

1897, British Columbia and Washington in 1898, and California in 1899-1905. Apart from these field trips anthropological research took him to Siberia and Mongolia in 1901; Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania and Fiji in 1909; Mexico in 1910; India, Western Tibet, Assam, Burma, Java, China and Japan in 1912-1913. In December 1918 he was appointed ethnologist to the American Peace Commission and remained at Paris in the conduct of his duties until May 1919.

Dr. Dixon had a wide and masterful knowledge in varied fields of anthropology, due to his love of intensive research and his travels to many lands. He belonged to many learned societies and had been president of the American Anthropological Society and of the American Folk-Lore Society. He was the author of "Maidu Texts," 1912; "Oceanic Mythology," 1916; "The Racial History of Man," 1923; and "The Building of Cultures," 1928; and made many contributions to learned journals, especially on the Indians of California and the North American Indian races. He was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1909, and contributed to its Proceedings in April 1914 a paper on "The Early Migrations of the Indians of New England and the Maritime Provinces." Dr. Dixon was unmarried and lived in an interesting house at Harvard, which he built in 1915 and made notable for its flower gardens. His will left his library to Harvard University.

C. S. B.

#### CHARLES EVANS

Charles Evans, noted American bibliographer, died at his home in Chicago, February 8, 1935. He was born at Boston, Mass., November 13, 1850, the son of Charles P. and Mary (Ewing) Evans. His father, who was of Irish descent, followed the sea, being recorded as a mariner in the Boston directories, from

which he disappears in the year 1859. Since his mother was also dead, the orphan was placed in the Boston Farm and Trades School. Here he was befriended by Dr. Samuel Eliot, the Boston educator and phil-anthropist, who had himself appointed as guardian of Charles Theodore Evans, the name given in the guardianship papers. Since Dr. Eliot was a director of the Boston Athenæum, he obtained a position for the boy in that institution in 1866. Thus, at the early age of sixteen he started upon his long career of association with libraries and books. Beginning as an assistant hired to perform all kinds of duties, he gradually became familiar with the contents of the library and raised himself in the estimation of his employers and his patron. Gradually he assumed the tasks of waiting on proprietors at the main desk, taking charge of the reading room and caring for the foreign mail. In addition to these duties he was entrusted with the annual examinations, or locating all of the books, at which he was an adept. On one occasion when a certain book had been missing for many years, William F. Poole, the Librarian, said: "If Charles can't find it, nobody can." The young assistant did find it and recalled the event fifty years later. From the beginning he manifested an interest in early American printing, in which field the Athenæum was singularly rich, and it was here that he conceived the idea of his American Bibliography. When he left the Athenæum in 1872, three hundred of the proprietors united in presenting him with a gold watch as a testimonial of valued and faithful service. Toward the end of his stay at the Athenæum he dropped his middle name and henceforth throughout his life was known as Charles Evans.

In 1872 at the age of twenty-two, he became the organizer and librarian of the Indianapolis Public Library. His first report, written in 1874, was an impressive document, significant of the industry and optimism of his later life work. In 1876 Mr. Evans became one of the founders of the American Library

Association and was its first treasurer; and in 1877 he was chosen one of the honorary councillors at the conference of librarians in London. He remained at Indianapolis until 1878. In 1881 he went to Fort Worth, Texas, where he became connected with the "Fort Worth Daily Democrat," published by his friend, B. B. Paddock. In 1884 he went to Baltimore to organize and become assistant librarian of the Enoch Pratt Free Library. In 1887-1888 he reorganized the Omaha Public Library, returning to the Indianapolis Public Library in 1889, where he remained as librarian until 1892. In the latter year he was chosen by the Newberry Library of Chicago to classify its collections, to aid his old friend, William Frederick Poole, who was then the librarian. In 1895-1896 he organized the Virginia Library of the McCormick Theological Seminary of Chicago, and from 1896 to 1901 he served as secretary and librarian of the Chicago Historical Society.

At the beginning of the century, Mr. Evans began serious work on his "American Bibliography," designed to record the titles of all examples of printing in the United States from 1639 to 1820. Only a scholar blessed with both optimism and courage, and willing to undergo self-sacrifice, could have envisioned so vast an undertaking. But he was familiar with his subject. For thirty years he had labored in many libraries and in various sections of the country. Always in his mind since a youth he had imagined such an invaluable compilation, with himself as the author. Finally in 1903, with the financial aid of three friends in Indianapolis, he was enabled to bring out his first volume. The minutiae of publication concerned him greatly. He had no publisher. He learned every detail of printing, paper and binding. He selected his own paper, purchased a new and special font of type and superintended all the particulars of printing and binding.

This first volume justified his own hopes and the

faith of his friends. It was a sizable quarto volume, bound in cheerful red cloth, and most attractively printed. The listing of imprints was carried from 1639 to 1729, with a total of 3244 imprints, which number exceeded any previous list by over a thousand titles. Since the arrangement was chronological, an index of authors was necessary, and this was followed by a subject index and a geographical index of printers. The most interesting feature of the volume was the introduction. Mr. Evans' style is so understanding, so gifted with imagination and humor, and so sincere, that the reader's attention is unhesitatingly arrested. His summary of the literary activities of the seventeenth century, his tolerance of the clerical rulers and their problems, and his insistence upon the saving grace of the New England conscience, combine to present a graphic picture of those who laid the foundations of the nation. He had become so steeped in the lore of the early authors that he thought as they did and wrote almost in their language.

Mr. Evans' second volume appeared in 1904 and then followed successive volumes, generally at intervals of two years. As the field of printing widened and began to take in the provinces south of New England, the tone of his introductions changed correspondingly. They treated more of secular affairs, of the discussion of public questions, of social and literary activities, and finally of the causes and beginnings of the American Revolution. After Volume V, finishing the year 1778, there were no further prefaces or descriptive summaries of the life of the period as evidenced by its printed productions. The years covered became fewer, only three or even two, and there was not the opportunity for the broad sweep of general comment. Also, these introductions took much time and thought, and Mr. Evans found that with advancing years he had to guard and husband his resources. In 1914 came the eighth volume, finishing printing through 1792. He had built up a subscription list of about 375

libraries and private collectors. The proceeds paid for the cost of printing, and through borrowing on incoming funds, and by a depressing amount of self-sacrifice, he managed to keep the flag flying. In five more volumes and in ten more years, he would have finished his work through the year 1800.

Then came the World War. Foreign libraries, which made up a fair share of his subscribers, cancelled their subscriptions. The cost of labor and materials had greatly increased. His earlier financial supporters had died, and no funds for further continuance of the project could be procured. So he stopped, almost in discouragement and despair. In 1924 the American Library Association appointed a committee to further the publication by the sale of sets remaining in the author's possession, and enough new subscriptions were obtained to balance the losses occasioned by the war. In addition, the price of the volume was raised from \$15 to \$25, and in this way at last after eleven years' delay volume nine appeared in 1925. The tenth volume was issued in 1929, and then came another delay, occasioned by family financial problems. At this juncture an appeal was made to the American Council of Learned Societies by the American Antiquarian Society and in 1931 a grant of \$1000 was made to Mr. Evans, which aided in the publication of volume eleven. This was followed by a grant of \$3000, making possible in 1934 the publication of volume twelve. Another grant was in prospect and Mr. Evans was working on the compilation of his final volume when death intervened.

Few scholars in the entire course of American literary history have accomplished so much without the ordinary aids to publication as Mr. Evans. He worked single-handed. He prepared and copied all of his titles, examined thousands of volumes of newspapers and reference books and never sought help in his research. He wrote everything with his own pen in a handwriting distinguished for its gracefulness and clearness. He

scorned typewriters, amanuenses and mechanical aids. He bought his own type and paper, served as printing foreman, read his own proof, made his indexes, kept his accounts and even wrapped the large editions of each volume for delivery to subscribers. His work was painstaking and accurate. In his first volume he depended for many of his titles upon the printed catalogues of libraries, a fact which often led him to believe that this volume could be reprinted with more exact transcriptions. But as time went on, he made it a point to inspect and verify every title, and this became particularly noticeable in his last seven volumes, where also the location of copies in various libraries was more comprehensive and exact. His subject indexes were the result of an immense amount of labor, which was justified in the help that they have given to all researchers in every field of American life of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. His Dedications were models of graceful diction and sincere thought. The "American Bibliography" is one of the most important reference works produced in any country, and will always stand as a monument to Mr. Evans' ability, his absorbing devotion and his self-sacrifice.

The last volume of the Bibliography covered the years 1798 and 1799 through the letter M, the last numbered title being 35854. One more volume would have finished the project through the year 1800, as Mr. Evans long ago gave up his original, but almost impossible, hope that he could continue the record to 1820. Fortunately this final volume will be published, and plans are under way toward that end. The American Antiquarian Society has inherited his literary material and his records, which included the copying of about one third of the titles for the period through 1800. Financial assistance for the publication must be sought, but the Society realizes that it is an obligation, as well as a privilege, to complete this important and needed compilation.

Recognition of Mr. Evans' labors fortunately came to him during his lifetime. The American Library Association and the Library Association of Great Britain elected him to honorary membership. In 1934 Brown University granted him the highly deserved degree of LL.D. No one who was present in the historic First Baptist Church on that occasion will forget the stirring and heartfelt reply which Mr. Evans voiced in recognition of his degree—an utterance unusual at such a time, but which seemed entirely in keeping with the solemnity of the occasion.

Mr. Evans was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1910. In October 1921 he read at the annual meeting a scholarly paper on "Oaths of Allegiance in Colonial New England." He was a constant friend and supporter of the Society, proud of his membership and anxious to add to its prestige. His letters were always encouraging. He once wrote to Mr. Lincoln: "Without the aid of the Society I could not attain that accuracy of statement which every work of reference should strive to attain. The open-handed way in which you place the riches of the Society at the service of literary workers has never been equalled—never surpassed by any other institution of learning in any land." And yet the Society was indebted more to him than to anyone for interpreting and exploiting its collections. His Bibliography is almost a catalogue of its library.

Mr. Evans married, April 8, 1883, Lena Young of Fort Worth, Texas, daughter of William Crawford and Elizabeth (Rutherford) Young. She shared with him all his hopes and trials, and her death on October 6, 1933 inexpressibly saddened his life and even hastened his death. They had four children—Gertrude Evans (Mrs. Donald Jones), Eliot Howland Evans, and Charles Evans, Jr., all of whom survived their father, and Constance Evans, who died in infancy. He was devoted to his family and loyal to his friends. He always retained a modesty and simplicity in spite

of great accomplishment. His shyness and retiring disposition were noticeable, but could readily be understood in view of his desire to conserve his mental and social energies. His whole life was marked by the intense will to finish his appointed task, for which no self-sacrifice was too great. For the years to come, Charles Evans will be honored as the author of an invaluable historical reference work, but those who were privileged with his friendship will revere him most for his courage, his perseverance and his loyalty.

C. S. B.

#### ADOLPH S. OCHS

Adolph Simon Ochs, publisher of the "New York Times" and one of the leading newspaper men of America, died April 8, 1935, at Chattanooga, Tenn., in the city where he started in the publishing business. He was born in Cincinnati, March 12, 1858, the son of Julius and Bertha Levy Ochs. His father came from Bavaria to the United States when a young man, as a fluent linguist taught languages in Southern schools, served in the Union Army during the Civil War, and in later life became prominent as a promoter of civic welfare. The son attended the common schools in Knoxville, Tenn., to which his family had removed, and began life as a carrier and office boy with the "Knoxville Chronicle." Graduating to "printer's-devil," he kept on as he could with his schooling, and served in various capacities on different newspapers. In 1878 he borrowed a small sum of money and purchased for \$800 and the firm's debts the almost defunct "Chattanooga Times." The paper soon gained financial success and established Mr. Ochs as one of the leading young publishers of the middle west. In 1896 he became the publisher and controlling owner of the "New York Times," which had dwindled in influence, and was actually bankrupt, with a circulation of barely nine



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.