

poetry, his fondness for children and for dogs, and in the frequent use of imagery in his writings. He once said: "I should not want to think of heaven without children there"; and of his favorite collie dog which had just died, he said: "He was a stately gentleman of great courage and fidelity." What could be finer than the ending of his tribute to his native state of Vermont, "Here I first saw the light of day; here I received my bride; here my dead lie pillowed on the breast of the everlasting hills." And then the inscription in a book which he sent to Edward K. Hall who had recently lost a son, at about the same time as the death of young Calvin Coolidge: "To Edward K. Hall: In recollection of his son and my son, who had the privilege by the grace of God to be boys through all eternity. Calvin Coolidge."

I think that Mr. Coolidge's most outstanding trait was his kindness and his sympathy. He never forgot a friend and had a surprising habit of remembering trivial happenings, if they concerned those whom he liked and trusted. He had the faculty of inspiring a really fond affection from those with whom he was closely brought into contact. His character was so strongly made up of honesty, fairness, adherence to ideals, and courage, that they stood out above other qualities throughout his whole life. Truly, a man with a soul which looked inwards and tried to interpret the mysteries of life, whose own life was given to serve his fellow men, must live forever in the hearts of the people. Like Abraham Lincoln's, his is the common heritage.

C. S. B.

ALFRED JOHNSON

Alfred Johnson, historian and genealogist, died in Boston, January 13, 1933. He was born in Boston, June 28, 1871, the son of Edward and Georgiana Parker (Miller) Johnson. After a preparatory education at Chauncy Hall School and at Phillips Andover, he entered Harvard College in 1891. Although his

college career was interrupted by ill health, he received in 1898 the degree of A.B. as of the class of 1895. In the meanwhile he had studied in Europe at the University of Berlin, and after receiving his Harvard degree, returned to Europe where at the University of Paris he received in 1901 the degree of Doctor of Letters.

Thenceforth, he devoted his life to historical and antiquarian research. Always interested in Maine because of the life-long residence there of his grandfather and great-grandfather, he wrote considerable upon the history of that State. In 1913, he produced the second volume of Williamson's "History of Belfast," which had been left unfinished by the death of its author. In 1914, he published the "History and Genealogy of One Line of Descent from Captain Edward Johnson" and in 1917-19, brought out two volumes of the "Vital Records of Belfast." He contributed frequently to historical and genealogical publications, and also found time to do considerable lecturing, both upon historical topics and upon his travels to the southern coasts of the United States and to the West Indies. In 1916, after a course of study in education at Harvard, he received from that college the degree of A.M. He was unmarried.

Dr. Johnson was a member of many organizations around Boston—the New England Historic Genealogical Society, where he was a member of important committees, the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, the Bostonian Society, the Club of Odd Volumes, and the Maine Historical Society. He was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1922, attended most of the meetings and was a valued correspondent. Only the day of his death, he telephoned the Library, offering to supply needed material for a sketch of Calvin Coolidge, whom he knew well and whose death occurred but a week previous to his own.

C. S. B.

Copyright of Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society is the property of American Antiquarian Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.