

## OBITUARIES

## JOHN FRANKLIN JAMESON

Dr. J. Franklin Jameson, distinguished historian and for nearly half a century a member of this Society, died at his home in Washington, September 28, 1937. He was born near Boston, September 19, 1859, the son of John and Marietta (Thompson) Jameson. After an early education at the Roxbury Latin School, he attended Amherst College, from which he was graduated with the degree of A.B. in 1879. Specializing in history throughout his college course, he entered Johns Hopkins University, to study under the guidance of Herbert B. Adams, and received his Ph.D. in 1882. He served as assistant and associate in history at Johns Hopkins for six years and in 1888 was elected professor of history at Brown University. Although at first he gave all courses in history, he gradually restricted his teaching to the American field, leaving to Wilfred H. Munro the courses on European History. His ability and academic standing made him one of the younger leaders of the faculty, and it was his memorial in behalf of academic freedom that induced the corporation in 1897 to ask President E. Benjamin Andrews to withdraw his resignation, brought about by the President's stand on the silver question. In connection with his Historical Seminary, Dr. Jameson published a series of Papers, which in ten numbers served to attract favorable attention to his methods of teaching. His courses were difficult, but compelled his students to admire his unquestioned scholarship and inspired them to serious study. This was particularly true for senior and graduate students.

The evening meetings which he frequently held at his house brought him into a close personal touch with his students, who discovered that under a rather austere outward personality, he had an attractiveness, a kindliness, and a fund of dry humor that made for lifelong friendships. When in Providence he was much interested in the Rhode Island Historical Society, and served to guide its work, especially in the field of publication.

In 1901 Dr. Jameson was called to the University of Chicago to succeed Professor von Holst in the chair of history. Here he remained for four years, teaching American history, and influencing American historical scholarship as well as the conduct of his own department. In 1905 he was appointed Director of the Department of Historical Research in the Carnegie Institution of Washington, where for twenty-three years he explored the archives of the world for documentary material on American history and brought out an invaluable series of publications calendaring such material and publishing documentary texts. His remarkably comprehensive knowledge of American libraries, teachers and research workers made him in this position an outstanding source of help to the thousands of students who turned to him so frequently for aid. Upon his resignation in 1928, he was chosen Chief of the Division of Manuscripts in the Library of Congress, where his peculiar qualifications made his department a central agency for research and added greatly to the prestige of the national library. Here he remained until his death.

Perhaps Dr. Jameson's two greatest achievements outside of his professional career were his managing editorship of the *American Historical Review* where for nearly thirty years he maintained the high standard of this scholarly publication, and his sponsorship of the *Dictionary of American Biography*, which notable national undertaking owed much to his faith and his genius for organization.

With a life devoted to teaching and directing of projects, Dr. Jameson indulged little in creative writing. He could write with clarity and authority, but his two score of titles were chiefly in the field of editorship and supervision. He was honored by the degree of LL.D. from Amherst in 1898 and Johns Hopkins in 1902, Litt.D. from Brown in 1914 and Princeton in 1922; and L.L.D. from the University of Michigan in 1923. He was married to Sara E. Elwell of Brooklyn, April 13, 1893, by whom he was survived, with a son and a daughter.

He was a member of many historical organizations. He was an original member of the American Historical Association in 1884, and its president in 1907. He was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1890, and at the time of his death was its second senior member. To its Proceedings he contributed the following papers:—"The Early Political Uses of the Word Convention" in October 1897, "Notes from the English Admiralty Papers" in April 1907, and "The Present State of Historical Writing in America" in October 1910. He was a frequent attendant at the meetings when he was located at Providence, and was a constant correspondent and adviser of the Society throughout his life.

C. S. B.

### LEONARD LEOPOLD MACKALL

Leonard Leopold Mackall died in Fredericksburg, Va., near the home of his sister, Mrs. Gari Melchers, on May 19, 1937. He was born in Baltimore, January 29, 1879, the son of Leonard Covington and Louisa Frederika (Lawton) Mackall, and a descendant of families prominent in Maryland and Georgia history. After attending Lawrenceville School in New Jersey, he entered Johns Hopkins University, from which he was graduated with the degree of A.B. in 1900. He

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