

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-

cants. After graduation in 1878 from the Academy, where he stood first in his class throughout the entire course, he spent three years in naval cruising, being promoted to the grade of assistant engineer. From 1880 to 1892 he served in various branches of the naval service, specializing in engineering and ship construction, detailed to teach marine engineering at Union College and occupying the position of lecturer on naval engineering at the Naval War College. In 1893 he was chosen professor of engineering of Harvard University and resigned from the navy to accept this honor. At Harvard he served with distinction, becoming chairman of the athletic committee, gaining prestige as the designer of the concrete Harvard stadium and acting as the head of the committee which raised the funds for the Harvard Union. In 1913 he was elected president of Worcester Polytechnic Institute and until 1925 served this institution with success and honor. During these twelve years he took part in many local activities, continued his connection with the Navy Department in an advisory capacity, performed valuable work during the World War in handling the fuel situation and received the notable honor of the presidency of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. After his resignation from the Polytechnic Institute, he lived quietly at Cambridge. He wrote many contributions to engineering journals and was the author of "War College Lectures on Naval Ships," 1892, and "History of the Frigate Constitution," 1900.

Dr. Hollis received the degrees of honorary A.M. from Harvard College in 1899, L.H.D. from Union College in 1899, and Sc.D. from the University of Pittsburgh in 1912. He was a member and fellow of many technical and learned societies. He was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1915, two years after his being called to Worcester. He frequently aided the Library with gifts of books, notably a complete file of the Proceedings of the United States Naval Institute. He was fond of history and

cultural subjects and was always entertaining in conversation and reminiscence. Dr. Hollis married August 22, 1894, Caroline Lorman of Detroit, who died in 1925. He left four children, Janette R., Oliver Nelson, Elinor and Carolyn.

C. S. B.

SAMUEL LYMAN MUNSON

Samuel Lyman Munson, for eight years a member of the Council of this Society, died at Albany, May 19, 1930. He was born at Huntington, Mass., June 6, 1844, the son of Garry and Harriet (Lyman) Munson. After an education obtained at Williston Seminary and at the Bryant and Stratton Commercial School at Albany, he entered into business life, traveling chiefly in the West for an Albany firm. In 1867 he joined with two other men in the establishment of a linen collar manufactory, but two years later bought out his partners and assumed the sole proprietorship. From this small beginning he built up one of the largest businesses in Albany, branching out into the manufacture of many kinds of linen goods and eventually employing over one thousand hands. Mr. Munson was actively connected with many organizations in Albany. He was president of the Home Savings Bank, trustee of the Memorial Hospital, director of the Chamber of Commerce, regent of the Philip Livingston chapter of the Sons of the Revolution, and president of the Masonic Veterans Association. In 1900 he served as a Republican Presidential elector. He married Susan Babcock Hopkins of Albany, May 21, 1868, and had seven children. He was survived by his widow, two daughters, Mrs. Robert H. Lyman, and Mrs. John B. Benson, and one son, Robert Munson.

Mr. Munson was a man of many varied interests. He was fond of travel and had journeyed to almost all the countries in the world. Possessing a remarkable memory, he was entertaining in reminiscences of statesmen, authors, and scientists whom he had met

Copyright of Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society is the property of American Antiquarian Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.