

## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

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THE Council find nothing of special note in the condition of the Society's library or treasury. The interests of each are vigilantly and faithfully cared for by the officers of your selection, in whose conduct the Council find nothing to criticise. The condition of each is set forth in detail in their respective reports, presented herewith as a part of the Report of the Council.

Two of our number have departed this life since our last meeting, each of whom was an eminent scholar, who added much to the sum of historical knowledge accessible to mankind, and therefore deserves to be held in grateful memory by our Society. Charles Deane, member of the Society since 1851, of the Committee of Publication since 1856, of the Council since 1865, and Secretary of Domestic Correspondence since 1880, died at his home in Cambridge, November 13th; and William Francis Allen, a member of our Society since 1888, died at Madison, Wisconsin, on the 9th of December, 1889.

**Charles Deane** was born at Biddeford, in the then District of Maine, November 10, 1813. He had pursued the studies preparatory to admission to Bowdoin College when the death of an older brother caused a change in his plans, and, at the age of nineteen years, he entered a merchant's office in Boston. The diligence, thoroughness, accuracy and sound judgment which afterward gave him so high a place among historical scholars, were no less serviceable in commercial life. In a few years he became a partner in the house of Waterston, Pray & Company, dealing in dry goods, whose business increased in extent and pros-

perity while he shared in it, so that he was able to retire from active commerce in 1864, with a fortune sufficient for his wants.

He had already become known for his successful pursuit of historical studies, having been chosen a member of the Massachusetts Historical Society in 1849 and of this Society two years later. While occupied with his commercial business, he had found time to be a useful member of each society, contributing to its proceedings the results of his fruitful studies.<sup>1</sup> To these studies the rest of his life was given with such success that all recognized the justice of President Eliot's description in announcing the conferring

<sup>1</sup> See Proceedings of the Society, as indicated in this list, for his Contributions thereto.

COTTON MATHER'S MANUSCRIPTS. p. 46, Oct., 1860.

LOCALITIES ON THE JAMES AND YORK RIVERS, IN VIRGINIA. p. 59, Oct., 1864.

DESCRIPTION OF MAPPE-MONDE OF CABOT. p. 10, Oct., 1866.

SEBASTIAN CABOT'S MAPPE-MONDE. p. 40, April, 1867.

RECORDS OF THE COUNCIL FOR NEW ENGLAND. p. 53, April, 1867.

LETTER OF WILLIAM GREEN ON CAPTAIN NEWPORT'S DISCOVERIES IN VIRGINIA, WITH REMARKS. p. 80, April, 1868.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL: European Discovery and Settlement of America. Obituaries: Levi Lincoln, Chandler E. Potter, William Allen, William Reed Staples, Don Manuel Moreno. p. 16, Oct., 1868.

REMARKS ON THE DISCOVERY OF THE BAY OF SAN FRANCISCO. p. 6, Oct., 1871.

BURIAL PLACE OF CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH. p. 20, Oct., 1871.

RECORDS OF THE COUNCIL FOR NEW ENGLAND. p. 49, Oct., 1875.

JOHN VERRAZZANO AND HIS VOYAGES. p. 7, April, 1876.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL: Burgoyne's Surrender at Saratoga. Obituary: Edmund Quincy. p. 9, Oct., 1877.

REMARKS AND RESOLUTIONS ON THE PRESENTATION OF A PORTRAIT OF SAMUEL F. HAVEN, LIBRARIAN. p. 64, April, 1879.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES LENOX. p. 53, April, 1880.

TRIBUTE TO SAMUEL F. HAVEN. p. 303, Oct., 1881.

REMARKS ON JOHANN SCHÖNER'S "OPUSCULUM GEOGRAPHICUM," WITH EXTRACTS. p. 26, Oct., 1883.

COMMUNICATES THE DOINGS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY UPON THE DEATH OF STEPHEN SALISBURY. p. 249, Oct., 1884.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN SALISBURY. p. 250, Oct., 1884.

REMARKS UPON REV. MANASSEH CUTLER. p. 4, Oct. 1885.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL: The Connection of Massachusetts with the Slave-Trade and with Slavery. Obituaries: John Russell Bartlett, Calvin E. Stowe, Charles Whittlesey. p. 178, Oct., 1886.

the degree of LL.D. by Harvard University, "a master among students of American history."

As our President said in his address to the Council at its special meeting last November, Dr. Deane had been a member of the Society for thirty-eight years, a member of the Committee of Publication for thirty-four years, a member of the Council for twenty-five years, and Secretary of Domestic Correspondence for ten years, and held all these offices until his death. He made three Reports of the Council, each being a paper of great value, an important contribution to historical knowledge which no one having occasion to investigate the subject of which it treats, could afford to neglect. He also contributed to the Proceedings of the Society seventeen other papers marked by the thoroughness of research, sagacity of judgment, and lucidity of style, which made his works of this kind so satisfying to those who take pleasure in the fruits of historical studies. Besides these and other productions of like character, which have been printed as monographs or in the proceedings of other societies with kindred aims, Dr. Deane's chief contribution to American history was his learnedly and judiciously annotated edition of Governor Bradford's "History of Plymouth Plantation," published with the collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society. The manuscript of this history, long supposed to be lost, but at length discovered in the library of the Bishop of London, was carefully transcribed for Dr. Deane, who edited it for the Historical Society, with such mastery of all the existing material bearing upon the subject as no one else could have equalled. He also wrote two important chapters of that great work, "The Narrative and Critical History of America," in the progress of which its learned editor, our associate, Dr. Winsor, says: "He was constantly my adviser, and in some sections his judgment was compelling."

Among Dr. Deane's services to historical literature may well be reckoned the gathering of his large and peculiarly

choice library, rich in material not readily accessible elsewhere, the instrument of his studies and the delight of his leisure, and always at the service of his friends.

Of the members of this Society at the time of his death, only five were his seniors in membership. Few were so constant in attendance at its meetings, and the prepared papers or impromptu remarks of no member were heard with more respect or carried with them a greater weight of authority. Dr. Deane, perhaps, made mistakes, sharing the fallibility of human nature, but I do not know that any matured conclusion of his—and he announced no others—on a historical question was ever successfully assailed. His services to this Society and to historical literature were not only those of an investigator, editor and author; he was invaluable as an adviser and a critic. He could and did gladly direct inquirers to the best sources of information, and was patient and helpful with unpracticed students, who had yet to learn where to find the materials and how to handle the implements of their craft. It was disconcerting sometimes for such students engaged in a special quest to discover that the ground which they had supposed untrodden was as familiar to Dr. Deane as his own garden path, and that he had in his wonderfully retentive memory and instantly producible, with names, dates and authorities, more facts concerning their special subjects than they had obtained by weeks of diligent research.

To his vigilant scrutiny as a member of its Publication Committee for thirty-four years the Society is largely indebted for the high standard of accuracy in statement and typography of its published Proceedings.

Dr. Deane's own style, wholly destitute of rhetorical ornament, has the elegance of lucidity, directness and precision. It is the perfect instrument of his purpose, which was not display or persuasion, but information and conviction. In the pursuit of historical truth he was without bias of preconceived opinion or personal prejudice. He sought

exhaustively for the truth, so that nothing remained for future inquirers to glean on the ground which he had passed over, and produced what he found, giving each fact and circumstance its due weight in forming his conclusions. Absolute loyalty to the truth so manifestly pervaded and informed all his work that no reader could doubt his good faith or fail to recognize the clarity of vision and sureness of judgment which attend perfect sincerity of purpose.

Of Dr. Deane's personal life and his relations with his friends it would not become me to speak, for my acquaintance with him was slight and of but few years' standing, but I venture to quote here the words of our associate, the Rev. Dr. Ellis, in his appropriate and beautiful address as president of the Massachusetts Historical Society: "Manliness, sincerity, dignity and an ever-gentle courtesy, showed what his spirit was."

**William Francis Allen**, was born at Northborough, Massachusetts, September 5, 1830. He was the youngest son of the Rev. Joseph Allen, pastor of the Unitarian Church in Northborough for fifty-six years, and Lucy Clark Ware. He was educated at the Roxbury Latin School and at Harvard College, where he was graduated in 1851. In 1854 he went to Europe, studied at the universities of Berlin and Göttingen, spent some time in Rome, travelled in Italy and Greece and returned to America in 1856. He then taught for some years at West Newton. For two years from 1863 he was variously occupied with philanthropic work at the South. During this time he organized and superintended the schools for colored people in South Carolina, and, with Charles P. Ware and Miss Lucy McKim, collected from the lips of the negroes the words and music of their songs, which were afterwards published with the title "Slave Songs of the United States." In 1865 he became professor of ancient languages in Antioch College, Ohio. In 1867 he

was called to the chair of ancient languages and history in the University of Wisconsin, and retained his connection with the University throughout the rest of his life, though the title of his professorship was changed in 1870 to Latin and history, and in 1886 to history. His learning and industry gave him distinguished success as an instructor, and his modesty, friendliness and charm of manner, the expression of a sincere, earnest and noble soul, endeared him alike to his associates and his pupils.

Professor Allen was for many years a constant contributor of reviews and other articles to the *Nation*. He edited alone or in association with others, the texts of several Latin authors and class-books for schools and colleges. He wrote on social, political, and historical topics for the *North American Review* under its earlier management, the *Christian Examiner* and other periodicals, reported for several years for the *Revue Historique* the results of investigations in American history; delivered a course of lectures at Johns Hopkins University on the History of the Fourteenth Century, and read valuable papers before the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. His last literary work, of which he finished reading the proofs on the day before his death, is entitled, "A Brief History of the Roman People," and was designed as a text-book for high schools.

Although in the brief term of his membership with us Professor Allen had contributed nothing to our Proceedings, we recognize him as an associate in whose labors and achievements in the field of historical study, we may take a just satisfaction.

For the Council.

J. EVARTS GREENE.

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