

voted himself to archæology, making investigations in Europe, Egypt, and elsewhere, and he had a valuable collection of books, fossils, minerals, coins, vases, and similar articles of historic interest which he bequeathed to societies and museums devoted to those subjects. He married Helen Weld Blanchard, August 1, 1867, who died in 1902.

He became a member of this Society in 1881, was a regular attendant at its meetings and contributed papers with the following titles to its Proceedings: "What is the true site of the seven cities of Cibola visited by Coronado in 1540?" in vol. 1, new series, 1880; "Notes on copper implements of America," in vol. 3, 1884; "The Alabama Stone," in vol. 5, 1888; "Cotton Mather and his slaves," in vol. 6, 1889; "Memoir of Francis A. Walker," in vol. 11, 1897. S. U.

ABBOTT LAWRENCE ROTCH.

Abbott Lawrence Rotch was born in Boston, January 6, 1861, and died in that city April 7, 1912. He was graduated at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1884, always maintained a warm interest in it and was one of its trustees for several years preceding his death. Mechanical engineering was his specialty, but being happily relieved from the question of income he at once entered upon meteorological studies and carried out a project which he had long entertained by founding, in 1885, the Blue Hill Observatory, which has obtained world-wide fame for its observations of clouds, for its first use of kites for meteorological data, for first observations high above the Atlantic ocean, for first observations from five to ten miles above the North American continent with registered balloons, and for experiments which have had a great influence on the evolution of flying machines. Since 1906 he has been Professor of Meteorology in Harvard and he received the degree of A. M. from that University in 1891.

Professor Rotch had taken part in scientific expeditions, belonged to many learned societies, and had

published considerable scientific data. He was elected to the Society in 1899 and contributed the following papers to its Proceedings: "Did Benjamin Franklin fly his electrical kite before he invented the lightning rod?" in vol. 18, new series, 1906; "Benjamin Franklin and the first balloons," in vol. 18, 1907; "Benjamin Franklin's original letters about balloons," in vol. 19, 1908. A paper by him entitled "A contribution to the history of ballooning in America" was to have been prepared for the meeting on April 10, 1912, but his death intervened.

He married Margaret Randolph Anderson, November 22, 1893, who with three children survives him. s. v.

WILLIAM BABCOCK WEEDEN.

William Babcock Weeden was born in Bristol, R. I., September 1, 1834, and died in Providence, March 28, 1912. He was a student at Brown University, 1847-50, but left without graduating, receiving the honorary degree of A. M. from that institution in 1875. After leaving college he became a successful woolen manufacturer. In the Civil War he was first lieutenant in Battery A, 1st Regiment, R. I. Light Artillery. After the battle of Bull Run he was promoted to the rank of captain and came home to recruit Battery C of the same regiment and returned to the front with his new command. A year later he became chief of artillery and ordnance of the First Division, Fifth Corps and while holding this important position directed the batteries at the battles of Mechanicsville, Gaines's Mill and Malvern Hill. He was also at the siege of Yorktown and at the battle of Hanover Court House, in both of which he took a conspicuous part. On July 21, 1862, he resigned his commission, returned to Providence and resumed business, in which he remained till 1902, when he retired. He remained a director in several financial and business corporations in which he was an active and efficient force. He was married first to Amy Dexter Owen, secondly to Hannah Raynor Balch, and thirdly to Jeanie

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