

of two Worcester social organizations—the St. Wulstan Society and the Worcester Fire Society. In 1943 he came on to the 150th Anniversary Dinner of the latter Society, at which time he was fourth in seniority of membership. He was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1918, although he had shown much interest in the Society before that time and had presented many gifts to the Library. He had gathered one of the most complete collections of early Worcester views. These hung in his office in the Institution for Savings, but upon his departure for Boston, he presented the collection to this Society. Long an admirer of the financial genius of Alexander Hamilton, he formed during his life a notable collection of Hamiltoniana, including many editions of *The Federalist*, broadsides and autograph letters. This collection he presented to the Society in 1941.

Mr. Aiken married, November 25, 1896, Elizabeth Peck Hopkins, daughter of William Swinton Bennett Hopkins of Worcester, and had a son, William Appleton Aiken. Mrs. Aiken died March 20, 1942, and he married, September 21, 1944, Anna Lee Colvin Hopkins, the widow of Erastus Hopkins. From Yale University he received the honorary degree of A.M. in 1918.

C. S. B.

ALLYN BAILEY FORBES

Allyn Bailey Forbes, director of the Massachusetts Historical Society, was born at Taunton on November 2, 1897, a son of Harrie Wilson and Bertha (Wilbur) Forbes. He was educated at Taunton High School, St. George's School, and Amherst College, where he received his B.A. in 1919. After five years of teaching at Deerfield Academy he entered the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences where he

took his M.A. in 1927. Choosing as the subject of his doctoral dissertation the life of Henry Newman, he went to England and did a considerable amount of research in the archives of the Church. Finding that Newman was not a man of major importance, and becoming interested in other things, he abandoned Newman and the pursuit of the doctorate after several years of work.

From 1928 to 1931 Forbes was a tutor at Harvard, but because of his shyness he was never particularly effective as a teacher. He found his niche in 1931 when he succeeded our associate, Albert Matthews, as editor of the publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts. Few men would have dared try to follow in the footsteps of so great a scholar, but Forbes maintained the standards of his predecessor and brought out eight volumes in the next sixteen years. For eighteen years he compiled the "Bibliography of New England" for the *New England Quarterly*, of which he became a member of the editorial board in 1933. A year later he became librarian of the Massachusetts Historical Society; and in 1940, director. He turned out to be an excellent librarian, and he brought the great chaotic collection which he had inherited into some degree of order. One of his major services was the expansion of the catalogue of manuscripts of the Society. At the same time he was editing eleven volumes of the publications of the Society, including three extremely difficult volumes of Winthrop Papers.

It was in connection with the proposed publication by the Colonial Society of the Increase Mather manuscripts belonging to the American Antiquarian Society that Forbes first came into contact with us. He was elected to membership in April, 1935, and became a faithful member. He was also a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Club of Odd Volumes.

On June 15, 1938, Forbes married Mrs. Lois Whitney Perry of St. Cloud, Minnesota. They made their home at Cambridge where he became active in Christ Church. In spite of his ample personal means, he labored at his editorial tasks until it could well be said that he worked himself to death. As if with a premonition of the coming stroke, he resigned the editorship of the Colonial Society in 1946, and had wound up most of his other work when he died suddenly on January 21, 1947. He is survived by Mrs. Forbes and her three children, by a brother, William, of Taunton, and by a sister, Mrs. Mahlon W. Hill, of Wellesley.
C. K. S.

ROGERS CLARK BALLARD THRUSTON

The passing of Mr. Thruston breaks a link between the present and the founding days of Kentucky. He was a member of a family which had played a major part in the founding of the state, which was proud of that part, and which steeped little Rogers in the traditions of the first generation there. He was born in Louisville on November 6, 1858, a son of Andrew Jackson and Frances Ann (Thruston) Ballard, and named for his great-grandmother's brother. In 1884 he legally added his mother's name to his own with the thought of perpetuating the patronymic of an old Kentucky family.

Rogers Thruston was educated in the public schools of Louisville, the Hopkins Grammar School of New Haven, Williston Seminary at Easthampton, and Yale. He entered the Sheffield Scientific School in 1876, but after a year, left to go west. He returned to New Haven in the fall of 1878 and was graduated in 1880. He was doing graduate work at Yale in 1881, when he was moved to try his luck in the mines of New Mexico. He reached Louisville where his

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