

city of Hartford, and the welfare of its citizens." A commentator at his testimonial dinner stated that Mr. Putnam had diverted millions of dollars into good works over the years.

Mr. Putnam was born in Brooklyn, Connecticut, February 1, 1878, the son of Albert Day and Harriet Eliza (Dorance) Putnam. After a public school education and a few years in banking and finance, he entered into the field of stock brokerage, which was to be his career for the rest of his life. But his philanthropic activities consumed the greater part of his time and energy.

He received an honorary M.A. from Trinity College in 1942 and an honorary Litt.D. from Hillyer College in 1955. He was a member of the leading social clubs and civic organizations of Hartford. He took much interest in his membership in the Walpole Society, a group of scholars and collectors which met frequently in the East and made an outlet for social friendships. He was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1941, and showed continued interest in its Library and its welfare. He was active in many fields of collecting, especially in the study of early American clocks.

Mr. Putnam was married in 1899 to Adabelle C. Lyon who died in 1944, and he was survived by two sons and a daughter.

C. S. B.

FRANCIS HENRY TAYLOR

The death of Francis Henry Taylor, on November 22, 1957, deprived this Society of a recent and much interested member, and the community of an active force in the cultural world. He was born in Philadelphia, April 23, 1903, the son of Dr. William Johnson and Emily Buckley (New-

bold) Taylor. After graduation from Kent School, he received his college education at the University of Pennsylvania, from which he obtained the degree of A.B. in 1924.

His activities in the next few years were primarily in Europe. Following graduation, he became instructor in English at the Lycée at Chartres, France. At the same time he held a scholarship at the University of Paris. In the summer of 1925 he traveled extensively in France and Spain, conducting research especially in Barcelona. He then went to Rome, where he held a scholarship at the American Academy, granted by the University of Pennsylvania, specializing in Classical and Medieval art. He then spent some months in Greece visiting important archaeological sites, returning to Italy to attend the summer school at the University of Florence, where he was preparing a study of Romanesque sculpture in Tuscany. He returned to America in 1926, and was appointed to a Carnegie fellowship in fine arts at the Princeton Graduate School. There he remained until the following June when he was called to the Philadelphia Museum of Art as assistant curator of sculpture and editor of publications.

He spent the summer of 1927 in Germany and Austria, studying problems of installation in the State Municipal Museums, particularly in Berlin, Vienna, and Cologne. He resumed his duties at the Philadelphia Museum in the fall of 1927, and in May, 1928, he was made curator of medieval art. In addition to his editorial duties, he also assumed those of curator of the Rodin Museum.

He was sent to Europe by the trustees of the Philadelphia Museum in the summer of 1928 on an archaeological mission in the Pyrenees relevant to the cloister from the Abbey of Saint Genis des Fontaines in the Roussillon.

Mr. Taylor was chosen Director of the Worcester Art Museum in 1931. Immediately the attendance at the

Museum markedly increased, as he brought to the institution a knowledge in all fields of art greatly to augment its prestige in the art world. He arranged exhibitions of international importance, notably the Rembrandt show in 1935, the Art of the Dark Ages two years later, and then the display of paintings by the old Flemish masters in 1939. He also shared with other museums in the results of the excavations at Antioch, Syria, bringing to Worcester some of its proudest possessions.

In 1940 Mr. Taylor was chosen Director of the Metropolitan Museum of New York, the most prized position in the world of art in this hemisphere. He did not want to leave Worcester, but he told his friends that this was a challenge which he could not refuse. For fifteen years he served the Metropolitan with unexampled success, doubling the Museum's endowment, attendance, and membership, and enriching its collections. One of the most notable of his achievements was the popularization of the Museum and making it a greater art force in the community.

Late in 1954 the trustees of the Worcester Art Museum were suddenly apprized of the fact that Francis Taylor might consider his return to Worcester, the scene of former triumphs and friendships. Perplexed with the problem of filling a vacancy for the position of Director, they immediately accepted the opportunity to engage so distinguished a scholar. Mr. Taylor, in his letter of resignation to the Metropolitan Art Museum, said, "I have decided to ease the heavy administrative burdens which have so taxed my nervous and physical energies. I will now be able to devote the balance of my career to the scholarship and connoisseurship which originally attracted me to the profession." So in 1955 he came back to Worcester, to enjoy, as he remarked, "congenial and familiar surroundings amongst old friends." In the three short years that he was

here, he improved the activities of the Worcester Museum in every department, and took an increasing interest in expanding its prestige. Only death intervened to interrupt a career which promised even greater achievements.

Mr. Taylor received many honors during his comparatively short but active life. He was given honorary degrees from fourteen colleges. He gained many honors and awards both in this country and abroad. In addition to numerous monographs and articles on art and archaeological subjects, he produced two notable volumes: *Fifty Centuries of Art* and *The Taste of Angels*. He was a member of many societies, largely in the field of art. He was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1956, and was planning to do much work in the Society's Library, in connection with American art collecting.

Mr. Taylor was married November 3, 1928, to Pamela Coyne, and was survived by her and four children: Pamela (wife of the Reverend James P. Morton), Emily Newbold, John Madison, and Mary Bearden Taylor.

Mr. Taylor's tragic death took away one of the outstanding figures in the world of art. His scholarship was profound. With a gifted and imaginative style, and with a thoroughness of research, he entertained and instructed his readers in everything that he wrote. One of the most widely felt results of his sudden passing was the premature termination of what promised to be a great popular series of works which would have done much to enlighten the American people.

C. S. B.

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