

but not so romantic to our generation." He was himself very much a romanticist. As a child he had loved *Ivanhoe*; as a collector he marshaled his army of knights.

The Armory was only the greatest of Mr. Higgins' many interests. He was a member of no less than five archaeological societies, and among others, a director of the First Iron Works Association and of the Early American Industries Association, and a president of the Business History Society. His first connection with the American Antiquarian Society was a voluminous correspondence with Mr. Vail in regard to the bibliography and auction sales of armor. He was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1934, but at that time we had to compete with his interest in trying to revive jousting as a sport. In his later years he attended our meetings as regularly as the demands of his other organizations would permit. He was one of the pillars of the social service institutions of Worcester. As a young man he was a Sunday School superintendent, and for seventy-five years, many of them as president, he was active in the Y.M.C.A. Naturally he earned many honors, some of them from foreign organizations, but he seemed most pleased with the degree of Doctor of Engineering which he received from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1953. He attended our last annual meeting and seemed to enjoy himself particularly well. He died quietly at home the next morning. He is survived by his wife, the former Clara L. Carter, and by three children, Carter C. Higgins, Bradley C. Higgins, and Mary Louise (Mrs. Charles F. B.) Wilding-White. His will provides for the perpetuation of the Armory.

C. K. S.

#### EDWARD ALEXANDER PARSONS

The death of Edward Alexander Parsons in New Orleans on February 19, 1962, deprives the Society of a colorful and faithful member.

He was born in New Orleans on March 28, 1878, the son of Robert and Clara (du Chiron) Parsons. A Roman Catholic, he was educated in local parochial institutions of higher learning and was admitted to the Louisiana Bar in 1898.

Parsons was very interested in New Orleans cultural affairs which led him into posts of leadership in the Board of Education, the Public Library, the Louisiana Historical Society, New Orleans Opera House Association, the local branch of the English Speaking Union, Shakespeare Society, and several others. His scholarly interests led to the publication, in 1952, of a book, *The Alexandrian Library*. Dante loomed large in his thoughts and resulted in the award, the Order of the Crown, presented by the Italian government. Other awards were presented by Spain, Ecuador, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

Parsons was a member of many organizations including legal and book-collectors associations. With reference to the latter interest, the Bibliotheca Parsoniana was well known for its size and excellence; and when it was offered for sale a few years ago, libraries up the Mississippi River as far as Illinois eagerly looked into the matter. The University of Texas ultimately carried it off in 1958.

Mr. Parsons' neat, short figure dressed in black was frequently seen at meetings of the Society following his election in April, 1932. He presented three papers: "Jean Lafitte in the War of 1812," October, 1940; "The Letters of Robert R. Livingston, the diplomatic story of the Louisiana Purchase," October, 1942; "Highlights of Louisiana Americana," October, 1949. His papers are remembered for the quality of his oratory and for their usefulness. His talk of 1949 described his library.

Mr. Parsons is survived by his daughters, Mrs. J. Wallace Paletou and Mrs. Charles Macmurdo. M. A. McC.

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.