

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting

OCTOBER 19, 1955

AT THE LIBRARY OF THE SOCIETY, WORCESTER

THE one hundred and forty-third annual meeting of the American Antiquarian Society was held at the Library of the Society in Worcester, Massachusetts, on October 19, 1955, at 10:45 a.m. The meeting was called to order by President Streeter.

The following members of the Society were present: John McKinstry Merriam, Clarence Saunders Brigham, Robert Kendall Shaw, Chandler Bullock, Lawrence Counselman Wroth, Daniel Waldo Lincoln, Russell Sturgis Paine, Harry Galpin Stoddard, Edward Alexander Parsons, Thomas Winthrop Streeter, William Irving Clark, John Woodman Higgins, Francis Henshaw Dewey, Jr., Clifford Kenyon Shipton, Alexander Hamilton Bullock, Theron Johnson Damon, Albert White Rice, Frederick Lewis Weis, Henry Rouse Viets, Walter Muir Whitehill, Frederick Haven Pratt, Samuel Foster Damon, Bradley Baldwin Gilman, Richard Allen Heald, Ernest Caulfield, James William Foster, Sydney Philip Noe, George Russell Stobbs, Arthur Adams, Charles Henry Sawyer, John Alden, Edward Harold Cole, Bertram Kimball Little, Carleton Rubira Richmond, Milton Prince Higgins, Edward Chase Kirkland, Lyman Henry Butterfield, George Talbot Goodspeed, Stephen Thomas Riley, Rollo Gabriel Silver, Augustus George Bullock, Clifton Waller Barrett, Richard Gimbel, Howard Bonar Jefferson, Robert Earle Moody, Roger Kinnicutt,

Rae MacCollum Spencer, Bradford Fuller Swan, Thompson Ritner Harlow, Parkman Dexter Howe, William Henry Harrison, Hermann Porter Riccius, Guy Warren Walker, Jr., Ray Nash, Vernon Dale Tate, Albert Goodnow Waite.

The Secretary read the call for the meeting. It was voted to dispense with the reading of the records of the last meeting.

The report of the Council of the Society was presented by Mr. Brigham, the report of the Treasurer by Mr. Bullock, and the report of the Librarian by Mr. Shipton. It was voted to accept the three reports and refer them to the Committee on Publications.

Mr. Stobbs reported for the committee consisting of Messrs. Stobbs, Shaw, and Gilman, appointed by the Council in April, 1954. He said that Mr. Streeter desired to retire from the presidency and that the committee suggested the name of Clarence S. Brigham for the office. He outlined the facts of Mr. Brigham's connection with the Society, stating that he was elected a member in 1905, was made Librarian in 1908, and became Director in 1930. He then moved that if there were no other nominations, the Secretary be requested to cast one ballot in favor of the nominees. Mr. Streeter put the motion and the Secretary duly cast the ballot. The officers nominated and elected were as follows:

President

Clarence Saunders Brigham, of Worcester, Mass.

Vice-presidents

Carleton Rubira Richmond, of Milton, Mass.
George Sumner Barton, of Boylston, Mass.

Councillors

Russell Sturgis Paine, of Worcester, Mass.
Albert White Rice, of Worcester, Mass.
Donald McKay Frost, of Boston, Mass.
Thomas Winthrop Streeter, of Morristown, N. J.
Richard Allen Heald, of Worcester, Mass.
Edward Larocque Tinker, of New York, N. Y.
Walter Muir Whitehill, of Boston, Mass.
Harry Galpin Stoddard, of Worcester, Mass.
Augustus George Bullock, of Worcester, Mass.
Keyes DeWitt Metcalf, of Belmont, Mass.

Secretary for Foreign and Domestic Correspondence

Clarence Saunders Brigham, of Worcester, Mass.

Recording Secretary

Daniel Waldo Lincoln, of Worcester, Mass.

Treasurer

Chandler Bullock, of Worcester, Mass.

Committee on Publications

Clifford Kenyon Shipton, of Shirley, Mass.
Robert Kendall Shaw, of Worcester, Mass.
Frederick Lewis Weis, of Dublin, N. H.

Auditors

Daniel Waldo Lincoln, of Worcester, Mass.
Bradley Baldwin Gilman, of Worcester, Mass.

Mr. Streeter then requested Mr. Brigham to take the chair. Mr. Brigham expressed his deep appreciation of the

honor conferred upon him. He then proposed for membership in the Society the following:

Newton Case Brainard, Hartford, Conn.
Ralph E. Carpenter, Jr., New York, N. Y.
Alden Porter Johnson, Worcester, Mass.
Augustus Peabody Loring, III, Salem, Mass.

The President appointed a committee consisting of Messrs. Nash, Weis, and Harlow to distribute, collect, and count the ballots. Mr. Nash reported that the necessary number of votes had been cast for the persons nominated, and that they were declared elected.

A paper was read by James W. Foster on "Fielding Lucas, Jr., Early Nineteenth-Century Publisher of Fine Books and Maps."

The President announced that Harry M. Lydenberg of Greensboro, North Carolina, who was to read a paper on "Wilberforce Eames As I Recall Him," was unable to make the trip to Worcester because of difficult traveling conditions. Fortunately, however, Lawrence C. Wroth of Providence, who knew Mr. Eames intimately in his later years, delivered Mr. Lydenberg's paper. He also contributed additional reminiscences of Mr. Eames, especially of his various connections with the John Carter Brown Library. These reminiscences are printed in the present issue of *Proceedings* at the end of Mr. Lydenberg's paper. Mr. Streeter and Mr. Brigham both commented upon the paper and gave personal reminiscences of Mr. Eames.

Colonel Richard Gimbel of New Haven stated that he was presenting to the Society the earliest edition of Thomas Paine's *Common Sense*, printed at Philadelphia in 1776, a very rare pamphlet which the Society had long been anxious to acquire.

The President described the exhibition of recent acquisitions on view in the cases in the front gallery. He then announced that the members of the Society were invited to luncheon at the residence of the late Aldus C. Higgins, John Wing Road, by Mrs. Aldus C. Higgins, and Mr. and Mrs. Milton P. Higgins.

The meeting then adjourned.

DANIEL WALDO LINCOLN,
Recording Secretary

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