

has been one of the most valued possessions of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. He made other visits to Japan, during which he made important researches in archaeology and ethnology, in which studies he was nearly as diligent as in zoölogy, and published in 1896 a valuable work entitled "Japanese Homes and their Surroundings," illustrated with drawings by himself. His life work was in connection with the Peabody Museum at Salem of which he was director from 1880 to his death. He was president of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1875, president of the American Association of Museums in 1911, president of the Boston Natural History Society from 1911 to 1919, and director of the Peabody Museum at Salem from 1880 to his death. He was elected a member of this Society in April, 1898, was constant in attendance at its meetings and endeared himself to all the members whom he met by his genial and lovable character.

W. L.

#### BERNARD CHRISTIAN STEINER

Few members of the American Antiquarian Society have been more appreciative of the privilege of membership in the organization, or more aware of the distinctive character of its traditions and present activities than Bernard Christian Steiner. From the time of his election to membership in October 1913 until his death in 1926 his interest in the Society underwent neither change nor abatement. In spite of the distance between Baltimore and Worcester, he succeeded in frequent attendance at its meetings, and in April 1915, he contributed a paper to the Proceedings entitled, "Connecticut's Ratification of the Federal Constitution." In accordance with a desire expressed to his brother, Dr. Walter H. Steiner of Hartford, a gift of \$150 was made to the Society, which after his death was increased to \$1000 and designated the Bernard Christian Steiner Fund.

Bernard Christian Steiner was born at Guilford,

Conn., August 13, 1867, and died, January 12, 1926, at his home in Baltimore, Md. He was the son of Lewis Henry and Sarah Spencer (Smith) Steiner. He was graduated at Yale in 1888 and received the degrees of A.M., from Yale in 1890; of Ph.D., from Johns Hopkins in 1891; and LL.B., from the University of Maryland in 1894. After his course at Johns Hopkins he served for a year as instructor of history at Williams College, but resigned in 1892 to become librarian of the Enoch Pratt Free Library at Baltimore, an exacting position which he held until his death thirty-three years later. In addition to his duties as librarian he was instructor of history at Johns Hopkins from 1893 to 1911 and, for seven years of this time, from 1897 to 1900, he was connected with Baltimore University as dean and professor of constitutional law. From 1900 to 1904 he was associated with the Baltimore Law School as dean and professor of public law.

Dr. Steiner's industry as a writer and editor resulted in the production of a number of important and useful books, relating for the most part to the history and politics of Maryland and Connecticut, with both of which states he was associated by the circumstances of his parentage. In the following list are found the titles of his more important books:

- The History of Education in Connecticut. 1893.
- History of Slavery in Connecticut. 1893.
- History of Education in Maryland. 1894.
- Citizenship and Suffrage in Maryland. 1895.
- A History of the Plantation of Menunkatuck and of the original Town of Guilford, Connecticut. 1897.
- Life and Administration of Sir Robert Eden. 1898.
- The Institutions and Civil Government of Maryland. 1899.
- The Beginnings of Maryland. 1903.
- Maryland during the English Civil Wars. 1906-1907.
- Maryland under the Commonwealth. 1911.
- (These three titles form together a consecutive work on the early period of Maryland history.)
- The Life of James McHenry, Secretary of War under Washington and Adams. 1907.
- The Life of Reverdy Johnson. 1914.
- The Life of Henry Winter Davis. 1916.
- The Life of Henry Barnard, the first United States Commissioner of Education. 1919.
- The Life of Roger Brooke Taney. 1922.

Dr. Steiner's principal editorial work was that which he expended on the Archives of Maryland during the years 1916-1926. These volumes, with their illuminating introductions from the editor's pen will be remembered as forming his most notable service to the historiography of his state. His contributions to the periodical press were numerous and varied in character. In addition to studies in history and education, he wrote on legal, literary and bibliographical topics. A convinced and zealous Christian he had often in hand an article on a subject related to the history or the practice of religion. Many of his articles have appeared in the *American Historical Review*, the *Independent* and the *Maryland Historical Magazine*.

In the midst of his crowding activities, Dr. Steiner gave daily evidence of a trait of character that causes him to be remembered with gratitude by many men of his own and the younger generation. His reputation for learning was of such a character that he was constantly being visited by students and investigators in every field of letters, and for each of these he had time as well as advice and practical information to give. What was of even greater importance, he had always zeal and enthusiasm to impart to the beginner in historical research. Those who knew him best like best to remember him as the friend and helper of every man who came to him for aid in a literary project.

During the whole of his life Dr. Steiner was distinguished by devotion to the civil and religious life of his community. In an age in which active religious zeal is regarded as belonging alone to a professional clergy, he was set apart by the outspoken fervor of his belief. Nor was his confidence in the fundamental rightness of our political institutions in any sense comparable to the complacency of the sentimental patriot. He strove deliberately with body and mind to become in the old Roman sense a good citizen of the Republic.

L. C. W.

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