

being broken, and that the older order was passing. Mr. Gage represented that which was stable and conservative in the city's life. He was able in his profession; he freely gave his time and his counsel to the institutions which he helped to direct; he made himself a force for progress in the community. But to those who knew him well, his passing brought a feeling of real sorrow and meant the loss of an understanding and loyal friend.

C. S. B.

FAIRFAX HARRISON

Fairfax Harrison, railway president and author of important books on Virginia history, died in Baltimore, February 2, 1938. He was born in New York City, March 13, 1869, of Virginia ancestry and the son of Burton Norvell and Constance (Cary) Harrison. He was graduated from Yale with the degree of A.B. in 1890, which was followed by the degree of A.M. from Columbia in 1891. He practiced law in New York for four years and in 1896 entered the service of the Southern Railway Company as solicitor. With this company he remained until his retirement in 1937, rising from one position to another until he became president in 1913, and helping with his foresight and his ability to place the railroad on a firm financial footing and to make it a powerful influence in Southern transportation. He married June 6, 1894, Hetty, daughter of John Brune Cary of Baltimore, by whom he was survived, with four children.

Important as he was as a railway executive, Mr. Harrison achieved even more permanent distinction as a historian and author. A keen student of Virginia history, he originated the "Virginia Historical Index" and selected the 120 volumes to be indexed; he also published a number of volumes on local history including "The Devon Carys (1920), "A Frenchman in Virginia" (1923), "Landmarks of Old Prince William"

(1924), and "Virginia Land Grants" (1925). Through one of his hobbies, farming, he was led to translate Virgil, Varro, and Cato, and published pamphlets on their descriptions of Roman agricultural ways. He also wrote authoritative works on horse breeding, including "The Equine F. F. V.'s" (1928), "The Belair Stud, 1747-1761" (1929), "The Roanoke Stud, 1795-1833" (1930), "The Background of the American Stud Book" (1933), and "Early American Turf Stock, 1730-1830" (1934-35). He undoubtedly was the leading authority in tracing the lines of the great thoroughbred horses of America, exhausting all manuscript and printed records for the completeness of his monographs. He also found time to write many pamphlets on the railroads, finance and development of the South. The variety of his scholarship and the amount of his industry are shown by a list of sixty-two titles published in the "William and Mary College Quarterly" for April 1938.

Mr. Harrison was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1924. Although he seldom was able to visit the Society, he showed continued interest in the organization and presented to the Library his rare and privately printed historical publications. His death was a severe loss to the cause of Virginia history.

C. S. B.

NATHANIEL THAYER KIDDER

Nathaniel Thayer Kidder died in Boston, July 13, 1938. He was born in Boston, October 29, 1860, the son of Henry Purkitt and Caroline W. (Archibald) Kidder. His father was a Boston banker, the founder of Kidder, Peabody & Company. In 1880-1882 the son attended the Bussey Institution, the school of agriculture connected with Harvard University, and received the degree of Bachelor of Agricultural Science in 1886, as of the class of 1882. Interested in botany

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