

In 1925 he was requested by the British Academy to deliver the Raleigh lectures on history, and in the following year was the first American to be chosen Creighton lecturer at the University of London. He was elected to this Society in 1921. An excellent biographical sketch of Mr. Alvord, written by Solon J. Buck, appears in the "Mississippi Valley Historical Review," Vol. 15, p. 309.

C. S. B.

JOHN SPENCER BASSETT

John Spencer Bassett was born at Tarboro, N. C., September 10, 1867, the son of Richard Baxter and Mary (Wilson) Bassett. He was educated at Trinity College, N. C., where he was graduated with the degree of A.B. in 1888, and later studied at Johns Hopkins University, receiving the degree of Ph.B. in 1894. He adopted the teaching of history as his life profession, serving as professor for thirty-four years at two colleges, at Trinity College, his alma mater, from 1893 to 1906, and at Smith College from 1906 until his death. On August 10, 1892, he married Jessie Lewellin, of Durham, N. C., by whom he had two children, Richard Horace and Margaret Byrd Bassett. It was when attending the annual meeting of the American Council of Learned Societies at Washington, January 27, 1928, that he met with a fatal accident, being struck by a street car just as he was about to enter the Cosmos Club. His sudden death deeply depressed all his associates in the Council, where he was highly admired and universally popular.

Professor Bassett was the author of many volumes on American history, those in his early life dealing with North Carolina events and later works devoted to biography and to the broader aspects of history. His most notable works were: "The Federalist System," 1906 (American Nation Series, vol. 6); "Life of Andrew Jackson," 1911; "Short History of the United States," 1913; "The Plain Story of American History," 1916;

"The Middle Group of American Historians," 1917; "The Lost Fruits of Waterloo," 1918; "Our War With Germany," 1919; "Makers of a New Nation," 1928 (Pageant of America, vol. 9). He was a member of several historical organizations and an active participant in their affairs. He was elected to this Society in 1911. He attended most of the meetings and contributed two papers to the Proceedings, "The Round Hill School" in April 1917, and "The Nomination of Andrew Jackson" in April 1923. C. S. B.

ARCHIBALD CARY COOLIDGE

Archibald Cary Coolidge died in Boston, January 14, 1928. He was born in Boston, March 6, 1866, the son of Joseph Randolph and Julia Gardner Coolidge and was a direct descendant of Thomas Jefferson through Martha Jefferson who married Thomas M. Randolph. He was graduated from Harvard with the degree of A.B. in 1887, subsequent to which he studied in universities in France and Germany; receiving the degree of Ph.D. from the University at Freiburg in 1892. During the latter part of his stay in Europe, he was also engaged in the diplomatic service, as acting secretary of the American legation at St. Petersburg in the winter of 1890-1891; as private secretary to his uncle, Thomas Jefferson Coolidge, minister to France, in the spring of 1892; and as secretary of the American legation at Vienna in 1893. He then returned to Harvard where he became attached to the history department, serving as instructor from 1893 to 1899, assistant professor from 1899 to 1908 and professor since 1908. In 1910 he was chosen director of the University library and this task engrossed him for the remainder of his life. He acquired some of the most important of European private collections, buying them himself when college funds were wanting; he engineered the revision of the card catalogue, and stimulated others to carry through this momentous

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