," Boston, 1900, 24 pp.; "Influence of Jonathan Edwards on the Spiritual Life of New England," pp. 33-48 of "Jonathan Edwards: A Retrospect," edited by H. Norman Gardiner, Boston, 1901, XVI., 168 pp.; "Mary Griffin and her Creed" (from "Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society"), Worcester, 1902, 18 pp.; "The Theology of Edwards," pp. 75-93 of "Exercises Commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the Birth of Jonathan Edwards held at Andover Theological Seminary," Andover, 1904.

By the death of Professor Smyth, which occurred on April 12, 1904, this Society lost one of its most faithful and valued members.

W. W.

Benjamin Franklin Stevens, born Feb. 19, 1833, was the tenth of eleven children of Henry Stevens of Barnet, Vermont, and Candace (Salter) Stevens.

Henry Stevens was a sturdy, hard-working, self-taught and practical man. His son Henry wrote that "he was a farmer, an inn-keeper, a mill-owner, a landlord and a Squire by courtesy of Stevens' village, an antiquarian and a book collector." His home was the resort of the intelligent, and "he died leaving his house full of books and historical manuscripts, the delight of his youth, the companions of his manhood and the solace of his old age."

He was the founder of the Vermont Historical Society and its first president. Two of his sons, Henry and Benjamin Franklin, became noted book collectors. When only fourteen years old, the latter spent several months in Albany in copying historical manuscripts for his father, at that early age beginning the work of research and

transcription for which he afterwards became famous. After time given to preparatory education at home and in an academy, young Stevens entered the University of Vermont in Burlington, but his health failed during the first year of his college life and he had to leave his course unfinished. Although a great worker throughout life, he was always hampered by a tendency to ill health.

It is well known that Benjamin Franklin Stevens's older brother Henry was an accomplished bibliographer and an antiquary. He had an establishment in London which was a centre from which he furnished many wealthy book collectors in the United States with rare and choice old books. He was early employed by Sir Anthony Panizzi, the head of the British Museum, to hunt up desirable works. One result was that, after he had continued his labors for a series of years, the Museum could boast of owning as large and valuable a library of American books as could be shown by any institution in the United States. Henry Stevens was not only an authority upon American books and literature relating to America, but also upon Bibles. He was a student, and in his department a scholar, as well as a bookseller.

The elder Henry Stevens had cultivated the natural aptitude of his younger son Benjamin for a similar kind of work, and had probably looked forward to a time when he would assist his brother. In 1859 we find him buying American books in this country and shipping them to Henry in London. Soon, however, he goes to London himself, arriving there July 9, 1860, and, joining his brother, worked under his direction. He was early employed in making an elaborate catalogue of the library of the great scientist, Alexander von Humboldt, which had been bought by Henry Stevens. That catalogue seems to have been completed, although it has apparently passed out of sight. The library itself, it will be remembered, was destroyed by fire in the rooms of Sotheby & Wilkinson, to which it had been removed for disposition by auction. Soon after going to London, Horatio Gates Somerby and Benjamin Stevens occupied rooms together. The former was a close friend of George Peabody and his trusted adviser and agent; he was often at their rooms and Stevens enjoyed the privilege of close intercourse with him.

In 1864 Benjamin Stevens started in business in London for himself, taking his brother Simon into partnership, they having made an arrangement with Henry to buy a portion of his connection and stock. This partnership lasted only a year or two. Afterwards Benjamin continued in business, and the shop which he occupied in Trafalgar Square is well remembered by book lovers who have visited London.

In 1865 Stevens married Charlotte, the eldest daughter of Charles Whittingham, well known from his connection with the famous Chiswick Press,¹ in the conduct of which he was a partner of William Pickering. For several years Benjamin Stevens was a partner in this famous undertaking.

In 1866 Mr. Stevens was made Despatch Agent of the American Government in London, a position which he held until his death. "This office," as has been said, "is one of great responsibility and appertains to both the State and the Navy Departments, while the duties, which are many, consist of receiving and forwarding official correspondence and other official matter to and from the State Department in Government despatch bags. In addition to this, the agent receives and forwards the official and private correspondence and other matter for the United States warships on the European and other stations and to other U. S. warships and training ships when visiting Europe, or passing through the Mediterranean to and from the far East." These duties brought Mr. Stevens into official and personal contact with many distinguished men, including the United States ministers to Great Britain and France. His office in Trafalgar Square was one of the principal headquarters of Americans in London. As agent of the United States government, he had to go to the continent often, as, for instance, when he had to carry despatches to our representative in France while Paris was in the hands of the Commune. He spent a few days there while shells burst near his horse and carriage.

Mr. Stevens, besides being a bookseller and agent, for over thirty years, of American book collectors, was an

¹ A history of this press was printed in a limited edition in one of the publications of the Grolier Club, New York.

accomplished bibliographer like his elder brother, and had a fondness for antiquarian and genealogical research. He did very valuable service in transcribing from European archives manuscripts relating to the history of the United States. Witness, for example, his famous work in twenty-five folio volumes, "Facsimiles of Manuscripts in European Archives Relating to America," a collection of documents illustrative of American history during the Revolution.

An account was given of his greatest work, "Catalogue Index of Manuscripts in the Archives of England, France, Holland and Spain, Relating to America, 1763 to 1783," in the Report of the Council of this Society, read at its semi-annual meeting in April, 1904.

Mr. Stevens died on March 5, 1902, and his widow died July 22, in the following year. They were buried at Kensal Green in the same grave with Mrs. Stevens's father, Charles Whittingham.

The brothers Henry and Benjamin Stevens were always staunch Americans. The former spoke of himself as a Green Mountain boy and not infrequently put the words G. M. B. after his name, as a title. Benjamin Stevens was equally patriotic, and always retained a warm affection for the home of his boyhood and for his father and mother, with whom he kept up a frequent correspondence during their lives. He remembered, too, his relatives and the companions of his early years. He had a pretty place at Surbiton, not too far from London, and when it became his property he changed its name to "The Sheaves," the name of his father's home in Barnet. He found in this place satisfaction for his strong love of nature and for his great interest in gardening. He had wild and cultivated plants, shrubs and trees sent to him from his old home in Vermont to plant in his garden, and took great delight in his nearness to these acquaintances and friends of his boyhood.

A student of Mr. Stevens's life is sure to be impressed by the amount of work which he did. He was steadily busy, but labored quietly and accomplished much. It is said that a favorite proverb of his was, "Do nothing without consideration, but when you have done anything repent not." He was a man of marked public spirit and of geniality and strength of character. The latter qualities

made him sought for as an arbiter, and successful in such a capacity. He was very social. Henry Stevens and his brother Benjamin were scholars and gentlemen, like the Plantins and other old printers and publishers.

A Memoir of Benjamin Franklin Stevens, by G. Manville Fenn, was privately printed in London at the Chiswick Press, in 1903. From that work the particulars of his life given in this sketch have been mainly taken.

Mr. Stevens became a member of this Society, October 21, 1896.

S. S. G.

For the Council,

EDWARD E. HALE,
NATHANIEL PAINE.

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