

who died in June, 1938. They had one child, Katherine H. Duncan, now Mrs. Richard M. Nelson, and a grandson, Winthrop Duncan Waterman. After his retirement from the law in 1938, the family moved to Westport, Connecticut, where he lived quietly, engaged in bibliographical research and the collecting of books.

Mr. Duncan was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1933. He visited the Library occasionally and contributed to the *Proceedings* of April, 1934, a paper on "Josiah Priest, Historian of the American Frontier; a Study and a Bibliography." This monograph, the result of years of study, was unusually accurate and complete and met with a ready acceptance among historians of the early West. His library was particularly rich in Indian captivities and he possessed a fund of information on the subject which he was always willing to share with other scholars. His connection with this Society has been close for the past ten years, and he frequently sent us gifts of books and manuscripts. In one letter, written in 1933, he remarked: "I feel that the American Antiquarian Society is a much alive and awake institution, and perhaps the most admirably adapted to the use of scholars and investigators of any institution I am acquainted with. It has a tone and atmosphere scarcely to be equalled." Mr. Duncan's high opinion of the Society was combined with a willingness to aid the Library whenever he could and to maintain a friendly relationship with its officers.

C. S. B.

### ALBERT BUSHNELL HART

Albert Bushnell Hart, the most prolific writer among American historians, died on June 16, 1943. He was born at Clarksville, Pennsylvania, on July 1, 1854, a son of Dr. Albert Gaillard and Mary Crosby (Hornell) Hart. On

his father's side he was descended from early Boston Puritans, and on his mother's side, from the early Swedish settlers of the middle colonies. This mixture of background and his early education at West High School in Cleveland, Ohio, were in large measure responsible for the fact that, although all of his professional life was passed at Harvard, he was never regarded as a "New England historian." Although from the point of view of the inner group of Harvard-by-blood, he was something of an outlander, he was chosen Ivy Orator of the Class of 1880 and president of two student societies, and he always had a warm attachment to his Class and to the College.

Although Henry Adams and Henry Cabot Lodge taught at Harvard during Hart's undergraduate years, he knew them not, but was led into history by Charles Eliot Norton. After graduation he remained in residence for a year as a special student of modern constitutional history. In July, 1881, he sailed for Europe where, after studying German in Eisenach, Saxe-Weimar, he entered the University of Berlin. Thence, in April, 1882, he moved to Freiburg to study American history under von Holst. October found him in Paris, delving into the *Bibliothèque Nationale* and studying French government at the *École des Sciences Politiques*. In August, 1883, Freiburg awarded him his doctorate. Harvard had already offered him an instructorship, so immediately upon his return to America he plunged into teaching and lecturing with that energy and diversity of activity which was to mark his whole life. He was appointed professor of history in 1897 and professor of government in 1910. During much of this time he was chairman of the Division of History and Government.

The chief characteristic of Professor Hart's teaching was nothing which he had learned in Germany, but was the way in which the work of the students was systematized.

Even the undergraduates were required to do real research, but they were directed and hemmed in by a system of printed guides and forms which standardized their work. The famous *Guide to the Study of American History* which he compiled with Edward Channing (1897) and later revised with the assistance of F. J. Turner (1912) was the outgrowth of these course bibliographies. He described as the greatest intellectual event of his earlier years the experience of writing the biography of Salmon P. Chase (1899) from manuscripts and other source material. Excellent as was this work and the volume of *Slavery and Abolition* (1906) which followed it, Hart came to the conclusion that in the future the great steps in the advancement of education must be made by cooperative works. For the assignment of topics, the editing, and (most important) the patience required to edit such works, Hart was ideally fitted. The American Nation Series (of which *Slavery and Abolition* was a unit) still stands as a monument to his genius as an editor and organizer. His contributors must have felt at times as if they were being treated like his students. When editing the *Commonwealth History of Massachusetts* he made an outline of each chapter and sent it to the contributor, not as a limitation but as a suggestion of the things which the editor-in-chief thought ought to be included. From 1895 to 1909 he was one of the editors of the *American Historical Review*, and from 1911 to 1920 he edited the *American Year Book*. The death of his wife, Mary Hurd Putnam, in 1924, and his retirement from active teaching two years later, marked the beginning of renewed activity in editing, the *American Year Book* of 1926-1932 being one of its productions. During these same years he was historian of the United States commission for the celebration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the birth of George Washington. Of these editorial tasks, which would have driven mad a

nervous man, he once remarked that it was really great fun to drive a hundred-horse team.

Besides writing and editing these and many less important volumes, Professor Hart was an incredibly productive maker of occasional speeches and writer of articles. The bound file of his pamphlets, articles, books, and edited works in his study amounted to about two hundred and fifty volumes. All this was by no means the work of a cloistered scholar, however, for no one better enjoyed human contacts and associations. As a matter of course he was a member of many professional organizations, serving as president of the American Historical Society in 1909 and as president of the American Political Science Association in 1912. He was a trustee of Howard University and a governor of Mooseheart, an organization for the education and training of the children of deceased members of the Loyal Order of Moose. For some years he was a member of the Cambridge school committee, and in 1917-19 he was a member of the Massachusetts constitutional convention and chairman of the committee on amendment and codification.

This very busy man found travel his chief recreation. In 1908 he went around the world, pausing to lecture in Japanese universities and to write letters which were published in the *Boston Transcript*. In 1913 he travelled in the Balkans, writing for the *New York Times*. Curiously enough he seems to have been impressed most by his tour as Harvard exchange professor to four of the private colleges of the West; quite typically he declared that he had learned more from these colleges than they had from him.

Professor Hart enjoyed writing speeches, enjoyed traveling to his destination, enjoyed making the speeches, and enjoyed meeting people afterwards. With this gusto and this productiveness he was at least at times the most widely-known American historian. His platform personality was

much like that of his early popular rival, John Fiske. Large, emotional, and equipped with vast lungs and the best beard seen in Cambridge since the days of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, "Bushy" Hart was the ideal of the program committee. Mentally he closely resembled his old friend and classmate, Theodore Roosevelt. Like him, he had a bad press. He enjoyed playing the oracle and in newspaper interviews would make wild statements which were entirely out of his character as a really great scholar. When he changed his mind he did it publicly, with a blowing of the trumpets of the press.

In 1918 the discovery of Professor Hart's name on the mailing list of a German agent brought him a painful kind of notoriety. Before a Senate committee he protested truthfully that all of the hundred articles which he had written on the subject of the War were either neutral or anti-German. T. R. came loudly to his assistance. Equally absurd was the accusation made nine years later that his books were pro-British. Twice Boston school officials on those grounds tried to ban his school history, and Mayor Thompson of Chicago found treason of the same kind in the American Nation Series. Most of Thompson's intended victims said nothing but enjoyed the increased royalties which resulted from the attention which he had brought to their "pro-British" books, but Professor Hart took up his pen and went to the aid of the American Nation Series.

Professor Hart became a member of this society in October, 1909, in good time to serve on our centennial anniversary committee. In October, 1918, he read before us a paper, typical in its mingled wit and wisdom, on "The Worship of Great-Grandfather." He greatly enjoyed our meetings and never missed one when he could avoid it. "My membership in the American Antiquarian Society is one of the associations that I most value," he wrote on one

occasion, and at another time he paid "a tribute to the outstanding economy of administration of the Society and the excellence of its work."

He is survived by twin sons, Albert Bushnell Hart, Jr., and Adrian Putnam Hart.  
C. K. S.

### FREDERIC WILLIAM HOWAY

Frederic William Howay, distinguished Canadian historian, was born near London, Ontario, on November 25, 1867, a son of William and Jane (Rogers) Howay. When he was three years old the family carried him to British Columbia by way of the Union Pacific and San Francisco. He was educated in the public schools of New Westminster and from 1884 to 1887 he taught school in that region. Returning to the East he studied at the Dalhousie Law School where he was graduated in 1890. The next year he was admitted to the bar of British Columbia where in private practice he established such a reputation for brilliance and integrity that his appointment as judge of the county Court of New Westminster in 1907 was universally approved. As a judge he showed profound legal learning which won the respect of the bar. By the time of his retirement in 1937 he was one of the most distinguished public figures of Canada.

Among Judge Howay's other public activities was his service of twenty-seven years on the Senate of the University of British Columbia. He was remarkable not only for the diversity of his cultural interests but the amazing depths of his knowledge of all of them. He was saturated with the lore and literature of England although, widely travelled in North America, he never chanced to visit the mother country. For many years he was the moving spirit of the New Westminster Fellowship of Arts, a highly successful organization for diverse cultural studies. A distinguished

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