

concentrated his energies that he was not as well known as he deserved to be outside of his field; it is typical that his honorary degrees were from St. Mary's College, George Washington University, and Washington and Lee University. He did not marry until 1922, but from that date until the unfortunate death of his wife, Elizabeth V. Kelly, in 1933, she and their daughter usurped much of George Washington's place in his conversation and correspondence. Had Fitzpatrick not been so generous of his vast scholarship he could have had a wide popular following. As it was, his time and his unrivalled knowledge of the Revolutionary period were at the disposal of every scholar who brought him a problem. A request which might reasonably have been answered with brief clues often brought forth a veritable monograph on the subject. To him, scholarship was something to be shared, and the sharing of it was one of his great pleasures.

The one strong interest which Fitzpatrick had outside of his field was art, and he was a member of the American Artists Professional League. He was also president of the American Catholic Historical Society and a member of L'Institut Français de Washington, the New York Historical Society, the American-Irish Historical Society, and the American Academy of Political and Social Science. He was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1928, but not even his warm personal friendship for our librarian, Mr. Vail, could entice him to leave Washington to take part in our meetings.

C. K. S.

GEORGE ANTHONY GASKILL

George Anthony Gaskill died at Wellesley, Massachusetts, after a long illness. He was born in Worcester, June 4, 1877, the son of Francis A. and Katherine M. (Whittaker) Gaskill. His father was a justice of the Superior bench from 1889 until his death in 1909. The son attended the public schools in Worcester and Worcester Academy, and then entered Brown University, from which he was graduated with the degree of A.B. in 1898.

After a course at the Harvard Law School, he entered practice in the office of Herbert Parker, former attorney-general of Massachusetts. In 1908 he joined Frank C. Smith, Jr., to form the firm of Smith & Gaskill, six years later uniting with Charles M. Thayer under the name of Thayer, Smith & Gaskill. This partnership became one of the leading law firms in Worcester, Mr. Gaskill himself specializing in business law. He was a director of several local banks, and president of the People's Savings Bank from 1918 to 1933. He was treasurer of Worcester Academy, active in relief work during the World War, and senior warden of All Saints Church, all of which positions he gave up in 1933 at the time of his retirement from active business because of ill health.

He married, June 1, 1905, Caroline Dewey Nichols, who was the daughter of the late President of this Society, Dr. Charles L. Nichols, and who died in 1933. Mr. Gaskill died February 10, 1940, being survived by three children—Charles Francis Gaskill, Mrs. William A. Wheeler, and Caroline N. Gaskill.

Mr. Gaskill was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1917 and was a constant attendant at its meetings. He was also a member of the Club of Odd Volumes of Boston. Inheriting a fine library of English literature from his father, he became much interested in book collecting, especially in the publications of the Strawberry Hill press. He was popular socially and his retirement from active life seven years before his death was the cause of sincere regret on the part of his many friends. C. S. B.

EBEN FRANCIS THOMPSON

Eben Francis Thompson, one of the most interesting literary figures that Worcester has produced, died December 2, 1939. He was born in Worcester, January 29, 1859, the son of Francis Henry and Fannie H. (Thomas) Thompson. He attended the local public schools, took a short course at the Harvard Law School, and was admitted to the bar in 1884. From that time until a few years before his death he practiced in Worcester, making

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