

Mr. Bemis was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1925. He made frequent gifts of rare books to the library and was always ready to contribute to the Special Gifts Fund for the purchase of books. A constant attendant at the meetings, he entertained the members at the Boston meeting in April 1928. In his will he bequeathed to the Society the sum of \$5000. He was a man of unusual modesty, reserved almost to the appearance of shyness. He would not speak in public regarding his remarkable library, one of the finest privately owned in this country, yet in conversation with intimate friends he talked interestingly and authoritatively on his literary treasures. To those who really knew him, he was highly valued as a friend and a courteous gentleman, and his passing has taken away much of the pleasure of the meetings of those societies with which he was connected.

C. S. B.

#### WILLIAM LAWRENCE CLEMENTS

William Lawrence Clements, founder of the Clements Library of Americana, died in Bay City, Mich., November 6, 1934. He was born at Ann Arbor, April 1, 1861, the son of James and Agnes (Macready) Clements. After graduation from the University of Michigan with the degree of B.S. in 1882, he became associated with his father in the Bay City Industrial Works, and carried on the business so successfully that he was able to retire at the age of fifty. He married Jessie N. Young of Pittsburgh, February 7, 1887, and secondly, Florence Katherine Fisher of Bay City, April 22, 1931.

Mr. Clements was a truly great book collector. He was one of the few wealthy Americans who brought to the problem of building up a library a scholarly historical and bibliographical knowledge and a fine sense of discrimination. He set out to form a collection

of Americana which should include the important source books concerning all the Colonies through the Revolution, an apparently impossible task which he practically accomplished in less than twenty years. His interest in the subject was started through the purchase of the library of an old friend, Aaron J. Cooke, merchant and bibliophile of Bay City, containing about a thousand well selected volumes of early American history. Then came occasional purchases until 1911, when the Robert Hoe Sale gave Mr. Clements the opportunity to acquire some unusually rare volumes. During the next fifteen years many famous libraries were sold in America and Europe, and at these sales he was a constant purchaser, generally through the agency of his friend, Lathrop C. Harper, although he also bought extensively from the late George D. Smith. He obtained large consignments from the late Henry N. Stevens of London, notably a collection of over two thousand English pamphlets on the Revolution, and Mr. Stevens' collection of Revolutionary maps. He also built up a large collection of early American newspapers. In 1922 the Henry Vignaud Library was purchased, which largely increased his collection of books and maps on the discovery period. In 1921 came Mr. Clements' first important acquisition of Revolutionary manuscripts—the papers of the Earl of Shelburne, friend of the Colonies, whose collection of 50,000 documents was of great value for the study of the period before and during the Revolution. In 1922 Mr. Clements presented his library to the University of Michigan, with a fine library building which was dedicated in the following year. The scholarly publications which the Librarian, Mr. Randolph G. Adams, has issued in the last few years, have aimed to describe the wonderful treasures of the library and have served to fulfill the donor's purpose of making his books useful to American historians.

After presenting his library of printed books to the

University in 1923, he began to build upon the foundation indicated by his acquisition of the Shelburne manuscripts. Since the American manuscripts of the American Revolution were pretty well locked up in eastern institutions before Mr. Clements began collecting, he turned his attention to the English side of that struggle. Working in close co-operation with the officials of the University, he acquired certain collections, while the University acquired for his library certain others. He purchased in 1926 the British Headquarters Papers of the American Revolution during the command of Sir Henry Clinton, about 20,000 documents; in 1928 he bought the papers and letters of the British colonial minister, Lord George Germain, about 12,000 documents; in 1930 he acquired the British Headquarters Papers during the command of General Thomas Gage, about 35,000 documents. To support these, his library at the University acquired the papers of William Knox, Germain's under-secretary; the papers of David Hartley, who negotiated the definitive treaty ending the Revolution; certain of the papers of Thomas Townshend, Viscount Sydney, relating to the Peace of 1782-1783; and other smaller collections. One exception in favor of American papers was made by Mr. Clements in purchasing the Joseph Sabin collection of about 8,000 of the letters and papers of General Nathanael Greene, which the University supplemented by the purchase of other Greene letters and many photostats. As a result of these purchases, the Clements Library has become most important in this country for the study of the documentary history of the Revolution, and especially England's attitude in the conflict.

Mr. Clements was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1916. In October 1918 he contributed to the Proceedings a paper on "Major Robert Rogers's Michillimackinac Journal" of 1766-1767, reprinting the entire journal which was owned by the Society. He was always a friend to the Society and

although distance prevented his attendance at the meetings, he was a constant correspondent on matters of bibliography and book collecting. From the University of Michigan he received the degree of LL.D. in 1934. Mr. Clements' only publication in book form was a volume which he issued in 1923 under the title of "The William L. Clements Library of Americana at the University of Michigan." Although ostensibly a descriptive account of his own library, it was actually a handbook of American historical literature from the period of discovery to the end of the Revolution. Because of the remarkable completeness of his collection of the source books of history, the volume constitutes a primer for the historian, the collector and the librarian, especially because of its weighing of the value and trustworthiness of the narratives. Nowhere better than in this book can be shown Mr. Clements' ambition to gather into one library the printed sources of early American history and his success in accomplishing his purpose.

C. S. B.

### ROLAND BURRAGE DIXON

Roland Burrage Dixon, professor of anthropology at Harvard University, died at his home in the town of Harvard, Mass., December 19, 1934. He was born at Worcester, November 6, 1875, the son of Lewis Seaver and Ellen Rebecca (Burrage) Dixon. After a preparatory education at Hopkinson's School in Boston, he entered Harvard College, from which he was graduated with the degree of A.B. in 1897, followed by the graduate degrees of A.M. in 1899 and Ph.D. in 1900. In 1901 he was appointed instructor in anthropology at Harvard, and continued in the department for the rest of his life, being made assistant professor in 1906 and professor in 1916. For several years he carried on field work during the summer vacations—in Ohio in

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