

THOMAS BONAVENTURE LAWLER

Thomas B. Lawler was born in Worcester on July 14, 1864, a son of Thomas and Eliza L. Lawler. He was graduated from Holy Cross College in 1885 and immediately went with Ginn and Company. In connection with the distribution of their textbooks he travelled six times around the world, and in 1906 he became a partner and was made director of their educational publications. In 1939 he became a member of the board of directors.

Mr. Lawler's interest in history began when he was working for his A.M. in classical philology at Holy Cross in 1893. At first his attention was turned to the literature and history of India, but as a result of his travels and business contacts his interests turned to the Philippines, Spanish America, and the United States. He wrote a number of volumes, mostly school histories, from the *Essentials of American History* in 1902 to *Seventy Years of Textbook Publishing* in 1938. Among these books was one, the *Story of Columbus and Magellan*, which he wrote for the Philippine schools in order to demonstrate to the children of the Islands their cultural connection with Spain and America. Always appreciative of Spanish culture, he translated a number of works from that language. He was also a founder of the American Irish Historical Society. Holy Cross awarded him an LL.D. in 1910.

The American Antiquarian Society elected Mr. Lawler to membership in October, 1925. Although his home was in New York, he regularly attended meetings for some years and assisted generously in the endowment campaign which was being carried on at that time.

Mr. Lawler was believed to be the oldest Holy Cross alumnus when he died suddenly of a coronary thrombosis in New York on July 20, 1945. He is survived by two

daughters, Miss Muriel Lawler of Yonkers and Mrs. James K. Crimmins of Scarsdale, and by two sons, Lieutenant Arthur P. Lawler and Mr. T. Newman Lawler of Tarrytown.
C. K. S.

ROGER BIGELOW MERRIMAN

Roger B. Merriman was born at Boston on May 24, 1876, a son of Daniel and Helen (Bigelow) Merriman. His father was the pastor of the Central Congregational Church of Worcester and a faithful member of the American Antiquarian Society. Roger was educated at Dalzell's in Worcester and Noble's in Boston, from which he entered Harvard with the Class of 1896. There, considering his later fame as a scholar and his interest in athletics, he was comparatively undistinguished. After graduation he returned to study history and, he said, to play football. In 1897 he went to Balliol College, Oxford, where he spent two years working for the research degree of B.Litt, and enjoying English college life to the full. After another year back at Harvard serving as an assistant in History I, he returned to Europe where he spent two years studying at Berlin and traveling in France and Spain. Concerning his plans, he wrote home: "The road to become a *good* professor nowadays is long, and I won't be a third-class one or in a third-class college for anything, so I am taking my time." His patience was rewarded, for when he took his Ph.D. at Harvard in 1902 he was appointed to the post of instructor in history from which he was promoted in 1908 to become assistant professor, and in 1918 to become professor.

Perhaps no college ever had a more enthusiastic servant. Greatly impressed by the improvement in the quality of the university since his undergraduate days, he devoted himself

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