

excavations in Trinidad and the Lesser Antilles, and, more recently, investigations of Florida and South Carolina mounds. His publications included many reports describing his researches and frequent contributions to scientific journals. He was honored with membership in many learned societies, was president of the American Anthropological Society in 1911-1912 and received the honorary degree of LL.D. from the University of Arizona in 1915. He was married October 8, 1883, to Florence Gorges Eastman of Cambridge, Mass., who died May 3, 1888. On April 14, 1893, he was married to Harriet Olivier Cutler of Roxbury, whose death preceded his own by but a few weeks.

Dr. Fewkes was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1914. In April 1917 he read a paper before the Society on "Types of Prehistoric Southwestern Architecture."

C. S. B.

WILLIAM EATON FOSTER

William Eaton Foster died in Providence, R. I., September 10, 1930. He was born in Brattleboro, Vt., June 2, 1851, the son of Joseph Coggin and Abigail Ann (Eaton) Foster. When he was a boy, his family moved to Beverly, Mass., where he prepared for college. Entering Brown University, he was graduated with the degree of A.B. in 1873, later receiving the degree of A.M. in 1876. During his college course, his interest in the classics and in browsing in the college library brought him into close touch with the then librarian, Reuben E. Guild, who employed him as a student assistant and urged him after graduation to select librarianship as his vocation. He began as librarian of the Hyde Park Public Library where he remained until 1876, following this by taking the position of cataloguer at the Turner Free Library at Randolph and at the same time pursuing studies in

the Boston Public Library under Justin Winsor. With this excellent training in Massachusetts libraries, in 1877 he received the call to become librarian of the Providence Public Library, which he established and opened its doors to the public in February 1878. For over half a century he served as Librarian, watching the library grow from a collection of 10,000 books and income of \$10,000 to a collection of 400,000 a commodious central library with twelve branches, an income of nearly a quarter of a million, and a national prestige brought about chiefly by his able directorship. When he retired in February 1930, to be honored by the trustees with the life position of Librarian Emeritus, he had served as Librarian for fifty-three years, an achievement seldom equalled in American librarianship.

As an author, Mr. Foster wrote frequently on library topics. "The Civil Service Reform Movement," 1881; "The Literature of Civil Service Reform," 1882; "Libraries and Readers," 1883; "References to the History of Presidential Administrations," 1885; "References to Political and Economic Topics," 1885; "References to the Constitution of the United States," 1890; "How to Choose Editions," 1912; and "The First Fifty Years of the Providence Public Library," 1928. He was exceedingly painstaking and accurate, which qualities were especially reflected in his historical books: "Stephen Hopkins, a Rhode Island Statesman," 1884, and "Town Government in Rhode Island," 1896. The former work, which was one of the most scholarly and thorough biographies of its time, brought him to the notice of the American Antiquarian Society, to which he was elected a member in 1889. From the beginning he took much interest in the Society's meetings and in the associations which brought him into touch with some of the country's leading historians. Probably no member was ever more constant in attending the meetings at Boston and Worcester, and he frequently said that nothing

but illness or an unavoidable engagement would deter him from being present. He contributed two papers to the Proceedings: "Some Rhode Island Contributions to the Intellectual Life of the Last Century," 1892, and "The Point of View in History," 1906. At the time of his death, he was seventh in order of seniority of membership.

Mr. Foster received the honorary degree of Litt.D. from Brown University in 1901. In 1928 he was honored by a fiftieth anniversary dinner, at the University Club in Providence, which was attended by many of his personal friends and admirers and which was the occasion of his being presented a very rare 1519 edition of the works of Horace. He was married March 2, 1886 to Julia Appleton, daughter of Elisha W. Appleton of Portland, Me., and sister of the late Professor John Howard Appleton of Brown University. Mrs. Foster survives him.

Throughout his entire career, Mr. Foster's chief aim was to be of service to others. He was an assiduous reader, and owned a well chosen library. His collection of the works of Horace, which fortunately is to be kept intact in the John Hay Library, was his greatest hobby. His helpfulness, his modesty and his perseverance in doing all things thoroughly and well, endeared him to all with whom he was brought in contact.

C. S. B.

IRA NELSON HOLLIS

Ira Nelson Hollis died in Cambridge, Mass., August 15, 1930. He was born in Mooresville, Ind., March 7, 1856, the son of Ephraim Joseph and Mary (Kerns) Hollis. After graduation from the high school at Louisville, Ky., he worked as a machine apprentice and in clerical positions for two years. In 1874 he took examinations at the Naval Academy as a cadet-engineer, passing first in a group of twenty-five selected out of one hundred and twenty-five appli-

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